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Editor: DEVARAKONDA KALIDAS

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



Megastar Chiranjeevi, who recently voiced his concerns on X over degrading and morphed videos targeting artists, has taken the issue forward by meeting Honorable Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah Ji today in Hyderabad.

Cyclone Murasu: Union Home Minister Amit Shah Calls AP CM Naidu



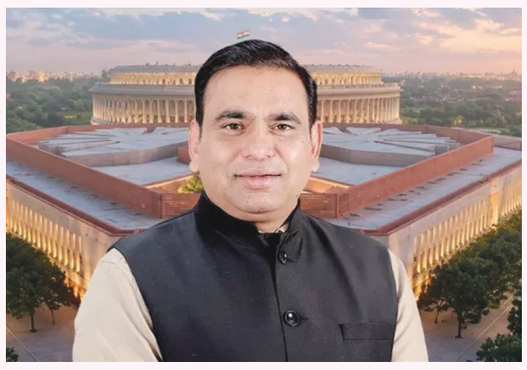
Union Home Minister Amit Shah telephoned Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and enquired about the impact of the cyclones in the state, the damage caused and the relief measures being undertaken.

Ranabaali OTT Release Date: Here's When and Where to Watch It



Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna's recent release Ranabaali is gearing up for its digital premiere. For fans and audience members who missed watching it in theaters and are eager to stream it, here is an update regarding the film's streaming date.

Kiran Kumar Reddy Urges Centre to Support Telangana's Infra Projects



Hyderabad: Telangana's growing transport and infrastructure needs require long-term planning and decisive support from the Central government, said Congress MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy on Tuesday, stating that he had taken up two important proposals with the Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari. The national highway status for two key road corridors pertained to Sangareddy–Narsapur–Toopran–Gajwel–Jagdevpur–Bhongir–Choutuppal and Choutuppal–Amangal–Shadnagar–Sangareddy.

Another Rs.45,000 crore proposal for 10 new greenfield radial roads along the metro corridor, connecting Hyderabad's existing Outer Ring Road (ORR) with the proposed Regional Ring Road (RRR). The Minister has informed that the policy for declaring new national highways is under consultation and that these proposals will be processed after the guidelines are finalised. "I will continue to pursue these proposals with the Union Government. Hyderabad and Telangana need stronger regional connectivity, better logistics and modern road infrastructure to sustain economic growth," he said. "Our demand is clear- Telangana deserves timely decisions and the infrastructure investment needed for its future," he added.

Telangana's Rs 30,000-crore drought relief plea hits Delhi roadblock



Hyderabad: The Congress government's much-publicised campaign for a Rs 30,000-crore drought relief package yielded little beyond a formal representation. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and more than half his Cabinet spent three days in Delhi, announcing plans to seek the intervention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, but failed to secure a meeting with either of them or the Union Ministers concerned. While the Chief Minister and his Ministers participated in Congress protests in the national capital, the State's demand for drought relief remained confined to official channels. No concrete assurance on the special package emerged, exposing the gap between the government's political projection and its actual achievement. The government's handling of the drought has also come under scrutiny in comparison with neighbouring Andhra Pradesh. Recording a higher rainfall deficit, Andhra Pradesh moved ahead of Telangana in declaring drought-affected areas and securing a Central assessment. It declared 388 mandals drought-hit on October 1, well before the October 31 deadline.

Rahul Gandhi Leads Fight to Protect Every Vote: Uttam Kumar Reddy



Minister for Irrigation, Food and Civil Supplies Capt. N. Uttam Kumar Reddy has described the campaign led by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to protect every eligible citizen's right to vote as a significant moment in the country's democratic journey. In an statement on electoral accountability and democratic institutions, Uttam Kumar Reddy said that democracy derived its strength from people's confidence that every eligible citizen could exercise the right to vote and that every vote would be counted fairly. He observed that growing concerns over errors in electoral rolls, lack of transparency in procedures and alleged bias in the revision process warranted a transparent investigation and credible responses from the Election Commission. Referring to the INDIA bloc's mobilisation in Delhi, Uttam Kumar Reddy said Rahul Gandhi had emerged as the central figure in bringing opposition parties together on the crucial issue of electoral accountability. He noted that Rahul Gandhi had led thousands of INDIA bloc leaders, workers and supporters in a march towards the Supreme Court on October 12, protesting alleged irregularities in the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Several prominent opposition leaders, including Mallikarjun Kharge, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Akhilesh Yadav and Tejashwi Yadav, had participated in the mobilisation.

Sanjay Jaju Reviews Beautification Plans for Old Legislative Council Building



Hyderabad: Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju here on Tuesday inspected the Old Legislative Council Building at Public Gardens in Nampally and reviewed the proposed beautification and development project along with the Hyderabad District Collector, Dr. Priyanka Ala and Assembly officials. He discussed the proposed works and emphasised the need for a comprehensive plan to enhance the heritage value, aesthetics and overall ambience of the historic building and its premises.



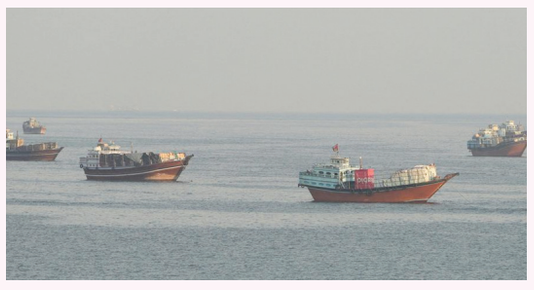
KTR facilitates return of woman stranded in Muscat

BRS working president KT Rama Rao facilitated the return of Thuppudu Lakshmi, a woman from Kodangal constituency who was stranded in Muscat after her employer allegedly seized her passport. She reunited with her family in Hyderabad and thanked him.

Revanth Reddy busy with 'vote chori' politics while Telangana farmers suffer: BJP



Hyderabad: BJP Telangana president N Ramchander Rao accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of neglecting farmers facing irrigation and power supply problems in the state while campaigning in Delhi over alleged vote chori. FollowPolitics Addressing a public meeting after the BJP's Maha Padayatra in Nirmal, Ramchander Rao alleged that farmers were facing severe difficulties due to inadequate irrigation water and electricity supply. He also claimed that farmer suicides were continuing while the Chief Minister was concentrating on political campaigns in Delhi. Taking a dig at Revanth Reddy and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, Rao described the Chief Minister's campaign as brain chori and accused Rahul Gandhi of naam chori over the use of the Gandhi surname. He alleged that the two Congress leaders were attempting to exploit the country and Telangana. Rao further alleged that the Congress had been involved in corruption amounting to Rs 12 lakh crore during its previous tenure at the Centre.



Indian seafarer killed in attack on ship near Oman 13 others rescued: MEA

One Indian was killed after an attack on a commercial vessel near Limah in Oman, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Tuesday (November 3, 2026). 13 other Indian nationals on board the MSV AL JUSUFI have been rescued after the incident on Monday (November 2, 2026), the Ministry said in a statement.

Indian killed as two helicopters collide in Nepal



A 47-year-old Indian national was killed and another passenger injured when two helicopters collided while landing on Tuesday (November 3, 2026) in Nepal's Solukhumbu district, police said.



"Ponnam Indiramma Indla Lottery"

Hyderabad, Telangana: On the e-lottery draw for selection of beneficiaries under the Indiramma Indlu Towers Scheme, State Minister Ponnam Prabhakar says, "We are currently providing homes in rural areas. Previously, we were unable to provide a home to some individuals because they did not possess a plot of land. Now, regardless of the value of the land, the government has decided to provide homes...today, in the presence of everyone, a draw was held conducted transparently to determine the allocation of these homes within the assembly constituency, as per the government's decision.

The Indian Navy has successfully rescued a hijacked fishing vessel, Azini, from armed pirates off the northeastern coast of Somalia in an operation lasting over 48 hours, ensuring the safe release of all 20 crew members without any casualties or injuries. According to Indian Navy, the fishing vessel was hijacked by an armed pirate group earlier last month and was suspected to be used as a 'mother ship' to launch further attacks on merchant vessels operating in the region, posing a significant threat to maritime security.



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Biosphere Reserves for Social Transformations

(On the occasion of "International Day for Biosphere Reserves" on 03 November)

The Biosphere is the part of Earth where life can exist, including all living organisms and their nonliving environment comprising of soil, air,and water to sustain life. Biosphere Reserves (BRs) are protected areas that represent a harmonious relationship between human communities and nature, playing a crucial role in addressing environmental challenges worldwide. ""International Day for Biosphere Reserves:" The "International Day for Biosphere Reserves" was established in 2021 by UNESCO with a purpose of promoting the importance of BRs, sustainable development, improving relationship with nature and also adopting sustainable practices. The theme for 2026 International Day for Biosphere Reserves is "Biosphere Reserves for Social Transformations : Connecting Local Communities, Livelihood and Climate Resilience", focusing on restoration of lost biodiversity in line with "Kunming - Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework" recommendations. The theme of previous International Day for Biosphere Reserves was taken as "Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development" emphasising the importance of Biosphere Reserves for healthy environment and global mankind. """"Man And Biosphere" Program by UNESCO:" There are 759 biosphere reserves in 136 countries recognised by the intergovernmental "Man and Biosphere (MAB) Program" by UNESCO. There are 18 notified BRs in India spanning 60,000 sq km. The first BR is the blue mountains of the Nilgiris and largest is the Gulf of Kachchh, smallest is Debru-Saikhowa. Out of 18 BRs notified by Inaian government, 13 are in the international list of UNESCO. There are three main zones of BRs namely Core Area, Buffer Zone and Transition Areas. "" 03 November is a special day to understand the importance of BRs, appreciate their contribution to mankind by balancing relationship between nature and life. BRs not only protect ecosystems but also support communities, find solutions to help the environment where all life can thrive together. BRs provide local solutions to global issues such as protecting cultural diversity, biodiversity, development through research, monitoring, education and also training. "

Dr Burra Madhusudhan Reddy

30-year-old Telangana law student found hanging in hostel room

Karimnagar: A 30-year-old law student allegedly died by suicide in her room at the women's hostel attached to Satavahana University Law College in Karimnagar on Sunday, November 1, police said. Dakkali Chandrakala, a third-semester law student, was found hanging from a ceiling fan in her hostel room. She was alone at the time of the incident, police said. The reason for her death is yet to be ascertained. Based on a complaint lodged by the hostel authorities, police registered a case and launched an investigation. The body was shifted to the Government Headquarters Hospital in Karimnagar for post-mortem examination. Chandrakala hailed from Shadnagar village in Rangareddy district, police added.

Bandi Sanjay Warns Corporators Against Graft

KARIMNAGAR: Union minister of state for home Bandi Sanjay Kumar warned that party corporators would be blacklisted if found involved in corruption. Advising corporators to stay away from collections, he made it clear that there was no question of tolerating corporators and leaders who extracted money from shop owners or demanded money. Expressing anger at workers for staying away from party activities, he said leaders who did not work for the party would not get priority. Sanjay Kumar made these comments here on Sunday while participating in a preparatory meeting for BJP national president Nitin Nabin's visit to Karimnagar scheduled for November 5. Nitin Nabin is set to take part in a rally in Karimnagar town from Gandhi statue to Kaman. The district unit of BJP is organising the rally with the slogan 'Loktantr Bachao, Arajakt Hatao'. The rally, starting at Gandhi statue, will conclude at Kaman after passing through Vysaya Bhavan, Tower Circle and Sastry Road. Party leaders are planning to mobilise about 50,000 people for the rally. The Union minister appealed to party leaders and workers to make the national president's tour a grand success by mobilising people in a big way.





Police probe financial links, corporate fertility nexus in illegal egg racket

Hyderabad: A day after rescuing several women trapped in an illegal human egg procurement racket, the Hyderabad police identified multiple key operatives managing the syndicate by transporting vulnerable women from different states and paying them between Rs 50,000 and Rs 70,000 per donor. Meanwhile, investigators established that the accused maintained an active nexus with major corporate fertility centres across the city, supplying human eggs collected from victims by gang members. According to police officials, main suspect Amit Sharma, a native of Indore in Madhya Pradesh, formed an organised network in collaboration with Nikhat Parveen, Reshma Khatoon, Meghawat Srinivas, Pradeep, SK Parveen, Vijay Bhagwara Rao Solanki, Pankaj Soni, and Emirishetti Durga Prasad to lure women with lucrative monetary offers. The gang recruited young women from West Bengal, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh, housing them in women's hostels across Hyderabad where gang members extracted eggs with assistance from compromised fertility clinic staff.

Over 50 Minority Workers Join BJP in Warangal East



WARANGAL: More than 50 minority activists and leaders from various parties joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Warangal East Assembly constituency, strengthening the party's local base. The joining programme was led by CPI(M) State Minority Assistant Secretary Md Akmal Pasha, who belongs to the 22nd Division of Pochamma Maidan. BJP State leader and Warangal Urban Cooperative Bank chairman Errabelli Pradeep Rao welcomed the new members into the party by presenting them with saffron scarves. Party's Commitment to Minorities Addressing the gathering, Pradeep Rao said the BJP was not opposed to Muslim minorities and that the party's objective was the welfare and development of people from all sections of society. He said the Centre, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, had implemented several welfare and development programmes. He called upon people from all communities to become partners in building a Viksi

Drought not caused by nature, created by Congress, alleges KTR



Adilabad: The Revanth Reddy government must take responsibility for the agrarian crisis in the state and fulfil its promise to farmers and agricultural labourers, said BRS working president KTR on Sunday, November 1, as he addressed the Rythu Garjana here. He demanded that every farmer be paid Rs 60,000 per acre, comprising the three instalments of Rythu Bandhu withheld by the Congress government and the investment assistance due for the current Yasangi season. "This is not a drought caused by nature; this is a drought created by Congress," he said. Farmers were facing distress due to the failures of the Revanth Reddy government, though the state has adequate irrigation resources. In contrast, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, which experienced nearly twice the rainfall deficit, were not facing similar drought conditions, he pointed out. The Congress government could not escape its responsibility by citing El Niño, he said.While the BRS government provided Rs 10,000 per acre annually under Rythu Bandhu, Revanth Reddy promised to increase the assistance to Rs 15,000, KTR said. However, after coming to power, Congress failed to honour its commitment. He also questioned the status of the Rs 2 lakh loan waiver, tenant farmer assistance, Rythu Bharosa, Indiramma Atmeeya Bharosa for 36,000 beneficiaries and other electoral promises. He said farmers were being forced to submit self-declarations and were even being discouraged from cultivating their own lands. On his part, KTR extended financial assistance of Rs 1 lakh each to the families of five children who died in the recent fire accident at Adilabad's RIMS hospital on behalf of BRS.The government failed to utilise Godavari waters despite availability, he said. Without being lifted, nearly one lakh cusecs of water were flowing downstream from the Kannepalli pump house. He also criticised the government for allowing 750 TMC of water to go unused. Had the Kaleshwaram and Palamuru-Rangareddy projects been properly utilised, not even one acre would have dried up, he said. He also alleged that the government neglected the Chanaka-Korata project's canal works. He questioned the closure and dismantling of the CCI factory in Adilabad and the alleged shifting of Telangana industries to Gujarat.

He criticised the BJP-led Centre for failing to provide national projects, medical and nursing colleges and major educational institutions to Adilabad. Calling Congress and BJP "partners in neglect", he questioned BJP leaders for not holding Revanth Reddy accountable.

4.58 Lakh Apply As Voters For Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda Graduates MLC Elections

While only five days are left for enrolling as voters in Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda MLC elections, 4,58,763 applications have been received from graduates both online and off-line to register them as voters in the constituency as of November 1. Applications have been received from 33 mandals in Nalgonda district, 23 in Suryapet, 17 in Yadadri-Bhongir, 12 in Jangaon, 18 in Mahabubabad, 13 in Warangal, 11 in Hanamkonda, seven in Bhupalpally, 23 in Bhadradri-Kothagudem, 21 in Khammam, 10 in Mulugu, and four mandals in Siddipet district, which come under the purview of Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda graduates MLC constituency. In the by-elections to Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda constituency in 2024, there had been 4,63,839 electors. It appears there would be no big change in the number of voters in the ensuing graduates MLC elections despite the efforts of the government authorities and political parties to ensure all the graduates in the constituency are enrolled as voters. Out of 4,58,763 applications received so far, 80,138 have been received from Nalgonda district, 73,943 from Khammam, 37,161 from Bhadradri-Kothagudem, 53,693 from Suryapet, 34,556 from Yadadri-Bhongir district, and 43,997 from Hanamkonda district. The draft electoral roll of Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda graduates MLC constituency would be published on November 20. Congress has announced Ramreddy Sarvotham Reddy as its candidate for graduates MLC elections, while Dr. Gadala Srinivas Rao has entered fray as the Jana Sena candidate. Rakesh reddy anugula is BRS's candidate. BJP is yet to announce its candidate.



Hyderabad Voice

Wednesday, November 04, 2026

SIR a conspiracy to help BJP secure solo majority in Lok Sabha: CM Revanth



HYDERABAD: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Sunday alleged that 13.5 crore votes had been deleted during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and accused the Election Commission of India (ECI) of attempting to remove another 20 crore votes. He termed it a "big conspiracy" to eliminate 15-20% of voters and help the BJP secure a majority in the Lok Sabha on its own. Addressing Congress leaders and workers at Telangana Bhavan in Delhi, Revanth alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was using the SIR exercise to deprive Dalits, Adivasis, women and other marginalised groups of their voting rights. He claimed that Modi had wanted to amend the Constitution and abolish reservations if the BJP had secured 400 seats in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. However, after voters denied the party that mandate, the prime minister had developed a grudge against these sections, the chief minister alleged.Revanth also accused the Union government of using Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)Gyanesh Kumar to carry out its alleged plan to disenfranchise voters. He claimed that the BJP had come to power in Bihar, Maharashtra and West Bengal, and was seeking to retain power by removing voters from electoral rolls. Later, Revanth and other Telangana Congress leaders attended the 'Vote Bachao, Desh Bachao' rally organised by the Congress and INDIA bloc at Ramlila Maidan. The chief minister alleged that the authorities had cancelled trains arranged to ferry 15,000 people from Telangana to Delhi to prevent Congress workers from attending the rally. Despite the cancellations, thousands of party leaders and workers had reached the national capital, he said. He claimed that the Congress workers had demonstrated that Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and CEC Gyanesh Kumar could not weaken the party's resolve.

Invoking the Ramayana, Revanth said that just as Lord Rama had defeated Ravana with the support of an army of Vanaras, the Congress's 'Vanara Sena' would defeat Modi. He called on party workers to take the message of INDIA bloc leaders at the rally to every village and household. The Vanaras are monkey-like beings who fought alongside Lord Rama in his battle against Ravana, the principal antagonist in the ancient Hindu epic Ramayana.

Telangana sees 20% drop in cybercrime losses, 42% rise in lien amount



Hyderabad: Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB) Director Shikha Goel on Sunday said that financial losses in cybercrime cases had declined slightly, while the lien amount had increased following large-scale awareness campaigns conducted across the State. The TGCSB concluded its October Cyber Security Awareness Month campaign with statewide Cyber Security Night Flash Walks across all police units on October 30 and 31, highlighting the importance of continuous public awareness, collective vigilance and prompt reporting in preventing cybercrime. Launched on October 1, the month-long campaign involved police units across Telangana conducting various programmes to educate citizens about emerging cyber threats, fraud prevention and safe digital practices. Awareness activities were organised in educational institutions, public spaces and community gatherings. Special outreach programmes during Bathukamma celebrations, Navaratri festivities and Dandiya events helped spread cyber safety messages among diverse sections of society. Emphasising that cyber security awareness should not be confined to a particular campaign or month, Shikha Goel said structured awareness programmes were being conducted throughout the year with active participation from police units across Telangana. Commissioners of Police and Superintendents of Police actively participated in the concluding Night Flash Walks and related programmes, demonstrating their commitment to cybercrime prevention, she added. Box: Cybercrime losses decline, lien amount rises The importance of sustained awareness, immediate reporting and coordinated financial intervention is reflected in the cybercrime figures for January–September 2025 and the corresponding period in 2026. Reported financial losses declined by 20.2 per cent, from Rs 1,104.42 crore in January–September 2025 to Rs 881.72 crore during the corresponding period in 2026, a reduction of Rs 222.70 crore.

Realty sector's GDP contribution to touch 13% by 2030: Kishan Reddy



Hyderabad: Union Minister for Coal and Mines G Kishan Reddy said the real estate sector would play a crucial role in India's economic growth, with its contribution to GDP projected to increase from the current seven per cent to 13 per cent by 2030.India news updates He was speaking at the concluding session of the 16th Telangana Property Show organised by the National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) in Hyderabad. Kishan Reddy said owning a house was a dream for every Indian and provided financial security and confidence for the future. He stressed that real estate was not merely about land and buildings but was closely linked to people's aspirations, economic development and urban infrastructure. Highlighting infrastructure growth, he said the national highway network had expanded by 61 per cent over the past 12 years, with nearly 34 km of highways being constructed daily. Railway electrification had reached 99 per cent nationally and 100 per cent in Telangana. The Centre was modernising 42 railway stations in the State. Operational airports had increased from 74 in 2014 to 165, while natio nal waterways had expanded from five to 32. He said India's GDP had tripled over the past decade, with the country recording approximately seven per cent economic growth despite geopolitical challenges. India had emerged as the world's fourth-largest economy. The startup ecosystem had grown from around 400 startups in 2014 to over 1.57 lakh, including more than 100 unicorns. Foreign exchange reserves reached $785.71 billion in September 2026, while exports stood at $776.68 billion. The Minister said the Union Budget 2026-27 allocated Rs.12.22 lakh crore for capital expenditure. He urged Telangana to utilise central assistance, inclu di ng more than Rs.4 lakh crore provided to states thr ough 50-year interest-free loans under the SA SCI scheme. The Rs.1 lakh crore Urban Challeng e Fund would support urban redevelopment, water supply, sanitation and infrastructure. Emp ha sising homebuyer protection, he said RERA had improved transparency and accountability. Telang ana had registered nearly 10,000 real estate pro jects and 4,000 agents. India had also entered the top 30 of the Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2026 for the first time. He said GST 2.0 refor ms had reduced construction costs by three to five per cent and urged NAREDCO to ensure hom ebuyers received the benefits. Kishan Reddy called upon developers to adopt Artificial Intelligence, Int ernet of Things and data analytics to improve proje ct planning, assess housing demand and reduce construction time through prefabricated technologies.



Green Water Tanker Services Begin at Secretariat, Cyberabad and Malkajgiri

Green water tanker services began at the Secretariat and in the Cyberabad and Malkajgiri regions on Sunday, under the HMWS&SB initiative to supply treated wastewater for construction, gardening, landscaping and other non-drinking purposes. The program me was launched to mark the board's 37th foundation day and was meant to conserve drinking water and groun dwater by increasing the reuse of treated wastewater, in line with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's directio ns. Board managing director K. Ashok Reddy said government departments, parks and green spaces would receive priority in the supply, followed by construction projects, industries and other non-potable users. The initiative assumed significance in view of the El Nino impact putting additional pressure on drinking water resources. In Cyberabad, municipal commissioner G. Srujana and HMWS&SB executive director Mandala Santhosh launched the service. The first supply of treated water was made using a 10-kilolitre tanker for urban biodiversity departm ent (UBD) works. The Mulkathguda sewage treatment plant (STP) has 16 million litres a day (MLD) of treated water available for non-drinking purposes. Supplies will also be arranged from other STPs, officials said. Government and private organisations can book green water tankers through the HMWSSB mobile application. In Malkajgiri, services began at the Nagole, Nallacheruvu and Saroorna gar STPs. Malkajgiri municipal commissioner T. Vinay Krishna Reddy and HMWS&SB Malkajgiri regional executive director S. Pankaja launched the service at Nagole.

Census 2027: Krishnaiah seeks implementation of standardised caste codes



HYDERABAD: Welcoming the decision of the Union government to conduct a caste-wise enumeration as part of the forthcoming Census 2027, Rajya Sabha member and National Backward Classes Welfare Association president R Krishnaiah has requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to adopt standardised caste codes and official caste lists during population enumeration for accurate caste-wise census data. In a letter to the Prime Minister, Krishnaiah suggested that the Centre adopt the same methodology that was successfully followed for the enumeration of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) during previous Census operations. The Census Commission may prepare and digitise the official list of castes recognised by the Centre and state governments. During population enumeration, the enumerator should display the relevant official caste list applicable to the state concerned. The respondent may identify his/her caste from the notified list, he said. Krishnaiah further said that the enumerator should record: Name of the caste; and corresponding caste code/identification number.

Burglars steal 29 tolas of gold and Rs 1.5 lakh from Alwal house

Hyderabad: Burglars broke into a house at Alwal and decamped with 29 tolas of gold jewellery and Rs.1.5 lakh in cash. The family of a businessman had locked the house and went to attend a function when the incident occurred. The burglary came to light late on Saturday night when the family returned home after attending a family function at Dammaiguda. On reaching home around midnight, they found that burglars had broken into the house and stolen the valuables. The shocked family immediately alerted the police. Based on a complaint made by the victims, Alwal police registered a case and started an investigation. The police are examining CCTV footage from the surrounding areas to identify the suspects and trace their movements.

TELANGANA Voice

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EC losing constitutional independence, alleges Bhatti

Hyderabad: Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka alleged on Sunday that the Election Commission of India is losing its constitutional independence and functioning under the direction of the BJP government. Expressing serious concern that eligible voters are being disenfranchised under the pretext of the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls, he called for a nationwide movement to protect democracy. Addressing Congress leaders and party cadres at Telangana Bhavan before leaving for the Ramlila Maidan public meeting under the Chalo Delhi campaign, Bhatti Vikramarka urged citizens to safeguard fundamental voting rights. He stated that Rahul Gandhi has consistently highlighted systemic irregularities in voter lists and Election Commission functioning over the past five to six years. Bhatti Vikramarka expressed concern over internal friction among Election Commissioners, alleging that Chief Election Commissioner decisions override views of fellow commissioners. Emphasising that the Constitution guarantees equal voting rights to every eligible citizen regardless of status, he asserted that attempts to deny franchise weaken democratic foundations. Recalling the historic contributions of BR Ambedkar, he urged the public to defend democratic values against institutional erosion. Bhatti Vikramarka alleged that calculated attempts were executed to delete 20,000 to 25,000 legitimate votes across individual Assembly constituencies. He claimed Congress candidates



secured several assembly seats by convincing margins of 40,000 to 60,000 votes despite arbitrary removals, warning that widespread voter purges compromise electoral fairness. Meanwhile, TPCC president B Mahesh Kumar Goud congratulated state party workers participating in the rally, urging active support for Rahul Gandhi's democratic campaign. State Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Jupally Krishna Rao also addressed the gathering.

Telangana man dies of heart attack in bathroom

Riyadh: A Telangana wo rker died of a heart attack while in a bathroom in Riy adh, Saudi Arabia, leaving behind his wife and two young children. His mortal remains were brought to his native village on Sunday, November 1, with assistance fro m the Gulf Workers Awa reness Center (GWAC). Sai Pras ad, a resident of Ailapur village in Korutla mandal of Jagtial distric th, died on October 20. Ac cording to his family, he suffered a heart attack w hile in the bathroom. He had reportedly been unw ell for several days and had sought medical treatment. GWAC, along with volunteers Mohammed Farooq, Abdul Rafiq and Badugu Lakshman, facilitated the repatriation of his body from Saudi A rabia to India. Moham med Farooq, a social worker and GWAC member.

Revanth will be last Congress CM in Telangana: Laxman



Hyderabad: BJP Rajya Sabha MP and Parliamentary Board Member Dr K Laxman said that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, who is targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is the last "Congress Chief Minister in Telangana." The Union Home Minister Amit Shah is leading the BJP's "Save Democracy, Remove Anarchy" (Loktantra Bachao, Arajakta Hatao) Maha Padayatra in the city on November 2, which is meant to counter the opposition, particularly Rahul Gandhi and Congress false propaganda raking up the issues against the Election Commission, SIR and EVMs. He spoke to The Hans India, covering a wide range of issues comprising the Election Commission and voter-list revision processes; criticism of Rahul Gandhi and Congress leadership; rejection of EVM-related allegations; emphasis on governance, welfare, and development; and concerns about misinformation and political propaganda, stressing the need for stronger voter-roll verification and action against illegal infiltration. Dr Laxman said the BJP has confidence in a constitutionally empowered democratic electoral process and its institutions. Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, the party's campaign is meant to respond to the opposition's and Rahul Gandhi's false propaganda with facts and explain the reality to the people. Dismissing the allegations of the Congress and INDIA alliance, he said the voter list revision is a constitutional and routine process. "The Election Commission has provided data clearly, explaining that the removal of votes includes deceased voters, duplicate entries, and people who have shifted residences. The whole exercise was meant to clean up the electoral rolls and not disenfranchise eligible voters," he added. He said that Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, as Leader of the Opposition, should act responsibly. However, "they are in frustration for being out of power for twelve and a half years."



Practise non-violence, urges Sachchidananda

HYDERABAD: Avadhoota Datta Peethadhipathi Sri Ganapathi Sachchidananda Swamiji and IT Minister D Sridhar Babu on Sunday participated in a Maha Purnahuti Yagna at Dattatreya Swamy temple in Dhanwada village of Kataram mandal of Jayashankar Bhupalpally. Addressing devotees, Swamiji said people should follow the path of righteousness, practise non-violence and consider service to humanity as service to God. He urged devotees not to lose faith during difficult times. He later travelled to Manthani and addressed devotees at Shivas Kiran Gardens. A large number of devotees from Manthani and neighbouring areas attended the programme. Sridhar Babu said his family had been waiting for the past two to three years for Swamiji to visit the region. He added that it was a great fortune for the people of Manthani and Dhanwada to receive Swamiji's blessings. Peddapalli MLA Chintakunta Vijaya Ramana Rao, Ramagundam MLA Thakur Makkhan Singh, district officials and others attended the programmes.

Telangana enhances retirement age for judges to 62

Hyderabad: The Telangana government on Saturday, October 31, issued an ordinance amending the Telangana Public Employment (Regulation of Age of Superannuation) Act, 1984, and raised the retirement age for state judicial officers from 61 to 62 years, effective retrospectively from March 31, 2026. The move was prompted by Supreme Court directives and High Court recommendations to retain experienced legal minds. It allows judicial officers who retired this March to rejoin service with full continuity, pay, and seniority, subject to certain conditions. The benefit of enhancement of the age of superannuation will extend to members of the Telangana State Higher Judicial Service.

Phone-tapping case: FIR against Harish Rao shifted to Siddipet

Hyderabad: In a fresh development in the phone-tapping case involving BRS MLA and former minister T Harish Rao, the police have transferred the FIR to Siddipet One Town Police Station and added five more legal provisions against him and suspended police officer P Radha Kishan Rao. The case relates to the alleged interception of the mobile phones of Gadagoni Chakradhar Goud and his family members.Buy Maps According to the police, the FIR was transferred to Siddipet after adding Sections 419, 420, 467 and 406 of the IPC, along with provisions of the Information Technology Act, against Harish Rao and Radha Kishan Rao. Chakradhar Goud lodged a complaint with the Punjagutta police, alleging that Harish Rao and Radha Kishan Rao had intercepted the mobile phones of his family members during the 2023 Assembly elections. Chakradhar Goud had contested the elections as a Congress nominee from Siddipet. Following his complaint, the Punjagutta police registered a case against Harish Rao and Radha Kishan Rao. Harish Rao subsequently approached the High Court seeking quashing of the FIR. The High Court later quashed the case. Recently, Chakradhar Goud challenged the High Court's order in the Supreme Court by filing a petition. While the matter is pending before the courts, the police have now transferred the case to Siddipet, where the alleged offence took place, and added further legal provisions.



Rajgopal Reddy, Surekha skip 'Chalo Delhi' programme

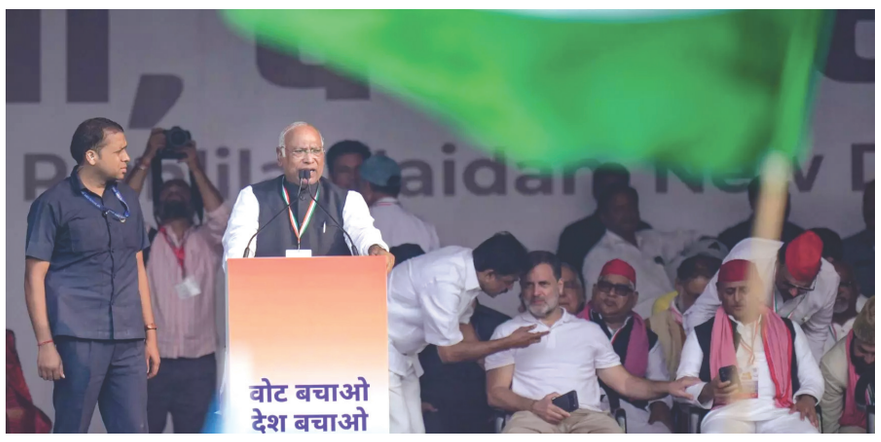




Hyderabad: Munugode MLA Komatireddy Rajgopal Reddy and former Minister Konda Surekha stayed away from the Congress party's 'Chalo Delhi' programme held in the national capital on Sunday. More than 5,000 representatives from Telangana, including Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister, Ministers, MPs, MLAs, MLCs and other party leaders, participated in the event. TPCC president B Mahesh Kumar Goud was also present. Track Exec Orders IT Minister D Sridhar Babu too did not attend the programme as he remained in his Manthani constituency to welcome Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Swamiji, head of the Avadhoota Datta Peetham. The Minister had personally invited the Swamiji, who participated in spiritual programmes at Dhanwada and Manthani on Sunday. Konda Surekha, who has maintained a low profile since her removal from the Cabinet and recently expressed regret to BRS working president KT Rama Rao, once again stayed away from the party programme. Rajgopal Reddy, who has been at odds with the government over a road contract issue, was busy with various programmes in his constituency. He inaugurated the new building of the Sri Beerappa Sheep Rearers' Cooperative Society, affiliated with the Kuruma community, at Ghattuppal mandal headquarters and planted a sapling on the premises. Speaking on the occasion, he remarked that having a good reputation often led to an increase in the number of enemies, adding that society had become intolerant towards goodness. He called upon people to work together for Munugode's development, describing himself as a simple grassroots worker. Earlier, interacting with local people, the MLA reiterated his commitment to constituency development and announced a zero-tolerance policy towards illegal liquor outlets, popularly known as belt shops. He warned police personnel that strict action would be taken if such outlets continued to operate in villages. A video of his phone conversation with a Sub-Inspector, shared on his Facebook account, has gone viral on social media. In the video, he directed the officer to identify those involved in illegal liquor sales across 19 gram panchayats and submit a list by November 10. He reportedly warned that police personnel who failed to curb the illegal trade had no place in the constituency. Rajgopal Reddy also called for changes in politics and the administrative system to ensure justice for the poor. Alleging widespread corruption in government offices, he stressed that public representatives must work honestly. Targeting the BRS, he accused the previous government led by K Chandrashekar Rao of pushing Telangana into a debt trap through excessive borrowing in the name of development and projects.

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Kharge Says Modi Must Go to Save Democracy, Alleges 'Vote Chori'



Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday alleged that several BJP governments in the country, including at the Centre, were formed on "stolen" mandate and said that it was essential to remove Prime Minister Narendra Modi from power in order to save democracy.Addressing INDIA bloc's rally at Ramlila Maidan on the "vote chori" charge, Kharge also accused Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah of shielding Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar.Modi and Shah have attempted to snatch the vote of Dalits, youth and women. Modi ji wants to take away their votes through his man -- Ganesh Kumar. We will keep fighting until he goes, and ensure his exit," Kharge said. Alleging that Modi and Shah are trying to protect Kumar, Kharge said even "if the CEC hides underground, we will find him". "Be it the central government, governments in Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, they are 'chori' governments (formed on stolen mandate). We have to throw out these 'vote chor'," Kharge said. "Modi jayega to hi loktantra bachega, Modi ko hatayenge tabhi loktantra ko bachenyenge, Modi ko hatao loktantra ko bachao (Remove Modi to save democracy)," he said. Senior leaders, including Congress president Kharge, former Congress chiefs Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, TMC chief Mamata Banerjee, CPI(M) general secretary MA Baby, CPI general secretary D Raja, CPI(ML) Liberation general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, among others, were present at the Ramlila Maidan rally here. Earlier, INDIA bloc leaders moved in an open vehicle from the Minto Road-Connaught Place junction towards the Ramlila Maidan for the rally, as hundreds of supporters marched alongside.

IAS – IPS Couple Have 40 Villas, Now Face Corruption Probe



Bureaucrats in India often face allegations over accumulating illegal wealth through abuse of their position. In another news that has grabbed headlines, an IAS – IPS couple from Rajasthan cadre have reportedly amassed huge wealth including 40 luxury Villas purchased within a little span. According to details, senior IAS officer Shikhar Agrawal and his wife senior IPS officer Prashakha Mathur, who are currently posted in Rajasthan, came under the Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) probe after it was exposed that the duo has 40 posh villas under their name. The bureaucrat family allegedly purchased 40 luxury cottages and villas across two high-end Ananta resorts in Udaipur and Alwar for around 6 crore rupees within two and a half years. Officials allege that the properties were acquired from a private firm at rates significantly lower than market value. The properties were registered under the names of Agrawal, his wife and their two so ns. The ACB suspects th at IAS officer Shikhar Agrawal misused his p revious official positions while working as Udai pur District Collector, En vironment Board Chairman, and ACS Industries to give illegal permissions to the resort owners. In return for official favour, the officer allegedly received heavily discounted properties. What is more shocking is that the family leased back all 40 properties to the same resort management company right after buying them and started earning 1.80 Crores rent every year.

Delhi Showdown: Rahul Gandhi Leads INDIA Bloc's Massive Rally



In what could be a massive political showdown, New Delhi is witnessing huge rallies by both the ruling and opposition parties on Sunday. While India Bloc parties have undertaken a public rally to Ramlila Maidan as mark of protest against Chief Election Commissioner Gynanesh Kumar, BJP leaders have launched counter rallies against these narratives. Led by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi along with top alliance leaders including Akhilesh Yadav and Mamata Banerjee, the India Bloc march started from Connaught Place over the alleged electoral malpractices. Thousands of supporters also gathered with the leaders and accompanied them to the protest site. Chief Minsters from several Congress ruled states and other prominent leaders also joined the rally Addressing the crowd, opposition leaders demanded the immediate resignation of the Chief Election Commissioner and vowed to continue their national campaign to safeguard voting rights. They insisted that protecting democratic institutions is more vital than short term political disputes. Rahul Gandhi came down heavily on BJP government for using police personnel to shut down the shops in the busy areas of the capital region adjoining the rally route. Though Rahul Gandhi appealed to all those participating in the rally to buy from shops, concerns have raised over losses to businesses ahead of the key festive season. Trade organizations like the Chamber of Trade and Industry stated that around rupees 12,000 crore worth of festive trade across 20 major commercial hubs was put at risk due to restrictions. On the other hand, the Bharatiya Janata Party also organized rallies at different parts of the city led by various leaders. They launched a sharp counter protest in West Delhi and slammed the INDIA bloc's timing. Senior BJP leaders called the rally an orchestrated drama aimed at creating public inconvenience and hurting small traders during prime business days. Meanwhile, the Cockroach Janata Party, which started the entire campaign against the CEC last month, has now only extended support but didn't take part in the rally to maintain neutrality.

What A Changeover, Jagan Sits On Pulivendula Streets



The former chief minister of Andhra Pradesh YS Jagan Mohan Reddy comes across as an extremely aggressive and rampant politician who has disregard for his opponents. The endless humiliations and hardships that Chandrababu and Pawan Kalyan endured between 2019 to 2024 is a testament to the same. Now it appears that the tables have turned very swiftly. In fact, Jagan is finding himself in a position of weakness as he took it to the streets of Pulivendula today. Jagan who had arrived in Pulivendula earlier today to oversee the local body election activities did something extremely unexpected and surprising by nature. Jagan argued that YCP sympathisers were not being allowed to vote in the Pulivendula local body election, and he sat down in protest of the same. Much to the surprise of everyone, Jagan sat down on the road and protested that his party sympathisers are not being allowed to vote in the polls. This comes at a time when the electoral battle in Pulivendula is heating up with Telugu Desam party and YCP indulging in a heated battle. Jagan, who is outrightly ruthless with his poltical approach and the tenacity to go for the outrageous decisions has done something unexpected as he sat down on the streets of Pulivendula. Many political experts are commenting that time and fate are funny in nature as those who abuse power can end up on the receiving end too.

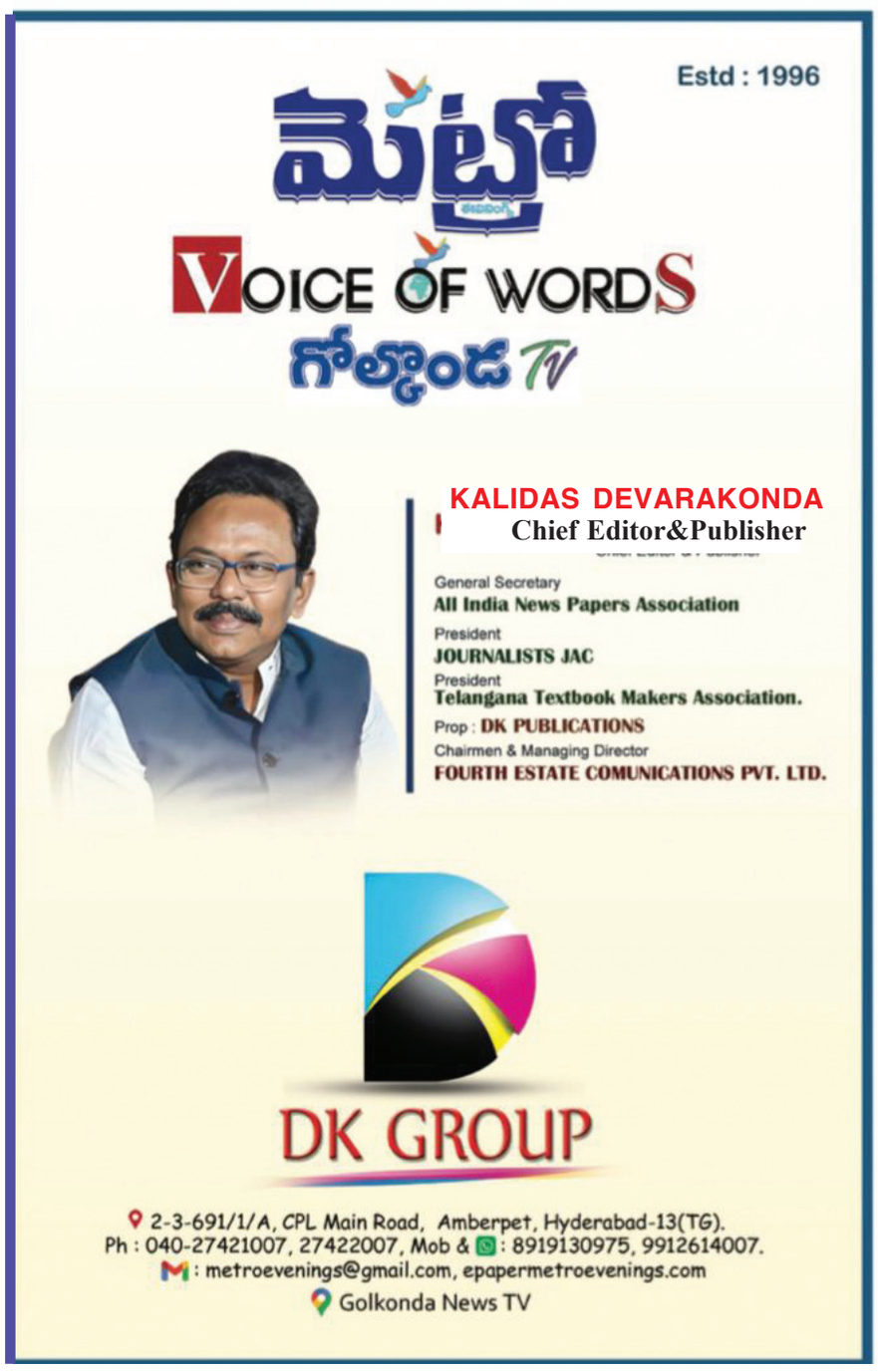
Police Open Fire On Rapthadu School Attack Accused

The Rapthadu school attack case has taken a dramatic turn, with police opening fire on accused He mant in the Atmakur forest area. The accused report edly sustained serious injuries while attempting to escape from the police. He was immediately shifted to a hospital for treatment. The latest development comes amid an intensive search operation following the brutal attack on a Class 10 student. The accused, identified as 21-year-old Hemant alias Dummu, entered the ZP High School in Raptadu on Saturday mo rning while classes were underway. He attacked a Cla ss 10 student with a chainsaw.

Rahul Gandhi's Jalsa Will Rub Salt In Wounds': Amit Shah Accuses Congress Of Insensitivity Over November 1 Rally, Invokes 1984 Anti-Sikh Riots

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday launched a sharp attack on the Congress and the INDIA bloc over their 'Vote Bachao, Desh Bachao' mega rally at Delhi's Ramlila Maidan, questioning the decision to hold the event on November 1, the anniversary of the 1984 anti-Sikh riots. Addressing a gathering in Chandigarh, Shah accused the Opposition alliance of hurting the sentiments of victims of the anti-Sikh violence by organising the rally on what he described as a dark day in the country's history. "Rahul Gandhi's November 1 jalsa in Delhi will only rub salt in the wounds of the victims of the anti-Sikh riots," Shah said, adding that thousands of people were killed in the 1984 violence. Taking a swipe at the Congress leader's ambition to become Prime Minister, Shah said, "If you want to become PM, stay in mock Parliament your entire life; your turn won't come." He further questioned the INDIA bloc's decision to organise the rally on the anniversary of the violence, saying that the only takeaway from Rahul Gandhi's 'mohabbat ki dukaan' was hatred for choosing such a day for the event.Meanwhile, several prominent INDIA bloc leaders gathered at Delhi's Ramlila Maidan for the 'Vote Bachao, Desh Bachao' mega rally against alleged electoral irregularities and to demand the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.







Education

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Telangana HC refuses to defer TGPSC AEE exams over SSC-JE schedule clash

Hyderabad: The Telangana High Court has declined to postpone the Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) examinations scheduled for November 6 and 7, permitting the Telangana Public Service Commission (TGPSC) to conduct them as notified.Justice K. Sarath passed the orders on Friday while hearing a petition filed by U. Satish and six others, who sought postponement citing a clash with the Staff Selection Commission's Junior Engineer examinations scheduled from November 2 to 6, with centres allotted in distant locations such as Mumbai, Pune, Thane and Nanded. The petitioners contended that candidates would face difficulty travelling back within 24 hours to attend the TGPSC examinations and pointed out that representations seeking rescheduling had been submitted on October 5, 9 and 14. Opposing the plea, senior counsel P.S. Rajasekhar, appearing for the TGPSC, submitted that the schedule could not be altered as over 40,000 candidates were expected to take the examinations, compared to approximately 10,000 for the SSC-JE examinations. However, the Commission offered to consider individual representations from candidates facing a clash and facilitate their appearance in both examinations at their respective district headquarters. Accordingly, the Court directed the TGPSC to examine such representations submitted on October 30, 5 pm and take an appropriate decision, while refusing to interfere with the examination schedule.

NEET-UG Fallout Puts Exam Integrity, Coaching Centres & Education Reforms Under Parliamentary Panel Scanner



New Delhi: A Parliamentary panel is set to examine the issue of integrity of national examinations and deliberate upon the need for reforms in the public examination system.The move comes amid questions being raised over the integrity of the examination process, which flared up following the leak of NEET-UG question papers for medical admissions earlier this year. The previous parliamentary panel on the subject had noted that the cancellation of NEET-UG 2026 despite all measures showed the need for greater procedural and institutional reforms. The department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports will also review the functioning of coaching centres and examine the regulations, their enforcement and compliance.The committee was reconstituted in September for a period of one year and has selected its subjects for 2026-27. According to a Lok Sabha bulletin, the panel will also review the progress of the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020.

The panel would also review the functioning and performance of the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), including affiliation, regulation, examination conduct and overseas ventures, and the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE). It would examine student welfare and support systems in school education, including health, safety, mental well-being, inclusive education and grievance redressal mechanisms. The panel would also review the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the leverage of emerging technologies on education and students' employability, and a review of the implementation of related UGC regulations and guidelines on internationalisation of higher education.

IHM Hyderabad hosts fifth national budding hospitality talent competitions

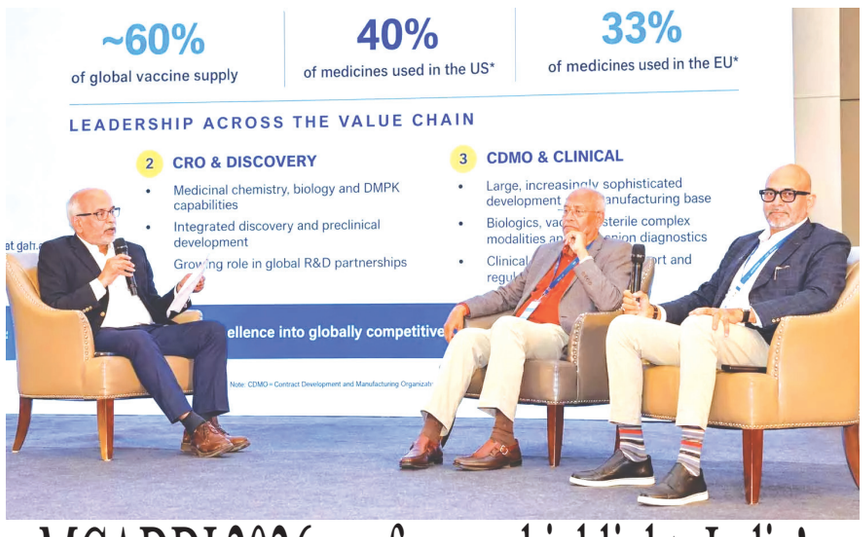


The Institute of Hotel Management, Hyderabad (IHM-Hyderabad), hosted the fifth season of its National Budding Events, comprising the National Budding Professional (Manager) Competition and the National Budding Chef Competition. The four-day event saw participation from 16 teams in each category, representing IHMs, State Institutes of Hotel Management (SIHMs) and private hospitality institutions across the country. The inaugural ceremony was attended by Sanjay Thakur, Principal and Member Secretary of IHM-Hyderabad; Rachna Agashe, Head of Department; and Puneet Razdan, Head of the Food and Beverage Service Department. The National Budding Professional competition featured events designed to assess participants' operational knowledge, communication, creativity and problem-solving skills. The activities included an online test, front desk service recovery, hotel revenue analysis, sales techniques, hotel marketing, food and beverage menu planning, cocktail making, digital suite design and Ikebana. Gautham Anand of Regency College, Hyderabad, was named Budding Professional 2026, while Pratishtha Singh of IHM Goa received the Ms. Budding Professional title. The runners-up were Giridhar Sidhant of IHM Bhubaneswar and Kirttiparnna Swain of IHM Chennai, respectively. The National Budding Chef competition included three events: Regional Authentic Indian Cookery, International Surprise Basket and cake decoration. These rounds assessed participants' culinary skills, creativity, technical execution and ability to work under time constraints. Chrislin Rose and Katta Nitin Srinivasarao of IHM Goa were declared the overall champions of the National Budding Chef 2026 competition. The duo also secured first place in Regional Authentic Indian Cookery and the cake decoration event, titled "Let the Cake Tell Your Story". In the International Surprise Basket category, Mandadi Venkata Harishwar and Naeem Ansari of IIHMCA Hyderabad secured first place. Mohammed Hyder Ali and Manthan Gangadhar Bahadure of CAI Hyderabad were runners-up, while Veer Parashar and Sarvesh Bhingare of IHM Mumbai received second runner-up recognition. Buy Maps The valedictory ceremony was attended by celebrity chef Rahul Wali as Guest of Honour, along with hospitality industry representatives from Lemon Tree Hotels, Taj Deccan, Marriott Executive Apartments, Green Park Hyderabad and Novotel HICC. Sanjay Thakur also attended the closing ceremony. The programme included cultural performances featuring mantra recitation, Ganesh Vandana and a street play on the theme of Swachhata. The event concluded with the presentation of awards across the professional and culinary categories, recognising the participants' performances during the competitions. Advertisement

Mumbai University Signs MoU With INCOIS To Set Up Marine Research Centre, Strengthen Coastal Disaster Preparedness



Mumbai: In a move to strengthen the resilience of coastal communities against natural disasters and climate change, the University of Mumbai (MU) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, to establish a joint marine research centre along Mahar ashtra's coastline. The proposed centre will focus on developing advanced ocean science services, strengthening early warning systems and improving disaster preparedness among communities spread across the nearly 720-km coastline associated with the university. Particular emphasis will be placed on identifying and communicating potential threats such as tsunamis, storm surges, high ocean waves, swell surges and changes in sea levels. The collaboration aims to strengthen the capacity of coastal communities in Mumbai, Palghar, Ratnagiri and Vengurla to respond to natural disasters and climate-related risks. It will also facilitate joint research and development projects in marine science, ocean technology and disaster risk reduction. The MoU was exchanged at a programme in Hyderabad in the presence of Dr T. Srinivasa Kumar, Secretary, Union Ministry of Earth Sciences. University of Mumbai Vice-Chancellor Prof Ravindra Kulkarni and INCOIS Director Dr T.M. Balakrishnan Nair exchanged the agreement. Speaking about the initiative, Prof Kulkarni said the partnership would focus on creating awareness, improving early warning mechanisms and strengthening disaster management systems to protect coastal populations. Both institutions will work towards reducing disaster risks, enhancing the resilience of coastal communities and developing solutions to address the challenges posed by climate change.



MCADDI 2026 conference highlights India's role in global drug discovery and innovation

The MCADDI 2026 Conference, held at ITC Kohenur, Hyderabad, brought together pharmaceutical industry leaders, researchers and academics to discuss India's evolving role in global drug discovery and innovation. The conference focused on the opportunities and challenges involved in moving beyond pharmaceutical manufacturing and service-based operations towards greater participation in original drug discovery and development. The scientific programme began with a keynote lecture by Percy Carter of Pfizer, USA, on advanc ed treatments for breast cancer. The session, ch aired by Balu Balasubra manian, examined developments in next-generation therapies and their role in cancer treatment. A CEO roundtable moderated by Balasubraman ian featured Manni Kant ipudi of Aragen and Gou tam Das of TCG Life Sciences. Discussions covered seven areas relevant to India's pharmaceutical innovation ecosystem, including intellectual property development, advanced research capabilities, clinical development, investment models and international partnerships. The speakers discussed the importance of developing original drug candidates, strengthening scientific research and building capabilities to take discoveries from laboratories to clinical applications. They also highlighted the need for collaborations based on sha red risks and intellectual property, alongside business models that support long-term research and development. The eveni ng also featured the FA BA and Shantha Excellence Awards 2026, recog nising contributions to pharmaceutical research and development. Dr. K. Anand Kumar, Managing Director of Indian Immu nologicals Limited, received the Lifetime Achie vement Award for his contributions to the pharmaceutical and vaccine sectors over a 34-year career. Buy Maps The Dr. B. S. Bajaj Memorial FABA Excellence Award was presented to Dr. Ma hesh V. Patel of Wock hardt Research Centre in recognition of his work in antibiotic research and drug development. Dr. S. Uday Kumar of IIT Tir upati received the Young Scientist Award, carrying a cash prize of Rs5 lakh. The doctoral awards, carrying Rs1 lakh each, were presented to Ruchika Dh awan of IIT Gandhinagar and Mohankumar B.S.

IIT Hyderabad to host half marathon 2026 on November 22

The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) will organise the IIT Hyderabad Half Marathon 2026 on Sunday, November 22, at its campus in Kandi, Sangareddy district. Murlikant Rajaram Petkar, India's first Paralympic gold medallist and a Padma Shri awardee, will attend as chief guest and flag off the event. Petkar, who received the Arjuna Award (Lifetime) for para-swimming, is known for his achievements in sport. His life story inspired the film Chandu Champion, which brought his journey to a wider audience. The annual event aims to encourage physical activity, fitness and community participation. It is open to students, faculty members, staff, alumni, working professionals, amateur runners, experienced athletes, families and fitness enthusiasts from Hyderabad, Sangareddy and other parts of Telangana. According to the institute, the marathon attracted nearly 2,000 runners in 2024 and approximately 3,000 in 2025.

VOICE OF WORDS

HEALTH

The hidden bone health risk women face after 35



For many women, bone health doesn't feel urgent in their 30s. There are no obvious symptoms, no sudden changes, nothing that signals something is off. But behind the scenes, changes are already taking place. From the age of 35, the body starts losing bone mass at a quicker pace than that which is being formed. It's a gradual process, often invisible in the early stages, but one that can have long-term consequences if ignored. "Bone loss after 35 is usually silent. Many women feel completely healthy, unaware that their bone strength may already be declining,".

What osteoporosis really means

Osteoporosis is often misunderstood as a condition that appears suddenly with age. In fact, it takes place gradually. It causes weakening of bones by causing them to become thin and brittle. "A person suffering from osteoporosis becomes more susceptible to bone fractures, particularly those involving hip joints, spinal cord, and wrist joints,".

Reasons why women are more at risk : There are numerous factors why bone loss occurs sooner in women. Even before menopause, a gradual decline in estrogen begins to affect bone strength. Since estrogen helps maintain bone density, even small shifts can make a difference over time.

Lifestyle factors add to it.

"Inadequate calcium and vitamin D intake, along with sedentary habits, can accelerate bone loss,". Pregna ncy and breastfeeding can also temporarily reduce calcium stores if the body isn't replenished properly.

The early signs are easy to miss

This is where it gets tricky. The signs aren't dramatic. A minor fracture after a small fall. A slight loss in height over time. Subtle posture changes. Persistent lower back pain that doesn't quite go away. "These may seem harmless individually, but they can indicate declining bone strength,". Because of their slow nature, they are often overlooked until the condition worsens.

Bone loss detection methods

One of the best ways to examine your bone health is by having a bone density test, popularly known as a DEXA scan. This will tell your doctor how many minerals are in your bones. "Early detection through screening allows timely intervention and prevents complications,". Bone loss after 35 doesn't come with a warning sign. It builds slowly, often unnoticed. But paying attention early, even when everything feels fine, can change how your body ages in the long run. Because strong bones aren't just about later life. They're built much earlier than most people think.

Always feeling tired for no clear reason?



Feeling tired has almost become normal in modern life. Long workdays, irregular sleep, constant notifications. People often shrug it off and move on. Another cup of coffee, maybe. But sometimes fatigue that seems random is not really random at all. According to Dr Sermed Mezher, a UK-based general practitioner, persistent tiredness without a clear cause may sometimes point to thiamine deficiency, also known as vitamin B1 deficiency. The condition often goes unnoticed because the symptoms are subtle and easy to blame on stress or ageing.

Why thiamine deficiency is often overlooked

Thiamine deficiency rarely gets attention during routine medical checks. "Thiamine levels are almost never tested in standard clinical practice,". Yet several studies have found measurable deficiencies across different patient groups. Part of the problem lies in how the symptoms appear. "In the early stages, a lack of thiamine shows up as fatigue, irritability, poor memory or sleep disturbances," he said. These signs are easy to dismiss. Patie nts may think they are simply stressed. Doctors might attribute the symptoms to lifestyle pressures or ageing. Either way, the underlying issue can remain unnoticed.

Modern habits that quietly deplete vitamin B1

Certain lifestyle patterns may also increase the body's demand for thiamine. Doctor pointed out that modern diets can sometimes work against healthy levels of the nutrient. "High consumption of refined carbohydrates and alcohol significantly increases the body's need for thiamine because it is a critical cofactor in processing glucose," he explained. Some medications can also play a role. "Certain diuretics used for blood pressure can increase the rate at which the kidneys flush thiamine out of the body," Doctor said.

These combined factors can slowly push the body towards deficiency.

Early signs of thiamine deficiency

The early symptoms are usually non specific, which is why they are often overlooked.

Common signs may include:

- Persistent fatigue
- Mental fuzziness
- Mood changes such as irritability
- Subtle memory problems. Because these symptoms resemble everyday stress responses, people rarely connect them with nutrient deficiencies.

When thiamine deficiency becomes serious

If the deficiency continues for a long time, more severe health problems can develop. In advanced cases, it can lead to beriberi, a condition that affects both the nervous system and the heart.

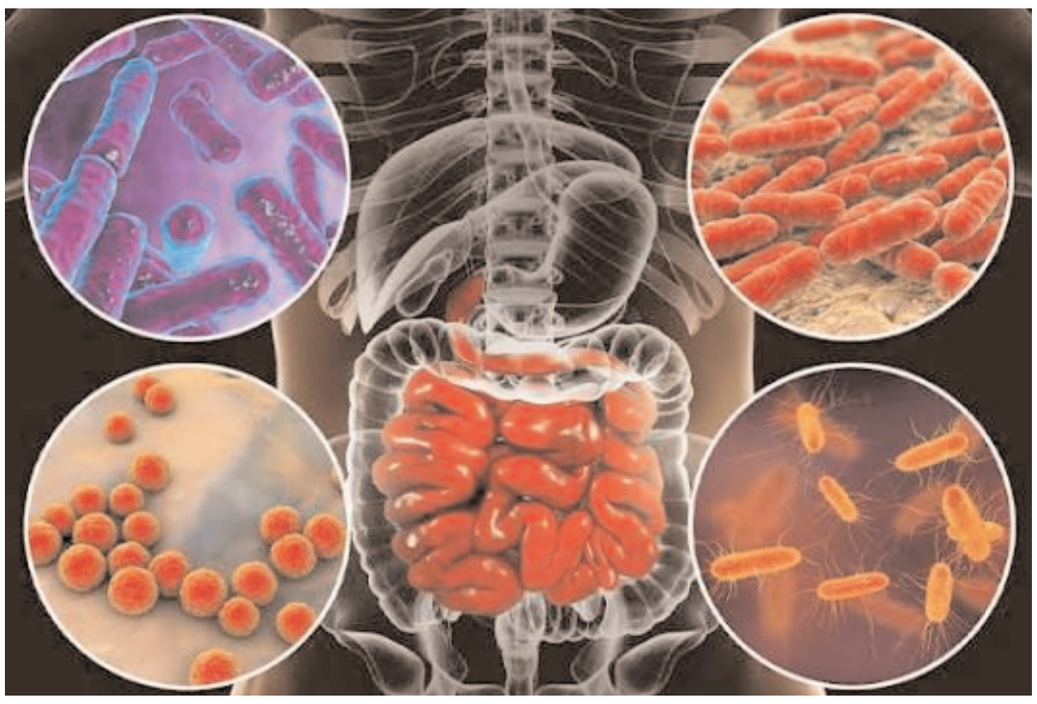
According to Doctor, the disorder may cause:

- Muscle wasting
- Numbness or nerve damage
- Heart complications including heart failure
- Although these outcomes are less common, they highlight how essential thiamine is for normal body function.

How thiamine deficiency can be corrected

The encouraging part is that thiamine deficiency is often relatively easy to treat once identified. "Thiamine deficiency can usually be addressed with dietary changes or oral supplementation," .

Your gut may be controlling your immunity



In modern cities, everything moves fast. Eating is quick, anxiety is always present, and convenience beats nutrition. But while this fast pace helps in advancing one's career, it has been slowly damaging another vital component, the digestive system. Increasingly, doctors are seeing a clear pattern. People who appear otherwise healthy are dealing with digestive issues, low immunity and even mood disturbances, all linked back to the gut.

"In urban India, where we live busy lives, eat processed foods and are constantly under stress, gut health is becoming central to a strong immune system,". "The gut microbiome acts like a command centre, housing trillions of bacteria that regulate immunity and inflammation."

Your gut is doing more than digesting food

The gut is often described as the body's "second brain", and for good reason.It plays a crucial role in building immune responses, producing essential nutrients and maintaining overall balance in the body. Around 70 per cent of the immune system is linked to the gut, making it one of the most important systems to protect.

"When the gut microbiome is balanced, it strengthens the body's ability to fight infections and manage inflammation,"Often referred to as the body's "second brain," the gut plays a critical role not just in digestion, but also in regulating metabolism, immunity, and even mood.

How urban lifestyles are disrupting gut balance

Modern urban habits are not desig ned for gut health. Irregular eating patterns, high intake of processed foods, frequent antibiotic use and constant stress are all contributing to gut imbalances. These disruptions can lead to conditions like IBS, allergies and even mood-related issues through the gut-brain connection.

Stress is one of the biggest disruptors of gut health.

"For urban Indians, pollution, desk jobs and daily stress throw the gut out of balance," says Senior Consultant in Medical Gastroenterol ogy, Hepatol ogy and Nutrition at Cytecare Hospitals, Bangalore. "This can weaken immunity, increa se inflammation and make people more vulnerable to infections." He adds that this imbalance can also affect how the immune system responds, sometimes making it overactive or less effective.

Why gut health affects more than digestion

A healthy gut does more than just process food.

It improves nutrient absorption, stabilises mood and even reduces the risk of long-term conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and colon-related issues.

Small, consistent changes can help restore balance:

- Include natural probiotics like curd and fermented foods
- Add fibre-rich foods such as millets and vegetables
- Manage stress through yoga or mindfulness
- Avoid unnecessary antibiotics
- Maintain regular meal timings

"We have seen patients improve significantly with simple dietary and lifestyle changes that support gut health," says Dr Agarwal.

A shift towards preventive health

As awareness grows, more people are beginning to understand that gut health is not just about digestion, but about long-term wellness. "Eat with intention, listen to your body and prioritise your gut," advises Dr Kote. "It is one of the simplest ways to build resilience and maintain overall health."In the middle of busy urban lives, gut health often gets overlooked. But it may be one of the most important factors shaping immunity, energy and overall well-being. Taking care of it is not a trend. It is a return to balance that the body has been asking for all along.

VOICE OF WORDS

WOMEN

Know the right way to wash your face



The first step of skin care is cleansing the face. The face is washed to cleanse the skin. But, if the face is not washed at the right time and properly, then skincare does not have much effect. Impurities and dead skin cells can remain stuck on the face. At the same time, if the face is washed excessively, it can damage the skin barrier. In such a situation, know here how many times a day you should wash your face.

How many times a day should you wash your face?

You should wash your face twice a day. It is important to wash your face after waking up in the morning and before going to bed at night. If you cleanse your face after waking up in the morning, then the skin can absorb the product better. At the same time, it is important to wash your face at night so that the dust and makeup of the day can be removed from the skin. Thus, it is important to wash your face twice a day. If your face becomes too oily during the day or dirt starts appearing on your face, then you can wash your face.

Things to keep in mind while washing your face

- While washing your face, take special care that the cleanser you are using is according to your skin type.
- If the cleanser is not according to your skin type, then it will not clean your face properly.
- After washing your face, apply toner and moisturizer. Even if you are not applying toner, it is very important to apply moisturizer.
- Do not choose face washes with coarse granules. Face washes with coarse granules leave small cuts on the skin.
- This can cause excessive exfoliation of the face, which can damage the skin.
- Wet your face and apply face wash. After rubbing the face wash on your face for 20 to 30 seconds, and wash and clean your face.
- After washing your face, instead of rubbing and wiping the skin, wipe the face dry by patting it lightly.



5 effective gram flour remedies for facial hair



No woman likes unwanted hair on the face. Some women get waxed or use a razor to remove unwanted facial hair. At the same time, many women also take expensive treatments to remove unwanted hair from the face. But these treatments are also effective on the skin only for some time. At the same time, using wax or a razor on the face causes a lot of pain, or there is a fear of skin peeling and cutting.<In such a situation, if you want, you can resort to some home remedies to remove unwanted hair from the face. Gram flour is also included in these remedies.

Yes, by using gram flour, you can easily remove unwanted hair from your face. Gram flour not only cleans the skin deeply but also helps in removing unwanted facial hair. Also, it helps in making the skin soft and smooth. So come, let's know how to remove unwanted facial hair with gram flour.

1. Gram flour and honey

You can use gram flour and honey to remove unwanted hair from the face. For this, take 2 teaspoons of gram flour in a bowl.

Add 2 teaspoons of honey and a pinch of turmeric and mix well. Now apply this paste on your face and leave it for some time. When it dries, remove this paste with a wet towel in the opposite direction of hair growth. After that, wash the face with water. By doing this remedy 2 to 3 times a week, unwanted hair will gradually disappear .

2. Gram flour and rose water

To get rid of facial hair, you can use gram flour and rose water. For this, take 2 teaspoons of gram flour in a bowl. Add 2 teaspoons of rose water and one teaspoon of lemon juice and mix well. Now apply this paste on your face and leave it to dry. After about 20 minutes, remove the paste by rubbing it lightly and then wash your face with water. By using it 2-3 times a week, you can get rid of unwanted facial hair.

3. Gram flour and curd

A mixture of gram flour and curd can also prove to be effective in removing unwanted facial hair. For this, take 2 teaspoons of gram flour in a bowl. Add 2 teaspoons of curd to it and mix it well. Now apply this paste on your face for some time. After about 20 minutes, rub the paste lightly with your hands and then wash your face with lukewarm water. By using it 2-3 times a week, you can get rid of facial hair.

4. Gram flour and papaya

If you want to remove unwanted hair from your face, then you can use gram flour and papaya. Actually, papaya contains an enzyme called papain, which can help in preventing hair growth. For this, take 2 teaspoons of gram flour in a bowl. Add one teaspoon of papaya pulp and one teaspoon of aloe vera gel and mix it well. Now apply this paste on the face and leave it for some time. After about 30 minutes, remove the paste by rubbing it lightly in the opposite direction of hair growth. After that, wash the face with water. By using it 2-3 times a week, you can get rid of unwanted hair.

5. Gram flour and lentils

A paste of gram flour and lentils can also prove to be very effective in removing unwanted facial hair. For this, first grind 2 teaspoons of lentils finely. Now add 2 grams of flour and one teaspoon of lemon juice to it and prepare a thick paste. After this, apply this paste on your entire face and leave it to dry. When the paste dries, remove the paste by rubbing it lightly in the opposite direction of hair growth. After that, wash the face with water. For better results, you can apply this paste 3-4 times a week. This can help you get rid of facial hair .

Are you making your dark spots worse?

Are you unknowingly making your dark spots darker? It might sound surprising, but some skincare habits that are meant to fade pigmentation can actually make it linger for longer. Whether it's over-exfoliating or relying on home remedies, seemingly harmless practices can sometimes do more damage than good.

In a recent Instagram video titled "3 mistakes that can make your dark spots worse", dermatologist Dr Ankur Sarin highlighted three common mistakes that may be preventing dark spots from fading. He wrote in the caption, "Dark spots aren't stubborn by default most of the time; it's the approach that's wrong. They form due to excess melanin after acne, sun exposure, or irritation and without the right ingredients, they tend to linger."

3 mistakes that could be making your dark spots worse

1. Scrubbing your skin too hard

Trying to speed up the fading process by scrubbing harder is one of the biggest mistakes people make, according to Dr Sarin. He said many patients resort to harsh exfoliation, daily scrubs or vigorous towel rubbing in the hope of clearing pigmentation more quickly.



Instead of helping, these habits can further irritate the skin, making pigmentation even more difficult to manage. He recommends taking a gentler approach that supports the skin's natural healing process rather than repeatedly stressing it.

2. Depending on kitchen remedies instead of proven skincare ingredients

DIY remedies are popular, but Dr Sarin says they shouldn't replace skincare ingredients backed by scientific evidence. He explained that choosing the right active ingredients can make a noticeable difference when dealing with pigmentation. For prevention, he recommends niacinamide. If redness is a concern, he suggests tranexamic acid, while alpha arbutin and vitamin C may help target more persistent dark spots. His advice is to rely on evidence-based ingredients that are specifically formulated for pigmentation.

3. Not wearing sunscreen consistently

No dark spot routine is complete without sunscreen, according to Dr Sarin. He recommends using a broad-spectrum sunscreen every day alongside any treatment aimed at reducing pigmentation.

Skipping sun protection can undermine the rest of your skincare routine. Continued exposure to sunlight may deepen pigmentation, making existing dark spots harder to fade and reducing the effectiveness of the products you're already using. Dark spots rarely disappear overnight, and consistency often matters more than trying multiple remedies at once. A simple routine backed by evidence and daily sun protection can go a long way in supporting healthier-looking skin.



International News

VOICE OF WORDS

Wednesday, November 04, 2026

Turkey throws its former foreign minister's name into the race for next UN chief



ISTANBUL: Turkey has officially nominated a former foreign minister and yearslong ambassador to the United Nations for the next U.N. secretary-general, state-run media reported Saturday. The next U.N. chief will succeed António Guterres, who has led the world body for almost 10 years. The organization is under pressure to reform as it finds itself sidelined in wars in Iran, Ukraine and Gaza while also facing a financial crisis that has forced major cuts to humanitarian and development programs. Feridun Sinirlioglu, a 70-year-old former Turkish foreign minister and U.N. diplomat, had floated his candidacy on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly's high-level meeting in New York last month. Sinirlioglu was Turkey's top diplomat for a few months in 2015, an interim period between elections, and its U.N. ambassador between 2016 and 2023. He currently serves as the secretary-general of the Vienna-based Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. His current three-year mandate is scheduled to end in December 2027, but the top U.N. job would have a Jan. 1 start date. Ahmet Yildiz, Turkey's current representative to the U.N., told the Anadolu news agency that Sinirlioglu's name was officially submitted with backing from Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. OSCE Secretary General Feridun Sinirlioglu attends a joint news conference with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov after their talks in Moscow, Russia, on March 11, 2025.

Erdogan has been vocal in calling for reform of the U.N. Security Council, especially criticizing the dominance of its five permanent members. Sinirlioglu is likely to reflect the president's agenda. The next U.N. secretary-general will be decided by the 15-nation U.N. Security Council, especially its five veto-wielding members — the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France. The 193-member General Assembly must give final approval. Sinirlioglu will likely face obstacles from several corners, including Turkey's neighbor Greece, which is one of the 10 elected members of the Security Council. Pushback also would be expected from Israel, a close ally of the United States. Seven other candidates are vying to replace Guterres as he finishes his second five-year term. Under an informal regional rotation of the U.N.'s top job, a candidate from the Latin American and Caribbean region could be selected.

'Not A Crisis Of Production, But Of Unpredictability': Jaishankar Flags Global Energy Disruptions, Unaffordable Costs & Supply Challenges At G20 Meet



Washington: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar strongly disapproved of disruptions in global oil supplies through sanctions and chokep oints, saying deliberate attacks on energy trade and infrastructure were a calculated strategy to hold prices hostage. Jaish ankar's remarks at the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Atlanta on Friday came amid Ame rican sanctions on the sale of Iranian oil and disruption to energy supplies from West Asia and the decision to lift sanctions on the sale of Russian diesel. The minister said that the world was staring at an energy crisis not of production, but of unpredictability and disruption, unaffordable costs, and challenges of access. "The G20 must display both understanding and leadership to keep energy markets open and predictable," he said at the meeting convened by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio. The minister emphasised that continuous distortions of energy markets through obstacles, sanctions and chokepoints were happening with increasing frequency, greater complexity and wider impact. Jaishankar said he underscored that there appears to be little regard for the predicament of low-income countries. The minister said that convenient distinctions are being drawn between oil and gas. "Selective carve-outs speak for themselves," he said. Jaishankar said he reiterated that the knock-on effects and mutual dependence in a globalised market should not be underestimated. He reaffirmed that India needs reliable and predictable LPG supplies for its clean cooking needs. Jaishankar reiterated that India's National Mission on critical minerals spans exploration to recycling. He also said India has proposed a G20 Critical Minerals Circularity Initiative. The minister said the G20 must widen access to finance and advance storage, small modular reactors, green hydrogen and biofuels.

Zakir Naik Faces Backlash For Defending Taliban's Restrictions On Girls' Education

Controversial Islamic preacher Zakir Naik has come under sharp criticism from journalists, activists, academics and citizens in India, Pakistan and Afghanistan after defending the Taliban's restrictions on girls' education in Afghanistan. In a video that has gained traction on social media, Naik accused the media of presenting a misleading picture of the situation in Afghanistan. "Everything that comes in the media is not true", he claimed."So if someone delays the education till they have the right teacher, there is no problem at all", he added.Defending the Taliban administration, Naik argued that the authorities had only deferred secondary and higher education for girls until adequate security arrangements could be made. He claimed that girls were still allowed to pursue education up to Class 6, while further studies remained suspended because of concerns over safe learning environments and a shortage of female teachers. Naik also alleged that Afghan women continued to pursue master's degrees and PhDs in Islamic studies and Sharia.The comments drew a strong response from the father of Pakistani education activist Malala Yousafzai, who described Naik's defence of the Taliban's policies as "deeply troubling and disappointing". "It is deeply troubling and disappointing to see an Islamic scholar of such global prominence as Dr. @drzakiranaik rationalise the Taliban's systematic exclusion of girls from education", he said."Presenting an indefinite ban as a mere "postponement" and invoking a shortage of female teachers without explaining how that shortage can be addressed is not a credible defence", he added.



US Approves $2.1 Billion Sale Of 500 Patriot PAC-3 MSE Interceptors To Ukraine, With Europe & Canada Funding The Major Defence Deal

Washington DC: The United States has approved a potential sale of 500 Patriot PAC-3 Missile Segment Enhancement (MSE) interceptors to Ukraine for an estimated USD 2.1 billion, with the purchase to be funded entirely by European partners alongside Canada. The US State Department formally announced the approval on Friday, indicating that the proposed sale is designed to bolster Ukraine's air defences and missile protection against contemporary and emerging threats. Canada, Germany and Norway are set to contribute towards the acquisition through the US JUMPSTART programme, alongside financial allocations from a European Union credit facility. No American financial resources are involved in the deal, according to official statements from the department. Lockheed Martin will serve as the primary contractor. The proposed package additionally includes classified and unclassified spare parts, alongside comprehensive logistics and programme support.The official announcement omitted specific details regarding when the interceptors will be dispatched or whether any hardware components will be locally manufactured in Ukraine under a proposed arrangement with Lockheed Martin. This clearance comes as Ukraine confronts persistent Russian ballistic missile attacks while striving to reinforce its air defences ahead of the winter season. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy noted earlier this week that Kyiv had spent nearly a month awaiting formal clearance from Washington for critical missile supplies designated for its Patriot and NASAMS defence grids. Ukraine's existing stockpile of Patriot interceptors was entirely depleted earlier this month, a previous CNN report indicated. The PAC-3 MSE is the most sophisticated iteration of the Patriot interceptor currently operational, functioning as one of the few armaments capable of neutralising incoming ballistic threats. Zelenskyy has repeatedly urged the United States and broader Western allies to accelerate delivery schedules. Earlier this month, he stated that Ukraine had secured an average of merely 12 Patriot interceptors per month from the US throughout the year, whereas military requirements dictate intercepting roughly 150 incoming Russian ballistic projectiles monthly. In a video statement published on social media on Friday, Zelenskyy drew attention to the acute deficit, reporting that Russia had targeted Ukraine with 17 ballistic missiles overnight.

G20 Atlanta Meeting Ends Without Consensus As Russia-Ukraine War, Iran Conflict & Global Security Divisions Overshadow Talks



Atlanta: Top diplomats from the Group of 20 largest world economies will wrap up two days of talks in Atlanta on Saturday without reaching consensus on several critical global security issues after divisions, notably over Russia's war with Ukraine, overshadowed the start of the meeting.As a result, the group will not release a joint communique but will rather rely on a chairman's statement summarizing the talks, which Secretary of State Marco Rubio will release at the conclusion, according to diplomats who attended. Rubio, who opened the talks with an appeal for unity, had canceled the traditional group photo of the foreign ministers on Friday after European diplomats objected to the inclusion of Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and threatened to boycott or walk out of the snapshot that often kicks off such gatherings.Polish Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski, who was representing his country for the first time as a guest at a G20 meeting, said Friday he was not surprised by the failure to reach consensus. "We have wars going on, and we have participants in those wars around the table, so it's very difficult to agree on a common line," he told reporters. Other participants in the meetings, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to discuss the closed-door talks, said all had agreed to try to overcome their differences despite the long odds and to work to make next month's G20 leaders summit hosted by President Donald Trump in Florida a success. These diplomats said a chairman's statement had long been the plan due to the deep differences among the attendees, including over the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the US-Israeli war against Iran, US tariffs and Chinese machinations in the South China Sea. All have contributed to spikes in the global cost of fuel as well as uncertainty about trade. They described the opening session as cordial but said Russia's position on Ukraine is unyielding — as is its opposition to Poland's membership in the G20. And they said the disagreements also include the Trump administration's not inviting G20 member South Africa over the objections of others.Some G20 countries had already expressed concern that the US invited Russia during its heightened attacks on Ukraine, especially after Trump pushed ties with Ukraine to new lows by waiving fresh sanctions on Moscow and temporarily limiting logistical and intelligence assistance. However, the State Department announced Friday that it had approved a proposed $2.1 billion sale of Patriot air defense interceptors for Ukraine. Lavrov said Moscow will not allow a situation in which Ukraine poses a "military threat to legitimate security interests of the Russian Federation." Lavrov has traveled only infrequently to NATO member states since Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022 and resulting severe sanctions were imposed on Moscow, and it is unclear if Russian President Vladimir Putin will accept Trump's invitation to attend the G20 leaders summit at his Miami golf club in December.

VOICE OF WORDS

BUSINESS

SEBI Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey Pushes For Stronger Investor Protection

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey on Saturday reiterated the regulator's commitment to making India's capital markets more accessible, efficient and resilient while strengthening investor protection. Addressing the Bharat Chamber of Commerce Investors Forum in Kolkata, Pandey said SEBI's priorities include facilitating capital formation, simplifying business regulations and safeguarding investors, PTI reported. He noted that India's market capitalisation has expanded significantly over the past decade, with companies raising more than Rs10 lakh crore annually, on average, through equity and debt issuances.Highlighting regional growth, Pandey said West Bengal's securities market investor base had increased from approximately 12 lakh in financial year 2014-15 to more than 90 lakh currently. Around 36% of these investors are below 30 years of age. The state also has 379 listed companies with registered offices in West Bengal. Additionally, more than 40 micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) have raised over Rs1,400 crore through small and medium enterprise initial public offerings (SME IPOs). Pandey said growing investor participation demonstrates the expanding reach of India's capital markets. The regulator has introduced several measures to reduce compliance costs and make fundraising more efficient. These include simplifying IPO procedures, accelerating rights issues and rationalising listing requirements for large companies. SEBI has also permitted certain employee stock options after listing, subject to prescribed conditions, and shortened public issue listing timelines. Other reforms include allowing debt securities with lower face values and easing merchant banking requirements for eligible private placements. Pandey stressed



that investor education remains essential to building confidence and protecting market participants. He said strong markets must remain resilient during financial stress rather than merely perform efficiently under normal conditions. According to Pandey, the true measure of capital market development lies in connecting household savings with productive investments, helping businesses raise funds and enabling investors to participate in economic growth.

GST mop-up grows 23 per cent to over Rs 2.31 lakh cr in October



NEW DELHI: Gross GST collections increased 23 per cent to over Rs 2.31 lakh crore in October, driven by strong mop-up from domestic activities and imports, according to government data released on Sunday. Gross GST collections from domestic sales rose 16 per cent to over Rs 1.59 lakh crore, and revenues from imports climbed 42 per cent to Rs 72,246 crore. The Rs 2.31 lakh crore collection includes Central GST mop-up of 42,935 crore, State GST of Rs 51,340 crore and Integrated GST of over Rs 1.37 lakh crore, data showed. Goods and Services Tax (GST) refunds increased 6.5 per cent year-on-year to Rs 27,934 crore in October. After adjusting for refunds, net GST collections rose 26 per cent to over Rs 2.03 lakh crore in October. During April-October, gross GST collection grew 13.2 per cent to over Rs 14.77 lakh crore. Net collections rose 13 per cent to over Rs 12.69 lakh crore.

Windfall Tax Hiked On Diesel, ATF Exports From Oct 31; Petrol Export Duty Cut To Zero



The Central government on Saturday increased the windfall gains tax on diesel and aviation turbine fuel (ATF) exports while reducing the levy on petrol exports to zero, effective Oct 31. The revised rates will remain applicable for the next fortnight, according to a notification issued by the Finance Ministry. The changes come amid continuing tensions in West Asia, which have prompted the government to regulate petroleum product exports to safeguard domestic fuel availability.Under the revised structure, the combined special additional excise duty (SAED) and road and infrastructure cess on diesel exports has increased to Rs11.5 per litre from Rs8.5 per litre. The export duty on ATF has been raised marginally to Rs11 per litre, compared with Rs10.5 per litre during the previous fortnight. However, the government has removed the duty on petrol exports, bringing it down from Rs2.5 per litre to nil. The Finance Ministry clarified that existing duty rates on petrol and diesel supplied for domestic consumption remain unchanged. The revised export levies are intended to influence overseas shipments without altering the specified domestic fuel duties.The government initially imposed export duties on diesel and ATF on March 27 amid escalating geopolitical tensions in West Asia. It subsequently introduced fortnightly revisions to the levy, allowing rates to be adjusted according to prevailing conditions. Petrol exports were brought under the duty framework from May 16. The measures were introduced to discourage excessive exports and ensure adequate pe troleum product availability in the domestic m arket. They were also aimed at preventing exporters from benefiting disproportionately from price differences after international crude oil prices rose following the outbreak of the conflict. By raising duties on diesel and ATF while eliminating the petrol export levy, the government has adopted different tax rates for individual petroleum products. The latest revision continues the fortnightly mechanism introduced to manage fuel exports during the regional crisis.

Bank Loans Against Fixed Deposits Surge 53.3% To Rs 2.17 Trillion

Advances against fixed deposits by scheduled commercial banks surged 53.3% year-on-year to Rs 2.17 trillion as of Sept 30, 2026, according to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data cited in a report by Business Standard. The category includes loans backed by Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) deposits and other specified deposits. Growth accelerated from 14.3% a year earlier, supported by lending against deposits mobilised through a concessional swap facility introduced on June 8. Banks had mobilised $133 billion under the facility by Aug 31, 2026, according to the supplied figures.Overall bank credit increased 19.4% to ?229.95 trillion, compared with 11.4% growth a year earlier. Non-food credit rose 19.1% to ?228.98 trillion. Services recorded the fastest sectoral expansion, with lending climbing 28.3% to Rs 64.9 trillion. Agricultural credit grew 19.5% to Rs 28.19 trillion, against 8.9% in the previous year. Loans to non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) jumped 41.8% to Rs 22.53 trillion, compared with 3.7% growth earlier. Industrial credit increased 19.5% to Rs 49.77 trillion. Lending to medium enterprises rose 33.2%, while micro and small enterprises registered 24.4% growth. Personal loans expanded 17.3% to Rs 74.27 trillion, compared with 11.5% a year earlier. Within retail lending, advances against gold jewellery surged 83% to Rs 5.6 trillion, although growth moderated from the previous year's pace. The weighted average lending rate (WALR) on fresh rupee loans declined to 8.51% in September from 8.61% in August. The rate on outstanding loans remained unchanged at 8.96%. Fresh lending rates stood at 7.93% for public sector banks, 7.76% for foreign banks and 9.19% for private sector lenders. Corresponding rates on outstanding loans were 8.39%, 8.01% and 9.82%, respectively. The RBI said housing and vehicle lending remained resilient, while education and gold-backed loan growth slowed despite remaining strong.



FPIs Withdraw Rs 34,843 Crore From Indian Equities In October, Turn Net Buyers In Final Week

New Delhi: Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) withdrew ?34,843 crore from Indian equities in October 2026, marking the second consecutive month of heavy selling. However, foreign investors returned as net buyers during the final week, signalling a possible improvement in market sentiment. According to Central Depository Services Ltd (CDSL) data, FPIs had withdrawn ?35,861 crore in September. Earlier, they invested ?20,200 crore in July and ?29,631 crore in August.With October's withdrawals, cumulative FPI outflows from Indian equities in 2026 have reached ?2.95 lakh crore. Foreign investors infused approximately ?6,300 crore between October 26 and 30, reversing the nearly ?2,700 crore outflow recorded in the preceding week.FPIs remained net buyers in three of the four trading sessions ending October 30, offering some relief to Indian equity markets.Anand K Rathi, co-founder of MIRA Money, attributed October's selling to elevated crude oil prices, global interest rates and uncertainty surrounding corporate earnings. He said sustained foreign inflows would depend on improving global economic conditions, stabilising crude prices and stronger earnings visibility. Domestic institutional investors continued absorbing foreign selling, helping maintain market stability. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Investments, said the US Federal Reserve's decision to maintain interest rates, attractive large-cap valuations and India's economic growth supported renewed foreign interest.He added that weakness in the global artificial intelligence trade could also influence investment allocations. The improved flows helped the Nifty reclaim the 23,000 level. Foreign investors remained selective, favouring pharmaceutical, healthcare and digital platform stocks while reducing exposure to large-cap financial companies. Pabitro Mukherjee of Bajaj Broking said the reversal was encouraging, although crude prices and geopolitical risks could restrict momentum. Investors will monitor the upcoming US mid-term elections, Brent crude movements, geopolitical conflicts and quarterly corporate earnings for further market direction.

Gold Prices Crash Rs 3,200 To Rs 1.42 Lakh, Silver Plunges Rs 4,200 Amid Fed Rate Fears



New Delhi: Gold and silver prices continued their downward trend in the national capital on Saturday, October 31, as rising crude oil prices, inflation concerns and uncertainty over US Federal Reserve interest rates weighed on precious metals. Gold prices fell Rs 3,200 toRs 1,42,000 per 10 grams, while silver declined Rs 4,200 to Rs 1,86,000 per kilogram, according to the All India Sarafa Association. Both prices include taxes. Gold of 99.9% purity dropped from Friday's closing price of Rs 1,45,200 per 10 grams. The yellow metal is now trading near levels last recorded in December 2025. Silver also weakened from Rs 1,90,200 per kg in the previous session, approaching its December 2025 price levels.Gold has declined Rs 7,300 from rs 1,49,300 per 10 grams recorded on September 30. Silver has witnessed a sharper correction, losing Rs 46,000 from Rs 2.32 lakh per kg during the same period. The decline follows September's weakness, when gold dropped Rs 11,600 and silver fell Rs 13,500 from their respective August-end levels.International bullion markets also witnessed heavy selling pressure. Spot gold plunged nearly 4%, or $145.84, to $3,875.55 per ounce on Friday. Silver declined 6%, or $3.04, to $49.12 per ounce. Rahul Khetawat of 360 ONE Asset attributed the correction to rising energy prices, inflation concerns and hawkish commentary from the US Federal Reserve.Manav Modi of Motilal Oswal Financial Services said higher oil prices had strengthened expectations of tighter monetary policy. He added that selling in technology stocks and forced liquidation increased pressure on bullion, particularly silver. Rajeev Sharan, Head of Research at Brickwork Ratings, described the decline as a healthy correction rather than a reversal of the broader trend. He noted that gold declined around 6% from its October high, while silver corrected approximately 17%.According to Sharan, festive and wedding-related purchases in India, alongside continued central bank buying, could support gold prices. Silver's industrial demand from solar panels and electronics may also provide support, although volatility could persist. Analysts expect both metals to experience choppy trading before a gradual recovery.

VOICE OF WORDS

SPORTS



Karan Singh/Atharva Sharma duo captures ITF M15 doubles title in Egypt

Chandigarh: Indian youngsters Karan Singh and Atharva Sharma added a prestigious international trophy to their cabinet, capturing the men's doubles title at the ITF Men's World Tennis Tour M15 tournament in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, on Sunday. Karnan Singh and Atharva Sharma, the top-seeded duo, delivered a masterclass in tactical discipline, sharp net play, and mental fortitude throughout the tournament, which ran from October 26 to November 1. This victory fetched Karan, a Roundglass Tennis Academy (RGTA) athlete, his 5th title of the year, and underscored his incredible recent momentum, standing as his third title win and fifth final appearance in the last two months. At Sharm El Sheikh, Karan and Atharva navigated a demanding international draw with remarkable composure. In the quarterfinals, the top seeds demonstrated their clinical edge by defeating the international pairing of Switzerland's Lars Aregger and Austria's Niklas Waldner in straight sets, winning 6-3, 7-6. Carrying their momentum deep into the tournament, the Indian pair faced a tough test in the semifinals against the third-seeded Turkish duo of Melih Anavatan and S. Mert Ozdemir, holding their nerve in a tightly contested battle to prevail 7-6, 6-3 and book their spot in the title clash. In the championship match, Karan and Atharva delivered their finest performance of the week against the second-seeded pair of Nikita Ianin and Egypt's Karim Ibrahim. Displaying stellar synergy and relentless pressure during crucial moments, the top seeds sealed a hard-fought 7-6, 6-4 victory to officially claim the championship crown, his academy informed in a release on Sunday. This latest success in Egypt serves as a strong continuation of Karan's stellar 2026 calendar, which has already seen him claim multiple singles and doubles titles on the international professional circuit. His consistent ability to excel under pressure stands as a powerful testament to the elite training and holistic development ecosystem cultivated at the Roundglass Tennis Academy. Based in Chandigarh, the academy continues to firmly establish itself as a premier developmental hub for elite Indian tennis talent, equipping players with the technical prowess and resilience needed to succeed on the global stage.

Biten Singh clocks 4:24:29 to rewrite Ironman 70.3 Goa course record



Margao (Goa): Indian Army athlete Biten Singh produced a record-breaking performance to win the sixth edition of Ironman 70.3 Goa on Sunday, clocking 4:24:29 to better the previous course record of 4:25:47 set by Uzbekistan's Konstantin Belou sov in 2025. Singh finished 1 minute and 18 seconds faster than the previous course record, marking a significant milestone at one of India's premier endurance sporting events. More than 2,000 triathletes from 30 countries took on the demanding course, comprising a 1.9-km swim, a 90-km cycling leg and a 21.1-km run, starting along the iconic Miramar beachfront. The sixth edition continued to showcase Goa's appeal as an international endurance sports destination, bringing together elite competitors, age-group athletes and relay teams. Singh's victory was particularly meaningful given the circumstances of his preparation. Post ed in Tawang, the Indian Army athlete said he had completed three months of focused training ahead of race day, balancing his preparation with the demands of his posting. Having pulled out of the 2024 edition due to dehydration, Singh had set his sights on breaking the course record this year. "I am very happy. I had targeted before that today I will break the record," Singh said after his victory. With the course record behind him, Singh has set his sights on the next milestone in his triathlon journey: competing at the Ironman World Championship. He said he would need to undertake further training for the full-distance Ironman, with participation in the World Championship remaining a personal dream. In the women's category, Marina Shliakhtina claimed the top spot with a time of 5:30:29. Sabina Iskakova finished second in 5:42:58, while Mellanie Ve ndt completed the podium in 6:04:54. The relay category also produced a competitive contest, with Team Fit Swaggers Goa topping the standings in 4:33:24, followed by Team Serious About Training in 4:35:22 and Team Air force 2 in 4:47:04, according to the event leaderboard. The Indian Air Force contingent was among the notable participants in the relay competition, with its team members highlighting the preparation and coordination required to compete together despite being posted at different locations. The team spoke about the hard work and sacrifices involved in bringing together athletes from different units to form a competitive relay combination. "We are all posted at different places, and different people work in different environments. Even with those challenges, we w orked very hard, made sacrifices, came he re and formed a team that performed very well," a member of the contingent said. The event, organised by Yoska in collaboration wi th the Government of Goa and Ironman, and presented by Herbalife, once again bro ught the international triathlon community to Goa, combining a challenging endurance course with the state's distinctive coastal setting.

IKF working to secure kabaddi's place in 2030 Commonwealth Games



Hyderabad: The International Kabaddi Federation (IKF) is working towards its goal of getting kabaddi included in the 2036 Olympic Games, IKF president Kasani Gnaneshwar said on Sunday. Mr Gnaneshwar said efforts were also underway to secure a place for kabaddi in the 2030 Commonwealth Games. The IKF Executive Committee meeting was held here on Sunday under the chairmanship of Mr Gnaneshwar. Addressing the media after the meeting, he shared the federation's future plans and initiatives for the global development of kabaddi. He said the inclusion of kabaddi in the Olympics would bring greater international recognition to the sport and provide significant encouragement and opportunities to players. Mr Gnaneshwar also said the federation was planning to organise a Kabaddi World Cup and launch a Women's Kabaddi Premier League in the near future. Countries interested in hosting the Kabaddi World Cup have been invited to submit their proposals. The host country will be finalised after reviewing the expressions of interest received, he said. The IKF official said 62 countries had come forward to participate in kabaddi and had obtained membership in the International Kabaddi Federation.

Hyderabad racers shine at MRF National Racing Challenge in Chennai



Chennai: Hyderabad's motorsport talent had a strong outing at Round 3 of the MRF MMSC Indian National Racing Challenge 2W 2026, held at the Madras International Circuit (MIC) from October 30 to November 1.The event saw 130 entries across various categories, with 16 racers from Telangana, including one woman, representing Hyderabad-based Motorsports Academy India (MAI Racing) and Racehouse Motorsports. Akarsh Jangam and Pothu Vignesh of MAI Racing competed in the Petronas TVS Apache RTR 200 Rookie category. Akarsh qualified fourth with a lap time of 2 minutes 10.784 seconds, while Vignesh secured second place with a time of 2 minutes 10.183 seconds. In Race 1, both riders made strong starts and quickly moved into the top two positions. They were involved in an intense battle for the lead, alongside Dev Agastya of Bengaluru. The trio exchanged positions several times, displaying their racing skills until the final lap. Vignesh made contact with Akarsh while attempting an overtake on the last lap and crashed out. Akarsh continued his battle with Dev, making crucial moves in the closing corners to win the race. In Race 2, Akarsh and Vignesh again made strong starts and moved into the top two positions. They maintained a fast pace, while Dev and Godwin joined the contest, making it a four-rider battle. Akarsh crashed out in the penultimate lap after his front tyre clipped Dev's bike. Vignesh regained the lead from Dev and went on to win the race. Yashwanth Varma of Sparks Racing and Akarsh Jangam of MAI Racing also competed in the Stock 130-165cc Novice category. They qualified fourth and fifth, respectively, with lap times of 2 minutes 9.382 seconds and 2 minutes 7.440 seconds. In Race 1, Yashwanth made a good start and moved up the field with a series of clean overtakes. By the end of the first lap, he had joined Surya and Dev in the battle for the lead. The three riders exchanged positions repeatedly, with Yashw anth eventually winning the race. Akarsh, who started from the back of the grid, made several clean overtakes to finish 10th. In Race 2, Yashwanth continued his battle with Surya, wh ile local rider Hariharan joined the contest. The trio fought until the final lap, when Yashwanth crashed, prompting a red flag. The race was restarted over three laps, and Akarsh capitalised on the opportunity to finish second. Hannah Akkineni, the only woman racer from Hyderabad, competed in the Petronas TVS Apache RTR 200 Women's category. She qualified third with a lap time of 2 minutes 16.660 seconds on the 3.7-km circuit. Han nah made a strong start to move into second place and battled Drishya Nair of Pune for the position before finishing third. Peddu Sri Harsha, founder and owner of MAI, competed in the Supers tock 400cc Open category for Gusto Racing India. He qualified third with a lap time of 1 minute 54.199 seconds. In Race 1, Sri Harsha was involved in a close contest with Chennai riders Kabilesh and Kamal Navas. The trio exchan ged positions several times, and Sri Harsha finished fifth. In Race 2, Harsha made a good start and again battled Kamal and Kabilesh.



Indian Navy edge past BPCL to win MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup

CHENNAI: Riding on Kuldeep's strike in the sudden death, Indian Navy defeated BPCL 5-4in the final of the 97th All India MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup Hockey Tournament here on Sunday. In an evenly contested encounter, Indian Navy took the lead through Abhishek Topno in the 14h minute. Anmol Ekka with his brilliance converted a penalty corner in the second quarter (30 minute) for BPCL to level the scores 1-1. In the next two quarters, both teams raided each other with little success. The shoot out ended in a deadlock with both teams committing identical errors and the scoreboard reading 4-4 In the sudden death, Sudeep of BCPL got the first opportunity to strike and missed the chance. Later, Kuldeep held on to his nerves and scored the winner to the delight of the large crowd. Former Olympian V Baskaran had a word of praise for the way the final was played. "It was an exciting game of hockey. In a final, you do not expect teams to concede soft goals. So naturally one expected the match to go to a tie breaker. As none wanted to take risk, it was apt that it ended in sudden death," Baskaran told this daily. He lauded Navy for preparing well for the tournament and being consistent in the championship. "I think Navy has been very consistent in the tournament, because I understand they had a big long camp in Bangalore, and the previous two outings in Murugappa hockey they had not done very well. So I think in this tournament they gave their best and worked hard to win the trophy," complimented Baskaran.

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Deviyani Sharma: Another Actress Loading From Trivikram's Camp



Actress Deviyani Sharma, who became popular among Telugu audiences with the web series Save The Tigers is now getting all the attention with her latest appearance in Adarsha Kutumbam film. Though she has appeared in a small role, her performance and expressions have impressed viewers. Generally, director Trivikram Srinivas is known for selecting talented actors even for small roles in his films. He gives importance to every character and makes sure that the right person is chosen for each role. Several actresses who appeared in small but interesting roles in his films have later received good recognition. For example, Sree Mukhi appeared in Julayi. Nivetha Pethuraj also got an opportunity to be part of Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo. Hari Teja is seen in A Aa. These actresses showed their acting abilities through their performances. Trivik ram is often appreciated for choosing talented performers, even when their screen time is limited. Now Deviyani Sharma seems to be following a similar path. She appeared in Aadarsha Kutumbam, and even though her role was not very lengthy, she managed to make a strong impres sion. Interestingly, she appeared in a negative shade role but her expressions through eyes and screen presence became the biggest highlights of her performance. Viewers are appreciating the way she handled the character. Even without many dialogues or lengthy scenes, she managed to attract attention with her expressions. This shows that she has good acting potential and can handle different types of roles. Deviyani Sharma has already earned recognition through Save The Tigers. With this latest performance, she seems to be getting mo re attention from Telugu audiences. Many believe that she deserves better opportunities and more challenging characters. If she continues to get such opportunities, Deviyani Sharma could become one of the promising actresses in Telugu cinema for sure.

King Sets An All-Time Overseas Record For Indian Cinema?



Shah Rukh Khan's much-awaited film King has landed a massive overseas distribution deal, surprising one and all. As per Bollywood reports, Phars Films has acquired the overseas rights to King for a record Rs. 175 crore. (Conditions applied) Not many know, but King was initially set to be distributed overseas by Yash Raj Films. However, Phars Films made an offer that the makers could not refuse. The deal is historic, as no Indian film has secured an overseas deal of even Rs. 100 crore to date. With this deal, Phars Films will handle the Middle East market and sell individual overseas territories to sub-distributors. Markets such as North America and the UK could also see changes in distribution. Having said this, to recover its investment, King needs to collect around $48-50 million overseas. This will not be an easy task, especially with major Hollywood films like Avengers: Doomsday, Dune: Part Three, and Jumanji competing during the Christmas season. Directed by Siddharth Anand, King also stars Abhishek Bachchan and Suhana Khan in key roles and is scheduled for a December 24 release. The record deal once again proves how big a star SRK is.

AK 47 Finally Gets Relief From Blast Zone Comparisons?



The biggest pre-release discussion around Venkatesh's Aadarsha Kutumbam was its alleged similarities with Arjun's Blast Zone. There were reports that the makers had made significant changes and even reshot portions to avoid comparisons. The teaser further fuelled these doubts, but the final product has largely put them to rest. While there are a few moments that might remind audiences of Blast Zone, particularly around the interval block, the overall narratives are quite different. Trivikram has brought his trademark treatment, entertainment and dark comedy into the film, giving it a distinct identity. Venkatesh's Chittibabu, Sreenidhi Shetty's entertaining characterisation and the children's performances add to the fun. Venkatesh's characterisation and the film's treatment make the two films stand apart, leaving little scope for a direct comparison. Aadarsha Kutumbam and Blast Zone do not have much room for such comparisons beyond a few sequences. Meanwhile, Aadarsha Kutumbam appears to be heading towards a promising opening weekend. Ticket sales are picking up, with bookings trend crossing 10,000 tickets per hour during evening and night shows. The momentum is encouraging, and the film seems to have a comfortable weekend ahead despite mixed reviews. However, the real test begins on Monday. With a relatively high break-even target, the film needs to maintain strong weekday occupancies and carry its momentum towards Diwali. Distributors are hoping the Venkatesh-Trivikram combination will deliver the required box office numbers.

Eetha Trailer: Promising Story Wrapped In A Familiar Template



After staying away from the big screen for a long period following Stree 2, Shraddha Kapoor is back with Eetha, a film directed by Laxman Utekar, who delivered the blockbuster Chhaava last year. The trailer has created curiosity as Eetha is based on the life of legendary Maharashtra Lavani and Tamasha performer Vithabai Narayangaonkar. The trailer introduces Shraddha as a passionate artist who rises to fame despite facing betrayal and personal struggles. It showcases colourful stage performances, energetic dance sequences, and the difficult life faced by Eetha. Randeep Hooda and Mohammed Zeeshan Ayyub are also seen in important roles. The biggest positive is the film's setting. Lavani and Tamasha offer a fresh backdrop, while Shraddha has put considerable effort into the role. Her expressions, costumes, and dance movements look promising. Ajay-Atul's music also adds energy to the trailer. However, the trailer follows a familiar biographical drama template, moving between an artist's struggles, emotional setbacks, and eventual rise. Some dramatic dialogues and elevation moments feel predictable. The real challenge will be presenting Vithabai's journey with depth rather than relying only on grand visuals and emotional scenes. With Chhaava behind him, Laxman Utekar has a different challenge this time. Eetha arrives in theatres on December 4. Shraddha's performance and the film's emotional depth will decide whether this becomes a memorable comeback.

Allu Arjun Asks Pooja Hegde To Do This

Back then, when director Harish Shankar reintroduced Pooja Hegde to the Telugu audience through DJ Duvvada Jagannadham in 2017, while she made her Telugu debut with Mukunda in 2014 itself, the actress became a sensation. Her chemistry with lead hero Allu Arjun, her bikini acts and her charming presence have become a talking point. Guess why everyone is talking about this now. While taking part in a Telugu talk show along with director Harish Shankar, Pooja Hegde made a call to Allu Arjun. During their banter, the actress stated that Allu Arjun won't repeat his heroines, and then Allu Arjun gave her advice, saying, "Pooja should repeat her heroes". This brought immediate laughs to everyone, including Harish Shankar and host Jagapathi Babu. Though Allu Arjun never repeated most of his heroines, he definitely repeated Pooja Hegde, as he picked her up for Ala Vaikuntapurramlo after acting with her in DJ Duvvada Jagannddham. There are also rumours that she's the prime contender for the heroine role in the upcoming Lokesh Kanagaraj directorial



of the hero. Meanwhile, if this heroine repetition topic is discussed, Allu Arjun worked with Kajal for the second time after Arya 2 for his short part in Yevadu movie. Even Samantha teamed up with him for second time after S/o Satyamurthy through Pushpa's item number.

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