

CITY HIGHLIGHTS



**100 days
100 ways
One Vision**

**DRUDHA
KARNATAKADA
SANKALPA**



SHATHAKADA PATHA

CM RAITHA CHAITANYA
DIGITAL AGRI-TECH MISSION

RAITHA MITRA

AGRI-EXPORT MISSION

COMPREHENSIVE RAINFED
AGRICULTURE POLICY

KARNATAKA PROTEIN MISSION

GRAMANUBHAVA

CM JOBS MISSION

BHARAT JODO YUVA SANGHA

UDYOGA NIDHI

YUVA UDYOGA SETU

JOB-LINKED ITI

FUTURE SKILLS INTELLIGENCE
FRAMEWORK

KARNATAKA GLOBAL OUTREACH

RESERVATION FOR STUDENTS
FROM GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

EDUCATION HUBS IN RURAL AREAS

CM VIDYARTHI SAHAYA HASTHA

INVESTMENT ACCELERATION
PACKAGE

FAST-TRACK APPROVALS
& INVESTMENTS

AEROSPACE & DEFENCE POLICY

DIGITAL INDUSTRIAL LAND BANK

TEXTILE POLICY

BALLARI JEANS PARK

SHRAMIKA NIVASA

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING
CLUSTER

PRAGATHIYA RATHA

INDIA'S FIRST AND LARGEST
AI UNIVERSITY

AI HUB & AI POLICY

AI EDUCATION

GREEN DATA CENTRE POLICY

KARNATAKA CENTRE
FOR DRONE EXCELLENCE (KCDE)

EV CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
(EV-CoE)

HEALTH FOR ALL

KARNATAKA SPECIALTY
CARE TECH GRID

TELE-ICU

ADOPTION OF GOVERNMENT
HOSPITALS

NASHE MUKTA KARNATAKA

BEDA BRO CAMPAIGN

AROGYA SPANDANA

MUKHYA MANTRI GRUHA
HAKKU ABHIYANA

COASTAL AND MALNAD
TOURISM POLICY

TOURISM PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT

GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY CENTRES
(GTCs)

LEAP MISSION

PRAJA SEVE DEPARTMENT

SEVE ONE

KARNATAKA AI EXCHANGE

BHU GUARANTEE

ONE BENGALURU
& ONE KARNATAKA TRAVEL APP



Shri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Chief Minister



Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Former Chief Minister



Dr. G. Parameshwara
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

D. K. SHIVAKUMAR
CHIEF MINISTER



VIDHANA SOUDHA
BENGALURU - 560001

Namaskara,

It has been a hundred days since I was given the opportunity to serve the people of Karnataka. These hundred days have deepened my appreciation of the enormous responsibility we carry in building a better future for crores of Kannadigas.

Shri Siddaramaiah avaru has given Karnataka a strong foundation of social justice, reminding us that governance must stand with those who need it most, and this is a commitment I share and carry forward. The five guarantees have brought meaningful support and security to families across the state. But governance cannot stop with what has already been delivered. It must respond to what people need next.

In these first hundred days, we have begun that work: **7.5% reservation for government-school students** in professional courses, **free student bus passes**, **Rs.29,679 crores** cleared investments with potential to create around **66,000 jobs**, **10,000 Bharat Jodo Yuva Sanghas** for sports, culture and nation building, India's first government-sponsored **AI university**, **AI education from Class 6** onwards, cloud seeding, **Udyoga Nidhi** to create **1 lakh new jobs** in the 10 most backward districts, filling of **72,000 government posts** initiated, and a dedicated **"Praja Seve" department** for grievance redressal under my direct supervision.

These are important steps, but this is only the beginning. I know your expectations are immense, as they should be. Your expectations are a reminder of your aspirations from the Congress government, and you have every right to demand this of us.

We are a government that listens and learns. When necessary, we have the courage to reconsider a decision or change course. That is the strength of a government that listens.

Our goal is a **Drudha Karnataka**: economically strong, socially empowered, technologically advanced, and deeply rooted in its values.

The road ahead will not be easy. Our farmers, particularly those facing drought, remind us how much more needs to be done. The next 500 days demand greater determination and effort. But I have faith in Karnataka's ability to meet these challenges. Karnataka does not wait for opportunities, **it creates them.**

That is the Karnataka I believe in. That is the **Kannadiga Spirit.**

With that faith, my Cabinet and I make you a simple promise: We will keep showing up. **We will keep working. And for as long as I breathe, serving Karnataka and Kannadigas will remain my Sankalpa.**

Always in your service,

D. K. Shivakumar
Praja Sevaka



100 days - 100 ways - One Vision

Drudha Karnatakada Sankalpa.



DRUDHA
KARNATAKADA
SANKALPA
SHATHAKADA PATHA
PRAGATHIYA RATHA

Shakthi

Anna
Bhagya

Gruha
Jyothi

Gruha
Lakshmi

Yuva
Nidhi

"To protect and respect our vibrant culture and tradition,"
is a Fundamental Duty of every citizen.
This is affirmed by our Constitution.

CMofKarnataka

<https://dipr.karnataka.gov.in/>

Karnatakavarthe

karnataka information



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- B.Com.** Strategic Finance (CMA Integrated)
- B.Com.** International Business and Finance (CPA Integrated)
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- B.Com.** Blockchain & Fintech
- B.Com.** Enterprise Resource Management (SAP Integrated)
- B.Com.** Banking, Financial Services and Insurance
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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

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- MBA** International Finance
- MBA** Business Analytics
- MBA** Fintech
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- B.Sc.** Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
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‘Firm Karnataka resolve’: DKS govt completes 100 days

Ex-CM Siddaramaiah to inaugurate the milestone celebrations.

BENGALURU

A special programme titled ‘Firm Karnataka Resolve – Path to a Century, Chariot of Progress’ will be held at the Banquet Hall of Vidhana Soudha at 10 am on Thursday to mark the successful completion of 100 days of the Karnataka government under Chief Minister DK Shivakumar.

Former chief minister Siddaramaiah will inaugurate the programme, which will be presided over by DK Shivakumar.

Deputy Chief Minister and Revenue and Sports Minister G Parameshwara, all Cabinet ministers, MLAs, Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha members, MLCs, Chief Secretary

Dr Shalini Rajneesh and senior officials from various government departments are expected to attend.

CM to interact with beneficiaries

Beneficiaries of the state government’s five major guarantee schemes — Anna Bhagya, Gruha Lakshmi, Shakti, Yuva Nidhi and Gruha Jyothi — will participate in the programme. Beneficiaries from different sections of society and workers from various sectors will interact directly with the Chief Minister.

Farmers, autorickshaw drivers, hamalis, gig workers, street vendors, ASHA workers, anganwadi workers and pourakarmikas will also take part in the event.

The interaction will focus

on the impact of the government’s welfare schemes on people’s lives and the State’s development plans.

The programme is aimed at highlighting the government’s achievements during its first 100 days and outlining its priorities for the future.

The government said the event would provide beneficiaries a platform to share their experiences and discuss how its welfare-oriented initiatives have brought changes to their lives. It will also focus on the

roadmap for further development and delivery of public services across Karnataka.



ED raids Minister Satish Jarkiholi over FEMA probe

BENGALURU

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday conducted simultaneous searches at 18 locations across Bengaluru and Belagavi linked to Karnataka PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi, his daughter and Chikkodi MP Priyanka Jarkiholi, and several of their associates, as part of an investigation into suspected illegal foreign investments and alleged violations of foreign exchange regulations.

The early-morning operation covered residences and properties linked to the minister and his associates. In Belagavi, searches were conducted at Jarkiholi’s residence in Kuve-mpu Nagar and at the home of his close associate, Dr Girish Sonawalkar, in Laxmi Tekdi.

MP Priyanka Jarkiholi was at home when the raids were conducted. In Gokak, the minister’s hometown, officials searched his Hill Garden residence, while simultaneous raids were carried out at the residences of his supporters, Raju Dharashetti and Vitthal Parasannavar. Search operations were still underway at the time of reporting.

According to sources, the ED is probing suspected overseas investments linked to

Details of the ED Raids

Scope and targets: Searches spanned 18 properties in Karnataka and Maharashtra involving Satish Jarkiholi, MP Priyanka Jarkiholi, Excise official YD Manjunath, and associates.

Allegations: The investigation centers on suspected illegal foreign investments in an African mining venture and irregularities in Karnataka Excise bar licences, tracking potential illegal overseas fund transfers.

Political reactions

Congress response: Karnataka Congress leaders condemned the raids as political vendetta against a prominent Dalit leader intended to deflect attention, with DK Shivakumar defending Jarkiholi as a clean politician.



mining ventures in Rwanda, Uganda and other African countries. Investigators are examining whether funds were transferred abroad in violation of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999, and whether unofficial channels were used for the transactions.

The agency is reportedly scrutinising financial records, bank documents, property papers and other materials to trace the flow of funds and establish the nature of the overseas investments.

DKS cries political vendetta

BENGALURU

Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Wednesday termed the ED searches on properties linked to PWD minister Satish Jarkiholi as “politically motivated”.

He questioned the timing of the searches, which came a day before the Congress government led by him completes 100 days in office. Asserting that he would stand by Jarkiholi, who he said had done no wrong, he said he had cautioned all his ministers and party legislators about possible action by central agencies against them. He claimed that his government and the party were being “targeted”.

“ED searches on Satish Jarkiholi and his family are not something we were unaware of. There were searches on his family members earlier, too. I don’t know about his other family members and close associates, but Jarkiholi is a senior minister, has businesses, is in politics and is engaged in social service,” He said Jarkiholi was involved in business transactions within the framework of law and had nothing to hide.

‘More raids may come’ “They have the option to do several other things, and they may do it. (Searches) may be done on others, too. I have already cautioned our ministers in this regard. They (ED) will not leave anyone. False narratives are stitched, false allegations are made, and the people are misled,” the CM said.

I was also jailed by the ED, but what happened? I’m today the CM of the state, and it became inevitable for everyone to accept the fact.
-DK Shivakumar, CM

BJP slams Cong for giving ‘political colour’ to ED raids

Bengaluru:

BJP leaders on Wednesday hit out at the Congress-led state government over the ED raids on PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi’s residences and properties, accusing the ruling party of unnecessarily giving a political colour to the searches.

State BJP president BY Vijayendra, former chief minister Jagadish Shettar and former state BJP president Nalin Kumar Kateel said the ED action should be viewed in the context of the agency’s investigation and rejected allegations that the raids were “politically motivated”.

Vijayendra said the ED raids on the residences and properties of Karnataka PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi had taken place as the BJP’s “Ballari Chalo” padayatra entered its final phase, but added that the timing was coincidental.

**BENGALURU**

The Karnataka government is preparing to move the Supreme Court challenging the orders directing the state to release 6,000 cusecs of Cauvery water daily to Tamil Nadu, state Water Resources Minister N Chaluvaryaswamy said on Wednesday.

The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) on Tuesday upheld the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee’s (CWRC) recommendation directing Karnataka to ensure a flow of 6,000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu for 15 days from September 9.

Speaking to reporters, the minister said, “The matter has been discussed at length with Chief Minister D K Shivakumar and preparations are under way to file a petition before the SC tomorrow after consultations with the legal team.”

He also said the government has directed officials to



file a review petition before the CWRC against its order.

The minister said Karnataka’s reservoir levels were currently “very critical” and the state does not have sufficient water to release.

“At present, priority has to be given only to drinking water. At the same time, there is a need to fill dried-up lakes and tanks,” he said.

The situation could improve to some extent only if the state received good rainfall within a week of the Gowri-Ganesha festival, he said expressing concern over the prevailing water situation.

Pointing out that the Tamil Nadu government continues to exert pressure, Chaluvaryaswamy said, the government would seriously consider appointing a Special Advocate to represent Karnataka’s interests before the Supreme Court, as suggested by former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai. “We will also speak to him on the issue,” the minister said.

CM Vijay’s TVK alliance named Secular Social Justice Victory Front

CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu’s ruling alliance, led by chief minister Vijay’s TVK, has been named ‘Secular Social Justice Victory Front (Mathachcharpatra Samookaneethi Vetri Koottani)’. This was announced after the alliance partners’ meeting chaired by Vijay on Wednesday that was convened to hammer out key issues, including an official name for the combine.

CM Vijay will be the president of the alliance which will face the upcoming bypoll in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, chief of Tamil Nadu Congress unit B Manickam Tagore said. “We will work together under

the alliance”, Tagore said.

The agenda for the meeting, the second major gathering since the post-poll coalition formed the government, was reportedly on formalising the alliance structure.

However, leaders of the Left parties – CPI(M) and the CPI, which support the government – skipped the meeting at TVK headquarters in Panaiyur.

Leaders who took part in the key meeting included Tamil Nadu Congress Committee President B Manickam Tagore, the grand old party’s Rajya Sabha member and Assembly floor leader, Tharavai Chakravarthy and Tharavai Cuthbert respectively, as per reports.

BSY to join BJP padayatra valedictory event in Ballari

Mysuru: Former chief minister B S Yediyurappa said that he would participate in the BJP padayatra on the last day and the valedictory convention in Ballari on Thursday.

Speaking to media people in Mysuru on Wednesday, he said that the movement led by B Y Vijayendra has received huge public support.

The former CM said that the padayatra has seen a huge success and has been beyond their expectations.

He also said that state government should have given permission for the convention without any hassles. But it is good that it was given atleast later, he added.

The BJP had earlier an-

Un-ending dispute

The order

The Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) recommended releasing 6,000 cusecs daily for 15 days, which was subsequently upheld by the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA).

Karnataka stand

State Water Resources Minister N. Chaluvaryaswamy stated that reservoir levels are at a “very critical” stage and water is only sufficient for local drinking needs and refilling dried lakes.

Next legal steps

Karnataka planned to file a petition in the apex court and a review petition before the CWRC after consulting legal experts.

varayyaswamy said, the government would seriously consider appointing a Special Advocate to represent Karnataka’s interests before the Supreme Court, as suggested by former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai. “We will also speak to him on the issue,” the minister said.

India sends fresh tranche of relief material to Nepal

New Delhi: India on Wednesday sent a fresh tranche of humanitarian aid comprising 35 tonnes of relief material and equipment onboard a C-17 transport aircraft to flood-ravaged Nepal, officials said.

The death toll from the devastating flash floods in Nepal climbed to 1,365 on Wednesday as more bodies were recovered from the affected areas, according to authorities. The first tranche of relief material was sent by India hours after Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to his Nepalese counterpart Balendra Shah on August 26, the day flash floods struck the Himalayan nation.

Modi to host gala dinner for BRICS leaders on Sept 12

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will host a gala dinner for leaders of BRICS member countries on Saturday evening as India hosts the BRICS Leaders’ Summit 2026 in New Delhi.

The dinner, scheduled for 7:30 pm at Bharat Mandapam on September 12, will be part of a packed first day of the two-day summit, which will bring together leaders of BRICS member countries for discussions on strengthening multilateralism and promoting more inclusive global governance.

The summit will begin on Saturday afternoon with the arrival of BRICS leaders at Bharat Mandapam. The leaders will then participate in a closed session on “Inclusive Global Governance and Strengthening Multilateralism” at 2:35 pm.



The assurance comes against the backdrop of Chinese survey ship visits and the 99-year Hambantota lease.

NEW DELHI

Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Disanayake on Wednesday assured defence minister Rajnath Singh that his country would “never allow its territory to be used for any activities inimical to India’s security interests”, repeating in Colombo the pledge he first gave Prime Minister Narendra Modi last year.

The assurance came on the second day of Singh’s three-day visit, the first by an Indian defence minister to the island nation since KC Pant, defence minister in the Rajiv Gandhi cabinet, travelled there

Won’t let our soil be used against India: Lankan Prez

India-SL sign 3 pacts



India to upgrade six Sri Lanka Air Force L70 guns.

Defence colleges to strengthen academic links.

India-Sri Lanka NCC Youth Exchange Programme formalised.

in 1988.

Sri Lanka’s ports have been the sharpest irritant in the relationship for four years running. The Chinese space and missile tracking ship Yuan Wang 5 berthed at Hambantota in August 2022 over India’s objections.

The research vessel Shi Yan 6, described by Beijing as being on a scientific mission,

docked at Colombo in October 2023.

Colombo barred foreign research vessels from its waters from January 2024. Announced as a one-year measure, the moratorium has stayed in force. India and the US had flagged that such ships map the seabed and monitor missile and satellite activity across the region.

Hambantota itself passed to a Chinese state-run operator on a 99-year lease in 2017, after Colombo struggled to service the loans raised to build it. The Chinese-funded Colombo Port City remains the other pressure point on India’s radar.

Singh, in turn, pitched India as the neighbourhood’s first responder. India considered assistance to Sri Lanka “not a favour, but a responsibility”, he said, and would continue to provide it.

Disanayake thanked New Delhi for the relief mounted under Operation Sagar Bandhu during Cyclone Ditwah and for the rehabilitation package that followed, which covered reconstruction across several parts of the island.

“India will always stand firmly with Sri Lanka whenever the island nation faces a crisis,” Singh had said a day earlier, addressing the Indian diaspora in Colombo.

The two sides described

A broader strategic partnership

The latest defence agreements come against the backdrop of expanding India-Sri Lanka relations across defence, maritime security, connectivity, energy, investment and people-to-people ties.

The two countries have maintained close defence relations for decades, although their relationship has also passed through challenging periods, particularly during India’s involvement in Sri Lanka during the late 1980s. In recent years, however, defence cooperation has increasingly focused on training, capacity building, humanitarian assistance, maritime security and institutional engagement. The three new MoUs add another layer to that relationship by combining defence capability enhancement with professional education and youth cooperation, according to experts.

themselves as “civilisational twins, close neighbours and maritime partners”, and pledged to work jointly for the safety, security, peace and prosperity of the region.

‘Undermines security’: India condemns Houthi attacks on Saudi

New Delhi: In its first response against attacks by Yemen’s Houthi rebels on energy facilities in Saudi Arabia, India said that such strikes undermine regional security and threaten freedom of navigation in the Bab-el-Mandeb strait.

India’s Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal in government’s official response said that India condemns such strikes. Houthis on Tuesday targeted energy facilities belonging to oil giant Saudi Aramco in southern Saudi Arabia as part of a “broad operation.” Saudi authorities said that the strikes triggered fires at multiple oil installations and utility sites and injured 73 people. On Monday, Houthis said that Saudi Arabia launched multiple attacks on Houthi-held areas using aircraft and cruise missiles and struck al-Jawf, al-Bayda, Marib and Taiz provinces.

Quick Read



DRI seizes 180 star tortoises in Bengaluru

CH NEWS, BENGALURU Directorate of Revenue Intelligence officials seized 180 star tortoises allegedly being smuggled in Gandhinagar and detained a man. The officials reportedly noticed the man's suspicious movements and stopped him for questioning. During the search, they found 180 star tortoises in his possession. The man allegedly told officials that he was transporting the tortoises to a customer in Majestic. The DRI seized the reptiles and took him into custody for further investigation. Officials are probing whether the case is linked to a larger tortoise smuggling network and are gathering details about the intended recipient and possible handlers. Indian star tortoises are protected wildlife, and their illegal transport and trade are offences under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

Bengaluru turns quieter, but night noise persists

CH NEWS, BENGALURU Bengaluru's noise levels have declined from 2018, but several areas still exceed permissible limits, especially at night, KSPCB data shows. Near NIMHANS, noise levels were 14.2% above the permissible limit during the day and 45% higher at night. At RVCE on Mysuru Road, they exceeded limits by 24.4% and 55.3%, respectively. Domlur recorded levels 16.9% above limits during the day and 30.7% at night, while BTM Layout recorded 17.6% and 34.9%. Activists questioned whether existing monitoring stations reflect the city's expansion. Experts cited traffic and unnecessary honking as major contributors.



Tree felling at HRBR Layout sparks outrage

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Residents of Kalyan Nagar have protested the felling of three trees, including a decades-old ficus tree that shaded walkers.

The chopping of three trees in Kalyan Nagar's HRBR Layout has triggered anger among residents, who staged a peaceful protest demanding action against those responsible.

A sprawling ficus tree, believed to be more than 30 years old, was reduced to a stump overnight. Two nearby pongamia (honge mara) trees were also felled.

Residents alleged that the trees had suddenly started shedding leaves and dried up within seven to 10 days. They suspected that the owner of the property behind the trees could be responsible.

Priyanka Lal, a resident and educator working on nature and wildlife issues, said she noticed the trees had disappeared after construction began at the property. The site earlier housed an ice cream outlet, which was later closed

CNR Rao flagged over name mismatch in Karnataka SIR

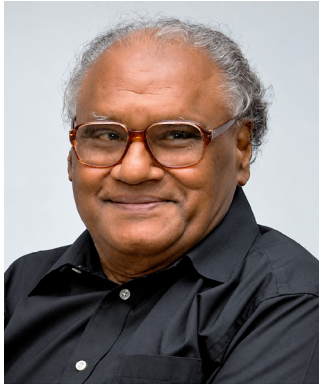
A name mismatch in electoral rolls has flagged Bharat Ratna scientist C N R Rao during Karnataka's Special Intensive Revision process.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Bharat Ratna recipient and eminent scientist Professor C N R Rao has been flagged for a "self-mismatch" in his name during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Karnataka.

Rao's name appears in the list of persons to whom notices have been issued during the verification exercise. His name in the older electoral rolls was recorded as Prof. C.N.R Rao, while the new draft reportedly carries it as "Proff. C.N.R Rao", leading to the discrepancy.

However, Election Commission officials clarified that no notice was actually served on Rao or any member of his family. The Booth Level Officer (BLO), without serving a notice, recommended that Rao's name be retained in the final electoral roll. The final



"No notice was served to the eminent scientist or his family members." — Election Commission officials

rolls are expected to be published next month.

Rao, who was born in Bengaluru, has been summoned for a hearing scheduled in Malleshwaram, near the Indian Institute of Science.

Officials explained that

C N R Rao — SIR discrepancy

- Old roll:** Prof. C.N.R Rao
- New draft:** "Proff. C.N.R Rao"
- Issue:** Self/name mismatch
- Notice:** Listed for hearing, but not served
- BLO action:** Recommended inclusion in final roll
- Final rolls:** Expected next month

"self-mismatch" is categorised as a logical discrepancy. It can arise when details supplied by a voter who is present in the 2002 electoral roll do not match the information recorded during the revision.

Other logical discrepancies can include mismatches in parents' names, unusually small age gaps between parents and children, and cases where parents are recorded as

What is a self-mismatch?
A self-mismatch is treated as a logical discrepancy during electoral-roll revision. It may occur when a voter's details from the 2002 electoral roll do not match information submitted during SIR. Similar discrepancies can involve parents' names, unusually small age differences between parents and children, or inconsistencies in the number of children recorded for parents. Such discrepancies are verified before names are included in the final electoral rolls.

having more than six children.

Rao, one of India's most distinguished scientists, was awarded the Bharat Ratna in 2014 for his contributions to solid-state and materials chemistry.

The issue comes days after Padma Shri awardee Harekala Hajabba faced a similar SIR-related name discrepancy, which was resolved shortly after it came to light.

International cooperation vital for future spaceflight: Sunita Williams

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Renowned astronaut Sunita Williams on Wednesday stressed the need for greater international cooperation in future human spaceflight, saying humanity would return to the Moon and travel farther "as human beings, not as one country".

Speaking at the Bengaluru Space Expo, Williams said countries could learn from each other's approaches to solving challenges. She highlighted the need for self-reliant space stations, onboard databases, reliable 3D printing and in-space analysis of experiments.

Williams said commercial stations could accelerate innovation, while humans, robotics and AI would need to work together during exploration.

Group Captain Angad Pratap said India needs critical technologies for the Bharatiya Antariksh Station, including regenerative life support, space-suits and docking systems.

1,126 landowners face losing property as BDA revives PRR-2



tions in some cases.

T Yashvantha, state general secretary of the Karnataka Prantha Raittha Sangha, said landowners were likely to oppose the acquisition unless compensation reflected current market values.

"Unless landowners are paid the current market value for their land, there is bound to be opposition. So far, there is no clarity on the compensation structure," he said.

A senior BDA official said the authority would soon begin passing consent awards to landowners. The compensation structure is similar to options offered for the Bengaluru Business Corridor, with a slight modification awaiting government approval.

PRR-2 at a glance	
Particulars	Details
Total length	52 km
Width	10 lanes
Land acquisition	1,427 acres
Landowners affected	1,126
Villages covered	30
Estimated cost	Rs 3,500 cr
Existing stretch	10 km
Remaining stretch	42 km
Proposed township	Bidadi

Of the proposed 52-km corridor, BDA has already constructed a 10-km, 10-lane stretch between Magadi Road and Mysuru Road. The latest notification covers the remaining 42 km.

The project is estimated to cost Rs 3,500 crore. Clover-leaf junctions are proposed at intersections with Mysuru, Tumakuru, Kanakapura and Hosur roads. Additional land may be required for these junctions.

Man dies by suicide after allegedly killing wife with beer bottle

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A 38-year-old Bengaluru man allegedly killed his wife with a beer bottle before dying by suicide after a domestic quarrel.

A 38-year-old man allegedly killed his wife by attacking her with a beer bottle before dying by suicide at their residence in Vibhuthipura, near HAL, on Tuesday night, police said.

The deceased have been identified as Raghavendra M, 38, and his wife Shruthi R, 30. The couple had been married for 15 years and had two children. According to the police, Raghavendra suspected that

his wife was having an affair and frequently quarrelled with her over the issue. The couple's children are currently staying with their maternal grandparents in Davangere.

Police said the incident occurred following a quarrel between the couple on Tuesday night. Raghavendra allegedly attacked Shruthi with a beer bottle, causing fatal injuries. He later allegedly hanged himself.

The HAL police rushed to the residence after being alerted and shifted both bodies for post-mortem examination. Further investigation is under way to establish the exact se-

quence of events and circumstances leading to the deaths.

Raghavendra was working as an autorickshaw driver, while Shruthi was employed as a housemaid at an apartment.

Police are examining the circumstances surrounding the domestic dispute and the events immediately preceding the incident. Statements from relatives and others familiar with the couple are also expected to form part of the investigation.

The incident has left the couple's two children without their parents. Their maternal grandparents in Davangere are currently looking after them.

Overseas voters caught in Karnataka SIR hearing rules

Overseas Karnataka voters who filed SIR forms online now face hearings they may struggle to attend in person.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Karnataka's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls has created a fresh dilemma for voters living abroad, with several receiving notices over discrepancies in their online enumeration forms.

Many overseas voters who submitted their SIR forms online have reportedly been issued notices for non-mapping of data or logical discrepancies. They are now required to appear personally before the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) during SIR hearings.

The issue stems partly from confusion over the category under which overseas electors submitted their forms. The draft electoral roll published on August 24 contained only 951 NRI electors. Officials suspect that a large number of voters living abroad may have completed online enumeration as general electors or resident Indians instead of registering through Form 6A, which is specifically prescribed for NRI electors.

This distinction has significant consequences during the verification process.

NRI electors are exempted from appearing personally at SIR hearings because their passport and visa details are already available with the



Issue	Details
Draft roll	Published August 24
NRI electors	951
Correct form	Form 6A
Suspected error	Overseas voters enrolled as resident electors
Notices	Non-mapping/ logical discrepancies
Resident-electtor requirement	Personal appearance at ERO hearing
NRI exemption	No personal appearance required

EROs. However, overseas voters who registered themselves as resident Indian electors are being treated differently and are expected to appear before officials in person to establish their eligibility.

The situation has left several overseas voters facing practical difficulties, particularly those who cannot travel to Karnataka solely to attend a hearing.

The Election Commission's verification exercise is intended to ensure that electoral-roll entries are accurate and that discrepancies are resolved before publication of the final rolls.

The latest issue adds to the challenges emerging from the SIR process, with thousands of voters being asked to clarify discrepancies in their electoral records.

WHY FORM 6A MATTERS

Form 6A is specifically meant for Indian citizens living abroad who wish to register as overseas electors. NRI voters are treated differently during SIR verification because passport and visa details are available with electoral authorities. Overseas voters who instead enrolled as resident Indian electors may have to attend hearings personally to resolve discrepancies, creating difficulties for those currently living outside India and unable to travel to Karnataka.

K'taka fourth-highest recipient of biodiversity funds

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Karnataka has emerged as the fourth-highest recipient of National Biodiversity Authority funds under the Access and Benefit-Sharing framework.

Karnataka has emerged as one of the biggest beneficiaries of funds released by the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) under the Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) framework, ranking fourth among States.

The Karnataka Biodiversity Board has received Rs 65.23 lakh, following Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, which received higher allocations.

The NBA has sanctioned a total of Rs 8.23 crore to 27 State Biodiversity Boards and five Union Territory Biodiversity Councils under the ABS framework. The funds were collected from the access to and use of biological resources such as bitter gourd, okra, chilli and onion.

The funds were distributed to States because the biological resources were accessed through open markets or traders and could not be linked to specific farmers, communities or geographical locations.

Experts, however, have urged the Karnataka Biodiversity Board to focus on creating awareness about biodiversity conservation and the ABS mechanism.

Akshay Heblikar, founder of Eco Watch and a former member of Bengaluru's Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC), said many communities were unaware that they were required to pay ABS fees and did not know where the payments had to be made.

He said the funds should be used to conduct workshops, seminars and sensitisation programmes, while local communities should also be informed about how their biological resources are being used and their entitlement to benefits.

City already 4°C above normal; K'taka may heat up further

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Bengaluru has been experiencing unusually high temperatures, with the mercury touching 32-33°C in recent days against the normal 28-29°C for this period.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has warned that temperatures across Karnataka are likely to remain above normal over the coming week and could rise by another 1-3°C, scientist C S Patil said.

The absence of active weather systems has resulted in dry conditions across several districts. Fewer clouds and prolonged sunshine are allowing the land surface to heat up during the day, pushing

HEAT RISE FORECAST

RAIN MAY BRING RELIEF

Bengaluru could receive light rainfall on September 11, 12 and 14, offering some respite from the prevailing heat. More widespread rainfall activity is expected after September 16. However, the continuing deficit has reduced moisture in soil, reservoirs and lakes. Lower moisture, along with reduced vegetation, could contribute to higher temperatures in the coming months, according to IMD scientist C S Patil.

ing temperatures higher.

A sharp decline in rainfall over the past one to two weeks has further contributed to the warming. Reduced soil moisture means the land heats

up faster, while lower moisture levels in reservoirs and lakes could add to the problem.

Northern interior Karnataka has recorded the highest tem-

Area	Temperature trend
Bengaluru	32-33°C
Bengaluru normal	28-29°C
Kalaburagi	Around 36°C
Northern interior Karnataka	4-5°C above normal
Southern interior Karnataka	Around 4°C above normal
State rainfall deficit	26%
Bengaluru rainfall deficit	40-50%

peratures, with Kalaburagi reaching around 36°C. Several districts in the region have recorded temperatures 4-5°C above normal. Southern inte-

rior Karnataka has also experienced temperatures around 4°C above normal.

Karnataka has received about 26% less rainfall than normal so far this year, while Bengaluru has recorded a rainfall deficit of around 40-50%, according to Patil.

He attributed the subdued monsoon activity partly to El Niño and the weakening influence of regional climate systems, including the Indian Ocean Dipole and Madden-Julian Oscillation.

The weather may offer some temporary relief, with Bengaluru likely to receive light rain on September 11, 12 and 14. More widespread rainfall activity is expected after September 16.

CHObserver

chstatenews@gmail.com

Danger Lurks As Road Works Drag On

Local communities in Sultanpalya and Manorayana Palya are facing severe daily hazards due to unfinished road expansion and utility projects that have dragged on for over three months. The prolonged construction phase has left residential streets in a chaotic state, characterized by deep unpaved trenches, exposed subterranean pipelines, and uncovered drainage chambers that pose an immediate risk to pedestrians and motorists alike. Commuters navigating the area report an alarming lack of basic safety infrastructure, including warning barricades, reflective tape, and proper illumination around active excavation zones. Several large potholes and open manholes remain completely unmarked, creating dangerous traps for unsuspecting children, elderly walkers, and two-wheeler riders, especially during evening hours. Compounding these structural hazards, the neglected construction sites have increasingly transformed into impromptu dumping grounds, accumulating mounting piles of domestic waste and debris that block pathways and emit foul odors.

+91 80730 57594



Paid permits & parking spots: GBA rules miss the mark?

Experts warn Bengaluru's new parking rules prioritize commercial revenue over congestion relief, sparking fierce urban debate.

BENGALURU

Urban experts have raised serious concerns over the newly proposed Greater Bengaluru Authority Parking Rules, warning that the legal framework relies too heavily on revenue generation instead of fixing traffic mobility. The Urban Development Department officially published the draft GBA Parking Rules on August 11, giving citizens a limited window to submit objections and feedback ahead of the September 10 deadline. The framework is designed to strengthen the city's existing Parking Policy 2.0, which was initially introduced by the Directorate of Urban Land Transport in February 2021. While the original policy aimed to discourage private vehicle usage and clear crowded roads, experts argue that the new draft has shifted focus entirely toward creating more parking supply and generating income. During a recent panel discussion hosted by Citizen Matters, urban planner Sobia Rafiq and mobility expert Sa-

THE PROPOSED POLICY		
Revenue over mobility: Clauses focus on commercial parking lots and paid spaces rather than reducing vehicle dependency.		
Heavy financial burden: Residents face steep fees ranging from fifteen thousand to twenty-five thousand rupees just to park in front of their own homes.		
Endless traffic loops: Adding parking supply without boosting public transit simply invites more vehicles onto already crowded streets.		

Proposal aspect	Current focus in draft	Expert recommendation
Primary goal	Revenue and parking supply	Better mobility and walkability
Residential impact	Paid permits up to ₹25,000	Localized, sustainable planning
Public feedback	Limited consultation window	Open public participation

tya Arikutharam analyzed the draft clauses. They pointed out that the rules heavily emphasize paid on-street parking zones, off-street corporation lots, commercial leasing of empty private plots, and strict bans on major road parking. Notably, the draft also introduces expensive annual residential parking permits ranging from fifteen thousand to twenty-five thousand rupees for citizens parking outside their own homes. Experts warn that prioritizing parking supply fails to address Bengaluru's broader infrastructure crisis. With close to 1.5 crore vehicles choking city streets



Official reviews DWCC, debris management

BENGALURU CIVIC LEADERS LAUNCHED A MASSIVE INSPECTION DRIVE TO FAST-TRACK URBAN SANITATION PROJECTS AND CLEAR ADMINISTRATIVE BOTTLENECKS.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Senior civic authorities in Bengaluru have launched a massive inspection drive to fast-track pending municipal projects, modernise local sanitation frameworks, and ensure that neighborhood development works move forward without further delay. Lokhande Snehal Sudhakar, the Additional Commissioner for Development at the Bengaluru East City Corporation, conducted a comprehensive tour across multiple municipal wards to review critical urban infrastructure. His field visits targeted vital sanitation assets, including Dry Waste Collection Centres, legacy waste clearance sites, quarry lands earmarked for public use, and upcoming mini transfer stations. During these on-site reviews, he engaged directly with project engineers and zone supervisors, directing them

to eliminate administrative bottlenecks and accelerate the implementation of all pending civic initiatives. A core focus of the inspection centered on the operational readiness of Dry Waste Collection Centres located in high-density neighborhoods such as Doddanekundi, Marathahalli, Varthur, and Bellandur. Authorities evaluated the ongoing installation of heavy-duty processing machinery by Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited. Officials were instructed to finalize equipment setups swiftly and ensure that every facility operates at optimal capacity to streamline local recycling workflows. Furthermore, regarding an ongoing legal dispute concerning the Doddanekundi center, the Additional Commissioner ordered staff to compile comprehensive case files from corporate entities to navigate the

litigation and resume full operations. Environmental remediation and land reclamation also formed a major pillar of the inspection itinerary. At Swatantra Nagar within the Basavanapura Ward, the civic chief reviewed operations aimed at clearing long-standing legacy waste accumulations from the Mandur sector. He emphasized the need for rapid scientific processing and safe segregation to reclaim valuable government land for public utility. Similarly, inspections at the Kadugodi Agara quarry evaluated potential layouts for future public infrastructure, with directives issued to draft formal project proposals. Meanwhile, at the Yarappanahalli quarry site designated for construction debris under the state's 'Freedom from Waste' campaign, officials received strict orders to manage incoming rubble systematical-

KEY INSPECTION AREAS & FOCUS
• DWCCs: Machinery setup & efficient functioning
• Mandur & Basavanapura: Scientific waste clearance
• Kadugodi Agara: Proposals for government land
• Yarappanahalli Quarry: Systematic debris management
• Narayanapura: Expediting Mini Transfer Station

ly using heavy machinery to prevent environmental degradation. To decentralize municipal sanitation logistics, the delegation reviewed preparations for a proposed Mini Transfer Station in A. Narayanapura. Emphasizing the importance of strict timelines, authorities urged speedy preliminary coordination with waste management corporations to break ground on the facility. Concluding the tour, municipal leadership reminded all

Highlights of the review

- **Waste Centres:** Machinery installation at recovery units in Doddanekundi, Marathahalli, Varthur, and Bellandur must finish quickly.
- **Debris Control:** Construction waste arriving under the state's 'Freedom From Waste' campaign needs better daily management.
- **Land Use:** Teams must submit proposals to develop government plots and clear legacy garbage piles.

zonal teams to maintain continuous quality oversight and proactive monitoring, stressing that efficient waste management and minimal public inconvenience remain the top priorities for the civic administration.

Direct access: North Corporation announces weekly phone-in

BENGALURU

Residents under the Bengaluru North City Corporation will soon gain a direct line to civic leadership through a new weekly interactive initiative. Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar launched a dedicated Phone-In Programme to hear public grievances firsthand and accelerate local problem-solving across city neighborhoods. The upcoming live session is scheduled for Friday, September 11, 2026, running from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. During this window, taxpayers can bypass bureaucratic delays to report urban maintenance issues directly. The platform covers a wide spectrum of concerns, including damaged roads, potholes, broken streetlights, irregular garbage collection, and dangerous tree branches. Citizens can also address public health is-

ssues such as mosquito control, stray dog management, park maintenance, illegal encroachments, and administrative hurdles like e-Khata processing. To ensure complete accountability, every grievance logged during the call-in period will be immediately entered into the 'Sahaaya 2.0' digital portal and routed to relevant officers. Citizens will receive automated SMS updates containing complaint numbers and officer contacts for easy tracking. For those unable to connect during the live slot, alternative helplines operate around the clock. Issues can be submitted via WhatsApp or mobile at 9480685705, or through landlines at 080-22975936 and 080-23636671. Residents can also log complaints anytime using the 'Sahaaya 2.0' mobile application, building a transparent framework for local governance.

BENGALURU

Karnataka Lokayukta officials inspected Sankey Tank following intense community backlash over civic projects that residents claim are harming the historic lake. Led by Chief Engineer BV Ramesh and SP Matesh Jidi, the inspection included municipal engineers and members of the Voice of Sadashivanagar citizens' group. Locals heavily criticized the misuse of public funds for excessive concretization instead of true ecological restoration. Residents highlighted that unscientific inlet designs are choking rainwater inflows, causing water levels to plummet and threatening the local groundwater table in Malleswaram and Sadashivanagar. Citizens also condemned a controversial two-storey commercial and administrative building constructed directly on the lake bund, citing severe privacy and safety concerns regarding its layout. Furthermore, the inspection team investigated allegations that the nearby Sadashivanagar Police Station building illegally encroaches upon a stormwater drain.



Issues highlighted by residents

- **Blocked Inlets:** Rainwater fails to enter the lake due to poor engineering design.
- **Water Depletion:** Falling water levels are directly impacting the regional groundwater table.
- **Questionable Spending:** Taxpayer money was allegedly wasted on unscientific concretization and poorly planned buildings.

Concluding the site visit, Chief Engineer Ramesh ordered municipal authorities to submit all structural blueprints and official approvals for immediate review.

Young Dancers Bring Krishna's Leela Alive

BENGALURU

Young dancers from Kalanidhi Arts Academy recently mesmerized audiences at Dr. Ambedkar Bhavan in Yelahanka, Bengaluru, with a captivating Bharatanatyam presentation titled Sri Krishna Leelamritam - Leela • Rasa • Bhakti. Held on September 4, 2026, to celebrate Janmashtami, the thematic production was thoughtfully conceptualized and directed by the academy's artistic director, Smt. Pavithra Sridhar, with strong support from Director Sri Sridhar Chollangi. The performance brilliantly explored the multifaceted persona of Lord Krishna through three core dimensions. The first segment, Leela, vividly portrayed Krishna's playful childhood antics and divine



interventions in Gokula. This transitioned smoothly into Rasa, which illustrated his enchanting bond with the Gopis. The production interpreted this relationship as a deep metaphor representing the individual soul's eternal yearning for

the Supreme. The grand finale culminated in Bhakti, integrating the universal devotional traditions of Sant Namadeva to emphasize love, surrender, and spiritual devotion. Audiences deeply appreciated the students' disciplined

ensemble work, expressive abhinaya, and rhythmic precision. Beyond a standard stage performance, the event served as a profound learning experience for the young artistes, sharpening their storytelling skills and deepening their connection to classical heritage. A talented ensemble of musicians enriched the visual splendor with live accompaniment, featuring Smt. Harshitha Vidhya on vocals, Sri Mithun Sakthi on mridangam, Sri Srikanth Nittur on veena, and Sri Varun Bhagirath on flute, complemented by the lighting design of Sri Surya Rao. Ultimately, the evening triumphed as a vibrant celebration of culture, transforming divine play into a lasting artistic expression of love and devotion.

Bengaluru's garbage mafia, civic woes test Minister Gowda

BENGALURU

Karnataka Minister Krishna Byre Gowda is facing severe public criticism and political backlash following controversial remarks directed at civic workers, alongside an aggressive footpath clearance drive that activists argue violates state laws. Gowda, who took over as Bengaluru In-Charge Minister after Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar relinquished the portfolio, inherited a tangled web of

urban challenges. These include pothole-ridden streets, crumbling infrastructure, and a notorious waste management crisis. Controversy erupted after a video surfaced showing Gowda scolding municipal waste workers, known as 'Pourakarmikas', who were demanding permanent job status and relief from exploitative private contractors. The minister questioned their work ethic, sparking widespread debate over class and caste divides in India's tech capital.

At the same time, activists have slammed Gowda on social media—tagging national Congress leaders—over an anti-encroachment drive that removed vulnerable street vendors without providing mandatory legal relocations. Critics argue these harsh evictions directly contradict the Street Vendors Act championed by the ruling party. The unrest has also dragged attention back to Bengaluru's powerful waste management mafia. The government is currently pushing forward with

massive new garbage tenders estimated at nearly forty thousand crore rupees, a move heavily criticized for inflated costs and steep annual escalations that could hand multi-year processing monopolies to private conglomerates. Meanwhile, labor unions report that thousands of drivers, loaders, and helpers remain trapped under predatory private contractors who delay wages, withhold benefits, and force laborers to handle waste without basic safety gear.

Quick Read



Patil holds talks with French aerospace, materials firms

CH NEWS, BENGALURU/PARIS Karnataka Industries Minister M B Patil held discussions with LISI Aerospace, Aubert & Duval and Arkema in France on Wednesday, seeking greater investment in the state. Patil urged Aubert & Duval, a leading advanced metallic materials company, to expand its existing manufacturing facility in Belagavi. The company operates from the Aequs Aerospace SEZ and has a partnership with Squad Forging India. LISI Aerospace, which manufactures aerospace components at its Bengaluru facility, shared its future investment plans. Patil urged it to invest further in Karnataka.

BMTC live tracking for app-based taxi users soon

CH NEWS, BENGALURU Commuters using Ola, Uber and other app-based taxis will soon be able to access BMTC's live bus-tracking facility through the Namma BMTC Mobile App 2.0, Transport Minister Byrathi Suresh said. Chairing a meeting with senior officials, Suresh directed BMTC to extend its live-tracking facility to private app-based taxi users, enabling commuters to check bus availability after getting off cabs. The minister also directed BMTC to deploy 200 mini AC electric buses at Metro stations. These buses, part of the 4,500 electric buses being procured under the PM E-DRIVE scheme, will provide connectivity within a 5-km radius of Metro stations.

GBA, police raid vet clinic over animal cruelty allegations; 13 animals rescued

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) and police raided a veterinary clinic in Doddakannelli near Bellandur following allegations that street dogs were being subjected to unauthorised orthopaedic procedures and severe cruelty. The raid was conducted at Primecare Vet Hospital after an animal rescue group and a whistleblower submitted alleged video evidence of animal cruelty to the authorities. According to rescuers, 12 dogs and a cat were found on the premises. Four street dogs requiring immediate medical attention were rescued and shifted to another veterinary facility. Six indie dogs were reportedly found to require treatment, while three others were al-

legedly rescued before their leg injuries became irreversible.

The cat was also shifted to another facility after its owner could not be contacted. Owners of some other animals were reportedly informed and asked to collect their pets.

The rescue group alleged that street dogs were being used to practise orthopaedic procedures, claiming that their legs were broken without proper anaesthesia before surgeries were performed.

It further alleged that some animals died following the procedures and were disposed of. Police questioned two doctors in connection with the allegations. Their statements, along with evidence collected during the raid, will form part of the investigation.

The rescuers also alleged that dog catchers were being paid around ₹500 per dog and claimed that some were involved in injuring the animals. These allegations are yet to be independently verified.

An unsterilised Cane Corso and a husky were also reportedly found at the clinic, raising suspicions of a possible breeding operation.

The rescue group has urged authorities to investigate whether the clinic is linked to a larger network.

Officials are expected to examine the animals, medical records, CCTV footage and other material recovered from the premises to determine whether offences were committed and whether more animals were subjected to alleged experimentation.

Activist urges city-wide drive to make B'loru child labour-free

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Child rights activist Nagasimha G Rao has urged Chief Minister D K Shivakumar to launch a city-wide campaign to identify, rescue and rehabilitate children employed in various establishments.

In a letter to the Chief Minister, Rao appreciated the prompt action taken after Shivakumar noticed children working at the Yeshwanthpur APMC market during his recent visit and directed officials to intervene. Special teams of the Police and Labour departments subsequently rescued 19 children and registered cases against their employers.

Rao urged the government

to expand the operation beyond Yeshwanthpur and conduct regular surprise inspections at hotels, restaurants, garages, workshops, factories, warehouses, markets, construction sites, roadside businesses and other workplaces.

He also sought a comprehensive ward-wise and zonal survey to determine the number of children who have dropped out of school and entered the workforce. Based on the findings, he proposed a "Bengaluru Child Labour Elimination Action Plan" with clear targets, departmental responsibilities, timelines and monitoring mechanisms.

Rao said rescuing children from workplaces alone would not be sufficient. They should

be supported with school re-enrolment, health check-ups, psychosocial care, family reunification and social security benefits.

He also referred to Articles 21A, 24, 39(e) and 39(f) of the Constitution, which protect children's rights, education and welfare. He cited the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and Sustainable Development Goals relating to child labour and exploitation.

He urged coordinated action involving the Police, Labour, BBMP, Education and Women and Child Development departments, child protection agencies and civil society organisations to make Bengaluru a model child labour-free city.

Govt failed to protect K'taka's Cauvery interests: R Ashoka

The Opposition leader questioned the state's preparedness to meet its own water needs while complying with the latest Cauvery direction.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

CAUVERY WATER CONCERN



R Ashoka said Karnataka cannot afford to release Cauvery water when its own reservoirs and water requirements are under pressure. He demanded that the government place updated scientific data on reservoir storage, inflows, drinking-water needs and agricultural requirements before the Supreme Court and CWMA. He also sought a permanent technical-legal mechanism to defend Karnataka's interests before future water-sharing or release directions are issued.

Chief Minister and Water Resources Minister explain what information and documents were submitted before the Authority. The government should also disclose whether the impact of water release on Bengaluru's drinking-water supply and farmers was adequately highlighted, he said.

Ashoka sought a white paper on the performance of the technical and legal teams that

represented Karnataka and demanded action against officials who failed to adequately present the state's case.

He also called for a permanent technical and legal strategy on the Cauvery issue to ensure Karnataka's position is strongly presented before future water-release orders.

"Releasing water even when there is none, and shedding tears after an order

Cauvery Water Row

ISSUE	DETAILS
CWMA direction	Release 6,000 cusecs daily
Period cited	15 days
Water quantity	7.5 TMC
Ashoka's demand	Approach Supreme Court
Key concerns	Drinking water, farmers, reservoir storage
Further demand	White paper on technical and legal team

comes—this must not become the state government's Cauvery policy," he said.

Ashoka urged the government to seek an immediate review of the Authority's direction and pursue legal remedies if required. He said Karnataka's water security, farmers' livelihoods and Bengaluru's drinking-water needs should remain the government's priority.



Future-ready cities need integrated urban planning: Yathindra

Karnataka is preparing to strengthen urban infrastructure and municipal services as rapid growth puts greater pressure on cities across the State.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Urban Development Minister Dr Yathindra Siddaramaiah has stressed the need for a comprehensive approach to urban development to build future-ready cities that support economic growth while improving citizens' quality of life.

Speaking at the Karnataka Urban Infrastructure and Investments Summit organised in Bengaluru in collaboration with the Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation (KUID-FC), the Minister said Karnataka was among India's fastest urbanising and economically dynamic states.

He said Bengaluru had emerged as a global technology and innovation hub, while Mysuru, Mangaluru, Hubballi-Dharwad, Belagavi, Kalaburagi, Shivamogga and Tumakuru were developing as important regional economic centres.

The Government's urban development agenda would focus on four key pillars — strong urban governance and integrated planning, effective infrastructure financing, reliable 24x7 water and sewerage services, and sustainable urban transport, he said.

The Minister said the State would expand 24x7 water

Urban priorities Karnataka's urban development strategy will focus on integrated planning, stronger civic governance and sustainable infrastructure. The Government plans to expand 24x7 water supply, improve sewerage and wastewater reuse, and strengthen public transport. Suburban rail, Transit-Oriented Development, cycling and pedestrian infrastructure will receive attention. Urban local bodies will be encouraged to improve property tax collection and adopt GIS-based valuation, digital services and municipal bonds to strengthen their finances.

supply projects in Belagavi, Hubballi-Dharwad and Kalaburagi, besides strengthening water and sewerage infrastructure in other cities. Greater emphasis would also be placed on wastewater treatment, reuse and efficient management of water resources.

On transportation, he said the Government was promoting public transport, suburban rail, Transit-Oriented Development, pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, and technology-based traffic management to address congestion and growing mobility needs.

The Government is also working to strengthen the financial sustainability of Urban Local Bodies through improved property tax collection, GIS-based property valuation, digital services and innovative financing mechanisms, including municipal bonds.

The Minister said public-private partnerships, technology and innovative financing would play a key role in strengthening urban infrastructure.

NEW PLATFORMS PLANNED FOR GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL, ROADWORK TRANSPARENCY

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byregowda on Wednesday announced plans to launch Sahay 3.0, an upgraded platform aimed at making grievance redressal more citizen-friendly, transparent and effective.

Speaking at a consultation meeting with residents at the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) headquarters, Byregowda said Sahay 3.0 would replace Sahay 2.0 and incorporate suggestions from citizens and experts.

The upgraded platform is expected to offer voice-based complaint registration, multilingual support, low-bandwidth accessibility and anonymous complaints in select cases. Citizens will also be required to confirm before a



complaint is closed.

A public dashboard will display complaint status, pending cases and resolution timelines. Users will be able to upload photographs, location details and voice notes, while automated alerts will remind officials about pending complaints. Citizens can also reopen complaints that remain unresolved, he said.

The upgraded Sahay 3.0 platform will allow citizens to file complaints through voice, track their status and reopen unresolved cases. A public dashboard will show pending grievances and timelines. Meanwhile, RIMS will help monitor road projects, with details of over 2,000 km of works already integrated.

RIMS to track road projects

Alongside Sahay 3.0, the government is developing a digital portal for infrastructure works under the Road Infrastructure Management System (RIMS).

The GIS-linked platform

will record road-related projects, including construction, pipeline laying and cable installation, at least six months before work begins. It will provide real-time updates on ongoing and proposed projects and maintain a "road history" of previous works.

Byregowda said data covering more than 2,000 km of road works and ₹9,151 crore in grants from 2022-23 to 2026-27 had already been integrated into RIMS.

Citizens will be able to track project progress through interactive maps, while officials will monitor weekly updates.

The initiatives aim to improve coordination, efficiency and transparency in grievance redressal and infrastructure management, the minister said.

Food safety violations: Officials order temporary closure of hotel

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Officials of the Food Safety and Drug Administration Department conducted an inspection at the popular South Ruchis hotel on Race Course Road on Wednesday following complaints from the public regarding food safety and hygiene violations.

During the inspection, officials found severe unhygienic conditions in the hotel's kitchen and said proper sanitation standards were not being maintained.

As the hotel had failed to comply with prescribed food safety measures and regulations under the Food Safety

and Standards Act, officials ordered its temporary closure with immediate effect in the interest of public health.

Officials said several expired food products were found during the inspection. The seized items included 1 kg coconut powder, 1 kg sambar powder, 800 grams South Ruchis chutney powder, 200 grams rasam powder, one packet of mushrooms, 5 kg mislabelled jagery powder, 45 kg millet, 2 kg ajwain seeds and 121 kg bucket jagery.

The department has intensified food safety inspections across Bengaluru in recent weeks.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court on Wednesday sought the State government's response to petitions challenging the imposition of a two per cent cess on cinema ticket revenue collected by theatres and multiplexes under the Karnataka Cine and Cultural Workers Social Security (Welfare) Act, 2024.

A Bench headed by Justice H.T. Narendra Prasad issued notice to the government on petitions filed by the Indian Multiplex Association, PVR INOX and others. The matter was adjourned to Thursday.

During the hearing, counsel for the petitioners argued that

HC QUESTIONS CESS DEMAND

The Karnataka High Court has sought the State government's response to petitions challenging the two per cent cess imposed on cinema ticket revenue. Multiplex operators argue that the welfare Act has not been formally brought into force through a Gazette notification. They have also challenged the Labour Commissioner's circular directing cess collection from September 1, besides questioning its constitutional validity and its impact on multiplex businesses.

Section 1(2) of the Act requires the government to issue a separate notification in the official Gazette specifying the date on which the legislation would come into force. However, no such notification

has been issued so far. Despite this, notices were being served demanding payment of the two per cent cess from September 1, the petitioners submitted.

The Bench questioned how

payment could be demanded under an Act that had not formally come into force. "Let the Act come into force first; thereafter, we can interpret its provisions," the Bench orally observed.

The petitioners challenged the Labour Commissioner's August 29 circular directing mandatory collection of the cess from September 1. They argued that an administrative circular cannot substitute a statutory Gazette notification and sought its quashing.

They also contended that collecting cess under an unenforced law violates Article 265 of the Constitution. The petitioners further questioned the validity of the State legis-

lation in view of the Centre's Social Security Code, 2020, arguing that the State Act had not received Presidential assent as required under Article 254(2).

Multiplex operators said they only provide venues for screening films and are not direct employers of cinema workers. They also alleged discrimination as OTT platforms, though covered by the Act, have been exempted from the cess under the rules.

The petitioners further opposed the levy on food and beverage revenue, claiming it amounts to an additional burden over GST and affects their business rights under Article 19(1)(g).

Quick Read

Jal Nadige walkathon to promote water conservation

CH NEWS, MANDYA
A "Jal Nadige" water walkathon will be held on September 12 to promote water conservation and water management. It will begin at 6:30 am from the Collector's Office and cover Sanjaya Circle, Nanda Circle, Dr. Besagarahalli Ramanna Circle, Karnataka Bank Circle, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Circle and Vinobha Road. Participants will learn about saving drinking and domestic water, rainwater harvesting, recycled water, groundwater recharge and water use in agriculture. The walk will return to the Collector's Office at 8 am. Officials urged people to participate and help protect water for generations.

Loan applications invited for backward classes development

CH NEWS, CHITRADURGA
Applications have been invited online through the Seva Sindhu portal for loan schemes supporting the economic development of backward communities. The schemes include personal loans, Ganga Kalyan irrigation, education loans, Swavalambi Sarathi and other programs offered through various community development corporations. Eligible applicants can apply for assistance from corporations representing communities including Vokkaliga, Arya Vaishya, Ambigara Choudaiah, Uppara, Madivala Machideva, Maratha, Kadugolla, Veerashaiva Lingayat, Savita Samaj, and nomadic and semi-nomadic groups. For details, applicants may contact the respective corporation websites, the District Manager's office in Chitradurga, or call 08194-220882 for further guidance.

Bhadra water reaches Chitradurga, raising farmers' hopes

CH NEWS, CHITRADURGA

Bhadra Upper River Project water has reached Chitradurga district, bringing fresh hope to farmers who have waited for irrigation support for years.

Chitradurga MLA K.C. Veerendra Pappi said the State government has kept its promise and taken steps to bring Bhadra water to drought-prone parts of the district.

Pappi said Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has taken special interest in the project and provided guidance for its progress. The arrival of water has brought happiness among farmers and could open a new chapter for agriculture in the district. He said the project aims to provide reliable irrigation and reduce the impact of uncertain rainfall.

According to the MLA, filling lakes with Bhadra water can also help increase groundwater levels. As lakes and other water bodies receive water, nearby borewells and open wells could benefit from improved recharge. Better water availability may allow farmers to grow different crops, increase production and strengthen agriculture-related economic activities.

Farmers and several organizations have campaigned for the project for many years. Pappi said authorities must closely monitor the canals, project works and water distribution system to ensure that water reaches the intended areas. He also stressed the need for careful water management, lake conservation and measures to prevent wastage. The project could also support drinking water needs in rural areas by improving local water sources and groundwater availability.

Karnataka to review fair sugarcane prices for farmers

Farmers demanded ₹5,500 per tonne, citing improved recovery, fair pricing, and transparency in recovery-rate testing after factories offered lower prices

CH NEWS, HAVERI

The Karnataka government will hold discussions on fixing a fair and profitable price for sugarcane growers, Sugar and Textiles Minister Rudrappa Lamani said.

Speaking at a meeting at the District Collector's Office, he said the government wants to address farmers' concerns while ensuring fairness to all sides.

Farmers at the meeting demanded Rs. 5,500 per tonne for sugarcane. They said some factories had offered lower prices last year because of poor recovery rates. Although recovery has improved this year, growers complained that sugarcane prices have not increased accordingly.

They also sought transparency in the testing process used to calculate recovery rates.

Farmers demanded that growers should be allowed to verify recovery testing and urged the government to establish a dedicated



laboratory for such tests. They also pointed out differences between recovery-based price calculations in North and South Karnataka. The farmers called for uniform standards across the State and asked sugar factories to begin operations early.

Responding to the concerns, Minister Lamani said payments pending from the previous year, factory dues and additional payments would be reviewed.

He said the farmers' demands would be placed before the government and discussed with the Chief Minister and Cabinet. He added that the State would

examine the issue within the framework of existing Central government guidelines.

The meeting also reviewed records on sugarcane crushing, recovery rates and prices at factories during 2024-25 and 2025-26. Deputy Commissioner Vijaya Mahantesh, Superintendent of Police Yashoda Vantagodi, Food Department Deputy Director D.J. Manjunath, farmer leaders, growers and officials attended.

The discussions offered farmers hope that their concerns over fair prices and transparent recovery testing will receive attention at the government level.

'Industries Must Support KPS Schools'

Industries in Haveri district must use CSR funds to improve government schools and support poor children, Minister Rudrappa Lamani said. Speaking at a meeting, he stressed that CSR support should provide quality education, modern infrastructure and better facilities in Karnataka Public Schools. LKG and UKG classes are being introduced in 184 government schools during 2026-27, with English-medium education. A phased plan is also underway for selecting KPS schools, securing land and developing infrastructure. Lamani warned that industries failing to cooperate or honour commitments could face government action.

The district administration urged companies to support education and school development.

Mandya Officials Urge Peaceful Ganesh Festival Celebrations

CH NEWS, MANDYA

The district administration has assured full support for peaceful and joyful Gauri-Ganesh festival celebrations, while warning of strict action against anyone who disturbs law and order.

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumar said the festival should be observed with devotion and harmony, without creating fear or tension among people.

Speaking at a taluk-level harmony meeting, he urged citizens to prevent incidents that could damage communal peace.

He said everyone, including community leaders, has a responsibility to guide young people, stop antisocial activities and respect the law. He also reminded residents that no individual is above the law.

MANDYA USES MUSIC TO INSPIRE YOUNG VOTERS

CH NEWS, MANDYA

Music is being used in Mandya to encourage young people to understand the value of voting. The District SWEEP Committee organised a youth singing competition called 'Hadu Nanna Goto' at Mandya University.

Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer K.R. Nandini said creative programmes like this can make voter awareness more interesting and effective.

Nandini said every citizen who turns 18 should register as a voter and take part in elections. She stressed that every vote matters in a democracy because people choose their representatives through voting. A strong democratic system, she said, can support the country's progress and help citizens take greater responsibility.

The competition is being held under the SVEEP programme, which promotes voter education and participation. Young participants are writing



lyrics, composing music and singing about voting rights and responsibilities. So far, 15 teams have registered. The winner will receive Rs 10,000, while the second and third place winners will receive Rs 5,000 and Rs 2,500.

The best song will be selected as the 'Mandya District Election Theme Song' and may be used in voter awareness programmes across the district. Officials said the programme will also support campaigns planned for September 19 and 20, while promoting voter registration and participation during the Special Comprehensive Revision 2026.

'Akka Cafe draws tourists, boosting rural women'

Zilla Panchayat CEO Nandini K.R. visited Akka Cafe at Pandavapura Taluk Panchayat premises and reviewed its operations and turnover. Tourists visiting Melukote and Bhu Varahanatha Temple are helping the cafe attract customers, self-help group women said. Nandini suggested GST registration to expand catering services for government offices and other organizations. The cafe already receives outside catering orders, giving women additional income. They said foreign tourists had also praised the food's cleanliness and taste.

Shivamogga gears up for grand Maha Ganapathi

CH NEWS, SHIVAMOGGA

With Ganesh Chaturthi approaching, preparations for installing Ganesh idols are underway across Shivamogga. The city is gearing up for the grand celebration organised by the Shivamogga Hindu Mahamandali, which is known for its large-scale Mahaganapathi festivities.

The organisers have been making elaborate arrangements for the installation and celebrations. With thousands of devotees expected to participate, the police department has also stepped up security measures to ensure that the festival passes off peacefully.

Police officials have taken precautionary steps to prevent any untoward incidents during the celebrations. Security arrangements have been strengthened at important locations, while officials are also

keeping a close watch on the movement of people and vehicles during the festival.

The police have issued guidelines for the Ganesh idol immersion procession. Organisers and participants have been advised about what can and cannot be carried during the procession. They have also been urged to cooperate with the police and follow the instructions to maintain law and order.

The Shivamogga Hindu Mahaganapathi celebration is expected to attract a large number of devotees. Authorities and organisers are working together to ensure that the celebrations are conducted peacefully and in an orderly manner. Detailed arrangements have been made for the immersion procession, with special attention being given to public safety and traffic management.

Sunil Kumar seeks special grants for Mahamastakabhisheka

CH NEWS, KARKALA

Karkala MLA V Sunil Kumar has urged the Karnataka government to provide special grants for the upcoming Mahamastakabhisheka ceremony and development works in Karkala. The major Jain religious event is scheduled to be held for 10 days from February 18, 2027.

The Mahamastakabhisheka, conducted once every 12 years, attracts thousands of devotees and visitors from different parts of the country. Considering the importance of the event, Sunil

Kumar has sought additional financial support to improve infrastructure and provide better facilities for devotees.

The MLA has called for funds to strengthen roads, sanitation, drinking water supply, lighting and other basic facilities in and around Karkala. He also stressed the need to improve traffic management and arrangements for the large number of visitors expected during the celebrations.

The special grants, he said, would help the administration complete essential development works before the religious event.

Bhovi Corporation told to speed up welfare projects

CH NEWS, KOPPAL

Karnataka Bhovi Development Corporation Chairman Ramappa M. has directed officials to speed up welfare projects aimed at improving the economic, social and educational conditions of the Bhovi community.

He said eligible beneficiaries should receive government assistance within the prescribed time and urged departments to respond quickly to community needs.

Speaking at a progress review meeting at the J.H. Patel Hall, Ramappa reviewed the implementation of various corporation schemes. He said programmes covering self-employment, entrepreneurship, Ganga Kalyan, microcredit and land ownership should reach eligible beneficiaries without delay. Officials were also asked to work towards achieving the targets fixed for each scheme.

Ramappa called on lead bank managers to cooperate in providing banking services for credit-based programmes. He also instructed GESCOM officials to ensure timely electricity connections for borewells being provided under the Ganga Kalyan scheme. Such coordination, he said, would help beneficiaries use government support effectively and become financially independent.

During the meeting, Ramappa examined the progress of different schemes and stressed the need for regular monitoring. He encouraged members of the Bhovi community to make full use of the available programmes and use the opportunities to improve their livelihoods. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Development Corporation District Manager N. Pushpalatha explained the schemes being implemented during the current year.

Zilla Panchayat CEO Varnit Negi, Additional Deputy Commissioner Sidrameshwara,



Bhovi corporation steps up welfare scheme implementation

Karnataka Bhovi Development Corporation Chairman Ramappa M. said the government is working for the social and economic progress of the Bhovi community. Speaking at a press conference, he said Rs. 75.60 crore has been allocated for welfare schemes in 2026-27, with Rs. 18.90 crore already released. In Koppal, several schemes have benefited community members through self-employment loans, subsidies, vehicle assistance, microcredit and irrigation support. Under the Land Ownership Scheme, 34 beneficiaries received 47.25 acres of land at a cost of Rs. 4.80 crore. Ramappa said efforts would continue to ensure welfare benefits reach eligible beneficiaries.

Bhovi Development Corporation General Manager Shivaswamy, Deputy Conservator of Forests Nirmala N.K., Assistant Commissioner Maheebul Jilani and other officials attended the meeting. Representatives from social welfare, women's and child development, backward classes welfare and banking departments also participated.

Government of Karnataka - Zilla Panchayat
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Chikkamagaluru
Ph No.: 08262-220936 e-mail: zpedckm@rediffmail.com
Tender Notice No.: 20/2026-27/1544 Date: 07.09.2026

Tender Notice
Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Chikkamagaluru invites Tenders through K.P.P.P. related to works of Development of Road going from Gollarahalli to Jodibokikere in Jodibokikere G.P., Ajjapurah Taluk in Chikkamagaluru District (Indent No.: 29158) (Rs. 70.00 lakhs). Amount put to Tender for the work Rs. 59.15 lakhs. Details of capability to undertake or of having implemented the works should be attached as per Standard Tender Document KW - 3. For the said works the documents downloaded from K.P.P.P. can be filled and uploaded from 07.09.2026 to 21.09.2026 up to 5.30 PM. If possible the Technical Bid will be opened on 23.09.2026 at 5.30 PM. If possible the Financial Bid will be opened on 28.09.2026 at 5.05 PM. If this day is declared as holiday then the next day will be considered. Notice can be read on www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in Further details can be obtained by contacting the case worker during office hours.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Chikkamagaluru.
DIPR/CKM/KSMCA/26-27/10/779

HASSAN UNIVERSITY
(ಸತ್ಯಪನ-2023)
Hemagangothri Phone : 08172-220014
BM Road, Kenchatathalli, Hassan E-Mail: reg.hassan.uni@gmail.com
Phone : 08172-220014 E-Mail : reg.hassanuni@gmail.com

E-TENDER
Hassan University invites bids from eligible agencies for providing the required human resource services to the University. An e-tender has been issued in this regard. E-Tender No.: HU-2026-27/SE0013 The details of the tender are as follows: Sl. No. Description 1) Human Resource Services / Manpower Services Estimated Amount Rs.66,96,102 Tender Schedule Sl. No.Particulars 1) Last date for tender enquiry Date 17.09.2026 Time 5:00 PM 2) Start date for submission of applications through the e-Procurement portal Date 05.09.2026 Time 11:00 AM 3) Last date for submission of applications through the e-Procurement portal Date 19.09.2026 Time 5:30 PM 4) Opening of Technical Bid Date 21.09.2026 Time 11:00 AM 5) Opening of Financial Bid Date 22.09.2026 Time 11:00 AM Interested agencies are required to participate in the tender through the Karnataka Government e-Procurement portal. The tender documents can be obtained from the e-Procurement portal and the details are available at: http://kppt.karnataka.gov.in
Sd/- B A Jagadeesha KAS Registrar Hassan University, Hassan
ಬಾಹ್ಯಾಸಂಸ್ಥೆ/ಅಸಂಸ್ಥೆ/476/ಕ್ರೀಡಾಪಟಲೆ/2025-26

Quick Read

Ration card holders urged to complete e-KYC

KOPPAL
All ration card holders in Koppala district must complete e-KYC for every member by September 30, District Collector Dr. Suresh B. Itnal said. The process is mandatory under government rules. Of 7,38,156 beneficiaries, only 3,720 have completed e-KYC, leaving 7,34,436 still pending. Pending names have been shared with fair price shop owners across the taluks. Beneficiaries should visit their nearest fair price shop in person to finish the process. e-KYC is completely free, and no fee should be paid. Officials urged cardholders to complete verification before the deadline and continue receiving government benefits without interruption through eligible public distribution services.

Hanukunti power line energized on Sep 10

KOPPAL
JESCOM has warned the public and farmers about electricity supply on the 33 KV Hanukunti power line from September 10. The line from the Batageri power distribution centre, connected to the M/S KNNL LIS Hanukunti project, will carry electricity. People, farmers, landowners and others near the line must not touch or approach electric poles, wires, stay wires or other equipment. The Executive Engineer of the Construction and Maintenance Department urged everyone to remain extremely careful, as electricity may flow at any time. JESCOM said negligence could lead to serious accidents and clarified that it would not be responsible for such incidents.

Rizwan Arshad attacks probe agencies over raids

UDUPI
Karnataka Minister and Udupi district in-charge Rizwan Arshad on Wednesday criticised the Enforcement Directorate (ED), Income Tax Department and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), accusing them of targeting political opponents. He alleged that the agencies were being used by the BJP for political purposes. Speaking to reporters after inaugurating a Prajaseva programme in Udupi, Arshad also criticised the BJP's ongoing padayatra in Ballari under state president B Y Vijayendra. He claimed the march was being organised mainly to protect Vijayendra's position as party president rather than over a genuine public issue. Arshad said Karnataka was facing drought-like con-



ditions and alleged that the BJP should instead focus on issues affecting people. He said the Congress government had been elected for a full five-year term and would return to the people after completing its tenure. Reacting to the ED raids linked to Minister Satish Jarkiholi, Arshad alleged that the ED, IT and CBI were functioning like the BJP's youth wing and ABVP. He claimed the agencies were selectively targeting individuals whom the

BJP wanted to weaken politically. He said such actions amounted to political vendetta. On the Indira Kit scheme, Arshad said the programme had been temporarily stopped and instructions had been issued to restart it. He attributed the decision to the rising prices of essential commodities and blamed the Union government for the increase in prices. Meanwhile, supporters of Satish Jarkiholi staged a protest outside his Dollars Colony residence in Bengaluru against the ED raids. They accused central agencies of targeting the minister politically and raised slogans against the Union government. ED officials had conducted searches at more than 10 locations linked to Jarkiholi in Bengaluru, Belagavi and Gokak.

RATION ACCESS CRISIS

Transport expenses: Free ration benefits diminished

CH NEWS, Malingaraya pujar
Getting basic food supplies has become a daily struggle for residents of Wards 16, 17, 18 and 19 in Lakshmeshwar town. People, including elderly residents, women and children, are forced to travel nearly three kilometres to collect rice provided under the government's Annabhagya scheme. For poor families who depend on daily wages, the long journey means losing valuable working hours. Earlier, residents in the Pethban area had a fair price shop

that served them conveniently. However, the shop was closed several years ago. Beneficiaries were then shifted to the Vinayak Fair Price Shop and Someshwar Fair Price Shop. Residents say this decision has created serious difficulties because the shops are far from their homes and difficult to reach, especially for elderly people and families with young children. People from the four wards now have to travel to the Vinayak Fair Price Shop near Kalikadevi Temple in Ward 1. The distance is around three kilometres. Many residents walk in the heat and rain while

carrying heavy ration bags. Those who cannot walk are forced to hire an auto or another vehicle. Residents say transport costs can take away much of the benefit of receiving free rice. Residents claim they have repeatedly approached food department officials and elected representatives, requesting a fair price shop within their wards or somewhere nearby. However, they say their requests have not received proper attention. The growing frustration has led to anger among the affected families, who want the administration to act without further delay.

Lakshmeshwar taluk has 33 fair price shops, but only nine are located within the town limits. Residents believe this number is inadequate for the town's population of more than 40,000 and its growing number of ration card holders. Bharamappa Sherasuri, president of the Kranti Veera Sangolli Rayanna Fan Club, said people often lose an entire day collecting ration. He urged authorities to understand that providing free rice is not enough; it must also be made easily accessible. Residents are now hoping the government will open a shop in Pethban or arrange ration distribution closer to their homes.

Magadi Congress defends Balakrishna amid political attacks



MAGADI
Congress leaders in Magadi have strongly criticized former MLAs A. Manjunath and Belagavadi Rangaswamy for making what they described as baseless allegations against Minister H.C. Balakrishna and Block Congress President K. Krishnamurthy. Speaking at a press conference organized by the Youth Congress at the town Congress office, Congress leader Hallikar Sagar said Balakrishna's work in the constituency was visible through several major development projects. Sagar said projects worth thousands of crores were currently being taken up in the taluk because of Balakrishna's efforts. He said the minister would continue in office for the next one and a half years and the Congress government would remain in power. Sagar challenged Rangaswamy to produce documents supporting his allegations against Krishnamurthy, including claims about an alleged Rs. 8 crore scam in the Vokkaligara Sangh and alleged double registration of a

site. Sagar also accused Rangaswamy of collecting public donations in the name of building a statue of Lakkegowda and questioned his record during his tenure as MLA. He challenged him to discuss the allegations openly with Krishnamurthy, saying the Congress side would accept the outcome if the accusations were proved. He said unsubstantiated statements should not be made simply for political attention. Magadi Youth Congress president Praveen said former MLA A. Manjunath was making frustrated statements because he could not accept the development work being carried out under Balakrishna. He praised the minister for responding to

people's concerns and urged political workers not to disturb peace among JDS, BJP and Congress supporters. Student leader Kiran also listed several projects, including educational institutions, a sports stadium, Kannada Bhavan and irrigation works, and questioned the former MLAs' contributions. Taluk social media coordinator Yogesh said personal remarks against Balakrishna were inappropriate and accused former leaders of making statements for political publicity. Congress workers present at the meeting said they would continue supporting development work in Magadi. They urged opponents to present evidence for their allegations and keep political discus-

“Former MLA A. Manjunath was making frustrated statements because he could not accept the development work being carried out under Balakrishna.”
- Praveen, Magadi Youth Congress president

AT A GLANCE

- Congress leaders reject allegations against Minister Balakrishna
- Sagar cites thousands-crore development projects underway
- Leaders demand documents backing corruption allegations
- Rangaswamy challenged over alleged ₹8-crore scam
- Youth Congress accuses former MLA of frustration
- Congress urges opponents to focus on development

sions focused on public issues and the constituency's future.

Accused woman arrested after evading court

MANGALURU
Kavoor police have arrested a woman accused in a theft case who had been absconding after failing to appear before the court. According to police, the woman had repeatedly remained absent from court proceedings despite being directed to appear in connection with the case. Police traced her whereabouts and took her into custody. The accused was later produced before the court for further legal proceedings. Police said efforts are continuing to ensure that accused persons in pending cases comply with court orders.

Major road development works begin across Dudda

MANDYA
Melukote MLA Darshan Puttannaiah recently performed ceremonial Gudali Puja to mark the beginning of several road development works across villages in Dudda Hobli, under the Melukote Assembly constituency. The projects, taken up by the Public Works Department, have a combined estimated cost of Rs 3.15 crore and are supported by a special grant from the Chief Minister. The works cover important roads in several villages and are expected to improve daily travel for residents, students, farmers and other road users. About Rs 1 crore has been allocated for the main road near Sri Sai Niketan School in Avverahalli. Other sanctioned works include Rs 15 lakh in Avverahalli, Rs 25 lakh in Bilaguli, Rs 20 lakh in Kuri Koppalu and Rs 20 lakh in Chandagalu. Further allocations include Rs 45 lakh for Beeregowdanahalli, Rs 15 lakh for Sampahalli, Rs 25 lakh for Shivalli and Rs 50 lakh for Hullenahalli. The MLA said the projects were planned to address local road needs and



₹45 lakh for Beeregowdanahalli, ₹15 lakh for Sampahalli, ₹25 lakh for Shivalli and ₹50 lakh for Hullenahalli will improve roads and safer travel

provide safer, smoother travel. He urged officials and contractors to complete the works on time without causing unnecessary inconvenience to residents. Local leaders, officials and contractors attended the programme, including C.K. Nagaraj, Ramakrishna, Ningegowda, Siddharaju, Patel Shivakumar, Mahadevappa and Vinay Kumar. Public Works Department Assistant Engineer Jagadish and village representatives were also present. The new road projects are expected to improve connectivity and bring practical relief to people across the area.

Women demand relocation of liquor shop from colony

MAGADI
Residents of Manchanabele Reservoir Colony in Magadi taluk have urged excise officials to relocate the SLN MRP liquor shop away from the residential area. Women's groups and local residents submitted a petition at the town Excise Office, saying the shop has created problems for families, women, children and students living nearby. Stree Shakti and Sanjeevini activist Varija said the liquor shop is close to residential areas and Dalit colonies. She alleged that people from Bengaluru and other places stop their vehicles on roads and footpaths near the shop to consume alcohol, often creating disturbances. According to her, women and girls feel unsafe going out, especially in the evening. She also alleged that illegal alcohol sales take place in some shops and houses from early morning, affecting the village atmosphere. Varija said alcohol addiction has seriously affected several families in the Dalit colony, with some men reportedly losing their lives early. She said women's groups have repeatedly approached excise officials and other authorities, but permanent ac-

tion has not followed. She warned that women's organizations would launch a strong protest if the shop was not shifted from the residential area. She also claimed the liquor outlet was not permitted under the Ashraya housing project rules. Former Gram Panchayat member Umesh said schools and churches are located within about 270 to 280 metres of the shop, while houses are only around 90 to 100 metres away. He said there are nearly 145 houses in the area, most belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe families. He alleged that officials submitted an incorrect inspection report stating that SC and ST residents were not present there. Villagers said they had raised the matter with Excise officials, Minister and MLA H.C. Balakrishna. The residents warned that they would stage a dharna, lock the shop and approach the Lokayukta and court if the issue was not resolved legally. Excise Inspector M.R. Vijayalakshmi said legal action regarding relocation had been initiated and letters had been sent to the EO, PDO and Tahsildar. She added that notices had already been issued concerning the complaints. Residents now await concrete action from authorities.

150-year-old traditional pathway closed

MANGALURU
A 150-year-old traditional public pathway in Anantadi village of Bantwal taluk has been closed, causing severe inconvenience to more than 50 families. Residents of Nadumane, Sudekattamaru and Punjavu areas have urged the authorities to remove the obstruction and reopen the route for public use. The pathway is located in Survey No. 137 of Anantadi village and has been used by local residents for more than 150 years. It has served as an important link for families living in the surrounding areas. However, the sudden closure has disrupted their daily movement and left residents struggling to reach essential places. Schoolchildren, elderly people and other residents are among those facing difficulties. Children have trouble travelling to the anganwadi, while residents are

also finding it difficult to reach the nearby milk dairy, post office and hospitals. The closure has increased the inconvenience for people who regularly depended on the traditional pathway. Senior citizens have been particularly affected, as many of them use the post office to receive old-age pensions and access government services. Residents said the closure has made it difficult for elderly people to travel safely and conveniently, adding to their daily problems. The affected villagers have submitted a petition to the Bantwal tahsildar seeking immediate intervention. They have requested the administration to inspect the issue, remove the obstruction and restore the pathway for public movement. The villagers said the route has been used by generations of residents and is important for their everyday needs.

Quick Read

Police use DNA, CCTV to trace child abuse suspect

JAIPUR
Police in Kota are examining DNA samples, forensic evidence and CCTV footage to identify the suspected accused in the alleged sexual abuse of a three-year-old girl. A case has been registered under the POCSO Act and other relevant sections. The case came to light after the child fell ill and was taken to a paediatrician, who noticed pain and swelling around her waist and genital area and suspected sexual assault. Due to her young age, police are relying on scientific evidence. DNA samples have been collected from male staff members of the child's nearby play school and other relevant individuals. An FSL team has also examined the location. Police are reviewing CCTV footage to trace the child's movements and identify people who may have contacted her. The accused has not yet been identified.

Woman alleges harassment by Rapido rider

NOIDA
A woman in Noida has alleged that a Rapido delivery partner harassed her after she booked a parcel service. Geetika Srivastava shared screenshots of their conversation on LinkedIn, showing the rider greeting her, asking how she was and later sending an "I love you" message. Srivastava said she warned the rider that she would approach police if he contacted her again. According to her, the rider instead dared her to file a complaint and contact Rapido. Rapido responded to her post, apologised for the experience and asked her to share the booking details, Ride ID and registered mobile number. The company said it takes such complaints seriously and that customer safety, dignity and respect are its priorities.

Kanpur businessman dies after assault outside shop

KANPUR
A businessman, Amit Gupta, died after being severely assaulted by local men when he objected to public urination outside his shop. He succumbed to his injuries in hospital without regaining consciousness. Gupta's family alleged that despite submitting CCTV footage of the assault to police, no arrests were made even 72 hours after the incident. DCP Atul Srivastava said an FIR has been registered at Kakadev police station. Around a dozen people have been detained for questioning, while four suspects have been identified through CCTV footage. Police have formed four dedicated teams to locate and arrest the accused. The investigation into the assault and the circumstances surrounding Gupta's death is underway.

Himachal CM seeks technology push in remote areas

NEW DELHI
Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Wednesday met Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh and discussed proposals to strengthen science and technology initiatives, particularly in remote and tribal areas of the state. Sukhu proposed establishing a centre for astronomy and astrophysics in the high-altitude tribal regions of Lahaul-Spiti and Pangi, modelled on astronomical initiatives in Hanle, Ladakh. He said the areas offered favourable conditions for astronomical research and observations while creating opportunities for local students and youth to develop scientific interest. The proposed centre could also create new avenues for sustainable, knowledge-based tourism in Himachal Pradesh's tribal regions. Sukhu also sought support from the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research for expanding demonstration sites for lavender cultivation. He said wider demonstrations would help farmers understand suitable cultivation practices, improve awareness and encourage adoption of lavender as an alternative and remunerative crop.



Vijay-led TVK alliance gets new name

Tamil Nadu's ruling TVK-led coalition adopts a new alliance name amid Congress tensions and differing positions over the 2029 elections.

CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu's ruling coalition, led by Chief Minister Vijay and his Tamilaga Vetti Kazhagam (TVK), has been named the Secular Social Justice Victory Alliance. The name was announced on Wednesday after an alliance meeting chaired by Vijay at the TVK headquarters in Panaiyur. The gathering focused on formalising the coalition and settling key organisational issues. The meeting was the second gathering of the alliance since the post-poll coalition formed the government. Congress leaders attending included Tamil Nadu Congress Committee president B Manickam Tagore, Rajya Sabha member Praveen Chakravathy and Assembly floor leader Tharahai Cuthbert. Leaders of Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, including Vaiko and his son Durai, also participated.



Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi chief Thol Thirumavalavan and Indian Union Muslim League leaders KM Kader Mohideen, AM Shahjahan and Syed Farooq Basha were among those present. However, Communist Party of India (Marxist) and Communist Party of India leaders, who support the government, did not attend the meeting at Panaiyur. The coalition includes TVK, which won 108 seats in its debut Tamil Nadu Assembly election, along with Congress, which has five MLAs, and two MLAs each from the Indian Union Muslim League and VCK/Left factions through external support. The TVK-led government was formed after the election results, with Vijay requiring support from at least 10 MLAs to take oath.

The alliance meeting came amid reported tensions with Congress. Tamil Nadu Tourism Minister S Rajesh Kumar had said Congress ministers would resign if TVK did not support Rahul Gandhi as the party's prime ministerial candidate for the 2029 general election. Congress had ended its alliance with the DMK after the polls and backed TVK on the condition that communal forces remain outside the government.

J-K Police conduct security drill in Samba

SAMBA

Jammu and Kashmir Police conducted a security mock drill on Wednesday at a border police post in Samba district to strengthen security and improve operational preparedness along the Indo-Pak border. Officials said the exercise tested standard operating procedures for responding to a fidayeen or armed attack and assessed personnel readiness during an emergency. The drill was led by the Samba Additional Superintendent of Police and attended by the Samba Deputy Superintendent of Police, Special Op-



eration Group and the in-charge of Mawa Border Police Post. Personnel were briefed on their responsibilities, including sentry duties, the response to suspicious movement or an attack, and the roles of the LMG post and sentry. The exercise also focused on timely activation of alarm systems and technical monitoring by designated police

personnel. Emphasis was placed on quickly sharing information with the Special Operation Group, police control rooms in Samba and Jammu, and adjoining districts. Officers were also instructed on safe and coordinated movement after ensuring clear visibility, including advancing in buddy pairs while maintaining wireless communication. A detailed debriefing followed the exercise to assess the response and identify areas requiring improvement. Samba Police also displayed the Samba Police Control Room contact number at wa-

Assam strengthens child protection system with new safeguards

GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday said the state government has introduced a series of measures to strengthen child protection and address gaps in the existing system. The steps are aimed at ensuring greater safety, care and accountability for children across the state, with stronger safeguards for institutions and personnel responsible for their welfare. Sarma said the state has notified the State Child Protection Policy and Juvenile Justice (JJ) Rules, 2026, describing the move as an important step towards building a stronger and more organised child protection framework. He said the government had identified shortcomings in the existing system and was taking systematic measures to improve safeguards. As part of the new measures, Assam has made the appointment of child safeguarding officers and staff screening mandatory. The requirement is intended to ensure that personnel involved in caring for and



Assam introduces new child protection rules, mandatory staff screening and stronger monitoring to improve safety, accountability, care and rehabilitation statewide.

protecting children meet necessary safety standards. The functioning of Child Welfare Committees, Juvenile Justice Boards and more than 10 statutory bodies has also been streamlined to improve coordination and accountability. The government has additionally institutionalised Individual Care Plans and home audits to ensure that children's individual needs and safety are regularly assessed and monitored. These measures are designed to strengthen oversight and ensure that children receiving care and protection are sup-

KEY INITIATIVE	
■ Policy:	Child Protection Policy + JJ Rules, 2026
■ Staff:	Mandatory screening
■ Monitoring:	Home audits + care plans
■ Institutions:	CWCs, JJBs and 10+ bodies
■ Focus:	Prevention, care, monitoring and rehabilitation

ported through a structured system. The broader framework covers prevention, institutional care, monitoring and rehabilitation, while placing greater responsibility on statutory bodies and officials working with children. Sarma stressed the importance of closing regulatory gaps and strengthening every safeguard required for child safety. The latest policy and rules are expected to provide a more structured approach to implementing protection measures and improving oversight of institutions and personnel across Assam.

Naidu vows to protect land rights, resolve disputes

AMARAVATI

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday said the NDA coalition government was committed to protecting people's rights over their land and resolving long-pending disputes. Addressing the "Mee Bhoomi-Mee Hakku" programme at Machavaram in BR Ambedkar Konaseema district, Naidu said governance must reach people and improve their lives, while highlighting land and water as vital to livelihoods. Naidu said the government was giving high priority to both areas, noting that more than 1,000 TMC of Godavari water had flowed into the sea despite the severe impact of El Nino on the state. He said better utilisation of the water could have delivered significant benefits. He also highlighted the government's "Pedala Sevalo" programme and its efforts to improve living standards through Public-Private-People Partnership. On land issues, Naidu alleged that the previous YSRCP government between 2019 and 2024 had tampered with and destroyed land records and introduced the Land Titling Act in an attempt to acquire people's

"If water is life, land is livelihood. That is why the NDA coalition government is giving high priority to both these programmes."
—Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister

lands. He said the NDA government repealed the Act after coming to power. He also alleged that properties of people disliked by the previous rulers were placed on a prohibited list, causing difficulties for owners. The government is conducting a comprehensive re-survey and issuing Patta-dar Passbooks carrying the Rajamudra, along with e-KYC, QR codes and blockchain-based security features. Naidu said auto-mutation had benefited 1.2 lakh families, while 16 lakh acres had been freed from restrictions and 224 long-pending land issues resolved. He said the government had also settled a 120-year-old land dispute and addressed cases in Shettipalli, Vatticherukuru, Kalidindi, Kangundi and Mudinepalli. In one initiative, action concerning 56.37 acres was taken to benefit 1,410 people and remove difficulties linked to the land dispute.

MPSC aspirant death sparks outrage over leaks

PUNE

The alleged suicide of MPSC aspirant Prathamesh Deshmukh in Pune has triggered outrage among competitive examination candidates amid allegations of paper leaks and financial distress. Police suspect that financial difficulties, including an unpaid debt of Rs 2.5 lakh, may have contributed to his death. The incident has intensified scrutiny of the Maharashtra Public Service Commission and its handling of examinations. Pune, an education hub in Maharashtra, has faced criticism over examination leak controversies involving NEET, CET and the drug inspector examination. MPSC aspirants staged protests in Pune on Monday and Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar on Tuesday, demanding the resignation of the commission's chairman and other officials over alleged leaks.

The protests followed allegations concerning the MPSC Excise (Departmental) Examination. Protesters claimed institutional involvement in administrative irregularities and referred to reports alleging that a joint secretary-level officer

was linked to the leakage of examination marking patterns. They demanded the removal and replacement of the MPSC chairman and secretary, criminal investigations and legal action against officials and middlemen allegedly involved. Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee president Harshvardhan Sapkal attacked the government and demanded resignation of the MPSC chairman and secretary. He alleged that the government was avoiding responsibility over the death of a student from Dharashiv. Cockroach Janata Party founder Abhijit

Dipke expressed grief and urged aspirants not to take extreme steps, highlighting the dependence of families on students who move to Pune for preparation. NCP SP MLA Rohit Pawar backed the aspirants, saying the protest was about protecting their future rather than politics. He said candidates would not accept corruption involving payments for government posts. Key demands include comprehensive investigations, strict action and structural reforms to restore integrity in MPSC recruitment and examinations.

MP RAISES INTERN DOCTORS' STIPEND AFTER PROTEST

BHOPAL

The Madhya Pradesh government on Wednesday agreed to increase the monthly stipend of MBBS intern doctors to Rs 21,500 after a three-day protest demanding higher remuneration. The decision followed a meeting between Deputy Chief Minister and Health Minister Rajendra Shukla

and representatives of intern doctors, the Junior Doctors' Association and the Medical Teachers Association. The agitation was held at several locations across the state, including a major demonstration near Kamala Park in Bhopal. The protests intensified after police used lathis and water cannons to disperse students. Several intern doctors were

injured during the action, prompting the government to order an inquiry into the incident. Shukla said two police personnel who were prima facie found involved had been reassigned to police lines, while an inquiry team had been formed. He assured the delegation that students injured during the police action would re-

ceive proper medical treatment. He also said the government was committed to addressing their concerns with sensitivity. The meeting also discussed strengthening healthcare services in rural areas and the contribution of young doctors to medical facilities in remote parts of Madhya Pradesh. Shukla said the state was working to

improve rural healthcare through an MoU with Sevankur Bharat and appealed to young doctors to serve rural communities with a spirit of service and sensitivity. The revised stipend is expected to offer financial relief to MBBS graduates during their compulsory internship, which involves clinical training and pa-

tient-care responsibilities in government hospitals and other healthcare institutions. The agreement marks an end to the three-day agitation, with the government addressing the central demand for improved remuneration while also focusing on rural healthcare needs and recognising the concerns raised by protesting students statewide.

RAILWAY PROJECTS APPROVED

Cabinet approves 5 railway projects worth Rs 10,021 cr

NEW DELHI

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Wednesday approved five railway multi-tracking projects worth Rs 10,021 crore across Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The projects will add about 540 km to the railway network across 17 districts. They include new lines and doubling works covering Whitefield-Bangarapet, Arakkonam-Renigunta, Hosur-Omalur, Salem-Karur-Dindigul and Secunderabad-



Kazipet. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the projects, planned under the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan,

will improve connectivity, logistics efficiency and railway capacity. They are expected to ease congestion and strengthen movement of

PROJECT AT A GLANCE	
Investment:	₹10,021 crore
Network expansion:	About 540 km
States covered:	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
Villages connected:	Nearly 2,121
Freight capacity:	47 million tonnes annually
Key corridors:	Whitefield-Bangarapet, Arakkonam-Renigunta, Hosur-Omalur, Salem-Karur-Dindigul and Secunderabad-Kazipet

people, goods and services.

The projects will improve rail access to nearly 2,121 villages with a combined population of around 52 lakh. They will also support connectivity to tourist destinations including Tirupati, Tiruttani and Hogenakkal Falls. The upgraded corridors are important for transporting coal, cement, steel, automobiles, food grains, petroleum products and fertilisers. The additional capacity is expected to generate 47 million tonnes of freight traffic annually, supporting industrial growth and economic activity.





- SHYAM SUNDAR VATTAM

KARNATAKA MUST SPEAK IN ONE VOICE ON MEKEDATU

Karnataka has much to learn from neighbouring Tamil Nadu when it comes to protecting the interests of the State. On issues that affect the State’s rights and resources, Tamil Nadu’s political parties have repeatedly demonstrated that political differences can be kept aside when a larger cause is at stake. Whether it is the Cauvery water dispute or opposition to the NEET system, the State’s political class has generally rallied around a common position.

Karnataka too needs such political maturity, particularly now when the long-pending Mekedatu balancing reservoir project has once again come into focus.

The proposed project across the Cauvery near Mekedatu in Ramanagara district is intended primarily as a balancing reservoir and drinking-water project, with Karnataka maintaining that it would help meet Bengaluru’s drinking-water needs and regulate water utilisation. The project has been a political issue in Karnataka for years and has also triggered strong opposition in Tamil Nadu.

The Union government’s recent clarification that the 2018 Supreme Court judgment does not require Karnataka to obtain the consent of Tamil Nadu, Kerala or Puducherry before constructing a structure within Karnataka has given the project a fresh political push.

But it would be wrong to interpret this as a blanket final clearance to start construction immediately. The Central Water Commission returned Karnataka’s revised DPR in June this year, seeking modifications to bring it in conformity with the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal award and the Supreme Court judgment. The Supreme Court has also held that the preparation



of a DPR is not the same as final project approval and that the DPR has to go through the Cauvery Water Management Authority.

This legal and procedural background makes it all the more important for Karnataka to proceed with determination, but also within the framework of law.

The present Chief Minister, D.K. Shivakumar, knows the political significance of Mekedatu better than most. As KPCC president, he had undertaken the much-publicised ‘Namma Neeru, Namma Hakku’ padayatra from the Cauvery Sangama near Kanakapura to Bengaluru, demanding implementation of the project. The campaign had taken place despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Today, as Chief Minister, Shivakumar has the opportunity to translate that political campaign into concrete action.

The timing is particularly important. Tamil Nadu has already begun mobilising opposition to the project. The Coordination Committee of All Farmers’ Associations of Tamil Nadu has announced a five-day statewide campaign from September 20 and indicated that it would seek an appointment with Prime Minister Narendra Modi if necessary.

The BJP and JD(S), which are in Opposition, should therefore rise above partisan politics and extend constructive support to the Congress government on Mekedatu. If the project is genuinely in Karnataka’s long-term interest, there should be no question of who gets the political credit. The credit should belong to Karnataka.

This is precisely where the culture of ‘credit politics’ must end. Projects involving the State’s water security, drinking-water requirements and long-term development cannot be reduced to electoral slogans.

At the same time, the government must ensure complete transparency about the project’s cost, environmental implications, rehabilitation requirements, water-sharing obligations and statutory clearances. Karnataka’s legitimate rights must be protected without violating the rights of downstream States or the orders of constitutional and statutory authorities.

There is also a larger question of priorities. Karnataka is facing serious financial pressures, while its guarantee schemes have placed a substantial burden on the State exchequer. The government must undertake a careful review of expenditure and ensure that critical infrastructure projects are not starved of funds. Simply abandoning welfare commitments overnight may not be practical or desirable, but fiscal discipline is essential. Every rupee saved through better targeting and elimination of waste should be channelled into productive infrastructure, including water security.

Mekedatu should not become another political promise endlessly recycled before every election. Karnataka needs a clear roadmap, time-bound execution and a united political voice.

Tamil Nadu has shown that when a State’s interests are perceived to be at stake, political parties can close ranks. Karnataka should demonstrate the same resolve.

Namma Neeru, Namma Hakku should not remain merely a slogan. It should become a shared commitment of every political party in Karnataka. The Cauvery may divide the two States geographically, but Karnataka’s political class must unite firmly when it comes to safeguarding the State’s legitimate interests.

Mekedatu must be pursued with determination, legality and political unity not partisan rivalry.

WHEN A LAKE IS DESTROYED AND ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTIONS HAPPENS WHO IS ACTUALLY HELD RESPONSIBLE?

Kada Agrahara quarry lake a land mark to few is being fading as each day goes by due to our silence. Now construction debris and mud being dumped into the lake small portion by portion the entire lake will be filled with mud and debris to the land level reaching a point where there is no sign of the lake. Already the sides are filled with mud making a pathway for the vehicles carrying debris and mud to dump in the lake and a little portion of the lake is already in process of being covered removing that

part from the lake. Because the lake is being converted into land over time and not immediately people don't recognise the lake fading away. We stay silent now but complaint and worry during the rainy days to how the water floods our roads even during light rainfall that lasts only for 15 mins .our silence now is going to affect us in various ways in future, natural spaces like these would help retain water as each disappear one by one there will be no space for the water to settle in that is when flooding becomes a part of our daily life. After a few years that land would be



purchased by companies or individuals who aren't even aware of the lake, would build buildings or flats, and innocent people will be held responsible and be asked to pay fine and vacate. Are we the one's who are actually responsible paying the price?

Government takes action after the lake is completely destroyed and buildings have come up, who bears the consequences?The people responsible for this disaster would live their lives in peace while the innocent citizens pay the price of their doings.

- IVANIA MARY WILLYS

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY- SEP 10, 2026

In India’s rapidly changing urban landscape, financial setbacks, business losses, mounting loans, job insecurity, family responsibilities and the pressure to maintain a particular standard of living are increasingly becoming sources of intense psychological distress. World Suicide Prevention Day 2026, observed on September 10 with the theme “Changing the Narrative on Suicide,” highlights the urgent need to replace silence and stigma with open conversations, empathy and timely mental-health support.

India continues to face a significant suicide burden. According to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, 171,418 suicides were reported in 2023, compared with 170,924 in 2022. The suicide rate was approximately 12.3 per lakh population in 2023. Importantly, nearly two-thirds of reported suicides in 2023 were among people aged 18–45 years,

highlighting the vulnerability of the economically and socially active population. Mumbai recorded 1,406 suicides in 2024, according to official data released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). Mumbai ranked fourth among major Indian cities for absolute numbers, behind Delhi (2,905 cases), Bengaluru (2,403 cases), and similar to other metropolitan centers.

For people living in cities, financial distress can become particularly overwhelming. Business failure, accumulated loans, EMI pressures, loss of employment, professional competition, relationship difficulties, social isolation and the perceived need to “keep up” with peers can create a combination of pressures. Financial distress should not be viewed in isolation; it can interact with depression, anxiety, substance use, family conflict and other mental-health challenges.

Family and relationship-re-

lated stress can also contribute significantly to emotional distress. Frequent relationship quarrels, marital conflict, separation or divorce, extramarital affairs, differences between partners or families over caste and social background, family opposition to relationships, domestic disagreements, emotional rejection, loss of trust, loneliness within relationships and unresolved conflicts can leave individuals feeling isolated and overwhelmed. In some situations, intense emotions following a relationship breakdown or prolonged family conflict may compound existing financial, professional or mental-health difficulties. These factors should be understood as possible contributors rather than single or definitive causes of suicide.

Dr. Pratik Surandash, MD Psychiatry, Consultant Psychiatrist, from Apex Group of Hospitals, Borivali said, “A business loss, failed venture, unemployment or inability to

repay a loan can feel like the end of the world when a person is already emotionally overwhelmed. But a financial crisis is a situation not a person's identity or the end of their future. In our cities, where success is often measured through income, lifestyle and professional achievement, people may hesitate to admit that they are struggling. We need to change this mindset. Asking someone how they are coping, listening without judgement and encouraging professional help can be extremely important. The message should be clear: financial problems can be solved step by step; a life cannot be replaced.”

Dr. Pratik Surandash, MD Psychiatry, Consultant Psychiatrist, from Apex Group of Hospitals further added, “Family and relationship conflicts can be equally distressing. Quarrels between couples, separation, divorce, relationship breakdowns, family opposition to a relationship,

differences in caste or social background, betrayal and unresolved emotional conflicts can deeply affect a person's sense of security and belonging. When several stresses occur together, a person may feel that there is no way forward. This is precisely when family members and friends need to listen rather than judge, stay connected and encourage professional help.”

Experts emphasise that suicide prevention requires communities to recognise warning signs early and create safe spaces for conversations. Families, employers, colleagues and friends can play an important role by noticing withdrawal, hopelessness, major behavioural changes or expressions of being unable to cope. This World Suicide Prevention Day, the message is simple but powerful: Start the conversation. Listen without judgement. Encourage help.

- PRITI DOKE

VINOBA BHAVE’S BHOODAN AND SARVODAYA: A VISION FOR INCLUSIVE INDIA

Whenever a nation advances towards economic prosperity, technological excellence and global prominence, it faces a fundamental question: Is development merely about material achievements, or must it also encompass the growth of morality, compassion, coexistence and a sense of responsibility within human beings? India today is moving forward with the vision of a New India, a Developed India and a Prosperous India. At such a moment, the life and philosophy of Acharya Vinoba Bhave remind us that the strongest foundation of nation-building is human character.

September 11 marks the birth anniversary of Vinoba Bhave, whose original name was Vinayak Narahari Bhave. A close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, freedom fighter, thinker, spiritual seeker and pioneer of the Sarvodaya movement, Vinoba was much more than merely Gandhi’s spiritual successor. Such a description would confine the vastness of his personality. He developed an independent intellectual and spiritual vision of his own. Deeply influenced by saints such as Dnyaneshwar and Tukaram, he regarded the Bhagavad Gita as a

spiritual foundation of his life, while social transformation remained the practical expression of his thought. Vinoba’s greatest contribution was his ability to connect spirituality with the real and pressing problems of society. The Bhoodan Movement was a remarkable manifestation of this vision. He travelled from village to village, often on foot, appealing to landowners to voluntarily donate a portion of their land for the landless. This was not merely an effort to redistribute land; it was an attempt to transform the psychology of ownership into a consciousness of sharing and social responsibility.

Bhoodan gradually evolved into the idea of Gramdan, the collective sharing of village resources, expressed in the profound thought, “All land belongs to Gopal.” Embedded in this concept was not merely economic justice, but also social harmony, collective responsibility and ethical trusteeship. Vinoba believed that society could not be transformed by laws alone; it had to be awakened through the conscience of individuals. This vision naturally led him towards Sarvodaya, the welfare and upliftment of all. He envisaged a society in which the benefits of development

reached the last person and no individual’s progress came at the cost of another’s exploitation. His ability to persuade the Chambal dacoits to surrender was a powerful demonstration of his moral leadership. Vinoba believed deeply in the capacity of human beings to transform themselves. What was needed, he felt, was not merely punishment or coercion, but an awakening of the goodness within.

There was a profound affinity between Vinoba Bhave’s moral vision and the Anuvrat Movement pioneered by Acharya Tulsi. When Acharya Tulsi launched Anuvrat as a movement for character-building and moral awakening, several leading national personalities supported and encouraged his efforts. Vinoba Bhave was among them. The two great personalities met from time to time and engaged in meaningful discussions on the indispensability of ethical values in nation-building. Both believed that politics, society and the economy could remain healthy only when guided by people of character and conscience. Their journeys on foot also reflected a remarkable spiritual kinship. For them, walking was not merely a means of travelling from one place to another; it was a discipline of

public contact, social awakening and inner discovery. Vinoba often emphasised that walking brings one into direct contact with the earth and deepens one’s relationship with nature.

I have personally experienced this truth. I had the opportunity to walk for many years alongside Acharya Tulsi, the pioneer of the Anuvrat Movement. I discovered that a padyatra does much more than keep the body in motion; it opens the closed doors of the mind and intellect. An ordinary person encountered along the way can become a teacher, and life itself becomes an open classroom.

There is a deeply moving personal connection between my family and Vinoba Bhave. My father, the late Shri Ramswaroop Garg, and my mother, the late Smt. Satyabhama Garg, were associated with the Sarvodaya movement. In 1959, Vinoba Bhave came to Ajmer during one of his walking journeys. He came to know that Satyabhama Garg, one of his workers, was suffering from cancer and was struggling between life and death. He personally went to meet her, walking through the narrow lanes of Imli Mohalla and climbing up to the third floor, where he blessed her.

That incident reveals the



- LALIT GARGG

deeply human dimension of Vinoba’s leadership. His concern was not confined to great movements, public platforms or social campaigns. He was a compassionate saint who could feel another person’s suffering as his own. Another significant episode took place at a Sarvodaya conference in Hatundi near Ajmer. My father was an active Sarvodaya worker.

He took Muni Rakesh Kumar Ji, a disciple of Acharya Tulsi, to the conference, where they had an extensive and meaningful interaction with Vinoba Bhave. It was more than a dialogue between two streams of thought; it was a meeting of two powerful currents of moral awakening—the social consciousness of Sarvodaya and the personal ethical discipline of Anuvrat.

Their ultimate objective was the same: transform the individual, transform society and enable the nation to advance on the strength of moral character.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Life Worth Living Ahead

As World Suicide Prevention Day approaches, we must recognize that every life carries immense value. Mental health struggles often go unnoticed behind everyday smiles, making compassionate community support vital. We need accessible helplines, reduced social stigma, and active listening in our schools and workplaces. Checking in on friends and offering a safe space to speak can literally save lives. Choosing life is a journey best taken together; let us always choose hope over despair.

- Girish Nair

Hope Overcomes Darkest Hours

Rising pressure in daily life has made suicide prevention an urgent priority. Mental health must receive the same attention and care as physical health. Open conversations about anxiety, burnout, and depression can normalize seeking professional help early. Simple acts of empathy, kindness, and early intervention create strong safety nets for those struggling in silence. By prioritizing compassionate healthcare and personal connection, we can remind everyone that no crisis is permanent and hope always remains.

- Sharon Faustina J.

Need Safer Footpaths

Through your paper, I wish to highlight the pathetic condition of footpaths in Bengaluru. Most are broken, encroached by vendors or used for parking, forcing pedestrians to walk on busy roads. This is unsafe, especially for children and elders. The BBMP must clear encroachments, repair footpaths, and ensure they are pedestrian-friendly. Safe footpaths are a basic right, not a luxury.

- Ganesh



PERSONAL HYGIENE IS FREQUENTLY REDUCED TO A MATTER OF SUPERFICIAL APPEARANCE

A routine designed to ensure crisp clothes, fresh breath, and a neat presentation. Yet, viewed through the lens of modern epidemiology and social responsibility, self-care practices form the frontline of defense against infectious diseases. Maintaining personal hygiene is not merely a private routine; it is a fundamental pillar of community health and individual well-being.

At its core, basic hygiene interrupts the transmission cycle of harmful pathogens. Bacteria, viruses, and parasites thrive in subtle environments on skin, under fingernails, and across unwashed surfaces. Simple habits like washing hands with soap for at least 20 seconds drastically cut the spread of respiratory infections and gastrointestinal illnesses. Routine oral care prevents dental caries and periodontal disease, conditions increasingly linked to systemic health issues, including cardiovascular disease and diabetes. By taking care of the body, individuals reduce the burden on healthcare systems and build a personal shield against preventable ailments.

Beyond disease prevention, the psychological impacts of personal hygiene are profound. Daily cleansing rituals send a powerful psychological signal to the brain, promoting mental clarity and self-worth. People who maintain steady personal care habits often report higher self-esteem and reduced stress. Conversely, neglecting personal care is frequently both a symptom and an accelerator of mental distress. A clean physical state provides a sense of control and renewal, offering a stabilizing anchor amid chaotic



ic schedules.

On a social level, hygiene functions as a silent currency of respect. In workplaces, schools, and shared public spaces, personal cleanliness influences how individuals interact and collaborate. It reflects consideration for the comfort and safety of those around us. In close-knit communities, one person's hygiene practices directly affect everyone else. Poor hand hygiene in a shared kitchen or office environment can trigger an outbreak, illustrating how personal choices carry collective consequences.

However, recognizing the importance of hygiene requires acknowledging the structural barriers many face. Clean water, affordable soap, menstrual products, and safe sanitation facilities are not uni-

versally accessible. True progress demands treating hygiene access as a fundamental human right rather than a privilege. Public health initiatives must focus on expanding infrastructure and education, ensuring that everyone regardless of socioeconomic status has the tools needed to maintain bodily integrity.

As global density grows and public health challenges evolve, personal hygiene must be reframed. It is far more than a morning checklist or cosmetic effort; it is an active form of self-respect and civic responsibility. Cultivating mindful hygiene habits protects our bodies, preserves our dignity, and helps create a healthier, more resilient society for everyone.

- SIDDHU

GRIDLOCK CULTURE: RETHINKING HOW WE NAVIGATE CITIES

Urban traffic was once viewed merely as an inevitable inconvenience a minor tax paid for the conveniences of modern city living. Today, however, constant gridlock has evolved into a defining crisis of modern metropolitan life, stifling economic vitality, deteriorating public health, and consuming millions of human hours every single day. Solving this pervasive issue requires shifting our perspective from simply building more roads to fundamentally rethinking how people move.

At its core, traffic congestion is a straightforward failure of space and efficiency. For decades, urban planning has prioritized the private automobile above all other modes of transport. City layouts expanded outward, highways were widened, and massive parking structures replaced green spaces. Yet, highway expansion consistently triggers a phenomenon known as "induced demand": adding lanes attracts more drivers, quickly returning the road to its previous state of congestion. The fundamental truth of urban mobility is that individual passenger vehicles are inherently space-inefficient tools for high-density transport.

The consequences of this reliance extend far beyond idle frustration at red lights. Economically, traffic congestion drains billions of dollars annually in lost productivity, wasted fuel, and delayed supply chains. Environmentally, idling vehicles contribute significantly to urban carbon emissions and localized air pollution, driving up rates of respiratory illnesses in densely populated neighborhoods. Moreover, the daily stress of navigating severe congestion exacts a quiet, cumulative toll on mental health, reducing quality of life and eroding community cohesion.

Addressing this challenge demands bold,

structural interventions rather than incremental fixes. Modern urban planning must pivot toward robust public transit networks, dedicated cycling infrastructure, and walkable city designs. Investments in high-frequency buses, light rail, and protected bike lanes provide reliable, affordable alternatives to solo driving. Furthermore, innovative policies like congestion pricing charging vehicles a fee to enter high-density zones during peak hours have proven effective in cities worldwide, simultaneously reducing bottleneck traffic and generating revenue to fund public transit upgrades.

Ultimately, taming traffic is not about waging a war on cars; it is about providing genuine choices. When individuals have fast, safe, and dignified alternatives to driving, roads clear up for essential commercial vehicles, emergency services, and those who truly need to drive. Reclaiming our streets from endless gridlock is essential to building cleaner, healthier, and more vibrant cities for future generations.

- NANDU



TRAGEDY IN HIGH ALTITUDE: HIMALAYAS DEMAND CLIMATE ACTION

The catastrophic flash floods that tore through northern Nepal stretching along the Trishuli River through Rasuwa, Nuwakot, and neighboring districts represent far more than an isolated, seasonal disaster. Triggered by a massive collapse of rock and glacial ice high in the Himalayas near Langtang Lirung, a surging torrent of water, sediment, and debris swallowed entire villages, destroyed vital infrastructure, and claimed over a thousand lives within minutes. This tragedy is a terrifying look into the escalating vulnerability of fragile mountain ecosystems under a rapidly changing climate.

For generations, the high Himalayas were viewed as enduring, immovable shields. Yet, warming global temperatures are destabilizing bedrock, accelerating glacial retreat, and turning ancient mountain slopes into volatile hazards. When tens of millions of tons of ice and rock plunged thousands of meters downstream, standard river monitoring systems designed primarily for monsoon rain surges were rendered utterly useless. The destruction washed away roads, breached hydropower tunnels, and flattened homes, instantly severing tens of thousands of people from healthcare, clean water, and emergency aid.

While immediate emergency responses are critical to provide shelter, medical aid, and clean water to displaced families, the underlying crisis demands a complete transformation in how we address high-altitude disaster management. Developing nations like Nepal bear a disproportionate burden of climate-induced catastrophes despite contributing marginally to global greenhouse gas emissions. Traditional disaster mitigation models such as static flood walls or standard weather monitoring are no longer sufficient against complex, high-velocity events like glacial



collapses.

The path forward requires urgent international solidarity and adaptive infrastructure. Multi-hazard early warning networks equipped with satellite monitoring, seismic tracking, and real-time remote sensing must be deployed across vulnerable alpine regions. Furthermore, global climate finance must actively support mountain communities in building resilient infrastructure that can withstand extreme geological events. The catastrophe along the Trishuli River serves as a stark warning: as mountain landscapes deteriorate, the cost of climate inaction will continue to be measured in human lives.

- ANNA B.

TREES ARE FALLING, AND OUR FUTURE IS COLLAPSING

Every single minute, our planet loses the equivalent of twenty-seven football fields of forest. What was once a lush, breathing blanket of green spanning across continents is being systematically dismantled, burned, and bulldozed. Deforestation is no longer just an environmental talking point buried in academic journals; it is an active, ongoing catastrophe that threatens the foundational stability of our global ecosystem, climate, and economy.

The drivers behind this destruction are largely commercial. Vast tracts of ancient, biodiverse forests are cleared to make room for beef cattle, soy plantations, palm oil production, and timber extraction. Driven by short-term financial gains and relentless consumer demand, industrial agriculture continues to encroach upon lands that took millennia to form. However, treating forests as disposable assets ignores a fundamental truth: trees are the primary biological regulators of life on Earth.

When forests are clear-cut, the consequences spill far beyond the immediate local perimeter. Forests act as massive carbon sinks, absorbing billions of tons of carbon diox-

ide every year. When trees are cut down or burned, that stored carbon is released directly into the atmosphere, transforming what was once a natural defense against global warming into a primary driver of climate change. Roughly 10% of global greenhouse gas emissions can be traced directly to deforestation and land degradation making it a larger contributor to global emissions than the entire global transportation sector.

Equally alarming is the catastrophic loss of biodiversity. Tropical rainforests, which cover less than 10% of Earth's land surface, harbor more than half of the world's terrestrial species. When we destroy these habitats, we trigger an irreversible wave of extinctions, wiping out plant and animal species that are crucial for ecological balance, medicine, and scientific discovery. Furthermore, indigenous communities who have served as nature's most effective stewards for generations are systematically displaced, losing their homes, cultures, and livelihoods to industrial expansion.

The destruction of forests also disrupts the global water cycle. Trees pull water from the soil and release it into the atmosphere through transpiration, generating clouds and rainfall that nourish agricultural regions hun-

dreds of miles away. Stripping forest cover leads to severe soil erosion, desertification, altered weather patterns, and heightened vulnerability to extreme droughts and flash floods.

We cannot simply plant our way out of this crisis with monoculture commercial tree farms; preserving intact, old-growth primary forests is essential. Halting deforestation requires aggressive, non-negotiable policy action and systemic accountability. Governments must enforce strict anti-deforestation laws, eliminate subsidies that fuel illegal land clearing, and legally protect indigenous territorial rights. Global supply chains must be audited to ensure zero-deforestation compliance, and international finance must prioritize compensating developing nations for forest conservation rather than exploitation.

The choices we make today will dictate the habitability of the planet tomorrow. We are rapidly approaching tipping points from which our climate cannot recover. Protecting Earth's remaining forests is not a luxury or a secondary goal it is an urgent imperative for human survival.

- JOHNATHAN

THE SILENT GUARDIANS OF OUR GLOBAL TABLE

Every morning before dawn breaks, millions of men and women step out into fields, paddocks, and orchards to begin work that sustains human life. Agriculture is the ultimate foundation of civilization, yet those who labor to feed the world frequently remain its most overlooked workers. Farmers do not merely grow food; they manage delicate natural resources, drive local economies, and preserve centuries of essential knowledge. Today, as global food systems face unprecedented pressures, supporting agricultural communities is an urgent moral and economic necessity.

The modern farmer operates at a complex intersection of ancient tradition and high-stakes risk. Agriculture requires navigating unpredictable weather patterns, volatile market prices, rising input costs, and shifting environmental regulations. A single hailstorm, late frost, or sudden market crash can erase an entire year's income in hours. Despite taking on enormous financial and personal liabilities to cultivate our crops and livestock, small- and medium-scale farmers often capture only a tiny fraction of the final retail price of the food they produce.

Moreover, farmers stand directly on the front lines of global climate change. Unprecedented droughts, shifting seasonal rainfall, and emerging pests pose daily threats to crop yields and soil fertility. Adapting to these environmental realities demands significant capital investment

in modern technologies such as precision irrigation, drought-resistant seeds, and sustainable soil management costs that many independent growers simply cannot absorb alone. When agricultural infrastructure falters, the resulting food insecurity ripple effect extends to every consumer worldwide.

Beyond economic and environmental challenges, rural farming communities face growing social pressures. High rates of stress, limited access to healthcare, isolation, and an aging workforce threaten the long-term viability of family farms. As younger generations migrate to urban centers in search of financial stability, the world risks losing invaluable generational expertise in land stewardship and sustainable food production.

Protecting our agricultural future requires concerted policy action and consumer support. Governments must reform agricultural subsidies to prioritize independent growers and incentivize eco-friendly practices. Investments in rural infrastructure ranging from cold-storage logistics to high-speed internet access can bridge the gap between farms and modern markets. Consumers, too, hold power by choosing locally grown produce and supporting fair-trade supply chains that guarantee equitable compensation for agricultural labor.

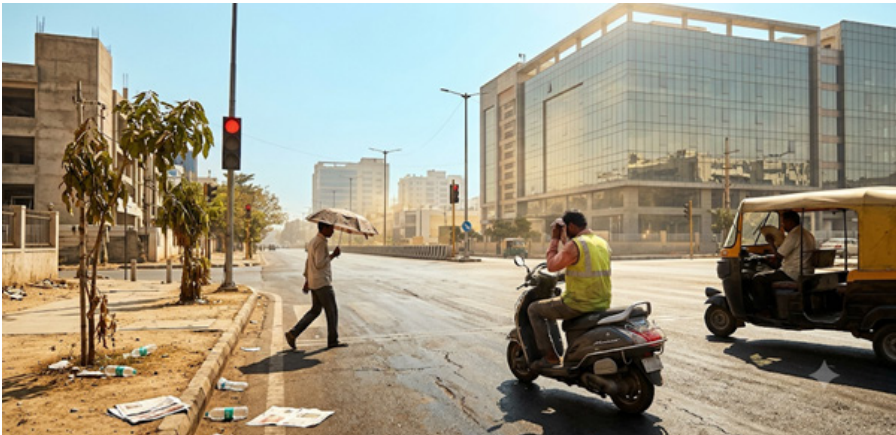
- JOSH

WHEN SUMMER HEAT BECOMES A GLOBAL EMERGENCY

Summer was once the season of ease, long daylight hours, and vibrant outdoor life. Across cultures, it evoked images of coastal retreats, bountiful harvests, and a welcome pause from the routine rhythm of the school and work year. Today, however, that classic identity is undergoing a fundamental transformation. As global temperatures continue to break historic records year after year, summer is rapidly shifting from a period of carefree recreation into a critical annual test of public health, infrastructure, and ecological resilience.

The environmental reality of modern summers is defined by intensity. Heatwaves that used to occur once in a generation are now expected seasonal occurrences, carrying prolonged periods of dangerous temperatures. Urban centers transform into severe heat islands, trapping thermal energy within concrete and asphalt, raising night temperatures, and providing little physical relief for residents. Furthermore, extended summer dry spells amplify the conditions that spark catastrophic wildfires, burning through millions of acres of forest land, destroying ecosystems, and sending dangerous smoke plumes thousands of miles across international borders.

Beyond the visible environmental



destruction, summer heat imposes a severe tax on public health and equity. High temperatures place immense physiological stress on the human body, leading to spikes in heat-related illnesses, cardiovascular distress, and dehydration. Unsurprisingly, the burden falls unevenly across society. Outdoor workers, the elderly, low-income households without access to adequate air conditioning, and urban populations living in areas with minimal canopy cover bear the brunt of extreme heat. What was once viewed as a simple seasonal shift has effectively become a public health challenge that disproportionately impacts vulnerable populations.

Our built infrastructure is similarly struggling to adapt to these new seasonal conditions. Power grids face unprecedented strains as air conditioning demands surge simultaneously across entire regions, risking widespread blackouts precisely when cooling is most critical. Transportation networks suffer as extreme heat warps railway lines, softens road surfaces, and forces flight cancellations. Meanwhile, agricultural operations face shrinking crop yields as intense summer heat and water scarcity combine to stress livestock and deplete crucial soil moisture levels.

- AKASH

Quick Read

Pak poverty, unemployment rise sharply in FY26

New Delhi

Pakistan's poverty rate rose sharply to 28.9 per cent in fiscal year 2026 from 21.9 per cent a year earlier, according to a report citing the Economic Survey of Pakistan 2025-26. Unemployment also increased, highlighting growing economic pressure on households. Poverty increased across major provinces. Punjab's rate rose to 23.3 per cent from 16.5 per cent, while Sindh recorded 32.6 per cent against 24.5 per cent earlier. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's poverty rate reached 35.3 per cent, while Balochistan remained the poorest at 47 per cent. The number of unemployed people increased to 5.9 million from 4.5 million, while the unemployment rate rose to 7.1 per cent from 6.3 per cent. Pakistan allocated Rs 722.9 billion to the Benazir Income Support Programme in FY26, with Rs 540.27 billion released. The report stressed that stronger job creation, education, skills development, healthcare and economic growth are needed to achieve lasting poverty reduction.

Rentomojo flags key risks ahead of IPO

New Delhi

Rental platform Rentomojo has identified supplier dependence, customer defaults and revenue concentration as key risks ahead of its IPO. The company said disruptions among suppliers, higher procurement costs and quality issues could affect inventory and profit margins. Its top five asset suppliers accounted for 12.18 per cent of capital and operational expenses in FY26. Rentomojo also warned that customer churn, payment delays and contract cancellations could hurt profitability. The top 10 cities contributed 89.51 per cent of its FY26 revenue. The Rs 1,255.57-crore IPO includes a Rs 150-crore fresh issue and Rs 1,105.57-crore offer for sale. The price band is Rs 384-404 per share.

Stocks tumble as West Asia tensions rise

MUMBAI

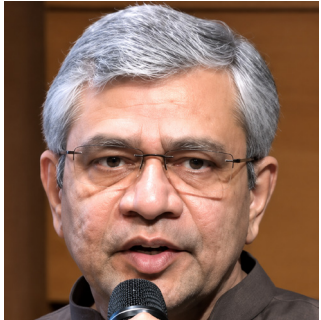
Indian equity markets opened sharply lower on Wednesday as escalating tensions in West Asia and a surge in crude oil prices weakened investor sentiment. The 30-share BSE Sensex fell 500.25 points to 75,060.61 in early trading, while the NSE Nifty declined 129.40 points to 23,506.10. The sell-off came amid growing concerns over the impact of higher oil prices on inflation and the Indian economy. Brent crude crossed the \$100-a-barrel mark as the conflict in the Middle East intensified, raising fears about disruptions to global energy supplies. Investors also remained cautious because of weak global market signals and continued geopolitical uncertainty.

Cabinet clears Rs 10,783 cr rail projects

The expanded network will boost freight movement and connectivity across key industrial and cargo corridors in eastern and central India.

NEW DELHI

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved three railway multi-tracking projects worth Rs 10,783 crore across five states, adding about 656 km to the Indian Railways network. The projects will cover 14 districts in West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The projects are aimed at increasing railway capacity, reducing congestion and improving the efficiency of train operations. The expanded network is expected to strengthen connectivity across important industrial and freight corridors in eastern and central India. The government expects the projects to support an additional 27 million tonnes of freight movement annually. Better rail capacity is also expected to improve the movement of essential commodities and industrial goods while making logistics more efficient.



The projects are targeted for completion by 2029-30. Their implementation is expected to generate employment during construction and create wider economic benefits by improving access to markets, industries and key production centres. The multi-tracking works are part of the Centre's broader effort to expand railway infrastructure and improve the capacity of existing routes. By adding additional tracks on busy sections, Indian Railways aims to handle growing passenger and freight demand while improving operational reliability.

Project fact-file
■ Projects add 656 km of tracks.
■ Target completion set for 2029-30.
■ Spans five eastern and central states.
■ Boosts freight capacity by 27 million tonnes.
■ Improves industrial logistics and commodity movement.
■ Generates localized employment during construction.

The Cabinet decision comes as the government continues to accelerate railway infrastructure expansion across different parts of the country. The latest projects are expected to provide stronger rail connectivity and support economic activity across the five states.

INDIA EYES GLOBAL EXPANSION FOR FINTECH EXPORTS

MUMBAI

India should use its experience in fintech, Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and digital public infrastructure (DPI) to expand into international markets, particularly countries in the Global South, Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said on Wednesday. Speaking at the Global Fintech Fest in Mumbai, Agrawal said India has a major opportunity to increase financial services exports by securing a larger share of the growing global fintech trade. He said that if India captures even 10 per cent of global fintech services trade, its exports could rise substantially from around \$8 billion currently to an estimated \$60-80 billion. Agrawal said India is already sharing its digital public infrastructure experience with other countries. The country has signed memoranda of understanding with around 23 nations for cooperation in DPI. The government is also exploring payment-system integration with partner countries, particularly those with large Indian diaspora populations. Such interoperability could make cross-border transactions easier and more affordable. The Commerce Secretary said technology can help reduce the cost of financial services, including remittances and lending. Wider adoption of interoperable digital payment systems and Indian fintech solutions could improve access to financial services in developing economies. He said countries in the Global South could particularly benefit from India's experience in building large-scale digital systems.

Agrawal also highlighted the importance of free trade agreements (FTAs) in supporting fintech exports. India is seeking to address regulatory barriers involving financial services, telecommunications, cross-border data flows, artificial intelligence, investment and movement of professionals through trade negotiations. He said services trade, including financial services, is an important part of these discussions. According to Agrawal, India has concluded nine FTAs over the past four to five years covering countries with a combined GDP of around \$60 trillion. These agreements could create new opportunities for Indian fintech and financial services companies seeking to expand overseas.

PhonePe Founder and CEO Sameer Nigam outlined the company's vision for the next decade of financial inclusion at the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2026, focusing on making digital financial services accessible to people across India. Nigam said progress should be measured by whether people are included in the digital economy. He said PhonePe's products were designed to reduce barriers and create a financial system flexible enough to serve users. He highlighted the company's work with NPCI to address barriers linked to smartphones, bank accounts and borders. Nigam pointed to UPI

Greenply adopts LNG trucks for greener logistics

VADODARA

Greenply Industries Limited has partnered with GreenLine Mobility Solutions Ltd to introduce LNG-powered trucks into its outbound logistics operations, marking a move towards cleaner and more sustainable freight transportation. The partnership was formally launched with the flag-off of GreenLine's LNG-powered trucks at Greenply's manufacturing facility in Vadodara. Under the initiative, the trucks will transport Greenply products from the facility to destinations across its distribution network. The company said the move will help bring cleaner mobility solutions into its freight operations while supporting cost-effective logistics. According to Greenply, the LNG-powered trucks can reduce carbon dioxide emissions by up to 40 per cent, sulphur oxides by up to 100 per cent, nitrogen oxides by up to 59 per cent, particulate matter by up to 91 per cent and carbon monoxide by up to 70 per cent. The company said the initiative is part of its wider sustainability efforts, which now extend beyond manufacturing to logistics and distribution activities. Greenply Joint Managing Director Sanidhya Mittal said sustainability should cover the movement of products across the entire value chain. He said the introduction of

GREENPLY DE-POYS LNG FREIGHT TRUCKS

Greenply partnered with GreenLine Mobility to introduce LNG trucks at its Vadodara facility, cutting carbon emissions by up to forty percent. This logistics initiative aims to extend supply chain sustainability while maintaining operational efficiency across transport networks.

LNG trucks at the Vadodara facility was a first step towards adopting more responsible mobility solutions while maintaining supply-chain efficiency and reliability. GreenLine CEO Madhur Taneja said the partnership would support cleaner freight transportation without compromising operational efficiency. GreenLine currently operates more than 1,000 LNG- and electric-powered heavy commercial vehicles across major freight corridors in India. Its fleet has travelled more than 100 million kilometres and helped customers reduce over 27,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions. Greenply will evaluate the operational feasibility of alternative-fuel vehicles across its dispatch network and explore further opportunities to make its logistics ecosystem more sustainable.

India launches advanced ocean research vessel

NEW DELHI

India has launched a state-of-the-art ocean research vessel, ORV Sagar Manthan, to strengthen indigenous oceanographic research and expand the country's maritime capabilities, according to an official statement. The vessel was launched at Rishi Bankim Shipyard in Kolkata in the virtual presence of Earth Sciences Minister Dr Jitendra Singh. It was designed and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) for the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research under the Ministry of Earth Sciences. Singh praised the team for completing the launch within two years of signing the contract and about five months after keel laying. ORV Sagar Manthan is equipped with advanced systems for detailed ocean studies. These include dynamic positioning, multibeam bathymetry, multichannel seismic equipment, sub-bottom profiling, weather radar and deployment facilities for remotely operated and autonomous underwater vehicles. The vessel will support surveys along the Indian Ocean mid-oceanic ridges to study mineral resources, establish environmental baselines, collect upper-air data and conduct CTD profiling. Designed to work in extreme conditions, including the Southern Ocean, the vessel has a projected service life of 30 years. It will gradually replace the 43-year-old ORV Sagar Kanaya as India's advanced oceanographic platform.

PhonePe outlines decade-long fin inclusion vision

NEW DELHI

PhonePe is working to expand opportunities for merchants through its Business App, SmartConnect, SmartStore and payment gateway services. Sameer Nigam, PhonePe founder and CEO



PhonePe is working to expand opportunities for merchants through its Business App, SmartConnect, SmartStore and payment gateway services.

Sameer Nigam, PhonePe founder and CEO

UAE, France and Nepal. On savings and investments, Nigam outlined PhonePe's "Sachetization Philosophy", aimed at making financial products easier to adopt through small contributions. PhonePe Daily FD allows users to begin fixed deposits with Rs 100 a day, while gold, silver and mutual fund SIPs can start at Rs 10. He introduced CRISP for market information and discussed AI-based lending, which can complete loan disbursements in 2.5 minutes. Nigam said He said the company's goal was to use technology to make financial security, savings, credit and business growth more accessible to millions of Indians across the country.

Nifty slips below 23,500 as crude surges

MUMBAI

Indian stock markets ended sharply lower on Wednesday, with the Nifty closing below the 23,500 mark and the Sensex losing more than 1%, as Brent crude oil prices crossed \$100 a barrel amid escalating tensions in West Asia. The BSE Sensex fell 812.85 points, or 1.08%, to settle at 74,764.23, while the NSE Nifty declined 203.40 points, or 0.86%, to 23,431.50. Both benchmark indices ended at their lowest levels since June 11, reflecting growing investor concerns over the economic impact of higher oil prices. Brent crude moved above the \$100-per-barrel level for the first time since July as the conflict in the Middle East intensified. Rising crude prices have increased concerns over inflation, India's import bill and corporate costs, putting additional pressure on equities. Selling was broad-based, with 13 of the 16 major sectoral indices ending in negative territory. Information technology stocks were

among the biggest losers, with the Nifty IT index falling 3.2%. Small-cap and mid-cap indices also declined 0.5% each. However, energy and metal stocks bucked the broader trend, gaining 0.6% and 1.8%, respectively. Adani Enterprises was among the notable gainers, rising 5.1% after its parent group announced a stake sale in its airport business. Market analysts said persistent increases in crude and commodity prices remain a major concern for investors.

APSEZ expands eastern India port ops

BHUBANESWAR

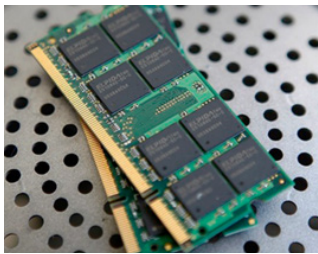
Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) has secured the contract to develop and operate two dry bulk berths at Paradip Port in Odisha, marking its entry into one of India's major ports and strengthening its presence on the eastern coast. The project will add 18 million metric tonnes (MMT) of mechanised dry bulk handling capacity to APSEZ's domestic portfolio. It will be developed under a build-operate-transfer model with a 30-year concession period. The project is expected to improve the company's access to the mineral-rich hinterland of eastern

and central India. The new berths are expected to support the handling of commodities such as coal, limestone and other dry bulk cargo. Their location at Paradip will help APSEZ serve major industrial and manufacturing centres in the region and support the movement of raw materials and finished goods. APSEZ said the expansion is part of its broader strategy to strengthen its port network and improve logistics connectivity across India. The company's entry into Paradip is expected to complement its existing operations on the eastern coast and provide additional capacity for future cargo growth.

India needs targeted localisation to cut China reliance

NEW DELHI

India's growing electronics manufacturing industry continues to depend heavily on China for key components, highlighting the need for targeted localisation of critical parts, according to a recent industry report. While domestic electronics production and exports have expanded rapidly, imported components remain a major weakness in the supply chain. The report noted that India has made significant progress in assembling electronic products, particularly smartphones. However, deeper localisation is required



to increase domestic value addition and reduce dependence on imported components. China remains an important source for several essential parts used by Indian electronics manufacturers. Industry experts said the focus should now move beyond final assembly towards manufacturing

India's electronics manufacturing
Shift focus beyond final assembly.
Manufacture core components domestically.
Target high-import vulnerable items.
Strengthen supply chain resilience.

ing core components such as printed circuit boards, semiconductors, displays, sensors and other critical inputs. Building these capabilities

within India would help strengthen supply chains and reduce exposure to external disruptions. Recent government initiatives, including the Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme, are aimed at encouraging investment in domestic component production. The scheme has already approved projects with a combined outlay of around Rs 40,000 crore, supporting a shift towards higher-value manufacturing. The report suggested that India should adopt a targeted approach rather than attempting to localise every component immediately. Priority should

be given to products where imports are large, strategically important or vulnerable to supply disruptions. Such an approach could help companies develop competitive domestic capabilities while keeping manufacturing costs under control. Analysts said stronger local component production would also improve India's position as a global electronics manufacturing hub. As exports continue to grow, deeper localisation could create new investment opportunities, strengthen domestic supply chains and reduce the country's long-term dependence on China.

Quick Read

Hong Kong's first leader Tung Chee-hwa dies at 89

Hong kong
Tung Chee-hwa, Hong Kong's first leader after the territory returned to Chinese rule, has died aged 89. Tung, a former shipping tycoon, served as chief executive from 1997 to 2005, overseeing the city during its early years under Beijing's sovereignty. He resigned before completing his second term, citing health reasons. Tung later became a prominent voice supporting closer ties between Hong Kong and mainland China. During the major pro-democracy protests in 2019, Tung strongly criticised demonstrators, calling them anti-China disruptors and accusing them of seriously harming Hong Kong. He remained influential in Chinese political affairs after leaving office and served as a vice-chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

Nepal flood: Death toll rises to 1,365, search ops on

Kathmandu
The death toll from devastating floods in Nepal has climbed to 1,365 as rescue teams continue searching for missing people, officials said on Wednesday. At least 5,326 people remain unaccounted for, including 589 foreign nationals. Rescue teams are working in several affected areas despite difficult conditions. Authorities have deployed emergency personnel to locate survivors and recover those still missing after widespread flooding. The disaster has caused extensive damage to homes, roads and other infrastructure. Relief operations are continuing, with authorities focusing on rescue, medical assistance and support for affected communities. Officials said search operations would continue until all possible survivors are located and saved.

Singapore police question 5 over online comments

Singapore
Singapore police have interviewed five people over online comments related to the devastating Nepal floods and the Singapore Airlines-Air India deal, with investigations continuing. Authorities are examining the comments and the circumstances surrounding the posts. The police have not disclosed further details about the individuals interviewed or indicated whether any charges have been filed. The investigation comes as Singapore closely monitors online content concerning major regional developments. Officials have continued to stress the importance of responsible online behaviour and compliance with the law. Police said investigations into the matter are ongoing. Further action will depend on the findings of the probe and any evidence gathered during the investigation.

'Russia-linked airport attack narrowly avoided'

BERLIN
German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said on Wednesday that a drone attack targeting Leipzig/Halle Airport had been prepared in Russia over several months and that a major disaster was narrowly avoided.
Speaking during a debate in Germany's lower house of parliament, Merz said the attack was specifically aimed at Germany. He claimed that only by chance were significant material damage and casualties prevented.
The German chancellor's comments came days after the drone

'Civilisational twins': India-SL reaffirm regional security co-op

Rajnath Singh and Lankan Prez Dissanayake explore avenues to enhance bilateral ties and foster mutual development and prosperity.

COLOMBO

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake in Colombo on Wednesday and reaffirmed India and Sri Lanka's commitment to strengthening cooperation for regional security, peace and prosperity.

Singh conveyed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's warm greetings to Dissanayake and congratulated him on completing 2 years in office.

During the meeting, the two leaders discussed ways to deepen bilateral cooperation and promote the welfare and development of both countries. Singh said India and Sri Lanka, as close neighbours, civilisational partners and maritime nations, would continue working together to ensure safety, security and stability in the region. Indian High Commissioner Santosh Jha and other officials were also present.

Singh arrived in Colombo for a three-day official visit focused on strengthening defence and maritime cooperation. Before his departure for Sri Lanka, he had said he looked forward to productive discussions with the country's leadership. Sri Lankan Deputy Minister of Defence Major General Aruna Jayasekara (Retd.) and High Commissioner Jha received him at Bandaranaike International Airport.

The Defence Ministry said Singh's visit would further



strengthen traditionally friendly bilateral ties across several areas, particularly defence and maritime security. It highlighted the deep civilisational links between the two countries and their cooperation in regional security, defence, trade, economic matters and people-to-people relations.

He also interacted with the Indian community in Colombo on Tuesday and praised its contribution to strengthening relations between the two countries. He described the diaspora as a bridge between India and Lanka and assured that India would continue to support Sri Lanka during times of crisis.

Singh's visit also underlined India's "Neighbourhood First" policy and Prime Minister Modi's MAHASAGAR vision for security and growth across the region.

Meeting outcome
■ Focus on defence maritime cooperation
■ Engaged the local diaspora.
■ Highlighted past economic aid.
■ Reinforced regional Neighbourhood policy.
■ India aided Sri Lanka's economic crisis.
■ Rapid response followed Cyclone Ditwah
■ Demonstrates commitment to regional neighbors

RAJNATH SINGH'S LANKA VISIT TO RESOLVE TN FISHERMEN ISSUE: BJP

Chennai: Tamil Nadu BJP President Nainar Nagenathan on Wednesday said Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's official visit to Sri Lanka would strengthen regional maritime security and pave the way for a permanent solution to the issues faced by Tamil Nadu fishermen. Highlighting the significance of the trip, he said this was the first visit by an Indian Defence Minister to the island nation in 38 years, since K C Pant travelled to Sri Lanka in 1988. Visits by Indian Defence ministers have been avoided due to sensitivities surrounding India's past military involvement during Sri Lanka's civil war, even as administrative and diplomatic exchanges continued. Defense Minister Rajnath Singh arrived in Colombo on Tuesday for a three-day official visit, he said in a statement. The TN BJP leader said that the visit holds strategic importance given Sri Lanka's key position along major international sea routes in the Indian Ocean. Additionally, he said, the visit is expected to boost joint military exercises.

Rahman's BRICS Summit visit to India remains unconfirmed

DHAKA

Bangladesh Foreign Minister Khalilur Rahman has declined to comment on whether Prime Minister Tarique Rahman will attend the BRICS Summit's outreach session in New Delhi, leaving uncertainty over Dhaka's participation in the India-hosted event. India has invited Tarique Rahman to attend the outreach session of the 18th BRICS Summit, scheduled in New Delhi on September 12 and 13. The invitation was extended in view of Bangladesh's role as the current chair of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). Khalilur Rahman was asked about the Prime Minister's possible visit during a media interaction. However, he avoided giving a clear response, saying that he was addressing the briefing in his capacity as President of the United Nations General Assembly. He suggested

ed that questions concerning bilateral matters should be raised with him separately in his capacity as Bangladesh's foreign minister. The lack of confirmation comes amid efforts to strengthen engagement between India and Bangladesh. India has invited Tarique Rahman to the BRICS outreach programme, but Dhaka has so far not officially confirmed whether he will travel to New Delhi for the summit. Bangladesh's participation is therefore being closely watched in diplomatic circles.

The BRICS summit will bring together leaders of member and partner countries for discussions on global cooperation and development. Tarique Rahman's participation, if confirmed, would provide an opportunity for direct engagement with Indian leadership and other participating heads of government.

As of September 9, however, Bangladesh has not announced a final decision on his attendance.

Indonesia wildfire emissions surge to global high

JAKARTA

Indonesia's wildfire emissions have surged to the highest level in the world as fires continue to burn across forests and peatlands on the islands of Borneo and Sumatra, according to data released on Wednesday. Fire emissions between September 1 and 7 reached an estimated 19.7 million metric tonnes, overtaking Russia and accounting for more than one-third of the global total, data from the European Union's Copernicus climate monitoring service showed.

incident at Leipzig/Halle Airport, which raised concerns about security and possible foreign involvement. German authorities have been investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident and whether it was part of a wider campaign targeting critical infrastructure.

Russia has denied any involvement in the incident. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov rejected accusations that Moscow was behind the drone attack and warned that such allegations could contribute to escalating tensions between Russia and Germany.

Merz made the remarks after the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) secured a major victory in a state election in Saxony-Anhalt on Sunday. The party has advocated closer relations with Moscow, making Russia-related security concerns a politically sensitive issue in Germany. The incident comes amid heightened tensions between Russia and European countries over the continuing war in Ukraine. European governments have increasingly warned about potential threats involving drones and other forms of hybrid activity targeting critical infrastructure.

B'desh Awami League slams govt over Hindu priest's imprisonment

DHAKA

Bangladesh's Awami League on Wednesday strongly criticised the ruling BNP government over the continued imprisonment of Hindu priest Chinmoy Krishna Das, describing it as an "extreme manifestation of inhumanity".

The party demanded his immediate and unconditional release and called for the withdrawal of what it described as false cases filed against him during the former Muhammad Yunus-led interim government.

The Awami League said keeping Das in prison despite his critically ill mother's plea for his release showed "brutality and cruelty" by the authorities. His mother, Sandhya Rani Dhar, is reportedly suffering from Stage 4 cancer and is undergoing treatment in a hospital's high-dependency unit. The party said she had suffered another heart attack while battling low blood pressure and severe breathing difficulties.

According to the Awami League, Dhar has repeatedly appealed to the authorities to allow her to see her son, possibly for the last time. The party said she had made emotional appeals to leaders of both the former interim administration and the current BNP government, including BNP leader Tarique Rahman. It questioned whether humanitarian concerns could be ignored be-



The party demanded his immediate, unconditional release and the dropping of fabricated charges from the Yunus interim government.

cause of political considerations.

The party also defended Das's activities, saying that raising concerns over the rights of religious minorities and members of one's own faith should not be treated as a crime in a democratic country. It alleged that Das was arrested for speaking about the legitimate rights of Bangladesh's minority and Hindu communities.

Das, spokesman for the Bangladesh Sammilito Sanatani Jagaran Jot, has remained in custody despite reportedly securing bail in two cases. His release has been blocked by two other cases, local media reports said. He was arrested in Dhaka on November 25, 2024, and sent to jail the following day after a Chattogram court rejected his bail plea. A High Court bench later granted bail after hearing two separate petitions filed by him.

NAME CHANGE

I, MOHAMMED TAMEEN, Resident of No. 8, P N 3rd Street, 3rd Cross, Bharathi Nagar, Bengaluru -560001, have changed my name to **MOHAMMED TAMEEM**, vide affidavit dated: 09.09.2026 before notary V. RAJASHEKHARA, Bengaluru

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPUR
CrI.Misc.No: 940/2025
PETITIONER: K.V. Manjunath S/o Late Veerappappaiah Aged about 46 years, Riat Kottigemachenahalli, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural
Vs
RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahshildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
It is hereby notified to the public that the above petitioners, in the Hon'ble Court, Petitioner's Grand mother Late Nyatamma W/o Late Veerappappaiah died on 21.06.2006 at Kottigemachenahalli, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk and since there are no official records of his death, petitioners has filed an application to register the date of death in the Register of Births and Deaths, 1969. Therefore, if the public has any objection, we hereby inform you to appear the before on 30-09-2026 at 11 AM. Failing that, the case will be disposed of unilaterally in his absence.
The publication is dated : 07-09-2026 with the signature and seal of the court.
By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Srinivas G

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPUR
CrI.Misc.No: 653/2025
PETITIONER: G.N. Narasimha Raju Aged about 38 years, Riat Doddagundappanayakanahalli Village, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk Vs
RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahshildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
It is hereby notified to the public that the above petitioners, in the Hon'ble Court, Petitioner's Grand father Late Narasappa S/o Late Nallappa died on 10.06.1994 at Doddagundappanayakanahalli, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk and since there are no official records of his death, petitioners has filed an application to register the date of death in the Register of Births and Deaths, 1969. Therefore, if the public has any objection, we hereby inform you to appear the before on 30-09-2026 at 11 AM. Failing that, the case will be disposed of unilaterally in his absence.
The publication is dated : 07-09-2026 with the signature and seal of the court.
By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Srinivas G

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPUR
CrI.Misc.No: 1009/2025
PETITIONER: Venkatasamaiah S.V S/o Late Venkatappa, Aged about 55 years Riat Sulukunte Village, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural
Vs
RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahshildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
It is hereby notified to the public that the above petitioners, in the Hon'ble Court, Petitioner's Father Late Venkatappa S/o Late Munniyappa died on 05.06.1986 at Sulukunte Village, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk and since there are no official records of his death, petitioners has filed an application to register the date of death in the Register of Births and Deaths, 1969. Therefore, if the public has any objection, we hereby inform you to appear the before on 30-09-2026 at 11 AM. Failing that, the case will be disposed of unilaterally in his absence.
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By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Srinivas G

NAME CHANGE

I, MOHAMMED PARVEEZ MAHAMOOD, Resident of No. 14, Police Line D Street, Bharathi Nagar, Bengaluru -560001, Karnataka, have changed my name to **MOHAMMED PARVEEZ**, vide affidavit dated: 09.09.2026 before notary V. RAJASHEKHARA, Bengaluru.

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPUR
CrI.Misc.No: 776/2025
PETITIONER: Sri Mariyappa S/o Late Muttaiah, Aged about 75 years Riat No. 29, Kottigemachenahalli, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural
Vs
RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahshildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
It is hereby notified to the public that the above petitioners, in the Hon'ble Court, Petitioner's Father Late Muttaiah S/o Late Narasimhaiah @ Late Ajanarasimhaiah died on 03.03.1951 at Kottigemachenahalli, Village, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk and since there are no official records of his death, petitioners has filed an application to register the date of death in the Register of Births and Deaths, 1969. Therefore, if the public has any objection, we hereby inform you to appear the before on 30-09-2026 at 11 AM. Failing that, the case will be disposed of unilaterally in his absence.
The publication is dated : 07-09-2026 with the signature and seal of the court.
By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Srinivas G

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPUR
CrI.Misc.No: 1007/2025
PETITIONER: K.Hanumanthaiah Aged about 81 years, Riat Vinayakanagara, Hesarugutha, Bangalore North, Bangalore Urban District
Vs
RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahshildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
It is hereby notified to the public that the above petitioners, in the Hon'ble Court, Petitioner's Mother Late Maduramma W/o Late Chikka Kempaiah died on 08.05.1979 at Kottigemachenahalli, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk and since there are no official records of his death, petitioners has filed an application to register the date of death in the Register of Births and Deaths, 1969. Therefore, if the public has any objection, we hereby inform you to appear the before on 30-09-2026 at 11 AM. Failing that, the case will be disposed of unilaterally in his absence.
The publication is dated : 07-09-2026 with the signature and seal of the court.
By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Srinivas G

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPUR
CrI.Misc.No: 786/2025
PETITIONER: Girish D N. S/o Narasimha Murthy, Aged about 28 years Riat Sigenahalli Village, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural
Vs
RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahshildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
It is hereby notified to the public that the above petitioners, in the Hon'ble Court, Petitioner's Grand Father Late Arasappa S/o Late Eradippaiah died on 14.12.1982 at Sigenahalli Village, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk and since there are no official records of his death, petitioners has filed an application to register the date of death in the Register of Births and Deaths, 1969. Therefore, if the public has any objection, we hereby inform you to appear the before on 30-09-2026 at 11 AM. Failing that, the case will be disposed of unilaterally in his absence.
The publication is dated : 07-09-2026 with the signature and seal of the court.
By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Srinivas G

NAME CHANGE

I, MUFEEQ AHAMED SHARIEF resident of No.663, Chikkagollaratti, Magadi Main Road, Indra Colony, Lakshimpura Post, Bengaluru - 562 162, have changed my name to **MUFEEQ AHMED SHARIEF**, Vide affidavit dated: 05.09.2026 before notary V.RAJASHEKHARA, Bangalore

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPUR
CrI.Misc.No: 775/2025
PETITIONER: Smt. Chinnamma S/o Late Chinnappa, Aged about 81 years Riat Kottigemachenahalli, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural
Vs
RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahshildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
It is hereby notified to the public that the above petitioners, in the Hon'ble Court, Petitioner's husband Late Chinnappa S/o Late Muttaiah died on 15.05.2004 at Kottigemachenahalli, Village, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk and since there are no official records of his death, petitioners has filed an application to register the date of death in the Register of Births and Deaths, 1969. Therefore, if the public has any objection, we hereby inform you to appear the before on 30-09-2026 at 11 AM. Failing that, the case will be disposed of unilaterally in his absence.
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By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Srinivas G

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPUR
CrI.Misc.No: 787/2025
PETITIONER: Sri Mariyappa S/o Late Muttaiah, Aged about 75 years Riat No. 29, Kottigemachenahalli, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural
Vs
RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahshildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
It is hereby notified to the public that the above petitioners, in the Hon'ble Court, his Brother Late Narasimhamurthy S/o Late Muttaiah died on 20.05.1997 at Kottigemachenahalli, Village, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk and since there are no official records of his death, petitioners has filed an application to register the date of death in the Register of Births and Deaths, 1969. Therefore, if the public has any objection, we hereby inform you to appear the before on 30-09-2026 at 11 AM. Failing that, the case will be disposed of unilaterally in his absence.
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By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Srinivas G

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT DODDABALLAPUR
CrI.Misc.No: 788/2025
PETITIONER: Sri Mariyappa S/o Late Muttaiah, Aged about 75 years Riat No. 29, Kottigemachenahalli, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural
Vs
RESPONDENT: Registrar of Birth and Death The Tahshildar Doddaballapur Taluk, Doddaballapur.
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
It is hereby notified to the public that the above petitioners, in the Hon'ble Court, Petitioner's Mother Late Chikathayamma W/o Late Muttaiah died on 01.01.1952 at Kottigemachenahalli, Village, Sasalu Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk and since there are no official records of his death, petitioners has filed an application to register the date of death in the Register of Births and Deaths, 1969. Therefore, if the public has any objection, we hereby inform you to appear the before on 30-09-2026 at 11 AM. Failing that, the case will be disposed of unilaterally in his absence.
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By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Prl Civil Judge & JMFC Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Srinivas G

US Open shocker: Shelton knocks out Alcaraz

NEW YORK

American tennis star Ben Shelton pulled off the biggest victory of his career, stunning defending champion Carlos Alcaraz in a late-night thriller at the US Open. In an epic quarter-final that stretched over four hours and 28 minutes, Shelton defeated the Spanish powerhouse 6-7(5), 6-1, 6-3, 1-6, 7-6(10/7) to reach the semi-finals at Flushing Meadows for the first time since 2023.

This extraordinary showdown also wrote history by recording the latest finish ever at the US Open. As the clock ticked deep into the morning, Shelton sealed the match with a blistering 146-mph ace at precisely 3:33 a.m. The previous record for the latest finish was set exactly two years prior, when Alcaraz edged Jannik Sinner in another five-set classic that wrapped up at 2:50 a.m.

With this loss, Alcaraz saw his impressive 18-match winning

Ben Shelton shattered history and Carlos Alcaraz's crown at 3:33 a.m. in an unforgettable New York thriller

streak at Grand Slam tournaments come to a sudden halt. The Spaniard entered the tournament following a 4-month injury layoff and was aiming for his eighth major title. He was also trying to become the first male player to successfully defend the US Open crown since Roger Federer. Despite dropping only one set en route to the quarter-finals, Alcaraz could not find a way past Shelton's explosive serving and fierce baseline aggression in the closing tiebreak.

Shelton, who recently claimed his second ATP Masters 1000 title in Montreal, displayed incredible mental toughness to bounce back after dropping the opening set and later surrendering the fourth. His powerful serve proved to be the ultimate weapon under the New York lights, wearing down the defending champion in the tense final-set tiebreak.

Looking ahead, Shelton advances to an all-American semi-final clash against 11th seed Frances Tiafoe. Both players are chasing a spot in their very first Grand Slam final. Shelton currently holds a 3-1 head-to-head advantage over Tiafoe, though their previous meetings at Flushing Meadows have proven that neither player will back down easily on this grand stage.



Vini gave everything, insists Jose Mourinho

Jose Mourinho fiercely defended Vinicius Junior after home fans booed him, praising the winger's relentless work ethic following their Champions League victory over Inter Milan.

MADRID

Real Madrid manager Jose Mourinho has strongly defended forward Vinicius Junior, urging supporters to keep faith in the Brazilian star after he faced boos from sections of the home crowd during a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Inter Milan in their Champions League opener at the Santiago Bernabeu.

The controversy arose in the 87th minute when Vinicius was substituted off the pitch. Frustrated by a quiet evening where the winger struggled to break down Inter's compact, highly organized defensive block, some fans voiced their discontent. Rather than joining the criticism, Mourinho stepped forward in his post-match press conference to shield his player, emphasizing that commitment and hard work must always



take precedence over temporary dips in offensive flair.

Mourinho openly acknowledged that the talented forward is currently navigating a challenging spell. He stated that the player is well aware he is not operating at his absolute peak, but stressed that his work ethic behind the scenes has never been stronger. According to the veteran manager, Vinicius is putting in more effort than ever before to rediscover the lethal form that typically turns matches around for Los Blancos.

The Portuguese tactician further explained that physical exhaustion played a major role in the winger's limited output late in the fixture. When Vinicius failed to track back to support his full-back, Mourinho attributed it strictly to fatigue accumulated over a grueling contest against a well-drilled Italian outfit utilizing an aggressive three-man central defense and active wing-backs. Mourinho made it clear that he deeply respects this version of the player—one who fights tirelessly for the collective cause even when individual magic is missing.

Despite the whistles from the stands, Mourinho pledged his unwavering backing as long as the forward maintains his tireless attitude. He noted that had Vinicius been sharp enough to win his individual duels down the left flank, the narrative of the match would have looked entirely different. Real Madrid ultimately claimed all three crucial points in their European campaign opener thanks to clinical goals from Kylian Mbappe and Federico Valverde.

Thrilling openers mark day 1 of Jayantian Cup



BENGALURU

The first day of the Jayantian Cup 2026 brought intense college sports action across campus. Basketball teams started strong, with Mount Carmel University defeating RV 37 to 30. Christ Central Campus also dominated, crushing Jain CMS 47 to 18 in a one-sided matchup.

Football matches delivered high drama as multiple games required penalty shootouts to decide winners. Christ KC B edged past Christ YC three to two on penalties after a tense draw. Meanwhile, volleyball and throwball courts saw fierce competition. Host team Kristu Jayanti University clinched solid wins in both volleyball and throwball categories, keeping



local fans cheering.

Student athletes across all disciplines displayed incredible stamina and sportsmanship today. Teams are already preparing for tougher matches as the national tournament continues. Organizers promise even more thrilling encounters as players fight for the ultimate championship trophy.

Jerome Vinith Charles Leads India's quarter-final charge

FUKUOKA

The Indian men's volleyball team has officially booked a spot in the quarter-finals of the AVC Asian Championship for the first time since 2019. India advanced as one of the two best-ranked third-placed teams in the pools, with Bahrain's straight-sets victory over Oman on Wednesday securing their qualification path.

This continental tournament in Japan acts as a crucial qualification stage for the upcoming Los Angeles Olympic Games and the

FIVB World Cup. India kept their tournament hopes alive by securing a dominant three-nil win over New Zealand in Pool B. The squad delivered a brilliant performance, winning in straight sets with scores of 25 to 22, 25 to 18, and 25 to 21.

Captain and opposite hitter Jerome Vinith Charles led the team from the front with a match-high nineteen points, which included two vital kill blocks. Outside hitters Chirag Yadav and Amit Balwan Singh provided massive support on the court, contributing fourteen

and thirteen points respectively through powerful spikes, aces, and solid defensive blocks.

India's qualification fate rested entirely on the outcome of the match between Oman and Bahrain. If Oman had managed a three-point victory against Bahrain, they would have overtaken India in the standings. However, Bahrain's clean sweep over Oman cleared the path, allowing India to safely secure their ticket to the last eight alongside other top contenders. In other pool action, host nation Japan



maintained an undefeated record by defeating Australia three-nil to claim the top spot in their group, while the Australians finished second. With the group stage now complete, the Indian squad turns its full attention toward the knockout rounds, aiming to build on this momentum and make a deep run in the championship.

Kristu Jayanti University hosts Jayantian cup 2026

BENGALURU

Energy is high as Kristu Jayanti University launches the fifth edition of the Jayantian Cup. This three-day national championship kicked off across the campus grounds. Around 150 teams from different states have gathered to compete in various sports.

Student athletes are currently facing off in basketball, football, volleyball, kabaddi, and throwball. Martial arts enthusiasts can also watch exciting bouts in karate, taekwondo, and pencak silat. Organizers designed this large sports meet to encourage teamwork, build healthy competition, and celebrate athletic talent among young people.

University leaders believe events like this help students stay active and build lasting friendships beyond the classroom. Spectators and sports fans are welcome to cheer for their favorite college teams over the next three days. For more details on game schedules, campus visitors can reach out to the university's physical education department.

Spinner Zampa joins Hobart for new season

HOBART

Australian star leg-spinner Adam Zampa has signed a two-year contract with the Hobart Hurricanes ahead of the 16th edition of the Big Bash League.

This move makes Hobart the fifth different franchise of his professional career. However, the veteran cricketer revealed that his choice was driven just as much by the culture and camaraderie within the team as it was by athletic factors.

After his previous agreement with the Melbourne Renegades ended, Zampa evaluated multiple options before choosing Tasmania. He explained that being surrounded by familiar faces is vital at this stage of his career. Conversations with team captain Nathan Ellis helped finalize the choice.

Because several squad members also represent Australia internationally, stepping into the Hobart dressing room will feel remarkably similar to joining the national team camp. Beyond personal

connections, the bowler believes the team's strong lineup will directly benefit his performance on the field. Partnering with fast-bowling threats like Nathan Ellis and Riley Meredith creates an environment where he can apply heavy pressure on opposing batting orders and claim more wickets.

The arrival of the experienced spinner solves a major tactical need for the franchise. Last season, the team relied heavily on overseas options to fill their spin quota.



Japan pitches could aid spin, predicts Chakaravarthy

TOKYO

Indian wrist-spinner Varun Chakaravarthy believes that potentially underprepared pitches in Japan could heavily favor slow bowling during the upcoming Asian Games. Speaking ahead of the continental multi-sport event, Chakaravarthy highlighted that adaptability will be the ultimate key for the national bowling attack, though he acknowledged that unpredictable local weather patterns could significantly alter how the surfaces behave over the course of the tournament.

The defending champions enter the men's T20 competition directly at the quarter-final stage in Aichi-Nagoya. Assessing the conditions at the Korogi Sports Park, the mystery spinner emphasized that meticulous planning remains essential regardless of scheduling constraints. Having fully recovered from a Grade 2 left hamstring injury picked up during the preceding T20I series against England, Chakaravarthy spent crucial rehabilitation weeks at the BCCI Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru, focusing heavily on intense strength training and running drills to rebuild his physical resilience.

Reflecting on an eventful season, the Chennai-born cricketer described his journey as a thrilling rollercoaster. He finished as the joint-highest wicket-taker with 14 scalps during India's triumphant T20 World Cup campaign on home soil, balancing that high with overcoming minor injury hurdles, including hairline fractures in his left hand and toe during the IPL. Starting his competitive cricket journey relatively late at age 26 before making his international debut at 28 and a half, Chakaravarthy views himself as a late bloomer who is still navigating the early phases of a uniquely unconventional career path.

When discussing the evolution of his bowling arsenal, the spinner noted that while he constantly experiments with new variations behind the scenes, mastering his established core skills remains his foremost priority. Addressing the modern challenge of high-tech video analytics and advanced scouting, he asserted that technology and artificial intelligence can only reveal so much. Ultimately, the crucial human element—the split-second decision made by the bowler at the top of the mark—remains completely unpredictable to any analytical software.

Looking forward, Chakaravarthy prefers maintaining a pragmatic approach by establishing short-term targets rather than mapping out distant milestones in a volatile sport. With packed international assignments ahead, including T20Is against Afghanistan and a historic one-off clash against Japan, the spinner remains focused purely on immediate execution.

We want to be a really brave team: Arbeloa

NEW DELHI

Fulham head coach Alvaro Arbeloa has firmly addressed his team's challenging start to the Premier League season, stressing that a difficult run of early fixtures will not compromise the core standards he demands at Craven Cottage. Despite the club remaining winless and searching for its first points of the campaign, the Spanish manager insists that professional attitude and collective resilience remain far more important than immediate scoreboard outcomes during this transition period.

The former defender addressed the media to outline his philosophy, emphasizing that how a squad reacts to adversity sets the baseline for long-term success. Arbeloa explained that while winning matches is the ultimate goal, true character is revealed when teams face difficult moments on the pitch. He noted that total effort and an uncompromising mindset are mandatory requirements for every member of his squad, regardless of whether they are leading, trailing, or encountering tough refereeing and tactical decisions.

This philosophical stance arrives during a period of major structural adjustment for the west London club. Following a busy summer transfer window that saw several key figures depart, the leadership brought in fresh talent designed to match the manager's



tactical blueprint. Arbeloa acknowledged the turnover, stating that ambition requires bringing in quality individuals who naturally understand and adapt to an adventurous style of play. Integrating these new arrivals quickly while establishing strong on-field chemistry remains a primary objective for the coaching staff behind the scenes.

Beyond squad logistics, the manager detailed his tactical ambitions for the club. Moving away from cautious or defensive structures, he wants Fulham to dictate the tempo through proactive possession, intense bravery on the ball, and immediate defensive pressure whenever possession is surrendered. This aggressive, front-foot identity is designed to ignite the club's competitive spirit and entertain supporters at Craven Cottage.