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Rahul Gandhi meets Bihar students injured in police action, questions use of bullets over fair exam demands

WORLD | NEWS
MORE THAN 80 MIGRANTS FEARED DEAD AFTER BOAT RESCUED OFF CANARY ISLANDS



CINEMA | NEWS

ANANYA PANDAY DAZZLES IN BRONZE COUTURE LOOK



SCAN FOR E-PAPER



OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

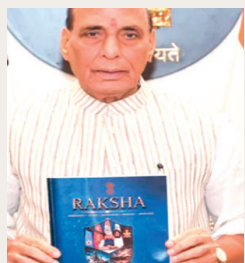
02-09-2026

Total pilgrims : 79,215
Tonsures : 36,740
Hundi (monetary) : 4.45 CR
Laddu sale : 4.45 Lac
Annaprasadam : 2.62 Lac
Ashwini hospital : 3.58
Present Situation on 03-09-2026:
Waiting Compartments : Stationnam.

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

Short Takes

RAJNATH SINGH UNVEILS 'RAKSHA' DEFENCE DIPLOMACY DOCUMENT



New Delhi (TSIT): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday released the 'Raksha' document on defence diplomacy that provides an actionable vision for the next decade and ensures India remains an anchor of peace, stability, and rule-based order in an evolving global landscape. The document focuses on Strategic Partnerships, Capacity Building, Indigenous Defence Manufacturing and Exports and Maritime Security, an official statement said. The 'Raksha' document outlines India's strategic roadmap and vision for global defence partnerships over the next 10 years, the statement said. As defence diplomacy is a core pillar of India's foreign policy, the document provides a clear, actionable vision for the next decade, ensuring that India remains an anchor of peace, stability, and rule-based order in an evolving global landscape, the statement said. The document marks a shift in India's strategic engagement, aligning national security objectives with proactive global cooperation, fostering long-term stability and mutual growth.

CM Revanth unveils Old City infra push



HYDERABAD TSIT: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday announced a series of infrastructure, education and welfare initiatives for Hyderabad's Old City, describing it as the city's "Original City".

Addressing a public meeting after inaugurating the Chanchalguda-Santosh Nagar Steel Flyover, the Chief Minister said the Congress government had provided funds for the project and ensured its completion. He directed officials to consider development works proposed by AIMIM president and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi.

Responding to MLA Ahmed Balala's request for Rs.20 crore for college development, Revanth Reddy announced Rs.25 crore for the project and said the MLA would be responsible for completing the works within one-and-a-half years.

The Chief Minister announced

plans for a three-km cable bridge at Mir Alam Tank and said the Metro Rail stretch from Gowliguda to Chandrayangutta would be completed before the next Assembly elections. He also outlined plans to extend Metro connectivity from Nagole through LB Nagar, Chandrayangutta and Rajendranagar to Shamshabad.

Revanth Reddy said one lakh Indiramma houses would be constructed in Hyderabad and reiterated welfare measures including free power up to 200 units for eligible households and LPG cylinders at Rs.500.

On the Musi Riverfront project, the Chief Minister alleged that BJP and BRS leaders were obstructing the government's plans. He said the government would continue with the project and promote a night-time economy to generate employment.

India, Seychelles discuss key cooperation

New Delhi (TSIT): Vice President C P Radhakrishnan met Seychelles' National Assembly Speaker Azarel Ernesta and the visiting parliamentary delegation in New Delhi on Thursday, with discussions centred on deepening the India-Seychelles partnership across key sectors.

"Vice President Shri C P Radhakrishnan warmly welcomed the Parliamentary Delegation from Seychelles headed by H.E. Azarel Ernesta, Speaker of the National Assembly of Seychelles at Parliament House today. The discussions focused on strengthening the India-Seychelles partnership in maritime security, renewable energy, seafood cooperation and capacity building," the Vice President's office said in a post on X. Radhakrishnan also expressed India's readiness to share its AI expertise with Seychelles for parliamentary functioning, including translation and digital archives, while reaffirming the enduring India-Seychelles friendship rooted in shared democratic values and welcoming closer parliamentary engagement.

On Wednesday, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla also met Ernesta and the accompanying



parliamentary delegation, holding discussions on deepening parliamentary exchanges and cooperation in capacity building, digital parliament, Artificial Intelligence (AI), technology, infrastructure, renewable energy and healthcare. Birla expressed confidence that the continuous parliamentary engagement between India and Seychelles will give fresh momentum to the bilateral partnership and further strengthen close ties. "It was a pleasure to welcome H.E. Ms. Azarel Ernesta, Speaker of the National Assembly of Seychelles, and the distinguished Parliamentary Delegation to the Parliament of India. Our discussions reaffirmed the enduring India-Seychelles friendship, rooted in shared democratic values, deepening parlia-

mentary exchanges and cooperation in capacity building, Digital Parliament, AI and technology, healthcare, infrastructure and renewable energy," Om Birla mentioned in a post on X after the meeting.

"As we celebrate 50 years of Seychelles' Independence and 50 years of diplomatic relations, we reaffirmed our shared commitment to strengthening the voice of the Global South. Seychelles remains an important partner in advancing India's Vision MAHASAGAR in the Indian Ocean region. I am confident that sustained parliamentary engagement will give fresh momentum to our partnership and further strengthen our close and enduring ties," he added. India and Seychelles share close friendship, understanding and cooperation.

Dipke challenges Modi over degrees



Chandigarh (TSIT) Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke has challenged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to make their educational degrees public, reigniting a controversy over Dipke's educational credentials at Boston University. In a post on X on Thursday, Dipke said he was willing to show his degree from the US university if Prime Minister Modi also agreed to disclose his educational qualifications.

"People are really running out of patience waiting to see my degree. Makes me wonder how they've managed for 12 years without seeing the Prime Minister's," Dipke said. He then directly challenged Modi, writing, "Let's both show our degrees and put an end to this."

The latest exchange comes amid renewed questions on social media over Dipke's claim that he studied at Boston University.

US envoy Sergio Gor's 'Piyush will arrange it' remark sparks row

New Delhi (TSIT) A light-hearted exchange between US Ambassador to India Sergio Gor and Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal over their friendship has triggered a political row, with Opposition leaders taking exception to the envoy's remark that those unable to reach him could approach Goyal to "arrange" it.

Speaking at an event, Gor described Goyal and his wife as "dear friends" and singled out the Commerce Minister among his favourite Cabinet colleagues, alongside External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.

"Since I have arrived in New Delhi, I have two favourite Ministers. One is Honourable Dr Jaishankar



and the second one is my friend Piyush Goyal. So you have somebody who cares deeply about the relationship between the United States and India," Gor said.

He then turned to Goyal's role in facilitating access to the US Embassy.

"Piyush and his wife have truly become dear friends. So a lot of you here have asked me, as I was walking in, about different items related to the US Embassy. If

you can't get a hold of me, reach out to Piyush and he'll arrange it," Gor said. Goyal responded with a joke about the possible consequences of the envoy publicly offering him as a point of contact.

"I'm now worried to call you a friend. If you make such comments, I'll have half of them at my office looking for visa appointments in the US," he said. Goyal has previously credited Gor with playing a "very important role" in the conclusion of the framework for the India-US interim trade agreement, describing the envoy as a friend and well-wisher of the bilateral relationship. The exchange, however, drew criticism from Opposition circles.

Tejashwi slams Centre over Bihar floods

Patna (TSIT) : Bihar Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Yadav on Thursday launched a scathing attack on both the state and Central governments over the worsening flood situation, alleging their failure to devise a permanent solution to a crisis that comes every year. He said the situation on the ground was extremely serious and called for all possible measures and robust arrangements to ensure the safety and rescue of flood-affected residents. He alleged that neither the Bihar government nor the Centre was serious about finding a permanent solution to the recurring flood crisis. He said the governments have failed to adopt a long-term vision, leaving people to face the same disaster year after year. Tejashwi Yadav announced that he would visit flood-affected areas of his assembly constitu-



ency, Raghopur, to assess the situation on the ground and meet residents affected by the floods. He said he would subsequently review relief and rescue operations after discussions with local officials and the concerned ministers. He also vowed to raise the issue strongly before the government and press for effective measures to address the difficulties faced by flood-affected people. Targeting the ruling Janata Dal (United), Tejashwi predicted that the party would cease to exist in the near future.

CM Vijay announces 29,108 police posts

CHENNAI (TSIT): Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay on Thursday (September 3) announced that 29,108 police personnel positions will be created in the police department, including the appointment of 10,000 police personnel this year. He also made other announcements related to the Police, Fire and Rescue services in the Assembly.

- 29,108 personnel to be inducted in Tamil Nadu Police in a phased manner in the next five years.
- Women representation in police force to be increased to 30% from the existing 22%
- Drug Free Tamil Nadu: Every year, 50 Village panchayats in the state that successfully curb drug abuse to get Rs 10 lakh cash reward.
- Rs 212 crore for Police modernisation
- Rs 1 crore solarium for family of police personnel who for valorous



- death while on duty
- Ex-Gratia payment for family of police personnel who die on duty increased to Rs 30 lakh from Rs 20 lakh
- Rs 14 crore for new DNA Testing facility at Salem and Villupuram
- Rs 2.5 crore for Automated Ballistic Identification System
- 50 Scuba suits worth Rs 1 crore for TNFRS rescue swimmers; Two Scuba diving teams to be formed
- 25 Surveillance drones worth Rs 2 crore for TNFRS

India ready to help with Russia-Ukraine conflict: EAM Jaishankar in Kyiv



Kyiv, Sep 3 : Spotlighting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent call that endless war must now give way to the end of war, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar on Thursday stated that India stands ready to help in any way to find an end to the long-standing conflict between Ukraine and Russia. The EAM cited India's readiness to help during his meeting with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha in Kyiv.

"Just two days ago in Bishkek, Prime Minister Modi declared that endless war must now give way to the end of war. Every passing day of conflict only means more deaths and more destruction. Understandably, it is for the parties involved to find a way. But if India can be of any help, in any manner, we are ready. And this was the core of my discussion today so far with Foreign Minister Sybiha," EAM Jaishankar highlighted. He mentioned that his Kyiv visit has a bilateral purpose, but is taking place in the larger context of the war which has been underway since 2022. "Only two days ago, an Indian national was also killed in an attack in Kyiv. We join in mourning every life lost and convey our deepest sympathy

to every affected family," he stated. He noted that the Russia-Ukraine war is in its fifth year and that India has consistently maintained that this is not an era of war and that solutions will not emerge from the battlefield.

"There were also some specific aspects of this conflict that came up in our discussion. Prominent among them were attacks on commercial shipping. Indian seafarers man ships of many flags and have been among the unfortunate casualties. The impact on shipping is also significantly affecting many nations of the Global South in a variety of ways, leading to fuel, fertiliser, and food shortages," he added.

EAM Jaishankar noted that he and Foreign Minister Sybiha have been in regular contact even before the ongoing visit, noting that they recently met in Cyprus (May), France (March), Munich (February), and in Canada and New Delhi in 2025. He also said that President Volodymyr Zelensky and Prime Minister Narendra Modi too have met on various occasions with the latest discussions taking place on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in France's Evian in June this year.

EAM Jaishankar also mentioned India's contribution to humanitarian relief and assistance.

He noted that India has so far provided 19 consignments of humanitarian assistance, including 160 tonnes of assistance, which also comprises generator sets, medicines, medical equipment, etc. EAM Jaishankar mentioned that Minister Sybiha spoke about contacts between the universities and scientific institutions. He stressed that there are many Indian students currently studying in Ukraine and thanked the Ukrainian authorities for taking care of them.

Regarding the future prospects of bilateral cooperation, EAM Jaishankar said that Ukraine has deep strengths and capabilities.

He mentioned that India too is developing at a rapid pace, and some of the notable areas of progress are in digital capabilities, innovation and startups.

EAM Jaishankar invited Minister Sybiha to visit India at his convenience for the next meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission. He also noted that he will be meeting President Zelensky later in the day and will convey PM Modi's greetings.

AISF Calls for United Fight Against Anti-Education Policies

RANGAREDDY : The eighth Farooqnagar Mandal conference of the All India Students' Federation (AISF) was held at Pensioners Hall in Shadnagar with the participation of around 200 students. The conference was organised under the leadership of AISF Ranga Reddy district assistant secretary Akash Naik. CPI State Committee member Muddula Jangaiah, CPI district executive member and former student leader M. Srinu, AISF Ranga Reddy district president M. Pawan Chauhan and district secretary Samidi Vamsi Vardhan Reddy attended the programme. Addressing the gathering, the leaders called upon students to unite against what they described as anti-education policies and fight for the protection of students' rights. They demanded the immediate release of pending scholarships and fee reimbursement and called for the withdrawal of GO No. 97. A new AISF Farooqnagar Mandal committee was unanimously elected, with Anil as Secretary and Ganesh as President. M. Sai was elected Organising Secretary.



Congress 'Betrayed Farmers', Alleges Former MLA Anjaiah Yadav



SHADNAGAR (TSIT) Former MLA Anjaiah Yadav accused the Congress government of pushing the agricultural sector into crisis and failing to fulfil promises made to farmers ahead of the elections. Speaking at a constituency-level agricultural conference organised under his leadership at G.M. Patel Garden in Kondurg mandal headquarters, Anjaiah Yadav alleged that the government had failed to implement assurances made in the Warangal Declaration, including Rythu Bharosa and farm loan waiver promises.

Railways Orders Action to Fix Safety and Maintenance Deficiencies

NEW DELHI, September 3, TSIT: Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw directed senior railway officials to take immediate steps to address technical, safety and maintenance deficiencies across the railway network during a detailed safety review meeting at Rail Bhawan on Thursday. The Minister called for mission-mode action to rectify signalling deficiencies and directed officials to maintain and replace Overhead Equipment (OHE) components that have completed their prescribed service life. He stressed improved



workshop maintenance, particularly of coaches, electrical circuits and fire-safety wiring, while also directing greater attention to couplers and wheels of coaches and wagons. Track maintenance, including point

machines, turnouts and fasteners, was also reviewed, with instructions to replace missing fasteners promptly. Vaishnaw ordered strict action against suppliers providing poor-quality materials for signalling, OHE, tracks, coaches and wagons. Suppliers found guilty of deliberate negligence should be permanently blacklisted, he said. Officials were also instructed to coordinate with State and district administrations and make advance arrangements at locations expected to witness heavy passenger crowds during festivals and fairs.

Holy Bhandara to Be Observed at Dayalbagh on Sept. 4

AGRA TSIT: The Holy Bhandara commemorating the birth anniversary of Param Purush Puran Dhani Huzur Soami Ji Maharaj, founder and first Sant Satguru of the Radhasoami Faith, will be observed with devotion and spiritual fervour at Dayalbagh, Agra, on Friday, September 4, coinciding with Janmashtami.



Huzur Soami Ji Maharaj, born as Seth Shiv Dayal Singh Ji in Agra in 1818, revealed Surat-Shabda-Yoga as a direct spiritual path and opened the doors of public Radhasoami Satsang in 1861. The Bhandara Week is being observed from September 2 to 6, with devotees and registered Jigyasu participants arriving from various parts of India and Europe. The occasion is also being observed at Radhasoami branches in India and abroad.

The programme on September 4 will include Holy Aarti in the morning, followed by the Holy Bhandara in the fields in the second session. Most Revered Huzur Prof. Prem Saran Satsangi Sahab, the eighth and present Waqt Sant Satguru of Dayalbagh, will be present. Dayalbagh represents a distinctive blend of spirituality, seva, simple living, education, agriculture and community life inspired by the teachings of Soami Ji Maharaj.

No dissent will be tolerated Revanth Reddy asserts authority, emerges stronger after Telangana shake-up



Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy appears to be consolidating his position as the undisputed leader of the Congress in the state. His latest decisions dropping Konda Surekha from the Cabinet and removing Dr. G. Chinna Reddy as Vice Chairman of the State Planning Board mark a clear message that dissent will not be tolerated. Surekha's ouster follows weeks of controversy triggered by her daughter's public attack on the Chief Minister. Despite appeals, Surekha refused to back down. Revanth, however, stood his ground, took the matter to the Congress high command and secured their approval to act.

Sudharani, a BC leader from Warangal, as Chairperson of the Kakatiya Urban Development Authority (KUDA), the same district where Surekha holds sway. The move is widely seen as a political masterstroke neutralising local backlash while rewarding alternative leadership.

What stands out is Revanth's ability to steer the party high command in Delhi to his line. A year earlier, the high command had chosen him over several senior leaders to become Chief Minister. Now, once again, he has demonstrated his clout by getting the nod to assert authority.

Since coming to power in December 2023, Revanth has faced multiple challenges from internal rivalries to factionalism and the inherited crisis from the previous BRS regime. Yet, his grip on both the government and the party has steadily strengthened.

With a combination of firm decisions, social balancing and political acumen, Revanth Reddy is fast emerging as a leader who not only wins battles but also builds lasting authority.

Old City Seeing Unprecedented Development Under Congress Govt Azharuddin

Hyderabad, TSIT: Minority Welfare and Public Enterprises Minister Mohammad Azharuddin on Thursday said Hyderabad's Old City was witnessing development on an unprecedented scale under the Congress government, with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy according top priority to infrastructure, connectivity and basic amenities in the area.

Speaking after the inauguration of the newly completed Chanchalguda-Santosh Nagar Steel Flyover at a programme held at the Chanchalguda Government Degree College grounds, Azharuddin said the facility would significantly ease traffic congestion and improve mobility for residents.

The Minister said the occasion had special personal significance for him as his family had a close connection with the locality and the graves of his son and maternal grandfather were situated nearby.

Azharuddin said he had not witnessed development on such a scale in the Old City in the past. Since the Congress government assumed office under Revanth Reddy's leadership, several long-pending projects had received renewed attention, he said.



"Whenever the Old City is discussed, the Chief Minister's first priority is development," Azharuddin said, pointing to the extension of the Metro Rail network to the Old City as a major initiative that would transform connectivity in the area.

Nirmala backs Congress welfare schemes



SANGAREDDY, September 3, TSIT: District Congress President Nirmala Jaggareddy said the Congress government is committed to farmers' welfare, women's empowerment and youth employment. She said 70,000 jobs have been filled and assured that all electoral promises would be fulfilled.

Congress Celebrates 1,000 Days of Praja Palana at Kawadiguda

Hyderabad: Congress leaders and workers celebrated the completion of 1,000 days of the Praja Palana government led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at Indira Park X Roads in Kawadiguda Division.

The programme was organised under the leadership of Kawadiguda Division Congress President Ramesh Yadav. Youth Congress State General Secretary M. Aravind Kumar Yadav and Secunderabad DCC Secretary and senior



Congress leader Gundelli Devi Vara Prasad participated as chief guests.

Marking the occasion, Aravind Kumar Yadav distributed sweets to women travelling under the State

Government's free RTC bus travel scheme. He also distributed sweets among small vendors in the area and joined party workers in celebrating the milestone.

Congress leaders said the 1,000-day milestone reflected the government's commitment to welfare and people-oriented governance under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. Former Corporator Wajid Hussain, Bholakpur Division President Raheem, Bapuji Nagar Division President Narender Yadav, Musheerabad Division President Srikanth Goud, Bagh Lingampally Division President Naveen Naik and Adikmet Division President Kiran were among those who participated.

Collector hands over ₹19 lakh insurance cheque

Mahabubnagar (TSIT) District Collector Khushboo Gupta on Thursday handed over an insurance cheque of ₹19,01,968 to the family of Gulf migrant worker Musirappa Masappa, who died of a heart attack while returning to the Gulf after visiting his native village. Masappa, a resident of Vennached village in Gandede mandal, had been working as a migrant worker in a Gulf



country for the past 15 years. According to his family members, he had returned to his native village on May 22, 2025 and died of a heart attack while he was in the process of boarding a flight to return to the Gulf.

Yashoda Hospitals – Hitec City Conducted Free Pulmonology & Vascular Health Screening Camp for Cyberabad Traffic Police

Hyderabad, September 3, 2026: Yashoda Hospitals – Hitec City conducted a special free Pulmonology and Vascular Health Screening Camp for Cyberabad Traffic Police personnel, in collaboration with the Society for Cyberabad Security Council (SCSC), Cyberabad Police and Traffic Police. More than 1,000 traffic police personnel participated in the camp and availed themselves of the free health screening and medical consultations. The camp aimed to promote preventive healthcare, early diagnosis and awareness of respiratory and vascular health issues among traffic police personnel, who regularly perform their duties in challenging weather and environmental conditions. During the camp, traffic police personnel underwent



specialized health screenings related to Pulmonology and Vascular Health and received medical consultations and health guidance from specialists. Medical experts highlighted the importance of regular health check-ups in identifying potential health concerns at an early stage and enabling timely medical intervention. Dr. M. Ramesh, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Cyberabad, and Chairman, SCSC, attended the programme as the Chief Guest.

Speaking on the occasion, he said, "The health and well-being of traffic police personnel are important, given the demanding nature of their duties. Regular health screenings can help detect health issues at an early stage and support timely treatment. This initiative helped promote preventive healthcare and create awareness about respiratory and vascular health among our personnel."

Dr. G. S. Rao, Managing Director, Yashoda Hospitals, said, "Traffic police personnel serve the public every day while working in challenging environmental conditions. It was important to support their health through regular screening and timely medical guidance. Through this camp, we aimed to create awareness and facilitate early identification of lung and vascular health concerns. We were pleased to conduct this initiative in collaboration with the Cyberabad Police and SCSC and encouraged everyone to prioritize their health through regular check-ups." The initiative reflected Yashoda Hospitals' commitment to supporting preventive healthcare and promoting health awareness among frontline personnel.

SRM University-AP Honours Nine Faculty on Teachers' Day



AMARAVATI, September 5, TSIT: SRM University-AP celebrated Teachers' Day 2026 by honouring nine faculty members with University Outstanding Faculty Awards for their contributions to teaching, research and institutional development. The ceremony was attended by Chief Guest Prof. G.P. Raja Sekhar, Vice Chancellor of Andhra University, along with Prof. V.S. Rao, SRM University-AP Vice Chancellor Prof. C.H. Satish

Kumar, Deans, Directors and other university officials. Addressing the gathering, Prof. Satish Kumar recalled the life and contribution of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan and highlighted the lasting influence of teachers. Prof. Raja Sekhar discussed Dr. Radhakrishnan's philosophy of Abhedha, the National Education Policy and the National Credit Framework, while stressing teamwork, adaptability and innovation in leadership.

Amor Hospitals Performs Robotic Kidney Tumour Surgery Using Made-in-India System



HYDERABAD, September 3, TSIT: A 62-year-old man successfully underwent robotic-assisted surgery for a tumour in his left kidney at Amor Hospitals and was discharged on the third postoperative day following a smooth recovery. The patient, a Hyderabad resident, was diagnosed with a left kidney tumour after experiencing occasional abdominal pain and undergoing a medical evaluation, including a CT scan. Following pre-operative assessment, doctors performed a robotic left radical nephrectomy to remove the affected kidney. The procedure was performed using the Made-in-India SSI Mantra Robotic Surgical System, which enables minimally invasive surgery with enhanced precision and control. Dr. Kalyan Vangara, Consultant Oncologist

and Advanced Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgeon, said robotic surgery can provide advantages such as precise dissection, smaller incisions and faster postoperative recovery in appropriately selected patients. The surgery was performed by Dr. Kalyan Vangara and Dr. Poojitha Yalla, Consultant Surgical Oncologist, with support from anaesthesiology and critical care teams led by Dr. Jagadeesh and Dr. Pratyusha. Amor Hospitals Managing Director Dr. Kishore B. Reddy said the successful procedure reflects the hospital's commitment to making advanced surgical technology accessible and affordable. The patient was mobilised early and will continue regular follow-up and surveillance as advised by the medical team.

EDITORIAL

Rahul Gandhi's 2029 PM Dream: The Allies He Cannot Take For Granted

AN ODE TO TIM COOK WHO MADE APPLE BORING

For Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, the road to 7, Lok Kalyan Marg (formerly Race Course Road), or, more accurately, the Prime Minister's Office in a new India, is becoming a little more complex with every passing year. The Congress has been steadily building the case that Rahul Gandhi should be the natural Prime Ministerial face of the INDIA bloc in 2029. Yet, the biggest obstacle to that ambition may not be the BJP. It may again be the very allies whose support Rahul Gandhi will need to reach the top. The latest flashpoint is Tamil Nadu. Congress leaders in the state have now claimed that Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and TVK (Tamilaga Vетtri Kazhagam) leader Vijay has backed Rahul Gandhi as the INDIA bloc's Prime Ministerial candidate. Congress leader Tharai Thiruvalluvar has even dismissed reports of a rift and maintained that Vijay and Rahul share mutual respect. But politics is rarely as simple as public reassurance. Only days earlier, the Congress-TVK alliance was under considerable strain over reports of a 'Vijay for PM' campaign. A Congress minister went so far as to threaten resignation if TVK refused to endorse Rahul Gandhi for 2029. That itself exposes Rahul Gandhi's fundamental problem - even when an ally eventually supports him, the support cannot necessarily be assumed to be unconditional. False assumption of the bloc The INDIA bloc was never created as a conventional political party with one leader, one ideology and one command structure. It was an electoral coalition of parties with sharply different regional interests and ambitions. That makes Rahul Gandhi's claim to the top job particularly difficult. Mamata Banerjee had demonstrated that the Trinamool Congress had its own national ambitions and did not necessarily see the Congress as the unquestioned leader of the opposition. Arvind Kejriwal's AAP had similarly sought political space independent of Congress. Akhilesh Yadav's Samajwadi Party, meanwhile, has emerged as a powerful player in Uttar Pradesh and has its own calculations about who should lead the opposition nationally. This is the central contradiction Rahul Gandhi faces- Congress wants the INDIA bloc to behave like a coalition led by the largest national opposition party, while several regional parties see the alliance primarily as a vehicle for defeating the BJP-not necessarily for making Rahul Gandhi Prime Minister. That distinction could become decisive in 2029. Bargaining power The Congress' continuing love for its scion never lets the party lose hope in Rahul and they point out to his positive transformation since 2014. His political communication has become sharper, his parliamentary interventions have acquired greater visibility and the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' gave him an image that was markedly different from the caricature of the reluctant politician that his opponents had successfully constructed. The 2024 Lok Sabha election also gave Congress a psychological boost. The party improved substantially on its 2019 tally, while Rahul Gandhi emerged as the Leader of the Opposition. But a stronger Congress does not automatically translate into Rahul Gandhi becoming the consensus Prime Ministerial candidate. For that, Congress must answer a more difficult question - how many seats can it realistically win on its own, and how dependent will it remain on regional allies? The answer to that question will determine the bargaining power of Rahul Gandhi.

Tim Cook inherited a company built on the cult of Steve Jobs and made it less theatrical, less unpredictable and, yes, boring. But he also made it vastly bigger, richer and harder to dislodge. Perhaps, boring was Apple's greatest innovation after Jobs. In August 2011, an ill Steve Jobs summoned Tim Cook to his home and told him he was the next Apple CEO. Cook protested. He still believed Jobs would be around for years. Jobs, however, had been thinking about succession rather more deeply. Jobs told Cook a story about Disney. After Walt Disney died, the company had fallen into a peculiar kind of paralysis. Executives would sit around asking themselves: What would Walt have done? Jobs wanted no such thing at Apple; he told Cook: "Just do what's right." This may have been the most consequential piece of advice Steve Jobs ever gave Tim Cook. Because over the next 15 years, Cook did something that is extraordinarily rare in business: he succeeded an icon without becoming his weak imitation. He did not try to manufacture Jobs's charisma. He did not recreate his mercurial management style. He did not attempt to turn every product launch into another iPhone moment. Slowly, almost deliberately, Cook made Apple less dependent on drama, personality and the occasional bolt of technological lightning. He made Apple boring. And in doing so, he built something even Steve Jobs could not: an institution capable of becoming vastly bigger than its founder. The scale of this transformation is measurable. Apple's annual net sales rose from \$108.2 billion in fiscal 2011 to \$416.2 billion in fiscal 2025; services revenue reached \$109.2 billion in 2025; full-time employees increased from about



60,400 in 2011 to about 166,000 in 2025; and the installed base surpassed 2.5 billion active devices by January 2026. The Inheritance Problem Cook inherited perhaps the greatest handover in corporate history. The iPhone was already four years old. The iPad had been launched. The App Store existed. Apple had its retail network. The ecosystem was taking shape. Jobs had already made the gigantic strategic bets. And the contemporary reaction to Cook's appointment captures the problem beautifully. In 2011, the debate wasn't really whether Cook was competent. It was whether Apple could remain Apple without Jobs. Harvard Business Review described the prevailing sentiment at the time as essentially: Cook may be good, but he is no Steve Jobs. It is a criticism worth taking seriously, because there has been no product of the Cook era that has rearranged our lives quite like the iPhone did. Apple Watch became a formidable business. AirPods became ubiquitous. Apple silicon was a remarkable technological achievement. But

nobody stood outside an Apple Store overnight because Tim Cook had reinvented the mobile phone. But that is the wrong way to measure him. While Jobs's genius was to repeatedly imagine the next great Apple product, Cook's was to understand that Apple itself could become the product. The iPhone would no longer simply be a device that Apple sold you every few years. It would become the front door to an expanding universe of watches, headphones, payments, music, television, cloud storage, apps and services. Each addition was relatively unexciting compared with the arrival of the iPhone. Together, however, they changed the economics of Apple. The revolutionary product became an ecosystem. The ecosystem became an annuity. And somewhere along the way, Apple stopped needing to astonish us every few years to become vastly more valuable. Cook's Playbooks Three playbooks came to define Cook's Apple: be best, not first; own the bottlenecks; and monetise the installed base, buying what

ever capabilities were needed to strengthen it. The first gave Apple the luxury of patience. Smartwatches existed before the Apple Watch, wireless earbuds before AirPods and streaming services long before Apple TV+. Cook was perfectly comfortable arriving at a party after everyone else, provided Apple could eventually own the room. In a technology industry addicted to the cult of the first mover, Apple institutionalised the advantages of being a very rich, very powerful late mover. But there is a fine line between "best, not first" and missing the future. Cook spent 15 years walking it. But as he steps away, AI is poised to be the biggest challenge to this Cook playbook. Critics point to how Generative AI is proving that Apple's legendary patience stopped looking like discipline and started looking like delay. But this story is still playing out, and the jury is still out. The second playbook was pure Cook. Own the bottlenecks. Cook is often described as an operations man, which has always sounded faintly like a conso-

lation prize next to Jobs's designation as a visionary. But operations at Apple's scale was not about getting boxes out of factories on time. It was strategy. Apple learnt to exert extraordinary control over suppliers, components, manufacturing capacity and logistics without having to own most of the factories that made its products. With Apple silicon, that instinct moved deeper still: another critical layer of technology came inside the walls. Jobs obsessed over controlling the user experience. Cook extended that obsession down the value chain. It made Apple extraordinarily resilient. It also created one of Cook's greatest vulnerabilities. The supply-chain genius became deeply dependent on China, and Cook, the operations maestro, increasingly had to become Cook the diplomat - navigating Washington and Beijing while slowly building manufacturing alternatives in countries such as India and Vietnam. But it is the third playbook that perhaps changed Apple most profoundly. Cook understood that Apple's

greatest asset was no longer merely the device in the box. It was the person carrying one. An iPhone owner could buy AirPods and an Apple Watch. They could pay for iCloud, Music and TV. They could buy apps through the App Store, paying using Apple Pay and protect the hardware with AppleCare. Every additional product made the ecosystem more useful; every additional service made the relationship more lucrative; and every additional connection made leaving a little less attractive. By 2025, Services was generating \$109.2 billion a year. More strikingly, its gross margin was 75.4 per cent, against 36.8 per cent for Apple's products. Cook had discovered something potentially more valuable than selling another spectacular device: selling more things, repeatedly, to people who already owned one. Jobs built products people desperately wanted to buy. Cook built a relationship Apple could continue monetising after the product had been bought. And when pieces of that machine were missing, Apple generally did not go shopping for corporate trophies. It bought capabilities - technology, talent, intellectual property - and folded them into the ecosystem. The best Cook-era acquisitions often disappeared. There was a fourth Cook playbook, perhaps the least Apple-like of them all: turn abundance into discipline. Steve Jobs had left behind a company rapidly accumulating an enormous mountain of cash. Cook treated that cash not as a monument to Apple's success but as capital that had to justify its existence. In March 2012, barely seven months after Cook became CEO, Apple announced that it would begin paying a dividend and buy back \$10 billion of its shares.

Beyond peacock feathers and flutes: an opportunity to instill Krishna's values in children's minds

— Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

Janmashtami is a festival deeply rooted in India's cultural and religious consciousness. It's not just a date, but a celebration of our emotions, memories, and life values. On the night of the Ashtami (eighth day) of the Krishna Paksha (dark fortnight) of Bhādrapada month, when the sound of conch shells resonates in temples and the chant of "Nand ke ghar Anand Bhayo" fills the atmosphere with devotion, time seems to stand still for a few moments. Amidst the tableaux adorning homes, temples, and streets, little Krishna, seated in a swing, becomes the center of devotion, love, and joy. The tradition of dressing young children as Krishna on Janmashtami is a special attraction. When children appear adorned with peacock feathers, yellow robes, crowns, flutes, and mischievous smiles, the atmosphere is instantly filled with joy. But the question is, is dressing up as Krishna all we need to know? Does placing a crown and handing him a flute fulfill our responsibility? In fact, dressing a child as Krishna is not merely an external adornment, but an opportunity to sow the seeds of life values within him. This occasion teaches us that Krishna is not only a religious symbol, but also a symbol of love, friendship, compassion, courage, wisdom, and hard work. When a child takes on the role of Krishna, it becomes equally important to explain Krishna's character and his life message. The child form of Krishna has been a special favorite in the Indian psyche for centuries. His mischievousness exudes the joy of life, his flute exudes the sweetness of love and conversation, his friendships embody intimacy, and his struggle against Kansa embodies the courage to stand up to injustice. This is why Krishna's stories naturally appeal to children. These tales offer both entertainment and profound life lessons. The need for this learning has only increased in today's times. Childhood has changed. Courtyards, community halls, and open fields have been replaced by mobile phones, computers, video games, and social media. Technology has opened

new doors of knowledge and possibilities for children, but it has also brought a challenge: children are increasingly disconnected from their cultural roots and authentic social connections. At such a time, festivals like Janmashtami can be an important way to connect children with their culture. But we must be careful that the festival doesn't become limited to taking photos, dressing up in attractive costumes, and sharing images on social media. If a child wears the costume of Lord Krishna but doesn't practice love, truth, compassion, and courage, the true purpose of the festival remains unfulfilled. Krishna's stories hold many life lessons for children. His childhood pranks of stealing butter convey the message of simplicity and joy in life. The story of Mount Govardhan teaches collectivism, leadership, sensitivity to nature, and responsibility. The friendship between Sudama and Krishna demonstrates that true relationships are not based on wealth or social status, but on love and intimacy. Krishna's message in Kurukshetra teaches that one should not shirk duty even in difficult circumstances. These same values need to be integrated into children's lives in today's context. A modern Kanha isn't just someone who knows how to operate a smartphone, but one who understands how to use technology judiciously and responsibly. He or she should gain knowledge from the internet, but also learn to protect themselves from misinformation and negative content. He or she should be active on social media, but should not ridicule or insult anyone. He or she should stand up to cyberbullying rather than participate in it. A modern Kanha is also one who doesn't remain silent in the face of injustice. He opposes gender discrimination, supports the weak, and helps those in need. He has the courage to ask questions, but also the humility to respect the opinions of others. He competes, but never loses his sensitivity. Teaching children the qualities of Krishna can begin at home. Along with dressing them in costumes on Janmashtami, parents should tell them a short Krishna story and explain its meaning. The flute

can be seen as a symbol of love, music, and communication, not just decoration. The crown can be seen as a symbol of responsibility, not just royal splendor. A peacock feather can connect us with nature and beauty, while a yellow robe can remind us of simplicity and purity. Janmashtami is also an opportunity to promote sensitivity to nature. Krishna's life is intertwined with the natural world of Govardhan, the cow herds, the Yamuna, and Vrindavan. Children can be taught that nature is not merely a commodity, but the foundation of our lives. Instead of plastic and unnecessary artificial decorations, clay, cloth, paper, and other environmentally friendly materials should be used during festivals. Even small initiatives can foster greater environmental awareness in children. We also need to understand that values are developed less through teachings and more through behavior. If we tell children the story of Krishna's friendship, but then act selfishly and bitterly in our own relationships, the message will be weakened. If we preach the importance of truth but compromise on it in our own conduct, children will learn from actions rather than words. Therefore, the primary responsibility of creating "My Krishna" lies with the family and society. For me, "My Krishna" isn't just a child adorned with a peacock feather and a crown. My Krishna is a child with innocence in his mind, compassion in his heart, humility in his behavior, and the courage to stand up against injustice. He works hard to fulfill his dreams, not being disheartened by failure or arrogant in success. He is rooted in his own culture, but also respects the culture and ideas of others. Krishna means both loving life and facing its hardships. His flute brings us sweetness, but his message also gives us the courage to act. Therefore, it is not enough to introduce children only to the charming child form of Krishna; they must also be introduced to his thoughts and vision of life. This Janmashtami, let's not just adorn our children with peacock feathers, crowns, and flutes. Let us also give them the ornament of love, a heart of compassion.

JAUHAR: NOT ASHES, BUT THE FIRE OF IDENTITY

— Dr. Satyawan Saurabh

Jauhar is one of those events in Indian history whose memory still lives deeply in the soil, folklore, and heroic traditions of Rajasthan. To consider Jauhar merely an act of self-immolation in fire would be to limit its historical and social context. Behind it lay war, power struggles, women's insecurities, fears of defeat, and the complexities of contemporary social conditions. Therefore, Jauhar should be discussed with not only emotions but also a sense of history and human sensitivity. In Rajput history, bravery wasn't limited to simply raising the sword on the battlefield. Along with the valor of men, stories of women's sacrifice, courage, and self-respect have also been passed down from generation to generation. Whether it's the folk memory of the Jauhar of Queen Padmavati of Chittor or the tales of other brave women of Mewar and Rajasthan—these stories have created an image of Rajput identity in which self-respect is considered the highest value. Powerful lines like "The flames of Jauhar have awakened, to dry up the entire Sindhu"—are expressions of this collective memory. They reflect the pain, anger, and self-respect of that period of history. However, while understanding these sentiments today, it is also important to remember

that historical events should not be used as a means to incite hatred or animosity against any community in current society. The most important aspect of jauhar is linked to women's identity. In medieval wars, women of defeated states faced threats of abduction, violence, enslavement, and forced control. The social structure of that era lacked the legal protections, institutional safeguards, and modern options for independent decision-making that women enjoy today. It was in this environment that incidents like jauhar emerged. To understand them, it is necessary to examine the circumstances of that time in contrast to current social and legal norms. But understanding the tragedy of history and blindly glorifying it are two different things. Jauhar cannot be a path for us to emulate today. In a modern democratic society, a woman's dignity should be protected not through death, but through law, education, social awareness, and just institutions. Our goal should be to create a system in which no woman is forced to end her life to protect her identity. Honoring the memory of Rajput women warriors would be more meaningful in this context. Associating their courage solely with death would be limiting their struggle and individuality. It is more important to understand their inherent self-respect, courage to

make decisions in times of crisis, and mental fortitude in the face of adversity. The sacrifices recorded in history can inspire us to ask what we are doing today to ensure the safety and respect of women. Similarly, the tales of swordplay and sacrifice of Rajput heroes are not merely tales of war and adventure. They were part of the political circumstances of their time, the struggles to protect regional autonomy and honor. Lines like "The lions who watered the earth, shedding blood from their chests" commemorate the heroic tradition that profoundly influenced the history and folk culture of Rajasthan. Historical memory is healthy only when it combines pride with conscience. We should remember the sacrifices of our ancestors, but we must avoid turning history into present-day hatred. Blaming entire communities today based on the actions of individuals or groups involved in a historical conflict is neither historically accurate nor socially just. The role of literature and poetry, in particular, becomes crucial here. Heroic poetry can instill a sense of self-confidence, courage, and patriotism in society. However, if the same poetry begins to promote hatred towards a community, its creative purpose is weakened. Therefore, slogans like "Jai Bhavani" and "Jai Mata Padmavati" should be viewed as cultural memory and reverence, not as political slogans of hostility

towards anyone. The memory of Jauhar teaches us another important lesson—self-respect is a crucial value in human life, but in modern society, self-respect and life should not be made contradictory. Today, it is our responsibility to ensure that every woman has access to education, economic independence, legal rights, a safe environment, and the freedom to choose her own life. This may be the most humane message that can emerge from that historical suffering. The fragrance of bravery that permeates the soil of Rajasthan must live on, not just in the ashes of the past, but also in the responsibilities of the present. The need is not to rekindle the flames of Jauhar today, but to understand its history. Saluting those brave women will only be meaningful when we create a society where a woman's dignity is not compromised, where her wishes are paramount, and where she need not sacrifice her life to protect them. History gives us pride, but it also gives us responsibility. The story of Jauhar must be read with the same balance—neither blind glorification nor disrespectful oblivion. It is a painful memory of our past, embodying courage, self-respect, and tragedy. Salute to the courage of the brave women, tribute to the sacrifice of the heroes and by learning from that history, resolve to create such a present – where the protection of honour is along with life, not against life.

Mercedes-Benz plans to launch many more models in India: CEO



New Delhi: Mercedes-Benz sees India as a key growth market and technology hub, German auto major's CEO Ola Kallenius said on Thursday, September 3, asserting that the company plans to launch many more models in the country in the coming years. Addressing the Annual Convention 2026 of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM)

here virtually, he said, "Mercedes is a well-established brand in India. We have grown. We're going to launch many more models in the next few years to come". The Mercedes-Benz CEO expressed optimism about the company's long term future in the Indian market, adding, "We will industrialise accordingly." He described India as a major source of creativity and creation, talent, intelli-

gence, competence, technological ecosystem, and a growing production supply ecosystem. Drawing comparisons between India and Germany, he said, "So, in a kind of way, India is no different than Germany. We just happened to start our business in Germany, but India offers the full suite of everything that you need as a global technology-oriented OEM to thrive".

SITHARAMAN HAILS INDIA'S 7.8 PC ECONOMIC GROWTH 'DESPITE ALL ODDS'

New York: India recorded a "remarkable growth" of 7.8 per cent in the first quarter of fiscal year 2026-27 despite global disruptions, and against all odds, remains the fastest-growing major economy in the world, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said. Sitharaman on Wednesday, September 2, participated in a high-level business roundtable with investors, organised by the Consulate General of India in New York in association with Bank of America, New York. Addressing investors, Sitharaman said that "despite global disruptions and against all odds, India continues to be the fastest-growing major economy in the world, recording a remarkable growth of 7.8 per cent in Q1 of FY 2026-27," the Finance Ministry said in a post on X. Sitharaman arrived here after participating in the G20 finance ministerial meeting in Asheville, North Carolina. Sitharaman added that with its strong reform orientation,



India has also provided greater regulatory certainty through a range of reforms, including the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. "Such reforms have contributed to ensuring ease of compliance and reducing paperwork, which has remained a prime focus of the Government of India since it assumed office over a decade ago," the post on X said. She added that among the key areas on which the government has

focused are creation of capital assets and providing sustained support to industry through infrastructure development, particularly aviation; fostering a friendly and conducive investment climate; promoting the development of AI and data centres; supporting global capability centres; ensuring credit availability to MSMEs; and reducing non-performing assets (NPAs) of banks. These measures have helped create a

more enabling business environment for banks and industry to thrive, grow and emerge stronger, the finance minister said. Sitharaman further said that India has consistently remained committed to the path of fiscal prudence and fiscal discipline over the past several years, despite the ongoing challenges confronting the global economy since the onset of COVID-19. She highlighted the investment climate in

India that has improved significantly, with both the central government and state governments demonstrating greater keenness and competitiveness in attracting and facilitating investments in their respective regions. Such efforts are part of the larger national endeavour towards achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, the minister said. Earlier, in his welcome address, India's Ambassador to the United States Vinay Kwatra said that the GDP numbers for the first quarter manifest the resilience of the Indian economy. He said both India and the US can benefit from India's fast-growing economic trajectory by creating stronger linkages between trade and investment between the two countries, according to the Finance Ministry's post on X. Govt dismisses 2.6 pc growth claims Earlier in the day, the government dismissed a claim that first-quarter economic growth was closer to 2.6 per cent.

Air India Phuket-Delhi Incident: Preliminary Probe Report Due Tomorrow, Aviation Minister Says



The current Union Minister of Civil Aviation in India Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu stated that investigation into the Air India Phuket-Delhi flight accident is underway with the preliminary report expected to be produced by tomorrow, as per a statement to the press on Thursday. Naidu said that further action will be taken based on the findings of the report. He further stated that a proposal to ramp up dope-testing and test all pilots at random points during the year is being discussed with the DGCA (Directorate General of Civil Aviation) and airlines. "We are considering expanding the existing mandatory dope-testing requirement from 10% to 100%, with random testing conducted throughout the year," Naidu said. "We need to strike a balance between safety and smooth operations. Safety remains our priority, and we

will take every possible step to strengthen it," he added. Air India's A320 flight from Phuket to Delhi, abruptly plummeted 300 feet in altitude, injuring 17 people in the process on Aug. 4. The flight's pilot-in-command had gone through confirmatory testing after an initial psychoactive substance screening indicated that the result requires further analysis. Air India ordered mandatory screening of all pilots on Aug. 13 across the group for substances and medications that are not permitted under prevailing aviation regulations, tightening its internal safety checks following the recent Phuket incident, sources said. The airline said the move is an additional safety measure and stressed that it already fully complies with all regulatory requirements prescribed by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

From UPI to Credit Lines: How India's MSMEs Are Quietly Rewiring Their Financial Behaviour

MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI, September 2026: India's MSME sector is undergoing a significant shift in the way it manages money, accesses credit, and participates in the formal financial system. At the centre of this transformation is the rapid adoption of digital payments, particularly UPI, which has fundamentally changed how small businesses transact and maintain financial records. What began as a convenient payment mechanism has evolved into something far more impactful. UPI has reshaped business behaviour, encouraged greater financial discipline, and created new opportunities for millions of MSMEs to access formal finance. We often think of UPI as just another payment option. In reality, it has become much more than that. It is reshaping business habits, encouraging financial discipline, and, perhaps most importantly, creating new opportunities for millions of small businesses to access formal finance.

■ EVERY DIGITAL PAYMENT TELLS A STORY

Until a few years ago, many micro and small businesses operated largely in cash. Sales were made, inventories moved and profits were earned, but very little of it created a reliable financial record. As a result, access to credit often remained a challenge. Even genuinely successful entrepreneurs often struggled to convince lenders about the strength of their businesses. Today, every QR code payment, bank transfer, and digital receipt adds another piece to that story. Each transaction becomes evidence of business activity and over time, it builds trust



and credibility. In many ways, data is becoming the new business introduction.

■ FROM "CASH IS KING" TO "RECORD IS KING"

Across the country, I see a gradual but meaningful behavioural shift. Entrepreneurs are no longer looking at digitisation merely as a convenience. They increasingly recognise that maintaining banking records, accepting digital payments and conducting transactions formally can directly improve their ability to access finance. A kirana store owner who consistently receives payments digitally or a small manufacturer who regularly transacts through banking channels is creating a financial identity that did not exist earlier. This shift from informal practices to formal financial behaviour is perhaps one of the biggest changes taking place in India's MSME landscape. The

Mobile Phone Has Become a Mini Bank Branch For many entrepreneurs, especially in smaller towns, the smartphone has become their accountant, payment terminal and banking relationship manager—all rolled into one. Opening accounts, making payments, checking balances, repaying loans and tracking collections can now happen within minutes. This ease of access reduces friction and encourages businesses to engage more actively with the formal financial system. The result is not only greater convenience but also greater confidence in dealing with banks and regulated financial institutions.

■ CREDIT IS BECOMING SMARTER

One of the biggest challenges in MSME lending has always been information asymmetry. Many businesses generate healthy cash flows but have limited financial statements or lack traditional forms of collateral.

■ TECHNOLOGY IS HELPING BRIDGE THIS GAP.

Digital transaction patterns, repayment behaviour, and banking activity can provide valuable insights into the health and potential of a business. While prudent underwriting will always remain essential, access to richer and more reliable data enables lenders to make better-informed decisions and extend credit to deserving entrepreneurs who may have been overlooked in the past. This is particularly significant for first-generation entrepreneurs who have built successful enterprises through determination and hard work rather than inherited assets.

KPHB GENERATES RS 47.14 CRORE THROUGH AUCTION OF 16 PLOTS



Hyderabad: The Kukatpally Housing Board (KPHB) generated a revenue of Rs 47.14 crore through a public auction of 16 plots on Wednesday, September 2. Telangana Vice Chairman VP Gautam said that while the minimum price was set at Rs 1.60 lakh per square yard, one plot was sold for Rs 2.7 lakh and another was purchased for Rs 2.36 lakh. The average price per square yard in Wednesday's auction stood at Rs 1.79 lakh. A total of 19 bidders took part in the auction. Raidurg land auction On August 28, the

Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIC) had generated Rs 1,447.22 crore through the auction of a 5.38-acre plot in Raidurg. This set a new record for Hyderabad, fetching Rs 269 crore per acre. Before that, the TGIC auction of another Raidurg plot had fetched Rs 264 crore per acre, generating Rs 1,386 crore in revenue. Together, the two auctions generated Rs 2,833.22 crore from 10.63 acre, at an average realisation of Rs 266.53 crore per acre. The minimum price was set at Rs 1.60 lakh per square yard.

Trump \$1 coin makes him first living president on US currency in a century

Donald Trump's portrait has made its way on to a US coin - the latest move by the president to put his personal stamp on American institutions. On Wednesday, the US Mint launched the \$1 (\$0.74) coin with a portrait of Trump alongside the words "Liberty" and "In God We Trust", to celebrate America's 250th anniversary. The Mint said the coins, which are being marketed as a collectable, were not being put into circulation for daily use. The law bans living presidents from appearing on US currency, but a design clause in legislation for the anniversary was used to overcome this. The coins - priced at \$61 for a roll of 25 and \$154.50 for a bag of 100 - were "not currently in stock" on the mint's website within hours of going on sale but it said more are being made. The coins were also being sold in vending machines at the US Mint store in Washington DC. The BBC has contacted the US Mint, the Treasury and the White



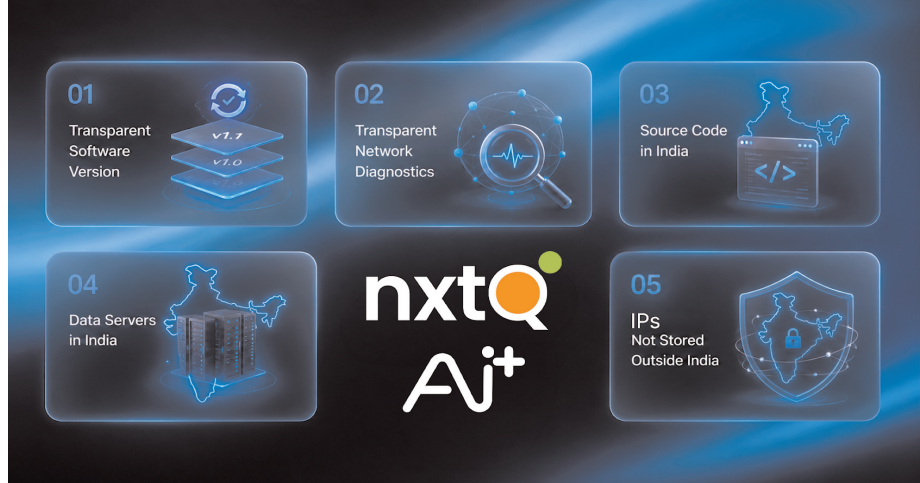
House for further details. The coin has been "created to celebrate this historic national milestone" with a "once-in-a-generation anniversary design destined to become a standout addition to modern collections", the US Mint said. The coins have a golden colour but do not contain any actual gold. According to the US Mint, they are 88.5% copper with the balance being made up of zinc, nickel and a manganese brass outer layer. While they are not in circulation, they can be used as legal

tender to pay off debt and taxes, although federal law states that businesses can decide whether or not to accept them. In May, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said his department was planning to issue a new \$250 bill bearing a portrait of President Trump. At the time, Bessent highlighted that another living US president has previously appeared on the country's currency. A half-dollar that was issued to commemorate America's 150th anniversary in 1926 featured then-President

Calvin Coolidge. The Trump administration has also cited the Circulating Collectible Coin Redesign Act of 2020, from Trump's first term. While this statute prohibits portraits of living people on the reverse (tails side) of coins, it does not explicitly cover the obverse (heads side), where Trump's likeness appears on the new \$1 coins. In March, the Treasury announced that US paper money would soon bear Trump's signature - another first for a sitting US president.

Ai+ opens up Nxt Quantum OS with transparent software versions and network diagnostics

September 2026: Ai+ Smartphone rolls out Nxt Quantum OS v1.1 that strengthens its privacy framework and gives users greater visibility and control over how applications access their devices and data. As part of the commitment to data sovereignty and security, Nxt Quantum enforces a strict sovereign data boundary, ensuring that 100% of application data traffic is routed through local, India-hosted infrastructure. This robust system performs automated analysis of source rules across more than 1,000 connections and 172 unique destination IPs to ensure perimeter security. Notably, all data traffic and IP pings are contained within India, with external traffic limited to essential Google core services directed solely to California and Singapore, necessary for standard operating system functions. This approach not only prioritises data integrity but also reinforces our commitment to protecting user information in line with the NxtQuantum OS framework. With v1.1, NxtQuantum OS also introduces a more streamlined



privacy experience through the NxtPrivacy Dashboard, bringing application permissions together in a single interface. Users can review, modify and revoke permissions more easily, providing greater control over how applications interact with device resources and personal data. Enhanced background activity visibility helps users understand when applications access sensitive device resources while operating outside active use. Privacy alerts further help identify permissions that may be excessive, unneces-

sary or no longer required, enabling users to make more informed decisions about their privacy. Commenting on the update, Madhav Sheth, CEO, NxtQuantum Shift Technologies (Ai+ Smartphone), said, "The future of technology isn't defined by what it can do. It's defined by how much people can trust it and the aspirations it enables. That belief is central to how we are building NxtQuantum OS". The latest enhancements are part of NxtQuantum's broader approach to building a technology platform, in which

privacy, security, and user control are considered throughout the software experience. This commitment to transparency also extends to how Ai+ evaluates its products through Project Open Review 2.0, which enables reviewers, creators, journalists, technology enthusiasts and ethical hackers to independently test Ai+ devices and provide feedback even before launch. About Ai+ and NxtQuantum Shift Technologies NxtQuantum Shift Technologies is a deep-tech Indian company building secure.



Toxic wildfire haze spreads across South East Asia as 'super' El Niño intensifies

MORE THAN 80 MIGRANTS FEARED DEAD AFTER BOAT RESCUED OFF CANARY ISLANDS

More than 80 people, including a baby, are feared to have died in a boat which was adrift in the Atlantic Ocean for 27 days. Spanish Maritime Rescue teams located the vessel some 65 nautical miles southwest of Gran Canaria's coastal town of Arguineguin on Wednesday and found 44 survivors, with five dead bodies also on board. The boat is believed to have departed The Gambia in West Africa in early August with 127 occupants on board. Human rights activist Helena Maleno Garzón, founder of Spanish charity Caminando Fronteras, said 83 people had lost their lives. Rescuers

were forced to leave the five bodies they found due to the rough sea conditions, Maritime Rescue said. The organisation was unable to verify how many people were originally on board. The 44 survivors are men from sub-Saharan Africa, Maritime Rescue said in a statement. "Once the rescue was complete, adverse weather conditions in the area - featuring 20-knot winds and 2.5m waves - made it impossible to recover the five bodies found on board the vessel," it added. Three of the survivors were airlifted to hospital in critical condition. The rest were transported by sea to Gran

Canaria, where they disembarked in the early hours of Thursday morning. Fernando Clavijo, head of the Canary Islands government, posted on X: "It is intolerable that lives continue to be lost. The Canaries cannot get used to or accept as normal the fact that the Atlantic continues to be a death trap." The Atlantic route from West Africa to the Canary Islands is one of the world's deadliest migration crossings. Thousands of migrants attempt the perilous journey each year seeking to reach Spanish territory despite the risks posed by rough seas, strong currents and long distances.



Palestinian teens killed during settler attack on West Bank village, officials say



Feminist activist and journalist Gloria Steinem dies, aged 92Funerals have taken place for two Palestinian teenagers who local officials say were killed by Israeli settlers and soldiers in an attack on their village in the occupied West Bank on Wednesday. The village council in al-Mughayyir told the BBC that Omar al-Nassan, 19, and Khalil Abu Alia, 16, were killed as they tried to stop Israeli settlers stealing sheep and that confrontations broke out. The Israeli military stated that its forces had entered the village to provide security for an Israeli civilian

and police trying to retrieve livestock. It said the forces fired on and struck what it called "key instigators" of a "violent disturbance", in which Palestinians threw stones at its troops. The deaths come amid a recent surge in settler violence in the West Bank, with more than three attacks per day on average recorded by the UN so far this year. Al-Mughayyir, near Ramallah, has seen repeated settler attacks. WhatsApp messages in groups used by settlers have indicated that they hope to force its population to move.

Channel smuggling gangs resort to 'mega-dinghies' as crackdown limits small boat supply

A drop in small boats illegally reaching the UK is forcing people smuggling gangs to adopt new tactics, a BBC investigation has found. And there are claims of more "mega-dinghies" being prepared, of the type seen arriving on UK shores in recent weeks. The image of a 15-metre long small boat carrying a record 230 migrants towards the UK drew condemnation from both newspapers and politicians. Ministers were accused of "losing control" of illegal Channel crossings, and the French police again found themselves criticised for not intervening. But evocative as the picture was, it also represented a new strategy by the increasingly frustrated people smugglers we encountered on France's northern shores - who attacked our crew with stones, and injured our cameraman. They are running low on small boats, we have found. And once rival criminal groups are now having to work together by loading more migrants on fewer, larger vessels - just like the "mega-dinghy". The UK and France



are announcing measures to increase the number of police officers on the French coast in order to try to stop the migrants. The latest initiative came as Andy Burnham prepared to host French President Emmanuel Macron at Downing Street for the first time since becoming prime minister. Gang members have told our sources that others are being prepared, to the concern of emergency teams on both sides of the Channel, because of the increased risk to more lives. On 4 August 170 people had to be rescued after theirs caught fire in the middle of the Channel. With French officers claiming they

are now intercepting two-thirds of small boats before they can reach the coast, that means fewer crossing opportunities. And for those hoping to make the journey, it means a higher price. Today, the gangs are quoting up to 2,000 (£1,700) per person. It used to be around 1,300 just a year ago. Their passengers also have to now pay in cash, to ensure commitment. During one early low tide on Gravelines beach, we saw the only small boat to launch that day, and it was not what we expected. At 09:30, a dozen or so migrants emerged from the sand dunes. Their distinctive orange life jackets, purchased

from a local sports shop, made them easy to identify. A need for speed at this point would be a fair assumption, but this was not to be the case. There was no running. It was almost orderly. A refined process where instructions were obeyed. As they waded into the calm shallows of the Channel, their "taxi boat" came into view. It is simply a small boat that has departed from further along the coastline to avoid detection. Only now, they are being forced to set off from even greater distances. This one had left from Belgium. The reason for the group not rushing was because the boat was already in the water. French police argue they are prevented from intervening at this point over fears of people drowning. It is to the long frustration of the British authorities, who would like their neighbours to at least adopt a more "case-by-case" approach. As they clutch their phones in plastic wrapping, the group patiently waits for what they hope will be a voyage to a better life in the UK. Some tell me they are from Afghanistan.



UN warns of 'supersized' El Niño as countries prepare for impact

Kenyan president orders crackdown on foreigners operating small businesses

Kenya's President William Ruto has ordered a crackdown on foreigners operating small-scale businesses, saying local traders and hawkers need to be protected. His announcement comes amid growing debate about the increasing number of African migrants involved in Kenya's vast informal economy. "From next week, all [foreign] traders doing those small businesses should close them," he said, also promising to fast-track proposed legislation to preclude foreigners from certain areas of trade. Ruto said Kenya remained open to foreign investment, but argued that investors - including Chinese traders - should create jobs and expand production rather than compete with Kenyans in small businesses.



"It cannot be that a person comes from China or elsewhere to be a hawker or open a small shop," he said in an address to small-scale traders who had come to meet the president at State House in the capital, Nairobi, on Wednesday afternoon. "We have made efforts to improve the economy, we have not improved investor confidence for hawkers to come to Kenya," said Ruto, who plans

to seek a second term in election next year. It is unclear how many foreign nationals are involved in small-scale trading or how many would be affected by the new crackdown. Kenya hosts a large refugee population, some of whom live and work outside the country's refugee camps. Government figures show that Kenya had about 857,000 registered refugees and asylum seekers by the end of

June, with nearly 14% living in urban areas. Kenyan law recognises the right of refugees to work and operate businesses, although they are required to obtain the appropriate documentation. Refugees wishing to work or engage in a trade or business can apply for a special permit. In Nairobi and other major towns, migrants from the region can be found working in barber shops and salons, construction, operating motorbike taxis and street vending, as well as selling clothes, food and household goods. Some have fled conflicts or economic hardship at home, while others have moved to Kenya in search of better opportunities under the relatively free movement of people allowed within the East African Community.

LIECHTENSTEIN MPS VOTE TO LEGALISE ABORTION DESPITE THREAT OF VETO



Liechtenstein's parliament has narrowly backed a citizens' initiative to legalise abortion during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. The initiative, led by a group of women, would also lift a nationwide ban on providing information about abortions and make the procedure eligible for health insurance. It was approved by 13 votes to 12 in the 25-seat parliament. However, it is unlikely to become law as the country's all-powerful ruler, Hereditary Prince Alois, has previously said he will veto the legislation. Supporters of the bill say there is widespread backing in Liechtenstein to legalise abortion. However, MPs rejected a separate proposal to put the issue to a public vote. Almost 80% of Liechtenstein's population of about 41,000 people belong to the Roman Catholic Church which is opposed to abortion. The country last held a referendum on legalising abortion in 2011, when the proposal was rejected by 52% of

voters. Hereditary Prince Alois had indicated at the time that he would have opposed the change. Abortion is legal in most EU countries. In Liechtenstein, it is allowed only in limited circumstances, including when a woman's life is at risk or a pregnancy is the result of rape. Anyone who carries out an abortion outside those exceptions can face up to three years in prison, while a woman undergoing the procedure can be jailed for up to a year. The current restrictions mean women have to go to other countries - mainly neighbouring Austria and Switzerland - to have an abortion. Since 2015, they have been able to do so without facing a penalty, but the cost is not covered by the health insurance. The initiative to change the law was led by 28-year-old Tatjana As'Ad of the small left-wing Free List party. Supporters collected 4,970 signatures, nearly five times over the threshold needed to bring the proposal before parlia-

ment. The proposed 12-week limit is already used in many European countries. In England, Scotland and Wales, it is legally available up to 23 weeks and six days under most circumstances. However, some lawmakers had argued that there was little point taking the initiative further because of the monarch's opposition. The Princely House has said its main concern with the initiative is that it does not provide enough protection for unborn life. Hereditary Prince Alois has, however, suggested that changes could be made to the current rules, including lifting restrictions on public information and clarifying existing regulations. He carries out public duties on behalf of his father, Prince Hans-Adam, and has unusually wide powers for a Western European monarch - including dismissing the government or individual ministers, appointing judges and proposing changes to the law, in addition to vetoing legislation.

FEMINIST ACTIVIST AND JOURNALIST GLORIA STEINEM DIES, AGED 92

Gloria Steinem, who became a leader of the women's liberation movement in the US, has died aged 92. In a post on Instagram, her foundation said she "passed away peacefully" at her home in New York City on Wednesday, "surrounded by many who loved her". Steinem, who was a writer and magazine editor, co-founded the Women's Action Alliance - a group dedicated to fighting sexism - more than 50 years ago. She started her career as a journalist in New York and went on to co-found Ms. magazine, one of the first publications to focus on women's issues other than housekeeping and beauty. During the 1970s, Steinem was a vocal campaigner for women's reproductive rights, among other causes. She herself obtained an illegal abortion in London when she was 22 years old, and years later celebrated the US Supreme Court's 1973 ruling in the case of Roe v Wade, which granted women the constitutional right to abortion. Nearly half a century later she wit-



nessed the reversal of this decision. She also spoke out in favour of the legalisation of same-sex marriage, as well as equal rights and pay for women, and protested against the death penalty and female genital mutilation. Born on 25 March 1934 in Toledo, Ohio, she had a difficult childhood and did not go to school full-time until she was 12 years old. After university in the late 1950s, she went to India on a research scholarship and spent two years in a variety of roles, including helping village women organise non-violent protests against government policies, which sparked her interest in grassroots activism.

Messi To Receive Special Mid-Game Tribute From Argentine Football Clubs After International Retirement

Football teams across Argentina will pay tribute to Lionel Messi with a mid-game minute of applause during their next match following his decision to retire from international duty. Referees will pause play at the 10-minute mark of every match in the upcoming round of the Clausura tournament, as well as in other men's and women's leagues in Argentina, in appreciation of Messi's career with the national team, the Argentine Football Association said late Wednesday. The 39-year-old Messi, who wore the No. 10 jersey for Argentina, announced on Monday he will no longer play for the national team after 21 years of service. He led Argentina to the World Cup title in 2022 as well as two other World Cup finals, and made 207 appearances and scored 125 goals — both national records. Messi, who is idolized in Argentina, has never played professionally in his home country. He moved to Barcelona at the age of 13 to began a once-in-a-generation career and is regarded by many as the greatest player of all time. Messi is continuing to play at club level with Inter

Miami in Major League Soccer. Referees will pause play at the 10-minute mark of every match in the upcoming round of the Clausura tournament, as well as in other men's and women's leagues in Argentina, in appreciation of Messi's career with the national team, the Argentine Football Association said late Wednesday. The 39-year-old Messi, who wore the No. 10 jersey for Argentina, announced on Monday he will no longer play for the national team after 21 years of service. He led Argentina to the World Cup title in 2022 as well as two other World Cup finals, and made 207 appearances and scored 125 goals — both national records. Messi, who is idolized in Argentina, has never played professionally in his home country. He moved to Barcelona at the age of 13 to began a once-in-a-generation career and is regarded by many as the greatest player of all time. Messi is continuing to play at club level with Inter

next match following his decision to retire from international duty. The Argentine league will pay tribute to Lionel Messi after his retirement from international football by pausing all of their matches in the 10th minute this weekend for a minute of applause. The 39-year-old, who wore the number 10 shirt for Argentina, announced his retirement from the national side on Monday. The eight-time Ballon d'Or winner's final game for his country, who he captained to World Cup glory in Qatar in 2022, was the 2026 World Cup final defeat by Spain in July. "In tribute and homage to Lionel Messi's career with the Argentina national team, at the 10th minute of play in all matches the referees will stop the game and a general minute of applause will be held," the Argentine Football Association said.



Karolina Muchova Opens Up On Wimbledon Heartbreak, US Open Goals After Dream Grand Slam Season

Karolina Muchova is on a solid run in Grand Slams this year. The 30-year-old Czech star finished runner-up at the Wimbledon. At the US Open, Muchova partnered Jakub Mensik and went on to win the mixed doubles title. In the women's singles, Muchova has stormed into the third round after two straight-set wins. In an interview shared exclusively with NDTV by JioStar, Karolina Muchova talked about her campaign this year. Question: Karolina, you arrive here, in terms of Grand Slams, having come off the back of a Wimbledon final. Obviously, not the result you wanted there, but what did you learn from that experience of going all the way through another Grand Slam to the latter stages, and what might you bring from that to this event? Karolina Muchova: Yeah, I think now it's been a while, so I was, in the first few days, obviously a little bit sad and trying to absorb it, I would say. But now, looking back, I take it really



positively. I think it was a great result. I played against so many good players and got the kind of confirmation for myself that I can still make it to those finals and, yeah, just compete at that level. So, looking back, it was a positive tournament. A final at Wimbledon is something huge. And then it's tennis, so you just switch and focus on another goal. And the other goal is here, at the US Open. I'm super happy to be here and excited to play again. Question: You talk about being back here in New York, such a special tournament. So many players love to come here each year. What is it that you look

forward to about returning to New York? Karolina Muchova: I just love the city. I love Manhattan. Every time I land, I have a bit of jet lag, so I wake up at 5:00 or 6:00 AM. I just look forward to taking a coffee and walking through Central Park and, you know, feeling that New York vibe and lifestyle, I would say. So, yeah, I feel like you can do so many things, such as Broadway shows and nice dinner spots. It's about trying to focus on tennis and all the work when I'm at the tournament and then, when I go back, taking energy from the city as well and kind of balancing that out.

Pakistan Star Refuses To Meet King Charles, 'Royal' Controversy Follows: Report

A Pakistan cricket team player refused to attend the team's meeting with King Charles III at Clarence House despite being instructed to attend the event ahead of the third Test against England, according to a report by The Telegraph. The player was among seven cricketers dropped from the squad following Pakistan's loss in the second Test at Lord's. The report claimed that the entire Pakistan touring party, including the seven dropped players, had been asked to attend the meeting. Muhammad Awais Zafar, Aamir Jamal, Khuram Shahzad and Ali Usman were present at the event, while two other cricketers were reportedly reluctant to attend. One player decided to



stay away in protest, according to the report. The meeting was otherwise cordial, with King Charles III speaking to the Pakistan players and offering words of encouragement amid a disappointing Test series. Pakistan captain

Babar Azam presented the King with a signed bat, while Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Mohsin Naqvi also presented him with a gift. Pakistan made major changes to their Test set-up ahead of the third and final

Test against England, replacing almost half of their squad and releasing head coach Sarfaraz Ahmed and bowling coach Umar Gul following heavy defeats in the first two Tests against Three Lions.

"EXCITING NEW CHAPTER FOR WOMEN'S CRICKET": ICC CHAIRMAN JAY SHAH ON INAUGURAL WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS TROPHY 2027

The ICC Chairman Jay Shah said the inaugural ICC Women's Champions Trophy 2027 will mark "an exciting new chapter for women's cricket" as the tournament is set to be hosted in India across two venues, Vadodara and Mumbai in February. "As the inaugural edition of the tournament, it will bring together the best teams in the world in an intense, high-quality competition," Shah said, highlighting the tournament's role in providing greater incentive for teams to rise through the rankings and compete for a place on the global stage. "With a marquee ICC women's event now taking place every



year, we have a significant opportunity to build greater momentum, provide more consistency and create a stronger rhythm for the women's game, its players and its fans around the world," he added. The International Cricket Council on Wednesday

moved the inaugural Women's Champions Trophy to India from Sri Lanka and the six-team event will be played in Mumbai and Vadodara from February 14 to 28. Sri Lanka was dropped as the host as the sport is grappling with governance

issues in the island nation. The ICC Board approved India as the new host on Wednesday. "The tournament was originally scheduled to be held in Sri Lanka but will now be staged in India as Sri Lanka Cricket continues to make the requisite reforms outlined at the ICC's Annual Conference in July. "The ICC assessed three candidates - Bangladesh, India and South Africa - against its established host evaluation criteria before recommending India as the replacement host, a decision ratified by the ICC Board on 2 September," said the ICC in a statement.

Injured Neeraj Chopra Replaced By Commonwealth Games Bronze Medallist For Asian Games 2026



Hugh Jackman Aims To Buy Into Norwich City, In Same Division As Ryan Reynolds' Wrexham

Hugh Jackman wants to join his fellow Hollywood star and friend Ryan Reynolds in owning part of a football club in the English leagues. Jackman has long been a fan of Norwich, his mother's home city in the east of England. The Wolverine star was asked in an interview broadcast on Thursday if he would like to "buy a bit" of the club which is majority owned by Mark Attanasio, the Milwaukee Brewers principal owner. "I'm very, very interested in talking about it right now," he told British broadcaster

TalkSport while promoting his new movie, "The Death of Robin Hood." "You're the first one to know that. There's a little exclusive," Jackman said when asked if he would "follow suit" with Reynolds, who put Wrexham on the global football and culture map after buying the club with Rob Mac in 2021. Norwich and Wrexham are now rivals in the English second-tier Championship, though Jackman's team has the more illustrious history. Norwich last played in the Premier League four years ago, and had perhaps its finest

moment in 1993 eliminating German power Bayern Munich in the old UEFA Cup. "Good on Ryan, you do your thing, I'm all about the Canaries," Jackman said, citing Norwich's nickname linked to the team's distinctive yellow and green uniform. Norwich and Wrexham both are expected to be contenders this season to earn promotion to the Premier League, the world's most valuable club football competition. "I think it's an exciting team and it's going to be an exciting year," Jackman said, praising

Norwich's turnaround since hiring Belgian coach Philippe Clement last November. The Australian actor, famous for his iconic roles in Les Misérables and The Greatest Showman, has revealed that he is looking to join the growing list of A-list celebrities investing in English football. Jackman, who holds British citizenship through his parents, has been a lifelong supporter of the Canaries due to his mother, Grace, being originally from Norwich. Speaking to talkSPORT about his potential entry into football club ownership, Jackman

"Would Be Phenomenal": Lewis Hamilton Eyes Historic Italian GP Win In Ferrari Red

M Ferrari driver Lewis Hamilton has said that winning at the Monza Grand Prix with Scuderia would be "phenomenal" as Ferrari hope to ride on the support of the home fans and the recent upgrades they have made to the SF-26 ahead of the Italian GP. Hamilton has won the Monza GP five times, including four times with Mercedes and once with McLaren, but the Briton has not clinched victory with Ferrari at their home race, having finished sixth in his first year with the Maranello-based outfit in 2025.



'You Guys Are A Joke' - Aryna Sabalenka Blasts Reporter Over 'Party' Question At US Open



Defending champion Aryna Sabalenka blasted a reporter over his questions about her pre-tournament activities following the US Open second-round win over Russian qualifier Polina Iatcenko. The two-time champion looked in complete control as she brushed aside her opponent 6-1, 6-1 in just 53 minutes. At the post-match press conference, Sabalenka was asked about "parties and fun" ahead of the competition but she fired back that her off-court appearances did not come at the expense of her preparation. "You guys are, like, a joke. Parties, fun... like, why would you even say that? Why would

you even think about that? What? Kind of question is that?" the world number one said. "Just because I posted, like, some activities with brands, and you think that I've been partying, not training?" Sabalenka added after she cut short the question from the reporter. Sabalenka went on to claim that she was happy with both her level and focus on the court after the impressive victory. "I've been working really hard, but I feel like I'm kind of moving away from trying to be perfect on court," Sabalenka said. "I know that you cannot be perfect, and I'm just trying to work with what I have right now." Sabalenka will look to clinch her third consecutive US Open title after winning the previous two editions. "I think I struggled a little bit in the middle of the season. Once again, I'm not going to defend myself or explain why, what happened, but I'm happy with my level," the 28-year-old said.



DR. CH. PREETHI REDDY RELEASES ‘ERAIPAAREHRUDAYAM’ FROM PREMANEORILLO



The beautiful melody ‘Eraipaare Hrudayam’ from the upcoming film Premane Oorilo has been released by Dr. CH. Preethi Reddy, Vice Chairperson of Malla Reddy University. The film is jointly produced by Chandu Srinivas, Suresh Kondeti and Mamatha Devendra M under the banners of Maharatna Productions, SK Pictures and Vanilla Entertainments. Written and directed by Manoj Kumar, the film features Shreeram, Ramika shivu,

Tapaswini Poonacha and Rangayana Raghu in key roles. Following the positive response to its teaser, the makers have now unveiled ‘EraipaareHrudayam’, a soulful melody sung by Sameera Bharadwaj, with lyrics by Rambabu Gosala and music composed by Sunad Gowtham. Speaking after releasing the song, Dr. CH. Preethi Reddy said that she watched the teaser of Premane Oorilo and liked it very much. She expressed her happiness

over releasing ‘EraipaareHrudayam’ and appreciated the film’s family emotions and rural backdrop, wishing the entire team a grand success. Producer Chandu Srinivas thanked Preethi Reddy garu for releasing the song and said that her presence had brought immense positivity to the project. He expressed confidence that the film and its songs would connect strongly with audiences and added that ‘EraipaareHrudayam’ would be loved by everyone.

Mana Panel Promises Welfare Measures for Producers, Higher Medical Insurance Coverage

With the Telugu Film Producers Council elections approaching, members of one of the contesting panels, Mana Panel, held an important press meet today. All the panel members attended the meeting and spoke about various issues related to the upcoming elections.

C. Kalyan said:

- Greetings to everyone on behalf of our panel. Thank you for unanimously choosing me as the President. I have also spoken with Bandla Ganesh.
- We gave our full support to the Guild, but they are now working against this organisation. They appear only during election time. They are taking the commission amount that should come to the Council, and they are also not giving membership to those who are eligible to join.
- We are following the footsteps of Dasari Narayana Rao garu. I have also had a positive discussion with Balakrishna garu.
- We will definitely meet both Chief Ministers and explain the issues to them. We were the ones who introduced the medical insurance facility. We have always been available to respond whenever the industry needs us.
- Once we are elected, we will increase the medical insurance coverage from ₹4 lakh to ₹5 lakh and try to provide the insurance cards immediately. We will support small pro-



ducers. We will also try to provide medical insurance even to a producer who has made just one film.
- As was done in the past, we will provide ₹30,000 for education and financial assistance for marriages. For the marriage of a girl child in a producer's family, we will provide ₹30,000 or even more as financial support, as we did earlier.
- We will form a pension committee and provide financial assistance to senior citizens. We will also stand by the families of deceased producers.
- We are dis-

cussing several issues with APFDC Chairman Bharat Bhushan garu. We are also discussing the film industry properties in both Telugu states. Bharat Bhushan garu is working better than many who held the position before him. I will discuss these matters with the Chief Ministers of both Telugu states.
- From 2032, we will use 30% of the income generated through rents from the building constructed earlier for the benefit of film industry members.
- We will make efforts to create OTT business opportunities for small films through a website.

thank Bandla Ganesh garu.
- A producer is like a farmer in the film industry, working very hard. I thank everyone who has filed nominations in the Producers Council elections.
- We are moving forward in a dignified manner. However, Ashok Kumar garu held a press meet and alleged that we deliberately forced him to withdraw his nomination. But he approached the court. I request him to respect the industry and withdraw those statements.
- Due to a lack of experience, he filed three nominations, and he was declared ineligible according to the decision taken. Others in his panel also filed multiple nominations, but they withdrew the extra nominations within the given time and continued in the election. Since he did not withdraw his additional nomination within the stipulated time, he became ineligible.

- Their panel will not bring any benefit to the industry. These positions are not meant to gain visibility with Chief Ministers or the public. I request everyone to vote for Mana Panel, which will stand by the film industry and work for its welfare. We will provide good administration.

Thummala Prasanna Kumar said:
- In the previous elections, we moved forward respecting the decision and words of Chadalavada Srinivasa Rao garu. Even in an earlier situation, due to certain irregularities, we took decisions and moved forward based on the situation.
- Our services and the medical insurance facilities we provided are recorded in the official records. We have also been working as a charity organisation by supporting senior citizens who are facing difficulties. We have records of these services as well.

ACTRESS ANANYA PANDAY DAZZLES IN BRONZE COUTURE LOOK

Ananya Panday once again showed off her bold fashion sense, stepping out at a Piaget event in Mumbai on September 2 in a striking bronze outfit from designer Rahul Mishra's Devi Fall 2026 Couture collection. The fitted, metallic dress was the real star of the look. Its layered design hugged her body closely, almost like armour, but still looked soft and feminine. The plunging neckline and gathered detailing around the waist and hips gave the outfit its shape, while the layers added extra texture and movement. What made the look work was that she kept things simple everywhere else. The dress itself was detailed enough to stand out on its own, without needing too

many accessories. Ananya Panday made a stylish appearance at a recent event, effortlessly blending couture, jewellery and luxury fashion. The actor opted for a striking sculptural gown from Rahul Mishra's 'Devi' Fall 2026 Couture collection, choosing a rich metallic bronze hue for the occasion. Ananya, now has shared a series of pictures showcasing her latest look, captioning the post, “Sweet treat ?? lovely evening.” In the photos, the actress struck different poses, flaunting her stunning beauty. Talking about her gown, The figure-hugging creation featured a plunging neckline, intricate pleats and draping, along with a statement sculptural knot cinched at the waist. The

gathered detailing extended into a fitted, floor-length skirt, creating a sleek and elongated silhouette. Keeping her overall look elegant and refined, Ananya styled her brunette tresses in voluminous soft waves. She completed the look with warm-toned makeup, featuring defined eyes, sculpted cheekbones and a glossy brown-nude lip that perfectly complemented the metallic bronze ensemble. Panday kept her accessories understated, Ananya completed the look with a statement watch that added a touch of luxury to her ensemble. She paired the outfit with René Caovilla Dalilah Animalier sandals, which are reportedly priced at around \$1,730. The fashion moment quickly drew appreciation

from her social media followers and several industry insiders. Samantha Ruth Prabhu, Navya Naveli Nanda, Shibani Akhtar, Kiara Advani, Alavias Jaafari, Ananya Birla, Pragya Jaiswal, Sophie Choudry and Anya Singh were among those who left appreciative comments on her post. On the work front, Ananya Panday is currently expected to be associated with Amazon Prime Video's Call Me Bae Season 2. The upcoming season is also expected to feature Shruti Haasan in a key role. Also Read: Ananya Panday shares her take on style and beauty: “I feel most stylish when I'm doing my own thing”.



Hero Sai Durgha Tej Attends Pawan Kalyan’s Birthday Celebrations in Kukatpally

The birthday celebrations of Jana Sena Party chief and Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan were held on a grand scale in Kukatpally, Hyderabad. As part of the celebrations, actor Sai Durgha Tej attended an event organized in Gopal Nagar, Kukatpally, as the chief guest. The actor joined the celebrations and interacted with children at the venue. Sai Durgha Tej cut a birthday cake along with the children and extended his heartfelt wishes to Pawan Kalyan.



The celebrations witnessed enthusiastic participation from fans and Jana Sena supporters. Later, Sai Durgha Tej visited a blood donation camp organized as part of the birthday celebrations. He inspected the arrangements and appreciated the volunteers and

organizers for conducting the camp and encouraging people to participate in the noble initiative. The event highlighted the celebrations not only as a tribute to Pawan Kalyan but also as an occasion to promote social service and community welfare.

“Jai Ho Ramanuja” — Film Set for Worldwide Grand Theatrical Release on October 25th

“Jai Ho Ramanuja,” starring and directed by Lion Dr. Sai Venkat, is being produced by Sai Prasanna and Pravallika under the banner of Sudarshan Productions. American actress Jo Sharma is playing the female lead, while Suman, Pravallika and others are appearing in key roles. The film is set for a worldwide grand theatrical release on October 25th in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Hindi and Sanskrit. The song launch event of the movie was held grandly in Hyderabad on Wednesday. Speaking at the event: Producer and Actress Pravallika said: “I consider myself fortunate to have got the opportunity to produce ‘Jai Ho Ramanuja.’ Along with taking care of the production responsibilities, I also played the roles of Lord Krishna, Narada and Raghunathaswamy in the film. Through this movie, we have



tried to introduce the younger generation to the life and contributions of Ramanujacharya, who worked for an egalitarian society. The journey of making this film has taught me many things, and I consider that experience

a great honour. Films like this are very rare. I sincerely request everyone to support and encourage our movie. We are bringing ‘Jai Ho Ramanuja’ to theatres worldwide in a grand manner on October 25th.”

I wish the film 'Gaja' a good success.. Famous director Sai Rajesh

Under the banner of Satish Jai Films under the banner of Chalamshetty Sunil, Dr. Satish Jai and Farnaz Shetty in the lead roles. Gaja is a movie produced by Maithri Saran. This movie is directed by Satish Jai. Melody Brahma Manisharma has given the music for this movie. Mythri Movies is releasing this movie in Telugu. In this sequence, the song Allakallolanga was released on Thursday. Popular director Sai Rajesh was the chief guest for this song launch event.

