SIT PUBLICATIONS PVT LTD | VOL No. 17 | ISSUE No. 231 | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2026 | P-8 | ₹.5/- | PRGI No. KARENG/2012/43253

BENGALURU I CHENNAI I HYDERABAD I VIJAYAWADA I KOCHI

THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES

NATIONAL DAILY NEWSPAPER

Essence of the South

For Website Visit epaper.thesouthindiatimes.com | www.thesouthindiatimes.com | /thesouthindiatimes.yahoo.in

OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

22-09-2026



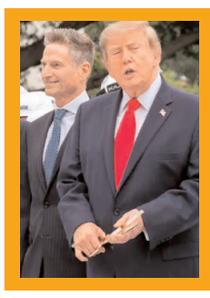
Total pilgrims :65,223
Tonsures : 27,112
Hundi kanukalu : 3.52 CR
Laddu sale... 4.29 Lac
Annaprasadam..1.81 Lac
Ashwini hospital..3,588
Present Situation on 22-09-2026:
Waiting Compartments...03

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens)...04 H.



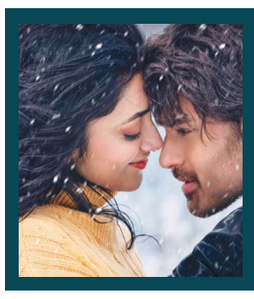
Mahua Moitra moves HC over Tehatta egg attack

NATION PAGE



Major US outlets boycott shared Trump coverage in protest at media ban

WORLD PAGE



'EMO EMO IDI' to arrive in cinemas on October 30th, 2026

CINEMA PAGE

SCAN FOR E-PAPER

INBRIEF

Security forces recover Naxal arms dump in Bijapur

Bijapur/Raipur, Sep 22: Security forces recovered a large cache of weapons, ammunition and other materials from an underground Naxal dump in the forests of Lanka Pahadi village under Bedre police station limits in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district on Monday. The recovery was made during an intensive search and de-mining operation in the forested area, following intelligence inputs received as part of ongoing anti-Naxal operations. Security personnel thoroughly searched the area and unearthed the carefully concealed dump. The recovered items included an SLR/LMG rifle, an INSAS rifle, a .315-bore gun, two BGL (barrel grenade launcher) launchers, 17 BGL shells, a Chinese hand grenade, 49 SLR rounds, 15 rounds of .315-bore ammunition, 15 BGL cartridges, four SLR magazines and one .315-bore magazine, besides other related equipment.

3 OBC officials get 7-year RI in bank fraud

New Delhi, Sep 22: A CBI Court in Jaipur has sentenced three former public servants of Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) to seven years of Rigorous Imprisonment (RI) in a bank fraud case involving the unauthorised release of mortgaged securities and a loss of more than Rs 12 lakh to the bank, officials said on Tuesday. The court on September 18 convicted Ramji Lal Meena, then Branch Manager; Murari Lal Meena, then Special Assistant; and Than Singh Lashkar, then Peon-cum-Housekeeper at OBC's Sheosinghpura branch in Lalsot, Dausa. The court sentenced all three to seven years of RI and imposed a fine of Rs 85,000 on each. The CBI registered the case on February 1, 2019, based on a complaint filed by the then Deputy General Manager of Oriental Bank of Commerce.

FM Sitharaman calls for 'Imagined in India' innovation

NEW DELHI (TSIT):



India's next phase of economic growth must be driven not just by manufacturing but by innovation, design and technology development, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Tuesday, urging businesses to move beyond the 'Made in India' vision and embrace an 'Imagined in India' approach where products are conceived, designed and developed in the country before being marketed globally.Highlighting the country's evolving economic capabilities, FM Sitharaman said India possesses the market scale, entrepreneurial energy and institutional capacity required to achieve significantly higher levels of growth.

"Manufacturing scale is important, but the next stage is to capture more of the value that comes from design, engineering, patent, software, technology, and know-how," the minister noted."Our ambition must move from made in India to imagined in India. Products not only manufactured here, but conceived, designed, and technologically developed here, and then taken to the markets across the world," FM Sitharaman said while addressing the 53rd National Management Convention of the All India Management Association (AIMA) here. However, the finance minister cautioned that effective execution would determine how successfully these strengths are transformed into enduring national capabilities.FM Sitharaman noted that while expanding manufacturing capacities remains important, India must increasingly capture value generated through design, engineering, software, patents, technology and specialised know-how.

Addressing the challenges faced by family-owned enterprises, the finance minister stressed the need for greater professionalisation in business management. The finance minister called for a clearer separation between ownership and management, well-defined responsibilities, succession planning and proactive conflict resolution mechanisms.

India to uproot drug trade by 2029: Amit Shah

NEW DELHI (TSIT):

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of building 'Viksit Bharat@2047' cannot be achieved with a youth population and future generations weakened by narcotics addiction.

Inaugurating the third National Conference of Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) heads of states and Union Territories, organised by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) under the theme 'United Resolve, Shared Responsibility', Shah said the Centre has been working over the past five years to achieve the difficult objective of making India drug-free.



The two-day conference is being attended by ANTF heads from 36 states and UTs, along with representatives of government departments and other stakeholders. Discussions are focusing on narcotics control, dismantling drug cartels, tackling synthetic drugs and investigations involving the darknet and cryptocurrencies.

Shah said the time had come to take decisive action against narcotics, which he described as one of the most serious threats facing India and the world, and called for collective efforts to defeat the menace.He said the government would collectively succeed in uprooting the drug trade from India by December 31, 2029.

The Home Minister said the country had made progress over the past five years in tackling challenges including terrorism in Kashmir, insurgency in the Northeast and Naxalism. The Ministry of Home Affairs, with the cooperation of state governments, has addressed these major problems that had confronted the country for decades, he said.

CM Revanth orders green channel for SC/ST compensation



HYDERABAD (TSIT):

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy directed officials to release funds through a "green channel" to pay compensation to sexual assault survivors from Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities.

CM Revanth stresses education and sports for children from SC/ST communities.

Chairing a meeting of the State-level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, the Chief Minister reviewed registered cases, investigations, trials, case disposal, and assistance and rehabilitation provided to victims. He said the government must respond to incidents of sexual assault with urgency and sensitivity.

Mr.Reddy said the government was pursuing welfare measures for SC and ST communities alongside implementation of the Act. He stated that Dalits accounted for 31 per cent of beneficiaries of Indiramma houses and Scheduled Tribes for 17 per cent.

He also highlighted the provision of fine rice and nutritious food, and said breakfast was being provided to 27.5 lakh students from nursery to Class 12.Emphasising the role of education in improving opportunities, the Chief Minister urged families to encourage children to pursue education and sports.

CM Revanth Reddy puts Hyderabad administration on alert after heavy rain

HYDERABAD TSIT:



Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy directed civic authorities, police and emergency teams to remain on alert following heavy rain in Hyderabad.

The Chief Minister asked the commissioners of the three municipal corporations in the Greater Hyderabad region, HYDRAA and police commissioners to coordinate closely and monitor the situation. Civic teams were instructed to deploy personnel and machinery promptly to clear waterlogging on main roads, at junctions and in residential colonies.

He called for special attention to low-lying and flood-prone areas, directing teams to remove obstructions in drains and storm-water channels. Rescue teams were told to remain ready for emergencies, while control rooms were asked to stay vigilant.

Kuppam to Get Environment-Controlled Poultry Sheds

CM Naidu interacts with farmers, stresses MSME growth

VISAKHAPATNAM, TSIT:



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu interacted with poultry farmers in Kuppam and discussed plans to establish environment-controlled poultry sheds on a large scale in the constituency. He said the government had initiated a pilot project for setting up environmentally controlled poultry sheds in Kuppam in association with IB Group, with the objective of transforming farmers into entrepreneurs. The government would facilitate approvals in real time to enable farmers to establish the units on a large scale and grow them into MSMEs, he said.

The Chief Minister said a dedicated policy had been introduced to promote the poultry sector in the State, along with dairy, horticulture and sericulture. He noted that growing awareness about protein-rich food had increased the consumption of chicken and eggs, creating opportunities for poultry farmers. Chandrababu said road and rail connectivity in Kuppam was being strengthened to facilitate faster transportation of poultry products to other markets. Improved connectivity had also enabled Kuppam to emerge as a satellite township of Bengaluru, he said.

He called upon farmers and entrepreneurs to make use of government support and work towards developing Kuppam as a major destination for business and industrial activity.

Sahil's parents allege caste harassment at IIT Bombay



MUMBAI (TSIT)

IIT Bombay student Sahil Wakode's parents on Tuesday claimed that he had told them that he was facing casteist slurs and humiliation at the institute.

Speaking to the media after visiting the Mumbai Police Crime Branch office, they demanded a thorough examination of all evidence and action against those found responsible for their son's alleged suicide.

Speaking to the media after visiting the Mumbai Police Crime Branch office, they demand a thorough examination of all evidence and action against those found responsible for their son's alleged suicide.

"I have full faith in the Crime Branch and request that the investigation into my son Sahil's death be completed fairly, thoroughly, and strictly in accordance with the FIR. The allegations and circumstances recorded in the FIR must be properly investigated, and appropriate action should be taken against those found responsible," Sahil's mother Sonali Wakode said. Sahil had told them that he was being tortured, abused, and humiliated on the basis of his caste.

India condemns Pakistan airstrikes on Afghanistan

NEW DELHI (TSIT):



New Delhi described the strikes as another attempt by Pakistan to "externalise its internal failures", and reiterated its support for Afghanistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity

India strongly condemned airstrikes carried out by Pakistan in Afghanistan's Kunar and Paktika provinces. External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said several civilians were killed.

"Such instances of aggression against a sovereign neighbour go against regional peace and security and vitiate it. It is yet again another occasion of aggression from the Pakistani side," he said. India offered condolences on the lives lost and wished the injured a speedy recovery. Jaiswal reaffirmed India's steadfast support for Afghanistan's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the welfare of its people.

Pakistan claimed its forces killed 28 terrorists in the strikes. Afghanistan's Taliban government said three civilians were killed and four wounded, condemning the strikes and promising an "appropriate response."

K'taka CM considers shutting down KPSC over recruitment scam

BENGALURU (TSIT):



Karnataka Chief Minister, D.K. Shivakumar, on Tuesday said his government was considering legal options to shut down the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC), following the Karnataka High Court's decision to constitute a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the alleged veterinary officer recruitment scam.

Taking an indirect swipe at the BJP while speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, CM Shivakumar said the investigation had uncovered evidence of illegal activities involving people associated with the KPSC and questioned who had appointed them and who was operating the alleged network.

"KPSC should be shut down. There are many thieves there who are involved in illegal activities. Our police have caught them and gathered evidence. We have to find out who appointed them and who operated this," CM Shivakumar said. He said the government would have to follow the legally prescribed procedure before taking any decision on the future of the commission.

"We have to think legally. The way action is initiated against the President of India or High Court judges, has a procedure. Similarly, action has to be initiated according to the procedure here.

India-EU partnership boosts AI, quantum cooperation

New Delhi (TSIT):



India and the European Union (EU) are poised to expand cooperation across a wide range of strategic sectors, including artificial intelligence (AI), quantum technologies, semiconductors, biotechnology and advanced research, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh, said on Tuesday.

The remarks came during a meeting with a delegation from the European Parliament's Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE), led by Angelika Winzig of Austria and MEP Raffaele Stancanelli.

The discussions focused on the implementation of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA), strengthening scientific collaboration and advancing partnerships in critical and emerging technologies.

Dr Singh said the India-EU strategic partnership offers significant opportunities for deeper engagement in areas of mutual interest, with science, technology and innovation forming a key pillar of the relationship.

He stressed that the early signing and effective implementation of the proposed FTA should remain a shared priority, adding that the agreement would unlock new opportunities for businesses, consumers and skilled professionals while providing fresh momentum to the broader India-EU partnership.

Speaking on behalf of the delegation, Angelika Winzig described India as a key strategic partner for the EU and said the visit was aimed at gaining a better understanding of India's industrial and technology policies while identifying avenues for greater cooperation.

www.thesouthindiatimes.com

info.southindiatimes@gmail.com

R Nirmalkumar accuses DMK of shielding Veeramani, assures impartial action

Nirmalkumar alleged that R Veeramani, whom he described as a businessman with assets worth hundreds of crores, could have approached a power centre to evade action



CHENNAI: Law Minister R Nirmalkumar on Tuesday accused the DMK of attempting to shield Gem Granite Veeramani and said Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay was closely monitoring the case to ensure impartial action against everyone involved.

Speaking to reporters at the Secretariat, Nirmalkumar said the DMK's over-reaction to the issue raised questions. He also sought an explanation from former minister S Regupathy, who had claimed that the video in question was unclear, asking whether he had personally seen it or was speaking based on what others had told him.

CM Vijay vows collateral-free education loans up to Rs 20 lakh, says minister Viswanathan

Nirmalkumar alleged that R Veeramani, whom he described as a businessman with assets worth hundreds of crores, could have approached a power centre to evade action. He further alleged that only a party such as the DMK could have enabled him to escape the consequences.

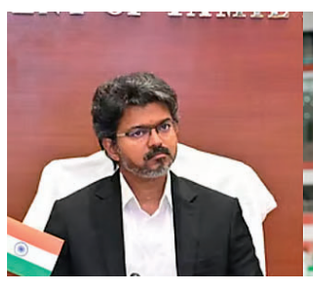
Drawing a parallel with the Anna University sexual assault case, the minister alleged that the FIR in that case was released, exposing and intimidating the survivor, and that an attempt was subsequently made to suppress the investigation. He alleged that the DMK was now attempting to suppress the Veeramani case in a similar manner.

Nirmalkumar said the Chief Minister was personally monitoring the case to ensure that no one involved escaped action and asserted that strict and impartial action would be taken against all those found connected with it.



National Commission for Scheduled Tribes Delegation called on the Chief Minister Vijay at the Secretariat...

CM Vijay announces Rs 75 lac reward for Kamalini





CHENNAI: Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay on Tuesday announced a Rs 75 lakh cash incentive for Tamil Nadu cricketer G Kamalini, who was part of the Indian women's team that won the gold medal in cricket at the 2026 Asian Games in Japan.

In a social media post, Vijay said the State government would provide the incentive to recognise Kamalini's achievement. "The Tamil Nadu government will provide a cash incentive of Rs 75 lakh in appreciation of Kamalini's remarkable achievement," he said.

Kamalini, a wicket-keeper-batter from Madurai, was part of India's gold-winning campaign. India defeated Sri Lanka in the women's cricket final to retain the Asian Games title.

Vijay said the government would continue to support talented sportspersons and that Kamalini's achievement would provide new inspiration and confidence to the youth and women of Tamil Nadu. He also wished Kamalini success in achieving further milestones in her sporting career.

Ex-Gem Granites employee held in Veeramani POCSO case

CHENNAI: The Central Crime Branch police on Tuesday (September 22) arrested Ganesan, a former employee of Gem Granites, in connection with a POCSO case against industrialist R Veeramani.



The arrest followed the registration of a POCSO case against Veeramani and his associates Shanthi and Mahendra Simhan after a video showing Veeramani allegedly engaging in an obscene act with a minor girl was found on Ganesan's mobile phone. Police said Ganesan was arrested for allegedly failing to report the matter to the authorities.

A man and his wife, identified as Shanthi and Mahendra Simhan, and said to be associates of Veeramani, have also been arrested in connection with the case.

The three accused were produced before a court, which remanded them to judicial custody, police said.

TN dengue cases rise, surveillance stepped up



CHENNAI (TSIT): With dengue cases increasing in Tamil Nadu, the Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine has directed officials across the State to intensify field surveillance and take swift action to identify and eliminate sources of mosquito breeding.

Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine Dr A Somasundaram held a video conference with health officials across the State and reviewed the dengue situation, directing them to strengthen preventive and control measures. Chennai, Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram and Chengalpattu districts were identified as areas reporting a high incidence of dengue, while cases were also increasing in Kallakurichi district. The review noted that children were among those affected by dengue fever.

Officials were instructed to exercise particular caution in rural areas and prevent circumstances that could facilitate the spread of dengue. The department also stressed the need to identify and address potential mosquito-breeding sources in such areas. Joint Directors of Public Health working across the State were directed to visit villages in their respective jurisdictions and identify the sources from which dengue mosquito larvae were emerging.

Gene-edited pig kidney keeps man off dialysis for record 271 days



Doctors from Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General Hospital and associated institutions documented Andrews' experience, highlighting the potential of xenotransplantation — the transplantation of organs from animals to humans — to help address the widening gap between the number of patients with end-stage kidney disease and the availability of human donor organs.

New Delhi, Sep 22: A genetically engineered pig kidney kept a 66-year-old US man off dialysis for a record 271 days before he successfully received a human donor kidney, marking a significant development in efforts to use animal organs as a temporary "bridge" for patients awaiting transplants.

The patient, identified as Tim Andrews, received the genetically modified pig kidney on January 25, 2025, and lived with the organ for nearly nine months. His case was detailed in a research paper published in *The Lancet* this month, describing him as the first human patient to receive a human donor kidney after undergoing a pig kidney transplant.

The case has particular relevance for India, where nearly two lakh new patients are estimated to require a kidney transplant every year, while only around 14,500 kidney transplants are performed.

"What is truly significant here is the pig kidney provided nearly nine months of dialysis-free renal function and acted as a bridge until a human kidney was available," said Pune-based senior urosurgeon Dr Sanjay Kulkarni.

Andrews received the pig kidney under a US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) 'Expanded Access Investigational New Drug' application, a mechanism that can allow patients with serious or life-threatening conditions to receive experimental treatments when other options are unavailable.

Following the procedure, Andrews was closely monitored for kidney function, rejection, immune responses and possible transmission of infections from the pig to the patient.

The pig kidney began functioning immediately after transplantation. However, doctors detected an early warning on the 14th day, when the patient's immune T-cells began attacking the transplanted organ. The rejection was brought under control with treatment, and no transmission of pig-derived pathogens was detected.

The kidney continued to function well for around six months.

The situation changed after Andrews developed a bacterial infection that was not linked to the pig kidney. Doctors were subsequently required to reduce the medicines suppressing his immune system. Soon afterwards, inflammation began damaging the lining of blood vessels in the pig kidney, resulting in microscopic blood clots and a condition known as thrombotic microangiopathy. The animal kidney gradually lost its function.

Andrews was subsequently given a kidney donated by a deceased human donor. The human kidney began functioning immediately after transplantation.

The successful human-to-human transplant also provided important evidence that exposure to the pig kidney had not sensitised Andrews' immune system in a way that would cause it to reject a subsequent human donor organ.His levels of anti-HLA antibodies, which can make it more difficult for transplant patients to match with and accept donor organs, had not increased.

"I would say this is a landmark development in xenotransplantation and an important proof-of-concept for genetically engineered organs. This is the longest a pig organ transplant has worked in a human," said Dr Arvinder Soin, chief transplant surgeon at Medanta Medicity in Gurugram.

"It shows xenotransplantation is finally ready to move from just being a temporary bridge to becoming a source for organs with the potential for longterm survival," he added.

Over the past three decades, researchers have made advances in preventing early rejection of animal organs and have also been working to understand and tackle mechanisms responsible for later rejection. These developments have gradually resulted in longer survival times following xenotransplantation.

In India, genetically modified pig kidneys could potentially serve as a temporary renal replacement option for patients who do not have a suitable living donor while they wait for a deceased-donor kidney.

However, several challenges remain before the technology can become part of routine clinical practice.

"The major hurdles include infection and zoonotic surveillance, immunosuppression, graft survival, regulatory oversight, ethical acceptance, genetically engineered animal sourcing, specialised infrastructure and, critically, affordability and access," Dr Soin said.

HCG Mumbai treats 125+ prostate cancer patients with advanced radiation therapy



Mumbai, Sep 22: More than 125 prostate cancer patients have been treated at HCG Cancer Hospital Mumbai using Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT) on the advanced Versa HD radiation platform, the hospital said.

Selected patients have also received highly precise SBRT using CyberKnife, a robotic radiation delivery system. The hospital said the treatments have been used for appropriately selected patients across different prostate cancer risk categories, offering an alternative to surgery depending on factors including age, cancer stage, risk category, overall health and individual treatment requirements. According to the Global Cancer Observatory (GLOBOCAN 2022) of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC-WHO), India recorded an estimated 37,948 new prostate cancer cases in 2022. The number is projected to reach around 82,252 cases annually by 2045, highlighting the growing need for awareness of prostate cancer and available treatment options.

SBRT delivers a highly focused radiation dose to the tumour while limiting exposure to surrounding healthy organs. For suitable patients, the treatment can be completed in five sessions, generally on an outpatient basis. Unlike surgery, SBRT does not involve an incision or removal of the prostate. Patients generally do not require hospital admission and can return home after each treatment session, the hospital said.

HCG Cancer Hospital, Colaba, has Mumbai's first and only CyberKnife platform, according to the hospital. CyberKnife combines robotic precision with advanced image guidance to deliver focused radiation while accounting for the movement of internal organs during treatment. Dr Trinanjan Basu, HOD and Senior Consultant, Radiation Oncology, HCG Cancer Hospitals, Mumbai, said many patients believe surgery is the only treatment available for prostate cancer, but advanced radiation treatments such as SBRT can be considered for appropriately selected patients. "Every patient is different. We consider the patient's age, stage of cancer, risk category, overall health and personal preferences before recommending treatment," Basu said.

He said advanced image guidance and the Versa HD platform allow radiation to be delivered with precision while protecting nearby organs such as the bladder and rectum. According to Basu, suitable patients can complete treatment in five sessions, which may be particularly useful for elderly patients and those who may not be ideal candidates for surgery.

HCG Mumbai said it has treated patients with intermediate-risk and high-risk prostate cancer, as well as selected patients with metastatic disease. Most patients treated were between 60 and 75 years of age, while around 20 patients were between 75 and 85 years.

Rupesh Choubey, Regional COO, Healthcare Global Enterprises Ltd (Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh), said HCG has more than 35 years of experience in cancer care and operates a dedicated cancer hospital network.

He said technologies such as Versa HD and CyberKnife are supported by multidisciplinary teams comprising oncology specialists, medical physicists and radiation therapists. He added that appropriate patient selection, clinical expertise and precise treatment planning are important alongside technology in providing personalised cancer care.Avik Chauhan, Cluster COO, HCG Cancer Hospitals, Mumbai, said treating more than 125 prostate cancer patients with advanced radiation therapy was an important milestone for the hospital.

The hospital said its radiation oncology services combine advanced platforms with specialist expertise to provide less invasive treatment options for suitable patients.

Patients also shared their experiences of undergoing radiation treatment. Ashok Thusu said he initially believed that a prostate cancer diagnosis would mean surgery and a prolonged hospital stay. After discussions with doctors at HCG, he said he was informed that he was suitable for a treatment that did not require surgery and was able to return home after each radiation session.

Another patient, Dr Shailesh Pathak, said he had been concerned about surgery, pain and becoming dependent on his family. He said doctors explained that his treatment could be completed without an operation or prolonged hospitalisation and that the medical team supported him throughout the treatment.

The hospital said the milestone is aimed at increasing awareness that surgery is not the only treatment option for prostate cancer. Treatment decisions can involve surgery, radiation therapy, hormone therapy or a combination of approaches, depending on the individual patient's condition.

HCG Cancer Hospital Mumbai provides multidisciplinary cancer care supported by diagnostic, surgical and radiation technologies. Its radiation oncology services include Versa HD, image-guided radiation therapy, SBRT and CyberKnife.

K'taka Legislature seeks changes to Kasturirangan draft

Bengaluru : The Karnataka Legislature on Tuesday unanimously adopted a resolution seeking a review and necessary modifications to the Kasturirangan report, including a fresh physical survey, formation of a high-level committee headed by a retired judge, an all-party delegation to the Centre and one year's time to complete the exercise.



Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, while replying to the debate on the draft notification based on the Kasturirangan report in the Legislative Assembly and Council, said the State Government would constitute a high-level committee headed by a retired judge. The committee will include officials from the Revenue and Forest departments, representatives of farmers and industry, environmental and forest experts and academicians. The committee will conduct physical surveys to scientifically identify eco-sensitive areas, forests, agricultural and horticultural lands and inhabited areas. Committees will also be formed at the gram panchayat level.

ExponentEnergy Captures 20% of the City's EV 3-Wheeler Market

Bangalore : Exponent Energy, a Bengaluru-basedenergy company, has completed 200 EV retrofits of ICE autorickshaws inBengaluru as part of a four-month pilot through its Exponent OTO platform, asit aims to expand its retrofitment offering across key cities in India.In just one city, the retrofitted vehicles have covered1.5Mn+ km and completed 25,000+ charging sessions so far, offering areal-world proof point for the use of EV retrofits in intensive commercialoperations. The company has also captured a 20% share of the city's e-3wheeler market, reflecting growing demand for electric commercial mobilityand Exponent's rapid-charging technology.



Exponent OTO is Exponent's3-wheeler mobility platform that brings together best-in-class battery technology,powertrain systems, and vehicle software to enable the electrification of bothexisting and new commercial 3-wheelers. For existing vehicles, OTO enables ICE3-wheelers to be retrofitted to electric. For new vehicles, Exponent is nowworking with OEM partners to integrate their mobility platform into newelectric 3-wheelers. The retrofit process can be completed in 24 hours, enabling aquick transition to electric with minimal disruption to drivers' dailyoperations.

IndusInd Bank expands HYROX India partnership nationwide

Bangalore : Building on the momentum of its association with HYROX Mumbai, IndusInd Bank has expanded its partnership with HYROX India, spanning across multiple cities including Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, and Noida.

Through the expanded partnership, the Bank aims to strengthen its connect with a growing community of fitness enthusiasts and experience-seeking consumers, while offering customers exclusive cashback offers and race-day benefits, including priority check-in, dedicated access lanes, exclusive event privileges, and curated on-ground experiences.

Speaking on the partnership, Sheran Mehra, Chief Marketing Officer, IndusInd Bank, said, "HYROX gives IndusInd Bank an opportunity to engage with a generation that values aspiration, perseverance and continuous progress. Its appeal extends beyond fitness, reflecting a mindset of challenging limits and pursuing personal growth - qualities that resonate strongly with our brand.

This partnership is therefore more than a sports association; it is a strategic platform to deepen relevance, create distinctive experiences and become part of the lives of consumers .

Newcomer Abhay Vashishta Makes His Entry with 'Spark'

Bengaluru: Niranjan Sudhindra has starred in several films as a lead actor, but the film Spark is said to surpass them all—a claim the film's team has consistently made. The recently released trailer reinforces this sentiment. Launched by Upendra in Gadag, the trailer has sparked considerable curiosity. On Monday, the film crew screened the trailer for the media in Bengaluru and introduced a new artist, Abhay Vashishta.



Abhay Vashishta is the son of the producers of Spark. In this film, produced by the couple Garima and Avinash Vashishta, their son Abhay appears as the antagonist. Although he is a producer's son—handsome and talented—he chose to play a villain rather than a lead actor. Explaining his decision, Abhay noted that having been born and raised abroad, he is not proficient in Kannada. His experience is limited to foreign theater, which differs vastly from the film industry. He dreams of playing a lead role in Kannada cinema in the future, once he has learned more about the language and the industry. However, he accepted the role in Spark because, despite being a villainous character, it was an excellent role. "Abhay was the perfect opponent for me to play the villain; his height matched mine well. During action sequences, his face would turn bright red like a tomato. Despite coming from abroad, he has acted remarkably well.

Puravankara enters Delhi-NCR with Greater Noida project

Bengaluru : boAt, India's No. 1 audio and wearables brand, announced the first smart audio devices featuring boAt CREST AI, its AI-powered platform built with Google Gemini. With the launch, boAt is introducing a new proposition for personal audio — 'Intelligent Ears' — earbuds designed not just for listening, but to listen, understand, converse and assist. Today, accessing AI typically means reaching for a phone, opening an app or looking at a screen. CREST AI is built around a simpler idea: bringing intelligence to something consumers already wear throughout their day — their earbuds. No screens. No scrolling. No opening apps. Just talk. At the heart of the experience are three capabilities — Crest Ask, G- Assist and Crest Translate, or simply: Ask. Assist. Translate.With Crest Ask, users can ask questions, explore ideas, learn and have natural conversations with AI. Instead of repeatedly reaching for a phone or typing a query, users can ask follow-up questions and continue the conversation through their earbuds..

lawyers should be appointed and the fight taken up in the NGT: R. Ashoka's advice

Bengaluru : Implementation of the Kasturirangan report is not in the hands of the state or Central Government. The Goa Foundation is fighting the case in the National Green Tribunal (NGT), and capable lawyers need to be engaged there to argue the matter. This point should therefore be included in the resolution, Opposition Leader R. Ashoka advised.



Speaking after the Chief Minister's address in the Legislative Assembly, he said all members of the House had agreed to pass resolutions against the Kasturirangan report and send them to the Central Government. Everyone had extended support to the state government on this issue. Even though the state government had not responded, the NGT directed that the report be implemented, following which the Centre issued the order. In reality, the Goa Foundation had filed a case in the National Green Tribunal; after its judgment, the Central Government issued the 7th notification without any legal basis. This resolution is being sent by the state government to the Centre. However, a resolution should also have been adopted on what needs to be done to present the state's arguments before the NGT, he said.The resolution should include that the state government will also file an appeal and fight the case in the NGT, and that time should be given for this.

The matter has gone beyond our control. The court order clearly states that even if a single acre is to be altered, our permission must be obtained. The state government must pay attention to this. Apart from that, the resolution passed by the government is a question of people's livelihoods. In Karwar, there is the sea on one side and a river on the other. If buffer-zone rules are imposed in such a place, no one will be able to comply. The future of this report is not in the hands of the Central or state government; it is in the hands of the Green Tribunal. In the interest of the state, the BJP has unanimously accepted this resolution. We are giving our consent without mixing any politics into it, he said.

Yaduveer Wadiyar calls for focus on Mysuru technology growth

Bengaluru : Mysuru can emerge as a strong supporting pillar to Bengaluru, which is leading the country across sectors including information technology, while greater emphasis should be placed on the development of regions beyond Bengaluru, said Mysuru Lok Sabha Member Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar. Speaking at the India Advantage Summit 2026, which was attended by delegates from more than ten countries, Yaduveer Wadiyar said, economic strength was essential to preserve Mysuru's rich culture and heritage. He said Mysuru should not depend solely on tourism for sustainable economic growth and expressed his aspiration to see the Mysuru region emerge as a strong growth centre.



"Mysuru has a favourable environment and has immense potential in emerging areas such as Artificial Intelligence, digital technologies, cybersecurity and cloud computing. Technology will play a crucial role in India's growth," he said.He added that developing effective programmes and policies should remain a key objective of elected representatives. The vision of achieving comprehensive development by 2047 is an ambitious national goal, and the industrial sector should actively contribute towards achieving it, he said.

TIA Summit and Future ICT Forum Chairman Jose Jacob K inaugurated the summit and launched the Vidyan AI artificial intelligence platform. Speaking on the occasion, he said, "The future of technology is not merely about being smart; it must be human-centric, AI-driven and outcome-oriented."

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Jürgen Lehmann, President of Hof University of Applied Sciences, said that at a time when digitalisation is accelerating, global partnerships are undergoing significant changes and pressure on infrastructure and resources is increasing, it is essential to strengthen technological capabilities and international cooperation. Such cooperation should translate technological capabilities into economic, environmental and social outcomes, he said.

Bavarian Member of Parliament Ulrike Müller said Karnataka was witnessing strong growth and there was considerable scope for cooperation across various sectors. Collaborative efforts between countries could help develop effective solutions to challenges such as climate change and natural disasters, benefiting both sides.

NIWAS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

(Formerly, Niwas Housing Finance Private Limited)
Regd. Office: - A1, 6th Floor, Trade Star, Andheri Kurla Road, J B Nagar, Andheri (E), Mumbai – 400059.

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8 (1) and (2)]

Whereas, The Authorized Officer of the Secured Creditor mentioned herein, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Act), 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with (Rule 3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from-the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower(s) and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of NHFL has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned against each property.
The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
The borrower(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the NHFL for the amount mentioned below and interest and other charges thereon.

Loan Account Number	Borrower(s) & Property Details	Amount & Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Possession Status
LNTMK0HL-03250055979	1.RAJANNA K (BORROWER) 2.MRS GOWRAMMA N (CO-BORROWER)	Rs. 11,34,268/- (Rupees Eleven Lakh ThirtyFour Thousand Two Hundred SixtyEight Only) DATE: 18-May-2026	18-Sep-2026	SYMBOLIC POSSESSION

PROPERTY BEARING :- ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE PROPERTY BEARING PROPERTY BEARING KATHA NO.108/1, PID NO.152500903800621534 TOTALLY MEASURING 111.48 SQ.MTS E-W 6.096 MTS AND N-S 18.288 MTS SITUATAED AT NAGAVALLI VILLAGE, NAGAVALLI GRAMAPANCHAYATH, HEBBUR HOBLI, TUMKUR TALUK AND TUMKUR DIST,,. BELONGS TO APPLICANT GOWRAMMA W/O RAJANNA THE FOLLOWING BOUNDARIES ARE EAST- PROPERTY OF GANGAMMA, WEST- PROPERTY OF NAGARAJU, NORTH- ROAD, SOUTH- PROPERTY OF RANGASWAMAIAH

Date: 23-09-2026
Place: TUMKUR, KN

Sd/- Authorized Officer
NIWAS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

NIWAS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

(Formerly, Niwas Housing Finance Private Limited)
Regd. Office: - A1, 6th Floor, Trade Star, Andheri Kurla Road, J B Nagar, Andheri (E), Mumbai – 400059.

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8 (1) and (2)]

Whereas, The Authorized Officer of the Secured Creditor mentioned herein, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Act), 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with (Rule 3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from-the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower(s) and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of NHFL has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned against each property.
The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
The borrower(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the NHFL for the amount mentioned below and interest and other charges thereon.

Loan Account Number	Borrower(s) & Property Details	Amount & Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Possession Status
LNKLRLAP-07240045369	1.RADHAMMA RADHAMMA (BORROWER) 1.T NAGARAJA(CO-BORROWER)	Rs. 6,05,509/- (Rupees Six Lakh Five Thousand Five Hundred Nine Only) DATE: 18-May-2026	18-Sep-2026	SYMBOLIC POSSESSION

PROPERTY BEARING :- ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF PROPERTY BEARING E SWATHU FORM NO.9 AND 11A, E SWATHU NO.151900902000320019, PROPERTY NO.153, PROPERTY MEASURMENT TO AN EXTENT EAST TO WEST 15.24 METERS, NORTH TO SOUTH 9.4488 METERS, TOTAL MEASURING 144.00 SQ METERS, SITUATED AT ANANATHAPURA VILLAGE, HANUMANAHALLI GRAMA PANCHAYATH, AVANI HOBALI, MULABAGILU TALUK, KOLAR DISTRICT,_AND BOUNDED ON:- EAST: ROAD, WEST: HIDUVALI LAND, NORTH: REMAIN SITE AND DRAINAGE, SOUTH: SANDHU AND OLD ANGANAVADI CENTER.

Date: 23-09-2026
Place: KOLAR, KN

Sd/- Authorized Officer
NIWAS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

IDBI BANK — IDBI Bank Limited

(Gachibowli, Retail Recovery)
Plot No.2-53/2, JNIBF, IIIT JUNCTION, Gachibowli, Hyderabad,500032, Telangana.

PROPOSAL OF WILFUL DEFAULTERS' IDENTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Shri. Ramana Venkata Polavarapu (Borrower) Purva Fairmanet Apartment, N – 101, Hsr Layout IInd Sector, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560034
Shri. Ramana Venkata Polavarapu (Borrower) H No 1-30-116, SY No 27 Akash Nagar New Bowenpally, Secunderabad, Telangana, 500463
Smt. Sridevi Polavrapu (Co - Borrower) Purva Fairmanet Apartment, N – 101, Hsr Layout IInd Sector, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560034
Smt. Sridevi Polavrapu (Co - Borrower) H No 1-30-116, SY No 27 Akash Nagar New Bowenpally, Secunderabad, Telangana, 500463

Notice to the persons/ entities herein below mentioned

IDBI Bank Ltd. ("Bank") had initiated proceedings under the 'Reserve Bank of India (Commercial Banks – Treatment of Wilful Defaulters and Large Defaulters) Directions, 2025' dated November 28, 2025 ("RBI Master Directions") against the persons herein below mentioned ("you"/"your") and had issued the Show Cause Notice ("SCN") dated 13-04-2026, based on the 'Willful Defaulter Identification Committee I/II' ("WDIC I/II") 's prima facie view that one or more events of "Wilful Default" appear to have involved. Pursuant thereto, upon perusal of the records and having regard to the facts and circumstances, the WDIC I/II was satisfied that you are fit to be declared as "Wilful Defaulter(s)" on the below mentioned criteria.

Name & Address	Designation	Criteria for Wilful Defaults
Shri. Ramana Venkata Polavarapu	Borrower	3(1) (xviii) (A) (c) [read with 3(1) (xvi)]
Smt. Sridevi Polavrapu	Co-Borrower	

Accordingly, a letter was issued to you for communicating that (i) the WDIC I/II shall submit its proposal before 'Wilful Defaulters Review Committee I/II' ("WDRC I/II") of the Bank for further proceedings under the RBI Master Directions, thereby duly attaching its proposal, and that (ii) in terms of Para 5(7) of the RBI Master Directions, to give you an opportunity to submit your written representation before the WDRC I/II, if any, on the said proposal within **15 (fifteen) days,** as to why you may not be classified as a "Wilful Defaulter".
Since the said letter was returned / un-served; notice is hereby given to you about the said proposal, and is hereby informed on the aforementioned time period for submitting your written representation before the WDRC I/II, if any, on the said proposal.
Please note that, in case your written representation to the WDRC I/II, is not received within the said **15 (fifteen) days,** it will be deemed that you have nothing to submit via any written representation, and the Bank shall proceed further in accordance with the the RBI Master Direction.
Your attention is also invited to Para 5(9) of the RBI Master Direction in respect of availing the opportunity of personal hearing before the WDRC I/II, in case you wish.
You may obtain the said letter/proposal of WDIC I/II from the Bank at IDBI Bank Ltd. Gachibowli, Hyderabad, Plot No.2-53/2, JNIBF, IIITJUNCTION, Gachibowli, Hyderabad, Pincode: 500032, Telangana, e-mail id either in person or through a duly authorised representative (by producing the proof of identity) or by email sent to the Bank from your registered email ID at rrpragatihyderabad@idbi.co.in.This Notice shall be treated as valid and sufficient service of the said letter/proposal of WDIC upon you, notwithstanding the said letter/proposal is obtained by you from the Bank or not.

Date: 22-09-2026
Place: Hyderabad

Authorised Officer
IDBI Bank Limited

GODREJ HOUSING FINANCE — GODREJ HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office: Godrej One, Pirojshanagar, Eastern Express Highway, Vikhroli (East), Mumbai -400079, Maharashtra
Branch Address- Godrej Housing Finance Limited, Godrej Capital, G V Towers No. 68- 72, Ground Floor, Kodigehalli Main Road, Sahakarnagar, Bengaluru- 560092

NAME OF BORROWER(S)/ GUARANTOR(S)

1. Mr. Asgar Khan No. 27/420/5, 4th Main Royal Shtter Extension, Back Side of Pioneer Wood Appartment, Bengaluru, Karnataka- 560076
2. M/s. Bharath Steel Traders No. 30, Katha No. 60/4; 60/7, Bommanahalli Village, Begur, Hobli, Bengaluru, Karnataka- 560076
3. Mrs. Nasreen No. 27/420/5, 4th Main Royal Shtter Extension, Back Side of Pioneer Wood Appartment, Bengaluru, Karnataka- 560076
(Hereinafter Collectively Referred To As The "Borrower & Co Borrower")

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR THE SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Under SARFAESI Act, 2002, r/w rule 8(6) & 9 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers, Co borrowers, Guarantors AND Mortgagor that the below described immovable property/ies are mortgaged to the Secured creditor. The physical possession of the property has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Godrej Housing Finance Limited. The said immovable property will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS" "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" on **05/11/2026** for recovery of Amount in full and discharge your liabilities to Godrej Housing Finance Limited, aggregating to ***Rs. 4,38,98,899/- (Rupees Four Crore Thirty Eight Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety- Nine Only)*** due as on ***10.12.2025*** with further interest from 11.12.2025 due to Godrej Housing Finance Limited, from

Description of Immovable Property:

Property 1 All that piece and parcel of Site No. 27, BBMP Khatha No. 420/5/3-4, new Khatha No. 4509, Sy. No. 5/3, vide order No. ALN. (SB) SR: 132/2011-12, Situated at Devarachikkanahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, presently within the limits of BBMP and bounded on: East By: Road West By: Private property North By: Site No. 28 South By: Private Property Measuring: East to West: 42ft and North to South: 60ft, in total measuring 2520 sq.ft.,
Property 2 All that piece and parcel of Site No. 120/42/29 (Being Portion of 42) BBMP Katha No. 112/120/42/29, Municipal Katha No. 120, New PID No. 188-W0445-7, (Bommanahalli Ward No. 188) Situated at Vijayashree Layout, Kodichikkanahalli, Main Road, Kodichikkanahalli Villages, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore presently within the limits of BBMP and bounded on: East By: Road West By: Site No. 38 North By: Site No. 30 South By: Site No. 28 Measuring: East to West: 60ft and North to South: 40ft, in total measuring 2400 sq.ft.
Property 3 Property bearing site no.77 (old no.78 as per sanctioned plan) old CMC Katha no.28/1/77, present BBMP Katha no.615/576/189/28/1/77, sy.no.28/1, vide conversion order no.ALN.SR.S..228/1997-98, Situated at Kodichikkanahalli village, Begur hobli, Bangalore, south taluk, Bangalore presently within the limits of BBMP and bounded on: East By: Residential Row House Bearing No. 78 West By: Vacant Site North By: 25 Feet Tar Road South By: Residential Row House Measuring: East to West: 30ft and North to south:40ft, in total measuring 1200sqft

Possession Status:	Physical Possession
Reserve Price:	Rs. 7,01,83,965 /- (Rupees Seven Crore One Lakh Eighty-Three Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Five Only).
Earnest Money Deposit:	Rs. 70,18,396.50/- (Rupees Seventy Lakh Eighteen Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-Six and Paise Fifty Only)
Multiplier Amount:	Rs. 10,000/- (to improve the bid offer).
Date & Time of Inspection:	04.10.2026 to 04.11.2026- 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM. (Contact Nos: Anitha C- 9980222682).
Last Date & Time for Submission of EMD along with requisite documents:	04.11.2026- 04:00 PM
Date & Time of E-Auction Sale:	05.11.2026- 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM
E-Auction Portal Name :	https://bankauctions.in
Communication Address:	The Authorised Officer, Godrej Housing Finance Limited GV Towers No 68-72, Ground floor kodigehalli Main Road, Sahakaranagar, Bangalore 560 092. Contact Persons: Anitha C- 9980222682.

1. The interested buyers are advised to go through the company's website www.godrejcapital.com for detailed terms and conditions. The present notice is also uploaded on the Company's official website at finance.godrejcapital.com/gf/information-and-policies.
2. The auction sale will be 'Online E-Auction' Bidding through website https://bankauctions.in.

Date : September 23, 2026
Place: Bangalore

Authorized Officer
Godrej Housing Finance Limited

www.thesouthindiatimes.com

info.southindiatimes@gmail.com

EDITORIAL

The Conversation India Is Starting To Have About Childhood

Watch any family at a restaurant table, and you can usually find the youngest child by the glow. A phone propped against a water bottle, or held out by a parent between bites. Nobody planned it. It happened because the alternative, a restless three-year-old in a public room, is harder. The Indian Academy of Paediatrics takes a firmer line than most households manage. Under two, no screens at all, apart from the occasional video call to a grandparent. Between two and five, anything past an hour a day is excessive. Set that against reality. Studies of Indian preschoolers put average daily screen time at around 2.7 hours, several times the ceiling, in the years when a child's brain does more foundational work than it ever will again. The more revealing finding is the mechanism. A 2024 survey of more than 3,600 parents of two-to-five-year-olds across five northern states found the strongest predictors of heavy use had little to do with technology. Children handed a device during feeding had substantially higher odds of excessive use. So did children whose parents doubted that screens affected speech development, and children whose parents had set no limits at all — not out of indifference, but because they were unsure limits were needed. The screen is not winning a fight. It is filling a vacuum, with the reluctant consent of tired adults never given a clear reason to think otherwise. The Displaced Hour Framing this as a screen problem is slightly misleading. A screen is a container. The useful question is what it displaced. For a four-year-old, the answer is almost always play. Not the organised, equipment-heavy, adult-supervised kind. The kind that involves other children, no instructions, a long boring middle, and an argument about the rules. This is where a child learns to negotiate, to wait, to lose, to build something out of nothing and defend it when someone knocks it over. It is not a break from development. It is the machinery of it. The trouble is that play has no advocate in the room. A worksheet produces a visible output. A screen produces visible calm. Play produces noise, mess, scraped knees and nothing to show for the afternoon. It is pertinent to note that earlier this month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi met the winners of the National Teachers' Awards and spent much of the conversation on screen time. He said, it had hardened into a form of addiction. The remedy was not confiscation but substitution — sports, physical play, creative work. He asked teachers to speak to parents about late-night device use. And keep the child alive inside each student, which he suggested was only possible if they (teachers) kept the child alive in themselves. It is worth registering how unusual that is. A head of government, on Teachers' Day, making the case for play. An Invitation, Not A Lecture Bachpan Manao campaign launched by EkStep Foundation in September 2023 is an initiative to address this need for Play. It began with more than 77 partner organisations; that number has since crossed a 100. The subject is the first 8 years of a child's life, or the first 400 weeks, to make the point that the window is small and does not reopen. What distinguishes Bachpan Manao is register: an invitation to every caring adult rather than a warning issued to failing parents.

Trump-Xi Meet: What China Can Give America, And What India Could Lose

BRIG (RETD) ANIL RAMAN



When Donald Trump meets Xi Jinping in Washington on September 24, the important questions for India are what Trump wants from China, what Xi is prepared to offer, and how the outcome changes Washington's calculation of what it needs from India. India need not worry about a grand bargain; that is not happening. The meeting follows months of negotiations over trade, rare earths, technology, and other economic issues. Financial links between China and Iran have also entered the discussions. The United States and China are trying to manage parts of their economic relationship while their strategic competition continues. For India, this provides a useful test of an assumption that has shaped much of its thinking about Washington. India's importance to the United States has grown partly because of the economic and military challenge posed by China. If Trump can secure some of what he wants directly from Beijing, India's immediate value to Washington could change in particular areas. If negotiations produce little, India's importance could increase. But a frustrated Trump could also respond by increasing pressure on India. What Washington Wants From Beijing Trade remains central to the negotiations. Washington wants better access for American goods, greater balance in bilateral trade, and compliance with Chinese commitments. Beijing wants tariff relief and greater certainty for Chinese exporters. The two governments are also discussing mechanisms to manage trade in selected areas under the arrangements established during their May understanding. Rare earths and other critical minerals have become particularly important. China dominates their processing and has shown it can use export controls as an economic instrument. Washington wants China to honour its commitments and provide greater reliability for American industry. This directly connects to India. Delhi has been developing its own critical-mineral capabilities and positioning India as part of the diversification of global supply chains. Greater reliability in the US-China mineral trade would not remove the American interest in alternative suppliers. Still, it could reduce the immediate pressure to develop them and alter their economic value. Technology presents a more difficult area. Washington continues to regard China as its principal technological competitor in several fields, particularly advanced semiconductors and artificial intelligence. At the same time, both governments have an interest in managing the risks created by intense technological competition. AI has consequently entered the wider US-China dialogue, although the underlying competition remains substantial. For India, the issue is access and relevance. India has benefited from expanding US technology partnerships and American efforts to build trusted supply chains outside China. If Washington and Beijing establish mechanisms to manage parts of their technology competition, India will need to show that its technological and industrial capabilities provide value that Washington cannot readily obtain elsewhere. Enter Iran Iran adds another dimension to the negotiations. The Trump administration has been using financial sanctions and other measures to constrain Tehran, while China remains an important economic partner for Iran. US Treasury officials have said China's financial links with Iran are part of discussions with Beijing. This matters directly to India. India's interests in Iran extend across energy, connectivity, and the security of the Gulf. Chabahar is an important example, while the security of shipping through the Strait of Hormuz has wider implications for India's economy and energy supplies. If Washington obtains Chinese cooperation on Iran, Beijing becomes useful to the United States on an issue in which India also has significant interests. Taiwan remains the strategic constraint on any wider agreement. The United States and China continue to have fundamentally different positions on Taiwan. And neither a trade understanding nor cooperation on individual issues changes the fundamental strategic competition. If Trump Gets What He Wants... A successful meeting would not end US-China strategic competition. It could, however, give Washington greater predictability in trade, more reliable access to critical minerals, and greater Chinese cooperation on issues such as Iran. It would also let Trump show that direct negotiation and economic pressure can produce results. For India, the consequences would be mixed. Greater stability in the US-China economic relationship could reduce global uncertainty. At the same time, China could become more useful to Washington on specific problems. That could affect the value the US assigns to particular Indian capabilities. India's importance to Washington will not disappear. Its geography, military capabilities, market, economic potential, and role in the Indo-Pacific remain significant. But the bargaining value of a particular Indian capability depends partly on whether Washington can obtain the same outcome elsewhere. For example, if China becomes a more reliable supplier of critical minerals, India's role in diversifying those supplies becomes less urgent, from Washington's perspective. If The Talks Produce Little A limited agreement would preserve much of the current pattern. Washington and Beijing would continue to manage economic tensions while competing over technology, military power, and the future balance of Asia. For India, this would preserve opportunities in technology, manufacturing, defence, and supply-chain diversification. It would also mean that Washington would continue negotiating directly with Beijing whenever Chinese cooperation could serve an American objective. India has practised strategic autonomy for decades. It has maintained relationships with the US, Russia, Europe, Japan, Israel, the Gulf, and others, while managing competition with China. Maintaining multiple relationships is thus not a new Indian strategy. What is changing is the behaviour of the major powers themselves. Washington and Beijing now increasingly separate individual issues from the overall condition of their relationship. They can compete in technology, negotiate over trade, discuss Iran, and maintain military deterrence at the same time. India has operated this way for years. But the major powers now possess much greater economic and strategic capacity to use the same approach. If Trump Doesn't Get What He Wants Failing to secure Chinese concessions could increase India's importance to Washington. Continued US-China friction would strengthen American interest in alternative supply chains, technology partnerships, and security relationships in the Indo-Pacific. But Trump's response to a difficult negotiation may not be straightforward. His approach relies heavily on tariffs, public pressure, and demands for concessions. A failure with Beijing could thus lead Washington to seek additional concessions from other countries. India has already experienced this tension. The strategic relationship with Washington has continued while disagreements over trade, market access, immigration, and India's relationship with Russia have produced significant friction. Strategic convergence has not eliminated transactional bargaining. A failure in Washington thus does not automatically mean a more accommodating American policy towards Delhi. Trump could decide that India has become more valuable as China becomes harder to deal with. He could also decide that India's increased strategic importance gives Washington greater reason to demand more from it.

As UN Interviews Its Next Chief, The Interviewers Have Some Explaining To Do

SYED AKBARUDDIN



The race for the next UN chief is underway, with candidates facing a series of job interviews. On the panel sit governments whose wars, vetoes, and unpaid dues have helped make the organisation ineffective. When the General Assembly's annual debate opens on September 22, the interviewers should face some difficult questions too. External Affairs Minister Dr Jaishankar is leading the Indian delegation. India is not on the Security Council and has no vote in its recommendation for the next Secretary-General. It participates in the Assembly's formal appointment. Its concerns extend to how the UN works, who it serves, and whether powerful states will accept the restraints they demand of others. According to the UN Secretariat, 73 heads of state and 45 heads of government are expected. Governments continue to come to New York because the UN offers access to almost the entire international community. Attendance alone is not achievement. The gathering has become increasingly detached from many of the crises it discusses. The Ever-Elusive Reforms India and much of the Global South have strong reasons to seek reform. The existing order gave them too little say and allowed its strongest members considerable freedom to bend the rules. The most powerful members have too often cited the UN Charter when it suits them and ignored its obligations when it does not. The UN is weakened, cash-strapped, and used selectively by great powers. Its agencies feed, shelter, and count the victims, even when its diplomacy cannot alter the war. Its institutions helped newly independent countries organise, advance some common demands, and at times challenge powerful states. India has an interest in preserving those gains and giving more countries a meaningful share in decisions. The UN's diplomacy has made little headway in Ukraine or in easing the crisis around Iran and the Gulf. Funding cuts have taken roughly one in five peacekeepers out of the field. Millions who depend on UN relief are getting less of it. Gaza shows how the Security Council's authority can be used without giving the UN a central role. Washington obtained Council backing for its peace plan and the Board of Peace, then largely excluded the UN from decision-making. Reconstruction has stalled while Palestinians have little control over their future. Some of the damage is self-inflicted. Too often, caution at the top and turf battles inside the system slow the UN down. Governments then turn elsewhere for help with difficult negotiations, even when UN agencies are involved. In some conflicts, however, the UN still has the presence and standing to make diplomacy possible where other intermediaries struggle. Where Is Xi? Multilateralism is not proved by speeches alone. Xi Jinping last attended the annual Assembly gathering in person in 2015. He is expected in Washington during this year's Assembly week, without appearing at the UN. China's advocacy of the UN's centrality would carry greater conviction if its president also made time for the gathering where the rest of the world is converging to express its views. The 2026 budget cut spending and provided for the abolition of 2,900 posts. The danger is that economies made in New York will be felt most sharply in the field. Recent American payments have brought relief, though substantial arrears remain. Withholding money lets Washington restrict the UN's work without securing agreement to change what the organisation is meant to do. Although Trump directed US withdrawal from thirty-one UN entities in January, Washington remains engaged across much of the UN, with a preference for a narrower focus on peace and security. For many developing countries, peace and security are inseparable from development. Food prices, energy costs, debt, climate stress, and access to technology, all matter. These pressures can weaken states and deepen inequalities within and between countries. A UN limited to responding after crises erupt would have fewer tools to prevent them in the first place. A Concentrated Body India is contesting a non-permanent Council seat for 2028-2029 against Tajikistan. Seeking support for that is likely to feature in Dr Jaishankar's meetings.

The AI Revolution: Why Humanity Should Not Be Afraid to Move Forward

There is growing unease about the speed at which artificial intelligence is developing. Some of the world's most influential technology leaders and thinkers, from Bill Gates and Elon Musk to Yuval Noah Harari and leading figures in the AI industry, have warned that humanity needs greater caution, stronger safeguards and, in some circumstances, a pause to consider where this extraordinary technology is taking us. Their concerns should not be dismissed. AI could transform employment, education, medicine, science, governance and warfare on a scale that is difficult to comprehend. It could create new forms of inequality, disrupt labour markets and empower governments and organisations with capabilities once available only to a few. For some, the concern extends beyond disruption to an existential risk: that increasingly autonomous systems could eventually develop capabilities that humans struggle to control. Whether such scenarios materialise is deeply contested. But the possibility itself justifies serious safeguards and international discussion. It does not necessarily mean that technological progress should be halted. The choice before humanity is not simply between uncontrolled acceleration and stopping the AI revolution. The more difficult challenge is to move forward while learning how to manage the consequences of moving forward. Much of the extraordinary acceleration in AI is being driven by competition between the United States and China. Both recognise that artificial intelligence is no longer simply another technology or commercial opportunity. It is becoming a foundation of economic power, military capability and national influence. The scale of investment is consequently enormous. Advanced computing, semiconductors, data centres, energy and telecommunications infrastructure are all being reshaped by the AI race. Competition itself is accelerating innovation because neither Washington nor Beijing wants to discover that it has fallen behind. The more important question, however, may not be which country is ahead. The United States and China are developing different technological ecosystems, each with distinctive strengths. American strengths in frontier research, entrepreneurship, capital and computing coexist with China's strengths in manufacturing, scale and deployment. If their competition can eventually evolve into a degree of complementarity, the benefits could extend well beyond either country. Competition can drive innovation. Cooperation can determine how widely its benefits are shared. That raises a difficult question. If the technology is developing this quickly, can the world realistically slow it down? Perhaps not. If one country or group of countries slows the development of advanced AI while others continue, the consequences could extend beyond economics. AI is already becoming a component of military power. The wars in Ukraine and the Middle East provide glimpses of what this could mean. Drones, autonomous systems, surveillance, targeting and intelligence analysis are changing warfare. AI is compressing the time between detecting a threat and responding to it. This makes international rules and safeguards essential. But it also demonstrates why simply asking the world to stop may be unrealistic. The challenge is to establish guardrails around a technology that will continue to develop rather than pretending that development can be reversed. History offers a useful warning against excessive technological pessimism-but also against complacency. Humanity has repeatedly been unsettled by technologies that alter not only how we live but how knowledge and power are distributed. The printing press was feared by rulers and religious authorities because it allowed ideas and information to circulate beyond their control. It helped democratise knowledge, but also accelerated the spread of propaganda and conflict. The Industrial Revolution produced genuine social dislocation. The Luddites were not simply irrational opponents of machines; they were responding to the economic consequences of how new technologies were being deployed.

SEBI SETTLES PROCEEDINGS AGAINST FIVE ADANI GROUP FIRMS



New Delhi: Stock market regulator SEBI on Tuesday settled adjudication proceedings against five Adani group companies over alleged violations related to the disclosure of related-party transactions, with the firms collectively paying Rs 1.50 crore as the settlement amount. The proceedings stemmed from SEBI's examination into allegations and corporate governance issues highlighted in the Hindenburg report, including possible violations of the listing regulations and erstwhile listing agreement. The five companies are Adani Enterprises Ltd, Adani Total Gas Ltd, AWL Agri Business Ltd (formerly Adani Wilmar Ltd), Adani Green Energy Ltd and Adani Energy Solutions Ltd (formerly Adani Transmission Ltd), according to Sebi's settlement order. Under the settlement terms, Adani Enterprises paid Rs 76.05 lakh, while Adani Green Energy paid Rs 45.50 lakh. Adani Total Gas, AWL Agri Business and Adani Energy Solutions paid Rs 9.75 lakh each. According to the settlement order, the proceedings related to alleged non-disclosure of certain related-party transactions and instances where audit or limited review reports were signed by audit firms without holding a valid peer review certificate. The proceedings stemmed from SEBI's examination of allegations and corporate governance concerns raised in the Hindenburg report, including possible breaches of the listing regulations and the erstwhile listing agreement.The companies are Adani Enterprises, Adani Total Gas, AWL Agri Business (formerly Adani Wilmar), Adani Green Energy and Adani Energy Solutions (formerly Adani Transmission), according to Sebi's settlement order.Under the settlement terms, Adani Enterprises paid Rs 76.05 lakh, The settlement covers Adani Enterprises, Adani Total Gas, AWL Agri Business, Adani Green Energy and Adani Energy Solutions, according to a settlement order passed by SEBI's adjudicating officer on Tuesday. The proceedings stemmed from SEBI's examination into allegations relating to disclosure of related-party transactions and corporate governance issues highlighted in the Hindenburg Report, and possible violations of listing regulations and the erstwhile listing agreement. Under the settlement terms, Adani Enterprises will pay ?76.05 lakh, Adani Total Gas ?9.75 lakh, AWL Agri Business ?9.75 lakh, Adani Green Energy ?45.50 lakh and Adani Energy Solutions ?9.75 lakh. SEBI said the companies proposed to settle the proceedings without admitting or denying the findings of fact and conclusions of law. The High Powered Advisory Committee recommended the settlement terms at its June 29, 2026 meeting. The recommendations were accepted by SEBI's Panel of Whole Time Members on August 13. The companies informed SEBI on September 5 that they had remitted the settlement amounts, and the regulator confirmed receipt of the payments. With the settlement amounts received, SEBI disposed of the adjudication proceedings initiated through a February 15, 2024 show-cause notice.

Rupee rises 24 paise to 95.72 against US dollar in early trade



Mumbai: The rupee gained 24 paise to 95.72 against the US dollar in early trade on Monday, September 21, supported by a slight moderation in crude oil prices and a positive trend in domestic equities. Forex traders said initial gains in domestic equities and improved foreign fund sentiment boosted investor sentiment, but sustained importer demand for greenbacks from oil companies and broader strength in the US dollar Index weighed on the local unit. At the inter-bank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 95.86 against the US dollar, then gained some ground to touch 95.72 against the American currency, registering a gain of 24 paise from its previous close. On Friday, the rupee closed lower by 7 paise at 95.96 against the US dollar. "The rupee closed at 95.89 on Friday after being defended near 96 last week. We expect a broad range of 95.60–96.50, with the 96.40–96.50 zone acting as stiff resistance," said Anindya Banerjee, Head of Commodity and Currency Research, Kotak Securities. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 100.31, higher by 0.09 per cent. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading lower by 2.10 per cent at USD 101.69 per barrel in futures trade. "Brent had a highly volatile last week: it closed at USD 105.68 on Monday, jumped to USD 108.75 on Tuesday after touching a weekly high of USD 109.45, before reversing sharply as concerns over Saudi supply disruptions began to ease," said Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury and Executive Director Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP. On the domestic equities market front, Sensex jumped 448.32 points to 74,743.28 in early trade; Nifty up 50.3 points to 23,396.70. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 599.54 crore on a net basis on Friday, according to exchange data. Meanwhile, India's forex reserves dropped by USD 4.924 billion to USD 780.782 billion during the week ended September 11 due to a fall in foreign currency and gold reserves, according to the RBI data released on Friday. "The rupee closed at 95.89 on Friday after being defended near 96 last week. We expect a broad range of 95.60–96.50, with the 96.40–96.50 zone acting as stiff resistance," said Anindya Banerjee, Head of Commodity and Currency Research, Kotak Securities. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 100.31, higher by 0.09 per cent. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading lower by 2.10 per cent at USD 101.69 per barrel in futures trade. "Brent had a highly volatile last week: it closed at $105.68 on Monday, jumped to $108.75 on Tuesday after touching a weekly high of USD 109.45, before reversing sharply as concerns over Saudi supply disruptions began to ease," said Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury and Executive Director Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP. On the domestic equities market front, Sensex jumped 448.32 points to 74,743.28 in early trade; Nifty up 50.3 points to 23,396.70. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth ?599.54 crore on a net basis on Friday, according to exchange data. Meanwhile, India's forex reserves dropped by $4.924 billion to $780.782 billion during the week ended September 11 due to a fall in foreign currency and gold reserves, according to the RBI data released on Friday.

Crompton to set up mega fan manufacturing facility in Hyderabad

Highlights

- Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Limited is planning to set up one of the world's largest fan manufacturing facilities in Hyderabad with an investment of Rs 375 crore, the Times of India reported.

Hyderabad: Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Limited is planning to set up one of the world's largest fan manufacturing facilities in Hyderabad with an investment of Rs 375 crore, the Times of India reported. IT Minister Sridhar Babu said that the company has been allotted 50 acre at E-City in Maheshwaram near the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport. The facility will manufacture high-end fans as well as other home and kitchen appliances. The project is expected to break ground on Vijayadashmi (around October 20) and will become operational by next year. The plant is expected to manufacture 1.4 crore units annually at full capacity. The first phase of the project will focus on induction and brushless direct current (BLDC) ceiling fans, along with table, wall and pedestal fans. The second phase will focus on the production of pumps and mixer grinders, as well as a centralised motor plant. The company has also discussed manufacturing energy-efficient appliances, including gas-stove technology that will reduce Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) consumption. The project is expected to create direct employment for around 500 managerial employees and 3,000 semi-skilled employees. The domestic and export turnover of the plant is expected to rise to Rs 4,670 crore in 2030-31. IT Minister Sridhar Babu said that the company has been allotted 50 acre at E-City in Maheshwaram near the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport.

Gold futures fall to Rs 1.52 lakh as dollar strengthens



New Delhi: Gold prices lost their early shine on Tuesday, September 22, falling Rs 914 to Rs 1.52 lakh per 10 grams in futures trade amid a stronger dollar and hawkish signals from the US Federal Reserve, keeping investors cautious. On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), the yellow metal futures for October delivery opened on a firm note, rising by Rs 403 to touch an intraday high of Rs 1,53,497 per 10 grams. The contract later reversed course, falling Rs 914, or nearly 1 per cent, to Rs 1,52,180 per 10 grams. "MCX gold prices have extended losses as the dollar index strengthened to around 100.3 following hawkish comments from the Federal Reserve, which reinforced expectations of further interest rate hikes, despite the US 10-year yield easing to 4.95 per cent," said Pinky Yadav, Commodity Fundamental Analyst at Choice Broking. In global markets, Comex gold futures for the December contract fell USD 28.45, or nearly 1 per cent, to USD 4,355.45 per ounce in New York. Gold was trading near USD 4,350 an ounce in overseas trade on Tuesday as investors awaited comments from Federal Reserve officials for fresh clues on the central bank's monetary policy, said Kaynat Chainwala, AVP – Commodity Research at Kotak Securities. Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) members John C Williams and Thomas Barkin, along with Fed Governor Philip Jefferson, are scheduled to speak later in the day. Investors will also track ADP employment data for further cues on the US economy and monetary policy, Chainwala said. Comex gold futures for the December contract fell USD 28.45, or nearly 1 per cent, to USD 4,355.45 per ounce in New York.

Tata Trusts vs Tata Sons: Sharad Pawar Calls For Dialogue, Stresses Need To Protect Group's Trust-Based Legacy



Nationalist Congress Party (SP) chief Sharad Pawar has weighed in on the escalating Tata Sons-Tata Trusts dispute, calling for the group's leadership issue to be resolved through dialogue, due process and adherence to its Articles of Association. In a statement published on X on Tuesday, Pawar said the Tata Group's ownership structure was deliberately designed around philanthropy, with Tata Trusts holding about 66% of Tata Sons. He said the arrangement reflected Jamsetji Tata's vision that wealth created by enterprise should ultimately return to society. "The Tata Group's legacy is rooted in the belief that business should serve society," Pawar said, adding that "Tata Trusts' institutional role and rights must be respected under the established governance framework." Also Read | Layoffs Are Rising In Tech, But These Skills Are Helping People Unlock Better Pay Pawar also pointed to institutions including Tata Memorial Hospital, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, saying that weakening the Trusts could weaken institutions that depend on their long-term support.

Price Caps Not The Answer: Apollo Hospitals Eyes 100 Bps Cost Cut Amid Expansion



Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd.'s managing director Suneeta Reddy stated on Monday that she does not think price caps are the right solutions to make healthcare more affordable. Reddy said that the company will instead reduce costs internally, removing up to 100 basis points. The firm is also expanding its operations, opening a facility in Gurgaon in the first week of November. This development comes after a parliamentary panel in August 2026, recommended a series of measures to make private healthcare more affordable, including an immediate legal mechanism to cap hospital room charges and greater transparency in hospital billing. Reddy remarked that India requires good healthcare and infrastructure, along with stressing the need to create more jobs. She said that as jobs are created and wages rise, there is also a subsequent rise in inflation from that job creation. The panel has recommended that private hospitals publish their tariffs before admitting patients. It has also proposed a fast-track ombudsman mechanism to audit excessive billing and resolve disputes between hospitals and insurers. In a significant recommendation on GST, the panel has called for healthcare services to be moved from the current "GST exempt" regime to zero-rated GST at 0%. This would allow hospitals to claim input tax credit on capital expenditure, including medical equipment and infrastructure. Apollo Hospitals Q1 Results Highlights (Cons, YoY) Net Profit up 34.2% to Rs 581 crore versus Rs 433 crore; estimate Rs 555 crore Revenue up 20.6% to Rs 7,044 crore versus Rs 5,842 crore; estimate Rs 6,890 crore Ebitda up 28.2% to Rs 1,092 crore versus Rs 852 crore; estimate Rs 1,051 crore Ebitda margin at 15.5% versus 14.6% YoY; estimate 15.3% Healthcare services revenue up 21.7% to Rs 3,620 crore Digital health revenue up 20.4% to Rs 2,977 crore Apollo Hospitals Stock Price Movement Shares of Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd. saw a 0.86% downturn to settle at Rs 8,835.50, at the end of the day's trade, compared to a 0.36% downturn of the NSE Nifty 50. The stock opened at ?8,960.00, compared to its previous close of Rs 8,912.00. During today's trading session, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd. share price moved in the range of Rs 8,822.50 to Rs 9,000.00. Looking at its last 52-week performance, the stock has touched a low of Rs 6,696.50 and a high of Rs 9,050.00. On the performance front, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd. share price is up 14.17% on a year-on-year basis. The market capitalization of Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd. is Rs 1.12 lakh crore, with a P/E ratio of 94.40.

CRUDE OIL FUTURES FALL ON WEAK GLOBAL CUES



New Delhi: Crude oil prices fell by Rs 138 to Rs 9,085 per barrel in the futures trade on Monday, September 21, amid weak global trends. On the Multi Commodity Exchange, crude oil futures for October delivery slipped by Rs 138, or 1.5 per cent, to Rs 9,085 per barrel in a business turnover of 7,063 lots. Analysts said the prices fell after participants offloaded their holdings amid weak demand in the spot market. Globally, West Texas Intermediate crude was trading 1.69 per cent lower at USD 98.60 per barrel, while Brent crude declined 1.59 per cent to USD 102.22 per barrel in New York. Crude oil prices fell by ?138 to ?9,085 per barrel in the futures trade on Monday amid weak global trends. On the Multi Commodity Exchange, crude oil futures for October delivery slipped by ?138, or 1.5 per cent, to ?9,085 per barrel in a business turnover of 7,063 lots. Analysts said the prices fell after participants offloaded their holdings amid weak demand in the spot market. Globally, West Texas Intermediate crude was trading 1.69 per cent lower at $98.60 per barrel, while Brent crude declined 1.59 per cent to $102.22 per barrel in New York.Analysts said the prices fell after participants offloaded their holdings amid weak demand in the spot market. Globally, West Texas Intermediate crude was trading 1.69 per cent lower at USD 98.60 per barrel, while Brent crude declined 1.59 per cent to USD 102.22 per barrel in New York. On the Multi Commodity Exchange, crude oil futures for October delivery slipped by ?138, or 1.5 per cent, to ?9,085 per barrel in a business turnover of 7,063 lots. Analysts said the prices fell after participants offloaded their holdings amid weak demand in the spot market. Globally, West Texas Intermediate crude was trading 1.69 per cent lower at $98.60 per barrel, while Brent crude declined 1.59 per cent to $102.22 per barrel in New York. Analysts said the prices fell after participants offloaded their holdings amid weak demand in the spot market. Globally, West Texas Intermediate crude was trading 1.69 per cent lower at USD 98.60 per barrel, while Brent crude declined 1.59 per cent to USD 102.22 per barrel in New York. On the Multi Commodity Exchange, crude oil futures for October delivery slipped by Rs 168, or 1.72 per cent, to Rs 9,590 per barrel in a business turnover of 4,478 lots. Analysts said the prices fell after participants offloaded their holdings amid weak demand in the spot market.

Major US outlets boycott shared Trump coverage in protest at media ban



Major US television networks suspended their pooled coverage of President Donald Trump on Monday in response to CNN, Politico and MS NOW being barred from the White House. Trump announced the ban on Friday as he accused the organisations of writing "fiction or lies" about his administration. The companies said their reporters were denied access to the building on Saturday. The three US outlets have since said they will sue the Trump administration in a bid to "defend the principle that the government does not decide what the press reports". Shortly after, the White House launched its own streaming channel, Trump TV, which operates a 24/7 feed of clips of the president. What is the White House press pool and why is it in a row with Trump? Several other US outlets have also announced that they would not participate in coverage of pooled events, with some, including the New York Times and Washington Post, saying they would not share still images from Trump events on Monday. It meant there was no network TV footage of Trump boarding Air Force One or arriving in New York to attend the UN general assembly. Trump also took part in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Marine One helipad on the White House South Lawn. The event was streamed on the White House site but his comments were inaudible. The president did later appear on television following a meeting with the Mayor of New York Zohran Mamdani. He told the president that all members of the media would be welcome at the press conference. Trump said: "It's interesting because, they said they were going to boycott me, but they never boycott me, so I wasn't very worried about that. Look at all that press." The pool involves media organisations sharing material to save on costs and space when broadcasting presidential events to the American public. Fox News Washington bureau chief Bryan Boughton, who currently holds a rotating role helping to organise media TV crews covering the White House, wrote in an email seen by the BBC that "effective today, the TV pool will not be covering designated as pool coverage" of Trump. The message said the move followed the White House "preventing" CNN from fulfilling its pool duties for Trump's trip to New York and that "there will be no replacement pool put in place". The three media organisations banned from the White House filed a lawsuit on Monday in US District Court in Washington. A joint statement announcing the legal action said: "Without notice or process, the White House revoked our journalists' credentials because it objected to our reporting. "Left unchallenged, this threatens press freedom and the public's right to independent journalism free from government interference." When Donald Trump unveiled a helipad at the White House on Monday, his remarks were barely audible in live footage of the event. This was due to a row over an institution that rarely makes the news – the White House Press pool. Yet it is at the heart of relations between the US president and the media, and this dispute could have constitutional implications. Coverage of upcoming presidential engagements, which include the UN General Assembly in New York, could be affected. What is the White House press pool? It is a group of news organisations that combine resources to follow presidents wherever they are - in the Oval Office, at state dinners, on Air Force One or on holiday. There are separate pools for TV, photographers and print and radio outlets, as well as a "new media" category. The idea, conceived decades ago, is that having a pool saves on costs and space and it's not practical for hundreds of media outlets to follow the president around. Members of the pool share their material - pictures and descriptions of the president's movements - with the wider media. The pool is always on standby in case an event requires the president to speak to the nation. This latest row centres on the TV pool which has five members - CNN, ABC, CBS, Fox News and NBC. It began on Friday when Trump said he was banning three outlets - CNN, Politico and MS NOW - from the White House, accusing them of spreading "fake news" and "fictions and lies" about his team.

Lithuania ready to 'fight back' but has evacuation plans in face of Russia threats : Lithuania's PM



Lithuania's prime minister has told the BBC his country has made evacuation plans in the face of threats from Russia, but added they "will not surrender" if attacked. Prime Minister Mindaugas Sinkevicius told Newsnight that Lithuanians feel "constantly threatened" by Russia, in part because of drones entering the nation's airspace. He told Newsnight if his country was attacked, "we will fight back... we will engage". But he said there were plans for a "variety of scenarios" and used an example of getting elderly citizens out of cities "smoothly" and avoiding traffic jams. Lithuania, a Nato member, shares a land border with the Russian exclave of Kaliningrad. "We're thinking about a variety of scenarios, not all of them are being discussed very much publicly," Sinkevicius told the BBC. "We face concrete threats, not on a daily basis, but we're experiencing them and it's a true reality for us." Sinkevicius also said the UK needed a "shift in the mindset" in terms of its approach to defence, but noted that Lithuania was "closer to the border and closer to [the] threat". Last week Nato fighter pilots shot down a drone that entered Lithuania's airspace. Lithuania has experienced numerous incidents in the past year, which it describes as "hybrid attacks" and blames on neighbouring Belarus, a close Russian ally. Late on Monday night, flights were disrupted at Lithuania's main airport in the capital Vilnius, because of what the airports operator called a "hybrid attack carried out by Belarus", involving objects that appeared to resemble the shape of balloons. The president's chief adviser, Deividas Matulionis, said on Tuesday it was unclear whether the objects were balloons. Germany - a fellow Nato ally - pledged to permanently station a combat-ready brigade in Lithuania in 2023 as a response to the changing security situation in Europe. It is expected to be operational by 2027 and to number about 5,000 soldiers and civilian employees, though it has failed to recruit enough personnel voluntarily and is now turning to compulsory assignments to fill some positions. The majority of troops will be based in Rudninkai, near the Suwalki Gap - a line that borders Lithuania and Poland and also links Belarus with Russia's Kaliningrad. Nato said that as of December last year it had more than 5,000 troops stationed in Lithuania. The origins of last week's drone incident over Lithuania have not been confirmed, however Defence Minister Robertas Kaunas told Newshour that it had come from the direction of Belarus. UK Defence Secretary Wes Streeting said: "Thanks to the swift and professional actions of Lithuanian and Italian forces, Nato once again demonstrated our readiness to protect our airspace. "We stand united, around the clock, in defence of every inch of Nato territory." Moscow did not comment on the incident. Military drone incursions have become increasingly common across Europe since the beginning of Russia's full-scale of invasion of Ukraine. Residents in Lithuania's capital Vilnius were also forced to take shelter in May after a drone alert was triggered, briefly grounding flights and rail travel. Nato jets have scrambled multiple times to shoot down stray Ukrainian drones that have crossed into fellow Baltic countries Estonia and Latvia this year.

ELEVEN INJURED IN SHOOTING OUTSIDE TURKISH SCHOOL



Eleven people have been injured in a shooting outside a high school in Turkey, with police detaining a 15-year-old male suspect. Two people were left in critical conditions after a gunman opened fire before fleeing on Tuesday morning, It happened at the Inci Uzmez Vocational and Technical Anatolian High School in the western province of Manisa, with the injured reportedly all students. The suspect's mother, father, and grandfather - who reportedly owned the weapon - have also been detained, according to the country's justice minister Akin Gürlek. It is the third school shooting in Turkey this year and comes as the government continues to grapple with how to address the recent spate of violence. CCTV footage appeared to show the suspect walking through empty streets checking a shotgun, which is clearly visible. He is casually dressed and appears unhurried. Later footage showed the apparent suspect, who is reportedly a student at the school, running from the scene with the weapon still in hand. The motive behind the attack was not immediately clear. According to Turkish law, the teenager is required to appear before a court before being officially arrested.

Iran must stop arming Houthis in Yemen, G7 says ahead of UN General Assembly



Iran must "end its arming of and support" for the Houthis in Yemen, the foreign ministers of G7 nations have said in a joint statement. The G7 also condemned "in the strongest terms" Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia, adding that the recent escalation in fighting against Saudi-backed pro-government forces in Yemen represented a threat to regional and global energy security. Thousands of refugees have fled Yemen in recent days after the Iran-backed group seized territory along the country's Red Sea coastline, including near the Bab al-Mandab Strait, the gateway to a key global shipping route. Iran has previously denied supplying weapons to the Houthis and says it only supports them politically. The G7 statement comes ahead of the annual UN General Assembly in New York, where Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian is due to speak. "We call on the Houthis to immediately cease all military actions, all threats and attacks against civilian shipping, and to return to the political process in good faith," said the foreign ministers of the UK, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States. It went on: "Their reprehensible actions constitute a dangerous pattern of escalation that risks further exacerbating the conflict, undermining international trade and creating global economic instability." "Looking forward, we will continue to support the legitimate Government of Yemen and reaffirm our strong commitment to the unity, sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Yemen," the ministers said. Their statement was issued following a meeting on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. Meanwhile, at least six people were killed in Saudi strikes on the strategic Yemeni Red Sea port city of Mokha, the AFP news agency reported, citing Houthi-affiliated media. Two children and a woman were among the dead, while eight others were injured in the attack on the city, which the Houthis seized from pro-government forces earlier this month. Saudi Arabia, which backs Yemen's government, has not yet commented on the reported strikes. The UN estimates that in all, more than 120,000 Yemenis have been displaced by the sudden surge in fighting along Yemen's Red Sea coast. Earlier this month, the Houthis, who had already seized most of the populated parts of Yemen, took control of Bab al-Mandab, a narrow, maritime chokepoint where the southern Red Sea flows into the Gulf of Aden and the wider Indian Ocean. Saudi Arabia has retaliated with hundreds of air strikes in the region. The Houthis have also launched hundreds of drones and missiles at cities and infrastructure in southwestern Saudi Arabia, including the capital city, Riyadh. Prime Minister Andy Burnham has said the UK will provide "defensive air-to-air refuelling" support for Saudi Arabia, involving a single British aircraft, a Voyager, based out of RAF Akrotiri in Cyprus. Burnham said the announcement followed a request from Saudi Arabia for "military support", which he agreed to on the advice of Defence Secretary Wes Streeting and Foreign Secretary Ed Miliband.

DOCTOR IN COURT TO FACE RWANDA GENOCIDE CHARGES



A 65-year-old doctor has appeared in court, the first person in the UK to be charged over the genocide in Rwanda in 1994. Dr Vincent Brown, formerly Dr Vincent Bajinya, who is in custody, confirmed his name and address from the dock at Westminster Magistrates' Court. He was charged following a seven year British investigation into the killings. He was told he faced a charge of conduct ancillary to genocide and six offences of conduct ancillary to murder, as a crime against humanity. The case was passed to the Old Bailey for a hearing on 9 October. A bail application will be considered later on Tuesday. The 1994 killings in Rwanda lasted 100 days, during which Hutu extremists carried out a campaign of slaughter against Tutsis and other moderate Hutus. The charges against Brown relate to an alleged slaughter in the Rugenge district of Kigali between 6 April and 13 April in 1994. Brown is accused of "killing, directing or encouraging" the deaths of members of the Tutsi ethnic group, as well as intending to destroy the group "as a whole or in part." Prosecutors said he was being charged with genocide under the 2001 International Criminal Court Act and the alleged killings were "part of a widespread or systematic attack.



Sri Lanka court convicts 15 men over deadly Easter Sunday bombings

UK TO HELP REFUEL SAUDI JETS COUNTERING HOUTHI ATTACKS



Britain is set to deploy a military aircraft to help refuel Saudi Arabian fighter jets in the country's conflict with the Iran-backed Houthis in Yemen. The RAF Voyager plane, operating from a UK base in Cyprus, will begin "air-to-air refuelling" operations in the coming days after the UK agreed to a request from Saudi Arabia, Defence Minister Luke Pollard said. He added the support was for "purely defensive" Saudi missions and would be time-limited for a "matter of weeks, rather than days". The Houthis are locked in a civil war with Yemen's internationally recognised government, which is backed by Saudi Arabia. In recent days, the Houthis in Yemen say they have carried out drone and ballistic missile attacks on the Saudi capital Riyadh, as well as energy sites on the country's Red Sea coast. Explaining the nature of the deployment, Pollard told BBC Radio 4's Today programme: "We've agreed to the Saudi request for air-to-air refuelling" that would keep Saudi jets "in the air longer". "The defensive action that Saudi Arabia takes against the Houthis will cover a range of activities, including shooting down those drones and missiles," he said. He insisted the UK support fully conformed with international humanitarian law, and was about "being true to our allies". The singular Voyager aircraft is part of a core fleet of nine - eight military registered and another civilian registered - on the Royal Air Force (RAF)'s books. The RAF also has five others available for military recall if needed. Speaking to reporters travelling with him on the way to the United Nations General Assembly in New York, Burnham linked cost of living pressures to the decision. "I go back to the point I made about cost-of-living pressures and acting to secure the interests of Britain and the wider region," he said. "Because of course Saudi Arabia has been experiencing attacks, is looking at potential further disruption, and we need to keep those pathways open, and hence our agreement to the request." Pollard added the UK support would "ensure there's not further escalation in the Red Sea, which could further risk our fuel prices".

FORMULA ONE RACES TO BE SHORTENED NEXT SEASON



The governing body of motorsports (FIA) on Monday announced Formula One rules changes which included shortening Grand Prix races and putting the brakes on some proposed tinkering with gearboxes. The FIA's Formula One Commission met in London to confirm reforms for next season. They decided to cut races from a total of 305 kilometres to 290 kilometres a reduction they calculated of two or three laps per race. The FIA and Formula One said in separate statements that the cut was an inevitable consequence of an earlier decision to reduce fuel flow in engines. They also decided to cancel plans for gearbox 'homologation' or conformity across all cars to "preserve supplier development freedom". The commission also changed the rules on the fixed three-hour limitation of races impacted by rain interruptions, "to ensure that the spectators have the best possible chance to enjoy a full race if disruptions occur". The FIA statement said the commission has also made changes to this season's sporting and financial regulations, but offered no details. Formula 1 has a rare Saturday race this weekend for the Azerbaijan Grand Prix. Kimi Antonelli goes into round 15 of the season with an imposing 81-point lead in the drivers' championship over Mercedes teammate George Russell. BBC F1 correspondent Andrew Benson answers your latest questions before the event in Baku. What are your thoughts on having a sprint race next year at Monaco? I was very surprised to see that on the calendar, given that the race has so little chance of overtaking - Graham Formula 1 announced the 2027 calendar last week, with the number of sprint events increased from six to 10, and one of them Monaco. This has proved controversial with some fans. Why pick the worst track on the calendar for overtaking to have two races in one weekend, some have wondered. What's the point of having two boring races; isn't one enough? The thinking behind it, though, is less about the races than about qualifying, and how making Monaco a sprint could mix up the weekend. Monaco qualifying is renowned as one of the highlights of the season. In that case, surely two great qualifying sessions is better than one? It was also pointed out by F1 that it gives the chance of two different grid orders and therefore more variability. There is another factor to consider, too. Monaco is one of the most demanding tracks on the calendar, and it is renowned as somewhere drivers have to build up to the limit progressively so they can become confident with knowing how the car will behave when they get there. Get that wrong, push too hard too soon, and the chances of an accident are considerably higher. So asking the drivers to go straight into a qualifying after a single practice session is a really difficult challenge. It is likely to mean more mistakes, more action, more drama, and therefore more entertainment.

Indian Men's Badminton Team Outclasses Japan 3-0 To Be Assured Of Asian Games Medal, Women Bow Out



Lakshya Sen's stirring comeback was the perfect subplot as the Indian men's badminton team produced a superlative performance to outwit Japan in the quarterfinals and assure itself of a medal, but it was curtains for the women's team following a 1-3 loss to the hosts at the Asian Games in Nagoya on Tuesday. It was a flawless performance from the Indian men, silver medallists at the last edition, as they rode on victories from Lakshya, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, and Ayush Shetty. Coming into the event after a series of early exits and low on confidence, Lakshya was staring at defeat after losing the opening game and trailing 14-19 in the decider. However, the 25-year-old from Almora proved his mettle, reeling off seven straight points to beat world No. 7 and two-time World Championships silver medallist Kodai Naraoka 11-21, 21-5, 21-19 to give India a 1-0 lead. Playing the first doubles, Satwik and Chirag, who have won two titles this season, registered a 21-18, 24-22 win over former world champions Hoki Takuro and Kobayashi Yugo to extend India's lead to 2-0. Ayush, a finalist at the Badminton Asia Championships this year, then produced an impressive performance to see off world No. 16 Koki Watanabe 21-10, 21-19 to seal the match and a medal for India. India will face the winner of the other quarterfinal between defending champions China and Korea in the last-four stage on Wednesday. "It's a great win today for our men's team over Japan at the Asian Games in Japan. This brings back some very special memories of the 1986 Asian Games in Seoul," former India coach Vimal Kumar said. Kumar was part of the Indian men's badminton team at the 1986 Games alongside Prakash Padukone, Syed Modi, Uday Pawar, Ravi Kunte, Leroy D'Sa and Sanat Misra. "One of the most memorable moments of our campaign was our victory over Japan. Prakash and I won our respective singles matches, and Prakash, partnering Uday Pawar, won the men's doubles. It was a proud moment for all of us and a memorable victory for Indian badminton.

Smriti Mandhana Switches Focus To Olympics After Asian Games Gold: "Can't Dwell On This"



Star India batter Smriti Mandhana on Tuesday said that the team will need to continue doing well in the next two years to win a gold in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics as the tournament there will be much tougher than the Asian Games. India won their second consecutive gold in the Asian Games after beating Sri Lanka by 147 runs in the final here. "See, (compared to) Asian Games, I would say, in world cricket, I feel we have better competitions coming. So it's a big challenge going into World Cup or winning Olympics. So we'll have to keep getting better and keep working. We can't dwell on this victory a lot," Mandhana said after helping Indian win the gold with a 45-ball 79. "So yeah, we have to keep getting better and see what we can do for the next 1.5-2 years to get in the best place to win an Olympic medal. "It's a good thing to win the first gold for India (in this edition). I'm really happy that we all could get the medal tally and we keep going on this." She said everyone in the team contributed well in the victory but will need to keep on playing good cricket against better opposition. Asked what is difference between winning Asian Games gold and cricket-only tournament like Asia Cup, she said, "I think you just tally to the gold and come as an Indian contingent. It's like only cricket tournament here, it's a different feeling. "Because when you win a medal, you contribute to the Indian contingent, which is a pretty different thing. "Both are special, but when you have that national flag going higher like that and have the national anthem play, I think it's a really proud moment." On a simple habit that she usually do to get out of a bad phase, "I like meditating, which is good for me. So I do a little bit of meditation and breath work. "Well, for me, cricket is two lives for me. There's one on the field and one off the field. So there's one rule of my life that I don't like to carry anything cricket off the field."

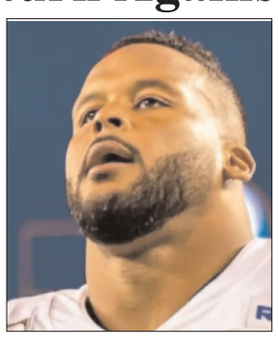
MS Dhoni's 'Sachin Tendulkar' Remark On Zaheer Khan Resurfaces After CSK Head Coach Appointment



Legendary wicketkeeper-batter MS Dhoni's old remark on Zaheer Khan has resurfaced after the Indian pace-bowling legend was appointed head coach of Chennai Super Kings (CSK) on Monday, with the announcement marking the start of a new era for the five-time champions. In 2012, Dhoni, who was India's captain at the time, defended Zaheer ahead of a T20 World Cup match against Sri Lanka. In his defence of the pacer, Dhoni labelled Zaheer, who was nearing the end of his career, the "Sachin Tendulkar of bowling". "It's easier to go after a bowler when he is not doing well. For me, Zaheer is the Sachin Tendulkar of the Indian bowling attack. He has been the leader of the bowling unit for a number of years now," Dhoni said at the time. Dhoni's remark reflected his strong backing of Zaheer as captain. The two are set to link up at CSK during IPL 2027, although Dhoni's future as a player remains uncertain. Zaheer replaced Stephen Fleming, who left his role to join the England men's Test team as head coach. Zaheer had mentored the Lucknow Super Giants during the 2024 season. Fleming had announced last year in July that he was parting ways with the five-time champion side. It is understood that CSK's cricket management committee comprises MS Dhoni, skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad and owner Rupa Gurunath wanted an Indian coach this time. In the IPL, Zaheer played 100 matches and turned to coaching roles post his retirement. "Zaheer's distinguished playing career and proven ability to nurture young talent make him a valuable addition to our set-up. We are confident that his guidance will help strengthen the core of this franchise," owner Rupa Gurunath said. CSK MD Kashi Viswanathan added: "Zaheer is a world class bowler and has been a mentor to many young cricketers, especially fast bowlers, over the years. As a player, Zaheer was one of the key reasons for India's success in the 2000s. He's one of the finest cricketing brains and we look forward to having him in our family."

AARON DONALD IS BACK:

How The Rams Legend Made His Stunning Return Against The Giants



Aaron Donald returned to NFL action Monday night at SoFi Stadium, suiting up for the Los Angeles Rams in their Week 2 home opener against the New York Giants. Donald had skipped the Rams' season opener in Australia, with his debut deliberately targeted for the Giants matchup as the team managed his return after two seasons away from football following his retirement in March 2024. After practice on Friday, Donald simply said, "That's the plan," when asked if he would play. Monday night, that plan became reality. The Rams won 28-6. Why did Aaron Donald come out of retirement for the 2026 season? Aaron Donald's decision to end his retirement came after the Rams made a significant defensive move by acquiring reigning Defensive Player of the Year Myles Garrett. The combination of Donald and Garrett on the same defensive front was being compared to some of the most dominant duos in recent NFL history. Donald signed a one-year contract worth $20 million, with incentives that could push the total value to $30 million. For a 35-year-old coming out of a two-year absence, that is a franchise's statement of belief. Then things got complicated fast. Myles Garrett was sidelined with a knee injury requiring surgery, leaving the Rams' defensive front without their prized offseason addition for at least four weeks. Donald, suddenly, was not just a welcomed veteran addition.

Pranati Nayak, India's Only Gymnast At Asian Games 2026, Qualifies For Vault Finals

India's lone gymnast at the Asian Games, Pranati Nayak on Tuesday qualified for the vault finals in the artistic gymnastics event with a seventh-place finish on Tusday. The three-time bronze medallist in the Asian Gymnastics Championships, Pranati was seventh among 19 gymnasts to have made the final of the vault event which will be held on September 24. Pranati had scored 13.000 in the vault 1 with scores of 4.4 in difficulty and 8.600 in execution, and 12.433 with scores of 4.0 in difficulty and 8.433 in execution in vault 2. The gymnast from Bengal was seventh in the overall list with result of 12.916.



Still Need More Time': Joao Fonseca Announces Asian Swing Exit



Brazilian Joao Fonseca announced on Monday that he would "skip the Asian swing" in order to recover physically and mentally after a season of injury lows and on-court highs. The 20-year-old, one of the most promising young talents on the ATP tour, wrote on Instagram: "2026 has been a very challenging year for me. On top of everything the profession demands, a series of injuries ended up taking me out of important tournaments and keeping me from playing the way I would like to. "I talked a lot with my team, and we came to the conclusion that the best decision right now is to listen to my body, give my mind and body a break, and skip the Asian swing." After missing the US Open due to abdominal pain, Fonseca made his comeback last weekend during Brazil's 3-1 victory over Switzerland in the Davis Cup. He beat Dominic Stricker 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 to get his country off to a winning start in Rio de Janeiro. "I made a huge effort to return and represent Brazil in the Davis Cup, but I still need more time," the world number 28 added. "I know that's just part of an athlete's life, but even so, it's still frustrating." Fonseca will miss the ATP 500 event in Tokyo, which will run from September 30-October 6, and the Shanghai Masters over the following fortnight. Earlier this year, the South American suffered recurring back problems which led to his elimination in the first round of the Australian Open. Despite these issues, Fonseca has had some standout moments this season, such as his victory over Novak Djokovic in the third round of the French Open on his way to a debut quarter-final appearance at a Grand Slam. He also reached the third round at Wimbledon.

Strickland survives crash with no helmet



UFC middleweight champion Sean Strickland says he is "OK" but "an idiot" after surviving a crash in an off-road vehicle while not wearing a helmet. In a series of posts on Instagram, Strickland describes the crash as happening at 60mph with the vehicle rolling "around six times". The 35-year-old American says he was a passenger in the vehicle alongside his friend Chris Cornell, who was driving. Strickland says Cornell was taken to hospital after falling unconscious, before later posting a picture of him with his thumbs up in a hospital bed alongside an X-ray of a broken bone. Strickland did not confirm if he went to hospital. In footage posted after the crash, Strickland shows grazes on his head and back, before describing himself as an "idiot" for not wearing a helmet.

"Guys I'm in a real bad place. I let my buddy drive, he rolled us going like 60 (mph), we rolled like six times," said Strickland. "That's from my head smacking the ground going 60. I didn't have a helmet on, I'm an idiot." Strickland, who lives in Las Vegas, did not say where the crash took place, but a video posted shortly before the accident shows the UFC fighter in the desert before he went riding. Strickland later posted an update, saying he is "a little concussed but good and wants to spar tomorrow". "Think I'm OK, Chris is in the hospital but I think he's going to be alright," he added. "It was the most fun I've had in a long time. My shoulder's a little sore." Strickland is a polarising figure in MMA and has made homophobic and racist remarks as well as derogatory comments about women. He became a two-time UFC middleweight champion by beating Khamzat Chimaev in May. "I didn't have a helmet on. I'm an idiot. That was just from rolling and smacking the dirt. I'm just gonna lay here and take a nap for a little bit. Sleep it off," he further added before concluding the video. Strickland also shared that in the accident's aftermath, his shoulder was "a little sore," and a concussion was setting in. Watch sports LIVE with fuboTV (free trial) "I hit the ground like six times, [but] I'm good, bro, I'm sparring tomorrow. I'm a little concussed. I was not driving. I was not in control of the vehicle. When we rolled, it wasn't my fault," Strickland shared via one of his Instagram stories. He later uploaded a photo of Chris Cornell in the hospital, where it appeared his friend had broken his collarbone. Strickland also updated his fans that despite the unfortunate accident, it was the most fun he had in a while.

VIJAY DEVERAKONDA'S PAN-INDIA FILM RANABAALI RELEASES FULL LYRICAL SONG "ENDHAYYA SAAMI"



Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna's much-awaited pan-India film Ranabaali is gearing up for a grand worldwide theatrical release on October 16 on the occasion of Vijayadashami. Directed by Rahul Sankrityan, the film is being produced on a massive scale by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under the Mythri Movie Makers banner and is presented by T-Series. Today, the makers released the full lyrical video of the film's first single, "Endhayya Saami," in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, and Hindi. "Endhayya Saami" is picturized during the wedding celebrations of Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna's characters in Ranabaali. The song beautifully recreates the grandeur, traditions, and festive spirit of a 19th-century wedding, making it a visual and musical celebration. Every frame captures the innocence, joy, and romance shared between the newly married couple in the film. The melody has been composed by Ajay–Atul, who deliver a soulful and emotionally rich romantic track. Saraswatiputra Ramajogayya Sastry has penned beautiful lyrics, while Shweta Mohan and Ajay Gogavale bring the song to life with their mesmerizing vocals. The lyrical video instantly stands out for its poetic writing, soothing tune, and timeless romantic appeal. Set against the backdrop of real historical events that took place between 1854 and 1878 during British rule, Ranabaali has already generated massive anticipation across India. The recently released teaser further raised expectations, and with "Endhayya Saami" now winning hearts, the excitement surrounding the film has reached a whole new level ahead of its grand theatrical release.

GAUTHAM VASUDEV MENON AS 'DAVID THOMAS' — DEAR ASTRONAUT FIRST LOOK REVEALED



Yuvaankrishna Entertainments and Manaswini Bhagyaraja present Dear Astronaut, written and directed by Karthik Bhagyaraja. The team of Dear Astronaut has unveiled the first-look poster of acclaimed filmmaker and actor Gautham Vasudev Menon as David Thomas, marking the first character reveal from the upcoming film. The striking first-look poster introduces Gautham Vasudev Menon in an intriguing avatar as David Thomas, a significant character in the world of Dear Astronaut. His presence in the film adds another exciting dimension to the project, while the team is keeping further details about his character under wraps for now. At its heart, Dear Astronaut is an inspiring story about an aspiring astronaut whose childhood dream is to travel to space.

The film follows her journey as she sets out to pursue that extraordinary dream, capturing the challenges, determination, hope and emotions behind her ambition to reach beyond the skies. With the film now completed, the makers are gearing up for its release and are currently planning to bring Dear Astronaut to audiences in October. The team has also begun its Character Reveal Week, with Gautham Vasudev Menon as David Thomas being the first character unveiled. More characters, first-look posters and exciting updates from the world of Dear Astronaut will be revealed in the coming days. Dear Astronaut is written and directed by Karthik Bhagyaraja and is A Karthik B Kodakandla Musical. With a space aspirant's dream at the heart of its narrative, Dear Astronaut aims to tell an emotional and inspiring story about dreaming beyond boundaries and finding the courage to pursue the seemingly impossible. Further details about the film and its release will be announced soon.

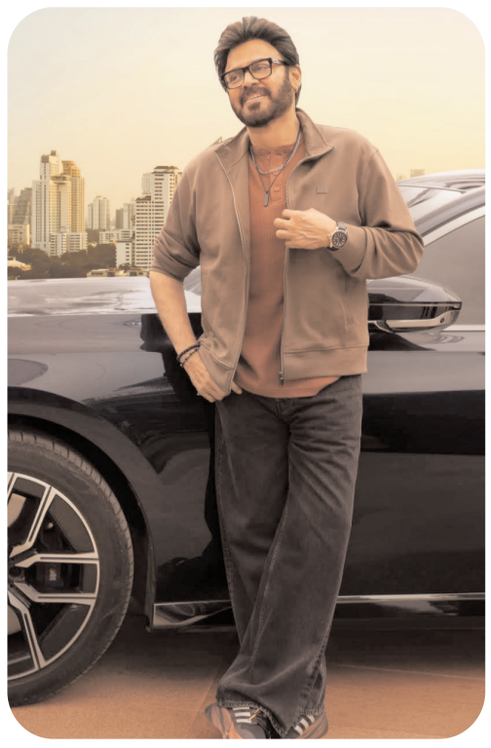
'EMO EMO IDI' to arrive in cinemas on October 30th, 2026



Roshan Meka and Preity Mukhundhan starrer 'Emo Emo Idi', written and directed by Sailesh Kolanu, is set to hit the big screens on October 30th, 2026. Promising a refreshing and breezy love story, the film is gearing up to bring a youthful romantic experience to audiences this winter. The film brings together the fresh pairing of Roshan Meka and Preity Mukhundhan, adding to the curiosity around this romantic entertainer. Known for the blockbuster HIT franchise, writer-director Sailesh Kolanu is venturing into the breezy love-story space for the first time with 'Emo Emo Idi', presenting audiences with a completely different side of his storytelling. The film's 'The First Breeze of #EmoEmoIdi' video, unveiled earlier, received a warm response from audiences and created a positive buzz around the film. Produced by Naga Vamsi S and Sai Soujanya under Sithara Entertainments & Fortune Four Cinemas, and presented by Srikara Studios, the film features music by Hesham Abdul Wahab and cinematography by Vamsi Patchipulusu. With the release date locked, the team is gearing up for the next phase of promotions, with the film's songs and other updates set to follow soon.

'AADARSHA KUTUMBAM - AK47' WILL NOW RELEASE ON OCTOBER 9TH

Venkatesh & Trivikram Srinivas' Entertainer To Arrive A Week Later Victory Venkatesh and Trivikram Srinivas' much-awaited entertainer 'Aadarsha Kutumbam - AK47' will now release worldwide on October 9, 2026. The makers have decided to postpone the release by a week to bring the film to audiences with the complete entertainment experience it deserves. The recently released teaser, which offers a glimpse into Venkatesh's middle-class family world filled with fun, emotions and action, has received a strong response from audiences. Written and directed by Trivikram Srinivas, the film stars Venkatesh, Srinidhi Shetty, Nara Rohith, Nivetha Pethuraj, Rao Ramesh, Satya, Brahmaji, Vennela Kishore and others. Produced by S. Radha Krishna under Haarika & Hassine Creations.



'EMO EMO IDI' TO ARRIVE IN CINEMAS ON OCTOBER 30TH, 2026



Roshan Meka and Preity Mukhundhan starrer 'Emo Emo Idi', written and directed by Sailesh Kolanu, is set to hit the big screens on October 30th, 2026. Promising a refreshing and breezy love story, the film is gearing up to bring a youthful romantic experience to audiences this winter. The film brings together the fresh pairing of Roshan Meka and Preity Mukhundhan, adding to the curiosity around this romantic entertainer. Known for the blockbuster HIT franchise, writer-director Sailesh Kolanu is venturing into the breezy love-story space for the first time with 'Emo Emo Idi', presenting audiences with a completely different side of his storytelling. The film's 'The First Breeze of #EmoEmoIdi' video, unveiled earlier, received a warm response from audiences and created a positive buzz around the film. Produced by Naga Vamsi S and Sai Soujanya under Sithara Entertainments & Fortune Four Cinemas, and presented by Srikara Studios, the film features music by Hesham Abdul Wahab and cinematography by Vamsi Patchipulusu. With the release date locked, the team is gearing up for the next phase of promotions, with the film's songs and other updates set to follow soon.

'Manam Saitam' founder and actor Kadambari Kiran, Announces 'Saparya' Project



'We Care for the Uncared' to support orphans, elderly living alone and the underprivileged Comprehensive support initiatives for poor and needy members of the film industry Free NEET and IIT coaching for children of film workers Manam Saitam completes 13 years of service Hyderabad: Extending its commitment to serving people in distress and supporting the underprivileged, Manam Saitam Foundation has announced a major new initiative titled 'Saparya – We Care for the Uncared'. The project was announced by foundation founder and actor Kadambari Kiran. Addressing a media conference held at the Telugu Film Chamber in Hyderabad, Kadambari Kiran said that Manam Saitam has been extending support to people in need in various forms for the past 13 years. He said the new Saparya project has been conceived with the objective of taking the foundation's service activities to a larger scale. Shelter, Healthcare and 'Janatha Vaidyam' As part of the Saparya project, the foundation plans to establish an orphanage, an old-age home and an affordable healthcare facility called 'Janatha Vaidyam'. Kadambari Kiran said the project would focus not only on providing medical treatment but also on creating a peaceful and dignified environment for patients, senior citizens and orphans.

Vedavyas Movie Team Seeks Blessings at Khairatabad Maha Ganapathi



The team of the upcoming film Vedavyas visited the famous Khairatabad Maha Ganapathi and offered prayers, seeking the blessings of Lord Ganesha. The film Vedavyas is being produced under the banner of Sai Pragathi Arts by former MLA and KPRIT Educational Institutions Chairman Kommuri Pratap Reddy, with multi-talented filmmaker S.V. Krishna Reddy directing the movie. K. Achchi Reddy is presenting the film, while Pidugu Viswanath plays the lead role. Whenever the festival of Vinayaka Chavithi is mentioned, the magnificent Khairatabad Maha Ganapathi idol comes to mind. Devotees from across the city gather in large numbers to seek the blessings of Lord Ganesha. As part of the Vinayaka Chavithi celebrations, the Vedavyas movie team visited the Khairatabad Maha Ganapathi and performed special prayers. Producer Kommuri Pratap Reddy, director S.V. Krishna Reddy, presenter and renowned producer K. Achchi Reddy, and hero Pidugu Viswanath participated in the darshan. Following the prayers, the team also presented a cheque to the organizers of the Khairatabad Ganapathi mandapam.

THE PARADISE'.. CELEBRATIONS ARE STARTING IN THEATERS FROM THE NIGHT OF 23: NATURAL STAR NANI



Natural Star Nani's Pan India period action entertainer 'The Paradise'. Directed by Srikanth Odela, Sudhakar Cherukuri has produced this film on a grand scale under the banner of SLV Cinemas. The songs, glimpses and teaser that have already been released have raised huge expectations with a wonderful response. The film is set to release worldwide on September 24. On this occasion, the makers have organized a grand pre-release event.

Printed, Published and owned By Vuppla Sujatha, Printed at: LAVANYA MUDRANA, NO-79, T.R. MILL COMPOUND, 5TH MAIN,9TH CROSS, CHAMARAJPET, BANGALORE - 560018, KARNATAKA STATE . Published At #50, OPP TO SKODA SERVICE CENTER, SUBHASHNAGAR, T C PALYA MAIN ROAD, VIRGONAGAR POST, BANGLORE 560049, KARNATAKA. Editor: Chiluka Venugopal Reddy. E-Mail: info.southindiatimes@gmail.com., Contact :9000657700, RNI Regd No: KARENG/2012/43253.