

Strong earthquake hits northeast Japan; tsunami advisory announced

Tokyo: Japan on Friday issued a tsunami advisory after a 6.7 magnitude earthquake shook the country's northeast, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency.Friday's quake followed a 7.5 magnitude earthquake earlier this week in the north that caused injuries, light damage and a tsunami in Pacific coastal communities.At least 34 people were injured in that earlier quake on Monday off the coast of Aomori, the northernmost prefecture of Japan's main Honshu island.

GHMC to accept objections, suggestions on delimitation during holidays

Hyderabad: The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) will continue to receive objections and suggestions related to ward delimitation even on the upcoming holidays.Hyderabad Local Events

"Complaints will be accepted on December 13 (second Saturday) and 14 (Sunday), ensuring uninterrupted public access and a wider opportunity for citizens to submit their representations," GHMC Commissioner R V Karnan announced in an official statement on Friday.

Cabinet clears digital Census, opens up N-sector to pvt firms



New Delhi, Dec 12

The Union Cabinet on Friday cleared a proposal to conduct the much-delayed Census at a cost of Rs 11,718 crore, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said.

The Cabinet also approved two significant Bills — one to establish a higher education regulator that will replace bodies such as the UGC and AICTE, and another to allow private companies to participate in the nuclear power generation.

Speaking at a briefing on Census, Vaishnaw said around 30 lakh enumerators would be involved in the entire exercise. The 16th edition of the Census since Independence would provide an option of self-

enumeration to the citizens. The exercise which was scheduled to take place in 2021 got postponed due to the outbreak of the Covid pandemic across the country, he said.

The minister said the Census would be conducted in two phases — house-listing and housing census from April to September 2026; and population enumeration (PE) in February 2027.

For Ladakh and snow-bound non-synchronous areas of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the exercise would be conducted in September 2026, the minister said. Interestingly, on December 24, 2019, when the Cabinet approved Rs 8,754.23 crore for the 2021 Census, it also sanctioned Rs 3,941.35 crore for up-

dating the National Population Register (NPR) across the country, except in Assam. This time, no such allocation for the NPR was announced.

The Census would also capture caste data electronically in the PE phase, an official statement said. The data would be collected using mobile applications that will be available for both Android and iOS versions. The use of a mobile app for data collection and the central portal for monitoring purposes would ensure better quality data, it said.

Around 30 lakh enumerators would visit each and every household and canvass a separate questionnaire for houselisting and housing census and population enumeration. It would generate 1.02 crore

human days of employment.

The Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhikshan Bill is likely to be introduced in the Parliament session. The higher education regulator, which was proposed in the National Education Policy, looks to replace the University Grants Commission, the All India Council for Technical Education and the National Council for Teacher Education.

The commission is proposed to be set up as a single higher education regulator, but medical and law colleges will not be brought under its ambit.

The Atomic Energy Bill 2025, a reform that could open nuclear power generation to private companies for the first time, was also cleared by the Union Cabinet on Friday.

Film Nagar tuition teacher booked for branding child with heated spoon

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

Hyderabad: A seven-year-old boy was left with multiple burn injuries after his tuition teacher allegedly branded him with a hot spoon at her residence-classroom in Film Nagar.

The inhuman incident which reportedly occurred on Wednesday, has triggered outrage among parents in the locality.

As per available information, the child, who is a Class I student from OU Colony, had been attending evening tuition sessions conducted by the teacher, Sri Manasa. Preliminary inquiry revealed that the teacher allegedly heated a metal spoon and pressed it against the child's hands, legs and face, claiming he was not concentrating on studies.His parents found at least eight burn marks on the boy's body and rushed to the Film Nagar police after noticing the injuries and hearing the child's ordeal."Our son is unable to walk because of the burns. We want strict action," the family stated in their police complaint.The Film Nagar Police shifted the child to Golconda Area Hospital for medical evaluation and registered a case of assault and cruelty against the tutor.Officials said further investigation is in progress and appropriate legal action will follow based on medical reports and evidence.

DGCA suspends 4 inspectors; IndiGo hires expert for probe

New Delhi, Dec 12

Aviation regulator DGCA on Friday suspended four of its senior flight operations inspectors (FOIs) and summoned IndiGo's CEO for fresh questioning amid the airline's deepening operational chaos. Under pressure to act, the private carrier initiated steps towards internal clean-up by appointing a global aviation expert to probe



the disruptions.

The decisive moves came as IndiGo continues to struggle to operate all its flights. Officials said the four inspectors — Rish Raj Chatterjee (Dy CFI-A), Seema Jhamnani (SFOI-A), Anil Kumar Pokhariyal (FOI-A) and Priyam Kaushik (FOI-A) — were removed after a preliminary review indicated serious lapses in regulatory oversight during the period when IndiGo began cancelling hundreds of flights.

The FOIs, who form the backbone of the DGCA's safety and compliance machinery, are responsible for auditing airlines, certifying crew and ensuring adherence to operational and training standards. A senior official said the inspectors were relieved of their duties "in connection with the widespread disruptions at IndiGo", adding that their actions during the crisis were now under examination. The formal order stated that the officials, all serving on contract, were being released from DGCA assignments with immediate effect so they could return to their parent organisations.

On the ground, the impact of IndiGo's instability remained severe. Bengaluru airport alone reported 54 cancellations (31 arrivals, 23 departures) on Friday, following more than 200 cancellations across Delhi and Bengaluru a day earlier. Passengers at several airports complained of long queues, delayed rebooking and minimal advance communication.

Hyderabad to host Lionel Messi for GOAT Cup festival

Kolkata, Dec 12 Argentine superstar Lionel Messi's long-awaited return to India, after a magical maiden visit in 2011, will be high on glitz but low on actual football, promising a spectacle that may not recapture the raw frenzy that once shook the Salt Lake Stadium.His artistry in a competitive match will be missing this time. It will be unlike 2011 when more than 85,000 fans packed the stadium, some even perched on terrace edges, to watch Argentina edge Venezuela 1-0 in a FIFA friendly. The eight-time Ballon d'Or winner is not scheduled to play serious football on the "GOAT India Tour 2025". It is a fully promotional, commercially curated event which will begin on Saturday here and wind up on Monday in New Delhi.Yet, for a city that once worshipped Maradona, Pele,

dazzled Dunga and embraced Ronaldinho, the arrival of Messi even without football is unmissable because Kolkata cannot ignore him. The organisers have opened 78,000 seats at the Salt Lake Stadium with ticket prices up to Rs 7,000 for his 45-minute appearance on Saturday morning, raising questions on whether the city will respond with the same passion.Messi will spend less than 72 hours in India but will traverse four metros — Kolkata, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Delhi — in what resembles a high-profile roadshow involving chief ministers, corporate leaders, Bollywood celebrities and even a scheduled meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. India's Test and ODI captain Shubman Gill, a self-confessed Messi admirer, is also expected to meet him after the Dharamshala T20I on December 14.

45K acres of defence land identified as surplus: Ministry

New Delhi, Dec 12

In a move that can unlock high-value urban and semi-urban lands across the country, the Ministry of Defence has said that 45,906 acres of defence lands have been identified as 'surplus'. It has asked the central departments to see if any of them needs these lands.

The ministry, in a written reply in Lok Sabha, today said, "Around 45,906 acres of vacant defence land has been identified that is surplus to the requirements of the armed forces".

The details of these lands have been circulated to the other Central Government Departments for ascertaining their requirements.

Giving out state wise details the Ministry said 817 acres of land in Delhi



has been identified as surplus. Himachal Pradesh , Haryana and Punjab have 2381, 833 and 1714 acres of defence lands, respectively , declared as surplus.

The hill state of Uttarakhand has a whopping 8693 acres as surplus and

Rajasthan has 2091 acres

Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra have 877, 8840 and 6781, acres respectively.

The ministry said any other lands, which may appear unused are meant for training, mobilization prac-

tice, constructions as per Key Location Plans (KLP) and construction of accommodation for the Armed Forces. The MoD has around 18 lakh acres of land across the country, about 11, 152 acres is under encroachment.

Akhilesh Yadav and KTR call for end to divisive politics

Hyderabad: Reaffirming the strong ties between the Samajwadi Party and the Bharat Rashtira Samiti (BRS), Akhilesh Yadav, former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh,



expressed confidence that the national political landscape would improve soon. Holding key meetings with BRS leaders here on Friday, the Samajwadi Party national president emphasised the need for positive politics focused on progress and development.

During his visit, Yadav met BRS working president KT Rama Rao and senior leader T Harish Rao at Rama Rao's residence in Nandi Nagar. Speaking to the media after the meeting, Yadav described Rama Rao and BRS president K Chandrashekhara Rao as close allies.

"We will always stand with them," he said. Yadav

stressed that ups and downs were common in politics. "Sometimes people give opportunities, sometimes they do not. We used to get very few seats earlier, but people stood by us. We must remain watchful," he remarked, adding that the country needs to progress with a clear vision. Criticising the current political climate, Yadav called for an end to divisive and negative politics.

"Divisive politics and negativity should end. We should work towards positive things and progress," he urged. Yadav also revealed that he had spoken to Chandrashekhara Rao and expressed his intent to meet him soon to seek his blessings. He praised the warm welcome he has always received from the BRS leadership in Hyderabad.

Welcoming the SP chief, Rama Rao hailed the SP's strong performance in the last Lok Sabha elections. He said that despite losing the Uttar Pradesh assembly polls, Samajwadi Party had emerged as the third-largest party in the Lok Sabha with 37 MPs.

"Even after losing the assembly elections, they could win 37 MPs and became the third-largest party," he said. The BRS strives for similar outreach to the masses, drawing inspiration from the Samajwadi Party. Harish Rao, along with former Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav and other BRS leaders, received Yadav and felicitated him.

Indian Chronicle

English Daily

'Hate Speech' Bill oversteps the line

The thin dividing line between freedom of speech and 'reasonable restriction', as enshrined in the Constitution, should not be allowed to be weaponised by governments to suit their narratives. Any attempt by the authorities, irrespective of the party in power, to appropriate sweeping powers to impose curbs on free speech would amount to setting a dangerous precedent. Freedom of speech and expression form part of the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution. Democracy would be in peril if dissent and diversity were snuffed out from the public sphere. Dissent, disagreement and debate are the essential ingredients of a successful democracy. It is for this reason that the Karnataka government's hate speech Bill has drawn flak from civil rights groups and opposition parties. The provisions of the Karnataka Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, 2025, tabled in the Assembly recently, appear like a cure that is worse than the disease. The proposed legislation gives sweeping powers to the government which can be easily misused. The Bill is, at best, a band-aid that avoids a deeper consideration. In fact, it carries the danger of being used to criminalise the very people it seeks to protect. The proposed law defines "hate speech" and "hate crime" in broad and loose terms while proposing stringent punishments. The Bill is ostensibly aimed at "curbing and preventing the dissemination, publication or promotion of hate speech and crimes, which cause disharmony, hatred in society". It would effectively mean disempowering the citizens vis-à-vis the government.

Rs 10 Crore Sanctioned for Development Works in Uppal Constituency on the Directions of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy: Congress In-charge Mandumula Parameshwar Reddy Secures Funds After Meeting GHMC Commissioner

KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, December 12 (Indian Chronicle):The Uppal constituency has once again received a major boost with the sanction of ₹10 crore for development works across its 10 GHMC divisions. The funds were approved following the directions of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and the instructions of District In-charge Minister Sridhar Babu. Congress constituency in-charge Mandumula Parameshwar Reddy met GHMC Commissioner Karnan and successfully obtained approval for the Rs 10 crore budget allocation. These funds will be utilized for various civic and infrastructural works across Kapra Circle and Uppal Circle. "Development Works Under Kapra Circle" Kapra Division** CC road construction at Kandiguda – Rs 15 lakh** CC road at Hastinapuram Colony – Rs 30 lakh** CC road at Saibaba Officers Colony – Rs 20 lakh** CC road at HMT Colony – Rs 15 lakh** Sewerage line at Sriyug Enclave, Saket Colony – Rs 20 lakh** AS Rao Nagar Division** CC road at South Kamalanagar – Rs 27.50 lakh** Compound wall for Senior Citizens' Bhavan – Rs 10 lakh** CC road at MIG & LIG Colony – Rs 30 lakh** Open Gym at Maheshnagar – Rs 12.50 lakh** Sewerage line at Maheshnagar – Rs 20 lakh** Cherlapally Division** Community Hall at Rail Vihar Colony, Vidya Maruthinagar & Shubhodaya Colony – Rs 80 lakh** Sewerage line at Shubhodaya & Meenakshinagar – ₹20 lakh** HB Colony Division** CC roads at Mangapuram Colony & Indiranagar – Rs 40 lakh** CC roads at Rajeevnagar, Navodayanagar & Kailasagiri Colony – Rs 40 lakh** Sewerage line from Alluri Sitarama Raju statue to Canara Bank – ₹20 lakh** Mallapur Division** Community Hall at Janapriya Township (expansion) – Rs 26 lakh** Community Hall at Annapurna Colony (expansion) – Rs 20 lakh** RCC pipeline & CC road at Gandhi Statue area, Old Village – ₹34 lakh** Sewerage line at Brahmajpuri Colony – ₹20 lakh** Nacharam Division** CC road at Ramreddy Nagar – ₹30 lakh** CC road at Johnson Grammar School area, Raghavendra Nagar – Rs 50 lakh** Sewerage pipeline at Koundinya Nagar, Ramnagar & Indiranagar – Rs 20 lakh** Development Works Under Uppal Circle** Chilukanagar Division** Vaddera Sangham Community Hall at Chilukanagar Gutta – Rs 34.25 lakh** Ramalayam Community Hall at Beerappagadda – ₹15.75 lakh** Kuruma Sangham Community Hall at Chilukanagar Gutta – Rs 30 lakh** Sewerage line at Indiranagar & Old Kallu Compound lanes – Rs 20 lakh** Habsiguda Division** CC road at Srinivasapuram – Rs 20 lakh** CC road at Venkatreddy Nagar – Rs 24.50 lakh** CC road at Ramreddy Nagar – Rs 35.50 lakh** Sewerage line at Srinivasapuram – Rs 20 lakh** Ramanthapur Division** Box drain near Satyanarayana Swamy Temple – Rs 60 lakh** Repairs to Bharatnagar Community Hall – Rs 20 lakh** Sewerage lines at Gandhinagar & Viveknagar – Rs 20 lakh** Uppal Division** Internal roads at Sheshsai Nagar – Rs 45 lakh** Balance works at Community Halls in South Swaroopnagar & Hanuma Sai Nagar – Rs 35 lakh** Water supply & sewerage pipelines at Church Colony & Srinamanapuram – Rs 20 lakh A total of 36 development works have been sanctioned under this allocation, Parameshwar Reddy informed.



Bespoke Art Gallery Brings International Art Excellence to Hyderabad at AD Show

Hyderabad: Bespoke Art Gallery, India's emerging destination for premium international art collections, made a powerful impact in Hyderabad with its participation at the Architectural Digest (AD) showcase held on 5th & 6th December at the Hitex Exhibition Centre.

For many Hyderabad-based visitors, it was a delightful surprise to learn that Ahmedabad now hosts an art gallery representing international artists—a space that blends global talent with refined curation. The gallery's presence sparked conversations among architects, interior designers, and art enthusiasts who appreciated its diverse and high-quality collection.

Architects and interior professionals shared that the gallery's artworks strongly resonated with their clients, especially those seeking bespoke, statement-making pieces for luxury homes and commercial spaces. The curated pieces stood out for their uniqueness, craftsmanship, and global artistic perspective.

"Our mission is to make world-class art accessible and relatable within the Indian design ecosystem," said Mr. Devan Gawarewala, Founder of Bespoke Art Gallery. "Hyderabad has welcomed us with tremendous warmth. The response encourages our vision to bring international artistry into modern Indian spaces through thought-



fully curated collections."

With its growing presence in leading design-focused events, Bespoke Art Gallery continues to position itself as a trusted partner for architects, designers, and collectors looking for premium global artworks.

PhonePe Wealth launches 'Daily SIP' in Mutual Funds with minimum investment of Rs10

Hyderabad PhonePe Wealth Broking Private Limited (PhonePe Wealth) today announced the launch of its Daily SIP (Systematic Investment Plan) feature in mutual funds, making it possible for users to invest as little as ₹10 per day directly through the PhonePe app. This will empower potential investors to convert their daily savings into investments effortlessly and enable more Indians to build wealth over time.

India's mutual fund industry has been witnessing rapid growth, especially in SIPs. According to Association of Mutual Funds of India (AMFI), monthly SIP inflows surged to over ₹29,000 crore in October 2025 - an annualized growth of more than 30% over the past five years. This growth is also reflected in the steadily rising contributing SIP accounts which stand at 9.45 crore as of October 2025. This shows a strong preference for disciplined investing with investors making periodic contributions in mutual funds.

To this extent, the launch of Daily SIPs will further enable users to invest as low as ₹10 daily, making mutual fund investments more convenient and affordable for individuals with daily cash flows and savings acting as the first step towards building financial wealth.

Key Features of Daily SIP:

1. Micro (small) investment commitment: With a mini-



mum of ₹10 a day, anyone can begin building wealth through regular contributions.

2. Seamless setup: Start a Daily SIP instantly through UPI (Unified Payments Interface) Autopay on the PhonePe app for smooth, automated daily investments.

3. Diverse fund options: Users can choose from carefully curated mutual funds in categories like equity fund, gold fund, multi-asset funds, designed to meet a variety of investment needs and risk appetites.

4. Contribution customisation: Potential investors using the PhonePe app have the option to customize their contributions by increasing or decreasing the amount based on their comfort and individual investment goals.

5. Easy to stop: In case, an investor feels that they cannot continue investments for a prolonged period, they have the option to stop their SIPs easily and let the invested money compound.

MSEDCL Sets Guinness World Record; C.R.I. Solar Proudly Contributes to the Historic Feat

Hyderabad In a landmark triumph for India's renewable-energy landscape, the Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (MSEDCL) has secured a Guinness World Record by installing an unprecedented 45,911 solar pumping systems within just one month. This exceptional milestone stands as a testament to MSEDCL's visionary leadership, strong execution capabilities, and unwavering commitment to empowering India's farming communities.

C.R.I. Pumps' Solar Division is proud to have been one of the key contributors to this transformative solar initiative. By installing solar pumps in 1,686 villages across Maharashtra, C.R.I. Solar empowered thousands of farmers with sustainable water solutions. Each installation was carried out with exceptional precision, disciplined execution, and coordinated teamwork—reflecting C.R.I.'s hallmark strengths.

This milestone aligns seamlessly with C.R.I.'s broader mission of driving India's clean-energy evolution. The company has already commissioned over 2,10,000 IoT-enabled solar pumping systems and deployed more than 3.04 million BEE star-rated, energy-efficient pumps nationwide. Collectively, C.R.I.'s initiatives have helped India save 7,600 million kWh of energy and avoid 6 million tons of CO2 emissions. These interventions continue to uplift communities by delivering intelligent, sustainable, and long-lasting pumping solutions.

Reflecting on the achievement, Mr. G. Soundararajan, Chairman, C.R.I. Group, remarked:

"This Guinness World Record represents far more



than a remarkable accomplishment—it is a moment of national pride and a milestone in India's clean-energy journey. We are profoundly grateful to MSEDCL for entrusting us with this opportunity and remain dedicated to advancing India's transition toward intelligent, future-ready energy technologies."

Uppal MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy and Corporator Bandaru Srivani Venkatar Rao Lay Foundation for Development Works Worth Rs1.20 Crore in Ramantapur Division



KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, December 12 (Indian Chronicle):Uppal MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy, along with Ramantapur Division Corporator Bandaru Srivani Venkatar Rao, laid the foundation stone on Friday for several development works being undertaken at an estimated cost of ₹1.20 crore in the Ramantapur Division. "The MLA and Corporator initiated works including the construction of an open gym and CC road in Srinagar Colony, a storm water drain in Bhavani Nagar, and a CC road on Vasavi Nagar Road No. 2, among other development projects. Local residents appreciated the continuous efforts of the MLA and Corporator in providing essential infrastructure for the overall development of the division." Speaking on the occasion, MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy stated that development activities in the Uppal constituency were being carried out beyond political considerations. He assured that he is extending complete support for the progress of the Ramantapur Division and has been working to resolve issues brought to his notice by the Corporator. "Corporator Bandaru Srivani Venkatar Rao said that nearly 90% of the issues raised by the residents have already been resolved. She added that underground drainage works in almost all colonies of the division have been completed. She also mentioned that she has requested the concerned officials to allocate funds soon for the remaining pending works." Bandaru Venkatar Rao, Pasula Prabhakar Reddy, Gaddam Sai Kiran, Rambahman, Babu Yadav, and leaders from BJP and BRS, along with local party workers, participated in the program.



Ozempic® - world's most prescribed GLP-1 is now available in India

Hyderabad: Novo Nordisk, a global healthcare company, today announced the launch of Ozempic® (injectable semaglutide) in India. Ozempic® is a once-weekly GLP-1 RA (receptor agonist) indicated as an adjunct to diet and exercise for adults living with uncontrolled type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM).

The arrival of Ozempic® in India comes at a crucial time. According to the World Health Organisation's 2023-24 estimates, India has 101 million (roughly 11.4 % of India's population) people living with diabetes, making it the second largest diabetes-affected populations in the world after China. The country also has 136 million individuals with prediabetes and 254 million people living with generalised obesity, signalling an accelerating



health challenge that requires effective, evidence-based therapies.

Clinical benefits of Ozempic®:

Demonstrated powerful HbA1c reduction with compelling weight-loss benefits, supporting better metabolic health

Suitable for adults with HbA1c ≥7%, including those with high cardiovascular risk or established cardiovascular disease

Provides additional lowering of cardiovascular events, a key concern for people with long-standing T2DM

Offers protection against chronic kidney disease progression, supporting long-term health outcomes

"Bringing Ozempic® to India is a major milestone" said Vikrant Shrotriya - Managing Director, Novo Nordisk India. "Backed by global trust, proven clinical excellence & world class quality, reinforced by a robust supply chain, Ozempic® offers Indian doctors an effective treatment choice. Our goal is to provide patients an innovative & accessible therapy that offers improved glycaemic control, meaningful weight management and long-term heart and kidney protection – all delivered through a simple, easy-to-use pen device. This once-weekly treatment demonstrates Novo Nordisk's ongoing commitment to better health outcomes and chronic disease care."

How does Ozempic® work?

Ozempic® is a GLP-1 receptor agonist that helps:

Improve glycaemic control and reduce HbA1c

Regulate appetite and food intake by acting on areas of the brain that control hunger

Support weight loss in people with T2DM

Reduce risks of cardiovascular and kidney complications associated with diabetes

Corporator Rajitha and Parameshwar Reddy Couple Participate in Sri Kalabhairava Swamy Brahmotsavam

KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, December 12 (Indian Chronicle):On Friday, Uppal Corporator Rajitha Parameshwar Reddy and Uppal Constituency Congress



Party In-charge Mandamula Parameshwar Reddy participated in the Sri Kalabhairava Swamy Brahmotsavam held at the Uppal HMDA Bagayat. "On this occasion, they offered special prayers to Lord Kalabhairava. The temple priests and committee members warmly welcomed Rajitha and Parameshwar Reddy upon their arrival. Later, they took part in the Brahmotsavam rituals conducted at the temple and performed special pujas. "Several devotees and local leaders attended the event, including Pujala Prabhakar, Eega Santosh Mudiraj, Nidhanakavi Sudhakar, Shameerpet Vinod Reddy, Kanchamidi Shivaiah Mudiraj, Telkala Mohan Reddy, Lingampally Ramakrishna, Salla Prabhakar Reddy, Ramakant Reddy, Shameerpet Rakesh Reddy, Manda Muralikrishna Reddy, Upender Raju, Reddigari Sanjeev Reddy, Vallapu Srikanth Yadav, Upender Reddy, Elluri Narsimha Reddy, Lekkala Anji Reddy, Devi Reddy, Bomma Ratnam, Bhim Sen, Upender Yadav, Tumalla Rajender Reddy, Alugula Anil Kumar, Garidas Venkatesh, Sisala Ganesh, Pramod, Nagoor Bhasha, Peerambhi, Mamatha, Rajitha and many others.

Elect the Congress party's Sarpanch candidates after seeing the welfare and development programs being implemented by the Congress party: - Alair MLA and Government Whip Beerla Ailaiah

“(Manduva Srisailam.. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau.. Indian Chronicle December 12):- Alair MLA and Government Whip Beerla Ailaiah said that people should elect the Congress party's Sarpanch candidates after seeing the welfare and development programs being implemented by the Congress party. As part of the election campaign program, on Friday,“Telangana State Government Whip and Alair MLA Beerla Ailaiah participated in the campaign for the second phase of Gram Panchayat elections in Duppalli and Narsapur villages of Valigonda mandal in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district. On this occasion, Beerla Ailaiah said that if the Congress party's Sarpanch candidates are elected in the villages alongside him as MLA, they will move forward like a pair of oxen, bring funds, and develop the villages. He said that the sarees given by the KCR government in the past were used at wells, for carrying bundles of grass, and as scarecrows in the fields... but now, the sarees given under the people's rule are being worn by everyone in the villages.



In the context of the Gram Panchayat elections... officials must take the initiative to ensure that polling takes place peacefully on the 14th of this month: Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao



“(Manduva Srisailam... Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle, December 12):- In the

For villages to develop, people who work for the villages and good leaders must be elected: Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao



“(Manduva Srisailam... Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle, December 12):- The Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector said that for villages to develop, people who strive for the villages and good leaders who are appreciated by all must be elected. On Friday, as part of the third phase of Gram Panchayat elections, voter awareness programs were conducted in the mandals where the third phase of polling is scheduled, as per the instructions of the Election Commission. (District Collector Hanumantha Rao participated in Narayanapur mandal headquarters, RDO Shekhar Reddy in Choutuppal municipality, Tahsildar Sheshagiri Rao and MPDO in Addagudur mandal headquarters, and Additional DRDO Suresh in Gundala mandal headquarters. They conducted voter awareness programs.) On this occasion, the District Collector first made the voters take an oath that they would not succumb to money, liquor, or other temptations, and would choose a genuine and good Sarpanch or ward member. He said that the right to vote is the foundation of democracy and that every registered voter should cast their vote. He said that conducting awareness rallies on the use of the right to vote and educating students about it will bring about change as they will inform their elders at home. He said that although they are students now, in the

context of the Gram Panchayat elections... regarding the polling on the 14th of this month... as per the orders of the State Election Commission, a 'Silence Period' will be in effect until the polling ends at 1:00 PM, District Election Officer and Collector Hanumantha Rao stated in a press release on Friday. ??In accordance with the guidelines issued by the Telangana State Election Commission, during the second phase of elections in Bhuvanagiri, BB Nagar, Pochampally, Valigonda, and Ramannapet mandals of the district... the 'Silence Period' will be in effect from 44 hours before the end of polling in the areas where polling is to be held on the 14th of this month, the Collector said. From 5:00 PM on the 12th to 1:00 PM on the 14th... the following activities are completely prohibited in the relevant polling areas, he stated.“No public meetings, gatherings, or processions should be held.“Election campaigning should not be conducted through cinema, television, social media, or other media, or through musical, theatrical, or entertainment programs. Legal action will be taken against those who violate these orders, he added.

coming days all of them will become voters. He said that if voters cast their votes for those who offer money, liquor, gifts, biryani, or other presents, they will lose the right to question the winning candidate about the village's development after the elections. He advised them to discuss among themselves at home or at their workplace about choosing good leaders who will lead to the development of their village. He urged them to choose a good person who is acceptable to all, without succumbing to the temptations offered by the candidates.“He said that everyone should discuss together who to vote for, who will be available when needed, and who will bring about development. He said that they should discuss the matter.“He stated that towns and cities develop only when the villages are prosperous.“He suggested that to ensure the well-being of the villages, a good leader should be elected.“He mentioned that recently, rallies and awareness programs on voting were conducted in Bommalamaram and Valigonda mandals of our district. He said that some women voters, having gained awareness, independently put up boards in front of their houses stating that they would not sell their right to vote, and exercised their franchise. The concerned officials participated in this program.

Rs 110 Crore Worth Development Works Completed in Chilukanagar Division: Corporator Bannala Geetha Praveen Mudiraj



“KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, December 12 (Indian Chronicle):““Chilukanagar Division Corporator and former GHMC Standing Committee Member Bannala Geetha Praveen Mudiraj inspected the on-

going CC road construction works, taken up at a cost of ₹55 lakh in Sitarama Colony on Friday, along with GHMC officials.“Speaking on the occasion, Corporator Geetha Praveen stated that development works worth nearly ₹110 crore have been completed so far in Chilukanagar Division. She added that around 95% of works in Sitarama Colony have been successfully completed, fulfilling almost all the assurances made during the elections.“Those who participated in the programme include Municipal DE Vineel Goud, AE Radhika, Work Inspector Kedar, BRS State Leader Bannala Praveen Mudiraj, Sitarama Colony Association President Guduru Ramesh Goud, leaders RamAnjaneyulu, Anjireddy, Narsireddy, Ballem Venumadhav, Nageshwar Rao, Madhu, Haribabu, Banti Goud and others.

The concerned officials should check the materials required for the second phase of polling at the distribution center: Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao



“(Manduva Srisailam... Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle, December 12):- Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao said that the concerned officials should check the materials required for the second phase of polling at the distribution center. The District Election Officer and Collector inspected the polling materials at the Pochampally Mandal Praja Parishad office, where the second phase of elections for the Gram Panchayat elections will be held on Friday. On this occasion, the District Collector instructed that the polling materials should be separated polling station-wise. He said that they should check if the ballot box in each polling station opens easily or not. He also instructed them to check if all the ballot papers for their respective Gram Panchayat are correct. He specifically instructed them to check if the Swastika symbol stamp is present. He advised them to check the marked voters' list beforehand.“He inquired about the location of the distribution center and ordered that good food facilities, drinking water supply, and other arrangements be made for



the polling staff at the distribution center. Later, at the Pochampally Tahsildar's office, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao said that the applications received during the Bhoobharathi revenue conferences should be examined at the field level and resolved as quickly as possible. On this occasion, the District Collector said that the applications received during the Bhoomi Bharathi Revenue Conference should be disposed of without any pending issues. He instructed that land problems should be resolved by conducting field inspections based on old records. He added that if eligible individuals are identified among those who submitted applications under the Sada Bainama scheme, initiatives should be taken to ensure that they receive due justice. He emphasized that applications should not be rejected for minor reasons, and that thorough field inspections should be conducted to approve the applications of those who are found to be eligible. The concerned officials participated in this program.

SBI Hyderabad Circle launches "SBI Home Loans Mega Property Expo" Campaign



“(As part of "SBI Home Loans Mega Property Expo" Publicity Campaign, Shri S. Radhakrishnan, (Chief General Manager) Hyderabad Circle, Shri Ravi Kumar Verma, (General Manager NW-1), Shri Satish Kumar, (General Manager NW-2) has flagged off publicity vans from Local Head Office, Koti, Hyderabad.“Speaking on this occasion CGM Shri S.Radhakrishnan said, till now Hyderabad Circle organized six such Expos and tradition goes with 7th edition of SBI Home Loans Mega Property Expo scheduled from 19th to 21st of this month at Hall No.4, HITEX, Hyderabad.““Telangana state is progressing steadily toward its aspirational 3 trillion economy by 2047. Under the visionary ambitions of Telangana Rising 2047 and Viksit Bharat 2047.““Shri S.Radhakrishnan also shared that our SBI Hyderabad Circle, is proud to be a strategic partner in this transformation and recently crossed the monumental milestone of 4 Trillion Business as on 30.11.2025.““SBI Hyderabad Circle REH business [Home & Home related] crossed 750 Billion with 2.10 lakh home loan customers base in Telangana state, and is marching confidently with a vision of 1 Trillion by June 2027““Hyderabad Circle is strengthening its role in Telangana's real estate and housing finance ecosystem.““We have Introduced simplified and faster loan-sanction systems,““Offering attractive ROI structures for builders and homebuyers.““Digital processing through end-to-end platforms for builder tie-ups and customers,““Supporting sustainable and affordable housing through PMAY scheme.““Builder Tie-ups are doing for the convenience customer as well as builder firms.““Shri S. Radhakrishnan said that, these initiatives reaffirm SBI's commitment to empowering homebuyers, supporting builders, and driving the State's long-term economic aspirations. Hyderabad's transfor-



mation into a global hub for IT, Pharma, Aerospace, and R&D continues to fuel strong and stable demand for residential, commercial, and industrial real estate across the state.““Telangana State Government initiatives such as the Regional Ring Road (RRR), the development of the Fourth City as a new economic and innovation zone, and the merger of peripheral municipalities into the GHMC are enhancing connectivity, opening new development catchments, and significantly raising valuations. There by unlocking unprecedented growth corridors.““Telangana state is having good number of established reputed builder firms. They are playing an active role in contributing to the growth of real estate sector.““Around 60 + such reputed builder firms are taking part in this Mega Property Expo. MY HOME, VASAVI, APARNA, ANVITA, CANDEUR, RAJAPUSHPA, GLENTREE, SRIAS, EPITOME, Ira, RANKY, NAMISHREE, RADHEY, TRIDASA, JAIN etc““The promotional activities for the Expo are already launched on a large scale across AIR, DD channels, TV9, FM Radios, Two Metro Trains wrapping & Advertisement in inside all metro Trains, Hoardings, Medians, Facebook, Instagram and other multiple media channels covering across the city, Print & electronic media, online platforms and also Banners at our city based branches, ATMs & CDMs.““We are expecting a footfall of around 8,000 to 10,000 visitors during these three-day events.““And substantial bookings for builders and those leads translating into business for our Bank. Customers will also be benefited with offers both from builders as well as bank.



KG Reddy College of Engineering and Technology organised an interactive session for first year B. Tech students featuring Prof. Dr. Balakista Reddy , Chairman of Telangana Council for Higher Education (TSCHE) “During his address , Dr. Reddy emphasised the rapid growing importance of technology in shaping India's future and encouraged students to focus on innovation , continuous skill development and ethical use of emerging technologies including AI .“He also highlighted the relevance of the Preamble of the Indian Constitution explaining the core values of Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic, Republic, Justice, Equality, Liberty and Fraternity motivated students to uphold these constitutional principles in their academic and professional lives . “The event concluded with the formal launch of the college Diary by Prof. Dr. Balakista Reddy , along with the Chairman of KG Reddy College of Engineering &Technology Ln. K. Krishna Reddy garu , Dean Academics Dr. M.N .Narasaiah and Principal Srinivas Reddy Aristotle PG college marking an important milestone for KG Reddy college of Engineering & Technology

TWJF Founder President and State Convener Mamidi Somayya congratulated the Panchayat Raj Supervisory Officer

“(Mandava Srisailam... Hyderabad... Indian Chronicle... December 12):- Several journalist leaders congratulated Kasula Kranthi Kiran, who assumed charge as Superintendent in the Telangana State Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department Commissionerate. Telangana Working Journalists Federation (TWJF) Founder President and State Convener Mamidi Somayya, IFWJ National Secretary Pulipalupula Anandam, State leader J. Uday Bhaskar Reddy, and others met him on Thursday, felicitated him with bouquets and shawls, and extended their congratulations. Kranthi Kiran, who previously worked as a PA to Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, assumed charge as Panchayat Raj Superintendent after being transferred.



BRS senior state leader Chintala Venkateshwar Reddy is campaigning vigorously in Raghavapuram village of Bibinagar mandal, urging voters to elect BRS village sarpanch candidate Shankarayya.



“(Manduva Srisailam... Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle, December 12):- BRS party senior state leader Chintala Venkateshwar Reddy is conducting a vigorous campaign in Raghavapuram village of Bibinagar mandal, Bhuvanagiri constituency, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district. Speaking during the village panchayat elections campaign, he urged the people of Raghavapuram to vote for the BRS-backed candidate, Bandaru Shankarayya, by casting their votes on the ring symbol in the sarpanch elections on the 14th, ensuring his victory with a huge majority. He cautioned against being misled by the false promises of the Congress party, stating that the Congress party has not implemented a



single welfare scheme since coming to power, and that they have done nothing for the people except for the development initiated by former Chief Minister KCR. Therefore, he said, it is the responsibility of everyone to ensure the victory of the BRS party candidates in the local body elections. Present at the event were former Yadagirigutta Trust Board member Guntimidi Dayakar Bhagyamma, Jakki Nagesh, village branch president Buyya Kishore Goud, Donthireddy Srinivas Reddy, B Ashok, Sarva Basavaraju Goud, Shivagoni Rangayya, Ongari Ramesh, Bandari Anand Goud, Bandari Raghavendra Goud, Donthireddy Rajasekhara Reddy, Ambati Parisharam, and district leaders Kuthadi Suresh, Harish, Venkatesh, and Manohar.

Revanth Reddy Says There’s “No Backing Out” from the Match with Messi



“KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, December 12 (Indian Chronicle)““With football legend Lionel Messi set to arrive for the upcoming match, excitement has begun to sweep across Hyderabad. Across the city, welcome banners featuring Messi and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy are prominently displayed, creating a festive atmosphere.“Around the Uppal International Cricket Stadium, where the match will take place on December 13, the flex banners and hoardings arranged by former State Youth Congress General Secretary and Yuva Kapu Nadu Vice-President Gaddam Ravi are attracting significant attention. Expressing his hopes for the event, Ravi said he wishes for the grand success of the match and the celebrations surrounding it.“Football enthusiasts are eagerly anticipating Chief Minister Revanth Reddy’s participation in the match, leading to expectations of a large turnout from ministers, MLAs, MPs, Rajya Sabha members, former legislators, and fans. In view of the massive crowd and VVIP movement, Rachakonda Commissioner of Police Sudheer Babu has deployed extensive security arrangements to ensure smooth conduct of the event.

BJP Demands Renaming of Newly Announced Beerappa Gadda Division as Uppal Division

“KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, December 12 (Indian Chronicle):““As part of the recent delimitation exercise, the newly announced 23rd Beerappa Gadda Division has been allotted to the geographical area traditionally known as Uppal. Strongly objecting to this notification, the BJP has expressed serious displeasure, stating that replacing the historic name “Uppal” with “Beerappa Gadda Division” undermines Uppal’s identity and hurts the sentiments and self-respect of the people of Uppal.“Demanding that the decision be withdrawn immediately, BJP leaders said the division covering the original Uppal town must rightfully be declared as Uppal Division, in accordance with the wishes of the local residents. They further proposed that the currently announced 28th Uppal Division be renamed as Uppal Baghayat Division for clarity.Under the leadership of former Uppal Division President Reddygari Devender Reddy, BJP leaders submitted an objection and representation at the GHMC Uppal Circle office.Senior BJP leaders Mahankali Laxman Mudiraj, Ravula Balakrishna Goud, Meesala Jangaiah, Ellagani Prakash Goud, Singaram Karthik and others participated in the programme.



Uppal MLA Bandari Lakshma Reddy Performs Special Pujas at Kalabhairava Swamy Temple



“KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, December 12 (Indian Chronicle):““As part of the 3rd anniversary celebrations of the Kalabhairava Swamy Temple located in Uppal Bhagayat, Uppal MLA Bandari Lakshma Reddy performed special pujas on Thursday.“Speaking on the occasion, the MLA said that with the blessings of Lord Kalabhairava, he wished for the well-being and happiness of everyone.“Local leaders, party workers, and others from the Uppal division participated in the program.

District Gears Up with Heavy Security for Second Phase of Panchayat Elections: SP

“Taj Khan, Kagaznagar, December 12 (Indian Chronicle)““Komaram Bheem Asifabad district administration has arranged robust security with a total deployment of 862 personnel from the police department and other supporting departments for the smooth conduct of the second phase of Gram Panchayat elections, District SP Nitika Pant said.“SP Nitika Pant stated that the efforts of the district police officers and personnel were instrumental in ensuring the peaceful and impartial conduct of the first phase of local body elections. As part of the second phase, elections will be held on December 14 in the mandals of Bejjur, Chintalamanepalli, Dahegaon, Koutala, Penchikalpet, and Sirpur (T) for 113 Sarpanch posts and 992 Ward Member posts. She confirmed that the police department is fully prepared for bandobust arrangements.“The SP advised candidates, political parties, and the public to strictly adhere to the Model Code of Conduct.“Regarding the silent period, she said it will be in effect from 5:00 PM on December 12, 2025, i.e., 48 hours prior to polling, until the conclusion of voting. During this period, public meetings, gatherings, door-to-door campaigning, loudspeaker usage, rallies, and bike rallies are completely prohibited.“To ensure peaceful polling, special measures have been taken, including enhanced security at polling stations, surveillance teams, area domination parties, route mobiles, and striking forces, the SP said.“For the second phase, 665 police officers and personnel, along with 197 staff members from other departments (Forest, Singareni, Excise, TRANSCO, ACB), totaling 862 personnel, have been deployed as part of the strengthened security arrangement.“From 5:00 PM



today until the completion of elections, Section 144 (BNSS 163) will remain in force. Gathering of five or more individuals within 100 meters of polling stations is strictly prohibited. Candidates and party workers will not be allowed to congregate near polling locations, the SP added. She also stated that liquor shops must remain closed from 5:00 PM today.“Any form of campaigning, rallies, or meetings is completely banned during the 48-hour silent period. She reiterated that no victory rallies or bike rallies will be permitted after the announcement of election results. Celebratory events may be organized only on dates specified by the authorities after completion of the third phase of polling.“The SP appealed to the public to cooperate fully with the police to ensure free, fair, and peaceful elections. She urged citizens to immediately report any suspicious persons or activities to the police.

A dangerously sagging manhole



“Secunderabad Cantonment. December 12 (Indian Chronicle):“Bowenpally Ayyappa Society under Ward 1 of the Cantonment Board on the main road leading to Ayyappa temple has collapsed and become dangerous. In addition to the lack of roofs on the manhole, about 40 meters of the road has been left unbuilt, thus people are exposed to accidents. Locals say that people who venture that way mainly at night are falling into the manhole cover due to sagging and getting injured. The famous Ayyappa Swamy temple in Bowenpally area is located in this area. A large number of devotees come to the temple in the morning and evening for the darshan of Lord Ayyappa Swamy. In this order, the devotees who do not realize that the manhole cover is sagging are getting affected by accidents, but the officials of the Cantonment Board are acting as if they do not care. People are worried that accidents are taking place due to lack of supervision of the authorities or manholes in many places. Even now, the locals want the high officials of the Cantonment Board to respond and solve the problems within the Cantonment Board.



Lions Club Marks Manipal Reddy’s Jayanti with Service Activities ‘All-in-One’ Books Distributed to Class 10 Students



“NARRA SRINIVAS REDDY (NSR), Medchal - Malkajgiri Staff Reporter, December 12, (INDIAN CHRONICLE):““The Lions Club organised community service programmes on Friday to mark the fourth death anniversary of Manipal Reddy, founder of the Kamalanagar Spoorthi Club. As part of the initiative, Class 10 students of Yaprul Government High School received ‘All-in-One’ study books, which were handed over by former corporator Pajjuri Pavani Manipal Reddy and members of the Lions Club. Kushaiguda Zone Additional Deputy Commissioner Nallamotu Venkatramana attended the programme as the chief guest and formally launched the book distribution. Speaking on the occasion, he said Manipal Reddy was a close friend who al-



ways thought about serving people and often discussed community-oriented activities. He added that the Lions Club should continue expanding its service programmes inspired by Manipal Reddy’s vision. Those present included MEO Manohar, Rajeev, DCS Ravi Yadav, DCT Kiran Kumar, R.C. Sridhar Goud, Chief Coordinator Sampath Kashapi Reddy, GST Kannan, President Venkatakrishna Reddy, Secretary Sudhakar Reddy, Rupa Reddy, Lakshmi Moorthy, Shekhar Reddy, Srinivasa Reddy, Ramadevi, Vanjari Praveen, Acchayya, Sambasiva Rao, Sanjeeva Reddy, Ramachari, Harinath, Madhusudan, Kashinath, Rajendra Prasad Raju, Rajesh Chode, Surrender, Padmavati, Srilatha, Vijay Kumar, Govardhan, Ramu, Rajesh, Arun, Umesh Chary and others.

TWJF Medchal District 3rd Conference on December 14

“NARRA SRINIVAS REDDY (NSR), Medchal - Malkajgiri Staff Reporter, December 12, (INDIAN CHRONICLE):““The Telangana Working Journalists Federation (TWJF) will hold its Medchal district 3rd conference on December 14 at 10 a.m. at the SS Function Hall in Neredmet, Malkajgiri, according to a statement from TWJF Medchal district convener G. Hariprasada and co-convener P. Malleesh. The conference will discuss key issues including housing sites for journalists, the health scheme, accident insurance, accreditation cards and other related matters. The organisers said that the meet-

ing will also review past programmes, outline future responsibilities and elect the new district committee. TWJF Adhoc Committee State Convener Pilli Ramchander, TWJF State General Secretary B. Basava Punnaiah, State Secretary and District In-charge S.K. Saleema, along with public representatives and other guests, will attend the event. The organisers appealed to all journalists in the district to participate and make the conference a success.



District Enters Silent Zone Ahead of December 14 Panchayat Polls : Collector Dhotre

“Taj Khan, Kagaznagar, December 12 (Indian Chronicle)““Kumaram Bheem Asifabad District Election Officer and Collector Venkatesh Dhotre announced that a silent period will be in force in the district until 1:00 PM on December 14, the closing time of polling for the second phase of Gram Panchayat elections.“In a statement issued on December 12, 2025, the Collector said that as per the directives of the State Election Commission, the silent period will commence 44 hours before the end of polling in all areas where elections are scheduled. Accordingly, the restrictions will be strictly implemented from 5:00 PM on December 12 until 1:00 PM on December 14.“During this period, public meetings, rallies, and processions are strictly prohibited. Likewise, no election campaign of any form—whether through cinema, television,

social media, or any other broadcasting platforms—may be carried out, including music, drama, or entertainment-based publicity.“The Collector cautioned that any violation of these rules will attract action under Section 214(2) of the Telangana Panchayat Raj Act, 2018.“He further stated that all necessary officials and staff have been deployed, and essential materials arranged at polling stations to ensure a peaceful, transparent, and well-organized election process in the district.“Issued by the Department of Public Relations, Kumuram Bheem Asifabad District



Medipally Police Conduct Cybercrime Awareness Program at Jama Masjid, Narapally



Accepting requests from strangers, sharing private photos, or engaging in intimate video calls can lead to sextortion. Participants were advised not to click on unknown links or download apps/APK files advertised as free recharge, scholarships, or rewards, as they often contain spyware capable of accessing photos, contacts, and camera to blackmail victims.”3. Blackmailing”Students were urged not to share personal photos, videos, or private information with new online contacts. Even after trust is built, caution is essential. Suspicious video calls, fake accounts, and unsafe links on Instagram, WhatsApp, Snapchat, and other platforms should be avoided. Any attempt at blackmail should be immediately reported to college authorities or the cyber helpline.”4. Cyber Slavery & Job Frauds”Participants were warned about online advertisements offering high-paying part-time jobs or work from abroad.Students were advised never to share passports or ID proofs with unknown recruiters or individuals. They were alerted about travel offers and interview calls from unknown companies, which may be attempts to misuse personal documents or open loans/accounts under their name.”Awareness Call”Medipally Police urged the residents to stay alert online, report suspicious cyber activities without delay, and spread awareness among family members and friends to prevent cybercrime victimization.

Private Employee Goes Missing From Balaji Nagar

“NARRA SRINIVAS REDDY (NSR), Medchal - Malkajgiri Staff Reporter, December 12, (INDIAN CHRONICLE):“Balaji Nagar: A 20-year-old youth identified as Banothu Badri, son of Mangtha and a resident of Balaji Nagar, has been reported missing since December 7, 2025. Badri, who works in a private company, left home around 10:00 AM stating that he was going to work but did not return. His father checked at Badri’s workplace, searched in surrounding areas, and contacted relatives, but there was no trace of him. The family also stated that Badri’s mobile phone has remained switched off since he left home. Following a complaint filed by his father, police have registered a missing case and begun an investigation.



Senior Congress Leader Bhukya Dalsingh naik Resigns from the Party

“Yellandu , December 12, Indian Chronicle :“Senior Congress leader of Illendu constituency in Bhadradi Kothagudem district, Bhukya Dalsingh Naik, along with his wife Sukkala Bodu and former sarpanch Gangabai, resigned from the Congress Party on Friday. Announcing their decision at a press meet held at the Tekulapalli Mandal Press Club, Dalsingh became emotional while recalling his long association with the party.”Dalsingh stated that his political journey with the Congress began in 1987, and parting ways with the party in 2025 was “heart-breaking.” He recalled serving the party as a follower of Gonela Narayana, former minister Ratreddy Venkata Reddy, and as an admirer of Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy. He said that despite many leaders switching parties over the years, he remained loyal to the Congress and ensured its continued presence in the Tekulapalli region.”However, expressing deep disappointment, Dalsingh alleged that he faced repeated humiliation within the party, which ultimately forced him and his wife to resign. The couple broke down in tears while narrating their



experiences.”Having served the Congress for over four decades, Dalsingh contested as the party’s candidate for the Illendu Assembly seat in 1999. He stated that he worked tirelessly to strengthen the party and support its candidates in both Assembly and local body elections.”He said it was painful to leave the party despite his unwavering commitment and service. Dalsingh added that he would announce his future political plans soon

Nityannadanam to Ayyappa



“Secunderabad Cantonment. December 12 (Indian Chronicle):“Ayyappa Sabari Tirdha Kshetra temple under construction in the Royal Enclave in the cantonment area is offering daily alms for the devotees. Devotees wear Ayyappa mala before the beginning of Kartika MaSam. This program is being organized with the help of donors on the advice of Guruswami Kapil Barabari, a devotee of Ayyappa for nine years, so that they do not face any difficulties. As part of that, almsgiving was organized for Ayyappa devotees after the special pujas of the day, two hundred to three hundred devotees were giving alms a day.

Medchal District Congress President Vajresh Yadav attends felicitation event for former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav in Hyderabad



“NARRA SRINIVAS REDDY (NSR), Medchal - Malkajgiri Staff Reporter, December 12, (INDIAN CHRONICLE):“Former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister and Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav visited Hyderabad on Thursday for a private engagement. During his visit, he took part in a felicitation event organised at Adarsh Nagar, New MLA Quarters, under the initiative of former MP Anjan Kumar Yadav. Medchal District Congress Committee president Vajresh Yadav attended the programme. Speaking at the event, Akhilesh Yadav lauded the Telangana government’s recent decision to declare the Sadar festival as a state festival. He said the move reflects Telangana’s cultural diversity and strengthens the recognition of local traditions.

Grand Ayyappa Padipuja..

“Secunderabad Cantonment. December 12 (Indian Chronicle):“Ayyappa Swami Maha Padipuja was performed with grandeur on Friday at GVR Garden, Bowenpally under the direction of Santosh Swami. Ganapathi Kumaraswamy Lakshmi Devi and Ayyappa swami photos were specially decorated and worshiped on the stage set up for this occasion. Former Vice President of the Cantonment Board Jampana Pratap attended the program as the chief guest and visited the Swami. A large number of Ayyappa Swami along with the devotees from the surrounding areas came to visit the Swami and worshiped him. Ayyappa Swamy’s songs sung by Shashi Guruswamy’s bhajan team impressed everyone. Later, Ayyappa Swamy gave alms to the initiates and Raju Yadav, Sarath, Sai Charan, Pawan and others participated in this program.



“Public Must Be Empowered With Healthcare Awareness: Senior Civil Judge Smt. V. Bhavani”



“P.S.ASHOKAN”KARIMNGAR BUREAU. “Senior Civil Judge Smt. V. Bhavani emphasized the importance of public awareness regarding healthcare services. Speaking on the occasion of Universal Health Coverage Day on Friday at the Manthani Court premises, she urged citizens to fully utilize the medical facilities and various healthcare schemes implemented by the Central and State Governments.”She further stated that field-level medical staff and paralegal volunteers must proactively educate the public about the availability and benefits of

these services. In case of any deficiencies or lapses in service delivery, she encouraged people to approach the Mandal Legal Services Authority for assistance.”Bar Association Vice President Sri Raghattam Reddy highlighted the need for widespread awareness on preventive healthcare. He stressed that vaccinations and precautionary measures play a crucial role in combating long-term and chronic illnesses.”Additional Junior Civil Judge Smt. A. Sudharani advised the public to remain alert and informed about various diseases.”Gaddalapalli PHC Medical Officer Dr. Ch. Madhuri elaborated on the healthcare facilities being provided through Primary Health Centres (PHCs). She mentioned that every Tuesday, special awareness programmes under Arogya Mahila are being conducted to address women’s and adolescent girls’ health issues.”Advocates AGP B. Anjaneyulu, D. Vijay Kumar, Katakam Srinivas, Sashi Bhushan Kache, K. Vyas, along with medical staff and beneficiaries, actively participated in the programme.

Massive Security Arrangements for Messi Football Match at Uppal Stadium: Rachakonda CP Sudheer Babu

“KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, December 12 (Indian Chronicle):“Rachakonda Commissioner of Police Sudheer Babu announced that elaborate security arrangements have been put in place for the Messi football match scheduled to be held on December 13 at the Uppal Cricket Stadium. Speaking at a press conference organized at the stadium on Friday, he revealed that 3,000 police personnel have been deployed to ensure fool-proof security.”As part of the security measures, 450 CCTV cameras and a mini command control room have been set up. Messi will be provided Z-category security. Since Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will also be attending the event, additional layers of security have been arranged. A special green channel has been created to ensure that Messi’s movement route remains unobstructed.”He appealed to the public to showcase Hyderabad’s culture and heritage by cooperating fully with the authorities. He clarified that no passes will be sold at the stadium; all passes are available only online. People without valid passes are requested not to come near the stadium.”CP Sudheer Babu said that Messi will play at a specific scheduled time, and entry will not be allowed once the match begins. He urged fans to arrive early and to make use of public transport, including RTC buses and the metro rail,



to avoid traffic congestion.”To ensure the safety of women, SHE Teams will be deployed. Visitors must park their vehicles only in the 34 designated parking locations.”Calling it a landmark event for Hyderabad, he appealed to citizens and students to act responsibly. The entire security setup will also be monitored using drone cameras.”He said that certain items will not be allowed inside the stadium, including laptops, banners, cameras, cigarettes, matchboxes, lighters, binoculars, pens, helmets, pet animals, firecrackers, power banks, and selfie sticks. He urged sports lovers to cooperate with these restrictions.

Jawahar Navodaya Entrance Test Today; All Arrangements in Place



“Taj Khan, Kagaznagar, December 12, (Indian Chronicle)“The PM Shri Kendriya Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya located atop Trishul Pahad in Kagaznagar town has completed all arrangements for the Jawahar

Navodaya Entrance Examination for admission into Class VI for the academic year 2026–27. The examination will be held on Saturday across 24 centres in the erstwhile Adilabad district, Principal Repala Krishna stated in a press release issued on Friday.”A total of 6,196 students from across the erstwhile district have applied for 80 available seats, he said. The entrance test will be conducted from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM, and students have been advised to reach their respective centres by 10:30 AM.”Meanwhile, Sirpur (T) examination centre was inspected on Friday by Additional District Collector (Local Bodies) Deepak Tiwari and Kagaznagar Sub-Collector Shradha Shukla, who reviewed the arrangements in detail.”In view of the examination, police officials announced that security arrangements have been made at all test centres across the district.

JAWAHAR NAVODAYA VIDYALAYA SELECTION TEST – 2026.



“P.S.ASHOKAN”KARIMNGAR BUREAU. “The Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Entrance Examination for admission into Class VI for the academic year 2026–27 is scheduled to be held on 13 December 2025 (Saturday).“A total of 149 students have been registered for the examination:“143 from the English Medium and 6 from the Telugu Medium of ZPHS Boys.”The examination will be conducted from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM.”All candidates are instructed to report to the examination centre by 10:45 AM without fail.”Candidates must carry their Admit Card and use only a blue or black pen during the examination.”Students who are absent for the examination will not be eligible for any of the support provided today.

CM unveils Magh Mela logo in Gorakhpur

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

The government issued a statement saying the logo reflects the spiritual significance of chanting, penance, and Kalpavas at the Sangam during the month of Magh. Featuring the seven energy chakras based on the constellation positions of this period, the logo captures the sacred Akshaya Vat symbolising eternal merit, the cosmic journey of Surya Dev and Chandra Dev with the 27 constellations, along with the Sanatan flag representing the expansion of Sanatan Dharma, and elements of environmental harmony.”The inscription ‘Maghe nimajjanam yatra papam pariharet tatata’ highlights the belief that bathing in the month of Magh absolves one of all sins,” the statement said.

“Designed by consultants Ajay Saxena and Pragya Ajay on behalf of the Mela Authority, the logo was formally released in the presence of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in Gorakhpur. Its design also mirrors the astrological positions of the Sun and Moon during Magh,” the statement said.”Indian astrological calculations state that the Moon completes its cycle across the 27 constellations in about 27.3 days. The dates of the Magh Mela are determined



based on these exact celestial movements. The month of Magh begins when the Sun enters Capricorn, and the Moon aligns with the Ashlesha–Purva Phalguni constellation on the full-moon day,” it added.The Magh Mela in Prayagraj, scheduled to begin in January, is likely to attract around 12-15 crore pilgrims during its one-and-a-half-month duration, the chief minister had earlier said.

Smell-based repellent among several innovations to tackle leopard menace at agri trade fair in Pune



GNS News Agency, Dec 12

At the bustling Kisan Agri Show at Moshi in Pune, Pestosys LLP Wednesday unveiled ‘Animal Out’, a natural smell-based repellent pitched as a game-changer against the rising leopard attacks terrorising Maharashtra farmers and populace alike. Its organic formula, developed to repel predators, claims to offer protection without harm. Sprayed on field boundaries or animal paths, it triggers an unpleasant odour to feline senses, deterring incursions while remaining safe for humans, the environment, and wildlife, the company claimed. Leopards straying from forests into farmlands near villages have long menaced crops and human lives in Maharashtra. Lately, the incidents of human-leopard conflicts have risen sharply in Maharashtra, with deaths reported in the rural areas, along with the presence of leopards.

Subsequently, in a first, several exhibitors at the on-going Kisan show at Moshi, who earlier offered solutions aimed at predators like nilgai, boars and others, showcased innovations to tackle the growing leopard menace. A start-up displayed solar-powered alarm systems that emit light and sound to deter wildlife entry at night, while a few others demonstrated motion-sensor fences minimising human intervention. Another product was a night torch with a sound button that users could press if they suspected a wild animal nearby. The button would then emit a powerful sound to scare the creature away. An AI-driven camera-trap solution that tracks animal movements in real time also drew attention for helping forest officials and farmers respond swiftly.

Alongside these, various NGOs held awareness cam-

aigns stressing coexistence strategies and early warning networks. Together, the stalls reflected a newly discovered unified call for a technology-driven approach to protect farmlands, forests, and, most importantly, lives. Developed by founder Avinash Salunke, a 25-year veteran in pest management, Animal Out turned out to be one of the more popular stalls, thronged by visitors. Much of this could be due to recent procurement orders for the product from the Maharashtra Forest Department, which underscored the product’s credibility. The Chakan Range has approved 10 litres of the repellent on December 1 for man-leopard conflict mitigation, followed by identical procurements in Junnar, Ghodegaon, Khed and Shirur. “As leopard threats persist, herbal breakthroughs like Animal Out spotlights humane tech bridging human habitats and wild frontiers,” said its founder, Salunke. “Our goal is to make farmers feel secure without harming wildlife,” said Om Patil, co-founder of Pune-based start-up showcasing solar-powered alarm systems at the event. “The light-and-sound devices we’ve developed automatically detect movement at night and trigger deterrents, helping farmers sleep peacefully while keeping animals at bay in an eco-friendly way.” Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pune, Mahadev Mohite, confirmed that farmers across the affected regions are increasingly adopting various preventive measures, such as solar-powered lights, blinkers, nylon nets, and fencing channels, to protect their fields. “Many have also started using sound-based equipment to deter wild animal attacks,” he added. “Preventive measures such as these certainly help deter animals from entering human territories, but they do not address population control,” said Aditya Paranjape, Wildlife Warden, Pune District Forest Department. “Deterrents alone will not bear fruit in the long run. Effective management of leopard-human conflict requires a balanced approach combining population control, deterrent use, and scientific conflict mitigation. These methods offer only temporary relief, as wild animals are intelligent creatures that eventually recognise and adapt to deterrents,” he added.

The 35th edition of KISAN Agri Show, which opened on December 10 at the Pune International Exhibition and Convention Centre (PEC), Moshi, is one of the country’s foremost platforms for agricultural innovation. Spread across 30 acres, the five-day event is expected to draw thousands of farmers, agri-entrepreneurs, and innovators, who will engage with over 600 exhibitors under one roof.

Early Post-Operative Prosthesis to be introduced in all armed forces hospitals: Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin, Director General Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS), said in Pune on Thursday that plans are underway to introduce Early Post-Operative Prosthesis (EPOP) in all armed forces hospitals. “The Artificial Limb Centre (ALC), in coordination with the office of senior consultant (surgery), is introducing EPOP in all AFMS hospitals. By fitting EPOP as early as two days after amputation, patients can benefit from faster recovery, improved morale and significantly better functional outcomes,” Surgeon Vice Admiral Sarin said.

She was speaking at the inaugural function of ‘Continuing Rehabilitation Education-2025’ at ALC, Pune, on the theme ‘Improving Outcomes in Amputee Rehabilitation’. Early prosthetic fitting and independent ambulation are major objectives of the physical and psychosocial rehabilitation of the amputee, with early walking playing a vital role. At ALC, a premier medical institute of the Indian armed forces, comprehensive rehabilitation care is provided to help amputee patients (disabled soldiers, veterans and civilians) progress from hesitant first steps to confident strides. “A technically perfect amputation is only the beginning. The real measure of success, however, lies in the quality of rehabilitation that follows, a domain in which ALC excels,” Surgeon Vice Admiral Sarin said.

Brigadier C N Satish, Commandant, ALC, explained that it is scientifically proven that the longer the person is without a limb, the poorer the outcome. “Usually, it takes a month or two after an amputation for a patient to get a limb and walk. Hence, EPOP is a new innovation where a temporary artificial limb can be made and fitted to the patient as early as two to three days after the amputation. The advantage is it boosts morale, and the healing process starts sooner,” he told the media after the inaugural event. ‘AFMS at crossroads of trauma care, rehab, and national security’

In her speech, Surgeon Vice Admiral Sarin said that across the world, there has been a rise in the number of people living with limb loss due to road trauma, diabetes and conflict. “For the armed forces, this challenge is even more acute. Modern warfare increasingly produces survivable yet disabling injuries. At AFMS, we stand at the intersection of trauma care, rehabilitation, and national security. Our responsibility is two-fold: to return the wounded soldier to duty as soon as possible and to ensure that those who cannot return continue to lead purposeful, dignified, and productive lives,” she added. The AFMS has greatly strengthened battlefield medical readiness through the Yodha Rakshak Doctrine and the BACHAAV protocol, preparing every frontline soldier to be a capable first-responder, the DGAFMS said. She added that training centres across India impart the intensive two-day Yodha Rakshak capsule, equipping combatants in modern methods of rapid haemorrhage control, damage-mitigation, resuscitation and early evacuation to maximise life and limb salvage. “This covers all aspects of the acronym BACHAAV, that is, bleeding management, airway management, circulation, hypothermia, analgesia and antibiotics, atirik karvaiye (additional procedures), and vyakt karna or documentation, and usage of the Yodha Rakshak Kit. The Artificial Limb Centre fits perfectly into this continuum,” Surgeon Vice Admiral Sarin added. She also inaugurated the Additive Manufacturing Lab that can enable precise, patient-specific prosthetic designs for better comfort and fit. “This facility is a more specialised form of 3-D printing. The conventional method to manufacture an artificial limb takes longer, and the chances of a precise fit may not be that good, and there may be difficulty in replicating a good prosthesis. In 3-D printing, we scan stumps into a computer, which is used to print the artificial limb. It speeds up the process as we can print multiple sockets and replicate them later if required,” Brig Satish explained. Plans to make ALC a national centre of excellence For 80 years, the Artificial Limb Centre (ALC) has represented excellence in amputee rehabilitation—combining innovation, technology and compassion for battle casualties, veterans, and civilians, Surgeon Vice Admiral



Arti Sarin said on Thursday, adding that a proposal to make it a National Centre of Excellence will be submitted. “Current collaborations are there with DEBEL [Defence Bioengineering and Electromedical Laboratory] on exoskeleton development for spinal-cord-injured patients, and apart from the state-of-the-art Gait and Balance Lab and Upper Limb Training Lab, ALC has also expanded into additive manufacturing and formal academic training,” Surgeon Vice Admiral Sarin added. “The ALC has also played a decisive role in the victories of the Services Paralympic Team, whose athletes hold national and international records. Murlikant Petkar, India’s first Paralympic gold medalist, whose life inspired the film Chandu Champion, was rehabilitated at this very centre,” she said. “Looking ahead, our aim is to collectively elevate ALC into a National Centre of Excellence for amputee rehabilitation. This will include structured training programmes, strong research collaborations, national registries and data systems, innovation hubs linked to academia and industry, indigenous, affordable, high-performance prosthetic designs and tele-rehabilitation platforms and augmented Artificial Limb Service Centres for remote care,” she said.

‘Need to make accessibility truly seamless’ In her virtual keynote speech, Sminu Jindal, Managing Director of Jindal SAW Limited and Founder-Chairperson of Svayam, an accessibility rights organisation, spoke about her challenges. At the age of 11, she was involved in an accident while travelling from Jaipur to New Delhi that resulted in her needing a wheelchair for the rest of her life. Jindal set up Svayam and, for the last 25 years, has dedicated herself to reshaping societal perspectives about individuals with reduced mobility. “Everyone deserves equal access to the built environment, and over the years, there have been changes. However, there is still a need to make accessibility truly seamless. Accessibility should be viewed as an investment rather than an expense,” she said, adding that the role of the armed forces is significant in collaborating to improve lives.

Siddaramaiah, in a written response to the unstarred question, noted that payments for the use of 48 aircraft/helicopter was made in the 2023-24 fiscal. The cost incurred

Oppn walks out of Maharashtra Assembly over ‘anomalies’ in cotton, soybean procurement; ruling MLAs too slam Marketing Minister Jaykumar Rawal



GNS News Agency, Dec 12

Opposition members on Thursday staged a walkout from the Maharashtra Assembly in protest against the Mahayuti government’s ‘apathy’ towards cotton and soybean farmers and alleged irregularities in the procurement of yields. They highlighted the rising mismatch between the purchase price and the guaranteed price of the produce. The Opposition members were dissatisfied with the minister’s token replies to their questions over the non-initiation of official cotton procurement centers in many parts of the state and the failure to provide Minimum Support Price (MSP) for soybean. Besides, certain legislators from the ruling parties also expressed displeasure over the reply by Marketing Minister Jaykumar Rawal during Question Hour, after which Speaker Rahul Narvekar assured to hold a meeting of concerned legislators at his chamber. Congress Legislative Party leader Vijay Wadettiwar accused the government’s response of being a “mockery of the

farmers”. During the Question Hour, Wadettiwar highlighted that cotton procurement is hit by the restrictions imposed by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and the low procurement limit.

He further criticised the government for removing the import duty on cotton, which was previously 12%, which would result in a sharp drop in cotton prices in India. Wadettiwar and other Opposition members claimed that soybeans are not being procured at the designated MSP of Rs 5,300 per quintal at procurement centers and asked the minister to visit fields to understand the true situation. The minister also failed to give a proper reply to Wadettiwar’s question on blanket procurement of soybeans, given that 70 per cent of the produce is being turned away at centres, and whether the government would follow up with the Central Government regarding the cotton import duty. Amid the Opposition uproar, the Speaker directed a meeting to be held to resolve the issue, a demand rejected by the Opposition. They instead wanted the government to make a statement in the House. From the ruling front, NCP’s senior MLA Prakash Solankhe said that the minister has no ground knowledge of happenings, while BJP MLA and former minister Babanrao Lonikar highlighted the problems on the ground. With no positive response from the government, Opposition members such as Wadettiwar, Nana Patole, Rohit Pawar, Siddharth Kharat, while those from the ruling side, including Arjun Khotkar and Daulat Daroda, entered the well of the House and raised slogans against the government’s stance on farmers’ issues. Despite CM Devendra Fadnavis’ intervention and assurance to find a way out, the ruckus continued, and Opposition members walked out of the Assembly.

3 arrested for ‘assault’ on non-veg patty vendor during Gita Path event in Kolkata

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

Three people have been arrested in connection with the alleged assault on a chicken patty seller who was “humiliated” for selling non-vegetarian food during the Gita Path event at Kolkata’s Brigade Parade Ground. Police said that after the video went viral, the accused were identified from the footage and arrested based on two complaints filed at Maidan police station. The ‘Paanch Lokkho Konthe Gita Paath’ (Gita recitation by five lakh voices) event, organised by Sanatan Sanskriti Sansad, was taking place on December 7 when the alleged incident happened. The victim is a resident of Arambagh in Hooghly district. “Those arrested have been identified as Soumik Golder (23), Swarnendu Chakraborty (32) and Tarun Bhattacharya (51). They were arrested this morning,” said an official on Thursday. Police said the three have been booked on charges of voluntarily causing hurt, mischief, unlawful assembly and deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class. Soumik Golder is the main accused who had allegedly asked the vendor his name and forced him to hold his ears. All three will be produced in court on Thursday.

The vendor, Sheikh Riajul, has been selling patties in Kolkata for the last 23 years. The viral purported video showed Riajul surrounded by people attending the event. Some of them asked who had allowed him to sell chicken during the Gita Path. The victim is seen being asked his name, made to do sit-ups holding his ears, and beaten. The vendor was seen requesting the crowd to let him leave while the mob continued abusing and assaulting him. They later threw away all the patties he was carrying. “They asked me my name,” Riajul said. “As soon as I told them Sheikh, they started hitting me. They told me to squat. Threw my food... For the last 23 years I have been doing this, I never saw Kolkata in this way.”



The incident triggered a political debate, with the TMC and other Opposition parties accusing the BJP of trying to impose a “mob-lynching culture” and dictate the food habits of Bengali residents. On Thursday, CM Mamata Banerjee raised the issue from a rally in Nadia. She said, “A hawker went to sell his items. This is seen in all meetings. It maybe didn’t cross his mind that ‘I will sell this, I won’t sell that’. They caught him and beat him. I got all of them arrested. This is Bengal, not Uttar Pradesh.” Addressing the people present, she said, “Will you vote for the BJP? They don’t allow people to eat fish and meat. They impose vegetarianism.” Kunal Ghosh, TMC state general secretary and spokesperson, strongly condemned the alleged assault. “Don’t buy it if you don’t eat non-vegetarian food. But why beat up the seller?” he said. “They earn money by selling various things there. I condemn this incident.” Meanwhile, the BJP questioned the vendor’s intention behind selling non-vegetarian food near a religious gathering. BJP leader Debjit Sarkar said, “Can Gita Path be done after eating chicken patties? During Gita Path, if a man is entering with chicken patties, it shows how reluctant they are.”

In 30 months, Siddaramaiah booked an aircraft for travel every 5 days; Rs 47.38 crore spent



GNS News Agency, Dec 12

Siddaramaiah, in a written response to the unstarred question, noted that payments for the use of 48 aircraft/helicopter was made in the 2023-24 fiscal. The cost incurred for the flights was 12.23 crore. Siddaramaiah, in a written response to the unstarred question, noted that payments for the use of 48 aircraft/helicopter was made in the 2023-24 fiscal. The cost incurred for the flights was 12.23 crore. (File Photo) In his two-and-a-half-year tenure as the Karnataka Chief Minister, Siddaramaiah hired a helicopter or an aircraft every five days to travel with his Cabinet colleagues to various parts of the state or to New Delhi. According to data shared in response to a question in the Legislative Council, aircraft or helicopters were booked 181 times for Siddaramaiah’s travel.

Data shows that the total expense incurred for these flights was Rs 47.38 crore, starting from May 26, 2023, days after Siddaramaiah became CM, until November 11, 2025. The details were provided in response to a question by BJP MLC N Ravikumar. Siddaramaiah, in a written response to

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TIME magazine names 'Architects of AI' as its person of year for 2025



GNS News Agency, Dec 12

The “Architects of AI” were named TIME magazine’s person of the year for 2025 on Thursday (December 11, 2025).The magazine cited 2025 as the year when the potential of artificial intelligence “roared into view” with no turning back. “For delivering the age of thinking machines, for wowing and worrying humanity, for transforming the present and transcending the possible, the Architects of AI are TIME’s 2025 Person of the Year,” TIME said in a social media post.Artificial Intelligence: A history of the present

The magazine was deliberate in selecting people — the “individuals who imagined, designed, and built AI” — rather than the technology itself, though there would have

Defence experts term Russia India’s most reliable military partner

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

Defence experts have reaffirmed Russia’s position as India’s most dependable defence partner, highlighting Moscow’s consistent support, willingness for technology transfer, and openness to co-production.Thomas Mathew, retired IAS officer who has served in the Ministries of Defence and Finance, described Russia as an “unquestioning and reliable” defence supplier. He said Russia’s S-400 air defence system proved to be a game-changer during recent conflict situations with Pakistan, and the offer of the S-500 — though expected to take time — marked another major opportunity for India.Experts noted that additional S-400 missile systems would significantly bolster India’s air defence capabilities, while discussions on the advanced S-500 system signal the next phase of strategic cooperation.

“Russia has never withheld technology, never questioned India’s decisions, and never linked military support to conditions,” he noted. “If any country has consistently supported India’s defence modernisation, it is Russia. Their readiness for technology transfer is unmatched and crucial for strengthening the ‘Make in India’ initiative. India has already seen technological evolution through joint projects like BrahMos.”In June this year, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held a comprehensive bilateral meeting with Russian Defence Minister Andrey Belousov in Qingdao, China, where a discussion was held over the timely delivery of S-400 air defence system to India, to which the Russian leader confirmed it of timely delivery.An initial order of five S-400s was placed by India and three had been delivered. The remaining two S-400 units were on track, with deliveries expected to be completed in the stipulated time frame, he announced. Out of the remaining two, one would be delivered next year 2026 and the last one in 2027.

'Very positive': Italian Deputy PM Tajani on meeting with PM Modi



GNS News Agency, Dec 12

Italian Deputy Prime Minister Antonio Tajani on Wednesday (December 10, 2025) described his meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi as “very positive”, highlighting the strong bilateral relations between India and Italy.Also Read | India, Italy announce joint initiative for co-op in combating financing of terrorism as PM Modi meets MeloniMr. Tajani, who is also the Foreign Minister, is on a three-day visit to India.

Speaking to PTI Videos after the meeting with Mr. Modi on Wednesday (December 10) evening, Mr. Tajani said the situation in West Asia is much better now and expressed optimism over the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) project.During the meeting, the two leaders

Nigerian children reunite with their parents after being released from abduction

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

Papiri: Several parents welcomed the return late Tuesday night of their children, who were abducted last month when gunmen stormed their school.“It has not been easy for me... But today, in fact, I have a little bit of joy, especially because there is still one abducted. But I am now happy with this one that I have gotten,” Luka Illaya, one of the parents in the hall, said.

One of his sons was released, while another remains with the abductors.His son, who hugged him tightly, is one of the 100 students released over the weekend after they were abducted from a Nigerian Catholic school on Nov. 21.The Papiri school abductions, where more than 300 students and staff were taken, was the latest in a string of mass abductions that have rocked Nigeria in the past decade. Days earlier, 25 students were also abducted in nearby Kebbi state.The government did not release any details about the released Papiri students and the fate of at least 150 other children and staff who remain in captivity.Fifty of the students escaped in the hours following the

been some precedent for that. “We’ve named not just individuals but also groups, more women than our founders could have imagined (though still not enough), and, on rare occasions, a concept: the endangered earth, in 1988, or the personal computer, in 1982,” wrote Sam Jacobs, the editor-in-chief, in an explanation of the choice.“The drama surrounding the selection of the PC over Apple’s Steve Jobs later became the stuff of books and a movie.” It made sense for Time to anoint AI because 2025 was the year that it shifted from “a novel technology explored by early adopters to one where a critical mass of consumers see it as part of their mainstream lives,” Thomas Husson, principal analyst at research firm Forrester, said by email.AI was a leading contender for the top slot, according to prediction markets, along with tech CEOs Jensen Huang of Nvidia and Sam Altman of OpenAI.Pope Leo XIV, the first American pope whose election this year followed the death of Pope Francis, was also considered a contender, with President Donald Trump, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and New York Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani topping lists as well.Mr. Trump was named the 2024 person of the year by the magazine after his winning his second bid for the White House, succeeding Taylor Swift, who was the 2023 person of the year.The magazine’s selection dates from 1927, when its editors have picked the person they say most shaped headlines over the previous 12 months.



Air Vice Marshal Anil Golani (retired), Director General, Centre for Air Power Studies, emphasised that India-Russia defence ties had transformed from a buyer–seller model to co-production and technology sharing. While no major deal was signed during the recent leadership-level talks, he noted that both sides agreed to explore new avenues for joint development.He added that after the S-400, India would naturally evaluate the S-500 system when it became available. “The India-Russia partnership is here to stay. It sends a clear message that India chooses its partners based on national interest — not external pressure.”Experts also pointed out Russia’s enduring military strength and economic resilience despite sanctions, asserting that Moscow remained the only nation capable of offering India the scale of technology transfer it seeks.Although no major defence announcement was expected during the bilateral summit between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Prime Minister Narendra Modi held recently, experts underlined that several agreements in other sectors reflect the continued depth of the strategic partnership.

discussed deepening industrial collaboration and cultural exchanges while underlining India’s key role in facilitating dialogue between Russia and Ukraine to achieve a peaceful resolution."India is very important for pushing Russia towards achieving an agreement with Ukraine," Mr. Tajani said.The Italian deputy PM also extended a formal invitation to Modi on behalf of Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni to visit Italy next year. "In 2026, he (PM Modi) will be in my country, in Italy," Mr. Tajani said.A significant part of the discussions focused on the IMEC, a strategic initiative that envisages connectivity from India through the Middle East (including Israel and Saudi Arabia) to Europe via Italy.

When asked about IMEC project delays, Tajani said the situation in the Middle East has improved considerably."...We need a ceasefire now. The situation is much better for this now," he said, adding that both India and Italy remain strongly committed to the project."We will start early. We need to work hard with the other countries. India and Italy are strongly engaged. Now the situation in the Middle East is much better, so it is possible to move in the right direction. I am optimistic. Italy and India are on the front line," the Italian deputy PM said.Mr. Tajani also revealed that he had discussed IMEC during his recent visit to Saudi Arabia two weeks ago, indicating active diplomatic efforts to push the corridor forward.The IMEC, announced during the G20 Summit in New Delhi in 2023, is aimed at enhancing trade connectivity between Asia, the Gulf and Europe.

abductions.“We thank all the security agencies that helped in the rescue of our children. We are pleading that God should give them more strength to be able to rescue the remaining children,” Reverend Sister Felicia Gyang, the principal of the school, said.

No group has claimed responsibility for the abductions. Analysts say school children are a target for armed groups seeking a high ransom from the government and communities. Such abductions have often commanded national and international attention, with the pope last month calling for the release of the Papiri students in a Sunday address from the Vatican.Since 2014, when Boko Haram kidnapped 276 girls from Chibok, there have been at least a dozen mass school abductions with at least 1,799 students kidnapped, according to a tally.Nigerian President Bola Tinubu on X earlier this week called on security agencies and governors to do more to protect children from falling into the hands of abductors, saying students “should no longer be sitting ducks.”

The national song debate, a reading between the lines



Much before the celebrations of the 150th year of the national song, Vande Mataram, on November 7, 2025, one of India’s leading music directors composed a song woven around the Vande Mataram tune (the album, Maa Tuihe Salaam). It was a song that was immensely popular. So, why the sudden focus on Vande Mataram and a debate in Parliament which saw accusations that words of the original song were muted to appease certain sections, and that all this amounted to a betrayal by the Congress?

The so-called ‘mutilation’ of the song — a line being peddled by the government of the day — was part of an official resolution of the Congress Party’s Working Committee (CWC) meeting in Calcutta on October 30, 1937. The CWC meeting had Jawaharlal Nehru chairing the session and almost all the big stalwarts which included Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Rajendra Prasad, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Bhulabhai Desai, Jammnalal Bajaj, Acharya J.B. Kripalani (General Secretary), Pattabi Seetharamiah, Rajaji, Acharya Narendra Dev, Jayaprakash Narayan, and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in attendance.

The sense of the meetingThough Mahatma Gandhi was not a member of the CWC, he was a special invitee and was finalising the working of the resolution which was moved by Rajendra Prasad (later, the President of India) and seconded by Sardar Patel (the Home Minister in independent India). The resolution was unanimous: “The Working Committee have given careful consideration to the question that has been raised in regard to the Congress anthem ‘Vande Mataram’. This song has a historic background and has evoked deep enthusiasm and powerful sentiment in the course of our struggle for freedom. It has thus acquired a unique place in the national movement. The Committee recognize the validity of the objections raised by Muslim friends to certain parts of the song. While the Committee have taken note of such objections in so far as it has felt justified in doing so, it is unable to go any further in the matter. The Committee have, however, came to the conclusion that the first two stanzas of the song, which alone have been generally sung on Congress and other public occasions, should be the only stanzas adopted as the National Song for the purpose of the Congress and other public bodies and functions. These two stanzas are in no sense objectionable even from the standpoint of those who have raised objections, and they contain the essence of the song. The Committee recommend that wherever the ‘Vande Mataram’ song is sung at national gatherings, only these two stanzas should be sung, and the version and music prepared by Rabindranath Tagore should be followed. The Committee trust that this decision will remove all causes of complaint and will have the willing acceptance of all communities in the country.”Prime Minister Narendra Modi has indirectly targeted this resolution of the CWC in which even Sardar Patel was a part of. But has the Prime Minister realised that he has attacked a spectrum of national leaders, whose remarks on the song are being used selectively to try and score points?What was the purpose of debating this in Parliament? Was it to have a debate on the issue for the second time much after the one in the Constituent Assembly which sealed the issue? Composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, Vande Mataram was first published in the literary journal, Bangadarshan, in 1875 and was sung at the 1896 session of the Congress by Tagore. All these exercises took place much before the partition of Bengal.

There is no doubt that the song became the spirit of all meetings of the national movement which also had substantial representation by Muslims also. It was in 1935, when the Government of India Act was enacted, that Indians got a chance to participate in the electoral exercise to get into Provincial Assemblies and the Central Legislative Assembly. The issue of participation in the elections held in 1937 had inner party repercussions. The Congress captured the Provincial Assemblies. Some were won by the Muslim League.When the Congress entered the portals of power, it also had the duty to ensure a diverse culture and have Vande Mataram sung at government functions. The Calcutta session became the focal point to decide to have the edited version so that it would have a pan-India appeal. The song

Debate on Vande Mataram an attempt to divert attention from economic issues: Opposition

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

The Opposition on Tuesday (December 9, 2025) demanded that the Union Government take up for discussion in Parliament economic and livelihood issues rather than dwelling on topics to “divert” the attention of people from real issues.“When there are economic challenges in front of the country, then to have a political discussion on the national song Vande Mataram is just an attempt to divert attention,” said Opposition leader in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, during a debate on 150 years of the National Song.Mr. Kharge said Parliament can pay true homage to Bharat Mata by discussing and resolving the issues of common people. He alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was discussing Vande Mataram, keeping the West Bengal election in mind. Mr. Kharge said the discussion on Vande Mataram was to divert the people’s attention from the real challenges, such as economic issues, rising unemployment, and depreciation in the value of the rupee, and several social issues.

He said the country’s influence on neighbouring countries is decreasing and China’s influence is increasing. “Nepal is demanding investment from China. Bangladesh, with China and Pakistan, is participating in trilateral meetings. Beijing is openly pulling South Asia towards itself under its strategic plan,” he said. The Congress chief alleged that the Prime Minister does not say a word against China.Mr. Kharge said that during the tenure of the United Progressive Alliance, the rupee was valued at ₹55-60 against the U.S. dollar and at present it is at ₹90. “It’s just like someone has ‘fallen from the Himalayas”,” he said.

He said it had become a habit of the BJP to abuse the Congress and to target Jawaharlal Nehru and spoil his image, “which is impossible as he is the tallest leader of this country”.“Stop spreading lies and slamming national leaders to cover up your own failures. Learn to respect the lead-

obviously had references to Hindu goddesses, but if one wanted to ensure the broader unity of religious groups, a basic understanding on its theme was essential. It was this pragmatic decision which made them contest elections in alliance and continue in the government for the next two years. In 1939, the Congress ministries resigned in eight provinces of British India.

Later, when the Constituent Assembly was convened and the interim parliament was doubling as the Constituent Assembly in 1947, it had 208 Congress members, 73 Muslim League members, and 15 others. It also had 93 members nominated from the princely States, giving it a total of 389 members. After Partition, and the departure of the Muslim League members from the Constituent Assembly, there were only 299 members — a majority of them from the Hindu fold. It will not be out of place to state that the entry of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was possible when he was elected from Bengal Assembly by the Muslim League-dominated Assembly. After Partition, he could not continue and it was Nehru who made the decision to make the Bombay Governor nominate Dr. Ambedkar to the Assembly.

Making a choiceThe Constituent Assembly also had ideas of having a national anthem for the country. Members were made to listen to three important songs that were in contention — Vande Mataram, Sare Jahan Se Achha and Jana Gana Mana. Though secular in its meaning and set to a marching tune, Sare Jahan Se Achha was not picked as the lyricist, Allama Muhammad Iqbal, had become an ardent Pakistan supporter. Even after the final draft of the Constitution was adopted in 1949 in the House headed by Dr. Rajendra Prasad and two days before the coming into force of the Constitution, in 1950, Vande Mataram was sung in the House by a group.However, Members were in favour of Jana Gana Mana, passing a resolution that it would be the National Song. The Constitution, which has 395 Articles, never referred to any national song as part of the constitutional framework. It was only in 1976, by the 42nd amendment, under Mrs. Gandhi’s tenure, that a provision was introduced for a fundamental duty under Article 51A (which also had a clause obligating every citizen to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideas and institutions, the National Flag, and the National Anthem).It was later, under the Prevention Of Insults To National Honour Act, 1971, that disrespect to the National Anthem was made a penal offence. The Supreme Court of India, in Bijoe Emmanuel vs State of Kerala, upheld the constitutional rights to freedom of religion and expression provided that actions do not disrupt public order or show disrespect to national symbols.Despite being a Hindu majority, the Constituent Assembly selected Jana Gana Mana as the national anthem and was of the opinion that Vande Mataram would be the national song under its adopted version. It is against this background that one has to view the sudden ebullition over Vande Mataram with the request made by those in the ruling party to Members of Parliament to consider whether they should add a new fundamental duty under Article 51A, to accord the same respect to Vande Mataram as Jana Gana Mana.

In 2017, Justice M.V. Muralidharan of the Madras High Court gave a direction to the Tamil Nadu School Education Department that schools must sing Vande Mataram at least once a week, and crooned in offices once a month. Noting that the song could also be played in other government and private establishments at least once in a month, the judge said that if people felt that it was too difficult to sing it in Bengali or in Sanskrit, steps could be taken to translate the song into Tamil.The Delhi High Court asked the Government of India to treat Vande Mataram on a par with the National Anthem. What is curious is that it was the same Narendra Modi government that told the court that both the National Anthem and the National Song had their sanctity and deserve equal respect. However, it said that the subject matter of the proceedings could never be a subject matter of a writ. The Modi government defended its position in court against granting equal legal status to the National Song as the National Anthem by citing the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971, which specifically criminalises disrupting the anthem but lacks a parallel provision for the National Song, highlighting the legal distinction.The new controversy being sought to be created now over the National Song, 75 years after it was settled down by the Constituent Assembly, makes one doubt the intentions of the present government. Is there an agenda to replace the National Song by a simple resolution of Parliament akin to the similar exercise done to cancel the special status of Jammu and Kashmir?The amount of importance and publicity being given now to a non-issue certainly makes one to believe that it could be the next move of the Narendra Modi government — which is to bring in a different National Anthem for the country without disturbing the Constitution of India and any law to the contrary.



ers who built the Constitution and the leaders who sacrificed everything for our country’s independence,” he said.

DMK MP Tiruchi Siva said the government should also acknowledge the contributions of freedom fighters from South India. He urged the Centre to dedicate the next warship to the memory of freedom fighter Champakaraman Pillai. Mr. Siva said Pillai coined the slogan Jai Hind, which was later popularised by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, and the new generation does not know about the contributions of such unsung heroes of the freedom struggle.RJD member A.D. Singh said Vande Mataram was not created by the BJP. CPI(M) MP V. Sivadasan said the national song talks about Bharat Mata, who is a poor woman, struggling to feed millions of her children.AAP leader Sanjay Singh said the BJP was not giving respect to the motherland as it was trying to hide its failures in the garb of nationalism. “The government is just trying to hide its failures and crimes behind the sloganeering,” he said. “We will not allow any government in this country to plunder in the name of slogans like Vande Mataram and Bharat Mata ki Jai. The government does not want to discuss matters like unemployment, price rise,” he said.

Hungarian 'Master of the apocalypse' Krasznahorkai wins 2025 Nobel Prize in Literature

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

won the 2025 Nobel Prize in Literature on Thursday "for his compelling and visionary oeuvre that, in the midst of apocalyptic terror, reaffirms the power of art".Laszlo Krasznahorkai is a great epic writer in the Central European tradition that extends through Kafka to Thomas Bernhard, and is characterised by absurdism and grotesque excess," the Swedish Academy, which awards the prize, said in a statement.Read about innovative ideas and the people working on solutions to global crises with the Reuters Beacon newsletter. Sign up here."But there are more strings to his bow, and he also looks to the East in adopting a more contemplative, finely calibrated tone."TRAVELS TO CHINA AND JAPAN LEFT DEEP IMPRESSION

The settings of his novels move across central Europe's remote villages and towns, from Hungary to Germany, before skipping to the Far East, where his travels to China and Japan left deep-seated impressions on Krasznahorkai.The American critic Susan Sontag crowned Krasznahorkai contemporary literature's "master of the apocalypse", the Academy said, "a judgement she arrived at after having read the author's second book Melancholy of Resistance".The second Hungarian to win the prize, worth 11 million Swedish crowns (\$1.2 million), after Imre Kertesz in 2002, Krasznahorkai was born in the small town of Gyula in southeast Hungary, near the Romanian border.

His breakthrough 1985 novel, Satantango, is set in a similarly remote rural area and became a literary sensation in Hungary."The novel portrays, in powerfully suggestive terms, a destitute group of residents on an abandoned collective farm in the Hungarian countryside just before the fall of communism," the Academy said.Across the region, collective farms had been set up when farming land was confiscated at the start of communist rule, and many had become symbols of mismanagement and poverty by the time it ended in 1989."Everyone in the novel is waiting for a miracle to happen, a hope that is from the very outset punctured by the book's introductory (Franz) Kafka motto: 'In that case, I'll miss the thing by waiting for it'," the Academy said.Krasznahorkai has repeatedly referenced "The Castle" by Kafka as a key influence."When I am not reading Kafka, I am thinking about Kafka. When I am not thinking about Kafka, I miss thinking about him," he told the White Review in 2013.CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED SCREEN ADAPTATIONS

Krasznahorkai had a close creative partnership with Hungarian filmmaker Bela Tarr. Several of his works have been adapted into films by Tarr, including "Satantango", which runs to more than seven hours, and "The Werckmeister Harmonies". "When I read (Satantango), I knew it immediately that I must make a film based on it," Tarr told Reuters by phone. "I am very happy... it's hard to say anything right now."Their collaboration has garnered



critical acclaim. In 1993, he received the German Bestenliste Prize for the best literary work of the year for "The Melancholy of Resistance".Krasznahorkai's writing may resonate with readers immersed in news from Russia's war in Ukraine or the Palestinian-Israeli conflict."We seem to have entered the 21st century in a more hostile and bleak environment than we hoped for at the end of the 20th," said Jason Whittaker, Professor of Communications at the University of Lincoln."So actually ... some of the bleak and darkly comic elements of books such as Satantango actually will resonate with many more readers than previously."Established in the will of Swedish dynamite inventor and businessman Alfred Nobel, the prizes for achievements in literature, science and peace have been awarded since 1901.Past winners of the prize include French poet and essayist Sully Prudhomme, who bagged the first award, American novelist and short story writer William Faulkner in 1949, Britain's World War Two Prime Minister Winston Churchill in 1953, Turkey's Orhan Pamuk in 2006 and Norway's Jon Fosse in 2023.Last year's prize was won by South Korean author Han Kang who became the 18th woman - the first was Swedish author Selma Lagerlof in 1909 - and the first South Korean to receive the award.Over the years, the choices made by the Swedish Academy have drawn as much ire as applause.

In 2016, the award to American singer-songwriter Bob Dylan sparked criticism that his work was not proper literature, while Austrian Peter Handke's prize also drew criticism in 2019.Handke had attended the funeral in 2006 of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, seen by many as responsible for the deaths of thousands of ethnic Albanians who were killed in Kosovo and the displacement of almost 1 million others during a brutal war waged by forces under his control in 1998-99.Prizegivers have also in the past been accused of ignoring some of the giants of literature, including Russia's Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, France's Emile Zola and Ireland's James Joyce.

Pope Leo invokes criticism of Trump's policies in first major document



VATICAN CITY,GNS News Agency, Dec 12 -Pope Leo made an urgent plea for the world to help immigrants in his first major document, which was released on Thursday and invoked one of the late Pope Francis' strongest criticisms of U.S. President Donald Trump's anti-immigration policies.Leo's document, known as an apostolic exhortation, is focused on the needs of the world's poor. It calls for widespread changes to the global market system to address rising inequality and to help people living paycheck-to-paycheck.The Reuters Daily Briefing newsletter provides all the news you need to start your day. Sign up here.

The 104-page text started as a writing project by Francis, who was unable to complete it before his death in April after 12 years leading the global Church of 1.4 billion people. It was finished by Leo, the first U.S. pope."I am happy to make this document my own – adding some reflections – and to issue it at the beginning of my own pontificate," Leo writes at the beginning of the text.Cardinal Michael Czerny, a senior adviser to both Francis and Leo,

said that while the new document was started by the late pope it represents Leo's positions."This is Pope Leo's document," Czerny told a Vatican press conference.Elected in May to replace Francis, Leo has shown a much more reserved style than his predecessor, who frequently criticised the Trump administration.But Leo has been ramping up his disapproval in recent weeks, drawing heated backlash from some prominent conservative Catholics."The Church, like a mother, accompanies those who are walking," the pontiff writes in the document, titled "Dilexi te" (I have loved you). "She knows that in every rejected migrant, it is Christ himself who knocks at the door of the community.""Where the world sees threats, (the Church) sees children; where walls are built, she builds bridges," Leo says, referencing Francis' 2016 criticism of Trump as "not Christian" because of the president's plan in his first term to build a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border.The White House has said Trump was elected based on his many promises, including to deport "criminal illegal aliens".

The number of people living in poverty "should constantly weigh upon our consciences", the document said."There is no shortage of theories attempting to justify the present state of affairs or to explain that economic thinking requires us to wait for invisible market forces to resolve everything," it said."The poor are promised only a few 'drops' that trickle down, until the next global crisis brings things back to where they were."The document signals that Leo shares some of the same priorities of Francis, who shunned many of the trappings of the papacy and frequently criticised the global market system as not caring for society's most vulnerable people."The illusion of happiness derived from a comfortable life pushes many people towards a vision of life centered on the accumulation of wealth and social success at all costs, even at the expense of others," the text says.

Israel, Hamas agree to ‘first phase’ of plan to end fighting, release hostages, Trump says

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

Israel and Hamas have agreed to the "first phase" of his peace plan to pause fighting and release at least some hostages and prisoners, U.S. President Donald Trump said on Wednesday (October 8, 2025) in announcing the outlines of the biggest breakthrough in months in the two-year-old war."This means that ALL of the Hostages will be released very soon, and Israel will withdraw their Troops to an agreed upon line as the first steps toward a Strong, Durable, and Everlasting Peace," Mr. Trump wrote on social media.Earlier on Wednesday (October 8), Mr. Trump said that he might travel this weekend to Egypt, where his envoys were in talks to try to seal the ceasefire and hostage-release agreement. "All Parties will be treated fairly!" Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on social media, "With God's help we will bring them all home."Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Trump spoke about the 'historic achievement' of reaching the deal, Israeli leader's office said.Benjamin Netanyahu said he would convene the government on Thursday (October 9) to approve the Gaza ceasefire agreement aimed at bringing home all the Israeli hostages.Palestinians follow the news on a television after the announcement that Israel and Hamas have agreed to the first phase of a peace plan to pause fighting, as they sit in a tent outside Al-Aqsa Hospital, in Deir al-Balah, in the central Gaza Strip, .Pales-

tinians follow the news on a television after the announcement that Israel and Hamas have agreed to the first phase of a peace plan to pause fighting, as they sit in a tent outside Al-Aqsa Hospital, in Deir al-Balah, in the central Gaza Strip, on Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025. | Photo Credit: AP"A great day for Israel," Mr. Netanyahu added in a statement following U.S. President Donald Trump's announcement that a deal had been reached between Israel and Hamas to end the two-year war in Gaza.

The Israeli military said that Chief of Staff Eyal Zamir instructed forces to prepare strong defenses and be ready for any scenario and to prepare to lead the operation for the hostages' return with sensitivity and professionalism, following the announcement of the Gaza ceasefire agreement. Hamas to release all living hostagesHamas said separately that the deal would ensure the withdrawal of Israeli troops as well as allow for the entry of aid and exchange of hostages and prisoners. Hamas called on Mr. Trump and guarantor states to ensure Israel fully implements the ceasefire, it added in a statement.Hamas plans to release all 20 living hostages this weekend, people familiar with the matter told The Associated Press, while the Israeli military will begin a withdrawal from the majority of Gaza. "We salute our great people in the Gaza Strip, in Jerusalem and the West Bank,

China honing abilities for a possible future attack, Taiwan defence report warns

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

TAIPEI, Oct 9 (Reuters) - China is increasing military activities near Taiwan and honing its ability to stage a surprise attack, as well as seeking to undermine trust in the government with "hybrid" online warfare tactics, the island's defence ministry said on Thursday.Democratically-governed Taiwan, which China views as its own territory, has faced increased military pressure from Beijing over the past five years, including at least seven rounds of major war games around the island since 2022.The Reuters Daily Briefing newsletter provides all the news you need to start your day. Sign up here.

"The Chinese communists have adopted routine grey zone harassment tactics, combined with joint combat readiness patrols, targeted military exercises and cognitive warfare, posing a comprehensive threat to us," the defence ministry said in a report released every two years.Grey zone refers to non-combat operations designed to put pressure on Taiwan such as coast guard patrols, damage to under-sea cables and flying balloons.China's coast guard is expanding its activities around Taiwan and may in future take "aggressive containment measures" in concert with the military while rehearsing attack scenarios, the report said.Beijing is also using "hybrid warfare" to weaken people's trust in the government and support for defence spending, and using artificial intelligence tools to weaken Taiwan's cybersecurity and to scan for weak points in critical infrastructure, it added."Through both conventional and unconventional military actions, it aims to test its capabilities for attacking Taiwan and confronting foreign forces," the ministry said.

China's defence ministry did not respond to a request for comment. China has never renounced the use of force to bring Taiwan under its control.A China Coast Guard vessel is seen on a giant screen showing news footage about the coast guard's law enforcement patrols in waters around Taiwan, outside a shopping mall in Beijing, China, April 1, 2025. REUTERS/Florence Lo Purchase Licensing Rights, opens new tabChina could also try to suddenly shift drills into active combat mode to catch Taiwan and its international supporters off guard, posing a significant threat to re-



gional peace and security, Taiwan's ministry added.In recent years, China has been extensively using civilian roll-on/roll-off merchant vessels for military transport operations and continues to develop specialised equipment for beach landing operations, the ministry said.The report said China is using a "professional cyber army" to manipulate social media accounts and flood them with misinformation to sow division in Taiwanese society and weaken trust in the government.

Chinese state media outlets and collaborators have also worked to weaken the will to fight, it said.The ministry added China has also been using deepfake technology to make videos and utilising AI to "generate polarising political rhetoric".China considers Taiwan President Lai Ching-te a "separatist". Lai rejects Beijing's sovereignty claims, saying only the island's people can decide their future.Taiwan's government has embarked on a military modernisation programme and pledged to spend 5% of GDP on defence by 2030.The report was released one day before Lai gives his key national day speech. China last year held war games after that same event in what it said was a warning to "separatist acts".China's last formal war games around Taiwan took place in April, though its warplanes and warships operate almost daily in the skies and waters close to the island.

EU's von der Leyen survives no-confidence votes in parliament



GNS News Agency, Dec 12

EU lawmakers rejected the two motions of censure with 378 members of the 720-strong parliament expressing support for von der Leyen in the first vote and 383 in the second.The Reuters Daily Briefing newsletter provides all the news you need to start your day. Sign up here.

Von der Leyen said in a post on X that she deeply appreciated the support and that her team of commissioners would work closely with the parliament to tackle

Europe's challenges.The results were slightly better for the EU executive chief than in July, when 360 lawmakers voted against a motion brought by mainly far-right lawmakers, although below the 401 votes for von der Leyen's re-election for a second term in July 2024.Although the motions of censure had almost no chance of reaching the two-thirds majority required to unseat von der Leyen, some lawmakers said they could expose more general disquiet over her leadership and destabilise the EU assembly, whose backing is required to pass legislation.Parties outside the mainstream have realised that previously seldom-used censure motions are easy to trigger after the 2024 elections swelled the far right to more than 100 lawmakers,

with only 72 required to back one.Both censure motions criticised von der Leyen for accepting an unbalanced tariff deal with the United States and proposing a trade agreement with South American bloc Mercosur, which critics say threatens farmers and the environment.The U.S. and Mercosur deals will be put to votes in the European Parliament in the coming months, with the outcomes unclear.

India-China flights to resume after five years from October 26



GNS News Agency, Dec 12

The Centre on Thursday (October 2, 2025) gave the green signal to resume direct flights between India and China after a gap of five years, with IndiGo's flights from Kolkata to the trading hub of Guangzhou set for take-off from October 26."It has now been agreed that direct air services connecting designated points in India and China can resume by late October 2025, in keeping with the winter season schedule," a statement from the Ministry of External Affairs said, adding that the move will "further facilitate people-to-people contact between India and China, contributing towards the gradual normalisation of bilateral exchanges."The statement was followed by IndiGo announcing daily flights between Guangzhou and Kolkata, adding that the trading city would be connected with New Delhi soon, "subject to regulatory approvals". Tickets for flights between Kolkata and Guangzhou will open for sale from Friday (October 3). Industry sources said Air India too expects to start flights to Shanghai "before the end of the year".In July, the Indian government had announced resumption of tourist visas to Chinese nationals.

Direct flights between India and China have been suspended since March 2020, when India halted all international travel amid the Covid-19 pandemic. While restrictions eased gradually for many countries, flights to China remained suspended due to heightened tensions along the Line of Actual Control.IndiGo's flights start on the first day of the winter schedule that begins on the last Sunday of October. The annual aviation timetable is divided into summer and winter schedules and allows airlines to plan and adjust flights. Summer schedule starts from the last Sunday in March.

On the resumption of flights by Chinese carriers such as Air China, China Eastern Airlines, China Southern Airlines, and Shandong Airlines, sources said there has been a delay in submission of their applications to the government. Air China is learnt to have sought permission to connect Beijing with Delhi and later Mumbai, said one industry veteran.Though all international flights were banned on March 22, 2020, as part of lockdown measures to curb the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, international flights gradu-

ally resumed from the first week of May 2020 through special air bubble arrangements until March 2022, when normal commercial international flights were once again permitted. But direct flights between India and China did not restart because of tensions in the relationship between the two countries following the Galwan Valley clash of June 2020.The disruption had especially impacted small traders. For over five years, travellers needing to move between India and China relied on connecting flights via third-country hubs such as Hong Kong and Singapore, resulting in increased travel time and costs.

The tourism industry welcomed the government's decision. "China is one of the world's largest sources for outbound tourism and has a significant contribution to inbound tourism for India. Resumption of air links between the two countries is welcome, especially as India hasn't yet reached pre-COVID levels of inbound tourists, which used to be at 11.5 million and today lags behind at 9.5 million," said founder-chairman of STIC Travel Group of Companies, Subhash Goyal.

Canadian PM Carney visits Trump as relations between them remain at a low point

Washington: Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney will meet with President Donald Trump in the Oval Office on Tuesday at a time when one of the world's most durable and amicable alliances has been fractured by Trump's trade war and annexation threats.

Carney's second visit to the White House comes ahead of a review next year of the free trade agreement, which is critical to Canada's economy. More than 77 per cent of Canada's exports go to the US.Trump's talk of making Canada the 51st state and his tariffs have Canadians feeling an undeniable sense of betrayal. Relations with Canada's southern neighbour and longtime ally haven't been worse."We've had ups and downs, but this is the lowest point in relations that I can recall," said Frank McKenna, a former Canadian ambassador to the United States and current deputy chairman of TD Bank."Canadians aren't being instructed what to do; they are simply voting with their feet," he said. "I talk every day to ordinary citizens who are changing their vacation plans, and I talk to large business owners who are moving reward trips away or executive business trips. There is an outright rebellion." There is fear in Canada over what will happen to the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Carney is looking to get some relief on some sector-specific tariffs, but expectations are low.

What do forensic experts do after blasts? | Explained



The story so far: On November 10, New Delhi witnessed a massive explosion near the Red Fort complex. An i20 car parked at the signal of the complex exploded, destroying several nearby cars, buses, and the people inside them. As of now, 13 people have been confirmed dead.

What do forensic experts do?

Experts of the Explosives Department of the Delhi Forensic Laboratory visited the scene within half an hour along with police personnel. The primary job of forensic experts in such situations is to observe and analyse the cause from a scientific perspective. They collect necessary samples and arrange for quick laboratory tests so that the cause of the accident can be found, or the identities of the people involved in the crime can be verified in a science-based manner. It is worth noting that various media houses often report that forensic members collect samples from the site, which is partly accurate; the site does provide a wealth of information for any skilled forensic expert. However, an explosion is different from other crimes; here everything is shattered in an instant. Explosions generate intense pressure and heat, causing everything at the scene to burn to ashes, thereby complicating the work of experts. Despite the challenges, they persist in their efforts. Locard's principle states that a criminal will leave something at the scene and bring something when he arrives; both are equally important as evidence in forensics. Thus, there must be a sample linking the suspect to the scene, from which it could be possible to guess the intensity of the explosion, the source, and what kind of explosives were used.

Photographers are also present and take pictures of the site from different angles, and experts make a sketch of it, which serve as a guideline for various stages of analysis. Along with this, various burnt pieces (which experts call debris), broken parts of the car, carbon powder, etc. are collected from the scene. These samples are then analysed by explosives experts in the laboratory using spectroscopic and chromatographic techniques to determine the

Exploited workers, a labour policy's empty promises



In July, while probing instances of forced labour in the seafood industry on India's eastern coast, this writer met hundreds of women driven to desperation, peeling fish heads on cold tables without gloves, all for meagre wages as farming failed their families. Promised Employees' State Insurance (ESI) and Provident Fund benefits at the time of recruitment, they were reclassified as "daily wagers" a month before my visit. There was a modest wage hike, but they lost both benefits as the company stopped contributions. Vulnerable, they toil long hours —trapped in exploitation that has come to define forced labour — exposing the fragility of their legal safeguards in India's labour landscape. Against this grim backdrop — where 11 million people endure modern slavery in India, the world's highest — the Bharatiya Janata Party-led government unveiled the draft Shram Shakti Niti 2025, which is claimed to be a "future-ready" policy cloaked in "ancient Indian ethos" from texts such as Manusmriti, but is blind to the brutal realities that workers face. A case of 'employer ease'

Since late 2021, this writer has interviewed thousands of workers in steel factories, sandstone quarries, seafood plants, and textile mills (across west, northwest, east and south India) hired through middlemen on daily wages, without contracts and stripped of their rights. Paid off the payroll through contractors, these workers are denied legal benefits, languishing as part of the 90% informally employed workforce in India, as in a 2024 International Labour Organization (ILO) report. This policy flouts labour laws, enables wage theft and erodes worker dignity, defying constitutional protections under Articles 14, 16, and 23. It is a cynical rebrand favouring cultural nostalgia and employer ease over justice for workers. The policy introduces a portable Universal Social Security Account, merging Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, Employees' State Insurance Corporation, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, e-SHRAM, and State boards for lifelong health, pension, maternity, accident, and life insurance across sectors — invoking Article 41 (right to work, education, and public assistance).

Yet, it dodges funding — no gig employer mandates or state matches — risking the e-SHRAM's paltry payouts. Digital IDs, in a situation of only 38% household literacy, result in the exclusion of women, senior citizens and low-literates, violating Article 15. Further, the absence of union safeguards affects bargaining. The initial phase must enforce offline access and tripartite funds, else this is a case of exploitation. On the occupational safety front, the policy pledges strict enforcement of the 2020 Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, with risk audits and gender-sensitive standards, honouring Directive 42 (state can make provision to secure just and humane conditions of work and for maternity relief) and ILO Convention 155 (women's care-role risks). But the goal of "near-zero fatalities" by 2047 appears fanciful without penalties and given the reality of inspector shortages. Digital tools exclude informal workers, undermining equality; ignoring gig mental health, while union audits weaken Article 19.

Areas of concern The hints that the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) will become an employment facilitator, by using the Artificial Intelligence (AI)-driven National Career Service (NCS) for job matching, credential checks, and skill alignment in Tier-I/II cities and micro and

type of chemicals used. During the on-site inspection, it is necessary to figure out if any piece of electronic gadget has been found, because in remote-controlled explosions, an auto-timer, the best activation technique, is usually used. However, no timer or electronic circuit has been found in the Delhi incident.

What kind of tests are done?

After gathering and analysing the initial data, experts then try to reconstruct the crime scene to better understand the explosion's timing. For this, experts use Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) and Attenuated Total Reflectance-FTIR (ATR-FTIR). In these tests, forensic experts analyse the spectrum of the absorbed light to find out how the collected samples interact with infrared light. The chemical composition of explosives is detected using field-specific Raman spectroscopy. Advanced Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) is used to analyse the morphology of the fragments found after the explosion, while Energy Dispersive X-ray (EDX) techniques are used for fundamental analysis of the residues. Scientists also use thermal analysis to determine information about explosives, such as chemical activity and stability. Additionally, fire is an important factor in any explosion — how it spreads, how far it spreads, and the total loss caused by fire all depend on statistical data. That's why experts use laser-based scene mapping, flashpoint testing, etc. to try to determine the source of the fire and the presence of any combustible material that caused it to spread so much. Therein they decide whether it was an accident or an intentional explosion. Are only explosives experts involved? In the current incident, the role of the vehicle is crucial. Therefore, CCTV footage of the car needs to be thoroughly examined to find out whether anyone got in or got down in order to form an idea about the attacker. A cyber-forensic expert is necessary to achieve this. Again, experience says that in any accident, especially in the case of organised heinous crimes like explosions, the engine number and the chassis (the metal frame of a vehicle onto which the other parts fit) number of the cars are changed before they are used for the crime purpose, so it is necessary to find out the actual engine number and chassis number of the car with the help of 'thermochemical examination,' which is popularly known as etching. Typically, the investigating agency employs a forensic physicist for this. Moreover, DNA analysis of the body parts found at the crime scene is a must, as their families are waiting. Therefore, in the event of an explosion, multiple divisions of a forensic science laboratory must collaborate to assist investigators in solving the crime and to ensure that the scientific analysis of various evidence is presented before a court of law.

small medium enterprises, merging Skill India to tackle 91.75% graduate mismatches. Yet, absent AI bias safeguards risk caste- and gender-based Article 15 violations. Ignoring the Wages Code minima for 12 million gig workers — where “flexibility” is a cover for abuse — and unclear transition benefits demand ethics audits and union-vetted algorithms to curb tech-driven inequality.

The policy targets 35% female labour participation by 2030 (from 33.7%) through affordable childcare, flexible gigs, equal pay and apprenticeships — aligning with Article 15's gender equity and the ILO Convention 195's mobility goals. However, without quotas, penalties or sufficient maternity support for informal workers, there can hardly be success. Overlooking youth mental health and caste-gender data gaps hides the unique challenges that Dalit women face, making union-led audits essential for true dignity and progress. The policy's green-tech vision promotes AI-enhanced safety measures and reskilling opportunities for coal workers, aligning with the climate goals of Sustainable Development Goal 13 and the livelihood rights of Article 21. However, "just transitions" lack substance without income support or union involvement, risking violations of ILO Convention 29. Widening rural-AI gaps and urban-centric green jobs marginalise 400 million informal workers. Tripartite funding and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) safeguards are essential to avert an exploitative eco-trap that undermines dignity. The policy, which hints at convergence through Labour and Employment Policy Evaluation Index (LEPEI) dashboards, aims to realise Article 12's vision — of just governance — by linking the National Education Policy with Digital India. However, weak enforcement of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act risks enabling surveillance and undermining Article 19's freedoms. Amid exploitation and digital optimism, the Shram Shakti Niti 2025 projects a "rights-driven, future-ready" vision for Viskit Bharat. But there are gaps beneath its ambitious rhetoric such as weak regulatory oversight, digital exclusion, unenforced penalties and a fragile adherence to ILO conventions. All these would only accelerate the decline of unions in an expanding gig economy. It is about dignity, rights and justice. Without concrete funding and institutional safeguards, the promise of universal social protection may collapse under its own weight. For millions trapped in informal and forced labour, the policy's success will ultimately be measured not by its digital dashboards, but by its power to restore dignity, rights, and justice to India's working poor. The 2025-47 rollout needs urgent pilots, with rights audits for accountability. There needs to be tripartite enforcement, offline access for digitally excluded workers, and transparent grievance redressal. Without these, there is the risk of symbolic rhetoric over justice for India's labouring millions.

Youngster from UP arrested for job fraud in Asifabad

Kumram Bheem Asifabad: A youngster from Uttar Pradesh was arrested on charges of duping the public by offering jobs in Sirpur (T) mandal centre on Tuesday.

Police said Abhishek, a 19-year-old polytechnic diploma student from Noida, was apprehended for cheating people by promising employment in return for posting reviews of business establishments on Google. A cheating case was registered against Abhishek, his brother-in-law Raju Athri and others for extracting Rs.5 lakh from a resident of Sirpur (T) mandal headquarters.

During interrogation, Abhishek confessed to committing the offence to make a fast buck. He admitted to transferring the funds to Athri after receiving Rs.5 lakh from the victim.

Trump's 'Spear of the South' sparks regional alarm as Venezuela braces for U.S. moves



Barely hours after U.S. President Donald Trump had signed the bill ending the longest government shutdown on Friday (November 14, 2025), his Secretary of War, Peter Hegseth, fired off a tweet, declaring a new military operation, “Spear of the South”, against “narco-terrorists in the Western hemisphere”. On Sunday (November 16, 2025), the Trump government went a step further as it announced that a Venezuelan criminal group would be classified as a terrorist organisation and that it views President Nicolas Maduro as “the head of that cartel”. With Mr. Trump back in the White House on Sunday (November 16, 2025) after a weekend at Mar-a-Lago—and Washington still consumed by the uproar over the Epstein files—the decision is seen in the region as a major escalation for a possible strike on Venezuela. Tensions have been rising for weeks, forcing regional powers to state their positions. President Lula of Brazil, speaking at a meeting in Bogota on Sunday (November 16, 2025), pressed other leaders to confront the continued U.S. attacks on boats in the Caribbean. Colombian President Gustavo Petro was more direct as he described Mr. Trump as a leader “intent on intimidation” and called the U.S. military build-up “an unmistakable act of aggression against Latin America”.

In recent weeks, the U.S. has moved massive firepower into the Caribbean: more than 15,000 personnel, a dozen warships, the biggest aircraft carrier and a submarine; more than 10 F-35s have also been stationed at Puerto Rico. The political messaging has matched the military buildup. On Sunday (November 16, 2025), U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio accused Mr. Maduro of enabling “terrorist violence” across the hemisphere: “Regime-change bid” To local observers, the scale of the U.S. deployment — and their rhetoric — looks like the opening act of a regime-change operation in Venezuela. Diego Sequera, a Caracas-based analyst and co-founder of the research group Misión Verdad (Truth Mission), believes that Washington’s pressure aims to trigger an internal collapse in Venezuela. “The goal is to generate enough heat to force some kind of breakdown inside the government,” he says. “So far, the pressure has damaged the currency and added to economic strain, but it has not changed the political situation on the ground,” says Mr. Sequera.

If the U.S. wanted to scare Mr. Maduro into a negotiation process, it has not happened. Rafael Duarte Villa, a Venezuelan who teaches international relations at the University of São Paulo, says the pressure has only hardened the government's posture. "Maduro has put his military forces on unprecedented alert. The government, feeling cornered and demonised, has mobilised not just the armed forces but also civilians, grassroots organisations and the

Why is there a cold wave over parts of Telangana? | Explained



militias," says Mr. Villa. "The expectation that he would step down or flee—perhaps to Russia—is clearly not happening. His grip on power, for now, remains intact." Mr. Maduro is also backed by Venezuela's formidable military. Armed with mostly Russian defence platforms, including Su-30 jets, T-72 tanks, S-300 and Buk missiles, Igla-S launchers, and Kalashnikov rifles, the military comprises more than 123,000 active troops, backed by almost 8,000 reservists and thousands of militias who support the government. Some estimates put the total number of soldiers at 300,000. Patricia Marins, a Rio de Janeiro-based defence analyst, says Venezuela fields the most capable military in South America. "No other country in the region has SAMs or anti-aircraft missiles comparable to Venezuela, but sanctions have left parts of the arsenal without maintenance," says Ms. Marins. "Russia has shipped some spare parts in recent weeks, but it will be difficult to effectively resist a military attack given the U.S. build-up in the Caribbean." But observers believe Washington's real goal may be less about defeating Venezuela militarily and more about reasserting U.S. power in the region. In recent months, the U.S. has repeatedly used the term "narco-terrorism" to pressure governments from Mexico to Colombia and even Brazil. Mr. Diego Sequera argues that the U.S. justification simply does not hold. "One thing is absolutely clear: this is not about fighting drug trafficking. That claim goes against every element of reality," he says. For him, the ambiguity is intentional. "What began as a confrontation with Venezuela now touches the broader Caribbean, especially with Colombia drawn in and Trinidadian fishermen among those killed at sea," says Mr. Sequera. If anything, Washington's posture marks a return of the Monroe Doctrine, now camouflaged in the language of "narco-terrorism" to contain the growing influence of emerging powers such as China and Russia in the hemisphere. Mr. Sequera argues that this is precisely why his country has become a target. "Venezuela is a key player for multipolarity. Its ties with Russia, China, Iran and others make it a symbolic and practical challenge to U.S. dominance," says the Venezuelan analyst. "Washington's goal is to reassert control over the entire hemisphere." Mr. Duarte Villa agrees that the current escalation could be part of a broader effort by Washington to reclaim a lost sphere of influence. "Under Trump, Latin America has returned to the centre of American strategic planning. The echoes of older doctrines are unmistakable. Even when officials now speak of the region as their 'neighbourhood' rather than 'backyard, the underlying intent is the same: to restore U.S. primacy in a hemisphere where America's grip has visibly weakened," says Mr. Duarte Villa says. More theatre than strategy. Despite all the noise and thunder, this situation may be more theatre than strategy—a projection of force at a time when Trump is grappling with political storms in Washington. A full-scale invasion of Venezuela, says Mr. Duarte Villa, would carry risks the Americans cannot control: urban warfare in Caracas, civilian losses, the prospect of U.S. soldiers returning home dead, refugees going into neighbouring countries and a fierce regional backlash. "There could be significant numbers of casualties in a ground invasion of Venezuela. Such losses would demand answers from the administration at home, especially if the operation faltered. For that reason, a major military attack is unlikely," says the professor. In a region shaped by older doctrines and new challenges, even the threat of war seems to be a message in itself.

been around 13° to 14° C, yet the city's nights haven't reported single digit temperature readings. Thus it has been spared the IMD's official 'cold wave' label as well. Taken together, for now, the unusual chill is a result of Telangana sitting downstream of a much larger continental cold wave combined with clear skies, dry air, and particular characteristics of the Deccan Plateau. According to the IMD, the cold conditions over the specific districts are likely to persist on November 18 and 19, after which minimum temperatures should slowly rise as the supply of cold air dwindles and the pressure pattern changes.

What can people do?

Until then, as The Hindu had reported, doctors have urged locals to take precautions. Dr Rajeev, a Hyderabad-based pulmonologist, had said the “homeless, elderly, economically disadvantaged, persons with disabilities, pregnant or lactating women, children, outdoor workers, managers of night shelters and farmers” are particularly vulnerable in very cold conditions. Such conditions, he explained, could exacerbate symptoms of asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and other long-standing lung conditions. “Cold and dry air also increases the risk of common respiratory infections, including the common cold, influenza and pneumonia. Deep and slow breathing techniques can help improve lung function and reduce shortness of breath,” he had said.

SpaceX launches NASA's Sentinel-6BA satellite to monitor sea level change

New Delhi: SpaceX on Monday launched NASA's Sentinel-6B satellite aimed at monitoring sea level change, the US space agency said. Sentinel-6B is an Earth-observing satellite jointly developed by NASA and US and European partners to observe the ocean and measure sea level rise. The satellite will build on over 30 years of sea level data to improve weather forecasts. It will help improve coastal planning, protect critical infrastructure, and advance weather forecasts. "Liftoff! The latest in a long line of satellites to monitor sea level change, Sentinel-6B, successfully launched at 12:21 am ET (10:55 AM IST) on Monday, from Vandenberg Space Force Base," NASA said in a post on social media platform X. "This is the second Sentinel-6 satellite Falcon 9 launched after delivering the Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich satellite to orbit in November 2020. Together, the two spacecraft will measure sea levels, improve forecasts of ocean currents as well as wind and wave conditions, and enhance both short- and long-term weather predictions,"* added SpaceX. Sentinel-6B will deliver data on about 90 per cent of Earth's ocean, providing direct benefits to humanity. The data is key to helping improve public safety, city planning, and protecting commercial and defense interests. Data from the satellite will also help NASA prepare for the next phase of space exploration, including safer reentry of astronauts returning from Artemis missions.

IndiGo chairman denies claims that airline engineered crisis; says board was engaged on FDTL rules for ‘many months’



In his first public statement since widespread operational disruptions hit IndiGo last week, the chairman of the airline's board Vikram Singh Mehta rejected allegations that the crisis was engineered and that the airline tried to influence the government over the revised Flight Duty Time Limitation (FDTL) rules. Mehta also said that claims that the airline's board was not engaged on the FDTL issue are "not correct". The IndiGo chairman announced that the airline's board will involve an external technical expert to work with the management and help determine the root causes and ensure corrective action, "so that this level of disruption never occurs again". Apologising for the disruption that impacted tens of thousands of passengers, Mehta said that while he had been urged to make a statement on the issue, he chose to wait because the airline's board felt that its first duty was to support IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers and his team, restore operations, and help passengers who were affected. With the airline's operations now stabilised, Mehta said that he felt it was the right time for him to speak.

"The disruptions of last week did not happen because of any deliberate action. They happened because a combination of internal and unanticipated external events including minor technical glitches, scheduled changes linked to the start of the winter season, adverse weather conditions, increased congestion in the aviation system, and implementation of and operation under the updated crew rostering rules. This is not an excuse. This is simply the truth. Clearly this combination of events pushed our systems beyond their limits," Mehta said in a video message released by IndiGo on Wednesday evening.

According to Mehta, IndiGo has followed the FDTL rules as they came into effect and did not attempt to bypass them. The new FDTL rules stipulate more rest for pilots and rationalisation of their flying duties—particularly late night operations—in a bid to better manage pilot fatigue, which is a key risk to aviation safety. These new norms, which were stipulated in January last year were delayed in their implementation, and took effect in two phases—from July 1 and November 1—with the second phase rollout hitting IndiGo considerably. The new norms meant that airlines either had to have more pilots to maintain their schedule, or curtail their schedules in line with the new requirements. On questions raised on the airline's board, Mehta said, "There has also been a claim that the board was not engaged. This is not correct. The board has been closely involved with this matter for many months. Both the board and the (board's) risk management committee have received relevant information from the management on the implementation of the rules."

Some aviation sector experts and former bureaucrats had questioned the effectiveness of the airline's high-profile

board and whether it did enough in the months leading up to a massive operational crisis that brought the country's aviation system to its knees. While Mehta mentioned that the board was involved and had received the necessary information about the new crew rest rules from the airline's management, he did not say whether the board was aware that IndiGo was underprepared for the new rules and whether it made any intervention in the run-up to the rollout of the second phase of the FDTL norms from November 1. Mehta is the Chairman and Non-Executive Independent Director of IndiGo, and was the Chairman of the Shell Group of Companies in India between 1994 and 2012. Other members of the airline board include the airline's co-founder, promoter and Managing Director Rahul Bhatia in an executive role, India's former G20 Sherpa and retired IAS officer Amitabh Kant as a non-executive non-independent director, former SEBI chief M Damodaran as a non-executive director, and former administrator of the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Michael Whitaker as a non-executive independent director. The board also includes former Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa and Pallavi Shroff, Managing Partner of Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co, as non-executive independent directors.

"Following the first day of the disruptions, we held an emergency board meeting and set up a crisis management group. Since then, Board members have been in continuous contact with the management team. The crisis Management team has been meeting every day. Our collective focus has been clear: restore operations, support passengers, communicate transparently, prevent this from happening again. The results are tangibly positive," Mehta said noting that the airline's operations have normalised earlier than what was initially anticipated. In a statement on Tuesday, IndiGo announced that its operations have stabilised and normalised. IndiGo operated over 1,800 flights on Tuesday, operating to all destinations on its network, and its on-time performance (OTP) is back at over 80 per cent. The airline expects to operate around 1,900 flights on Wednesday. Friday was the worst day of the disruption with over 1,600 flight cancellations, but the situation has steadily improved since. As per the regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), IndiGo informed it that the disruptions "have arisen primarily from misjudgement and planning gaps in implementing" the second phase of new FDTL rules, with the airline accepting that the actual crew requirement for the new rules exceeded what it had anticipated. The massive disruption at IndiGo—India's largest airline that commands over 60 per cent of the domestic market share—threw commercial flight operations out of gear all over the country. The DGCA has allowed IndiGo some temporary exemptions from the new FDTL rules in order to help it get its act together, while also starting a probe into the disruption. IndiGo is also doing a root-cause analysis to identify the exact cause or combination of causes that led to this unprecedented disruption, which Mehta described as a "a blemish on the airline's pristine clean record".

"We owe answers to our customers, to our Government, to our shareholders and equally importantly to our employees. We assure you that we will examine every aspect of what went wrong and we will learn from it. The Board has decided it will involve an external technical expert to work with the management and help determine the root causes and ensure corrective action. So that this level of disruption never occurs again," Mehta said.

uptick as they picked up to Rs 7.82 lakh crore in FY25 from Rs 6.17 lakh crore in FY21. This comes even as SEZs are facing low investments in Research and Development (R&D) and tight competition from other countries. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has been working on SEZ reforms for the last 3 years and is expected to announce reforms going forward.

Responding to a question on possible measures planned to aid SEZs, the Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Jitendra Prasada, said the government undertakes various measures from time-to-time to remove operational challenges in SEZs in consultation with different stakeholders. "Such measures, including policy initiatives like permitting reverse job work and regulatory changes are a continuous process and introduced in the administration of SEZs as and when needed," Prasada said. According to a survey by the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER): "Some of the reasons behind low FDI in Indian SEZs are the lack of investment protection agreements, unlike countries like Vietnam; negative perception about the SEZs and limited marketing and brand building to address those perceptions." The ICRIER survey added SEZs have been facing productivity-related challenges. Before 2019, there were around 500 gems and jewellery units in SEZs. However, in recent years, many gems and jewellery units exited SEZs and during FY22, there were close to 360 gems and jewellery units in Indian SEZs, the report stated. "During FY21, the share of gems and jewellery in total exports from SEZs also declined to 15.7 per cent. This is because of multiple reasons, including better non-fiscal incentives received by firms in other competing countries, withdrawal of fiscal benefits in India, pandemic-related demand and supply disruptions and SEZ-related policy uncertainties," the report stated.

quently announced in a similar sequence, it said. "Nevertheless, a notable trend has emerged wherein newly recruited candidates frequently transition from RRBs to NBs, and subsequently to SBI. This migration has resulted in significant attrition within the banks and has posed operational challenges," it said. Taking cognisance of the above issue, it said the DFS reviewed the comprehensive process of recruitment examinations and the pattern of result declarations, advising the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) to implement a standardised and logical sequence for announcing recruitment results across all three categories of banks.

Consequently, it said, a revised framework has been established, which stipulates that results will now be announced first for the SBI, followed by NBs, and subsequently for RRBs.

‘I think my parents...’: Kareena Kapoor Khan on what she learned about avoiding setting expectations for her kids from her upbringing



Many adults today can recall growing up with some level of parental expectation, whether it was to excel academically, choose a certain career path, or live up to the family's standards. In a recent conversation with her sister-in-law, Soha Ali Khan, actor Kareena Kapoor Khan offered a contrasting perspective, saying, "I think my parents have been very, very relaxed in that approach, in their parenting approach. Like I wasn't even like told or forced that, 'Okay, this is what you have to do.' We've chosen to do what we have to, and it just happened that, yes, we come from this family."

She explained that this freedom actually helped her and her sibling Karisma Kapoor thrive: "I think that's also the reason why we've excelled in whatever we've done is also that our parents have allowed us to exactly choose to act and so be it. And that's what it was. There was never really any pressure." Even then, she noted, there was an emphasis on basics: "Yes, you have to try and do as much as you can in terms of your education." When speaking about her children, she described a similar hands-off approach. Kareena shared that she doesn't impose expectations related to success or talent: "No, I mean, I just feel

like I have two boys. The only thing I push them for is a little more of an outdoorsy kind of sport and stuff. Tough in Mumbai. In Mumbai, just push them a little bit more like, you know, cricket or football."

She added that the only other gentle nudge is related to music, "Yeah, and the only thing I've said, it'll be nice if you guys play an instrument because your father loves the guitar. If you wish to pick it up, if you don't, that's also fine." Guidance versus autonomy Psychologist Rasshi Gurnani tells indianexpress.com, "Kareena's example reflects an authoritative style, where children are offered support but not control. The key is to provide exposure, not direction." She continues, "Parents can introduce opportunities, like showing what exists in the world, while letting the child decide what to pursue. Autonomy-supportive parenting encourages curiosity without demanding performance, which helps children feel they are choosing for themselves, not living out their parents' goals."

How autonomy impacts motivation, confidence, and long-term success in children Children should engage in activities because they find personal value in them, not because they fear failure or seek approval. Gurnani notes that when children feel they have control over their choices, their self-efficacy grows, making them more confident in their abilities. "Self-determination theory builds internal motivation, which sustains learning, performance, and overall emotional well-being," states Gurnani. How parents can introduce activities without turning them into expectations To avoid invisible pressure, Gurnani suggests that parents watch for behavioural cues: sudden resistance, anxiety before practice, or doing something only to please adults are signs that external pressure is taking over. "When children feel they can quit without disappointing anyone, they engage more freely and develop interests that genuinely belong to them," concludes the expert.

Masaba Gupta recalls getting an ‘acidity attack’ after wearing tight corset for Kesari Chapter 2’s burlesque number: ‘Was two days after my wedding’



Masaba Gupta, 36, went down memory lane, opening up about her childhood, shows, and her professional work in a chat with former Tennis champion Sania Mirza on the latter's podcast. Talking about her item song in Kesari Chapter 2, in which she is seen in a black corset, the fashion designer shared, "This one is very recent. I am at my fittest. This was two days after my wedding. I did an item song in the film Kesari 2. I was doing a burlesque number. I was very excited. I was wearing this corset. It was so tight that I had an acidity attack. So, I want to let you all know. I was chugging Eno and pretending to be hot." Taking a cue from her revelation, let's understand how tight clothing can give you acidity.

Dr Aniket Mule, consultant, internal medicine, KIMS Hospitals, Thane, said a very tight outfit, especially around the waist, puts extra pressure on the stomach. "When that happens, stomach acids can move upward, creating a burning sensation in the chest or throat. Many people think acidity only comes from food choices, but physical compression plays a big role, too. When the stomach doesn't get enough room to expand, even normal digestion becomes stressful for the body," said Dr Mule. Dr Mule noted that the stomach naturally produces acids to break down food. "When the abdominal area is squeezed for too long, this acid can rise toward the food pipe. The food pipe isn't built to handle acid,

so even short bursts can cause discomfort, sharp burning, nausea, or a sour taste. Someone already dealing with long working hours, irregular meals, or stress becomes even more sensitive to such triggers," said Dr Mule. An acidity attack can happen to anyone, even without food being the villain. The body reacts strongly when it's compressed, strained, or pushed beyond its comfort zone.

Not always, said Dr Mule. "The issue starts when the outfit is too tight, worn for long hours, or used during activities that demand a lot of movement. "Occasional use generally doesn't cause long-term issues, but frequent compressive clothing can make acidity episodes more common," said Dr Mule. Dr Mule said that a sudden heaviness or sharp burning in the upper abdomen is the most common one. "Some people feel discomfort while breathing or talking because the chest feels tight. Others may feel bloated, excessively burpy, or unusually tired. If the discomfort continues even after removing the outfit, that means the pressure has already triggered irritation," said Dr Mule.

What should one do when such acidity hits?

Loosening clothes or changing into something comfortable usually brings instant relief. "Sipping water slowly helps settle the stomach. Some people find that walking for a few minutes eases the burning sensation. Resting upright, not lying flat, also prevents acid from rising again. Spicy or oily food should be avoided for the rest of the day because the stomach is already irritated," advised Dr Mule.

How can someone prevent such attacks in the future?

"Choosing outfits that allow some movement around the waist makes a big difference. Eating on time, not skipping breakfast, staying hydrated, and avoiding long gaps between meals help the stomach stay stable. Stress management plays a big role, too, since stress often triggers acidity even without food involvement. "If someone must wear a tight outfit for work or performance, short breaks in between and mindful meal timings reduce the risk of discomfort," said Dr Mule.

Raghav Chadha’s favourite go-to vacation place in India is...

Raghav Chadha recently revealed his favourite holiday destination during Curly Tales's short interview series 59 Seconds, in which celebrities answer as many questions as they can within 59 seconds. Chadha's favourite destination is a South Indian paradise with beautiful backwaters, luscious tea plantations, gorgeous beaches, and a cultural extravaganza. Any guesses? "In India, it is Kerala," the politician admitted his love for the "God's own country" promptly. Known for its serene beauty, rich traditions, and soulful cuisine, this South Indian state has long been a favourite among tourists. Approximately 2.22 crore (22.2 million) tourists visited Kerala in 2024, as per the state's official tourism records. Chadha's prompt response clearly shows here are seven must-visit destinations in Kerala: Kerala Sadhya is a grand, traditional vegetarian feast from Kerala, served on a banana leaf, especially during festivals like Onam and weddings (photo: pexels)

1. Munnar – The Hill Station of Dreams

Munnar is located at about 1,600 meters above sea level in the Western Ghats and is known for its signature rolling green hills. Its tea plantations are popular for producing some of India's finest tea varieties. Its cool, misty mornings make it a year-round retreat. Another tourist attraction is Eravikulam National Park, which turns pink once every 12 years when the flower blooms. What not to miss here: Eravikulam National Park, Kolukkumalai Tea Estate, Mattupetty Dam, Top Station, Tata Tea Museum

2. Alleppey – Venice of the East

Kerala Alappuzha is the official Malayalam name of Alleppey, which is the anglicized version used during British rule that became popular internationally (photo: pexels) Alleppey is famous for its enchanting backwaters, canals, and lagoons, many of which also offer houseboat cruises. As the boat glides past paddy fields, coconut groves, and village life, tourists get a closer look at the true essence of Kerala. Alleppey's coir industry, handwoven mats, and the Nehru Trophy Boat Race are also popular.

What not to miss here: Houseboat cruise on Vembanad Lake, Nehru Trophy Boat Race, Pathiramanal Island, Alappuzha Beach, lighthouse visit

3. Kochi – A Blend of Cultures

Kochi is one of India's oldest port cities with the old-world charm of the Arabs, the Dutch, and the Portuguese. The colonial-era bungalows and European churches add to the nostalgia. The city has a rich maritime legacy and is a seafood paradise, with delicious prawn curry and karimeen pollichathu on the menu. Kochi International Airport is also India's first fully solar-powered airport. What not to miss here: Fort Kochi Beach, Chinese fishing nets, Mattancherry Palace, Jew Town, Kochi-Muziris Biennale

4. Wayanad – Nature's Hidden Gem

Kerala In Frame: Scenic Road through Wayanad's Lush Tea Estate (photo: pexels)

Wayanad stands out with its lush forests, waterfalls, wildlife sanctuaries, and coffee estates. The landscape is perfect for trekking and exploring caves like Edakkal, which feature ancient petroglyphs dating back 6,000 years. India's largest Earthen dam, Banasura Sagar, is also found in Wayanad. What not to miss here: Edakkal Caves, Soochipara Falls, Pookode Lake, Banasura Sagar Dam, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary

5. Thekkady – For the Wild at Heart

Home to the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, Thekkady offers thrilling boat safaris and jungle safaris where you might spot elephants, deer, and exotic birds. A spice paradise, Thekkady is also famous for its cardamom, pepper, and cinnamon plantations, which often offer guided tours. What not to miss here: Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, spice plantation tour, bamboo rafting, Mangala Devi Temple, Kathakali show. Varkala – Cliffs and Calm Seaskerala A Kathakali show is a vibrant South Indian dance-drama from Kerala, known for its elaborate costumes, intricate makeup, and expressive mudras, telling stories from epics

Shah Rukh Khan confirms appearance in Kolkata’s Salt Lake Stadium on December 13 for Lionel Messi’s GOAT Tour



GNS News Agency, Dec 12

Bollywood superstar and Kolkata Knight Riders co-owner Shah Rukh Khan on Thursday confirmed his appearance in Salt lake Stadium for Lionel Messi's GOAT Tour, scheduled to kick start from Kolkata on December 13. "This time round not planning my Knight in Kolkata.... and hoping the day Ride is completely 'Messi'. See you guys on the 13th at the Salt Lake Stadium," Shah Rukh posted on X.Argentine star Messi will begin his 4-city GOAT Tour from the City of Joy on December 13 and will on the same day travel to Hyderabad. He'll then go to Mumbai on December 14 before ending the highly-anticipated tour in Delhi on December 15, where he is scheduled to meet Prime minister Narendra Modi.In the Kolkata leg, the unveiling of Messi's "biggest ever statue" — a 70-feet structure — will be done virtually from his team hotel owing to security concerns,

according to PTI. "Police has not given permission so he will do it from the hotel. It will be done virtually in the morning," a Kolkata Police source said as per PTI.Earlier, the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner was scheduled to visit Sreebhumi in person for the inauguration. Kolkata Police sources confirmed Messi will land in the city at 1.30am in the wee hours of Saturday and will stay at a five-star hotel on the EM Bypass.

A sponsor-exclusive meet-and-greet programme will run from 9.30am to 10.30am. A special Argentine–Indian fusion food festival will be held on the sidelines, keeping in mind Messi's love for 'mate' (Argentine herbal tea).It will showcase Argentine herbal tea infused with Assam flavours, along with a spread of Bengali fish delicacies — including hilsa — and an assortment of local sweets.A 25ft x 20ft Messi mural, planned for the upcoming Durga Puja season, will also be unveiled."Not only will he unveil his biggest-ever statue, we will have a huge mural, which will be kept at strategic Durga Puja pandal-hopping locations so that all his fans will have an opportunity to paint and post messages in a nearby message box," organizer Satadru Dutta said to PTI.The mural will be presented to Messi at the Salt Lake Stadium during the Kolkata leg of the tour.A crowd of more than 70,000 is expected for the Kolakta event."75,000 seats are open for spectators. There is heavy demand and we have made counter sales open from Tuesday," Dutta said.After the meet-and-greet, Messi will proceed to Salt Lake Stadium before departing for Hyderabad at 2pm.

IND vs SA: Arshdeep Singh notches up unwanted record of most wides bowled in an over in T20Is

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

India bowler Arshdeep Singh notched up the unwanted record of becoming the first bowler to bowl 7 wides in a T20I over. The unwanted stat was brought up in India's 2nd T20I match against South Africa in Mullanpur on Thursday.The Punjab speedster did not have an ideal homecoming when bowling the 11th over when he was smacked for a six by Quinton de Kock off the very first ball. With the pressure mounting, Arshdeep bowled 7 wides in the over, ultimately conceding 18 runs from the over.

This was also the joint longest over bowled by a full nation member bowler with Arshdeep joining Afghanistan's Naveen-ul-Haq, both of whom bowled 13 deliveries. Naveen had also bowled 6 wides in the over he bowled back in 2024 vs Zimbabwe. South Africa's Sisanda Magala comes next for a 12-ball over against Pakistan in 2021.Arshdeep's over on Thursday was a perfect representation of India's ordinary bowling efforts with Quinton de Kock and Aiden Markram running riot over them. Only Varun Chakravarthy was the lone bright spot, taking 2 wickets. Earlier, India skipper Suryakumar Yadav won the toss and elected to bowl against South Africa in the second T20I. India, who lead the five-match series 1-0, are fielding an unchanged playing XI.South Africa, on the other hand, have made three changes with Reeza Hendricks, George Linde and Otneil Baartman replacing Tristan Stubbs, Keshav Maharaj and Anrich Nortje.



Meanwhile, World Cup winners Yuvraj Singh and Harmanpreet Kaur were on Thursday immortalized at the New Chandigarh Stadium with stands named in their honour.Yuvraj, player of the tournament for the 2011 ODI World Cup, and Harmanpreet, who recently captained India to their first ever Women's World Cup trophy, were surrounded friends, family and Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on the occasion.Yuvraj was also seen giving a pep talk to the Indian team in a huddle before the second T20 International against South Africa.His longtime teammate Harbhajan Singh has a pavilion named after him at the stadium and Harmanpreet joined him on the other side of the sightsscreen on Thursday.

Crafty all-rounder, Mr 360 degree, right-arm quick and a big-scalp hunter

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

The Super League phase of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy 2025-26 will commence in Pune on Friday, as eight high-quality teams look to put their best foot forward to enter the final on December 18. The players have motivation to perform optimally, as the Indian Premier League auction is scheduled in Abu Dhabi on December 16.Some have already issued notice of their potential; they have two more rounds, on December 12th and 14th, to push their case. Here are some of the players who could become rich and famous overnight.

Sairaa Patil was expected to do a lot with the bat in the league phase, following a promising season in the T20 Mumbai league. However, it was with the ball that he did most of the talking, taking 11 wickets in seven matches at an economy rate of 8.21. He has worked with the likes of former India pacer Dhawal Kulkarni and former India spinner Sairaj Bahutule, and that has reflected in his bowling in the ongoing tournament. His best performance came against Vidarbha in Lucknow, where he claimed figures of 3/33 in four overs. Patil can hit the hard lengths at 130 kph and also has slow cutters in his armoury, which adds variety to his bowling. With Shivam Dube away playing for India, Patil may have an even bigger role to play in the Super League phase of the tournament, and a few more impressive performances may help him bag an IPL contract on Tuesday.

Yashvardhan Dalal (Haryana)The Haryana batter emerged as the highest run-getter for his side in the league phase, with 319 runs in seven matches at a strike rate of 143.04. The right-hander, who made headlines last year when he became the first batter to make a 400+ score in a CK Nayudu match against Mumbai, made four half-centuries and also struck 13 sixes. A good performance in the Super League stage could enhance his chances of finding a buyer at the IPL auction on Tuesday. "One remarkable thing about Yash's batting is his appetite for big scores and his tendency to play straight. He has all the shots for T20 cricket, but he prefers traditional cricketing shots. He showed his 360-degree game after crossing 200," Haryana Under-23 coach Jitender Siwach had told The Indian Express last year.Ashok Sharma (Rajasthan)

The Rajasthan pacer, who was released by his home franchise, Rajasthan Royals, ahead of the auction and has been with the Kolkata Knight Riders without getting a game in either team, had an excellent SMAT league phase, where he emerged as the leading wicket-taker. The right-arm pacer, who can clock close to 140 kph regularly, took 19 wickets in seven matches with two four-wicket hauls. While his economy rate of 8.84 was on the higher side, a similar performance, in terms of wickets, in the early stages of the Super League could acquire him a contract.

CTL Rakshann (Hyderabad)Hyderabad found themselves in a group with teams like Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, with players like Prithvi Shaw, Rinku Singh, among others, in their ranks. Yet, they made it to the Super League by topping the group, thanks to CTL Rakshann's exploits with the ball. The right-arm seamer took 12 wickets in seven matches at an economy rate of 8.53. His best performance



came against Uttar Pradesh at Eden Gardens, where his 3/31 helped bowl the opposition out for 127 in 19.2 overs. Similar performances in the lead-up to the auction could propel his chances of finding a buyer in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday.

ICC names AB InBev as official beer partner for global tournaments from 2026

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

Hyderabad: The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced AB InBev (Euronext: ABI) (NYSE: BUD) (MEXBOL: ANB) (JSE: ANH), the world's leading brewer, will become the Official Beer Partner for all major ICC tournaments starting in 2026.

The partnership will be led by Budweiser 0.0, Budweiser's no-alcohol beer in India, with other ABI mega brands activating in Europe and Africa.

From attending a match live in-stadium to watching one at a bar or pub with friends, with a lower alcohol-by-volume (ABV) and no-alcohol options like Budweiser 0.0, beer is the natural choice to enjoy responsibly. Through this partnership with the ICC, AB InBev will create more moments of cheers, choice and celebration for cricket fans of legal drinking age all over the world.

ICC CEO, Sanjog Gupta said: "Cricket is one of the world's most loved sports with more than two billion fans and ICC events are its largest platforms for passion, while AB InBev has been at the forefront of creating experiential activations to grow and deepen fandom."

This partnership is a natural alliance between organizations striving to elevate moments, create memories and deliver experiences via innovation in avenues for fan engagement. We welcome AB InBev to the ICC's august list of commercial partners and look forward to co-delivering multi-modal event experiences across our tournaments and amplifying excitement for the sport around the world," he said.

How you can watch the 2026 T20 World Cup for as low as Rs 100? Find out how and when to book tickets



GNS News Agency, Dec 12

The tickets for the highly anticipated T20 World Cup 2026 set to be co-hosted by India and Sri Lanka will be made available for fans on Thursday from 6.30 PM IST, the ICC announced. The cricket body also announced that fans can book tickets for select matches for some venues for as low as Rs 100 'to widen accessibility.'"The ICC has reduced one of the primary entry barriers for fans to experience the ICC Men's T20 World Cup by making the tickets highly affordable in Phase I. With pricing starting from ?100 in India and LKR1000 in Sri Lanka and more than 2 million tickets going on sale, the ICC aspires to democratize the in-stadia experience of ICC events," the ICC announced via press release.

In order to book the Phase I tickets, fans have to go to <https://tickets.cricketworldcup.com>. The matches which will

have Rs 100 tickets are Bangladesh vs Italy in Eden Gardens (Feb 9), South Africa vs Canada in Narendra Modi Stadium (Feb 9), South Africa vs Afghanistan at Narendra Modi Stadium (Feb 11), New Zealand vs South Africa at Narendra Modi Stadium (Feb 14), England vs Italy at Eden Gardens (Feb 16) and West Indies vs Italy at Eden Gardens (Feb 19). There are also matches which have tickets which start from 150, 200 and 300 as well.The World Cup will start on 7 February and go on till March 8 with 55 matches taking place in 8 venues across seven cities in India and Sri Lanka. In all 20 teams will participate in the event with Italy making their first appearance in the T20 World Cup with teams divided into four groups of five teams.

Five cities in India will host the event with Delhi, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata being the chosen ones. Across the Palk Strait in Sri Lanka, Colombo and Kandy will be the host cities. R Premadasa and Sinhalese Sports Club in Colombo will host the matches alongside the one inallekele in Sri Lanka.Defending champions India are in Group A alongside Pakistan, Namibia, The Netherlands and the USA. India will play the opener against the USA on February 7 at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai. They will move to the national capital to face Namibia on February 12 before heading to Colombo to take on Pakistan on February 15. Suryakumar Yadav & Co will then head to Ahmedabad to play their last league game against The Netherlands on February 18.Group B comprises Australia, Sri Lanka, Ireland, Zimbabwe and Oman. England, West Indies, Bangladesh, Nepal and Italy make Group C. The Group D consists of New Zealand, South Africa, Afghanistan, Canada and the United Arab Emirates.

How Aiden Markram plans to bounce back? ‘You have to draw a line through it... quick turnaround.. give it another crack again’

GNS News Agency, Dec 12

The Proteas started disastrously at Cuttack, but after the match, Markram reckoned the plan was to draw a line through the shambles and not dive too deep ahead of the Mullanpur second T20I.India have their tails up after the mammoth win. And Markram who had said prior to the series that the hosts would always field strong teams, said the quick turnaround called for moving on quick and get cracking at the new challenge.

Markram said after Cuttack, "The biggest factor was obviously not being able to build partnerships, settling after losing wickets and getting some momentum on our side. So yeah, we'll have brief conversations..."Markram recommended a strikethrough instead. "You don't want to dive too deep into things like this. You almost just want to draw a line through it and stick to the positive ways of this format," Markram also said.On the Cuttack pitch, he had said that it had tennis ball bounce, which shredded their batting. But the skipper was determined to look for positives. "Yeah, I think there were some good signs. It was a ball-in-the-field. Nice to start the way we did. We put some emphasis on starting well, and that was a box we ticked, so we can be proud of that," he said.Ticking the finishing box was what he seemed to have forgotten. "From a batting point of view, it's unfortunately something that can happen in this format. It's a pity that it had to happen in the first game, but you have to draw a line through it. It's a quick turnaround and we'll give it another crack in a couple of days' time," said Markram.Earlier while saying that it was great that Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma were not part of the T20I side, Markram had noted that others still needed fending off. "No extra plans, I guess. It's T20 cricket, it's an entertaining format and that's the brand we want to play. We want guys to free themselves up, enjoy the game, let their best skills be on show," Markram, who was part of the T20 side that lost the



last World T20 final to India, had reiterated.Getting India's most fantastic T20 batter Abhishek Sharma would remain a challenge like he had noted earlier. "I've played with Abhi before at Sunrisers, a great guy and bats really well, so no doubt it's a big wicket for us. Whoever takes the new ball, that's a challenge to hopefully get him early. He is a match-winner and it's an important wicket for us," Markram further said, adding he would obviously not reveal bowling plans to journalists.Another key batter looking to hot the groove is South Africa's Trisran Stubbs, someone they want to turn into an all-format player, just like India's Shubman Gill project. He told Sportsboom.co.za after helping in the Guwahati Test win, "I wasn't really batting well in that period (early season). I just had no rhythm, no flow. I got a couple of scores, but they were messy scores — there was no real flow.

I just couldn't get into a rhythm. It wasn't easy, but it's part of the game. Before the Pakistan series and especially coming to India, I wasn't too worried because I was batting well in the nets. I hadn't done that for ages, so I knew it was around the corner."Stubbs is one of the three wicketkeepers that afford luxury to Saffers, and sometimes Quinny de Kock and Donovan Ferreira and him all play in the XI.

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Teary-eyed Hema Malini says she’ll have to learn to live without Dharmendra at prayer meet: ‘Humaara pyaar sachha tha’

Veteran actor-BJP MP and Dharmendra’s second wife Hema Malini hosted a prayer meeting in Delhi for the late superstar. He passed away on November 24, at the age of 89. Besides the family members, the gathering had many high-profile personalities, including Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP president JP Nadda, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. Actors Ranjeet, Kangana Ranaut, and Ravi Kishan were also in attendance. Everyone paid tribute to the icon at Dr Ambedkar International Centre, Janpath, New Delhi.

The prayer meet was also attended by Dharmendra’s daughters Esha Deol and Ahana Deol and Hema’s son-in-law Vaibhav Vohra. Esha’s ex-husband and businessman Bharat Takhtani was also part of the service. Before heading inside the main hall, everyone paid tributes to the ‘He-Man of Bollywood’ by placing flower petals in front of a framed photo of him. Both Hema and Esha were seen getting emotional while bowing down before the picture.Dharmendra Prayer Meet Hema Malini with Ranjeet, Esha Deol, Amit Shah and J P Nadda.

Shradhanjali bhajans were followed by a Hema recalling Dharmendra and his memories. The actor was emotional and teary eyed as she said, “I am feeling very emotional while welcoming you all at this prayer meet. I never thought that I will have to host a condolence meet, that too, for my Dharam ji. The whole world is mourning his passing away. But for me, it is an inconsolable shock.”Dharmendra Prayer Meet Hema Malini after addressing the crowd at Dharmendra’s prayer meet. Anil Sharma) Dharmendra Prayer meet Amit Shah, Bharat Takhtani, J P Nadda, and Kiren Rijiju at the prayer meet. Anil Sharma)

As her daughters Ahana and Esha stood behind her for support, the veteran actor-politician added, “The companionship stood the test of time. My association with Dharam ji was for 57 years. When I entered the film industry, I got a chance to do most films with him only. We worked together in 45 films, and out of that, over 25 were superhits. We got a lot of love as a ‘hit pair’ from the industry and audience. Humaara pyaar sachha tha (our love was pure), I will have to learn to live without him.”Dharmendra prayer meet Hema Malini addressing the crowd at Dharmendra’s prayer meet. Anil Sharma) Dharmendra prayer meet Delhi

‘I slapped Sanjay Dutt, pulled his hair’: IPS officer recalls when Sanjay fell on dad Sunil Dutt’s feet saying ‘galti ho gayi’ after arrest

Rakesh Maria, the IPS officer who worked on the 1993 Mumbai blast case that involved Sanjay Dutt’s conviction for illegal possession of arms, recently revisited the investigation. Rakesh’s investigation led to the actor serving jail time. In a new interaction with Desi Studios, Rakesh Maria recalled how his probe led him to Sanjay Dutt, and also recalled the emotional moment between Sanjay and his father, veteran star and politician Sunil Dutt, when Sanjay fell at his father’s feet and asked for his father’s forgiveness, allegedly after admitting to his crime.

During the interaction, Rakesh recalled that Sanjay Dutt’s name came up in the case through Hanif Kadamwala, proprietor of a famous restaurant in Bandra, and Sameer Hingora, then President of the Indian Motion Picture Producers’ Association (IMPPA). “They refused the allegation against them, but they asked to speak to me and the first thing they told me was, ‘Why don’t you arrest big people?’ I asked them, ‘Which big people have I not arrested?’ They tell me, Sanju Baba, I thought what does Sanjay have to do with this?”Rakesh recalled Hanif and Sameer telling him that the perpetrators wanted a quiet place to take out the weapons from the car’s cavity, and they had suggested Sanjay’s house for the same. These were the weapons used in the 1993 Mumbai blasts. “They come to Sanjay Dutt’s house. Sanjay had already received the call. Sanjay told them to park the car there and unload the things,” he claimed.

Rakesh said that Sanjay kept some of the weapons for himself, but later returned most of them to the terrorists who were planning the attacks. He said that when they learned about Sanjay’s involvement, they wanted to bring him in for questioning, but the actor was then shooting for a film in Mauritius. They decided to wait for him to return to India, and when he landed a few days later, Rakesh recalled picking him up right at the airport and taking him in for questioning.Rakesh recalled holding Sanjay in a room at the Mumbai Crime Branch that had an attached bathroom. However, they had taken off the bathroom door. He placed two constables inside the room and instructed them not to give cigarettes to the actor, and did not to allow him to

Anupama Parameswaran’s ‘Lockdown’ release postponed again due to ‘unforeseen circumstances’

Chennai: The makers of director A R Jeeva’s gripping drama, ‘Lockdown’, featuring actress Anupama Parameswaran in the lead, on Thursday announced that they had decided to postpone the release of the film “due to unforeseen circumstances”.

Taking to its X timeline, Lyca Productions, the firm producing the picture, wrote, “#Lockdown has been postponed. The new release date will be shared soon. #LockdownInCinemasSoon” and shared a statement that read, “We understand the excitement and anticipation surrounding the film, and we sincerely regret any inconvenience this change may cause for our audience, theatre partners, distributors, and the media.”

The makers further said in the statement, “We are committed to ensuring that the film reaches you under the best possible conditions. We truly appreciate your patience, support, and understanding. The new release date will be announced soon.”This is the second time that the film is being postponed in two weeks.The release of the film, which was originally scheduled to happen on December 5 this year, was postponed the first time due to incessant rains that continued to lash Chennai and other parts of Tamil Nadu as a result of the deep depression caused by the remnants of cyclone Dityah, which wrecked havoc in neighbouring Sri Lanka.Lyca Productions, while announcing its decision to



CM Rekha Gupta greets Hema Malini. Anil Sharma)Recalling her fond memories with Dharmendra and expressing how he was as a ‘pure soul’, she shared, “He was a very cheerful and friendly person. Despite being such a famous personality, he never thought of himself as different from others, always stayed down to earth. He was a pure soul.”Dharmendra prayer meet Ravi Kishan taking Hema Malini’s blessings. Anil Sharma)Hema said that the family celebrated Dharmendra’s 90th birthday on December 8, a few weeks after his passing. “We celebrated his birthday but along with us the entire country remembered him,” she said, adding how people from all walks of life come to her to reminiscence about Dharmendra.Hema also revealed that Dharmendra wanted to write a book, full of his Urdu poetry, but he unfortunately passed away before fulfilling his dream. “He did so many roles in different genres, but I know that he loved to do comedy. He was so fond of standing in front of the camera. Dharam ji had a special talent that not many people knew about – writing Urdu shayari. Whatever the situation was, he could recite a poem on that. I told him that he should write a book of his Urdu poetry, he even wanted to, it was planned, but that dream will now remain incomplete,” she concluded.



call anyone. Rakesh recalled confronting Sanjay and said, “He sat down in the room 2:30 am and at around 8 am, I entered the room. I asked him, ‘Will you tell me your story or do you want me to tell your role?’”He added, “Sanjay told me that he is innocent and he’s not involved in this. The pent-up emotions, stress of the last few days, suddenly got through me and he was sitting on the chair in front of me. I just walked up to him and he had long hair at that time. I just gave him a slap and he toppled a little back and I caught hold of his hair and pulled him up. I asked him, ‘If he would talk to me like a gentleman, or should I...?’ Then he asked to speak to me alone. Then he narrated the whole thing to me. He told me, ‘I made a mistake, please don’t tell my father.’ I told him, ‘How can I not tell your father? You have made a mistake. Be man enough.’”Rakesh recalled that by the evening, Sunil Dutt came to meet him, along with Rajendra Kumar, Mahesh Bhatt, Yash Johar and politician Baldev Khosa. “They all told me that Sanjay is innocent and he could not do these things,” he said.Recalling the first time Sanjay faced his father after being accused of such a grave crime, he said, “Sanjay Dutt is brought into the room, he sees his father, he howls like a child and goes and falls down at Sunil Dutt’s feet and tells him ‘Papa galti ho gayi mere se (Dad, I made a mistake)’. I wouldn’t wish this thing to happen to any father. Sunil’s face went pale.”

postpone the release of the film then, had said, “With the ongoing rains, the release of #Lockdown has been postponed. Your safety comes first. We’ll meet you in theatres soon. #LockdownInCinemasSoon.”

It also published a statement that read,”Due to the ongoing heavy rains and adverse weather conditions, the release of our film #Lockdown has been postponed. In light of the current challenges, we are delaying the release to prioritize the safety of our audience, theatre staff, and partners. Please stay safe and take necessary precautions. We look forward to welcoming you to cinemas soon to experience ‘Lockdown’ on the big screen.”However, once the rains receded, the makers, on December 8, announced a new release date and said the film would release on December 12. Now, they have again postponed the film’s release citing “unforeseen circumstances.”The Censor Board has already cleared the film for release with a U/A certificate.‘Lockdown’, a woman-centric film, has triggered huge expectations as it is based on a true story.A trailer released by the makers begins with Anupama Parameswaran (who plays the character of Anitha in the film) expressing fear to go home. It is evident she has a problem about which she cannot speak to her family. To add to her complications, we see unwanted advances being made by men to her.

Alia Bhatt reveals daughter Raha ‘has her own relationship with paparazzi’: ‘She’s old enough to ask where I’m going’

Alia Bhatt is no stranger to the Red Sea International Film Festival, this being her second visit in two years. The last time I was here, Raha was one and now she is three, says Alia, sounding like most mothers do when thinking of life before and after children, marking their presence and the changes they bring. “Now Raha has her own relationship with the paparazzi, and is old enough to ask me where I am going, and when I will be back,” she says.Raha comes up frequently in the hour-long conversation, as does the word “authenticity”, which she uses when speaking of her choices. No one knows how the audience will react, but what they do respond to is authenticity, she says, and that’s something she looks for in the kinds of roles she does.

The conversation touches upon the salient points of where Alia is at right now, at the cusp of stardom and motherhood, the projects she is producing, along with being the face of global brands. It’s all beautifully chaotic, she says, of her red carpet experiences in Cannes and the Met Gala etc, and the best part is all about relaxing with pyjamas and pizza— did she really say pizza, are these sylph-like things allowed such calorie-dense things— after the event is over.“When I was young,” she stops and corrects herself with a laugh, “I’m still young, but when I was in my 20s, I was all over the place, trying to do everything. At 17,18, I was way more enthusiastic and full of beans, and trying very hard, because that’s normal. And now, more than a decade later, the way you look at a situation changes. I’m still enthusiastic and full of beans, but the approach is more silent, it comes with a little more intent. Part of me wants to hold on to the girl at 18 who was brave and fearless, who had no idea of how things would pan out, who had no answers, who would enter a room and give it her all. I think now with success, with failure, with knowing, sometimes you tend to become a little more tentative.”“No matter what will happen in the future,” she says, “I would like to stay curious, because that’s the only way to grow.” Responding to whether she feels the weight of what she



represents on the global stage, she says it’s more a sense of pride, of being Indian.And dodges, smartly, a question from a Pakistani fan asking when she will visit, saying that she’s happy to go anywhere that work takes her. She takes a fan question on ‘nepotism’ by talking about talent whether you come from a film family or not, and when the audience sees you “bringing something to the table, sab kuch maaf hai”. This writer has noticed her dexterity in dodging uncomfortable questions in live interactions in the past, and these days, when anything a star says is up for intense scrutiny, this is a superpower too.In a rapid fire round, she chooses Highway and Gangubai as the roles that stayed with her longest. Clearly, Sanjay Leela Bhansali is top of mind recall, with ‘Love and War’, in which she stars with Ranbir Kapoor and Vicky Kaushal, coming out early 2026.Micro-managing everything is also one of her things, she says, “I even planned my wedding and I had so much fun doing it that I’m thinking this could be a second career.” And the audience breaks into a laugh, all waiting for their chance at a selfie.

Shah Rukh Khan’s Don 2 co-star slams Aryan Khan’s Ba***ds of Bollywood for abusive language: ‘Boring’

Since Aryan Khan’s debut show The Ba***ds of Bollywood dropped on Netflix, it has become the subject of widespread discussion. While the series received glowing reactions from many viewers, a significant portion of the audience remained unimpressed, with some criticizing its frequent use of crude and abusive language. Recently, British-Pakistani actor Alyn Khan, who has appeared in major Hindi films and shows, including Shah Rukh Khan’s Don 2, shared his candid opinion about Aryan’s work at ARY Podcast.

“Recently maine Aryan ka kaam dekha The Ba***ds of Bollywood mein, mujhe bohot ajeeb laga. Ek toh family ke saath aap dekh nahi sakte hain kyunki language itni ajeeb hai. Aur uss language ki koi justification bhi nahi thi, aur jiss level ke log dekh rahe thay aap, kya woh aise sadak chap language use karte hai? Mujhe kabhi kabhi lagta hai ki eye-balls ke liye, ratings ke liye, iss tarah ke informed decisions liye jaate hai? Wohi cheez kehne ki bohot tareeke hote hai. Aur agar gaali dene bhi hai, toh closeup ki tarah honi chahiye na. Ki jab chahiye tab bolo aap, that’s when you get the impact. Agar har jumle mein woh aa rahi hai toh cringe hai woh, boriyat ho jaati hai.”

(Recently, I watched Aryan’s work in The Ba***ds of Bollywood, and I found it very strange. You cannot watch it with family because the language is so unusual. And at the level of the people being portrayed in the show, do they actually use such street-level language? Sometimes it seems to me that such decisions are made just for eye-balls, for ratings. There are many ways to convey the same thing. And if you want to use expletives, it should be like a close-up, say it when it matters, that’s when it has an impact. If every sentence has it, it becomes cringe-worthy and boring.)

Alyn Khan is not the first actor to openly criticize the show. Recently, Vivek Vaswani, someone who helped Shah Rukh Khan navigate his early struggling days, shared his honest disappointment with its depiction of the film industry: “What I felt was that when Shah Rukh came into the industry, the amount of love and respect that Aziz Mirza and Nirmala gave him, and that me and my mother gave him, and Saeed Mirza gave him... all of them gave him so



much love, so much affection. So when did he come to the conclusion that Bollywood is a gutter and everyone in it is bad people? He is the one person who was treated with kid gloves as a rank outsider.”

He added that Shah Rukh Khan was welcomed with open arms by the industry, yet the show mocked it relentlessly: “Everyone treated him so well, so warmly, without a single rift. So for me, and maybe I am the only one in this whole country who may have felt like this, but I am also the only one in the country whose house he lived in for two years. Toh haq banta hai to say: Why did you think we were a bad industry? Why did you personally think that everyone was bad? I can understand you showing whatever you showed. But why was there not one redeeming character in the show? Someone who says: Yes, maybe everything is bad, but there are also some good, decent human beings here. And he is living proof of that.”

Priyanka Chopra reveals her go-to skincare tip for long-haul flights

Mumbai: Actress Priyanka Chopra, on Thursday, gave a quick peek into her travel routine as she shared a candid moment from her long-haul flight.The global star offered a simple yet essential skincare tip, emphasising that the only way to keep skin healthy during long journeys is to stay hydrated in every possible way. Taking to her Instagram Stories, the ‘Baywatch’ actress shared a photo of herself applying a sheet mask mid-flight, giving a glimpse of her in-flight skincare ritual. In the candid image, the desi girl is seen looking straight into the camera.Alongside the click, Priyanka wrote, “Only way for your skin to survive, long haul flights. Hydrate in every way possible. Ok now...g’night!”

Priyanka Chopra, who had recently returned from Mumbai, also shared glimpses from her whirlwind visit. The post featured a video of the actress getting ready for a show, meeting Kapil Sharma in his vanity van, and posing for the paparazzi. Priyanka also clicked selfies with fans before heading to her car. The clip wrapped up with Priyanka admitting that she didn’t want to leave, joking about how long the flight back to New York would be.“Mumbai always raises the bar. I raise it right back. Jald phir Mulaquat hogi...See you in 2026 #whirlwind,” she wrote as the caption.

The 43-year-old actress made a quick stop in Mumbai, spending under 12 hours in the city before heading back to the United States. The actress arrived on the morning of



December 10 to film a special episode of Kapil Sharma’s comedy show “The Great Indian Kapil Show 4.”Throughout her brief visit, Priyanka Chopra kept everyone updated through social media. She shared a glimpse on Instagram Stories, admiring Mumbai’s pleasant weather. Later, as she prepared to leave, she posted a farewell selfie with the caption, “Chalo wapis! Less than 12 hours this time. Phir milenge,” marking the end of her whirlwind trip.