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NATIONAL NEWS

'You are right, my jawbone did break': Stalin tells Vijay on Emergency; TVK demands detention proof

WORLD NEWS

TRUMP SAYS EVERY ADULT AMERICAN WILL GET \$5,000 IF REPUBLICANS WIN MIDTERMS

CINEMA NEWS

AH GLIMPSE: BLOODY HUNGER RAISES TENSION FOR OCT 9 RELEASE

■ New Delhi gears up to host the two-day BRICS Summit

India all set for BRICS Summit: PM Modi

■ New Delhi (TSIT):

As New Delhi gears up to host the two-day BRICS Summit over the weekend, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday that India is gearing up for the high-profile event. PM Modi shared a video on X, showing Bharat Mandapam - the venue of the BRICS Summit - all decked up to welcome world leaders. The video ended with a text that read, "India is gearing up for BRICS 2026".

As BRICS chair 2026, India will host the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi on September 12-13, bringing together leaders of BRICS Member and Partner Countries as well as Outreach Invitees. While sharing the video on X, PM Modi wrote, "All set for BRICS 2026!" Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio



Guterres, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and several other leaders will visit the Indian capital to attend the summit.

India's BRICS chairship is guided by the theme: 'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability', reflecting PM Modi's vision of a people-centric approach rooted in the spirit of "Humanity First." In addition to these areas, the leaders will exchange views on strengthening intra-BRICS cooperation on common pri-

HIGHLIGHT

PM Modi shared a video on X, showing Bharat Mandapam - the venue of the BRICS Summit - all decked up to welcome world leaders. The video ended with a text that read, "India is gearing up for BRICS 2026".

orities and share perspectives on global and regional matters of mutual importance. BRICS comprises Brazil,

China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates. BRICS partner countries are: Belarus, Cuba, Bolivia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand, Uganda, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

India is a founding member of BRICS, and has previously held its chairship in 2012, 2016 and 2021. India assumed its fourth BRICS chairship on January 1. The year 2026 also marks a significant milestone as BRICS completes 20 years since its establishment.

Ahead of the BRICS Summit, the Delhi Police, in coordination with multiple agencies, have made elaborate security arrangements, including the deployment of 15,000 police personnel and 200 companies of paramilitary forces. Police have also issued advisories for the general public about the routes that will be "restricted" for VIP movement in view of the upcoming event.

CM Revanth urges Congress MLAs to attend Assembly



■ Hyderabad (TSIT):

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has urged Congress legislators to ensure full attendance during the Assembly session, actively participate in debates and raise issues concerning their constituencies.

Addressing the Congress Legislature Party meeting, Revanth Reddy said the government was using the session to explain its major decisions, development initiatives and welfare programmes implemented during its first 1,000 days.

He accused the BRS of attempting to disrupt

Assembly proceedings and criticised the conduct of its leaders towards police officials, public representatives and the Speaker. He congratulated Congress MLAs for countering the Opposition's attempts and said an inquiry had been initiated into recent incidents.

The Chief Minister said legislators must effectively use the mandate given by voters and warned that their performance and conduct in the Assembly would influence their prospects of re-election.

Revanth Reddy also highlighted the State's

caste survey and called for pressure on the Centre to include caste enumeration in the national Census. He asked MLAs to closely monitor the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls, stressing the need to protect eligible voters' rights.

He also mentioned the newly inaugurated Central Hall named after former Speaker Duddilla Sripada Rao and said steps were being taken to improve facilities for legislators. He thanked CLP members for supporting the government's initiatives during its first 1,000 days.



OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

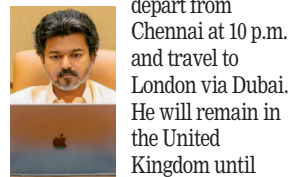
09-09-2026
Total pages: 77/870
Tonsures: 33,904
Handi karukaku: 3,95 CR
Ladu sale: 4,556 ac
Annasradam: 3,94 ac
Ashwin hospital: 3,932
Present Situation on 10-09-2026:
Waiting Compartments... Outsider line
at Bata Gangamma Temple.

Approx. Darsan Times for Saravardhanam
(with out SSD Token), 24 H.

INBRIEF

CM Vijay to leave for London today on his first overseas

Chennai, Sep 10: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay will leave for London on Thursday night on his first official overseas visit since the TVK government assumed office, as the state steps up efforts to attract fresh industrial investment. CM Vijay is scheduled to depart from



Chennai at 10 p.m. and travel to London via Dubai. He will remain in the United Kingdom until September 16 and is expected to return to Chennai at 8 a.m. on September 17, again travelling through Dubai. A high-level delegation led by the Chief Minister will meet investors and representatives of major companies during the visit. CM Vijay will also take part in an investors' conference in London, where he is expected to present Tamil Nadu as a preferred destination for manufacturing, technology and other emerging industries. Senior officials from state departments have already travelled to London to make arrangements for the programme.

El Niño threat prompts AP drought strategy: CM Naidu

■ Amaravati (TSIT): The threat of a worsening El Niño and a 54.9% rainfall deficit have prompted Andhra Pradesh to intensify drought-management measures, with Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu directing officials to adopt alternative crops, modern technology and innovative farming strategies.

At the Collectors' Conference, Agriculture Department Special Chief Secretary B. Rajasekhar said the Pacific Ocean was witnessing unprecedented temperature increases and warned that El Niño conditions could persist into 2027. He said the rainfall



CM Naidu directing officials to adopt alternative crops, modern technology and innovative farming strategies.

deficit from June 1 to September 7 was particularly severe in Annamayya, Prakasam, Chittoor and Sri Sathya Sai districts.

Against the normal Kharif area of 30.84 lakh hectares, only 22.82 lakh hectares had been sown. Alternative crop

plans were prepared for 5.91 lakh hectares in Kharif and 2.46 lakh hectares in early Rabi, with an additional Rs.90 crore sanctioned. Naidu proposed minimum support prices and buy-back

guarantees for short-duration vegetables, pulses and millets. He also called for large-scale promotion of low-water crops, natural farming and multi-cropping. The Chief Minister directed officials to accelerate drone-based seed sowing and prepare an action plan with agricultural scientists.

He also reviewed record crop insurance coverage of 16.92 lakh hectares, fodder security, horticulture protection and water conservation. Naidu directed Ministers, MLAs and Collectors to visit drought-hit villages and inspect field conditions personally.

Can't browbeat a child to drop criminal case: SC on harassment of CJP protester

■ New Delhi (TSIT):

Taking strong exception to allegations of harassment of a minor girl who participated in the CJP protests here in July, the Supreme Court on Thursday said nobody can be permitted to browbeat a victim or her family to force them to drop criminal proceedings. "Such matters cannot be taken lightly. Nobody should be protected. If violence against a child is involved... If there are anti-social elements who indulge in violence against a child, and they are roaming free... and are trying to browbeat the child, that may be a serious thing," a Bench led by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said. "There cannot be any second



opinion about it. Such matters cannot be taken lightly. Nobody should be protected. If violence against a child is involved and persons are roaming free and trying to browbeat the child or the family so that they do not pursue the criminal proceedings, that may be a serious matter," noted the Bench which also included Justice Joymalya Bagchi and Justice V Mohana.

Xi Jinping to attend BRICS Summit in New Delhi, announces Chinese Foreign Ministry

■ Beijing (TSIT): Chinese President Xi Jinping will attend the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi over the weekend, the country's Foreign Ministry announced Thursday afternoon.

"At the invitation of Prime Minister of the Republic of India Narendra Modi, President Xi Jinping will attend the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi from September 12 to 13," the ministry announced in social media posts.

Earlier in the day, while addressing a regular media briefing in Beijing, Chinese



Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jia-kun had refused to provide any confirmation on Xi Jinping's visit to New Delhi. "I have no information to provide regarding the question you raised," Guo Jia-kun replied to a question on if the

Chinese leader will be travelling to India this weekend to attend the BRICS leaders' meeting.

This will be the Chinese President's first visit to India in nearly seven years and takes place as both countries

work on stabilising bilateral ties following the deadly 2020 Galwan clashes. India has repeatedly highlighted the importance of maintaining peace and tranquility in the India-China border areas for the continued development and progress of the bilateral relationship. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Xi Jinping, who interacted briefly during the recent Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit held in Bishkek, are expected to hold detailed bilateral discussions on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in New Delhi this weekend.

Putin wants to make Ukraine deal, says Trump

■ Washington (TSIT): US President Donald Trump said that Russian President Vladimir Putin wanted an agreement to end the war in Ukraine and suggested that another bilateral meeting between the two leaders could take place.

Trump made the remarks while speaking to reporters before boarding Air Force One for a trip to Dallas on Wednesday (local time), according to a transcript provided by CQ.

"We had a great conversation," Trump said when asked about his latest discussion with Putin.

"He is wanting to make a deal. And if Zelensky is wanting to make a deal, that would be very nice," Trump said, referring to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky.

Asked what was preventing an agreement, Trump attributed the impasse to the strained relationship between the Russian and Ukrainian leaders.

"The holdup is two people that hate each other," Trump said. "I think more than anything else, it's two people that hate each other," he added when pressed on the principal



obstacle confronting the peace effort. Trump did not disclose when the conversation with Putin took place. He also did not say how long it lasted or identify the proposals discussed by the two leaders.

When asked what had changed and why he believed progress might now be possible, Trump pointed to his experience dealing with people and negotiating agreements.

"I think that because I speak to people - that's all I do, is speak to people my whole life," he said. "I know about deals, and these are two people that are tired of fighting," Trump added. Trump said another bilateral meeting with Putin was possible. However, he did not provide a potential date or venue.

Minister Piyush Goyal pushes India-Russia trade ties

■ New Delhi (TSIT): Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal is pushing for stronger India-Russia trade ties, with both countries targeting bilateral trade of USD 100 billion by 2030.

Goyal is scheduled to hold discussions with Russian Trade and Industry Minister Anton Alikhanov during the BRICS meetings, with talks expected to focus on expanding economic



cooperation and advancing negotiations for a trade agreement between India

India seeks stronger exports and two-way investment with Russia to meet ambitious 2030 economic targets

and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU). The two sides are also look-

ing to diversify trade beyond traditional areas and expand cooperation in investment, technology, energy and other sectors. India is seeking greater market access for its exports while working to address the existing trade imbalance with Russia.

The proposed USD 100-billion target reflects the effort to deepen bilateral economic engagement and create new opportunities for Indian busi-

nesses. Strengthening trade ties with Russia is also part of India's broader strategy to expand export markets and build resilient international supply chains.

Goyal's discussions come ahead of the BRICS Summit in New Delhi, where India is seeking greater economic cooperation among member countries and practical measures to boost trade and investment.

EDITORIAL

WHEN LIFE NEEDS A PAUSE, NOT A FULL STOP

Some days begin in a hurry, and end in the same hurry. By night, there is a strange feeling that the whole day has gone somewhere. Life has become a continuous routine for many people. Wake up, go to work, attend to responsibilities, come back home and start again the next morning. There may be nothing seriously wrong, but there may also be nothing that gives a person real satisfaction. A person keeps moving because there is no time to stop and ask whether the direction is right. Sometimes, sitting quietly for ten minutes can tell more than a whole day of running around. A little silence can make a person understand what a busy mind keeps hiding. A change in life does not always mean leaving a job, moving to another place or making a big decision. Sometimes it simply means changing a habit that has been draining energy for years. It can mean spending less time on unnecessary things, giving more time to family, sleeping properly, reading something useful or simply taking a walk without looking at the phone every few minutes. People often think that starting again means admitting that something went wrong. But there is nothing wrong in saying, “This is not working for me anymore.” A person may spend years trying to satisfy everyone around him. He may choose a career because others suggested it, live in a particular way because society expects it, and continue relationships only because he is afraid of what others may say. After some time, he may realise that he has been living according to everybody’s expectations except his own. At that point, a small change can feel like a big relief. Sometimes, the first step is simply being honest with oneself. Modern life has made many things easier, but it has also made life crowded. There are messages to answer, calls to attend, targets to complete, bills to pay and endless information to consume. Even when the body is resting, the mind continues running. This constant movement slowly makes a person forget what genuine rest actually feels like. A mobile phone can be switched off for a while. A tired mind also deserves the same kindness. There is also a difference between being busy and being useful. A person may remain busy throughout the day and still feel that nothing important was achieved. Hours can disappear in unnecessary conversations, endless scrolling, repeated worries and work that could have been planned better. The problem is not always a shortage of time; sometimes it is the way time is being spent. At the end of the day, the question is not only, “What did I do?” It is also, “Was it worth giving my time to?” A reset in life does not require erasing the past. Past mistakes, disappointments and failures have their own place in a person’s journey. They teach lessons that success sometimes cannot teach. The important thing is not to keep reopening old wounds and calling them memories. Some things are better learned from and left behind. Carrying every old burden will only make the next journey harder. There comes a stage when a person starts valuing peace more than appearance. Money remains important, success remains important and responsibilities cannot be ignored. But along with these things, there must also be space for health, family, friendship, personal interests and a little time for oneself. A life that looks successful from outside may still feel empty inside. Real success is also about feeling comfortable with the person one has become. Perhaps the best time for a reset is not after everything falls apart. It is before that happens. When the mind repeatedly says that something needs to change, that voice should not always be ignored. A small correction made at the right time can prevent a much bigger problem later. A road need not be abandoned just because it has a turn ahead. Sometimes, all that is needed is to slow down and choose the turn carefully. Life does not come with a reset button like a mobile phone or a computer. But a person can pause, think, change a habit, correct a mistake and begin again. There is no age limit for doing that. There is no perfect day waiting somewhere in the future. The right moment can simply be the moment when a person decides to take charge of his own life. A fresh beginning does not always need a new life. Sometimes, it only needs a new way of looking at the old one.

Edit

GROWTH IS GOOD. GREED FOR 10% IS BETTER

In 1960, the average Japanese citizen earned \$519 a year. The average South Korean earned \$159 - poorer, per head, than much of sub-Saharan Africa. In 1978, the average Chinese citizen earned \$157. None of that is a typo. All three economies that are now held up as growth models in India and emerging economies started from poverty. India left poverty behind a long ago, but it has struggled to catch up with prosperity and high-income status because it has yet to deliver the momentum that provided escape velocity to Japan, Korea, and China. India's best performance in GDP growth is yet to match the best performance of the trio - in absolute height and in duration of momentum. India grew 7.8% in the April-June quarter of 2026, the fastest print in five quarters - the debate or the smell test on the data will probably continue all the way into the first quarter of 2027. Debates on growth are a testimony to the old proverb that goes, 'Jungle me Mor nacha kisne dekha'. India, by most estimates, is the fastest-growing large economy in this decade, averaging around 8% post the pandemic. That's worthy of applause. Neither is the number that actually made a poor country rich was achieved in one working lifetime. That number is 10%. Not for a quarter. For years, over and over, until it stopped being news. China hit 10%-plus growth in 16 separate years between 1978 and 2010 - a 33-year span. South Korea hit it in 16 years between 1966 and 1999, almost the same length of time. Japan hit it seven times through the 1960s alone, the tightest cluster of the three. Growth is good, but India needs greed for 10% momentum growth. The consequence of high growth momentum is best



illustrated in the rise in per capita income. In 1960, South Korea's income per person was lower than Kenya's - not folklore, literally true in the World Bank's own data. Korea's own double-digit run began in 1966 with the GDP at \$ 4.0 billion and per capita income at \$134 a head. In 1999, its GDP was at \$515 billion and per capita income at \$11,063. Today, it stands at \$36,227 a head, 228 times where it started. Japan's run began from a higher base at \$622 per person in 1961. By 1970, it was at \$2,145 a head, and today stands at \$35,951 - a near-70-fold rise from where it started. The China-India comparison has been narrated by this column often, but bears repetition. In 1991, China's per capita income was at \$334, and that of India was \$305. Both countries were in the throes of opening up their economies. Today,

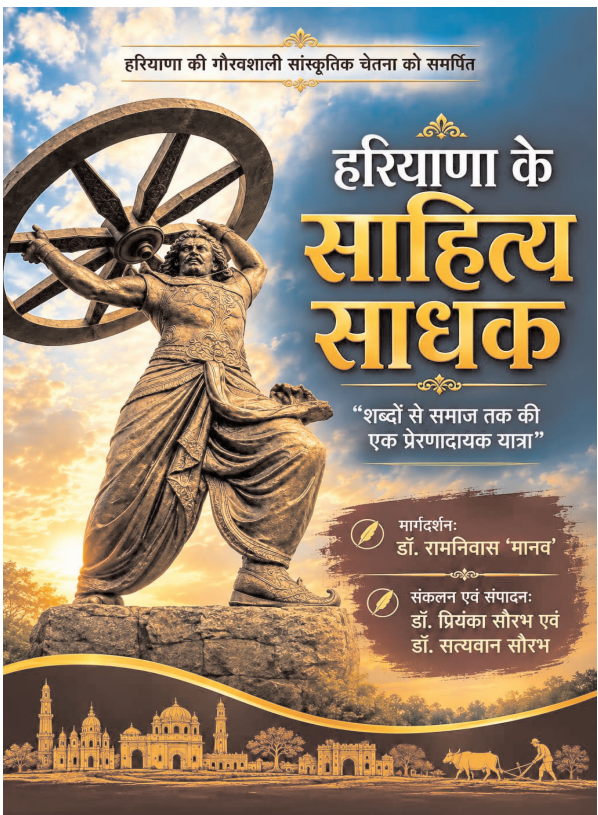
the per capita income of India hovers around \$ 2,810, and that of China stands at \$13,862. It is known that economies often accelerate beyond expectations in seasons. Growth spurts from a terms-of-trade windfall or a burst of capital inflows. Sustaining the high growth calls for structural change to lay the foundation, pave the path, and scaffold transition. India is a live paradox - growth is high, GDP ranks at 6th in the world, yet per capita income trails at the lower half of the table between smaller economies like Cambodia and Kenya. The crux of India's high-growth-low-per-capita -income paradox is where the workforce resides. Over 45% of the working population depends on agriculture, yielding 16% of the national income. The Niti Aayog tells us that 58.4% of the workforce self-certify

themselves as self-employed and 19.8% as casual workers. India's national average is Rs 2.35 lakh. The average really represents a notion - the geography of India's per capita economy stretches from Karnataka at Rs 3.80 lakh to Bihar at Rs 66,828, which is less than a sixth of Karnataka's and just over a fourth of the national average. Robert Lucas, the Nobel laureate who studied the question of why some nations grow while others don't, asked, in 1988: "Is there some action a government of India could take that would lead the Indian economy to grow like Indonesia's or Egypt's?" His answer outlined the paper it appeared in: "The consequences for human welfare involved in questions like these are simply staggering: once one starts to think about them, it is hard to think about any-

thing else." Structural change calls for sustained investment in human infrastructure. This week, the world observed International Literacy Day. In the 80th year of Independence, India's literacy rate stands at 81% - lower than the global average of 88%. Indonesia reached 82% in 1990 and is at 96% today; China, which has a comparable population size and complexities, reached 90% literacy in 2000 and is at 97%. Korea's elementary-school enrolment rose to 90% by 1964, an investment that built capacity for the heavy industry push. Taiwan, Singapore, and Hong Kong ran variants of the same playbook. It is the part that folks skip in debates on growth. The factories had somewhere to put the farmers only because the farmers could read the manual. NITI Aayog's report titled

Reimagining Skilling for Viksit Bharat@2047 reveals that 8.7 crore (87 million) young Indians aged 15 to 29 are classified as NEET - meaning they are not in education, employment, or training. Different countries approached the objective of structural change for sustained growth from different frameworks. No plan was identical. The World Bank's 1993 report on the East Asian Miracle and its 2008 Growth Report tracked economies and found 13 that grew at 7% or more for 25 years between 1950 and 2008. What did they do? Japan ran land reform, broke up the zaibatsu, and set up the MITI, which played a critical role in intra-firm competition and collaboration. Korea corrected an overvalued currency, freed deposit rates to pull in savings, supported export credit, and pushed investments in heavy industries. Taiwan financed private exporters off of state-owned steel and petrochemicals, with protection earned only for those expanding the global footprint. Tailoring of policy to guide private sector resource allocation was a common theme in Japan, Korea, and Taiwan. China freed its farmers first, priced light industry to the market while still planning heavy industry, and kept its Special Economic Zones contained until they had proved themselves - then waited two decades, until 2001, to join the WTO. Vietnam is trying to write itself into the same paragraph now: 8% growth in 2025, an official target of 10%-plus through 2030, and a Communist Party leadership that calls the number a "must-do". The 'must-do' list for India to lock onto a high-growth train is scarcely a secret - the diagnosis and the prescription have been written and rewritten for decades.

PEN PRACTITIONERS WILL GET RECOGNITION, A UNIQUE COMPILATION WILL BE PREPARED ON THE LITTERATEURS OF HARYANA



An appeal to submit information in the prescribed format by October 15th; Dr. Priyanka 'Saurabh' and Dr. Satyawani Saurabh are compiling and editing, and Dr. Ramniwas 'Manav' is providing guidance and inspiration. Hisar/ Bhiwani/ Narnaul. An important literary compilation, "Literary Seekers of Haryana," is being prepared to document Haryana's rich literary tradition and the creative contributions of contemporary writers. This compilation will include the introductions, literary

contributions, and photographs of current literary seekers from each district of the state. Under this initiative, all collaborators have been requested to prepare information on literary seekers in their respective districts in the prescribed format and send it via email by October 15. Information can be sent to satyawansaurabh333@gmail.com. According to the organizers, only those literary scholars who have published at least one book in any literary genre are currently being included in the compilation.

IS THE OPPOSITION REALLY A 'NARAAZ FUFA'?



Politics, like Indian family gatherings, has its customary characters. There is the enthusiastic cousin, the know-it-all uncle, and, occasionally, the eternally displeased uncle who asks, "But why is this necessary?" Prime Minister Narendra Modi has now given this familiar Indian family character a political identity - the 'naraaz fufa' (Fufaji is father's sister's husband) - the commonly attention-seeking uncle in most Indian weddings and functions. Speaking at the centenary celebrations of SRCC (Shri Ram College of Commerce), Delhi University recently, PM Modi contrasted those who convert social energy into nation-building with those who oppose every new initiative by asking: what is the need for this? As examples, PM Modi mentioned projects and initiatives ranging from the Statue of Unity and the bullet train to UPI, the new Parliament building, and a memorial for fallen soldiers, etc - all initiated by his government. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge was clearly not humoured by PM Modi's remarks. He blamed Modi for using an important academic platform to attack political opponents instead of discussing education, employment, and the future of young Indians. Kharge also labelled 'naraaz fufa', 'dimagi naxal', 'urban naxal', 'Khan Market Gang', etc., as successive political brandings allegedly used to silence criticism. But is Kharge being unnecessarily touchy? Or does the 'naraaz fufa'

description actually capture something real about the Opposition? There are no clear-cut answers - perhaps a little of both. Interpreting The Metaphor There is no doubt that a democracy needs an Opposition that questions the government. In fact, questioning a government is not stonewalling - it is one of the Opposition's fundamental responsibilities. A bullet train, a new Parliament building, a massive statue, or a major infrastructure project should be examined for cost, utility, environmental consequences, financing, and priorities. The government of the day cannot demand applause merely because it has announced some ambitious plans and projects. But there is an equally important distinction between questioning a project and opposing it simply because the government proposed it. This is where PM Modi's 'naraaz fufa' metaphor strikes a political chord. Large national projects often

generate valid questions. Yet most of the time, opposition parties are critical of the project and found wanting in pinpointing legitimate errors with the said government initiative. If every government decision automatically becomes a subject of incompetence, corruption, or authoritarianism (without any substantial proof), criticism eventually loses credibility. The Opposition, therefore, cannot have it both ways. It cannot demand that the government listen to their criticism without valid explanations. Not every government achievement can be considered politically suspect - it will be a doomsday for development. PM Modi and his government, too, have to be mindful of the opportunities and platforms to connect with Gen Z. SRCC is an institution associated with finance, economics, commerce, and some of India's brightest young minds. It was definitely an occasion to speak directly to students

about jobs, entrepreneurship, education, India's economic ambitions, and the challenges facing Gen Z. Modi is not an ordinary political leader. He is the Prime Minister. His words carry enormous political weight, and a university platform gives them an additional significance. Political humour can make a speech memorable, but it can also overshadow the substantive message. The same criticism, however, applies to Kharge. Walking Into A Trap If the Congress president responds to every colourful political phrase with indignation, he risks walking straight into the trap. 'Naraaz fufa' is essentially a political caricature. It is not a constitutional doctrine or a policy argument. By treating it as though it were an assault on democratic institutions, the Opposition risks making itself appear exactly like the perpetually offended political relative PM Modi was describing.

Markets trade flat in early deals amid elevated crude oil prices

Mumbai: Market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty were trading on a flat note in early deals on Thursday, September 10, as elevated crude oil prices above USD 100-per-barrel mark, amid persistent geopolitical tensions, kept risk appetite subdued. The 30-share BSE Sensex was marginally up 38.07 points to 74,809.95 in early trade. The 50-share NSE Nifty advanced 9.85 points to 23,439.20. Among the 30 Sensex firms, Tech Mahindra, Axis Bank, State Bank of India, Power Grid, ITC and Infosys were the winners. Mahindra & Mahindra, Adani Ports, Reliance Industries, Sun Pharma, InterGlobe Aviation and Bharat Electronics were among the laggards. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, traded 0.20 per cent lower at USD 101-per-barrel. "Indian equities are expected to remain under pressure as elevated crude oil prices and rising US Treasury yields, amid persistent geopolitical ten-



sions, continue to cloud the global macroeconomic outlook," Ponnudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth-tech firm, . The combination of elevated energy prices and firming bond yields is likely to keep risk appetite subdued and weigh on emerging-market equities, including India, he added. "While US President Donald Trump said the conflict with Iran could end immediately after the midterm elections, the lack of clarity over the path to de-escalation is keeping investors cautious and the geopolitical risk premium firmly embedded in energy markets," Ponnudi added.

Looking ahead, investors will closely watch upcoming US inflation data for fresh clues on the Federal Reserve's policy trajectory, he noted. In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi, Japan's Nikkei 225 index, Shanghai's SSE Composite index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index traded lower. US markets in negative territory on Wednesday. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 582.99 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data. On Wednesday, the Sensex tanked 813.35 points, or 1.08 per cent, to settle at the day's low of 74,764.23.

INDIA CAN BE TRUSTED GLOBAL FINANCE PARTNER: RBI GOVERNOR



Mumbai: Reserve Bank Governor Sanjay Malhotra on Thursday, September 10, asserted that India has the opportunity to become a trusted partner in shaping the future architecture of global finance. In his keynote address at the Global Fintech Fest 2026 here, the governor further said that the central bank is also working on building digital public infrastructure for next-generation financial services, and cited the example of the Unified Lending Interface (ULI). He said that India's fintech ecosystem ranks third globally and the country is home to 30 unicorns in the sector. Malhotra also announced that the RBI and along with market regulator SEBI, would be launching tokenisation of corporate bonds later on in the day. While stressing that

"trust" was central to success in the financial system, he also said that fintech should treat data as a fiduciary responsibility and not as business assets. The governor also announced that the RBI has approved United Fintech Forum as the second SRO for the financial sector. Earlier, Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment (FACE) was recognised as a Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO). He said that India's fintech ecosystem ranks third globally and the country is home to 30 unicorns in the sector. While stressing that "trust" was central to success in the financial system, he also said that fintech should treat data as a fiduciary responsibility and not as business assets. The governor also announced that the RBI has approved United Fintech Forum as the second SRO for the financial sector. Earlier, Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment (FACE) was recognised as a Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO). PTI AA DP NKD HVA This report is auto-generated from PTI news service. ThePrint holds no responsibility for its content.

From Need to Opportunity: DEPwD, ALIMCO and EkStep Join Hands to Build a Digital Bridge for Persons with Disabilities

New Delhi, September 10, 2026: A new digital architecture is set to bring Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and the opportunities, services and support they need closer than ever. The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) and EkStep Foundation, Bengaluru, today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in New Delhi to establish an institutional framework for the design, development, implementation and scaling of the Purple Dots – UBI (Unified Benefits Interface) Initiative. Conceptualised by DEPwD, the Purple Dots Initiative seeks to address a fundamental challenge in disability inclusion—not merely the availability of benefits and services, but the ability of a person to discover the right opportunity, service or support at the right time and place. At its core, a "Purple Dot" is a simple digital profile through which a Person with Disability can indicate who they are and what they need—whether it is employment, assistive technology such as a wheelchair, skill development,

training or any other support. Similarly, employers, service providers, NGOs, philanthropic organisations and other institutions can create their own "dots" to indicate the opportunities, services and resources they offer. By bringing these dots together through an open and interoperable digital infrastructure, the initiative seeks to create a connected ecosystem in which needs and opportunities can discover each other locally and efficiently. An open digital protocol will enable ecosystem stakeholders to interact and respond to identified needs in real time, helping move disability inclusion from fragmented access towards seamless discovery, linkage and participation. The MoU establishes a collaborative framework for taking the Purple Dots – UBI (Unified Benefits Interface) Initiative from concept to implementation and scale. It envisages enabling Persons with Disabilities to discover and connect with relevant government entitlements, services, employment opportunities, training programmes, assistive devices and support systems offered by Government Departments, private-sector entities, civil society organisations, NGOs, philanthropic institutions

and other ecosystem partners. The initiative represents a significant step towards strengthening accessibility and inclusion through digital public infrastructure. Rather than creating isolated systems for individual schemes or institutions, Purple Dots seeks to enable different actors in the disability ecosystem to connect and collaborate through an interoperable framework, thereby improving the visibility and reach of services and opportunities that are already available. EkStep Foundation, a philanthropy instrumental in conceiving and architecting Digital Public Infrastructure/ Digital Public Good initiatives for large-scale societal transformation, is partnering with DEPwD and ALIMCO to bring its experience of building open and collaborative digital ecosystems to the disability sector. The partnership seeks to strengthen the ability of local ecosystem players to discover one another and connect Persons with Disabilities with relevant services, opportunities and support, building on capabilities that already exist across the country. The collaboration brings together the mandate and nationwide reach of DEPwD, the experience and capabilities of

ALIMCO in the disability sector, and EkStep Foundation's experience in enabling ecosystem-led digital innovation at scale. Together, the partners seek to make support and services more accessible, discoverable and connected for Persons with Disabilities across districts, while strengthening the participation of Government, industry, civil society and other stakeholders in creating an inclusive ecosystem. The MoU-signing ceremony was attended by Ms. Manmeet Kaur Nanda, Additional Secretary; Shri Ashish Thakre, Director; Shri Pradeep A., Director; and Shri Sandeep Kumar, Under Secretary, from DEPwD. From ALIMCO, Shri Pankaj Dwivedi, Assistant Manager; and Ms. Priya Grover, Assistant Manager, were present. Shri Ikpreet Singh, Director; Shri Gaurav Gupta represented EkStep Foundation, Bengaluru. The Purple Dots Initiative envisages a future in which a person's need does not remain invisible and an available opportunity does not remain undiscovered—where digital connectivity becomes a practical bridge between Persons with Disabilities and the ecosystem of services, opportunities and support around them.

PEPSICO OPENS ITS FIRST FOOD FACTORY IN ASSAM FOR RS 778 CR



Nalbari: Leading food and beverage maker PepsiCo India on Thursday, September 10, opened its first food factory in Assam, set up with an investment of Rs 778 crore in Nalbari district. Inaugurated by Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, the unit is spread across 44.2 acres and has created 700 direct and indirect employment opportunities. "The inauguration of PepsiCo India's foods manufacturing facility in Nalbari is another important milestone in Assam's industrial growth story. This investment underscores the confidence that leading global companies have in Assam's business-friendly policies, infrastructure development

and skilled workforce," Sarma said. Beyond generating employment and economic activity, the project will strengthen the state's agricultural ecosystem and create new opportunities for farmers, women and local enterprises, he added. PepsiCo India & South Asia CEO Jagrut Kotecha said that with an investment of Rs 778 crore, the facility is the company's first plant in Assam and fifth in India. "Through this investment, we are strengthening our manufacturing footprint while creating a positive ripple effect across the value chain, from farmers and local businesses to women, young talent and communities," he said.

Care Health Insurance Emphasizes on Inadequate Health Cover as an Emerging Household Financial Risk

New Delhi, September 10, 2026: For millions of Indian families, a single serious illness can wipe out years of savings. While close to half of India's population is now covered under a health insurance or financing scheme, many families continue to remain underinsured, with coverage often falling short of the cost for medical treatment of a serious illness. Care Health Insurance urges families to view health insurance as an essential tool that secures them against financial impact of medical emergencies. For many Indians, health insurance is purchased once and rarely reviewed, or is limited to an employer-sponsored group policy. Meanwhile, medical costs continue to rise much faster than most incomes and can quickly outpace the coverage available under existing policies. A policy of ₹2-5 lakh that once seemed adequate can now be exhausted well before treatment for a serious illness is complete. When cover runs out, families often withdraw savings, sell assets or take on debt, turning a health crisis into a long-term financial burden.

These consequences, in fact, extend beyond individual households. High out-of-pocket healthcare expenditure remains one of the leading causes of financial distress in India, making wider health insurance coverage essential to strengthening household resilience and advancing India's goal of Universal Health Coverage. Recent government reports and national health assessments reflect the scale of the protection gap: According to the Union Health Ministry's National Health Accounts Estimates, Indian households still financed 43.4% of the country's total health expenditure out-of-pocket, highlighting the significant financial burden that medical emergencies continue to place on families. Financial protection remains inadequate: According to the National Statistical Office's Household Consumption Expenditure Survey: Health (2025), out-of-pocket spending continues to account for the bulk of hospitalisation costs for Indians, highlighting that insurance coverage alone does not always translate into adequate financial protection.

Even insured families are frequently underinsured. Employer-sponsored group policies and entry-level family floater policies typically provide ₹3-5 lakh of cover, yet the cost of a single major hospitalisation can be several times higher. A liver transplant can cost ₹18-35 lakh, while advanced cancer treatment and complex cardiac procedures can also run into several lakhs. Today, the question is no longer, "Do I have health insurance?" but "Do I have enough?" Care Health Insurance recommends the following steps to strengthen financial security against rising healthcare costs: 1. Review your health insurance every year: Ensure your sum insured reflects your family's healthcare needs, city of residence and current medical treatment costs. A sum insured that seemed adequate a few years ago may no longer cover today's treatment costs. Understand your policy: Know your room-rent limits, co-payments, sub-limits, exclusions and value-added benefits such as automatic recharge and no-claim bonus

to avoid surprises during a claim. Don't rely on employer cover alone: Group insurance is a valuable benefit, but it is usually capped at ₹3-5 lakh, often excludes parents, and ends when you change or leave your job. Buying a personal policy early helps secure uninterrupted financial security, complete applicable waiting periods while younger and healthier, and lock in lower premiums. Consider a super top-up plan: Combining a base policy with a super top-up can substantially increase your safety net at a relatively low additional cost, helping cover high-cost medical treatments such as cancer, cardiac procedures and organ transplants. Coverage for parents and dependents: A family floater can be exhausted by a single member's illness. Ensure senior family members and dependents have adequate coverage. Adequate health insurance is no longer a discretionary purchase but an essential pillar of financial planning. Reviewing health insurance regularly and ensuring adequate cover can help families protect their savings.

SEVEN YEARS AFTER GALWAN, CHINESE PRESIDENT XI TO VISIT INDIA

New Delhi: In a strategic balancing act triggered by escalating global trade tensions, India is leveraging the two-day BRICS summit starting Saturday, September 11, to position the grouping as a complementary engine for economic growth while championing the Global South's core developmental priorities — most notably safeguarding food, energy, and supply chain security. With New Delhi putting the finishing touches on the summit, China has confirmed President Xi Jinping's attendance, marking his first trip to India after a seven-year gap. Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, Russian President Vladimir Putin and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and his Indonesian counterpart Prabowo Subianto are among the top leaders attending the crucial meet in the national capital. We did not get a proper invitation: Bangladesh will not attend However, Bangladesh has ruled out the possibility of Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's visit, saying he was not invited to the BRICS Summit and the invita-



tion was instead extended to the BIMSTEC Chair. Speaking to reporters, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Humaitun Kobir claimed that the Bangladesh Premier was not properly invited to the BRICS Summit. He added that the invitation was extended to Rahman not as a prime minister but as the chairman of the seven-nation South and East Asian BIMSTEC. "How shall we go? Has anyone from the Bangladesh government been invited? Our prime minister was not invited. Who told you that our prime minister was

invited?" Kobir posed a volley of questions when asked whether Rahman would join the summit. About BRICS India is steering the BRICS grouping as a vital complementary platform to champion the Global South's core developmental priorities, top Indian officials said on Thursday. As global trade disputes and geopolitical realignments create economic headwinds, we are looking at addressing critical vulnerabilities in food security, energy stability, and resilient supply chains, they said. The summit

in New Delhi is taking place against the backdrop of a global economy facing the adverse impacts of the Russia-Ukraine war, the West Asia crisis, especially the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz, and the Trump administration's trade and tariff policies. With just two days left before the summit, it remains unclear whether the member nations of the grouping reached consensus on a joint statement, as differences between Iran and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) over the West Asia crisis persist.



Five dead and 86 missing as 'heartbreaking' fire breaks out on Philippines ferry

TATE BROTHERS TO REMAIN IN US JAIL AS THEY FIGHT EXTRADITION TO UK

Andrew and Tristan Tate have lost their bid to be released from a Florida jail as they fight potential extradition to the UK to face charges of rape and trafficking. A federal judge in Miami denied them bail, saying the dual US-UK citizens' wealth and frequent international travel "constitute quintessential flight risks". The brothers have been held in US custody since their July arrest, after the UK's Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) unveiled new charges. The UK has until 16 September to submit a full extradition request, Reuters reported. They will "continue to defend themselves against the allegations" and "engage with the appropriate legal processes in each jurisdiction", their lawyers said. The two are facing a total of 59 charges in the UK, including rape and counts



relating to sex trafficking and indecent images of a child. CPS originally brought 21 charges, but added 38 more in July for alleged actions spanning between 2010 and 2017. US authorities took the men into custody in July after

the UK announced the new charges. Last weekend, Romanian prosecutors officially indicted the polarising social media influencers with a range of trafficking and sex offences. The former kickboxers had primarily been based

in Romania since 2017, drawing a large audience - primarily young men - through controversial messages about women and images of a luxury lifestyle. Self-proclaimed "misogynist" Andrew Tate first rose to fame after a 2016 appearance on the British version of reality TV show Big Brother. The brothers also faced sex-trafficking charges in Romania in 2022, and were under a travel ban until they were allowed to come to the US in 2025. Several prominent US politicians, including Florida's Republican Governor Ron DeSantis, objected to the Tate brothers' arrival in the US. The brothers have denied all charges and allegations. Wednesday's decision means the brothers will remain jailed during what could be a lengthy extradition process.

TRUMP SAYS EVERY ADULT AMERICAN WILL GET \$5,000 IF REPUBLICANS WIN MIDTERMS

US President Donald Trump says he would offer every adult American a \$5,000 (£3,700) payout if Republicans win both chambers of Congress in November's midterm elections - a plan that would cost more than a trillion dollars. The offer was made in a speech at the party's first-ever convention in the middle of a US presidential term. He gave no details on how it would work or be funded - saying only that the money would have to be spent in the US. Vice-President JD Vance has linked the plan to the revenue that Trump has raised from US tariffs on imported goods. Democrats labelled it an "empty promise" and others questioned whether such a pledge was legal or feasible. It may be the first time a US president offered such a payout to Americans, in the context of an election year plea to get out and vote. The idea drew raucous applause at the convention and Trump seemed to relish the moment. There are nearly 270 million American adults, meaning a \$5,000 payout would cost the US government some \$1.3 trillion. Questions have begun to be raised about whether his plan is feasible - especially as prices rise in the US, partially as a result of the war that the US and Israel started with Iran in February. Iran's retaliation has included attacks against US bases and allies in the Gulf - but crucially it has largely closed the Strait of Hormuz, through which about a fifth of the world's oil and liquefied natural gas



used to transit. The blockage has caused fluctuations in oil prices worldwide and Trump has faced pressure from his party to end the war. On Wednesday, the US president warned his supporters that the war would not end until after the midterms and that oil prices would not come down until then. He made the comments ahead of his speech in Texas, repeating it at the convention where he argued that short-term economic pain was worth it to prevent Tehran from developing nuclear weapons. Trump's long speech at the Republican convention in Dallas, Texas, touched on the core of the conflict - the impact on Americans' standard of living. His pledge to increase their spending power drew raucous applause in the hall. "If the Republicans win the House of Representatives and the United States Senate, both of them," Trump said, "I will issue a dividend to every adult citizen in the United

States of America for \$5,000." "We don't want you going to Canada to spend the money," he said. "We don't want you going to China, to Germany. You got to spend the money in the United States of America." It is not clear how the spending would be monitored. The BBC has asked the White House for further clarification on how Trump's plan would work. One former Republican strategist and pollster said the promise should be firmly seen in the context of an election that is now less than two months away. "It is an extraordinary promise, and I'm not sure where that money is going to come from - but it is campaign season," Robert Moran told the BBC World Service's Newsday programme. Moran described it as a "novel solution to an interesting problem", noting that the historical tendency was for the party of the president to lose seats in Congress during the midterm elections.

FOUR KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM REPUBLICAN MIDTERMS CONVENTION

The Republican Party's first midterms convention had all the trappings of the traditional presidential election-year gathering: supporters in sparkling costumes, a conveyor belt of candidate speeches, and vendors selling campaign merchandise. But unlike an ordinary convention, no official party business was conducted in Dallas, with the event instead serving as a rally for Republicans who are seeking to boost turnout and avoid losing control of Congress in November. President Donald Trump, whose grip over the party remains absolute, delivered a lengthy keynote speech on Wednesday during the opening night of the two-day event. He covered many of the subjects he has returned to time and again this year - with a few surprises thrown in. Here are the key takeaways from his address. 1. Preaching to the MAGA choir The vast arena was filled with diehard Trump

supporters sporting red MAGA gear from his past presidential campaigns. A decade after his first White House run, Trump is still beloved among his base and he has bent the party to his will in the years since. The old-style Republican establishment, or what's left of it in the Trump era, was nowhere to be seen. Senator Susan Collins of Maine and other Republicans running in competitive races chose to stay away. The absence of more moderate Republicans was glaring and offered a reminder of just how much the party has changed. It also raised questions about the effectiveness of holding an unprecedented midterm convention in the first place. The core audience, both in the arena and watching on television, appeared to be Trump loyalists, not the moderates and swing voters the Republican Party needs to turn out in large numbers in November.

Muted US response to UK's West Bank sanctions may reflect simmering frustration

As the UK unveiled sanctions against Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank on Tuesday, Israel responded with fury, declaring it would shutter Britain's diplomatic mission to the Palestinians, kick out UK military staff from an international coordination base near Gaza and ban nearly a dozen left-wing British members of parliament from entering Israel. It was a blaring signal of defiance and a remarkable diplomatic escalation. The UK had taken the action arguing it had a moral imperative to stop the "destruction" of the two-state solution - a future independent Palestinian state - at the hands of the Israeli government. It accused Israel's government of turning a blind eye to the "ethnic cleansing" of Palestinians by settlers. The standoff, which by the afternoon extended to a further 11 mostly European countries set to join the settlement trade ban, raised a crucial question: When Israel becomes isolated, the US as its superpower backer often steps in to provide a diplo-



matic shield. Was the US, too, going to condemn Britain's policy? Such a reprimand had been previewed by some observers. It felt even more likely when the US ambassador to Israel, Mike Huckabee, appeared on the BBC before the UK announcement suggesting American "sanctions, repercussions or retaliations" could be coming for Britain, albeit that he didn't know what these were and hadn't spoken to President Trump. But as Tuesday wore on, Washington's response was notably muted. Secretary of State Marco Rubio, asked about the UK move by reporters on the

way to Colombia, said: "Obviously, we're not going to do what the UK did. We saw their announcement today but I don't have any comment on it right now." He added that Britain had notified the administration ahead of time (most likely during a phone call Trump had with UK Prime Minister Andy Burnham on Monday) and said the US shared "the goal of stability" at a tense time in the region and didn't "want to see some uptick in violence... in the West Bank". It was hardly a withering rebuke of the British move, let alone any kind of punishment. In fact, Washington

seemed to be sharing some of the concerns that motivated the move. Asked about it on Wednesday, Trump said he would be speaking to Israel to understand their thinking, adding: "I understand exactly what's going on, but I want to find out why all of a sudden has that happened." My understanding is that discussions about the US response were taking place at a high level within the administration on Tuesday. The baseline position appeared to be against any moves that could negatively impact American companies. Huckabee, who has longstanding views based on biblical justifications for Jewish settlement in the West Bank, appeared to be speaking off the cuff in some of his public remarks - a feature now common for some Trump-appointed ambassadors. Staunchly pro-Israel Republicans in Congress were very publicly arguing for actions against Britain; pointing out that US states like Florida have punitive laws against companies that boycott Israel.

Royal family rift after popular TV news presenter chosen to succeed Ugandan king

A bitter succession dispute has erupted in one of Uganda's traditional kingdoms, days before the burial of its late king, who until his death had been the world's youngest reigning monarch. King Oyo Nyimba Kabamba Iguru Rukidi IV, who ruled the Tooro Kingdom for more than three decades, was undergoing cancer treatment in the US when he died last month aged 34. Royal clan elders have named popular TV news presenter Prince Edward Rukidi Kijanjongoma, 56, as the next monarch, but this has been rejected by Oyo's close family. His sister, Princess Ruth Komuntale, said the late king had left a will written in 2022 naming his young son, whose identity has never been disclosed, as his successor. "My brother did leave behind an heir to the throne, and that was very clearly stated," she said, accusing those behind the announcement on Wednesday night of creating "confusion and turmoil" while the family was still grieving. Meanwhile the late king's mother, Queen



Best Kemigisa, has said royal guards have been withdrawn from the palace and soldiers deployed, restricting the royal family's movement and their ability to receive visitors, describing the situation as "house arrest". She appealed to the army's leadership and President Yoweri Museveni to allow the family to mourn and bury Oyo in peace on Saturday. "I appeal to those fighting over the throne: please, there will be time for all of that," she said. "Let us grieve and bury my son King Oyo." Thousands of mourners are expected to attend the burial at the royal tombs near the palace in Fort Portal in western Uganda.



Twenty-five dead after fire on cargo ship in eastern China

SPANISH INTELLIGENCE WARNED OF CEUTA MASS CROSSING PLANS BEFORE SURGE

Spanish intelligence services warned of social media calls for a mass migrant crossing into Ceuta the day before tens of thousands of people entered the territory, newly released government documents show. The revelations emerged in documents declassified by the Spanish government amid accusations it failed to give the full story of the migrant influx. On 29 July, Spain's National Intelligence Service (CNI) told Moroccan and Ceuta authorities that social media groups were encouraging migrants to cross the following day. Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez has insisted that the events of 30 July were impossible to predict, but opposition parties say the documents show the government misled Spaniards. Sánchez had previously told parliament that



there was "no information that conveyed the magnitude" of the "crisis we were going to suffer" on the last two days of July. At least 72,000 migrants crossed from Morocco into Ceuta on 30 and 31 July. Most swam around a border fence and at least 100 people died during the crossing, according to figures from Ceuta's mayor. Although most returned, as many as 5,000 remain in makeshift camps or

are sleeping on the city's streets and beaches, leading to unrest in the autonomous Spanish city in North Africa. Locals have expressed safety concerns and some have destroyed shelters and blocked aid being supplied to the migrants. In a note on 29 July, the CNI told Moroccan intelligence it had identified WhatsApp and Facebook groups promoting an attempt by migrants to reach the

Spanish exclave the following day, "both swimming and via the [border] fence". The CNI reported that around 180,000 people were receiving the messages, one of which read: "Whoever wants to cross has the last chance on Throne Day [30 July] at 8 the authorities will be distracted with the celebrations and parades." It also warned, via text message, the central government's representation in Ceuta and the civil guard about the social media activity. The messages are part of a tranche of more than 40 security documents linked to the Ceuta crossing that the government declassified following mounting pressure on Sánchez over his handling of the crisis and widespread allegations in Spain that Morocco had played a role in facilitating the crossings.

R MADHAVAN PREDICTS US OPEN 2026 MEN'S SINGLES WINNER

Indian movie star R Madhavan was in attendance at the US Open 2026, witnessing one of his favourite players, Alexander Zverev, breeze through to the men's singles semi-finals. Madhavan discussed what makes the US Open special, his prediction for the men's singles title winner, and the tennis player whose life he'd want to portray on screen. Speaking in an interview shared by JioStar, R Madhavan opened up about what sparked his interest in tennis: "My dad used to play tennis. We lived in a small town in India, Jamshedpur. The happy time with the family was when Dad took us to the tennis court and played. I would look at him and see a smile on my father's face that I had never seen before. He was the happiest when he was playing tennis, so I have great memories of that, and I think he'd be mighty proud of me, actually. Apart from all my



achievements, he'd be like, 'What, you went to the US Open? Fabulous.' It's been a great year for me because I was at the Masters earlier this year, and now I'm here." On what makes the US Open special: "The fact that it's obviously one of the Grand Slams, and there's an ease about the whole tournament. Everybody's dressed very cool. Winning

it in America is another deal altogether. US Open is fun, and I think winning here is more of a celebration." On the Carlos Alcaraz-Ben Shelton match and his prediction for the US Open 2026 men's singles winner: "I missed the match of matches; everybody's talking about it, but those guys were just monsters. I don't know how they man-

aged for five hours, and what a huge upset. The sheer grit that Shelton showed was extraordinary, which means there will be an American in the final. And I know the Americans don't want to hear it, but I think Zverev is going to win it." On who he considers the greatest tennis player: "Federer will be number one for me. I like his atti-

tude. But I'm also a huge fan of Alexander Zverev. He's diabetic, and he's made people with diabetes not look as uncool anymore, which is phenomenal. Hats off to him. He takes care of himself in the middle of the court, in the middle of the game, and I think that's phenomenal." On which tennis player he'd want to star as in a biopic and whom he'd like as a co-star in a film: "The fun of them all, John McEnroe. I think he is fully movie material. A tennis player as a co-star? Steffi Graf. There is a video of a fan asking her, 'Will you marry me?' and she says, 'How much money do you have?' in the middle of the match. It was phenomenal. Great presence of mind!" Indian movie star R Madhavan was in attendance at the US Open 2026, witnessing one of his favourite players, Alexander Zverev, breeze through to the men's singles semi-finals.

HARSHIT RANA RULED OUT OF AFGHANISTAN T20IS, ASIAN GAMES; BCCI NAMES REPLACEMENT

Pacer Harshit Rana has been ruled out of India's squad for the upcoming T20Is against Afghanistan and the Asian Games 2026. According to a release by the BCCI, the pacer was progressing well during his rehab at the BCCI Centre of Excellence (CoE). He sustained a rectus femoris strain while bowling during a match simulation on September 7 and has subsequently been ruled out. He has now been replaced by young pacer Yash Thakur, who has already played two matches for India. Yash, the 27-year-old fast bowler from Vidarbha, recently made his T20I debut during India's tour of Zimbabwe in July. He played two matches and took four wickets. He has featured in 50 Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy matches, picking up 81 wickets at an impressive economy rate of 7.04. However, Thakur was among the bowlers dropped for the Afghanistan series, as India named a full-strength side for the three contests to be played in New



Delhi on September 13, 15 and 17. India also has a full-strength squad for the Asian Games, which begin in Aichi-Nagoya on September 19, although India will play their quarter-final on September 28. As per the squad announced for the Afghanistan T20Is, Jasprit Bumrah, Nitish Kumar Reddy and Washington Sundar's participation was also subject to fitness. Harshit has been hampered by injuries this year. He sustained a knee injury ahead of the T20 World Cup 2026 and missed the global showpiece, which India won. He underwent knee surgery, missed the

IPL 2026, and made a comeback in June. However, he picked up a hamstring injury during the England tour in July and was on the mend before a "rectus femoris strain" ruled him out of the Afghanistan series and the Asiad. India's updated squad for Afghanistan T20Is: Shreyas Iyer [C], Abhishek Sharma, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Sanju Samson [WK], Ishan Kishan [WK], Tilak Varma [VC], Shivam Dube, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Varun Chakaravarthi, Ravi Bishnoi, Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh, Yash Thakur.

TRUTH BEHIND 'HARMANPREET KAUR VIRAL CATCH' THAT EVERYBODY IS TALKING ABOUT

On Thursday, social media was flooded with a video of an Indian women's team player taking an unthinkable catch, where she runs and then does a somersault while taking the catch. It has been shared multiple times. One handle called it a catch by Harmanpreet Kaur. However, it is a fake/AI-generated video. While most people have shared it for fun, such AI videos can be misleading to unsuspecting fans. Deepfake technology has emerged as a major concern in recent years, with people, especially celebrities, increasingly becoming targets of this form of manipulation. Deepfakes are convincing but entirely fabricated media, in the form of



AI-generated videos or audio clips, that use people's faces and voices. Often made with a malicious motive, they pose significant risks to the reputation and privacy of the targeted individuals. These manipulated videos can be used to spread false information, defame people, or even blackmail them. With the

advancement of deepfake technology, the line between reality and fabrication is becoming increasingly blurred, making it challenging for both the public and authorities to separate truth from fiction. How to protect your data from deepfakes? While there is no sure-shot way to ensure 100% protection, there are

several steps you can take to minimise the risk of your media being accessed and exploited by deepfake tools. Avoid sharing personal images or videos on social media or other public platforms whenever possible. If sharing is necessary, set your privacy settings to the highest level. Strengthen the security of your online accounts by using strong and unique passwords. This makes it harder for hackers to gain unauthorised access to your images and videos, reducing the likelihood of becoming a target of deepfake tools. Invest in a good antivirus program to protect your computer from malware that could potentially be used to create deepfakes.

ISHAN KISHAN SHINES AS EAST ZONE CLINCH DULEEP TROPHY AFTER 13 YEARS

East Zone translated their complete dominance over the last 12 sessions into a Duleep Trophy victory after 13 years, overwhelming South Zone on the basis of a massive first innings lead on the fifth and final day of the final in Chennai on Thursday. East Zone sauntered to 388 for seven in their second innings, swelling the overall lead to 760 runs even as the match ended in a draw. Mohammad Kounian Quraishi joined the list of century-makers in this match with an unbeaten 116, his maiden three-figure mark in two-match-old first-class career. Quraishi, who added 150 runs with Anukul Roy (64) for the seventh wicket stand, reached the milestone in 179 balls with a brace



off left-arm pacer CV Milind. But way before the teams shook hands at 2.10 pm signalling a draw, East had wrested the trophy after posting a mammoth 708 runs in their first innings, which helped them construct a 372-run lead. East's second innings was a mere continuation of their show of power in the match. Starting the day

from 212 for five, the Ishan Kishan-led side, as it happened in the first innings, was seldom troubled by direction-less South bowlers. Seasoned Mohammed Siraj bounded in for a while, showing intensity and pace. While it was satisfactory from a personal point of view, the effort remained futile otherwise. The lack of support for Siraj

and a toothless batting effort also reflected the flawed selection as far as South squad is concerned. The South management chose to ignore inform and proven players such as Karun Nair, Mayank Agarwal and Sai Kishore and the replacements never really could step up. But plenty of East Zone players did that. Skipper Kishan made a stunning 270 in the first innings to underline his red-ball readiness while veteran Mohammed Shami, who was playing in his 100th first-class match, put to shame some younger names with a spirited effort. Kumar Kushagra scored his sixth first-class hundred while his Jharkhand team-mate Shikhar Mohan made a fifty filled with class and poise.

FORMULA 1 HAS A NEW SPANISH HOME



Aaron Rodgers Rips Into ESPN, Questions Silence On Dianna Russini Row

Aaron Rodgers has turned the Dianna Russini-Mike Vrabel controversy into a broader question about media standards. Rodgers criticized ESPN for what he sees as its silence over allegations involving Russini and the New England Patriots head coach, while the network has previously given prominent coverage to controversies involving figures outside its own organization. Russini and Vrabel faced scrutiny after photos surfaced showing them together at a resort in Arizona. Russini later left The Athletic, while Vrabel acknowledged difficult conversations with the Patriots and his family and entered counseling.



FRANCE WITHDRAWS SUPPORT FOR GIANNI INFANTINO IN FIFA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION



France will not support the candidacy of Gianni Infantino, who is running for a new term as FIFA president in March 2027, the French Football Federation (FFF) announced on Thursday. The FFF is aligning itself with the position of other European federations such as Belgium, Italy, Scotland, Sweden and Wales, who have also publicly withdrawn support for Infantino. FIFA confirmed last weekend that Infantino will stand for president in an election next March, despite the backlash over his now-abandoned plan to bring private investment into the men's and women's World Cups. At this stage, the 56-year-old from Switzerland is the only candidate. However, CONCACAF president Victor Montagliani is widely seen as a likely challenger to the incumbent. "We believe that the trust placed in the FIFA president has been betrayed, and that the way in which the governance of world football is envisaged no longer reflects us," FFF

president Philippe Diallo said in a statement. "That is why, by a unanimous decision of its members, the French Football Federation has decided to withdraw its support for Gianni Infantino's candidacy for the FIFA presidency." The move by the French federation, while expected, is likely to sting Infantino. Diallo added that France "has a historic legitimacy as one of the founding nations of FIFA, and it has the right to intervene when it has the feeling that FIFA and its president are going off course in their governance of world football". "It also has sporting legitimacy, having been in the top three in the FIFA rankings for the last 10 years." Infantino replaced Sepp Blatter as president of world football's governing body in 2016. He has come under severe pressure since the announcement in late July of proposals to create a commercial subsidiary to run its biggest events, such as the World Cup and Club World Cup.



Rohit Sharma Breaks Silence On His World Cup 2027 Participation

After

months of speculation about his World Cup 2027 selection, former India captain Rohit Sharma has broken silence on the matter. October 2027 is still far away, said star Indian cricketer Rohit

Sharma on Thursday as he responded to a query on whether he would play the ODI World Cup at that time. The one-line response came on the sidelines of an event in Mumbai, a rare comment from the former captain amid swirling speculation around his participation in the mega-event and the course his career will take given he longer plays the T20I and Test formats. "October 2027 is far away, we will see about it then," said Rohit when asked about his participation at the Global Fintech Fest by a

member of the audience. The 2027 ODI World Cup is to be co-hosted by South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia. He was also asked whether, in case of an Indian title win, there would be an open bus parade to celebrate with fans much like 2024 when the team led by Rohit carried out a victory parade in Mumbai after its T20 World Cup triumph in the West Indies. "...I do not think a bus parade would be possible now," Rohit replied. BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia has made it clear that there is no room for

speculation around the batting great as he batting well. Rohit had scored a century in his last outing for India in ODIs. "He is playing superbly in all matches. So what more do you want? In the last match (against England), he scored 138 runs, so why is there speculation? I do not want to give some fodder for the speculators," Saikia told reporters after the BCCI's review meeting here at its headquarters some days ago. Chasing 388 in the series decider, the former India captain produced a sensational

138 off 110 balls, smashing 17 fours and five sixes. Although India eventually lost the match by 27 runs, the innings served as a powerful reminder of his ability to dominate at the highest level. Rohit finished the three-match ODI series with 175 runs at an average of 58.33 and a strike rate of 98.31, including his match-defining century. He has accumulated 379 runs in nine ODI innings this year at an average of 42.11 and a strike rate of over 99, with one century and one fifty.

UDAYA BHANU CALLS PANCHANAMA AN EMOTIONAL CRIME THRILLER

I Poured My Blood, Sweat and Tears into Panchanama Because It Is More Than a Crime Thriller — It Is a Deeply Emotional Story,” Says Udaya Bhanu at Panchanama Preview Event. Blending crime, mystery and emotional drama, Panchanama is set to take Telugu audiences into a gripping investigation where every death raises new questions. The Telugu ZEE5 Original held its first-episode screening and press meet at Prasad Labs in Hyderabad on September 9, ahead of its September 11 premiere. Directed by Mohan Srivatsa, the investigative thriller stars Bharath Srinivasan



as Jai Ram, alongside Medha Reddy, Shivaji Raja, Surya Srinivas, Srija, Radhika Preethi, Charan Babu and Shiva Karthik Danda. Following the screening, the cast and crew interacted with the media, sharing insights into the story, characters and experience of bringing Panchanama to life.

EMOTIONAL THRILLER MISSING MEGHANA SET FOR A GRAND RELEASE ON SEPTEMBER 18



The upcoming emotional thriller Missing Meghana, produced by Panchumarthi Naresh Babu under the banners of First Copy Movies and KD & Co, and directed by Vachaspathy, is gearing up for a grand theatrical release on September 18 across approximately 150 theatres. The film features Ram Karthik, Ammu Abhirami, Vaidika Senjaliya, and Ankit Koyya in the lead roles, supported by a prominent cast including Goparaju Ramana, Vempa Kasi, Kaushik, Mahipal, Ruchita, Nalini, Srinivas, Azeem, and Pandu. The promotional materials released so far have received a warm reception. The three songs released from the film are currently going viral across digital media platforms. Audiences have praised the fresh musical score composed by RR Dhruvan, while Shyam K Naidu's cinematography has also been earning strong appreciation. Speaking about the promotional campaign, director Vachaspathy mentioned that three songs and a teaser have been launched so far, with the official trailer slated for release soon. Producer Naresh expressed his happiness with the final output and the business response the film

has been receiving. The film's promotional journey began with sensational director V. V. Vinayak launching the First Look and title revealing poster. Legendary producer Suresh Babu unveiled the first single "Pilla Pilla," while leading producer Dil Raju launched the second track. The third song was released by renowned writer-producer Kona Venkat alongside Matcha Ravi. Director Vachaspathy shared his confidence in the project, stating: > "While many thrillers hit the screen regularly, Missing Meghana will truly surprise the audience.

AH GLIMPSE: BLOODY HUNGER RAISES TENSION FOR OCT 9 RELEASE



The upcoming film AH starring Rahul Vijay and Archana Iyer is raising good buzz. The makers of AH have unveiled its first glimpse, titled "Bloody Hunger," after receiving an encouraging response to the film's title and first look launched by Adivi Sesh. Backed by debut production houses Star Box Stories and Ripple Slide Studios, the thriller stars Rahul Vijay and Archana Iyer in lead roles. Produced by Kanaka Rao Tonangi, Abhishek K, and renowned editor Garry BH, the film is directed by Sai Baali and is scheduled for a grand theatrical release on October 9, 2026. The dialogue-free glimpse instantly grabs attention with its haunting visuals and eerie storytelling. It hints at a gripping investigation surrounding the disappearance of young girls while teasing a mysterious evil force operating in the shadows. The striking visuals, sharp editing, and suspense-filled narrative create constant tension, while the words Ammayi, Adrushyam, and Anveshana cleverly establish the film's investigative core. Sri Charan Pakala's thumping background score amplifies the fear and curiosity, making the glimpse an intense and engaging watch. The glimpse also introduces Rahul Vijay as a determined police officer, whose

commanding screen presence adds weight to the investigation drama. Archana Iyer appears in intriguing moments that deepen the mystery, and the chilling final reveal leaves audiences with plenty of questions. With cinematography by Monish Bhupathi Raju and editing by Abhinav V. Kunapareddy alongside Garry BH, AH promises a dark, suspenseful thriller packed with mystery, emotion, and edge-of-the-seat moments when it arrives in theatres on October 9, 2026.

GRAND LAUNCH OF 'JAI GOWRIPUTRA GANESHA' AUDIO AND TRAILER

Hderabad: The audio and trailer of Jai Gowriputra Ganesha, the maiden production of Vatsalya Audio and Video Illustrations, were unveiled at a grand event held at the Preview Hall of the Telugu Film Chamber in Hyderabad. The programme was organised under the leadership of the film's writer, director and producer Swami Srivatsalya Dharma Veera and was attended by several prominent personalities from the film industry, politics and spiritual circles.



GRAND TRAILER LAUNCH EVENT OF "EYE BOMMA" MOVIE



"Eye Bomma" is an upcoming film starring Banoth Pawan, Gautham, Narmada, and Satish in the lead roles. The film is being produced by Kuruva Jamanna under the Sri Mallanna Creations banner and

GV Prakash Kumar Unveils the Second Single "Dam Dam" from Chakkora – Lunar Love Bird



National Award-winning actor and music composer GV Prakash Kumar unveiled the lyrical video of the second single, "Dam Dam," from the upcoming musical love story Chakkora – Lunar Love Bird. The energetic track is part of a film that promises to blend mass poetry with a refreshing musical romance. Chakkora – Lunar Love Bird is being produced by Dr. Chintada Hemarao under the High Joy Commercials banner in association with VIP – Vintage Iconic Pictures. The film marks the directorial debut of Manga Srinivas.



Fatima Sana Shaikh recalls facing sexism in film industry: 'Learn to stand up for yourself'

Actress Fatima Sana Shaikh has opened up about facing sexism and deeply rooted patriarchal attitudes in the film industry. She asserted that women often have to fight against societal conditioning to make their voices heard. Speaking at the trailer launch of her upcoming release "Hunkkaar—The Roar," the 'Dangal' actress said patriarchy cannot be blamed solely on men, as women are also part of a system that has been deeply ingrained in society. "Patriarchy is not only the fault of men. There

are also women in it. They are also included. It internalizes. And we are all born in the same conditioning. And we have to fight it," she says and acknowledges that it's "deeply ingrained." Sharing an example from the film industry, Shaikh recalled being in meetings where she was presented with a female-centric story about a woman trying to find her voice. Fatima have been in such rooms, where you go to a room, the producer tells you that this is a mind-blowing film for you. Then, the role is of a woman who is trying to find a voice," - an idea that is female-oriented, taps into women-empowerment, social politics - however, Shaikh finds no woman in the room except her, emphasizing the irony of the situation. "The irony is that when you try to say something, she won't appreciate it. She can't handle it. And then, she will make weird jokes, or she will mansplain. Because she will tell us how women feel when there is a violent crime. She will tell us that actually, it's not that bad. It's like this," she explains. However, she also points out that the way

to deal with all of it is to "learn to stand up for yourself and fight," she added. Meanwhile, Fatima takes on the role of a no-nonsense police officer in the upcoming courtroom drama. The show is produced by Birla Studios and Applause Entertainment, in association with Priyanka Chopra's production house, Purple Pebble Pictures, and Mangata Films Production. Directed by Karan D. Kapadia and Nitya Mehra, "Hunkkaar—The Roar" is scheduled to stream on JioHotstar from September 25.