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INDIA'S INDIGENOUS BULLET TRAIN TRIALS TO START BY MAY-JUNE NEXT YEAR: ASHWINI VAISHNAW

India, Myanmar discuss strengthening bilateral ties

New Delhi, Sep 7: Union Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita on Monday interacted with a visiting Myanmar Parliament delegation led by International Relations Committee Chairman Pwint San in New Delhi, with discussions focusing on strengthening bilateral ties. Margherita reaffirmed India's commitment to advancing its multifaceted partnership with Myanmar, guided by the key foreign policy priorities of Neighbourhood First, Act East and MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions).



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VAISHNAVI CHAITANYA: "THERE IS A KADALI IN EVERYONE"



SCAN FOR E-PAPER



OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

07-09-2026

Total pilgrims: 69,440

Tonsures: 36,255

Handi karukalu: 4,75 CR

Laddu sale: 4.93 Lac

Annasprasadam: 2.69 Lac

Ashwini hospital: 4,171

Present Situation on 08-09-2026:

Waiting Competitors: Outside line at Silahoranam

Approx. Daman Time for Saravandhanam (with out SSD Tokens), 24 H.

INBRIEF

Kolkata cancels licences of 40 food outlets over safety violations

Kolkata: The licences of around 40 restaurants and food shops in Kolkata have been cancelled for allegedly failing to meet food safety standards, officials of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) said on Tuesday. Officials said the licences of popular eateries including 'Karim's' on Ripon Street, 'Nizam's' near the KMC headquarters and 'Shimla Biryani' on EM Bypass have been cancelled. An outlet of 'Arsalan' in Nagerbazar has also been included in the list. Several restaurants and food outlets in south Kolkata have also faced action following a week-long inspection drive conducted by KMC and Food Safety Department officials. The inspections focused on the quality of food and raw materials as well as hygiene and overall conditions at restaurants and food shops. Officials said rotten food was found at several locations. In one instance, evidence was allegedly found of paint used on walls being mixed with biryani. Fungus was detected in food at some outlets, while arachnids and rat nests were reportedly found in food storage areas.

Telangana Assembly condemns BRS MLCs, seeks action over outburst against Speaker

Hyderabad, TSIT BUREAU: The Telangana Legislative Assembly on Tuesday passed a resolution strongly condemning the alleged derogatory and unparliamentary remarks made by BRS MLCs Tata Madhusudhan and N. Naveen Kumar Reddy against Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar during Monday's confrontation outside the legislature.

The resolution, moved by Health and Family Welfare Minister Damodara Raja Narasimha, also condemned the alleged conduct of the two MLCs, including removing their T-shirts in public in the presence of women. The House termed the conduct unbecoming of members of the Legislative Council and said it undermined the dignity and authority of the Speaker and the institutional integrity of the legislature.

The Assembly said political differences, personal grievances or differences of opinion could not justify conduct that lowered the dignity of the Presiding Officer or affected the orderly functioning of the House. The House also called upon BRS president and Leader of



Highlight

The resolution, moved by Health and Family Welfare Minister Damodara Raja Narasimha, also condemned the alleged conduct of the two MLCs, including removing their T-shirts in public in the presence of women.

ly functioning of the House. The House also called upon BRS president and Leader of

the Opposition K Chandrashekhara Rao to take responsibility for the conduct of the two members and tender an unconditional apology to the Speaker.

As both Madhusudhan and Naveen Kumar Reddy are sitting members of the Legislative Council, the Assembly resolved to forward the resolution, along with breach-of-privilege notices, material placed before the House and related

proceedings, to the Legislative Council Chairman for consideration and appropriate action under the Constitution and Council rules. The resolution followed a tumultuous opening to the Monsoon Session on Monday, when BRS legislators, including KT Rama Rao and T Harish Rao, arrived at the Assembly wearing black T-shirts carrying slogans against the Congress government. Police stopped them from entering, citing objectionable slogans printed on the shirts, triggering a confrontation.

Meanwhile, police on Tuesday arrested Madhusudhan and Naveen Kumar Reddy in connection with a complaint over alleged remarks against the Speaker. They were booked under provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. Madhusudhan has denied insulting the Speaker and maintained that his remarks were directed at police personnel.

Modi launches ₹35,000 cr projects in Vadodara



Vadodara (TSIT): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday laid foundation stones, inaugurated and dedicated development projects worth more than Rs.35,000 crore in Vadodara, Gujarat.

Addressing the gathering, Modi said the government was strengthening infrastructure to speed up the movement of people and goods, create jobs and boost economic growth.

He highlighted the completion of the 2,800-km Dedicated Freight Corridor, calling it a lifeline for a rapidly developing India. He said the freight corridor would reduce travel time, fuel consumption and trans-

portation costs while benefiting farmers by enabling faster movement of perishable goods.

Modi also highlighted India's growing manufacturing capabilities, including railway equipment, solar modules and the C295 aircraft. He said India was moving towards a new manufacturing era "from chip to ship".

The Prime Minister stressed the need to equip youth with new skills and announced initiatives for free coaching for competitive examinations. He also outlined plans to promote AI skills among young people for applications in agriculture, healthcare, robotics and manufacturing.

India joins US-led global 6G initiative

New Delhi (TSIT) India has joined the United States and 24 other countries in a global initiative aimed at guiding the development and deployment of next-generation 6G telecommunications networks, the US Department of Commerce announced on Monday. The department said the agreement was finalised following a bilateral meeting between US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada on the side-



lines of the G20 Innovation Ministerial.

"Secretary Lutnick met with Indian Minister of State for Commerce Jitin Prasada on the sidelines of the G20 Innovation Ministerial to discuss the future of 6G. Today, we are pleased to announce that India has joined the U.S. and 24 other countries in the effort to ensure that next generation networks reflect our shared security interests, strengthen our competitiveness, and drive innovation in 6G," the US Department of Commerce said in a post on X. The development came as Prasada led the Indian delegation at the G20 Innovation Ministers' meeting held on September 1 and 2 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, hosted by the US Department of Commerce and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

K'taka cuts Cauvery water release to Tamil Nadu by 57 pc amid rainfall dip



Chennai (TSIT) : The quantity of Cauvery water being released to Tamil Nadu from Karnataka's Krishnaraja Sagar and Kabini reservoirs has been reduced sharply to 5,200 cubic feet per second following a decline in rainfall and inflows across the

upper catchment areas.

The combined discharge had stood at 11,983 cusecs the previous day. It has now fallen by 6,783 cusecs, representing a reduction of nearly 57 per cent within a day. The decline is significant for Tamil Nadu, which closely monitors releases from Karnataka's Cauvery basin reservoirs. The water flowing downstream contributes to the storage at the Mettur Dam and supports irrigation in the Cauvery delta, where farmers rely on timely supplies for standing crops and seasonal cultivation.

TN Assembly roars over CM Vijay's claims, DMK MLAs evicted



Chennai (TSIT): The Tamil Nadu Assembly witnessed a ruckus on Tuesday, September 8, as the DMK demanded that Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay's statement relying on ED documents be expunged from records and raised slogans that led to their eviction from the House.

As soon as the House proceedings commenced, DMK Whip EV Velu, referring to Vijay's statement on Monday, demanded that references made by the chief minister on matters such as ED's allegations of graft be

removed from House records as it contravened rules. Velu also objected to references to the Sarkaria Commission, maintaining that no offences

were made out. Raising strong objections, Velu criticised the chief minister for referencing the Sarkaria Commission and individuals

like Maran in the Assembly, arguing that it is inappropriate to discuss people who are not present to defend themselves or those who are deceased. He argued that the Sarkaria Commission investigated 28 charges and claimed no legal action could follow as charges were not proved. "Bringing this up without evidence is misleading," he contended. Also, the former state minister criticised the CM for making references to the MISA (Maintenance of Internal Security Act) period.

Telangana Eyes Bigger Rice Exports, Trade Ties with Philippines Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy

Hyderabad TSIT: Telangana Irrigation and Food & Civil Supplies Minister Capt. N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Tuesday held discussions with Philippine Agriculture Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel Jr. on expanding rice exports and strengthening agricultural trade between Telangana and the Philippines.

During the meeting in New Delhi, Uttam Kumar Reddy said Telangana had emerged as one of India's leading paddy-producing States and possessed mod-



ern rice-milling infrastructure and the capacity to supply large quantities of high-quality rice to international markets. Secretary Laurel responded positively and indicated that the Philippines would examine

the possibility of sourcing larger quantities of rice from Telangana. The two sides discussed taking the proposal forward through appropriate government agencies, recognised importers and exporters, and rice millers. Uttam Kumar Reddy said Telangana could offer competitive prices, dependable quality and timely supplies, positioning the State as a potential long-term rice supplier to the Philippines.

The discussions covered rice varieties, quality standards, pricing, procurement mechanisms, logistics, certi-

fication procedures and sanitary and phytosanitary requirements. Both sides agreed that officials and industry representatives should work on a practical roadmap to convert the discussions into concrete trade opportunities.

Secretary Laurel also expressed interest in procuring meat products and quality seeds from Telangana. Welcoming the proposal, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the State had strong capabilities in seed production, food processing and allied agricultural sectors.

Houthi attacks threaten to further expand Yemen conflict: UN envoy

United Nations (TSIT): The UN special envoy for Yemen, Hans Grundberg, has said that recent Houthi attacks across several frontlines are "an extremely alarming development" that threatens to further expand the conflict.

In a statement posted on social media platform X on Monday (local time), Grundberg said reports of civilians killed and injured, families displaced, and civilian infrastructure damaged were "deeply

troubling."

Grundberg said a return to sustained large-scale fighting will have grave consequences for civilians

and make an already difficult path toward a political settlement even harder.

He called on all parties to "cease all hostilities," exercise maximum restraint, and use existing channels, including the UN's Military Coordination Committee, to prevent further escalation.



2 imposters held, gun seized ahead of PM Modi's Mumbai event

Mumbai (TSIT): Hours before Prime Minister Narendra Modi was scheduled to inaugurate an event here on Tuesday, Mumbai police arrested two persons, including one who was armed, posing as a "PMO official" and his "bodyguard" while they were moving around suspiciously around the venue, officials said.

Rohan Parekh, 24, who was carrying a "PMO ID card", and his gun-toting "bodyguard" left the security officials flustered after the former's identity documents were found to be fake. The two were taken into custody after their movements at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre (NMACC) at the Bandra Kurla Complex raised suspicion among the security personnel posted at the venue of the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) scheduled to be attended by PM Modi, police said.

A security alarm was sounded after the Mumbai Crime Branch confirmed Parekh's identity card was



fake. Security arrangements were beefed up at the venue and across the city, including the airport, after senior officers realised the gravity of the alleged "breach".

Sources said the Crime Branch seized the mobile phones of the two and launched an investigation based on their Call Detail Record (CDR), hoping to identify other suspects involved in the alleged security breach.

The duo was also grilled over their purpose for coming to the high-security venue with a fake ID. The police were also trying to unravel the criminal conspiracy behind the alleged breach of the Prime Minister's security arrangements.

'Making a list': Kremlin promises to return Indians serving in Russian Army

Hyderabad TSIT: The Kremlin on Tuesday said it is preparing a list of Indian nationals still serving on the battlefield with the Russian Army and promised to send them back home, as India pressed Moscow to release the remaining personnel at the earliest. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said the issue had been repeatedly raised by New Delhi and that Russia was working to identify

Indian citizens currently serving on the battlefield. "The work is being done to make a list of those Indian citizens who are now on the battlefield and they will be sent back home as soon as they are determined," Peskov told Indian journalists in a virtual interaction, adding that Russia is in a very "deep and profound contact" with the Indian side on this issue. Reacting to Peskov's remarks, Ministry of External Affairs



spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said around two dozen Indians remained in the Russian Army and New

Delhi had taken up the matter with Moscow. "We have around two dozen people who still continue to be in

the Russian Army and we have taken up the matter with the Russian government and hope to have them released at the earliest," Jaiswal said. The Kremlin assurance comes after Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri recently said that 51 Indian nationals had died while serving in the Russian armed forces during the Ukraine war.

According to the latest data, at least 227 Indians have been recruited into the Russian

Army. Of these, 139 have been released from service, 51 have died and the status of the remaining personnel has been unclear. The recruitment of Indians into the Russian military has been a persistent concern for New Delhi. Several Indians have said they travelled to Russia on tourist or student visas expecting employment but were subsequently made to sign documents in an unfamiliar language before being deployed with military units.

Tejashwi seeks Rs.5,000 cr aid for Bihar floods

Patna (TSIT): As severe floods continue to affect large parts of Bihar, Leader of the Opposition Tejashwi Yadav has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, urging the Centre to declare the situation a national disaster and provide immediate financial assistance of Rs 5,000 crore to the state.

More than a dozen districts have been affected by the floods, with lakhs of people facing difficulties caused by rising river levels, damaged infrastructure and disrupted connectivity. In his letter, Yadav said the situation had affected 20 districts and caused extensive damage to life, property and public



infrastructure. He said flood-affected people were struggling to access basic necessities, including food, clean drinking water, medicines, electricity, cattle fodder and safe transportation. Yadav criticised the relief and rescue measures being undertaken by the Bihar government and the

NDA-led Centre, describing the assistance as inadequate considering the scale of the crisis.

He also accused the Bihar government and NDA leaders from the state of failing to secure adequate central assistance and a national-disaster declaration. The RJD leader

argued that Bihar's recurring floods are not solely a natural disaster but also reflect years of inadequate disaster preparedness, mitigation and adaptation. He pointed out that despite floods occurring almost every year, sufficient measures for a permanent solution have not been implemented.

Yadav also raised questions over the state government's financial preparedness for the crisis.

He alleged that Bihar's Contingency Fund and other financial resources had been diverted towards routine government expenditure, leaving insufficient funds for flood relief.

India's indigenous bullet train trials to start by May-June next year: Ashwini Vaishnaw

New Delhi (TSIT) : India's first indigenously developed bullet train is expected to commence trial runs by May or June next year with commercial inauguration likely within two to four months after testing, Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Tuesday.

Addressing the 'NaMo for Viksit Bharat' event in Vadodara, the minister said the first body frame of the high-speed train had recently been completed and sent for squeeze testing. "By May or June of next year, India's own bullet train will be on the tracks for testing. After a testing period of 2-4 months, the bullet train will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Vaishnaw said. The minister said project was being developed in line



with the vision of an Atmanirbhar Bharat and would significantly reduce travel time between Vadodara and Mumbai.

"When you ride the bullet train from Vadodara, you will reach Mumbai in just an hour and a half," he said. Vaishnaw said construction work on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train corridor was progressing rapidly with the Surat-

Vapi section expected to be completed by December this year. Highlighting broader reforms in the railway sector, he said the government was modernising railway operating systems, reservation platforms and construction protocols. "We are reforming and modernising everything, from operating systems and reservation systems to old construction protocols," he

said. Vaishnaw said several long-pending railway projects had been completed in recent years, citing the Chenab Bridge and the rail connectivity project linking Mizoram to the national railway network.

According to the minister, 280 railway stations have been redeveloped and 36,000 km of new railway tracks laid. He added that cargo trains incorporating Vande Bharat technology were also being developed. He said the pace of railway infrastructure development had accelerated despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that after completion of the first section of the bullet train project in 2020, work on subsequent sections gained momentum.

Aster DM Quality Care holds workplace ergonomics session

Hyderabad, 8 September 2026: Aster DM Quality Care Limited marked World Physiotherapy Day 2026 with an organisation-wide employee awareness session on "Ergonomics at Workplace," highlighting the importance of healthy posture, regular movement and preventive practices in reducing work-related musculoskeletal problems.

The session was hosted from the Aster DM Quality Care office in Hyderabad, with employees from CARE Hospitals and Aster Hospitals across the organisation participating virtually, extending the workplace wellbeing initiative across the hospital network.

The session was led by Dr. Vibha Siddannavar, Senior Physiotherapist,



CARE Hospitals, Hitech City, who shared practical guidance on maintaining correct posture, setting up workstations appropriately, incorporating regular movement and stretching

breaks, and recognising early signs of physical strain associated with prolonged sitting and repetitive work habits.

With professionals increasingly spending

long hours at desks and in front of digital screens, poor workplace ergonomics can contribute to discomfort involving the neck, shoulders, back and wrists. The session encouraged employees to make simple changes to their everyday working routines, including correcting sitting posture, positioning screens appropriately, taking short movement breaks and avoiding remaining in the same position for extended periods.

Dr. Vibha Siddannavar, Physiotherapist, said, "Many of the aches and pains we experience at work develop gradually because of poor posture, prolonged sitting and repetitive movements. Small changes in the way we sit, move and organise

our workstations can make a meaningful difference. It is important to listen to the body and address discomfort early rather than allowing it to become a persistent problem."

Dr. Amit Singh, Group Chief Human Resources Officer (India II), Aster DM Quality Care Limited, said, "Our people are at the heart of healthcare delivery, and their wellbeing is fundamental to building a strong organisation. As work patterns evolve, we need to pay greater attention to everyday habits that affect physical health. Bringing our CARE and Aster teams together for this initiative is part of our effort to make preventive health and wellbeing an integral part of our workplace culture."

Rahul Gandhi to begin two-day Rae Bareilly visit today

Rae Bareilly, Sep 8 : Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi is set to arrive in his parliamentary constituency of Rae Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday for a two-day visit. During his visit, Gandhi will chair a meeting of the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA).

During this, he is scheduled to review ongoing development works and take stock of the situation in flood-affected areas.

Officials said preparations have been made to present a detailed update on the progress of various government development schemes, along with pend-



ing cases and issues requiring attention during the DISHA meeting. A department-wise report is also being prepared on the action taken so far on directions issued during the previous meeting.

The previous DISHA meeting was chaired by Amethi MP Kishori Lal Sharma. Apart from reviewing development-related matters, Gandhi is

expected to visit flood-affected areas in Shivgarh and Maharajganj during his two-day tour, sources said. He is likely to interact with residents in the affected areas, hear about the problems being faced by local people and assess the damage caused by the recent floods.

Administrative officials are also compiling information from various departments so that the progress of development schemes and the status of pending matters can be placed before the meeting.

Gandhi's visit comes as Rae Bareilly continues to focus on development ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections in the state.

KIMS hosts physiotherapy workshop on World Physiotherapy Day



Hyderabad, 08th September, 2026: To commemorate World Physiotherapy Day, the Department of Rehabilitation at KIMS Hospitals, Secunderabad, in collaboration with Asian Transcare Rehabilitation Centre, successfully organized an intensive, intensive one-day national-level workshop titled "STRIDE & STAMINA: Gait Analysis & Aerobic Testing in Physiotherapy." The event drew an overwhelming response, gathering over 100 leading physiotherapists and rehabilitation specialists from across the region to bridge critical knowledge gaps in advanced human movement science and cardiopulmonary mechanics.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Sudhindra Vooturi, Director of the Center for Rehabilitation elaborated that the workshop focused extensively on integrating cutting-edge technical clinical protocols: combining precise musculoskeletal gait analysis with direct cardiopulmonary functional metrics.

The intensive hands-on program was split into two robust technical tracks. The morning session, centered on advanced aerobic

capacity assessment, whereas the afternoon session transitioned into advanced biomechanics utilizing the state-of-the-art Gait Lab. The absolute highlights of the day were the real-time live clinical demonstrations mapping pathological walking profiles, specifically looking at complex gait challenges secondary to Stroke and Parkinson's disease, alongside advanced 2D markerless video tracking and 3D kinematics integration. Dr. Sunil Reddy (PT), Unit Head of Asian Transcare Rehabilitation; highlighted that introducing objective biofeedback reporting systems fundamentally elevates modern clinical management precision. This allows specialists to move beyond subjective observation toward evidence-based targeted rehabilitation pathways that improve global patient mobility.

The professional gathering was addressed by Dr. B. Bhaskar Rao (Chairman & Managing Director, KIMS Group of Hospitals), who urged rehabilitation experts to integrate technology with compassion to develop a holistic management for treating patients suffering with complex neurological, orthopedic, and cardiac conditions.

HDFC MF highlights pharma, healthcare fund



Mumbai, Sept. 3: HDFC Mutual Fund has highlighted the performance and long-term growth potential of its HDFC Pharma and Healthcare Fund, which recorded a

30.19% CAGR since inception and a 19.01% one-year return as of July 31, 2026. Launched in October 2023, the fund invests mainly in pharma and

healthcare companies across pharmaceuticals, hospitals, biotechnology, medical equipment and healthcare services. HDFC AMC said India's healthcare sector has strong long-term growth prospects due to rising healthcare spending, an ageing population, higher insurance coverage and growing export opportunities. HDFC AMC MD and CEO Navneet Munot said the fund follows a research-driven approach to identify opportunities across the healthcare sector and different market segments. The fund is managed by Nikhil Mathur.

BLOOD DONATION CAMP HELD AT GITAM



Hyderabad, Sept. 8: GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, organised a blood donation camp in association with NTR Trust Blood Bank on Tuesday. The camp, organised by the Directorate of Student Life, saw students donate around 170 units of blood. Faculty and staff also participated in the programme. The initiative aimed to promote voluntary blood donation and social responsibility among students. Donors were provided refreshments and certificates of

NCC GROUP COMMANDER VISITS GITAM HYDERABAD

Hyderabad, Sept. 8: Colonel P.S. Singh, Group Commander, Nizamabad Group NCC, visited the NCC Unit of GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, on Tuesday. He interacted with NCC



cadets and encouraged them to participate actively in various NCC camps. He said such camps help cadets develop leadership skills, confidence and overall personality. Colonel Ramesh Saryial, Commanding Officer, 33 (T) BN NCC, and Lt. S. Ajay Kumar, Associate NCC Officer, GITAM, were also present.

GOVT EMPLOYEES STAGE LUNCH-HOUR PROTEST IN HYDERABAD

Hyderabad, Sept. 8: Employees of the Information and Public Relations Department staged a lunch-hour demonstration on Tuesday, demanding implementation of the PRC, release of six pending DAS and GPF arrears, abolition of CPS and restoration of OPS, and implementation of the EHS health scheme. The protest was held following a call by TGEJAC Hyderabad City leaders ahead of the 'Chalo Hyderabad' Maha Dharna scheduled for September 10. TGEJAC leaders Sri Katkuri Srikanth and Sri Kanduri Venkat, along with TGO and TNGO leaders and department employees, participated in the demonstration.

OU graduates told to rise as innovators in the age of AI

Hyderabad, Sept 8 (TSIT): "Technology should be embraced responsibly without compromising human values," said Governor and Chancellor of Osmania University Shiv Pratap Shukla. Addressing the 85th Convocation of Osmania University at the Tagore Auditorium here on Tuesday, the Governor has called upon students to continuously sharpen their skills and emerge as innovators and entrepreneurs in an era of rapid advances in artificial intelligence, automation and digital technology. Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla urged the graduates to link knowledge with purpose and success with social service, and contribute to the building of a developed India by 2047.

The Governor said Osmania University, established in 1917, had made a significant contribution to education, research and nation-building over the past 109 years. The true identity of a university, he said, lay not merely in its

achievements but also in the conduct of its students and their commitment to serving society.

The university's NAAC A+ accreditation, national rankings, expansion of research and national and international collaborations reflected its progress, he said. However, excellence was a continuous process, and the university must preserve its rich legacy while shaping the future through research and innovation. India was making rapid strides towards becoming a global leader in science and technology, the Governor said and added that the country's ancient traditions of knowledge represented by institutions such as Nalanda and Takshashila, along with the National Education Policy-2020, offered valuable lessons in knowledge, character and social responsibility.

Stating that Osmania University should play a key role in the transformation envisaged under the national education policy, the Governor said that greater emphasis should be placed on



providing quality education to economically disadvantaged students through digital learning, undertaking research aimed at addressing social challenges and creating opportunities for young people through innovation. "AI can provide information, but the final decision must be taken by human beings based on understanding, ethical values, sensitivity and compassion," said Governor Shukla. Urging the students not to remain merely job-seekers but to become entrepreneurs who create employment opportunities and innovators

who develop solutions to social problems, the Governor said that the Osmania University should take a leading role in artificial intelligence, machine learning, research, innovation and sustainable development. The Governor also reminded the graduates of the sacrifices made by their parents, families and teachers in helping them reach the milestone. "Be successful, but remain humble. Dream big, but stay connected to your roots. Embrace technology, but never give up humanity,"

he said. The Governor called upon young people to stay away from drugs and lead healthy, disciplined and positive life. He urged Osmania University students to play a key role in transforming the pledge of "No to Drugs – Yes to Life" into a wider social movement. He said the Lok Bhavan had extended financial assistance of Rs.40.25 lakh to 'Sahyam', a mental counselling and welfare centre, as part of efforts towards this objective.

Participating as the Chief guest, Bharat Biotech co-founder and Executive Chairman Dr. Krishna Ella said Indian parents make extraordinary sacrifices for their children's future, including selling houses, gold and land to support their education—something he described as unique in the world.

He urged students to remember these sacrifices and work with determination towards their goals. In the age of AI, students must constantly upgrade their

skills and pursue their interests with passion, he said, encouraging them to focus on innovation and entrepreneurship.

Social media, he cautioned, was increasingly diverting young people from their goals and should therefore be used with discretion. Vice-Chancellor of the Osmania University Prof. Kumar Molugaram presented the university's progress report at the convocation. Subsequently, the Chancellor, chief guest and Vice-Chancellor conferred Ph.D. degrees on research scholars and presented gold medals to students who had excelled in academics.

The dignitaries called upon the graduates to use their knowledge for the nation's progress, uphold integrity in their conduct and become an inspiration for future generations. Joint Secretary to Governor K Shahi Kiranachary, faculty members, research scholars, graduates and parents participated.

K.T. Rama Rao, Harish Rao among BRS MLAs booked for assaulting police



Hyderabad, Sep 8 : Hyderabad Police registered a case against Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President, K.T. Rama Rao, BRS Deputy Leader in Telangana Assembly, T. Harish Rao, and several other party legislators in connection with Monday's incidents at the Assembly's entrance. The BRS legislators have been booked for allegedly obstructing and assaulting police.

According to the FIR filed by Detective Inspector M Balaswamy, the leaders wearing black T-shirts with political slogans written on them, tried to force entry despite security restrictions imposed on the Speaker's orders. They allegedly abused women Constables, threatened staff, caught policemen by the collar and pushed QRT personnel.

Former ministers Jagdish Reddy, Gangula Kamalakar, Sabitha Indra Reddy and Sunitha Lakshma Reddy, legislators Padi Kaushik Reddy, Shambipur Raju, Sanjay, Vijayudu, Sudheer Reddy and Kova Lakshmi were among the leaders named in the FIR. The case has been booked at Saifabad Police Station under Section 121(1), 132, 74, 79, 351, 352, 353 r/w 3(5) of the BNS.

The Sections relate to offences like causing hurt to a public servant on duty; assault or use of criminal force against a woman with the intent, or knowledge, that it will outrage her modesty; gesture intended to insult the modesty of a woman; criminal intimidation; intentional insult and making false statements conducing to public mischief.

Two MLCs of the BRS were on Tuesday arrested by the police for allegedly making derogatory and abusive remarks against Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar.

MLCs Tata Madhusudan alias Madhu and N. Naveen Kumar Reddy were arrested from their houses on Tuesday morning.

A case was registered against them on a complaint filed by Pollepalli Venkatesham, Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to the Assembly Speaker.

The complainant stated that the Speaker, who belongs to the Scheduled Caste (Madiga) community, was intentionally insulted, humiliated and demeaned in public view before journalists, electronic media crews, Assembly staff and security personnel.

It was also alleged that the remarks were made with full knowledge of his social background and were aimed at lowering his personal and constitutional standing.

Based on the complaint, Saifabad Police registered a case under Section 352 r/w 3(5) BNS and Sections 3(1)(r), 3(2)(va), 3(2)(vii) of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. Meanwhile, cases have also been booked against 291 leaders and workers of the BJP who tried to lay siege to the Assembly to protest over the fee reimbursement issue. Four members of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) have also been booked.

TRP leader seeks transparency on HyperVault data centre project

Jogulamba Gadwal TSIT: The Telangana government's efforts to position Hyderabad as a major Artificial Intelligence (AI) and data-centre hub are gaining momentum, with the proposed HyperVault AI Data Center Limited project emerging as one of the state's major technology investments. However, questions are being raised over the extent of the economic benefits to Telangana and the cost to the state in terms of land, electricity, water, infrastructure and incentives.

HyperVault AI Data Center Limited, a TCS-associated company, has announced plans to establish an AI data-centre campus spread over approximately 264 acres at Bharat Future City near Hyderabad. The project is planned with a maximum capacity of 1 gigawatt (1,000 MW), with HyperVault and its partners expected to invest up to 70,000 crore in phases.

The Telangana government has stated that the project could generate around 7,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities across areas such as construction, engineering, electrical and mechanical services, power, cooling, networking, security and data-centre operations.

While the investment and technology potential are significant, Telangana Rajyadhikara Party Jogulamba Gadwal district president Morugu Veeresh said the government must also place the complete cost-benefit details in the public domain.

Questions over 264 acres of land

One of the primary concerns is the manner in which the 264 acres have been allotted to the project.

The publicly announced project details do not clearly indicate the market value of the land, the price at which it was allotted, whether it



was sold or leased, the duration of the lease, or the value of any concessions provided by the government.

Veeresh demanded that the government disclose the market value of the land, the actual allotment price, the nature and duration of the land agreement and the expenditure incurred by the government on supporting infrastructure.

He also sought details of the public expenditure, if any, on roads, electricity transmission lines, water supply, drainage, fibre connectivity and other infrastructure required for the project.

"An announcement of a 70,000-crore investment alone cannot provide a complete picture of the economic benefit to Telangana. The value of public resources and government incentives must also be calculated," he said.

1,000 MW power requirement

The proposed 1,000 MW capacity represents a substantial power requirement. If 1,000 MW were consumed continuously throughout the year, the theoretical annual consumption would be about 8.76 billion units, or 876 crore units, of electricity.

This is only a theoretical maximum. Actual consumption would depend on the project's phased development, IT load, utilisation levels, cooling requirements and power-usage effectiveness (PUE).

Nevertheless, a data-centre campus of this scale would require substantial

and highly reliable power infrastructure.

Veeresh questioned whether the project would receive any electricity subsidy or preferential tariff and, if so, urged the government to disclose the annual financial value of such concessions.

He also sought clarity on the extent to which renewable energy would be used and whether additional generation and transmission infrastructure would be financed by the company or the government.

Environmental and water concerns

The environmental implications of a large AI data-centre campus also require close scrutiny, Veeresh said.

AI data centres consume considerable power and generate significant heat, making cooling infrastructure a critical component. The project is expected to adopt advanced cooling technologies, including liquid cooling, and has been described as targeting a water-neutral design.

However, Veeresh said the government should disclose the project's estimated daily and annual water requirement, the extent of water recycling, the use of treated wastewater and whether groundwater would be utilised.

He said the project should also clearly specify safeguards relating to wastewater management, rainwater harvesting, solid and electronic waste, batteries, backup generators, construction-related pollution and heat management.

He called for all applicable environmental and statutory approvals to be made transparent, including pollution-control, fire-safety, electricity, water, groundwater and building-related permissions.

What share of the jobs will go to Telangana youth?

The proposed creation of around 7,000 direct and indi-

rect jobs has been welcomed, but Veeresh questioned how many of these would be permanent jobs and how many would be temporary construction-related employment.

According to him, the government should disclose the expected number of permanent direct jobs and ensure that qualified local youth receive adequate opportunities.

The project could create employment in civil and electrical engineering, HVAC and cooling systems, networking, cybersecurity, AI infrastructure, data-centre operations, security, logistics and maintenance.

"Investment figures are important, but employment quality and local participation are equally important. The government should ensure skill development and meaningful employment opportunities for Telangana youth," Veeresh said.

Potential benefits to Telangana

The proposed project could provide several long-term economic benefits to the state, including:

Large-scale capital investment and construction activity;

Development of AI and cloud-computing infrastructure;

Growth of allied sectors such as power equipment, cooling systems, batteries, networking and fibre connectivity;

Expansion of cybersecurity, cloud and digital infrastructure ecosystems;

Increased demand for engineering, maintenance, logistics and other services; and

Revenue to the government through applicable taxes, duties, electricity-related charges and other fees.

The project could also strengthen Hyderabad's position as a destination for AI, cloud computing and data-centre investments.

BRS women stage protest over treatment of women MLAs

Narsapur (TSIT): BRS women leaders and party workers staged a protest in Narsapur on Tuesday, condemning the alleged police behaviour towards BRS women MLAs at the Assembly.

Demanding that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy take moral responsibility and issue an unconditional apology, the protesters marched to Ambedkar Chowrastha, formed a human chain and raised slogans against the government.

The protesters later staged a rasta roko, squatting on the road and bringing traffic to a standstill.

Vehicles were stranded at the busy junction, causing major disruption.



As tension prevailed, CI Rangakrishna and SI Ranjith Reddy

reached the spot and took steps to control the situation.



TRSMA secretary K. Anil Kumar and treasurer K. Srikanth Reddy were part of the delegation. The association said the Director General responded positively to their representations.

Eligible Voters' Right to Vote Must Be Protected: DEO Devsena

Every SIR Notice Recipient Must Attend the Hearing, Officials Urge
Suryapet District Correspondent
September 8: Protecting the voting rights of every eligible citizen must remain the top priority during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, said District Electoral Roll Observer A. Sri Devsena. She was speaking at a review meeting on the SIR process held at the Suryapet Collectorate meeting hall on Tuesday under the chairmanship of District Collector Tejas Nand Lal Pawar, in the presence of representatives of various political parties. Devsena said the primary objective of SIR was to identify and remove ineligible voters while ensuring that no eligible citizen is deprived of the right to vote. She said every issue identified at the field level would be addressed strictly in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Election Commission. She said protecting the constitutional right to vote was the highest responsibility of every official involved in the revision process. So far, no major issues had been reported in the district, she said, adding



that the SIR exercise was aimed at understanding voters' difficulties and addressing their doubts at the grassroots level. Denying any scope for arbitrary relaxation of rules, Devsena said voters who received notices must submit the documents prescribed by the Election Commission. Officials at the field level could not exempt applicants from their own. In the case of married women, name changes, spelling mistakes and other minor clerical errors could be rectified through

self-declaration, she said. For other issues, one of the documents prescribed by the Election Commission would have to be submitted. She appealed to political parties to create awareness among voters who had received SIR notices and help them keep the necessary documents ready before appearing for the hearing.

1.94 Lakh Voters Receive Notices

District Collector Tejas Nand Lal Pawar explained the progress of the SIR exercise in Suryapet district. Following rationalisation, the district has 1,212 polling stations, with a Booth Level Officer (BLO) assigned to each polling station. The district has 4,286 Booth Level Agents (BLAs) and a total of 10,08,252 voters. So far, 9,11,945 enumeration forms have been digitised. Officials identified 1,94,106 voters whose details were either not mapped or had discrepancies relating to address, age and other particulars. Notices were subsequently issued to them and the hearing process is currently underway. Special awareness programmes on the issuance of notices and the hearing process were conducted on September 5 and

6. Special campaign days are also being organised on Saturdays and Sundays to expedite the disposal of applications. The Collector said meetings with representatives of political parties were being conducted every Wednesday. Details of "No Mapping" cases were being shared with party representatives to ensure transparency, while their doubts and concerns were being addressed periodically. He reiterated that spelling mistakes, other clerical errors and name changes in the case of married women could be corrected by submitting a self-declaration to the concerned BLO.

Action Against Deliberate Irregularities

The Collector warned that strict action would be taken against officials if any deliberate irregularities were detected during the SIR exercise. He said political parties in Suryapet district had so far extended cooperation to the administration in implementing the revision process. Another training programme on SIR would also be organised for representatives of political parties, he said.

From Railway Coach to Farm: A Farmer Controls His Motor with a Mobile Phone

Mobile technology transforms irrigation practices in rural Mahabubabad

Mahabubabad District Spl. Correspondent Balne Suman | 08 September 2026: A farmer travelling in a train, miles away from his agricultural field, checking his mobile phone and switching on the motor at his farm may sound unusual. But for Mohan Reddy, a farmer from Upparapalli village in Mahabubabad district, it has become a part of his daily agricultural routine. Mohan Reddy has installed a modern digital mobile starter at his agricultural well, allowing him to operate the irrigation motor remotely through his mobile phone. Whether he is at home, on the road or travelling by train, he can control the motor without physically visiting his field. The technology is proving to be a major convenience for

farmers who depend on irregular agricultural power supply. Earlier, farmers had to wait for electricity and travel to their fields whenever power was restored, often during the night. Such trips were particularly difficult during heavy rains, extreme weather and in areas where agricultural fields are isolated. Now, a mobile phone has replaced those repeated journeys. With a SIM card fitted into the digital starter and connected to a mobile application, the farmer can switch the motor on or off remotely. The system also provides alerts relating to certain electrical and operational conditions, helping the farmer keep track of the pump even when he is away from the field.

THE FARM IS NOW IN HIS POCKET



The biggest attraction of the technology is its simplicity. A farmer does not have to remain beside the motor or travel to the agricultural well every time the pump needs to be operated. For Mohan Reddy, the benefit is particularly evident when he is travelling. Even

from inside a moving train, he can operate the motor installed at his agricultural well using his mobile phone. The distance between the farmer and his field is no longer a barrier to irrigation management. The system can also automatically switch off the motor when the

water level in the well falls, helping prevent the pump from running without sufficient water. It can provide alerts in situations involving low or high voltage and certain power supply interruptions. This not only helps farmers manage irrigation more efficiently but also offers additional protection to expensive agricultural motors from electrical fluctuations.

A RELIEF FROM NIGHT-TIME RISKS

For generations, farmers have had to adjust their schedules according to the availability of electricity. When power was supplied during the night, they were often compelled to leave their homes and travel to their fields to operate pump sets. Apart from the inconvenience, such journeys could

expose farmers to risks from snakes and other hazards in agricultural areas. The mobile starter is changing that situation. Farmers can now manage irrigation from a safer location while continuing with their other work.

AFFORDABLE TECHNOLOGY, BIG CONVENIENCE

Mobile-operated digital starters are available in the market in different models and price ranges. With a relatively small monthly expenditure for the SIM connection, farmers can access a technology that can save considerable time, effort and repeated travel. For farmers like Mohan Reddy, the device is not merely another piece of modern equipment. It represents a

shift towards smart farming, where technology is being used to solve everyday problems in agriculture. "Earlier, I had to go to the agricultural well whenever the motor had to be switched on or off. Now I can control it through my mobile phone. Even when I am travelling by train, I can operate the motor at my agricultural well. It has saved me a lot of time, effort and trouble," said Mohan Reddy. As smartphones and digital devices increasingly enter rural life, agriculture too is witnessing a quiet technological transformation. The farmer may be in a train, at home or miles away—but his farm motor is now just a phone call away.

EDITORIAL

Every Tech Bro Loves His Movable AGI Goalpost

On September 7, Jensen Huang, CEO of NVIDIA, announced that artificial general intelligence, or 'AGI', had arrived. The occasion was OpenAI's GPT-6 Astra, trained on a "modest" cluster of more than one lakh NVIDIA Grace Blackwell GPUs. Then came the real news: 4 lakh more NVIDIA GPUs, each with the computing power of hundreds of high-end computers, making compute the new infra of the AI age. This was not his first resurrection. In March, on Lex Fridman's podcast, Huang was asked if an AI that could launch, scale, and run a billion-dollar company autonomously would count as AGI. "I think it's now. I think we have achieved AGI," Huang said, with his signature calm. One catch. The question never said the company had to survive in the real world. So, within six months, AGI arrived twice. Once, as a short-lived founder. Once as Astra. OpenAI has been just as generous. After Astra launched, president Greg Brockman said it is "not unreasonable to feel that we are now in the AGI era". Then, with the humility of a man about to IPO: "For me personally, I do think we are there." Sam Altman got there first. Late last year, he said AGI "kinda went whooshing by", then added, "Okay, fine, we built AGIs". All scientific breakthroughs in history shared one flaw: outsiders could verify them. The Wright brothers stayed aloft for twelve seconds at Kitty Hawk. Neil Armstrong stepped on the moon and left no disclaimer saying "Moon" was a fluid term open to investor interpretation. AGI has a rare gift. It can arrive before anyone agrees what that arrival looks like. It is Silicon Valley's version of a Gurugram builder announcing 'possession open' on a tower with no occupancy certificate, no plumbing, no lifts, and a promise of electricity next quarter. The definition expands on Monday to fit whatever shipped on Sunday, then gets presented on social media as proof it was met. None of this means Astra isn't awesome engineering, or that OpenAI, Anthropic, Google DeepMind, and NVIDIA haven't achieved monumental things. Somewhere along the way, AGI stopped being a question of what machines can do and became a question of what Silicon Valley is financially allowed to call it. That distinction matters because it is worth about two trillion dollars. AGI now has as many definitions as a political manifesto. Human-level cognition. Software that automates economically valuable work. An agent that books an IRCTC ticket without crashing. Topping a high-school maths benchmark. Demis Hassabis, co-founder of Google DeepMind, keeps AGI's definition strict: a machine with the full range of human cognitive ability. He has also accepted that the definition is being "watered down", and that there is "a lot of hype for various reasons" - raising money among them. Francois Chollet, creator of the ARC benchmark, is more blunt: define AGI as automating routine tasks, and you have not defined intelligence ... you have defined an assembly line. Computer scientist Yann LeCun describes scaling today's large language models into AGI as nonsense. So what makes the term so profitable? Build a better chatbot, you have a software product. Build a better coding assistant, you have an enterprise tool.

India Faces A BRICS Challenge. Can It Find A Way Through?

India will be hosting the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi on September 12-13, 2026. This will be the fourth time that India will be hosting this summit, the earlier three occasions having been in 2012, 2016, and 2021. This is a momentous occasion for India because its next turn to host the summit will be after ten years, as the new cycle with members inducted recently in 2024 and 2025 will start from 2028. India has hence put in a great deal of effort and invested considerable political capital to ensure that it is a successful event, with a consensus New Delhi Declaration and substantive outcomes expected on issues of trade, commerce, development cooperation, climate change, alternative trade payment arrangements, etc. The second conflict between Iran and US-Israel, which started in February this year, has three adversaries who are members of the BRICS grouping: Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. It would hence be particularly demanding for the BRICS membership to bridge the schism between them and arrive at a mutually acceptable formulation. It may be recalled that the meeting of BRICS foreign ministers, which took place in May 2026 in New Delhi, could not issue a consensus-based joint declaration because the expanded BRICS membership brought competing geopolitical alignments and divergent priorities, particularly the US-Iran conflict and the Palestine issue, to the negotiating table. While the political foreign policy track faced procedural and substantive obstacles on geopolitical consensus, functional and socio-economic tracks during India's BRICS presidency have successfully produced negotiated consensus documents. How BRICS Has Changed The most important objective of the grouping has been to reform the global eco-



nom ic architecture and get a greater voice and space for large emerging economies as their individual and combined economic heft and clout increased. Subsequently, it has subsumed the wider interests of the Global South. The New Development Bank (NDB) and a Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA) were established in 2015. Because of the weaponisation of western financial institutions and to take advantage of the facilities under the NDB and CRA, a large number of developing countries sought to join this grouping. A major expansion took place at the Johannesburg Summit in 2023, when five members (UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Egypt, and Ethiopia) were inducted in 2024. Indonesia joined in 2025. With this addition, the total population of the BRICS became 49% of the global population, oil output

amounted to 40% of global production, and the GDP (in PPP terms) of these countries rose to 40% of the global value, as against 28% of the Western G7 grouping. In addition, these countries also contain large quantities of mineral resources, including rare earths and critical minerals, thereby potentially significantly enhancing their economic and political leverage on the global platforms. But such leverage would accrue to the BRICS members only if they act together and work on the basis of consensus, especially when confronted with formidable obstacles like today's. What Happened Under India's Chairship India's Chairship is centered on the four pillars of resilience, innovation, cooperation, and sustainability. Since assuming the Chairship, India has organised over 350 meetings, including the meeting of

BRICS ministers of Foreign Affairs/International Relations, the meeting of BRICS National Security Advisers, ministerial meetings, and Sherpa and Head of Agency-level meetings. So far, twenty-two meetings of BRICS Ministers (Foreign Ministers, Finance, Industry, Trade, Energy, Agriculture, Environment, Health, Education, Disaster, Sports, Science, Technology & Innovation, Transport, Justice, Women, Labor & Employment, Culture, Youth, Tourism, National Security Advisors, Urbanization Forum) have been held, which have resulted in Ministerial Declarations and Outcome Documents representing consensus on several matters across the tracks. Additionally, eight meetings at the Head of Agency level have been concluded, in which operational and tech-

nical BRICS cooperation of the respective tracks were deliberated. Moreover, several others, including the First-ever MSMEs Forum, a Friendship Cities Conclave, Culture Festival, Meetings of the BRICS Business Council, BRICS Think Tanks Council, Academic Forum, and Civil BRICS Council, have been held under India's Chairship. Some of the key outcomes emerging from the BRICS Ministerials and Meetings include BRICS Centers of Excellence on Agro-Ecology, BRICS Mission for Healthy Lifestyle, Expert Working Group on Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine, Mainstreaming Traditional Knowledge, Advancing Sustainable Lifestyles, Skilling, Smart Grids and Energy Storage, Startup Innovation Fund, Cooperation on Global Value Chains, Technology

Cooperation, and many more. Will A Declaration Come About? It stands to reason that none of the countries that have worked so assiduously over the last year would want their endeavours to fail and to allow the huge number of far-reaching, people-centric decisions, so diligently and painstakingly reached, be thrown by the wayside. The challenge is, however, to devise a language on the US-Iran conflict that would be acceptable to all the warring party members of BRICS, viz. Iran, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia. India has considerable experience in dealing with such seemingly intractable and insurmountable hurdles. It was able to accomplish this in 2023 with the G20 Summit, producing a consensus Leaders' Declaration on the first day when all the naysayers had written off the possibility of such an outcome.

INDIA AND THE NEW ECONOMICS OF UNCERTAINTY

For much of the past three decades, the global economy operated on a relatively simple premise: greater economic integration would create greater prosperity. Supply chains stretched across borders, capital moved in search of efficiency, trade expanded and geopolitical differences were often managed in the interest of economic interdependence. Efficiency, scale and openness were the dominant principles shaping economic decisions, while the risks created by excessive concentration or strategic dependence were often treated as secondary considerations. That premise is no longer secure. The world is being reshaped by geopolitical conflict, geo-economic rivalry, trade disruptions, technological change and the reorganisation of global supply chains. The uncertainty created by these developments is no longer an occasional interruption to the global economy; uncertainty itself is becoming a defining feature of the new economic order. For India, therefore, the challenge is not simply to navigate the next crisis, but to rethink how economic resilience, competitiveness and national security need to work together. When Uncertainty Becomes the New Normal The recent performance of the Indian economy offers grounds for confidence. Despite wars, disruptions to energy markets, uncertainty around global trade and considerable volatility in the external environment, domestic demand has remained resilient. Growth has

remained strong, public investment has continued to expand and India's services exports have demonstrated considerable durability. These are important strengths, but they should not lead to complacency. Resilience should not be confused with preparedness. The more important question is not whether India can withstand the next external shock, but whether it can prepare itself for an economic environment in which shocks become more frequent, more interconnected and harder to predict. The distinction is crucial because the nature of risk itself is changing. A conflict in one part of the world can quickly become an energy crisis somewhere else; a trade restriction can disrupt production thousands of miles away; and a technological breakthrough can alter the competitiveness of an entire industry almost overnight. Consider energy. India imports more than 85% of its oil consumption, making it inherently exposed to disruptions in global energy markets and maritime routes. A prolonged disruption in a strategically important shipping corridor can therefore affect far more than the price of fuel. It can feed into inflation, the current account, the fiscal position and ultimately economic growth. The lesson is not that India can eliminate its dependence on imported energy overnight; it is that energy security must increasingly be treated as an integral part of economic security. The same logic

applies to critical minerals, technology, components and other strategic inputs. In an uncertain world, the cheapest supplier is not necessarily the safest supplier, and economic efficiency can no longer be the sole measure by which supply-chain decisions are made. From Efficiency to Resilience For decades, globalisation encouraged companies and countries to concentrate production wherever costs were lowest. Long and highly specialised supply chains delivered enormous efficiency gains and helped integrate developing economies into global trade. But the disruptions of recent years have exposed the vulnerabilities inherent in excessive concentration. The emerging global economy is therefore forcing a different calculation. Reliability, resilience and trusted supply chains are becoming almost as important as cost. Companies are reassessing where they manufacture, governments are examining strategic dependencies and countries are seeking greater diversification in critical sectors. This does not mean that globalisation is ending; it means that the terms on which globalisation operates are changing. This shift creates a significant opportunity for India. Global companies are reassessing supply chains, countries are seeking to reduce excessive dependence on individual markets and manufacturing capacity is gradually being redistributed. India has already begun to benefit from this

process, particularly in electronics and other manufacturing sectors. But the opportunity will be much larger if India can move beyond simply becoming an alternative assembly location. Assembly cannot be the destination. India must use this moment to move progressively from assembly to components, from components to specialised manufacturing and ultimately towards design, technology, engineering and intellectual property. The traditional progression up the manufacturing value chain may itself be changing because technology is moving so rapidly. India therefore has an opportunity to compress a journey that took other economies decades, provided it can build the skills, infrastructure, capital and ecosystems required to do so. Strategic Openness, Not Strategic Dependence Capturing this opportunity will require infrastructure, reliable and competitively priced energy, efficient logistics, better ports, stronger industrial ecosystems and continued investment in digital infrastructure. But infrastructure alone will not be enough. India also needs a much deeper and more diversified network of economic partnerships, because in the emerging global economy, trade relationships are increasingly strategic relationships. The question of where India signs free-trade agreements should therefore not be viewed simply through the traditional lens of tariff reduction and market access.

Sachin Pilot's Long Wait Is Over. Can Congress Finally Use Him?

For a political party accustomed to managing competing ambitions, the latest organisational reshuffle of the Congress carries a message beyond the names on the appointment sheet. It is an attempt to answer a fundamental question confronting the grand old party: who can convert goodwill into votes, and who can rebuild an organisation where the Congress has lost its traditional advantage? Among the changes announced by Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, the appointment of Sachin Pilot as AICC General Secretary in-charge of Punjab stands out. It is not merely a state assignment, but a recognition of Pilot's endurance, acceptability, and ability to survive political turbulence without abandoning the party. Within minutes of the announcement, Punjab Congress leaders across factions welcomed the decision. Former Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi, state Congress president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring Brar, and Gurdaspur MP Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa publicly congratulated Pilot. Randhawa's response was particularly noteworthy. He spoke about Pilot's experience, leadership, and connection with people - qualities that Punjab Congress workers believe the party needs urgently. Patience As A Weapon Sachin Pilot has a favourite expression that he often uses in extended conversations: "There are more ways than one to skin a cat".



Pilot's political career has repeatedly demanded that quality. In September 2022, many believed Sachin Pilot was finally within touching distance of becoming Rajasthan Chief Minister. Ashok Gehlot's attempt to contest the Congress presidential election had created an opening. The Congress leadership wanted a transition, and Pilot appeared to be the natural choice. But Rajasthan politics produced another twist. Gehlot loyalists refused to attend the Congress Legislature Party meeting convened to discuss leadership change. The rebellion embarrassed the central leadership and effectively ended the possibility of an immediate transition. For many politicians, such a moment would have resulted in either rebellion or exit. Pilot chose neither. He remained inside the Congress, continued organisational work, and maintained his relevance. That decision required political discipline. The joke among

sections of Congress supporters and other social groups where Pilot enjoys considerable goodwill is that he alone appeared to have faith in Rahul Gandhi's interpretation of Leo Tolstoy's famous line: "The two most powerful warriors are patience and time." Rajesh Pilot's Legacy, To Sachin's Unfinished Journey Sachin Pilot's story cannot be separated from the legacy of his father, Rajesh Pilot. The senior Pilot, a former Indian Air Force squadron leader, was among the most influential Congress leaders of his generation. As Minister of State for Home Affairs under Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao, he developed a reputation for administrative ability and political confidence. Old Congress hands still recall how Rajesh Pilot, operating from the Ministry of Home Affairs in South Block, commanded influence far beyond his formal position. He was one of those leaders who combined

bureaucratic understanding with a mass political connect. Sachin inherited several of those qualities: accessibility, quick wit, moderation, and an instinctive ability to connect across groups. His own first innings in politics was impressive. He became a Lok Sabha member at 26, became a Union Minister at 32, and barely a decade later, reached the position of Deputy Chief Minister of Rajasthan. His appeal was not restricted to politics. In 2009, actor Abhishek Bachchan openly acknowledged that his look as politician Amol Arte in R. Balki's Paa was inspired partly by Sachin Pilot and Milind Deora. The significance of that anecdote lies in what Pilot represented at the time: a new Congress politician, educated, urbane, articulate, and approachable. He looked like the face of a party attempting to bridge tradition and modernity. Yet Pilot's image was never merely cosmetic. With an MBA from the University of Pennsylvania and experience as a Territorial Army officer, he developed a reputation inside the government as someone who could understand complex policy matters. During his tenure as Minister for Corporate Affairs, his handling of files and policy discussions impressed senior ministers, including Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Pranab Mukherjee, who at the time headed several Groups of Ministers. Bureaucrats found him prepared. Party workers found him accessible.

NSE IPO:

Bank Of Baroda Looks To Divest Up To 35% Of Its Stake Via OFS

Bank of Baroda is planning to divest around 35% or upto 76,90,375 shares held by the lender in National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE), by way of offer for sale (OFS) through initial public offering (IPO), according to an exchange filing on Tuesday, September 8. As part of the OFS process the equity shares have been transferred to the “Escrow Account” on Tuesday. The expected date of completion of the divestment is end of September 2026. The lener received around Rs 76.9 crore as dividend from NSE for fiscal 2025-26. The development comes days after market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) approved NSE IPO. Sources earlier told NDTV Profit that NSE is expected to announce the price band for its IPO on September 11 and is also



looking to list in the third week of this month. The NSE IPO also received a no objection certificate from market regulator SEBI in August 2026. NDTV Profit had reported on July 30 that the National Stock Exchange is expecting to get listed on the BSE by September 2026. The operator of the world's largest derivatives exchange by trading vol-

ume, NSE had filed its draft papers for the IPO with the market regulator on June 17 this year. As per market estimates, NSE IPO is expected to be worth more than Rs 30,000 crore, while the stock exchange is seeking a valuation of as much as Rs 5.26 lakh crore (\$55 billion) through the IPO, Bloomberg had reported earlier, citing people familiar with the matter.

IDBI Bank-Fairfax Deal Likely Delayed After Rs 53,000 Crore Offer, Sources Say



The proposed sale of a 60.72% stake in IDBI Bank may face a delay, with no agreement with Fairfax reached as of yet over the lender's valuation, as per sources in the know cited by NDTV Profit. A top-level meeting was held at the Finance Ministry on Monday to discuss whether Fairfax's reported Rs 81-a-share offer, which values the stake at around Rs 53,000 crore, is in line with the government's valuation expectations. IDBI Bank shares crashed 11% on Tuesday. Fairfax held 15.2% stake in IIFL Finance as on June 30, according to Bloomberg compiled data. The Indian firm has a current market value of \$2.98 billion. Fairfax's move underscores how it is gearing up to acquire a 60.7% stake in IDBI Bank in a sweetened offer that Indian authorities are close to accepting, people have previously said.

The stake being pitched to global investment companies comes at a time when India's financial services industry has become a target for acquisitions. Buyers are drawn by the growing flow of household savings into formal investments, rising credit demand and the opportunity to scale in a rapidly digitizing market, though regulations often complicate deals. Last year, Blackstone Inc. invested more than \$700 million for a 9.9% stake in Federal Bank. If Fairfax acquires IDBI Bank, it is expected to consolidate some of its existing Indian investments in lending firms in line with regulatory rules, according to the people. Fairfax also owns a 40% stake in small private-sector lender CSB Bank Ltd. In May, Fairfax's India unit agreed to raise its stake to become the majority owner in IIFL Capital Services Ltd.

Police search for two thieves who stole Renoir paintings worth millions from French museum

It was in New York, 3,600 miles away and nearly 150 years on, that I fell in love with Renoir's Paris. The Frick Collection had been moved temporarily to 945 Madison Avenue; an angular concrete fortress designed in the mid-60s. Vermeers, Rembrandts and Titians lined the warren of grey, low-lit and ceilinged rooms. So, magpie that I am, I can hardly be blamed for spending the majority of my visit at the foot of La Promenade (c.1875); a shimmering, full-length painting typical of Renoir. A young woman ushers two young girls – dressed in identical turquoise skirts and fur-trimmed jackets – through a park. All three have flowing, unruly hair, wind-flushed cheeks and doe-eyes. The fabrics are luxe, the greenery lush, their faces plump and angelic. They and a cluster of figures in the distance are haloed by the afternoon light. It is achingly beautiful, almost frivolously so. Renoir is often criticised for idealising; accused of ignoring the harshness and upheaval of the period in which he was painting. But it is impossible not to be beguiled; to linger in his world for just a moment longer. In our own age of uncertainty, why not allow ourselves some escapism? Indeed, it's the moments of beauty, wonder



and hope in our every day that keep us going. The thieves entered the Renoir museum's gardens by cutting through a fence on the opposite side of the grounds to its main entrance. They approached the grounds via Allee Victor Vasarely, a quiet street tucked away from a busier road lined with apartment blocks and shops. After entering through the

fence, the thieves made their way across the gardens towards the museum, where they stole four paintings. In 2016, an arrested Mafia leader reportedly told police about two stolen Van Gogh paintings, which Brand says he then used to get a lower sentence for criminal charges he was facing. But paintings are a lot harder to sell, and around 10 years ago, thieves began shifting to goods that are easy to get rid of. A recent Europol report, externalsays offenders are increasingly targeting precious metals, gemstones, and culturally significant artefacts including Chinese porcelain. “Precious metals can be easily melted down, leaving no trace for law enforcement, and facilitating illicit sales during the fencing process. Precious stones in jewellery, on the other hand, can be easily removed and sold further,” the European policing agency says. “Although more gold and silver objects are being stolen these days, art thefts, specifically involving paintings - naturally still occur,” Brand says. Speaking following today's incident, Brand says “no one will want to buy” the stolen paintings as “they are already listed in every database and newspaper”. “It is likely, then, that the thieves have no idea what to do with them. Ultimately, the paintings will probably be recovered,” he adds. Police are still searching for two suspects after millions of pounds worth of Renoir paintings were stolen from a museum on the French Riviera. Here's what we know so far: Shortly before 06:00 local time on Tuesday, thieves broke into the Renoir museum and stole four paintings.

RBI Governor At GFF 2026: Fintech Took Banking From Branches To Citizens' Hands

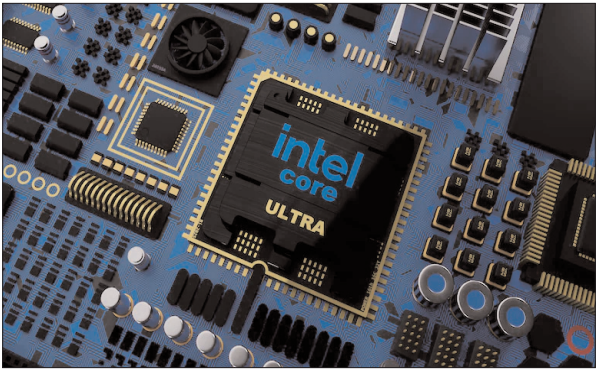


India's fintech expansion has fundamentally changed the country's financial system, taking banking beyond physical branches and putting financial services directly into citizens' hands, Reserve Bank of India Governor Sanjay Malhotra said at the Global FinTech Fest 2026. Malhotra said fintech has emerged as a key bridge between India's diverse population and the formal financial system, making transactions, savings and borrowing more accessible and affordable. “Over the past decade, fintech has fundamentally reshaped the architecture of Indian finance. It has taken banking from the branch to the hand of every citizen,” Malhotra said. UPI, Aadhaar Drive Financial Inclusion The RBI governor pointed to India's digi-

tal financial infrastructure as a major driver of this transformation. UPI, Aadhaar enabled payment systems and the Jan Dhan ecosystem have helped turn financial inclusion into an everyday reality for millions of Indians. The impact extends across geographies and income groups, with small businesses, farmers and urban professionals increasingly using common digital platforms to transact, save and access financial services. Malhotra also highlighted fintech's growing role in addressing the credit needs of micro, small and medium enterprises. Cash flow based lending, Account Aggregators and the Unified Lending Interface are helping lenders assess businesses that traditional underwriting systems previously struggled to serve.

Intel Shares Zoom Over 8% On Reports Of PC CPU Price Hike Next Month

Intel shares rose more than 8% on Tuesday after reports that the chipmaker plans to raise prices for its PC processors by about 10% from early October, a move that could bolster revenue and improve margins as the company seeks to strengthen profitability. Intel shares climbed 8.42% to \$103.87, up \$8.07 from the previous session's close of around \$95.80. The stock's sharp move came even as the broader US market remained subdued, with the S&P 500, Dow Jones Industrial Average and Nasdaq trading lower, pointing to company-specific factors behind the rally. Supply-chain sources cited by DigiTimes reported that Intel could increase PC CPU prices by approximately 10% in early October. The move would mark the latest in a series of price increases initiated in late 2025, as the company seeks to improve profitability and strengthen gross margins. The pricing strategy is also seen as part of CEO Lip-Bu Tan's efforts to move Intel away from a volume-driven approach towards better margins and



sustainable profitability. Higher prices, however, could also test demand in the PC market if customers face higher costs. Adding to the positive sentiment, Northland upgraded Intel to Outperform from Market Perform and set a \$120 price target, citing progress in the company's turnaround, server CPU shortages and the Terafab partnership. Intel has also highlighted progress in advanced semiconductor manufacturing. ALSO READ : Sleeping Giant: Wakefit's 8.4% Market Share Makes Sheela Foam's Turf Look Vulnerable Intel Foundry and ASML recently said more than one million wafers have been processed

using High NA EUV lithography technology, underscoring the company's push to strengthen its manufacturing capabilities. With the potential CPU price hike, analyst upgrade and foundry-related developments providing multiple catalysts, Intel shares outperformed the broader market despite a cautious trading environment. Prices for Intel's PC CPUs have already been climbing since the end of last year as costs have risen across the supply chain for components such as memory chips and printed circuit boards, DigiTimes reported, citing supply-chain operators. Those dynamics have also led to price increases

es for server CPUs, which are in high demand for artificial intelligence data centers. Wall Street likes to see that Intel has pricing power. The stock is up 7% on Tuesday morning and is ahead 178% so far this year. Demand for the company's server CPUs has surged thanks to the rise of agentic AI and inference. Intel did not respond to a request for comment from MarketWatch. RBC Capital Markets analyst Srin Pajjuri said in a Monday note to clients that the PC and smartphone market looks “weak but stable,” citing conversations with technology companies in Asia. He pointed to laptop production being slower than usual and demand for desktop computers looking “particularly weak.” Meanwhile, quantities of server CPUs based on Intel's x86 chip architecture are on pace to grow between 15% and 20% as supply aims to catch up with demand, Pajjuri said. Additionally, Pajjuri said, the supply chain anticipates price increases of between 80% and 100% for high-bandwidth memory next year.

Starlink, Jio-Eutelsat, OneWeb Near India Launch; Govt Approves 5-Year Spectrum Allocation

India is moving closer to opening the door for commercial satellite broadband services, with Starlink, Eutelsat OneWeb and Jio-Eutelsat expected to gain greater clarity on spectrum allocation, sources said on Tuesday. The Digital Communications Commission (DCC) cleared the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's (TRAI) recommendations on satellite spectrum allocation at its meeting on September 2, the persons privy to the development said. The move could pave the way for the government to assign spectrum to satellite communication companies seeking to launch broadband services in India. TRAI had submitted its recommendations on the terms and conditions for assigning spectrum for certain satellite-based commercial communication services last year. The regulator subsequently responded to a Department of Telecommunications back-reference in December 2025. Under the framework cleared by the government panel, satellite service providers are expected to receive spectrum for five years. Companies would also be required to pay



a Spectrum Usage Charge (SUC) equivalent to 5% of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR), the sources said. The government is also expected to provide a lower spectrum usage charge for companies extending satellite connectivity to rural and remote areas, in an effort to encourage services in regions where terrestrial broadband infrastructure remains limited. ALSO READ : \$100 Crude Could Spell Trouble; Underweight Pvt Banks, IT, Says Aniruddha Sarkar Of Equinova The decision comes as global and Indian satellite operators step up preparations for the country's emerging satcom market. Eutelsat OneWeb, backed by Bharti, has been

seeking security clearance to begin commercial services, while Starlink and Jio are also progressing with their India plans. The spectrum framework is expected to be a key regulatory step before commercial satellite broadband services can be rolled out at scale in India. “DCC in its meeting held on September 3 has approved the majority of recommendations made by Trai on satcom spectrum,” a source aware of the development said. The Department of Telecom will now approach the Cabinet for final approval on the pricing and allocation process of radio waves for the satellite communications (satcom) services. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of

India (Trai) in May 2025 recommended that satellite broadband spectrum be allotted for five years, which can be extended by another two years. The regulator had recommended a levy of 4 per cent of annual revenues as a fee on satcom service providers like Elon Musk's Starlink, but sources said that DoT was of the view to levy 5 per cent instead of 4 per cent suggested by the regulator. Elon Musk's Starlink and Amazon Inc's subsidiary Kuiper Systems had, during consultations with the Trai, urged it to keep spectrum charge below 1 per cent of AGR with no other charges. The four per cent of adjusted gross revenue (AGR) spectrum charge would be for both geostationary orbit (GSO) and NGSO (non-geostationary orbit) operators. These would be subject to a minimum annual spectrum charge of Rs 3,500 per MHz. Trai, in its recommendations to the Department of Telecommunications, had said that operators offering services in urban areas would have to shell out an additional Rs 500 per subscriber annually.



Kenya moves to register frightened Burundians as tension over foreign traders rises

CANADA BRACES FOR PROLONGED TRADE WAR AS COUNTER-TARIFFS ON US TAKE EFFECT

Canada's retaliatory tariffs on a range of US goods came into effect on Tuesday, with no sign of a trade deal on the horizon. The counter-tariffs will apply to nearly \$28bn (\$20bn; £15bn) worth of American products, from steel to furniture to cotton T-shirts, and will be as high as 50%. Fresh fish and lobster were also on the list, but Canada later omitted them after pushback from its seafood industry - a sign of the tricky balance it has to strike as it retaliates against its largest trading partner. Both US and Canadian officials have said they would like to strike a deal, but no movement has been made to resume talks after they collapsed in late August. Speaking to reporters last week, Prime Minister Mark Carney said that Canada is still in



search of a deal with the US that is "durable" and in the best interests of both countries. "We're ready to sit down and strike that deal when the Americans are ready," Carney said. US trade representative Jamieson

Greer said on Thursday the ball is in Canada's court. "We offered them the best deal, they looked at it square in the face and turned around," Greer said in an interview with Fox News, adding that there has been sparse

communication with the Canadians since talks collapsed. In a separate interview with Canadian broadcaster CBC, Greer cautioned against retaliation and suggested the US might hit back by banning the import of some Canadian products. President Donald Trump threatened on Monday to halt all US business with Canada-based airplane maker Bombardier unless it moved its manufacturing south. The aerospace giant is one of the largest in the country, contributing over C\$7bn to Canada's annual GDP in 2024, according to a report by accounting firm PwC. Trump took aim at Canada in a series of other Truth Social posts over the weekend, including one that called Canada's exchange rate with the US "unacceptable".

UK announces sanctions on Israeli settlements in West Bank and accuses settlers of 'ethnic cleansing'



The UK's sanctions on illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank mark a "turning point in UK-Palestine relations", says Palestinian ambassador to the UK, Husam Zomlot. In a post on X, he says: "Today, Britain begins to move from condemnation to consequences, from words to action." Zomlot says it is not possible to "recognise the state of Palestine" while "allowing its territory to be annexed". He adds that this decision from the UK is "long overdue" and "therefore not the end, it must be the beginning". "Britain should now lead in Europe, across the Commonwealth, and internationally, to ensure that no state, company, bank, or institution contributes to, facilitates, or profits from this illegal occupation," he adds. Ed Miliband's clear intention throughout that statement was to signpost a change in the UK's approach to Israel. The sanctions announced went further than expected

- to include companies and individuals who provide services for settlement expansion and the refusal of license applications for arms that contribute to the occupation. His language went way beyond that of Keir Starmer's government too. The foreign secretary said the government now agreed that activity in the West Bank amounts to "ethnic cleansing" - not something ministers would have previously said. There was a nod too to those critics who want them to go further still. Miliband said the government would continue to wait for the International Court of Justice to rule on whether Israel's actions amount to genocide. But there's also one important factor which shows consistency, rather than change, with the Starmer government - international cooperation. Starmer generally chose to make big foreign policy interventions alongside allies - particularly France

and Canada. This morning we weren't sure whether that would be the case, but it has now been confirmed that others including France and Canada will also ban the import of goods from illegal settlements. Given that, what's still unclear is whether the UK would have joined this ban, if Starmer rather than Burnham, had still been the prime minister. The answer to that could ultimately decide how big a shift in foreign policy this really is. The Jewish Leadership Council, which represents many of the UK's Jewish organisations, has accused the government of putting an "increased target on British Jews" by banning imports of goods from Israeli settlements. In a statement, the council described the decision as "deeply irresponsible" and alleged that the government was "yielding to pressure from the most extreme elements of British society".

Trial over killing of Australian surfer brothers and US friend starts in Mexico



Three men have gone on trial in Mexico for the alleged murders of two Australian brothers and their American friend in 2024. The bodies of Callum Robinson, his younger brother Jake, and their friend Carter Rhoad from California - all in their early 30s - were found at the bottom of a well with gunshot wounds to their heads, days after they went missing during a surf trip in Baja California. Prosecutors are seeking jail sentences of more than 200 years for the defendants, who also face charges of violent robbery and auto theft. The parents

of the brothers were in court on Tuesday in the coastal town of Ensenada, telling the media that it was "incredibly important and overwhelmingly difficult". "We want the men accused of murdering our sons to see, in person, the human consequences of what happened," Martin and Debra Robinson said in a statement, according to Australia's national broadcaster, the ABC. "Callum and Jake were not simply victims in a case file - they were our sons, deeply loved by their family and friends, with lives, dreams and futures that were brutally taken away."

Asbestos 'nearly everywhere' after 9/11 - new documents reveal air-quality concerns

New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani released a tranche of 170,000 documents that show officials had concerns about air quality in Manhattan soon after the 9/11 attacks, even as the public was told the air was safe. The mayor said the documents reveal asbestos was found "nearly everywhere" they tested near Ground Zero, the site where the World Trade Center towers collapsed in 2001. "People got sick because the leaders they trusted lied and told them they were safe to breathe in toxic air," Mamdani said at a news conference with survivors. Illnesses related to the dust and smoke from the collapse of the Twin Towers have claimed more lives than the attacks themselves, US health officials say. The document release resolves a lawsuit brought by advocacy group 9/11 Health Watch, which sued the city for the documents. City officials found 68 boxes of the documents last year. Officials had previously said they did not have them.



"Administration after administration has ignored those calling for answers and clarity," Mamdani said, standing next to television host and 9/11 survivor advocate Jon Stewart. "We will do no such thing." Thousands of people have experienced health effects like cancer from the terrorist attacks, including many who have died, after breathing in hazardous contaminants from the building collapses. The pages of air quality reports and other documents were released through an online portal,

timed with the 25th anniversary of the attacks. Mamdani said City Hall will spend more than \$34m (£25m) on the effort. He said the documents show what the city "knew about the toxic air around Ground Zero, when they knew it, and how they acted to limit liability". More documents are to be shared over the course of the next year. The release comes after years of survivors advocating for more transparency from city officials. Speaking at the news conference on Tuesday, Stewart said the

documents show the city didn't recognize that the air that everyone was breathing in downtown Manhattan was toxic until October of 2001. "So to be fair to them, they only buried that information for 25 years," he said sarcastically. The documents include an October 2001 file known as the "Harding Memo", in which an aide warned former Deputy Mayor Robert Harding - serving under Mayor Rudy Giuliani - that the city could face as many as 35,000 legal claims for its response to the attacks.

HIGHEST PAID WORLD LEADER TO GET SALARY INCREASE OF \$1 MILLION

Singapore's government says it will raise the annual salaries of its ministers and other office holders, including its prime minister who is the highest paid political leader in the world. Lawrence Wong will see an increase of 1.4 million Singapore dollars (\$1.1m; £818,000) in his annual pay package. He has said he will donate this pay increase to charity over the next five years. Wong said that raising the pay of ministers was necessary to attract better talent. The government has previously argued that paying ministers high salaries deters corruption. But the move has attracted criticism in Singapore where there is deep concern about job security and the rising cost of living. Even before his pay raise kicks in, Wong is still by far the highest paid world leader. He currently receives an annual salary of S\$2.2m and will now see his pay go up by more than 60% to S\$3.6m (\$2.8m). Next is Hong Kong chief executive John Lee, who earns about \$719,000, followed by Switzerland's presi-



dent Guy Parmelin with \$606,000. US president Donald Trump earns \$400,000 a year, while British PM Andy Burnham takes in \$230,000. On Tuesday, Wong acknowledged that Singapore ministers' salaries have attracted scrutiny given that they were much more than what most citizens earn. The median monthly income in the country is S\$5,775. But he argued that he has faced difficulty convincing business leaders and top civil servants to run for political office. While the government cannot match what some of these people earn, "we do not make the financial hurdle unnecessarily high" for them to give up their careers and join politics, he said.



Investigation after female staff at Eiffel Tower replaced by men for religious visit

Argentina to file criminal case against oil company operating in Falklands

The Argentine government has said that it will file criminal charges against oil company Navitas Petroleum for operating in seas off the Falkland Islands. The move came just days after Argentine President Javier Milei said he would sanction oil companies drilling in the British overseas territory in the south-west Atlantic Ocean. Reacting to the news, Foreign Office Minister Kirsty McNeill insisted that there could be "no doubt" about the British government's commitment to the Falkland Islanders. Sovereignty of the archipelago remains disputed between the UK and Argentina more than 40 years after a British military task force ejected Argentine forces which had



invaded the territory in 1982. Speaking in the House of Commons on Tuesday, McNeill said that "the decision by the Falkland Islands government to pursue hydrocarbon production is a commercial decision for them to take alongside the commercial companies involved". She added that "the future of the Falkland Islands is for Falkland

Islanders to determine". The simmering dispute between Britain and Argentina over the Falklands heated up last week, when Milei said in a speech to the nation that the "winds of change" favoured Argentina's claim to the islands. Milei has, in the past, been criticised by Argentine veterans of the 1982 conflict for being "too soft" on the Falklands,

which Argentines call Las Malvinas. In his speech on Thursday evening local time, Milei restated his government's position on the territory, saying "the Malvinas are Argentine, historically and legally... there's no debate about that." The president described drilling for oil in the archipelago as a "clear and urgent danger" to Argentine sovereignty. He also dismissed the result of a 2013 referendum in which 99.8% of the islands' residents voted in favour of the Falklands remaining a British overseas territory. Milei argued that they were living on land which had been "usurped" by the British and therefore "have no legitimate right to self-determination".

Roman Reigns Makes Bold Statement on His WWE Future And Makes It Clear He Is Not Done Being The Tribal Chief

Roman Reigns wasn't in the building for WWE RAW, but his absence didn't mean he stayed quiet. The Tribal Chief delivered a message during the show, addressing the chaos around The Bloodline, calling out Jacob Fatu, and making it pretty clear that he still sees himself as the man who should be leading his family. And then he turned his attention toward Penta. The timing matters because Reigns also has a championship fight waiting for him. Penta is set to challenge him for the World Heavyweight title, but Reigns clearly isn't treating that match like just another title opportunity. His message was much bigger than that. He wants Penta to become an example for the rest of the WWE locker room, while also making it clear that his plans for the future still involve being the Tribal Chief. Roman Reigns Explains Why The Bloodline Is Facing a Problem Reigns began his

message by wishing everyone a happy Labor Day before explaining how quickly things had changed. According to him, everything had been going well until "the storm rolled in." That storm, in his view, was connected to what has been happening around The Bloodline. Reigns said his goal was to have a good tournament and eventually go to Mexico City, where he wanted to "showcase something special" against the tournament winner. Royce Keys and his group apparently had other plans. Reigns said they wanted to ruin those plans, while Jacob Fatu also appeared to be challenging his position within the family. That led to one of Reigns' clearest statements. He said nobody was on his level and warned that if his own family didn't hold themselves to that same standard, "we have a huge problem here." Reigns wasn't simply talking about the current Bloodline mess. His com-

ments also pointed toward what he intends to do next. He said he would teach everyone why he reached the level he did, keeping the focus firmly on his status inside WWE. Roman Reigns Sends Penta a Warning Ahead of Their Match Penta wasn't directly responsible for the wider Bloodline conflict, and Reigns actually acknowledged that. He called him "just a casual bystander" who simply wanted a championship match. Still, Reigns said the disrespect surrounding him and his family had changed the situation. He told Penta that he liked and respected him, including his family and what he represents. That respect didn't stop the warning. Reigns said Penta would be made an example for the locker room. He threatened to throw him around the ring and make everyone understand that they shouldn't

"mess with the Tribal Chief" or disrespect The Bloodline. What Roman Reigns' Message Means for His

W W E Return For now, Reigns' message leaves Penta directly in his path.



'DISRESPECTED' JASON GILLESPIE, EX PAKISTAN COACH, EXPOSES BOARD: "STILL OWE ME THOUSANDS"

Jason Gillespie, one of the most respected bowlers of his era, had a short stint coaching the Pakistan Test team. However, his association with the national team came during a time when the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) was at its most destructive. From changes in the support staff and selection committee to the playing XI, the PCB seemed hell-bent on throwing in the towel at every single hiccup. Gillespie, who was determined to bring Pakistan cricket back to its glory days, said that everything changed for him once Aaqib Javed was named the chief selector by PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi. "The appointment of Javed fundamentally altered the landscape," Gillespie told The Telegraph in an interview. "From that moment, my relationship with Pakistan cricket completely changed. Aaqib came in and took over. It



appeared to me that he was in charge of absolutely everything." Even for Gillespie, his roles and responsibilities with the Pakistan team continued to change right up until his departure. He said that the experience was such that it affected him personally: "I went from looking after the Test side, managing that, looking after the players and the staff, and having a role in selection, to having absolutely no role in anything." "The whole experience just deflated me and put me off coaching. It affected me mentally, making me doubt myself and leaving me thinking whether I still

wanted to be involved in the sport," he revealed. The former Australian pacer even revealed that the Pakistan board is yet to settle his compensation, saying he is still owed "thousands of dollars": "The PCB still owes me thousands of dollars, but I was never going to be a yes-man," Gillespie said. "I wasn't going to compromise on my principles-I never have throughout my career, and I certainly wasn't going to change." "I could have stayed quiet, agreed to everything, and taken home my salary, but that's not me. Part of me knew I was probably going to be sacked in a couple of months anyway."

Pakistan Great Drops Bombshell, Reveals PCB's 'True Purpose' Behind Squad Shake Up

"The Pakistan cricket team has gone back 10 years," remarked Saeed Ajmal, one of the finest spinners in the country's history. As a new-look Pakistan team takes on England in the third and final Test at Edgbaston, hoping to avoid a 0-3 whitewash, Ajmal did not hold back from calling out everything that is going wrong with the national side. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has adopted a hardline stance that continues to see frequent changes made to the squad after every series. Reflecting on the recent shake-up in the team, which saw seven players sent home while two coaches were also replaced, Ajmal said that the players are



being "humiliated" by the PCB, whose true intention is not to give opportunities to rookie players but to replace the current team entirely. "The board itself has demotivated the players more than anyone else. The board is not letting any player settle. There are players who have done well, who have also

been dropped. There are players who have been humiliated by the PCB," Ajmal said. Ajmal also took a swipe at Aaqib Javed, the team's high-performance director, and Mike Hesson, who has been placed in charge of Pakistan's red-ball side ahead of the third Test against England. "Aaqib

Javed and Mike Hesson (who has been asked to take over the Test team for the third Test) are a team. These two are controlling everything and are responsible for this whole mess. The whole issue is about egos," Ajmal said on Samaa TV. "Our team has gone back 10 years. We have not planned for the future," he added. For a player to perform in top-tier cricket, consistent opportunities are vital. However, Ajmal feels the PCB's true intention is simply to replace players. "Every match of a series is important for us, and we are not left with any option if a player is not performing but to look for his replacement.

BCCI FORCED TO MAKE 2 CHANGES IN UNDER-19 SQUAD OVER 'AGE FRAUD' CASE

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has reiterated its zero-tolerance policy against document manipulation in junior cricket with an immediate crack-down on age-group players. After reports emerged stating that over 60 players in Bengal have been suspended due to alleged age discrepancies, the BCCI issued a release on Tuesday, confirming that two changes have been made to the Under-19 one-day team over age fraud involving a player named Rohit Yadav. In its statement, the BCCI said: "The Junior Cricket Committee has named Saurashtra Cricket Association's Aryan Savsani as Rohit Yadav's replacement in India U19's One-Day squad, while Haryana



Cricket Association's Tanmay Baloda has been named as his replacement in the Multi-Day squad." "Rohit, who was named in India's U19 squads for the upcoming fixtures against Australia U19 at Rajkot and Ahmedabad, has been withdrawn from the squad due to age discrepancies," the press statement from the board fur-

ther read. The strict measure follows an extensive documentation review conducted by the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) and the BCCI's age-verification cell. Investigators flagged major inconsistencies across multiple official documents, including contrasting birth certificates and repeated updates to Aadhaar records

that displayed varying birth years ranging from 2006 to 2010. Rohit, a leg-spinner who recently claimed six wickets during India U19's tour of Sri Lanka, was formally handed a two-year ban from all BCCI-sanctioned domestic and age-group competitions. India U19's updated squad for One-Day matches: Lakshya Raichandani (C), Yashvardhan Chauhan (VC), Rajat Baghel (WK), Aaryavir Sehwal, Kushagra Ojha, Ayaan Akram, Pranav Ragavendra, Priyanshu Singh, Mohit Ulva, Aryan Yadav, Tanmay Baloda BCCI's crackdown serves as a stern reminder to state units that it will take strict disciplinary action if anyone attempts to compromise the integrity of the sport.

Red Bull Vallam Vali Turns Keralam's Iconic Boat Racing Tradition Into A 'Tug Of Oars' Spectacle



Elena Rybakina Tops Naomi Osaka, Sets US Open Quarter-final Clash With Zheng Qinwen

World number two Elena Rybakina swept past four-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka 6-1, 6-4 on Monday to line up a US Open quarter-final against China's Zheng Qinwen. Kazakhstan's Rybakina, who added the Australian Open title to her 2022 Wimbledon crown this year, is into the US Open last eight for the first time in her career. The meeting with 2024 Olympic gold medalist Zheng will carry extra weight. If Rybakina reaches the semi-finals she is assured of supplanting Aryna Sabalenka atop the world rankings, even if the Belarusian wins her third straight US Open title.



AFTER FATIMA SANA, Another Pakistan Star Punished By ICC Over Women's Asia Cup Outburst



Pakistan batter Gull Feroza has been fined 10 per cent of her match fee and handed a demerit point for breaching the ICC Code of Conduct during her side's Women's Asia Cup Group A match against Hong Kong in Dubai on Monday. Feroza was found guilty of breaching Article 2.8 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which covers showing dissent at an umpire's decision during an international match. The incident occurred in the fifth over of Pakistan's innings after Feroza was adjudged leg-before-wicket. The batter expressed her disagreement with the decision by gesturing towards her bat to indicate that she had edged the delivery. The sanction is Feroza's second disciplinary offence within a 24-month period. The latest punishment takes her tally to two demerit points during that period. She had received her first demerit point for an incident dur-

ing Pakistan's Women's T20 World Cup league match against Australia on June 23. Feroza admitted the offence and accepted the sanction proposed by Supriya Rani Das of the Emirates ICC International Panel of Match Referees, thereby avoiding the need for a formal hearing. The charge was levelled by on-field umpires Rabab Ahsan and Rokeya Sultana, third umpire Shivani Mishra and fourth umpire Shathira Jakir. Level 1 breaches of the ICC Code of Conduct carry a minimum sanction of an official reprimand and a maximum penalty of 50 per cent of a player's match fee, along with one or two demerit points. Under the ICC disciplinary system, four or more demerit points accumulated within a 24-month period are converted into suspension points. Two suspension points result in a ban from one Test, two ODIs or two T20Is, whichever comes first for the player.

ASIAN GAMES 2026:

INDIA'S KEY EVENTS AND SCHEDULE IN AICHI-NAGOYA

The Asian Games 2026 will be held in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, from September 19 to October 4, with India set to field athletes across several sporting disciplines as the country looks to build on its performances in previous editions, according to Olympics.com. Sporting action at the continental multi-sport event will begin on September 10, nine days ahead of the opening ceremony. India's campaign is scheduled to begin with teqball on September 17, while the Indian women's cricket team will face

Japan in the quarter-finals on September 18. India will defend its men's and women's titles in cricket and kabaddi, while the Indian men's hockey team will also enter the Games as defending champions. Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu will headline India's badminton challenge, with the competition scheduled to begin at the Ichinomiya City Municipal Gymnasium from September 20, according to Olympics.com. Olympic medallist Mirabai Chanu will lead India's five-member

weightlifting squad, while double Olympic medallist Manu Bhaker will be among the country's leading shooters. Paris 2024 bronze medallist Aman Sehrawat will represent India in wrestling. India's boxing contingent will enter the Asian Games on the back of a record-breaking Commonwealth Games campaign, where Indian boxers won 10 medals, including seven gold and three silver. Olympic medallist Lovlina Borgohain and Commonwealth Games cham-

pion Sakshi Chaudhary are among the Indian boxers set to compete in Aichi-Nagoya. Athletics will be another major focus for India, with more than 70 Indian track and field athletes expected to compete in events scheduled from September 24 to 29. With several Olympic and Commonwealth Games medallists in its ranks, India will look to put up a strong showing across disciplines and defend its titles in key team sports at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games.



VAISHNAVI CHAITANYA: “THERE IS A KADALI IN EVERYONE”

The much-awaited youthful entertainer ‘EPIC – FIRST SEMESTER’, starring the popular Baby pair Anand Deverakonda and Vaishnavi Chaitanya, is gearing up for its grand theatrical release on September 11, 2026.

Directed by Aditya Hasan, who impressed Telugu audiences with the successful web series 90s, the film is presented by Srikara Studios and produced by Suryadevara Naga Vamsi and Sai Soujanya under Sithara Entertainments and Fortune Four Cinemas.

Ahead of the release, Vaishnavi Chaitanya interacted with the media and spoke about her character Kadali, working with Anand once again, director Aditya Hasan and what makes EPIC – FIRST SEMESTER special.

“There Is a Kadali in Everyone”

Speaking about her character, Vaishnavi said, “Kadali is a strong girl who stands up for herself. She has clarity about what she wants. I believe there is a Kadali in everyone. But because of family or society, that version of ourselves often remains within us. At some point in life, everyone has to stand up for themselves. That is why Kadali is very close to my heart.”

“I Look for Something New After Baby”

On choosing films after Baby, she said, “Both the story and my character should have something new. I should be able to see myself in that character. That was one of the main reasons I chose EPIC.”

“Aditya Hasan Is a Unique Director”

Praising director Aditya Hasan, Vaishnavi said,



Malavika Mohanan’s Anarkali Gown Steals The Show

Malavika Mohanan this year appeared in The Raja Saab, which unfortunately got trolled and flopped at the box office. But she’s not out of the game yet; with the upcoming Tamil movie Sardar 2 lined up next, all eyes are on whether this one gives her the bounce-back she needs.

Meanwhile, her fashion sense continues to shine bright. In this shoot, she matches her flowy mustard-gold anarkali gown perfectly with the backdrop, creating a seamless, editorial monochrome effect. The gold-bordered hem, delicate drop earrings, and a single white flower in hand keep the styling minimal yet striking. No heavy embellishments, no clutter, just soft waves, subtle makeup, and a side profile that lets the outfit and setting do the talking. It’s proof that sometimes, less truly is more, and Malavika continues to nail that balance effortlessly.

Speaking about the trajectory of her career, Malavika said she does not believe that a career in cinema can necessarily be planned in advance. Instead, she has found herself drawn towards projects and experiences that offer something different, from shooting alongside communities in Wayanad to filming on a remote island in Portugal. Reflecting on the range of experiences her work has brought her, she said, “My career graph is something that always keeps me stimulated, that constantly feeds my curiosity.” The actor has also had the opportunity to share



‘Pithapuramlo... Ala Modalaindi’ to be released on September 18.



Directed by senior filmmaker Mahesh Chandra, the film ‘Pithapuramlo... Ala Modalaindi’ is set for a grand worldwide release on September 18. The prominent production house, Prime Show Entertainment, is handling the film’s release.

The movie features a cast including Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Prithviraj, Kedar Shankar, Manichandana, Annapurnaamma, Sunny Akhil, Virat, Sai Pranith, SriLu, Pratyusha, and Rehana. It has been produced by Dundigalla Balakrishna, Akula Suresh Patel, and F.M. Murali (Godari Kittayya) under the ‘Mahesh Chandra Cinema Team’ and Evergreen Epic Cinema banners.

Director Mahesh Chandra stated that the film has been crafted to convey a meaningful message to the youth while incorporating emotional elements such as romance, subtle humor, sentiment, and the bond between a father and daughter. He noted that the film feels incredibly natural, featuring characters and incidents that mirror real life, and promises a fresh experience for the audience.

He highlighted that the voice-over by the legendary comedian Dr. Brahmanandam serves as a special attraction, and noted that renowned sculptor Rajkumar Wadayar plays a key role in the film.

Mahendragiri Varahi’ is a devotional action thriller that gives a good theatrical experience: Hero Sumanth

Sumanth and Aishwarya Rajesh are playing the lead roles in a devotional action thriller. ‘Mahendragiri Vaarahi’. Star boy Siddu Jonnalagadda is appearing in a special role. Directed by Santosh Jagarlapudi. Kalipu Madhu and Lakshman are jointly producing this film under the banners of Rajashyamala Entertainments and Bridge Films. The promotional content that has already been released has increased expectations on the film. The film will be released on September 11. On this occasion, hero Sumanth shared the details of the film at a press conference. Mahendragiri Varahi promotions are going on very vigorously, aren’t they? -Yes. This is the



biggest budget film coming from me in recent times. The producers have made it on a very large scale. They are also doing the promotions very aggressively. It will be released in Hindi and Tamil as well. Audiences from North are also showing interest. The response from the audience to the teaser and trailer of this film is very happy.

SARDAAR 2’ IS A VERY IMPORTANT FILM IN MY CAREER: ACTOR KARTHI



Karthi is coming to theaters with the most awaited sequel ‘Sardar 2’, the blockbuster hit in Tamil and Telugu languages. Annapurna Studios will bring this film to the Telugu audience. Directed by PS Mithran, this film is produced by S. Lakshman Kumar under the banner of Prince Pictures. The already released teaser and trailer have further increased the expectations on the film. The film will be released worldwide on September 10. On this occasion, the makers organized a grand pre-

Unravelling Sukumar’s Screenplay Magic: ‘Screenplay Master – Sukumar

The human brain processes the world through stories, seeking out puzzles and unpredictable behavior to understand the complexities of life. Exploring this profound psychological connection to cinema, the newly announced book “Screenplay Master – Sukumar, offers a masterful dissection of director Sukumar’s filmmaking genius. Authored by Dr. Praveen Yajjala, the book delves into the meticulous craftsmanship and intellectual depth that define Sukumar’s screenplays, elevating them beyond mere entertainment into intricate psychological chess games played with the audience. Going beyond a surface-level appreciation of commercial cinema, the book thoroughly examines how Sukumar seamlessly adapts the profound screenwriting theories of Hollywood experts like Robert McKee and John Truby to the rustic, rooted realities of Telugu narratives. It analyses his signature style of creating flawed,



deeply human characters who reveal their true nature under immense pressure, and how he masterfully uses local settings as living entities within his stories. Readers will discover how the director balances complex narrative structures with raw emotional resonance, learning from past cinematic experiments to craft culturally grounded masterpieces. This analytical work marks a significant milestone in Telugu cinematic literature, bridging the often separated worlds of classical literary appreciation and commercial filmmaking. Dr. Praveen Yajjala, an accomplished writer and scholar with a doctorate in Telugu literature, brings his profound analytical skills to a subject rarely explored with such academic rigor in the regional industry.



ACTRESS FATIMA SANA REDEFINES GLAMOUR ON COVER

Fatima Sana Shaikh made headlines at the first International Film Festival of Jammu & Kashmir 2026 in Srinagar, where she spoke up for regional cinema. The actress said such films show the real intricacies of a region instead of an outsider’s view. Fatima, whose mother hails from Kashmir, called her return to the Valley special and said the state has the potential to become a global shooting destination. She also spoke warmly about her Dangal co-star Zaira Wasim. Fatima is also making waves visually, gracing the cover of Lifestyle Asia India’s September 2026 issue titled “Girl’s Got Game.”

She looked effortlessly chic in a beige trench coat layered over a shimmery bralette. In another striking click, she stunned in a strapless peach pleated gown with a plunging neckline, radiating pure elegance. On the work front, Fatima does not have any film releases lined up this year, keeping fans eagerly awaiting her next big project.



SHRUTI HAASAN TURNS UP HEAT IN MERMAID AVATAR

Shruti Haasan is turning heads once again with her latest photoshoot, picking a stunning mermaid-style ensemble for the cameras. The actress wore a richly embroidered corset top in vibrant pink, blue, and gold hues, featuring an eye-catching front zip detail. The structured bustier hugged her figure before flowing into a deep purple satin skirt with elegant draping, giving the look a true mermaid silhouette. Shruti completed the outfit with statement jewelry, including a chunky ring and a