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HYDERABAD I BENGALURU I CHENNAI I VIJAYAWADA I KOCHI

# THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES

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**OM NAMO VENKATESAYA**

18- 09 - 2026

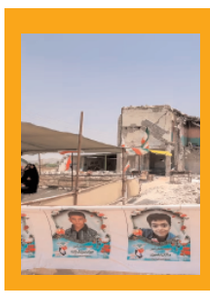
Total pilgrims :76,060
Tonsures : 32,248
Hundi kanukalu : 3.0 CR
Laddu sale... 4.56 Lac
Annaprasadam..2.21 Lac
Ashwini hospital..4,208
Present Situation on 19-09-2026:
Waiting Compartments... Out side line at silathoranam

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens)...18 H.



UCC violates various Articles of Indian Constitution, says Owaisi

NATION PAGE



Deadly US strike on Iran school may have been a war crime, UN report finds

WORLD PAGE



Keerthy Suresh Shines In White Silk Saree

CINEMA PAGE

SCAN FOR E-PAPER

## INBRIEF

### Drugs worth Rs 3.68 cr seized

Aizawl/Imphal, Sep 20: Security forces in Mizoram and Manipur have seized methamphetamine tablets and heroin worth more than Rs 3.68 crore in separate operations and arrested five alleged drug peddlers, officials said on Sunday. In Mizoram, acting on specific intelligence about the illegal transportation of narcotics, Assam Rifles and Mizoram Police launched a joint operation in the T-Junction areas of Mimbung-Kawlbem-Ngopa in Saitual district. During the operation, the joint team apprehended a suspected drug peddler and recovered 2.285 kg of methamphetamine tablets, estimated to be worth around Rs 1.83 crore. The arrested person and the seized contraband were handed over to Ngopa Police Station for further investigation and legal action under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

### High alert in 5 J&K districts

Jammu, Sep 20: A high alert was sounded across Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua, Samba, Udhampur, Doda and Kishtwar districts on Sunday as security forces continued Operation Sohan in the Majalta forests and expanded search operations across the region. The heightened security measures come days after an encounter in the dense forests of Bartal, Sohan and Khubban, where security forces on September 17 eliminated two Pakistani terrorists affiliated with Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM). The operation, which began on the night of September 16, entered its third day amid concerns that a third terrorist, believed to have been injured during the encounter, may still be hiding in the forest. The Army's White Knight Corps, Jammu and Kashmir Police and the CRPF have intensified cordon-and-search operations in the area.

# No Dalit land will be taken, says Ponguleti

**His clarification came amid reports that the revenue authorities have issued notices to 120 Dalit farmers in Erravalli village, asking them to appear with all the documents in their possession regarding the ownership of their lands.**

*"The government will not take away even an inch of your land. This government has no intention of acquiring your land. There is no need for you to feel any fear or anxiety regarding your lands; the people's government stands by you," the minister told Dalits.*



HYDERABAD (TSIT):

Telangana Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Sunday made it clear that the government will not take "even an inch" of Dalit land, stating that snatching land from Dalits and tribals is not the policy of the "people's government."

In a statement, the Minister assured that the government led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy stands as a complete safeguard for Dalit lands. "This government has no intention of acquiring your land. There is no need to feel fear or anxiety," he told Dalits.

His clarification came amid reports that revenue authorities issued notices to 120 Dalit farmers in Erravalli village, asking them to appear with documents regarding ownership of their lands. This followed the Chief Minister's announcement of an inquiry into former CM K. Chandrasekhar Rao's farmhouse at Erravalli, which he claimed includes 388 acres of government land. Srinivasa Reddy said verification of land records, surveys, and resolution of land issues should not be viewed as attempts to seize land. He accused certain powerful individuals of spreading "malicious propaganda" to create panic and incite Dalits for political mileage.

He recalled that it was Congress governments that took historic decisions for the upliftment of the poor, Dalits, and the downtrodden and weaker sections, both at the national and state levels. He stated that Congress governments have a history of granting land and establishing ownership rights for landless Dalits through initiatives such as land reforms and land distribution.

## 'Why students forced to live in unsafe PGs':

# Rahul slams Modi govt over hostel crisis

NEW DELHI (TSIT):

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday hit out at the Modi government over the issue of hostel facilities for students asking why they are "forced to live in unsafe PGs" and also sought to know the status of the investigation into the Satya Niketan building collapse incident.

In a social media post, Gandhi shared pictures from the interaction he had on Saturday in Indore with the family of a student from Madhya Pradesh who died in the Satya Niketan building collapse in Delhi on September 6, in which seven people, including students, were killed.

Among those killed was 21-year-old Arpit Jaj, a native of Dewas in Madhya Pradesh. Gandhi invited Jaj's family on stage during his youth outreach programme 'Chhatron Ki Goonj' in Indore on Saturday.

**"I have a direct question for the system: Why aren't new, safe hostels being built? Why are students forced to live in unsafe PGs? What is the status of the investigation into the Satya Niketan incident?"**
**R.GANDHI.**

In his post in Hindi on X on Sunday, the Congress leader said, "'What was that innocent soul's fault?' This is the question being asked, with tear-filled eyes, by the family that lost their son, Arpit Jaj, in the Satya Niketan tragedy."



Had there been good, safe hostels, they would not have been forced to house their child in such a dangerous place, the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha said.

And had safety standards truly been adhered to, perhaps this tragedy, "one that neither the students nor their parents could have ever imagined, "would never have occurred, he said.

The system's irresponsibility and corruption have snuffed out lives full of dreams and devastated families filled with hope, Gandhi alleged.

"Like the rest of the country, Arpit's family is demanding accountability. They want responsibility to be fixed regarding the lives of students, ensuring that no other parent has to endure the pain of losing a child in this manner," he said.

## *Heavy monsoon rains ahead in Hyderabad,*
# IMD issues 7-day alert



Hyderabad (TSIT):

Heavy monsoon rains are expected in Hyderabad over the next seven days as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued an orange alert in view of the forecast.

The weather department has also predicted thunderstorms and lightning in several parts of Telangana during this period.According to IMD Hyderabad, thunderstorms accompanied by lightning are likely in various districts of the state along with heavy monsoon rains. Weather enthusiast T Balaji also forecast scattered intense thunderstorms across parts of Central, East, West and North Telangana from afternoon to night.

For Hyderabad, he predicted one or two spells of scattered intense storms from the afternoon through the following morning, while dry conditions are expected until the afternoon.

# NSUI rebellion in DUSU polls tests Kanhaiya Kumar experiment

NEW DELHI (TSIT):

Kanhaiya Kumar was brought into the Congress from the Left with a clear political proposition: his visibility among young voters could help the party rebuild its connection with a constituency it has struggled to retain.

A former JNU students' union president and one of the more recognisable young faces to join the Congress, Kumar walked with Rahul Gandhi during the Bharat Jodo Yatra before being appointed AICC in-charge of the party's student wing, NSUI, in July 2023. However, NSUI's latest performance at the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) election has raised questions about how far the party's strategy has translated into electoral gains on the ground. NSUI failed to win a single post on the four-member DUSU central panel this year—the first time since 2015 that it has drawn a blank in the university's top body. ABVP won the president, secretary and joint-secretary posts, while the vice-president's post went to Independent candidate Deepanshu Shokeen, who had earlier sought an NSUI ticket.The Shokeen episode is particularly uncomfortable for NSUI.



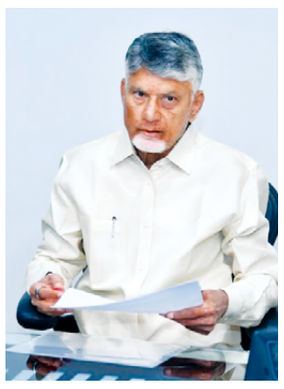
**FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 2015, NSUI HAS FAILED TO WIN A SINGLE POST ON THE FOUR-MEMBER DUSU CENTRAL PANEL, RAISING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ORGANISATION'S PERFORMANCE UNDER KANHAIYA KUMAR.**

Shokeen won the vice-president's election with 30,615 votes, defeating ABVP's Ishu Maurya, who polled 16,910. NSUI's official candidate, Vir Chatrath, finished a distant third with 4,313 votes. Shokeen's margin over the ABVP candidate—13,705 votes—was more than three times the total votes secured by NSUI's candidate. This was not simply a case of an Independent candidate emerging from nowhere. Shokeen has been active with NSUI since 2023, the same year Kumar took charge, and campaigned for the organisation in the 2023 and 2024 DUSU elections. He also served as a student representative at his college.

In 2025, Shokeen sought to contest the student body elections on an NSUI ticket but was not selected. This year, he sought the ticket again, but the process ended in a controversy. Shokeen said he was selected as the NSUI candidate but was later asked to withdraw. He refused, and subsequently contested as an Independent. NSUI sources, however, said he left the organisation after being asked to contest for a different post. A PTI report, citing sources close to Kumar, said Shokeen was offered the presidential ticket but insisted on contesting for vice-president.

# CM reviews El Nino preparedness

VISAKHAPATNAM (TSIT):



Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to effectively implement the action plan to tackle the impact of El Nino and protect farmers and consumers. During a teleconference with senior officials, district Collectors and RSK staff, he called for short- and medium-term plans, crop planning based on water availability and market demand, and promotion of pulses, millets, rain-fed crops and natural farming.

He directed officials to ensure crop insurance compensation in case of losses and control the prices of rice, onions, palm oil and red gram by monitoring stocks and supply. Kitchen gardens through self-help groups should also be promoted to improve vegetable availability.The State has recorded a 50.7 percent rainfall deficit, with Prakasam, Annamayya and Sri Sathya Sai districts among the worst affected. Against the normal Kharif target of 30.84 lakh hectares, cultivation has commenced in about 79 per cent of the area.

Mr. Naidu said Rs.190 crore had been allocated to protect high-risk horticultural crops and Rs.60 crore kept ready for the Kharif contingency plan. He stressed ensuring drinking water for people and water and fodder for livestock, intensifying water conservation and promoting drought-resistant crops.

# *Ukraine fires 1,000+ drones at Russia, hundreds target Moscow*

Moscow: Ukrainian forces fired more than 1,000 drones at Russia overnight, including hundreds that were launched toward Moscow, officials said Sunday, September 20, as the Kremlin was wrapping up the third and last day of its parliamentary elections.

Moscow's mayor described the wave of drones as the 'largest ever" attack on the Russian capital and said there had been damage to a Moscow oil refinery and a residential building.

Across the wider Moscow region, the attack killed two people and wounded 20, local Gov. Andrei Vorobyov said. The dead were a 74-year-old man and a 44-year-old woman, he said. Writing on social media, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that Kyiv had used a range of missiles and drones in the attack—including Ukraine's domestically made Flamingo and Pelican missiles—to hit oil and logistics facilities.

"These are billions of dollars that sustain the war machine," Zelenskyy said, referring to the financial pressure that Kyiv hopes to put on Russia's economy.

The voting underway in Russia is the country's first wartime parliamentary election—balloting that has been virtually devoid of opposition to President Vladimir Putin's policies and is all but certain to cement the Kremlin's dominance.

Russia was also holding the vote in the four Ukrainian regions that Moscow illegally annexed after the war began but still doesn't fully control, and in Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula that was illegally annexed by Russia in 2014. Kyiv has denounced the action as illegal. 450 drones en route to Moscow destroyed



Russia's Ministry of Defence said that its forces shot down 1,100 Ukrainian drones across the country, as well as over the annexed Ukrainian peninsula of Crimea and the waters of the Black Sea.

Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin said that 450 drones had been destroyed en route to the Russian capital and that the attack had damaged the Moscow Oil Refinery and a residential building. He said the "unprecedented attack" on Moscow was an attempt to disrupt the elections. "The enemy failed in this regard," he said.

**These are billions of dollars that sustain the war machine," Zelenskyy said, referring to the financial pressure that Kyiv hopes to put on Russia's economy.**

Since Russia's invasion more than four years ago, Ukraine has become a global leader in military drone technology, deploying domestically produced long-range drones alongside missiles for strikes deep inside Russia. Its drone technology has impressed governments and defence manufacturers around the world.

Kyiv is aiming to make the Russian public feel the war's consequences and pressure Russian President Vladimir Putin into negotiating a peace settlement.

Putin has so far shown no signs he intends to stop the invasion. Instead, Moscow and Kyiv have been drawn into an escalating duel of long-range aerial strikes as fighting along the roughly 1,250-kilometre front line in eastern and southern Ukraine has slowed, restricted by large numbers of drones and ground robots threatening troop movements.

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# Congress leaders visit BRS-linked farmhouses , question income



Hyderabad: Continuing their attack stating that the BRS leadership "looted" lands when the party was in power, Congress MPs and MLAs on Sunday, September 20, visited a farmhouse near here which is allegedly linked to BRS MLA T Harish Rao and sought to know how it was acquired. The Congress leaders had visited the farmhouses and other properties allegedly linked to the family members of BRS president K Chandrasekhar Rao and his son K T Rama Rao during the last two days.

Speaking to reporters at the farmhouse at Aziznagar, Congress MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy alleged that the family of Chandrasekhar Rao acquired more assets in 10 years than even the Nizam of Hyderabad.

"Was this farmhouse at Aziznagar part of Harish Rao's 2004 election affidavit? How did Harish Rao, who used to wear rubber slippers during Telangana statehood agitation acquired these properties which he did not have in 2004," Kiran Kumar Reddy asked. Harish Rao, a nephew of KCR, need to inform Telangana people as to how he acquired such a valuable farmhouse when his source of income is the salary he gets as an MLA or a minister even if he has included it in his election affidavits, he said.

He alleged that KCR, his son Rama Rao and other family members have hundreds of acres of benami properties.

Kiran Kumar Reddy said the objective of their visits over the last three days was to let people know how the BRS leaders acquired valuable properties and not to trespass into the farmhouses or other private properties. Meanwhile, Harish Rao said in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district that the details of his lands and properties were mentioned in his election affidavits and Income Tax returns.

Denying ownership of any farmhouses, Harish Rao alleged that the houses of several Congress leaders are in the Full Tank Level (FTL) of waterbodies which is a violation of rules. The Congress leaders should focus on fulfilling their election promises instead of trying to divert people's attention, he said.



## Kumkum Puja Held at Raghavendra Colony

WARANGAL: As part of the Ganesh Navaratri celebrations, women of Raghavendra Colony organised a grand Kumkum Puja at the Ganesh pandal on Road No. 2 in Phase–2.

Neelima Reddy, wife of Warangal West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy, attended the programme, offered special prayers and sought the blessings of Lord Ganesha.

Colony Women's Association president Mandala Sandhya felicitated Neelima Reddy with a shawl. Shilpa, Roja, Tejaswini, Aruna, Mandala Sammaiah, Karunakar Goud, Laxman Goud, Vinod and others participated.

# Burglars steal over Rs 8 lakh from two SBI ATMs in Karimnagar

Hyderabad: Burglars stole Rs 8 lakh from two SBI ATMs in Telangana's Karimnagar district early on Sunday, September 20. Closed-circuit television camera footage showed two suspects, including a woman, while police said they sprayed liquid on cameras at one ATM to avoid getting caught. The burglaries took place at SBI ATMs in Durshed, under



the Karimnagar Rural Police Station limits, and Thimmapur, under the LMD Police Station limits.According to police, the suspects used gas cutters to break open the ATMs and flee with the cash. While the amount stolen from the Thimmapur ATM is not known yet, police said Rs 8 lakh was taken from the Durshed ATM.

# Maha Annadanam Held During Ganesh Navaratri Celebrations

Hanamkonda TSIT: A Maha Annadanam programme was organised on a grand scale as part of the Ganesh Navaratri celebrations at Raghavendra Nagar, Road No. 2, in the 58th Division of the Warangal West constituency.

The programme, organised by Ramappa College chairman Aili Karunakar and his wife Tejaswini, witnessed the participation of a large number of devotees.



Vishnuvardhan Reddy, son-in-law of Warangal West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy, attended the programme, offered prayers and sought the blessings of Lord Ganesha. Annadanam was later served to the devotees.

Senior Congress leaders Mandala Sammaiah, Dr Devender, Tallapalli Ravinder, Shilpa, Roja, Aruna, Akmal, Vinod and others participated in the devotional programme and received prasadam.

# Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy Promises Major Development Push for Devarakadra

Hyderabad TSIT: Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy announced that the Karivena project would be completed and filled with water within seven to eight months.

Addressing a public meeting organised by Devarakadra MLA G. Madhusudan Reddy at the Madanapuram agricultural market, the Minister said the constituency was receiving substantial funds for development. Sports Minister Vakiti Srihari and local Congress leaders attended the meeting following the inauguration and foundation-laying of various projects.

Komatireddy said a degree college, 100-bed hospital, new court building and bridge were being developed in the



constituency. He said Madhusudan Reddy had secured approval for the Rs.110-crore Kurumurthy temple ghat road to provide better facilities to devotees.

The Minister announced that Rs.49 crore had been sanctioned for integrated government office complexes in Madanapuram, Moosapet and Koukuntla mandals. Their foundation stones would be laid before Dasara.

He appealed to voters to re-elect Madhusudan Reddy with a majority of 50,000 votes in the next elections, praising his efforts to bring development funds to Devarakadra.

Criticising the previous BRS government, Komatireddy alleged that it had neglected the Palamuru–Rangareddy project and failed to complete Karivena. He credited Sonia Gandhi with granting Telangana statehood despite the political cost to the Congress in Andhra Pradesh.

## Annual Urs of Hazrat Syed Shah Taqi Baba

URS CELEBRATIONS TO BEGIN ON SEP 22



Narayanpet, September 20 (TSIT): The four-day annual Urs of Hazrat Syed Shah Taqi Baba Dargah will begin on September 22 with a Qadriya flag procession. Thousands of devotees from Telangana and neighbouring states are expected to participate.

The celebrations will include Sandal procession, Gyarahvi Sharif, Naat, Mehfil-e-Ziyarat, Jalsa-e-Azmat-e-Auliya and Mehfil-e-Sama with Qawwali performances. Dargah Sajjada Nashin Syed Shah Ghiyasuddin Qadri and Mutawallis Haji Mohammed Nawaz Musa and Mohammed Rafiq Chand said elaborate arrangements were underway and appealed to devotees to participate in large numbers.

## Thanda Youth Manoj Naik Becomes Airline Pilot; Banjara Leaders Felicitate Him Grandly

Husnabad, September 20 – Lavudiya Manoj Naik, hailing from Ballu Naik Thanda in Husnabad Mandal, has been selected as an airline pilot. Banjara leaders expressed their happiness over the selection of Manoj Naik—the son of government teachers Lavudiya Bikshapathi and Gayatri—for this role.



On Sunday, Banjara leaders felicitated Manoj Naik grandly with a shawl and extended their best wishes. The event was organised under the leadership of Gugulothu Thirupathi Naik, the Warangal District In-charge of the BJP ST Morcha.Thirupathi Naik praised Manoj Naik, stating that rising to the position of a pilot through hard work, despite coming from an ordinary tribal family, serves as an inspiration to many.

# AI Can Never Replace the Role of a Teacher Lion Rajendra Prasad



HYDERABAD TSIT: Artificial Intelligence and other emerging technologies can never replace the distinguished position of a teacher in society, said Lion Rajendra Prasad, immediate past zonal chairman of Lions Clubs International District 320-B.He was speaking at the Teachers' Day celebrations organised by Lions District 320-B at Lions Bhavan in Secunderabad. The programme, chaired by Rameshwar Reddy, honoured 100 outstanding teachers selected from different parts of Telangana.

Rajendra Prasad said the country's future rests in the hands of teachers and urged them never to feel that their importance in society had diminished.

Keynote speaker and former District 320-B Governor Vijay Kumar Shetty highlighted the revered position accorded to teachers since ancient times. He described Lord Krishna as the universal teacher and praised Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan as an exemplary teacher of the modern era.Former District Governor Vidyasagar Reddy, First Vice District Governor Avanti Reddy, Second Vice District Governor Challa Srinivas Reddy and Lions Club representatives Madhumita, Birru Anjaneyulu and Vinod Jadhav attended the programme.

# Nalgonda Collector Urges Organisers to Complete Vinayaka Idol Immersion Before Nightfall



Nalgonda, September 20 – District Collector B. Chandrasekhar urged organisers to complete the immersion of Vinayaka idols at the village level before nightfall.

On Sunday, accompanied by District SP Sharath Chandra Pawar, he visited the immersion site at Pedda Munigala in Neredugommu Mandal (Devarakonda Division) and issued instructions to officials regarding necessary safety precautions.

Noting that idols from remote areas would be brought to Pedda Munigala for immersion, he advised Revenue and Police officials to create awareness among organisers about completing the immersion early—rather than keeping idols in processions until dark—to prevent accidents.

He ordered the provision of adequate lighting, barricades, cranes, drinking water, expert swimmers and other facilities at the site, and directed that all precautions be taken to ensure no untoward incidents occur during the immersion process. Devarakonda Sub-Collector Caroline Chingthianmawi, the DSP, and officials from the Medical & Health, RWS, Revenue, Police and other departments were present.

# Ambedkar remembrance held every Sunday

Jagtial, September 20, TSIT: As part of the weekly Ambedkar remembrance initiative organized by Prabuddha Bharat International, Narra Rajender, former District Youth President of Mala Mahanadu of India, attended as the chief guest and paid floral tributes to the statue of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

The event was held at the Jagtial district headquarters to commemorate the ideals and contributions of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar.

Speaking on the occasion, Narra Rajender appreciated the organizers for keeping Ambedkar's ideals alive through the weekly initiative.

He urged people to understand their constitutional rights and fight for them through democratic means. He expressed concern that today's youth are moving away from values and ideals and are increasingly being drawn towards undesirable paths.

He advised the younger generation to learn about the lives and ideals of great leaders and social reformers. He appealed to everyone to participate in the initiative, which is being conducted beyond the boundaries of caste, religion and politics.

He further said that inappropriate remarks against Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian Constitution, would not be tolerated. "Ambedkar is not merely an individual; he is a great and extraordinary force," he said. While the entire world recognizes and respects the great leader, incidents of disrespect towards him continue to occur in various places.He said that to prevent such incidents from recurring, all Ambedkarite groups and followers should unite and spread awareness about the constitutional values and principles championed by Dr. Ambedkar.

# Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy Launches Rs.200-Crore Works



Hyderabad TSIT: Roads, Buildings and Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy on Sunday launched development works worth nearly Rs.200 crore in Devarakadra constituency and accused the previous BRS government of neglecting Palamuru's irrigation needs.

Accompanied by Sports Minister Vakiti Srihari and Devarakadra MLA G. Madhusudhan Reddy, Komatireddy performed the bhoomi puja for HAM road works from Meenugonipalli, estimated at Rs.158.36 crore. He also laid the foundation stone for a Rs.40-crore High-Level Bridge across Ookachetthu Vagu between Pardipur and Muchchintal villages in Koukuntla mandal.

The Minister inaugurated another High-Level Bridge across Ookachetthu Vagu at Madanapuram, constructed at a cost of Rs.6 crore. Addressing a public meeting at the Madanapuram Agricultural Market, he said the Rs.110-crore Kurumoorthy Temple Ghat Road would be completed by July next year.

Komatireddy alleged that former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao built farmhouses while farmers in Palamuru suffered due to incomplete irrigation projects. He said the Jurala and Nettampadu projects were completed during Congress rule, while the BRS government failed to complete the Palamuru–Rangareddy project during its 10-year tenure.

He alleged that KCR was staying away from the Assembly because he had no answers regarding the status of irrigation projects. He said BRS leaders' visits to agricultural fields and their "crocodile tears" would not solve farmers' problems.

The Minister announced that Rs.560 crore had been deposited in the District Collector's account for land acquisition related to the Uddandapur Reservoir. He assured that the Karivena Reservoir would be filled with water within seven to eight months.

Highlighting the Congress government's welfare initiatives, Komatireddy referred to the Rs.5-lakh assistance under the Indiramma Indlu scheme, Young India Integrated Residential Schools and interest-free loans and business opportunities for women's self-help groups.

He said MLA Madhusudhan Reddy had secured substantial funds and major projects for Devarakadra, including a degree college, a 100-bed hospital and a court building. He appealed to voters to elect Madhusudhan Reddy with a majority of 50,000 votes in the next Assembly elections.

# Rekha Boyalapalli Questions Timing of Congress Candidate's Arrest



HYDERABAD, TSIT: Telangana Pradesh Mahila Congress Vice-President Dr Rekha Boyalapalli has questioned the arrest of Congress candidate Milan Pradhan in connection with a 19-year-old case, alleging that the action was taken within hours of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announcing her support for him in the Nandigram by-election.

In a statement issued on Sunday, she said the Congress respected the principle that the law must take its own course but insisted that it should be enforced equally and impartially. Reviving an old case during an election and arresting an opposition candidate raised concerns over the possible use of legal institutions for political purposes, she alleged."If the case was so urgent, why was no action taken for 19 years? Why did the authorities act only after the election campaign began?" she asked, demanding a credible explanation from the BJP-led Central Government and the authorities concerned.

Dr Boyalapalli said elections should be fought on the strength of development, public service, policies and people's confidence—not through intimidation, selective legal action or arrests carrying allegations of political vendetta.

She asserted that cases might prevent a candidate from campaigning but could not suppress the Congress ideology or the determination of its workers.

"Democracy is neither the Modi Government's property nor anyone's personal throne. Constitutional institutions must function independently, transparently and impartially," she said.

Dr Boyalapalli demanded a transparent explanation regarding the timing and circumstances of Milan Pradhan's arrest and called for a fair, independent legal process free from political interference.

"Democracy cannot be imprisoned, and the people's verdict cannot be stopped," she declared.

## KITS WARANGAL ECE ASSOCIATION ORGANISES "RESOLVE 2026" HACKATHON; EVENT A GRAND SUCCESS

Hanumakonda, September 20 – The Electronics and Communication Engineering Association (ECEA) of Kakatiya Institute of Technology & Science (KITS), Warangal, organised "RESOLVE 2026", a one-day hackathon on 19 September 2026 (Saturday) at the New Seminar Hall of the institute, informed Principal Prof. K. Ashoka Reddy. The event was organised with the aim of promoting innovation, practical learning, teamwork and technology-driven solutions to real-world problems.

# Tributes Paid to Dr. Jagadish Babu

Khammam(TSIT): The CPI(ML) Mass Line Khammam district committee expressed deep sorrow over the death of renowned neurosurgeon Dr. Kaskurthi Jagadish Babu in a road accident near Suryapet. District secretary C.Y.



Pullaiah, in a statement on Sunday, paid tributes to the doctor and conveyed his condolences to the bereaved family.Born into a poor family, Jagadish Babu studied in a Social Welfare hostel and went on to become a renowned neurosurgeon. After serving at NIMS in Hyderabad, he worked as a neurosurgeon at Mamata General Hospital in Khammam.Pullaiah said Jagadish Babu had worked as a PDSU activist during his student days and participated as a speaker in meetings and programmes organised by PYL and PDSU. He earned a good reputation by providing medical services to poor patients, and his death is a great loss to them. C.Y. Pullaiah expressed deep condolences and paid tributes to Dr. Jagadish Babu on behalf of the CPI(ML) Mass Line.

**CORRIGENDUM**

Telangana Grameena Bank, Moosapet Branch, Mahabubnagar District Ad published in The South India Times for Premises required on lease or rent on 20-09-2026, in this Ad please read **Moosapet instead of Ravulapalli.**

# IIT Hyderabad Inspires Students with Special Needs to Aim High; 130 from Sangareddy Visit Campus

Sangareddy, September 20 – IIT Hyderabad will serve as a platform to inspire students to set higher goals and strive towards achieving them, said IIT Hyderabad Director Prof. B.S. Murty. As part of an educational visit, 130 students with special needs from Sangareddy district visited IIT Hyderabad at Kandi on Sunday under the aegis of the Samagra Shiksha Department.



During the visit, the students toured various departments and laboratories of IIT Hyderabad and gained first-hand exposure to the institute's academic, research and technological environment. They also interacted with faculty members and sought information about various subjects.

**Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Limited**

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Notice is hereby given to the customers of **Suryapet Branch** of **Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Limited (MRHFL),** formerly situated at House No: 1-4-249/120/1, 1st Floor, Ward No. 1, Balaji Nagar, Suryapet - 508213, Telangana, has been closed and is no longer operational due to operational convivence and to ensure continued customer services.

Customers requiring any housing finance-related services or assistance may contact:

**Toll-Free Number: 1800-233-5333**

**Regional Office:** Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Ltd, Kandakalta Gateway, # 5-11-503 & 504, Shop No. 4,5, & 6, Black B, 4th Floor KUC "X" Road, Naim Nagar, Hanumakonda, Warangal - 506009, Telangana.

**Email:** MRHFL.cc@mahindrahomefinance.com

All existing loan accounts and customer service arrangements continue uninterrupted through the above channels. The closure of the branch does not affect the rights and obligations of customers/MRHFL under their respective loan agreements.

**For Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Limited**
**Authorized Signatory**

# 'SEMICON Telangana' Proposed to Link Telugu States with Global Chip Ecosystem

Hyderabad : T-CHIP Chairman and World Telugu Information Technology Council (WTITC) Chairman Sundeep Kumar Makthala has proposed the establishment of "SEMICON Telangana", an industry-led platform aimed at connecting Telangana and Andhra Pradesh with the global semiconductor ecosystem.

Participating in SEMICON India 2026 in New Delhi, Makthala said the Telugu States possess immense potential in technology, engineering talent, startups, research and industrial development. He invited semiconductor industry leaders to visit Telangana and Andhra Pradesh and explore opportunities for investment and collaboration.

SEMICON India 2026 has brought together more than 600 companies from 52 countries, with nearly 50,000 visitors expected. Against the backdrop of India's commitment of Rs.1,27,500 crore under Semicon 2.0, Makthala said greater industry participation from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh was essential.



During the event, Makthala felicitated SEMI India President Ashok Chandak, recognising his contribution to strengthening India's semiconductor sector. He proposed that SEMICON Telangana could bring together semiconductor companies, global technology partners, investors, academic institutions, startups and skilled professionals.

He clarified that the proposal was an industry-led ecosystem initiative and not an official announcement by SEMI.

"India has moved decisively from semiconductor ambition to execution. The opportunity for the Telugu States extends far beyond attracting individual investments," Makthala said.

He said Telangana could develop deeper capabilities in chip design, intellectual property, research and development, electronic design automation and semiconductor startups. Andhra Pradesh, with its manufacturing and industrial base, could build strengths in packaging, testing, electronics and supply chains.

"Together, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh can create a connected Telugu semiconductor ecosystem," he said.

Through T-CHIP, Makthala said efforts were being made to develop capabilities across talent, design, manufacturing and applications. The organisation has announced a target of making 10,000 engineers industry-ready by 2030, while building a broader semiconductor talent pipeline.

He stressed the need to transform the Telugu States' large engineering workforce into semiconductor designers, researchers, intellectual-property creators, entrepreneurs and globally competitive business leaders.

"India is building its semiconductor ecosystem at scale. Our objective through T-CHIP is to ensure that Telugu talent and enterprises become an integral part of the global semiconductor value chain," Makthala said.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank (A Government of India Undertaking)

**ASSET RECOVERY MANAGEMENT(ARM) II BRANCH,**
**2nd Floor, Circle Office, Spencer Towers, No.86, M G Road, Bengaluru-560001**
**Email: cb6298@canarabank.com**

**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

**(Under Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002)**

**E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assests and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provisio to Rule 8 (6) of Security Intrest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002**

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the secured creditors the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Canara Bank, ARM Branch II Bangalore,** of the Canara will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **14.10.2026 from 1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.** basis for recovery of outstanding dues from below mentioned Borrowers. The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit is mentioned below. (Rs. In Lacs.)

| Neme of Borrowers and Guarantors | Total Liabilities as per Sale Notice | Description of Immovable Assets | Auction Date & Time | Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Date | Incremetal Value at Bid |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1) Mr. Nirbhay Singh** S/o. SH Nirmal Singh, Ataura Buzurg, Near Mata Ji Mandir, Rae Bareli, Uttar Pradesh-229001. **1A) Mr. Nirbhay Singh** Castleton Greens Villa No. 61, Adjacent to Surya city, B- Sector Sy.No 69, 73,74,76, Hennagara Amanikere Village Jigani Hobli, Bangalore - 560102. **1B) Mr. Nirbhay Singh,** 402, Navya Niwas 2, 403 B Raghavendra CLN, Rangareddy, Kondapur, Telangana-500084. | **Rs. 1,38,96,159/-** (Rupees One crore thirty eight lakhs ninety six thousand one Hundred fifty nine only ) plus further interest thereon from 01.09.2026 and other expenses etc. | **Property No. 1 : Composite Schedule 'A' Property :** All that Piece and Parcel of the Immovable Residentially converted property bearing Sy No.69, measuring 2 Acres 02 Guntas, Sy No.73, measuring 1 Acre 03 Guntas, Sy No.74, measuring 13+13+14+12+12=1 Acre 24 Guntas, Sy No.76, measuring 1 Acre 24 Guntas, in all measuring 6 Acres 13 Guntas, vide Conversion order bearing No.ALN(AJ)SR/61/2014-15 dated 16-01-2014, ALN(AJ)SR/99/2014-15 dated 16-03-2015 and ALN(AJ) SR/02/2014-15 dated 05-09-2014, situated at Hennagara Amanikere Village, Jigani Hobli, Bengaluru Urban District and **bounded on the : East by :** Sy No. 77, **West by :** Sy Nos. 71, 65 and 64, **North by :** Sy No. 75 & Nala, **South by :** 45 Meters Road. **Schedule 'B' Property :** An undivided share of land measuring 1,200 Square Feet, right, title and interest over Schedule 'A' property at "Castleton Greens" in composite Schedule 'A' Property and **bounded on the : East by :** Villa No. 60, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Villa No 62, **West by :** Road. **Schedule 'C' Property :** 3 BHK bedroom Residential Unit bearing No.61, on the Ground and First Floor of the Building known as "Castleton Greens" constructed in the Schedule 'A' Property, having a Super Built Up Area of 2,474 Square Feet which is inclusive of the floors, ceiling and wall between the building.(As per Sale agreement) | **14.10.2026 from 1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.** | **Reserve Price : Rs. 83,00,000/-** **EMD : Rs. 8,30,000/-** **EMD Date :** on or before **13.10.2026** | Multiples of Rs. 1,00,000/- Encumbrance (s) : Not Known |

**Other terms and Conditions :**

a. Auction / bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website **https://baanknet.com/** Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings.
b. The property can be inspected, with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer.
c. The property will be sold for the price which is more than the Reserve Price and the participating bidders may improve their offer further during auction process.
d. EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited in E-Wallet of **M/s. PSB Alliance Private Limited (BAANKNET)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan.
e. After payment of the EMD amount, the intending bidders should submit a copy of the following documents/details on or **before 13.10.2026,** to Canara Bank, ARM Branch II Bangalore by hand. i) Demand Draft/Pay order towards EMD amount. If paid through RTGS/NEFT Acknowledgement receipt thereof with UTR No. ii) Photocopies of PAN Card, ID Proof and Address proof. However, successful bidder would have to produce these documents in original to the Bank at the time of making payment of balance amount of 25% of bid amount. iii) Bid Form.
The intending bidders should register their names at portal **https://baanknet.com/** and get their User ID and password free of cost. Prospective bidder may avail online training on E- auction from the service provider, **M/s. PSB Alliance (BAANKNET) - e- mail: support.baanknet@psballiance.com,**
EMD deposited by the unsuccessful bidder shall be refunded to them. The EMD/Sale proceeds shall not carry any interest.
f. Auction would commence at Reserve Price, as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in **multiplies of Rs. 1,00,000/-.** The bidder who submits the highest bid (above the Reserve price) on closure of 'Online' auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor.
g. The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on declaring him/her as the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price, the deposit made by him shall be forfeited by the Authorized Officer without any notice and property shall forthwith be put up for sale again. This amount shall be deposited by way of Demand draft in favour of Authorized Officer, Canara Bank, ARM II Branch OR shall be deposited through RTGS / NEFT / Fund Transfer to credit of account of Canara Bank, ARM II Branch, **A/c. No. 209272434, IFSC Code: CNRB0006298.**
h. For sale proceeds of **Rs. 50.00 Lacs** (Rupees Fifty Lacs only) and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at a rate 1% or as applicable rate on the sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the bank.
i. All charges for Conveyance, Stamp Duty/GST/Registration Charges tax arrears, other charges, dues etc., As applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder only.
j. Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the E-auction without assigning any reason thereof.
k. In case there are bidders who do not have access to the internet but interested in participating the E-auction, they can approach concerned Circle office or Canara Bank ARM II, who as a facilitating centre shall make necessary arrangements.
l. Bidder has to make due diligence and physical verification of property with regard to title, extent, area dues, etc. No claim subsequent to submission of bid shall be entertained by the bank.
m. After confirmation of sale, bidder's request cannot be accepted for refund of amount which is already paid and Bank will proceed as per SARFAESI Act.
**For further details contact : Authorised Officer, Canara Bank, ARM Branch-2 (9113092975, 7561062889, 8921102717, 9743619091, 9464534482, 8709675503, 9945985611 and 080-25310181) e-mail id – cb6298@canarabank.com OR the service provider M/s. PSB Alliance (BAANKNET) - e- mail: support.BAANKNET@psballiance.com**

**Special Instruction/Caution**

Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Canara Bank nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder or vendor in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements/ alternatives such as back –up, power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.

**Date : 18.09.2026**
**Place : Bengaluru**

**Sd/-Authorised Officer**
**Canara Bank**

# Mulugu Collector Urges Citizens to Make Effective Use of Prajavani Programme for Grievance Redressal

Mulugu, September 20 – Mulugu District Collector Borkhade Hemanth Sahadevarao, in a statement, urged the people of the district to make effective use of the Prajavani programme, which is being conducted for the resolution of public grievances. The Collector stated that the Prajavani programme would be conducted on Monday at the meeting hall of the Mulugu District Collectorate, as well as at the Mulugu RDO Office and MPDO Offices.



The District Collector directed district-level officers to conduct Prajavani at the district level, Revenue Divisional Officers (RDOs) at the Revenue Division level, and Mandal-level officers at the mandal level. He instructed the officers to examine the applications received from the public during the Prajavani programme and take prompt action to resolve the grievances.

## Equipment stolen from TIMS Hospital, Sanathnagar

Hyderabad: Burglars broke into the newly inaugurated Telangana Institute of Medical Sciences, Sanathnagar, and stole equipment on Saturday, September 19. The burglary occurred on the fifth floor of the Academic Block, where the burglars broke into the materials storage room and stole expensive equipment.Hospital staff lodged a complaint at the Borabanda police station.

# Ethical values can make AP's education system No.1 in country: Lokesh

## *Technology must be blended with Indian values to create global winners*




Visakhapatnam, TSIT. State Minister for Education, IT and Electronics Nara Lokesh has said that Andhra Pradesh's education system can become the No.1 in the country if government efforts are strengthened with ethical values. He said education should not be confined to academics and technology, but must also instil patriotism, discipline, respect for elders and women, and a sense of responsibility among students. Lokesh was the chief guest at the 'Bharateeyam' programme organised by the School Education Department in association with spiritual speaker and AP Government Adviser on Ethical Values Chaganti Koteswara Rao at the Akundi Lakshmi Memorial Gosala premises in Thimmapuram of Kakinada Rural. Speaking on the occasion, he said nearly 1.10 lakh students had shifted from private schools to government schools this year, while admissions in intermediate colleges had increased by around 10,000. He attributed the improvement to the collective efforts of students, parents and teachers.

Lokesh said he had chosen the Education Department with the belief that social transformation could be achieved through education. "Change in society begins in the classroom," he said, adding that students should be taught ethical values along with academics and sports from an early age. He said the government was working to restore the former glory of government schools and had introduced several reforms during the past two years. The Minister said political activities should be kept away from schools as children's minds are highly impressionable. He said the government had adopted a "No Politics in Schools" approach and ensured that school uniforms, books, bags, belts and shoes did not carry political party colours. He also said photographs of the Chief Minister or himself had not been printed on such educational material. Technology and innovation should be combined with Indian ethical values, Lokesh said. Artificial Intelligence and robotics could transform society, but their use should be guided by values and a clear understanding of right and wrong. He recalled Chaganti Koteswara Rao's advice to students that they should not do anything which they could not tell their mothers.

# Lord Venkatadrisha graces golden chariot procession



TIRUMALA, SEPTEMBER 20 (TSIT): Tirumala witnessed a grand divine outing of Lord Sri Venkatadrisha amid golden radiance, as the sacred streets reverberated with continuous chanting of "Govinda" and devotees immersed themselves in the holy name. In a moving display of devotion, women devotees pulled the golden chariot in a state of spiritual ecstasy. Lord Sri Malayappa Swamy, accompanied by Goddesses Sri Devi and Bhu Devi, graced the golden chariot, blessing the assembled devotees during the divine procession. The event was part of the ongoing Srivari Salakatla Brahmotsavams, drawing large numbers of devotees who gathered to witness the spectacular golden chariot procession and seek the blessings of the Lord.



## 681 artists to perform at Hanumantha Vahana Seva

TIRUMALA (TSIT): The Hanumantha Vahana Seva will showcase a spectacular display of cultural excellence featuring performances by 25 art troupes from 10 Indian states and Singapore. A total of 681 artists will present captivating dance, vocal, and instrumental programmes, adding artistic grandeur to the ongoing Srivari Salakatla Brahmotsavams. The performances will be held along the Mada Streets as devotees gather for the divine procession of Sri Malayappa Swamy atop the Hanumantha Vahanam.

## Malayappa Swamy glides on mammoth Gaja Vahanam



Tirumala (TSIT) Sri Malayappa Swamy, in His "Nija Roopa", appeared on the majestic Gaja Vahanam on the sixth evening of the annual Brahmotsavams on Sunday.The divine elephant carried the deity with grandeur along the four Mada Streets, captivating devotees with its royal splendour. Both the Pontiffs of Tirumala, TTD EO Sri Muddada Ravi Chandra, Telangana deputy CM Batti vikramaka,board members, Additional EO Sri Ch. Venkaiah Chowdhary, and other officials were present.



The Vemireddy couple presented traditional clothes (vastrams) to the sevakulu (service personnel) of Sri Vari Temple on the occasion of the Brahmotsavam.

# Mega DSC-2025 Sports Quota Teachers Seek End to Allegations

Vijayawada, September 20: Candidates selected as teachers under the sports quota in the Mega DSC-2025 recruitment held a round-table meeting in Vijayawada and shared their experiences, achievements and concerns over criticism surrounding their selection.

Balaga Ganesh

Para-swimmer Balaga Ganesh said his family migrated to Vijayawada in 1999 in search of livelihood opportunities due to financial difficulties. He said swimming had been his passion and profession since 2006. According to Ganesh, he swam from India to Sri Lanka in 2025 and claimed a record as the fastest para-swimmer in India. He also said he successfully crossed the English Channel from England to France under extremely cold conditions.



Ganesh said he became the first para-swimmer in the country to be selected as a government teacher. He said he had cleared the TET examination three times.

Recalling the difficulties he faced, Ganesh said he had faced humiliating remarks questioning his ability to participate in sports because of his disability. He said the support of people who stood by him during difficult times would remain unforgettable.

Chilla Mohini Devi

Sports quota teacher Chilla Mohini Devi said she came from a financially disadvantaged family and cleared the TET examination three times through persistent effort.She questioned criticism of siblings who pursue the same sport and said achievements by members of the same family should not automatically be viewed with suspicion.

Mohini Devi alleged that some criticism against sports quota candidates was being made without understanding the ground realities. She appealed against what she described as unsubstantiated publicity that could affect the dignity of sportspersons.

Satyavani Balusu

Kho-Kho player Satyavani Balusu said she was the first woman from the state to win a gold medal in Kho-Kho and had also participated in the 32nd National Games.

She said she had worked continuously since 1994 to achieve her sporting success and had represented at national-level competitions around 30 times. Recalling her early sporting days, Balusu said athletes often had to undertake difficult train journeys without adequate facilities. She said her parents stood by her despite social questions about why a girl should participate in sports. She urged people to understand the sacrifices made by athletes and their families before commenting on their careers.

# Sri Kodandarama graces Hanumantha Vahana Seva



TIRUMALA, SEPTEMBER 20 (TSIT): On the sixth day of the ongoing Srivari Salakatla Brahmotsavams, Sri Malayappa Swamy appeared before devotees in the Alankaram of Sri Kodandarama Swamy atop the Hanumantha Vahana on Sunday morning. With majestic elephants leading the procession, the Hanumantha Vahana Seva proceeded in a grand, spiritually charged atmosphere amid bhajans and kolatams by devotee groups, divine chanting by Jeeyangars, and auspicious Mangala Vaidyams. A large number of devotees along the four Mada Streets had the divine darshan. The divine relationship between Sri Rama and Hanuman represents the harmonious blend of devotion, knowledge, and the spirit of service. Sri Sri Sri Pedda Jeeyar Swamy, Sri Sri Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamy, TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu, EO Muddada Ravichandra, and officials participated.

## YSRCP accuses Andhra coalition govt of undermining Vizag's development

Visakhapatnam, Sep 20 : YSR Congress Party has slammed the TDP-led coalition government in Andhra Pradesh for what it called deliberately undermining the development of Visakhapatnam to promote Amaravati.The party also accused the government of time and again targeting the opposition with false propaganda and skirting the major issues being faced by the locals.Speaking to the media here on Sunday, former minister Gudivada Amarnath said Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has been misusing all platforms to target YSRCP and its leadership. It was YS Jagan Mohan Reddy who has given 1.30 lakh house site pattas, and the works were stalled by the coalition government, he said. Amarnath alleged that Chandrababu Naidu wants to show Visakhapatnam in a poor light and did not bother to take corrective measures to address the acute drinking water scarcity in the city even during monsoon. This could be a deliberate move to stall the development of the city only to promote Amaravati, which is his real estate project, he said. Prime land in Visakhapatnam has been given away to his favoured few for a pittance, and most of the beneficiaries were real estate companies, and some of them have come out of nowhere. Even Minister Nara Lokesh's co-brother and local MP has been involved in a major land grab, he alleged. The YSRCP leader said that house site pattas distribution is a sheer drama ahead of the local body elections, which is very clear when Chandrababu, instead of speaking about the drinking water scarcity and the Steel Plant issues, started speaking against YSRCP and its leadership.

# Hi Life Exhibition Brings Designer Wear and Festive Couture to Vijayawada





VIJAYAWADA (TSIT): This festive season, Vijayawada is set to celebrate in style as Hi Life Exhibition brings an exclusive showcase of designer wear, bridal collections, festive couture, and statement jewellery to the city.

The exhibition will feature renowned designers and brands under one roof, offering fashion enthusiasts the opportunity to discover glamorous new collections and elevate their festive wardrobes. Visitors can explore exquisite pieces perfect for weddings, celebrations, and every special occasion.

The two-day event promises a curated shopping experience, bringing together the latest trends in fashion and jewellery. Whether you are looking for a bridal ensemble, festive attire, or statement accessories, the exhibition aims to cater to diverse tastes and preferences. The Hi Life Exhibition will be held on 22nd and 23rd September at Novotel, Varun Hotel, Vijayawada. Organisers invite fashion lovers, shoppers, and families to join and make the most of this exclusive showcase.

With its blend of designer creativity and festive spirit, the exhibition offers a perfect opportunity to shop for the season's celebrations in one convenient destination.

# NTR Police Deny Permission for YSRCP Protests, Rallies on Sept 21

Vijayawada, September 20, 2026: The NTR District Police have denied permission for dharnas, rallies and other protest programmes proposed by the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) in the NTR Police Commissionerate limits on September 21.



The proposed protests are part of the YSRCP's statewide call to protest alleged irregularities in the recruitment process for the Mega DSC (District Selection Committee) appointments. The party had sought permission to conduct constituency-level dharnas, rallies and other programmes.

Police officials said prohibitory orders are currently in force in Vijayawada under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Section 30 of the Police Act. Considering the prevailing law-and-order situation, permissions for the proposed programmes were denied by the local police authorities.

The police also cited the ongoing Vinayaka immersion programmes and processions, potential traffic disruptions and shortage of police personnel as reasons for denying permission.

The NTR Police warned that anyone violating the orders in force would face appropriate criminal action as per law.

Deputy Commissioner of Police Krishna Kanth Patel, IPS, appealed to political leaders, party workers and the public to cooperate with the police by maintaining peace and following traffic regulations.

## UCC violates various Articles of Indian Constitution, says Owaisi

Hyderabad, Sep 20 : AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi reiterated on Sunday that the Uniform Civil Code violates various Articles of the Indian Constitution.

"You cannot abolish Articles 25, 26, 29 and 14 in the name of the UCC. What is in the Constitution of India was drafted by Babasaheb Ambedkar," he told IANS in Lucknow.

He alleged that in the name of Uniform Civil Code (UCC), Hindu personal laws were being imposed on non-Hindus. "In the



name of the UCC, how can you apply the Hindu Marriage Act, Hindu Divorce Act and Hindu Succession Act to non-Hindus?" asked the Hyderabad MP. He pointed out that tribals are being excluded from UCC because their religion, culture and family life are different. He asked why Muslims were not being exempted from UCC as their religion, culture and family life are different.

On the issues of law and order in Uttar Pradesh, Owaisi slammed the Yogi Adityanath government for the demolition of mosques. "Two days ago, you demolished a graveyard in Kanpur using a bulldozer at 5 AM.

# Shift from grey growth to green growth in construction: CM



VISAKHAPATNAM, TSIT.

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu called for a shift from grey growth to green, circular and regenerative growth in construction, stressing the need to protect nature while pursuing development for future generations. He inaugurated The Earth Centre at Whitefield, Bengaluru, along with Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar. Designed by integrating nature, technology and modern workspaces, the centre focuses on sustainable construction and the use of recycled materials.

> Naidu said buildings should use resources efficiently rather than consume them excessively and called for wider adoption of net-zero principles, solar power, water conservation, composting and reuse of waste. Climate change is already a challenge and environmental protection must be treated as a collective responsibility, he said.

Naidu said buildings should use resources efficiently rather than consume them excessively and called for wider adoption of net-zero principles, solar power, water conservation, composting and reuse of waste. Climate change is already a challenge and environmental protection must be treated as a collective responsibility, he said. Every rooftop could become a power plant, every drop of water could be reused and waste could be converted into a resource, he added. He said Andhra Pradesh was promoting Zero Budget Natural Farming and would contribute to the national target of 500 GW of non-fossil power capacity by 2030, with the State planning around 165 GW of renewable energy capacity. Amaravati, he said, was being developed as an environment-friendly city integrating nature, technology and modern infrastructure. Naidu congratulated Raghuveer Veeramachaneni, Praveen Kumar, the Vista Spaces team and representatives of Venkataramanan Associates for designing The Earth Centre with a focus on sustainability and future needs.

# SCoRWWO holds drawing and painting competition for railway children

Visakhapatnam, TSIT.
The South Coast Railway Women's Welfare Organisation organised an on-the-spot drawing and painting competition for the children of railway employees in Visakhapatnam under the leadership of its president Charu Mathur. More than 50 children participated in the competition, displaying their creativity, imagination and artistic talent on various themes.Charu Mathur, along with SCoRWWO Secretary Anju Gupta, Joint Secretary



Madhusmitha Sahoo, Treasurer L. Swarnalatha and other executive members, appreciated the children for their enthusiastic participation and creative work. Gifts and health kits were distributed to all participants as a token of encouragement. SCoRWWO regularly conducts cultural.

## Youth shot dead by friend on moving motorcycle in Bhopal

Bhopal, Sep 20: A 21-year-old youth was shot dead allegedly by his friend in broad daylight on Sunday morning while riding a motorcycle in the Housing Board Colony area under Nishatpura police station limits here. The accused, who was riding pillion, allegedly pulled out a pistol and fired at point-blank range at the head of the victim, who was seated in the middle. The deceased was identified as Ikhlas alias Tashi, a resident of Housing Board Colony who worked as a painter.

# Kalasalingam University Celebrates 102nd Founder's Day, Distributes Rs.33.5 Lakh in Research Incentives

Srivilliputhur – Kalasalingam University celebrated the 102nd Founders' Day of its Founder-Chairman, "Kalvi Vallal" T. Kalasalingam, with a special ceremony recognising excellence in research, academics and teaching. The Pro Chancellor, Dr. S. Arivazhagi Sridaran, presided over the event. Vice Presidents Dr. S. Shasi Anand and Er. S. Arjun Kalasalingam addressed the gathering and distributed research incentives totalling Rs.33.5 lakh to 149 faculty members for their research contributions.




Research Competency Awards were presented to 65 faculty members for securing research-funded projects, patents and consultancy work. In addition, Teaching Excellence Awards were conferred on 40 faculty members, and awards were also presented to faculty members for club activities. Academic awards, certificates and medals were presented to the top three rank holders among 350 students across all programmes, year-wise.Dr. S. Narayanan, Vice Chancellor, and Dr. V. Vasudevan, Registrar, felicitated the awardees. Vice President Dr. S. Shasi Anand recalled the Founder-Chairman's motto of "Hard working, Dedication and life-long learning – (HDL)" and congratulated all faculty and students, urging them to continue striving for a strong academic foundation that helps them learn updated technology at any time. The Annual Research Report 2025 was also released by the Vice President. Director Dr. S. P. Balakannan welcomed the gathering, and Director Dr. M. Pallikonda Rajasekaran delivered the vote of thanks. Both coordinated the entire programme along with Director Dr. C. Sivapragasam, IQAC. All Deans, Directors, staff and students participated in the function.

# TANFAMA, SIDA to Hold National Roundtable on Zero-Accident Fireworks Manufacturing in Coimbatore

Sivakasi/Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu – The Tamil Nadu Fireworks and Amorces Manufacturers' Association (TANFAMA), in association with the South Indian Defence Suppliers and Startups Association (SIDA), will organize a National Roundtable on Fireworks Manufacturing Safety, Technology and Zero-Accident Framework on 25–26 September 2026 at Rathinam Grand Hall, Coimbatore.



The two-day conference, held as part of the SIDA Defence Expo 2026, will be conducted under the theme "Technology for Safer Fireworks Manufacturing – Towards a Zero-Accident Vision."

The Roundtable will bring together industry leaders, government authorities, regulatory bodies, researchers, academia and technology experts to develop a roadmap for a zero-accident, professionally managed, technology-driven and globally competitive Indian fireworks industry.

Participants expected at the event include representatives from TANFAMA, fireworks manufacturers from Sivakasi and other regions, worker representatives, PESO, explosives regulatory authorities, Fire and Rescue Services, DRDO and defence R&D institutions, automation and robotics companies, sensor and instrumentation providers, fire safety technology providers, technology startups, MSMEs, engineering colleges, universities and industrial safety experts.

Key areas of discussion will include manufacturing risk reduction, worker safety and regulatory compliance, fire prevention and emergency preparedness, mechanisation and automation, robotics, sensors and real-time monitoring, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for predictive safety, electrostatic control, environmental monitoring, industry-government-academia collaboration, and sustainable manufacturing practices.

The conference aims to promote safe fireworks manufacturing, enhance worker welfare and safety through continuous training and skill development, encourage mechanisation and technology adoption, professionalise the industry through standard operating procedures and scientific manufacturing practices, and boost exports of Indian fireworks by improving quality, safety standards and international compliance.

It also aligns with the national vision of Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat by promoting indigenous manufacturing, innovation, employment generation and MSME development.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Ganesan Panjurajan, President, TANFAMA, said, "The future of the Indian fireworks industry lies in safety, mechanisation, technology, professionalism and global competitiveness. This National Roundtable provides a unique platform for manufacturers, regulators, researchers and technology experts to jointly develop a roadmap for achieving zero accidents, improving worker welfare, promoting exports and strengthening India's position as a world-class fireworks manufacturing hub."

The fireworks industry, centred in Sivakasi, provides direct and indirect employment to several lakh workers and supports ancillary sectors including printing, packaging, paper, transport and chemicals. It also contributes substantially to government revenue and rural economic development.

Expected outcomes of the Roundtable include an Industry Safety Priority Matrix, identification of technology intervention areas, potential pilot projects, research and development opportunities, an industry-technology collaboration framework, recommendations for worker safety and welfare, export promotion strategies and expert recommendations for relevant authorities.

TANFAMA has invited all fireworks manufacturers, industry associations, safety professionals, researchers, academic institutions, technology providers and government agencies to participate in the National Roundtable and contribute to the transformation of the Indian fireworks industry.

# SRM AP Launches UNITES Global Innovation Society to Connect Science, Innovation and Collaboration for Sustainable Solutions

Amaravati – SRM University-AP, Amaravati, has launched the UNITES Global Innovation Society – United Network for Sustainable Development Solutions, in association with the Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education (APSCHE), to bring global scientists, academia, industry, government and young researchers onto a common platform to address complex challenges. The Centre for Interdisciplinary Research (CIDR), SRM University-AP, will serve as the Founding and Host Institution of the new society, envisioned as a sustained platform for collaborative research, innovation, scientific exchange and public engagement. The central philosophy of UNITES is "problems first, disciplines second", bringing together expertise based on the challenge being addressed rather




than limiting collaboration to traditional disciplinary boundaries.Prof. Sarangam Vijaya Bhaskara Rao, Chairman In-charge, APSCHE and Chief Guest at the launch, highlighted the importance of strengthening the connection between scientific research, higher education and society, emphasising multidisciplinary collaboration to address complex societal challenges. Prof. Achanta Venu Gopal, Director, CSIR–National Physical Laboratory and President, UNITES Global Innovation Society, stressed the need to transform India's scientific capabilities into practical solutions, calling for greater collaboration among experts across disciplines to develop indigenous technologies and solutions for both local and global challenges.Prof. Ch Satish Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, SRM University-AP, said, "Societal problems do not exist in silos, and neither should our solutions. UNITES seeks to break academic boundaries and bring diverse minds together to create meaningful solutions for society." Prof. Vijayamohanan Kunjukrishna Pillai, IISER Thiruvananthapuram, emphasised the need to equip India's young scientific talent to tackle emerging global challenges, particularly in areas such as clean energy, water, sustainability and environmental protection, through interdisciplinary approaches.Dr Kiran Mangalampalli, Associate Professor, CIDR and General Secretary, UNITES Global Innovation Society, said, "UNITES aims to create a challenge-oriented scientific ecosystem where researchers can find collaborators, emerging technologies can progress towards application, and scientific innovations can ultimately reach society."

## South Central Railway Intensifies Water Quality Checks at Stations, Colonies and Hospitals; No Unfit Samples in Last Seven Days

Secunderabad – South Central Railway (SCR) has laid special focus on the quality of water supplied at railway stations, colonies and hospitals, with regular checks being conducted as per guidelines stipulated in the Indian Railways Medical Manual. The quality of water is being supervised by a team of supervisors and inspectors from the Medical Department of Railways and monitored by officers. Water quality is tested across three aspects — residual chlorine, bacteriological analysis and chemical analysis — for water supplied to stations, colonies and hospitals.

Under the first aspect, the availability of residual chlorine in drinking water after disinfection is checked daily at the source of water and at the tail-end point of supply. If a sample is found unfit, the concerned Senior Section Engineer (Water Works) is intimated to ensure proper chlorination.

For bacteriological analysis, which detects the presence of E. Coli or Coliform bacteria, water samples are collected once a month at major stations, colonies and hospitals, and once in two months at minor stations and colonies. If a sample is found unfit, the concerned Senior Section Engineer (Water Works) is directed to clean the ground-level reservoir or water tanks. In the case of water coolers, the Senior Section Engineer (Electrical) is intimated for cleaning. A repeated sample is then collected in the presence of Engineering Department officials. If the sample is again found unfit, a joint inspection or sanitary survey is conducted along with Engineering Department officials.

For chemical analysis, water samples are collected once in six months from the existing source of supply, and testing is also carried out for any new source of water.

## INDIA, JAPAN AIR FORCE CHIEFS FLY TEJAS DURING VEER GUARDIAN 2026 EXERCISE

Jodhpur, Sep 20 : Indian Air Force chief Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh and Japan Air Self-Defense Force Chief of Staff General Takehiro Morita flew in India's indigenous fighter aircraft, Tejas, on Sunday, showcasing the growing defence and aerial cooperation between the two countries. The two air force chiefs boarded the Tejas aircraft at the Jodhpur Air Force Station. The flight by the air chiefs of both nations comes as the Indian Air Force and Japan Air Self-Defense Force are conducting the joint air exercise 'Veer Guardian 2026' in Jodhpur.

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■ EV REVOLUTION:

# Karnataka ranks

## 3rd in NITI Aayog's mobility index




Bengaluru, Sep 20: Karnataka has made significant progress in developing infrastructure for electric vehicles, emerging as a leading state in the country's electric mobility sector. The state secured the third position with 73 points in the India Electric Mobility Index (IEMI) 2025 released by NITI Aayog.

With this achievement, Karnataka is recognised among the major states making strides in the electric mobility sector and has been included in the 'top performers' list alongside Maharashtra.

According to NITI Aayog, Delhi secured the first position with 84 points, while Maharashtra followed in second place with 78 points. Karnataka took the third spot with 73 points, followed by Chandigarh with 71 points and Goa with 65 points. The index classifies states and union territories scoring 65 points or above under the 'top performers' category.

In the charging infrastructure readiness segment, Karnataka secured the first position in the country by scoring 97 points. Energy department officials stated that this reflects the state's remarkable progress in developing the necessary charging infrastructure to promote the use of electric vehicles.

Speaking on the development, energy department additional chief secretary Gaurav Gupta said that Karnataka's electric mobility initiatives include Bescom's EV Mitra, a unified electric vehicle charging application, a single-window clearance system, and an EV accelerator cell. He highlighted that in 2017, Karnataka became the first state in the country to implement a dedicated electric vehicle policy encompassing vehicle sales, charging infrastructure, and distinct manufacturing zones. Karnataka accounts for 8.81% of the country's total electric vehicle registrations. The state ranks second, behind Maharashtra, in the registration of electric two-wheelers and four-wheelers. In e-bus registrations, Karnataka holds the third position after Delhi and Maharashtra, he added.

# Bharat Gas unveils 10kg Zip-Lite LPG cylinder

Udupi, Sep 20: Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited's Mangaluru LPG territory has launched the Bharat Gas Zip-Lite (10kg) cylinder in Udupi, offering customers a more convenient, safe and smart LPG option.

The cylinder was launched on Saturday (September 19) at Lions Bhavan in Brahmagiri, Udupi, at a programme organised in association with all Bharat Gas LPG distributors in Udupi district. Lokayukta inspector Manjunath Shankarahalli inaugurated the event and extended his best wishes.

BPCL Mangaluru territory manager Sandeep Kumar Raina, Mangaluru LPG division sales manager Darshit Malviya, former Udupi Inner Wheel Club president Nirmala, and other dignitaries were present. A drawing competition for students from across Udupi district was also held as part of the Bharat Gas Zip-Lite cylinder launch programme.

The competition was conducted in two categories — the primary section for students of Classes 5, 6 and 7, and the high school section for students of Classes 8, 9 and 10.

# North Bengaluru to Get Rs.75-Cr High-Tech 125-Bed Government Hospital



Bengaluru (TSIT): A long-pending demand for a well-equipped government hospital in the rapidly expanding northern Bengaluru region has moved closer to reality with the foundation stone being laid for a new 125-bed hospital in the Byatarayanapura Assembly constituency, Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said on Sunday.

Speaking after performing the groundbreaking ceremony for the hospital at Bellahalli in Yelahanka taluk, the Minister said the Rs.75-crore facility would not merely address the immediate healthcare needs of residents but was being planned as the foundation for a much larger super-speciality healthcare centre serving North Bengaluru.

The hospital is one of two new 125-bed hospitals, each estimated to cost Rs.75 crore, for which foundation-laying ceremonies were held at Bellahalli and at the Animal Husbandry and Agriculture Department premises in the Hebbal Assembly constituency.

From a 125-bed hospital to a 250-bed facility

The new hospital will comprise three floors, including the ground floor, and will provide multiple specialised medical services. The government has also planned to add two more floors in the future, taking the total capacity to 250 beds, Mr. Byre Gowda said.

Further strengthening the long-term vision, two acres of land behind the hospital have been earmarked for a future super-speciality block. The Minister said the objective was to gradually develop the facility into a major healthcare centre for the region.

He said the project addresses a longstanding structural gap in healthcare infrastructure in the constituency, which stretches from the M.S. Ramaiah College and Ring Road area to the Narayanapura border and up to Kempegowda International Airport.

Addressing a long-standing healthcare gap

The constituency did not have a separate taluk headquarters, which had made it difficult to establish a major government hospital under the usual system of providing taluk-level hospitals at taluk headquarters.

While one part of the constituency falls under Yelahanka taluk and another under K.R. Puram taluk, residents had consequently lacked access to a large government hospital in their immediate vicinity.

"Recognising this gap, we have been pursuing the matter continuously for the past four to five years. Today, that effort has finally translated into the foundation for a 125-bed, fully equipped government hospital," Mr. Byre Gowda said.

Healthcare support for fast-growing neighbourhoods

The hospital is expected to benefit residents of Thanisandra, Kempapura, Kogilu, Nagawara, Hegdenagar, Jalahobli, Marenahalli, Sathanur and Bagalur, besides several surrounding rural and urban settlements.

The region has a substantial population of workers and middle-class families, for whom the cost of treatment at private hospitals can be a significant burden. With the hospital connected by a four-lane road network, residents from surrounding villages will also have easier access to government healthcare, the Minister said.

Another 60-bed hospital ready in Singapura

Mr. Byre Gowda also said that a 60-bed hospital constructed by the Greater Bengaluru Authority in the Singapura area has been completed and is ready for inauguration.

# Karnataka Set to Scale Up 2027 Bengaluru Quantum Summit into a Global Platform: Minister Dr. Ajay Dharma Singh




Bengaluru : Karnataka is preparing to scale up the second Quantum India Bengaluru Summit in 2027 into a major global platform for quantum research, innovation, industry collaboration and investment, Minister for Minor Irrigation, Science & Technology Dr. Ajay Dharma Singh said.

Speaking at the 10th anniversary celebration of QNu Labs and the launch of QShield 2.0 in Bengaluru, the Minister said the next summit would focus on greater participation from global researchers, technology companies, startups, investors and policymakers. "The 2027 summit should go beyond being just a conference. It should emerge as a global quantum platform that brings together research, industry, startups, investment and international collaboration," Dr. Ajay Dharma Singh said.

The Minister also invited QNu Labs to actively participate in the State's proposed Quantum City. He said the initiative is envisaged as an integrated ecosystem bringing together quantum research, hardware, start-ups, talent, industry and commercialisation.

"QNu Labs has demonstrated the ability to take indigenous quantum technology from research to real-world applications. Companies like these should become key partners in building Karnataka's Quantum City," he said.

# Karnataka–Japan Cooperation in the Bioenergy Sector : S.E. Sudheendra Holds Discussions with Senior Japanese Representatives in Benagaluru



Bengaluru: S.E. Sudheendra, Chairman of the Karnataka State Bioenergy Development Board, met with senior representatives of Japan's Ministry of Economy and Affairs (MEA) and exchanged views on the bioenergy action plans of the Karnataka State Bioenergy Development Board and the ongoing advancements in Japan's bioenergy sector.

During the meeting, he held detailed discussions with Tara Kono, Deputy Director-General, International Bureau; Karen Naki Shima, Deputy Director-General, International Bureau, LDP; and Kenji Nakanishi, Chair of the LDP Policy Research Council, regarding cooperation, partnership and potential future agreements between Karnataka and Japan in the bioenergy sector.The meeting featured detailed discussions on the opportunities available for the development of the bioenergy sector, possibilities for further strengthening intergovernmental cooperation, and various initiatives undertaken by the Board to attract investments and promote the comprehensive growth of the bioenergy sector. Particular emphasis was placed on strengthening cooperation between Karnataka and Japan across various dimensions, including technology exchange, investment promotion, commercialisation, research and innovation, and the sustainable development of the bioenergy sector. Particular emphasis was placed on strengthening cooperation between Karnataka and Japan across various dimensions, including technology exchange, investment promotion, commercialisation, research and innovation, and the sustainable development of the bioenergy sector.

It was observed that by effectively coordinating and utilising the existing capabilities and opportunities, new avenues could be created for investment, technological advancement and industrial cooperation. Such efforts would help achieve positive outcomes that directly benefit the governments of both regions.

These collaborative governance initiatives would not only accelerate the transition towards clean energy but also help both governments deliver tangible and direct benefits to the people. Attracting new investments and making progress towards sustainability and energy security goals were identified as key objectives.

It was further noted that the successful implementation of these collaborative initiatives could establish an effective model of intergovernmental cooperation and governance, while further strengthening public confidence in the commitment of both governments towards sustainable development.A notable highlight of the meeting was the positive response from the Japanese representatives to the various cooperation proposals put forward by the Karnataka State Bioenergy Development Board.

# Govt that does not stand by farmers in drought; release relief before the session: R. Ashok

Bengaluru : The state is facing severe drought, and farmers and rural people are in distress. In this situation, the Congress government is merely spending time on announcements. Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R. Ashok demanded that the government show its commitment in action even before the special session scheduled to begin on September 21.

Speaking at a press conference in Bengaluru today, he attacked the government, saying: "The Congress government's situation is like locking the back gate after the fort has already been looted."

"Months have passed since the drought began. Farmers are in distress due to crop loss. We have demanded compensation of Rs.50,000 per acre. For constituencies facing drinking water problems, we have insisted that Rs.10 crore each be released and that necessary works, including emergency borewells, be taken up. But the government has so far not taken adequate relief measures," he alleged.

"On one side, the government is touring different parts of the state and announcing projects worth thousands of crores. On the other, there is no money for immediate relief to drought-affected farmers. This is not a government of development; it is a government of announcements," he criticised.

Referring to the state government's decision to convene a special session, he said: "Discussion is welcome. But even before the discussion, people and farmers must have the confidence that the government has money and that it is working. At the very least, release Rs.10 crore each for drinking water."

Demand for a white paper on drought relief

"People must know what the government's real financial commitment on drought is. The government should release a white paper containing complete details of the state's financial situation, dues of various departments and institutions, the government's debt burden, and the financial impact of guarantees," R. Ashok demanded.

"The government has presented a deficit budget. The



government itself must place before the people the state of the treasury, how much is pending, and how much money is due to which department. There is nothing wrong in seeking help from the Centre. But the state government should first release relief according to its own capacity and then seek additional assistance from the Centre," he said.

"If an all-party delegation is to be taken to the Centre, the government should be in a position to say: 'We have released this much money from the state; as per NDRF rules, we need this much assistance from the Centre,'" he added.

BJP opposition to the Kasturirangan report

R. Ashok said the BJP would clearly present its stand on the Kasturirangan report in the special session.

"Conservation of the Western Ghats environment is extremely important. But in the name of environmental protection, excessive restrictions should not be imposed on the lives, agriculture, infrastructure and livelihood of people in Malnad. The lives of local people and the environment must both be viewed in balance," he said.

Recalling the history of the Kasturirangan report process, he said: "During the UPA government, after the Gadgil report on the Western Ghats, a high-level working group headed by Kasturirangan was formed. The Kasturirangan committee submitted its report in 2013. Therefore, before Congress today levels allegations against the BJP on this issue, it must first explain its own past stand and decisions to the people."

"Even during our government's tenure, we had written to the Centre opposing implementation of the Kasturirangan report. The BJP continues to hold the same stand. Protecting the interests of the people of Malnad is our position," he said. Three days are not enough; hold the session for a week "It is not possible to discuss two such important issues as drought and the Kasturirangan report comprehensively in just three days. Therefore, in tomorrow's Business Advisory Committee meeting, the BJP will demand that the session be held for at least one week," he said.Apart from drought and Kasturirangan, he demanded that opportunity also be given to discuss several other important issues of the state, including allegations related to KPSC recruitment, Bidadi township and NICE toll.**Allegation that KPSC candidates are not being allowed to protest**R. Ashok said KPSC candidates had met him and submitted a complaint that they were not being given permission to protest.

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# Why not Secretariat at Koyambedu or Guindy: Shanmugam

**The Marxist party demanded that the proposal be immediately dropped as fishermen will be affected and the neighbourhood around the chosen site is heavily congested and hence, unsuitable.**




CHENNAI: The CPM, which supports the government from outside, on Saturday staged a protest here strongly opposing the TVK regime's plan to build a new Secretariat complex at downtown Pattinapakkam near the Marina beachfront. The Marxist party demanded that the proposal be immediately dropped as fishermen will be affected and the neighbourhood around the chosen site is heavily congested and hence, unsuitable.

The proposal must be withdrawn and an all-party meeting must be held to solicit views on alternative sites and a suitable place must be selected within the Chennai city, the CPM said and warned that it will "stop work" in case authorities commence construction at the proposed site near the beach. The CPM, which supports the government from outside, on Saturday staged a protest here strongly opposing the TVK regime's plan to build a new Secretariat complex

Speaking to reporters after leading the demonstration, CPM state secretary P Shanmugam said that the decision to construct the Secretariat-Assembly complex in Pattinapakkam was "flawed and unacceptable" in view of several relevant factors. The proposed project near the seashore, if implemented, will seriously affect the livelihoods of fishermen and also their residential neighbourhoods.

"Whoever may have proposed this site, it is unacceptable and must be rejected," he said. He said the Tamil Nadu government should accede to the demand of fishermen to build houses for them at that site.

"In case the Secretariat plan at Pattinapakkam fructifies, and if the CM and Ministers frequent this place, due to congestion, people will not wish to continue to live there," he said. He asserted: "I would like to make it very clear that Pattinapakkam is not suitable by any parameter." To a question on the work for setting up a new office space for the CM at Namakkal Kavignar Maaligai building's 10th floor with the Fort St George campus, the state CPM chief said that a new Secretariat may take years for completion. "In the meantime, they need space, so its okay."

# Citing discrepancies, school education department to verify non-teaching staff data




CHENNAI: Taking cognisance of the discrepancies in data on non-teaching staff in the School Education Department, the department has taken steps to verify the details of non-teaching staff working in schools and offices on the Educational Management Information System (EMIS).

The exercise is to be completed by September 25. Officials have been instructed to verify the existing entries and make necessary corrections. Decision on stalled Uppur power project in 40 days, says Minister Nirmalkumar

The exercise covers details relating to transfers, deputation, change of post or cadre and other service-related changes of non-teaching staff.

The department said the process would help ensure that the EMIS database reflects the current status of employees. The department has also issued instructions for staff who have moved between schools or offices. Such personnel are to be transferred through the administrative transfer module so that their records are linked to the appropriate institution.

The department has asked officials to complete the verification and updating process by September 25. Chief Educational Officers and other concerned officials have been instructed to monitor the exercise and ensure that accurate staff information is available in EMIS.

# Union Minister L Murugan insists TVK govt on Navodaya schools

CHENNAI: Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, Information and Broadcasting L Murugan on Saturday urged the TVK-led Tamil Nadu government to facilitate Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in every district and asked it to reconsider the proposed Secretariat-cum-Assembly complex at Pattinapakkam.

Speaking to reporters here, Murugan said that besides enabling children to study in their mother tongue and learn other Indian languages, the Navodaya schools would provide quality education to poor and disadvantaged students. "Navodaya schools should be brought to all districts of Tamil Nadu. They will enable poor and disadvantaged students to receive quality education.

Preventing this would amount to denying them their rights," he said. On the proposed Secretariat complex, Murugan said the government should shift the project from Pattinapakkam, where fishermen depend on the sea. "Fishermen's livelihood is entirely dependent on the sea. I know the difficulties they face. Chief Minister Vijay played a fisherman in the film 'Sura'. Merely acting as a fisherman is not enough. He should understand the genuine pain of fishermen," he said.

# Tasmac scraps equal stock allocation, shifts to outlet-wise demand




CHENNAI: Tasmac has scrapped the equal-apportionment system for supplying stocks to retail vending (RV) shops, directing district managers to issue indents strictly based on each outlet's actual requirement from Monday.The decision was conveyed in a circular dated September 19, issued by TASMAC Managing Director to all senior regional managers.

TVK fires back at Stalin over Vijay jibe, asks: 'Mupperum Vizha or Oppari Vizha?'"All District Managers are hereby instructed to issue indent to Retail Vending (RV) Shops strictly based on the actual requirement/ request raised by the respective RV Shops," the circular said.The move ends the equal-apportionment arrangement introduced from July 20, under which quantities of products from all suppliers were distributed equally among RV shops. "The earlier circular on equal apportionment will stand discontinued with effect from Monday," Tasmac said.Senior regional managers have been directed to instruct district managers and depot managers to follow the revised procedure. Copies of the order have also been sent to all district managers, depot managers and RV shop incharges through the respective district managers.The revised system effectively shifts stock ordering from uniform allocation to outlet-specific demand. It is expected to reduce the accumulation of slow-moving stocks at retail outlets and help ensure that brands witnessing stronger demand are intended for shop requirements.

# TVK fires back at Stalin over Vijay jibe, asks: 'Mupperum Vizha or Oppari Vizha?'

*Taking a sarcastic dig at Stalin, the ruling party said he appeared to be repeatedly watching the Chief Minister's every move*



CHENNAI: The ruling TVK on Sunday hit back at DMK president and former chief minister M K Stalin over his remarks against Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay, accusing him of turning the DMK's Mupperum Vizha into a platform to target the Chief Minister's appearance, mannerisms and public image.

In a statement, the TVK IT Wing asked, 'Mupperum Vizha or Oppari Vizha?' and said Stalin had not uttered a single word about former chief minister and DMK founder CN Annadurai, but had extensively analysed Vijay's walk, dress and mannerisms.

Governor Arlekar congratulates Elavenil Valarivan as DIPR posts wishes, CMO handle has no messageTaking a sarcastic dig at Stalin, the ruling party said he appeared to be repeatedly watching the Chief Minister's every move, describing him as a 'former...present-day fan' who was enjoying Vijay's movements repeatedly.

Referring to Stalin's remarks thanking the people of Kolathur after his defeat in the 2026 Assembly election, the TVK questioned why he had gone in for revaluation three times after thanking the constituency's voters for what it termed a 'Koththu Parotta' outcome.

# Chest discomfort may not be 'just gas':Warning signs of heart trouble

New Delhi, Sep 20: Chest discomfort is often attributed to acidity, gas or indigestion, but doctors warn that some heart-related symptoms can closely resemble digestive problems and should not be ignored. Dr Sunil Kumar Mandal, senior consultant interventional cardiologist and head of cardiology, said reduced blood flow to the heart does not always cause the classic crushing chest pain. It may instead feel like pressure, heaviness, burning, tightness or unusual discomfort in the centre of the chest.

Heart-related chest pain is more concerning when it feels like pressure, squeezing, heaviness or tightness, particularly when it lasts for more than a few minutes, keeps returning or occurs during physical activity or emotional stress. Pain spreading to the left or both arms, upper back, neck or jaw can also be a warning sign.




Other symptoms that require urgent attention include breathlessness, cold sweating, nausea or vomiting, dizziness, unusual weakness or a feeling of impending doom.

Heart attacks may not always follow the typical pattern. Women, older adults and people with diabetes can experience subtler symptoms such as unexplained breathlessness, severe fatigue, nausea, upper abdominal discomfort or pain in the back and jaw, sometimes without significant chest pain.

There is no foolproof way to distinguish gas or acidity from heart-related pain at home, the doctor said. Acid reflux more commonly causes a burning sensation after meals or while lying down and may be accompanied by a sour taste or regurgitation. However, these symptoms cannot reliably rule out a heart problem.

Temporary relief after taking an antacid should also not be considered proof that the discomfort was caused by acidity, as symptoms can fluctuate even during a cardiac event.

People with diabetes, high blood pressure, obesity, a history of smoking, established heart disease or a strong family history of premature heart disease should be particularly cautious. Cardiac events are also increasingly being reported among younger adults with multiple risk factors, making age alone an unreliable reason to dismiss concerning symptoms.

Doctors advise seeking emergency medical care if chest discomfort is new, severe, persistent or recurrent, occurs with exertion, or is accompanied by sweating, breathlessness, faintness or pain spreading to other parts of the body.

# Governor Arlekar congratulates Elavenil Valarivan as DIPR posts wishes, CMO handle has no message



Sports Development Minister Aadhav Arjuna also congratulated Elavenil Valarivan, noting that she had won her second silver of the day after being part of India's silver-winning women's 10m air-rifle team

CHENNAI: Tamil Nadu Governor in-charge Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar on Sunday congratulated shooter Elavenil Valarivan on winning silver in the women's 10m air-rifle individual event at the Asian Games in Japan, while the State government's DIPR also issued congratulatory messages, but no such post was made on Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay's official CMO Tamil Nadu social-media handle.

"Her outstanding performance, dedication and sporting excellence have brought immense pride to Tamil Nadu and the nation," Arlekar said, describing Elavenil's achievement as an inspiration to aspiring sportspersons and the youth.

TN Finance Minister Marie Wilson seeks funds, fairer tax share from Union Government

Sports Development Minister Aadhav Arjuna also congratulated Elavenil Valarivan, noting that she had won her second silver of the day after being part of India's silver-winning women's 10m air-rifle team. He said her perseverance, dedication and sustained hard work would serve as an example to Tamil Nadu's youth.

The DIPR, in two separate social-media posts, congratulated Elavenil Valarivan and Chennai-based motorcycle racer Jagathishree Kumaresan. Elavenil was congratulated for her individual silver, while Jagathishree was praised for securing third place for India in the FIM Asia Women's Cup of Circuit Racing in Thailand.

The DIPR post described Elavenil Valarivan's individual medal as India's first medal, though India had earlier secured silver in the women's 10m air-rifle team event, in which Elavenil was part of the Indian trio.

The individual silver thus gave Elavenil her second medal of the day, making her the only Indian shooter to win two medals on the opening day of the Games.

# 17-year-old donates stem cells to brother battling leukemia

Chandigarh, Sep 19: A 17-year-old girl donated her stem cells to give her 10-year-old brother a second chance at life after he battled leukemia, as Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (HBCH&RC) near here successfully performed its first allogeneic bone marrow transplant (BMT).

The boy, a resident of Durgapur in West Bengal, was diagnosed with a second relapse of acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) in April. His family travelled to HBCH&RC, a unit of Tata Memorial Centre under the Department of Atomic Energy, to continue his treatment.

Following intensive chemotherapy, the child achieved remission. However, given the high risk of recurrence, doctors recommended an allogeneic stem cell transplant as the best curative treatment. An allogeneic bone marrow transplant, also known as a stem cell transplant, involves replacing a patient's diseased blood-forming system with healthy blood-forming stem cells obtained from another person. "The patient's elder sister was identified as the most suitable donor after detailed donor evaluation. Her stem cells were collected and infused into her brother through a vein.

# Inherited gene variant may help predict lung cancer risk in non-smokers

New Delhi, Sep 20: A rare inherited mutation in the Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor (EGFR) gene is strongly associated with an increased risk of lung cancer, potentially helping doctors identify high-risk individuals who have never smoked, researchers have found.

The study, which analysed genetic data from more than 3.3 million people in the 23andMe database, found that carriers of the EGFR T790M variant had an overall 25-fold higher risk of developing lung cancer.

Among smokers, the mutation was associated with 10 times higher odds of developing the disease. The association was even stronger among people who had never smoked, with carriers found to be more than 60 times as likely to develop lung cancer compared with non-carriers.

Researchers said the findings could eventually lead to lung cancer screening being guided not only by smoking history but also by inherited genetic risk.

"Today, lung cancer screening is driven almost entirely by smoking history," study leader Dr Jaclyn LoPiccolo of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston said. She said the findings raise the possibility that screening could in the future also be based on inherited genetic risk.

The variant was not associated with any of the 17 other common cancers examined in the study, suggesting its effects may be largely specific to lung cancer.EGFR T790M was first identified in 2005 in a European family with multiple cases of lung cancer.

Researchers said the variant has since been identified in other families with unusually high rates of the disease.

The study was published in Science.A simple local anaesthetic technique may make intrauterine device (IUD) insertion significantly less painful, according to a clinical trial involving 370 women who had never given birth.

In the trial, half of the participants received a small amount of the local anaesthetic mepivacaine through a thin plastic catheter placed in the uterus several minutes before the procedure.

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# EDITORIAL

## THE 'PUSS' REACHED THE COURT FROM CHANDA MAMA

"Chand mama door ke, pue pakain boor ke"—there's hardly a lullaby in childhood that has such a deep connection with generations of Indians. A mother's lap, sleep-laden eyes, the idea of ??the moon as her uncle, and the image of sweet puddings—encompassing all of these, this line is not just a song, but a cultural memory of Indian folk life. Thus, the controversy surrounding the meaning of the word "boor" doesn't just provide an opportunity to debate a single word, but forces us to consider how we view language—from a narrow dictionary definition or from its historical, regional, and cultural context. India's linguistic diversity is so vast that the same word can have completely different meanings in different regions. As pronunciation changes, so can its meaning; as dialect changes, so can its connotation; and as time changes, so can its meaning. This is why a word's current meaning cannot be a reflection of its historical or regional usage. "Bur" or "Bura" has long been used in many North Indian dialects to refer to finely powdered sugar or sugar candy. Its use in the context of puris, laddus, and other traditional sweets is natural and intuitive. Therefore, if a word with a similar sound has an offensive meaning in another region, attributing that meaning to the entire song would not be fair to the linguistic context. The world of folk songs and lullabies is far older than written dictionaries. They are passed down through generations, and the meaning of their words is rooted in the culture and way of life of the community in which they originated. "Chandamama Door Ke" is a lullaby from this folk tradition, later gaining widespread popularity through the 1955 Hindi film "Vachan." Thus, a folk tune and a folk sentiment, through cinema, etched a lasting place in the memories of millions. To view it solely through the lens of today's local meanings would be to ignore that cultural journey. The history of language shows that words are not static. They travel, change languages, cultures, and their meanings change with them. From Sanskrit to Prakrit, Apabhramsha, and modern Indian languages, and from languages ??like Arabic, Persian, Turkish, English, and French, countless words have become so ingrained in Indian languages ??that their foreign origins are no longer even apparent. But knowing a word's etymology and accepting its current meaning as equivalent to its original meaning are two different things. Take the word 'Aurat'. In the Arabic etymological tradition, the meanings associated with '?awra' have been related to things or body parts that were considered to be covered or hidden. However, as it entered Indian languages, the general meaning of 'Aurat' became established as woman or lady. Today, it is used in everything from common Hindi colloquial speech to literature and journalism. Can every usage today be read in that old meaning based solely on its historical etymology? Clearly not. This is the reality of linguistic evolution. The word "madam" is also an example of semantic change and social evolution. Evolving from the French "ma dame," this term originally referred to a woman with respect. Different phases of history have had different social usages, but today, in English and Indian languages, "madam" is commonly used to address a teacher, an officer, or a respectable woman. Therefore, to define a word's current meaning by focusing on a single phase of its history would be to reduce the complexity of linguistics to a simple conclusion.

# A PRIMER ON BAIL, CUSTODY AND THE UAPA



On 21 September, a Division Bench of the Delhi High Court will hear the bail appeals of two men who have not been convicted of anything. Sharjeel Imam and Umar Khalid have both been in custody for over six years. Neither of them has been tried. No charge against them has been tested by cross-examination in these years. What has been tested, repeatedly, is how much of that fact the law is willing to look away from. At the bail stage, Section 43-D(5) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) asks a court whether an untested police record looks prima facie true, and lets that provisional opinion stand in for years on end. Courts have often read it as an instruction to make bail the exception rather than the rule, a reading the statute's own text does not contain. Co-accused facing the same FIR have been released. A separate Bench has since said, in terms, that Section 43-D(5) remains subordinate to Article 21 "at all times", and that a three-Judge decision cannot be quietly hollowed out by Benches of equal or lesser strength. That correction now sits referred to a larger Bench. Based on the Government's own figures, between 94 and 98 per cent of everyone arrested under this Act are likely to never be convicted. The 21 September hearing does not decide anything about guilt. It decides how much longer a speech can cost, before anyone has to prove whether it was a crime. The Case Summary of the Upcoming Hearing On 21 September 2026, a Division Bench of the Delhi High Court comprising Justices Prathiba M. Singh and Vikas Mahajan is listed to hear the bail appeals of Sharjeel Imam and Umar Khalid, together. Imam's appeal arises from the rejection of his second regular bail application; Khalid's from the rejection of his third. The High Court tagged the two on 31 July 2026, issued notice to the Delhi Police on Khalid's appeal, and additionally sought the prosecution's reply on his separate application for interim release. The hearing was originally listed for 27 August 2026, but a court holiday that day pushed it to 21 September. Both are accused in FIR 59 of 2020, registered by the Delhi Police Special Cell, which alleges a "larger conspiracy" behind the communal violence in North-East Delhi in February 2020 that left 53 people dead and more than 700 injured, and which charges them under the Indian Penal Code together with Sections 13, 16, 17, and 18 of the UAPA. Imam was arrested on 28 January 2020 from Jehanabad, Bihar, over speeches delivered at anti-CAA protests, and was formally arrested in August 2020. Khalid was arrested by the Special Cell on 13 September 2020. On the date of the upcoming hearing, Imam will have been in custody for roughly six years and eight months, and Khalid for six years. The principal chargesheet was filed on 16 September 2020 against fifteen accused, followed by supplementary chargesheets in November 2020, February 2021, March 2022, and June 2023. Charges have not been framed. No trial on the merits has begun. Nothing that either man is alleged to have done has been tested by cross-examination in the years they have spent in prison for it. On 2 September 2025, a Division Bench of the Delhi High Court refused bail to Imam, Khalid, and eight co-accused, holding that the release of Devangana Kalita and Natasha Narwal in 2021 did not entitle the others to parity. On 5 January 2026, the Supreme Court, in the Gulfisha Fatima v. State (Govt. of NCT of Delhi) case, released five of the appellants — Gulfisha Fatima, Meeran Haider, Shifa Ur Rehman, Mohd. Saleem Khan, and Shadab Ahmed — on twelve conditions, while holding that Imam and Khalid stood on a "qualitatively different footing" because the prosecution material placed them at the level of conceptualisation and orchestration. Their bail was refused on the footing that the Section 43-D(5) threshold was met, and their liberty even to apply again was deferred until the examination of protected witnesses was complete or one year had passed, whichever came first. This condition made the accused's right to ask for liberty contingent on the pace of the party opposing it. What followed in May 2026 is why the 21 September hearing has been listed. On 18 May 2026, in the Syed Iftikhar Andrabi v. National Investigation Agency, Jammu case, Justices B.V. Nagarathna and Ujjal Bhuyan recorded serious reservations about the January ruling, including its foreclosure of the right to reapply, and restated that Section 43-D(5) remains subordinate to Article 21 and that Union of India v. K.A. Najeeb (2021), a three-Judge decision, cannot be diluted by smaller Benches. On 22 May 2026, in Tasleem Ahmed v. State (NCT of Delhi), Justices Aravind Kumar and P.B. Varale replied that a Bench cannot overturn a legal principle established by an earlier Bench with the same number of judges simply by expressing strong disagreement. A doubt expressed by a Bench, however emphatic, remains a doubt, and not a declaration of law. As a result, they referred to a larger Bench to respond on the question of how Article 21 is to be applied where Parliament has restricted bail. The same order granted six months' interim bail, on eleven conditions, to the two co-accused in this very case, Tasleem Ahmed and Khalid Saifi. The reference awaits the constitution of a larger Bench by the Chief Justice of India. Khalid's third bail application was in the meantime dismissed by the Karkardooma court on 4 July 2026, not on any assessment of his custody or the state of the trial, but as premature: neither the examination of fifty further prosecution witnesses nor the expiry of one year had occurred, so the application was held not maintainable. He is therefore asking the High Court to release him on interim bail while a larger Bench decides how Section 43-D(5) applies in light of Article 21. Whether he can be kept in detention depends on the answer to that question. The posture on 21 September is thus, precise — two people have been held for six years or beyond, on a threshold finding made on untested material; their co-accused facing the same FIR have been released (some on regular bail and two on interim bail from the Supreme Court itself); the trial has not begun; the prosecution's witness list makes early conclusion that is arithmetically implausible; and the appellate authority governing whether any of that matters has been referred upward and remains undecided. The sections that follow contain — the statutory text Parliament actually enacted, the omitted sunset and review committees, the binding force of Najeeb, the 2-6% conviction rate, and the irreversibility of custody already served. Every element of these sections set out is present in concrete form.

# Disrupt, Deliver, Dominate

**Bhupendra Chaubey**

There is a trend of sorts in Indian families to celebrate milestone birthdays, anniversaries, and occasions. The 25th straight year in public life as an administrator is something certainly worth celebrating for Prime Minister Narendra Modi. But sometimes these milestone moments are also an occasion for us to trace back the journey to where it started from. The crucible of this quarter-century began in the autumn of 2001 in Gandhinagar, under circumstances that would have broken a conventional politician. Taking charge of a state reeling from a catastrophic earthquake, an exhausted exchequer, and deep administrative paralysis, Narendra Modi immediately discarded the incrementalism of status-quo governance. Instead, he treated the crisis as a blank slate for structural reinvention. If you look at him now, you will figure out that he has followed this mantra all through. Break the status quo. Always! The way to really understand how PM Modi has kept a fine balance between the art of realpolitik and principled economic decisions. Gujarat is a great test case for this. Jyotigram Yojana was one of the many successful moves he made as Chief Minister. It was a fairly simple move. How do you uncouple agriculture power from politics? There were the shenanigans of state electricity boards, rampant corruption at the local level, and a general belief that " promise of electricity" was better than " actual supply of electricity." Narendra Bhai would have none of this. Many old-timers in Gujarat BJP have told me that the basic change Narendra Modi brought in political thinking was that "real delivery" could be converted into "election-winning" mechanism too. Why just talk about doing something during elections? Why not actually go ahead and do it? The vibrant Gujarat summit was his other major disruption to national political discourse. Gujarat has always been a state blessed with a massive NRI population. But it was never converted into an "aspirational form of domestic politics" as Modi managed to do. In 2003, a state event leading to garnering of MoUs worth over 14 billion USD was an unthinkable factor. But Modi managed to do this. If you look back now, the culture of each Indian state from Rajasthan to UP, from Maharashtra to Assam, wanting to compete with each other to attract foreign investment really started from the vibrant Gujarat summit itself. In its last edition in 2024, a total of 41,299 project MoUs were signed, securing proposed investment commitments totaling Rs 26.33 lakh crore (approximately $315+ billion USD). Of course, critics will point out to the actual conversion rate, but even a 10 per cent actual realisation over a period of time gives any state a huge momentum. But the real story of Narendra Modi at 76 is way beyond these numbers. Even after 12 years in power, still managing to be BJP's neta No.1, standing head and shoulders above all opposition leaders requires a special skill set. That skill set in one word could be traced to "connection". Narendra Modi still remains India's foremost "connected" leader. For someone often criticised for not doing press conferences, his ability to connect directly with his electorate through social media and not just political rallies is a masterclass in politics. But in spite of all this dominance, there is a challenge as well for the Prime Minister. How does he repackage himself for that generation which hasn't really seen the process how he changed the entire character of national politics. For that young generation, formulating its views on Instagram reels and AI videos, a leader must be seen to be constantly getting subjected to scrutiny. A leader who is accessible but also someone who can answer in unscripted environments. Given the fact that PM Modi has displayed his ability to identify the problems and take course-correction steps immediately, it is just a matter of time before he moves forward on this front too. In conclusion, these lines are perhaps the best way to capture his life. It was October 2001, and Narendra Modi had just been sworn in as the Chief Minister of Gujarat. One of the first questions that he put to his team was whether bureaucrats knew how a sewing machine was procured by rural women. A key reform he brought in was to launch a large-scale cattle inoculation campaign that actually took cattle care to the doorstep of rural farmers, enhancing the lives and incomes of their livestock. Very clearly, this highlighted his learnings from his earlier days as a Sangh Pracharak - how difficult it is to sustain and create a livelihood. It is the very foundation of governance that defines his 25-year regime. Working Up Through Basic Fundamentals Livelihood and Logistics as the basic foundation of a turbo-charged economy - These are the key drivers of 25 years of evolution: ODOP - A Low-Cost Employment Multiplier The One District One Product (ODOP) scheme identifies products with local competitive advantage. It supports artisans, farmers and MSMEs. It focuses on improving branding, packaging and quality. Provide market and e-commerce access. Develop district-level export clusters. Generate employment outside major cities. Today, several public spaces like bus stands or train stations have a shop dedicated to the ODOP scheme. These steps include agriculture, textiles, food processing, handicrafts and minerals. Setting Logistics Right - The Actual Lifeline Logistics and Transportation constitute the bedrock of any business. The Railways constitute the lifeline of the Indian population. The administration seems to have paid attention to setting its track record right over there first. The efficiency of any transport network is measured by its throughput - how many passenger or freight trains can a stretch of track handle in a given period of time. Doubling and electrification enhance speed, thus increasing transformation. The Railways have undergone an incredible transformation program leading to a near 100 per cent electrification of Indian Railways. In 2014, about a third of the Indian Railways network was electrified.

# RAHUL GANDHI'S CHHATRON KI GOONJ MEETS REALITY AT DELHI UNIVERSITY STUDENTS UNION POLLS

**Ravish Ranjan Shukla**



At the very moment Congress MP Rahul Gandhi was eliciting applause by engaging in mimicry with stand-up comic Pulkit Mani during the 'Chhatron Ki Goonj' event, the ABVP was celebrating beneath the statue of Swami Vivekananda at Delhi University's North Campus. Until four days prior, the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) had been fighting its toughest student union election since 2012 across both the North and South campuses. However, when the results were declared on Saturday, the ABVP decisively trounced the NSUI. So, has Rahul Gandhi's attempt to woo the youth through Chhatron Ki Goonj failed on his own turf? Let us try to understand this through the results. Looking at the figures, the NSUI had managed to win just one seat - the vice presidency - in the 2025 elections; this time, however, they were reduced to zero. Essentially, the 'Voice of Students' fell silent upon reaching Delhi University. It failed to penetrate the caste-based politics of the university - something NSUI strategists had hoped it would do. In the 2025 elections, the NSUI fielded two Jat and two Gurjar candidates. This time, however, they tried a new experiment: fielding Dalit candidate Vijay Meena for president, Punjabi candidate Veer Chathrath for vice president, Jat candidate Namrata Chaudhary for secretary, and another Jat candidate, Gopal Chaudhary, for joint secretary. In other words, they fielded two Jats, one Punjabi, and one Dalit. Yet, two NSUI rebels - Deepanshu Shaukeen and Vishesh Yadav - derailed this caste-based strategy, turning the NSUI's 'voice' in Delhi University into silence. One can also gauge the failure of Chhatron Ki Goonj by comparing last year's vote count with this year's? While Rahul Jhansi secured approximately 29,300 votes for the vice presidency in 2025, NSUI's presidential candidate Vijay Meena had to settle for 21,390 votes this year. The question arises, why was the NSUI unable to capitalise on the Gen-Z movement and student anger over deaths caused by a building collapse at a paying guest facility in Satya Niketan? In reality, the NSUI continues to lag behind the ABVP. It fails to field superior candidates or effectively champion student issues, a trend reflected in the NOTA (None of the Above) figures. While NOTA got 23,674 votes in the previous DUSU election, the count rose to 23,942 this time. Although the NSUI vigorously raised issues concerning NEET and hostel shortage, it sidelined Deepanshu Shaukeen, a student leader who had actively protested against the NEET exam and even marched barefoot over the Satya Niketan tragedy. This sent a message to the campus community that the NSUI prioritises the children of prominent leaders over student leaders who actually fight for causes. However, the only silver lining for the NSUI in this election was its attempt to rise above caste-based politics by fielding a Dalit candidate for the presidency, breaking the tradition of nominating a Jat. Will the Congress party also learn a lesson from the echoes of the NSUI's defeat in the campus election?

# THE FUTURE WON'T BE BUILT BY TECHNOLOGY ALONE



**Hyderabad, 2026:** AI, robotics, automation and advanced technologies are rapidly reshaping education, workplaces and industries in India and globally. In this environment, future-ready talent will need more than technical knowledge. It will need the ability to think computationally, experiment, collaborate, challenge assumptions and solve problems that do not yet have obvious answers. The three-day WRO India National Championship 2026 (Aug 26th - 28th) concluded at GMR Arena, GMR Aerocity Hyderabad, bringing together some of India's most promising young robotics talent. The national winners emerged after a nationwide journey of regional competitions, and will now qualify to represent India at the global WRO Championship 2026 in Puerto Rico, USA. Sudhanshu Sharma, Founder, India STEM Foundation, said: "The WRO India journey has shown us that future-ready talent is not created by technology alone. It is created when young people are given the freedom to build, experiment, fail, rethink and solve. From regional competitions to the national championship, we have seen remarkable depth of talent across India. Our ambition is to make experiential STEM learning a meaningful part of the education journey for many more students across the country." At Hyderabad, the country's strongest qualifying teams were challenged on technical execution, engineering, coding, creativity, teamwork and problem-solving. The jury faced a demanding task in evaluating the quality and diversity of robotic models and solutions presented by students from across India, a reflection of the depth of talent emerging through the country's school ecosystem. The road to the championship was itself a test of capability. Student teams competed through regional rounds across cities in India before qualifying for the national championship. Future Innovators progressed from the Virtual Championship through ten Regional Championships, while RoboMission, RoboSports and Future Engineers followed their respective qualification pathways. Director General, NCSM, Shri K. S. Murali, said: "The quality and diversity of the solutions presented at the national championship made the jury's task exceptionally demanding. What stood out was not only technical ability, but the curiosity, imagination and persistence with which students approached complex problems. Through NCSM's network of science museums, centres and Innovation Hubs, we want to create more opportunities for young learners to experience science and emerging technologies first-hand and nurture scientific temper and innovation from an early age." WRO India gives students an environment to build, test, fail, rethink and solve. Through robotics, students apply mathematics, science, engineering and coding to real challenges while developing creativity, confidence, collaboration and persistence.

# THE ALL AMERICAN DINER COMES TO HYDERABAD




**Hyderabad, September 2026 -** The legend is back! The All American Diner will open in Hyderabad on 23rd September reviving the legacy of one of New Delhi's most iconic restaurants. It first opened in Delhi in 2001 and developed a cult following for over 20 years. It closed in 2023, so that it could be recast in a new avatar. The All American Diner is now reopening in multiple cities all over India. The first shall open at The Loft, RMZ Nexity, Hyderabad. It will join the three recently launched EHV International restaurants in the same building, viz Fireback, Barback and Hosa. This restaurant is an ode to the chrome-and-checkerboard Diners of 1960s America and to the classic dishes that found fame in those diners. It was 25 years ago, that the group first brought the Diner concept to India with The All American Diner, New Delhi, and now the Hyderabad unit renews and revitalises that legacy with a new menu that combines the spirit of the Delhi original with more classic dishes from the heyday of Diners in America. The all-day menu spans breakfast classics like a stack o' pancakes, waffles and sunrise skillets to hot dogs, burgers and dinner plates like old bay garlic shrimp and barbecued baby back ribs. Desserts feature nostalgic diner favorites like the pecan pie, New York cheesecake and banana split. The team of chefs is led by Executive Chef Sumit Sawardekar under the creative and operational oversight of company veteran Chef Dhiraj Dargan, who has spent two decades with the company and coincidentally began as a Management Trainee at The All American Diner, New Delhi. Like every good Diner, beverage highlights include classic milkshakes, smoothies, malts and decadent crazy shakes. Head of Bars, Varun Sharma's cocktail menu takes flavors of American desserts and turns them into drinks like the Creamsicle Highball and the Mixed Berry Cheesecake Martini. Classic American cocktails like the Mint Julep and Manhattan are also on offer as are large frozen Margaritas. Speaking about the company's continued growth in Hyderabad, Rohit Khattar, Founder Chairman, EHV International, said, "The All American Diner has been an important part of the journey of our company. It was the second restaurant that I conceived after the original Chor Bizarre and for many Delhi regulars, it was more than a restaurant. A space where countless mornings, celebrations and memories unfolded. We are delighted to bring this much-loved concept to a new city, while preserving the warmth, nostalgia and sense of fun that made it so popular. Hyderabad has embraced Hosa, Fireback and Barback with tremendous enthusiasm, and we hope The All American Diner receives the same welcome in our beautiful home, The Loft, RMZ Nexity.

# Hamleys Unveils Its Flagship Jubilee Hills Store in Hyderabad




**Hyderabad, September 2026:** Hamleys, the world's oldest and one of its most iconic toy retailers, has opened its flagship Jubilee Hills store — the brand's most expansive destination in Hyderabad and its 10th store in the city. Spread across 10,000 sq. ft. and three storeys, the new flagship brings together an expansive world of toys, games, gifting and play for children, families and toy enthusiasts.

The store brings the theatre of Hamleys to life, with the iconic Hamleys family including the Toy Soldier, Male and Female Pirates, Englishman and Ragdoll, alongside the much-loved Hamley and Hattie. With 10,000+ toys, games and gifting options, the flagship is designed to offer discovery and play at every turn. A dedicated play area is also set to open in November, further enhancing the experience.

To celebrate the launch, Hamleys hosted an exclusive Grand Opening on 18th September from 6:30 PM onwards, welcoming top customers, influencers, creators, media and invited guests. The evening brought the store alive with My Little Pony, PJ Masks and the entire Hamleys family, alongside special DIY activities, F&B experiences and interactive engagements curated for guests.

The Jubilee Hills flagship reinforces Hamleys' focus on Hyderabad as a key market and its ambition to create destinations that go beyond shopping to deliver memorable experiences centred around play, discovery and imagination.

# Aditya Birla Housing Finance Expands Presence in Tamil Nadu with New Branch in Kovilpatti

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL
HOME LOANS

**Kovilpatti, Tamil Nadu, September, 2026:** Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited ("ABHFL"), a leading housing finance company and a subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Limited, has expanded its footprint in Tamil Nadu with the launch of a new branch in Kovilpatti, as part of its broader plan to expand its pan-India distribution network. With this addition, ABHFL's total network in Tamil Nadu has increased to 22 branches, strengthening its presence in high-growth markets and improving customer accessibility. Kovilpatti's residential landscape is evolving, supported by its established industrial base, improving infrastructure and connectivity across southern Tamil Nadu. As the town continues to develop as a key commercial and industrial centre, growing employment opportunities and access to essential services are driving demand for housing among local families and working professionals. With homeownership aspirations rising, ABHFL's new branch will make customised home financing solutions more accessible to customers in Kovilpatti and the surrounding areas. ABHFL offers a comprehensive suite of housing finance solutions tailored to diverse customer segments, including affordable housing, prime housing, construction finance, and loans against property, catering to salaried individuals, self-employed professionals, self-employed non-professionals, and emerging income groups. Backed by a robust digital ecosystem, ABHFL enables a seamless onboarding, Faster Approvals, and enhanced transparency, ensuring a superior customer experience. To mark the launch, ABHFL is offering zero login fees along with spot loan sanctions of up to ?50 lakh, valid from September 17 to September 30, 2026, enabling faster and more affordable access to credit for customers at these new branches. Speaking on the expansion, Mr. Pankaj Gadgil, MD & CEO, Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited, said, "Tamil Nadu is a key growth market for us. With strong demand and rising aspirations, we are scaling our regional presence to deepen customer engagement. By combining our growing distribution footprint with robust digital capabilities, we aim to make the homeownership journey simpler, faster, and hassle-free for customers."

# ICICI Prudential Life leads with Claim Settlement Ratio of 99.31% in Q1-FY2027

**Mumbai, September 20, 2026:** ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has declared a claim settlement ratio of 99.31% for Q1-FY2027, the highest among top life insurance companies in India based on the public disclosures (Form L-39 and L-40). During the quarter, the Company settled individual death claims amounting to Rs.414.08 crore. Notably, the Company's average value per claim was ~Rs.15 lakh, the highest among the leading life insurers for Q1-FY2027. Mr. Sarang Gokhale, Chief - Underwriting and Retail Claims, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance, said: "At ICICI Prudential Life, we are committed to making the claims process simple, seamless and timely for our customers and their families. In Q1-FY2027, our claim settlement ratio was highest in the industry at 99.31% and our average claim settlement turnaround time for non-investigated claims was just 1 day from last document received date. Besides, we settled Rs.414.08 crore in death claims. Our customer-first approach and strong focus towards digitalisation empowers us to settle claims quickly and provide timely financial relief when families need it the most. The claimants can lodge and track claims easily through our mobile app, WhatsApp, chatbot and website. Under our 'Claim for Sure' initiative, we paid ~Rs.75 crore within one day for eligible claims. We con-

**■ ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has declared a claim settlement ratio of 99.31% for Q1-FY2027, the highest among top life insurance companies in India based on the public disclosures (Form L-39 and L-40). During the quarter, the Company settled individual death claims amounting to Rs.414.08 crore.**

# Vedanta Power Bets Big on Engineering Talent Nearing Half of Workforce



**New Delhi:** On Engineers' Day, Vedanta Power is highlighting the growing importance of engineering talent in building a young, diverse and future-ready workforce as India's power sector enters a new phase of growth. Engineers now account for nearly 50% of Vedanta Power's total workforce, reflecting the critical role of technical expertise across the company's operations and its efforts to build the capabilities required to operate complex power assets, adopt new technologies and respond to an evolving energy landscape.

The company is also strengthening diversity within its engineering workforce with significant engineers hired by Vedanta Power in the current financial year are women. The focus on bringing more women into engineering roles reflects Vedanta Power's commitment to creating a more diverse talent pool for the future of the power sector. Speaking on Engineers' Day and the importance of developing engineering talent for the future of the power sector, Mr. Rajinder Singh Ahuja, Chief Executive Officer and Whole-Time Director, Vedanta Power, said, "India's power growth story is entering an exciting phase. We are not only requiring to generate and deliver more power but strengthen engineering capabilities to operate complex power assets by adopting new technologies, improving efficiencies, and responding to an increasingly dynamic energy landscape". He further added, "We are seeing that reflected in our own workforce as at Vedanta, building capacity and building capability go hand in hand. With engineers now comprising nearly half of our workforce, we are also encouraged by the growing participation of women and young professionals in our engineering teams. We want to give them exposure to the business, access to experienced leaders and the opportunity to take ownership so they can grow into the power leaders who will shape the next chapter of India's power sector." The company's focus on young talent is supported by its campus engagement across engineering and management colleges. As part of its recent campus hiring, Vedanta Power has onboarded young professionals, engineers hired being women, bringing fresh talent and diverse perspectives into the organisation. The talent has been sourced from top institutions across the country including IITs, NITs, IIMs, etc. With engineers accounting for nearly half of its workforce, engineering talent plays an important role in the day-to-day operations of Vedanta Power's large-scale power assets. Across functions, engineers contribute to maintaining plant reliability, improving operational efficiency and enabling the adoption of technologies that support the evolving requirements of the power sector. The company is also focused on creating an environment where professionals from different backgrounds can bring diverse perspectives to engineering, operations and other functions.

# Maruti Suzuki Launches Auto Green Mission with the introduction of Automatic S-CNG SWIFT, DZIRE AND BALENO




**New Delhi September, 2026:** Maruti Suzuki India Limited (Maruti Suzuki), a pioneer in clean and green mobility, launches the Auto Green Mission with the introduction of the automatic S-CNG models for the popular Swift, Dzire and Baleno. Designed for new-age customers who refuse to compromise, the new range of Maruti Suzuki automatic S-CNG range of cars offer automatic car driving convenience with superior fuel-efficiency, making the Dzire automatic S-CNG India's most fuel-efficient sedan# with a fuel-efficiency of 36.47km/kg*. Introducing the new range of Maruti Suzuki automatic S-CNG cars, Mr. Partho Banerjee, Senior Executive Officer, Marketing & Sales, Maruti Suzuki India Limited, said, "We at Maruti Suzuki are always listening to our customers. With modern Indian cities experiencing rapid growth, new-age customers are looking for the convenience of an automatic car without compromising on fuel-efficiency and performance in traffic conditions. Under the Auto Green Mission, our new range of automatic S-CNG models are perfectly suited for today's aspirational customers who seek the best of both worlds. The Swift, Dzire and Baleno are some of the country's best-selling cars, the introduction of the automatic S-CNG models is sure to delight customers and make these incredible cars win even more hearts." He added, "We have been receiving unprecedented demand for our S-CNG range of vehicles as evolving, environmentally conscious customer expectations are driving acceptance for eco-friendly options across all segments. During the first quarter of this year, we experienced a 58% increase in sales over the same quarter last year for our S-CNG vehicles. In July, we recorded the highest-ever S-CNG vehicle sales in a month at 83,000 units. The introduction of the new automatic S-CNG range of cars is sure to contribute to the growing share of clean and green cars in India." Powered by the Advanced Z12E 1.2L engine featuring Dual Variable Valve Timing (Dual VVT) and Idle Start Stop (ISS) technology, the Swift, Dzire, Baleno S-CNG are engineered to deliver exceptional performance and superior fuel-efficiency. The Z12E S-CNG engine is mated to Maruti Suzuki's popular Auto Gear Shift transmission. Commonly referred to as Automated Manual Transmission (AMT), the five-speed gearbox provides the convenience of automatic gear shifts, enabling customers to navigate traffic without the need for manual gear changes. The transmission system also has the option of manual gear changes, should customers want to change gears themselves, without the use of a clutch pedal.

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# Iran denies US claim on Hormuz oil transport




Tehran, Sep 20 : Senior spokesman for Iran's armed forces Abolfazl Shekarchi rejected a claim by US Central Command (CENTCOM) that US forces had supported the transport of over 1 billion barrels of oil through the Strait of Hormuz "in the last couple of months."

In a statement carried by Iranian media, Shekarchi described the claim, made earlier in the day by CENTCOM Commander Admiral Brad Cooper, as "false and ridiculous."

He added that Cooper's remarks constituted a "projection and a failed psychological operation to boost the morale of the terrorist US Army's exhausted and worn-out forces in the region and justify the exorbitant financial costs and casualties incurred by the United States in the region," Xinhua news agency reported.

Shekarchi noted that such claims could not change the reality of the expulsion of the "aggressive" US Army from the region, stressing that the initiative in the Strait of Hormuz remained in the hands of Iran's armed forces.

In a video posted on social media on Saturday, Cooper said, "We've reached this significant milestone while assisting over 2,000 commercial ship transits through the strait by providing coordinated protection. Clearly, the momentum is building."

"CENTCOM forces have supported more than 1 billion barrels of crude oil leaving the Gulf," Adm. Brad Cooper said in remarks released by the command on US social media platform X.

"Thousands of ships have passed through the strait. Over 1 billion barrels of crude have been shipped from Gulf partners through the Strait of Hormuz, and Iran has exported zero barrels thanks to our ironclad blockade," he added.

At the same time, Cooper said Iran had exported "zero barrels" of oil, attributing the halt to what he called the US "ironclad blockade."

Following US-Israeli strikes on Iran on February 28, Tehran restricted passage through the strategic waterway, while US forces imposed a naval blockade targeting vessels traveling to or from Iranian ports.

## GERMAN ELECTIONS UNDER WAY WHICH COULD DECIDE FATE OF CHANCELLOR MERZ



Local elections are taking place in two German states on Sunday which could increase the political pressure on Chancellor Friedrich Merz. Opinion polls in Berlin and Mecklenburg-Vorpommerm suggest Merz's Christian Democratic Union (CDU) is at risk of damaging defeats, which would raise further questions about the chancellor's future. These latest elections come after the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) party won a major victory in the state of Saxony-Anhalt two weeks ago, while the CDU saw its vote halved. There has been speculation in Germany that Merz could be replaced as chancellor mid-term unless the CDU's political fortunes improve. He has said he will carry on but is facing poor approval ratings amid rumours of a so-called chancellor swap, though his challengers are "still hesitating", writes German news site Tagesschau. According to the polls, Merz's conservatives could lose power in Berlin as it tussles with Die Linke (The Left) over first place. Meanwhile in the north-eastern state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, the CDU has only just been hovering above the 5% threshold needed for a party to enter the state parliament. It could spell their worst ever result in a state election. How did it come to this after just 16 months in power? Friedrich Merz is having to answer for the tumbling popularity of his own party, while the political force that he aimed to counter - the AfD - continues its rise. Some branches of the AfD are classed as right-wing extremist by domestic intelligence, a designation it strongly rejects. But its anti-immigration, Russian-friendly, Germany-first agenda has found fertile ground in the country's former communist east. The AfD is hoping to build on its recent landslide win in Saxony-Anhalt by topping the polls in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. However, the centre-left SPD has staged a late comeback to be in contention for the top spot through its lead candidate, Manuela Schwesig. Currently the state premier, Schwesig is trying to sweep up the anti-AfD vote as she bills herself as the "Die Frau gegen Blau" - "Woman against Blue", the AfD's party colours. But her local popularity belies the far poorer fortunes of her national party which is locked in a loveless coalition with Merz's CDU. In a queue for a campaign event in the city of Neubrandenburg, AfD supporter Reinhart tells us that the traditional parties are being washed away. "Not only in Germany. In Italy, in France, in Great Britain. Everywhere the traditional parties go down." He smiles when asked what he thinks of Merz, saying: "Oh well everyone thinks the same about him. "He is arrogant, out of touch, not on the same level as the general public." Merz's backers argue that the chancellor has had a tough time with global events and that a lot of the problems the nation faces are ones he has inherited. But whatever faith people had in his ability to fix those problems, it is apparently ebbing away - and, the brutal truth is, it can be hard to find voters who like him. The former corporate lawyer's tack to the right on issues like immigration has failed to erode AfD support while also alienating people further to the left. His blunt communication style has also caused irritation, such as his dismissal of "work-life balance", telling Germans they need to work more and take less sick leave.

## Deadly US strike on Iran school may have been a war crime, UN report finds



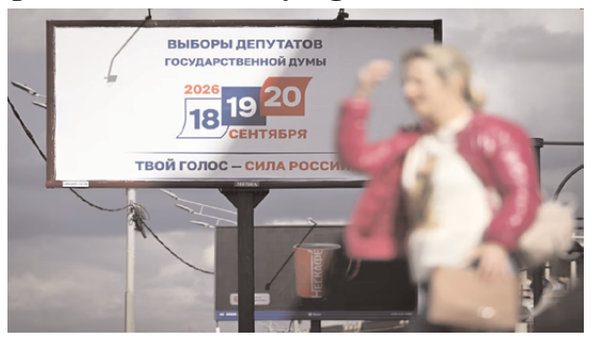
Two deadly US strikes on Iran during the opening salvo of the war, including one that hit an elementary school, may have been war crimes, a United Nations fact-finding mission concluded in a new report. The report by the independent investigators also found that Iran may have committed crimes against humanity in its crackdown against government protesters. The findings by the UN's Independent International Fact-Finding Mission, which will be presented to the UN Human Rights Council, could be used by international courts like the International Criminal Court. At least 156 people, including 120 children and 26 teachers, were killed when the school in the southern city of Minab was struck on February 28, according to Iranian officials. While there have been slight variances in the reported death toll, it would be considered one of the worst civilian casualty incidents in recent US military history. The investigators also examined a second US strike on the same day, which hit a sports center and residential area in the southern city of Lamerd. The strike killed 22 civilians, according to the UN. In both strikes.

## Israeli president overrules military to pardon soldier who killed incapacitated Palestinian attacker



Israeli President Isaac Herzog pardoned a soldier who shot and killed an incapacitated Palestinian attacker in the occupied West Bank in 2016, despite opposition from the military's chief of staff. Announcing the move on Saturday, Herzog said the decision would allow Elor Azaria, who was in his mandatory military service at the time of the incident, to "continue with his life." The decision expunges Azaria's criminal record. The case divided Israeli society as it risked politicizing the military - even playing a role in the resignation of then-Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon - with many on the right-wing, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, calling for Azaria to receive a pardon. But the Israeli military made clear at the time that it viewed the shooting as a "grave breach of IDF values, conduct and standards of military operations." Video of the incident showed Azaria, then serving as a combat medic, approaching a Palestinian man, suspected in a knife attack, before shooting him in the head as he lay injured on the street. In a statement on X, Ya'alon blasted the decision to issue the pardon. "The soldier did not claim to have shot the terrorist because he felt his life was in danger, but 'because he deserved to die,'" Ya'alon said. Addressing Herzog directly, he said, "You decided to erase the criminal record without hearing from the soldier he takes responsibility or regrets his actions." Herzog, who issued the statement on the eve of Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement, said the "circumstances, the length of time passed, and the sorrow Azaria expressed justify enabling him to be allowed to begin a new chapter in his life." Azaria was sentenced to 18 months in prison for killing Abdel Fattah al-Sharif, who was one of two men accused of stabbing another Israeli soldier in Hebron. Azaria faced up to 20 years in prison after he was convicted; critics said the shorter sentence amounted to a slap on the wrist. He ultimately served only nine months before he was released. The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) did not issue a statement after the pardon. But in a July letter in response to the pardon request, IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir said "the request should not be granted." In direct contradiction to Herzog, Zamir's office stated that Azaria had never expressed sorrow or remorse about the killing. Zamir opposed the pardon because Azaria had not taken responsibility for his actions, and there were no "specific personal circumstances of significant weight" that warranted a pardon. Defense Minister Israel Katz celebrated the pardon, calling it a "humane and appropriate decision." He said in a statement the "time has come to allow (Azaria) to put the past behind him, rebuild his life and his future."

## Empty podiums, prizes for e-voting, no opposition: Russians head to the polls amid intensifying war in Ukraine




**Moscow —** "The candidates have not shown up at our studio, so I'll say goodbye for now," Elizaveta Dorokhina, a Russia-1 state TV anchor, told viewers, with three empty podiums visible either side of her in the studio. The broadcast switched to a commercial break. All six registered candidates in Ryazan, a city 122 miles southeast of the Russian capital, had failed to turn up for a televised debate ahead of upcoming elections. Russia is holding parliamentary elections, the first since its full-scale invasion of Ukraine, in a political landscape in which critical opposition is effectively nonexistent, with opponents barred or having fled the country. Voters will elect 450 members of the State Duma – the lower house of the Russian parliament. The empty studio offers a window into the democratic ritual Russia is so keen to put on display: the candidates, the debates, the appearance of choice. Projecting stability and an image of due processes has become a cornerstone of President Vladimir Putin's Russia. The voting will take place over a three-day period starting Friday. The United Russia party, which backs Putin and has dominated domestic Russian politics for over 20 years, is widely expected to win a majority of seats.



Houthis say they targeted Saudi capital with ballistic missiles

## Ed Sheeran admits 'mistakes' at first show since Macklemore controversy



Ed Sheeran has apologised to fans for making "mistakes" as he opened his first show since Macklemore was dropped from his tour for making pro-Palestinian remarks on stage. The singer began his concert in Philadelphia by addressing the controversy that has since engulfed the tour and prompted all of his support acts to quit. "I never wanted to be an activist musician, but this has put me in the middle of an important and passionate argument about free speech and the most complex political issue on the planet," Sheeran said. He described the 7 October 2023 Hamas-led attacks as "horrific" and called the situation in Gaza "unjustifiable". The singer has said the decision to drop Macklemore was made by his promoters, not him. The row has seen ticket prices drop and sales decline for the remaining US leg of his Loop Tour. Sheeran told the crowd that while he was used to facing criticism for his music, "this week, the criticism was about something much more important, and I've had to take and make difficult decisions - and I am making mistakes - and I'm so, so sorry". He said he wanted to "address the question of where I stand in the situation in Israel and Palestine, and whether my doing this concert here tonight implies where I stand". "I have tried in my career not to be a political commentator of any kind, because I want my music and shows to be about unity, not division", he continued. "But this is a humanitarian issue, and I cannot hide how I feel about it anymore." Sheeran said what happened in Israel on 7 October was "horrific and compounded centuries of Jewish pain", and what was happening in Gaza was "catastrophic and unjustifiable and disproportionate". "My heart has been broken by the scale of devastation and loss of civilian lives, of children's lives, and this systemic injustice we're seeing unfold in the West Bank cannot be overlooked." He said he was working out how to contribute in a way that would help "victims of these terrible times - and listening and learning, because I do not know enough". The British singer became emotional as he told the crowd his concert was "still a place where everyone is welcome, and everyone here can stand beside people that have opposing views".

# INDIA 'NOT CONSULTED' FOR NEW ZEALAND TOUR

## New Scheduling Chaos Engulfs Team: Report



Scheduling congestion could force the Indian team to rest some of their players for the final two of their five ODIs against New Zealand later this year, according to a report. India are scheduled to play five T20Is, five ODIs and two Tests during a gruelling two-month tour of New Zealand. However, concerns have been raised over the scheduling of the series, with the Test leg set to begin just four days after the fifth and final ODI on November 15. According to a report in Dainik Jagran, the likes of Shubman Gill, Jasprit Bumrah, KL Rahul, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Prasidh Krishna, Kuldeep Yadav and Mohammed Siraj could be rested for the final two ODIs in Mount Maunganui to prepare for the subsequent Test series. The aforementioned players are expected to be part of both the ODI and Test squads, which could force the team management to prioritise their workload and availability for the red-ball leg of the tour. The report further claimed that India's coaching staff could be split into two groups to manage the demanding schedule. Two members from the quartet of head coach Gautam Gambhir, bowling coach Morne Morkel, assistant coach Sitanshu Kotak and fielding coach Subhadeep Ghosh are likely to remain in Mount Maunganui with the ODI squad, while the other two could travel with the Test-bound players to Wellington and oversee preparations for the opening Test.

ASIAN GAMES:

## India Women Fight Back In Table Tennis To Secure Second Straight Win



The Indian women's team scripted a fine comeback to script a 3-2 win over Singapore in their Group F match of the table tennis event at the Asian Games here on Sunday. India were staring at defeat after trailing 1-2 before Sreeja Akula and Yashaswini Ghorpade secured crucial wins to clinch the tie. Opening the proceedings, Ghorpade defeated Jian Zeng 11-7, 11-3, 8-11, 11-9. But Sreeja Akula suffered a narrow 8-11, 11-4, 9-11, 11-4, 6-11 loss to Loy Ming in the second match. Diya Chitale too went down 7-11, 4-11, 11-7, 5-11 against Tan Zhao to concede a 1-2 lead to Singapore. Returning for a must-win match against Zeng Jian, Sreeja shrugged off the earlier loss to register a 6-11 11-3, 11-7, 11-4 win to level the tie at 2-2. In the decider, Ghorpade beat Loy Ming 5-11, 11-8, 12-10, 4-11, 11-9 to notch up a memorable win for India. Earlier, India's men's and women's teams began their campaigns with identical 3-0 wins over Indonesia in their respective Group F openers The women's team began on a winning note as Sreeja, Diya and Yashaswini swept their Indonesian opponents. Sreeja beat Ni Maharani 3-1 in the opening rubber, recovering from an 8-11 second-game loss to win 11-3, 11-4, 11-4. Diya then defeated Almaira Nebuchadnezzar 3-0 (11-9, 11-8, 11-5) before Yashaswini sealed the tie with a 3-0 (12-10, 11-4, 11-4) win over Citra Rasmi. The men followed with an equally dominant 3-0 victory, though they were pushed harder in the second rubber. Sathiyan Gnanasekaran put India ahead with a 3-0 win over Muhammad Negara, prevailing 11-8, 11-7, 11-9. Manav Thakkar then survived a five-game battle against Muhammad Junindra, winning 3-2. Manav took the first game 11-7, dropped the second 8-11, and regained the lead by winning the third 11-6. Junindra forced a decider by taking the fourth 11-6, but Manav held his nerve to win the fifth 11-9. Manush Shah completed the men's sweep with a 3-0 win over Affan Pratama, prevailing 11-9, 11-9, 12-10. India's women are grouped alongside Indonesia, Pakistan and Singapore in Group F.

## Prime Minister Narendra Modi Congratulates Indian Shooters After Double Silver Glory In Asian Games



Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Indian shooters Elavenil Valarivan, Sonam Uttam Maskar and Vidarsa K Vinod after the trio won silver in the women's 10m air rifle team event at the Asian Games in Nagoya Sunday, while also praising Elavenil for securing another silver in the individual event later in the day. "Hard work and teamwork lead to an outstanding result! Proud of Sonam Uttam Maskar, Elavenil Valarivan and Vidarsa K. Vinod for winning the Silver Medal at the Asian Games 2026 in the 10m Air Rifle Women's event. Their success will inspire several athletes in the coming times: PM Narendra Modi," PMO wrote on X. The Indian trio accumulated 1897 points to finish second behind China in the 16-team competition at the Aichi Pref. General Shooting Gallery. Japan claimed the bronze medal. Elavenil and Sonam subsequently advanced to the individual final, where both shooters featured among the top eight. Elavenil then added another silver to her tally after finishing second in the women's 10m air rifle individual final. Japan's Hinata Taichi won gold with an Asian Games record score of 253.0, while Elavenil finished with 252.4. Elavenil remained in contention for gold deep into the individual final before Taichi produced a decisive finish. The Indian entered the final two shots with a 0.3-point advantage, but the Japanese shooter eventually edged ahead with her final shot. Congratulating Elavenil on her second medal of the day, PM Modi said the achievement made the occasion even more special. "Indian shooters keep making us proud! Congrats to Elavenil Valarivan for winning a Silver Medal in the 10m Air Rifle Women Individual event at the Asian Games. This was her second medal of the day, making this even more special. My best wishes to her for the endeavours ahead: PM Narendra Modi" PMO posted on X. India's shooters had won a record 22 medals at the 2023 Asian Games, including seven gold, nine silver and six bronze.

## Teqball Star Quimcy Dsouza Reveals Why India Missed Out On Asian Games Medal



India's teqball campaign at the 2026 Asian Games ended without a medal on Sunday after Quimcy Dsouza fell short in two bronze-medal contests, with the Indian athlete admitting that the pressure of competing on an unfamiliar continental stage impacted her. Dsouza first suffered a narrow 2-0 (12-11, 12-11) defeat to Japan's Yuina Sakamoto in the women's singles bronze-medal match. She returned later alongside Mohamed Anas Imran Beg for the mixed doubles bronze-medal playoff, but the Indian pair fell 0-2 (12-9, 12-6) to Vietnam's Hoang Minh Tan Nguyen and Gia Nghi Trinh. "To experience such pressure for the first time was where I fell back a little bit," Dsouza told Olympics.com. "We're not used to the pressure because from nobody covering us to suddenly everyone talking about teqball was too much to take on our chest," she added. Dsouza said representing India was a lifelong dream, and she felt immense pride at finally wearing the national jersey. She added that she hopes to keep giving her best to continue representing the country. "A lot of athletes in India dream about wearing India on their chest. The kid in me would be super proud today. It's always been a dream to wear India on my chest, and to be able to achieve that, I still can't sink in the feeling. I still can't believe I'm wearing it. India looks good on me, and I hope that I continue to give it my all to ensure this remains on my chest forever, " she said. Teqball, a sport that blends elements of football and table tennis and is played on a curved table, made its Asian Games debut at Aichi-Nagoya 2026. India fielded three athletes in the competition, Quimcy Dsouza, Mohamed Anas Imran Beg and Declan Marshall Gonsalves.

## India's Suchika Tariyal Books MMA Semifinal Spot In Asian Games



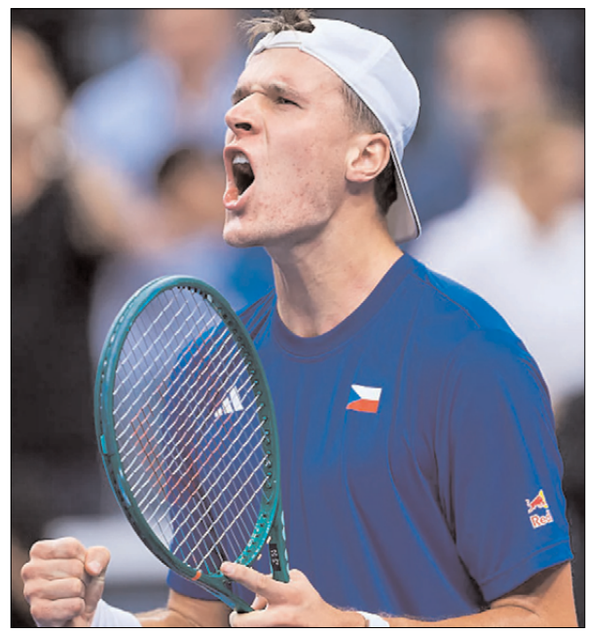
An incident of eve-teasing left Suchika Tariyal with a simple thought: 'I wanted to learn how to fight'. Twenty-four years later, that decision has taken the 36-year-old from judo mats in Haryana to the Asian Games podium, where she assured India of its first medal at the Aichi-Nagoya Games by beating Mongolia's Altanchimeg Baigalmaa 2-0 to enter the semifinals of the women's Traditional Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) 60kg event here on Sunday. The semifinals at the Nagoya City Inae Sports Centre here on Monday will give Tariyal a chance to turn her assured bronze into a gold. A place in the last four guarantees a medal, with both losing semi-finalists receiving bronze. "It's great to have assured one medal for the country. It's time for me to give that fight for a gold medal tomorrow," Tariyal said after her victory. The Women's Traditional MMA 60kg combines striking, takedowns, grappling and ground fighting, with athletes competing in the under-60kg category. The winner is decided by points, submission or stoppage, and reaching the semi-finals guarantees a medal, with both losing semi-finalists receiving bronze. It is making its Asian Games debut at Aichi-Nagoya 2026. It's another landmark moment for Tariyal in a career that has stretched across judo, jiu-jitsu and MMA. "I had a dream from childhood that I would learn some kind of fighting, so I chose judo. That journey has brought me here. It's like perfecting the base to go to the next level, and judo has helped me a lot with that," she said.

## Raphinha Treble Fires Perfect Barcelona To Win At Sevilla

Raphinha scored a superb hat-trick to earn Barcelona a 3-1 win at Sevilla on Saturday in La Liga and preserve their 100 percent record. Hansi Flick's side moved six points clear of Jose Mourinho's Real Madrid, who visit Atletico Madrid in a derby clash on Sunday. The Spanish champions were given the biggest test of their season to date but overcame Sevilla at the Ramon Sanchez-Pizjuan thanks to Raphinha's treble. La Liga's top goalscorer, Raphinha reached 12 goals in seven league appearances with a second consecutive hat-trick, and scored twice more in the Champions League.



## CZECHS BEAT USA TO QUALIFY FOR DAVIS CUP FINALS



Jiri Lehecka downed Learner Tien in a deciding rubber Saturday as the Czech Republic stunned the United States 3-2 in Davis Cup qualifying for a second straight year, while South Korea reached the last eight for the first time. The Czechs knocked out the Americans at the same second qualifying round stage in a decider at Delray Beach a year ago, when Jakub Mensik beat Frances Tiafoe to secure a surprise victory. Tomas Berdych's men repeated the feat in similarly dramatic fashion, to the delight of a raucous home crowd in Prague, as Lehecka clinched a 6-3, 7-5 win over world number 13 Tien. The USA are record 32-time winners of the competition but their wait for a first title since 2007 goes on. The Czechs advance to the November eight-team finals in Bologna, where hosts Italy will bid for a fourth straight title. "The wins in Davis Cup are always a little bit different because this is a team competition," said Lehecka. After starting the day locked at 1-1, the USA nudged ahead as Christian Harrison and Austin Krajicek saved four match points to outlast Adam Pavlasek and Patrik Rikl in a thrilling 5-7, 6-3, 7-6 (10/8) win. Mensik then fought back from a set down to keep the tie alive by defeating recent US Open runner-up Ben Shelton 5-7, 6-4, 6-3. Shelton took a tense first set after saving a set point when trailing 5-4, reeling off the last three games. Mensik created a set point at exactly the same stage of the second, but this time made no mistake with a booming forehand to level the match.

## VAN BEATS PANTOJA TO RETAIN UFC FLYWEIGHT TITLE



Joshua Van retained his flyweight title with a commanding win over Alexandre Pantoja in their rematch at UFC 331 in Los Angeles. The 24-year-old from Myanmar beat Brazilian Pantoja in December 2025 after Pantoja suffered an accidental elbow dislocation 26 seconds into the fight. Van, the first UFC champion born in the 2000s, defended the belt against Tatsuro Taira in May but can now claim to be the best in the division after soundly beating 36-year-old Pantoja again. "A lot of people said that was an accidental win, well, doubt me now," Van said after extending his professional MMA record to 18 wins and two losses. Pantoja took Van down in the first round, before landing heavy punches and knees in a fiery exchange, as Van retaliated with a slicing elbow. Van, who moved to the United States when he was 12, then peppered Pantoja with left-handed jabs in the second round, and rocked the Brazilian with a fluid combination of punches in the third. Pantoja controlled the fourth round as he took Van down but was unable to submit him. In the final round, Van stalked Pantoja and knocked him down with an overhand right, securing the win in the judges' scorecards. Scottish fighter Casey O'Neill also won on the night, beating Eduarda Moura with an armbar submission.Pantoja had suffered an accidental elbow dislocation 26 seconds into their first fight in December last year, resulting in Van becoming the UFC flyweight champion without an outright win over the Brazilian, who had reigned over the division for at least two years. Van, the first UFC champion from Myanmar, defended the belt against Tatsuro Taira in May but was left waiting to seal his status as the best in the division as 36-year-old Pantoja recovered from the injury. "A lot of people said that was an accidental win ... well, doubt me now," Joshua said after his second title defence, which extended his professional MMA record to 18 wins and two losses. Pantoja took Van down in the first round before landing heavy punches and knees in a fiery exchange, as Van retaliated with a slicing elbow. "You're too good to brawl with this guy," Van's coaches told him during the break, suggesting a more tactical approach.Van peppered Pantoja with left-handed jabs in the second round and rocked the Brazilian with a fluid combination of punches in the third.

# Kannada Star Vijay Raghavendra to Headline Director Sanjeev Megoti's 'On Duty'



Hyderabad: Creative director Sanjeev Megoti, known for bringing crime, action and thriller-based stories to the screen with a distinctiv gbe narrative style, is all set to make his comeback to Kannada cinema with an exciting new project titled 'On Duty'. Following the success of his Telugu crime-suspense thriller 'Police Complaint', which featured Varalaxmi Sarathkumar and Naveen Chandra in prominent roles, Sanjeev Megoti is now gearing up to direct a Kannada film. The upcoming movie, titled 'On Duty', will feature popular Kannada actor Vijay Raghavendra as the protagonist. Vijay Raghavendra belongs to the illustrious family of Kannada cinema legend Dr. Rajkumar. Vijay Raghavendra, who has already established himself with performances in several crime, suspense, thriller and action-oriented films, has reportedly given his nod to Sanjeev Megoti's fresh and intriguing storyline. His association with a director known for experimenting with crime and thriller narratives has generated considerable curiosity around the project. Vijay Raghavendra has several crime and thriller-oriented films in his filmography. His recent film 'Second Case of Seetharam' is currently streaming on the popular OTT platform Amazon Prime Video and has reportedly received a positive response from audiences. Meanwhile, Sanjeev Megoti's recently released Telugu film 'Police Complaint', starring Varalaxmi Sarathkumar and Naveen Chandra in key roles, was made against a crime, suspense and thriller backdrop. The film received a good response from audiences during its theatrical run and is also continuing to attract attention on Amazon Prime Video, where it has been trending. With both Vijay Raghavendra and Sanjeev Megoti coming off projects that have received a positive response, their collaboration on 'On Duty' has now become a topic of discussion in industry circles. The combination of a popular Kannada star and a filmmaker known for attempting unconventional crime and thriller narratives has already created expectations around the project. After a gap of nearly 15 years, Sanjeev Megoti is returning to Kannada cinema as a director. For his comeback, he is said to be working on a completely new story set against a crime and action backdrop.

# THE PARADISE' WILL MEET THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE AUDIENCE: NANI

Natural Star Nani's Pan India period action entertainer 'The Paradise'. Directed by Srikanth Odela, Sudhak 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 will be released worldwide on September 24. On this occasion, Natural Star Nani shared the highlights of the film at a press conference.

**September has been good to you, hasn't it?**

-My career started in September. 'Ashta Chamma' was released in September. 'Bhale Bhale Magadivoy' also came out in September. Now I believe that that hit sentiment will work out for 'Paradise'.

What did you think when you heard about the character of Jadal?

-That's the look that came from the story. It felt very new to me. All the roles I've played so far have been very relatable and feel like a familiar person. The character in this is not someone who grew up in general society. You'll understand what that is when you watch the movie. That character has a madness from the beginning. The audience sees that character with a shock value. In fact, such a character is very new in Telugu. That character is still fresh on me.

**Your films are aimed at a family audience. What will this film be like?**

-This is a movie that all family audiences can watch. The mother-son emotion is amazing. It has everything you would expect from a commercial movie. Families can watch it together happily.



What will Anirudh's background score be like?

We did 'Jersey' and 'Gang Leader'. This film gave us the opportunity to hold the background score from the beginning to the end and hold it. He did it twice out of a hundred. Srikanth-Anirudh is a killer combination. Songs like 'Aya Sher' and 'Eshu Nagula Katta' were possible because of them.

**What about Mohan Babu's character?**

When Srikanth narrated the story, Mohan Babu said that it would be good. Otherwise, I doubt whether he would do this character or not. Because it is a very negative, brutal character. Srikanth went to Mohan Babu to tell the story. He felt very excited. I was shocked to see that. Mohan Babu was the first person who believed that this would be a big movie when he heard this story. There are some things he does as a villain in it. The audience will definitely be shocked to see all of them.

**What about Pan India promotions?**

The content of this film has reached all regions. It has been received very well. Tamil, Hindi, Kannada, and Malayalam audiences are giving it a lot of love. That is why I will not compromise on the dubbing at all. That is the minimum respect we give to the love they give. It will be released in all languages ??with excellent quality.



# KEERTHY SURESH SHINES IN WHITE SILK SAREE

Keerthy Suresh looked radiant at the trailer launch of her upcoming movie Dorothy, greeting the crowd with a warm namaste. She wore an elegant ivory Kattu Bapu saree with a golden zari border, paired with a matching embroidered blouse. Minimal gold jewellery and a sleek bun completed her graceful, traditional look, winning hearts online. The trailer of Dorothy has also created buzz, showing two childhood friends whose bond turns into rivalry over the years. Directed by Karthik Subbaraj, the gangster drama features Keerthy in the title role, with music by Ilaiyaraaja. The film releases in theatres on September 25. She also revealed her role in Karthik Subbaraj's Dorothy. The actress said that her character is written with a lot of subtlety, and opened up about how much screen time she actually has in the film, calling it a pivotal but understated presence in the story.The official trailer of Dorothy has been released by the makers, offering a closer look at the dark and violent world surrounding Keerthy Suresh's titular character. Written and directed by Karthik Subbaraj, the upcoming Tamil drama appears to blend crime, friendship and survival into a story that gradually draws its central characters into a dangerous conflict.

# SAMAVARTHI WILL GIVE AUDIENCES A GREAT ADVENTURE EXPERIENCE: SATYADEV

Young and talented actor Satyadev Kancharana, who has carved a unique identity for himself with versatile films, is playing the lead in the upcoming action thriller Samavarthi. This marks Satyadev's 16th film as a lead actor. The film is produced by Shivacharan Reddy Jakkidi and Shashidhar Reddy Padamati under the banners Rudra Pictures and Panchabhuta Productions, and is directed by Ajay Nag V. Touted as an ecological action thriller, Samavarthi is gearing up for a grand theatrical release in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, and Malayalam.



# Megastar Chiranjeevi Leaks His Character Name As Kadiri Kalidas In Most Successful Director Bobby Kolli

Megastar Chiranjeevi and director Bobby Kolli reunited after the blockbuster success of Waltair Veerayya, and their much-awaited action entertainer Kaaka continues to build hype with every new update. Produced by Venkat K Narayana under the KVN Productions banner, the film is being mounted on a lavish scale with a strong mix of action, emotion and family elements. The film's title glimpse released on Chiranjeevi's birthday occasion got thumping response, setting high expectations for the movie. The latest update has further heightened interest around the project, as Chiranjeevi revealed the name of his character at a recent event. The Megastar will be seen as Kadiri Kalidas in Kaaka, a powerful and striking name that itself hints at the commanding presence of his character in the film. While Kaaka is designed as a high-intensity action entertainer, the film will also feature a strong emotional and family-oriented narrative, making the protagonist's character arc one of the key attractions. Anaswara Rajan is part of the cast in a pivotal role. The movie features music by S Thaman, cinematography by Vijay Karthik Kannan, production design by Avinash Kolla and editing by Antony L Ruben. Kona Venkat and K Chakravarthy Reddy have penned the screenplay, with additional writing by Hari Mohana Krishna and Vineeth Potluri. Bhanu-Nandu are handling the dialogues. Kaaka is gearing up for a grand theatrical release on January 13, 2027, targeting the Sankranthi festive season.



## Ayesha Khan in Breathtaking Festive Saree Look



# TATVAM' TO HIT THEATRES ON OCTOBER 2

Dinesh Tej and Dashvika K. Starrer Murder Mystery Thriller Set for Theatrical Release The upcoming Telugu film 'Tatvam', starring Dinesh Tej and Dashvika K. in the lead roles, is gearing up for its theatrical release on October 2. Directed by Arjun Kola, the film is being made as a murder mystery and suspense thriller, promising a fresh cinematic experience with an intriguing story and gripping screenplay. The recently released trailer has received a positive response from audiences, raising expectations for the film. Produced jointly by Vrayati Ishani Creations and S.K. Productions, the film is produced by Vamsi Seemakurthi and Swetha Pasupuleti. Speaking about the film, producer Vamsi Seemakurthi said, "Tatvam is a thriller with a strong emotional connect. The film also has good scope for music, and Chetan Bharadwaj has delivered music that suits the story perfectly. The recently released trailer has been well received. All the elements have come together very well in the film, and everyone has extended great support throughout the journey. Director Arjun Kola has been waiting for this day for a long time. He has presented the story even better than we had imagined. We are confident that Tatvam will offer audiences a memorable theatrical experience."



# *Tamannaah Simply Stunning In Maroon Saree*

Actress Tamannaah Bhatia is once again winning attention with her traditional look. The actress looks elegant in a beautiful maroon saree from House of Masaba. The saree comes with heavy golden work on the border and pallu, giving it a rich and royal touch. Tamannaah is seen posing straight with her hands together. The full saree is clearly visible, with the dark maroon shade and golden detailing making the look perfect for a festive occasion. The close-up picture highlights her makeup, bindi and beautiful blue-green earrings.

The golden detailing on her blouse adds more charm to the traditional look. In another picture, Tamannaah gives a simple side pose with her long hair adding to the elegance. She then holds the pallu and poses with one hand on her hip, giving a clear view of the heavy golden embroidery. With a simple background and a classy traditional outfit, Tamannaah looks graceful and royal in these pictures.



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