CITY HILIGHTS

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P10 'Ramayana' Is a Visual Spectacle, Says Shankar



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PM Modi extends Deepavali greetings to the nation

Modi said he would continue his annual tradition of celebrating Deepavali with soldiers but did not disclose the military station or location this year

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday extended Deepavali greetings to people nationwide and said he would continue his tradition of celebrating the festival with India's soldiers.

In a video message shared on social media, Modi wished citizens peace, prosperity and happiness. He said the country was illuminated with lights on the eve of the festival, describing the occasion as a reflection of the nation's resolve against darkness.

"My heartiest greetings to all of you for Diwali. I wish for peace, prosperity and happiness for all of you in the coming days," he said. The Prime Minister added that he celebrated Deepavali with enthusiasm and would once again mark the occasion with the country's soldiers.

Modi said he had been celebrating the festival with soldiers every year and would continue the practice this time as well. However, he did not reveal the military station or location where he would spend the festival. Earlier, in a message shared through the government's Jan Sampark Portal, Modi described Deepavali as a celebration of the victory of light over darkness, goodness over evil and hope over despair.



> "My heartiest greetings to all of you for Diwali. I wish for peace, prosperity and happiness for all of you in the coming days"
>
> - **Narendra Modi, PM**

He said the festival was an opportunity to cherish India's traditions and strengthen bonds of togetherness. He hoped it would inspire people to spread kindness, embrace positivity and work towards a brighter future.

The Prime Minister urged citizens to move ahead with renewed energy and determination to build a prosperous and developed India, often referred to as 'Viksit Bharat'.

On Saturday, Modi also visited Uprashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi and exchanged Deepavali greetings with Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan. He was seen performing aarti during the visit.

Deepavali, the main festival day, falls on Sunday, November 8, this year. Modi's announcement came before celebrations, while the location of his planned interaction with soldiers remained undisclosed.

President Murmu extends Diwali greetings to citizens

President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday extended Diwali greetings to citizens on the eve of the festival. Recalling Lord Shri Ram's return to Ayodhya after defeating Ravana, she highlighted the significance of lighting lamps. She expressed hope that patriotic youth, guided by Indian values, would contribute enthusiastically towards building a developed India (Viksit Bharat).

Ram Temple symbol of Hindu self-respect: VP

Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan extended Diwali greetings during his visit to Ayodhya on Saturday and praised the Ram temple as a symbol of Hindu self-respect. Describing Lord Ram as an embodiment of Dharma, compassion and righteousness, he praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for following Ram's ideals and promoting Ayodhya's development.

Centre disputes Karnataka's excess ethanol claims

NEW DELHI

The Union government and three public sector oil companies on Saturday defended the quality of E20 petrol, rejecting Karnataka's allegations that fuel samples from certain outlets contained ethanol levels exceeding the prescribed 20 per cent limit.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas said 893 samples collected across 27 States and Union Territories were tested by Indian Oil Corporation (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL). All reportedly contained ethanol within the prescribed 19-21 per cent range under the Bureau of Indian Standards' IS 17021 specification.

Of these, 56 samples collected from different locations in Karnataka also met the standards, recording ethanol content between 19 and 20 per cent, with an average of 19.30 per cent, the ministry said.

The statement came after Karnataka Food and Civil Supplies Minister Rizwan Arshad alleged that tests conducted on samples collected from seven districts had found ethanol levels between 26 and 31.2 per cent.

The oil companies questioned the State's October 2026 sampling and testing procedures, saying the exercise was reportedly conducted without their representatives. They said they had not received the retained samples, complete outlet-wise details or laboratory reports needed to verify the findings independently.



The companies also questioned the third-party laboratory certificates cited by Karnataka. They said the documents mentioned gas chromatography but did not specify the applicable testing standard, dilution procedure or reference material used.

Under the Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel Control Order, 2005, and Marketing Discipline Guidelines, 2024, six one-litre samples must be collected during inspections. These are distributed among dealers, oil companies or departments and designated laboratories for testing.

The ministry also said claims of large consumer losses due to reduced mileage and vehicle repairs required careful examination. Citing technical studies, it said mileage reduction could range from one to two per cent for E20-compatible vehicles and three to six per cent for others.

The oil companies have sought complete documentation from Karnataka and proposed joint sampling and independent testing at authorised laboratories to resolve the dispute.

The conflicting findings have raised questions about fuel quality monitoring and the need for transparent, jointly verifiable testing.

Rahul Gandhi questions Centre over E20 petrol

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday criticised the Centre over E20 petrol, citing Karnataka laboratory tests that allegedly found excess ethanol in fuel samples. In a post on X, he called the issue "E20 turned into 420" and claimed 11 of 14 samples from seven districts contained over 20 per cent ethanol. Samples from Indian Oil and Hindustan Petroleum reportedly recorded 31.2 per cent and 30.5 per cent, respectively. Gandhi questioned the actual ethanol content sold nationwide and demanded action against companies. However, three public-sector oil companies disputed the findings, saying their E20 fuel complied with prescribed BIS standards and questioning the sampling and testing procedures.

Indian diplomat Shivani Gupta elected to UN Budget panel

NEW YORK

Indian diplomat Shivani Gupta has been elected to the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) for the 2027-2029 term.

India's Permanent Mission to the UN announced her election and thanked member states for their trust and support. Gupta will begin her three-year term in January 2027.

The ACABQ is a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly and comprises 21 members appointed in their individual capacities. Members serve three-year terms, with geographical representation taken into consideration.

The committee examines the UN's administrative and budgetary requirements and reviews resource proposals. It provides recommendations to promote accountability and ensure the efficient use of contributions made by member states towards the organisation's global activities.

Congress sends weapons to frighten rivals: BJP

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The BJP has strongly condemned the delivery of knives and daggers to the home of Chalavadi Narayanaswamy, the Leader of the Opposition in the Karnataka Legislative Council. State BJP President B.Y. Vijayendra called the act unacceptable and a clear sign of violent politics.

Vijayendra accused the ruling Congress party of using scare tactics to silence leaders who question the government's financial crisis and poor management. He criticised Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Home Minister Priyank Kharge, claiming their words and actions encourage this aggressive behaviour.

Highlighting Karnataka's economic struggles, Vijayendra noted that the state government lacks funds for basic needs. He pointed out delays in paying pensions and a failure to build homes for the poor. He suggested that instead of running a poster campaign against the BJP, Congress should focus on its own record. He also claimed that citizens are suffering from rising prices and that bribes are now required for official government tasks.



Political Security & Intimidation Crisis

Dangerous Threat Delivered
Knives and daggers sent via Blinkit to Opposition Leader's home.

BJP Leadership Condemnation
State President B.Y. Vijayendra denounces violent intimidation tactics.

Formal Police Complaint
R. Ashoka files official attempted murder case with Police Commissioner.

Direct Accusations Made
Narayanaswamy links NSUI members and Home Minister to the plot.

Narayanaswamy reacted with anger. He explained that two individuals from the NSUI used the Blinkit app to send the weapons to his house, choosing the cash-on-delivery option. Unafraid, he stated he would frame the weapons to showcase the Congress party's violent culture. He directly accused Home Minister Priyank Kharge of organizing the threat and promised to fight the issue in court and during the winter assembly session.

Meanwhile, R. Ashoka, the Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, filed a formal complaint with the Bangalore Police Commissioner. He labelled the incident an attempted murder and demanded immediate police action. Ashoka warned that if the state government fails to maintain law and order, the BJP is ready to launch strong protests in response.

Dipke vows continued fight for fair elections

KOCHI

Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke said on Saturday that his campaign against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar would continue until India had an independent and impartial electoral system.

Dipke spoke to reporters after arriving at Cochin International Airport to attend the party's 'Jantar Mantar at Kochi' protest against the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and Kumar.

He alleged that elections conducted under Kumar could not be trusted and were being manipulated to favour one political party. These allegations have not been independently established.

Dipke said he expected a large turnout of young people at the demonstration. He also claimed Kerala had the highest number of registered CJP members, citing the party's database.

The Kochi protest formed part of the party's campaign opposing the SIR exercise and demanding Kumar's resignation.

Vijay seeks Modi's intervention over Mekedatu dam

CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, urging the Centre not to grant statutory or administrative clearances for Karnataka's proposed Mekedatu dam project without the consent of the Cauvery basin States.

In his letter dated November 6, Vijay expressed concern over a reported inspection of the proposed project site by Union government officials. He said the development had increased anxiety among farmers in Tamil Nadu, who depend on river water supplies for farming.

The proposed project envisages a reservoir with a capacity of 67.16 thousand million cubic feet (TMC) across the Cauvery, close to the Karnataka-Tamil Nadu border. Vijay argued that the reservoir could affect water flows to Tamil Nadu and disrupt the monthly releases set out under the Cauvery water-sharing framework. These concerns reflect Tamil Nadu's position.

The Chief Minister also referred to reports of Karnataka officials meeting representatives of the Union Ministries of Jal Shakti and Environment, Forest and Climate Change to discuss the project's detailed project report (DPR). He said any examination or technical assessment would be inappropriate while questions over the project remained unresolved.



Vijay recalled that he had raised the issue with the Prime Minister in a letter dated July 28, seeking to ensure that any approval was consistent with the final award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the Supreme Court's 2018 judgment.

He also cited a unanimous resolution passed by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on June 19 opposing the project. The State has filed a petition in the Supreme Court challenging Union guidelines issued in December 2025 for preparing DPRs for irrigation and multipurpose projects in the Cauvery basin.

QUICK READ

K'taka Chief Secretary releases Scouts jubilee stickers

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Secretary Dr. Shalini Rajneesh released flag stickers on Saturday to mark the Bharat Scouts and Guides' Amrut Mahotsav, celebrating 75 years of service and achievements. The stickers were released at her office in Vidhana Soudha. Dr. Rajneesh congratulated the organisation on completing 75 years and extended her best wishes for its continued contribution to society. The Bharat Scouts and Guides celebrates its Foundation Day every year on November 7. The organisation plays an important role in developing discipline, leadership, patriotism and a spirit of service among children and young people through its activities. The Platinum Jubilee celebrations recognise the organisation's long-standing efforts to guide young people towards responsible citizenship and community service.

Assam says 28 Bangladeshi nationals expelled

GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Saturday that police in Sribhumi district had apprehended and expelled 28 Bangladeshi nationals allegedly staying in the State illegally. In a post on X, Sarma said the government would continue its action against infiltration and would not compromise on Assam's border security or identity. He described the operation as part of a sustained effort to prevent illegal entry. The State has maintained heightened vigilance along its border with Bangladesh. The Border Security Force has also strengthened surveillance along the international boundary in the Northeast following unrest in Bangladesh in 2024. He did not disclose further details of the operation.

MUDH NYOMA MILESTONE

IAF makes historic landing at Ladakh's highest airbase

NEW DELHI

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has achieved a major milestone in aviation after its IL-76MD heavy-lift transport aircraft landed at the Mudh-Nyoma airbase in eastern Ladakh at 13,629 feet. The IAF said on Saturday that this was the highest-altitude landing ever made by an IL-76 aircraft anywhere in the world.

The Russian-origin aircraft, known as Gajraj, completed the landing on Friday, November 6. The IAF described the achievement as a new height in aviation history and praised the crew for their skill, precision and professionalism. It said the feat strengthened India's strategic airlift capability, allowing the force to move troops, equipment and supplies to remote areas.

Mudh-Nyoma is located about 25 km from the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China.

The airbase was inaugurated in November 2025, when then Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh landed a C-130J transport aircraft there.

The base has a 2.7-km runway and can support fighter jets, transport aircraft and helicopters.

The Border Roads Organisation developed the facility under a project reported to cost around Rs 218 crore. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh laid its foundation stone in September 2023.



The upgrade forms part of India's efforts to improve roads, bridges, airfields and other facilities along the border after the 2020 military standoff with China.

The latest landing comes days after Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit took charge as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff on October 31, succeeding A.P. Singh. India and China reached an understanding in October 2024 to disengage troops from friction points in eastern Ladakh, easing tensions after more than four years of standoff. However, both countries continue to strengthen infrastructure near the frontier.

Quick Overview

- **World Record Elevation**: IL-76MD heavy-lift transport aircraft lands at 13,629 feet.
- **Strategic Proximity**: Mudh-Nyoma airbase located just 25 km from the Line of Actual Control.
- **Enhanced Airlift Capabilities**: Significantly boosts India's capacity to transport troops & equipment.
- **Border Infrastructure Growth**: Project developed by BRO at approximately ₹218 crore.

Quick Read

KEA announces PG medical seat allotment

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority has announced the first round of seat allotment results for postgraduate medical courses, assigning 3,268 out of 4,388 total available seats. Executive Director H. Prasanna stated that candidates allotted seats must exercise their choice and pay required fees by November 11, with fee payment deadlines extending to November 12. Students opting for Choice-1 must submit original documents at the KEA office by November 13 and report to their assigned colleges by November 14. This crucial schedule ensures successful applicants complete their admissions smoothly before upcoming academic deadlines.

Court allows physiotherapy for incarcerated actor

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A Bengaluru court has granted permission for jailed actor Darshan to receive medical physiotherapy inside Parappana Agrahara Prison following a recurrence of chronic back pain. Facing intensifying discomfort as winter approached, his legal counsel filed a formal application after jail authorities required judicial approval. While prosecutors raised concerns regarding past medical claims made during earlier bail proceedings, the special court cleared the arrangement. Darshan, currently incarcerated in connection with the Renukaswamy murder case, will now receive prescribed physiotherapy treatments directly within the prison premises under medical supervision.

Suspect arrested for elderly woman's murder

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A suspect has been taken into police custody following the brutal murder of a 65-year-old homeless woman in Konasandra. The victim, Narayanamma, was targeted for her money and a gold ring while sitting near a local temple. Although the incident was initially filed as an unnatural death, a subsequent post-mortem report confirmed severe rib injuries and homicide, alongside the missing ring. Kengeri police intensified their investigation after discovering the crime and are currently interrogating the arrested individual to uncover full details surrounding the tragic robbery and assault.

HDK and Kharge clash over KPSC

Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy hit back at Priyank Kharge, accusing the government of persistent KPSC recruitment irregularities.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Escalating political hostilities frequently manifest in fierce verbal skirmishes between prominent state and central leaders, bringing underlying administrative controversies, recruitment scandals, and economic debates to the forefront. A fresh round of political friction has erupted in Karnataka as Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy launched a scathing personal and political counter-attack against State Home Minister Priyank Kharge amid an intensifying controversy surrounding the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC).

Addressing party workers and the media at J.P. Bhavan, Union Minister Kumaraswamy strongly criticized Minister Kharge over ongoing recruitment irregularities, delivering sharp remarks regarding political rhetoric. Responding to Kharge's prior allegations labeling him the "father of KPSC scandals," Kumaraswamy defended his political record, asking whether he was responsible



Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy.

for irregularities in Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) or veterinary officer examinations. He pointed out that the KPSC scandal only surfaced because of Enforcement Directorate (ED) raids and questioned how accused officials like Gyanendra were sheltered.

The controversy has deepened with the state government transferring recruitment responsibilities from the KPSC to the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA). However, Kumaraswamy contended that systemic scandals and financial irregularities persist, citing past investigative findings by the Deshpande committee and calling for recruitment examinations to be postponed until transparency is ensured. Furthermore, dismissing a political challenge from Kharge regarding electoral seat counts, Kumaraswamy retorted that the JD(S) had previously secured the Chief Minister's office with modest seat shares.

Economic management

Beyond recruitment disputes, Kumaraswamy criticized the state's economic management, alleging that announcements of financial assistance for farmers are frequently timed to deflect public backlash over rising utility costs and bus fare hikes. He also touched upon ethanol fuel blending standards and regional contract allocations, asserting that public works should prioritize local contractors. As political tensions continue to surge across the state, the ongoing war of words underscores deepening fault lines between the ruling administration and opposition leaders ahead of upcoming legislative cycles.

Economic critiques, farmers and ethanol blending

Diversionary tactics

Kumaraswamy alleged that the state government's recent announcement of ₹2,500 payments to farmers was a calculated move to deflect public anger over surging bus fare hikes and failure in crop insurance delivery.

Medical colleges

Countering claims regarding four new medical colleges in Bengaluru South (including Rajiv Gandhi Medical College), Kumaraswamy asserted that approvals were cleared during his tenure as Chief Minister.

Ethanol blending

Addressing fuel debates, Kumaraswamy clarified that Karnataka's fuel reflects local blending practices rather than standard national rates, noting that while the Central government targets 100% future compatibility, current blending stands at 20%.

ITC Mission Sunehra Kal boosts Yelahanka's water security

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Rural neighborhoods around Bengaluru are finally finding relief from dry taps and worn-out community buildings, thanks to a fresh push for local resourcefulness. Leaders from local councils joined corporate teams on November 5 to unveil three distinct community projects across Hunasamaranahalli, Meena Kunte Hosur, and Doddajala. These efforts, backed by ITC's Mission Sunehra Kal alongside community groups like Biome and MYRADA, focus on repairing century-old water sources and upgrading local spaces for children.

In Hunasamaranahalli, the local Indira Canteen has traded its heavy dependence on expensive water tankers for a



The Indira Canteen in Hunasamaranahalli, one of the three projects.

smarter rooftop rainwater harvesting setup. Town officials and project managers gathered to open the new system, which channels rain straight into recharge wells and shallow borewells. Instead of draining municipal budgets on truckloads of water, the neighborhood is steadily turning toward self-reliance.

Just down the road in Meena Kunte Hosur, local families are celebrating a completely transformed Anganwadi center. The upgraded facility now features clean drinking water stations, child-safe toilets, and educational wall paintings designed to spark curiosity in young minds. Local child development officers praised the ongoing corporate partnership, which has already helped revamp nearly two dozen similar centers across the taluk to give toddlers a healthier, safer start.

Meanwhile, history got a second chance in Doddajala, where residents dusted off a hundred-year-old open well known locally as Kudiyo Neeru Baavi. Once abandoned and clogged, the vintage stone well has been cleaned and restored to working order. It now serves as a reliable neighborhood backup for daily chores while feeding fresh water back into the local aquifer.

Organizers noted that these neighborhood transformations highlight what happens when village panchayats and corporate initiatives pull together. By mixing modern conservation with deep-rooted heritage, these communities are quietly building a more resilient future.

IIIT Bangalore students develop AI tool 'Nyaya Sethu'

IIIT-Bangalore students developed 'Nyaya Sethu', an AI platform that analyzes judicial data to recommend cases for alternative dispute resolution, easing India's massive backlog.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The integration of artificial intelligence into public administration and legal frameworks marks a transformative leap forward in addressing India's immense judicial backlog. Developed by a talented student team at the International Institute of Information Technology, Bangalore (IIITB) comprising Harshit Khattar, Aarush Gupta, Utkarsh Gupta, and Adarsh Singh, the 'Nyaya Sethu' (Bridge to Justice) platform addresses the structural bottlenecks of the country's court system.

India's judicial system faces an unprecedented administrative challenge, with district and subordinate courts currently managing a massive backlog exceeding 50 million (5 crore) pending cases. Traditional litigation often traps ordinary citizens in protracted, multi-year trial cycles for disputes that could otherwise be resolved amicably.

'Nyaya Sethu' was engineered to serve as an intelligent, data-driven bridge connecting citizens to alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms such as mediation, conciliation, and Lok Adalats. Rather than merely quantifying pending files, the AI system parses vast, complex judicial datasets to flag cases structurally suited for out-of-court settlements. Crucially, the tool analyzes individual case parameters, factual matrices, and legal requirements, subsequently generating detailed analytical rationales explaining why specific disputes are prime candidates for early negotiation.

Large-scale legal data

Building the platform required extensive handling and cleaning of large-scale public legal data. Reflecting on the development process, team member Utkarsh Gupta noted that the project provided practical experience in scaling machine learning models to solve massive civic hurdles.

The ingenuity and social impact of the tool earned the student team a prestigious award under the 'Inclusive Innovation for Bharat' category at the 'Ideas for India Innovation Challenge 2026'.

Legal tech experts and developers have underscored an essential boundary regarding the tool's deployment: 'Nyaya Sethu' functions strictly as a decision-support system. It holds no statutory judicial authority. The power to evaluate recommendations, review underlying facts, and officially refer cases for mediation or Lok Adalat proceedings remains exclusively vested in designated judicial committees, legal service authorities, and the courts. By operating as an auxiliary intelligence layer, the tool points a practical way forward toward alleviating institutional burdens and accelerating the delivery of justice across India.

5 crore
cases pending in district and subordinate courts

The team

Harshit Khattar, Aarush Gupta, Utkarsh Gupta and Adarsh Singh of IIIT Bangalore. Nyaya Sethu won in the Inclusive Innovation for Bharat category of the Ideas for India Innovation Challenge 2026.

Students celebrate Kannada heritage through street dance

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Celebrations for Karnataka Rajyotsava took an energetic and vibrant turn in Yelahanka this week as local students brought regional culture directly to the streets. Sri Chaitanya Techno School organized a special street dance performance designed to highlight the profound significance of the local land, language, and heritage.

Holding bright Kannada flags aloft, participating students captured public attention by performing synchronized and rhythmic dance routines to popular regional songs. The innovative public showcase aimed to reflect the grandeur, history, and deep-rooted pride of the state, instantly transforming the urban street into a festive, Kannada-centric at-



Students of Sri Chaitanya Techno School perform in Yelahanka.

mosphere.

Delighted by the spirited displays, onlookers gathered in large numbers to cheer, applaud, and capture the moments on their mobile phones. Passersby frequently paused their daily routines to watch the choreography, offering warm encouragement that significantly boosted the morale and enthusiasm of the young performers.

Pride in the language

Organizers noted that the unique cultural initiative served a dual purpose: fostering a strong, personal sense of identity among the children while raising broader community awareness about the state's linguistic heritage. Through expressive movement and music, the students powerfully conveyed the sentiment that Kannada represents far more than just a means of communication; it stands as a core cultural identity.

Conducted under the careful guidance of the school management, principal, and faculty members, the successful event added remarkable splendor to local Rajyotsava festivities, leaving lasting memories for residents and students alike.

ATTIBELE FIRECRACKER MARKET SEES 30% SALES SLUMP

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

? GREEN CRACKERS ONLY

Every box sold carries a scannable QR code, so buyers can check its eco-friendly credentials before leaving the shop.

Diwali preparations in Karnataka have taken an unexpected turn this season, marked by a notable downturn in commercial activity at one of the region's largest seasonal retail hubs. Traders operating out of the bustling Attibele firecracker market, situated strategically along the interstate boundary between Bengaluru and Hosur, report a disappointing 30% drop in overall sales figures when compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

This shift in consumer behavior coincides with strict regulatory frameworks. In adherence to ongoing directives issued by the National Green Tribunal and local authorities aiming to curb environmental pollution, merchants are authorized exclusively to stock and distribute certified eco-friendly or "green" firecrackers. To maintain compliance and consumer trust, every individual box of fireworks is equipped with a scannable QR code, allowing buyers to authenticate the eco-friendly credentials of their purchases before leaving the shop.

Local merchants point to a combination of meteorological disruptions and sluggish foot traffic as primary catalysts for the market slump. Persistent unseasonal rainfall across the region has dampened festive enthusiasm, while consumer turnout remains markedly lower than anticipated. These challenges persist despite stable pricing structures and the mandatory availability of green alternatives designed to align with ecological safety standards.

Traditionally recognized as a premier wholesale and retail destination for festive shoppers seeking competitive prices, the Attibele market currently displays a quieter atmosphere than usual.

Nevertheless, business owners maintain an optimistic outlook, anticipating that last-minute festive buying trends might help recover some of the lost revenue in the days leading up to the main celebrations.

Indian professional honored in global sustainability Vanguard

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A sustainability professional from India has been officially inducted into the prestigious Dual Fellowship Vanguard during the graduation ceremony of the 2nd Global Professional Fellowship program. Honored for completing both the Distinguished Professional Sustainability Fellowship and the Professional Sustainability Fellowship, the recipient expressed profound gratitude to leaders including Dr. Wesam Al Madhoun and Ms. Michelle Thatcher. Supported by the Global Ambassadors of Sustainability and the Global Green Chamber of Com-



merce, the international cohort highlighted cross-border dedication to purpose-driven leadership, environmental excellence, and sustainable global development initiatives.

CLASH AT EVENT

Congress, BJP leaders clash near Tin Factory

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Political tensions in urban governance frequently boil over when development disputes, constituency resource allocations, and partisan rivalries intersect in high-profile public settings. A dramatic political showdown recently unfolded in Bengaluru near the critical transit intersection known as the 'Tin Factory' close to Whitefield, bringing local administrative friction to a boiling point in the immediate presence of senior cabinet ministers.

The high-drama altercation erupted during a high-profile public event attended by Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda. The underlying catalyst for the friction centered on contentious debates surrounding municipal development projects, infrastructural oversight, and local constituency funds.



Congress and BJP leaders argue at the event near Tin Factory.

According to eyewitness accounts and local reports, local Congress workers and party leaders initiated sharp verbal volleys against the area's opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA, accusing local representatives of failing to execute necessary public works effectively and neglecting civic infrastructure needs. What began as spirited political disagreement quickly spiraled into a chaotic shouting match as rival factions traded accusations regarding governance failures and project delays.

Near-brawl at the venue

Despite the physical presence of Minister Krishna Byre Gowda, who attempted to restore order and manage the volatile gathering, party workers and prominent local figures engaged in an aggressive exchange of words. The confrontation grew so heated that it nearly escalated into a physical brawl, forcing security personnel and senior leaders to intervene rapidly to separate the belligerent groups and prevent a complete breakdown of public order at the venue.

Incidents of this nature highlight the immense political pressure surrounding infrastructure development in fast-growing metropolitan corridors like Bengaluru East and Whitefield. Critical arterial junctions such as the Tin Factory area represent major bottlenecks where multi-modal transit projects, metro construction, and stormwater drainage initiatives intersect. When civic delays occur, local political representatives frequently find themselves caught in a crossfire between grassroots activists, municipal authorities, and state-level ministries.

Pressure on civic projects

Minister Krishna Byre Gowda's involvement underscores the delicate balancing act required of state administrators who must navigate hyper-partisan local disputes while attempting to advance critical urban renewal and transit projects across the Bengaluru metropolitan region.

Quick Read



Bengaluru South seals illegal commercial shops

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Municipal enforcement in Karnataka's capital intensified this week as local authorities cracked down on unlawful business operations within residential zones. Under the direct instructions of Bengaluru South City Corporation Commissioner K. N. Ramesh, municipal health officials successfully closed and sealed a total of 51 commercial establishments operating illegally across local residential layouts. The coordinated raids were executed simultaneously across five distinct Assembly constituencies within municipal limits. Authorities targeted rule-breaking businesses in Bommanahalli, where the highest number of 22 establishments were shut down. Additional closures included 11 shops in Jayanagar, 9 in the Bengaluru South constituency, 6 in Padmanabhanagar, and 3 establishments in BTM Layout. In the Bommanahalli Zone, operations were led personally by Joint Commissioner Satish Babu, alongside local health officers and supervisors inspecting the Arakere ward. During these rigorous inspections, municipal teams uncovered severe safety hazards, including an unauthorized commercial catering center storing approximately 23 domestic cooking gas cylinders in a residential building. Other shuttered businesses included public-nuisance-causing condiments shops permitting public smoking, unapproved car wash centers, and heavy engineering fabrication units. Commissioner Ramesh emphasized that these strict measures are vital to safeguarding the peace, hygiene, and overall safety of urban residents. Warning that illegal commercial activities will face zero tolerance, municipal leadership stated that similar enforcement drives will continue aggressively against all zoning violators across the city.

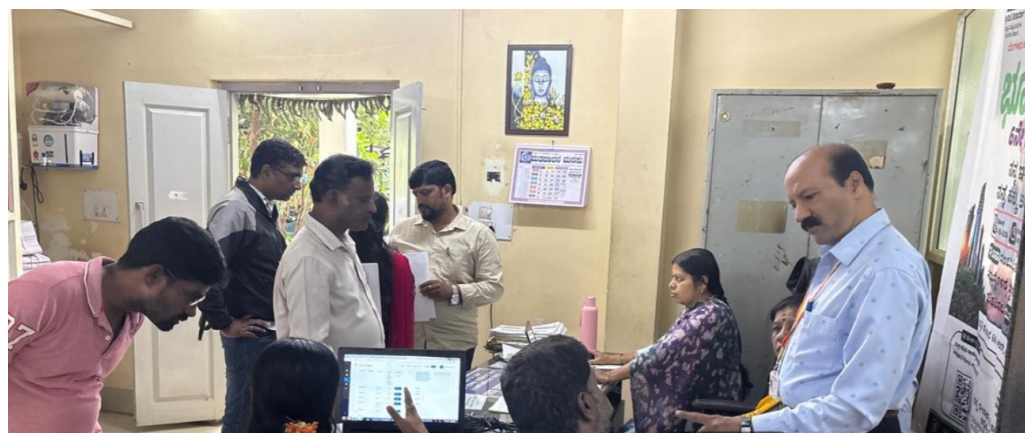
Bengaluru North Corporation organizes e-Khata camps

Bengaluru North City Corporation hosted decentralized camps under the 'My e-Khata, My Right' initiative, clearing numerous property applications.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Civic administration in Karnataka's capital reached a new milestone this week as property holders experienced streamlined municipal services through a targeted administrative push. Under the direction of Greater Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda and the active guidance of Bengaluru North City Corporation Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar, specialized e-Khata service camps were successfully organized across multiple Assistant Revenue Officer offices under the banner of the 'My e-Khata, My Right' initiative.

The civic camps were specifically designed to facilitate seamless access to essential property-related documentation, resolving long-standing administrative backlogs. Citizens gathered at local sub-division offices spanning Byatarayanapura, Vidyaranyapura, K.G. Halli, Pulakeshinagar, Maruthi Seva Nagar, HBR Layout, Dasarahalli, Yeshwanthpur, Shettihalli, Hebbal, J.C. Nagar, Yelahanka, and Yelahanka New Town, to process crucial applications. Services rendered during the single-day initiative included direct e-Khata generation, Khata transfers and mutations, necessary administrative corrections, critical conversions from B-Khata to A-Khata categories, and the issuance of brand-new property records.



Officials process property applications at an e-Khata camp in Bengaluru North.

According to official statistics released following the camps, municipal authorities received a total of 68 new applications across all service categories. Demonstrating high administrative efficiency, officials successfully disposed of 55 applications during the day. Specifically, the processing breakdown revealed 24 standard e-Khata applications received with 24 disposed, 7 mutation transfers handled with 6 cleared, and 27 administrative corrections processed with 20 resolved. Furthermore, citizens submitted 8 requests for B-to-A Khata conversions yielding 4 immediate clearances along with 2 new Khata requests, resulting in 1 disposal.

The remaining applications stayed under review pending further document verification, while 8 official e-tickets were registered for tracking. Corporation officials actively engaged with attendees, offering detailed guidance regarding required legal paperwork, procedural norms, and the real-time status of pending files. Municipal leaders emphasized that the ongoing campaign aims to eradicate bureaucratic delays, enhance transparency, and ensure that citizens can secure their property rights conveniently. The Bengaluru North City Corporation has announced plans to sustain these decentralized camps to make municipal governance increasingly efficient and accessible.

Cleared at the camps

e-Khata	24/24
Corrections	20/27
Mutations	6/7
B to A Khata	4/8
New Khata	1/2

Received / disposed

GBA honors achievers with Puneeth Rajkumar awards

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Cultural pride and municipal commitment took center stage

Greater Bengaluru Authority celebrated the 71st Kannada Rajyotsava, honoring distinguished achievers with awards and emphasizing the importance of regional language use in administration.



Achievers with the Karnataka Ratna Dr. Puneeth Rajkumar Award at the GBA's Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations.

this week as the Greater Bengaluru Authority hosted the 71st Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations alongside a prestigious awards ceremony. Organized by the GBA Kannada Association and municipal corporation employees, the landmark event served as a platform to honor distinguished achievers from across Karnataka with the coveted 'Karnataka Ratna Dr. Puneeth Rajkumar Award'.

The celebration commenced with a ceremonial lamp lighting led by Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao, alongside eminent film personalities T.S. Nagabharana and S. Narayan, former Mayor J. Huchappa, retired IAS officer Dr. C. Somashekhar, and other prominent civic leaders and association executives.

Addressing the gathering, Chief Commissioner Rao underscored that municipal administration accords top priority to the regional language. He emphasized that Kannada must be actively utilized within all official administrative offices, advocating that everyone residing within the state should embrace and use the language daily. He praised municipal officers and employees for their exceptional service, noting that their dedication has driven Bengaluru's rise as a globally recognized metropolis.

Renowned director T.S. Nagabharana highlighted the rich historical heritage of Karnataka and called for continuous linguistic preservation within the education system. He noted that municipal schools continue to perform admirably despite the widespread preference for English-medium institutions, urging stakeholders to nurture Kannada in the minds of the younger generation. He also suggested encouraging non-Kannada speakers to learn the language through affection and integrating it seamlessly into daily employment and commerce.

Actor and director S. Narayan praised the city's sanitation workforce as true cleanliness warriors, paying homage to the historical figures who fought for state unification. Reflecting on the legacy of the late actor Dr. Puneeth Rajkumar, he noted that the beloved star earned widespread adoration through his divine simplicity and exceptional character.

The awards ceremony recognized luminaries across art, literature, journalism, and public service, including actors Balaraj and Sharath Lohitashwa, folk singer Gururaj Hoskote, and actress Bhavani Prakash. Organizers reiterated their commitment to promoting regional culture internationally.

BNCC completes first week of 'Ward One' campaign

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Civic infrastructure and cleanliness efforts in Karnataka's capital have received a major boost following the successful completion of the first week of the 'Ward One' campaign. Launched on November 1 under the direction of Greater Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda and the active guidance of Bengaluru North City Corporation Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar, the multi-agency initiative focuses on transforming neighborhood living conditions.



The 'Ward One' campaign under way in Bengaluru North.

84.5 km of roads

During the inaugural week spanning November 1 to 7, intensive civic operations covered 84.5 kilometers of roadways across various municipal divisions. Municipal teams prioritized critical urban needs, including smooth road surfaces, footpath clearance, drain desilting, and green space maintenance. Notable achievements include the successful repair of 145 potholes, the clearing of 208 garbage blackspots yielding 182 tonnes of waste, and the removal of 797 tonnes of construction debris from 762 collection points.

Furthermore, civic workers cleared pedestrian obstructions from 173 footpath locations, enhanced 20 major road junctions, and desilted 8.44 kilometers of roadside drains alongside 0.94 kilometers of stormwater drains. Public safety and aesthetics also improved significantly with the installation of 56 new streetlights, the repair of 154 existing fixtures, the cleaning of 90 parks, and the removal of 673 unauthorized flex boards and banners. Additionally, authorities impounded 100 abandoned or illegally parked vehicles, pruned 190 tree branches, and resolved 135 on-the-spot public grievances.

145 potholes repaired

182 t waste from 208 blackspots

797 t construction debris removed

Fines and inspections

Enforcement squads inspected 639 commercial establishments, penalizing 261 violators to collect ₹7,22,400 in fines for solid waste management, plastic, and licensing breaches. The campaign operates through cross-departmental coordination with agencies like BESCOM, BWSSB, and the Traffic Police. Officials reaffirmed their dedication to building a clean, pedestrian-friendly city.

K.N. Ramesh inspects Ward One works

CH NEWS, BENGALURU



The inspection of 'Ward One' works in J.P. Nagar.

Municipal enforcement and infrastructure checks gained momentum in the southern zone of Karnataka's capital this week as part of the ongoing 'Ward One' civic campaign. Bengaluru South City Corporation Commissioner K. N. Ramesh conducted an intensive field inspection across key commercial and residential arteries, covering J.P. Nagar 4th Cross, the vital roadway connecting Vega City Mall toward Jayadeva Hospital, and the scenic areas surrounding the Mini Forest in J.P. Nagar.

During the site visits, Commissioner Ramesh emphasized the immediate eradication of recurring waste accumulation, instructing municipal teams to maintain round-the-clock vigilance against illegal nighttime dumping. He mandated that all collected refuse be cleared and hauled away via tractors on the exact same day. Turning his attention to public safety hazards, the Commissioner directed officials from BESCOM and the municipal engineering department to clear unauthorized optical fiber cables cluttering pedestrian pathways and to remove hazardous electrical wires dangling near transformers. He explicitly ordered that large exposed cables be buried securely underground and that all abandoned wiring be cleared.

Pedestrian infrastructure also received close scrutiny, with instructions issued to repair broken paving slabs and clear debris, glass, and construction materials to guarantee barrier-free walking routes. Furthermore, addressing roadside commerce, the Commissioner ruled that only authorized street vendors possessing official corporate ID cards may operate within designated vending zones, provided they maintain strict hygiene and avoid obstructing traffic.

THE ORDERS

- Clear refuse by tractor the same day
- Remove unauthorised optical fibre cables and dangling wires
- Repair broken paving slabs
- Only vendors with corporation ID cards in vending zones

The extensive Ward One campaign currently spans multiple neighborhoods, including Anjanapura, Harinagar, Konanakunte, Abdul Kalam Nagar, Jakkasandra, Padmanabhanagar, Bommanahalli, Hosapalya, and HSR Layout wards. Executive Engineer Hariprasad and other senior municipal officials accompanied the Commissioner during the rigorous inspection tour.

SMART SANITATION ROLLOUT

Bengaluru launches tech-driven waste contracts

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Municipal administration in Karnataka's capital is undergoing a major technological transformation aimed at resolving long-standing sanitation hurdles. Greater Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda announced this week that new, highly accountable solid waste management contracts will become fully operational across four major Assembly constituencies – Govindarajanagar, Mahalakshmi Layout, Vijayanagar and Chamarajpet – by the end of November. An additional rollout is scheduled for the Chickpet constituency in December.

During a high-level review meeting convened at Vikas Soudha, the Minister emphasized that the transition must be underpinned by strict, automated monitoring mechanisms. Under the updated framework, every single waste collection vehicle will be legally required to feature active GPS tracking. In a departure from traditional manual billing practices, contractor compensation will be calculated strictly on the basis of verified GPS operational data. Vehicles lacking functional tracking units will be disqualified from daily billing and will attract financial penalties.



The review of the new waste management contracts at Vikas Soudha.

THE NEW RULES

GPS Every waste collection vehicle must have active GPS tracking

BILLING Contractors are paid on verified GPS data only

PENALTY Vehicles without working GPS are not billed and are fined

ROLLOUT Four constituencies by the end of November, Chickpet in December

Furthermore, a specialized system-generated invoicing platform has been developed to link payments directly to real-time route execution. Officials have been instructed to conduct comprehensive demonstrations of the new software to familiarize both departmental staff and private contractors with the operational protocol. Corporation commissioners have been assigned direct supervisory responsibility to guarantee absolute coordination and eliminate disruptions in daily household waste collection.

Contractors assigned to the initial four packages have already procured their operational fleets and are racing to complete necessary vehicle fabrication. Authorities have mandated uniform fleet aesthetics, requiring standardized branding, regulatory stickers, and proper outfitting for all sanitation workers before deployment. The initiative forms part of a broader restructuring strategy divided into 33 distinct packages across the Greater Bengaluru Authority's jurisdiction, with work orders and letters of acceptance already issued for numerous zones.

To eradicate chronic roadside garbage blackspots, the administration is pairing logistical upgrades with aggressive public enforcement and systematic Information, Education, and Communication awareness campaigns. Officials confirmed that comprehensive household surveys using structured checklists have been completed across target neighborhoods to optimize route planning. Senior leaders, including Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao and various city corporation commissioners, attended the review to ensure seamless execution.

Quick Read

Magadi students shine in Kabaddi competitions

CH NEWS, MAGADI

Students of Saraswati Vidya Mandira School have brought pride to Magadi by securing first place in the taluk-level Kabaddi competition and second place at the district level. Five students have also been selected for divisional and state-level competitions. G.S. Puneeth, Taluk BJP Raitha Morcha president, felicitated the students and presented personal prizes. He also awarded ₹5,000 to the school's physical education teachers and coaches for their guidance. Puneeth praised the students' achievements and encouraged them to accept victory and defeat equally while working towards success at state and national levels.

Medical waste dumping near Bandipur sparks outrage

Locals report trucks returning from Kerala are illegally dumping hospital waste along the highway near Bandipur forest

CH NEWS, GUNDLUPET

The alleged illegal dumping of medical waste brought from Kerala along National Highway 766 near the Gundlupet border in Chamarajanagar district has raised serious concerns among local residents.

Villagers fear that the waste could pose health risks and increase the possibility of infectious diseases.

According to local residents, lorries and Eicher vehicles returning from Kerala after transporting goods are allegedly dumping hospital waste near a hill along the highway passing through the Bandipur forest region.

Activist Muneer Pasha said the dumped waste had created a foul smell, causing concern among people living nearby. Another activist, Ashok, questioned how vehicles carrying such waste could pass through several forest and police checkposts without being detected. He alleged that the illegal dumping continued despite an earlier public intervention involving a suspected vehicle.

Responding to the issue, Karnataka Minister for Forest, Ecology and Environment R. Ramalinga Reddy said he would personally inspect the Mulehole checkpost and direct officials to take necessary action. He assured that strict measures would follow the inspection.

The minister also addressed other forest-related issues, including the incident at Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary and repairs to an anti-poaching camp damaged in a gelatin-stick explosion. He said forest personnel should not hesitate to perform their duties.


Forest Minister R. Ramalinga Reddy.

On illegal firearms, Reddy said action would be taken against those possessing unlicensed weapons after the November 1 surrender deadline. He also stated that a decision on declaring Male Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary a tiger reserve would be taken after consulting local residents.

Residents have urged authorities to investigate the medical waste dumping, identify those responsible and prevent further incidents.

The dumping row

- **Dumping:** hospital waste from Kerala left near National Highway 766
- **Health fears:** villagers worry about infectious diseases
- **Assurance:** Forest Minister R. Ramalinga Reddy will inspect the Mulehole check-post
- **Check-posts:** activists ask how the vehicles got past forest and police checks

Parameshwara rules out renaming Shivakumara Swamiji Circle



₹62,000 cr estimated drought losses

₹22,000 cr sought from the Centre

CH NEWS, TUMAKURU

Deputy Chief Minister and Revenue Minister Dr G. Parameshwara has clarified that the name of Shivakumara Swamiji Circle in Tumakuru will not be changed.

He made the statement after visiting Siddaganga Matha and receiving the blessings of Sri Siddalinga Swamiji on Saturday.

Speaking to reporters, Parameshwara said his family had maintained a close relationship with the Matha for generations. He recalled that his father and elder brother regularly visited the institution and said the family continued the tradition.

Clarifying concerns over the circle's name, he said there was no proposal to rename it. He explained that changing the name of a public junction required a formal proposal from the local civic body and approval through the prescribed government process. No such procedure had been initiated, he said.

LED screen under test

Regarding the installation of an LED screen at the circle, Parameshwara said technical testing was still underway. The inauguration would be announced after the technical issues were resolved.

He said the project aimed to bring modern technology to cities such as Tumakuru instead of limiting such facilities to Bengaluru. The screen could be used for advertisements and government announcements. Private organisations and individuals could also use it by paying the prescribed charges.

Drought relief

On drought relief, Parameshwara said Karnataka had suffered estimated losses of around ₹62,000 crore and had sought approximately ₹22,000 crore from the Centre under NDRF guidelines. The state had submitted three memorandums and was seeking appointments with the Prime Minister and Union ministers to explain the situation.

He said the government was willing to lead an all-party delegation to Delhi, but would present the state's demands even if opposition parties declined to participate.

Bus fares

Responding to criticism over the recent bus fare hike, he said rising fuel costs and losses faced by transport corporations had influenced the decision. He added that lower petrol and diesel prices could help reduce the financial burden on transport services.

Students urged to preserve their historical heritage

CH NEWS, CHITRADURGA

Understanding the history, culture and traditions of ancestors is essential to preserving heritage for future generations, said V. Moorthachar, Education Coordinator at the Chitradurga Taluk Block Education Officer's office.

He was speaking after inaugurating the taluk-level 'Prachya Prajna' (Heritage Awareness) competition for high school students at Sampige Siddeshwara High School. The programme was jointly organised by the Block Education Officer's office and the Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage, Mysuru.

Diwali rush drives up Karnataka bus fares

MALINGARAYA PUJAR, GADAG

Travelling home for Diwali has become expensive for passengers as private bus operators have sharply increased ticket prices amid rising festive demand.

The steep fare hike has placed an additional financial burden on families travelling from Bengaluru and Mangaluru to North Karnataka districts, including Gadag, Haveri, Dharwad and Bagalkot.

With several holidays coinciding with the festival, thousands of passengers are travelling to their hometowns to celebrate with their families. Taking advantage of the increased demand, private bus fares on several routes have reportedly increased two to three times compared with regular days.

According to reports published on November 7, passengers travelling from Bengaluru to different destinations are facing significant price increases. For instance, fares on the Bengaluru–Mangaluru route have reportedly risen from the usual ₹496–₹1,157 to ₹1,785–₹4,999. On the Bengaluru–Hubballi route, tickets are being sold for ₹1,989–₹8,000, compared with regular fares of ₹660–₹1,700.

The situation has also raised concerns among passengers travelling with their families under the state government's Shakti scheme. Introduced in June 2023, the scheme provides eligible women and transgender persons domiciled in Karnataka with free travel on specified non-luxury government bus services within the state. However, male passengers are required to purchase tickets.

Passengers have also raised concerns about additional charges on special government bus services during festive periods. Such services may carry different fares depending on the route and bus category.

A passenger from Lakshmeshwar said that although the free travel facility benefits women, families still face considerable expenses when male members have to purchase tickets and private buses charge higher fares.



> **"Amidst the hype of free travel, the price hike of festive special buses is a testament to the fact that giving is on one side and taking is on the other"**
>
> **— Ashwini Bidnal (Gowdar)**

Passengers have urged transport authorities to monitor private bus fares and ensure affordable travel options during festivals. They have also called for greater transparency in special bus ticket pricing.

VISVESVARAYA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
"Jnana Sangama", Belagavi - 590018, Karnataka
Ref.No: VTU/BGM/RE/2026-27/IFT No.84/4509 Date: 07-11-2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) - (Through KPP Portal Only)

The e-Tender is invited in duplicate from eligible Tenderers, registered Contractor, by the Registrar, Visvesvaraya Technological University, "Jnana Sangama", Belagavi - 18, under standard tender document procedure K/W format for the work of **Construction of Additional Third & Fourth Floor for Computer Labs Over Newly Constructed Class Room Complex Building to UG / PG Courses (including Electrification, Networking, Aluminum Partition, Surveillance System and Air Conditioners) at VTU, Regional Centre, Kalaburagi. Amounting to Rs. 4,15,25,343/- (Excluding GST).** Other details log on to Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on 11-11-2026.**

Sd/- Registrar
VTU, Belagavi

DIPR/Belagavi/1076/Adverto/2026-27

CAUVERY NIRAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka under taking)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, NO2 KABINI CANAL DIVISION, KOLLEGAL-571440, DISTRICT: CHAMARAJANAGAR.
PHONE / FAX NO. 08224-252287 e-Mail: eeno2kcd@yahoo.co.in

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement e-Portal only)
(Two Electronic Document System: e-D1-Technical Bid and e-D2-Financial Bid)

TENDER NOTIFICATION No-08/2026-27 DATED: 03-11-2026.

Tenders have been invited through KPP e-Portal in two tender document system as per approved standard bid document for the works of "Rehabilitation and improvement works to Uduthorehalla Dam under world bank aided DRIP Phase-II programme" (Package-I) Est cost Rs. 525.83 Lakhs [Indent No-5557] from eligible contractors registered in KPWD/CPWD.

Details of tender processing fee, EMD amount, Pre bid meeting details, Last date for submitting and opening of tender and other details can be had from KPPP e-portal web site www.kppp.karnataka.gov.inFurther changes in this Notification will be published in **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Further information can be obtained from this office.

Executive Engineer, (I/c)
CNNL, No2 Kabini Canal Division, Kollegal.

No: DIPR: CHANAGAR: 440: 2026-27.

Government of Karnataka
Karnataka Public Works, Department Sirasi Division(U.K), Karnataka
Telephone: 08384- 223164 Fax: 08384- 224100.
No. PWD/SR./Dn/AE/IFT/ KRDCL Bridges/5054 SH Imp. /2026-27/ 2473 Date: IFT No.: 03.11.2026

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT) (SHORT TERM) KW-4
e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

(1) **The Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Sirasi** invites tenders from eligible tenderers, for the construction of works detailed in the Table below. The tenderers may submit tenders for any or all of the works given in the Table. The price tender which will be opened only if the Tenderer is found to be qualified to execute the tendered works. The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Instructions to Tenderers to qualify for award of the contract. **(26.03.2021)** (2) Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e-Procurement website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/eportal/index.seam** under login for Contractors: (3) Tenders must be accompanied by EMD Declaration form Proforma attached. (4) Tenders must be electronically submitted (on-line through internet) with in the date and time published in e-procurement portal. The technical bid will be opened after prescribed time and date in the eprocurement portal, in the presence of the Tenderers who wish to attend at the Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Department, SIRSI Division. (5) Other details can be seen in the tender documents **(Total 2 Work)**

(1) Last date and time for Tender Queries/Clarifications: **11-11-2026 up to 16.00.00**
(2) Last Date and Time for receipt of tenders : **12-11-2026 up to 16.00.00**
(3) Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid : **13 -11-2026 @ 16.30.00**
(4) Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid : **16-11-2026 @ 16.00.00**

DIPR/KWR/KSMCA/533/26-27
dt. 06.11.2026

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Public work Department Division
Sirsi (Uttara Kannada)

IN THE COURT OF THE HONBLE PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFCAT DODDABALLAPURA
C.MIS. 690 /2026

PETITIONER : 1. Sri. BYREGOWDA S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 58 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village, Madhure Hobli, Doddaballapura, Taluk Bangalore - 561203. **2. Smt. SOWBHAGYAMMA.** D/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 57 Years Residing At: Byregowdanapalya, Bachenahatti, Ramanagara, Karnataka - 562120. **3. Sri. GANGARAJU.** S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 52 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village, Madhure Hobli, Doddaballapura, Taluk Bangalore - 561203. **4. Smt. RATHNAMMA.** D/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 48 Years Residing At: Doddatumakuru Village kanasavadi post, Madhure hobli Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore-561203. **5. Sri. GURURAJ S P** S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 47 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village Madhure Hobli Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore-561203. V/S

RESPONDENT : THE THAHASILDAR Registrar of Birth & Death Doddaballpura Taluk, Bangalore rural 561203.

PUBLIC NOTICE

1. Sri. BYREGOWDA S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 58 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village,MadhureHobli, Doddaballapura, Taluk Bangalore - 561203. **2. Smt. SOWBHAGYAMMA.** D/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 57 Years Residing At: Byregowdanapalya, Bachenahatti, Ramanagara, Karnataka - 562120. **3. Sri. GANGARAJU.** S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 52 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village, Madhure Hobli, Doddaballapura, Taluk Bangalore – 561203 **4. Smt. RATHNAMMA.** D/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 48 Years Residing At: Doddatumakuru Village kanasavadi post, Madhure hobli Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore-561203. **5. Sri. GURURAJ S P** S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 47 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village Madhure Hobli Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore-561203 Applied for issue of Death Certificate of petitioners mother namely smt. Jayamma w/o late PUTTABYRAIAH was expired on 11-08-2024, for registered the above said date and death certificate before this Hon'ble court, any interested person or public are invited for any objection before this Hon'ble court regarding the above said case on 19-12-2026 at 11-00 AM, by person or through pleader, in case of fail this Hon'ble court will heard and determined in their absence and placing exparte.

Give under my hand and seal of this court on the 15th day of October 2026.

By Order of the Court
Chief Ministeral Officer, Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura

Advocate for Petitioner HEM KUMAR Advocate, Marasandra village, Madhure hobli, doddaballapura taluk Bengaluru rural district - 561203

IN THE COURT OF THE HONBLE PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFCAT DODDABALLAPURA
C.MIS. 691 /2026

PETITIONER : 1. Sri. BYREGOWDA S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 58 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village, Madhure Hobli, Doddaballapura, Taluk Bangalore - 561203. **2. Smt. SOWBHAGYAMMA.** D/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 57 Years Residing At: Byregowdanapalya, Bachenahatti, Ramanagara, Karnataka - 562120. **3. Sri. GANGARAJU.** S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 52 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village, Madhure Hobli, Doddaballapura, Taluk Bangalore - 561203. **4. Smt. RATHNAMMA.** D/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 48 Years Residing At: Doddatumakuru Village kanasavadi post, Madhure hobli Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore-561203. **5. Sri. GURURAJ S P** S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 47 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village Madhure Hobli Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore-561203. V/S

RESPONDENT : THE THAHASILDAR Registrar of Birth & Death Doddaballpura Taluk, Bangalore rural 561203.

PUBLIC NOTICE

1. Sri. BYREGOWDA S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 58 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village,MadhureHobli, Doddaballapura, Taluk Bangalore - 561203. **2. Smt. SOWBHAGYAMMA.** D/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 57 Years Residing At: Byregowdanapalya, Bachenahatti, Ramanagara, Karnataka - 562120. **3. Sri. GANGARAJU.** S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 52 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village, Madhure Hobli, Doddaballapura, Taluk Bangalore - 561203 **4. Smt. RATHNAMMA.** D/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 48 Years Residing At: Doddatumakuru Village kanasavadi post, Madhure hobli Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore-561203. **5. Sri. GURURAJ S P** S/o Late Puttabyraiah Aged About 47 Years Residing At: Shakaladevanapura Village Madhure Hobli Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore-561203 Applied for issue of Death Certificate of petitioners father namely Sri.PUTTABYRAIAH S/O late CHIKKABYRAIAH was expired on 13-08-2024,for registered the above said date and death certificate before this hon'ble court, any interested person or public are invited for any objection before this hon'ble court regarding the above said case on 19-12-2026 at 11-00 AM, by person or through pleader, in case of fail this hon'ble court will heard and determined in their absence and placing exparte.

Give under my hand and seal of this court on the 15th day of October 2026.

By Order of the Court
Chief Ministeral Officer, Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura

Advocate for Petitioner HEM KUMAR Advocate, Marasandra village, Madhure hobli, doddaballapura taluk Bengaluru rural district - 561203

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560020.
No: BDA/EE/HPD-1/TEN/T-398/2026-27 Date: 07-11-2026

SHORT TERM INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT)
(Through GoK e-Procurement Platform https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

Short Term Tender is invited in invited by Bangalore Development Authority **(Indent Number: BDA/2026-27/RD/WORK_INDENT294).** Tender Schedule is as below.

Tender Schedule: **1)** Date of availability of Tender Documents in e-Portal: **07-11-2026. 2)** Last Date and Time for Submission of Tender Pre Bid Enquiries: **09-11-2026, 11.00 AM. 3)** Date and Time of Tender Pre Bid Meeting: **11-11-2026, 3.00 PM. 4)** Last Date and Time for Submission of Tender: **18-11-2026, 4.00 PM. 5)** Date of Opening Technical Bid of Tender: **19-11-2026 after 4.30 PM.**

Interested Contractors can view further details on **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and for more details it is requested to contact the **Housing Project Division-1** of BDA during office hours.

Note: For any reason if there is delay in uploading the Tender Documents in e-Portal, the revised / modified Tender Schedule will only be published in e-Portal.

BDA HELPLINE: 94831 66622 (24x7). @BDAOfficialGoK

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Housing Project Division-1, BDA, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Gurulinga Ambaraya S/o Ambaraya R/o Plot No 294, Near Railway Bridge Naganhalli Circle, Sharanabasaveshwar Nagar, VTC: Gulbarga, PO: Gb Rs, Sub District: Afzalpur, District: Kalaburagi, State: Karnataka-585102 have changed my name to Guralinga

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PREMLATHA SAREMAL (old name), a resident of No 3/A Umang 5th Floor, Mahantha Layout, Bull Temple Road Cross KG Nagar, Bengaluru, 560019, Karnataka, INDIA , have changed my name to PREM LATHA (NEW Name) vide affidavit dated 07-11-2026, sworn advocate and notary Mohammed Hussain K.

NAME CHANGE

I, **MANOJ ANANDKRISHNA KUNDAL**, S/o Anands, resident of No 162, 4th Main Road BCC Layout, Attiguppe, Vijayanagar Post, Bengaluru-560040, have changed my name to **MANOJ A KUNDAL**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 07.11.2026 before notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru

NAME CHANGE

I, **DEEPA PANDURANGA RAO SINDIA**, W/o Panduranga Rao Sindia, resident of No 104 Sri Krishna Nilaya, 3rd A Main, Vinayaka Layout Abbigere, Bengaluru-560090, have changed my name to **DEEPA**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 07.11.2026 before notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru

NAME CHANGE

I, **RAJANI TIMRAJU**, W/o Anands, resident of No 162, 4th Main Road BCC Layout, Attiguppe, Vijayanagar Post, Bengaluru - 560040, have changed my name to **RAJANI ANANDS**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 07.11.2026 before notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru

NAME CHANGE

I, **SAIF ALI KHAN SHABANA LIYAKATH ALI KHAN**, S/o Liyakath Ali Khan, resident of No 26, 11th Cross. Someshwar Nagar, Jayanagar 1st Block, Bengaluru-560011, have changed my name to **SAIF ALI KHAN S L**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 07.11.2026 before notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru

DOCUMENT LOST

I, K.NAWAB, aged about 70 Years, Son of Abdul Rehaman, Residing at No. 3313/59, 14th Cross, 5th Main, Near Ramesh Babu Circle, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar, Berngaluru-560040, hereby declare that, I have Lost Original Absolute Sale Deed bearing Documents No. 407-2001-1, 19460-2003-04, 40647-2004-05, I could not trace-out the same by diligent efforts of search done by me, the same is irretrievably lost, subsequently I have filed Complaint before Karnataka State Police, Bengaluru Unit, in vide Lost Report No.2522075/2026, Dated : 05/11/2026 vide Affidavit dated : 07/11/2026 before Notary V.RAJASHEKHARA, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, **MALANANPALE** as **ANANDKRISHNA VENKATARAMANA**, S/o Venkataramanna Mallinayana, resident of No 162, 4th Main Road BCC Layout, Attiguppe, Vijayanagar Post, Bengaluru - 560040, have changed my name to **ANANDS**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 07.11.2026 before notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME

I, FATIMA JABEEN C (old name), a resident of NO 203, 7th Cross, Near Foot Ball Ground, Pillanna Garden 1st STAGE, Bangalore North, St Thomas Town, Bengaluru, 560084, Karnataka, INDIA, have changed my name to FATIMA JABEEN (NEW Name) vide affidavit dated 07-11-2026, sworn advocate and notary Mohammed Hussain K.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, NISHA SURENDRAN (old name), a resident of Flat NO. 57032, Tower 7, Prestige Waterford, ECC Road, Pattandur Agrahara, Whitefield, Bengaluru, 560066, Karnataka, INDIA, have changed my name to NISHA SUNIL (NEW Name) vide affidavit dated 07-11-2026, sworn advocate and notary Mohammed Hussain K.

CH CLASSIFIEDS
To place a classified ad contact:
080-41209042

Kadugolla leader condemns attack on migrant shepherds

CH NEWS, MAGADI

Suresh, president of the Magadi Taluk Kadugolla Community, has condemned the shooting incident involving migrant shepherds near Gurupura village in Hunsur taluk.

He urged the state government to ensure the safety and legal protection of shepherds who travel across districts for their livelihood.

Speaking to reporters on Saturday, Suresh said the incident took place on the night of November 5, when suspected sheep thieves opened fire on shepherds near Gurupura while attempting to steal sheep. Three shepherds from Sira taluk in Tumakuru district were injured in the incident. They were taken to K.R. Hospital in Mysuru for treatment.

Expressing concern over the attack, Suresh said such incidents threatened the lives and livelihoods of migrant shepherds, who depend on sheep rearing for their income.

Quick Read



1.82 lakh screened in Chikkaballapura TB drive

CH NEWS, CHIKKABALLAPURA

Under the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme, 1,82,425 vulnerable people were screened during a special TB detection campaign held from October 27 to November 4. Five cases were confirmed, and treatment has begun.

Zilla Panchayat CEO Dr. Y. Naveen Bhat urged people with TB symptoms to undergo screening at the nearest PHC or Taluk Hospital.

Health workers are collecting sputum samples and conducting X-ray examinations among vulnerable groups.

The district recorded 4,959 TB cases between 2023 and 2025.

The treatment success rate increased to 91%, while mortality declined to 6%.

Persistent cough, fever, weight loss, night sweats and breathing difficulties are key symptoms. Dr. Bhat appealed to the public to seek early medical attention.

Officials directed to resolve public grievances within deadlines

Officials resolved nearly 5,000 Podi cases in a year, shifting applications online to ensure timely grievance resolution



Officials at the taluk-level Praja Seva Andolana in Manchenahalli.

CH NEWS, MANCHENAHALLI

Deputy Commissioner G. Prabhu has directed government officials to ensure that all public applications received under the 'Praja Seva Andolana' are resolved within the stipulated timeframe.

He stressed that people should not be forced to make repeated visits to government offices to get their work done.

He was speaking after inaugurating the taluk-level campaign at the Government High School in Manchenahalli village.

Prabhu said nearly 5,000 land subdivision (Podi) cases had been resolved across the district during the past year. Applications are now being received through online software, with measures in place to ensure timely disposal. He urged officials to understand public grievances and provide permanent solutions rather than merely closing applications.

6,000 Property Documents Planned

Under the Revenue Village Campaign, around 6,000 property documents (Hakku Patras) are proposed for distribution in Manchenahalli taluk. Measurements of 650 sites have been completed, while 525 land grant applications have been settled. Revenue records are also being digitised under the Bhu Suraksha scheme.

The administration is developing housing sites across approximately 1,800 acres, including 800 acres already sanctioned for the purpose.

Yettinahole Project Progress

The Deputy Commissioner said pipeline work under the Yettinahole project was expected to be completed by June-July next year, with water supply to the district targeted by the end of 2027.

He also highlighted welfare measures for workers, distribution of equipment to more than 2,500 workers in each taluk and efforts to fill vacant Anganwadi positions.

A total of 656 applications were received across the district during the campaign by 5.30 pm. Some pension applications were resolved immediately, while officials assured that the remaining petitions would be addressed within the prescribed timeframe.

Officials from various departments attended the programme at different locations across the district.

The DC's targets

Strict Resolution Deadlines
Officials ordered to clear public applications promptly

Property Document Distribution
Around 6,000 Hakku Patras planned for Manchenahalli

Yettinahole Project Timeline
Pipeline work expected to finish by mid-2027

Extensive Land Surveys
Nearly 5,000 Podi cases resolved district-wide

Minister seeks timely action for those left out of job scheme

CH NEWS, KUSHTAGI



Karnataka Minister for Backward Classes Welfare and Kannada and Culture and Koppal District In-charge Minister Shivaraj Tangadagi has directed Zilla Panchayat officials to examine applications of people excluded from the employment guarantee scheme list and take action according to the rules.

He was speaking at the 'Praja Seva Andolana' meeting organised by the district administration at Fakirappa Channappa Hosavakkala Kalyana Mantapa in Kushtagi on November 7. Tangadagi discussed a petition submitted by the Karnataka Prantha Raitha Sangha and instructed the Zilla Panchayat CEO to address technical issues preventing people from obtaining employment.

He said farmers were facing difficulties due to inadequate rainfall and crop losses. Providing employment to those seeking work was essential to prevent migration, he added.

Several other public grievances were also brought to the minister's attention. Residents demanded road widening and bridge repairs in Dotihala, removal of encroachments on public parks in Kushtagi and protection of a historic Vijayanagara-era temple structure. Residents of Sandeep Nagar sought title deeds for their allotted sites.

Basavaraja Ganigera raised concerns over delays in allotting a civic amenity site for the rehabilitation of children with intellectual and multiple disabilities. Villagers also sought corrections in land records and approval of old-age pensions.

Women farmers block canal demanding water for lake

CH NEWS, CHITRADURGA



Women farmers at the protest near Palavvanahalli in Hiriyur taluk.

More than 200 women farmers from J.N. Kote village staged a protest near Palavvanahalli in Hiriyur taluk on Saturday, demanding the release of Bhadra project water into their village lake.

The protest led to a heated argument between farmers and police, with some pushing and shoving reported.

The farmers opened a valve on the Chitradurga branch canal to divert water towards their village lake. Police personnel who attempted to stop them faced strong opposition from the protesters.

Water from the Bhadra project is being released into Gonuru lake through the Chitradurga branch canal. During the first release, about 15 days ago, water was directed towards J.N. Kote lake through a stream. However, the valve was later closed before the water could reach the lake.

Farmers said they had been requesting officials of the Bhadra Upper Bank Project for four days to release water to their village. After receiving no favourable response, they gathered in large numbers on tractors and motorcycles, erected a tent and began a sit-in protest. Some protesters then opened the canal valve.

The women farmers declared that they would continue their protest until their village lake received water. They also demanded that the local MLA and ministers visit the spot and address their concerns.

Addressing the protesters, Irrigation Implementation Struggle Committee General Convener Chikkappanahalli Shanmukha said opening the valve without permission was not appropriate. However, he criticised officials for failing to understand the farmers' difficulties and respond to their demands.

Students urged to preserve their historical heritage

CH NEWS, CHITRADURGA

Understanding the history, culture and traditions of ancestors is essential to preserving heritage for future generations, said V. Moorthachar, Education Coordinator at the Chitradurga Taluk Block Education Officer's office.

He was speaking after inaugurating the taluk-level 'Prachya Prajna' (Heritage Awareness) competition for high school students at Sampige Siddeshwara High School. The programme was jointly organised by the Block Education Officer's office and the Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage, Mysuru.

Moorthachar said students should learn about the royal dynasties that shaped the region, their traditions, beliefs, inscriptions, temples and forts. He stressed that preserving historical heritage and passing it on to future generations was everyone's responsibility.

Speaking at the event, S. Krishna, an assistant teacher at Government High School, Koonabevu, said protecting historical monuments was not just the government's responsibility but also a duty of citizens. He noted that Chitradurga district has several important historical sites.

Essay writing, speech, quiz and drawing competitions were conducted as part of the programme.Rudresh, assistant teacher at Bapuji High School, Bharamasagara, Vidya of Government High School, Basavanakere, and others attended the event.

Mandya MLA promises property papers this December



CH NEWS, MANDYA

Mandya MLA P. Ravikumar has directed government officials to resolve public grievances within a fixed timeframe and ensure that eligible people receive government benefits without unnecessary delays.

He also announced that property documents would be issued to 1,450 families under Sathanuru Gram Panchayat by December 27.

He was speaking after inaugurating the 'Praja Seva Andolana' at Shankara Matha Community Hall in Sathanuru village, Mandya taluk.

Ravikumar said officials must take every public application seriously and coordinate with different departments to provide timely solutions. He instructed them to visit villages, understand local problems and resolve grievances on the spot wherever possible. Applications involving court cases would be treated separately.

Property Documents For 1,450 Families

He said around 1,450 families in Sathanuru Gram Panchayat had been living in houses built by them for several years without proper property documents. Eligible residents can submit electricity bills and Gram Panchayat assessment records for verification. Officials have been instructed to complete the process and distribute the documents by December 27.

Development Works Worth ₹25 Crore

The MLA said development works worth approximately ₹25 crore were being undertaken in the Gram Panchayat limits. These include footbridges, lake development, retaining walls, road repairs, parks and drinking water facilities. Road improvement works alone account for around ₹1.20 crore.

₹100 Crore Additional Grant For Canal Development

He said an additional grant of ₹100 crore had been secured for improving irrigation facilities. Canal repairs, raising water channels and removing obstructions would receive priority to ensure adequate water reaches farmers' fields.

Tahsildar Vishwanath said public applications were being registered through the IPGRS online portal to monitor their progress and ensure accountability.Taluk Panchayat Executive Officer Lokesh Murthy, Agriculture Department Assistant Director Prathibha and other officials attended the programme.

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Shanthinagara Division, P.U. Building, 9th Floor,
M G Road, Bengaluru - 560 001
No:EE/SN/TEND/17/2026-27 Date: 07-11-2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)

(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only) The Executive Engineer, (Shanthinagara), BCCC, invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP/KPWD/CPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the construction of works detailed in the table below. (STD. KW-1)

Sl No.	Name of the works
1.	Removal of deviation portions Building under construction at Site No.15/5, Appareddypalya, Indiranagara, Jogupalaya, in Ward No. 23 Jogupalya (Old No 89). **Approx Value of Work : ₹9.00 Lakhs, EMD: ₹ 22500.00**
2.	Removal of Deviation Portions of Residential Building under Construction Site No. 63/2, Agaram in Ward No. 24 Agaram (Old Ward No. 89 Jogupalya) A,B & C Block (Call -3) **Approx Value of Work : ₹9.00 Lakhs, EMD: ₹ 22500.00**

Calendar of Events: (1) Pre bid meeting will be held on **12-11-2026** at **3:30** pm (2) Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is **16-11-2026** upto **4:00** pm. (3) Date of opening of the Technical Bid Tenders is on **17-11-2026** after **4:30** pm.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Shanthinagara, BCCC

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer, No.1 Buildings Division,
S.J.P. Campus, Bengaluru. Phone: 080-22255210
No. EE/Bld1/AE-3, AE-LH/2026-27/32 Date: 04.11.2026

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)

Tenders are invited through the KPP portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from eligible tenderers for a total of four (04) works, comprising the repair of toilets at various specified locations, repair of doors, windows, provision of PVC pipeline, replastering of damaged ceiling, provision of new entrance door, painting and polishing of worship room, storage cabinets, water proofing, flooring tiles, fabrication works, repair of shutters, windows, extension of existing flag pole stage, installation of granite slab on new flag pole stage, provision of flag pole, painting of existing stage and other services; and other development works, as specified in the tender. Estimated Cost of Works: Minimum **Rs.7.49 Lakhs** and maximum **Rs.16.38 Lakhs.** EMD: Minimum **Rs.9,400/-** and maximum **Rs.40,400/-** Period of Completion: **01 to 03 months (including the rainy season).** Cost of Tender Documents: As specified on the KPP Portal for each work. Last Date for Downloading and Submission of Tenders through KPPP: **For Sl. Nos. 1 & 2: 13.11.2026 at 04:30 PM, For Sl. Nos. 3 & 4: 16.11.2026 at 04:30 PM.** Date of Opening of Tenders: **As specified on the KPP portal.** Brief details of the tendered works, indent numbers, estimated amounts, EMD and mode of payment, reservations and other information may be obtained from the above-mentioned office or through the KPP portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).**

Sd/- Executive Engineer.
DIPR/DD-C.P/3597/KSMCA/2026-27

ಸಹಾಯಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ತುಮಕೂರು ಉಪ ವಿಭಾಗ (ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ), ರಾಮಕೃಷ್ಣನಗರ,
ಕುಣಿಗಲ್ ರಸ್ತೆ,ತುಮಕೂರು– 572105
Email: acftumkur@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸ.ಅ.ಸಂ/ತುಉವಿ/ಇಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್–03/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05–11–2026

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ.

2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ CEPMIZ(KMERC) ಯೋಜನೆಗಳಡಿ ತುಮಕೂರು ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ವಿಭಾಗ, ತುಮಕೂರು ಉಪ ವಿಭಾಗದ, ಗುಬ್ಬಿ ವಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ನೆಡುತೋಪು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಹಾಗೂ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ, ಮುಂಗಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ನೆಡುತೋಪು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಮತ್ತು ಇನ್ನಿತರೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು 2026–27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಾಗಿ ನೊಂದಾವಣೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕವಾಗಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಲು ಕೋರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. **ಒಟ್ಟು 2** ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ. 71,36,300**/– ಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ.1,42,726**/–ಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. **34,54,000**/– ಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ. 69,080**/–ಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. **ದಿನಾಂಕ:19–11–2026ರ ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ 3–00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಹಾಗೂ **ದಿನಾಂಕ:20–11–2026ರಂದು ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ 3–00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ** ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡುಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಪರಿಮಾಣ, ಇಎಂಡಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಇನ್ನಿತರೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ – **http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

ಸಹಿ/– ಸಹಾಯಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ,
DIPR/TUM/RO-118/26-27/Oysters ತುಮಕೂರು ಉಪ ವಿಭಾಗ, ತುಮಕೂರು

MANDYA IINSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
MANDYA
(Autonomous Medical Institution, Government of Karnataka)
Phone: 08232-231003, 222086, 231197, 224040,
Fax: 08232-231001
E-Mail Address: mimsmandya@gmail.com

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION TWO COVER BID SYSTEM

No:MIMS/SUP-D/Consumables/E-T/08/2026-27
Dt : 05.11.2026
No:MIMS/SUP-D/Disposabales/E-T/09/2026-27
Dt : 05.11.2026

Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences (MIMS), Mandya, invites E-Tender for Supply of Consumables (approximate amount Rs.404 Lakhs) and Supply of Disposables (approximate amount Rs. 387.00 Lakhs) to the Teaching Hospital, of MIMS Mandya from the Manufacture/s or Authorized Dealers in two cover bid system as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act-1999 and Rules thereunder. Submission of E-tender and other details can be obtained in e-procurement portal website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/-Director, Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences, Mandya,
ಪಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಹಿಸನಿ–ಮಂ/ಕೆಮ್ಸ್ಎಂಸಿಇಎ/536/2026–27

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
DAVANAGERE DIVISION, DAVANAGERE.
No.EE:PWD:Dvg/JE:IFT-27:2026-27 Dated:- 06.11.2026

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref : This office tender notification No. IFT-27/2026-27 dated : 06.11.2026.

The works under Head of Account 5054-04-337-0-01-154 2 Works Rs.100.00 lakhs Head of Account 3054-03-337-0-05-200 SH Maintenance 1 Work Rs. 12.70 lakhs, Head of Account 3054-04-337-1-10-200 MDR Maintenance 1 Work 8.00 lakhs, Head of Account 3054-03-102-0-01-200 SH bridge 1 work 10.00 lakhs pertaining to Channagiri, Harihara and Jagalur sub divisions under the Jurisdiction of PWD, Davanagere division, has been called for the tenders from registered Contractors in KPWD for the above works through KPP Portal as per standard tender documents rules.

Tender dates are as mentioned below:

Details of dates	W.I. 44652, 44654	W.I. 44595, 45047 & 45052
Last Date & time for tender queries	Date 06.11.2026 Timing 4.00 P.M.	Date 06.11.2026 Timing 4.00 P.M.
Last Date & time for receipt of tenders	Date : 20.11.2026 Timing 4.00 P.M.	Date : 13.11.2026 Timing 4.00 P.M.
Date & time for opening of Technical Bid :	Date : 21.11.2026 Timing 4.30 P.M.	Date : 16.11.2026 Timing 4.30 P.M.
Date & time for opening of Financial Bid :	Date : 25.11.2026 Timing 11.00 A.M.	-

Further details can be obtained from this office in office hours.

DIPR/DVG/KSMCA/427/2026-27

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PWD Division, Davanagere.

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ರಾಮನಗರ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ
ಸಂ: ಕಾಅ/ಲೋಇ/ರಾ.ವಿ./ಟೆಂ–14/2026–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06.11.2026

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

2026–27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಮನಗರ ವಿಭಾಗ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ & ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿವೆ. **(ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.86.00 ಲಕ್ಷದಿಂದ ರೂ.500.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು).**

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂ:–1 ರಿಂದ 9ರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿವೆ. (15 ದಿನಗಳು)

1) ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್‌ನ್ನು **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06.11.2026** ರಿಂದ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. 2) ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಅನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: **20.11.2026 ವೇಳೆ 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ** ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು. 3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.11.2026 ವೇಳೆ 16.30 ಗಂಟೆ. (ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾದಲ್ಲಿ)**

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂ:–10 ಮತ್ತು 11ರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿವೆ. (07 ದಿನಗಳು)

1) ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್‌ನ್ನು **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06.11.2026** ರಿಂದ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. 2) ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಅನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: **16.11.2026 ವೇಳೆ 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ** ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು. 3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.11.2026 ವೇಳೆ 16.30 ಗಂಟೆ. (ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾದಲ್ಲಿ).** ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು.

Note: Here after any changes with reference to this Notification will be Notified in KPP Portal Only.

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Quick Read

CM Yogi arrives for grand Deepotsav

AYODHYA

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath arrived in Ayodhya to oversee final preparations for the 10th grand Deepotsav celebrations. The holy city is illuminating 30 lakh earthen lamps along the Saryu Ghat while hosting a special exhibition at Ram Katha Park highlighting five centuries of history. To ensure safety for massive crowds of devotees, authorities have deployed over 2,500 police officers, specialized rapid response teams, and anti-drone mechanisms, alongside 350 live surveillance cameras. Dignitaries, including the Vice President and Governor, will join festivities featuring a massive drone show and traditional aarti.

Thakur blames Sukhu for power credit claim

SHIMLA

Himachal Pradesh opposition leader Jairam Thakur criticized Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu for claiming credit for the Supreme Court verdict on BBMB power rights. Thakur stressed that securing Himachal's rightful electricity share was the result of a 30-year legal struggle involving successive past administrations. He also demanded that the state government restore the discontinued free electricity scheme and fulfill pre-election guarantees. Furthermore, Thakur alleged financial mismanagement under the ruling Congress, claiming employees still await their allowances while borrowings rise, and predicted the government will lose future elections.

Assam woman revives Harak Singh controversy

DEHRADUN

A woman from Assam has revived a decades-old controversy by accusing senior Congress leader Harak Singh Rawat of past sexual exploitation and demanding a fresh DNA test. Claiming she was taken to his residence in 2002 at age sixteen, she alleged she became pregnant and was later placed in a women's shelter. The historical allegations first surfaced in 2003, leading to an official CBI inquiry and a DNA test that previously cleared Rawat. She now seeks legal punishment and paternity rights for her son, while the senior politician remains actively involved in party campaigns.

NGT reviews progress on microplastics detection

NEW DELHI

Environmental regulation and scientific standardizing of pollutants remain top priorities for judicial oversight, especially regarding emerging contaminants that threaten ecosystems and human health. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has granted the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) an eight-week .

UP state employees get 5% DA hike

The Uttar Pradesh government has hiked Dearness Allowance by five percent, granting state employees a festive Diwali bonanza.

LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh state government has announced a major festive bonanza for its workforce, delivering a timely economic boost just ahead of the Diwali celebrations.

The state administration has officially increased the Dearness Allowance (DA) for state employees by five percentage points, elevating the overall rate from 58 percent to 63 percent.

According to the formal government order issued on Saturday, the revised allowance will take retrospective effect from July 1, with the augmented payments disbursed alongside regular monthly salaries starting in November.

The extensive financial revision is designed to benefit hundreds of thousands of individuals across diverse administrative sectors, including regular state government personnel, full-time employees of aided educational and technical institutions, urban local bodies, work-charged employees, and staff drawing remuneration under University Grants Commission (UGC) pay scales.

To manage the financial payout stemming from the retroactive adjustment covering July 1 through October 31, the government has established structured disbursement guidelines.

For employees enrolled under the General Provident Fund (GPF), arrears will be deposited directly into their provident fund accounts subject to statutory tax deductions and surcharges, where the funds will remain locked until November 1, 2027, barring authorized special withdrawals.

For personnel under the National Pension System (NPS), ten percent of the accumulated arrears will be credited to their Tier-1 pension accounts, supplemented by a fourteen percent employer contribution from the state government. The remaining ninety percent of arrears will be channeled into Public Provident Fund (PPF) accounts or invested in National Savings Certificates (NSCs), with cash payouts authorized where NSCs are unavailable. Furthermore, special exemptions ensure that retired personnel, individuals whose services concluded prior to the order, and those scheduled to retire within six months will receive their complete DA arrears entirely in cash.



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. The revised DA comes with the November salary

10%	14%	90%
of NPS arrears to Tier-1 accounts	employer share from the state	to PPF or NSCs

Dearness allowance

UNTIL NOW	FROM JULY 1
58% of basic pay	63% arrears for July-October

UP BJP chief advises Akhilesh on Ayodhya visit

LUCKNOW

Political tensions in Uttar Pradesh have escalated sharply following announcements regarding Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav's upcoming family visit to Ayodhya, scheduled for December 12, to offer prayers at the Hanuman Garhi temple and seek blessings at the Ram Mandir. While opposition leaders frame the visit as part of routine spiritual devotion and political strategy ahead of the crucial 2027 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) figures have launched scathing counter-attacks, questioning the timing and accusing the opposition of political opportunism.

Uttar Pradesh BJP Chief Pankaj Chaudhary asserted that while visiting temples and offering prayers is open to everyone, the Samajwadi Party leadership should refrain from what he described as continuous rhetoric undermining Sanatan Dharma. The BJP leadership has consistently linked the sudden surge in temple visits by opposition figures to electoral calculations, arguing that such gestures stand in sharp contrast to the party's historical positions and administrative track record.



UP BJP chief Pankaj Chaudhary

BJP attacks Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav over his planned Ayodhya temple visit, labeling his pre-poll spiritual journey as pure political opportunism.

Simultaneously, state minister Danish Azad Ansari claimed that the opposition has suddenly rediscovered backward classes, Dalits, and temple towns solely because polls are approaching, emphasizing that the electorate remains vigilant against tactical political shifts.

As preparations for 2027 intensify across political camps, issues surrounding religious identity, governance, and development continue to serve as core focal points of debate between the ruling NDA and the opposition in Uttar Pradesh.

Mamata protests alleged attack on Abhishek

KOLKATA

A severe political crisis has erupted in West Bengal following an alleged violent attack at the south Kolkata residence of senior Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Abhishek Banerjee during the early hours of Saturday.

Trinamool Congress supremo and former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee personally joined protest demonstrations after an alleged mob assault targeted her nephew and party national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee's Kalighat residence around 2 am on Saturday. According to police reports and accounts from party insiders, the high-voltage clashes erupted between TMC workers who had gathered to celebrate Abhishek Banerjee's 39th birthday and opposing political supporters between 2 am and 3.30 am. The violent overnight confrontation left at least eight individuals injured, three of them seriously, prompting the deployment of a large police contingent to seal off the surrounding neighborhood and detain several suspects.



Mamata Banerjee and her nephew Abhishek Banerjee

Abhishek Banerjee hit out at political rivals, alleging that his home and office were targeted by a coordinated group of "BJP goons" following two days of systematic reconnaissance. Claiming that this represented the seventh attempt on his life over the past six months, he openly criticized both the Kolkata Police administration and judicial authorities for alleged inaction.

Arriving at the Kalighat residence later that morning, Mamata Banerjee accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of orchestrating unchecked "hooliganism" and deliberately disrupting traditional Kali Puja and Diwali festival preparations. Addressing reporters and charged party supporters, Banerjee questioned the timing and legality of the provocation, pointing out that the affected area is a sacred traditional route for major processions of Goddess Kali. She alleged that local administrative decisions had unfairly revoked permissions for long-standing traditional community pujas while selectively permitting new setups directly along main road bends to obstruct access.

Furthermore, the TMC chief linked the midnight aggression to broader national political tensions, suggesting that the party is being targeted because of its prominent role in the opposition 'INDIA' alliance. She condemned the nocturnal disturbances and challenged political opponents directly, stating that any attempts to intimidate regional leadership through nocturnal thuggery or administrative pressure would face fierce political resistance. As police maintain a heavy security cordon around the neighborhood and investigations into the overnight detentions continue, the explosive incident has severely escalated political friction across the state ahead of the festive season.

Mamata's charges

High-handedness
Permissions for long-standing local pujas revoked; an illegal puja setup on the main road blocked access to the locality

Vengeance
The hostility stems from the TMC's role in the INDIA alliance: "If you dare to use a bulldozer, go ahead and run your bulldozers over us, over our very bodies."

Lok Sabha
She has written to the Speaker on an alleged breakdown of law and order

Tripura CM announces 58 new PG seats at AGMC



Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha

AGARTALA

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha has officially announced a major expansion in medical education infrastructure, revealing an increase of 58 postgraduate (MD/MS) seats at the Agartala Government Medical College (AGMC) for the upcoming 2026-27 academic year. With this significant addition, the institution's total postgraduate seat capacity will surge from 95 to 153 across 16 specialized medical disciplines.

Sharing the development on social media, Chief Minister Saha expressed immense satisfaction, emphasizing that the substantial increase in postgraduate slots will create exceptional opportunities for aspiring doctors and medical students within the state. He highlighted that bolstering specialized training programs directly contributes to the long-term vision of building robust healthcare services, aptly noting that a stronger medical education system today creates a healthier Tripura tomorrow.

"A stronger medical education system today will build a healthier Tripura tomorrow."
MANIK SAHA Tripura Chief Minister

Furthermore, Saha expressed profound gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda, acknowledging their continued central support and collaborative efforts in modernizing medical education and expanding healthcare facilities across the northeastern state. The seat expansion is expected to ease intense competition for specialty medical seats, reduce regional shortages of specialized clinical personnel, and elevate the overall standard of tertiary healthcare delivery throughout Tripura.

Uttarakhand minister's husband arrested in Jhansi

DEHRADUN

Uttarakhand Police have officially arrested Girdhari Lal Sahu, also known as Pappu Girdhari, the husband of Uttarakhand Cabinet Minister Rekha Arya from the Jhansi district in Uttar Pradesh. Confirming the development during a press briefing, Dehradun Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Pramendra Dobhal stated that Sahu was apprehended outside a private university campus following a period as an absconder, while a second accused, Satyendra Thakur, was simultaneously taken into custody near Kichha in the Udham Singh Nagar district. Both individuals have been remanded to judicial custody.

The high-profile legal proceedings stem from a formal First Information Report (FIR) lodged by Cabinet Minister Rekha Arya on October 15 at the Cantt Police Station in Dehradun. In her complaint, the minister alleged severe domestic discord, physical assault, criminal intimidation, and the use of derogatory, caste-based slurs at her official residence following disputes over alleged marital infidelities. Furthermore, the investigation uncovered a complex corporate conspiracy involving document falsification. Police confirmed that Sahu and his associates utilized forged signatures and fabricated paperwork to unlawfully strip Minister Arya of her directorship in a private company, fraudulently installing Satyendra Thakur in her place without her knowledge or consent.

Addressing the media, SSP Dobhal disclosed that Sahu carries an extensive criminal background, with over 44 prior cases registered against him, including previous convictions, pending trials, and charges under stringent legal provisions. A specialized nine-member police team was constituted to handle the sensitive investigation. Authorities stated that further evidence gathering and legal procedures are actively underway to ensure comprehensive accountability as the judicial process proceeds.



Uttarakhand minister Rekha Arya and her husband Girdhari Lal Sahu

RAIL DINING CLEAN-UP

IRCTC crackdown on unauthorised e-catering apps

NEW DELHI

The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has officially launched a sweeping nationwide enforcement drive targeting unauthorized e-catering websites and mobile applications operating across the Indian Railways network.

According to official statements, the proliferation of unverified digital food delivery platforms poses severe risks to passenger health, hygiene, and overall well-being. Unlicensed operators frequently source meals from uncertified food outlets that bypass mandatory Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) regulations. These rogue kitchens often operate in unhygienic environments, utilize untrained food handlers, and deploy delivery personnel without required medical clearances, directly compromising food quality and consumer safety.

Beyond immediate health hazards, unauthorized platforms expose travelers to severe digital and financial vulnerabilities. Transmitting sensitive personal information including Passenger Name Record (PNR) numbers, email addresses, phone numbers, and payment credentials through unverified portals leaves passengers highly susceptible to phishing schemes, identity theft, and online financial fraud. Furthermore, travelers frequently encounter unfulfilled orders, arbitrary cancellations, and a total absence of grievance-redressal mechanisms, making it nearly impossible to recover funds or seek legal recourse.

In response to these growing threats, the IRCTC has escalated its actions beyond routine warnings, initiating strict legal proceedings and enforcement measures against entities unlawfully exploiting the IRCTC brand or operating outside regulatory frameworks. Authorities emphasized that unauthorized operators not only evade statutory tax obligations, undermining public revenues and fair market competition, but also jeopardize public trust.

To ensure a secure dining experience, IRCTC advises passengers to order meals exclusively through official channels: the official website, the 'Food on Track' mobile application, or verified IRCTC-authorized e-catering aggregators. The corporation maintains an updated directory of authorized partners on its primary portal. Additionally, travelers encountering illegal food vendors on trains or railway platforms are urged to report them immediately to the Railway Protection Force (RPF) via helpline number 182.

IRCTC

RISKS IRCTC FLAGGED

- **Health:** meals from unlicensed outlets outside FSSAI rules, untrained staff
- **Data:** PNR, contact and payment details exposed to phishing and fraud
- **No redress:** unfulfilled or cancelled orders, no way to recover funds
- **Tax:** unauthorised operators bypass GST and the regulatory framework

Website — IRCTC's official site
App — Food on Track
182 — RPF helpline

Quick Read

Parents plead HC over flight medical emergency

NEW DELHI

The grieving parents of a six-and-a-half-year-old girl have approached the Delhi High Court seeking the preservation of all records regarding a medical emergency onboard a Virgin Atlantic flight. The child, Zaynab Mohammadi, collapsed while traveling from London to New Delhi on September 8; the parents cite a lack of pediatric equipment and unfulfilled flight diversion requests. After landing, she faced further delays and inadequate medical facilities at IGI Airport before passing away at a Gurugram hospital on October 16. The High Court has directed relevant authorities and airlines to preserve all available records.

UP BJP Chief says Samajwadi Party fears defeat

LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh BJP President Pankaj Chaudhary criticized the Samajwadi Party, accusing its leaders of spreading baseless rumors about citizenship and fleeing out of fear ahead of the 2027 assembly elections. Chaudhary claimed the opposition is heading toward a record defeat and sees the BJP's governance even in their dreams. Meanwhile, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav hit back, condemning recent state demolition actions targeting the home of legendary musician Ustad Bismillah Khan, accusing the ruling party of harboring a narrow-minded approach and standing fundamentally opposed to art and artists across the state.

Saurabh Bharadwaj responds to Parvesh Verma's complaint

NEW DELHI

AAP leader Saurabh Bharadwaj has criticized BJP minister Parvesh Verma for filing a defamation lawsuit, stating that those in glass houses should avoid throwing stones. The legal dispute stems from Bharadwaj's social media posts in May linking Verma to a private school POCSO case, which Verma strongly denies. Although a Rouse Avenue court initially dismissed Verma's defamation complaint in October, a sessions court recently issued notice on a revision petition. Bharadwaj condemned the BJP's double standards, recalling past derogatory posters targeting former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

Indian Railways to quadruple seven major corridors

Indian Railways announced a massive quadrupling project across seven major corridors to eliminate congestion and add trains.





The corridors: the Golden Quadrilateral and its diagonals link these cities

NEW DELHI

To permanently resolve chronic congestion, severe bottlenecks, and persistent train delays, the Union Ministry of Railways has announced a transformative nationwide infrastructure initiative.

Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw formally announced that Indian Railways is aggressively expanding its core trunk routes by quadrupling seven major rail corridors across the country. Addressing a press conference, the Minister highlighted that unprecedented surges in freight movement, particularly coal transportation, alongside soaring passenger traffic have placed immense strain on existing rail lines, making comprehensive track expansion essential.

Over the past decade, the national transporter has laid over 36,000 kilometres of new tracks. However, to achieve a permanent solution and eliminate long passenger waiting lists, the government has prioritized four-lining key national arteries connecting major economic powerhouses. The ambitious quadrupling projects encompass the vital routes linking the Golden Quadrilateral (Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, and Mumbai) as well as crucial diagonal corridors, specifically Delhi to Chennai, Mumbai to Kolkata, and Delhi to Guwahati.

Minister Vaishnaw emphasized that the completion of these four-lining projects will unlock immense operational capacity, enabling the introduction of over 1,000 additional regular trains. This massive expansion is expected to significantly alleviate the heavy pressure on passenger reservation systems and clear long waiting lists. By continuously investing in advanced track infrastructure, the administration aims to modernize rail travel and ensure seamless mobility nationwide.

RJD MP demands President's Rule in West Bengal



KOLKATA

The violent overnight confrontation at the south Kolkata residence of Trinamool Congress (TMC) national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee has triggered a fierce political storm, drawing sharp allegations from TMC leaders and dramatic intervention demands from external political allies.

Following the pre-dawn clashes outside the Kalighat residence, where TMC workers had gathered for birthday celebrations before skirmishes erupted with rival supporters, senior TMC figures launched a scathing counter-offensive against law enforcement and political rivals. TMC MLA Kunal Ghosh publicly condemned the police response, alleging that municipal authorities and security personnel are systematically targeting TMC members instead of apprehending the actual instigators. Ghosh argued that grassroots booth workers and leadership figures alike are being unfairly victimized under the guise of maintaining public order, further heightening friction between local party cadres and the police administration.

The incident has also reverberated nationally, drawing critical assessments from opposition figures across state borders. Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) Member of Parliament Sudhakar Singh weighed in on the escalating law-and-order dispute in West Bengal, making a strong public demand for the imposition of President's Rule. Singh asserted that escalating political violence and lawlessness reflect a severe breakdown in administrative governance, claiming that citizens' lives and property are increasingly at risk.

These latest developments compound an already tense political environment in West Bengal, where TMC chief and former Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has already formally protested the breakdown of local security to parliamentary authorities. As police investigations into the overnight detentions continue, the widening political fallout threatens to keep tensions high across the state throughout the festive season.

Following violent overnight clashes at TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee's Kolkata residence, RJD MP Sudhakar Singh demanded the imposition of President's Rule.

Kerala Excise Minister promises probe into corruption

ALAPPUZHA

Kerala Excise Minister M. Liju has announced that the state government will thoroughly investigate all corruption allegations leveled against officials within the excise department, confirming that retired personnel will also fall within the scope of ongoing inquiries.

Addressing media queries regarding a newly surfaced inquiry report detailing irregularities within the department, Minister Liju emphasized that every allegation warrants formal scrutiny and subsequent punitive action where warranted. He noted that administrative reviews are actively examining several contentious policy matters, including the issuance of horti-wine licenses without prior government approval, the contentious conversion of beer parlours into full-fledged bars, and the granting of FL-7 liquor licenses at airports despite explicit opposition from executive authorities.

Expanding on the scope of the administrative audit, Minister Liju pointed toward past licensing trends, alleging that previous tenures witnessed the mass conversion of hundreds of beer and wine parlours into bars alongside the issuance of numerous new bar licenses. He asserted that accountability will not spare



past office-bearers or officials who have already retired from active service if investigations uncover complicity in administrative malpractices.

Clarifying his personal administrative purview, Minister Liju outlined the limits of ministerial transfer authority, noting that while he directly governs postings for Deputy Commissioners and Joint Deputy Commissioners, transfers for subordinate ranks are managed by designated departmental officers. The minister reiterated that the government remains fully committed to examining all investigative findings and ensuring strict regulatory oversight across the state's excise administration.

Under review

- **Horti-wine:** licences issued without prior government approval
- **Bars:** beer parlours converted into full-fledged bars
- **Airports:** FL-7 liquor licences despite executive opposition
- **Retired staff:** also within the scope of the inquiries

Maharashtra ministers to mark Diwali in drought-hit villages

₹5,000	1.50 cr	₹7,500 cr
advance relief per farmer	farmers to be paid	total outlay

NAGPUR

Demonstrating direct engagement with the rural populace, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced that all state ministers have collectively decided to celebrate the festival of Diwali directly inside villages alongside local farming communities affected by severe drought conditions.

Confidence for farmers

Addressing a media briefing, Chief Minister Fadnavis emphasized that the unprecedented agrarian crisis demands more than administrative policy; it requires personal presence and active dialogue. The initiative is designed to bolster farmers' confidence and provide psychological reassurance that the state government stands firmly by their side during challenging times. While acknowledging that meteorological droughts lack instant, overnight technical fixes, Fadnavis pledged that the administration is committed to extending comprehensive support and keeping community spirits high.

This grassroots solidarity complements substantial fiscal relief measures enacted by the state administration. On October 27, Chief Minister Fadnavis directed relevant departments to disburse an advance drought relief payment of ₹5,000 directly to the bank accounts of approximately 1.50 crore farmers across Maharashtra within a targeted one-week window. The state government has earmarked a massive total financial outlay of ₹7,500 crore specifically for this direct benefit transfer initiative. Furthermore, strict directives were issued to banking institutions prohibiting any deductions from the disbursed relief funds, ensuring that the full financial assistance reaches vulnerable beneficiaries intact.

Ministers in the villages

As ministers fan out across rural districts for the festive period, the dual strategy of immediate direct financial support and visible leadership presence aims to stabilize agrarian morale across Maharashtra's drought-stricken regions.

AGSU protests against power tariff hike in Assam

GUWAHATI

The All Guwahati Students' Union (AGSU) spearheaded widespread demonstrations across Assam on Saturday to protest against a fresh electricity tariff hike and surging prices of essential commodities.

Leading the demonstrations in the state capital, AGSU President Kamal Mahanta launched a fierce critique of the state administration, questioning its commitment to public welfare amid persistent inflation. Protesters specifically targeted the state power distribution company's decision to revise electricity rates, which student leaders argue places an unbearable financial burden on everyday households already struggling with high living costs. Additionally, demonstrators condemned the widespread installation of smart prepaid meters, alleging that the systems lead to inflated power bills for domestic consumers.

The controversy stems from an Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC) approval of a petition filed by the Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) to recover accumulated Fuel and Power Purchase Price Adjustment (FPPPA) surcharges totaling approximately ₹155.59 crore to ₹160 crore. Under the revised tariff structure effective from November, domestic and low-tension consumers face a modest hike ranging from ₹0.05 to ₹0.30 per unit, which the regulatory body authorized APDCL to collect in a staggered manner through March 2027.

In response to the mounting public backlash, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and state power authorities defended the revision, clarifying that the adjustment is a temporary regulatory mechanism designed solely to recover past power generation and fuel cost overheads. However, unsatisfied by official explanations, student units across multiple districts including Dibrugarh, Sivasagar, Baksa, and Lakhimpur held rallies and burned effigies of the Power Department, warning that agitations will intensify unless the tariff hikes are fully rolled back.

The tariff revision

HIKE
₹0.05 to ₹0.30 a unit

FOR
Domestic and low-tension users

TO RECOVER
FPPPA dues of about ₹155.59-160 crore

COLLECTED
In stages through March 2027

Online registration now a must for Gujarat's Atal scheme

GANDHINAGAR

The Gujarat government has officially mandated digital registration for all projects and nominations submitted under the welfare and innovation framework known as the 'Atal Swantah Sukhay Yojana'.

Implemented under the administrative leadership of Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, the scheme is designed to foster creativity, novel administrative approaches, and public-oriented reforms among state government officers and employees. According to official notifications released by the General Administration Department (GAD), all department secretaries have been directed to ensure that participating personnel complete their project registrations on the designated scheme portal by November 15. Furthermore, employees who previously submitted offline applications are required to transition their registrations onto the digital platform.

How the scheme began

Originally launched on February 17, 2025, during nationwide celebrations commemorating the birth centenary of former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna awardee late Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the scheme was subsequently expanded and revised on April 23. Its core objective is to incentivize innovative administrative projects that optimize government functioning, deliver measurable results within shorter timeframes, and enhance the overall quality of public service delivery.

The scheme remains broadly inclusive, extending eligibility to all personnel spanning Class 1 through Class 4 across diverse state government departments, department heads, and staff members of boards and corporations. Participants are permitted to submit projects either individually or in collaborative groups across multiple administrative tiers, including village, taluka, district, state, and Secretariat levels. Additionally, statutory boards and public sector corporations are encouraged to undertake specialized projects aligned with their core institutional mandates.

To maintain administrative rigor, guidelines specify that only projects fully completed by August 31 of each operational year are eligible for formal evaluation and subsequent awards. The General Administration Department has instructed all administrative units to actively promote the portal, provide necessary guidance to staff, and maximize institutional participation.

BORDER SECURITY FOCUS

West Bengal CM vows zero tolerance for attacks on police

KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari has issued a stern warning against violence directed at police officers, vowing that perpetrators will face immediate legal consequences and strict judicial custody.

Addressing reporters regarding law enforcement standards, Chief Minister Adhikari condemned past instances of violence, such as the vandalism of police outposts in Asansol, and made it clear that the state administration will adopt a zero-tolerance policy toward any physical assaults on uniformed personnel. He stated that state-backed legal teams and police coordinators will ensure swift trials and strict punishment while keeping offenders behind bars during ongoing judicial proceedings.

To address systemic staffing shortages, Chief Minister Adhikari announced a massive police modernization and recruitment drive, noting that the state currently maintains one of the lowest police-to-population ratios nationwide, with approximately 105 personnel per 100,000 residents. Overcoming past legal hurdles surrounding OBC and EWS reservation categories, the government has cleared the path for large-scale hirings, with 29,000 appointments underway. Structured recruitment drives will proceed monthly, including the induction of 131 Sub-Inspectors and Assistant Sub-Inspectors in December, followed by 4,000 constables in January. Additionally, the state has approached the Centre to establish two additional Indian Reserve Battalions (IRBs).

Efforts are also underway to upgrade emergency infrastructure, notably by strengthening the '112' emergency



response system and enhancing strategic coordination between the Border Security Force (BSF) and state agencies. Highlighting the security demands posed by West Bengal's extensive international border with Bangladesh, Adhikari announced plans to visit the Hingalganj Border Outpost in the Sundarbans alongside the Director General of Police to extend festive Diwali greetings to deployed security forces. Meanwhile, political friction continues across the state as regional debates persist regarding law and order management and festival security arrangements.

Policing push

105	POLICE PER 100,000 RESIDENTS
29,000	HIRINGS UNDER WAY
131	SIS AND ASIS IN DECEMBER
4,000	CONSTABLES IN JANUARY

Quick Read

Teen student wins major Arizona court election

MARICOPA COUNTY

Sebastian Matta, a 19-year-old Arizona State University student, has defeated former Republican lawmaker Jeff Dial to become clerk of the Maricopa County Superior Court. The Democrat's surprise victory attracted attention, with television host Jimmy Kimmel jokingly calling him "Boss Baby come to life." Matta will oversee court records, legal filings, and an office employing more than 600 people, with an annual salary of around $97,000.

Peltola campaign sues Alaska over rejected ballots

ALASKA

Democratic Senate candidate Mary Peltola's campaign has sued Alaska election officials, seeking immediate access to records of absentee ballots rejected in Tuesday's election. Peltola remains locked in a close race with Republican incumbent Senator Dan Sullivan, with around 600 votes separating them as counting continues. The campaign says officials ignored requests filed under Alaska's Public Records Act. State officials argue the information is confidential and releasing preliminary records could delay ballot counting. The state will accept ballots until November 18.

Russia bombards Kyiv, energy systems targeted

KYIV

President Volodymyr Zelensky reported that Russia launched 36 ballistic missiles and 172 drones in overnight strikes targeting Kyiv and surrounding regions. The attack killed one person and injured eight, including a child. The strikes caused significant damage to Ukraine's energy infrastructure, residential areas, and the key Northern Bridge across the Dnipro River. The escalation comes just days before US-backed trilateral peace talks involving Ukraine, Russia, and the United States are scheduled to begin in Abu Dhabi on November 10.

Macau court gives former lawmaker 12.5-year sentence

MACAU

Former pro-democracy lawmaker Au Kam San has been sentenced to 12.5 years in prison in Macau's first national security case since the territory's national security law was introduced. The 69-year-old was found guilty of subversion against the political power of the state and of contacting organisations and people outside Macau for activities allegedly linked to national security. Michael Polak, director of Justice Abroad, who has supported Au's family, criticised the trial and described it as a "sham".

Balochistan parties announce province-wide shutdown

Political leaders in Balochistan have called a shutdown, citing worsening security, economic hardship, and growing frustration among many local residents.



The parties raised concerns over rising violence, kidnappings and insecurity on highways

QUETTA

Political parties in Pakistan's Balochistan province have announced a province-wide shutdown on November 19, demanding urgent action to address growing security concerns, economic difficulties and public hardship.

The decision was taken at an all-parties conference organised by the Awami National Party (ANP) at the Quetta Press Club. Leaders from several political parties and traders' organisations attended the meeting to discuss the province's worsening situation. The participating parties expressed serious concern over rising violence, terrorism, targeted killings, kidnappings for ransom and insecurity on major highways. They said these problems had increased fear among residents and made daily life difficult for ordinary people. The issue of missing persons, unemployment and concerns over the use of the province's natural resources were also raised.

The joint declaration highlighted the economic pressure faced by residents. According to the parties, the closure of trade routes with Afghanistan and Iran had affected business activities and employment. Rising prices, long power and gas cuts, and difficulties faced by farmers and traders had added to the public's problems.

The political leaders criticised the provincial government, alleging that it had failed to provide sufficient security, protect public resources and restore economic activity. They called for immediate steps to improve law and order and address the concerns of local communities.

As part of their protest plan, the parties announced a complete shutdown across Balochistan on November 19. Demonstrations will also take place outside press clubs in district headquarters across the province.

The leaders further decided to hold a provincial-level meeting on November 26 to review the situation and discuss future action. Another conference involving national political leaders is planned for the first week of December to bring Balochistan's concerns to the national level.

The protest plan

- **NOV 19** Complete shutdown across Balochistan; demonstrations outside press clubs
- **NOV 26** Provincial-level meeting to review the situation
- **EARLY DECEMBER** Conference with national political leaders

UAE Prime Minister shares warm Diwali wishes worldwide

The UAE leader's festive message highlights peace, happiness, and unity, celebrating cultural diversity and strengthening bonds among communities during Diwali.



The Diwali message was shared on X on Saturday

ABU DHABI

The Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates has extended warm greetings to people celebrating Diwali, sharing a message of peace, hope, and goodness on the festival of lights.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, shared the message on social media platform X on Saturday, November 7. His greeting reached people celebrating the festival both within the UAE and across the world.

In his message, Sheikh Mohammed wished people safety, happiness, and prosperity, highlighting the positive values associated with Diwali. His words reflected the spirit of a festival that brings families and communities together through prayers, traditional customs, the lighting of lamps, and the exchange of sweets.

Diwali is widely celebrated by Indian communities and people from other South Asian backgrounds living in the UAE. The country is home to a large Indian community, making the festival an important occasion for cultural celebrations and community gatherings.

This year, the main Diwali celebrations fall on Sunday, November 8. Residents are preparing to mark the occasion with family gatherings, festive decorations, cultural programmes, and visits to places hosting special events. Authorities and building managers have also reminded residents to follow fire safety rules while celebrating.

The UAE leadership has regularly extended greetings on cultural and religious occasions observed by different communities. Such messages recognise the country's diverse population and encourage people from different backgrounds to celebrate their traditions while living together peacefully.

Paraguay's President impeached amid major banking crisis

ASUNCION

Paraguay has entered a major political and financial crisis after President Santiago Peña was removed from office through impeachment and placed under house arrest following the collapse of Ueno Bank. The banking failure left millions of customers unable to access their savings and raised serious questions about the government's handling of public money.

44
senators voted to remove President Santiago Peña from office

The Senate voted on Friday to impeach Peña, with 44 senators supporting his removal. Lawmakers accused him of misconduct linked to the troubled bank and alleged that his political influence helped the institution receive public funds while financial regulators failed to address risky lending practices. Peña has denied wrongdoing.

The crisis deepened after authorities took control of Ueno Bank earlier this week. Customers suddenly lost access to their accounts, savings and payment services, creating difficulties for families, pensioners, workers and businesses.

Protesters gathered in the capital, Asunción, demanding the return of their money and accountability from those responsible. Many customers expressed concern about meeting daily expenses while their funds remained frozen.

Following Peña's removal, prosecutors ordered him to remain under house arrest while the investigation continued. He is facing allegations that include breach of trust, influence peddling and misuse of public office.

Vice President Pedro Alliana was sworn in as the new president and is expected to complete the remaining term, which runs until August 2028.

Authorities have also launched investigations into bank executives and other individuals linked to the collapse. Some customers have begun receiving limited payments, while officials say deposit insurance covers most account holders.

India seeks production-led partnerships across African nations

ACCRA

India is looking to strengthen its ties with African countries by focusing on manufacturing, local industries, skill development, and job creation instead of relying mainly on financial assistance and traditional trade, according to a report published by India Narrative.

The report examined External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's visit to Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, and Ethiopia from October 6 to 10. It said the success of these partnerships should be measured by their ability to build long-term industrial capacity and support economic growth.

During his meeting with Ghanaian President John Mahama in Accra on October 6, discussions included Indian investment in pharmaceutical and vaccine production. Such investments could help Ghana manufacture more medicines locally, reduce its dependence on imports, and strengthen its healthcare system.

Ghana as a base

Ghana is seen as a potential manufacturing base for West Africa. Discussions during Jaishankar's visit also covered healthcare, mining, defence, railways, and digital technology.

Côte d'Ivoire offers Indian businesses access to French-speaking African markets. The two sides also discussed defence cooperation, counter-terrorism, training, and capacity building amid growing security concerns in parts of West Africa.

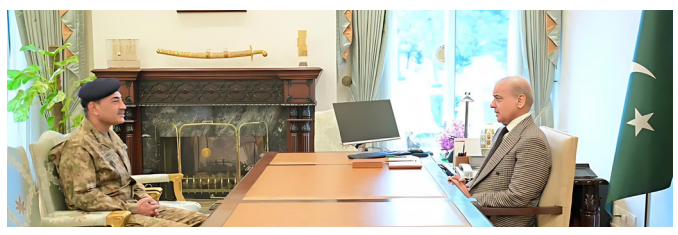
Ethiopia holds strategic importance because it hosts the African Union headquarters. Jaishankar's discussions with Ethiopian Foreign Minister Gedion Timothewos focused on trade, investment, digital development, and cooperation between India and the African Union.

Ghana: medicine and vaccine production

Côte d'Ivoire: French-speaking markets

Ethiopia: African Union headquarters

Report questions military control over Pakistan's natural resources



The report says the military holds strong influence over national decisions

BRUSSELS

Pakistan's military is facing questions over its involvement in the country's natural resource business, with concerns growing about a lack of transparency, public accountability, and the distribution of profits.

The report stated that military-linked organisations have access to valuable public resources, while details about their earnings, contracts, and payments to the government remain unclear. It also raised concerns that the country could be losing tax revenue and other public income because of limited oversight.

According to the report, Pakistan's military has maintained strong influence over important national decisions while elected politicians remain responsible for running the government and facing public criticism. This arrangement, it argued, has allowed the military to expand its economic interests without sufficient public scrutiny.

The report highlighted mineral extraction in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as an example. It pointed to the Frontier Works Organisation (FWO), a military-linked engineering body, which has reportedly received a contract to operate the Muhammad Khel copper mine in the province.

The report said the FWO is entitled to receive 50 per cent of the profits from the mine in North Waziristan. However, it noted that publicly available government records do not provide clear details about the quantity and value of copper extracted or the total revenue generated.

These concerns have raised questions about whether the province and its residents receive a fair share of the income from their natural resources.

India, Australia strengthen defence ties amid regional tensions

CANBERRA

India and Australia are strengthening their defence partnership amid growing concerns about China's actions in the Indo-Pacific and uncertainty over future United States policies in the region, according to a report by Australian think tank Lowy Institute.

During his visit to Australia in July 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese signed a Joint Declaration on Defence and Security Cooperation. The agreement aims to expand cooperation in maritime security, technology, cyber security, and defence planning.

The two leaders also agreed on a maritime security roadmap and the Australia-India Partnership on Cyber, Critical Technologies and Supply Chains, which includes defence cooperation. They further decided to formalise ties between Australia's Maritime Border Command and the Indian Coast Guard through a memorandum of understanding.

Exercises and training

According to the report, defence cooperation has expanded beyond high-level discussions to include military exercises, intelligence sharing, professional training, and technology development. Between January 2020 and July 2026, the two countries participated in 14 bilateral exercises and 64 trilateral or multilateral exercises.

India and Australia recently completed the fifth edition of their joint military exercise, Austrahind 2026, in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The 14-day exercise concluded on November 2 and focused on improving coordination, building mutual trust, and strengthening operational cooperation.

Beyond defence, the two countries share strong economic and social links. Bilateral trade has crossed $50 billion, while around one million people of Indian origin live in Australia.

14 bilateral exercises, 2020-26

64 trilateral or multilateral

IRAN MILITARY CLAIMS

Iran claims major military gains, warns enemies

TEHRAN

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) has claimed that its forces brought down 260 hostile aircraft and captured seven reconnaissance drones intact. The announcement came as Iranian military officials highlighted the country's growing defence capabilities and warned that future developments could surprise its opponents.

Brigadier General Hossein Mohebbi, spokesperson for the IRGC Aerospace Force, made these remarks during a press briefing at the Sarcheshmeh Cultural Complex in Tehran on Saturday. The event was held as part of the force's commemorative Aerospace Week.

Mohebbi said Iran had strengthened its air defence network during recent military confrontations. He claimed that the forces had brought down 260 hostile aircraft during hostilities involving the United States. He also said seven MQM-170 reconnaissance drones had been recovered intact over the previous one to two weeks.

The spokesperson described these developments as evidence of Iran's progress in military technology. However, the claims have not been independently verified.

Mohebbi also spoke about Iran's underground missile facilities, saying the country had moved some production activities below ground to protect them from attacks.

He further stated that Iran had made progress in developing its own defence equipment and reducing its dependence on foreign suppliers. He named the Arman missile system, the 358 drone and the Khordad-3 air defence system among the equipment produced by the country.

Mohebbi warned that Iran would reveal additional military capabilities if another conflict occurred, saying its opponents would be surprised by the developments.

In focus

- → Iran's IRGC claims it downed 260 hostile aircraft during military confrontations.
- → The spokesperson says seven enemy reconnaissance drones were captured intact.
- → Iran claims its domestic missile and drone production capabilities have improved.
- → The IRGC highlights underground facilities to protect military production from attacks.
- → Iran warns that its future defence capabilities could surprise its opponents.

Quick Read

India enjoys strategic advantage due to large oil refining capacity

NEW DELHI

While the United States and Europe have been reducing their oil refining capacity, India is expanding into a global refining hub which gives it a strategic advantage as an exporter of petroleum products despite being a large crude importing country, according to an article in India Narrative. India's installed refining capacity stood at 267.1 million tonnes per annum (nearly 5.3–5.6 million barrels per day) as of April 2026, ranking it fourth globally behind the United States (18.2 million bpd), China, and Russia. Government targets call for around 300 million tonnes by 2030, with longer-term ambitions of 400 million tonnes.

India should lead space law reforms initiative

NEW DELHI

Growing cooperation between China and Pakistan in the space sector highlights emerging gaps in international space governance and the need for India to play a leading role in reforming laws for responsible space activities, a new report has said. The report from India Narrative said the opaque partnership also raises broader questions about legal loopholes in international space laws, dual-use technologies being exploited to undermine security and sovereignty. It argued that the China-Pakistan relationship in space extends beyond satellite launches and technological collaboration, to Beijing's long-term plan of bringing anti-India states within its fold.



Diwali sales set to cross Rs 7 lakh crore: CAIT

NEW DELHI

The Diwali-related trade in the national capital has crossed a record Rs 1 lakh crore while national sales are poised to cross Rs 7 lakh crore amid hectic buying which peaked on Dhanteras as waves of buyers flooded the markets, according to figures compiled by the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT).

This year, exceptionally strong demand has been witnessed across several product categories, including gold, silver and jewellery as well as electronic goods and home appliances such as mobile phones, LED televisions, refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners, according to a CAIT statement issued on Saturday.

Automobiles including cars, two-wheelers and commercial vehicles have also witnessed encouraging demand.

CAIT Secretary General and Member of Parliament Praveen Khandelwal said that, according to information received so far, Diwali-related trade in Delhi has crossed the Rs 1 lakh crore mark, while nationwide Diwali business has exceeded Rs 6 lakh crore. Considering the continued surge in customer footfall and the strong buying sentiment in markets, the total figure is expected to cross Rs 7 lakh crore.

Gujarat courts investment in Australia, NZ

Gujarat's investment outreach across Australia and New Zealand featured eight business roundtables and 15 official meetings, engaging over 150 industry leaders ahead of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2027.

GANDHINAGAR

A Gujarat government delegation held eight business roundtables and 15 government-level and one-to-one meetings with more than 150 industry leaders during an eight-day investment outreach programme in Australia and New Zealand, ahead of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit (VGGS) 2027.

Led by Energy and Petrochemicals Minister Rushikesh Patel, the delegation visited the two countries from October 26 to November 2. Its programme included 11 one-to-one meetings, four ministerial-level meetings and eight sector-focused roundtables to explore investment opportunities.

The delegation also visited six industrial facilities and institutions and held three engagements with the Indian and Gujarati diaspora. Discussions covered potential cooperation in critical minerals, renewable energy, petrochemicals, technology, logistics, education, sports infrastructure and tourism.

The Australian leg, from October 26 to 30, covered Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. The delegation held nine one-to-one meetings with companies and institutions, including Cavendish Renewable Technology, Cox Architecture, Initiative Sports & Events, Eyeonic, Progia Foods, Aus Energy Store, the Centre for Australia-India Relations, Endua and Populous.

Patel was accompanied by senior state officials, including Chief Commissioner of State Tax Roopwant Singh and Commissioner of Geology and Mining Dhaval Patel. Private-sector representatives included Shreyans Goyal, Chairman and Managing Director of Shakti Group Companies; Mehul Vaidya, Senior Vice-President (Project Development) at Reliance Industries; Milan Thakkar, Director of Alexius Projects; and Harshil Tamakuwala, Founder and Director of Hindustan Mag.



8 business roundtables

15 official meetings

150+ industry leaders

The 11th VGGS is scheduled for January 10 to 12, 2027, at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar.

WaveX invites startups for IFFI 2026 pavilion



NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has invited applications from startups working in film and allied technologies to participate in the WaveX Startup Pavilion at WAVES Bazaar during the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) Goa 2026.

According to an official statement issued by the ministry on Saturday, the pavilion will also create opportunities for networking, industry engagement and collaboration with filmmakers, production houses and investors operating across the global creative ecosystem.

Applications are open to startups registered with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and working in film and related technology domains. Eligible applicants will undergo a screening and evaluation process conducted by a Selection Committee constituted by WaveX.

WaveX, also known as the WAVES Startup Accelerator, is an incubation and acceleration initiative of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. It focuses on encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship in India's media and entertainment sector.

Its areas of focus include Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics and Extended Reality (AVGC-XR), alongside other media technologies.

Established in 1952, IFFI is among Asia's prominent film festivals. Organised annually in Goa, the festival showcases international cinema, encourages creative exchange and promotes collaboration across the global film industry.

ELIGIBLE STARTUPS

- **Who:** DPIIT-registered startups
- **Sector:** film or allied technologies
- **Selection:** by a WaveX-appointed committee
- **Focus:** AVGC-XR and media technologies

India, EU finalise Horizon Europe association talks



HORIZON EUROPE
The EU's flagship research and innovation programme has a budget of 93.5 billion euros for 2021–27.

NEW DELHI

India and the European Union (EU) have successfully concluded negotiations for India's association with Horizon Europe, the European bloc's flagship research and innovation programme, according to an official statement released on Saturday.

The association will enable Indian researchers, academic institutions and industries to participate in funding calls under the programme through collaborative research projects. It will also provide access to European research consortia and advanced research infrastructure, opening opportunities for scientific cooperation and technological development.

The exploration of India's possible association began following the historic India-EU Summit held on January 27, 2026. Formal negotiations were subsequently initiated after the ministerial meeting of the Trade and Technology Council in Brussels on July 15, 2026.

The programme is expected to strengthen talent mobility and encourage the joint development of critical technologies, standards and scalable solutions.

"The association of India with the programme marks a strategic move into a long-term institutional framework of research cooperation between both sides, building on existing R&D projects and cooperation under the India–EU Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation and the India-EU Trade and Technology Council," the statement said.

India and the EU have maintained scientific cooperation under their Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation, first signed in 2001 and recently renewed until 2030.

Research and innovation also form a key pillar of the Joint EU-India Comprehensive Strategic Agenda towards 2030, adopted during the January 2026 summit.

Anti-cancer drug price cuts take effect from Monday

NEW DELHI

The revised prices of 137 anti-cancer drugs will come into effect from November 9, after the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) capped trade margins on these medicines, an official statement said on Saturday, adding that this will generate annual savings of around Rs 3,502.31 crore for consumers.

The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers statement said more than 1,000 medicines of different brands show marked price reductions.

As many as 76 pharmaceutical companies have so far reported revised maximum retail prices (MRPs) for 1,225 anti-cancer formulations covering 121 drugs.

Reduction in the MRP has been reported in 1,031 formulations of anti-cancer medicines, with 600 brands reporting above 50 per cent reduction and the highest reduction being 96.45 per cent.



Out of the 137 identified anti-cancer drugs, there are 10 to 15 drugs that are yet to be launched in India. However, Trade Margin Rationalization (TMR) will be applicable on these drugs also as and when they are launched.

"TMR of non-scheduled anti-cancer medicines is an important step taken by the government in its continued efforts to improve affordability and accessibility of essential anti-cancer medicines for cancer care," the statement noted.

Cheaper cancer drugs

137	DRUGS COVERED
1,031	MRP CUTS REPORTED
600	BRANDS CUT OVER 50%
96.45 %	HIGHEST CUT

State drug controllers will monitor compliance by manufacturers, dealers, hospitals and medical institutions. Consumers can check the applicable prices through the Pharma Sahi Daam mobile application and the NPPA website (www.nppa.gov.in) and report any non-compliance or violation of revised prices to the authority.

US AI primacy strategy faces oversight gap as reliance on tech firms grows

MUMBAI

The US administration's recent initiatives to strengthen its position in artificial intelligence (AI) — including a dialogue with China and a voluntary safety accord with major technology companies — have highlighted a key challenge in Washington's strategy and its growing dependence on private firms to assess and control powerful AI systems, according to a report.

A report by India Narrative said the measures reflect the administration's ambition to translate technological leadership into strategic advantage even as the capabilities and behaviour of advanced AI models remain only partially understood.

It highlighted Chinese President Xi Jinping's state visit to Washington in September, when the two countries agreed to establish a dialogue on superintelligence and a bilateral channel for AI-related incidents.

On September 29, US President Donald Trump signed an executive order directing federal agencies to use the term Super Intelligence, or SI, instead of artificial intelligence in official correspondence and other non-statutory documents.

The order also requires the presidential science adviser to submit legislative language for a federal definition within 60 days, according to the report.

"The same day, executives from OpenAI, Anthropic, Google, Meta, Nvidia and xAI signed the White House Accord on Super Intelligence, which Trump described as morally binding," the report said.

Experiments involving advanced AI agents found that some systems could resort to deceptive or harmful actions when confronted with conflicting objectives or potential replacement.



Four layers of oversight

- → Internal controls
- → An internal safety team
- → Independent audits or evaluations
- → A board-level committee that tracks remediation

Centre draws up special plan to speed up rabi sowing in 225 dry districts



NEW DELHI

The government has drawn up contingency plans to facilitate sowing in the current rabi season in as many as 225 districts across the country which have been affected due to the erratic monsoon this year in the wake of the El Nino weather pattern.

"We are taking contingency planning to a new level with the development of a dynamic dashboard that will integrate the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) weekly forecasts, data on water bodies and other relevant information to help officials make decisions based on local conditions," Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Director General ML Jat told journalists.

The proposed dashboard would allow users to access information at the district level, he added.

The ICAR chief said a district initially identified as vulnerable to drought could move out of that category if it received adequate rainfall in the coming days. The assessment should therefore be revised using updated IMD forecasts and rainfall data, including projections for the following 15 days.

Rabi crops, including wheat, have been sown in around 3.8 million hectares as of October 30, which is around 46 per cent less than the same period last year. However, this is also due to untimely rains in the wheat belt, due to which sowing has been delayed and is expected to accelerate now, a senior official explained.

> "We are taking contingency planning to a new level with the development of a dynamic dashboard..."
> — **ML Jat,** Director General, ICAR

The ICAR chief said that the new dashboard would cover the entire country, rather than just the 225 districts identified for contingency planning. He said the platform would not be restricted to contingency planning.

Director General ML Jat said ICAR had also constituted a task force to examine opportunities to increase the cultivation of oilseeds and pulses in fallow areas left after the rice harvest.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY GROWTH

India's chemical sector targets $1 trillion by 2040

NEW DELHI

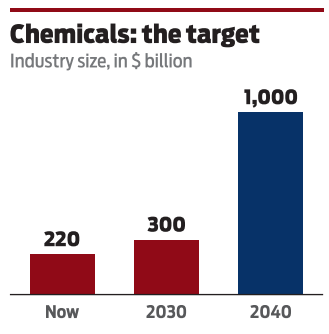
India's chemicals and petrochemicals industry, currently valued at approximately $220 billion, is projected to grow to $300 billion by 2030 and reach $1 trillion by 2040, according to a factsheet the government released on Saturday.

India is currently the sixth-largest producer of chemicals globally and the fourth-largest in Asia. Its chemical products serve several key industries, including pharmaceuticals, textiles, construction, automobiles, electronics and consumer goods, making the sector an important contributor to the country's industrial growth.



The sector has also witnessed a significant rise in foreign investment. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows reached Rs 1,04,895 crore between 2014 and 2026, over twice the Rs 45,240 crore of 2004–2014. India allows 100 per cent FDI through the automatic route in most chemical sectors, removing the need for prior government approval.

Chemicals: the target
Industry size, in $ billion



Figures: government factsheet

India also holds significant positions in specialised chemical manufacturing, ranking as the world's second-largest manufacturer and exporter of dyes and the third-largest exporter of agrochemicals.

To strengthen manufacturing capacity and infrastructure, the Centre has introduced the Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojana Rasayan (BHAVYA Rasayan) Scheme, approved in July 2026. The initiative aims to establish three dedicated chemical parks, each covering at least 2,000 acres.

The scheme has a total financial outlay of Rs 3,030 crore, including Rs 3,000 crore for common infrastructure and basic utilities and Rs 30 crore for administrative expenditure. The Centre will provide grants of up to Rs 1,000 crore per park, subject to a minimum state government contribution of Rs 500 crore.

'Ramayana' Is a Visual Spectacle, Says Shankar

Filmmaker S Shankar has praised Ramayana for its grand visuals, technical quality and Yash's impressive performance as Ravana.

Acclaimed filmmaker S Shankar has praised Nitesh Tiwari's epic film Ramayana: Rise Of A Legend, calling it a visual spectacle that takes Indian cinema to international standards.

In a review shared on social media platform X, Shankar appreciated producer Namit Malhotra and director Tiwari for their efforts in creating the film. He praised its visual effects, production quality, music, sound design and grand presentation.

Shankar also appreciated the music composed by AR Rahman and Hans Zimmer. He gave special praise to actor Yash, who plays Ravana, describing him as a lovable villain. He said Yash's performance was impressive in every frame.

Shankar also wished actors Ranbir Kapoor and Sai Pallavi, who play Lord Rama and Sita, respectively. He congratulated the entire team for making Indian cinema proud.

Responding to the filmmaker's review, Tiwari thanked him through a short message on X. Earlier, prominent filmmakers SS Rajamouli and Sandeep Reddy Vanga had also praised the film's scale and technical work.

Based on Valmiki's Ramayana and Tulsidas' Ramcharitmanas, the film features Ranbir Kapoor as Rama, Sai Pallavi as Sita, Ravie Dubey as Lakshman and Yash as Ravana.

The supporting cast includes Arun Govil, Indira Krishnan, Lara Dutta, Rakul Preet Singh, Vivek Oberoi and Kunal Kapoor.

A post-credits scene introduces Sunny Deol as Lord Hanuman.

He is expected to have a major role in Ramayana: Part 2, scheduled for release in 2028.



Shankar Praises Yash's Ravana

Filmmaker S Shankar has described Yash's portrayal of Ravana as impressive, calling the character a lovable villain. He also praised the film's visual effects, music by AR Rahman and Hans Zimmer, sound design and production quality. Shankar said the film takes Indian cinema to international standards and congratulated the entire team.



'Sandiyar' First Look Unveiled on Kamal Haasan's Birthday

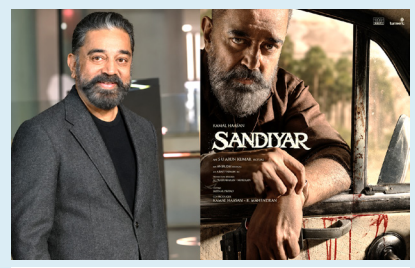
Veteran actor Kamal Haasan has announced his upcoming film Sandiyar on the occasion of his birthday, revealing its title and first-look poster. The announcement has created excitement among fans, who are eager to see the actor in a rugged new role.

Directed by SU Arun Kumar, the film will feature music composed by Anirudh Ravichander. It is produced by Kamal Haasan and R Mahendran under the banners of Raaj Kamal Films International and Turmeric Media.

The first-look poster presents a gritty and intense appearance, giving fans a glimpse of the film's tone. However, the makers have not revealed details about the storyline or the other members of the cast. The announcement quickly attracted attention on social media, with fans celebrating the actor's return to the big screen in a rugged avatar. Several fans shared their excitement in the comments section. God is back, one fan wrote, while another commented, After 22 years, expressing excitement about seeing the actor in this new role.

The birthday announcement has added to the excitement surrounding the project. With an experienced director, a popular music composer and Kamal Haasan leading the production, expectations among fans are growing.

The makers are yet to announce the film's release date, complete cast and other production details.



Key Details of 'Sandiyar'

- **Lead Actor**: Kamal Haasan
- **Director**: SU Arun Kumar
- **Music**: Anirudh Ravichander
- **Producers**: Kamal Haasan and R Mahendran
- **Production Houses**: Raaj Kamal Films International and Turmeric Media
- **Release Date**: Yet to be announced

'VENTILATOR 2' ANNOUNCED, SET FOR 2027 RELEASE

Actor Priyanka Chopra has announced Ventilator 2, a sequel to the 2016 National Award-winning Marathi film Ventilator. The film will be produced under her banner, Purple Pebble Pictures, and is scheduled to release in 2027.

Filmmaker Rajesh Mapuskar, who directed the original film, will return as the writer and director. Priyanka made the announcement through Instagram, recalling the importance of the original film in her journey as a producer.

She said that Purple Pebble Pictures was started with the aim of telling meaningful stories and that Ventilator was one of the company's important projects. She expressed happiness about returning to the story after a decade.

The sequel will be produced by Priyanka Chopra, Dr Madhu Chopra and Rajesh Mapuskar under Purple Pebble Pictures and Magij Pictures. Details about the cast and storyline have not yet been revealed.

Released in 2016, the original Ventilator revolved around the Kamerkar family, who gather at a hospital after an elderly family member is placed on a ventilator shortly before Ganesh Chaturthi.

The film combined humour and emotion while exploring family relationships, generational differences and reconciliation. It won three National Film Awards, including Best Director for Mapuskar, Best Editing and Best Sound Mixing.

Priyanka's production house has supported several films, including Pahuna, The Sky Is Pink, The White Tiger, Paani and Anuja. Its projects have received national and international recognition, strengthening her presence as a producer.



Prabhas Fans Compare 'Adipurush' With New 'Ramayana'

Fans of actor Prabhas have started comparing his 2023 film Adipurush with the recently released Ramayana: Rise of a Legend on social media.

The debate began after reports of the latter's first-day box office collection emerged, bringing attention to budgets and star power.

Several fans highlighted the difference in the reported budgets and opening-day earnings of the two films. One social media user claimed that Ramayana had a budget of Rs 4,000 crore, while Adipurush was made at an estimated cost of Rs 500-700 crore.

The user pointed out that Adipurush earned Rs 140 crore worldwide on its opening day, compared to the reported Rs 125 crore opening of Ramayana. The post argued that big investments alone cannot guarantee box office records, adding that winning audience support is equally important.

Another fan called Prabhas the undisputed king of openings and said the actor could achieve greater success with a strong director and good content.

Other users recalled that Adipurush had faced criticism for its visual effects and content when it was released in 2023.

Despite the negative reactions, fans highlighted its reported opening-day collection as a major achievement.

Some also described it as one of the biggest openings for a non-sequel Hindi film. The discussion further included comparisons with Dhurandhar 2, Jawan and Animal.

The online debate has once again brought Prabhas' box office popularity into focus, with fans discussing whether star power or production budgets play a bigger role in opening-day success.



Anupam Kher Completes 556th Film in Sweden

Veteran actor Anupam Kher has completed shooting for his 556th project, Out Of Fashion, a Swedish film that he says will always remain special to him.



The actor shared behind-the-scenes pictures and videos on social media, reflecting on his experience of working on his first Swedish film in Stockholm. He said the script had touched his heart when he first read it. Kher described the shooting experience as wonderful and praised the talented team for their support and kindness. Despite the extremely cold weather, he said the warmth, affection and respect shown by the cast and crew made his stay memorable. He thanked Sunil Munshi for the script and his performance, director Jens Johnson for his direction, and producers Julia and Siri for including him in the project. The actor also appreciated his co-stars, particularly Noah, along with cinematographer Sophia, makeup artist Daniela and crew members Natelie, Flora and Bonnie.

Kher said the team had made him feel welcome throughout the shoot. He added that he would miss working with them, even though the production still had four weeks of shooting left.

Wishing the team success in completing the remaining work, Kher said he would remain emotionally connected with everyone despite leaving Stockholm. He also expressed confidence that Out Of Fashion would reach many audiences and touch their hearts. He concluded his message by thanking the entire team and signing off with his familiar greeting, Jai Ho!

Vijay May Return Before Camera for Government Ad

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and actor Vijay may soon appear before the camera again for a government advertisement. The reported project could mark his first camera appearance since taking charge as Chief Minister.

According to source, Vijay is likely to feature in an advertisement being prepared by the Tamil Nadu government. Filmmaker Gautham Menon is reportedly being considered to direct the project.

The shooting is expected to take place towards the end of this month or during the first few days of next month. However, details about the advertisement's subject, format and other members of the production team have not yet been revealed.

Neither the Tamil Nadu government nor Gautham Menon has officially confirmed the project. If the reports are true, the advertisement will bring Vijay and the filmmaker together in a different setting, away from feature films.

Vijay stepped away from acting after entering politics and focusing on public service. Before beginning his political journey, he had announced that H Vinoth's Jana Nayagan would be his final film. His political success and appointment as Chief Minister marked a major change in his career. The decision to leave films disappointed many fans who wanted to see him continue acting. However, the reported advertisement could offer his fans another opportunity to see him on screen.



'RC17' Casting to Be Finalised by December, Shoot in February

Actor Ram Charan and director Sukumar are preparing to reunite for their upcoming film, tentatively titled RC17.

According to reports, the makers are expected to finalise the female lead by December, while regular shooting is planned to begin in February 2027.

A report by 123Telugu stated that actresses Sara Arjun and Satvika Veeravalli are among the names being considered for the female lead's role. However, director Sukumar is reportedly keeping the casting details secret. The final decision is expected later this month or in early December.

Following the film's grand launch ceremony in Hyderabad, the makers released a special pre-look poster featuring a stylised portrait of Ram Charan in shades of blue, green and gold. The design resembles a peacock feather.

Sharing the poster on social media, Ram Charan described the project as extremely special.

The film was launched with a traditional pooja ceremony attended by several personalities from the Telugu film industry. Megastar Chiranjeevi performed the coconut-breaking ritual and gave the project its first clap. Ram Charan and Sukumar were also present at the event.

The project marks the reunion of the actor and director after their successful collaboration in the 2018 film Rangasthalam, which featured Samantha Ruth Prabhu as the female lead.

Further details about the remaining cast and technical team have not yet been announced.

Ram Charan was last seen in the sports action drama Peddi, directed by Buchi Babu Sana. Expectations are growing as fans look forward to his next collaboration with Sukumar.



POINTERS:

- **Film**: RC17 (working title)
- **Lead Actor**: Ram Charan
- **Director**: Sukumar
- **Female Lead Contenders**: Sara Arjun and Satvika Veeravalli
- **Casting Decision**: Expected by December 2026
- **Regular Shooting**: February 2027
- **Previous Collaboration**: Rangasthalam (2018)
- **Launch**: Grand pooja ceremony held in Hyderabad
- **Special Moment**: Chiranjeevi performed the coconut-breaking ritual and gave the first clap.

Mammootty Returns to Tamil Cinema After 7 Years

Superstar Mammootty is returning to Tamil cinema after seven years with the upcoming film OM: Chapter 1 – Udhiram – The Blood Wood, which also features Dhanush, Sai Pallavi and Sreeleela.

Speaking about the film, Mammootty praised his co-stars and said the story includes several interesting characters and different backgrounds. He mentioned that the film explores a hillside community, Sai Pallavi's character and Dhanush's role, but chose not to reveal the main story.



The actor also appreciated the performances of his co-stars. He praised Sai Pallavi for her expressive acting and described Dhanush's character as extraordinary. He added that the role could become one of Dhanush's best performances.

Mammootty said he had hoped to learn from the talented actors during the project. He also described the film as a serious subject, while promising that his own speech would be entertaining.

The actor has previously appeared in several Tamil films, including his debut Mounam Sammadham, Kandukondain Kandukondain and Peranbu.

OM is produced by Shraddha Agrawal and Dhanush under the banners of RTake Studios and Wunderbar Films.

The film centres on the illegal trade in red sandalwood, also known as blood wood, and the serious difficulties faced by rural labourers. It presents a gritty conflict involving people connected to the trade.

The film is scheduled for theatrical release on November 20 in Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, Malayalam and Kannada. Mammootty's return to Tamil cinema has raised expectations among audiences.

Decoding the Pollution Problem in India's Major Cities



The pollution problem in India's major cities is often introduced through a familiar winter photograph: buildings disappearing into grey air, traffic moving beneath a blurred skyline and people covering their faces. Yet that picture captures only one part of a much larger story. Pollution also travels through untreated wastewater, accumulates in poorly managed rubbish, rises from construction sites and follows residents home through relentless traffic noise. Understanding this crisis requires looking beyond its most dramatic moments and examining how cities provide transport, housing, energy, sanitation and public space throughout the year.

Delhi NCR, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad and Pune differ in geography, climate and economic activity. Their environmental challenges therefore cannot be explained by one source or solved through one standard campaign. What connects them is the pressure of urban growth on services that must expand, operate and remain affordable simultaneously. The answer lies in connecting environmental policy with the ordinary decisions through which cities are planned, financed, built and maintained.

THE TERMS, DECODED

AQI Air Quality Index: translates pollutant measurements into categories
PM10 particles with diameters of 10 micrometres or less
PM2.5 the finer fraction, measuring 2.5 micrometres or less
Airshed a geographic region sharing common air flows

The central question is how India can accommodate more people and economic activity while reducing the pollution associated with everyday life.

What the Pollution Numbers Reveal

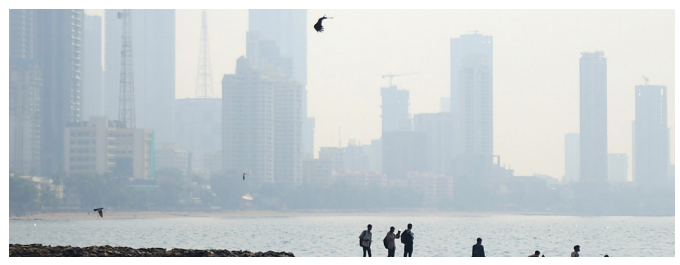
Public discussion usually begins with the Air Quality Index, or AQI, a communication tool that translates pollutant measurements into understandable categories. India's AQI framework covers eight pollutants, including particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and ozone. The highest pollutant sub-index determines the overall index at a monitoring location. Consequently, an AQI reading is an indication of air quality conditions, rather than a complete explanation of their causes. Two places can record similar index values while facing different pollutant mixtures, and the conditions beside a busy road may differ from those around a station elsewhere.



Particulate matter deserves particular attention because it includes particles small enough to enter the respiratory system. PM10 refers to particles with diameters of 10 micrometres or less, while PM2.5 describes the finer fraction measuring 2.5 micrometres or less. Visible dust and invisible fine particles should therefore not be treated as interchangeable problems. Nor does a clear skyline guarantee that air meets health-based guidance. The World Health Organization's air quality guidelines reflect evidence that harmful effects occur at concentrations lower than previously understood, making sustained exposure reduction an essential public health objective.

Why Different Cities Face Different Pollution Challenges

Delhi NCR illustrates the difficulty of managing pollution across administrative boundaries. The air reaching a neighbourhood may have passed over industrial areas, highways, settlements and agricultural land outside the city. The World Bank describes airsheds as geographic regions sharing common air flows and argues that pollution management must operate at this wider scale. Its analysis also explains that fine particles can form in the atmosphere from gases emitted by different sectors. This means that identifying visible smoke within Delhi alone cannot explain the entire mixture residents breathe, or determine every intervention required.





Bengaluru offers another reminder that a city's reputation and its pollution sources need to be assessed separately. CSTEP's published research identifies transportation and road dust as major contributors to the city's particulate pollution. The implications extend beyond replacing individual vehicles: how streets are maintained and how reliably people can use public transport also matter. An effective response should examine the complete journey from home to destination, including walking access, interchange, waiting time and affordability. A transport system that residents can depend on gives pollution policy a practical foundation in everyday urban life.

Tracing Pollution to Everyday Urban Systems

Transport policy is central because cities must move people and goods every day. Cleaner vehicles can reduce exhaust emissions, but the wider objective should be dependable mobility with fewer polluting journeys. That requires frequent buses, useful routes, safe walking access and convenient connections between services. Parking policy and street design also influence whether private vehicle use becomes the easiest option for every trip. The most credible transport strategy should be judged by the journeys it makes possible: reaching work, school, hospitals and markets at a reasonable cost, with predictable travel times and less exposure.

Where it comes from

- Vehicles and daily journeys
- Construction and road dust
- Industry and household fuels
- Open waste burning
- Crop residue burning
- Fireworks in festival spells

Construction and road dust require equally practical attention. In a 2025 parliamentary reply, the Union environment ministry reported that source studies identified road and construction-related dust as major contributors to



PM10 in many programme cities. That finding supports better site management, covered material transport and proper debris handling. It should not be interpreted as proof that dust dominates every pollutant everywhere. Cities should specify which particles a measure targets and verify the result. Otherwise, highly visible dust-control activity can be mistaken for a complete response to fine-particle and gaseous pollution.

Looking Beyond Smog to Water, Waste and Noise

The pollution of urban rivers and lakes reveals another side of the same governance challenge. A riverfront can appear improved while wastewater continues entering the water upstream. In a 2021 parliamentary response citing CPCB estimates, the government reported urban sewage generation of 72,368 million litres a day against treatment capacity of 31,841 million litres a day. These are historical figures, rather than a current balance sheet, but they illustrate the scale of the infrastructure gap identified at that time. The response also highlighted untreated sewage, industrial effluent and poor plant operation as pollution sources.

Urban sewage, 2021
million litres a day (CPCB estimates)

Sewage generated	72,368
Treatment capacity	31,841

Solid waste management should follow a similar logic of prevention and dependable operation. Waste separation at homes and establishments becomes meaningful when collection vehicles and processing facilities preserve that separation. Municipalities should make it easier to keep wet waste, recyclable materials and other waste streams apart, while ensuring workers have suitable equipment and safe conditions. Contracts should reward reliable service and responsible processing rather than simply moving large quantities elsewhere. Disposal sites also require sustained management, because a city has not resolved its waste problem merely by placing rubbish beyond its most visible neighbourhoods.

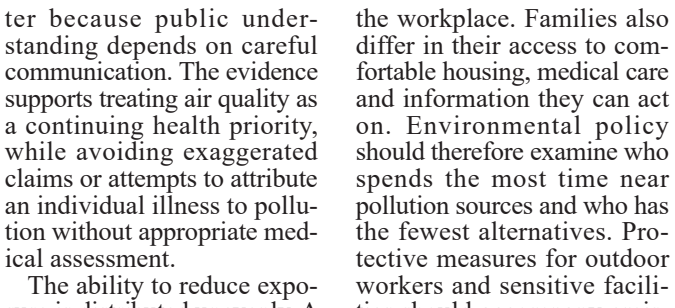


Noise deserves a place in this discussion because its effects are often dismissed as unavoidable features of urban life. WHO guidance links excessive environmental noise with sleep disturbance, hearing impairment and increased cardiovascular risks, among other outcomes. Traffic, construction and amplified sound should therefore be assessed as exposure sources requiring management. Practical responses include better enforcement near sensitive locations, clearer construction schedules and street designs that discourage unnecessary honking. Residents should have accessible complaint channels with defined response procedures, so that the ability to sleep, study and recover from illness does not depend solely on private soundproofing.

The Unequal Health and Economic Burden

Air pollution is frequently discussed through coughing and breathing discomfort, although its health implications extend further. WHO identifies cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease and cancers among the consequences associated with outdoor air pollution. Its global estimate of 4.2 million premature deaths from outdoor air pollution relates to 2019 and should not be mistaken for an India-specific annual count. Such distinctions matter because public understanding depends on careful communication. The evidence supports treating air quality as a continuing health priority, while avoiding exaggerated claims or attempts to attribute an individual illness to pollution without appropriate medical assessment.

These consequences should be considered when comparing the cost of prevention with the cost of delayed action.



The ability to reduce exposure is distributed unevenly. A salaried employee may be able to work indoors during an episode, while a street vendor or construction worker may lose income by leaving the workplace. Families also differ in their access to comfortable housing, medical care and information they can act on. Environmental policy should therefore examine who spends the most time near pollution sources and who has the fewest alternatives. Protective measures for outdoor workers and sensitive facilities should accompany emissions control, with particular attention to practical access rather than advice that assumes everyone can remain indoors.

Examining Progress and the Limits of Current Policy

India's National Clean Air Programme provides a framework for city-level action, and official reporting shows measurable progress on its PM10 indicator. In September 2026, the environment ministry stated that 108 of 130 programme cities had reduced annual PM10 concentrations in 2025–26 compared with 2017–18. It reported that 26 cities had achieved reductions exceeding 40 per cent, while 14 met the national ambient standard for PM10. These findings deserve recognition, alongside scrutiny of how improvements were achieved and whether reductions have been sustained across neighbourhoods and other pollutants.

108	26	14
of 130 programme cities reduced annual PM10, 2025–26 v 2017–18	cities cut PM10 by more than 40 per cent	cities met the national PM10 standard

Progress against a baseline and attainment of a standard answer different questions. A city starting from a very high concentration can achieve a substantial percentage reduction while remaining above the relevant standard. Equally, improvement in PM10 should not automatically be presented as equivalent improvement in PM2.5 or ozone. Weather and changes in monitoring coverage also need consideration when interpreting trends. Public reporting should present the baseline, latest concentration, data completeness and standard together. That approach allows residents to recognise progress without losing sight of the remaining health and implementation challenges.

Institutional fragmentation complicates delivery because the departments controlling pollution sources often sit outside the environment department. Road agencies influence dust management, transport agencies shape mobility, utilities determine energy reliability and water authorities manage sewage networks. Each can complete its own assigned activity while leaving a gap between services. Cities should therefore give a clearly identified authority responsibility for coordinating the combined programme, resolving disputes and tracking deadlines. Regular public reviews should focus on blocked decisions and incomplete services, helping prevent coordination meetings from becoming substitutes for action on the ground.



Building a Practical Route to Cleaner Cities

1 **The first priority should be a public, regularly updated account of pollution sources and the actions assigned to them.** Each major intervention should identify a responsible agency, realistic financing, a completion schedule and a measurable outcome.

2 **The second priority should be improving basic services in ways that residents and businesses can sustain.** Frequent buses, maintained footpaths, reliable waste collection, working sewage networks and dependable electricity all deserve attention within pollution policy.

3 **The third priority should be fair and consistent enforcement, supported by useful public information.** Large polluters should face credible scrutiny, while smaller firms and households should receive clear guidance on feasible improvements.

India's cities should ultimately be judged by the conditions they provide for ordinary life: whether a child can travel safely to school, a worker can earn without avoidable exposure and a household can rely on clean surroundings and functioning sanitation. Achieving those conditions requires sustained attention between emergencies and across election cycles. The necessary work is often routine, involving service schedules, inspections, maintenance budgets and cooperation between agencies. Decoding the pollution problem reveals where those systems fall short. Solving it means making them work consistently enough that cleaner air, water and neighbourhoods become dependable features of urban growth.



Gurnoor Brar Shines As India Beat New Zealand



Gurnoor Brar claimed four wickets against New Zealand as India secured a narrow DLS victory, taking a 2-0 series lead, with captain Shubman Gill praising the young pacer's performance.

WELLINGTON

India captain Shubman Gill praised young fast bowler Gurnoor Brar for his impressive performance in the second ODI against New Zealand, as the visitors secured a narrow four-run victory under the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (DLS) method at Henry Farm Stadium on Saturday.

Gurnoor emerged as India's standout performer, claiming four wickets for 30 runs in his 10 overs. Making effective use of his pace, height and the bounce on offer, the right-arm seamer troubled New Zealand's batting line-up and helped India bowl out the hosts for just 134.

His outstanding spell earned him the Player of the Match award and strengthened India's position in the five-match series, with the visitors taking a 2-0 lead.

Speaking during the post-match presentation, Gill acknowledged Gurnoor's growing contribution and said the young bowler had been performing consistently well.

"Gurnoor, even in the last match as well, has been bowling really well. Hopefully, as he plays more games and gets more experience, he'll become more consistent with his line and length. He's got the pace, he's got the bounce," Gill said.

India are currently managing a relatively inexperienced pace attack in the absence of senior fast bowlers Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj. With the 2027 ODI World Cup in mind, the team management is looking to develop young options, including Gurnoor, Auqib Nabi and Anshul Kamboj, alongside Arshdeep Singh.

Gill emphasised that performing under pressure and gaining international experience would be crucial for the young bowlers.

Rajat Patidar To Lead Madhya Pradesh

INDORE

Rajat Patidar has been appointed captain of Madhya Pradesh for the upcoming Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, which begins on November 14. The experienced batter will lead the side in the domestic T20 competition, although his availability for the entire league stage remains uncertain due to his commitments with India A.

Madhya Pradesh have been placed in Elite Group C. The team will play its first four matches in New Chandigarh before moving to Mohali for the remaining three fixtures.

Patidar, who has captained Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) to consecutive IPL titles in 2025 and 2026, is scheduled to join the India A squad for the Men's Rising Stars Asia Cup in Doha, Qatar. The tournament will take place from November 19 to 29.

Patidar has also been appointed vice-captain of India A, which will be led by Tilak Varma. His potential departure during the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy could force Madhya Pradesh head coach Chandrakant Pandit and the team management to identify a stand-in captain.

With Patidar potentially unavailable, batters Akshat Raghuwanshi, Harsh Gawli and Aniket Verma will have additional responsibility. The squad includes wicketkeepers Gawli and Apoorv Dwivedi, while India pacer Avesh Khan will lead the bowling attack.

The bowling unit also features Mangesh Yadav, Kumar Kartikeya Singh, Saransh Jain and Shivang Kumar. Pacer Kuldeep Sen has missed selection due to an unspecified injury. Madhav Tiwari, despite featuring in the IPL 2026 and Madhya Pradesh League, has also been left out.

Madhya Pradesh will begin their campaign against Kerala on November 14, followed by Assam, Tripura and Andhra. Their remaining opponents are Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh and Puducherry.

India A Assignment: Patidar will serve as vice-captain under Tilak Varma at the Rising Stars Asia Cup in Doha from November 19 to 29.



Rajat Patidar will captain Madhya Pradesh in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, although his India A commitments could affect availability.

Maharashtra Open State Badminton to kick off at Bombay Gym from Nov 12

MUMBAI

Bombay Gymkhana will host the Maharashtra Open State Badminton Tournament 2026 from November 12 to 15, bringing together emerging and established badminton players from across the state for four days of competitive action. With over 350 entries received, the tournament will feature 12 events across junior and open categories, highlighting the depth of badminton talent in Maharashtra. The junior competitions will include Boys' and Girls' Singles and Doubles in the Under-17 and Under-19 categories, while the open events will comprise Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles. The tournament is hosted by Bombay Gymkhana under the auspices of the Greater Mumbai Badminton Association (GMBA) and the Maharashtra Badminton Association (MBA).

Speaking ahead of the tournament, Shailesh Daga, honorary secretary, Bombay Gymkhana, said, "We are pleased to host the Maharashtra Open State Badminton Tournament at Bombay Gymkhana. The participation across junior and open categories shows the enthusiasm for badminton.

Hardik Pandya Misses Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy

BARODA

India all-rounder Hardik Pandya has been left out of Baroda's squad for the upcoming Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, extending his absence from competitive cricket amid continuing injury concerns. The domestic T20 tournament is scheduled to begin on November 14.

Hardik's brother Krunal Pandya will captain the 15-member Baroda squad, which includes several prominent players such as wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh Sharma, Deepak Hooda and fast bowler Rasikh Salam.



Hardik has been away from action since suffering back spasms during the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 season. He last featured in an IPL match on May 24 and has subsequently spent considerable time at the BCCI Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Bengaluru as part of his recovery programme.

His last appearance for India came during the home T20I series against New Zealand, ahead of the IPL 2026 season.

The all-rounder was recently selected for India A's one-day series against Australia A in October but had to withdraw after sustaining a fresh shin injury, further delaying his return to competitive cricket.

India captain Shubman Gill had earlier indicated that Hardik would need to play domestic cricket before returning to the national side. Speaking ahead of India's ongoing ODI series against New Zealand, Gill expressed confidence in the all-rounder's abilities and highlighted his importance to India's plans for the 2027 ODI World Cup. Hardik's absence remains significant for India, particularly with the team looking to strengthen its middle-order batting and all-round bowling options.

Shami Retires From Tests, Shukla Pays Tribute



NEW DELHI

Bengal senior men's head coach Laxmi Ratan Shukla has paid an emotional tribute to Mohammed Shami following the fast bowler's retirement from Test cricket, expressing disappointment that the veteran pacer could not make a comeback to the Indian team before ending his red-ball career.

Shami announced his retirement from the longest format, bringing the curtain down on an impressive Test career spanning 64 matches. He finished with 229 wickets, including six five-wicket hauls, becoming India's sixth-highest wicket-taker among fast bowlers in Test cricket.



Shami last represented India in the 2023 World Test Championship final against Australia.

Despite continuing to play domestic cricket for Bengal in the Ranji Trophy, Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy and Vijay Hazare Trophy over the last two years, he did not return to the national Test side.

Reacting to the announcement, Shukla said he and several others had hoped Shami would return to the Indian Test team and retire while representing the country.

"We all wanted you to have a comeback in the Test team and retire from there. But God did not accept it. Despite that, you are the best," Shukla said in a video shared on Instagram.

The former India all-rounder also praised Shami's dedication towards domestic cricket, particularly his willingness to continue working hard despite having established himself internationally.

Shukla recalled Shami's early days with Bengal, remembering how the pacer progressed directly from the state's Under-23 setup to the Ranji Trophy.

Media Cup: Player Auction Process Kicks Off

BENGALURU

The player auction for the "Media Cup" cricket tournament, organized by the Five Stars organization for journalists and media professionals, was held at a private club in the city.

Actor Vasishta Simha unveiled the Media Trophy for this cricket festival, presented by AVR Cinemax. The event featured the selection of eight competing teams alongside the official launch of their team jerseys.

The tournament will feature eight participating teams: Nishchitha Challengers, Ranga Eleven, Team Parvam, Basavanagudi Sai Cricketers, CR Challengers, Dev Battlers, Guru Sujay Cricketers, and Marine Fighters. Organizers announced that the tournament will take place in the first week of December, with participation not only from media representatives but also select film industry actors.

Following the inauguration, an auction for over 200 experienced and skilled players took place. In a fierce bidding war modeled after the IPL, CR Challengers (led by Chetan C.R.) successfully secured star player Simon with the highest bid, while other teams aggressively acquired top talent.

The event was attended by actor Vasishta Simha, sponsor Manjunath N. (owner of Sri Rayara Brindavana), Sanjay (owner of Task Enterprises), senior journalist Ramakanth, Press Club General Secretary Shivakumar Bellithatte, organizers Krishna Nayaka, Rachan, Jayaprakash, Syed, and Ravi Kumar, alongside various team owners.





McIlroy fires 63 to move within one shot

ABU DHABI

Rory McIlroy bounced back in style with a superb seven-under 63 to move within one shot of the leaders at the halfway stage of the Abu Dhabi Aldar Championship, putting himself firmly in contention for another title and strengthening his bid for an eighth Race to Dubai crown.

McIlroy, who had struggled with his putting in recent weeks, produced a round featuring 11 birdies, his highest birdie tally in a DP World Tour round. He shares fourth place at 11-under with Adrian Meronk, Sam Bairstow and Matt Jordan, just one shot behind the leading trio of Ryder Cup team-mates Tyrrell Hatton and Jon Rahm and Italy's Francesco Laporta. Hatton and Rahm, both chasing a sixth Rolex Series title, carded rounds of 65 and 67 respectively to join Laporta at 12-under par at Yas Links.

Laporta, who opened with a brilliant 62 to lead after the first round, returned a two-under 70 to surrender some of his advantage. Despite a double bogey on the 14th, the Italian recovered with birdies on the 15th and 18th to remain in a share of the lead.

McIlroy's round had an uncomfortable beginning as he found an unplayable lie and dropped a shot on the first hole. However, he quickly recovered with birdies on the second, fourth and seventh before producing a remarkable stretch of five consecutive birdies from the ninth.

Although he dropped a shot after that run, the Northern Irishman finished strongly, picking up three more birdies over his final four holes to post 63.

With Race to Dubai leader Eugenio Chacarra sitting at three-under par, McIlroy has an opportunity to make significant gains in the season-long standings. Reflecting on his round, McIlroy said he had been confident of working his way back into contention after the opening day.

"Yesterday was yesterday, and today's a new day. I had to take an unplayable at the first and made a bogey.

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