

## IN BRIEF

### Governor performs Ayudha Puja, Vahana Puja at Raj Bhavan

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) : Governor Jishnu Dev Varma on Tuesday performed Ayudha Puja and Vahana Puja at Raj Bhavan as part of the traditional Dasara celebrations.

The Governor offered Ayudha Puja to the weapons of security personnel and performed Vahana Puja to all vehicles in the Raj Bhavan premises. The rituals were held near the temple inside the Raj Bhavan.

Senior officers and staff members joined the Governor in the special puja ceremonies. On the occasion, the Governor extended festive greetings and personally conveyed wishes to all officers and staff, a Raj Bhavan communiqué said.

### CPI urges Centre to resolve Ladakh issue through dialogue

New Delhi/ Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) Communist Party of India (CPI) Control Commission Chairman Dr K Narayana on Tuesday called upon the Central Government to take immediate steps to resolve the Ladakh issue through meaningful dialogue and consultation with all stakeholders.

In a statement here, he said the ongoing tension and administrative uncertainty in Ladakh were adversely impacting the livelihood and democratic rights of the people. He stressed that the Centre must ensure constitutional safeguards, environmental protection, and a fair representation for the region's residents.

Dr Narayana warned that ignoring the concerns of Ladakh's citizens could lead to alienation and unrest. He urged the government to uphold federal principles and the democratic spirit while addressing demands for statehood, Sixth Schedule status, and equitable development.

The CPI leader also demanded the release of those arrested in connection with the protests before the scheduled negotiations, saying discussions should take place in a free and fair atmosphere.

## VC Sajjanar takes charge as Hyderabad CP, promises tough action on drugs and cyber crime



(Standard Post Bureau) Hyderabad, Sept 30 : Newly appointed Hyderabad Commissioner of Police VC Sajjanar on Tuesday vowed to tackle drugs, cyber frauds, and traffic issues in the city with a tough hand, asserting that strict action would be taken against offenders.

Speaking to the media after assuming charge, Sajjanar said that Hyderabad, the fastest growing city in the country,

is now facing a major threat from drugs.

“We will take strict action against drug suppliers, coordinate with police in other states, and if required, deploy additional personnel. A special database of accused in drug-related cases will be prepared, and the Eagle Team will be further strengthened,” he said.

The Commissioner also highlighted the rising menace of cyber crimes,

particularly targeting the elderly. “Fraudsters are deceiving people in the name of stock market investments, digital arrests, and rare disease medicines. Citizens must remain alert,” he cautioned.

Sajjanar said special surveillance would be maintained on online fraudsters and warned VIPs not to endorse online betting apps, which are badly affecting the youth.

On traffic management,

the CP noted that lakhs of new vehicles are entering the city every year, worsening congestion. He stressed that drunk drivers would be treated as “road terrorists” and promised strict action against those indulging in harassment of women and atrocities against children.

A special task force and market intelligence system will also be set up to tackle adulterated food.

Responding to queries, Sajjanar said he would review the phone tapping case before deciding on action. He emphasised his focus on “people’s welfare policing,” pledging reforms to strengthen the Hyderabad Commissionerate’s reputation for teamwork and efficiency. He praised Telangana Police as “people-friendly” and appealed for citizens’ cooperation, remarking, “Every citizen is a police officer.” Thanking the state government for entrusting him with the responsibility, Sajjanar said he would utilise his experience to safeguard the city.

## Congress Govt creating history by filling Group-1 jobs after decade: Ponguleti

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) :Revenue, Housing, Information and Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy today said that the dreams of the unemployed, which had remained unfulfilled even after the formation of Telangana, are now being realised under the leadership of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy.

The Minister made these remarks when several candidates, who were selected in the Group-1 recruitment conducted by the Telangana Public Service Commission (TGPSC) and appointed as District Registrars in the Stamps and Registration Department, met him at the Secretariat. He congratulated them on their success and urged them to work with honesty and commitment in line with the government’s vision.

Recalling the past, Ponguleti pointed out that in the erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh, the Congress government had issued Group-1 notifications in 2011 and completed recruitment in 2018. “If similar notifications had been issued regularly, many more unemployed youth would have been benefitted,” he said.

After the formation of Telangana, the hopes of unemployed youth were left unfulfilled as no Group-1

recruitments took place during the past decade, he noted.

Highlighting the achievements of the present government, the Minister said the TGPSC, which was weakened earlier, has now been restructured and strengthened. “Within a year and a half, nearly 60,000 jobs have been filled. Notifications have been issued not only for Group-1 and Group-2 but also for other posts,” he said, adding that some impatient critics are unfairly targeting the government despite its efforts. On reforms in the Stamps and Registration Department, Ponguleti said that unlike the previous government, which treated the department as a revenue source, the Revanth Reddy-led administration has focused on improving public services. “We have introduced slot booking to save people’s time, are constructing new Sub-Registrar offices with modern facilities, and making extensive use of technology to curb corruption and irregularities,” he explained.

He advised the newly appointed District Registrars to discharge their duties sincerely and enhance the reputation of the government by serving the people effectively.

## TPCC chief reaffirms BC reservations, slams BRS-BJP 'conspiracy'

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud today asserted the Congress party's unwavering commitment to Backward Class (BC) reservations, accusing the BRS and BJP of conspiring to launch a “poisonous campaign” against the party.

Speaking at a media conference at Gandhi Bhavan, Goud reaffirmed that BC reservations are a core commitment for the Congress. He charged that both the BRS and BJP are jointly attempting to mislead the public.

Goud heavily criticised the BRS, stating its decade-long rule burdened Telangana with significant debts, the interest on which the present government is still paying. He ridiculed the BRS “Bakai Card” (Debt Card) campaign, comparing the public reaction to “ghosts reciting Vedas.”

He questioned whether fulfilling key poll promises—including loan waivers, free electricity up to 200 units, subsidised gas cylinders, and farmer assurances (Rythu Bharosa)—could be legitimately termed as “debts.”

The TPCC chief further

attacked the BRS over alleged scams in major projects like Kaleshwaram and the Formula E Car Race, alleging its ten years in power resembled a “Nawab's rule” that severely harmed the state. He reminded that the BRS had failed to provide jobs to Dalits and unemployed youth, despite earlier promises.

Turning to the BJP, Goud accused the party at the Centre of “looting thousands of crores” through GST and deceiving farmers in the name of fertilisers. He charged that BJP leaders lack the courage to question Prime Minister

Narendra Modi on BC reservations.

Goud highlighted that the Telangana government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and guided by Rahul Gandhi, conducted a transparent caste survey. He expressed determination to move ahead with BC reservations and confidence in securing a favourable court verdict.

He asserted the Congress party retains the public's trust and predicted the party would win more than 80 percent of seats in the upcoming local body elections, as well as the Jubilee Hills bypoll.

### Final voter list for Jubilee Hills by-election released, 3.99 lakh electors enrolled

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Telangana Sudharshan Reddy on Tuesday announced the final electoral rolls for the upcoming Jubilee Hills Assembly by-election, putting the total number of voters at 3,99,000.

As per the rolls, revised with reference to July 1, 2025, the constituency has 2,07,382 male voters, 1,91,593 female voters, and 25 third-gender voters, with a gender ratio of 924 women per 1,000 men.

The electorate includes 6,106 first-time voters in the 18–19 age group, 2,613 senior citizens above 80 years, and 1,891 persons with disabilities. Among the PwD voters, 519 are visually impaired, 667 have locomotive disabilities, 311 are speech or hearing impaired, and 722 fall under other categories. There are also 95 overseas voters.

The draft rolls published on September 2 had 3,92,669 voters. With the inclusion of 6,976 new names and deletion of 663, the revised tally reached 3,98,982. Including service voters, the final count stands at 3,99,000. Polling will be conducted across 407 polling stations spread over 139 locations in the constituency.

### Total number of 7.42 crores voters after SIR in Bihar

Patna, Sept 30 (UNI) : The Election Commission today released the final voters list of 7.42 crore electorate after Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar before upcoming state assembly elections.

Election Commission sources said here that 7.42 crore voters were listed as eligible electorate in electoral rolls released after SIR, which had started on June 24 this year. The total number of voters was 7.89 crore on June 24 when SIR of electoral roll was initiated, sources added.

“In the draft electoral roll released after the first phase of SIR on August one, the total number of voters was 7.24 crore which witnessed removal of 65 lakhs names”, sources said adding that names of 3.66 lakh ineligible voters were removed from draft electoral roll.

A total of 21.53 eligible voters were added in draft electoral rolls, which increased the figure from 7.24 crore voters of draft electoral votes to 7.42 crore in the final voters list.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, RJD leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav and other top opposition leaders had taken out “Voter Adhikar Yatra” from August 17 to September one to protest against alleged irregularities in SIR.



### PM visits Shiv Mandir Durga Puja pandal in Chittaranjan Park

New Delhi, Sept 30 (UNI) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi this evening visited the Shiv Mandir complex in Chittaranjan Park and participated in the Durga Puja celebrations. The Prime Minister joined in the Sandhya Arati of Goddess Durga and also prayed at the Kali Mandir in the temple complex.

In a post on X, the PM said: “Today, on the auspicious day of Maha Ashtami, I went to participate in the Durga Puja at Chittaranjan Park in Delhi. (See on page 2)

### Marriage, childbirth no ground to quash POCSO FIR, Bombay ....



The Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court has ruled that an FIR registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act cannot be quashed merely because the minor survivor later married the accused and gave birth to his child.

( See on page 3)

### Trump to give 'three or four days' to Hamas to agree to his Gaza ...



US President Donald Trump has said that he will give Hamas a time period of “three or four days” to agree to his 20-point Gaza peace plan. Speaking to reporters, he said that the White House was now “just waiting for Hamas,” as the plan has been hailed by Israel, Europe, and the Muslim-Arab world as a feasible path to peace, reports The Guardian. (See on page 5)

### Deepthi joins elite club with allround masterclass



Deepthi Sharma joined an elite group of Indian women cricketers as she produced a sensational allround performance to guide India Women to a 59-run victory over Sri Lanka Women in their ICC Women’s World Cup 2025 opener at Barsapara Cricket Stadium. (See on page 7)



# Farewell to Retired Employees by Bhiwandi Municipal Corporation



(Standard Post Bureau)

Bhiwandi, Sept 30 : As 04 employees retired from the Municipal Corporation service as per the prescribed age limit, as per the instructions given by the Administrator and Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation, Shri. Anmol Sagar (B.P.S.), the retired employees were bid farewell by the Municipal Corporation

through a program. On this occasion, Assistant Commissioner (Health) Shri. Shailesh Donde felicitated them by giving them shawls and bouquets and he also wished the retired employees for their future lives.

The farewell ceremony held on the third floor of the new administrative building of the Municipal Corporation was held in the

hall of the Hon'ble Commissioner. ) Ashwini Anil Pandav (Clerk, Telephone Operator) Telephone Department, Retired. 2) Santosh Krishna Bhoir (Clerk) P.S. No. 1, Retired. 3) Vijay Pudalik Pawar (Electric Helper) Electricity Department, Retired. 4) Pralhad Sitaram Bhagat (S.C. Worker) Ward Committee No. 1 Retired. 04 such retired Municipal

Corporation employees were bid farewell today on behalf of the Municipal Corporation.

On this occasion, Additional City Engineer Sachin Naik and Municipal Officers pro dept head srikant pardesi were present Employees, Representatives of all Employee Unions, Family Members of the Retired Employees etc. were present.

# 1 BGP Dispensary and 19 Urban Health Centers are functioning under Bhiwandi Municipal Corporation

(Standard Post Bureau)

Bhiwandi, Sept 30 : Currently, 01 BGP Dispensary and 19 Urban Health Centers are functioning under the Medical Health Department of the Municipal Corporation from 09.00 AM to 05.00 PM (excluding weekly/public holidays). BGP Dispensary, Bazar, Mandai, Bhiwandi. are functioning here and outpatient examination and treatment is being done at these places and the Urban Health Centers of the Municipal Corporation are 1) Examination of pregnant mothers 2) Regular vaccination of pregnant mothers and young children 3) Daily OPD 4) Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Surakshith Matritva Yojana 5) Implementation of Janani Suraksha Yojana 6) Implementation of Family Planning Scheme 7) Surveillance and treatment of patients with infectious diseases 8) Malaria survey and preventive measures as well as medication 9) First aid for infectious and non-communicable diseases 10) Implementation of Pulse Polio Scheme and other national programs etc. The works are being done at the Urban Health Centers of the Municipal Corporation. Also, out of the 39 UHCs approved by the government under the National Urban Health Mission, 19 centers are functioning in various parts of the Municipal Corporation and outpatient examination and treatment are being provided at these places. Similarly, under the 15th Finance Commission, 10 Hindu Hriday Samrat Balasaheb Thackeray dispensaries are functioning in various parts of the Municipal Corporation under the jurisdiction of Bhiwandi Nizampur City Municipal Corporation under the government level and outpatient examination and treatment are being provided at these places.

Similarly, under the Bombay Nursing Home

Registration Act 1949, private hospitals/maternity homes within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Corporation are being registered at the Municipal level under the Maharashtra Nursing Home Registration (Amended) Rules-2021. In July, 2025, punitive action has been taken against 04 people under the said Act as they were found to be illegally delivering babies without registering with the Municipal Corporation. Also, a review committee has been formed at the municipal level as per the government directives to take action against bogus doctors practicing medicine illegally, and the Municipal Commissioner, Chairman and Municipal Medical Health Officer are working as members in this committee. Under the control of this review committee, the medical officers of 1 to 19 urban health centers are searching for bogus doctors practicing medicine illegally within the municipal jurisdiction or as per the complaints received, and a case is being registered against them as bogus doctors at the relevant police station under Sections 33, 36 of the Maharashtra Medical Practitioners Act 1961 and Section 318 (4) of the Indian Penal Code. A total of 74 bogus doctors, including 01 in July 2025 and 03 in September 2025, have been registered with the help of the police. However, it is a challenge to the citizens that as many citizens as possible should take advantage of the health services of the Municipal Corporation and should pass this message on to other citizens/friends/relatives. Also, citizens should not take any kind of medicine from people who are doing medical business illegally and if it is found that they are doing medical business illegally and running a hospital without registering with the Municipal Corporation, they should file a complaint with the Municipal Corporation.

# Bihar to Receive the Gift of 3 New Amrit Bharat Trains and 4 Passenger Trains

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Sept 30 : Bihar is set to receive another major boost in the field of modern rail connectivity. Union Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting, and Electronics & Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw and Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary will dedicate seven trains to the state from Patna Junction, which include three Amrit Bharat Express trains. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw will join the program via video conferencing.

The Amrit Bharat Express, which has gained a distinct identity as a popular train among the middle class and common people, currently operates 12 services across the country, of which 10 run from Bihar. With the launch of three more Amrit Bharat Express trains, the total will

rise to 15, out of which 13 will operate from Bihar. This is a major gift from the Centre to the people of Bihar. The Railway Minister and Deputy CM will inaugurate three Amrit Bharat Express trains – from Muzaffarpur to Charlapalli (near Hyderabad), from Darbhanga to Madar Junction (near Ajmer), and from Chhapra to Anand Vihar Terminal (Delhi).

The Muzaffarpur–Charlapalli Amrit Bharat Express will be the first Amrit Bharat train from Muzaffarpur to South India, while the Chhapra–Anand Vihar Amrit Bharat Express will become the sixth Amrit Bharat train from Bihar to Delhi.

This state-of-the-art indigenous train will provide passengers with a fast, safe, and comfortable travel experience. These trains will strengthen

Bihar's connectivity with different parts of the country, particularly North and South India. Their operations will boost economic activities in the state and create new opportunities in tourism, trade, and employment.

Developed by Indian Railways, the Amrit Bharat Express has become a symbol of modernization in the country's railway system. The train is not just a fast and affordable travel option, but it also comes equipped with advanced features such as semi-automatic couplers, fire detection systems, sealed gangways, and talk-back units. For the first time, advanced technology has been introduced in non-AC coaches as well for passenger safety.

Previously, Bihar had 10 Amrit Bharat trains operational. With the launch of these three new

trains, the state's connectivity will further improve. This marks an important step towards realizing the vision of "Viksit Bihar Se Viksit Bharat" (Developed India through a Developed Bihar).

Brief Details of Amrit Bharat Express Trains:

1. Train No. 15293/15294 Muzaffarpur–Charlapalli–Muzaffarpur Amrit Bharat Express (Weekly):

This express will run via Hajipur, Patliputra, Ara, Buxar, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Junction, Prayagraj Chheoki, Jabalpur, Itarsi, Nagpur, and Kazipet.

2. Train No. 19623/19624 Madar–Darbhanga–Madar Amrit Bharat Express (Weekly):

This express will run via Kamtaul, Sitamarhi, Raxaul, Narkatiaganj, Gorakhpur, Gomti Nagar, Kanpur, Tundla, and Jaipur.

3. Train No. 15133/15134 Chhapra–Anand Vihar–

## Urvashi Rautela joins ED's probe in Bet app case

New Delhi, Sept 30 (UNI) : Actress Urvashi Rautela today joined the investigation in a money laundering case linked to the illegal banned betting app '1XBet'.

Earlier, Bollywood actor Sonu Sood, former Indian Cricketer Yuvraj Singh and web series 'Gandi Baat' actress Anveshi Jain recorded their statements.

According to ED sources, these celebrities were utilized in promotional campaigns for 1xBet, which significantly helped the illegal platform build a substantial user base in India despite its prohibition.

The agency also issued a statement expressing concern about a new threat emerging from the recent ban on regulated money gaming apps. It warned of a potential rise in illegal betting platforms targeting users in India and emphasized the need for focused strategies to counter this challenge.

Officials provided staggering figures to illustrate the scale of the problem, noting that in the first quarter of this year alone, illegal betting websites received more than one billion hits. The total value of unregulated gambling activity is estimated to be approximately USD 100 billion.

This recent action is part of a wider crackdown, with the ED having already recorded statements from several other personalities. Bengali actor Ankush Hazra was questioned recently, while actress Urvashi Rautela has not yet complied with the probe.

Since June, the investigation has also involved former cricketers Suresh Raina and Shikhar Dhawan, as well as numerous actors from the Tollywood film industry, concerning their alleged endorsements of illegal gaming apps. Investigators highlighted that a common tactic used by these platforms is to disguise gambling activities as "skill-based games" to evade legal restrictions. They clarified that the outcomes are predominantly based on chance rather than actual skill, and that fantasy games involving monetary stakes operate with rigged algorithms.

Chhapra Amrit Bharat Express (Twice Weekly):

This express will run via Siwan, Thawe, Kaptanganj, Gorakhpur, Basti, Gonda, Aishbagh (Lucknow), and Kanpur.

Keeping in mind the needs of the common public in rail services, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Deputy CM Samrat Choudhary will also flag off four passenger trains. The trains will run on the following routes:

Patna–Buxar, Jhajha–Danapur, Patna–Islampur, and Nawada–Patna via Sheikhpura–Barbigha. The commencement of passenger train services on the Sheikhpura–Barbigha–Bihar Sharif route from Nawada to Patna will fulfill the long-pending dream of people in the Barbigha–Asthawan–Bihar Sharif region, especially after the successful CRS inspection of this section. The Patna–

# UP Govt is merely conducting aerial surveys and making superficial appearances: Akhilesh

Lucknow, Sept 30 (UNI) : Samajwadi Party National President Akhilesh Yadav has leveled serious allegations against the Yogi Adityanath government regarding the increasing attacks by wild animals and wolves in Uttar Pradesh.

He said that the government is merely conducting aerial surveys and making superficial appearances, while no concrete steps have been taken on the ground to prevent the continuous deaths of farmers and villagers.

Referring to the death of a farmer couple in Bahraich on Monday due

to a wolf attack, Akhilesh Yadav said that villagers of the state are living in an atmosphere of fear and terror. He said, "If the government had spent so much money on wolf tourism on the ground, the wolves would have been caught and lives would have been saved."

The SP president alleged that people across the state are suffering from wild animals, from wolves, leopards, pythons, and stray bulls. Farmers are afraid to go to their fields, and farming is being ruined. He said the BJP government is shrugging off the problem and often

claims, "No animal footprints were found."

Akhilesh Yadav blamed illegal felling of trees and destruction of forest areas for human-wildlife conflict. He said that when animals face a food and shelter crisis, they will enter human settlements, leading to conflicts that often prove fatal. He demanded assistance for the families of the deceased and concrete steps to protect villagers from wild animals. He also claimed that "the BJP government is in its final stages, and after 2027, the public will automatically be free from these problems."

# Punjab CM meets Home Minister, seeks funds for flood relief efforts

New Delhi, Sept 30 (UNI) : Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann today met Home Minister Amit Shah and apprised him of the extent of damage in the State caused by floods during the Monsoon season. He also demanded additional funds for the state for disaster relief and restoration, a Home Ministry statement said.

During the meeting the Chief Minister was apprised that in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), Punjab has sufficient funds to the tune of Rs 12,589.59 crore, which can be utilised for the relief and immediate restoration to the affected people as per Government of India norms.

The Home Minister said the Central Government has provided all possible

assistance from central agencies to the state administration, in search, rescue and immediate restoration during the recent floods in the State.

Shah said Modi government is standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the people of Punjab and is committed to providing all possible help to flood affected people of the state.

On September 9, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had visited Punjab and reviewed the flood situation and damages caused in state. Out of the financial assistance of Rs 1,600 crore announced by the Prime Minister, Rs 805 crore (including Rs 170 crore under sanction by NHAI) has already been released to the State Government and intended beneficiaries under various

schemes. The rest will be released on receipt of relevant information from the State.

An Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) was constituted on September one without waiting for the receipt of memorandum from the State of Punjab. The team visited the affected areas for an on-the-spot assessment of damages in the State from September 3-6. However, the State Government is yet to submit a detailed memorandum. After receipt of the memorandum, the same will be considered by the Central Government as per the Government of India approved norms.

Besides this, the state can prepare a recovery and reconstruction plan for restoration of livelihood and damaged infrastructure.

# Delhi BJP leaders mourn Prof Vijay Malhotra

New Delhi, Sept 30 (UNI) : Delhi BJP leaders have expressed deep sorrow over the demise of veteran party leader Professor Vijay Kumar Malhotra, while state unit chief Virendra Sachdeva has said that Malhotra was not only the founding president of party's Delhi unit, but also a mentor to

party workers since the days of Jan Sangh.

Sachdeva said as a public representative, Malhotra dedicated a significant part of his life to the development of the national capital, and made an invaluable contribution to the growth of sports in the country.

The Delhi BJP chief said initiatives such as launching a shelter scheme for slum dwellers and the urban poor, or building Delhi's first flyover, are the testimony to his legacy as a true architect of development.

Delhi BJP general secretary (organization) Pawan Rana said Malhotra's life was one of struggle, service, and dedication.

His influence extended beyond Delhi, and the BJP workers from across the country, including from Himachal Pradesh, continue to draw inspiration from Malhotra's disciplined life.

Union Minister of State Harsh Malhotra stated that Malhotra was one of the most senior leaders in Indian politics, a founding member of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, and the first president of Delhi BJP, and he lived his life fully committed to the principle of "Nation First."

He played a significant role in strengthening India's parliamentary democracy,

and his entire life was dedicated to the nation and society, the union minister added.

BJP national spokesperson Sardar RP Singh urged Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta to name the first flyover in Delhi constructed under Malhotra's leadership and connecting Patel Nagar to Moti Nagar as "Vijay Setu." MP Praveen Khandelwal has stated that the demise of BJP's senior leader and Delhi's first true "Vikas Purush," Malhotra, is not only an irreparable loss for BJP, but for all of Delhi.

Khandelwal said Malhotra laid a strong foundation of modern development in Delhi, worked diligently to resolve traders' issues, supported religious outreach, and made extraordinary contributions to the expansion of sports, both in the national Capital, and across India.

Delhi BJP media head Praveen Shankar Kapoor has said that Malhotra symbolized integrity in Delhi's politics.

Kapoor said that whether during the Jan Sangh era, the founding phase of BJP, or in his role with the Parliamentary Party, Malhotra consistently advanced the party's political discourse as its spokesperson.



## ‘Heavy rain likely in Telangana on Oct 3-5’

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) Heavy rain is likely to occur at isolated places in Mulugu, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Khammam, Mahabubabad districts of Telangana on October 3, Meteorological Centre said on Tuesday.

In its daily weather report here, it said that the same situation is likely to prevail in in Mulugu, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Khammam, Nalgonda, Suryapet districts of the state on Wednesday.

Heavy rain is likely to occur at isolated places over Telangana on Thursday.

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers is likely to occur at a few places or at many places over the state during the next seven days.

Thunderstorm accompanied by lightning and gusty winds with speed ranging from 30-40 kmph is likely to occur at isolated places in all districts of Telangana during the next five days.

Southwest monsoon has been weak over the state.

Rain occurred at one or two places over Telangana during the last 24 hours, the report added.



Commuters make their way amid rain in New Delhi on Tuesday.

## CM felicitates young cricketer Tilak Verma for Asia Cup heroics

Hyderabad, Sep 30 (UNI) Young cricketer Tilak Verma, who played a pivotal role in India’s victory against Pakistan in the Asia Cup 2025 final, paid a courtesy call on Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Tuesday. The Chief Minister felicitated and congratulated Tilak for his stellar performance in the tournament. On the occasion, Tilak presented a cricket bat to the Chief Minister as a token of respect. Minister Vakiti Srihari, SATS Chairman Shivsena Reddy, SATS MD Sonibala Devi, CM’s Principal Secretary Srinivasa Raju, Khairatabad DCC President Rohin Reddy, and other dignitaries were present during the programme.

## Hyderabad gives standing ovation to Manoj Muntashir Shukla’s Mera Desh Pahle

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) : The cultural spirit of Hyderabad came alive on Tuesday evening as celebrated writer and lyricist Manoj Muntashir Shukla staged his acclaimed live musical saga Mera Desh Pahle – The Untold Story of Narendra Modi at Hitex City. The production, which has been enthralling audiences across India, received a thunderous response in the city, with the audience rising to a standing ovation.

Produced by Neelam Muntashir under the banner of Manoj Muntashir Entertainment and directed by Deepak Gattani, the show wove together stirring narration, evocative poetry, live performances, and powerful music to narrate Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s extraordinary life journey.

The packed auditorium witnessed a rich blend of history, art, and patriotism that struck a deep chord with the audience.

Every segment of the show, from grand musical renditions to emotional storytelling, resonated with pride and a sense of national identity.

Speaking after the performance, Shukla said, “Hyderabad has given Mera Desh Pahle not just applause, but pure love.

## Emotional farewell for Telangana DGP Jitender

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) : A grand farewell ceremony was organised today for Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) Dr Jitender at the Telangana Police Academy.

The outgoing DGP, who completed a 15-month tenure marked by reforms and citizen-centric policing, was given a ceremonial salute by the police.

Visibly moved, Dr Jitender broke down while recalling the personal sacrifices made during his service. “My mother passed away recently. I lost

both my parents and had to stay away from my family due to work. I am grateful to my wife and children who stood by me and supported me,” he said, with tears in his eyes. Reflecting on his 33 years of service in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the Punjab-born officer described his career as an “unforgettable experience.” He expressed gratitude to the state government for entrusting him with the role of DGP and said, “In the last 15 months, law and order, cybercrime, and crime in the state have

been under control. We protected the people from groups like Naxalism and terrorism.”

He highlighted key achievements during his tenure, including strict action against narcotics and cybercrime, filling vacant posts in the department, humanitarian policing initiatives, and strengthening disaster response.

“Festivals like Ganesh Nimajjanam, Sri Rama Navami, and Bakrid were conducted smoothly. Telangana Police is number

one in the country and will continue to lead in using technology to tackle modern crimes,” he asserted. Dr Jitender also pointed to Telangana’s top ranking in the India Justice Report 2025, the launch of citizen-focused initiatives such as the QR-code feedback system, and the establishment of the Young India Police School for children of police personnel. The force also earned national acclaim by securing 17 medals at the All India Police Duty Meet and pioneering the Tourism

Police initiative.

Newly appointed DGP Shivdhar Reddy, who will formally take charge on Wednesday, lauded Dr Jitender’s service.

“His administrative efficiency are an ideal for me. I recall working with him in Guntur, and his leadership will continue to guide us,” he said.

Senior police officers attended the farewell programme and praised Dr Jitender for his dedicated service, reforms, and commitment to strengthening the Telangana Police.

## Rapido inks MoU with Telangana Tourism Dept. to launch ‘Rapido Heritage Captains’ initiative

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) : Rapido, India’s leading ride-sharing platform, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Government of Telangana’s Department of Youth Advancement, Tourism and Culture.

The MoU was signed at the recent Telangana Tourism Conclave 2025 in Hyderabad, held to launch the “Rapido Heritage Captains” initiative.

Under this collaboration, selected Rapido Captains will be trained as knowledge ambassadors on Telangana’s heritage sites, history, and culture, enhancing the tourism experience for visitors and residents alike.

The training modules

will be curated jointly with the Department, covering prominent heritage sites, cultural landmarks, and historical narratives across Telangana.

Captains will receive structured sessions led by experts and access to heritage institutions, ensuring accurate and authentic knowledge transfer. The pilot phase will begin in Hyderabad, with expansion planned to other key heritage cities in the state. As part of the initiative, Rapido will introduce a dedicated “Heritage Captain” badge on its app, enabling riders to identify and book trained Captains.

The app will also feature notifications and geo-location integration to suggest heritage circuits

and popular cultural landmarks in Hyderabad and beyond.

Pavan Guntupalli, Co-Founder, Rapido, said, “In our personal experience, we often encounter cab, rickshaw, and bike drivers sharing their deep knowledge about Telangana’s rich and diverse cultural history. This initiative will help standardize and enhance that knowledge transfer, ensuring tourists, migrants and locals receive authentic and engaging insights. At Rapido, we are dedicated to contributing meaningfully to Telangana’s growth story and supporting initiatives that strengthen Telangana’s presence on a global stage.” Jayesh Ranjan, Special Chief Secretary, Chief Minister’s

Office and Department of Tourism and Culture, Government of Telangana, said, “Through this partnership with Rapido, we are taking an innovative step to make the state’s heritage more accessible and engaging for visitors and locals alike, by leveraging micromobility and technology. Training Rapido Captains as knowledge ambassadors will not only elevate the tourism experience but also create new opportunities for skill development and livelihood enhancement. We look forward to seeing this initiative deepen the connection between people and the vibrant, storied treasures of Telangana.”

Rapido, with over 12.5 lakh registered Captains in the state and facilitating

more than one lakh rides daily in Hyderabad alone, is one of the largest urban mobility platforms in Telangana and among the country’s biggest job creators.

Through initiatives like “Rapido Heritage Captains”, the company reinforces its commitment to livelihood creation, upskilling, and supporting state tourism. Telangana is home to iconic destinations such as Charminar, Golconda Fort, Warangal Fort, Ramappa Temple and the Kakatiya Heritage sites, offering a vibrant tapestry of history, culture, and tradition. This initiative is designed to make these heritage sites more accessible while also bolstering skill development for the state’s gig workforce.

## Left parties to hold Palestine solidarity rally in Hyd on Oct 7

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) : Left parties and other organisations will hold a rally in Hyderabad on October 7 to mark two years of Israel’s attacks on Palestinian territory.

The rally aims to condemn what they termed as “Israel’s atrocities” and to express solidarity with the people of Palestine.

Announcing the programme after a meeting at the CPI(M) state office, MB Bhavan on Tuesday, CPI(M) State Secretary John Wesley said leaders and activists from Left parties, secular democratic forces, public organisations, and voluntary groups will participate in large numbers.

He appealed to citizens and democrats to join the rally and make it a

success.

The meeting was attended by CPI(M) state leader DG Narasimha Rao, CPI national leader ET Narasimha, CPIML (Mass Line) state secretary Potu Ranga Rao, CPIML (New Democracy) state leader JV Chalapathi Rao, MCPI(U) state leader Vanam Sudhakar, RSP state secretary Janaki Ramulu, SUCI(C) state leader Bharat, and others.

The leaders strongly condemned Israel’s continuous bombing of Gaza and accused the US of extending unconditional support to Israel.

They alleged that humanitarian aid was being blocked, leaving Palestinians to face starvation, and pointed to reports of children and adults dying due to

famine-like conditions.

They also decried the killing of journalists and destruction of hospitals in Gaza, describing Israel’s actions as violations of international law and diplomacy.

The meeting further criticised the Modi government’s stance in favour of Israel.

“Israel is behaving like a brutal state, and its aggression has turned Gaza into a pile of rubble,” the leaders said in a joint statement.

In addition to the solidarity programme for Palestine, the Left parties also discussed a campaign against the tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump on India, stating that they would soon chalk out their future course of action, a statement said.

## HMDA renews Aditya company permits in Manchirevula following HC verdict

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) : The Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) has renewed the building permits of Aditya Company Construction in Manchirevula village of Rangareddy district, in line with the directions of the High Court.

Officials clarified that there were no violations of rules in granting the renewal.

HMDA had initially sanctioned permits in August 2022 to Aditya Kedia Realtors for constructing a 38-storey multi-storey building on 9.19 acres in Gandipet mandal.

However, following a joint inspection by HMDA, Irrigation, and Revenue officials in July 2023, it was found that the company had encroached on the

Musi river buffer zone and erected a retaining wall.

Subsequently, HMDA issued show-cause notices and cancelled the permits in August 2023, directing the removal of the wall. The company challenged the cancellation before the High Court, which ordered a fresh inspection. The inspection held in February 2024 confirmed removal of the wall, and the court on March 1, 2024, directed HMDA to renew the permits. Acting on the court ruling, HMDA formally issued renewal orders on June 20, 2024.

The project had earlier received necessary NOCs from the Irrigation Department and the Rangareddy District Collector before approval by the Multi-Storey Building Committee, an official statement said on Tuesday.

## AI era brings not only challenges but also great opportunities: Governor

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) Telangana Governor and BRAOU Chancellor Jishnu Dev Varma on Tuesday said that “We are entering the Artificial Intelligence (AI) era, which brings not only challenges but also great opportunities”. Addressing the 26th convocation of Dr BR Ambedkar Open University (BRAOU) here, Varma said that the industry demands adaptability, communication, teamwork, and digital skills, not just facts.

BRAOU’s efforts in digital learning and skill empowerment are nation-building steps, the Chancellor said. “The university opens doors to all — working professionals, homemakers, senior citizens, differently-abled learners, and even prison inmates,” he added.

The University conferred the Degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt) Honoris Causa on Sri Gorati Venkanna, an extraordinary lyricist and poet, for his notable contribution to Telugu Literature and on Sri Prem Rawat, Global Peace Educator, who is working to increase student enrollment in schools in a healthy manner and reduce crime rates worldwide. Presiding over the convocation, University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani, said 60,288 degrees, diplomas and certificates were awarded. Seven transgender learners also received their degrees. A total of 86 gold medals were awarded in the ceremony -- 67 for women and 19 for men.

## Telangana seeks Centre’s support for record paddy procurement this kharif

Hyderabad, Sept 30 (UNI) : Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Capt N Uttam Kumar Reddy today announced that Telangana is preparing for its highest-ever paddy procurement this kharif season and urged the union government to revise procurement targets, ease delivery norms, and provide additional storage and transport facilities.

In a statement, he said the state is expecting to procure about 80 lakh metric tonnes (LMTs) of paddy, surpassing the previous record of 67 LMTs. “At the Minimum Support Price of Rs 2,389 per quintal, procurement will cost nearly Rs 20,000 crore. With bonuses and transport expenses, the outlay could rise to between Rs 24,000 and Rs 26,000 crore — the highest for any single crop in the country,” Reddy said.

Raising objections to the Centre’s order mandating only parboiled

rice supply for the KMS 2024-25 season, the Minister said kharif paddy is more suited for raw rice conversion and urged permission to deliver both raw and boiled rice based on availability.

He flagged that undelivered Custom Milled Rice from past seasons has already stalled mill operations, forcing workers to leave.

On storage, Reddy pointed out that of the 22.61 LMTs of Food Corporation of India (FCI) capacity in Telangana, 21.72 LMTs are occupied, leaving less than 1 LMT free. “We request at least 300 special rakes per month to clear godowns and leasing of additional storage space,” he said.

The Minister demanded enhancement of Telangana’s procurement target for KMS 2025-26 from 53.73 LMTs of paddy to 80 LMTs, in line with the state’s projected bumper harvest of 148.30 LMTs.



STANDARD POST

Yunus-led govt in Bangladesh shows no progress, thousands flee abroad

Although more than a year has passed since Bangladesh's Muhammad Yunus-led interim government presented itself as a progressive alternative, promising reforms, dignity, and international recognition, there has been no progress on the ground, a report cited. It added that neither have reforms been implemented, nor has the law and order situation improved; rather, a silent national crisis has emerged, driving thousands to leave the country.

"From India to Indonesia, Vietnam to Thailand — even Tajikistan, which once offered e-visas within one hour — governments are now making it difficult for Bangladeshis to enter foreign countries. Visa denials, delays, and bans have become the norm. The government blames human trafficking and the failures of the previous government. However, diplomats argue that the real reasons are diplomatic inaction, political instability, and the government's lack of legitimacy," a report in 'The Diplomat' detailed.

"In this conflict, Bangladeshi passports have fallen into a terrible crisis, causing suffering to millions of people. The Bangladeshi passport is no longer one that symbolises opportunity but has now become a reminder of crushed aspirations," it added.

According to the report, the first major failure of the Yunus-led interim government came in diplomacy.

Following the political change in August 2024, India stopped issuing tourist visas to Bangladeshis, and the ban remains in place a year later. Among nearly 10 million foreign tourists who visited India from April 2023 to March 2024, it said, over 2.1 million were Bangladeshis. "Indonesia has also stopped on-arrival visas for Bangladeshis on the pretext of human trafficking. The visit of Indonesia's deputy foreign minister to Dhaka in June made no progress on the issue. Thailand, which previously issued e-visas to Bangladeshis within a week, is now taking 40-50 days to process visas for Bangladeshi nationals," The Diplomat report stressed. "The UAE has reduced the number of visas it issues to Bangladeshis; on average, only 30 to 50 Bangladeshis are getting UAE visas per day. Vietnam has stopped issuing tourist visas to Bangladeshis. Italy has more than 60,000 Bangladeshi visa applications pending," it added. The report stressed that such instances underscored the declining global respect for the Bangladeshi passport. In 2025, it said, Yunus is leading a nation whose international dignity diminishes with every rejected visa.

"As the head of state, it is his duty to restore democratic practices and establish political stability, so that Bangladesh can move forward with its head held high, so that its citizens do not face humiliation at foreign immigration checkpoints, and the credibility of the passport does not continue to decline," the report noted.

Art Meets Divinity: Three-Day National Art Camp Held at Vrindavan Shrikrishna Janmashtami Ashram



(By Staff Reporter)  
Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh — A powerful blend of myth, creativity and spiritual inquiry marked the recently concluded three-day national art camp at the sacred premises of Shrikrishna Janmashtami Ashram. With the theme of expressing mythological characters and narratives through painting, the event witnessed a remarkable confluence of 55 artists from 15 different states, along with intense discussions on the philosophy of painting among Indian youth. The camp was recently concluded and received an overwhelmingly positive response from both the participating artists and the audience.

Curated by renowned Jaipur-based artist Pawan Kumar Tak and managed by Vivek Sharma, Special Secretary of the Ramayan Research Council, the camp transformed the ashram into a vibrant arena of thought and expression.

While many participating artists remained rooted in calendar-style depictions—a familiar format in traditional Indian religious art—others broke from convention. A few younger artists ventured into innovative territory, blending mythological themes with contemporary aesthetics and abstract interpretations. Senior artists, on the other hand, showcased deeply rooted



tribal and folk styles, preserving the authenticity of ancient Indian artistic traditions.

The event wasn't just visual—it was philosophical. In a thought-provoking session, senior artist, writer, and journalist Prabuddha Ghosh (Pune, Maharashtra) emphasized

the need for originality in artistic creation, advocating for a new spirit in art camps free from imitation. "Art must be born from one's inner consciousness—not copied, but created," said Ghosh. He introduced ideas of neo-contemporary art, drawn from his international exposure, urging artists to align their work with both personal insight and societal context.

Padmashree Krishna Kanhai, a master of devotional painting, reinforced the spiritual core of the practice, stating, "Art is not just expression—it is a spirit. It holds the power of creation within itself." Echoing this sentiment,

in art—only the feeling of whether a creation is complete or not."

Among the attendees, retired IAS officer and Ramayan Research Council trustee Devdutt Sharma expressed immense satisfaction at the body of work presented. A dedicated patron of the camp, Sharma shared his aspiration: "Next year, I wish to see 108 paintings—a symbolic and spiritual number—displayed at this camp."

Interestingly, during discussions with several visitors and local artists at the camp, some strong and divergent opinions emerged. They did not hesitate to point out that the increasing reliance on



Another audience member sharply highlighted the disconnect between surface-level creativity and the deeper expectations of today's curators — emphasizing that a genuine understanding of art's essence is what truly matters.

Curator Pawan Kumar Tak emphasized the importance of keeping the spirit of innovation alive, stating that modern art must resonate with current events and societal undercurrents. His views received strong backing from Prabuddha Ghosh, who made a compelling call for art that is both introspective and fearless. Ghosh urged all artists to engage in this pursuit not just with their intellect, but with their hearts fully invested as well.

Artists such as Shubha Vidya (Indore, MP), Ranvir Singh Thakur (Delhi), Rajiv Semwal (Faridabad, Haryana), Dr. Mallikarjun (Karnataka), Rakesh Jer (Madhya Pradesh), Surendra Grover (Delhi), Rajpal Kalia (Panipat, Haryana) and Hariom Singh (Mathura, UP) left a strong impression with their distinctive and emotionally charged creative works.

Over the course of the camp, numerous visitors, pilgrims, and art lovers experienced the unfolding of divine expression on canvas, turning the ashram into a sanctum of color, creativity, and consciousness.

Nutrition Key to Rourkela's Heart Health

(Standard Post Bureau)

As World Heart Day approaches, doctors in Rourkela are turning the spotlight on one of the most powerful yet often neglected tools for a healthy heart — nutrition. With cardiovascular diseases emerging as a leading cause of mortality in India, lifestyle modifications, especially diet, are being recognised as the most effective means of prevention.

In Rourkela, a city known for its industrial pace and demanding work culture, health concerns linked to hypertension, obesity, and diabetes are rising. Doctors say that food habits play a direct role in this trend. Fast food outlets, processed snacks, and high-salt diets have become increasingly common. These eating patterns, when combined with a sedentary lifestyle and rising stress levels, are

putting enormous strain on the city's heart health.

Experts stress that prevention is not complicated — it begins with what goes on the plate. A diet rich in whole grains, seasonal fruits, vegetables, pulses, nuts, and seeds is proven to reduce cholesterol levels and improve circulation. Locally available options such as green leafy vegetables, millets, and lentils can easily be integrated into daily meals. At the same time, limiting deep-fried food, red meat, sugar-laden beverages, and excess salt is critical to preventing long-term damage to the arteries.

Dr. Millan Satapathy, Senior Interventional Cardiologist, Apollo Hospital Rourkela, explained:

"Nutrition is the first medicine for the heart. Every extra spoon of salt, every fried snack, every

sugary drink adds pressure on the arteries. People in Rourkela often lead stressful, busy lives, and food becomes a quick fix. But it is these shortcuts that silently damage the heart. By adopting simple practices — eating home-cooked meals, including green leafy vegetables, millets, and fruits in the daily diet, and avoiding excess salt and oil — we can prevent nearly half of heart-related illnesses.

A healthy plate today means a stronger heart tomorrow."

He further added that nutrition is not just about avoiding harmful foods but about embracing healthier traditions. "Our grandparents relied on seasonal produce, home-cooked meals, and balanced diets. That wisdom is still relevant today. The problem is not a lack of awareness, but the inability to stay consistent. If every

mobile phones and digital imagery as reference material is, in many cases, stifling the artist's thought process.

According to them, this dependence is choking creativity and reducing art to a mechanical reproduction of overused visual clichés.

One observer went so far as to say that devotion, while admirable, can also blind and paralyze the devotee.

They stressed that while devotion has its place, it must be matched with clear intent and determination to create something meaningful.

PM visits Shiv Mandir Durga Puja pandal in Chittaranjan Park

New Delhi, Sept 30 (UNI) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi this evening visited the Shiv Mandir complex in Chittaranjan Park and participated in the Durga Puja celebrations. The Prime Minister joined in the Sandhya Arati of Goddess Durga and also prayed at the Kali Mandir in the temple complex.

In a post on X, the PM said: "Today, on the auspicious day of Maha Ashtami, I went to participate in the Durga Puja at Chittaranjan Park in Delhi.

"Chittaranjan Park is deeply intertwined with Bengali culture. The true essence of our society's unity and cultural vibrancy comes alive in these celebrations.

"I prayed for the happiness and well-being of all." As the Prime Minister's cavalcade passed through Chittaranjan Park, the residents who were standing behind the barricades were seen waving their hands and shouting "Modi, Modi".

The Prime Minister performed arati at the Kali temple, with the priest chanting mantras.

Later, at the Durga Puja pandal, the PM was seen praying before the Mother Goddess. Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta accompanied the PM.

The PM also performed arati before the Durga idol, with the lighted lamp. He waved to the select crowds who had been allowed inside the pandal.



### Trump to give 'three or four days' to Hamas to agree to his Gaza peace plan

Washington, Sept 30 (UNI) : US President Donald Trump has said that he will give Hamas a time period of "three or four days" to agree to his 20-point Gaza peace plan.Speaking to reporters, he said that the White House was now "just waiting for Hamas," as the plan has been hailed by Israel, Europe, and the Muslim-Arab world as a feasible path to peace, reports The Guardian.

The war's end, however, is heavily dependant on the terror group's answer, which is yet to give a response."Hamas is either going to be doing it or not, and if it's not, it's going to be a very sad end," he remarked. Asked if there is room for negotiations on the peace plan, Trump simply stated "Not much."

The terror outfit had said that it would review the outline of the Gaza peace plan following internal consultations with fellow officials.

The plan, unveiled yesterday, would see all the hostages released within 72 hours, the demilitarisation of the Strip, total surrender and disarming of all Hamas operatives, and its handover to a transitional, "technocratic" government with an international force taking charge of security in midst of a gradual-phased-out IDF retreat from the enclave.

### DR Congo's ex-president Kabila sentenced to death in absentia

Kinshasa, Sept 30 (UNI) : Joseph Kabila, former president of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), was sentenced to death in absentia by the country's High Military Court on Tuesday, on charges including treason and crimes against humanity.

According to the verdict, Kabila was found guilty of multiple offenses, such as participation in an insurrectional movement, intentional homicide, torture, rape, and forced occupation of the city of Goma, provincial capital of North Kivu, now controlled by the March 23 Movement (M23) rebels.

Kabila also received a 15-year prison term for conspiracy, while the court pronounced the death penalty for the other charges.

The trial, which opened in July following the lifting of Kabila's parliamentary immunity by the Senate in May, was conducted without the presence of the accused.

The prosecution accused the former head of state of being implicated in atrocities committed in the eastern provinces by the M23. Evidence presented included witness testimonies, video footage, and media interviews.

Since January, the security situation in the eastern DRC has sharply deteriorated, with renewed fighting involving the M23, which has seized control of several strategic areas, including Goma and Bukavu.

Kabila, who ruled the country from 2001 to 2019, has been residing primarily in South Africa since 2023.

Since May, he has made public appearances in the DRC's eastern province of North Kivu. He also expressed his desire to return home to "contribute to finding a solution" to the ongoing crisis.

### 8 dead in informal gold mine collapse in Malawi

Lilongwe, Sept 30 (UNI) : At least eight people were killed and five others injured when an informal gold mine collapsed Tuesday in Kasungu, about 150 km north of Malawi's capital, Lilongwe, authorities said.

The collapse occurred on the outskirts of the Kasungu District after one of the miners used a drilling machine to dig for gold, triggering heavy vibrations, local residents told the media.

"Following the vibration, the walls of one of the trenches fell from a height of about 15 feet, burying people who were down there," a village headman said, adding that 13 miners had been trapped, but the rescue was swift as they were in the same location.

Police in Kasungu reported that the victims included men, women, and teenagers aged 15 to 19. Officials from both the police and the district council described the accident as the worst mining disaster the district has ever witnessed. The Department of Disaster Management Affairs said it received the report and "treated it with urgency." Despite government restrictions, informal gold mining continues in parts of Malawi, often without proper safety measures.

### Starmer outlines immigration, education, reform UK policies

London, Sept 30 (UNI) :British Prime Minister Keir Starmer delivered a keynote speech Tuesday at the Labour Party's annual conference in Liverpool, setting out the party's policies on illegal immigration, education, healthcare, and its stance against Reform UK.

Starmer, who also serves as Labour Party leader, said the country's asylum system "cannot be ignored," pledging to strengthen border security by stopping small boat crossings in the English Channel, cracking down on illegal working, and removing "people with no right to be here."

On education, he announced the government would scrap the target of sending 50 percent of young people in England to university, replacing it with a goal of directing two-thirds into either universities or "gold standard apprenticeships." He pledged investment in new technical excellence colleges and expanded skills training.

The prime minister also introduced a new digital healthcare service, "NHS Online," which will be available in England by 2027 and is expected to help cut patient waiting lists.

Turning to politics, Starmer identified Nigel Farage's Reform UK as Labour's chief opponent, questioning the party's patriotism and urging Labour members to "come together to fight Reform."

## ‘Tibetan activists face threats from China for protesting environmental destruction’



Beijing, Sep 30 (IANS) : As China continues to ramp up its claim over Tibetan resources, the environmental activists in the region face persistent threats from the Chinese authorities, a report said on Tuesday.

It added that between 2010 and 2019, many activists were detained and sentenced to years in prison in China for peacefully protesting against illegal mining activities, the hunting of endangered species, and environmental damage across Tibet.

According to a report in the 'Greek City Times', the imprisoned environmental human rights defenders include Anya Sengdra, Dorjee Daktal, Kelsang Choklang, Dhongye, Rinchen Namdol, Tsultrim Gonpo, Jangchup Ngodup, Sogru Abhu, and Namesy.

The environmentalists, it said, committed to protecting the environment and addressing ecological challenges, continue to face harassment, humiliation, and death threats from China.

T i b e t a n

environmentalist A-Nya Sengdra, who has spent seven years in jail, was recently denied release. Hence, he will stay in jail until February 2026. Ironically, no explanation was given for the extension of his jail term, which is reminiscent of China's practice of acting without providing any satisfactory reason," the report detailed.

It stressed that this is not an isolated incident but part of a pattern showing how China has been harassing, torturing, and jailing Tibetan activists for raising their voice against the environmental exploitation in the region.

Another environmental activist, Tsongon Tsering, the report said, was arrested in October 2024 after exposing illegal sand mining in Ngawa Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture in southwest China's Sichuan Province through a video.

"He accused Anhui Xianhe Construction Engineering Company of engaging in unauthorised mining under the guise of road construction. The video highlighted severe environmental damage

caused by the company's operations. Instead of taking action against the company, Chinese authorities picked up Tsering along with members of his family," the report stressed.

It further stated that the two cases highlight the risks faced by Tibetan environmental defenders from rigid Chinese authorities that suppress their right to speak out against harmful state and corporate practices.

"The Dalai Lama has raised concerns about Tibet's ecological issues as a global problem. The revered Tibetan leader has highlighted climate change, particularly the effects of ecological degradation due to wanton human activities," the report noted.

"Studies show that the Tibetan Plateau is warming three times faster than other parts of the world, leading to the retreat of glaciers. Thus, the international community needs to act quickly, not just to counter China's policies, but also to protect the climate," it added.

### Hamas, Qatar, Turkey discussing Trump's plan to end war in Gaza, says Qatar's Foreign Ministry

Doha, Sept 30 (UNI/SPUTNIK) : Palestinian movement Hamas, along with representatives of Qatar and Turkey, are discussing U.S. President Donald Trump's plan to end the ongoing war in the Gaza Strip, Qatari Foreign Ministry spokesman Majed Al-Ansari said today.

Yesterday, Trump unveiled a 20-point plan to resolve the Gaza conflict.

The proposal calls, among other things, for an immediate ceasefire and the release of hostages within 72 hours.The plan also stipulates that Hamas and "other groups" must renounce their involvement in governing Gaza, both directly and indirectly.

The enclave would instead be governed by a "technocratic, apolitical Palestinian committee" overseen by an international body headed by Trump."Discussions on Trump's ceasefire proposal with the Hamas delegation are still ongoing. They continued until late yesterday evening and will continue today. The Turkish delegation has joined the negotiations," Al-Ansari told reporters.

Doha highly appreciates the U.S.'s commitment to ending the war in the Gaza Strip, the spokesman said, adding that Trump's plan presents a comprehensive vision to immediately stop military actions.Commenting on Israel's promise not to violate Qatar's sovereignty again, the spokesman noted that Doha is satisfied with the pledge, which came with an apology.

## Iran downplays EU sanctions impact on economy

Tehran, Sept 30 (UNI) : Heavily downplaying the EU sanctions, Iran's Deputy Economy Minister Hamid Ghanbari has called them largely symbolic, insisting that they have little actual effect on Tehran's finances, more so than ever now as no Iranian banks held any foreign funds, due to anticipation of their assets being frozen by the West.

Ghanbari said Monday that Tehran had long anticipated such measures and acted accordingly. "Iranian banks deliberately avoided leaving deposits in foreign accounts, knowing they would be vulnerable to freezing," he told state media, reports Iran International.

"What has now been listed were already inactive accounts. There are no major assets abroad to be seized."

The EU announced the partial reinstatement of sanctions earlier in the day, citing Iran's breaches of the 2015 nuclear deal. The measures restore restrictions on banking, trade, transport, and individuals, in line with the broader UNSC resolution, reimposing all international sanctions pre-2015 deal.

Ghanbari noted that the EU had never fully lifted all restrictions, pointing to separate sanctions linked to human rights and military issues.

"What is being reimposed now are essentially the nuclear-related sanctions of the past, sometimes broader in scope, but not unfamiliar to us," he said.

Regarding the aviation sector - another long-standing target of Western measures - he said Tehran had already taken steps to cushion the blow having long anticipated it."Over the years, we have consistently prepared for disruptions in key sectors. These sanctions change little in practice," Ghanbari added.

He also left open the possibility of legal challenges, recalling that some EU sanctions were previously overturned in European courts. "Whether to pursue such avenues depends on political circumstances and potential benefit," he said.

The sanctions came following the triggering of the snapback mechanism of the Iranian nuclear deal by France, Britain, and Germany, who accused Tehran of non-compliance with the deal's terms, due to its repeated violations of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).The restored restrictions ban transfers of nuclear and missile technologies, prohibit sales of heavy weaponry, and call for the freezing of Iranian assets abroad.

Iran, backed by Russia, has rejected the legitimacy of the move, arguing that Europe has repeatedly failed to uphold its commitments under the JCPOA and citing the US withdrawal from the accord in 2018.

Despite the renewed measures, Ghanbari insisted the economic fallout would be minimal.

"For years, European companies have aligned themselves with U.S. sanctions. Since Washington's exit from the JCPOA, Europe's trade with Iran has collapsed to historic lows. These new listings will not significantly change the picture.""Sanctions matter, but their impact must be seen realistically. Iran has already adapted, and the public deserves transparency about the true scale of these measures," he concluded.

refugee crisis – particularly since the start of the war in 2023 - and prevent any Hamas activities on its soil.

Jerusalem has likewise justified the move as essential to its security, to prevent weapons and drugs smuggling operations by the terror group, as well as cut off its funding. Activists argue the flotillas draw attention to what they call the humanitarian cost of the 17-year closure, though Israel has slammed the whole flotilla mission as a useless 'publicity stunt.'

## SK to launch Nuri space rocket for 4th time

Seoul, Sept 30 (UNI/SPUTNIK) : South Korea will launch its homegrown Nuri space rocket for the fourth time on November 27, the Korea AeroSpace Administration (KASA) said today."On September 26, the Korea AeroSpace Administration established a committee for the fourth launch of the Nuri rocket and is currently preparing for the blastoff, which is scheduled to take place on November 27 between 00:54 and 01:14. The exact time will be confirmed the day before the launch," KASA said in a statement.The committee will deal with the final assembly of the rocket, control of conditions and preparation of the launch site at the Naro spaceport. A new date may be set around November 28 and December 4 in the event of adverse weather conditions or launch problems, KASA said.KASA is planning to load into the rocket the South Korean satellite CAS500-1, which will monitor the aurora borealis, the glow of the atmosphere and the magnetic field as well as measure the Earth's plasmosphere - an area of near-Earth space filled with cold plasma.KASA chief Yoon Young-bin said that this would be the first Nuri rocket launch since the establishment of South Korea's space agency in May 2024.

## Israel accuses flotilla mission sailing to Gaza of Hamas ties

Jerusalem, Sept 30 (UNI) : Israel has called the flotilla currently sailing to the war-torn Gaza Strip in defiance of Jerusalem's blockade, proxies of Hamas. The claim was made after the IDF recently unearthed some of the terrorist organisation's documents in the Strip.

The documents according to the Israeli Foreign Ministry showcase the terror group's "direct involvement" in the fleet of activists currently sailing dozens of boats in 'solidarity with Gazans', reports Times of Israel.

According to the Jerusalem, the files tie flotilla organisers to the Palestinian Conference for Palestinians (PCPA), a Hamas-linked body established in 2018 that Israel designated a terrorist organisation three years later.

Officials described the PCPA as Hamas's "embassy network" abroad, charged with organising marches, demonstrations, and flotilla campaigns against Israel.

One recovered document cited by the ministry was allegedly a letter from 2021 written to the organisation by the group's former political chief Ismail Haniyeh, where he was explicitly backing the PCPA.

Another, found in a Hamas outpost, listed senior PCPA figures, including Zaher Birawi, head of the group's UK branch. Birawi has been a central figure in pro-Gaza flotillas for over a decade, including the 2010 Mavi Marmara mission in which 10 activists were killed in clashes with Israeli commandos.Also named

was Saif Abu Kashk, a PCPA member in Spain and CEO of Cyber Neptune, which Israel alleges secretly owns many of the 47 boats currently heading toward Gaza.

Officials said this shows the convoy is "funded and controlled" by Hamas despite its civilian façade.The 'Sumud' flotilla, organisers say, is carrying dozens of activists, including Swedish campaigner Greta Thunberg, and is expected to reach Gaza's waters later this week.The Israeli Navy

## Orban accuses West of plundering Ukraine under guise of protection

Budapest, Sept 30 (UNI) : Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban on Tuesday accused Western countries of exploiting Ukraine for their own economic and strategic interests while portraying themselves as its protectors."The situation is clear. The West speaks of defending Ukraine, but in reality, it is an imperialist grab for land, resources, and money. The unfortunate Ukrainian people are being plundered, while those pushing for war cloak exploitation in the guise of protection. Let there be no illusion, this is about power and profit," Orban said in a post on social media platform X.

According to Orban, colonial attitudes have resurfaced in Europe and are fueling the conflict. "The war in Ukraine is also driven by this. Thus, the Westerners do not want to miss out on carving up Ukraine. They see it as the partitioning of Ukraine. Make no mistake, they are not fighting against the Russians. The Russians took 20 percent of Ukraine, and the West thinks it has the right to take the rest," he said.Calling the conflict a "classic imperialist war," Orban claimed that Western

actors are positioning themselves to benefit from Ukraine's resources. "The Americans are doing it most intelligently; they set up an economic fund, made agreements with the Ukrainians on rare earth metals and investments, they concluded a financial deal. The Westerners simply do not want to miss out on their share of a country they consider divisible," he said.

He added that their ultimate aim is to control Ukraine's territory, agriculture, mineral wealth, and financial assets. "Behind it is all the

plundering of the unfortunate Ukrainians, while they present it as if they were protecting Ukraine. This is not the case," Orban said.

Hungary has often diverged from the European Union's common stance on the Ukraine crisis. While Brussels has imposed sanctions on Russia and provided extensive military and financial support to Kyiv, Budapest has maintained energy cooperation with Moscow, opposed weapons deliveries, and consistently called for an immediate ceasefire and peace talks.



# Career

## Top 10 fundamentals for first-time Job seekers

Some of the most successful people started off peeling stacks (and stacks) of potatoes, skinning chickens, washing dishes and clearing tables. They didn't get disheartened by the work required, as they knew that it was just a stepping-stone onto bigger and better things. As a start, here are the top ten fundamentals that all recruiters want fresh grads to know:

- It's never too early to start researching the company companies you want to work with and for the position you want. Do your background research regarding the company and the requirements for the position you want when you graduate (size, global presence, \$ value, any recent news, follow them on social media, etc.). If possible, try and talk to someone who already works there; they will be able to give you a much more accurate picture on the company's culture, work environment, etc. so that you have all the information required to make an informed decision.
- Have a professional resume and cover letter. Just ensure that both your resume and cover letter portray an accurate image of you and tell the story that you want them to tell (in the best possible way). Ensure the resume is crisp and highlights the points you want the recruiter to notice. Get second opinions when possible.
- Manage your social media effectively. Think of yourself as a brand and all your social media as advertising your "personal brand". Just as you are going to be researching the companies/employees where you are applying, they will be doing the same to you. Ensure there isn't anything online that you aren't comfortable sharing with a room full of strangers (aka employers). Where possible have restricted profile access or screen the information you share online. Ensure you have a LinkedIn profile. Even if you don't have any prior work experience, try and highlight internships, leadership positions, how you ranked in your school and your technical skills.
- When you do manage to get an interview with the company/companies that you want, apart from ensuring that your background research on the company itself is updated and accurate, try and gather as much information about the recruiters and the selection criteria process as possible. This will be invaluable in ensuring that you appear well informed and are adequately prepared at the time of the interview.
- Practice, practice, practice. Practice mock interviews with a friend/mentor where they ask you potential interview questions, ranging from predictable ones like, "Tell us about yourself" or "Why do you think you are the right person for this job" to slightly unique ones like "What classes were your favorite

**Graduating from a professional college can be an exciting yet daunting experience. You've been inside a protected environment the past few years and are ready to forge out to change the world. Just a gentle reminder though, that the best in the business didn't start at the top and unfortunately neither will you.**

and why" or "What's your favorite website" or "Who's your real life hero?" Try and make these mock interview sessions as realistic as possible with quiet locations, appropriate attire and timing the entire process.

- Prior to the interview day, get enough rest (it's not time to celebrate yet). Ensure that you are relaxed and plan to get to the venue a minimum of 30-45 minutes prior to the scheduled time (always allowing for last minute emergencies). Lay out your attire and check that you have all required paperwork, directions to the location and extra copies of your resume handy.
- First impressions matter. When introducing yourself ensure you have the right attitude, smile and a firm handshake. Expect to be evaluated (on body language, grooming, confidence and effective communication skills). Don't hand out your resume or give out all the personal details (place of birth, family background, etc., unless specifically asked).
- During the interview, be prepared with a few relevant questions when given the opportunity to ask them. Expect most interviews to last between 30 to 45 minutes and when possible try and touch upon your internship project or the various organizations that you might have worked for. Also, add the responsibilities you handled and some achievements you had over those roles. Remember to keep the answers brief, to the point and avoid winding answers. Be prepared for them to ask you to stay back longer to meet others in the company.
- Maintain eye contact always (depending upon the number of people in the panels). Prior to leaving, thank them for their time; ask them for their business card as well as the next steps in the interview process. Ensure that you are prompt and respectful in your follow up.
- As a summary, while the hiring criteria may vary depending on company, industry, etc., recruiters are typically looking for graduates who exhibit confidence (not over confidence). They are looking for consistency in your "personal brand". Do your communication skills, overall appearance, attitude and personality match your resume? They're also asking themselves if you really want to work in their company or is it just one of the many open positions that you are applying for? Does your intellect and previous success record match what they envision for this role?

## Dos and don'ts for your Job application

**HR professionals point out common mistakes made by those applying for their job, providing a list of dos and don'ts.**



Many argue that academics fails to prepare fresh graduates in communication etiquette, necessary in the corporate world. It is thus a task for some of them to even get employed as job interviews require one to present his or her skills, while conducting oneself in a certain manner. To address these concerns, we list mistakes made my first-time job aspirants and how they can be corrected.

**-Email etiquette**  
So, you've heard about a suitable job, managed to procure the employer's email id and decided to shoot off your resume for consideration. But when you're a fresher, your resume may not be your biggest strength. So what do you do?  
"A mistake freshers make in their resume is, since there's little to speak of in terms of

professional achievement, they litter it with details about their family and their hobbies,"says Srinivas Rao Katkoor, Director Human Resources - South Asia, SAS Institute (India) Pvt Ltd. Rao adds that freshers need to highlight their educational qualifications, technical skills and their college projects in their resume. "If you've done an internship, you need to mention your exact role and learning from it in your resume," adds Rao, who feels that grammar and punctuation cannot be compromised in one's CV. "A cover letter is also a must and it should briefly summarize the candidate's skills and the kind of role they're looking for, along with a reason for applying for the role and choice of company," says Rao. How one addresses the person receiving the resume is vital too. A "Hi" followed by the

person's name is seen in poor light. "It would be advisable that the candidate figures out who he is applying to and address the mail to the concerned person, making the application personalized. And one should never make the mistake of applying to multiple companies by adding several email ids in the BCC as it's seen as unprofessional," says Rao. A suitable salutation in such emails could be 'Dear Sir', 'Dear HR Manager' or 'Dear Hiring Manager'.  
On a different note, the email id created to send your resume could also affect your chances of getting short-listed. "If an employer receives a resume from an id like serialkisser01@gmail.com, the reaction it would receive is obvious," laughs Ashish Arora, Managing Director, HR Anexi Pvt Ltd, who recommends short and straightforward email ids with a subject line clearly drawing attention to the role being applied for.

**-Telephonic skills**  
You may have been talking on the phone for decades, but that doesn't necessarily mean that you're prepared for a telephonic interview. Usually the first filter in most interviews, this is the stage when employers connect employees to validate the claims made on their resume. "First-time job applicants aren't aware of etiquette to be followed in telephonic interviews. You rarely come across candidates who begin a call with a greeting like 'good morning' or 'good afternoon' based on the time of the day," says Rao, who feels that one should be frank, using this as a chance to talk about specialized skills. Doubts about the exact role can be clarified along the way.

**- Face to face interview**  
The way to approach the final interview where one meets one's prospective employer to pitch one's skills has been much debated. What to wear, how to conduct oneself or even what to prepare for, are all grey for most freshers who make the common mistake of going ill-prepared and end up being rejected. A firm shake hand and constant eye contact during the interview are known to convey confidence and honesty but there's plenty else to learn.  
"Shabby attire, reaching late for an inter view, laid-back posture communicate that the candidate is unenthusiastic," says Arora. He advises that candidates speak slowly and clearly, responding to questions honestly, after having heard the entire question. "Another common mistake is asking how much one will be finally paid, early on in the interview. This is a stage when the candidate's employment has not been confirmed and it is looked at in poor taste," adds Arora.

## Lenovo India relaxes dress code for employees

Following in the footsteps of Infosys and Hindustan Unilever, Lenovo India is the latest to relax its employee dress code. Business attire favoured at the firm so far will give way to a more casual style of dressing. Lenovo will announce the change in a mail to be sent to all employees on Friday, titled, 'Now everyday is Friday.' Employees at Lenovo offices across the country will now be allowed to wear business casuals including but not limited to shirts, T-shirts with collars, jeans for men and dresses, skirts and casual trousers for women. The mail defines business casuals as "a midpoint between the informality of casual wear and the strictness of formal business attire". Employees will be expected to use their discretion to dress professionally. Apparel with rips or tears, workout attire and clothing with graphics are to be avoided. Those in frontline roles will be expected to wear formals for meetings with clients and business partners. "We've been thinking of instituting a change in our dress code for some time now," said Rohit Sandal, director HR at Lenovo India. "Employees need to feel comfortable in what they're wearing, in order to be at their most productive. This change is part of our recent brand transformation 'Never Stand Still' to deepen our engagement with millennials in India," he added. The company, he said, trusts its employees to be appropriately attired within the parameters of business casuals. "No longer will ties and formal suits be

advocated, but we won't encourage shorts and flip-flops either." The updated clothing policy is one of the many changes that Sandal who joined the firm in April hopes to bring into effect. The new dress code will be applicable for



also be allowed to wear business casuals, thereby promoting it as a perk of working with the firm. Corporate image and luxury brand consultant Manjusha Maheshwari advocates formal dressing at the workplace, but admits that things are changing to address the needs of millennial workers. "It's a good idea to put employees through group sessions before instituting such changes, to help them understand the nuances of business casuals and to help define what works and what doesn't. Sloppiness in attire, if allowed to creep in, can affect the mood at the workplace."



Flick gives Lamine homework ahead of PSG clash

Madrid, Sept 30 (UNI) : FC Barcelona coach Hansi Flick gave a message to Lamine Yamal that he needs more than just talent to be considered one of the all-time greats of the game.

Speaking ahead of his side's Champions League tie at home to Paris Saint-Germain on Wednesday night, Flick was asked about the 18-year-old, who will return to the side after struggling with a groin injury in recent weeks.

During that time, Yamal finished second behind PSG's former Barcelona forward Ousmane Dembele in the Ballon d'Or awards, while his private life has become more prominent in the non-sporting press.

Flick admitted Yamal is an "exceptional" talent, but insisted "I don't like this whole 'super, super' thing."

"He's exceptional, but there are other exceptional players on the team," said the Barca coach.

"He's 18 years old, and he also has to focus on making the effort. To get to the next level, one or two steps higher, you have to make the effort; talent alone isn't enough," he advised, giving the youngster something to work on.It's not just about playing with the ball, you also have to defend. That is something that every player needs to do - not just him.""He is a great player with the ball and that is what makes a different," commented Flick.

Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL) Tour arrives in Pune amidst fanfare

Pune, Sept 30 (UNI) : The Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL) Tour has reached the iconic Poona Golf Club with the much-awaited IGPL Pune Invitational 2025 is scheduled from October 1-3. This is the third IGPL Invitational event after Chandigarh and Greater Noida. Both were won by Gaganjeet Bhullar, who is now playing in the International Series. Yet he sent his best wishes to the players in Pune this week.

Ahead of the event, Uttam Singh Mundy and Poona Golf Club dignitaries, as also some of the golfers interacted with the media at the Poona Golf Club, which was made tournament ready despite heavy rains recently. Mundy accompanied by Gaurav Gadhoke, President of Poona Club, Ikram Khan, Advisor to GSC, Uttam Singh Mundy, CEO of IGPL and top golfers, Pukhraj Singh Gills, Aman Raj and Ridhima Dilawari,.They also unveiled the Trophy that will be presented to the winner alongside the cheque of Rs. 22.50 lakhs.

Pukhraj and Aman Raj have had a fine starts in the IGPL with Top-10 finishes in both Chandigarh and Greater Noida. Also present was top woman star, Ridhima Dilawari, who missed the first two events as she was playing on the



India's Keerthika Jayachandran competes in Women's Shot Put F54 during the World Para Athletics Championships 2025, at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, in New Delhi.

IIT Madras to co-host 58th Inter-IIT Sports meet this year

Chennai, Sept 30 (UNI) : The Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-Madras) will be co-hosting the 58th Inter-IIT Sports Meet this year, the oldest and largest student sporting event among centrally funded technical institutes in India, along with IIT-Hyderabad and IIT-Tirupati.

As a part of the Sports Meet, a weeklong Inter-IIT Aquatics Meet 2025 was inaugurated here today at the campus.

The event will continue till September 5.

The Aquatics Meet was inaugurated by Olympic swimmer and Arjuna awardee Sebastian Xavier in the presence of Prof. V. Kamakoti, Director, IIT Madras.

The Inter-IIT Sports Meet traces its roots back to 1961, when five IITs—Bombay, Madras, Kharagpur, Kanpur, and Delhi—came together to

promote sports and camaraderie. Over the decades, it has grown into a pan-Indian mega event that embodies competition, teamwork, and institute pride.Lauding the participants from all IITs for their hard work and preparation, Prof. Kamakoti said, “We are very happy to host the Inter-IIT Aquatics Meet at IIT Madras campus. The Inter-IIT Sports Meet is a very important annual event and this time, Three IITs - IIT Madras, IIT Hyderabad and IIT Tirupati - have joined together to organize the event. For the first time, a First Generation, a Second Generation and a Third Generation IIT have come together to organize this event. We wish all participants and sportspersons all the very best.”IIT Madras holds a distinguished place in the history of the Inter-IIT Sports Meet, having won

the General Championship 24 out of 57 times, a record unmatched by any other IIT. The institute's most recent victory came in 2023 at IIT Bombay and IIT Gandhinagar.

Sebastian Xavier said, “Today, India has greatly improved in the field of Swimming. I used to practice in the IIT Madras Swimming Pool in the 1980s. In my village, we had no swimming pools and I started swimming in the river. From that river, I reached the level of Olympics. I wish you all the best.”

A total of 17 IITs are participating in the Aquatics Meet --IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IIT Varanasi, IIT Bhubneswar, IIT Dhanbad, IIT Gandhinagar, IIT Guwahati, IIT Indore, IIT Hyderabad, IIT Jodhpur, IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Mandi, IIT Palakkad, IIT Patna, IIT Roorkee and IIT Madras.

Super 10s from Aditya Shinde, Pankaj Mohite help Puneri Paltan complete the double over Bengal Warriorz

Chennai, Sept 30 (UNI) : Puneri Paltan completed the double over the Bengal Warriorz, registering a 49-44 win in a high-scoring encounter at the SDAT Multi Purpose Indoor Stadium in Chennai on Tuesday. Aditya Shinde (18 points) and Pankaj Mohite (10 points) registered Super 10s to lead their side to victory, while Devank Dalal amassed 25 points on the night, also becoming the first to cross 150 raid points in PKL 12.

It was a quick start to the game as Aslam Inamdar didn’t waste any time to get the first points on the board for Puneri Paltan with his first raid. Vishal Bhardwaj followed that up with a tackle on Devank Dalal, setting the tone for the Season 10 champions in the opening exchanges. Bengal Warriorz quickly found their stride with Ashish Malik opening the scoring for them with a

tackle on Aditya Shinde.

Himanshu Narwal added to that tally with a two-point raid, but Pankaj Mohite responded instantly with a two-point raid of his own. Just when it seemed like the Paltan would impose themselves on the game, Himanshu and Ashish Malik ensured that their side stay in the game despite a two-point deficit with the score at 9-7 after the first ten minutes.

Puneri Paltan really began to find their stride soon after, and it didn’t take them too long to register the first ALL OUT of the game courtesy Abinesh Nadarajan’s tackle on Devank, opening up a five-point gap as a result. Aditya Shinde and Pankaj Mohite registered multi-point raids to keep Puneri Paltan in their driver’s seat, but the Warriorz continued to respond with their captain leading the way alongside Himanshu

Narwal to conclude an enthralling first half that ended 21-18 in favour of the Ajay Thakur-led side.

The second half began in absolute high-octane fashion as Puneri Paltan registered a Super Tackle on Devank. Manprit chipped in for the Warriorz with a two-point raid, while Devank found some momentum too. There was a battle within the war as Aslam Inamdar brought Devank down with a Super Tacke, but the Bengal Warriorz captain got his revenge, inflicting an ALL OUT to get his side back in the game with the score 30-27.

A Super Raid from Pankaj Mohite helped Puneri Paltan quickly regain their six point raid, but the Warriroz weren’t throwing in the towel yet. Devank Dalal completed his Super 10, cutting the deficit down to four points heading into the final quarter. With the game heading down to the

wire, Aditya Shinde stood tall for Puneri Paltan. He recorded a crucial Super Raid that helped him complete his Super 10, and put his side in pole position as they registered their second ALL OUT courtesy Abinesh Nadarajan, to take the lead at 46-35 with under five minutes to go.

Pankaj Mohite also completed his Super 10 to put the finishing touches on the game. With a two-point raid, Devank continued to fight as he completed the 20-point mark for the third time this season. Despite his best efforts, the Bengal Warriorz fell short in a high-scoring thriller as Puneri Paltan secured a 49-44 victory.

Please find below the schedule for the PKL Season 12 matches on Wednesday, October 1:

Match 1: Haryana Steelers vs Jaipur Pink Panthers

Match 2: U Mumba vs Tamil Thalaivas

Srihari, Benedicton win medals at Asian Aquatics

Ahmedabad, Sept 30 (UNI) : India continued its impressive run on day three of the 11th Asian Aquatics Championships at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex, with Srihari Nataraj clinching bronze in the Men's 100m Freestyle and Rohit B Benedicton securing silver in the Men's 50m Butterfly.

The medals took India's overall tally to nine, including three individual and two relay podium finishes for Srihari.

In the Men's 100m Freestyle, Srihari, drawn in lane five, turned third at the 50m mark behind China's Haoyu Wang (49.19) and Qatar's Ali Tamer Hassan (49.46), with fellow Indian Akash Mani close in fourth (50.45). Maintaining a strong rhythm in the second half, Srihari held off the challengers to touch the wall in 49.96 seconds, earning bronze.

"I have had a good season this year and training has gone really well. I was fast in the heats and thought I could be faster here. These guys swam brilliantly, and I'm just glad to be on the podium," Srihari said. He added, "The atmosphere has been amazing with our big team, coaches, parents, and the fans cheering. It's an incredible feeling, especially in the relay yesterday when the cheers carried over even while racing."

In the Men's 50m Butterfly, Benedicton put in a strong performance to finish second in 23.89 seconds, narrowly missing gold to Kazakhstan's Adilbek Mussin (23.74).

On the women's front, Dhinidhi Desinghu and Shashidhara Rujula reached the final of the 100m Freestyle but finished sixth and eighth respectively, missing out on a podium finish.India now eyes further medals as the championships progress.

India Women set competitive target for Sri Lanka in ICC WWC opener

Guwahati, Sept 30 (UNI) : India Women put up a commanding total of 269 for 8 in 47 overs against Sri Lanka Women in the first match of the ICC Women's World Cup 2025 at Barsapara Cricket Stadium, keeping their tournament ambitions on track.

However, the target has been revised to 271 as DLS method

After Sri Lanka won the toss and chose to bowl, India's batswomen came under early pressure in rain-hit encounter. Smriti Mandhana fell cheaply for 8, trapped by Udeshika Prabodhani, but Pratika Rawal steadied the innings with a well-crafted 37, while Harleen Deol added a brisk 48 to keep the scoreboard ticking. Captain

Harmanpreet Kaur contributed 21 before Inoka Ranaweera struck again, but Deepti Sharma (53) and Amanjot Kaur (57) kept India on course, ensuring momentum was maintained. Sneha Rana remained unbeaten on 28, helping India post a competitive total.

Wickets came at regular intervals, but India's lineup refused to collapse. Ranaweera emerged as the main threat, claiming four wickets, while Prabodhani chipped in with two. Chamari Athapaththu and Achini Kulasuriya struck once each, keeping the run rate in check. India also benefited from 15 extras, including nine wides and a no-ball. The innings saw the following key moments:

India lost Mandhana early at 14, Rawal at 81, Harleen at 120, and Harmanpreet at 121. Deepti Sharma's dismissal at 269 marked the end of India's innings.

The bowlers' figures reflected Sri Lanka's fightback: Inoka Ranaweera 9-0-46-4, Udeshika Prabodhani 10-1-52-2, Achini Kulasuriya 8-0-42-1, Chamari Athapaththu 3-0-24-1, Sugandika Kumari 9-0-46-0, Kavisha Dilhari 8-0-51-0.India's total gives Sri Lanka Women a challenging target as they begin their chase after the innings break. With contributions from top and middle-order batswomen, India has sent a clear signal -- they are ready to contest every wicket, every run, and every over in this World Cup.

Deepti joins elite club with allround masterclass

Guwahati, Sept 30 (UNI) : Deepti Sharma joined an elite group of Indian women cricketers as she produced a sensational allround performance to guide India Women to a 59-run victory over Sri Lanka Women in their ICC Women's World Cup 2025 opener at Barsapara Cricket Stadium.

With the game delicately poised after early wickets, Deepti showcased her class, scoring a fluent 53 runs that steadied the innings and laid a solid platform for the middle order. She then turned her attention to the ball, claiming three crucial wickets for 54 runs, breaking partnerships and putting Sri Lanka on the back foot.

In doing so, Deepti emulated some of the finest allround displays in India women’s ODI history, joining Jemimah Rodrigues, who scored 86 runs and took 4 wickets for just 3 runs against Bangladesh at Mirpur in 2023, Shikha Pandey’s 59 runs and 3/19 against South Africa in Bengaluru in 2014, and her own memorable 51\* with 3/

20 against Ireland in Potchefstroom in 2017.

Deepti’s seamless combination of batting composure and bowling precision highlighted not only her personal brilliance but also her ability to deliver in high-pressure situations, setting the tone for India’s World Cup campaign.

Deepti, named Player of the Match, reflected on her performance: "The partnership with Amanjot Kaur was a turning point. We had lost back-to-back wickets, so we spoke about taking the game deep until the 46–47th over."

"There was no pressure, I am used to such situations

and playing such knocks. The partnership was important with Amanjot. I enjoy my batting. When the wicket is like this, I focus on my stock ball and try to hit the stumps. First match sets the tone, and we have a lot of positives. We want to play like this and keep winning."Deepti's innings and bowling display underscored India's dominance and provided a perfect start to their World Cup campaign, while her calmness under pressure offered a blueprint for the team moving forward.

India captain Harmanpreet Kaur praised her team’s collective effort: “It wasn’t an easy game.

*Printed, Published and Owned by*  
**Mohammed Shafi**

**Printed at KR Graphics,**  
**# 2-3-703/8, Tirumala Nagar Colony, Amberpet,**  
**Hyderabad - 500 013 and**  
**Published from # 2-3-645/8/1,**  
**Back Side of CPL Church, Prem Nagar,**  
**Amberpet, Hyderabad-500 013**

**Editor: Mohammed Shafi**  
**R.N.I.No. : TELENG/2011/39668**

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# Central Railway to extend periodicity of Special trains

**(Standard Post Bureau)**  
Mumbai, Sept 30 : Central Railway will extend the run of special trains to clear the extra rush of the passengers as per details given below:

1). Train no 01436 Lokmanya Tilak Terminus - Solapur Weekly Special, earlier notified to run upto 01.10.2025 has now been extended from 08.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (13 Trips)

Train No. 01435 Solapur - Lokmanya Tilak Terminus Weekly Special, earlier notified to run up to 30.09.2025, has now been extended from 07.10.2025 to 30.12.2025. (13 Trips)

2). Train no 01461 Solapur - Daund Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to

31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

Train no 01462 Daund - Solapur Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

3). Train no 01465 Solapur - Kalaburagi Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

Train no 01466 Kalaburagi - Solapur Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

4). Train no 01023 Pune - Shri Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Terminus (Kolhapur), Daily special earlier notified to run upto

30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

Train no 01024 Shri Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Terminus (Kolhapur) - Pune, Daily special earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

5). Train no 01211 Badnera - Nashik Road Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

Train no 01212 Nashik Road - Badnera Jn Unreserved Daily special, earlier notified to run upto 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips).

6). Train no 01487 Pune - Harangul, Daily special earlier notified to run 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips)

Train no 01488 Harangul - Pune, Daily special earlier notified to run 30.09.2025 has now been extended from 01.10.2025 to 31.12.2025. (92 Trips).

NOTE-1  
Train no 01437 Solapur-Dharmavaram Special notified to run upto 02.10.2025 has now been extended to run upto Anakapalle Ex Solapur from 09.10.2025 to 27.11.2025

Train no 01438 Dharmavaram-Solapur Special notified to run upto 03.10.2025 has now been extended to run from Anakapalle from 11.10.2025 to 29.11.2025.

NOTE-2

Following trains have been provided halt at Murud station with immediate effect.

Train no 01436 LTT-Solapur express at 22.04 hrs

Train no 01435 Solapur-LTT express at 18.00 hrs

Train no 01487 Pune-Harangul express at 11.25 hrs

Train no 01488 Harangul-Pune express at 15.19 hrs

Reservation: Bookings for extended trips of Special Trains no 01435, 01436, 01437, 01024, 01487 and 01488 open at all computerised reservation centres and on website [www.irctc.co.in](http://www.irctc.co.in)

For detailed timings at halts of this special train please visit [www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in](http://www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in) or download NTES App.

# Mahatransco presented with Power Transmission Award in New Delhi

Chairman and MD Dr. Sanjeev Kumar congratulated



**(Standard Post Bureau)**  
Mumbai, Sept 30 Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Company (Mahapareshan) has received this year's Power Transmission (State PSU) Award presented by Dun & Bradstreet, New Delhi. Mahatransco Chief Engineer Kishor Garud and Public Relations Officer Dr. Milind Awatade received the award from Naveen Agarwal, Joint Secretary, Union Finance Department. Mahatransco Chairman and Managing Director Dr. Sanjeev Kumar (IAS)

congratulated the officers and employees for the award. The award was presented at the 17th PSU and Governance Council held at Hotel Taj Mansingh in New Delhi. Kunal Satyarthi, Joint Secretary, Union Rural Development Department, was present on the occasion. Mahatransco is the largest transmission company in the country. Its network of ultra-high voltage channels spans the entire length and breadth of the country. Mahatransco has successfully met the

power demand of over 30,000 MW in the state of Maharashtra. Mahatransco has achieved new heights in the power sector by adopting new technologies. Drone-assisted work is being carried out, especially in remote hilly areas. High-performance conductors have also been installed. STATCOM projects are proposed in Dhule and Lonikand (Pune) to maintain grid stability. Mahatransco maintained open participation in projects through TBCB. “

# Special Traffic and Power Day Blocks from for carrying out Pre Non-Interlocking works at Karjat station : CR

**(Standard Post Bureau)**  
Mumbai, Sept 30 : Central Railway will operate Special Traffic and Power Day blocks for carrying out Pre Non-Interlocking works at Karjat station in connection with Karjat yard remodelling work.

**Details of Block and repercussions on running of trains on 03.10.2025 (Friday), 04.10.2025 (Saturday) & 10.10.2025 (Saturday) & 10.10.2025 (Friday) is as follows:**

**Date and Duration of block:**

03.10.2025 (Friday) from 11.20 hrs to 18.00 hrs

04.10.2025 (Saturday) from 11.20 hrs to 16.45 hrs

10.10.2025 (Friday) from 11.20 hrs to 16.20 hrs

Traffic Block Section: Between Bhiyपुरi-station-Jambrung Cabin-Thakurvadi-Nagnath Cabin and Karjat

**Working of suburban trains during the block period**

Up and Down suburban services between Neral & Karjat will not be available on 03.10.2025 (Friday) and Up and Down suburban services between Karjat & Khopoli will not be available on 04.10.2025 (Saturday) & 10.10.2025 (Friday) during the block period.

**03.10.2025 (Friday) Repercussions on Train running**

**Cancellation of Up Suburban trains**

- Khopoli-Karjat local departing Khopoli at 14.55 hrs will be cancelled

Short Termination of Suburban trains

- CSMT-Karjat locals departing CSMT at 9.01 hrs, 9.30 hrs, 9.57 hrs & 11.14 hrs will be short

terminated at Neral station.

- Thane-Karjat local departing Thane at 12.05 hrs will be short terminated at Neral station.
- CSMT-Khopoli local departing CSMT at 12.20 hrs will be short terminated at Neral station.
- CSMT-Karjat local departing CSMT at 10.36 hrs will be short terminated at Ambarnath station

Short Origination of Suburban trains

- Karjat-CSMT locals scheduled to depart Karjat at 10.43 hrs, 11.19 hrs, 12.00 hrs, 13.00 hrs & 13.55 hrs will short originate from Neral station.
- Karjat-Thane local scheduled to depart Karjat at 13.27 hrs, will short originate from Neral station.
- Karjat-CSMT

local scheduled to depart Karjat at 12.23 hrs will short originate from Ambarnath station.

No Cancellation of Down Suburban trains and No Repercussions on Mail & Express Trains on 03.10.2025

04.10.2025 (Saturday) & 10.10.2025 (Friday)

Repercussions on Train running

Cancellation of Down Suburban trains

- Karjat-Khopoli local departing Karjat at 12.00 hrs, 13.15 hrs & 15.39 hrs will be cancelled.
- Cancellation of Up Suburban trains
- Khopoli-Karjat local departing Khopoli at 11.20 hrs, 12.40 hrs & 14.55 hrs will be cancelled

Short Termination of Suburban trains

- CSMT-Khopoli

local departing CSMT at 12.20 hrs will be short terminated at Karjat station.

Short Origination of Suburban trains

- Khopoli-CSMT local scheduled to depart Khopoli at 13.48 hrs will short originate from Karjat station.

No Repercussions on Mail & Express Trains from 04.10.2025 to 10.10.2025

No Repercussions on Suburban trains from 05.10.2025 to 09.10.2025

Some Mail & Express trains will be diverted on mid-line at Monkey Hill Cabin and will not affect Main lines.

These maintenance mega blocks are essential for infrastructure upkeep and safety. Passengers are requested to bear with the Railway Administration for the inconvenience caused.

# Reorganization of customer service offices in Mahavitaran starts on a pilot basis from today

**(Standard Post Bureau)**  
Mumbai, Sept 30 : Sub-divisions and branch offices providing direct customer service under Mahavitaran have been restructured. This restructuring is starting on a pilot basis from Wednesday (1st). The draft of the restructuring will be finalized after reviewing the work within the next month and this restructuring will be implemented from 1st November. Meanwhile, the Chief Engineers of the circles have been given full authority to take necessary measures to ensure that there is no inconvenience to the electricity consumers during the implementation period of this restructuring.

Under Mahavitaran, there are 147 departments, 652 sub-departments and 3274 branch offices in 16 circles and about 44 thousand engineers and technical staff working in 4,188 sub-centres. In this, mainly new electricity connections, monthly electricity bills, regular maintenance of the electricity system for smooth power supply, repair of technical faults, recovery of electricity bill arrears, reduction of electricity losses, etc. are done through sub-departments and branch offices. Therefore, engineers and technical staff have to do 10 to 12 types of work at the same

time. This structure is about 25 years old and was made according to the number of customers at that time. “

The previous structure has also had an impact on the efficiency of employees and customer service in the last few years. Therefore, the demand for reducing the burden of general work and giving responsibility for selected works was being made by the engineers and employees' organizations for the last 10 years. The management has formed a special committee for this purpose and has discussed the employee organizations from time to time and prepared a restructuring draft.

The main emphasis has been on the restructuring of the sub-divisions and branch offices that provide direct customer service. In particular, the relevant sub-divisions and branch offices have been restructured according to the number of customers and geographical area in urban, rural and remote areas. Along with this, the number of engineers and technical staff has been determined according to the number of customers. Due to this, 2 more divisional offices, 37 sub-divisions and 30 branch offices have been newly created in the state. Due to these offices, the number of posts of 876 engineers and technical staff has also



Female employees of Mahavitaran Bhandup Circle

# Delhi's Tughalakabad to Kolkata's Shalimar, via Agra & Kanpur, offers assured 120hr transit time



(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, Sept 30 :Indian Railways is launching the first assured transit time container train service on a pilot basis between Delhi and Kolkata. The first service will commence on 1st October 2025, operating from ICD Tughlakabad Terminal (TICD), Delhi to CTCs Kolkata via Agra and Kanpur terminals of Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR). This special service is designed to ensure a guaranteed transit time of 120 hours, marking a significant milestone in the logistics sector.

The dedicated train will follow the stream: TICD (Delhi) – ICDY (Agra) – ICDG (Kanpur) – CTKR/CTCS (Kolkata). It will operate on a bi-weekly schedule, departing every Wednesday and Saturday. A unique feature of this service is the hub-and-spoke cargo facility at Agra and Kanpur, enabling efficient cargo aggregation for a wider catchment area. Additionally, customers will benefit from the waiver of empty wagon

haulage charges from Tughlakabad to Kanpur, further enhancing cost efficiency.

This pilot project is expected to provide multiple advantages to customers, including door to door assured and reliable delivery for time-sensitive cargo, a competitive alternative to road transport, enhanced connectivity for northern hinterland cargo, and priority benefits for early adopters.

It also contributes to sustainability by promoting a modal shift from road to rail, reducing the carbon footprint, and supporting India’s commitment to green logistics.

Through this initiative, Indian Railways and CONCOR reaffirm their focus on customer-centric, reliable, and sustainable logistics solutions.

The launch of this assured transit train service represents a transformative step towards a more efficient and environmentally responsible supply chain ecosystem.

**Key Highlights**

- \* 1st Assured Transit Time Train on the Delhi–Kolkata corridor.
- Transit Time Commitment: 120 hours from Tughlakabad (Delhi) to Kolkata.
- Route: Tughlakabad (TICD) Agra (ICDY) Kanpur (ICDG) Kolkata (CTKR/CTCS).
- Frequency: Bi-weekly departures – Every Wednesday & Saturday.
- Door to Door service by CONCOR with faster, reliable and sustainable service reliability