

KOYLAA' CAFE OPENED IN MADHAPUR

Hyderabad, Oct. 6 : The House of KOYLAA - kitchen, café, and bake house, a one-stop destination for food lovers of the city, is opened at Road No.11, near Alamgir Masjid, Kakatiya Hills in Madhapur. Telangana state PAC chairman and Serilingampally MLA Arekapudi Gandhi along with TPCC general secretary and GHMC corporator Jagadeeswar Goud, inaugurated the cafe.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Gandhi said that bringing together a kitchen, café and bake house under one roof is truly a unique concept. It serves as a one-stop destination for food lovers across the city. Hyderabad is rapidly emerging as a food hub, and the addition of "The House of KOYLAA" only strengthens that reputation. He lauded the founders for creating a space that seamlessly blends traditional and contemporary culinary experiences.

US pharma giant Eli Lilly to invest over \$1 billion in Telangana



Hyderabad, Oct. 6 Telangana secured a massive investment of \$1 Billion by US Pharma major Eli Lilly, which will expand its manufacturing and global medicine supply capacity in Hyderabad.

The expansion will be facilitated through new contract manufacturing, adding huge job opportunities for Telangana's youth.The announcement was made after the company's global delegation met Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu at the Integrated Command Control Centre on Monday.The investment decision reiterates the company's trust in Telangana's leadership and effective governance, after having inaugurated the global capability centre in Hyderabad in August this year. Despite strong interest from several states, Eli Lilly chose Telangana owing to the favorable ecosystem in terms of availability of highly skilled manpower, infrastructure, and support from the government.The investment by Eli Lilly marks the company's interest in Telangana beyond GCCs and addressing new medicines to treat diabetes and obesity, Alzheimer's disease, cancer and autoimmune conditions. The company will begin recruitment immediately, with openings across roles such as engineers, chemists, analytical scientists, quality control and assurance professionals, and management positions.With the setup of the new facilities, Eli Lilly is set to do contract manufacturing in Telangana, and supply globally.

The Chief Minister thanked the Eli Lilly delegation for having chosen Telangana and assured them of full support from the government for the company's future plans. He attributed the transformation of Hyderabad as a Pharma hub with the establishment of IDPL in Hyderabad in 1965."Indira Gandhi's initiative in 1965 is the reason why Hyderabad stands as a hub of bulk drug manufacturing. Hyderabad was also at the epicentre of the Covid vaccine manufacturing at the global stage."The Chief Minister further reiterated, "Telangana means business. Hyderabad is a global city. Our government will support and welcome all industries looking to invest here."He also explained about the government's plans to transform Telangana into a knowledge hub, adding that a new Advanced Technology Centre (ATC) is being setup at Hyderabad's Genome Valley to ensure technical support for the companies. We have included several renowned Pharma industrialists to the Board of Governors of the Young India Skills University in Hyderabad, for which Anand Mahindra is the chairperson, he added.On the occasion, Minister Sridhar Babu said Lilly's expansion in Hyderabad is a testament to Telangana's dynamic industrial landscape and its growing influence in advanced healthcare manufacturing.Patrik Jonsson, Executive Vice President and President Lilly International, Eli Lilly, emphasised that this investment reaffirms the company's confidence in India as a hub for capability building within our global network.

Sajjanar visits Madannapet police station

Hyderabad, Oct. 6 Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar on Monday visited Madannapet police station in the city.After assuming charge as the city police Commissioner, this was his first visit to the Madannapet police station. During the visit, the Commissioner reviewed the progress of various cases, policing aspects, communal situation, and other related matters.He interacted with the staff, enquired about their daily duties, attendance, and discipline, and also inspected the police station records.Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner stated that the Hyderabad city police will focus on people welfare Policing, which aims to enhance public safety and strengthen the relationship between the police and citizens.

"People welfare policing will focus on maintaining peace and order, traffic and road safety, protection of women and children, use of Artificial Intelligence in policing, control of cyber and financial crimes, 24/7 citizen services, and welfare of police personnel. Building public trust in the police is our primary duty. Every officer must perform duties with discipline and dedication. Outstanding performers will be suitably rewarded, while those indulging in misconduct will face strict disciplinary action," he said.The Commissioner further instructed that:"Every petitioner who visits a police station must be treated with respect. They should feel that justice is being done. There should be no negligence in registering cases. In all cases related to women, FIRs must be registered promptly and investigations completed without delay, with charge sheets filed expeditiously. Every complainant should leave the police station with complete satisfaction."During the visit, Azeemuddin Farooq, father of the recent murder victim Sumayya, personally met the Commissioner and expressed gratitude for the swift and effective investigation and arrest of the accused.

'India stands with people of Nepal': PM condoles loss of lives due to heavy rainfall, offers support

'India stands with people of Nepal': PM condoles loss of lives due to heavy rainfall, offers support

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday expressed grief over the loss of lives and damage caused by heavy rainfall in Nepal. He stated that India stands with the people and Government of Nepal in this difficult time."The loss of lives and damage caused by heavy rains in Nepal is distressing. We stand with the people and the Government of Nepal in this difficult time. As a friendly neighbour and first responder, India remains committed to providing any assistance that may be required," PM Modi posted on X.

PM Modi's condolence message comes as 39 people have been killed in monsoon-related disasters in Nepal since Friday. Nepal has been witnessing heavy rainfall since Friday, causing landslides, floods, and inundation in several areas.According to the Armed Police Force Headquarters in Kathmandu, the death toll from monsoon-related disasters in Nepal since Friday has risen to 39. Among these, 36 deaths have been reported in Koshi



province, while three others have died in Madhesh, Nepal-based The Kathmandu Post reported.As many as 11 people remain missing in Nepal, while 13 others have been injured. As many as 27 people have died due to landslides in Ilam, with five others still missing. Two people were killed while one person was injured, due to floods and landslides in Udayapur.One person was killed and three others were injured in a lightning strike in Khotang. Two people were injured due to lightning in Bhojpur. Three people died due to lightning in Madhesh, The Kathmandu Post reported. One person was killed in Bara, four others in Rasuwa and one in Kathmandu after being

swept away by rivers. One person was injured by lightning in Makwanpur.Although the country experienced heavy downpours since Friday, the situation improved slightly by Sunday morning, according to the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology.In a notice issued on Sunday, the department said rainfall had decreased in most districts, with the highest amount recorded in parts of Lalitpur district in the Kathmandu Valley.A

"Light rain is occurring in some areas of Kathmandu, Morang, Sunsari, Udayapur, Saptari, Siraha, Dhanusha, Sarlahi, Sindhuli, and Ramechhap districts," the department stated.However, the department warned of the possibility of heavy rainfall in the hilly districts of eastern Koshi Province on Sunday afternoon and night.Even though rainfall subsided in several districts by Sunday morning, landslides have damaged multiple highways, obstructing transportation services.The Nepalese government has continued its ban on the entry and exit of vehicles to and from Kathmandu Valley.According to the Metropolitan Traffic Police Division, major highways connecting the Valley - such as the Prithvi Highway (linking Kathmandu with western Nepal), the BP Highway (connecting the capital with southeastern Nepal), and the Araniko Highway (linking Kathmandu with the Chinese border) - have been completely obstructed.Likewise, the Pasang Lhamu, Koshi, and Siddhicharan highways have also been fully blocked.Considering the risks posed by landslides and flooding, long-distance transportation services from five of the seven provinces - Koshi, Madhesh, Bagmati, Gandaki, and Lumbini - have been suspended, the Metropolitan Traffic Police Division said in a social media post on Sunday.

Bihar voters will again choose politics of development: HM Amit Shah



GNS News Agency, Oct 6

New Delhi: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday congratulated Bihar electors on the announcement of the Assembly poll schedule, expressing confidence that the voters will once again choose the politics of development this time.HM Shah's statement in a post on X came shortly after the ECI declared that the Bihar Assembly elections will be held in two phases on November 6 and 11, with the results being declared on November 14.

The Union Home Minister said, "The Election Commission has announced the Bihar Legislative Assembly elections. Congratulations to all the people of Bihar for this grand festival of democracy.""Under the leadership of Modi Ji, the NDA government has pulled Bihar out of Jungle Raj

and given it a new direction of development and good governance. Today, Bihar is witnessing historic changes in every sector, along with poor welfare, infrastructure, health, and education," he said."I am fully confident that the people of Bihar will once again choose the politics of development this time. #BiharElections2025," said HM Shah.Earlier, while addressing media persons, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, accompanied by Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi, described the Bihar elections as "mother of all elections"."We want to assure Bihar voters that not only will the elections be exemplary and smooth, but also the most peaceful due to a special focus on maintaining law and order," he said.The 2025 Assembly elections are the first to be held in the eastern state after the purification of the electoral rolls under a Special Intensive Revision (SIR), which yielded a final voters' list with 7.43 crore electors, including 14 lakh first-time voters.

CEC Gyanesh Kumar also shared details and the timeline of the SIR held after a gap of 22 years, saying that the final electoral roll has been given to all political parties.The window for requesting corrections in the electoral rolls is open till 10 days before the filing of nomination papers by candidates for the upcoming elections," he said.The ECI also fixed November 11 as the date for bye-elections to eight Assembly constituencies of Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Telangana, Punjab, Mizoram and Odisha. The results will be declared on November 14.

Jubilee Hills Bypoll on November 11, results on November 14



Hyderabad, Oct. 6 : The schedule for the upcoming by-election for the Jubilee Hills assembly seat in Telangana has been announced. According to the Election Commission, the by-election is set for November 11, with the vote counting taking place on November 14.

The Jubilee Hills constituency has a total of 3,92,669 registered voters. Following the declaration of the by-election, the Model Code of Conduct is now in effect in the area. Candidates may submit their nominations starting from October 13, with the deadline for filing nominations being October 21. The final date to withdraw candidacy is October 24.This by-election in the Jubilee Hills Assembly constituency is required due to the passing of Bharat Rashtra

Samithi (BRS) incumbent MLA Maganti Gopinath on June 8 of this year. The BRS has nominated Maganti Sunitha, Gopinath's widow, as its candidate for the by-election, announced on September 26. Meanwhile, the Congress and the BJP have not yet revealed their candidates.(NSS)

Women's economic empowerment is state's top priority: Seethakka

Hyderabad, Oct. 6 : Minister for Panchayat Raj Seethakka stated that the State government is earnestly committed to empowering women economically, with a target of creating one crore women millionaires.On Monday, the Minister visited the saree production centres operating under the Indira Mahila Shakti scheme in Venkataravunagar, Sircilla. During her visit, she engaged with the weavers to gain insights into their challenges and gather their feedback.

CARE HOSPITALS & JUBILEE HILLS ROTARY CLUB'S "PINK VICTORY RUN

PM Modi greets citizens on occasion of 'Sharad Purnima'



GNS News Agency, Oct 6

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday conveyed wishes to citizens across the country on the auspicious occasion of 'Sharad Purnima'.In a post in Hindi on X, PM Modi said, "Heartfelt wishes of Sharad Purnima to all my family members across the country. May this sacred occasion bring prosperity, happiness, and excellent health to all of you. May the blessings of Goddess Lakshmi and Lord Chandradev bring welfare to everyone; that is my prayer."

Earlier, PM Modi lauded the Indian para-athlete contingent for their historic performance at the World Para-Athletics Championships 2025, held in New Delhi.India registered its best-ever medal tally at the event, securing 22 medals, including 6 Gold medals, marking a new milestone in the nation's para-sports journey.PM Modi also expressed pride in India hosting the prestigious global event for the first time and said in a post on X, "A historic performance by our para-athletes! This year's World Para-Athletics Championships have been very special. The Indian contingent had its best-ever performance, winning 22 medals, including 6 Gold Medals. Congrats to our athletes. Their success will inspire several people. I am proud of each and every member of our contingent and wish them the very best for their future endeavours."Hosting the tournament in Delhi has also been an honour for India. Gratitude to athletes and support staff from almost 100 nations who were a part of the tournament, he said.In an earlier post on social media, PM Modi condoled the loss of lives in the Jaipur hospital fire tragedy and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured."The loss of lives due to a fire tragedy at a hospital in Jaipur, Rajasthan, is deeply saddening. Condolences to those who have lost their loved ones. May the injured recover soon," the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement.Eight people were killed after a fire broke out in the ICU ward of Sawai Man Singh (SMS) Hospital in Rajasthan's Jaipur late on Sunday, officials said early on Monday.

Governor launches 76th TB Seal Sale Campaign at Raj Bhavan



Hyderabad, Oct. 6 (NSS): Governor Jishnu Dev Varma on Monday inaugurated the 76th Tuberculosis (TB) Seal Sale Campaign at a special function held at Raj Bhavan, Hyderabad.In his address, the Governor described the TB Seal Sale Campaign as not just a tradition but a shared moral responsibility to build a healthier and compassionate India.

He said tuberculosis remains a major public health and social challenge closely linked to poverty, nutrition, and awareness.The Governor called for collective participation in eradicating TB and appealed to youth icons, artists, sportspersons, NGOs, corporates, and educational institutions to join the mission to make India TB-free. "TB Mukta Bharat does not mean preventing TB; it means removing TB completely," he said.Jishnu Dev Varma appreciated the continuous efforts of the Tuberculosis Association of Telangana in awareness, testing, nutritional support, and research.

He suggested exploring ways to provide hand-held X-ray machines in every district with corporate support under CSR initiatives.He reaffirmed that Raj Bhavan would serve as a coordinator and catalyst in the drive towards a TB-free Telangana based on compassion, cooperation, and commitment.

The event was attended by Principal Secretary to the Governor M. Dana Kishore, senior officials of Raj Bhavan; Dr. B. Sai Babu, Retd., additional director of medical & health services, united government of Andhra Pradesh & Trust Board member of the Association; D. Balachandra, honorary general secretary, TB Association of Telangana; Dr. A. Rajesham, joint director (TB) & honorary secretary (official), TB Association of Telangana; members of the Tuberculosis Association of Telangana, healthcare professionals, and volunteers.

Indian Chronicle

English Daily

Pakistan's bluff and bluster meet India's resolve

Bluff and bluster were weapons of war, the Pakistan Army would have conquered the world long ago. Few institutions anywhere have elevated hollow rhetoric to such an art form. From Rawalpindi's press briefings to its generals' self-congratulatory speeches, Pakistan's military has always mistaken noise for strength. So when the Pakistan Army warned on Saturday that a future conflict with India could bring "cataclysmic devastation," it merely stayed true to form—boasting loudly while revealing its insecurities. The statement came in response to a blunt warning from India's Army Chief, General Upendra Dwivedi, who on Friday told Pakistan to stop sponsoring terrorism "if it wants to retain its place on the world map." His words carried the unmistakable ring of finality. A day earlier, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had declared that India "can cross any border whenever necessary." Together, these remarks left little ambiguity: India's patience has limits, and Rawalpindi's proxy war is testing them.

For Pakistan's generals—long accustomed to India's restraint—this shift in tone has been unsettling. For decades, they relied on nuclear brinkmanship and rhetorical intimidation to deter India from responding decisively to cross-border terrorism. But the balance has changed. India is no longer content to absorb provocation after provocation. From the surgical strikes of 2016 to the Balakot airstrike of 2019 and the more recent Operation Sindoor, New Delhi has shown both the will and capability to strike back hard. Operation Sindoor in particular exposed the myth of Pakistan's military parity with India. In that campaign, Indian forces crippled Pakistan's defence infrastructure and forced it to sue for a ceasefire.

Sonalika breaks all previous records to clock highest ever monthly sales peak of 20,786 tractors in Sep'25



Hyderabad: India's No. 1 tractor export brand, Sonalika Tractors, has once again brought festive cheer to farmers across the country with its heavy-duty, technology-driven tractors, clocking its highest-ever monthly overall sales of 20,786 tractors in September 2025. This remarkable performance has been powered by robust domestic demand and Sonalika's strong commitment to deliver customised solutions that enhance efficiency, productivity, and profitability for Indian farmers.

With the festive season in full swing, Sonalika has already extended its biggest annual offer 'Heavy Duty Dhamaka' since August 2025, ensuring farmers can access the best technology at the most rewarding value. The recent GST reduction on tractors from 12% to 5% announced by the Central Government, has further strengthened farmer confidence and made heavy-duty tractors more affordable and accessible nationwide. Backed by the world's No. 1 integrated tractor manufacturing plant, Sonalika continues to guarantee superior quality tractors and timely delivery across the nation. With its agile market approach, strong supply chain, and focus on empowering farmers, Sonalika is driving growth, prosperity, and festive celebrations to new heights across Indian fields.

Sharing his views, Mr. Raman Mittal, Joint Managing Director, International Tractors Limited, said, "We have proudly clocked our highest ever monthly sales of 20,786 tractors in September'25. It is a significant step in our growth symbolising the Dum to serve the farming community with best agri technologies. This milestone belongs to the spirit of India's farmers whose dreams inspire us to turn our ambitions into achievements.

DSP Vishnu Murthy's Death Is A Huge Loss For The Police Department: District SP



"Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. October, 06. "District SP Kantilal Patil IPS expressed deep shock over the death of Vishnu Murthy, who was working as a DSP in the Functional Articles Department in Komuram Bheem Asifabad district, due to a heart attack last night. The SP said that Vishnu Murthy was an honest officer who worked with loyalty and discipline, and his death is a huge loss to the police department. May his soul rest in peace and extend his deepest condolences to the family members.

PhonePe and Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Announce Strategic Partnership to Launch the Wish Credit Card



Hyderabad: PhonePe, today announced a strategic partnership with Utkarsh Small Finance Bank to launch its Wish Credit Card. The Credit Card will be available for online applications on the PhonePe app, ensuring a simple and seamless application process for millions of users. Through this partnership, Utkarsh Small Finance Bank and PhonePe aim to expand the reach of its offerings to a wider, digitally-savvy audience.

The Wish Credit Card is designed to empower every Indian with easy access to credit by combining the security of a Fixed Deposit (FD) with the flexibility of a credit card. It may also be an ideal choice for self-employed individuals, homemakers, Gen Z customers new to credit, and people in tier-2/3 cities where credit card penetration is low. Users can obtain the Wish Credit Card by making a deposit that starts at just ₹2000, it is both affordable and accessible, while the FD not only backs the credit card but also earns interest. As it is a RuPay Credit Card, it enables seamless UPI payments and offers rewards on everyday spending, helping customers build a strong credit history while expanding the reach of credit cards to wider segments of the population.

The card offers 3% reward points on recurring monthly payments such as recharges and bills made directly on the PhonePe app. The benefits extend to 1% reward points on Scan & Pay transactions and shopping from select eCommerce brands, allowing users to earn tangible savings on daily transactions.

Commenting on the partnership Mr. Deep Agrawal, Head of Payments at PhonePe said, "This partnership with Utkarsh Small Finance Bank is a vital step in enhancing our financial services ecosystem. We are dedicated to providing users with solutions, and this collaboration offers them seamless access to a trusted credit product. By integrating this experience with attractive rewards and the convenience of RuPay on UPI, we are reinforcing our shared vision to build a more financially inclusive India."

Speaking on the launch, Mr. Govind Singh, MD & CEO of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank said, "We are cognizant of the fact that the Nation is witnessing a significant adoption of digital products and services. It is therefore imperative that banks offer a range of products and services that would enable customers from various walks of life to adopt the right financial channels and payments that suit their lifestyle. This partnership with PhonePe to offer an FD backed Credit Card is a significant step towards blending traditional and new age banking. While the customer gets the benefit of an FD, not only that backs their credit spending but in addition allows them to earn an interest and at the same time helps them improve their credit score when they spend on their shopping through Wish Credit Card. In addition, this Credit Card enables the customer to transact through UPI. This truly is a Wish come true."

Raoul Hyman of Goa Aces JA Racing Shines as Round 3 Concludes in Coimbatore, Marking 25 Thrilling Race Days of the Indian Racing League

Hyderabad: The third round of the Indian Racing Festival powered by JK Tyre, fueled by Nayara, performance by Mobil1, culminated at the Kari Motor Speedway in Coimbatore, where scorching heat proved no obstacle as drivers sweated it out to make their liveries shine before a charged crowd of motorsport enthusiasts. Speed met glory in a weekend that delivered jaw-dropping twists and turns across the Indian Racing League, Formula 4 Indian Championship, JK Tyre National Racing Championship featuring Formula LGB4, showcasing the thrill and intensity that define the IRF season.

Indian Racing League

Goa Aces JA Racing's Raoul Hyman Dominates to Clinch Second Win of the Season.

On Day 2, all eyes were on the Indian Racing League's Driver B Race, where top talent and international experience combined to deliver another high-octane showdown. Team Owner of Speed Demons Delhi, Arjun Kapoor, was present trackside as Raoul Hyman, the Goa Aces JA Racing driver from the United Kingdom turned in a masterful performance, clocking 26:46.480 for his second victory of the season. Teasing his car through the 16 corners of the track with precision and control, the 29-year-old showcased his trademark composure and experience to fend off Shahan Ali Mohsin of Speed Demons Delhi, who finished six seconds behind. Ruhaan Alva of Kichcha's Kings Bengaluru completed the podium in third after a strong drive from fourth on the grid.

Provisional Results (IRL Driver B Race):

1. Raoul Hyman (Goa Aces JA Racing) - 26:46.480
2. Shahan Ali Mohsin (Speed Demons Delhi) - 26:52.937

Weekly Public Grievance Forum Paused Due to Enforcement of Election Code.

"P.S. ASHOKAN." Indian Chronicle "Karimnagar, October 5." District Collector Pamela Satpathy, in an official statement issued on Sunday, announced the temporary suspension of the Prajavani program, which is customarily conducted every Monday at the District Collectorate. "The decision follows the declaration of the schedule for the upcoming local body elections. In adherence to the Model Code of Conduct, the district administration has decided to halt the weekly grievance redressal initiative to ensure compliance with electoral protocols." Collector Satpathy urged citizens to take due note of this temporary discontinuation and emphasized that no public petitions or grievances will be entertained through the Prajavani platform until the conclusion of the election code period. "She further assured that the program will be reinstated in its regular format once the code of conduct ceases to be in effect. The administration remains committed to addressing public concerns and will resume its grievance redressal mechanism post-elections in full capacity.

Indiramma house construction work should be completed quickly:



- Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao "Mandava Srisailam.. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... (Indian Chronicle.. October 6):- Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao said that Indiramma house construction work should be completed quickly. The District Collector, who inspected the construction work of



3. Ruhaan Alva (Kichcha's Kings Bengaluru) - 26:57.632 Formula 4 Indian Championship The FIA-certified Formula 4 Indian Championship delivered a thrilling Day 2 at Kari Motor Speedway, with Shane Chandaria, Itsuki Sato, and Ishaan Madesh emerging as standout performers across three fiercely contested races. Kenyan prodigy Chandaria of Chennai Turbo Riders opened the day with a commanding lights-to-flag victory in Race 2 — his second win of the season — ahead of Luviwe Sambudla (Goa Aces JA Racing) and Sato (Ahmedabad Apex Racers). In Race 3, Japanese ace Sato struck back, seizing victory in dramatic fashion after Chandaria and Sachel Rotge (Kichcha's Kings Bengaluru) made contact on the final lap. Sambudla again finished second, with Madesh (Kolkata Royal Tigers) taking third. The day concluded with Madesh powering to a brilliant win in Race 4, charging from fourth on the grid to overtake Saishiva Sankaran (Speed Demons Delhi) and Chandaria to claim his second win of the season, capping off an action-packed weekend of Formula 4 racing in Coimbatore.

JSW MG Motor India Partners with Real Estate Developers to Expand EV Charging Infrastructure



Hyderabad: JSW MG Motor India, in collaboration with leading real estate developers- Confident Group and technology partner IONAGE Technologies, has announced a major expansion of its EV infrastructure under the MG Charge initiative. This partnership paves the way for a more accessible, sustainable electric future, making EV charging a standard feature in residential societies.

The automaker has already installed more than 800 chargers across India as part of its MG Charge initiative. Furthermore, as urban EV adoption surges, JSW MG Motor is working closely with Confident Group to set up charging stations in high-demand locations, especially metropolitan areas.

IONAGE Technologies, an innovator in EV tech, is powering the user experience with a seamless platform for residents — enabling easy slot booking, session monitoring, and effortless charging right at home. The partnership has seen successful deployment of chargers across nine Confident Group properties in Kerala, ensuring residents benefit from convenient, on-premises solutions backed by trusted expertise from all partners.

Commenting on this initiative, Anurag Mehrotra, Managing Director, JSW MG Motor India, said, "This partnership marks a significant leap in making sustainable mobility the norm for urban communities across India. By partnering with real estate developers like Confident Group and advanced technology partners like IONAGE, we are advancing towards building confidence in EV ownership. Together, we are empowering residents with convenient, dependable charging at their doorstep, accelerating India's transition toward a greener and cleaner transportation future." Vimal Kumar V, CEO, IONAGE Technologies added - "Our collaboration with JSW MG Motor aims to unlock hassle-free home charging at scale. With our state-of-the-art platform and MG's commitment to electric mobility, we're making it simple for residents to adopt EVs and contribute to a sustainable lifestyle. We are proud to be enabling over 200 properties with smart charging, with plans to scale to 5000 residential societies by 2028, driving a transformative impact on the nation's EV landscape." Joseph TA, Managing Partner from Confident Group said- "At Confident Group, we are committed to integrating sustainable solutions within our communities. This partnership is enabling us to deliver modern, eco-friendly amenities to our residents, elevating the standard of urban living. The enthusiastic feedback from our homeowners, who can now conveniently charge their vehicles at home, underscores the positive impact of this initiative and our dedication to building smarter, greener residential spaces."

SP Distributes Clothes To Police Personnel



"Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. October, 06. "SP distributes clothes to police personnel" At the Asifabad District Police Office, District SP Kantilal Patil and IPS distributed essential items for the welfare of the police personnel and Home Guards. On this occasion, woolen jackets, T-shirts were given to the constables and head constables, and raincoats to the Home Guards. The SP said that these items were provided keeping in mind the weather changes and strenuous duties. RA (Admin) Peddanna and Special Branch Inspector Rana Pratap participated in the program.



Birthday Wishes to Medchal-Malkajgiri Stop Reporter" Uppal, Indian Choral "Birthday greetings were extended to NSR, the stop reporter for The Indian Chronicle in the Medchal-Malkajgiri area.

Uppal MLA Launches 52 Lakh Drainage and CC Road Works in Meerpet HB Colony Division



of ₹52 lakh. Speaking on the occasion, MLA Laxma Reddy said he is always accessible to the public and committed to extending full support for the development of the Uppal constituency. He personally interacted with the residents and enquired about local issues. Corporator Jeripothula Prabhudas stated that he is dedicated to addressing the problems of residents and thanked the MLA for his continuous support towards the development of the division. The program was attended by DE Roopa, Work Inspector Chari, and local leaders Vanjari Praveen Karipaye, Ullem Balaraju, Mallareddy, Iqbal,

Arifuddin, Veerabhadra Rao, Mallesh Goud, Bodasu Ravi, Venkat, Murali, Narasimha Goud, Krishna, Chandrasekhar, Ramakrishna, Chakravarthi, Dasu, Kiran, Shekhar Goud, Shiva, Dandem Narender, Nissar Ahmed Gori, and several colony residents. Details of the Works: Underground drainage construction near Diamond Hills Church. CC road works near Venkateswara Nagar Mother Teresa School playground. CC road in front of Devi Apartments, Tirumala Nagar. CC road construction at Narasimha Nagar Shanmukha Residency (near Jhansi School)

CPM Holds Hunger Strike at Uppal Demanding Early Completion of Uppal-Narapally Flyover



send letters to the Chief Minister and the Roads & Buildings Minister, demanding urgent action. He criticized the government for failing the people and said the slow pace of work must be turned into war-footing progress. "P. Satyam, CPI(M) Medchal-Malkajgiri district secretary, criticized the contradictory statements from ministers – first promising completion by this Dasara, and now shifting the timeline to Dasara 2026. He questioned whether it will ever be completed and said local MP Etela Rajender must intervene and pressure the central government. He also reminded that Revanth Reddy, who previously served as MP from the area, is well aware of the hardships and should take initiative. "Satyam also recalled that the CPI(M) earlier conducted padayatras and signature campaigns on the issue. He questioned if the Chief Minister is indifferent to public suffering. "Leaders from other parties like BRS and CPI also extended support to the protest. Former Peerzadiguda Mayor Jakka Venkat Reddy, speaking at the protest, said that during the BRS government's rule, 36 flyovers were built in Hyderabad, whereas under the Congress, real estate and infrastructure collapsed. He noted that it takes 40 minutes to travel from Uppal to Peerzadiguda, which is causing daily struggles for the public. He recalled raising the issue even with former CM KCR. "Despite Congress being in power for nearly two years now, he said, there has been no serious effort to complete the Uppal-Narapally corridor. "Satya Prasad, CPI Uppal mandal secretary, also demanded immediate completion of the works. "Other participants included DYFI state secretary Anaganti Venkatesh, CPI(M) district committee members J. Chandrasekhar, Komati Ravi, M. Vinod, Rajasekhar, M. Srinivas, Sabitha, Rathod Santosh Shankar, Laxman, Uppal mandal secretary Venkanna, and others like Karra Jangaiah, Md. Ghouse, Ashok Reddy, Swami, Urmila, Samala Nagaraju, G. Bhisma Chary, Upender Raju, Venkatesh, Pattabhi Ramayya, Murali Mohan, Jangaiah, Yadagiri, Ramesh, and TRS leaders like Letha Akula Raghupati Reddy, Venkateshwarlu, and others.

Save Power – Save Uppal: BJP Division Committee Submits Petition to Uppal Deputy Commissioner

"Vaddepalli Kishore, Uppal, October 6 (Indian Chronicle): "Led by Uppal BJP President Maraneni Phanindra, the BJP Division Committee submitted a petition to Uppal Circle Deputy Commissioner Godhumala Raju during the Praja Vani grievance program held at the GHMC Uppal Circle Office. "The petition addressed multiple civic issues in the Uppal division, with a key focus on the misuse of electricity. Phanindra pointed out that streetlights in several colonies remain switched on even during daytime, leading to wastage of power.

He stated that several residents and colony leaders have been complaining about this issue. "He further mentioned that after receiving complaints, the party members personally inspected the areas and found the issue to be true. Upon inquiry with line staff and officials, it was revealed that the automatic cut-off machines installed on electric poles have malfunctioned. "Despite informing the concerned Divisional Engineer (DE) over the past 20 days, no action has been taken so far," Phanindra said. He added that nearly 150 to 200 electric poles have faulty cut-off systems, which is resulting in unnecessary power consumption. "The BJP team urged the Deputy Commissioner to take immediate action to resolve the issue. Responding to the complaint, Deputy Commissioner Raju contacted GHMC Electrical officials and instructed DE Ravindra Goud to look into the matter and fix the problem without delay. "Several BJP leaders and members participated in the event, including Uppal Division General Secretary Teega Vittal Rao Mudiraj, Naam Shravan, senior leaders Choleti Brahmachari, Mamillala Balaraju, Maddela Padma, Krishnaveni, Venkat Sai Mudiraj, Jayaram, and Nishanth.



Doctors and staff should be available.. and patients coming to the hospital should be provided with better treatment:- Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao



Mandava Srisailem.. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... (Indian Chronicle.. October 6):- Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao said that doctors and staff should be available and patients coming to the hospital should be provided with better treatment. On Monday, the District Collector conducted a surprise inspection of the village hospital in Challur village of Rajapet mandal. As part of the surprise inspection, he checked the attendance register and inquired whether all the staff had attended for duty.. Talking to the elderly people who came to the village hospital for treatment, the Collector inquired about the medical treatment they had come to the hospital for, whether they were given medicines, whether all the staff were present when they arrived at the hospital, and whether they were treated immediately. He wanted the surroundings to be kept clean. "As there were a lot of poisonous plants growing around the village hospital, the Panchayat Secretary was instructed to immediately remove the trees and clean the area. The concerned officials participated in this program.



At IIMC College, the 12th Telugu Velugu Samakhya meeting was held at Lakdikapool

under the joint auspices of the Yuvabharathi Literary and Cultural Organization and IIMC College, which jointly conduct the Telugu Velugu Samakhya program on the first Sunday of every month.



"Presiding over the event, Professor Phanindra stated that the Telugu Velugu programs are being organized with the aim of promoting Telugu language and literature. He mentioned that so far, a total of 38 organizations have come forward to collaborate with them in conducting these programs. "The chief guest, renowned novelist Vihari, spoke about the social aspects reflected in novel writing. He added that Yuvabharathi has become synonymous with discipline and has been conducting numerous literary programs for the dissemination of Telugu language and for fostering the intellectual development of youth for the past 62 years. "The main speaker, Mallapragada Srimannarayana Murthy, delivered a literary critique on Sreemad Ramayana Kalpavriksham, the work that earned the first Jnanpith Award in Telugu for Kavi Samrat Viswanatha Satyanarayana. He explained how Viswanatha brought out the spirit of Valmiki in his work and analyzed his outstanding skills as a translator into Telugu. "Another speaker, Kasturi Muralikrishna, introduced K.M. Munshi's translated book The Last Days of the Nizam's Rule – My Memories of Hyderabad, describing the economic, social, and political conditions of Telangana during that period. "The esteemed guest and principal of IIMC College, Kura Raghuvver, said that the college recently hosted a unique one-day national confer-

ence on literary thinkers for the propagation of Telugu language. Compilations of essays presented at that national conference were distributed to the literary enthusiasts attending this meeting. "Another distinguished guest, the president of M.V.R. Foundation, expressed his happiness at partnering with Yuvabharathi in the innovative Telugu Velugu initiative aimed at promoting the Telugu language and said that working together for this annual meeting brought them great joy. "Later, Yuvabharathi founder and meeting organizer, as well as IIMC College chairman, Professor Vangapalli Viswanatham, extended his gratitude to the organizations providing financial and moral support to the Telugu Velugu Samakhya programs. The day's guests were then felicitated. He mentioned that the consistently increasing number of attendees each month brings great happiness and that their programs are broadcast on the Yuvabharathi YouTube channel. He also stated that the books published by Yuvabharathi can be downloaded for free through their link. "The event concluded successfully with the participation of literary admirers and members including Jeedigunta Venkata Rao, Amati Ravindra, Narayana Reddy, Naveen, IIMC College Telugu Department Head E. Ramakrishna, and other Yuvabharathi members.

Donation Boosts Facilities at ZPHS Uppal on SHO Bhaskar's Birthday

"Vaddepalli Kishore, Uppal, OCT6, (INDIAN CHRONICAL) "Under the motivation of Uppal SHO Bhaskar, Mr. Saketh Onapakala from Onapakala Group extended support to Zilla Parishad High School (ZPHS), Uppal, Hyderabad, by donating a range of essential items aimed at improving the learning environment for students and staff. The donation was made on October 6, 2025, to mark the occasion of SHO Bhaskar's birthday on October 7. The contributions include: Notice board, Whiteboard, Three-seater chair, Refrigerator with hot and cold water dispensers, Water cans, School alarm/calling bell system, Stationery, Calculators, Dustbins, Volleyballs/Volleyball nets. The initiative reflects a commitment to community development and education, providing both students and teach-



ers with better facilities and resources for daily academic activities. "Sector SI Chiranjeevi participated in this program."

General Body Meeting of Srinagar Colony Welfare Association on October 12



““Vaddepalli Kishore,Uppal, Oct 6 (Indian Chronicle) – ““The two-year term of the Executive Committee of the

Ramantapur Srinagar Colony Welfare Association has come to an end this Sunday. As a result, Association President Mr. D. Santosh and General Secretary Mr. Praveen Yadav have successfully completed their tenure and submitted their resignation letters to the Srinagar Colony Advisory Committee.“The Advisory Committee includes members such as M.A. Jaleel Pasha, Anand Rao, Raju, Rajamouli, Yadagiri Reddy, Ramabrahmam, Rajamallu, Janga Reddy, Uday Kumar, Pentayya, Illaiah, G. Ramulu, Venkatesh, Suresh, Sunil, Lakshminarayana, among others.“M.A. Jaleel Pasha has been appointed as the Election Officer. Under his supervision, a General Body Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 12 at the Srinagar Colony Community Hall.“The meeting will focus on discussions related to the upcoming colony elections, election procedures, and final decisions regarding the same, informed Mr. M.A. Jaleel Pasha.

"Manthani Vidyarthi Yuvatha Marks 42 Years of Service; Yashassu Samachara Vedika to Celebrate 40 Years of Transformative Impact

““P.S.ASHOKAN“Indian Chronicle“Hyderabad, October 6 “““In a remarkable milestone, Manthani Vidyarthi Yuvatha, a dynamic voluntary youth organization, is set to commemorate its 42nd anniversary, alongside the 40th anniversary celebrations of Yashassu Samachara Vedika, an esteemed information and awareness platform. The announcement was made by Kondela Maruthi, who expressed his heartfelt desire for the grand success of the upcoming celebrations.““The official invitation was ceremoniously unveiled by Gattu Naganna at the organization’s headquarters on Monday. Speaking on the occasion, Maruthi reflected on the organization’s illustrious journey, highlighting over 2,000 inspirational and impactful initiatives, the publication of numerous historically significant information bulletins, and the felicitation of prominent personalities, all of which have contributed to the legacy and prestige of Yashassu over the past four decades.““The commemorative event is scheduled to take place on October 12 at the Telangana Working Journalists’ Union Auditorium, Hyderabad. Maruthi extended a warm invitation to well-wish-



ers, urging them to grace the occasion and contribute to its success through their presence and support.““The press event witnessed the participation of several distinguished individuals, including Gattu Naganna, Thati Buchaiah Goud, Ramadugu Maruthi Rao, Poreddy Venkata Reddy, Naramalla Krishna, Komuravelli Satyanarayana, and Pothu Jothireddy.

Uppal MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy Meets Water Board MD Ashok Reddy



“ Vaddepalli Kishore, Uppal | October 6 (Indian Chronicle)“““Uppal MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy, along with BRS party state leader Gandham Nageshwar Rao, paid a

courtesy visit to Water Works MD Ashok Reddy at the Jal Mandali (Water Board) office on Monday. During this meeting, an amount of ₹2.5 crores was sanctioned for water works-related development in Ramanthapur.“On this occasion, BRS leader Gandham Nageshwar Rao expressed his gratitude to Uppal MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy for securing ₹2.5 crores for Ramanthapur division.“The sanctioned funds will be used for the following works:““ Construction of a main underground drainage (sewer) line from Vivek Nagar to East Srinivasapuram main road,““ Extension of the sewer main line from East Srinivasapuram to Madhura Nagar sub-lanes,““ Laying of a sewer main line from the Habsiguda division’s existing sewer to Vivek Nagar and East Srinivasapuram main road,““ Laying of 200mm sewer pipelines at various locations.““MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy stated that once these underground drainage works are completed, the drainage problems in all the colonies under the ?????????, Habshiguds divisions will be resolved.

Minister Sridhar Babu Honored with Ceremonial Milk Anointment for Fulfilling 1 Crore Commitment to Dalit Welfare.



“P.S.ASHOKAN“Indian Chronicle“Manthani,October 6:““Manthani, Telangana –““In a symbolic expression of reverence and gratitude, Dalit community leaders in Manthani performed a ritual milk anointment (Ksheerabhishekam) on the portrait of Minister D. Sridhar Babu, lauding his steadfast commitment to social welfare and the upliftment of marginalized communities.““The ceremony took place on Monday at Ambedkar Square in Manthani, where floral tributes and ceremonial honors were also extended to the statues of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and former Speaker Sripada Rao. This public demonstration was organized by local Dalit organizations to acknowledge the Minister’s fulfillment of a prior assurance — the sanctioning of ₹1 crore in government funding towards the construction of an Ambedkar Bhavan, a community building intended to serve as a hub for social and cultural activities.““Previously, during the Ambedkar Jayanti celebrations held on April 14, Minister

Sridhar Babu had allocated ₹10 lakhs for the project. However, upon representation from Dalit leaders about the inadequacy of the amount, he pledged to enhance the allocation to 1 crore. True to his word, the minister has since authorized the release of the full amount, a gesture that has been met with widespread appreciation.““Speaking at the event, community leaders praised the minister’s integrity, responsiveness, and unwavering dedication to the welfare of Scheduled Castes. They noted that Sridhar Babu has exemplified the qualities of a public servant who not only listens but delivers.““The ceremony witnessed participation from a host of local dignitaries and political representatives, including Manthani SC Cell Division President Manthani Satyam, SC Cell Mandal President Manthani Rakesh, veteran leaders such as former MPTC member Singarapu Kishayya, Nukala Banayya, and other senior community figures.

I will always provide my best to develop the Telangana Jagruti organization across the state: - Telangana State BC Jagruti Vice President Eega Santosh Mudiraj

Mandava Srisailam.. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... (Indian Chronicle.. October 6):-As part of the organizational management of Telangana Jagruti, Telangana State Jagruti President Kalvakuntla Kavitha has assigned me a new responsibility, I will always work to strengthen the Telangana Jagruti organization, said Eega Santosh Mudiraj, who has been appointed as the State Vice President of the Telangana State Jagruti..BC Jagruti section. On this occasion, he spoke to the "Indian Chronicle District Bureau In-charge" at a guest house in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district and said that the development programs undertaken under the auspices of the Telangana Jagruti Sanstha will be taken statewide and the youth will be awakened and efforts will be made to achieve the dream of Telangana Jagruti. He said that the Telangana Jagruti State President Kalvakuntla Kavitha organized the Telangana traditional festival Bathukamma in a grand manner and sensitized lakhs of women. He said that she can be said to have developed the Bathukamma festival, which is a part of the disappearing Telangana traditional festivals, and brought a great fame to the Bathukamma festival across the state. He said that the president of his organization has not only given fuel to the Bathukamma festival but also to develop it in Telangana by uniting with all communities. In the coming days, we will take the development programs of Telangana Jagruti Sanstha across the state and work towards public welfare as our goal, taking the Jagruti Sanstha forward and developing it across the state, said Eega Santosh Mudiraj, who was newly appointed as the state vice-president of the Telangana BC Jagruti section. Eega Santosh once again thanked the Telangana State Jagruti President Kalvakuntla Kavitha for giving him the opportunity to be a state leader in Telangana Jagruti Sanstha. Jagruti Sanstha leaders Siva Prasad, Umesh, Srinivas, Venkatesh, Narasimha, Ramulu, Praveen, Rajender, Karunakar, Avinash, Anvesh, and others participated in this program.



Minister Sridhar Babu Lauded as a Beacon of Empowerment for Dalit and Bahujan Communities.



P.S.ASHOKAN“Indian Chronicle“Manthani,October 6:““Manthani, Telangana –““Minister D. Sridhar Babu has been hailed as a steadfast pillar of support and a symbol of hope for Dalit and Bahujan communities across Telangana. His unwavering commitment to social justice and inclusive development has once again come to the fore with his recent allocation of ₹1 crore towards the construction of the Ambedkar Bhavan in Manthani.““In a pub-

lic statement, Seggam Rajesh, State President of the Telangana Netakani Association, commended the minister’s proactive leadership, describing the funding decision as a landmark gesture in the pursuit of equity and empowerment.“> “Minister Sridhar Babu stands as a tireless crusader for the upliftment of marginalized communities,” said Rajesh.““His decision to sanction ₹1 crore for the Ambedkar Bhavan is not only commendable but also reflects his deep-rooted commitment to the ideals of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and the vision of an inclusive society.“““The Ambedkar Bhavan is envisioned as a vital community center that will serve as a platform for educational, cultural, and social advancement. The minister’s initiative has been widely applauded as an example of responsive governance and value-driven leadership.““Leaders and representatives from various Dalit and Bahujan organizations have expressed their profound gratitude, emphasizing that Sridhar Babu’s actions exemplify a rare political integrity — where promises made are promises kept.““This latest act follows a consistent pattern in Sridhar Babu’s public life, characterized by principled advocacy, empathetic governance, and a clear moral compass that guides his policymaking.

We welcome the Supreme Court verdict while appreciating the efforts of the state government to provide 42% reservation for BCs: Bhadradri Kothagudem District Congress Party Observer Potnak Pramod Kumar



“Mandava Srisailam.. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... (Indian Chronicle.. October 6):-““We welcome the Supreme Court verdict while appreciating the efforts of the state government to provide 42% reservation for BCs, said Bhadradri Kothagudem District Congress Party Observer Potnak Pramod Kumar, who participated in the meeting of the BC caste associations in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district. On Monday, a round table meeting of the BC castes was organized at the Housing Board Community Hall in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district center under the auspices of the state Mudiraj Sangam leaders Pittala Balaraj. Bhadradri Kothagudem District Congress Party Observer Potnak Pramod Kumar participated as the chief guest and said that the opposition leaders in Parliament had given the BCs on the basis of population as per the promise made by Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi during the Bharat Jodo Yatra. In order to keep the promise made in the Kamareddy BC Declaration as per Rahul Gandhi’s order to provide reservations as per the population, the state government, under the leadership of state Chief Minister Enumula Revanth Reddy, under the auspices of PCC President Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud and under the auspices of state Deputy Chief Minister Varyulu Bhatti Vikramarka, finalized the reservations. Similarly, the BC caste associations of Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district have commended the efforts being made to provide 42% constitutional reservations in education, employment and politics to the BCs, who constitute 56% of the population according to the caste census conducted in the state under the leadership of State Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar Vakiti Srihari. They welcomed the Supreme Court verdict and hoped that the efforts being made by the state government would bear fruit in the final verdict of the High Court on the 8th of this month. They have asked the BRS BJP parties not to obstruct the mouths of the BCs and everyone to cooperate. They have asked people from various upper classes to cooperate in holding local body

elections so that the 42% reservation is implemented. The leaders of the Mudiraj Sangam, Maturi Baleshwar Dasarapu Narasimha Shalivahana Sangam, Kodimamula Krishna Chinnagari Balaram Vishwabrahmana leaders, Devarakonda Narasimha Chari Padmasali Sangam, Shyamala Ravinder Nareesh Vadicharla Krishna Yadav Yadagiri Yadav Orre Narasimha Yadav Rajaka Sangam leaders, Sirikonda Sivakumar Mudikonda Venkatesh Gowda Sangam, Arjipuram Anjaneyulu Goud Nareesh Goud from Vaddera Sangam, Devarangula Kavitha Vaddari from Yadagiri Vanjari Kula Sangam, Salveru Upender Kalina Nagaraj from the Housing Board Senior Citizen Leaders Paladugu Shekhar Mettinti Bhaskar Jitta Yadireddy Shekhar Reddy and others participated in this program.

NIRDPR LAUNCHES NATION-WIDE REFRESHER TRNG FOR BLOCK-LEVEL OFFICIALS

Hyderabad, Oct. 6 The National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad, in collaboration with NITI Aayog, launched the refresher training programmes under the "Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP)" today. This was inaugurated by Dr. G. Narendra Kumar, Director General, NIRDPR, while Anand Shekar, Additional Mission Director, ABP, NITI Aayog, outlined the vision and mission of the initiative.Launched by NITI Aayog in 2023, the ABP aims to transform 500 most underdeveloped blocks across India through convergence, data-driven governance, and a saturation-based approach across 40 key indicators.

The refresher training seeks to strengthen the capacities of 'Block Level Officers (BLOs)' and other key functionaries to accelerate progress towards these development goals.Starting today, NIRDPR will conduct 126 training programmes across nine venues from October 6 to November 20, 2025, covering around 5,000 participants, including Block Level Officers, Aspirational Block Fellows and Block Pramukhs. The sessions focus on five critical sectors - Health, Nutrition, Basic Infrastructure, Education and Social Development & Financial Inclusion.On this occasion, Dr. Narendra Kumar underscored the crucial role of field functionaries in translating the ABP’s vision into action through 'convergence, innovation and micro-level planning'.

What can you do if you fall prey to ‘digital arrest’ or a fake job scam?



GNS News Agency, Oct 6

It started with a call he received last month. The caller, who introduced herself as a senior official of a telecom company, claimed the banker's mobile number had been used for "fraudulent" and "illegal" activities and later claimed that Mumbai Police officers were involved in the "probe" into the incident. The money was siphoned over 20 transactions. The man's case is among thousands of cyber crime incidents reported across Delhi and the country for the past two years. According to police, scamsters in these cases often prey on unsuspecting individuals with convincing tactics, such as fake job offers, alarming claims about courier packages, mobile numbers being used for terror funding/illegal activities or threats of digital arrest. While many people dismiss these calls as fraudulent, some fall victim to their schemes. It's essential to stay vigilant and know how to protect yourself from these threats

What can one do in case they become a victim of cyber crime?

Police officials in the cyber unit said the Department of Telecom has an application called, 'Sanchar Saathi', which is available for iOS and Android users. A senior cyber official said, "On the app, you can enter your credentials and cross check if your Aadhaar card or your name is being used by any other number. If you find it is so, it can be reported.""When we realise the call could be a scam, most of us disconnect it. Instead, one should report the mobile

number on this application to bring it under scrutiny." Officials said if three people report the number, then it is automatically blocked. If 10 people report the number, then the IMEI in use is blocked. "We are not saying that this will stop cyber crime but all these measures can at least help. The one thing that scamsters use the most to dupe people are mobile numbers. If it is taken away or numbers are brought to the notice of the telecom department, then one can help prevent crimes."

The application also allows users to report if the call is from an international number. Police officers also requested victims who fall prey to cyber frauds to report the matter immediately on the 1930 cyber crime portal. "The faster the matter is reported, the better it is," a senior police officer said.

What do advisories state?

In March this year, the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) issued an advisory on 'digital arrests'. "Many complaints are being reported on the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP) regarding intimidation, blackmail, extortion and 'Digital Arrests' by cyber criminals posing as police authorities, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Narcotics Department, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Enforcement Directorate and other Law Enforcement Agencies. Several victims have lost large amounts of money to such criminals. This is an organised online economic crime and is learnt to be operated by cross-border crime syndicates," it said. It detailed the methods used to dupe people, including impersonating officers through IVR calling, intimidation tactics, digital confinement or victims being forced to stay on video calls, often over Skype and WhatsApp, till demands are met and demands for money to conceal proof of 'illegal activity'. Issuing a list of precautions, the I4C advisory stated: "Real law enforcement won't arrest you digitally. There is no concept of Digital Arrest under any Indian Laws... Always verify the identity of the caller or sender before taking any action, contact the nearest police station directly to verify the claim/identity. Speak to your relatives and friends before taking any action to transfer money. Report cyber frauds immediately at <http://www.cybercrime.gov.in> or by calling 1930."

‘Double the Bus’, say commuters in Pune on World Car-Free Day

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

The campaign, held on the occasion of World Car-Free Day, saw commuters and civil society organisations stress the need for policymakers and state governments to invest in, prioritise, and modernise buses. The campaign, held on the occasion of World Car-Free Day, saw commuters and civil society organisations stress the need for policymakers and state governments to invest in, prioritise, and modernise buses.

In Pune, bus patrons, commuters, and members of civil society organisations gathered at Sambhaji Garden bus stop on Monday, as part of a nationwide campaign to 'Double the Bus'. The campaign, held on the occasion of World Car-Free Day, saw commuters and civil society organisations stress the need for policymakers and state governments to invest in, prioritise, and modernise buses. "Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad together run around 2,000 buses, equivalent to 19 buses per lakh population. According to the recently updated Comprehensive Mobility Plan for Pune, to meet India's minimum public transport standards, Pune must actually triple its fleet to at least 6,000 buses, with a



25 per cent share of e-buses. This concrete action can make climate-friendly transport more accessible for the public and lead to a healthier and more sustainable future," said Shweta Vernekar from Parisar. So far, 10 Pune-based organisations have endorsed the campaign, including Kalpavriksh, Bavdhan Citizens Forum, Pashan Area Sabha, Area Sabha Association of Pune, Pune Air Action Hub, and People for PMPML.

As festivities begin, two firing incidents in Kolkata within 24 hours spark panic



GNS News Agency, Oct 6

BJP MP and state president Samik Bhattacharya criticized the law and order situation, saying: "There is complete absence of law and order in this state, complete anarchy. The goons think this is a safe haven for them and no one will touch them." BJP MP and state president Samik Bhattacharya criticized the law and order situation, saying: "There is complete absence of law and order in this state, complete anarchy. The goons think this is a safe haven for them and no one will touch them." The onset of the festive season in Kolkata has been overshadowed by two separate shooting incidents within 24 hours, causing alarm among residents.

On Sunday morning, two unidentified assailants opened fire inside a popular gym in the Charu Market police station area. An eye-witness said the attackers allegedly arrived on a scooter, wearing raincoats and covering their faces. They allegedly asked for the gym owner and fired "two rounds" when they failed to locate them. No injuries were reported. The gym, located in a busy market, was crowded with regular members at the time. Police reached the spot and launched an investigation. CCTV footage from the gym and nearby establishments is being scanned, and statements from the owner and witnesses have been recorded, officials said. A preliminary investigation suggested the attack may be linked to a "personal or business rivalry". No arrests have been made so far, raising security concerns among residents, who have demanded stronger patrolling. The next morning on Monday, another incident added to the city's unease. The body of a young man was discovered near the DC Port office in Garden Reach, under the jurisdiction of West Port police station. A firearm was recovered near the body, prompting investigators to consider both homicide and suicide. The deceased has been identified as Shresth Dhurka, son of Pradip Dhurka, who had been working with a private company in Bhowanipur for the past six months. His family has been informed.

A senior police officer said the body was found around 9:45 am after residents spotted him lying on the road. The gun was located between his legs, and a black bag containing documents lay nearby. CCTV footage from the vi-

cinity is under review, and authorities are probing whether the shooting occurred at the site or elsewhere. The incidents have sparked political reactions. BJP MP and state president Samik Bhattacharya criticized the law and order situation, saying: "There is complete absence of law and order in this state, complete anarchy. The goons think this is a safe haven for them and no one will touch them." The TMC, in turn, blamed systemic issues under the Centre. Party spokesperson Jay Prakash Majumdar told The Indian Express, "There has been a rise in rowdiness not only in Bengal but across the country. The root cause is the struggle of the poor to get two square meals a day in the (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi era, as the wealth of the nation is concentrated in the hands of the super-rich. The deprivation of basic necessities fuels frustration among the lower classes, leading to such incidents."

65-year-old businessman stabbed to death at his Kandivali office by unidentified men

The police have formed nine teams from zone 11 to nab the murderers. The crime branch is also conducting a parallel investigation. The police have formed nine teams from zone 11 to nab the murderers. The crime branch is also conducting a parallel investigation. Two unidentified people killed a 65-year-old businessman with a sharp object at his office in the Charkop area in Kandivali (west) on Sunday, the police said, adding that some financial disputes appeared to be behind the murder.

The Charkop police identified the deceased as Mohad Ayub Sayyed, 65, who lived in Malad, had a metal-related business, and owned factories in Vasai and Charkop. Deputy Commissioner of Police Sandip Jadhav said the assailants appeared to be people known to Sayyed and that they had gone inside his office with a bag containing sharp objects. "The accused were captured in a CCTV camera installed at the factory. We have their pictures and are trying to identify them. So many people are being questioned in connection with the incident," Jadhav said. Both assailants entered the office around 11.30 am and stayed for more than half an hour. They stabbed Ayub multiple times in his abdomen, back, and hands with sharp weapons before fleeing the crime scene, according to the police.

High court urges Chandigarh to safeguard tennis training after CLTA lease expiry



GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Chief Justice Sheel Nagu, speaking for the bench also comprising Justice Sanjiv Berry, refrained from adjudicating the contractual dispute but made strong observations on the State's duty to promote sports. Chief Justice Sheel Nagu, speaking for the bench also comprising Justice Sanjiv Berry, refrained from adjudicating the contractual dispute but made strong observations on the State's duty to promote sports. The Punjab and Haryana High Court recently disposed of a public interest litigation filed by parents of trainees at the Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association (CLTA), while underscoring that sports must be encouraged as a fundamental right and urging the Union Territory administration to ensure uninterrupted access to tennis facilities for youngsters.

The petitioners, Rahul Khandelwal and Abhishek Garg, who appeared in person, challenged a September 10 communication by the UT's Joint Director of Sports, terminating the CLTA's lease on the Tennis Stadium in Sector 10-C following the expiry of its agreement. The administration had also rejected the association's request for renewal, directing it to vacate the premises within seven days. Expressing concern for budding players, the petitioners argued that "lot

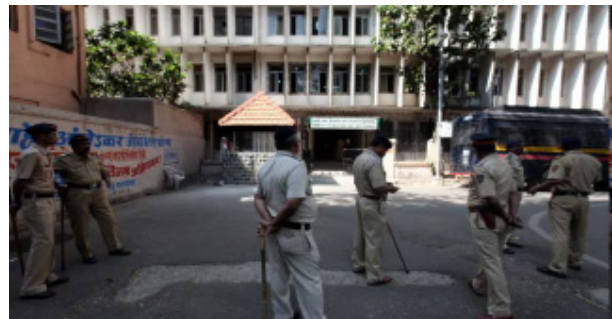
many young enthusiasts of the sport of tennis are not only disheartened but would be deprived of the affordable coaching and other facilities extended since last three years by CLTA". They pointed out that several students from outside Chandigarh stayed in hostels here to pursue training, and the decision had "come as a bolt from the blue to all the budding sportspersons". Defending the decision, senior standing counsel Amit Jhanji submitted that the matter was "pure and simple contractual," as the lease had expired, and any grievance should be taken to a civil court or through arbitration. He assured the bench that "the quantity and quality of equipment, facilities and services rendered by the U.T. Administration would not be less than what were being enjoyed by the tennis enthusiasts/trainees under the CLTA". On September 19, Chief Justice Sheel Nagu, speaking for the bench, which also comprised Justice Sanjiv Berry, refrained from adjudicating the contractual dispute but made strong observations on the State's duty to promote sports. "It would be appropriate to hope and expect that the U.T. Administration, which is a 'State' under Article 12 of the Constitution of India, ensures that adequate and sufficient opportunity is afforded to the youngsters of Chandigarh, as well as from outside, to avail the facilities of playing and undergoing tennis coaching," the court said. The order added, "Any activity of any sport is a healthy activity, which ought to be encouraged by the State and its functionaries... A healthy body leads to a healthy mind, which in turn is helpful in developing a responsible and capable citizen of this country." Invoking international and national frameworks, the bench noted, "We have no manner of doubt that the UT Administration shall keep the aforesaid avowed principles in mind... especially in the backdrop of UNESCO Charter postulating that practice of physical education, physical activity and sport is a Fundamental Right for all. We expect that future course of action taken by the UT-Administration shall be in line with the object behind The National Sports Governance Act, 2025."

Mumbai cop flings pocket nameplate, engages in altercation in police station, probe ordered

GNS News Agency, Sept 21

mumbai police According to police sources, the duo, whose names have not been disclosed, had visited the VP Road police station on Thursday night, alleging that the police were refusing to register a complaint and favouring the event management company. An inquiry has been initiated against a woman police sub-inspector in Mumbai, after a video surfaced showing her removing her pocket nameplate and flinging it at a man and woman who had allegedly approached the police to register a case against an event management firm for withholding their payment. According to police sources, the duo, whose names have not been disclosed, had visited the VP Road police station on Thursday night, alleging that the police were refusing to register a complaint and favouring the event management company. The resulting altercation was recorded on a mobile phone by the man, and the video quickly went viral after being uploaded to social media. In response, a formal inquiry headed by Dyaneshwar Wagh, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Girgaon, was ordered on Monday. The incident began when the man and woman, both freelancers with the event firm, claimed that around Rs 5,000 in dues were pending for the man. After reportedly confronting the management, the two allegedly barged into the office and created a ruckus, prompting the event firm to call the police control room.

A police vehicle brought both parties to the VP Road station. A police officer said, "The man and woman alleged that there were several freelance employees like them whose payments were on hold by the event management firm. They started insisting that the police register a complaint against the management. But when the police intervened in the matter, the person from event management agreed to pay. Both parties went outside the police station, and the pend-



ing amount was paid to the man." Despite the payment, the officer said, the man and woman returned to the station and continued demanding that the police register a case or compel the event firm to clear the dues of other freelancers. "It is a civil matter, so we asked them to approach the court," a police officer stated on condition of anonymity. Tensions escalated when Sub-Inspector Durga Kharde, who was handling another case, became agitated by the commotion. "Due to their loud voices, she got annoyed and screamed at them to stop shouting and recording video," said an officer. As the man turned his phone camera toward her and zoomed in on her pocket nameplate, Kharde allegedly removed her nameplate and threw it toward the mobile camera. The man, who was recording, can be heard in the video stating that the pocket nameplate "could have caused serious injury" to the woman's eye. A heated argument broke out, with the pair demanding that the police register an FIR against Kharde, alleging that officers were refusing to take action and siding with the event firm. Subsequently, based on a complaint filed by the event management company, the police registered a case against the man and woman for trespassing into the firm's office.

Float tenders for Gargai dam project within 2 months: Maharashtra minister Ashish Shelar to BMC



GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Shelar met BMC Commissioner Bhushan Gagrani at the civic body's headquarters to review the project and its progress amid the rising water demand due to Mumbai's growing population and shortages in several areas. Shelar met BMC Commissioner Bhushan Gagrani at the civic body's headquarters to review the project and its progress amid the rising water demand due to Mumbai's growing population and shortages in several areas. (Image: @ShelarAshish) Maharashtra Cultural Affairs Minister Ashish Shelar, who is also the Mumbai suburban guardian minister, instructed the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) commissioner on Monday to issue tenders for the Gargai dam project, which will provide 440 million litres of water to Mumbaiers, within the next two months. Mumbai receives a daily water supply of 4,000 million litres, while the actual daily demand is around 4,600 million litres. Once completed, the Gargai dam will supply an additional 440 million litres of water. Shelar met BMC Commissioner Bhushan Gagrani at the civic body's headquarters to review the project and its progress amid the rising water demand due to Mumbai's growing population and shortages in several areas. While approvals for the project have already been received from the State Government, a few forest clearances from the Central Government are still pending. Shelar said he contacted Union Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav, requesting him to expedite the approvals process. Shelar also directed that tenders for the project be issued immediately, within two months, once the necessary permissions are obtained.

With the heavy monsoon, the water crisis in Mumbai and its suburbs has been under control. Going by the current water stock, the situation is fine, according to

officials. "Keeping the immediate future with rising population and residential projects in city suburbs, the BMC will have to keep pace with the development and demand," a BMC official said. A highly placed source in the Mumbai BJP said the party's leaders were raising issues and providing solutions ahead of the crucial civic polls slated for mid-January 2026, adding that ensuring an uninterrupted water supply remained a challenge for the party.

Man borrows Rs 3 lakh from uncle, invests it in Bitcoin — kills cousin to dodge repayment

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Yuvraj aka Yash Prajapati took a loan of Rs 3 lakh from his uncle a month ago and invested it in Bitcoin. When his uncle began demanding the money back, police said, Yuvraj (21), devised a plan to get out of repaying it. On September 16, police said, he took his 12-year-old cousin out on the pretext of watching a movie and allegedly killed him. Ghaziabad Police arrested the accused on Sunday after the victim's body was found in a deserted park in Delhi. Police also recovered a blood-stained brick, mud and clothing from the spot. Police said the accused works as a cabin crew with an airline and is a resident of Shiv Park in Khoda Colony. Assistant Commissioner of Police, Indirapuram, Abhishek Shrivastav, said the boy had gone missing on September 16. "His mother filed a missing person's complaint at Khoda police station. Police lodged a complaint under BNS 137(2), following which teams were formed to trace him," he said. "When we began probing the case, we found that his cousin, Yuvraj, had taken him along on his bike on the night of September 16 to a park in Delhi's Preet Vihar. There, he strangled the child to death, smashed his head with a brick and left his body there," said the ACP. According to officers, Yuvraj told investigators that he had taken Rs 3 lakh from his uncle and invested it in cryptocurrency.

‘Standing during classes, five hours a day’: NUJS students escalate protest against VC



GNS News Agency, Oct 6

According to students of the university, first and second-year students have six hours of classes daily, while third-year and above have five hours. According to students of the university, first and second-year students have six hours of classes daily, while third-year and above have five hours. Students of the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS) on Monday launched a unique and impromptu form of protest — standing in class for up to five hours a day — as they continued their demand for the resignation of Vice-Chancellor Professor Nirmal Kanti Chakrabarti.

The protest began after an initial plan to wear black bands. “(Standing) is something that students themselves undertook on their own volition. But as of now, looking at student enthusiasm and discussions, students seem keen on continuing this and any other form of protest that does not disrupt class and academic activities,” a fourth-year stu-

dent told. According to students of the university, first and second-year students have six hours of classes daily, while third-year and above have five hours. This follows the Supreme Court’s September 12 observation in connection with a 2023 sexual harassment complaint against Chakrabarti. The complaint, filed by a faculty member, alleged harassment between 2019 and April 2023. It was initially dismissed by the internal complaints committee citing the statutory three-month filing limit. Professor Chakrabarti told

The Indian Express that he submitted a modification application to the Supreme Court on Sunday, since he had been ordered on September 12 to include the complaint on his resume by the court, though it also dismissed the complaint. “(The students) are doing this out of some instigation, and the authorities had told them that since the matter is subjudice in the Supreme Court, they cannot say anything. They are bringing a bad name to the institution,” he said. The latest action comes after Chakrabarti was gheraoed for nearly 20 hours on Sunday before he left the Salt Lake campus. On Saturday, students had staged a demonstration demanding his resignation amid allegations of financial mismanagement, misconduct, and sexual harassment. The protests coincided with a general council meeting on the campus attended by Supreme Court Justice Dipankar Dutta and State Minister Chandrima Bhattacharya, where students held up posters reading “I do not accept this V-C” and “Remove V-C”. In July last year, a single-judge bench of the Calcutta High Court directed the committee to re-examine the complaint. However, in December, on appeal, the HC reversed its decision, upholding the dismissal on grounds of delay in filing.

Pune civic body to remove bottlenecks on 32 city roads causing traffic chaos

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

The anti-encroachment department will identify encroachments on roads and footpaths causing problems for traffic, while the sky sign department will check for hoardings and flex boards contributing to traffic congestion. The anti-encroachment department will identify encroachments on roads and footpaths causing problems for traffic, while the sky sign department will check for hoardings and flex boards contributing to traffic congestion. With a survey by the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) revealing that 32 roads in the city bear 85 per cent of the vehicular traffic, the civic body has directed various departments to identify the traffic bottlenecks on these stretches and remove them.

“Civic departments, including road, building construction... anti-encroachment, electrical, and sky sign, have been asked to study the 32 roads and find solutions to the bottlenecks,” said Naval Kishore Ram, Pune Municipal Commissioner. The electrical department will have to identify electric poles, street lights, and feeder boxes hindering traffic flow. The building department will check whether any infrastructure — public or private — has become a bottleneck. The anti-encroachment department will identify encroachments on roads and footpaths causing problems for traffic, while the sky sign department will check for hoardings and flex boards contributing to traffic congestion.

The roads that would be studied include Solapur Road, Ganeshkhind Road, stretch of Mumbai-Bengaluru Bypass passing through the city, Nagar Road, Kondhwa Road, Karve Road, Old Mumbai-Pune Highway, Kharadi Bypass, Paud Road, Alandi Road, Baner Road, Jangli Maharaj Road, Old Airport Road, New VIP Road, Sinhadag Road, Senapati Bapat Road, Pune-Satara Road, North Main Road, Pune-Saswad Road, Nehru Road, Ambedkar Road, Dhanori Road, Lal Bahadur Shastri Road, Bibwewadi Road, Shivaji Road, Bajirao Road, Tilak Road, Nehru Chowk to Jahangir Chowk, Magarpatta Chowk to Kharadi Chowk, Pune University Circle to Aundh, Golbar Maidan to Ambedkar Statue and Pune University Circle to Pashan and Bavdhan. The total length of these roads is 208 km, and 60 km of stretches are experiencing traffic chaos due to bottlenecks. Ram said

After 10-day manhunt, main suspect in Gulshan Colony shootout case arrested in Delhi

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

“Mini Feroz has been absconding for 10 days since the incident. He was traced and arrested from Delhi,” a police official said. Feroz was arrested from near Ajmeri Gate in Delhi. “Mini Feroz has been absconding for 10 days since the incident. He was traced and arrested from Delhi,” a police official said. Feroz was arrested from near Ajmeri Gate in Delhi.

The prime accused in the Gulshan Colony shootout on September 11, Mohammad Firoz alias Mini Firoz, was apprehended by police in Delhi after a 10-day manhunt. Police consider it a significant breakthrough in the case, which involved an alleged five-hour-long rampage of violence, bombings, and arson. “Mini Feroz has been absconding for 10 days since the incident. He was traced and arrested from Delhi,” a police official said. Feroz was arrested from near Ajmeri Gate in Delhi. He is the fifth person to be arrested in the case, after Mohammad Amber alias Mohammad Nafis, Md Sajid, Ahmed Hossain alias Md Madhu, and Raja Khan. Police claimed Feroz and “his gang” were seen on CCTV footage “vandalising bikes, assaulting shop owners, and hurling crude country-made bombs” in the colony in Kolkata. The violence, which allegedly stemmed from a rivalry between two local syndicates, “aimed to establish Feroz’s dominance in the area” and caused widespread panic among residents. Feroz has been booked under various sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), including sections 109/3 (attempt to mur-



der), 324 (2) (mischief), and 351 (3) (criminal intimidation). He also faces charges under sections 25 and 27 of the Arms Act and section 9 of the West Bengal Maintenance of Public Order Act. Kolkata Police Commissioner Manoj Verma had recently been questioned about the police’s “failure” to swiftly arrest Feroz and one Amjad, the main accused in the murder of a resident in Ekbalpore. Verma had promised that both suspects would be arrested soon.

Telangana police bust hawala network linked to drug traffickers

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Hyderabad: The fact that ‘hawala transactions’ are turning into a prime channel for transferring drug money, the Elite Action Group for Drug Law Enforcement has started focusing on hawala operators linked to drug cartels in the country. The agency, during money trails in recent cases, was stunned to find that the majority of the drug cartels had easy access to the hawala operators, and the channels are used to transfer drug money. International drug traffickers, mainly the Nigerians and those from other African countries, after collecting drug money from local peddlers

and customers, route it to hawala operators. The hawala operators, through their illegal channels, then route the money to Indian businessmen or other agents in foreign countries. “During the recent investigation, we found the hawala operators transferred the money to local traders in different States. The amount was payment for the merchandise purchased and shipped by the drug cartels to their native places, where they are running different businesses,” said an official of EAGLE. The drug cartels, according to estimates by the drug law enforcement agencies, have transferred crores of rupees through hawala operators.

Delhi High Court orders preservation of EVMs, paper trail after NSUI alleges tampering in DUSU polls



GNS News Agency, Oct 6

The court of Justice Mini Pushkarna issued notice to DU and directed the chief election officer for DUSU polls to preserve the EVMs along with the paper trail. The court of Justice Mini Pushkarna issued notice to DU and directed the chief election officer for DUSU polls to preserve the EVMs along with the paper trail. The Delhi High Court Monday directed the chief election officer of the Delhi University Student Unions’ (DUSU) polls to preserve electronic voting machines (EVMs) and related paper trail pertaining to the elections this year, while also seeking a response from DU, in a petition by National Students’ Union of India (NSUI) leaders alleging tampering of EVMs.

The petition was moved by Ronak Khatri, who was

Metro trial run begins in Thane; India’s longest metro corridor expected to be ready by 2027

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Trial runs of Mumbai Metro’s Line 4 began on Monday on the 10.5-km stretch between Gaimukh and Cadbury Junction in Thane, with Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde flagging off the first train. The first phase of the stretch is a part of the 32.3-km Line 4 and its 2.8-km extension Line 4A, together spanning 35 km with 32 stations. “Once fully operational and connected to Line 11 (Wadala-CSMT), the corridor will stretch over 55 km, becoming India’s longest metro line and expected to carry 21 lakh passengers daily,” Fadnavis said, adding that the project would be operational by 2027.

Fadnavis described the trial as a “turning point for Thane commuters”, stating that the metro will reduce travel time between Mumbai and Thane by 50–75 per cent and ease road congestion. “Maximum work will be completed by next year’s end, while the entire corridor is expected to be ready by 2027,” he said. Fadnavis said the Rs 16,000-crore project would operate eight-coach trains, with a 45-hectare depot under construction at Mogharpada to serve Lines 4, 4A, 10, and 11. Temporary arrangements have been made for trial operations near Gaimukh. The first phase includes 10 stations—Cadbury Junction, Majiwada, Kapurbawdi, Manpada, Tikuji-ni-Wadi, Dongripada, Vijay Garden, Kasarvadavali, Gowniwada, and Gaimukh—while all 32 stations on Lines 4 and 4A will open in subsequent phases. Shinde said the launch was “historic for Thane”, recalling that the city had been excluded from metro plans

elected president in last year’s poll, and Joslyn Nandita Chaudhary, who contested on behalf of NSUI for the president post this year. The president post was won by Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) candidate Aryan Maan last week. NSUI is seeking quashing of the poll process and a declaration that the September 18 polling was vitiated on account of EVM tampering, “which were found to be marked in a manner favouring a particular candidate”. According to NSUI leaders, the EVMs had been deliberately tampered with, with blue ink markings against the name of ABVP presidential candidate Maan, “to influence voters”. Further, it has been submitted that the irregularities were “specifically witnessed and reported” at Hansraj College, Kirori Mal College, and the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, and similar complaints were “also emanated from several other colleges and departments across the University campus, as reported by various students”. Reporting of such incidents to returning officers, teachers on election duty and other authorities has yielded no response, according to the petitioners. The court of Justice Mini Pushkarna posted the matter next for December 16 after it issued notice to DU and directed the chief election officer to preserve the EVMs along with the paper trail. The petitioners in their petition also alleged that the conduct of the election officers, university officials, and several teachers deputed on election duty further reveals collusion and complicity, as they acted in a manner suggesting that they were “hand in glove” with the ABVP’s presidential candidate.



in the past. Fadnavis praised Shinde and Transport Minister Pratap Sarnaik for their efforts in securing land and overcoming obstacles to set up the Mogharpada depot. The Thane Metro project, which faced multiple delays, gained momentum after 2014 under Fadnavis’s leadership but was stalled during the 2019–2024 Maha Vikas Aghadi Government’s tenure. On August 25, the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority placed the first six-coach trial train on the tracks at Anand Nagar for testing. The ongoing trial runs mark a critical step before commercial operations, with inspections and rigorous tests to continue over the coming months. Once integrated with Line 11, the corridor will form a continuous 55-km elevated metro network, connecting Mumbai’s eastern suburbs, Thane city, and the island city. The elevated alignment is expected to ease road congestion and provide faster, safer, and more convenient travel for millions of daily commuters, promising to transform public transport in the region.

Himachal Pradesh minister Vikramaditya Singh marries Panjab University assistant professor

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Himachal cabinet minister Vikram Aditya Singh with his wife Dr. Amrin Kaur during wedding ceremony at sector 11 Gurudwara in Chandigarh. Himachal cabinet minister Vikram Aditya Singh with his wife Dr. Amrin Kaur during wedding ceremony at sector 11 Gurudwara in Chandigarh.

Himachal Pradesh Cabinet Minister and titular king of the erstwhile princely state of Bushahr, Vikramaditya Singh, 36, tied the knot with Amreen Kaur, an assistant professor at Panjab University, at a private ceremony in Chandigarh Monday. The Anand Karaj – wedding ceremony solemnised as per Sikh traditions – took place at a gurdwara in Sector 11 and was attended by close family members and friends. The Shimla Rural MLA holds the Public Works Department portfolio in the Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu-led state Cabinet. While Vikramaditya is the son of six-time chief minister Virbhadra Singh and Himachal Pradesh Congress president Pratibha Singh, Amreen’s parents Sardar Jotinder Singh Sekhon and Opinder Kaur are residents of Sector 2 in Chandigarh. This is Vikramaditya’s second marriage. In 2019, he married Sudarshana Singh Chundawat of the erstwhile princely estate of Amet in Rajasthan. However, in October 2022, Sudarshana filed a civil suit in an Udaipur court, accusing Vikramaditya and his family of harassment. Family sources revealed that the matter was settled amicably two months ago, and that the two have legally separated. An alumnus of Hansraj College, Delhi University, Vikramaditya was active in student politics and later



completed his Master’s in History from St Stephen’s College in the Capital. He formally joined the Himachal Pradesh Congress unit in 2013 and went on to serve as president of the state Youth Congress. Vikramaditya entered electoral politics in 2017, winning his first Assembly election from Shimla Rural. Along with Virbhadra Singh, he created history that year by becoming the first father-son duo to take oath together as legislators in the state.

After Virbhadra’s death in July 2021, Vikramaditya was symbolically anointed as the ‘Raja of Bushahr’ in a private ceremony at Padam Palace, Rampur. In 2024, Vikramaditya contested the Lok Sabha elections from Mandi, then represented by his mother, but lost to actor-turned-BJP leader Kangana Ranaut.

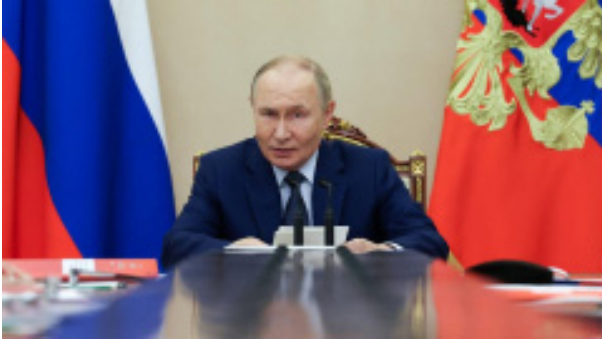
HC grants bail to AAP’s Chaitar Vasava, bars him from entering Dediapada taluka for a year

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Chaitar Vasava judicial custody, Dediapada MLA arrest, Gujarat High Court bail hearing, Chaitar Vasava bail plea August 5, attempt to murder FIR Dediapada, Chaitar Vasava’s arrest followed a clash during a meeting at the Dediapada panchayat office. The Gujarat High Court on Monday granted bail to Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) working president and Dediapada MLA Chaitar Vasava in the case of alleged assault of a BJP leader, but barred him from entering Dediapada taluka for one year. Justice M R Mengdey, in an oral order, observed, “The applicant (Chaitar) is a sitting MLA of Dediapada but his conduct is not befitting of his post... The incident had actually taken place and the applicant had assaulted the complainant... He is alleged to have assaulted the elected member of the taluka panchayat with a mobile phone and then hurled a glass at the complainant... His application is fit for consideration but he shall not enter Dediapada taluka for a period of one year (except for attending court hearings).” The bail was granted on a surety of Rs 10,000. The restriction includes Chaitar’s home in Bogaj village. His close aides told The Indian Express that he is likely to move to Rajpipla, the district head town, to continue constituency work remotely. Dediapada is one of the two talukas under his Assembly constituency. The HC

turned down his counsel’s plea to allow participation in constituency meetings with an undertaking of “best behaviour”. Justice Mengdey orally remarked, “Look at your conduct and the style of your (politics)... Similar undertaking was given in an earlier offence.” Chaitar has been lodged in Vadodara Central Jail since his arrest following the July 5 incident, in which BJP leader and Dediapada taluka panchayat president Sanjay Vasava alleged that Chaitar abused Sagbara panchayat president Champa Vasava and then hurled his phone and a glass at Sanjay Vasava when he intervened. In his submission, defence counsel Zubin Bharda argued that the incident was a “minor scuffle” over a “list of members”, allegedly initially described as a “mutual conflict” in police statements. He argued that the complainant sought treatment only on July 8, that Chaitar himself went to the police station, and that the phone allegedly hurled was recovered “without damage”, while CCTV footage was “not found” by police. The prosecution countered that the incident “cannot be denied”, stressing that the chargesheet was filed within 60 days. It urged that any bail be granted with conditions. This was Chaitar’s fresh bail plea after withdrawing an earlier one before the chargesheet was filed. Earlier this month, the Narmada sessions court had granted him three-day temporary bail to attend the monsoon Assembly session, under police escort.

Putin says Russia will stick to nuclear arms limits for one more year



GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Russia's President Vladimir Putin said Monday that Moscow will adhere to nuclear arms limits for one more year after the last remaining nuclear pact with the United States expires in February. Mr. Putin said that the termination of the 2010 New START would have negative conse-

quences for global stability. Speaking at a meeting with members of Russia's Security Council, he said that Russia would expect the U.S. to follow Moscow's example and also stick to the treaty's limits.

The New START, signed by then-Presidents Barack Obama and Dmitry Medvedev, limits each country to no more than 1,550 deployed nuclear warheads and 700 deployed missiles and bombers. Its looming expiration and the lack of dialogue on anchoring a successor deal have worried arms control advocates. The agreement envisages sweeping on-site inspections to verify compliance, but they have been dormant since 2020. In February 2023, Mr. Putin suspended Moscow's participation in the treaty, saying Russia could not allow U.S. inspections of its nuclear sites at a time when Washington and its NATO allies have openly declared Moscow's defeat in Ukraine as their goal. Moscow has emphasized, however, that it wasn't withdrawing from the pact altogether and would continue to respect the caps on nuclear weapons the treaty set.

Combating 'malicious' content in two-month social media crackdown: China's internet regulator CAC

GNS News Agency, Oct 6 China's top internet regulator announced on Monday a sweeping two-month crackdown on social media, vowing to combat content containing "malicious incitement of conflict" and "negative outlooks on life such as world-weariness." Beijing requires social media companies to moderate content on their platforms, with posts strictly controlled to avoid anything deemed to be too subversive, vulgar, pornographic or generally harmful.

The notice from the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) follows announcements of penalties this month against three popular digital platforms, which it said had neglected content management duties.

On Saturday (September 20, 2025), the CAC said it would carry out "disciplinary and punitive measures" against micro-blogging platform Weibo and short video platform Kuaishou, accusing them of highlighting celebrity news and "undesirable" content. The announcement followed similar action taken by the CAC on September 11, 2025, against the Instagram-like Xiaohongshu, known as Rednote in English. Authorities have not specified what punitive actions are being taken against the three platforms. The two-month campaign — whose start date was not specified in Monday's (September 22, 2025) statement — aims "to regulate the malicious incitement of conflict and the promotion of violence and vicious currents," the CAC said.

The statement then listed specific online issues authorities hope to tackle in the crackdown. They include "exploiting social hot spots to forcibly associate identity, region or gender with other information, stigmatising and hyping



them." In practice, this could mean a clampdown on posts about discrimination. In July, local officials in eastern Zhejiang province warned comedians against stirring up gender discord through stand-up routines that joked about the battle of the sexes. Other problems targeted by the campaign include disseminating "rumours" about the economy, finance, social welfare and public policy. Weibo has previously warned against posting "pessimistic" views about the economy, social media users told AFP in late 2023. Monday's (September 22, 2025) notice also mentioned "maliciously interpreting social phenomena, unilaterally exaggerating negative individual cases and exploiting them to promote negative outlooks on life such as world-weariness." That could be seen as a reference to "lying flat" or "letting it rot" culture — widespread phrases used by young Chinese to describe lifestyles that snub gruelling work culture in favour of taking it easy.

South Korea's President Lee says U.S. investment demands would spark financial crisis

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

South Korea's economy could fall into crisis, rivaling its 1997 meltdown, if the government accepts current U.S. demands in stalled trade talks without safeguards, President Lee Jae Myung told Reuters. Seoul and Washington verbally agreed to a trade deal in July in which the U.S. would lower U.S. President Donald Trump's tariffs on South Korean goods in exchange for \$350 billion in investment from South Korea, among other measures. They have yet to put the agreement to paper because of disputes over how the investments would be handled, Mr. Lee said. "Without a currency swap, if we were to withdraw \$350 billion in the manner that the U.S. is demanding and to invest this all in cash in the U.S., South Korea would face a situation as it had in the 1997 financial crisis," he said through a translator.

In an interview in his office on Friday, Lee also spoke about a huge U.S. immigration raid that detained hundreds of Koreans, as well as Seoul's relations with rival North Korea, neighbouring giant China and Russia. But trade and defence talks with the U.S., South Korea's military ally and a top economic partner, are overshadowing a trip Lee makes from Monday to New York, where he will address the United Nations General Assembly and be the first South Korean president to chair a meeting of the Security Council. Mr. Lee, a liberal, took office in a June snap election after his conservative predecessor, Yoon Suk Yeol, was removed from office and jailed for briefly imposing martial law. Lee has sought to calm the country and its economy and said he plans to use his U.S. visit to tell the world that "democratic Korea is back".

Mr. Lee met Mr. Trump for their first summit in August, saying he had built a strong personal tie with the U.S. leader, despite not agreeing on a joint statement or concrete announcement. This month Trump's administration rocked South Korea with the arrest of more than 300 South Korean workers at a Hyundai Motor battery plant in Georgia, with federal officials accusing them of immigration violations. Mr. Lee said South Koreans were naturally angered by the "harsh" treatment of the workers — the Trump administration published images of them in shackles - and has warned it could make companies wary of investing in the United States. But he said the raid would not undermine the bilateral alliance, praising Mr. Trump for offering to let the workers stay. Lee said he did not believe it was directed by Trump but was the result of overzealous law enforcement. "I do not believe this was intentional, and the U.S. has apologised for this incident, and we have agreed to seek reasonable measures in this regard and we are working on them," he said. Mr. Lee's office says there is no plan for him to meet Trump in New York and that the trade talks are not on the visit's agenda. Stumbling block in trade talks Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick has said South Korea should follow Japan's deal with the United States. He said Seoul either needs to accept the deal or pay the tariffs, using the Trump administration's depiction of foreign governments paying the levies, which are instead paid by U.S. importers.

Mr. Lee, asked if he would walk away from the deal, said: "I believe that between blood allies, we will be able to maintain the minimum amount of rationality." South Korea has proposed a foreign exchange swap line with the U.S. to reduce the shock of the investments on the local market for the won currency. Lee did not address how likely the U.S. was to agree or whether that would be enough for the

UNGA 80: As World convulses in war, contentiousness, its leaders convene at U.N. to figure it out



GNS News Agency, Oct 6

World leaders begin convening Monday (September 22, 2025) at one of the most volatile moments in the United Nations' 80-year history, and the challenges they face are as dire as ever if not more so: unyielding wars in Gaza and Ukraine, escalating changes in the U.S. approach to the world, hungry people everywhere and technologies that are advancing faster than the understanding of how to manage them. The United Nations itself, which emerged from World War II's rubble on the premise that nations would work together to tackle political, social and financial issues, is in crisis itself. As Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said last week: "International cooperation is straining under pressures unseen in our lifetimes." Yet the annual high-level gathering at the U.N. General Assembly will bring Presidents, Prime Ministers and monarchs from about 150 of the 193 U.N. member nations to UN headquarters.

The secretary-general says it is an opportunity that can't be missed — even in the most challenging of moments. "We are gathering in turbulent — even uncharted — waters," Mr. Guterres said. He pointed to, among other spectres, "our planet overheating, new technologies racing ahead without guardrails, inequalities widening by the hour."

They gather for a better world, but can they build it?

Mr. Guterres said he will use the more than 150 one-on-one meetings he has with leaders and ministers to urge that they speak to each other, bridge divides, reduce risks and find solutions — to conflicts, to keep the planet from increased warming, to put guardrails on fast-expanding artificial intelligence, and to find funding for lagging UN goals for 2030 including ending poverty in all countries and ensuring quality education for every child. He said leaders must make progress, not merely engage in "posturing and promises". But U.N. watchers say that in a deeply polarised world, with no prospects of ceasefires in Gaza, Ukraine and Sudan, whether the high-level meeting makes any progress remains a big question mark. Richard Gowan, U.N. director for the International Crisis Group, said he is confident three topics will dominate high-level week — US President Donald Trump's first appearance in his second term, the horrific situation in Gaza, and what's next for the United Nations as it grapples with major funding and staff cuts, mainly due to the cutoff in US payments to its regular and peacekeeping budgets

Mr. Gowan said he expects the nearly two-year war in Gaza to be the central issue, as Israel launches a major offensive in Gaza City forcing thousands to flee and following a report by independent experts commissioned by the UN Human Rights Council that accused Israel of committing genocide in Gaza. Israel rejected the allegation, calling the report "distorted and false". Riyadh Mansour, the Palestinian ambassador to the United Nations, has stressed that "Palestine is going to be the huge elephant in this session of the General Assembly". It will be front and centre on Monday (September 22, 2025) at a high-level meeting co-chaired by France and Saudi Arabia on implementing a two-state

Russia, Ukraine trade deadly drone strikes as Zelenskyy anticipates intense diplomacy at U.N.

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Russia and Ukraine swapped accusations of deadly drone strikes on civilian areas of their countries on Monday (September 22, 2025) as Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy anticipated "a very intense week" of diplomacy at the U.N. General Assembly in New York, where the Security Council was expected to discuss the more than three-year war. Mr. Zelenskyy has tried to give momentum to a U.S.-led peace effort, offering a ceasefire and a summit meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Moscow has taken issue with some of the proposals, however, and an end to the bloodshed appears no closer. Additionally, international concerns have mounted recently that the fighting could spread beyond Ukraine's borders as European countries rebuked Russia for what they said were provocations. The incidents have included Russian drones landing on Polish soil and Russian fighter aircraft entering Estonian airspace. Latvian President Edgars Rinkevics said on social media that Russia was testing NATO's political and military response and aiming to reduce Western support for Ukraine by compelling countries to redirect resources toward the defence of alliance countries. Calibrating how to respond to Russia was not easy, Mr. Rinkevics said on Sunday. Russia was doing just enough not to cross a red line, but things could still spiral, he added.

Russia's Defence Ministry denied any Estonian airspace violation by its planes, and Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov on Monday dismissed Estonia and NATO's claims as "void, ungrounded and continuing an unbridled policy of inciting tensions and provoking confrontation." Mr. Zelenskyy was due to attend the annual high-level gathering at the U.N. General Assembly, where he planned to recruit support for efforts to stop Russia's invasion. "The schedule already includes nearly two dozen meetings with leaders from different countries, from all parts of the world," Mr. Zelenskyy said on Telegram late on Sunday. Mr. Zelenskyy said he also planned to meet with U.S. President Donald Trump, whose drive for a peace deal after taking office in January has yielded no progress.

"It is vital that this week we strengthen the world's resolve for robust action — for without strength, peace will not prevail," Mr. Zelenskyy said. He said that over the past week, Russia fired more than 1,500 strike drones, 1,280 glide bombs and 50 missiles of various types at Ukraine. More than 132,000 foreign components were found in those weapons from dozens of countries, he said. Ukraine has campaigned for tighter sanctions on Russia. Attack on Ukraine Meanwhile, at least seven Russian aircraft bombarded the southern Ukrainian city of Zaporizhzhia overnight, killing three people and wounding two others, according to regional administration head Ivan Fedorov. The attack started around 4:20 a.m. and lasted about 40 minutes, Mr.

solution to the nearly eight-decade Israeli-Palestinian conflict. And the spotlight will be even brighter because the Trump administration refused to give a US visa to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to speak at that meeting and the General Assembly.

On Friday (September 19, 2025), the General Assembly overwhelmingly adopted a resolution enabling Mr. Abbas to speak by video — as it did in 2022 for Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy following Russia's invasion. This year Mr. Zelenskyy will be attending in person, and the Security Council is expected to meet on Ukraine on Tuesday (September 23, 2025). The assembly voted overwhelmingly earlier this month to support a two-state solution and urge Israel to commit to a Palestinian state. Hours before that vote, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that "there will be no Palestinian state". More than 145 countries already recognise Palestine as a state, and Mansour told The Associated Press on Sunday that "it's going to be 10 more" announcing their recognition at Monday afternoon's meeting. High-level week is also expected to see a Security Council meeting on Gaza, possibly Tuesday afternoon.

Lots of thorny issues are on the docket The high-level meeting starts Tuesday (September 23, 2025) morning in the vast General Assembly chamber. Mr. Trump will speak that day shortly after Mr. Guterres' opening "state of the world" speech. Gowan said there is "hope" that Trump will come in a positive mood, touting the international accomplishments that the president says merit the Nobel Peace Prize. Also on the docket: Trump's financial approach to the larger world. "Obviously, most leaders are going to be focusing on what he has to say about tariffs," Gowan said, but also about Russia and China.

Other speakers to watch are interim Syrian President Ahmad al-Sharaa, making his debut on the international stage following the ouster of former strongman Bashar Assad in December, and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian. The Iranian leader will be in New York days after the Security Council decided not to permanently lift UN sanctions on his country over its escalating nuclear programme, but it gave Tehran and key European powers France, Germany and the United Kingdom until midnight Sept 27 to agree to a delay. That's when the sanctions will automatically "snapback" unless a deal is reached. High-level week will also see numerous meetings on tackling climate change; on the more than two-year war in Sudan started by rival military and paramilitary generals that has sparked the world's worst displacement crisis; on Somalia, which is home to the extremist group Al-Shabab; and on Haiti, where gangs control over 90% of the capital and have expanded into the countryside. An event on Monday (September 22, 2025) will commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Beijing women's conference, which adopted a platform to achieve gender equality. The United Nations says that goal is growing more distant and Guterres has said it is 300 years away on the current track. One of Mr. Guterres' major aims this year: to generate support for his plans to reform the United Nations and make it more responsive to the world as it is in 2025. Because of funding cuts by the US and others, the UN announced last week that its regular operating budget for 2026 needs to be cut by 15% to \$3.2 billion along with a 19% cut in that budget's staff positions. — 2,681 posts. Mr. Gowan said he doesn't see the United States or other countries running away from the United Nations. But he stressed that it is going through "an extraordinarily difficult period" and will have to shrink and change. The U.N.'s resonance on peace and security issues is unquestionably not what it was, "he said, "but I think that the organisation will continue to muddle through."

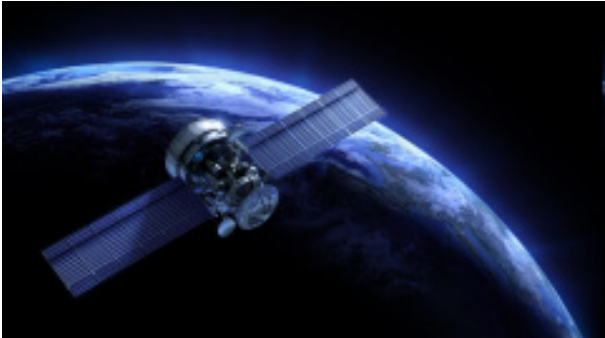


Fedorov said. Residential buildings, shopping malls, a parking lot and "critical infrastructure" were targeted, he said. "None of the sites had anything to do with military infrastructure," Fedorov said. The Ukrainian air force said it stopped 132 out of 141 strike and decoy drones launched by Russian forces overnight. Attack by Ukrainian drones on Russia Russia made similar claims. The Moscow-appointed head of Ukraine's Russia-occupied Crimea peninsula, Sergei Aksyonov, said three people were killed and 16 others were wounded late on Sunday by Ukrainian drones that struck the popular vacation resort of Foros. The Russian Defence Ministry said there are no military facilities there. In Russia's Belgorod border region, three people were killed and another 10 were wounded by Ukrainian drone attacks on Sunday, according to the regional governor, Vyacheslav Gladkov. The Defence Ministry said 114 Ukrainian drones were downed early Monday over several Russian regions.

China launches new visa for global tech talent amid US visa curbs

Beijing: China on Monday declined to comment on US President Donald Trump's move to impose a hefty USD one lakh fee for H-1B visas, but at the same time invited global professionals to work in the country as it prepares to roll out a new employment visa next month. On Friday last week, the Trump administration announced a USD 1,00,000 fee on H-1B visas. The fee is a one-time fee on submission of a new H-1B petition. "China will not comment on the US visa policy," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun told a media briefing here when asked about Trump's decision. However, at the same time, he said in the era of globalisation, cross-border talents promote technological and economic progress globally, and Beijing welcomes global professional talent to explore opportunities in the country.

How is India planning to protect its satellites in space?



Following a near miss in 2024 between an Indian satellite and a foreign spacecraft, New Delhi has begun planning “bodyguard satellites” to watch over its fleet, according to media reports — a decision that could be part of a wider strategy that includes new surveillance spacecraft, radars, telescopes, and technologies such as LiDAR. Satellites today guide airplanes and ships, power the internet, television services, and global financial transactions, and help scientists monitor the weather and climate change. They are also indispensable for national security: contemporary armies bank on satellites for communications, surveillance, and navigation. But as the number of satellites in orbit has grown, so have the risks. Spacecraft can collide with debris, be jammed by radio interference, hacked through ground systems, and threatened by hostile manoeuvres by other satellites. Given the costs of maintaining satellites in orbit and logistical challenges to building and launching new ones, protecting them has become a major concern for every spacefaring nation. Avoiding collisions Even as a physical environment, space presents risks that would be unimaginable on the ground. For example, a small screw left over from a rocket can punch a hole in a spacecraft traveling at 28,000 km per hour, enough to terminate the mission.

To manage this risk, countries have built large debris-tracking networks. The US operates the Space Fence, a radar that can spot objects the size of a marble. The European Union runs EU Space Surveillance and Tracking (EUSST), which warns satellite operators about impending threats. India has the Indian Space Situational Awareness and Management (IS4OM) centre in Bengaluru, a satellite-tracking hub that tracks satellites, warns of dangerous encounters, and coordinates collision-avoidance manoeuvres. Indeed, in 2023 alone, Indian satellites executed more than 10 collision-avoidance manoeuvres. India’s Project NETRA is expanding these capabilities with new radars and telescopes. The Multi-Object Tracking Radar at Sriharikota already provides some coverage while some new sites around the country are in the works. This said, India currently doesn’t have the capability for continuous monitoring. The “bodyguard satellites” India is reportedly mulling now could be dedicated spacecraft that could accompany valuable satellites, monitor close approaches, and perhaps even dispute hostile manoeuvres. While such technologies are believed to still be under discussion, that New Delhi is considering them at all illustrates how seriously it’s taking the risk. Physical and digital threats

Satellites use radio signals to talk to the earth, including with users of navigation services. A powerful ground transmitter can jam a satellite’s uplink or downlink or use spoofing — where false signals imitate genuine ones — can mislead navigation users. Spacefaring agencies have responded to such threats by designing hardened waveforms and systems. For instance, the US military developed its ‘Protected Tactical Waveform’ for anti-jam communications and ‘Advanced Extremely High Frequency’ satellites that use frequencies that are harder to disrupt. Likewise, Europe has rolled out Galileo OSNMA, which authenticates navigation messages to minimise spoofing. The US is also deploying an encrypted GPS M-code. Take NavIC, India’s own regional navigation system, for example. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has been testing Navigation Message Authentication (NMA), a system that will allow receivers to verify that signals are the real deal. This feature isn’t fully operational yet, however, but it could strengthen the country’s users’ ability to resist spoofing. While much less is known about military satellites, it’s likely they also use anti-jamming techniques such as beam-steering antennas and spread-spectrum signals.

This said, NavIC is currently facing a crisis. Beginning 2016, the satellite constellation suffered multiple atomic clock failures and nine clocks had reported failed by 2018. IRNSS-1I was launched in that year to replace IRNSS-1A. Other satellites, such as IRNSS-1B and IRNSS-1F, are now showing signs of age. In early 2025, a faulty engine valve prevented the NVS-02 next-generation satellite for NavIC from being placed in the right orbit after launch. At present, industry reporting has indicated that NavIC could be one more satellite failure away from losing its ability to provide navigation services. The digital threat is perhaps more alarming because the weakest points in satellite networks are often the ground stations, gateways, and user terminals. In 2022, a cyberattack against the Viasat network disrupted

internet services across Europe just as the Ukraine conflict was escalating. In response, agencies worldwide issued advisories and set up partnerships. The US has the Space Information Sharing and Analysis Centre (ISAC) to coordinate cyber threat intelligence. India’s equivalent action has come from CERT-In within the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, which in 2025 issued guidelines for satellite operators that emphasise strong encryption, network segmentation, secure credentials, regular patching, and incident reporting. India’s new licensing framework through IN-SPaCe also requires private operators to comply with safety and security standards. The emphasis is on ensuring that as more private actors join India’s space economy, they will adopt cyber hygiene from the outset. ‘Bodyguard satellites’ Satellites are also threatened by natural forces. Solar storms can damage electronics, induce currents in power systems, and increase atmospheric drag, causing spacecraft to fall out of orbits sooner than expected. In turn, operators use forecasts from agencies like the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the European Space Agency, and the Centre of Excellence in Space Sciences India at ISER Kolkata to be prepared. India also took a major step with the Aditya-L1 mission, launched to study the sun from the L1 Lagrange point. Data from this mission can yield early warning of coronal mass ejections and other solar activity, helping satellite-controllers place spacecraft in safe mode and/or plan orbital manoeuvres that minimise exposure.

Beyond debris and natural threats also lies the shadow of geopolitics. Satellites can be inspected, shadowed or even targeted by third-party actors. Rendezvous and proximity operations used to be a niche technology but have become ubiquitous today. While the satellite that allegedly approached the Indian satellite in 2024 didn’t result in a collision, officials are said to be reading it as a test of capability and a warning. Such manoeuvres are difficult to detect without constant tracking. Former ISRO officials have suggested that LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) satellites could issue better warnings of these threats as well as more time to respond.

The concept of “bodyguard satellites” may also fall in this category. These spacecraft could be positioned near a critical satellite to monitor its surroundings, detect suspicious manoeuvres by other satellites, warn of threats, and physically intervene if required. They may also accompany orbital assets that protect against suspicious approaches — a strategy that mirrors global trends where major powers are testing defensive and offensive satellite technologies, even if most of the details are under wraps. Further, technology isn’t the only shield: international agreements can and do establish the rules of the road. The UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) adopted voluntary guidelines in 2019 for the long-term sustainability of space. And while NATO has declared space to be an operational domain, 10 countries have come together under the Combined Space Operations Initiative to promote responsible behaviour in orbit. India stepped into these forums. In 2024, the country hosted the Inter-Agency Debris Coordination Committee (IADC), where ISRO publicly declared its intention to pursue ‘Debris-Free Space Missions by 2030’. This was a significant shift from 2019, when ISRO and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) carried out an anti-satellite missile test in low-earth orbit that created debris and drew global criticism, including for endangering the International Space Station. No mean feat The Indian government has also approved a ₹27,000-crore programme to launch 52 new surveillance satellites, with the first expected in 2026. They are expected to provide earth-observation and security functions and expand India’s independent coverage of the orbital domain. Some start-ups are also contributing with space-based space situational awareness satellites that track debris and objects in orbit. The future of satellite protection in space thus seems to involve multiple layers of protection. The first step is to be able to observe everything, using IS4OM, Project NETRA, and prospective LiDAR satellites. Then, once a threat is detected, ISRO or the corresponding operator avoid collisions, perhaps using predetermined collision-avoidance manoeuvres. Further, communications must be hardened and signals must be encrypted, networks must be segmented and constantly monitored, and clear rules must be drafted to report incidents. As for natural threats: operators are already planning for solar storms with forecasting services; the Aditya-L1 mission can also provide more up-to-date space weather awareness. Once a satellite has neared the end of its life, finally, operators need to ensure controlled re-entry and passivation, or adhere to restrictions on how long dead spacecraft can remain in orbit. These protections can be augmented by ideas such as bodyguard satellites, autonomous avoidance capabilities, and communications designed to withstand interference, which in turn can be bolstered by international guidelines forged under the UN’s auspices, coordinated through the IADC, and enforced through multilateral initiatives. In the final analysis, protecting satellites is no small feat — but the benefits have increasingly outweighed the expenses.

receptor antagonist that displaces opioids from the receptor and restores normal breathing. However, it needs to be administered quickly because untreated respiratory failure can lead to brain injury and death within minutes. According to U.S. data, from August 2023 to August 2024, more than 57,000 Americans died of opioid overdose, most of them involving fentanyl. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reported in 2022 that it seized 50.6 million fentanyl-laced pills and enough powdered fentanyl to account for 379 million potentially deadly doses, an amount sufficient to kill the entire U.S. population. While heroin or cocaine are derived from plants, fentanyl is made in laboratories using compounds called its precursors. The most important of these are N-phenethyl-4-piperidine (NPP) and 4-anilino-N-phenethylpiperidine (4-ANPP). These substances have legitimate industrial and pharmaceutical uses but they can also be diverted to illicit supply chains. In a counterfeit laboratory, the precursors are processed into fentanyl powder by chemical reactions common in organic chemistry. First, NPP is converted into 4-ANPP in a reductive amination reaction, where a nitrogen-bearing fragment is attached to the NPP ring and stabilised by a mild reducing agent. Then, 4-ANPP undergoes an acylation reaction where an acyl group (R–C(=O)) is attached to the nitrogen atom, yielding fentanyl. These reactions can be carried out with ordinary glassware, solvents, and moderate amounts of heat. As a result, once traffickers obtain the precursor compounds, they can easily turn them into fentanyl.

‘End of an era’: After 60 years of covering Parsi events and raking up hot-button issues, Parsiana to publish its final edition in October



In 1973, an article in Parsiana on the secluded Tower of Silence — a raised, circular tower where, as per the centuries-old Zoroastrian tradition, dead bodies are exposed to vultures — created an uproar in the orthodox Parsi circles of Mumbai. Shiviav Vakil, then trustee of the Bombay Parsi Punchayet who had gained access to the tower, had penned a piece for the magazine about bodies lying exposed owing to the dwindling vulture population. “While the issue was known since the 1900s, it had not been documented. In 1973, perhaps for the first time, someone had gone inside and written about the bodies lying around. It created an uproar, with people wondering how a layperson could enter the tower or talk about the customs of disposing,” says Jehangir Patel, the editor and publisher of Parsiana, now in his 80s.

This was not an isolated article. Helmed by Parsi founders and editors, and anchored by Parsi patrons, Parsiana, a fortnightly magazine, has chronicled religious events, accomplishments and lives of the Zoroastrian community since its launch in 1964. Over six decades later, its closure announcement has sent yet another shock wave through the community. parsiana mag Jehangir Patel, the editor and publisher of Parsiana, pets Tiger, an Indie stray who grew up in the magazine’s corridors. (Express Photo by Amit Chakravarty) Besides the coverage of Parsi events, the magazine also voiced issues plaguing the community, often spoken in whispers. Despite its coverage leading to flared tempers within the more orthodox sections, Parsiana’s readership spanned from Mumbai to Pakistan and the United States. In its heyday, its subscriptions soared to 3,500. Its annual subscription in India costs Rs 1,200. When The Indian Express visited the magazine’s office in Fort, the staff was busy with the upcoming October edition — typing stories, editing copies and attending to trilling landlines. Yet, a sense of gloom was all pervasive.

On a break, senior editor Sherene Vakil petted a restless Tiger, an Indie who grew up in Parsiana’s corridors. “I think he has sensed that our days here are numbered. He has become very needy,” she says. Parsiana was launched to chronicle the community’s life in November 1964 by Pestonji Warden, a Parsi doctor who also dabbled in the sandalwood trade. Faced with a dwindling readership, he sold it for a symbolic Re 1 to Jehangir Patel, who had returned from the US in 1970 after a two-year stint at The San Francisco Examiner and The Hartford Times.

The magazine’s editor and publisher since August 1973, Patel, for as long as he can recall, has arrived at the office, tucked inside the now-defunct 138-year-old Parsi maternity hospital building, at 9.30 am. After overseeing administrative work, attending the 11.30 am editorial meetings on Wednesdays and editing copies, he wrapped up work by 4 pm. Patel said Parsiana’s first edition in 1973 was brought out by a team of five, including two editors. “We sold 400 copies of that edition. Back then, journalistic coverage of Parsi events was not the norm,” he says.

The magazine also did not shy away from hot-button issues ailing the community: from the high divorce rates to inter-faith marriages. Not only did its stance affect its readership, its journalists also invited scorn from the community and high priests alike. “Around 1987, we started covering inter-faith marriages of Parsis. People accused us of promoting inter-faith marriages. There was resistance, some even cancelled their subscriptions, but most eventually came around,” recalls Patel. Recalling how her 40-year stint at Parsiana often landed her in trouble with the community, managing editor Parinaz Gandhi says, “Once, I

wrote about permitting a person who had married outside of the faith entry into the Agiary (the Parsi fire temple). The priest of that Agiary was so upset that he never looked at me after that.” Yet, Parsiana continued to publish issues surrounding the community. For instance, in its more recent edition, dated August 7-20, 2025, the magazine published articles on the urgent need to save the distinct “Parsi-Gujarati dialect”, which has its own syntax. Parsiana mag Parsiana’s senior editor Sherene Vakil (right) writes for the magazine’s events and personality section. (Express Photo by Amit Chakravarty) “One of the main issues that we write about today is the dwindling Parsi population and the reforms needed. Mumbai only has 51 fire temples at present. The number of priests is down. Even devotees do not come to the fire temples as much,” says Patel.

Editor Patel said that contrary to popular belief, it was not money that had led to the magazine’s closure. “We generally lose money on all editions, except for those in March and August, when Parsis celebrate Navroz. Yet, finance is not an issue. Our staff (of 16) is ageing and we have no one to take the baton forward (as a successor) due to the community’s declining population,” says Patel, adding that it takes around Rs10-15 lakh to push out one edition. He said they print over 1,500 copies of Parsiana, though most readers prefer the e-magazine, launched on their website in 2005. While 60% of these hard copies are for Mumbai readers and 30% are for Parsis across India, the rest are sent to overseas subscribers, largely based in Canada. Patel said the magazine is brought out by a “diligent team” of 16 — four editorial staffers, while the rest look after advertising, accounts, marketing and other operations. “We lost a senior colleague to cancer in March. It was very difficult to fill that position since this is a niche publication with special requirements, knowledge of the community and contacts,” says senior editor Vakil, who writes for the magazine’s events and personality section. With the magazine shutting down following its October 21 edition, its long-time staffers said they “do not know what the future holds for them”. Vakil, a journalist who joined Parsiana after her retirement in 2006, adds: “I like being with people and working out of a structured office. I am not looking forward to my second retirement.” Since the news of its closure became public, the Parsiana team has been receiving letters from the community, imploring the magazine to “hang on”. One such letter, published in its ‘Readers’ Forum’ column, was sent by Romin Irani, “Twice every month, I await the copy of Parsiana and look forward to reading it. You have been the conscience of the community...”

New Zealand-based Farsheed Cooper’s letter says, “The news that Parsiana will not continue beyond October is a thunderbolt that has devastated us!” In the story of Parsiana’s closure, Mumbai-based activist Zoru Bhatena said, lies the story of several other Parsi institutions. Bhatena’s letter says, “Having grown up reading Parsiana, we always looked forward to it for an overview on all that is happening in our minuscule community, from all around the world. We have had differences of views over some things; and agreed completely on others. But, it was the differences in views that bound us together.” Parsiana mag While Parsiana’s editorial team maintains that their closure is “final”, they said their archives will continue to thrive. (Express Photo by Amit Chakravarty)

Sunnu Farrokh Golwalla, a Karachi resident and editor of a monthly newsletter for Zoroastrians, tells The Indian Express, “Arguments, controversies, even a bit of rancour: Parsiana printed it all, never flinching from its duty to inform...” Recalling her fondest memories of the magazine, Golwalla, who has contributed articles to Parsiana, says, “After returning from the World Zoroastrian Congress in Houston in 2000, my mother, 86, asked eagerly, ‘So, how was the debate between Ali Jafri and Khojeste Mistree?’ I was floored — how did she know? She replied, ‘Why, Parsiana has been covering it issue after issue!’ Imagine, my mother, in her 80s, was as well-informed as any delegate, all thanks to Parsiana.” While Parsiana’s editorial team maintains that their closure is “final”, they said their archives will continue to thrive. “It is not a complete closure. We may not have new editions, but we will manage the archives to ensure our readers still have access to them,” smiles editor Patel.

Amoebic meningoencephalitis | Conflated cases

It’s an infection that has been documented in India since the 1970s. The first case of amoebic meningoencephalitis (AME) in two Indian children was reported by Pan et al. in 1971, and thereafter, several cases were reported from various parts of India. But AME has suddenly been making huge national and even international headlines because Kerala has now made it a serious business to aggressively test and treat all cases of AME, most of which may have otherwise been bracketed under the head of acute encephalitis (AES) syndrome with unknown etiologies. This strategy has had a huge downside, too. In a State where every health-related issue assumes huge political dimensions and comes under intense public scrutiny, Kerala’s health officials are now having a hard time explaining to the public at large why there has been a sudden surge in AME cases, which are still considered to be rare. The first case of AME was documented in the State in 2016, and till 2023, cases were sporadic and fatality was total. In 2024, AME cases suddenly surged to 39, but with just eight fatalities. This year so far, there have been 71 cases of AME — 24 cases diagnosed in September alone — and 19 deaths. Misleading headlines Significantly, of the 110 cases of AME reported in Kerala in 2024 and 2025, only 11 were due to Naegleria fowleri, the “brain-eating” amoeba, which causes primary amoebic meningoencephalitis (PAM), which has a fatality rate of 99%. Almost all of the remaining were cases of encephalitis caused by Acanthamoeba, another free-living amoeba.

Acanthamoeba, is a ubiquitous pathogen which is widely distributed in the environment in waterbodies, wells, overhead storage tanks, swimming pools and even treated tap water. It has been isolated from dust samples in dialysis units, air-conditioning and ventilation in hospitals. Acanthamoeba is so ubiquitous that 80% of the human population has natural IgG antibodies against it. There have also been documented cases wherein the colonisation of nasal mucosa by Acanthamoeba, without active infection, has been reported in immunocompetent individuals. It is in individuals with immunocompromising conditions, ranging from alcoholism and diabetes to cancer, that Acanthamoeba emerges as a huge health risk. While the commonest mode of exposure to this pathogen in the general population could



be through waterbodies and nasal irrigation using tap/untreated water, in immunocompromised individuals, Acanthamoeba can also enter through skin wounds and reach the brain through the bloodstream. Clinicians treating AME cases in Kerala clarify that the majority of the patients are indeed immunocompromised individuals, such as renal patients on dialysis or cancer patients. They stress that the people are not up against a universal public health risk. Avoiding unclean waterbodies and risky habits such as nasal irrigation should protect the majority from amoebic infections. In the case of infection by N. fowleri, usually there is a clear epidemiological link to waterbodies, or nasal irrigation and dramatic presentation of central nervous system infection in patients within a short incubation period of 5-14 days. However, in the case of encephalitis caused by Acanthamoeba, it is difficult to establish a clear epidemiological link as the source is often unknown and the incubation period could range from weeks to months. The confounding epidemiology of the disease is thus posing diagnostic challenges to clinicians, while making it harder for the health experts to dispel the public’s conviction that they were up against a new public health threat. In India, not more than 25-30% of AES cases have a known etiology. But there have been many research studies from within the country in recent years, which point to the fact that central nervous system infections caused by Free-Living Amoebae (FLA) could be underdiagnosed because of a lack of awareness/clinical suspicion.

‘States must explore levy of passenger, goods tax to boost revenue after GST cuts’: Prof Sacchidananda Mukherjee



Amid concerns about a possible loss of revenue because of a reduction in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates, states must look at raising money through other means, including the levy of a Passenger and Goods Tax (PGT), said Sacchidananda Mukherjee, Professor at the New Delhi-based National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) in an interview with The Indian Express. While entry taxes such as octroi are subsumed by the GST, Mukherjee said states don't use their authority to tax commercial movement of passengers and goods.

Mukherjee also discussed if the GST had become a more progressive system following the tax cuts that come into effect from Monday and how long one would have to wait to understand changes in consumer behaviour because of these cuts. Edited excerpts:

Your July paper assessed the GST as 'moderately progressive'. Since then, the GST Council has announced a wide-ranging reduction in tax rates. Would they have made the system more progressive?

The rate reductions have been announced. However, there are issues regarding passing the benefits to consumers and the resultant changes in consumer behaviour. Depending on price and income elasticities of demand, the scale and composition of the consumption basket will change. The latest consumption expenditure data we have is for 2023-24. Therefore, to understand the impact of the GST rate changes, we will have to wait for the next Household Consumption Expenditure Survey. My understanding is that the GST will be more progressive compared to what my July paper showed, since the tax rates have been reduced. The question is how much of the benefit will be passed on to the consumer and how long it'll take. Unless there is a transitional (input tax) credit provision, there will be a cash flow problem, and businesses may be reluctant to pass on the benefits to consumers. It also depends on the market structure: if there is no competition, then a company won't pass on the benefit. The government is saying it will take up the issue with industry bodies. But an industry body is not a regulatory body; it cannot take disciplinary action against its own members.

What about the revenue loss for states? Bihar, for instance, saw 57 per cent of its own-tax revenue coming from state GST. The figure for Gujarat is also more than 50 per cent. Are some states going to be at risk fiscally, or will the consumption increase help them?

There are many positive forces at play here: price and income elasticities of demand will change the scale and composition of consumption baskets of consumers, and therefore the revenue profile of states. There is a possibility of increasing formalisation and tax compliance, and hence higher revenue mobilisation. Tax evasion is expected to fall as it is a function of the tax rate. There are opposing forces also. An inverted duty structure will result in a larger demand for refunds. Lengthening the exemption list will shrink the tax base. Therefore, the ultimate impact of the GST rate restructuring on the revenue will depend on the relative strength of positive versus negative forces.

The benefits of the tax cuts will be realised over the years, whereas the revenue impact will be immediate. States will come to know the total impact on revenue by the third or fourth quarter of the current fiscal year. Before that, it's challenging to understand the revenue implications because the festive season is coming, and there will be a surge in GST collections. So, the monthly data may not give a good picture of the revenue impact. As for Bihar and Gujarat, they don't have alcohol tax collections, so their dependence on the GST is much higher than that of other states. In my opinion, instead of exempting a large number of items, they should have kept them at a lower rate to increase the tax base. I am not opposed to reducing the tax rate; however, I

firmly believe that exempting any items is not advisable, except for those which are difficult to administer, such as fresh fruits and vegetables. This also happened with personal income tax, where the exemption threshold has been increased in the last Union Budget. When you have a very narrow tax base, the taxable goods or the people who pay taxes bear an unnecessarily high tax burden. This is against the modern taxation system, which says 'broad-based, low rate', or BBLR.

Could these GST rate changes force a reversal of the prohibition policy?

I believe it is the right time for states to explore all possible options for their own tax revenue augmentation. Not just alcohol taxes, but also Passenger and Goods Tax (PGT). Many states don't exercise their power of taxation over passengers and goods. PGT is a kind of service tax for the negative externalities caused by vehicles when they are running on roads. This is apart from road tax, which is for the damage caused to roads. The movement of commercial vehicles results in pollution, congestion costs, and road damage. It is time states must explore introducing PGT. It is also required because motor vehicles are increasingly becoming electric, and there are no taxes on their inputs. States impose a tax on petrol and diesel for non-electric cars, but electricity duty for most charging points is either exempted or capped at 5-10 per cent. So, states lose out on revenue from the input side. Even the registration fee and road tax for electric vehicles are exempted in most states. The GST is also only 5 per cent, instead of 18 per cent or 40 per cent. Some states also reimburse GST collections. In another 10 or 20 years, the tax from fossil fuels used in the road transport sector is likely to dry up. Other countries have a tax based on vehicle miles travelled (VMT). An automatic tax collection system will facilitate VMT tax collection, where the more you travel, the more tax you will pay. Then there is, of course, the alcohol ban in some states. The banning of alcohol does not mean the state is dry. It is a revenue loss for the government and a revenue gain for the neighbouring states.

What other options do states have to raise revenue?

A significant area of reform, since the implementation of VAT, is tax administration. Tax collection is a function of tax base, tax rate, tax compliance, and tax efficiency. Since states can't change the tax base and rates, compliance can constantly be improved by pursuing the taxpayers. Tax efficiency will help you identify tax fraud and evasion. So, state governments have to be proactive and strengthen tax administration. It will take information-backed and targeted intervention in tax administration to collect taxes. Several tools are now available, including the GSTN's BIFA (Business Intelligence and Fraud Analytics), and the NIC's GST Prime and E-Way bill analytics. So, they have to use these analytical tools to come up with actionable cases of tax fraud and evasion in the GST and act upon those cases. This requires investment in additional manpower, IT, skilling, and infrastructure. Most state tax administrations have vacancies of around 30-35 per cent of the sanctioned posts. They have to fill these posts, have a tax policy unit, and a data analytical unit. Then revenue can be generated.

We know from the statistics ministry that the next consumer expenditure survey will only be conducted after three years. Does that mean any detailed analysis of how the GST rate changes affect consumer behaviour will have to wait until 2027-28 or beyond?

Not necessarily. There is an alternative data set, which is quite good: the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy's Consumer Pyramids Household Survey (CPHS). However, the coverage of the items and sample households is larger in the National Sample Survey Office's (NSSO) survey. Also, the NSSO's coverage of durable goods is larger than that of the CPHS. If we don't have the NSSO's data, one can use the CPHS database to understand what has happened. But it is better to wait for the next round of the NSSO's survey. If it happens in 2026-27 or 2027-28, (by) then the entire pass-through would have happened. Furthermore, if there is an income shock, it would also be reflected in that survey. Many sectors are experiencing a decline in turnover, mainly due to external factors, especially those with high external exposure. At the same time, increased demand for domestic goods and services resulting from the tax cut will boost income for all producers. The rise in the economic growth will be realised in terms of income at the hands of the consumers. Therefore, I believe it is better to wait for the next NSSO survey.

RBI Governor to hold open house for staff to boost functioning



Reserve Bank of India, Sanjay Malhotra, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Sanjay Malhotra, Indian express business, business news, current affairsMalhotra, who stepped in as the 26th Governor of the RBI in December last year, has emphasised that he will adopt a consultative approach with all stakeholders. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Sanjay Malhotra has introduced an open house for current and retired employees on improving the central bank's functioning. In the open house, to be held between 10-10:30 am on all working days, employees can interact with the Governor without any prior appointment, according to an internal circular issued to the staff.

"Governor, in his interactions or other communications on several occasions, has emphasised that he remains accessible to the whole RBI community, and he maintains an open-door policy and welcomes suggestions or feedback for improvement," the circular said. During such an open house, RBI staff can present and discuss suggestions for improving the Bank's functioning, it said. A message sent to the RBI did not elicit any response. The circular, however, said that matters related to service, including transfer or postings, should be avoided. Malhotra, who stepped in as the 26th Governor of the RBI in December last year, has emphasised that he will adopt a consultative approach with all stakeholders. "Public consultation is one

key pillar of policy making which the RBI does whenever it publishes or finalises its regulations or master directions. This is one thing that I will continue to do so that we are able to carry forward all the functions and objectives with which the RBI has been entrusted with," the Governor told reporters after taking over the charge. In the last nine months, Malhotra has been meeting with various stakeholders to take their feedback before finalising regulations. The RBI has been organising outreach with industry, associations, banks, NBFCs and other regulated entities. Recently, the RBI released a consultation paper on the review of the monetary policy framework. The paper has sought public comments on four questions – whether monetary policy be guided by headline inflation or core inflation, if the 4 per cent inflation target remains optimal, should the tolerance band around the target be revised, and if the target inflation be removed and replaced with a range to maintain flexibility along with credibility.

Jio Payments Bank offers 6.5 per cent interest with new 'Savings Pro' account

New Delhi: Jio Payments Bank, a subsidiary of Jio Financial Services Ltd (JFSL), on Monday announced the launch of 'Savings Pro', which enables customers to earn up to 6.5 per cent on idle surplus funds in their bank accounts. With just a few clicks, any Jio Payments Bank account holder can upgrade to a Savings Pro account, JFSL said in a statement. Customers need to set a threshold amount of their choice, starting at Rs 5,000 during the initial launch phase. Any surplus funds exceeding this threshold will be automatically invested into select overnight mutual funds, which carry low risk, it added.

Adani Group to focus on innovation, transparency after SEBI closure



New Delhi: Days after receiving a clean chit from SEBI over the Hindenburg allegations, billionaire Gautam Adani said his ports-to-energy group will now shift toward accelerating innovation, improving transparency, and building for long-term impact. "Today, a cloud that had hung over us for more than two years has been lifted," Adani said in an internal message to staff, seen by PTI. "SEBI's comprehensive investigation has concluded by rejecting all allegations contained in the Hindenburg report from January 2023."

The January 2023 Hindenburg report accused the group of accounting irregularities, stock price manipulation, and the use of opaque offshore entities – allegations that triggered a selloff across Adani's listed companies and erased more than USD 150 billion in market capitalisation at one point. Adani Group repeatedly denied the allegations made by Hindenburg, which has since disbanded. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) last week dismissed some of Hindenburg's claims. In two separate orders, it said there was no evidence of the conglomerate using related-party transactions to route funds into its listed units, and that the transactions, cited by Hindenburg, did not meet the definition of a related party. Adani group chairman Gautam Adani called the allegations part of a "targeted, multidimensional assault" and credited his employees for maintaining operational momentum despite global scrutiny. "This attack was never just a market event."

He credited the group's workforce for continuing to execute major infrastructure projects during the scrutiny. Ports, power plants, airports, and renewable energy projects continued to expand as the group faced reputational and legal pressure. "While the world debated about us, our ports expanded, transmission lines stretched farther, power plants ran reliably, renewable projects continued to green the world, airports advanced, cement furnaces fired away, and logistics teams delivered flawlessly," he said. "You proved that execution under pressure is the truest test of character, and that the Adani character is simply unbreakable." He added that the company had emerged stronger and laid out future priorities, including a focus on transparency, innovation, long-term value creation, and transformation. "Integrity and transparency must remain the foundation of everything we do – inseparable, uncompromising, and safeguarded relentlessly," he said. Other priorities will include accelerating innovation in energy, logistics, and infrastructure; building a legacy that endures for decades beyond headlines; and embracing transformation to shape the future rather than be shaped by it. Adani group, he said, must accelerate its pace of innovation and drive bold advances in energy, logistics, and other infrastructure that push the very edges of possibility. "We must build not for today's applause but for a legacy that endures for decades. Headlines fade, but what we create must leave its mark on history."

Asking employees to embrace transformation, he said, the future will march forward with or without us. "Either we shape the future into what we dream or be shaped by the

future into what we fear." The tycoon struck a personal note in thanking staff for supporting him through the turmoil. "I know the quiet anxieties your families felt, the doubts even you may have felt at times, and yet, day after day, you showed up—you fought for my beliefs," Adani said. He pointed to the group's operational resilience, noting that "while the world debated about us, our ports expanded, transmission lines stretched farther, power plants ran reliably, renewable projects continued to green the world, airports advanced, cement furnaces fired away, and logistics teams delivered flawlessly." Adani also framed the controversy as an 'agnipariksha' (trial by fire), saying every crisis deepens foundations and strengthens resolve. He warned employees that more tests would follow, but urged them to draw confidence from the group's performance under pressure.

The Adani Group aggressively diversified over the past decade, expanding from ports and logistics into energy, data centres, airports, cement, and green hydrogen, propelling its founder chairman to the world's second richest position. This was until US short seller Hindenburg Research hit it with a damning report. The crisis rattled global investors, prompted questions from the Supreme Court, and led to SEBI initiating multiple investigations. While Hindenburg subsequently ceased operations in January 2025 under what Adani called "mysterious circumstances", the shadow of its allegations lingered until the regulator's latest findings.

Despite facing credit downgrades and investor skepticism in early 2023, the group has since regained market value, bolstered by strategic equity investments from global firms, including GQG Partners and the Abu Dhabi-based International Holding Company. What also helped was the paring of debt and resumption of expansion in the core infrastructure business. SEBI launched multiple probes following the report's release, including investigations into related-party transactions and offshore fund structures. The group had denied wrongdoing from the outset, calling the report a "malicious combination of selective misinformation and stale, baseless allegations".

As of Monday, shares of Adani Enterprises Ltd are up more than 80 per cent year-to-date, outperforming the Nifty 50 Index. SEBI's orders do not clear the group of other allegations raised by Hindenburg, and Adani continues to face a regulatory overhang from an indictment by the US Department of Justice in an alleged USD 265 million bribery scheme. "We must build not for today's applause but for a legacy that endures for decades," Adani said in his message to staff. "Let history remember the past three years as the spark that built a greater Adani." Interspersed with Hindi couplets, the message urged staff to see the past three years as "the spark that built a greater Adani". In his closing lines, Adani urged employees to let the group's story stand for "courage, conviction, and a promise we all kept to our motherland, Bharat". He signed off with 'Satyameva Jayate, Jai Hind'.

The SEBI clean chit is expected to bolster investor sentiment toward the Adani Group, which spans ports, power, renewables, cement, airports, and logistics. Analysts say the regulator's closure of the case removes a major overhang and could help the group regain access to cheaper global financing, even as scrutiny from some international stakeholders persists. "Let history remember the past 3 years as the spark that built a greater Adani – an Adani that stood taller in dignity with every challenge it quietly overcame. And let our resolve echo-echo through every barrier we dared to break, echo through every tomorrow we dared to build, echo through every dream we dared to chase, and may the name Adani forever stand for courage, conviction, and a promise we all kept to our motherland, Bharat," the billionaire added.

This Japanese philosophy teaches us it's okay to not be an expert at everything



ing — without shame. (Source: Freepik)

What it looks like in practice

Shoshin isn't a grand lifestyle overhaul. It's subtle. Small. It looks like... Asking questions, even the "obvious" on Pausing before reacting, just to listen fully Trying something new without expecting to be perfect Admitting when you don't know something — and staying curious about it It's also about resisting the urge to shrink into silence when you feel out of your depth. Shoshin doesn't make you smaller. It helps you stay rooted in learning — without shame. And it's not just about personal growth. Teams that operate with beginner's mind tend to collaborate better. Leaders who stay curious, rather than assuming they always have the answer, create room for innovation and honesty. In friendships and families, it invites deeper listening, less judgment, and more meaningful connection. Choosing beginner's mind in today's fast world can feel counterintuitive. But maybe that's why it matters so much. So the next time you feel the urge to "know it all," consider letting go. Ask the question. Stay curious. Let yourself be a beginner again.

The 8 glass-a-day myth: How much water do you really need?

Hyderabad: Almost every healthy lifestyle guru on social media tells you to stay hydrated. But, do they ever get into the fine print on how much water you actually need? Is the general advisory of 'eight glasses a day' really a one-size-fits-all solution?

Turns out that the 'general formula' of eight glasses per day might not be a fit for all, as it totally depends on the person's lifestyle. People must also know that sugary sodas and other synthetic soft drinks aren't substitutes for water or fresh fruits, according to Dietary Guidelines for Indians, which was released last year by Hyderabad-based National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), says. "Basically, it all depends on the lifestyle of the individual. If a professional spends a lot of time sitting in front of a computer, then probably 2 liters of water is fine. However, typical healthy individuals who are involved in physical labor or any other kind of outdoor activities, must consume approximately 3 liters of water per day," says Professor, Nephrology, Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS), Dr G Swarnalatha. The senior kidney specialist also has a word of caution for those with chronic kidney diseases. "Depending on the severity of the kidney issues, I would suggest one liter to half a liter per day for such individuals. On the other hand, I would also advise more than 3 liters of water per day for people who eat a lot of protein or do heavy workouts at the gym or are into sports like running.

Lack of balance in defence, players not used to pressing system: Liverpool’s tactical conundrum after summer of massive spending



GNS News Agency, Oct 6Slumped to the ground, his hands on his head, Mohammed Salah looked crestfallen a minute upon resumption of the ragged, often playing out to wild and erratic beats, encounter between Chelsea and Liverpool on Saturday.The Liverpool talisman was through on goal; the goal-hungry left-foot coiling to burst the ball through the nets. Defenders were hovering; they always do. These are Salah-situations; he would have already scored in his mind, processing the nuances of pace, flight and bend. Yet, the ball soared wide of the near post. Salah knew this was not his day; or this has not so far been his season. When it is not Salah’s day or his season, since the turn of the decade when he elevated himself to the plane of the elites, it’s not Liverpool’s either.In 10 games this season, he had netted and assisted three goals apiece. Not horrible numbers, but only because he has set his standards so high, and that his team is enduring a bumpy ride, that his unusual profligacy is being noticed.

The Chelsea game was the third straight game he has not scored or lost, and the third the English champions have lost on the spin. For most teams, in most situations, it’s not catastrophic enough a run to be called a crisis. Most teams would merely call it one bad week, to be trashed from memory when the international break winks in. After all, they are still a point behind table-toppers Arsenal. But not after Liverpool’s seamless transition from the Jurgen Klopp to Arne Slot era, not after they strolled to the title, not after a £450 million rebuild, and not least because they have teetered and tottered this season, seldom wielding the swagger of champions.A few numbers capture their creaking supremacy. Only once, in the opening game against Bournemouth, did they win by a margin of two or more goals. The rest have been genuine scraps. A 90+10’ minute winner against Newcastle United; a 90+5’ minute spot-kick winner against Burnley; a 90+2’ goal against Atletico Madrid in the Champions League. As many as eight goals have arrived after the 83rd minute, victories barged through will, which the wizened pundits would say is a sign of great teams, that they win even when they are performing to their optimal levels.

But Liverpool’s early season blues is not merely an instance of good players experiencing an inevitable rough patch, or them coping with the tragic loss of their colleague, Diogo Jota. It has to do with the manager struggling to stitch together a balanced and coherent side. Slot is still figuring out his best combination. The makeshift back-line was porous against Chelsea. It featured Milos Kerkez on the left, Virgil van Dijk-Ibrahim Konate at the heart of the defence,

and Conor Bradley on the right, instead of the injured Jeremie Frimpong. Minutes into the game, Konate sustained an injury and he was forced to move Ryan Gravenberch, the midfield pillar last season, to the back. When the game ended, another influential midfielder, Dominik Szoboszlai, was turned into a makeshift right-back. Managers have to improvise when hit with injuries during a game, but sacrificing the midfield rock for a centre-back, even more baffling as Joe Gomez was warming the bench, would not be considered one of Slot’s most inspired decisions.

The full-back headache has been raging this season. Even when Frimpong was fit, Liverpool have missed the ingenuity of Trent-Alexander Arnold. Frimpong is quicker, perhaps trickier, but not as refined as Trent. On the opposite flank, Kerkez has not contributed as much offensively as Andy Robertson in his prime. Up-field on the left, the verve of Luis Diaz is missed. Cody Gakpo is inconsistent and without the Colombian’s industry. Suddenly, what was Liverpool’s biggest strength last season, the frightening pace and cunning on the wings, is their most glaring vulnerability. It was not that Liverpool were utterly flawless last season, but individual form, managerial charisma and structural robustness glossed over them.A tactical conundrum upfront has made matters complex. Alexander Isak and Hugo Ekitike are two high-grade forwards. But Liverpool cannot squeeze both into the same playing eleven, and hence are forced into an inconvenient rotation. The long-term plan would transform Ekitike into a left-sided, wide forward, but the plan would take time to bed in. The other alternative is a 4-2-2-2, with Isak and Ekitike tangoing as a strike pair. But that could leave the midfield vulnerable, with wide expanses in the midfield. Ekitike’s best in the Bundesliga has come in a 3-5-2, operating in tandem with Omar Marmoush, the Egyptian who moved to Manchester City in the January transfer window. It’s improbable that Slot would entertain any of these structures.

The struggles of Florian Wirtz, the £116 million acquisition, has hindered Slot’s rebuilding too. He has flickered, rather than shone. He displayed moments of brilliance in the game against Atletico Madrid, but seemed overwhelmed by the sheer physicality of the Premier League. He is still adapting to the way Liverpool press (as, to an extent, are Ekitike and Isak). The press Szoboszlai (then operating as 10) and Diaz initiated were central to both the tactics and structure of Liverpool last season. These are classical teething-in woes that players of this calibre are expected to overcome.“The more they play together the more they will connect,” the Liverpool manager said after the Chelsea game. “You have to work really hard to reach a certain level and then it’s very hard in football because you also play against very good teams to keep that level going. What I mean by that is consistency. But it’s clear that we had our changes in the summer. Players came at different moments,” he added. And how he solves the riddles would be the most fascinating phase of Slot’s tenure so far, which could potentially differentiate him from a one-season-wonder to an era-defining managerial great.

Aakash Chopra says there will be pressure on Harmanpreet Kaur: ‘This could probably be the last as well...’

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Indian skipper Harmanpreet Kaur,36, has had a couple of ordinary scores so far in the ongoing ICC Women’s World Cup co-hosted in India and Sri Lanka. With age not on her side, this might probably be the last 50-over World Cup she will feature in. However, the silver lining is been she has not been completely out of form. Kaur has been able to get starts but failed to convert them into scores.“There will be pressure. Firstly, you are the captain. This is your fifth World Cup, the first as a captain, and it might be in her mind that this could probably be the last as well. It’s very unlikely that she will be in the next ODI World Cup. So the pressure is there,” said Aakash Chopra speaking on Star Sports.

“If the others are also getting starts and not converting them into big scores, publicly, you say everything is okay, but in your heart, you know that you need to contribute. If a team’s leader doesn’t score runs, doesn’t perform from the front, the team becomes slightly weak. So the captain has to score. She will definitely be feeling slight pressure,” Chopra elaborated.On Sunday, against Pakistan, India played with just five bowling options. Chopra said if Smriti Mandhana and Harmanpreet can get back to scoring runs, India can get the sixth bowling option. “If we see the larger picture, if Smriti Mandhana and Harmanpreet Kaur score



runs, then you can also think about the sixth bowler. As of now, you want a sixth bowler, but, although everyone has runs, no one has big runs,” he said.

Then suddenly you start thinking whether you will fall short in batting in 50 overs. However, when you score runs and your main player is also scoring runs, you have the confidence to play one more bowler, as you won’t need Richa Ghosh to bat at No. 8. So that thought process could change the day Kaur and Mandhana’s bats start talking,” Chopra observed..

‘Don’t understand difference between red-ball and white-ball cricket’: Dilip Vengsarkar questions Shreyas Iyer’s first class cricket withdrawal

Iyer was granted a six-month break from red-ball cricket after he communicated to the BCCI about experiencing recurring back spasms and stiffness while playing red-ball cricket. (PTI Photo)Iyer was granted a six-month break from red-ball cricket after he communicated to the BCCI about experiencing recurring back spasms and stiffness while playing red-ball cricketFormer chairman of the men’s selection committee Dilip Vengsarkar has said that he could not understand how batter Shreyas Iyer could commit his availability to play white-ball cricket when he had asked for a six-month break from red-ball cricket. Vengsarkar said that he could not understand how players choose between playing red-ball and white-ball cricket, admitting he didn’t fully know the difference between the two.Iyer was appointed India’s new ODI vice-captain on Saturday, after Shubman Gill was elevated to the captaincy, replacing Rohit Sharma in the role.“To be honest, it’s a dilemma for me, because he [Iyer] says that he is unfit for red-ball cricket, but is fit for the white-ball cricket. I don’t understand the difference between red-ball cricket and the white-ball cricket. I feel that if you are fit for white-ball cricket, you are obviously fit for red-ball cricket too. Choosing red-ball or white-ball and such things are beyond my comprehension,” the 69-year-old told mid-day.



Iyer was granted a six-month break from red-ball cricket after he communicated to the BCCI about experiencing recurring back spasms and stiffness while playing red-ball cricket. The 30-year-old had captained India A in the first of two multi-day matches against Australia A in Lucknow before missing the second match.As a result of his request getting approved, he found himself out of contention for a spot in the Rest of India squad for the Irani Cup match against Vidarbha at Nagpur.“Mr Shreyas Iyer has informed the BCCI of his decision to take a six-month break from red-ball cricket. Having undergone back surgery in the UK and managed his recovery well.

England cricketer who conceded six sixes and has a Test hat-trick against same team owns Rs 47 crore pub company



GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Former English cricketer Stuart Broad has had a remarkable career on the field, ending up as the 2nd highest wicket-taker for England, ever picking up 604 wickets from 167 games in Tests. During his illustrious career, Broad has picked up a hat-trick in 2011 against India at Trent Bridge and, in a moment to forget, also conceded six sixes in an over during the 2007 T20 World Cup in Durban.Broad entered the pub business in the United Kingdom and owns three pubs as part of The Cat & Wickets pub company (The Tap & Run in Nottinghamshire, The Griffin Inn in Leicestershire, and The Long Hop in Burton-on-Trent), which in the three years has seen a turnover of Rs 14,33,63,160 to Rs 47,79,53,200 (£1.2m to £4m) in three years and the staff strength of 150 people.“The company went from being a hobby, because we wanted somewhere to go for Sunday lunch, to us going, ‘If we’re going to do it, let’s do it properly,’” said Broad, speaking to the English publication The

Telegraph. “As soon as you approach 30 as a sportsperson, you know you’re nearer the end than the beginning,” he said.

It was not entirely Broad’s idea to get into the business. “A friend was a general manager of a pub, but wanted skin in the game. I was 30 and interested in the business world, and that’s how the company got founded.” The duo was further joined by another English cricketer, Harry Gurney, who had a degree in accounts.“Being a business owner can be very lonely,” he said, Broad, who collaborated with Sage, the UK’s Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies. “There are so many questions, and you don’t always know who to ask. I really enjoy spending time with a community of like-minded people.”

Broad also recalled a fire accident in Tap and Run. “It took eight fire engines to put it out,” says Broad. “The place was derelict but a day later, Harry said, ‘Let’s bring it back better.’ We redesigned it so it was warmer, more user-friendly, and the kitchen was better.”“My philosophy in sport was all about continuous improvement, which is how I played cricket until I was 37. I didn’t want anyone to be better than me. If we have negative feedback in a pub, it’s not a disaster, I just ask: why has that happened, what can we do to make sure that doesn’t happen again? Young people are so sharp. We love employing them and hope they stay and build careers with us. You see a lot of misconceptions about them in the media but that’s not what we have found,” ” Broad said on his Philosophy and hirings.“In the pub trade, we always say, ‘We are cautiously optimistic. Never high as a kite or completely down. We have changed and evolved so much in seven years, and learned a huge amount. It’s a wonderful industry to be in,” Broad concluded.

Sunil Gavaskar tears into West Indies after 1st Test surrender to India: ‘Looked more like net bowlers...’

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

India’s runaway win over the West Indies in the first Test in Ahmedabad was so routine that news of their captain Shubman Gill being elevated to skipper in the ODI format ended up dominating the headlines more than the match itself. However, a victory like that against the West Indies back when batting great Sunil Gavaskar played would have sent shockwaves around the world, which is what the former India captain noted when lamenting the continuing fall of the Caribbean side’s fortunes in Test cricket.

India won the Test by an innings and 140 runs. While the West Indies are missing two key pacers in Shamar Joseph and Alzarri Joseph, their fast bowling spearhead Jayden Seales managed to take just one wicket in India’s lone innings, although he also maintained an economy of 2.78 in 1 overs. Gavaskar said that apart from Seales, the other pacers were “simply trundlers”.“In Ahmedabad, apart from Jayden Seales, the other two were simply trundlers, who looked more like net bowlers than international ones,” said Gavaskar in his column for Sportstar. “No disrespect intended to them, but to see the first bouncer being bowled after half a dozen overs had been bowled made one ask, ‘Is this really the West Indies pace attack?’ Yes, bowling bouncers is a big effort, and on a hot day, it can take a lot out of a bowler, but it is a surprise weapon to stop the batter from moving on to the front foot regularly.”

Gavaskar also noted that it was only Alick Athanaze and Justin Greaves who looked like they wanted to grind it out with the bat. Greaves was West Indies’ highest scorer in the first innings with just 32 runs and Athanaze top scored in the second with just 38. In stark contrast, KL Rahul, Dhruv



Jurel and Ravindra Jadeja all scored centuries while Gill scored exactly 50 runs.Gavaskar contrasted the kind of dominance that was exerted by the West Indies batters of the past. “For a team that once boasted of the likes of the Three Ws, Rohan Kanhai, Seymour Nurse, Clive Lloyd, Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes, to name just a few, there is simply nobody in this current team who looks like getting a million country miles close to them. Of course, I haven’t forgotten the incomparable Garfield Sobers, Viv Richards and the ‘Prince of Trinidad’, Brian Lara. They are geniuses born once in a century and were way above normal human beings,” he said.In the time that Gavaskar played between 1971 and 1987, India played West Indies in 31 Test matches and won just five of them while the latter won 10. Quite incredibly, West Indies have not been able to beat India in a Test match since 2002. In this period, the two sides have played each other 25 times and India have won 15 of them.

‘He still has to earn that spot’: Robin Uthappa gives his take on Shubman Gill becoming India’s next all-format captain

GNS News Agency, Oct 6

Former India batter Robin Uthappa has disagreed with the idea of appointing Shubman Gill as the next all-format captain, adding that the 26-year-old still needed to earn his spot in the shortest format. He further said that Shreyas Iyer could be one of the candidates who could take over from Suryakumar Yadav as the T20I captain in the future.The 30-year-old Punjab Kings (PBKS) was named the new ODI vice-captain for the tour to Australia, which starts at Perth on October 19.“Strict No. I get One Day and Test cricket, and I think he’s a solid pick in Test cricket, and he’s shown us that as well. As far as ODI cricket is concerned, I think his numbers his good, but I think they’ll get better for a player of his caliber. I think they will look at Shreyas Iyer as a captain in T20. Shubman Gill, he still has to earn that spot,” Uthappa said on his YouTube channel on Monday.

The 39-year-old spoke about how vice-captaincy did not guarantee a player the captaincy in the future. He admitted that despite getting the T20I vice-captaincy, Gill still needed to secure his spot in the T20I side.“I still think Gill needs to secure his spot first. So, I don’t think it will be taken for granted in a sense where he will be captain or he will be next in line. We know and we’ve seen Indian cricket changes overnight, things change very quickly, narratives change very quickly. Honestly, vice-captaincy in India doesn’t mean very much... Like, you’ve seen a bunch of vice-captains not becoming captain, right?” he said.Uthappa also said that batting talisman Rohit Sharma will play the 2027 ODI World Cup if he remains fit. He added that the former India captain was clear about his batting template and had transformed himself into a more destructive player in the last few years.The 38-year-old was replaced as ODI captain by Shubman Gill when the squad for the Australia tour was announced on Saturday. This will be the first series since 2016, when he will neither have the captaincy nor the vice-captaincy in the national setup.“If he remains fit, then I think he’ll be a part of the next World Cup because, like I said at the start of the pod that I think their templates for success in ODI cricket are clear for them. They know what works for them...”

“However, Rohit Sharma is someone who’s basically upped the ante even in one-day cricket, and I think in the last 3-4 years, he’s played in a much quicker nip, and I think that’s been a transformation of sorts from him. Ide-



ally, how he scored all of his runs in ODI cricket was his first fifty would take about 60-75 balls, and then the next fifty to much lesser and then next fifty to much lesser... The shift in which he approaches One Day cricket has changed and I think that he’s probably found a sweet spot at that,” Uthappa said.

Pakistan’s Sidra Amin reprimanded for breaching ICC Code of Conduct vs India

Hyderabad: Pakistan batter Sidra Amin has been reprimanded for breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct during their ICC Women’s Cricket World Cup match against India in Colombo, Sri Lanka on Sunday.

Sidra was found to have breached Article 2.2 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which relates to “abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings during an International Match.”

In addition to this, one demerit point has been added to her disciplinary record, as it was her first offence in a 24-month period.

The incident occurred when Sidra forcefully hit her bat onto the pitch after being dismissed in the 40th over.

Inside Riddhima Kapoor's lavish Delhi home that looks like a 7-star hotel: 'I have a room in Ranbir-Alia's new Mumbai home, mom Neetu has a floor'



Riddhima Kapoor Sahni, once primarily known as the daughter of Bollywood legends Rishi Kapoor and Neetu Singh, or as Ranbir Kapoor's sister, has recently carved an identity of her own—especially after her appearance on Karan Johar's reality series *Fabulous Lives vs Bollywood Wives*. Her debut on the show left many intrigued by her personality, style, and especially her luxurious lifestyle. Married to businessman Bharat Sahni, Riddhima resides in a stunning bungalow in Delhi that exudes both opulence and warmth. Recently, filmmaker

and choreographer Farah Khan paid her a visit, taking audiences on a delightful tour of the Kapoor Sahni residence.

As they approached the home, Farah turned to her cook Dilip and said, "I'm going to take you to a very nice house." Upon seeing the grand façade, a surprised Dilip asked, "Ma'am, which hotel is this? You said we were going to someone's house." Joking about the home's grandeur, Farah quipped, "If this is a hotel, do you want to stay the night here?" Dilip, now clearly intrigued, asked, "How much do they charge per night?" Farah responded playfully, "I don't know, but I'm sure it's way beyond our budget and salary!" Riddhima's home boasts an in-house gym, a vibrant play area, and open spaces flooded with natural light. A beautiful garden with lemon trees—even a grapefruit mistaken for a lemon by Farah. "Is this a lemon? I had heard homes in Delhi are huge, but this is the first time I have seen a lemon this massive!" Farah exclaimed. Akshay Kumar boasts of 'organic' weekend collection of Rs 53.5 crore months after his film *Sky Force* was accused of inflating numbers. Farah, clearly amused, responded, "Oh, so everyone here gets a floor to themselves? In Bombay, people fight for a single room!" Curious, Farah then asked if Riddhima would get her own space in Ranbir Kapoor-Alia Bhatt's newly constructed home in Mumbai's Pali Hill. Riddhima replied, "Yes, I have my own room there. My mom has an entire floor to herself. There's one room for Bharat and me, and another for Samara. She wants to keep us all close to her." Speaking of her mother, Riddhima opened up emotionally. "I love her. She's all that I have now. We love pampering her and taking trips together." Ranbir and Alia's six-storey building has been named after Ranbir's late grandmother Krishna Raj Kapoor. The building is in grey and light blue with glass balconies and large windows.

Rajat Bedi says he was left out of Koi Mil Gaya publicity with Hrithik Roshan, Preity Zinta; opens up on being 'used and abused'

Rajat Bedi, who has been making headlines for his cameo in Aryan Khan's directorial debut *The Baaghs* of Bollywood, recently opened up about his journey, struggles, and comeback in the industry. The actor spoke about being "used and abused" in business, his popular negative role in Hrithik Roshan starrer *Koi Mil Gaya*, and also revealed that he was excluded from the film's promotions. Speaking at the Khajuraho International Film Festival (KIFF), Rajat said, "I have been used and abused and left behind specially in my work. I have faced the consequences of trusting people. It happened in Canada. I was a real estate developer and an actor. I had partners who did the numbers on me. I faced bad consequences but it was great also for me because it made me move back to India."

He also shared that he comes from a film family and is the third-generation actor, with his son preparing to make his debut soon. "I am the third generation of a family and the good news is that the fourth generation is getting ready. My son is getting ready to become an actor." When asked about his son's debut, Rajat replied, "Very soon. He is 22 years old. He is far more good-looking than me." For the unversed, Rajat Bedi is the son of filmmaker Narendra Bedi, who is known for helming films like *Jawani Diwani*, *Bandhan*, *Maha Chor*, *Benaam* and more. Rajat is the grandson of writer Rajinder Singh Bedi, who is best known for Hrishikesh Mukherjee's films *Abhimaan*, *Anupama* and *Satyakam*.

Talking about returning to showbiz with Aryan Khan's OTT debut, Rajat expressed his gratitude for the opportunities on digital platforms. "It's great blessing for actors because there is so much work happening on the OTT platform and there is an opportunity for technicians and actors to display their work." He also announced his upcoming projects. "You will actually see me in Bollywood after 16 years. This is like daddy of all Bollywood. This is a banger. Both of them, they are colossally big. I was fortunate because I was specially called for these projects because of my past work in films." Rajat Bedi further revealed that his elder sister is also an established writer, currently working with Sanjay Leela Bhansali on *Love and War*. "My elder



sister is a huge writer. She wrote *Agneepath* (2012) for Karan Johar, and now she is writing for Sanjay Leela Bhansali — the film that is on floor with Ranbir Kapoor and Vicky Kaushal." He also recalled his bond with Shah Rukh Khan on the sets of the 1995 film *Zamana Deewana*, and how his path shifted towards modelling while SRK continued acting. "My bond with Shah Rukh started on the sets of *Zamana Deewana*. After the film, I got into modelling, and I was the first title holder of the first Gladrags modelling competition. I went to Australia for the world final. This was the same year when Sushmita Sen and Aishwarya Rai went for Miss World. I got third place over there, and when I came back, I had the celebration with Aishwarya and Sushmita." Lastly, Rajat Bedi spoke about his iconic role in *Koi Mil Gaya* and admitted that while the makers sidelined him during promotions, the audience still embraced him. "Koi Mil Gaya became this blockbuster film and it was publicized with Hrithik Roshan, Preity Zinta and Rakesh Roshan. I was left out in the publicity, but till today, people recognise me, love me for that role. I can't take that away. It was wonderful to work with Rakesh ji. He is one of the best directors I have worked with."

Radhika Sarathkumar, sister Nirosha cry uncontrollably as they bid farewell to mother Geetha Radha.



Renowned South Indian actor Radhika Sarathkumar's mother, Geetha Radha, has passed away. She breathed her last on Sunday evening owing to age-related health issues. The wife of legendary actor, MR

Radha, Geetha had been battling deteriorating health for quite some time now, which eventually led to her demise. Now, videos showing an emotionally shattered Radhika struggling to hold back her tears as she stands next to her mother's mortal remains have gone viral on social media. Photos and videos that have surfaced online also show tears streaming down the face of a grief-stricken Radhika as mourners arrived at her mother's residence in Poes Garden, Chennai, to pay their final respects to Geetha. Her younger sister, actor Nirosha, was also seen weeping profusely while speaking with veteran actor Nassar.

Taking to social media, the actor also shared adorable old photos of Geetha from the various phases of her life. While one of the photos featured Radha and Geetha on their wedding day, Radhika also shared a couple of pictures of her with her beloved mother. Expressing condolences, actor-director Suhasini Maniratnam commented under Radhika's post on Instagram, "What a dynamic and kind lady. Will miss her goodness, kindness, and smartness. Great loss." While actor Sonia Agarwal wrote, "Sorry for your loss, ma'am... My heartfelt condolences @radikaasarathkumar... May her soul rest in peace," actor-politician Sumalatha Ambareesh noted, "Dearest Rads, my heartfelt condolences. Thoughts and prayers with your family at your loss. Auntie was such a sweet soul and liked by everyone who knew her. Have fond memories of her and may her soul RIP. Love and hugs to you." Yesteryear actor Lissy Lakshmi shared, "May her soul rest in peace. She was a dynamic lady."

Abu Malik defends Anu Malik amid claims made by nephew Amaal Mallik on Bigg Boss 19: 'We are together; Amaal has angst in him'



Music composer Amaal Mallik is seen as a contestant on *Bigg Boss 19*. Hailing from a renowned music family, Amaal is the son of Daboo Malik and the nephew of composers Anu Malik and Abu Malik. Recently, on the Salman Khan-hosted reality show, Amaal was seen making some negative claims against his uncle Anu Malik, and he even went on to call him 'evil-hearted'. Following Amaal's allegations, SCREEN reached out to his uncle Abu Malik, who shared his views on Amaal's claims and also shed light on their family dynamics. Abu Malik stated that all is well between the brothers and that Anu Malik will always stand by his family in times of trouble.

Commenting on the allegations Amaal Mallik has made against his uncle, Abu Malik said, "Amaal is doing wonderfully well on *Bigg Boss 19*. I think he will be the winner of the show. With his crying, fighting, and emotional outbursts, he is on the right track and can win the show. Amaal is very sensitive. But washing dirty linen in the press is not looking very good. Every family has its issues, but that doesn't take away that we are together and will stand by each other if there is a problem. I felt irritated by the fact that this is the wrong thing to follow with your elders. I don't think he's revealing this out of a plan; it's anger that has existed in him over the years." Abu Malik further went on to share how Amaal has been through some traumatic moments in the last few months. Referring to the incident where Amaal publicly announced cutting ties with his family, Abu Malik said, "Everyone takes a beating in life, but you don't go around talking about them. He has gone through some traumatic conditions in the last few months. We say so many things in our house; it happens in every house. Making such a big issue out of it is not right. This has become like a big play in the public domain. Daboo's son is coming out with a different story now and then; I find that odd."

Contrary to the things that Amaal said about his uncle, Abu Malik defended his brother. He said, "Anu was a man who was possessed by music. Anu has worked very hard; he would carry his harmonium and sit beside a pav bhaji guy in Tardeo market. Those vegetable sellers would tell him if a producer was passing by, he used to carry such a heavy harmonium around, he would not have fare for the bus. He has begged people, followed them, and made them hear songs outside the bathroom where they were sitting at Mehboob Studios. People like Umesh Mehra and Harman Malhotra realized the magic of his voice and put him on."

He further added, "Today, he has 3000 songs from which 600 are super-duper hits. There are music directors in this country who have done 50 songs and are saying they are the greatest music directors in the world. Ultimately,

work doesn't come to you just because you have a successful brother; you have to prove your own mettle. How do you expect Anu Malik, being a music director, to be at the top of his game and have millions? That was not possible. Anu Malik was working very hard for the family. He bought us the family name, and slowly, he became better. We, as siblings, had our chances to do the work in the world. Everybody did, and I think they have done pretty well for themselves." "This story has always been there in the industry that when one sibling makes it, the other siblings don't make it. It's a normal law, start looking at the history of actors, actresses, musicians, you will see that there is a backlog of brothers and sisters everywhere who did not make it," Abu Malik added. On Amaal Mallik's accusations of Anu Malik and family betraying them on *Bigg Boss 19*, Amaal accused Anu Malik of calling his father for mock recordings, just as a favor. He even shared that their family left him stranded on the streets during the July 26 floods. Reacting to this, Abu Malik said, "I don't know anything about this incident where Anu called Dabboo for a mock recording, so commenting on it would be wrong. People have grievances against each other, families do have some issues amongst them, so it's not something that can be discussed. I don't bother or indulge in these things with anybody, and I don't expect anything from anyone. If something like this did happen, then I think it's okay."

Commenting on Amaal left stranded on the streets, Abu Malik added, "This is again a story I cannot say anything about. The entire Juhu area was flooded, and everybody was worried about their children. Maybe they didn't see each other or something happened of that kind. Maybe the boy is very sensitive, and he has been told these things in the house or overheard them, and these discussions have affected him. In my house, I have never had these discussions." Talking about how he has helped Daboo Malik with the professional front, Abu added, "Dabboo has not fared very badly in life, has he? I had taken him to meet Salman when I was doing *Pyaar Kiya Toh Darna Kya* as an actor. That time I told him to go to Salman, saying he would help him sort out his life. And Salman Khan did sort his life out. Daboo became a music director, did 30 films, and both Daboo and Anu have done very well for themselves in life. There must be a few grievances; nobody came to me asking to sing a song for them? I don't say anything about it. There is not just one music director; you can go knocking at everybody's door. Don't Miss: Amaal Mallik claims Anu Malik, family left him stranded on the streets during 2006 Mumbai floods: 'They saw me struggling and crying' Sharing how their equation is today, Abu Malik said that the family is very much together. He added, "Anu and Daboo speak to each other. If something happens now, Anu will call Daboo immediately. I treat Anu as a father figure; if I have any problem, I reach out to him immediately. We speak once every two to three days. I was okay with Daboo and family, but when Armaan got married, I was in Switzerland, and I don't know why he didn't invite me to the function. I felt annoyed about it. There is this animosity right now because there must be something in somebody's mind that could bring this kind of effect. So I refrained from being around after that, getting in touch. Otherwise, I was very close to Daboo. He said they did weddings with the close ones, who are closer — the real brothers who are alive, or somebody other than that? My daughter told me about the wedding." Before signing off, Abu Malik also added that Anu Malik is very protective of his family and would stand by them always. He also shared that they had met for dinner at the JW Marriott just a few months back.

'People are asking why we have cast Janhvi Kapoor as a Dalit girl,' says Neeraj Ghaywan: 'In India, there are all kinds of people'



Neeraj Ghaywan's sophomore feature *Homebound* is finally homebound. Slated to release in Indian cinemas on September 26, it has also been selected as India's official Oscars entry. "Right now, it hasn't even sunk in. So I don't even know anything about the Oscars campaign yet. We have decided to park it and figure it out later. For now, the focus is just on September 26, the India release," said Ghaywan at a press meet in Mumbai. Prior to theatrical release in India, *Homebound* also screened at film festivals in Cannes, Melbourne, and Toronto. "Personally, for me, the film returning to India is the biggest thing. It can't be matched with anything else. We are so eager to see how everyone sees it here. We have made this film for our people with absolute integrity and authenticity. I hope people appreciate it," added Ghaywan.

Homebound is based on Basharat Peer's account in *The New York Times* of two friends navigating the migrant crisis during the coronavirus lockdown. It stars Ishaan Khatter as a Muslim and Vishal Jethwa as a closeted Dalit, both of whom aspire to be police officers. "Bashrat's article is actually the climax of this film. In the story before that, I've incorporated parts of my life into the film. I was living as an upper caste member for years, before I finally came out and claimed my Dalit identity," said Neeraj Ghaywan, drawing a parallel between his own journey to that of Vishal's character in *Homebound*. At the event, Ishaan confessed he wanted to work with

Ghaywan since the latter's 2015 directorial debut *Masaan*. "I watched *Masaan* when I wasn't even an actor. At that time, I thought it'd be great if I can be a part of a Neeraj Ghaywan film someday. I didn't imagine that would be his sophomore feature," said Ishaan. It took 10 years for Neeraj Ghaywan to make his second feature. He's been busy directing episodes of *Made in Heaven* season 2 and *Sacred Games* season 2 in 2019, and two critically acclaimed short films — *Juice* (2017) and *Geeli Puchi* in the 2021 anthology *Ajeeb Daastaans*, which was also produced by Karan Johar's Dharma Productions. "I wanted to do something that makes me want to get up from the bed and scream that I want to do it. It's not, as people would imagine, an aspiration for greatness. It just has to move me. It has to make me feel like a part of the larger conscience that's beyond our existence. The aim was to add to that in any way," said Ghaywan, who travelled the country with Basharat Peer, just like how Ishaan and Vishal's characters go on a journey in the film.

As far as the casting was concerned, Ghaywan pulled off a casting coup by roping in Ishaan Khatter and Janhvi Kapoor, whose 2018 debut film, *Shashank Khaitan's Dhadak*, a remake of Nagraj Manjule's 2016 seminal Marathi film *Sairat*, was panned by critics for its tepid take on caste. "There's a certain perception we have about the lower castes.