SIT PUBLICATIONS PVT LTD | Estd 2009 | VOL No. 17 | ISSUE No. 247 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026 | P-8 | ₹.5/- | PRGI No. KARENG/2012/43253

KOCHI I VIJAYAWADA I CHENNAI I BENGALURU I HYDERABAD

THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES

Essence of the South

NATIONAL DAILY NEWSPAPER

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

OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

08-10-2026



Total pilgrims :66,404
Tonsures : 20,856
Hundi kanukalu : 4.63 CR
Laddu sale... 4.15 Lac
Annaprasadam..1.82 Lac
Ashwini hospital..2,752
Present Situation on 09-10-2026:
Waiting Compartments..16.

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens)...8-12 H.



PAGE-4

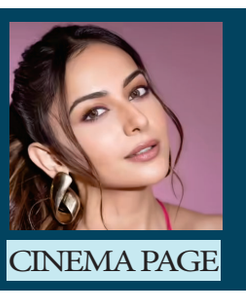
Rail Minister Warns Against Illegal Land Acquisition for High-Speed Rail

Bhuvneshwar Kumar's Recall Sparks 2028 T20 World Cup Theory From Former SRH Star



Sports News

Rakul preet singh slays simple butter yellow



CINEMA PAGE

SCAN FOR E-PAPER

INBRIEF

RAILWAYS CANCEL TRAINS AHEAD OF DELHI PROTEST



New Delhi, Oct. 9: Indian Railways has cancelled and rescheduled several trains scheduled to arrive at New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin stations on October 10, citing anticipated traffic congestion due to a proposed protest in the national capital. The affected services were scheduled to arrive between 4 am and 2 pm on Saturday. The Railways said the precautionary measures were intended to minimise inconvenience to passengers. Eastern Railway has cancelled the 12301 Howrah–New Delhi Rajdhani Express and the 12313 Sealdah–New Delhi Rajdhani Express, both scheduled to depart on Friday. Two Mumbai-originating services have been rescheduled by five hours. These are the 12951 Mumbai Central–New Delhi Tejas Rajdhani Express and the 12953 Mumbai Central–Hazrat Nizamuddin service.

Other cancelled trains include the 20155 Dr Ambedkar Nagar–New Delhi, 09309 Indore–Hazrat Nizamuddin, 12415 Indore–New Delhi, 12247 Bandra Terminus–Hazrat Nizamuddin and 12957 Sabarmati–New Delhi services.

The Railways also announced that Mail and Express trains departing their originating stations after 2 pm on October 9, with scheduled arrivals at the two Delhi stations between 4 am and 2 pm on October 10, would be cancelled at source.

Meanwhile, Delhi Police warned against unauthorised gatherings ahead of the proposed Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) protest on October 10. Police said restrictions under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita were in force in the New Delhi area and violations would invite legal action.



INDIA Bloc Seeks CEC Gyanesh Kumar's Resignation

New Delhi ■ TSIT

The INDIA bloc on Friday submitted a joint memorandum to President Droupadi Murmu seeking Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar's resignation and suspension of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The development came amid heightened tensions ahead of the October 10 protest in Delhi. The Supreme Court observed that the right to association and peaceful protest is a fundamental right, directing authorities not to impose a complete ban on metro services. It said metro and other railway services should operate under suitable regulations.

THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS HAS APPROVED THE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF INTERNET SERVICES. INTERNET SERVICES WILL REMAIN SUSPENDED WITHIN A 4-KILOMETRE RADIUS AROUND THE JANPATH–KARTAVYA PATH CROSSING FROM 10 P.M. ON OCTOBER 9 TO 10 P.M. ON OCTOBER 10.

Meanwhile, the Union Home Ministry asked States and Union Territories to coordinate with Delhi Police and take preventive measures to prevent protesters from mobilising towards the national capital. The ministry cited potential law and order concerns and called for real-time intelligence sharing.

Ahead of the meeting with the President, Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi recalled Jawaharlal Nehru's historic Independence Eve speech, quoting: "May the star never set and that hope never be betrayed."

CM Naidu assures BC representation through TDP



Kondapi ■ TSIT

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has assured that the Telugu Desam Party will continue to support Backward Classes and ensure their representation through the party, responding to the Supreme Court's decision on BC reservations. Addressing a 'Mee Bhoomi–Mee Hakku' public meeting at Narsingolu in Kondapi constituency on Friday, he distributed pattadar passbooks to farmers and said the government was issuing secure passbooks following Resurvey 2.0. He stated that 16.48 lakh acres had been removed from the 22A prohibited properties list since the coalition government assumed office.

The Chief Minister said issues relating to Garbha Kandrika lands in four mandals of Prakasam district were being addressed. He also announced that the Pothula Chenchayya–Paleru Reservoir project would be completed within two years at a cost of Rs.166.40 crore. The project is expected to provide irrigation to 9,500 acres and drinking water to 35,000 people in 15 villages.

CM Revanth Reddy pushes smart transport in CURE



Hyderabad ■ TSIT BUREAU:

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to improve public transport, road connectivity and recycled water utilisation in the CURE area, emphasising advanced technology and faster project execution.

At a review meeting on Friday, he asked officials to study global Personal Rapid Transit (PRT) systems and prepare plans to connect congested residential and industrial areas with Metro, MMTS and bus stations.The Chief Minister directed officials to accelerate flyover and underpass works, improve traffic arrangements around KBR Park and expedite the flyover from Nagarjuna Circle to Jubilee Hills Check Post. He also asked them to study construction technologies used in Mumbai to complete new projects within a year. Officials were instructed to examine a radial road parallel to the proposed Hyderabad–Mumbai bullet train route and explore road-widening and connectivity options between Shankarpally and Chevella.

Reviewing recycled water plans, officials informed him that infrastructure was being planned to utilise 500 million litres per day. Revanth Reddy directed them to expedite treated-water supply to Bharat Future City, data centres and industries in Chandanvalli and Aluru.He stressed coordination among municipal corporations, HYDRAA, the Water Board and Hyderabad Growth Corridor Limited for effective implementation of the CURE Act.

TVK wins both TN bypolls in endorsement of CM Vijay govt

Chennai: Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) won the Madurantakam and Dharapuram Assembly bypolls in Tamil Nadu, defeating its DMK rivals and strengthening the political position of Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay's government.

Maragatham Kumaravel won Madurantakam by 17,554 votes, polling 61,470 votes against DMK candidate Paranthaman's 43,916. AIADMK candidate Ganitha Sampath secured 38,770 votes. The constituency recorded an 86.26 per cent turnout, with 1,84,413 of 2,13,788 registered voters exercising their franchise. Counting was completed in 21 rounds, with 27 candidates contesting the seat.In Dharapuram, Sathyabama defeated DMK candidate Sukanya by 10,196 votes. She secured 62,596 votes, while Sukanya received 52,400. AIADMK candidate Bhanumathi finished third with 41,078 votes.



Dharapuram recorded an 80.30 per cent turnout, with 1,79,314 of 2,23,306 registered voters casting their ballots. Counting took place over 23 rounds, with 22 candidates in the fray. The bypolls were necessitated after the sitting AIADMK legislators resigned and joined the TVK, triggering contests in both constituencies. The campaign involved the TVK, DMK, AIADMK, Left parties and Naam Tamilar Katchi.

BJP wins 8, SP 2 of UP's 10 Rajya Sabha seats unopposed

Lucknow■ TSIT

Eight candidates of the BJP and two of the Samajwadi Party (SP) have been declared elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha in Uttar Pradesh.The unopposed elections were declared after the nomination papers of two Independent candidates were rejected during scrutiny, and no other candidate remained in the fray.As a result, the voting scheduled for October 16 will no longer be required. The outcome also brings an end to the Bahujan Samaj Party's (BSP) representation in the Rajya Sabha from Uttar Pradesh. The eight BJP candidates who have been elected to the Upper House from Uttar Pradesh are state Minister Dharm Pal Singh, BJP state OBC Morcha President Prakash Pal, Shruti Gangwar, Vidyasagar Sonkar, Priyanka Singh Rawat, Radhakant Ojha, Gopi Krishna Pandey, and Ram Pratap Singh Chauhan.

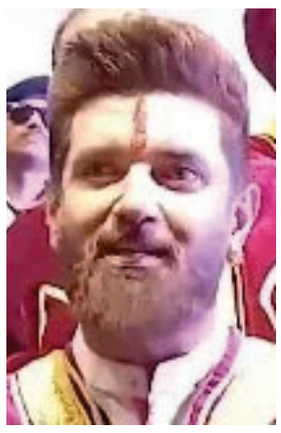
Conduct Navaratri Brahmotsavams Grandly: Additional EO



Addl EO venkayya choudhary addressing Deputation Staff for Navarathri Brahmotsavam at Asthana Mandapam in Tirumala...

TIRUMALA, 09 OCTOBER 2026: The TTD Additional EO Sri Venkaiah Chowdary called upon the deputed officials and employees of TTD to work in coordination towards the successful conduct the Srivari Navaratri Brahmotsavams on a grand note, akin to Srivari Salakatla Brahmotsavams held last month. Addressing employees deputed for Brahmotsavam duties at Asthana Mandapam in Tirumala on Friday evening, he said the success of the Salakatla Brahmotsavams was the result of everyone's efforts. JEOs Dr Sharath, Sri Gopinath, CVSO Sri Murali Krishna and officials from various departments, Group supervisors from Srivari Seva attended the meeting.

'No one can stop the youth': Chirag Paswan on train cancellations for CJP's protest



Sonipat, Oct 9 : Union Minister and Lok Janshakti Party-Ram Vilas (LJP-RV) Chief Chirag Paswan on Friday asserted that no amount of cancellations of trains or halting of connectivity will be able to stop the youth of the country.

He made the remarks after Indian Railways cancelled and rescheduled several trains which were to arrive at New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin railway stations on October 10, in view of anticipated severe road traffic congestion around the stations amid the proposed Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) protest in the national capital. Speaking to reporters after addressing the seventh Convocation ceremony of the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) in Kundli, Chirag Paswan said: "These are the youth of India; no one can stop them.""Those who try to spread such misconceptions...how many trains can anyone stop? How much connectivity can anyone halt? How many roads can anyone block? These are the youth of India; they possess the capability to show the world the way forward, and generations before them have done so as well. So, in such a situation, no one can stop them," the Union Minister added.

Prez sought evidence of 'vote chori', says Rahul after opposition's meeting on CEC row

New Delhi ■ TSIT



Congress MP and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday said President Droupadi Murmu had asked the opposition delegation to provide evidence to substantiate its allegations of "vote chori" (vote theft) following a meeting over the controversy surrounding Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar.

A delegation of INDIA bloc MPs, including Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi, met the President at Rashtrapati Bhavan and submitted a memorandum alleging electoral irregularities and an attempt to undermine Indian democracy.

The other members of the delegation were Mamata All India Trinamool Congress Chairperson Mamata Banerjee, J&K Chief Minister and National Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah, NCP-SP MP Supriya Sule, CPI-M General Secretary M. A. Baby, RJD Rajya Sabha member Prof Manoj Kumar Jha, CPI General Secretary D. Raja, Samajwadi Party MP Rajeev Rai, and VCK President and MP Dr Thirumaavalavan Tholkappiyan.

The meeting took place after several days of protests by Opposition leaders against the Election Commission, the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and alleged irregularities in the electoral process. The Opposition has also been demanding Gyanesh Kumar's resignation.Addressing reporters after the meeting, Gandhi said the delegation had raised concerns about the alleged role of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar."We submitted a memorandum to the President of India, informing her that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar are conspiring to destroy Indian democracy," he said.

Gandhi added that the President asked the delegation to provide evidence supporting its allegations. "She asked us to provide evidence to substantiate what we have said. We will submit the evidence to her whenever she is available," Gandhi said. He described the meeting as satisfactory, noting that the President had neither rejected nor questioned the delegation's submissions.Gandhi further announced that the opposition would approach the Supreme Court on Monday with a memorandum to the Chief Justice of India.

CJP protest in Delhi: Mobile internet suspended near Janpath-Kartavya Path

New Delhi, Oct 9 : As part of the beefed-up security ahead of the CJP protest, the Delhi Police announced the temporary suspension of internet and mobile internet services in a 4 km radius from the Janpath-Kartavya Path crossing from Friday evening.



The 24-hour suspension of mobile internet services would continue till 10 p.m. on Saturday, said a police official.The Delhi Police have maintained that permission for the proposed CJP demonstration has been denied due to the organisers' failure to comply with legal directions and their own undertakings during an earlier protest.After seeking the nod from the Union Home Ministry for the suspension of internet services, Manishi Chandra, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Special Cell (HQ), wrote to nodal officers of telecom companies to take steps for implementing the 24-hour curbs.The DCP's letter received by the telecom companies said the curbs are being enforced as the Union Home Secretary has considered and approved the police request for suspending internet services under sub-rule (1) of Rule 3 of the Telecommunications (Temporary Suspension of Services) Rules, 2024, read with Section 20(2)(b) of the Telecommunications Act, 2023, to suspend mobile internet services.

The telecom operators were requested to enforce the internet curbs at and around a radius of 4 km from the Janpath-Kartavya Path crossing from 10 p.m. on Friday to 10 p.m. on Saturday.internet curbs were in addition to the closure of 57 Delhi Metro stations that came into force from 9 p.m. on Friday.

www.thesouthindiatimes.com

info.southindiatimes@gmail.com

EDITORIAL

The Right To Be Heard: AI, Patriarchy And Women's Freedom

Imagine a woman preparing to address her community. She uses AI to translate her speech, organise her arguments and explain a policy in accessible language. Technology helps her reach people previously beyond her audience. Yet the same technologies can be used to fabricate her voice, impersonate her or produce sexualised images intended to humiliate her. The opportunity and the threat can sit uncomfortably close together. Women should be able to learn, work, organise and speak online without fearing that their visibility will become a weapon against them. Technology has opened new pathways into public and political life, allowing women to speak directly to citizens, build communities and participate in public debate. But access to a microphone is not the same as equality in using it. The question is not only whether women can participate. It is what participation costs them once they become visible.

Digital spaces carry the inequalities of the societies that create them. Patriarchal expectations about how women should behave, dress and speak do not disappear when people go online. They acquire new audiences and new instruments. A woman expressing an opinion may find herself judged through her appearance or sexuality while her argument is ignored. Technology can extend familiar forms of social control into every corner of her life.

AI introduces additional possibilities for exploitation. Fabricated intimate imagery, impersonation and manipulated recordings can attack a woman's reputation without any connection to her actual conduct. The violation remains real even when the image is false. Its purpose may be to punish independence, discourage ambition or make public participation unbearable. Asking women to avoid photographs, remain silent or retreat from technology allows those responsible to determine the boundaries of women's lives. But this is not an argument for shielding women from criticism.

Women in public life should expect scrutiny. They should be challenged on their policies, decisions, political judgement, ideology and record. Robust disagreement is essential to democratic life. The harder question is where legitimate political criticism becomes a mechanism for delegitimising a woman through gender.

An accusation about a politician's policy is political speech. Attacking her sexuality, appearance, family or morality because she is a woman is something different. Threats, sexualised humiliation and the exposure of private information can impose consequences that go well beyond the immediate insult. They can affect a woman's reputation, relationships, family and willingness to remain visible.

Gendered abuse is therefore not simply abuse that happens to mention gender. Its power comes from the social consequences attached to gender.

This distinction matters because the same attack does not necessarily carry the same social cost for women and men. Women have historically been judged differently on sexuality, marriage, motherhood, appearance and behaviour. When these expectations are weaponised in political debate, the result can be a form of intimidation that makes participation materially harder. The participation cost we do not always see The most important impact of gendered abuse may not be the comment that is posted or the image that is circulated. It may be what happens afterwards.

Washington's PERM Freeze Is A Warning Shot At India's Tech Model

SUBIMAL BHATTACHARJEE



The Trump administration on Thursday suspended five major Indian IT companies, including Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Cognizant, Wipro and HCL, and US IT giants Microsoft, Capgemini and Adobe, from a key US programme used by employers to sponsor skilled foreign workers for permanent residency.

The announcement marks the moment America's immigration crackdown moved from rhetoric to real gatekeeping. The operational consequence is stark: the Labour Department will not accept new or process pending PERM applications involving the companies. This did not come out of nowhere. A month ago, the Labour Department's Inspector General froze Cognizant's filings, and the Office of Inspector General said it was investigating alleged fraud and human trafficking involving the H-1B and PERM systems. What was then framed as a single-company probe has become a sector-wide verdict.

PERM is the foundation of the employment-based green card. An employer must provide credible evidence that no qualified US workers are available for the job, including placing a 30-day job order with the state workforce agency and advertising the posting. Without that certification, nothing else in the green card process can move. The administration's argument is economic nationalism dressed as fraud enforcement. US Labour Secretary Keith Sonderling said the companies had requested nearly 3 million foreign workers since 2009, arguing the practice shut Americans out of the job market. Vice President JD Vance went further against Microsoft, alleging it laid off 6,000 American workers in 2025 while receiving more than 6,000 H-1B approvals and filing 3,682 PERM applications, including nearly 1,000 for positions involving workers it had laid off.

Notably, though, the punishment has run ahead of the proof. The suspension has no published end date and no criminal charges have been brought so far. In Microsoft's and Adobe's case, nobody has said which agencies are investigating or what about. Due process, it appears, will follow the headline.

Definitely the impact will be on the tech sector. The first casualty is the individual worker. Thousands of Indian engineers who have spent years on H-1B visas, often waiting out decade-long India-specific backlogs, now find the very first rung of the ladder removed. Their H-1B status survives, but their path to permanence does not. For many, the rational choice becomes switching employers which is exactly the kind of attrition IT services firms can least afford.

The second casualty is the business model. Indian IT's US delivery has long rested on a pipeline: recruit in India, deploy on H-1B, retain through green card sponsorship. Removing the retention lever makes onsite talent costlier and more mobile. Markets have already priced the risk; after the Cognizant action alone, Indian IT stocks lost nearly Rs 55,000 crore in market capitalisation in a single session. Third, the inclusion of Microsoft and Adobe signals this is not just an "outsourcer" problem. It tells every American tech firm that foreign hiring after domestic layoffs is now politically radioactive. The chilling effect will ripple into clients, who may prefer vendors less exposed to visa risk, accelerating the shift towards offshore delivery and AI-led automation.

Finally, the action compounds an already hostile environment. It lands as Trump extends the H-1B visa fee order while the $100,000 charge faces a court fight. The cumulative message is unmistakable: the cost of moving Indian talent to America is rising on every front.

Clearly for New Delhi, this is more than a corporate dispute. Indian nationals are the largest beneficiaries of both H-1B visas and employment-based green cards; a measure aimed at "IT outsourcing firms" disproportionately lands on Indian citizens. The optics of five of the six named services firms having Indian roots will not be lost on Indian public opinion. On the diplomatic front also there are ramifications. It also strains a relationship that has been carefully rebuilt around technology, the very pillar that was meant to be insulated from trade frictions. Talent mobility has long been India's central ask in bilateral talks; Washington has now made it a bargaining chip. One can expect pressure on the Indian government to raise it at the highest levels, but also expect Washington to argue this is domestic labour enforcement, not foreign policy. India's challenge will be to protest firmly without appearing to defend malpractice, should any be proven. There is a quieter long-term risk for America too. Talent denied permanence tends to go elsewhere, to Canada, Europe, the Gulf, or back home to India's global capability centres. Washington may win the headline and lose the talent. The uncertainty and sudden actions have already started the murmurs for better destinations where the techies can contribute.

The industry must take short term as well as long term steps. In the short term, they must contest the process and protect the people. The companies should seek urgent clarity, through legal channels if needed, on the basis, scope and duration of a suspension imposed without published findings or charges. Simultaneously, they must protect affected employees: transparent communication, legal support, preserving priority dates where possible, and facilitating moves to unaffected sponsors rather than letting careers stall. NASSCOM and the Indian government should press jointly for a time-bound review, since an open-ended freeze is the real damage.

On the long term, the industry must accelerate what it has talked about for a decade: substantially deeper local hiring and training in the US, near-shore delivery hubs, and AI-augmented offshore delivery that reduces the need to physically relocate staff. Alongside this, firms should submit to independent audits of their visa and wage practices and publish compliance data. A model that can withstand political scrutiny is the only one that will survive it.

Thursday's freeze may eventually be softened by courts or negotiations. But the era in which Indian IT could treat American immigration as a dependable supply chain is over. The sooner the industry builds for that reality, the less leverage Washington will hold.

Transition, Not Tragedy: Decoupling Tech Careers From The H-1B Pipeline

PRANJAL SHARMA



During the peak years, more than 283,000 Indian software engineers had active H-1B work visas.

In the years since, the numbers have reduced. In some ways this was inevitable. Even without the increased restrictions on visa and green card applications, the demand for software engineers will continue to recede as the nature of work is changing. Basic coding has been automated, and this will accelerate as AI becomes more useful for tech companies. Job losses in the tech industry have been increasing in the last two years globally. In 2025, over 122,000 tech jobs were eliminated across 278 companies and in 333 layoff events. And in 2026 (till early October 2026) over 130,000 tech jobs were eliminated across 311 companies in 351 layoff events according to an estimate by Layoffs FYI, an industry tracker. The combined total is roughly 253,000 tech jobs lost across 2025 and 2026-to-date. According to Roger Lee, founder of Layoffs.fyi, AI was cited in 33% of tech layoff events in 2026, up from just 1% in 2024.

The tech industry has a larger crisis of skills to deal with. The older skills are no longer relevant. And people with new skills are not being created fast enough to meet the demand. This asymmetry is likely to remain for the next few years for global tech companies. "US employers continue to face persistent talent and skills shortages and rely on the H-1B program as an essential component of a broader set of strategies to recruit, develop, and retain the workforce they need," wrote Emily M Dickens, chief administrative officer, of Washington DC based talent organization SHRM in a letter to US government.

Employers continue to face significant challenges in finding qualified talent. In 2026, SHRM research found that nearly 68% of organisations struggled to recruit for full-time positions, while 53% of HR professionals reported that hiring had become more difficult than it was a year earlier. These challenges are particularly acute in sectors such as engineering, computer science and information technology, healthcare, finance and accounting, and education. The same research helps explain why many employers rely on H-1B sponsorship. Among organisations that use the program, 65% cited the need for highly specialised skills and expertise, 51% pointed to critical skills shortages, and 49% said they were unable to find sufficiently qualified US candidates. A similar situation exists in the Indian tech industry. A study by industry body Nasscom has argued for deeper AI skills for Indian professionals.

Nasscom argues that academia and industry must work together to rethink talent development for an AI-native workplace. Educational institutions need to move beyond a narrow focus on coding by placing greater emphasis on engineering judgment, domain expertise, and new approaches to assessment. At the same time, employers must redesign how foundational capabilities are built, strengthen mentorship, provide more opportunities for independent problem-solving, integrate AI verification into everyday workflows, and invest continuously in developing early-career talent. The challenge therefore for the Indian tech industry, talent managers and policy makers is to reorient the education to employment journey for a world of automation and AI. For the professionals who will find the path to H-1B narrowing, many new opportunities are expanding.

According to industry estimates, many professionals are moving from legacy IT companies to GCCs. In recent years, GCC has expanded hiring of tech professionals. Global Capability Centers (GCCs), also known as captive centers or shared services centers, are wholly-owned subsidiaries of multinational companies that deliver technology, analytics, R&D, engineering, finance, HR, and operations services to their parent organisations.

According to a joint report by Nasscom and Zinnov, India's GCC ecosystem expanded to 2,117 centres operating through 3,728 units by FY26, employing 2.36 million professionals and generating $98.4 billion in revenue. Since FY21, the number of GCCs has increased by 32%, with 506 Forbes Global 2000 companies establishing operations in India. Artificial intelligence has become a key catalyst for this growth. Nearly half of all GCCs established since FY21 were designed with AI at their core, and more than 1,200 centres have integrated AI and machine learning capabilities into their operations. This transformation is supported by over 250 dedicated Centres of Excellence and a talent pool of approximately 250,000 AI professionals, reinforcing India's position as a strategic hub for AI-led innovation and enterprise transformation. India's GCC workforce of 2.36 million people is four times larger than the estimated number of Indians working in the US on H-1B visas at any given time.

Nana Patekar: The Voice That Spoke To Generations, From 'Prahaar' To 'Golmaal'

Amit Chaturvedi



When I asked my eight-year-old son if he knew of any Nana Patekar movie, he said, 'Golmaal'. It took me a while to recall the scene in one of the films in the 'Golmaal' franchise where a mute Tusshar Kapoor, possessed by a soul, begins speaking in Patekar's distinctive voice. It was a moment of comic absurdity, but it also said something about the actor's cultural reach.

Here was an actor whose gravelly baritone, staccato rhythm and intense voice modulation travelled across generations, becoming instantly recognisable even to children who may never have watched his most celebrated performances.

For me, however, Nana Patekar will always be Major Chauhan from 'Prahaar' (1991).

I remember the intensity with which he portrayed the disciplined army officer, a man who believed that character was forged through hardship and that duty demanded more than mere words. Patekar did not simply play an officer who trained cadets; he embodied a philosophy. His dialogues carried the weight of conviction, delivered with a controlled aggression.

He could pause, raise his voice, lower it and then explode into a monologue without losing the audience. His words were not merely meant to be heard. They demanded to be absorbed.

That intensity became his signature.

In 'Parinda' (1989), he was frighteningly convincing as Anna Seth, a gangster whose violence and unpredictability made him one of the film's most memorable characters. In 'Krantiveer' (1994), he brought a different kind of fury to the screen as Pratap Narayan Tilak, a man whose anger was directed at corruption, injustice and communal divisions. His impassioned speeches became an integral part of the film's identity, particularly the "Hindu Ka Khoon, Musalman Ka Khoon" analogy.

Patekar had a rare ability to make a character's anger feel personal. He did not always behave like the conventional Hindi film hero. He was abrasive, uncomfortable and difficult to like. Yet it was almost impossible to look away.

His range was evident in films such as 'Khamoshi: The Musical' (1996), where he played Joseph Braganza, the deaf father of the character played by Manisha Koirala. Here, the intensity remained, but it was expressed through restraint, silences and emotional vulnerability.

Then came the roles that introduced him to a new generation of moviegoers.

As Uday Shetty in 'Welcome' (2007), Patekar turned an underworld don into an unlikely comic icon. The character's exaggerated seriousness and wonderfully timed reactions made him hilarious without diminishing his screen presence. His chemistry with Anil Kapoor's Majnu Bhai became one of the film's biggest attractions.

The new-age audience realised that the man who could deliver a blistering monologue in 'Krantiveer' could also make them laugh through a pause, a glare or an exasperated expression. Uday Shetty eventually found a life of his own in internet memes and social media clips.

Different generations could claim different versions of Nana Patekar as their own. For some, he was the fierce actor; for others, he was the menacing presence, an emotionally complex father or a gangster whose dreams of becoming an actor provided much of the humour.

And all these characters were delivered with one quality that made Nana Patekar unique: Individuality. You cannot imagine another actor doing the film with same intensity, abrupt pauses and a distinct humour.I began thinking about his legacy with a question to my eight-year-old son. His answer took me to 'Golmaal', while my own memory went straight to 'Prahaar'. Between those two films lies the remarkable range of an actor who could speak to vastly different audiences without ever losing his identity.

High Court questions legal basis for FIR against Malleshwaram booth agents in SIR dispute



BENGALURU, : The Karnataka High Court has put an interim halt to an FIR against two booth-level agents accused of attempting to delete voters' names through allegedly misleading Form-7 applications during the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls.

The court, while considering a petition seeking cancellation of the FIR, remarked that the complaint appeared to have been lodged in haste at the preliminary stage. Justice Anant Ramanath Hegde, who headed the bench hearing the matter on Friday, granted interim protection to the petitioners. The FIR was registered at Bengaluru's Vyalikaval police station following a complaint filed by Congress leader Anoop Ayyangar. The complaint named Vasanthalakshmi and Deepak Singh, booth-level agents linked to Malleshwaram, over allegations concerning applications submitted for the deletion of voter names.

Representing the two petitioners, senior advocate Arun Shyam submitted that booth-level agents could file Form-7 applications seeking the removal of names from electoral rolls. He argued that such requests were subject to scrutiny by election authorities and that the officials concerned had the responsibility to verify the claims before taking a decision. However, Additional Special Public Prosecutor Anoop Kumar challenged this position. He alleged that the petitioners had filed 778 applications, far exceeding the figure of 50 cited during the proceedings, and claimed that the exercise was aimed at removing voters with a wrongful intention.

The judge sought clarification on the legal grounds for treating the submission of more than 50 applications as a criminal offence.

Drought forces Dharwad farmers to sell cattle at distress prices



Hubballi : The severe drought gripping Karnataka has begun taking a heavy toll on livestock, with farmers in Dharwad district being forced to sell cattle they had raised for years as fodder and water become increasingly scarce.

Scenes at the cattle market in Nulvi of Kundgol taluk have highlighted the growing distress among farmers. With the southwest monsoon failing to provide adequate rainfall and prospects for the rabi season remaining uncertain, agricultural income has declined sharply. The shortage of crop residue and other fodder has made it increasingly difficult for farmers to maintain their livestock.

Farmers from Kundgol, Navalgund, Annigeri and other dryland areas are reportedly arriving at the market to sell cattle. Unlike normal circumstances, sellers now outnumber buyers, reflecting the pressure on rural households.

Many farmers traditionally keep bullocks for agricultural operations along with four or five cows and buffaloes to supplement their income through dairy farming. However, the lack of fodder has forced several families to retain only one or two animals and sell the remaining livestock.The distress is also reflected in the prices being offered. Farmers claim that animals once valued at around Rs 1 lakh are finding no buyers even when offered for just Rs 5,000 to Rs 6,000. "We can somehow manage our own food when there is a shortage, but feeding livestock every day is extremely difficult. Buying fodder costs thousands of rupees, and farmers cannot afford the additional burden.

Mangaluru man's body exhumed after friends allege foul play over Rs 80-crore property



MANGALURU, : The mysterious death of Albert Rego, a resident of Kottara First Cross in Mangaluru, has come under renewed police scrutiny after his body was exhumed nearly two months after burial following allegations of foul play and a possible dispute over valuable properties.

Rego died on July 19, and his daughter, Maya Rego, allegedly buried him at the Derebail Church cemetery without informing neighbours or distant relatives. The unusual circumstances surrounding the death and burial reportedly raised doubts among his close friends, prompting them to lodge a complaint with Urwa police. The complainants have alleged that the death could be linked to a dispute over Rego's assets. His friend Ajoy claimed that Rego owned properties valued at approximately Rs 70 crore to Rs 80 crore. According to him, Maya allegedly pressured her father into executing a will transferring a substantial share of the assets in her favour before his death.

The complaint raises suspicion that Maya may have been involved in her father's death, possibly with the assistance of her boyfriend. However, the allegations have not been established, and police are investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident.

Ajoy has also alleged that a police official may have helped conceal details of the death. The complainants have urged senior authorities to examine this allegation and ensure that the investigation remains impartial.

Another issue raised in the complaint concerns the hospital where Rego was taken before his death was formally recorded. The complainants questioned why he was taken to a hospital in Bondel to obtain a death certificate when AJ Hospital was reportedly located close to his residence. They want investigators to verify the circumstances surrounding the hospital visit and the issuance of the certificate.

Rego reportedly had four children, two of whom are currently residing in Dubai. His friends have demanded a thorough examination of the alleged property transfers and the events preceding his death.

Following the complaint, police arranged for the body to be exhumed from the Derebail Church cemetery in the presence of the tahsildar and forensic science laboratory experts. The remains will undergo post-mortem examination and forensic analysis to establish the cause of death. Police are examining the allegations and gathering evidence. The forensic findings are expected to help determine whether further action is warranted against those suspected of involvement.

Uttara Kannada Stallions clinch inaugural Karnataka Kabaddi Premier League crown



Bengaluru : Brilliant display by Uttara Kannada Stallions saw them pip Mangalore Indians in the final to be crowned champions of the inaugural Karnataka Kabaddi Premier League, which concluded successfully at the Koramangala Indoor Stadium.

Stallions held their nerve to edge Mangalore Indians 32-31 with raider Sai Prasad playing a star role. The result crowned the Stallions champions after a dramatic final to complete a memorable victory. The winners, UK Stallions, got a cash prize of Rs.5 lakh while Mangalore Indians took away Rs.3 lakh prize. Both the losing semifinalist got Rs.1 lakh each.

With just two seconds remaining, the Stallions tackled and trapped Mangalore's star raider Sushil Kambrekar in the final raid to preserve their slender lead. Successful raider Sai Prasad had earlier unleashed three crucial raids towards the end, collecting vital points and keeping Uttara Kannada in front while thwarting Mangalore's attempts to turn the match around. Trailing throughout the first half, the Stallions fought back to draw level at 14-14 with just 30 seconds remaining and then crossed over with a slender 15-14 lead.

Earlier in the semis, Mangalore Indians stormed into the final with a commanding 43-30 victory as they put paid to the hopes of Hoysala Empire Hassan. Mangalore made a strong start, taking a 25-11 lead at half-time, and maintained their dominance in the second half to shock the league leaders in a 13-point victory. Hassan managed 19 points in the second half, but could not bridge the gap as Mangalore advanced to the title clash.

Mysore Mahasene ousted in thrilling semis

Uttara Kannada Stallions produced a dramatic turnaround in the second semifinal, edging Mysore Mahasene 33-31. Mysore appeared in control after taking a 19-10 lead at half-time and were still ahead 31-30 late in the match. However, during Mysore's final raid, the Stallions effected a crucial super tackle, and boxed the raider and along with the all-out points, snatched a two-point victory into the final.

Kia India Brings Young Tennis Enthusiasts One Step Closer to AO27;

BENGALURU : Kia India, one of the country's leading mass-premium automakers and a longstanding partner of the Australian Open, is set to kick off the City Trials for the Kia India Ballkids Program at AO27 with the Bengaluru leg on 10–11 October 2026. The trials mark the next stage of the selection journey for young tennis enthusiasts aspiring to become Official Australian Open Ballkids. Following the close of registrations for Bengaluru on 03 October 2026, shortlisted boys and girls aged 12–15 years will participate in the two-day City Trials. With no prior tennis experience required, participants will take part in a series of activities designed to assess skills and qualities relevant to the Ballkid role, including agility, coordination, focus, communication and teamwork. Participants will be required to attend the trials with a parent or legal guardian. The two-day trials will provide participants with an opportunity to understand the role of a Ballkid and the skills involved in supporting the smooth conduct of a professional tennis match. Through a range of on-court and activity-based exercises, participants will get a closer understanding of the focus, responsiveness, coordination and teamwork required to perform the role. For young participants in Bengaluru, the trials will offer an opportunity to engage with tennis in a different way and experience the discipline, focus and teamwork involved in being a Ballkid at an international sporting event.

Following the Bengaluru

AMM Foundation Revives 3 Lakes



Haliyal: AMM Foundation's Project NANNEER has rejuvenated three water bodies in Haliyal Taluk, Karnataka, improving water security, groundwater recharge and irrigation potential for rural communities. The initiative restored Kumbarekare Lake in Thergaon village, along with Alloli Pond and Hanumantha Pond in Haliyal village. The project aims to increase water storage, reduce seasonal scarcity and support sustainable agricultural livelihoods.
Kumbarekare Lake's storage capacity increased from 352,002 to 655,452 cubic metres, benefiting approximately 243 families. The restoration involved desilting, strengthening lake bunds and improving groundwater recharge, while helping reduce flooding and water stagnation during heavy monsoon rainfall.
Alloli Pond's capacity rose from 27,280 to 87,296 cubic metres, while Hanumantha Pond's capacity increased from 10,115 to 24,276 cubic metres. Together, the three projects are expected to benefit more than 370 families by improving water availability for farming and daily needs.Despite receiving over 1,500 mm of annual southwest monsoon rainfall, Haliyal faces seasonal water shortages because of limited groundwater percolation and excessive runoff.Muthu Murugappan, CEO of EID Parry India Ltd and Chair of Project NANNEER, said community-level water conservation was essential for sustainable livelihoods and long-term water security.

INALSA Triton 900 Review: A Single Kitchen System for Everyday Grinding, Blending and Food Prep

New Delhi: Managing different kitchen appliances for everyday cooking can take up both time and counter space. From grinding spices and making chutneys to chopping vegetables and kneading dough, many common kitchen tasks need different tools. The INALSA Triton 900 (MG+FP) brings a mixer grinder and food processor together in one appliance. The Triton 900 is powered by a 900W 100% copper winding motor with copper-sintered bushes. The motor is designed to handle heavy kitchen tasks and can run continuously for up to 45 minutes under heavy loads. It comes with three stainless steel jars: a 1.5L blending/liquidizing jar, a 1.2L multipurpose jar and a 0.5L chutney jar. These can be used for everyday tasks such as making chutneys, grinding spices, blending and preparing batter.The appliance also comes with a 1.5L food processor bowl and several attachments. These include four stainless steel discs for slicing, fine and coarse shredding and French fry cutting. There are also attachments for kneading roti dough, chopping vegetables, whisking and squeezing fresh citrus juice. This gives users the option to handle several food preparation tasks with the same



Garuda Mall Hosts Bengaluru's Grand Dasara Handmade Doll Fest 2026, Showcasing Over 3,000 Traditional Dolls



Bengaluru : Adding colour and cultural splendour to the Dasara festivities, Garuda Mall in Bengaluru inaugurated the Dasara Handmade Doll Fest 2026, featuring an extraordinary display of over 3,000 handmade dolls under one roof. The festival, one of Bengaluru's biggest Dasara doll exhibitions, celebrates India's rich artistic traditions, craftsmanship and cultural heritage.
The exhibition, being held from October 9 to 20, 2026, was inaugurated by Pragathi Shetty, in the presence of Anju Pranav, Organizing Head, Garuda Mall, who is actively involved in the organisation of the doll festival.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, Pragathi Shetty said that Dasara is not merely a festival but a celebration of India's culture, traditions, art and family values. She appreciated the initiative for showcasing traditional craftsmanship and introducing younger generations to the country's rich cultural heritage. "Those who are unable to experience the grandeur of Mysuru Dasara can enjoy a beautiful glimpse of its festive spirit right here in Bengaluru at Garuda Mall. These dolls, painstakingly created by artisans over sev-

Garden Four Site Owners Association Demands Withdrawal of PRR-2 Land Acquisition Notification



Bengaluru : The Garden Four Site Owners Association has urged the Karnataka government to immediately withdraw the final land acquisition notification issued for the proposed Peripheral Ring Road-2 (PRR-2) project, alleging that it threatens the property rights and livelihoods of residents and plot owners in The Gardens-4 residential layout at Gulakamale village.

Addressing a press conference, Association President Arun Bhaskar said the residential layout had been developed after obtaining the necessary land conversion permissions and approvals from various government authorities, including the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA), Bangalore Metropolitan Region Development Authority (BMRDA) and Kanakapura Urban Development Authority.

He stated that many residents had purchased plots by relying on these official approvals and had obtained loans from 18 nationalised banks. No-objection certificates had also been issued for electricity connections to facilitate house construction. The proposed acquisition of land where families have already built homes and settled has therefore created considerable anxiety among residents, he said.

Bhaskar questioned the manner in which the project was being implemented, pointing out that the preliminary notification for PRR-2 was issued approximately 23 years ago. According to the Association, residents' objections have not been adequately heard, and the required social impact assessment report has not been submitted in accordance with the applicable rules.

He further alleged that the proposed road alignment deviates from the original project plan and would affect residents located approximately 1.5 kilometres away from the originally contemplated alignment. He called for an investigation into whether the alignment had been altered under the influence of powerful interests.

Demanding a comprehensive legal review, Bhaskar said the government must examine all relevant departmental records and establish why the approved residential layout was not protected from the proposed acquisition. He also urged the authorities to review the validity and applicability of the old notifications before proceeding further.

"The government must not penalise ordinary citizens who purchased plots after complying with the prescribed rules and obtaining approvals from the relevant authorities. The property rights of residents must be protected, and the final land acquisition notification must be withdrawn," he said.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor Introduces the 2026 Fortuner Leader Edition

Bangalore : Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) announced the introduction of the all-new Fortuner Leader Edition with a refined in-cabin experience for its most iconic SUV. Built for customers who lead with confidence and ambition, the new update enhances the Fortuner's premium appeal while retaining the core attributes that have made the Fortuner an enduring success story.

Enhancements in Leader Edition:

The 2026 Leader Edition features a distinctive set of enhancements designed to amplify its bold and sophisticated character. Exterior highlights include a signature front grille design, black rear door garnish, gloss black alloy wheels with matching hub caps, black roof treatment, and a black-finished antenna.

The dual-tone black roof, body side mouldings and the exclusive hood emblem seamlessly complement the Fortuner's muscular stance and identity.The cabin is further enhanced with dual-tone



black and maroon seat upholstery, matching black-maroon door trims, ambient lighting, and illuminated scuff plates. Additional convenience features such as Auto Folding Outside Rear View Mirrors (ORVMs) and a Tyre Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS) enhance both comfort and confidence on every journey.

The Fortuner Leader Edition will be available in both 4x2 Automatic (AT) and 4x2 Manual Transmission (MT) variants, offered in three colour options of Super White, Platinum White Pearl, and Attitude Black. Commenting on the launch, Mr. Sabari Manohar, Executive Vice President, Sales-Service-Used Car Business, Toyota Kirloskar Motor, said, "The Fortuner has always represented confidence, capability and a spirit of achievement. With the new Leader Edition of the Fortuner, we are further defining this legacy through exterior enhancements and convenience features that reflect the aspirations of today's customers. As we continue to align with changing trends.

HSL Wins Five Awards at CCQC-2026

Visakhapatnam, TSIT. Hindustan Shipyard Limited has won five awards, including three gold and two silver medals, at the 26th Chapter Convention on Quality Concepts -2026, organised by the Quality Circle Forum of India, Visakhapatnam Chapter, on October 8 and 9. HSL secured gold in the Model Presentation category for its Diving Support Vessel, highlighting its deep-sea diving capabilities. It also won two gold awards in the Case Study category for an innovative



shaft insertion and installation technique to improve efficiency, and a manifold-based testing method to enhance the testing efficiency of valves and pipe spools.

The shipyard received two silver awards for RFID-based personnel monitoring and access tracking, and the conversion of a diesel forklift into an electric forklift. The awards recognise HSL teams' efforts to develop innovative solutions to workplace challenges and improve operational efficiency. The convention was held under the theme, "Leading with Quality for Sustainable Growth and Self-Reliance." HSL said the achievements reflected its commitment to quality, innovation, sustainability and continuous improvement.

Brahmanandam Stresses Power of Literature



Amaravati: Padma Shri awardee and actor Brahmanandam highlighted the timeless importance of literature in expressing human emotions, preserving cultural heritage and nurturing empathy at the valedictory session of the Amaravati Literature Festival (ALF) 2026 at SRM University–AP.

"Literature is the language of human emotions," he said, emphasising that stories, poetry and classical texts preserve human experiences and the wisdom of generations despite rapid technological advancements.

Referring to Telugu literary figures Vemana, Sri Sri and Dhurjati, Brahmanandam stressed the need to make literature accessible to people across generations. He also highlighted the spiritual and philosophical significance of works such as the Bhagavatam and Bhagavad Gita in understanding human values and purpose.He urged young people to develop reading habits, stating that literature nurtures imagination, emotional awareness and independent thinking.

While technology enhances human capabilities, he noted, literature deepens understanding of relationships and diverse experiences.

SRM Universiy–AP Vice Chancellor Prof. Ch. Satish Kumar said the festival encouraged young minds to explore diverse ideas, cultures and perspectives through literature.

The three-day festival, held from October 7 to 9 under the theme "Stories for a Changing World," was organised by the university's Easwari School of Liberal Arts. Its valedictory programme featured authors, journalists, storytellers and literary content creators discussing reading, creativity and society.The event also included Prahelika, a quiz competition for college and university students.The festival's second edition reaffirmed the university's commitment to cultural exchange, interdisciplinary dialogue and holistic education, highlighting literature's role in

Nalgonda Wins RTI Award



Hyderabad: Nalgonda district has received an award for outstanding performance in voluntary disclosure of information under Section 4(1)(b) of the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

District Collector B. Chandrasekhar received the award and a memento from Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla at Ravindra Bharati in Hyderabad on Friday. The Collector attributed the achievement to the dedicated efforts of district officials, staff, Public Information Officers (PIOs) and Assistant Public Information Officers (APIOs) in effectively implementing the RTI Act across various departments. He said the district had demonstrated commendable performance in proactively sharing information with the public, promoting transparency and strengthening accountability in administration.

Chandrasekhar also revealed that Nalgonda ranks second in Telangana in resolving cases filed under the RTI Act. He urged officials and staff to intensify their efforts to ensure the district secures the top position in case resolution. The award recognises the district administration's commitment to transparency, effective information disclosure and improved pub-

Karimnagar Leads in Smart Power Monitoring



Karimnagar: Karimnagar Circle has become the first under Telangana Northern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGNPDCL) to achieve 100% integration of the Real-Time Feeder Monitoring System (RTFMS), with all 82 substations connected to the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system.TGNPDCL Chairman and Managing Director Karnati Varun Reddy announced the achievement, stating that the technology would improve power supply reliability, reduce interruptions and enable faster fault detection and restoration.

The RTFMS initiative enables real-time monitoring of feeder performance, voltage fluctuations, power consumption and overloading. Automated alerts help field staff identify faults quickly and take preventive measures, reducing the duration of power outages.

So far, 1,005 substations across TGNPDCL have been integrated with SCADA. The corporation aims to integrate the remaining 419 substations within the next two months. Hanamkonda, Khammam and Komaram Bheem Asifabad circles are expected to achieve full integration soon.

The initiative is being expanded under the guidance of Deputy Chief Minister and Energy Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, with the support of Special Chief Secretary to the Energy Department Navin Mittal. Varun Reddy congratulated the engineers and staff who contributed to Karimnagar Circle's achievement. He said TGNPDCL was committed to adopting advanced technologies to strengthen the distribution network, improve operational efficiency and provide consumers with quality, reliable and uninterrupted power supply.

Rail Minister Warns Against Illegal Land Acquisition for High-Speed Rail



The Union Minister for Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, met the Union Minister for Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, to discuss the Hyderabad–Chennai, Hyderabad–Bengaluru and Hyderabad–Pune High-Speed Rail corridors. He clarified that no land acquisition requisition has been sent to the respective state governments and that any land acquisition being carried out in the name of High-Speed Rail at this stage is illegal.

- The Minister also noted that alignment studies for all three corridors are currently underway.

- He further stated that once the alignment is finalised, the details will be shared with the respective state governments and farmers.

KITSW Holds Workshop on Smart System Design

Hanumakonda, TSIT: The Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) at KITSW, in association with GG_MAAD_SEHAVI AIOT Solutions, organised a two-day workshop on "Smart System Design Using Arduino and Sensors" on October 9 and 10.Around 100 students participated in the programme, which focused on Arduino programming, sensor interfacing, Internet of Things (IoT) applications and practical project development.

Aakash, CEO of GG_MAAD_SEHAVI AIOT Solutions, along with Dhanush and Mokshith, served as resource persons and provided hands-on technical training.

MYSURU DASARA SECURITY TIGHTENED WITH CCTV SURVEILLANCE AND RESTRICTIONS ON JAMBOO SAVARI VIEWING



MYSURU, Mysuru is preparing for its annual Dasara celebrations with an extensive security plan involving thousands of police personnel, surveillance cameras and special traffic arrangements. Authorities have also prohibited people from watching the Jamboo Savari procession from trees and weakened buildings due to safety concerns. City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar said more than 6,000 personnel would be deployed during the festival. The force will comprise 5,161 civil and traffic police personnel, 33 KSRP platoons, 25 DAR platoons and 1,500 home guards.

To assist visitors throughout the 11-day celebrations, the police will establish 18 assistance centres. The public can call the emergency number 112 for help in urgent situations.

Traffic movement around the Mysuru Palace and on important adjoining roads will be regulated, with one-way systems planned on selected stretches to ease congestion. Police will also keep watch on crowds and public activity through 35,794 CCTV cameras installed across the surveillance network.

The commissioner said special attention was being given to preventing accidents during the Jamboo Savari, a major highlight of the Dasara festivities. Spectators will not be permitted to sit on trees or climb dilapidated structures to watch the procession.

CARE Opens Advanced Cath Lab in Vizag

Visakhapatnam, Oct. 9: CARE Hospitals, Health City, Arilova, has inaugurated Andhra Pradesh's first Artis zee Bi-Plane Cath Lab, strengthening advanced cardiac, stroke and neuro-interventional care in the region.



The facility uses two-angle imaging, 3D guidance and CT-like imaging to help specialists perform complex procedures with greater precision. It is particularly useful in treating selected stroke cases, brain aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations and other complex vascular conditions.

The facility was inaugurated by Visakhapatnam East MLA Velagapudi Ramakrishna Babu, in the presence of Gajuwaka MLA Palla Srinivasa Rao and Haresh Trivedi, Regional CEO – India II, Aster DM Quality Care Limited, along with senior doctors and hospital officials.

CARE Hospitals also inaugurated a Neuro Lab, Stroke Unit and Endoscopic Spine Unit to expand specialised neurological and spine care services.

Hospital representatives said the advanced technology would help doctors make more precise treatment decisions and provide specialised care closer to patients' homes. The facility is expected to serve patients from across Andhra Pradesh and neighbouring states, reducing the need to travel to distant metropolitan cities for certain complex interventions.

Senior interventional specialists said the Bi-Plane Cath Lab would support procedures involving blocked brain vessels, complex cardiac conditions and selected vascular disorders. In eligible stroke patients, endovascular treatment can help restore blood flow by removing clots.

The new facilities strengthen CARE Hospitals' capabilities in cardiac care, neurosciences, emergency stroke management and minimally invasive interventions, further expanding Visakhapatnam's role as a regional healthcare centre.

Former Bengaluru police commissioner seeks Centre's review of Dhruv Rathee's visa status

BENGALURU, : Former Bengaluru Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao has written to the Union Home Ministry seeking a review of YouTuber Dhruv Rathee's citizenship, immigration status and compliance with visa conditions after his participation in an anti-Special Intensive Revision (SIR) protest in Bengaluru on October 8.



In his letter to the Union Home Secretary, Rao said Rathee, whom he believes holds German citizenship, attended the demonstration along with actor Prakash Raj, Abhijit Dipke, founder of the CJP organisation, and others. The protest criticised the Election Commission of India's voter list revision exercise. Rao, who contested the 2023 Karnataka Assembly election as a BJP candidate from Chamarajpet and lost, shared the letter on his X account.He has asked the ministry to verify Rathee's present citizenship and nationality, the passport used to enter India, the visa or other authorisation under which he is staying in the country, and the declared purpose and conditions of his visit.The former police chief has also sought clarification on whether Rathee's participation in the protest and his address at the event were permitted under applicable immigration and visa regulations, and whether prior approval was required.

Rao cited the Foreigners Act, 1946, visa conditions, immigration rules, Overseas Citizen of India provisions and other applicable laws, requesting appropriate action if any violation is established. He also called for relevant immigration and entry-exit records to be preserved and examined.In the letter, Rao said his request was not motivated by disagreement with Rathee's political views or criticism of the government and the Election Commission. He described the appeal as an attempt to ensure that foreign nationals comply with the legal requirements governing their stay and activities in India. Rathee attended a protest described as a "Janata Nyayalaya" at Bengaluru's Freedom Park

Karnataka to reverify 1.26 cr Gruha Lakshmi beneficiaries after model code ends

BENGALURU, : The Karnataka government is preparing to reverify the records of around 1.26 crore beneficiaries of the Gruha Lakshmi scheme, one of its flagship guarantee programmes. The exercise is expected to begin after the election model code of conduct ends, with officials having finalised a fresh verification form containing additional questions about beneficiaries' bank accounts and identity documents.



The proposed review aims to correct discrepancies identified in the implementation of the scheme and ensure that financial assistance reaches eligible recipients. The verification process is expected to follow a model similar to the review undertaken for the Gruha Jyothi scheme.

Officials are planning household visits to collect and cross-check information. Even if a beneficiary's details are entered through a mobile application, filling out the offline verification form will remain compulsory, according to the proposed procedure.

The revised questionnaire will seek information about bank account numbers, Aadhaar linkage and ration card details. Beneficiaries will also have to disclose whether they receive a retirement pension.

Under the proposed requirements, the bank account must be held at a branch located in Karnataka, even if the bank operates across India. Beneficiaries will be required to provide an individual account rather than a joint account. The account submitted for the scheme should not be one against which a loan has been taken, as specified in the verification conditions.

A ration card number will be mandatory. Those whose Aadhaar details are not linked to their mobile numbers will have to complete the linkage process.

The government intends to use the exercise to prevent payments from being transferred to accounts outside Karnataka and address shortcomings in the existing beneficiary records. The review is not intended to enrol new applicants; it will focus on checking the eligibility and documentation of people already receiving assistance.

Enumerators and members of guarantee implementation committees are expected to visit households and record information in both physical documents and digital systems. Beneficiaries may also be able to complete the verification at designated service centres.

District-level, taluk-level and Greater Bengaluru Authority-level committees have reportedly been formed to supervise the exercise.

The process is likely to begin after the ongoing Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls is completed, as many departmental staff are currently engaged in election-related duties. The final launch will depend on official instructions from the Chief Minister.

www.thesouthindiatimes.com

info.southindiatimes@gmail.com

France promises 3,000 extra teachers in first step to calm student protests



Highlights

- Education minister Edouard Geffray made the offer in a television interview on Thursday evening, at the end of another day of sometimes violent demonstrations by high-school students.

The French government has made its first sign of giving ground to teenage protesters, with a promise of 3,000 extra supply teachers in the coming days. Education minister Edouard Geffray made the offer in a television interview on Thursday evening, at the end of another day of sometimes violent demonstrations by high-school students. The government says 6,877 people have been arrested, 86% of whom are under the age of 18, since protests began centred around demands for more resources in secondary education. In what unions have billed as Act Four of the three-week movement, some 71,000 people staged protests across the country on Thursday, with 24,000 gathering at the Bastille in Paris. Police once again intervened with tear-gas to disperse groups who attacked them with paving stones and homemade fireworks. In Bordeaux, a lycée, or high school, was ransacked by protesters, and in Marseille a deputy-head was beaten up. On Friday, some 140 lycées - out of 3,500 - were totally or partially closed, a big drop on previous days. But another day of action has been called for next Tuesday. Geffray's announcement was the first material concession to the protesters' complaints. It has long been recognised by all concerned in French education that too many school hours are being lost because of absent teachers and their non-replacement by available supply staff. The minister said that thanks to new software coming online at the ministry, it would be possible to direct 3,000 supply teachers to the 500 or so lycées identified as being in the greatest need. Many of these schools are likely to be in high-immigration city suburbs, where the lack of teachers is most acute. Geffray also said that more money would be made available under an already existing scheme for those teachers who want to work overtime hours in order to plug gaps. And he promised that students' grievances would be taken into account in forthcoming discussions on the education section of the 2027 state budget. But the offer contained no major promise of new investment on a scale likely to appease protesters. The government is wary of appearing to buy social peace because it knows France's precarious debt situation is being followed closely by international money markets. Reaction from student leaders has been guarded to say the least. Nathanaël Combary, who represents the most moderate of the three main lycée unions Renouveau Lycéen (Lycée Renewal), said students were waiting to see how the promise was carried out in practice: "We've had some announcements which correspond to part of our demands. But obviously people want to see the money and more concrete results." "As long as we do not have 10bn on the table, we will continue our action," said Sabrine Kharbach of the Union Etudiante (Student Union), which is close to the radical-left France Insoumise (France Unbowed) party of presidential candidate Jean-Luc Mélenchon. Mélenchon praised Thursday's demonstrations, saying on X that the students had "retaken the Bastille". But at the other end of the political spectrum, a spokesman for the hard-right National Rally (RN) condemned the government's concessions. "The message is: if you break things, you get given stuff," said Laurent Jacobelli. "When you burn cars, attack police, you gain something in return. It's the legitimisation of violence." The movement is the most serious student unrest in France in many years, and comes against a backdrop of rising tension in the country - with anger over rising fuel prices and distress in the farming sector also liable to trigger protests. Next Saturday, 17 October, has been earmarked as a day of demonstrations by a revived "yellow vest" movement, which forced the government to halt a rise in fuel taxes after protests and riots in 2018. In addition, the approach of presidential elections in April and May - in which both hard right and hard left are expected to perform strongly - is exacerbating the mood of confrontation. The government is hoping that the approach of half-term holidays at the end of next week - as well as the arrival of colder and wetter weather - will take some of the sting out of the protests.

Firing squad execution to be livestreamed, Pentagon says



The public will be able to watch the execution of a former US Army major by firing squad, US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth has said. A Defence Department official told the BBC the execution of Nidal Hasan, who shot dead 13 unarmed US soldiers at Fort Hood in 2009, would be livestreamed. It is believed it would be the first public execution in the US in almost a century. The decision to livestream it is "unprecedented in the modern era" and "on uncertain legal terrain," said John Mills, a lawyer who works with inmates sentenced to death. "People need to understand that there's serious consequences for these types of things," said Hegseth. The UN human rights office told AFP that livestreaming it would be "tantamount to a public execution and would breach the absolute prohibition of torture". Democratic Senator Chris Murphy told CNN that the idea was "disgusting" and reminiscent of executions carried out by the Islamic State group.

The Pentagon announced earlier this week it would execute Hasan in the first military execution in more than 60 years.

Hasan, a US Army psychiatrist from Virginia, admitted fatally shooting 13 unarmed soldiers in a crowded medical building at Fort Hood. Alonzo Lunsford, a former US Army sergeant who was shot seven times in the attack, told the BBC's Today programme that he supported the execution by firing squad, as a method "befitting" for what he did.

He does not believe everyone should be able to watch the livestream, concerned about the message it sends younger people, but says it is important that those affected by the shooting are given the opportunity.

"As far as the families of the fallen and the families of the survivors, and the survivors themselves, yes, I think we should be able to look at it uncensored."

Lunsford says he plans to attend the execution and before they pull the trigger he wants Hasan to look him in the eyes. "I want him to know he failed. I'm still here." Hegseth said in an interview with conservative TV outlet Real America's Voice that Hasan is "gonna get a firing squad of soldiers. As it should be".

Asked if Hasan had made any final requests or reached out to President Donald Trump, Hegseth said: "Don't care. We'll see him on December 3rd." A Pentagon spokesperson said on Monday that Trump had approved the defence secretary's recommendation. The BBC has asked the White House whether Trump supports a livestreamed public execution. While there were more than 2,700 executions across 17 countries last year, only two countries carried them out publicly.

Eleven public executions were known to have been carried out in Iran in 2025, and another six in Afghanistan, according to Amnesty International.

Fort Hood attacker to be executed by firing squad - a first for US military since World War Two

The execution is scheduled to take place at Fort Hood in Texas on 3 December. It will be the first military execution by firing squad since the end of World War Two.

In court Hasan apologised for "any mistakes". He said during his court martial in 2013 that he believed he was protecting Muslims and the Taliban in Afghanistan.

A military execution requires approval from the US president, according to military law. It also requires appellate review, where a higher court inspects the decision, and a final judgement on its legality to move forward.

THIEVES STEAL 30,000 WINE BOTTLES WORTH €5M IN ITALY, REPORTS SAY



Thieves have stolen 30,000 bottles of wine collectively worth about 5m (£4.2m) from a prestigious Italian winery, Italian media report. Marchesi Antinori, one of Italy's biggest family-owned wineries, said the theft at its storage facility in Tuscany took place on Saturday as the company was preparing to ship a consignment to customers abroad. At least seven masked men are believed to have deactivated the alarms, disabled the cameras and used company forklifts to load two large trucks of the company's prized Tignanello, Solaia and Guado al Tasso Tuscan reds. Renzo Cotarella, the chief executive, told Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera this was the largest theft of its kind in Italy. "A theft of this scale and value has certainly never occurred in Italy," he said. He added that he was hopeful the authorities would be able to trace the stolen wine. "Two trucks full of merchandise can't just disappear into thin air. The Tuscan roads are full of cameras - perhaps with a bit of luck we'll be able to recover at least some of the bottles stolen from us." He told the Financial Times: "These wines have a great value and I don't know how they can sell all this wine around the world without being seen."

TWO RENOIR PAINTINGS STOLEN FROM FRENCH MUSEUM ARE RECOVERED



Two paintings by Auguste Renoir stolen a month ago from a museum in the south of France have been recovered, the local town hall has said. The two works were seized on 8 September when thieves cut through a fence and smashed a window at the Renoir Museum in Cagnes-sur-Mer, where the French impressionist had lived during his final years. The local mayor praised authorities for recovering the paintings and said the news gave immense joy and profound relief. Six suspects have also been arrested in relation with the heist at Renoir Museum, the town hall confirmed in a statement. The theft was the latest in a series of high-profile art heists in Europe. The two missing paintings were the Portrait of Madame Colonna Romano (1910) and Jeune fille au puits (1886). The thieves had used an electric saw to cut through the frame mountings inside the museum and had initially made off with four paintings, but dropped two of them in the museum's garden as they fled "These two paintings are far more than works of art. They are part of our city's history, our cultural heritage and the legacy Auguste Renoir left to Cagnes-sur-Mer," said Mayor Bryan Masson, who is part of France's National Rally. Further details of their recovery were due to be revealed later on Friday. The Renoir Museum is home to 12 of the famous painter's artworks. Opened in 1960, it houses a variety of objects that once belonged to him, including his easel and wheelchair, as well as photographs and personal letters. Earlier this year paintings by Renoir, Paul Cézanne and Henri Matisse were stolen from a museum near the Italian city of Parma, in a raid that lasted just three minutes. They were recovered in August. France saw its biggest art robbery in years last October, when crown jewels were stolen in broad daylight from the Louvre in Paris. Disguised as construction workers, the thieves broke into the Louvre's first-floor Apollo Gallery during the museum's opening hours. They used an angle-grinder to open display cases and made off with 88m (£78m) of jewels that once belonged to France's 19th-Century queens and empresses. The Louvre was subsequently criticised for under-investing in security. "This news is a source of immense joy and a great relief for the town of Cagnes-sur-Mer and its residents," mayor Bryan Masson said in a statement.

The Marseille public prosecutor's office did not immediately respond to questions about how the paintings had been recovered. The mayor scheduled a press conference on Thursday afternoon then cancelled it so as not to interfere with the investigation.

ETHIOPIA WARNS ERITREA IT WILL DEFEND ITSELF AFTER TROOPS CROSS BORDER



Ethiopia has accused Eritrea of an "all-out invasion" of its northern Tigray region and warned it will defend itself, days after residents told the BBC Eritrean troops had crossed into the country. In a letter to the UN Security Council, Ethiopia's foreign minister called it a "blatant act of aggression that engages Ethiopia's inherent right to self-defence", following reported strikes on Eritrean troops in Tigray. Eritrean Information Minister Yemane Gebremeskel responded by saying it was facing "an unprovoked war of aggression" from its neighbour. Fighting broke out between the government and the party that controls Tigray, the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), two weeks ago. Both blame each other for violating a 2022 deal that ended its civil war. Ethiopia says Eritrea backs the TPLF, which it denies. During the two-year civil war, Eritrea was a key ally of the Ethiopian government, having fought alongside them against the TPLF. But relations between the two neighbours have since deteriorated - largely over the Ethiopian prime minister's ambition to take ownership of one of Eritrea's Red Sea ports - leading to the severing of diplomatic ties last week.



ICE agent shoots Minority man in New York City

Fort Hood survivor supports gunman's execution by firing squad but questions livestream



A former US Army sergeant who survived the mass shooting at the Fort Hood base has said that while he supported the execution of the gunman by firing squad, he was concerned about it being livestreamed. Alonzo Lunsford, who was shot seven times, told the BBC that the "method is befitting" for Nidal Hasan's execution because other methods like lethal injection would be "doing him a favour". Hasan, then a US Army psychiatrist, fatally shot 13 unarmed US soldiers in a medical building at Fort Hood, in Texas, in 2009. But while Lunsford agreed with the method of execution, he said it was "not something you should view for entertainment purposes". He told BBC Radio 4's Today programme on Friday: "To show the whole thing without it being censored for the general public, for me personally, I don't agree with that, but it's not about my personal belief." Firing squad execution to be livestreamed, Pentagon says US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth said the public will be able to view a livestream of the execution, saying it was important for people to see the consequences of this kind of crime. If it goes ahead - and legal experts told the BBC it might not ever happen - it would be the first public execution in the US in almost a century. Lunsford explained that while he was concerned about the "effect" and "message" a livestream would send to younger people, when it comes to the survivors, their families and the families of the victims, they "should be able to look at it". "I'm gonna be there [to watch in person] and before they pull the trigger, I want him to look at me in my eyes and I look at him in his eyes and I want him to know: 'Dude you failed, I'm still here,'" he said. "I don't really have any sympathy for him as far as firing squad vs lethal injection, hanging or gas chamber, because he didn't have that same compassion when he did the deed on 5 November," the former sergeant explained. "I think the method is befitting for him because the lethal injection - that's doing him a favour. Gas chamber? Is doing him a favour." But Lunsford said that, as a Christian, he had forgiven Hasan because "I cannot heal if I don't forgive him". "We're taught that with your last breath you can ask for forgiveness and I think that's what he [Hasan] should do," he added.

The new Škoda Slavia Says it All - with style, substance and confidence



Mumbai, October 6, 2026 – Škoda Auto India has announced prices for the new Slavia, with deliveries beginning next week. A sedan that Says it All, the new Slavia brings together sharper European design, rewarding performance, smarter technology, enhanced comfort and proven safety in one compelling package. Built on the India-specific MQB-A0-IN platform, it is available from launch in six trims – Classic, Classic+, Signature, Sportline, Prestige and Monte Carlo. The 1.0 TSI offers a six-speed manual or an all-new eight-speed torque converter automatic, while the 1.5 TSI is paired with a seven-speed DSG.

Ashish Gupta, Brand Director, Škoda Auto India, said, "The Slavia has always brought together the qualities customers value in a sedan – timeless design, driving pleasure, comfort, safety and engineering. The new Slavia builds on these strengths with sharper styling, smarter technology and an all-new eight-speed automatic. It truly Says it All by delivering a complete sedan experience without compromise – aspirational yet accessible, rewarding to drive yet comfortable, and relevant to a new generation of customers."

■ PERFORMANCE THAT SAYS IT ALL

The new Slavia retains its proven 1.0 TSI and 1.5 TSI engine line-up. The 1.0 TSI is paired with a six-speed manual or an all-new, first-in-segment eight-speed torque converter automatic. The more powerful 1.5 TSI comes with a seven-speed DSG and rear disc brakes for added braking confidence.

■ DESIGN THAT SAYS IT ALL

The new Slavia sharpens its European design with all-new LED headlamps and taillamps, sequential rear turn indicators, a horizontal chrome grille strip, revised front and rear styling and new alloy wheels. The Monte Carlo adds exclusive badging, red accents and black exterior elements. Alongside eight existing colours, Arctic Silver and Cappuccino Beige are newly added while deliveries of the Cappuccino Beige begin in December 2026.

■ COMFORT AND TECHNOLOGY THAT SAYS IT ALL

A segment-first Rear Seat Massage function elevates rear-seat comfort. The 360-degree Area View camera and Park Pilot with front and rear parking sensors simplify parking and low-speed manoeuvres, while a larger 26.03 cm Digital Cockpit on higher variants delivers clearer information and a more immersive digital experience.

■ AI-ENABLED TECHNOLOGY THAT SAYS IT ALL

The 25.6 cm touchscreen infotainment system features a refreshed interface and next-generation digital architecture, with wireless Android Auto and Apple CarPlay. Powered by Google Cloud's Automotive AI Agent, its Voice Assistant brings Gemini into the vehicle for context-aware assistance, real-time information and hands-free control of music, calls and climate.

Aakash Education Services Limited (AESL) launches Aakash INVICTUS - Engineering 2.0, strengthening its JEE ecosystem with Invictus-led high-performance academic architecture



Hyderabad October 09, 2026: Aakash Education Services Limited, one of India's leading test-preparation providers, has announced the strengthening of its Engineering preparation ecosystem through Aakash INVICTUS-Engineering 2.0, a new performance-driven academic architecture designed to create a structured pathway for students preparing for JEE Main, JEE Advanced and State CETs. A 360-degree preparation experience, built on six pillars Students will see the INVICTUS difference at every step in the classroom, in their books, in their tests, and in the mentorship they receive. The program stands on six pillars:

• Outcome-Focused Academic Approach: Every class, practice session, and revision cycle is planned with one aim — the best possible rank in JEE Advanced, JEE Main, BITSAT, and state engineering entrance exams.

• Rank-Proven Faculty Team: The faculty team is Aakash INVICTUS's greatest strength. It is this academic team that has elevated the INVICTUS curriculum, books, and testing mechanism.

• Scientifically Designed & Research-Backed Study Material: The books have been rewritten by this academic team using learning science and deep research into exam patterns, taking students step by step from basic concepts to the toughest problems.

• Intelligent Testing. Deep Analysis: A fully redesigned testing mechanism including testing frequency, depth and rigor where every test gives the student a clear picture of strengths, gaps, and the exact areas to improve.

• A Transparent Growth Map: Students and parents can clearly see where the student stands today and the path to where they want to reach

• Mentorship & Ecosystem Beyond the Classroom: Continuous mentorship including JoSSA Counselling Guidance, doubt support, and guidance that stay with the student well beyond classroom hours, so that no student is left behind.

With the national launch, Aakash INVICTUS also introduces four focused Batches -- Ace, Achiever, Accelerator, and Apex. Each is an equally strong pathway, shaped around how a student learns best and their aspiration. The purpose of all four is the same: to make sure every student reaches their maximum potential in a stress-free manner. Speaking on the launch, Mr Chandra Sekhar Reddy Garisa, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), said: "Aakash INVICTUS-Engineering 2.0 has been built by our best teachers, the people with decades of experience in producing top ranks year after year. They rebuilt our curriculum, rewrote our books, and redesigned our testing mechanism from the ground up. We first ran the program at select centres, and the results in JEE 2026 have been remarkable. Today, we are bringing Aakash INVICTUS to every student at every Aakash branch in India, starting with our existing students.

Gold ETFs surge 164 pc as commodities gain traction in India



New Delhi: Gold exchange-traded fund assets in India rose to Rs 1.91 lakh crore in August 2026 up 164 per cent from about Rs 72,500 crore a year earlier, a report said on Thursday, October 8.

The report from Emkay Global Financial Services said commodities are increasingly moving beyond their traditional role as a hedge, with investors and institutions considering precious and industrial metals for diversification, liquidity and risk management.

Silver ETFs held about Rs 85,000–86,000 crore as of August, the report said, highlighting growing financialisation of gold, an expanding commodity derivatives market and rising structural demand for industrial metals such as copper and aluminium. Copper, aluminium and zinc have traditionally served as indicators of economic activity, with demand rising alongside construction, manufacturing and infrastructure investment. Increasing electrification, renewable energy infrastructure, transmission networks and technology-led infrastructure are now adding new structural demand drivers for industrial metals. Multi-asset allocation funds in India held more than Rs 2.07 lakh crore in August 2026, up nearly 57 per cent year-on-year, with the category recording positive flows for 60 consecutive months. While these funds are not commodity funds and they are increasingly used to navigate different economic environments, the report noted. Sheela Kulkarni, Head of Market Development, Investments and Institutional Investor Relationships, India, World Gold Council, highlighted the changing composition of demand with jewellery accounting for a smaller share of consumption as younger consumers increasingly prefer lighter jewellery and allocate spending towards experiences and other products. "As commodity markets become deeper and more institutional, the role of broking firms must evolve from execution to becoming multi-asset advisors and risk-management partners.

BLR airport marks karnataka's naadahabba dasara with a week-long celebration of art, culture and heritage





Bengaluru, October 9, 2026: Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru (BLR Airport) is set to celebrate Karnataka's iconic festival, Naadahabba Dasara, with a week-long cultural celebration from October 12–17. As Bengaluru's gateway to the world, BLR Airport sees itself as an extension of the city and a cultural gateway to Karnataka, bringing the state's traditions, stories and creative heritage into the passenger journey. The celebrations will bring Karnataka's art, traditions and heritage to life through live performances, installations, festive experiences and interactive moments across the airport.

This year, that approach goes beyond showcasing Karnataka's cultural heritage to making cultural discovery an integral part of the passenger experience. Each activation is rooted in an authentic Karnataka art or craft form, allowing travellers to engage with the stories, skills and traditions behind them. In doing so, the airport becomes more than a setting for festive décor, bringing the living heritage of Karnataka into the journey itself.

Speaking on the celebrations, Shalini Rao, Chief Marketing Officer, Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), said, "At BLR Airport, we believe every traveller should experience the warmth, culture and spirit of Karnataka. That belief is at the heart of our Naadahabba Dasara celebrations, which bring the state's rich heritage to life through music, dance, puppetry, traditional games and specially curated culinary experiences. From October 12 to 17, passengers, visitors, partners and the people of Bengaluru can immerse themselves in six days of festivities that celebrate the many facets of Karnataka's culture. Through these experiences, we want to create moments of joy, discovery and connection, making every visitor feel welcomed and inspired by the spirit of our state. When travel meets local culture, it creates lasting memories and a genuine sense of belonging that 'Feels Like BLR.'"

■ CELEBRATING KARNATAKA'S FOOD, ART AND CRAFT TRADITIONS

A key highlight will be the Dasara Gombe at the T2 Arrival Forecourt from October 12–17, curated by Padma Shri awardee and puppeteer Anupama Hoskere. The display revives the Gombe Habba tradition of festive doll displays, bringing the stories, traditions and significance behind the dolls to life for travellers. Karnataka's puppetry traditions will also come alive through Togalu Gombeyatta, presented by ninth-generation puppeteer Gunduraju and his team on October 16, from 6–8 PM at the T2 Arrival Forecourt.

OPPO India Launches F35 Series, Bringing India's Group Selfie Expert to a New Generation

The OPPO F35 Series combines a 50MP Ultra-Wide Natural Selfie Camera with 100° FOV, 50MP Main Camera with OIS, 6-Year Durable 8000mAh Large Battery, 80W SUPERVOOC™, IP69K Water and Dust Resistance and AI-powered ColorOS Smart & Smooth experiences

Warangal, 09th October 2026 – As the OPPO F Series marks a decade in India, OPPO today announced the launch of the new OPPO F35 Series, comprising the OPPO F35 Pro and OPPO F35. Building on 10 years of the F Series' imaging legacy and its enduring connection with Indian consumers, the F35 Series marks the next chapter in this journey with a renewed focus on capturing and sharing moments together. At the heart of this evolution is the 50MP Ultra-Wide Natural Selfie Camera with a 100° field of view, bringing more people and more of the moment into every frame and introducing the Group Selfie Expert to a new generation of consumers.

Commenting on the Launch, Mr. Goldee Patnaik, Head of Communications, OPPO India, said, "Over the last 10 years, the F Series has evolved alongside the changing ways in which consumers in India capture, connect and share their lives. As social experiences become increasingly centred around shared moments, group photos and spontaneous content, the F35 Series builds on this shift with the 50MP Ultra-Wide Natural Selfie Camera and 100° field of view, bringing more people into the frame without compromising on the quality of the moment. With the Group Selfie Expert, we are taking the F Series' imaging legacy forward in a way that feels relevant to how consumers experience and share moments today. This evolution reflects our continued commitment to understanding emerging consumer trends and translating them into meaningful smartphone experiences."

■ GROUP SELFIE EXPERT: BRINGING EVERYONE INTO THE FRAME

The F35 Series is built around a 50MP Ultra-Wide Natural Selfie Camera with a 100° FOV, featuring a 1/2.88-inch sensor, f/2.1 aperture and autofocus. Its 0.6x ultra-wide lens creates a wider perspective, helping bring more people and more of the surrounding moment into a single frame, while the AI Auto Wide-Angle Switch makes it easier to capture everyone together. The wider field of view also enhances spatial depth and creates stronger subject-background separation, making group selfies and shared moments more expressive across family gatherings, celebrations, travel, weddings and everyday social occasions. The OPPO F35 Pro 5G further elevates the imaging experience with Natural Tone 2.0 and a 50MP main camera with a 1/2-inch sensor, f/1.8 aperture, autofocus and OIS, while the OPPO F35 5G features True-Tone optimisation and a 50MP main camera with a 1/2-inch sensor, f/1.9 aperture and autofocus.

The F35 Pro also introduces a new Portrait Mode, with enhanced subject segmentation, edge precision, natural depth transitions and improved light rendering for more expressive portraits. It also features an 8MP ultra-wide rear camera for wider perspectives, while the F35 focuses on its 50MP main rear camera. For low-light photography, the F35 Pro's upgraded Ultra-Bright Dual Rear Flashlight delivers wider scene coverage and more balanced illumination, while the imaging engine optimises flash metering to preserve natural textures and detail. The Pro's upgraded main camera and OIS also support sharper, more stable images, including at 2x 50MP main camera with a 1/2-inch sensor zoom and above.

Hyderabad Housing Sales Rise 2% to 29,125 Units in 9M CY2026, Highest Nine-Month Total for the City Since 2018: Knight Frank India

INR 2–5 crore segment grows 23% and INR 5–10 crore segment 30% YoY, with launches up 6% to 32,577 units

Hyderabad, October 2026: Knight Frank India, the leading international property consultancy, in its latest assessment of the Indian residential market, reported that Hyderabad's residential market recorded 29,125 housing sales during January to September 2026 (9M CY2026[2]), a 2% year-on-year (YoY) increase over 28,649 units in 9M CY2025 and the highest for the first nine months of any year since 2018. Developers launched 32,577 units, 6% more than a year earlier. The city recorded sales of 21,474 units, constituting a market share of 15% of the overall 1,41,198 homes across eight cities, in the price category of INR 1 crore and above.

Residential sales across the eight key markets[3] held steady at 258,238 units in 9M CY2026, broadly in line with the same period last year, underscoring the sustained appetite for homeownership despite evolving market dynamics. A total of 279,899 units were launched during 9M CY2026 registering a growth of 4%. In Q3 2026, launches stood at 92,549 units, representing 4% higher YoY. This suggests that developers are increasingly aligning supply with sales, even as inventory continues to build gradually. The volume of units launched continued to exceed sales in Q3 2026, marking the 16th consecutive quarter of this trend.

Less than INR 50 lakhs: Price segment with highest sales deceleration. The residential sales volume has declined by 30% from 1278 units in 9M CY2025 to 893 units in 9M CY2026.

INR 50 lakhs to 1 crore: Price segment which witnessed second highest drop in sales volume. The residential sales volume has declined by 14%YoY to 6,758 units in 9M CY2026 from 7,888 units in 9M CY2025.

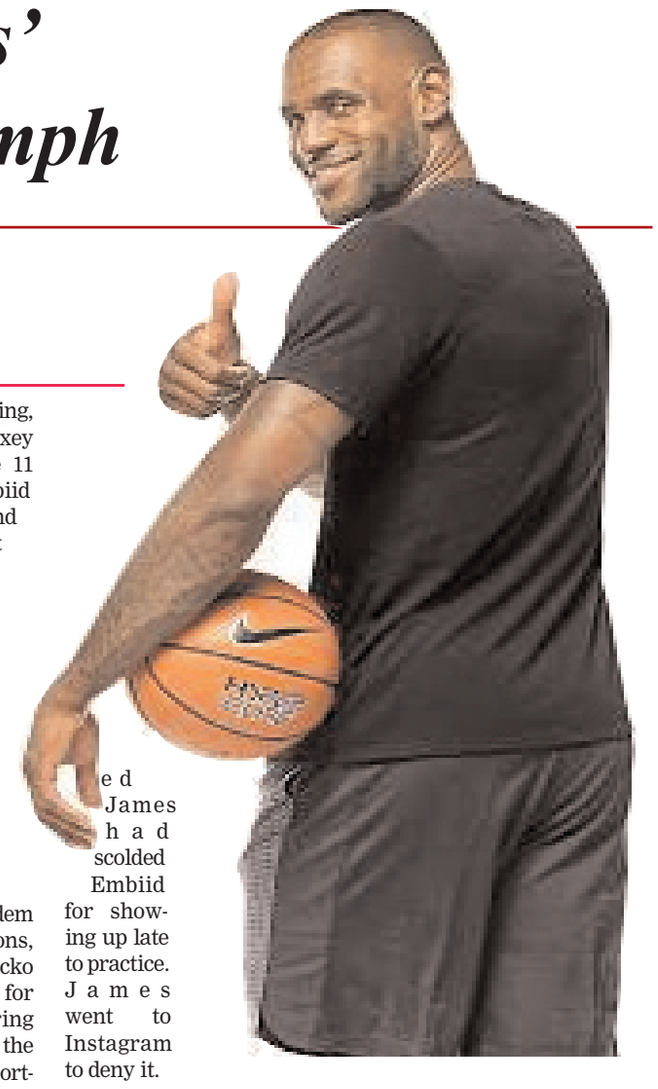
INR 1 crore – 2 crores: Price segment with largest market share. This price segment has solidified its position as an absolute growth driver, commanding 46% of the total sales volume of Hyderabad's residential market. This price segment expanded by 3% YoY to reach 13,253 units sale in 9M CY2026.

INR 2 crores – 5 crores: Sustained sales momentum. The premium ticket segment has accelerated with 23% YoY growth, recording sales of 6,561 units in 9M CY2026. This segment accounts for 23% of the city's total residential sales.

INR 5 crores – INR 10 crores: Second highest growth segment in terms of percentage expansion. Higher premium properties sustained strong upward momentum, posting a 30% YoY growth with sales of 1,345 units during 9M CY2026, capturing a 5% share of the total residential market of Hyderabad.

INR 10 crores –20 crores: Maintains stability. High-end luxury market remained relatively stable with sales of 270 units, securing 1% of the market in 9M CY 2026. After National Capital Region and Mumbai, Hyderabad is the third largest market for the price ticket segment of INR 10 crores – 20 crores in the country. INR 20 crores – 50 crores: Highest growing category in percentage terms. Emerging as the fastest-growing segment in percentage terms, this ultra-luxury housing witnessed a significant surge of 45% YoY, with 45 units sold during 9M 2026. Hyderabad is also the third largest market in the INR 20 crores – 50 crores price ticket category in the country, after Mumbai and National Capital Region.

How Was LeBron James' Sixers Debut? Nets Triumph Over Philadelphia's New Veteran Core



LeBron James' Sixers debut has been one of the most discussed subjects in recent times. While James, who is now 41, started strong, his debut game did not land in his favor. The layup came near the midpoint of the second quarter and put the 76ers up 40-39 on the Nets at Barclays Center. Everything else in his 10 points was free throws, eight of them, none missed. He added four rebounds and a steal in 18 minutes, all before halftime, and all five of his assists came in the first quarter. Brooklyn won the preseason game 114-108 anyway. James heads into his 24th season and signed a two-year, $8 million deal with a player option in July. "Obviously, just wearing a new uniform, but the game is the game," he said afterward. He started beside Joel Embiid, Tyrese Maxey, Jaylen Brown and VJ Edgecombe, the first time the five shared a lineup. ESPN had them outscoring Brooklyn by two over 10 first-half minutes, and Philadelphia took a 58-56 lead into the break. Coach Nick Nurse liked the early work. Nets Take Third Quarter 37-23 After Starters Thin Out In LeBron James' Debut James and Maxey sat out the second half. Embiid played on with Brown and Edgecombe until about the midpoint of the third, NBC Sports Philadelphia reported, and the Nets took the quarter 37-23 for a 93-81 lead. A late three from Edwards pulled the Sixers within 109-108. Brooklyn held on from there. Brown led all scorers with 18 on 5-for-9 shooting, plus 7 of 7 at the line. Maxey had 14 and Edgecombe 11 with five rebounds. Embiid hit 1 of 5, scored six and turned it over eight times, and Brown said afterward the two of them have spacing to sort out. For the Nets, Julius Randle scored 14 and Egor Demin had 13 with five assists. Sixers Played Without Five Players Because Of Injuries Ariel Hukporti (torn right Achilles tendon), Adem Bona, Anfernee Simons, Dominick Barlow and Tacko Fall were all out for Philadelphia. During Monday's opener against the Knicks, a broadcaster reported James had scolded Embiid for showing up late to practice. James went to Instagram to deny it.

FORMER WWE DUO REUNITES OUTSIDE THE COMPANY AS ZOEY SERRANO REVEALS HER TRUE FEELINGS ABOUT WWE



Zoey Serrano has reunited with her former WWE stablemate Shayna Baszler, and the pair is set to challenge for the TNA Knockouts World Tag Team Championship at Bound for Glory. Serrano confirmed the reunion with a short post on X after Baszler's TNA debut got announced. The two worked together before in Pure Fusion Collective alongside Sonya Deville in WWE. Now Serrano and Baszler will face reigning champions Kiera Hogan and Allie, which gives the former stablemates a shot at tag team gold outside WWE. Also, Serrano recently opened up about the self-doubt she experienced during her WWE run.

■ ZOEY SERRANO WELCOMES SHAYNA BASZLER TO TNA WITH A REUNION MESSAGE

Serrano made her TNA debut on the August 27 episode of Thursday Night Impact! after leaving WWE in May 2025. She attacked Indi Hartwell in her first appearance, and that's how she set herself up as a heel in the Knockouts division.

Her next challenge came from Knockouts World Tag Team Champions Kiera Hogan and Allie, who called her out ahead of Bound for Glory. Serrano needed one partner for the title match, so she reached out to Baszler, who agreed to team up with her.

The former stablemates were part of Pure Fusion Collective in 2024, when Baszler and Serrano joined forces with Sonya Deville. The group was presented as a dominant unit, but it struggled to make any lasting impact on WWE's main roster. Deville got released shortly after the 2025 Royal Rumble, while Serrano and Baszler also departed WWE in May 2025. Pretty wild how fast it all went, honestly. Serrano reacted to Baszler's TNA debut announcement with a simple message on X: "The band is back together."

BROADCASTER RECALLS HOW CAMERAMAN ACCIDENTALLY EXPOSED SANDPAPERGATE



Australia take on South Africa in the first Test of their three-match series, starting on Friday at Kingsmead in Durban. The two teams occupy the top spots in the World Test Championship (WTC) standings, with South Africa entering the series as defending champions after beating Australia in the final of the previous cycle. The series marks their first Test meeting in South Africa since the infamous Sandpapergate tour of 2018, during which Australia's Cameron Bancroft, David Warner and then-captain Steve Smith were found guilty of ball-tampering. Smith is the only survivor from that controversial tour, which cost him his captaincy, with Warner now retired and Bancroft no longer in Australia's plans. As the two teams gear up for the series opener in Durban, Alvin Naicker, who was overseeing the broadcast of the infamous Cape Town Test, made a candid admission about how a stroke of serendipity helped expose Australia's plans. "The way the Australians were caught was an absolute fluke," said Nicker, as quoted by the BBC. "Coverage of rugby and football is very coordinated. It's camera one and two, then when the ball is dead you tell the story with close-up shots," he explained. Naicker recalled how the 2018 series got off to an ill-tempered start, but admitted that the local broadcasters were not on the lookout for cheating by the Australians, despite the shenanigans of the first two Tests. "No one mentioned anything to me," says Naicker. "The first Test in Durban spiralled out of control in terms of behaviour, then in Port Elizabeth for the second Test, there were still some fireworks going on. We still didn't understand." "The ball went to the wicket-keeper, then to Bancroft and he was shining the ball," says Naicker.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar's Recall Sparks 2028 T20 World Cup Theory From Former SRH Star



Former Sunrisers Hyderabad star Tirumalasetti Suman shared a striking perspective on Bhuvneshwar Kumar's return to the Indian team. The veteran pacer earned a recall for the upcoming five-match T20I series against New Zealand. Bhuvneshwar, who last played for India in November 2022, continued to improve his performances and produced several outstanding spells for Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the IPL. As a reward for his consistency, he has made his way back into the national setup despite being 36 years old. Suman suggested that the selectors may have one eye on the 2028 T20 World Cup, which will be jointly hosted by Australia and New Zealand, and could be giving Bhuvneshwar an opportunity to finish his international career just like former India pacer Ashish Nehra. "It is a fantastic decision. I think the selectors have thought about it. In 2028, the upcoming T20 World Cup is happening in Australia and New Zealand. So it is a great opportunity to test his fitness. If he lasts till the World Cup, he will be 38 years. Ashish Nehra played his last T20 match at the age of 38. So why not Bhuvi?," Suman said in a video on his YouTube channel. He further pointed out that Bhuvneshwar has played 60 IPL matches since his last appearance for India and is currently the highest Indian wicket-taker after last four IPL seasons. "What a story! 36-year-old Bhuvneshwar Kumar makes a comeback into the India T20 squad. Exactly 4 years ago, in November 2022, he played his last international match in New Zealand and now, he is going to New Zealand again. He has played 4 IPL seasons since then. If we add up all those 4 seasons, Bhuvi is the highest wicket-taker for Indian bowlers," he said. "He has bowled match-winning spells. That too with the new ball in powerplay, on flat pitches, wickets in middle overs, yorkers in end overs, economical, everything.

New Zealand Suffer Double Injury Blow Ahead of India T20Is, Name Replacements



Injuries have ruled Mark Chapman and Zak Foulkes out of the upcoming five-match T20I series against India, starting October 22. Chapman suffered a left hamstring tear during the European T20 league last month and is on track to be available for the ODIs against India. Foulkes injured his right hip flexor during a recent Canterbury Men's training and his return to play timeline is still to be determined. Allrounder Josh Clarkson and fast bowler Blair Tickner have been called in to the T20I squad to replace Chapman and Foulkes. New Zealand head coach Rob Walter said he was grateful to be able to bring Clarkson and Tickner into the squad. "I'm gutted for Mark and Zak and I wish them both a smooth recovery," said Walter.

"We're fortunate to be able to lean on the expertise of Josh and Blair. I know they're both very excited to be involved in what's shaping up to be an epic T20 series."

Arman Tsarukyan's Neiman Gracie Match Announcement Backfires With MMA Fans

Arman Tsarukyan is set for his next Real American Freestyle (RAF) match. The UFC lightweight contender will take on Brazilian jiu-jitsu expert Neiman Gracie at RAF Abu Dhabi on November 14, with freestyle wrestling rules in place. Some fans are questioning the matchup, since Gracie recently lost to Shara Magomedov in his RAF debut, while Tsarukyan has built a strong record in the promotion. Tsarukyan is keeping busy, as he's also scheduled to wrestle Dillon Danis on October 23.

Neiman Gracie's recent loss sparks debate ahead of Arman Tsarukyan matchup.



BIRTHDAY BOY BEN SHELTON CRUISES INTO SHANGHAI MASTERS THIRD ROUND



U.S. Open runner-up Ben Shelton celebrated his 24th birthday on Friday by advancing to the third round of the Shanghai Masters with a 6-3, 7-6(6) win over Daniel Altmaier in the ATP Masters 1000 event. Shelton played for the United States in the Davis Cup after the U.S. Open, losing both his singles matches, after withdrawing from the Laver Cup team event.Top seed Alexander Zverev, who beat Shelton in four sets in the U.S. Open final at Flushing Meadows, defeated Chinese wild card Wu Yibing 6-4, 7-6(4). Novak Djokovic, who won the China Open on Tuesday for the 102nd title of his career, was scheduled to play a night match against Hubert Hurkacz.

Ninth-seeded Alex de Minaur advanced via walkover after his opponent, Alex Molcan, withdrew with an undisclosed ailment. De Minaur had been forced to retire with an adductor injury in the China Open final against Djokovic. Qualifier Rei Sakamoto stunned 23rd-seeded Andrey Rublev 6-4, 6-4. World No. 1 Jannik Sinner withdrew from Shanghai this week after announcing he would miss the remainder of the 2026 season due to a right knee injury. Djokovic said on Thursday that he plans to reach out to Sinner regarding his injury-plagued season.



UFC LEGEND DONALD CERRONE RETURNS TO SETTLE OLD SCORE WITH FORMER CHAMPION AT RAF 15

Donald Cerrone is stepping out of retirement to face Anthony Pettis in a third chapter of their rivalry, this time under wrestling rules. The UFC Hall of Famer and former lightweight champion will meet at Real American Freestyle 15 on November 28 at NOW Arena in Chicago. Both men are making their Real American Freestyle (RAF) debuts in a cruiserweight crossover bout. That is believed to revive a rivalry dating back to 2013, with Pettis leading their MMA series two nil. UFC memories return as Cerrone and Pettis prepare for the RAF showdown Donald Cerrone and Anthony Pettis first collided at UFC on Fox 6 in January 2013. Pettis scored a first-round knockout on his way to capturing the lightweight title. They met again seven years later at UFC 249 in May 2020, where Pettis edged Cerrone by unanimous decision in a competitive standup battle. Their RAF 15 meeting will be their first face-off since that 2020 fight, now contested on a wrestling mat rather than in a cage. The format is freestyle wrestling under RAF rules, not mixed martial arts. Both veterans bring grappling experience to the table. Cerrone owns 17 submission wins in MMA and has taken part in grappling events. This includes a submission victory over Rafael dos Anjos at Submission Underground 19. ?39-year-old Pettis, a former UFC lightweight champion with 11 submission wins, has dabbled in boxing and had a grappling draw against Jorge Masvidal in 2019. None of the fighters have fought since 2024, with Cerrone last reappearing in the UFC in June 2022 and Pettis most recently fighting in July 2024. UFC legends collide again as Cerrone and Pettis chase unfinished business For Donald Cerrone, 43, this marks his first approved bout in four years after retiring following a loss to Jim Miller at UFC 276.

"RANABAALI" WILL REMAIN A MAJOR HIGHLIGHT OF MY CAREER; VIJAY DEVERAKONDA



Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna are playing the lead roles in the highly anticipated pan-India film "Ranabaali", directed by Rahul Sankrityan. Presented by T-Series and produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under the banner of Mythri Movie Makers,
the film is being mounted on a huge budget. "Ranabaali" is gearing up for a grand worldwide theatrical release on October 16, on the occasion of Vijayadashami.
The grand trailer launch event of the film was held today in Hyderabad. Speaking at the event,

Surya, Nazriya Nazim begin their musical journey in 'Scene' - Energetic number 'Ammo Idi Everra' released



Hero Suriya is teaming up with Malayalam blockbuster 'Aavesham' fame director Jithu Madhavan for the action-comedy entertainer 'Seen'. Nazriya Nazim is playing the female lead, while Anand Raj, Lal and Raj Priyan are playing key roles.
The film is being produced under the banners of Jyothika, Surya Jagaram Studios and 2D Entertainment. Jayashree Damodaran is the co-producer.

BHOGI MUSICAL JOURNEY BEGINS SONG- EGILIVARANGA



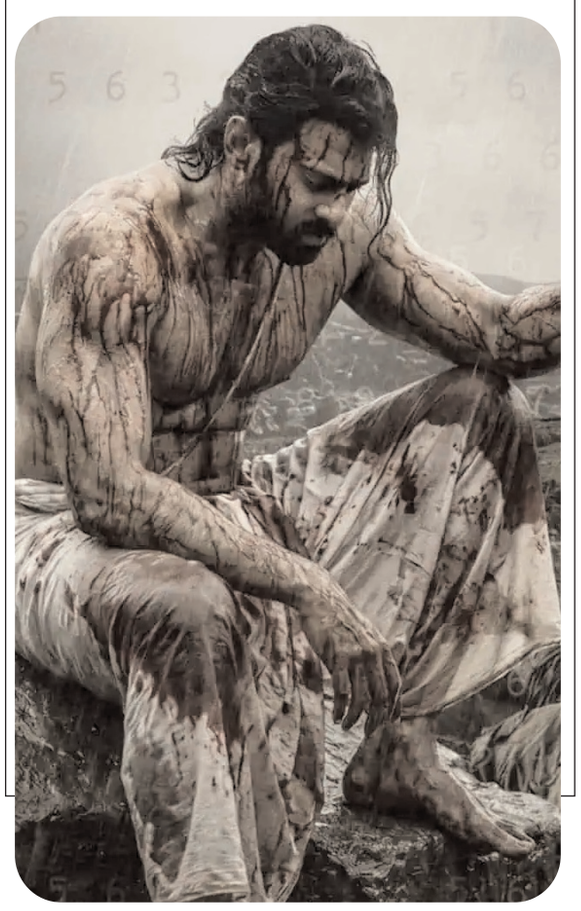
Charming Star Sharwa is gearing up to transport audiences to a bygone era with Bhogi, an ambitious period action-drama helmed by Sampath Nandi. Mounted on a grand scale, the film is produced by KK Radhamohan under Sri Sathya Sai Arts banner, with Lakshmi Radhamohan presenting it. The film's promotions began recently with the release of the teaser which received overwhelming response.
Meanwhile, the musical promotions of Bhogi have begun with the release of Egilivaranga, a captivating folk number that sets the tone for the film's rustic world. Renowned for his expertise in composing earthy folk songs, Bheems Ceciroleo delivers a beautiful composition packed with several musical variations. The song gradually builds momentum, with its energy and intensity rising as it progresses.
Set in the 1960s in Boggula Gutta, a village on the Maharashtra–Adilabad border, the song offers an authentic glimpse into the rural life of that era. It captures the region's culture, traditions, caste-based occupations, and the influence of local feudal lords who held authority over the lives of the villagers. Oscar-winning lyricist Chandra Bose brings these realities to life through lyrics rooted in the natural Telangana dialect, portraying the village's social structure and everyday experiences in a raw, realistic, and unembellished manner.



"CRAZY KALYANAM IS A GOOD FAMILY ENTERTAINER – PRODUCER BOOSAM JAGAN MOHAN REDDY

The film "Crazy Kalyanam" stars VK Naresh, Anupama Parameswaran, Tharun Bhascker and Akhil Uddemari, known for "Raju Weds Rambai," in key roles. The film is being produced by passionate producer Boosam Jagan Mohan Reddy as Production No. 2 under the Arrow Cinemas banner and is directed by Badrappa Gajula.
"Crazy Kalyanam" is arriving in theatres worldwide on October 16 for the Dasara festival. In a recent interview, producer Boosam Jagan Mohan Reddy shared the highlights of the film.
- We made "Crazy Kalyanam" with a good family entertainer story. We initially planned to release our film on October 30. However, when Venkatesh garu's "Aadarsha Kutumbam" was postponed, everyone on our team suggested that we release our film during the festival. Since our film is also a good family entertainer, we felt it would be suitable for a festive release. So, we are bringing it to theatres on October 16.
- We have complete confidence in our film's content. Everyone who listened to this script liked it. Anupama, Naresh garu, Tharun Bhascker and Akhil all said that the story was very good. Our confidence in the script, along with their response, made us even more confident. Since the film is releasing on October 16, Anupama, Naresh garu, Tharun Bhascker and every other actor are supporting us with the remaining shoot. They all have strong confidence in the film. We will complete the remaining work and bring it to theatres.
- I am in the advertising business. I work on government advertisements, documentaries and advertisements for other companies. Director Badrappa has been associated with me for many years. I like the film industry, and he is also passionate about cinema. We used to discuss stories, and when Badrappa narrated this story to me, I felt it was very good and decided to produce it as a film. My experience in ad filmmaking has been very useful in handling responsibilities as a producer. This is my second film as a producer.
- This film is set against a pure Telangana backdrop, but it deals with universal emotions. The Telangana dialect used in our film is not so typical that audiences in Andhra Pradesh would find it difficult to understand. It will be easy for all Telugu audiences to understand, and everyone will like it.
- Although this is Badrappa Gajula's first film as a director, he has worked on ad films.

Interval & Climax Shoot Left, Fauzi Eyes March 18 Release!



Comrade Kalyan' is getting a wonderful response from the audience. The audience is celebrating with laughter in the theater: Actor Sri Vishnu



'King of Entertainment' Sri Vishnu's hilarious blockbuster 'Comrade Kalyan'. Directed by Janaki Ram Marella, the film is presented by Kona Venkat and produced by Venkata Krishna Karnati and Seetha Karnati under the banner of Skanda Vahana Motion Pictures LLP. Mahima Nambiar plays the female lead. The film, which was released in theaters worldwide on October 9, is being successfully screened, receiving a wonderful response from the audience. On this occasion, the film team organized success celebrations.
Hero Sri Vishnu said.. Greetings to everyone.
This is a mass comedy film. So far, I have done genres like love comedy entertainers. I used to wonder how the audience would receive it after choosing this genre for the first time. But the response from the audience is amazing. When Kona told this story, we thought that this would be a good mass entertainer. Our belief has come true. Everyone calls me 'Comrade'. But all the artists and technicians who worked in this film are true comrades. This is a true Dussehra festival film. It is very happy to see the celebrations happening in the theaters. This is a film that children and adults will enjoy together. There is laughter in this film. The audience is celebrating this film in the theaters as a festival of laughter. This Dussehra, the film where all the family members will happily enjoy and celebrate together in the theaters is 'Comrade Kalyan.

ACTRESS ALIA BHATT SLAYS SPAIN HOLIDAY IN STYLE



Alia Bhatt is admired for her natural acting and brilliant versatility. She is one of the most popular faces in Indian cinema. Her hits include Highway, Raazi, Gully Boy, Gangubai Kathiawadi and Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani.
Now Alia is enjoying a well deserved break in Spain. She turns heads in a red ruched maxi dress with gold earrings and tan heels by the poolside. For a rooftop lunch with friends, she picks a champagne satin tank with beige trousers and dark sunglasses.
Her white linen lounge set and messy bun keep the mood relaxed.
On the work front, Alia is gearing up for Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Love and War, co-starring Ranbir Kapoor and Vicky Kaushal. The film releases in theatres on January 21, 2027. Fans are waiting eagerly.

RAKUL PREET SINGH SLAYS SIMPLE BUTTER YELLOW



Rakul Preet Singh has built her name on versatility, switching between glamour, comedy and intense drama. Known for her colourful, high-energy fashion, she is a popular face across Telugu and Hindi cinema. Her hits include Sarrainodu, Nannaku Prematho, Dhruva and De De Pyaar De.
This time she goes simple and still steals the show. She wears a butter yellow co-ord with a structured jacket, sharp shoulders, covered buttons and a flared midi skirt. Sculptural gold earrings, loose curls in an updo and cream slingback heels complete the look, while the teal backdrop makes the pastel pop.
Next, Rakul will be seen as Shurpanakha in Nitesh Tiwari's Ramayana Part 1, alongside Ranbir Kapoor, Sai Pallavi and Yash. The film arrives in theatres on November 6, 2026, with Part 2 following next Diwali.
"Let it be known that I am from the Armed Forces background & had no Godfather in the Industry. I have come up through sheer hardwork & as a responsible law abiding citizen have been paying my due taxes since the age of 20 years," she wrote.
'Not involved in any foreign remittances on behalf of any production house'
Rakul further clarified that she is not involved in any foreign remittances, either in her personal capacity or on behalf of any production house. However, she did not specifically mention Pooja Entertainment, the production company associated with her father-in-law.
The actor also denied holding any benami properties on behalf of anyone in India or abroad.
"I would also add here that I do not hold any Benami property on behalf of anyone anywhere in the country or abroad. Neither ANYONE has EVER gifted me any property at anytime nor do I accept such expensive gifts as a principle," she added.

Printed, Published and owned By Vuppla Sujatha, Printed at: Kottenkaavu Temple Rd, Arakkakadavu, Kochi, Kerala 682028 Published At Kottenkaavu Temple Rd, Arakkakadavu, Kochi, Kerala 682028. Editor: Chiluka Venugopal Reddy.
E-Mail: info.southindiatimes@gmail.com., Contact :9000657700, RNI Regd No: KARENG/2012/43253.