



BJP MP launches campaign on tribal student rights

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Houthi strikes kill three at Riyadh airport



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Maddinson earns Test spot after battling cancer



MEA says US green card curbs undermine shared ambitions

India warned that US immigration restrictions could hinder skilled-worker mobility and weaken mutually beneficial economic and technological cooperation.

NEW DELHI

India on Friday criticised the United States' suspension of permanent labour certification applications by several technology companies, saying the measures do not advance the shared ambitions of the two countries.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) clarified that the suspension of PERM applications does not automatically affect existing H-1B visas or the legal status of visa holders and their dependents. However, it could affect the green card process for eligible employees of the companies concerned.

The ministry stressed that the movement of skilled professionals across borders benefits both economies by promoting



VISA POLICY FALLOUT

Affected process	PERM labour certification applications
Immediate impact	Existing H-1B visas remain unaffected by the suspension alone
Potential consequence	Delays or disruption to eligible employees' green card applications
India's position	Skilled talent mobility benefits both economies
MEA's response	Measures do not support shared India-US ambitions

innovation, research, productivity and competitiveness.

"The steps announced by the US do not advance the shared ambitions of both countries," the MEA said, adding that Indian professionals contribute to American companies through advanced skills, innovation, job creation and shareholder wealth.

The ministry also criticised

remarks by US Vice-President J.D. Vance, describing the characterisations as "unwarranted". It said terminology carrying painful historical and colonial connotations was deeply offensive.

India noted that generations of immigrants had contributed to America's growth and prosperity through their labour, enterprise and innovation.

SKILLED WORKERS AND US VISAS

The PERM process is a labour certification procedure generally used by US employers seeking to sponsor eligible foreign workers for employment-based permanent residency. It is distinct from the H-1B temporary work visa programme. India's MEA said the suspension does not, by itself, invalidate existing H-1B visas or alter the status of holders and their dependents. However, eligible employees of affected companies could face consequences in their green card applications.

Karnataka bags award for highest wind power capacity

The award underscores Karnataka's efforts to expand clean energy infrastructure, attract investments and strengthen its renewable power ecosystem.

BENGALURU

Karnataka has won the 2026 award for having the highest wind power capacity under implementation in the country. The award was presented at the eighth edition of Windergy India 2026, organised by the Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers Association at the Trade Centre in Chennai.

Divya Prabhu G.R.J., Managing Director of Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited (KREDL), received the award from Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi.

Energy Minister K.J. George said the recognition reflected the state government's commitment to renewable energy and its efforts to create a favourable environment for investment.

"Being recognised as the state with the highest wind power capacity under implementation is a matter of pride for all of us. This achievement reflects our government's commitment to renewable energy generation and consumption, as well as our efforts to build a supportive



KARNATAKA WIND AWARD	
9 GW	Wind power capacity under implementation
2026	Year of the award
Recipient	Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited
Presented by	Union Minister Pralhad Joshi
Event	Windergy India 2026, Chennai

Clean energy investment

Karnataka's renewable energy strategy focuses on expanding clean power capacity while creating an enabling environment for investment. Supportive policies, infrastructure and co-ordination with project developers are central to this effort. The Energy Department has emphasised timely project execution and continued sectoral growth.

ecosystem for investment in the sector," George said.

He congratulated KREDL and all stakeholders involved in the achievement, adding that the state would continue its efforts to promote sustainable growth in renewable energy.

Gaurav Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary of the Energy Department, said the award demonstrated the results of Karnataka's sustained efforts to expand renewable energy capacity. The state's policies, infrastructure and investor confidence had contributed to the

progress, he said. Gupta added that the department would continue strengthening the sector and facilitating the timely implementation of projects.

A KREDL representative said the recognition for 9 GW of wind power capacity under implementation was encouraging. With continued government support, KREDL would work to strengthen Karnataka's position as a preferred destination for wind energy investments and help achieve the state's renewable energy targets.

Ruling parties sweep bypolls in three States, Puducherry

NEW DELHI

Ruling parties registered major victories in Assembly bypolls across West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry on Friday, while the BJP established a commanding lead in the Nagaon Lok Sabha bypoll in Assam.

The BJP swept both West Bengal Assembly seats, winning Nandigram by a record margin and securing a surprise victory in Muslim-majority Rejinagar, five months after ending the Trinamool Congress' 15-year rule.

In Nandigram, BJP candidate Hasirani Rath defeated Congress nominee Milan Pradhan by 1,22,753 votes. Rath is the mother of Chandranath Rath, slain personal assistant to Chief Minister Suvenud Adhikari.

In Rejinagar, BJP's Shankharavh Sarkar defeated Aam Janata Unnayan Party candidate Golam Nabi Azad by 75,816 votes, polling 1,29,914 votes against Azad's 54,098. In Tamil Nadu, actor-politician Vijay's Tamila-ga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) won the Dharapuram Assembly bypoll. Puducherry's ruling AINRC, led by Chief Minister N. Rangasamy, retained Thattanchavady.

In Assam, BJP candidate Devasish Sharma led AIUDF chief Badruddin Ajmal by 1,76,391 votes in Nagaon, polling 6,61,259 against 4,84,868. Congress candidate Sibamoni Bora trailed with 1,17,060 votes.

CJP protest in Delhi today amid massive security deployment

The CJP protest demanding the Chief Election Commissioner's resignation has prompted heightened security and transport restrictions across New Delhi.

NEW DELHI

The Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) is set to hold a protest at Jantar Mantar on Saturday, demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over alleged irregularities in the revision of electoral rolls. The demonstration, backed by opposition groups and student organisations, is scheduled to begin at 10 am.

Police deny permission

Delhi Police has denied permission, citing the late submission of the application, alleged non-compliance with directions during an earlier demonstration, and concerns over public safety, law and order and traffic management. Police said the application was received on October 7, against guidelines requiring applications at least 10 days in advance. CJP has said it intends to proceed with the protest.

23,000 security personnel made available

Authorities have mounted extensive security arrangements, with around 23,000 Central Armed Police Forces personnel made available to Delhi



INDIA bloc leaders meet President, seek CEC's removal

A delegation of INDIA bloc leaders met President Droupadi Murmu on Friday and sought the removal of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. The opposition leaders raised concerns over alleged voter deletions and the functioning of the Election Commission. They urged the President to intervene in the matter and address their concerns over the electoral roll revision exercise. The meeting comes amid escalating political tensions over the SIR process, with opposition parties alleging that the exercise threatens electoral fairness.

Police. Measures include multi-layered barricades, CCTV surveillance, facial recognition cameras and checkpoints at borders, railway stations and bus terminals.

Public transport is also expected to be affected. Entry and exit at 57 Delhi Metro stations were closed from 9 pm on Friday until further notice. Several Mail and Express trains arriving at or departing from New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin stations are affected between 4 am and

2 pm on Saturday.

Mobile internet suspended

The Union Home Ministry has ordered the suspension of mobile internet services within a 4-km radius of the Janpath-Kartavya Path crossing from 10 pm on October 9 to 10 pm on October 10. The order was approved by the Union Home Secretary under the Telecommunications (Temporary Suspension of Services) Rules, 2024, read with the Telecommunications Act, 2023.

BENGALURU

Karnataka Minister Priyank Kharge criticised the Centre's foreign policy after the United States suspended green-card sponsorship processing for major technology companies, warning of challenges for Indian IT professionals.

"The most underlying point that needs to be addressed here is the continued failing diplomacy of PM Modi," Kharge said on Friday.

The US Labour Department announced the suspension of major technology companies from the Permanent Labour Certification (PERM) programme, citing multiple active federal investigations. The affected firms include Indian IT majors Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys, Wipro and HCLTech, along with Cognizant, Capgemini, Microsoft and Adobe.

Kharge said the immediate impact might be limited but



The India-US trade deal has not been fair to us. I don't understand how the deep friendship of Modi and Trump is actually helping India.
Priyank Kharge, K'taka HM

argued that Indian technology companies would need to prepare for changing overseas employment conditions.

"The IT companies of India will have to be better prepared for the way forward, and this will result in higher skill retention rates. It will definitely be more expensive to operate overseas," he said.

However, the minister also pointed to a potential opportunity for India, particularly Bengaluru, if companies shift more high-value jobs closer to their talent base.

"I see a flip side of possibly

US IT VISA FREEZE
• Programme: Permanent Labour Certification (PERM)
• Affected firms: TCS, Infosys, Wipro, HCLTech and others
• US explanation: Active federal investigations
• Potential impact: Uncertainty over permanent residency sponsorship
• Opportunity: More high-value jobs in India

climbing up the value chain, with more high-end jobs coming to where talent is, that is India, and more particularly Bengaluru," he said.

Kharge also questioned the benefits of the India-US trade deal and the relationship between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump.

The PERM suspension freezes new and pending applications at affected companies for employer-sponsored permanent residency. It does not, by itself, halt H-1B visa applications under normal rules.

Jewar airport to be renamed Narendra Modi International Airport

NEW DELHI

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday announced that the Noida International Airport at Jewar would be renamed Narendra Modi International Airport after the state Cabinet approved the proposal. Adityanath said the Cabinet ex-



pressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the airport, describing it as a major gift to Uttar Pradesh. He added that the facility would emerge as the state's largest airport and a major aviation hub. Modi inaugurated the airport on March 28, 2026. An IndiGo flight from Lucknow made its first landing there on June 15. Developed at a cost of Rs 11,282 crore, the airport's first phase has an annual capacity of 1.2 crore passengers, expandable to seven crore. It features a 3,900-metre runway capable of handling wide-body aircraft.

Indian-origin jurist Navi Pillay wins 2026 Nobel Peace Prize

OSLO

Indian-origin South African jurist and human rights pioneer Navi Pillay was awarded the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for her efforts to promote peace, strengthen international law and ensure accountability for serious international crimes.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee recognised Pillay, a former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, for her role in advancing a stronger global legal order and ensuring that war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide are prosecuted.

"The Nobel Peace Prize for 2026 goes to a person who

with exceptional courage and integrity has led the way towards a more comprehensive global legal order," the committee said.

Born into a family of Indian Tamil origin in Durban, South Africa, during apartheid, Pillay built a distinguished legal career confronting discrimination and exclusion. She served as a judge on South Africa's High Court, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Criminal Court.

As a judge at the Rwanda tribunal, she contributed to landmark developments recognising rape and sexual violence as crimes against humanity and, under certain circumstances, acts of geno-



NOBEL LAUREATE

- Award: 2026 Nobel Peace Prize
- Laureate: Navi Pillay
- Origin: Indian Tamil family, Durban, South Africa
- Former role: UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Key focus: International law, human rights and accountability
- Landmark contribution: Prosecution of genocide and sexual violence

A CAREER IN INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

Navi Pillay rose to prominence by challenging apartheid-era discrimination and championing human dignity through the law. Her judicial career spans South Africa's High Court and international tribunals dealing with genocide and war crimes. Her work helped strengthen legal recognition of sexual violence in conflict. Through senior United Nations roles and international judicial service, she has advocated accountability for perpetrators and justice for victims of grave human rights violations.

Quick Read

Divine gold promise costs goldsmith his life savings

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Trust turned into a costly nightmare for a local goldsmith. Con artist Bhutham Lingaya allegedly looted ₹1.3 crore from Selvaraj Achari over two and a half years. The clever trickster first won the family's hearts by curing their health issues. Later, he spun a wild tale about having five kilograms of magical divine gold. To trick them completely, he showed a real gold sample. Selvaraj sold his land and jewelry to pay the fraudster. After taking the huge cash, the cheat vanished. Police are now hunting the missing man.

KSTDC launches new one-day Bengaluru tour

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Families can now enjoy a budget-friendly holiday adventure this Dasara season. The Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation has launched a special one-day Bengaluru sight-seeing tour. Travelers will ride in high-tech deluxe buses led by expert guides. The fun-filled itinerary includes famous spots like ISKCON Temple, Rajarajeshwari Temple, and Bannerghatta Biological Park. Kids will also explore the Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium and Visvesvaraya Science Museum before heading home. Government employees can use LTC benefits for this trip. Interested people can easily book their tickets directly through the official KSTDC website.

High Court relieves BJP leader Ravi Patil

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Legal relief has arrived for local Bharatiya Janata Party leader Ravi Patil and two supporters. The High Court ordered police to avoid harsh actions against them. The group faces serious accusations regarding an alleged attempt to delete nearly 200 minority voter names during a recent election list revision in Belagavi. A local Congress worker filed the original police complaint. Patil's lawyer argued that raising legal objections about duplicate voters is standard and does not break any laws. The court has now adjourned the crucial hearing to October 13.

State inspects 45 ice cream units, seizes expired stock

Targeting commercial malpractice and unhygienic practices, food safety officers raided ice cream manufacturing units statewide, seizing expired products and lifting samples.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

In a decisive statewide push to safeguard public health and clamp down on commercial malpractice, the Food Safety and Drug Administration Department has carried out intensive surprise inspections across 45 ice cream manufacturing units. Prompted by strict directives from Health and Family Welfare Minister U.T. Khader, municipal food safety officers fanned out across multiple districts to examine operational hygiene, scrutinize product safety standards, and inspect raw material warehouses.

During the sweeping operation, enforcement teams lifted a total of 70 critical food samples—ranging from finished ice cream tubs and liquid milk to milk powder, flavoring substances, sugar, and specialized food additives. All collected specimens have been dispatched immediately to authorized government food laboratories for comprehensive chemical and microbiological analysis to verify whether they adhere strictly to mandated safety regulations. While the majority of inspected facilities complied



with baseline rules, the rigorous checks exposed severe lapses, poor sanitary conditions, and regulatory violations across four major processing units.

In Bengaluru, surprise raids on local establishments uncovered blatant disregard for inventory expiration dates. At Savara Ice Cream Cafe in Jayanagar's 3rd Block, inspection teams confiscated a substantial quantity of expired products, including commercial biscuits, packaged milk, alkalized tea and coffee mixes, and desiccated coconut powder. Simultaneously, checks at M.N. Enterprises in Bilekahalli along Bannerghatta Road led to the immediate seizure of expired plain caramel, condensed milk products, and khoa, alongside explicit violations concerning proper statutory

food labeling.

Violations were not confined to the capital city. In Raichur, authorities flagged deeply unsanitary operating environments at the Gemini Ice Cream manufacturing plant, issuing a formal notice with strict legal proceedings to follow. Meanwhile, inspections at the John Candy Ice Cream manufacturing unit in Mysuru revealed significant deficiencies in product labeling norms, prompting officers to seize valued stock worth twenty thousand rupees. Senior food safety commissioner Srinivas K. emphasized that these enforcement operations are part of a continuous, statewide drive. The department has vowed to initiate aggressive legal action under the Food Safety and Standards Act against all entities compromising consumer health.

Summer heat in monsoon: K'taka grid pushed to limits

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Severe drought conditions and prolonged monsoon dry spells have triggered an unprecedented spike in electricity consumption across Karnataka, placing the state energy department under immense pressure. With high temperatures mimicking summer conditions during the rainy season, daily power demand has soared to historic highs, forcing the government to resort to aggressive open-market daytime power purchases to bridge widening supply deficits.

According to data released by the Energy Department, state electricity demand crossed an all-time monsoon peak of 340 million units per day in September. Although recent localized rains have brought minor relief—stabilizing daily consumption between 300 and 315 million units—demand remains roughly 55 million units higher than the corresponding period last year.

To counter the crunch, authorities have utilized restored inter-state power exchange allocations of 1,000 MW alongside an additional 230 MW secured through the central government's Shakti scheme.

ARC Hospital Spreads Breast Cancer Awareness

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

In a proactive move this Breast Cancer Awareness Month, ARC Cancer Hospital is stepping outside traditional clinical settings to launch a series of extensive public health outreach initiatives across Bengaluru. Driven by the core campaign motto, "Know Your Risk. Screen Early. Act Early," the hospital aims to bridge the gap between medical care and community education, emphasizing that a woman's health is fundamental to overall societal well-being.

Hospital leadership notes that true cancer care extends far beyond hospital wards into proactive prevention. Breast cancer can impact women across diverse age groups and risk profiles, making early detection and timely medical consultation vital lifesavers. To champion this cause, ARC Cancer Hospital has organized a special Cancer Survivors' Felicitation Programme on October 10, 2026, at its main premises. This emotional event will celebrate the extraordinary courage and resilience of survivors while highlighting the critical role of prompt diagnosis, advanced medical treatment, and

consistent emotional support systems.

Taking the message directly to the public, the hospital has scheduled major community engagement drives at two of Bengaluru's most iconic public spaces: Lalbagh on October 11, 2026, and Cubbon Park on October 25, 2026. During these weekend outreach events, healthcare volunteers will distribute informative handbills, display educational placards, and interact directly with citizens. These campaigns are designed to educate families about hidden risk factors, teach them to recognize warning signs that should never be ignored, and encourage proactive consultations with qualified medical professionals.

To make early detection financially accessible, the hospital is distributing complimentary mammography screening coupons to the public alongside heavily discounted comprehensive cancer screening packages, subject to standard eligibility guidelines. Through these grassroots efforts, ARC Cancer Hospital hopes to empower every household with the knowledge that timely screening saves lives and that investing in women's health safeguards the entire nation's future.

ED uncovers rigged marks cards, luxury travel

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Fresh and deeply incriminating revelations continue to tumble out from the ongoing Enforcement Directorate investigation into the sprawling Karnataka Public Service Commission veterinary officers recruitment scam. Federal financial investigators probing the multi-layered corruption scandal have uncovered concrete documentary and digital evidence indicating that key suspects utilized illicitly acquired kickbacks to fund luxury travel, specifically tracing flight ticket bookings for prominent figures directly back to proceeds of the fraudulent recruitment scheme.

According to exhaustive disclosures emerging from the federal agency's interrogation logs, investigators established that flight tickets for accused individuals Shivashankarappa Sahukar and B.V. Geetha were procured using tainted money amassed through systematic manipulation of government job selections. During formal testimonies recorded under anti-money laundering provisions, the personal assistant attached to Shivashankarappa Sahukar confessed that the travel itineraries were arranged through a specialized booking agency named 'My Travel Air' alongside independent ticketing



agents. Financial forensics further mapped out digital transaction trails, matching cash deposits and unaccounted fund transfers with the exact timestamps of these flight reservations, thereby tying white-collar racketeering directly to personal luxury expenditures.

The entire sophisticated enterprise began unraveling due to sharp-eyed administrative scrutiny directed at anomalous academic credentials and tampered marks cards submitted by candidates. Investigators revealed that key intermediaries, identified as Nandish and Vinutha, maintained continuous, high-frequency communication with core architects Shivashankarappa and Geetha. Comprehensive technical evidence gathered by the Enforcement Directorate—spanning detailed Call Detail Records,

Enforcement Directorate probe into the KPSC veterinary recruitment scam reveals tainted kickbacks funded luxury flight tickets for key suspects involved in the corruption ring.

How the money flew

- 1 Kickbacks:** money amassed by manipulating KPSC job selections
- 2 Bookings:** through the agency 'My Travel Air' and independent ticketing agents
- 3 Tickets:** for accused Shivashankarappa Sahukar and B.V. Geetha
- 4 Trail:** cash deposits and unaccounted transfers matched with the booking times

intercepted messaging logs, and extensive closed-circuit television footage from administrative offices—conclusively established an active conspiracy. The microscopic physical and digital verification of marks cards belonging to Vinutha and Nandish served as the smoking gun, exposing systemic corruption and prompting nationwide demands for sweeping administrative reforms across state recruitment boards.

SC defers hearing on Vinay Kulkarni's bail to Oct 27

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The legal battle surrounding the high-profile murder of Dharwad BJP leader Yogish Gowda reached the Supreme Court, where a bench comprising Justices Prashant Kumar Mishra and Chandrashekar presided over crucial appellate proceedings. The hearing centred on challenges brought forth by the Central Bureau of Investigation and the victim's family against a controversial order issued by the Karnataka High Court. That earlier ruling had suspended the sentences and granted statutory bail to Congress leader Vinay Kulkarni and several co-accused individuals, temporarily halting the legal momentum of a landmark judicial conviction.

The protracted criminal case stems from the brutal assassination of Yogish Gowda, a prominent former member of the Dharwad Zilla Panchayat, who was hacked to death with lethal weapons inside a gymnasium in Saptapur, Dharwad, on June 15, 2016. While initial investigations were handled by local law enforcement, persistent demands from the victim's grieving family prompted the state government to transfer the sensitive probe to the



Central Bureau of Investigation in 2019. Following an exhaustive multi-year investigation, the central agency filed a comprehensive chargesheet implicating several political operatives, leading to a historic verdict earlier this year. In April 2026, the Special Court for People's Representatives in Bengaluru delivered a resounding judgment, declaring seventeen individuals, including Vinay Kulkarni, guilty of the murder and sentencing them to rigorous life imprisonment.

However, the legal landscape shifted dramatically on July 31, 2026, when the Karnataka High Court entertained appeals filed by the convicts, granting them bail and staying their prison sentences pending final hearings. Challenging this relief, Additional Solicitor General S.V. Raju, represent-

The case so far

- JUNE 15, 2016**
Yogish Gowda hacked to death in a gym at Saptapur, Dharwad
- 2019**
Probe handed to the CBI
- APRIL 2026**
Special court convicts 17, including Kulkarni; life imprisonment
- JULY 31, 2026**
High Court suspends the sentences, grants bail

ing the CBI, launched a vigorous assault on the High Court's order before the apex bench. ASG Raju argued strenuously that stays on criminal convictions and the granting of bail to individuals holding public office should be restricted solely to rare, exceptional circumstances, citing three established constitutional precedents. Furthermore, the CBI brought to light serious judicial concerns, emphasizing that the Supreme Court had previously revoked Kulkarni's bail due to documented allegations of witness intimidation and evidence tampering. The prosecution also contended that crucial disclosures regarding two prior criminal cases pending against the accused had been concealed from the High Court during the initial bail hearings.

RAO TARGETS RATHEE

Checking YouTuber's credentials: Ex-IPS demands visa & citizenship probe

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Former Bengaluru Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao has officially written to the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, demanding a comprehensive legal and immigration verification regarding popular YouTuber Dhruv Rathee's citizenship and entry status. The formal request follows Rathee's high-profile participation in a contentious political demonstration held at Bengaluru's Freedom Park. The rally, organized by the 'Cockroach Janata Party' (CJP) alongside civil society activists and actor Prakash Raj, served as a "People's Tribunal" to protest against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and challenge the sweeping voter roll changes executed under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise.

Addressing the large gathering of students, citizens, and



activists during the demonstration, Rathee openly criticized the Election Commission of India, alleging a complete lack of transparency and institutional accountability in handling nationwide electoral revisions. However, his active presence and public address on an Indian political platform triggered sharp administrative questions given persistent public reports regarding his foreign citizenship. In his representation to the home ministry, Bhaskar Rao emphasized the urgency of ascertaining the precise legal category, visa endorsement, or authorization under which Rathee entered India.

The former top cop urged central authorities to examine whether the participation of a foreign national in organized political agitations and public demonstrations violates the Foreigners Act of 1946, standard visa regulations, or Overseas Citizen of India guidelines. Furthermore, Rao requested the ministry to preserve and thoroughly scrutinize historical entry and exit records to determine if Rathee had engaged in similar political activities during prior visits. Disclaiming any personal political animosity or disagreement with the YouTuber's ideological stances, Rao maintained that the inquiry is

The request is intended to ensure that foreign nationals comply with the legal framework governing their presence and activities in India, and is not motivated by any disagreement with political views."

Bhaskar Rao
Former IPS officer

strictly a matter of enforcing sovereign legal frameworks governing foreign visitors. As the Ministry of Home Affairs reviews the representation, the controversy has added fresh fuel to the ongoing nationwide political debates surrounding the CJP's mobilization and electoral accountability.

PGCET aspirants protest KEA counselling delays

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Tensions flared outside the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) headquarters in Bengaluru as hundreds of outraged postgraduate aspirants staged a massive demonstration to protest the crippling delays plaguing the Karnataka Post Graduate Common Entrance Test (PGCET) counselling process. The prolonged postponement of the second and third rounds of counselling has plunged the academic futures of thousands of students into profound uncertainty, leaving candidates stranded as academic calendars across affiliated universities march forward.

The immediate catalyst for the widespread agitation stems from widespread dissatisfaction with the initial round of seat allotments. Agitating students and student union representatives pointed to glaring discrepancies, alleging that college allotments failed to align transparently with merit ranks.

‘Used cooking oil can boost biodiesel production’

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Preventing the reuse of used cooking oil in food preparation and channelising it for biodiesel production can protect public health while ensuring a steady supply of feedstock, Karnataka State Bioenergy Development Board (KSDBB) Chairman S. E. Sudheendra said.

During a visit to Srisailem, Sudheendra met officials from various departments, local bodies and non-governmental organisations to discuss bio-energy development, technological advancements and investment opportunities.

He highlighted Karnataka's potential to produce biodiesel, compressed biogas (CBG), biopellets and biobriquettes by utilising biomass, agricultural residues and municipal solid waste.

He also said the State was taking steps to formulate a new biofuel policy under the leadership of Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar.



Sudheendra said discussions had been held with Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr U. T. Khader and senior officials on preventing hotels, restaurants and food-processing units from reusing cooking oil. Repeated heating of edible oil can produce harmful compounds, making safe collection and diversion to biodiesel plants essential, he noted.

He also proposed collecting residual edible and non-edible oils offered at temples for religious rituals. Citing the Sri Marikamba Temple in Sirsi, where residual oil is supplied to biodiesel units and the resulting fuel used in vehicles, he suggested replicating the model across Karnataka.

Quick Read

Man murdered by friend over trivial dispute

CH NEWS, RAICHUR

A minor dispute during a drinking session allegedly turned fatal after a 35-year-old man, Wasim, was brutally murdered by having a stone dropped on him at his house in Manvi town of the district. The incident occurred around 9 pm in Indira Nagar, behind the bus stand, where Wasim was reportedly consuming alcohol with his friends, including Zubair and Shahrukh. According to preliminary information, an argument broke out among the friends over a trivial issue and soon escalated into a violent confrontation. During the altercation, Wasim was allegedly killed after a stone was dropped on him. In a reported development, the accused surrendered at the police station after the murder.

Farmer allegedly assaulted by forest dept officials

CH NEWS, RAICHUR

A farmer was allegedly assaulted by Forest Department officials following a dispute over the planting of saplings along a roadside at Yaradoddi village in Maski taluk of the district. The farmer, Ramesh, son of Hanumantha, was reportedly assaulted in connection with a dispute over roadside land bearing Survey No. 29 in the village. According to the information available, the incident allegedly took place between 2 pm and night-fall on Wednesday. The circumstances leading to the assault and the role of the officials concerned need to be thoroughly investigated.

Prohibitory orders around 24 K-SET examination centres

CH NEWS, VIJAYAPURA

Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate Dr K Anand has issued prohibitory orders within a 200-metre radius of all 24 examination centres in the district to ensure the smooth and peaceful conduct of the Karnataka State Eligibility Test (K-SET) 2026 on October 11. The order has been issued under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023. The restricted zone will remain in force from 8.30 am on October 11 until the conclusion of the examination. The order prohibits officials, staff members and others engaged in examination duties from carrying or using mobile phones at the examination centres. Additionally, photocopy shops, computer centres, cybercafes and coaching centres located around the examination centres have been directed to remain closed during the examination period. The measures have been taken to prevent malpractice and ensure the peaceful and orderly conduct of the examination across the district.

A government horticulture farm located near the Amreshwara pilgrim centre has fallen into a state of neglect, defeating its primary purpose of providing farmers with demonstrations of horticultural crops and quality saplings. The farm, spread across 13 acres under the Horticulture Department within the Devarabhoopur Gram Panchayat limits, is reportedly

K-SET exam to be held on October 11

ADDITIONAL DC DR AUDRAM DIRECTS OFFICIALS TO ENSURE TRANSPARENT AND SMOOTH CONDUCT OF EXAMINATION

CH NEWS, VIJAYAPURA

Additional Deputy Commissioner Dr Audram has directed officials to make comprehensive arrangements to ensure that the Karnataka State Eligibility Test (K-SET), scheduled to be held on October 11, is conducted transparently, securely and without any lapses. Chairing a preliminary meeting at the Deputy Commissioner's office to review preparations, Dr Audram stressed the need for strict security measures and adequate facilities at all examination centres. As many as 8,817 candidates have registered for the examination, which will be conducted at 24 centres across the city. To ensure the safe transportation of question papers, nine routes have been identified.

Specially appointed route officers have been instructed to transport the confidential examination materials securely and deliver them to the designated centres within the stipulated time.

A committee comprising the Additional Deputy Commis-



8,817	24	9
candidates registered	exam centres in the city	question-paper routes

sioner, Deputy Director of the District Treasury and Deputy Director of the School Education Department has been constituted to oversee the handling and distribution of confidential examination materials.

Three-member route officer teams have been deployed to transport examination materials under tight security. They have been instructed to collect the materials from the District Treasury at 7 am on the examination day and deliver them to the respective centres on time.

Five-member flying squads have been formed, with one

team assigned to every four to five examination centres, to monitor arrangements and prevent malpractice. Dr Audram directed officials to take all necessary precautionary measures to avoid irregularities and ensure a fair examination process. Police personnel and Home Guards will conduct thorough frisking and security checks at the entrances before allowing candidates into the centres.

"The installation of CCTV cameras in all examination halls has been made mandatory, while jammers are also being installed as part of the security arrangements. Candi-

The installation of CCTV cameras in all examination halls has been made mandatory, while jammers are also being installed as part of the security arrangements"

– Dr Audram Additional DC

dates have been instructed to carry their admit cards without fail. Coordination has also been established with the transport corporation, HESCOM and the Police Department to prevent disruptions during the examination," Dr Audram said.

Deputy Director of the Treasury Department Anand Muchandi, HESCOM Superintending Engineer Siddappa Binjageri, KKRTC Divisional Controller DA Biradar, PSI Arif, trainers LG Kumbhar and Jagadish Gulaganj, along with district-level officials, examination centre heads, chief superintendents, deputy superintendents and other personnel assigned to examination duties attended.

Suntana Tanda residents protest 8-day water shortage

CH NEWS, KALABURAGI

Residents of Suntana Tanda, coming under Kodli Gram Panchayat limits in Kalagi taluk, have been struggling without drinking water for the past eight days, prompting women to stage a protest with empty pots on Friday.

The tanda has around 60 households. According to residents, drinking water is supplied from a source near Hulasugud Cross, located some distance away. However, the supply has reportedly remained suspended for the past week, leaving families without access to safe drinking water. Although three water connection points are available in the tanda, residents claim that not a single one is currently supplying water.

The shortage has affected both people and livestock, adding to the hardship faced by the villagers. Residents alleged that despite bringing the issue to the notice of the Panchayat Development Officer (PDO), no alternative arrangement had been made.

They said they were asked to submit a complaint instead of receiving immediate relief. Their request for water tankers was also reportedly met with an unhelpful response.

With no other option, villagers have been forced to



Suntana Tanda

without drinking water

8 days

households in the tanda

60

water connection points supplying

0 of 3

walk to Suntana village for water

3 km

carry water from Suntana village, nearly three kilometres away. Women expressed anger over the continued disruption and alleged that the authorities had failed to respond to their repeated appeals. Demanding immediate restoration of the regular water supply, the protesting residents urged the gram panchayat and concerned officials to arrange emergency drinking water through tankers and resolve the problem without further delay.

Years of neglect leave Yadrami roads in disrepair

CH NEWS, KALABURAGI

Motorists travelling along the district and state highways connecting Hangaraga (K), Shivapura, Balabatti, Bilawar, Jewargi, Mallabad, Chamanal, Shahapur and Kembhavi are facing severe hardships due to the deteriorating condition of the roads. Potholes have remained on several stretches for years, forcing motorists to navigate dangerous road conditions.

Villagers allege that despite repeated problems and accidents involving commuters, the authorities and elected representatives have failed to take effective steps to repair the roads.

The road connecting Hangaraga (K) to the taluk headquarters of Yadrami, located about 15 km away, is in poor condition. The four-kilometre stretch from Hangaraga Cross to the village is riddled with potholes.

The narrow road between Hangaraga (K) and Shivapura is also causing difficulties for bus services and other vehicles.

The district main road from Sumbada through Hangaraga (K) to Shivapura Cross is narrow, with bushes and vegetation encroaching on both sides.

The approximately two-kilometre stretch between Shivapura and Balabatti has deteriorated so badly that villagers, frustrated by official inaction, have taken the initiative to carry out temporary repairs by laying murrum on the road.

Similarly, the state highway connecting Shivapura Cross to Mallabad and further towards Chamanal is in a dilap-



Villagers demand urgent repairs to key district and state highways; two-wheeler riders face daily risks.

What villagers want

- The PWD should secure funds through the local MLA
- Complete the tendering process and begin repairs without further delay
- Address the long-pending problem and ensure safe, convenient travel for the affected villages

idated condition, adding to the difficulties faced by commuters.

In some places, villagers have placed thorny branches near potholes to alert motorists to the danger. However, several potholes remain unattended, and two-wheeler riders continue to face the risk of losing control and falling.

Women, children and pillion riders are particularly vulnerable while travelling on these stretches.

Residents said the roads are vital for people travelling to Shahapur, Surpur and Kembhavi for business, work and other essential activities. The poor road conditions have made daily travel hazardous and increased the need for immediate intervention.

Karnataka High Court questions CUK recruitment process

CH NEWS, KALABURAGI

The Kalaburagi Bench of the Karnataka High Court has expressed concern over the functioning of the Central University of Karnataka (CUK), located at Kadaganchi in Aland taluk, while hearing a writ petition challenging the appointment of an Assistant Registrar/Public Relations Officer (PRO).

During the hearing, the single-judge Bench of Justice Vijaykumar Patil observed that all does not appear to be well at the university and directed the university to submit records detailing the action taken on a letter written by the State Chief Secretary.

The petition was filed by Dattatreya, who alleged that the candidate appointed to the post had failed to meet the eligibility criteria prescribed by the university. Appearing for the petitioner, senior advocate P. Vilas Kumar submitted that the Chief Secretary and the Principal Secretary of the Higher Education Department, both members of the university's Executive Council, had reportedly recorded their dissent regarding the PRO recruitment process. Despite these objections, the university allegedly issued the appointment order in haste, prompting the petitioner to seek an interim stay on the appointment.

After hearing the submissions, Justice Patil questioned the university's counsel, Sudarshan, about the steps taken in response to the Chief Secretary's communication and directed the university to produce the

Kalaburagi Bench seeks records on objections raised by Chief Secretary and Higher Education Secretary; hearing adjourned to Oct 16

relevant documents. However, the court declined to grant an immediate stay on the appointment. The Bench also raised questions about discrepancies in the names of newspapers mentioned in documents submitted by the appointed candidate.

According to the court, the candidate had reportedly mentioned one newspaper in the application and a different publication in an affidavit filed before the court. The affidavit submitted by the Registrar also reportedly contained different newspaper names.

The court questioned which newspaper the candidate had actually worked for, highlighting the need for clarity regarding the employment details submitted during the recruitment process. The university's counsel argued that the petitioner had not challenged the alleged irregularities during the recruitment process.

Rejecting this contention, the Bench observed that there was no requirement for a candidate to challenge alleged irregularities only during the recruitment period and that such a challenge could be raised subsequently.

The court adjourned the hearing to October 16, directing the university to place the relevant records before it.

Civic body clarifies death certificates belong to different persons

CH NEWS, VIJAYAPURA

The City Corporation has clarified that eight death certificates submitted in connection with allegations of attempts to delete living voters from the electoral rolls are genuine government records, but they belong to different individuals with the same names and not to the voters mentioned in the complaint. The clarification follows a complaint submitted by Abdul Hameed Mushreef along with Congress leaders and workers, alleging that fake or duplicate death certificates had been used to target living voters belonging to a minority community in the City Assembly constituency.

According to the official correspondence, the Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned authorities to examine the complaint and take action as per the rules. Subsequently, the concerned department was asked to verify the authenticity of eight death certificates attached to the complaint and submit a report. In its report dated October 5, the Birth and Death Registration Department of the City Corporation stated that the certificates were examined through the e-Janma

software system and found to be genuine.

However, the department clarified that the certificates did not pertain to the voters named in the complaint but to other individuals bearing the same names. The authorities also verified the names of the voters mentioned in the complaint against the current draft electoral roll and confirmed that their names would continue in the voter list as per the rules.

The report further stated that no Form 7 applications seeking deletion of these voters had been received. The clarification establishes that the eight certificates were genuine records relating to other individuals, rather than death certificates belonging to the voters identified in the complaint.

The allegations of deliberate forgery and an attempt to remove living voters, however, remain allegations and are not established by the verification report. The development comes amid heightened political tensions in Vijayapura over allegations of irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and concerns about the wrongful deletion of eligible voters.

The certificates, explained

- Q

Are the eight certificates fake?
- A

No. Checked on the e-Janma system, they are genuine government records
- Q

Whose deaths do they record?
- A

Other people with the same names, not the voters named in the complaint
- Q

Do the voters stay on the roll?
- A

Yes. Their names will continue in the voter list as per the rules
- Q

Was their deletion sought?
- A

No Form 7 applications seeking it had been received

PURPOSE DEFEATED

Neglect pushes horticulture farm to the brink of ruin

CH NEWS, RAICHUR

deteriorating due to poor maintenance and a lack of adequate attention from the authorities.

The farm has around 60 mango trees, besides sapota and custard apple trees. The department invites tenders for the sale of fruits during their respective harvesting seasons every year.

In the past, the farm played an important role in raising a variety of plants, including coconut, mango, sapota, cus-

tard apple and lemon, along with flowering and ornamental plants. These were sold to farmers at subsidised rates.

However, farmers say the farm is no longer actively engaged in raising saplings. Plants grown over the past two years have been left without proper care, with some drying up and others lying scattered across the premises.

The polyhouse, which was constructed to protect plants from adverse weather condi-



tions, pests and diseases, has also fallen into complete disrepair, with its structure reportedly torn apart.

Several trees and plants have

dried up due to inadequate watering, fertilisation and maintenance. Weeds and thorny bushes have spread across the premises, highlighting the lack

of cleanliness and upkeep.

Farmers lament that the facility, which should serve as a centre for horticultural demonstrations, technical guidance and the distribution of saplings, has instead become a picture of neglect and disorganisation.

The shortage of gardeners, watchmen and other staff, coupled with inadequate funding, is reportedly contributing to the deterioration of the farm.

Farmers have urged the

Horticulture Department to formulate a special development plan to revive the facility. They stressed that the government farm must be restored to its intended role of supporting farmers and promoting horticultural cultivation in the region. They have called for adequate staffing, a reliable water supply, regular maintenance, restoration of the polyhouse and systematic cultivation and protection of saplings.

Internal rivalry, succession battles: How KPSC got exposed

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

What initially surfaced as a minor administrative discrepancy concerning a candidate's income credentials has blown wide open into one of the most explosive corruption scandals in recent state history. New investigative findings reveal that fierce internal rivalries, bitter factional power struggles, and intense lobbying for top administrative posts within the Karnataka Public Service Commission were the actual catalysts that dismantled a sophisticated, multi-crore cash-for-jobs recruitment ring.

As the tenure of former KPSC Chairman Shivashankarappa Sahukar approached its scheduled conclusion in



February 2027, intense political maneuvering began among commission members eyeing the upcoming chairmanship. Over the preceding three years, the total strength of the commission had expanded significantly from eight to

eighteen members, fostering an environment ripe for factionalism and deep-seated institutional friction. Investigators note that the initial breach occurred when sensitive files alleging that Sahukar's daughter had submitted a false in-

come certificate while applying for a veterinary officer post were abruptly leaked. Internal factions, already locked in a ruthless battle for administrative supremacy, deliberately pushed the information into the public domain to block Sahukar's continued ascent and pressure him into premature resignation.

The subsequent media scrutiny and immediate federal oversight ripped the lid off widespread administrative rot. The Enforcement Directorate and state investigative agencies have since confirmed that

question papers for the high-stakes veterinary officer examinations were systematically leaked to at least ten select candidates in exchange for staggering bribes ranging from forty to fifty lakh rupees per applicant. Prior to the exam, these favored candidates were sequestered in secluded luxury resort villas on the outskirts of Bengaluru, where they were coached intensively to memorize eighty specific questions and their corresponding correct answers.

Forensic audits and intense

custodial interrogations have further implicated suspended IAS officer and former exam controller Gyanendra Kumar Gangwar, alongside middleman Basavaraj Kannale, Chairman Sahukar, and commission member B.V. Geetha. Investigators uncovered that the conspirators exploited confidential merit lists to target high-scoring aspirants, extorting massive sums under the guise of assuring final selection. During simultaneous nationwide raids, federal authorities seized crucial incriminating evidence, including

signed blank cheques and promissory notes worth eighty lakh rupees extracted as fi-

Regulatory fallout

As federal agencies deepen their custody interrogations, the infighting-turned-whistleblowing has triggered cross-party demands to fundamentally overhaul or restructure the state's recruitment framework.

financial security. As the Enforcement Directorate deepens its audit into the syndicate's hidden assets, the ongoing scandal continues to cast a dark shadow over the credibility of public sector hiring in Karnataka.

18	10+	40-50	80
commission members, up from 8 in three years	candidates got leaked question papers	lakh rupees paid per applicant	questions memorized at resort villas

Quick Read

B'luru air quality remains satisfactory except in congested zones

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Fresh air data brings mixed updates for Karnataka residents today. Bengaluru maintains a mostly satisfactory air quality index, though heavy traffic areas like BTM Layout and Silk Board experience poor pollution levels. Meanwhile, nature lovers can breathe easier in Mysuru and Madikeri, where air quality stays exceptionally good and refreshing. Weather shifts and vehicle smoke are mainly causing the localized smog in the tech capital. Health experts advise vulnerable citizens and people with breathing issues to wear protective masks when traveling through busy, congested streets.

Mantralaya-themed Ganesha pavilion charms Bengaluru

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The festive spirit is still glowing brightly in the city. Atharva Yuva Sene built a stunning Ganesha pavilion in Kalkere modeled after the sacred Mantralaya Matha. This massive structure cost sixteen lakh rupees and required three months of hard work. It features grand red and gold pillars, a towering gopura, and religious flags. The creators wanted to give local devotees the holy experience of visiting the actual temple right here in town. Thousands of people are visiting daily to admire the magnificent artwork before the final immersion ceremony happens this Sunday.

Umashree inspects facilities at Legislators' Home

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Karnataka Legislative Council Deputy Chairperson Dr. Umashree made a surprise visit to the Legislators' Home. She checked rooms, cleanliness, and dining areas closely. During her inspection, she stressed that lawmakers must enjoy total peace and proper basic facilities without any trouble. She suggested opening a separate health club for women and upgrading medical units and reading rooms. The senior leader also told officials and security staff to stay alert and ready for duty at all times. This surprise check aims to improve living standards for elected representatives staying in the city.

ED uncovers mysterious 'Duggappa' in KPSC scam

As the Enforcement Directorate digs deeper into the Karnataka Public Service Commission recruitment racket, chat trails pointing to a mysterious intermediary named 'Duggappa' have surfaced alongside ongoing probes into financial transactions between key figures.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The sprawling Enforcement Directorate investigation into the Karnataka Public Service Commission recruitment scandal has taken a fresh turn, exposing a mysterious new figure code-named or identified as 'Duggappa'. Federal investigators probing the financial trail and digital footprints of the accused discovered explicit WhatsApp communications linking the mysterious individual directly to Mohan, the personal assistant of former KPSC Chairman Shivashankarappa Sahukar.

According to technical data recovered during simultaneous raids on the residences of the key accused, 'Duggappa' operated as a conduit, consistently transmitting shortlisted candidate details, registration credentials, and vetting lists straight to the chairman's office via messaging applications. Federal teams are currently probing whether this shadowy intermediary holds ties as a former KPSC member or operates within a wider syndicate of middlemen facilitating the cash-for-jobs racket.

et. Authorities indicate that formal notices will soon be issued to Duggappa for comprehensive interrogation regarding his role in orchestrating question paper and answer key leaks.

Simultaneously, financial audits have laid bare a complex network of monetary transactions exchanged between former Chairman Shivashankarappa Sahukar and co-accused KPSC member B.V. Geetha. Investigators uncovered that following Geetha's relocation to Bengaluru after her appointment in 2021, Sahukar regularly transferred substantial funds to her personal bank accounts, her daughter's accounts, and to property landlords under the guise of financial assistance during periods of economic distress. Bank records show multiple structured transfers, including substantial lump sums running into lakhs alongside routine payments covering apartment rents.

The unfolding revelations highlight the systematic abuse of constitutional office to orchestrate large-scale recruitment fraud. With both Shivashankarappa Sahukar and B.V. Geetha currently remanded in extended federal custody, Enforcement Directorate officials are intensifying their crackdown. Investigators are analyzing fresh digital evidence to unmask all remaining beneficiaries and external collaborators tied to the multi-crore scam before filing supplementary prosecution complaints.

₹300 drugs for ₹6,000: SIT exposes counterfeit antibiotic racket

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A massive underground counterfeit pharmaceutical ring has been exposed on the outskirts of Bengaluru, sending shockwaves through the state's medical community. A dedicated Special Investigation Team probing the illicit network revealed that fraudsters were procuring ordinary, low-cost antibiotics for a fraction of their value, rebranding them with fake labels of high-end international pharmaceutical brands, and reselling them to unsuspecting patients at exorbitant markups.

According to investigators, the sophisticated scam centered around two heavily prescribed, high-demand critical care antibiotics: Zavancefta and Emblaveo. While generic equivalents or alternate formulations are manufactured locally at baseline costs ranging between 200 and 300 rupees, the syndicate exploited massive price disparities. By illicitly repackaging these inexpensive drugs at an unauthorized facility near Bidadi, the racketeers affixed counterfeit packaging mimicking premium international brands whose genuine market prices run between 5,000 and 8,000 rupees per unit. Investigators estimate that the network successfully distributed roughly 15,000 spurious vials over the past year and a half.

The clandestine operation came to light following coordinated raids on an unlicensed repackaging unit near the Bidadi toll gate, which led to the initial seizure of suspected fake medicines valued at over five crore rupees. Building on



A special investigation team exposed a massive counterfeit pharmaceutical ring repackaging cheap antibiotics into luxury brand vials.

those preliminary discoveries, the SIT expanded its dragnet, executing coordinated multi-state search operations across Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Telangana to trace the source of raw material procurement and fake box printing operations.

So far, law enforcement authorities have arrested seven primary individuals connected to the criminal syndicate. The investigation has since pushed deeper into local distribution channels, with recent raids targeting specific retail pharmacies and medical stockists across Bengaluru—including establishments in Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Chamarajpet, and Thalaghattapura—to map out the secondary sales trail and identify any complicit healthcare facilities. State health officials and SIT commanders have vowed to dismantle every tier of the illicit network to restore total integrity to the pharmaceutical supply chain and protect vulnerable consumers.

B'luru Police transfer 'terror funding' case to Chhattisgarh

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A high-profile terror-funding investigation originating in the city has been officially transferred to the Chhattisgarh Police. The case, initially registered under stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act provisions at Bengaluru's Kothanur police station, involves grave allegations regarding the illegal channeling of foreign funds to support left-wing extremist activities across multiple states.

The multi-state conspiracy investigation stems from comprehensive financial intelligence gathered by the Enforcement Directorate, which uncovered an intricate network linked to the US-based Christian missionary organization, The Timothy Initiative. The FIR originally named seven entities, including the parent organization alongside four Karnataka-based individuals: Jonathan S. Rajan, Meeka Mark, Ajith Varghese Mathai, and Varghese Chacko, alongside operatives from other states.

According to federal and state investigative findings, the accused engineered a sophisticated financial conduit using US-issued Truist Bank debit cards under a pseudonym to withdraw massive sums of money across India. Over a six-month window ending in April 2026, transactions amounting to crores of rupees were funneled through foreign debit cards. Investigators tracked suspicious cash withdrawals totaling millions of rupees directly to heavily

militarized, Naxal-affected districts in Chhattisgarh, specifically Dhamtari and Bastar. Financial audits revealed that operatives had executed thousands of micro-transactions from a single automated teller

THE CASE
NAMED
Seven entities, including The Timothy Initiative
MONEY TRAIL
US-issued Truist Bank debit cards; cash withdrawn in Dhamtari and Bastar
NOW
Case handed to Chhattisgarh Police; lookout notice still active

machine in Dhamtari to avoid regulatory detection.

State police sources indicated that a parallel criminal case regarding the identical network and financial trail had already been registered by law enforcement in Chhattisgarh months prior. Because legal frameworks prohibit simultaneous parallel investigations by separate state police forces into the same core conspiracy, formal judicial approval was sought to consolidate the files. With the Chhattisgarh investigation sitting significantly further advanced in mapping out field-level operatives and financial laundering routes, the Bengaluru case documentation is being handed over entirely to the visiting state authorities. Meanwhile, a lookout notice remains active for the primary accused who have successfully evaded local custody thus far.

TRANSPORT TRUST BREACH

Transport workers hit by ₹2,500 cr PF crisis

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A grave financial controversy has gripped Karnataka's public transit network, as serious allegations emerge regarding the alleged misappropriation of approximately ₹2,500 crore in Provident Fund savings belonging to over one lakh employees across the state's four major road transport corporations, including the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation and the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation.

According to labor representatives and internal financial audits, compulsory employee contributions deducted monthly from the salaries of drivers, conductors, and technical staff—alongside mandatory matching contributions from the corporations—were reportedly withheld instead of being safely credited to the designated PF trusts. Under statutory labor regulations, employee deductions held in trust represent protected social security assets that are strictly prohibited from being co-mingled with internal corporate accounts or utilized for routine administrative overheads. However, mounting opera-



tional liabilities, severe cash crunches, and delayed government scheme reimbursements have allegedly forced transport authorities to divert these capital reserves toward day-to-day expenditures, including diesel purchases and monthly salary distributions.

The scale of the deficit is staggering. The Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation alone is grappling with massive arrears totaling nearly ₹1,000 crore, failing to remit its mandatory monthly contributions of roughly ₹28 crore consistently. Simultaneously, cumulative unpaid dues across KSRTC, North Western, and Kalyana Karnataka road transport corporations have scaled past ₹1,500 crore, throwing the long-term financial security of nearly 1.10

lakh transport workers into deep peril.

The human cost of this administrative shortfall has been immediate and severe. Hundreds of employees who submitted emergency applications over the past two months to withdraw portions of their accumulated savings—crucial for funding children's higher education, weddings, medical treatments, and family health crises—find their claims stalled indefinitely. Outraged transport employee unions have condemned the diversion of retirement savings as a gross betrayal of trust, warning of state-wide agitations unless the government intervenes immediately to regularize all pending accounts and restore full institutional accountability.

Vibrant Dasara dolls brighten Bengaluru markets

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The festive spirit of Dasara and Navaratri has officially taken over Bengaluru, with bustling markets like Gandhi Bazaar transforming into vibrant displays of color and culture as traditional dolls arrive for the season. Ahead of the nine-day celebrations, families and devout patrons have begun thronging local commercial hubs to procure intricate figurines for the cherished Gombe Koorisuva tradition.

The markets feature an extensive array of dolls in varying shapes, sizes, and price points to suit every household budget. Shoppers have expressed immense delight at this year's diverse collections, which go far beyond traditional deities. Artisans have crafted elaborate displays showcasing revered sages and saints, historical national icons, and vivid tableaux depicting everyday rural living, farming practices, traditional trades, sports, and miniature replicas of wildlife. Together, these collections beautifully capture the rich cultural fabric and societal diversity of Indi-



an heritage.

Beyond aesthetic appeal, the traditional arrangement of dolls carries profound philosophical significance. Cultural exponents note that the display serves as a reminder that every element of creation—from the divine to the smallest living creature—possesses unique value, reinforcing the idea that all things embody a shared spark of life.

However, local vendors report that rising raw material expenses have driven a slight

increase in doll prices compared to previous years. Despite cost pressures, trade representatives like Sumalatha have reported brisk business while appealing to citizens to patronize physical neighborhood shops and traditional artisans directly rather than turning to online e-commerce platforms. As homes across the city prepare step-by-step wooden mountings for the festive arrangement, Bengaluru's markets stand ready for a joyful and culturally rich Navaratri season.

Quick Read

Chitradurga to host mini job fair

CH NEWS, CHITRADURGA

The District Employment Exchange will organize a mini job fair on October 15 at its office premises near the stadium turn and old Vaishali Gate. Over six private firms will conduct direct interviews between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM to recruit qualified male and female candidates for multiple open posts. Applicants aged between 18 and 30 holding SSLC, PUC, ITI, diploma, or degree certificates are eligible to participate. Job seekers must bring five resume copies along with educational certificates and photographs. Interested candidates can contact 7022459064 or 8105619020 for information.

Protesters plant banana saplings in damaged roads

CH NEWS, HUNSUR

Milk tanker operators and local drivers joined the Satya MAS Foundation on Friday to stage a protest against dilapidated street conditions near the town chilling plant. Demonstrators parked commercial transport vans across the main thoroughfare beside Kanaka Bhavan, blocking vehicular movement before planting banana saplings inside gaping road craters. Led by foundation president Satyappa, the protesters submitted an official memorandum to Shirastedar Shripad at the local taluk office, demanding immediate concrete road resurfacing. Residents warned that agitation will intensify unless the administration fixes the broken roadway without further public delay.

Chitradurga organizes Red Ribbon Run for students

CH NEWS, CHITRADURGA

The District AIDS Control and Prevention Unit will host a five-kilometer Red Ribbon Run marathon on October 12 at 6:30 AM to promote HIV awareness. College students aged 17 to 25 carrying valid institutional identification can compete. Starting from Kanaka Circle, the route passes major intersections before terminating at Onake Obavva Stadium. Top performers will qualify for state-level championships, earning cash rewards of ₹5,000, ₹3,500, and ₹2,500 for the top three spots. Interested students can register by contacting program coordinators at 9964525258 or 9739394368.

Congress using sting narrative for political blackmail: Chalavadi

The opposition leader accused Congress of spreading surveillance rumors to control lawmakers, sarcastically praising its alleged espionage tactics and political distractions

HIGHLIGHTS	BJP accuses Congress of using blackmail and sting narratives.	Government ignoring drought, medicine shortages, and power outages.	Leader challenges Ravi Ganiga over constituency milk powder scam.	Warning issued that citizens will teach ruling party a lesson.
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CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Leader of the Opposition in the Karnataka Legislative Council, Chalavadi Narayanaswamy, on Friday launched a fierce attack on the ruling Congress, accusing the state government of employing cheap blackmail tactics and fabricating sensational controversies like sting operations to divert attention from administrative failures. Addressing media persons at the BJP state headquarters, Jagannatha Bhavana, Narayanaswamy questioned why the ruling party consistently resorts to theatrical antics whenever public scrutiny intensifies. He asserted that Congress leaders themselves floated rumors of covert surveillance to keep their own ministers and legislators under tight political control. Sarcastic in his rebuke, the opposition leader commented that those executing such clandestine maneuvers within Congress deserve top civilian honors given their unmatched mastery of espionage and distraction politics. Narayanaswamy claimed that the state administration is plagued by deep corruption and remains completely indifferent to the severe agrarian distress gripping Karnataka. He pointed out that while government hospitals face acute shortages of life-saving medicines, rural sectors endure erratic power blackouts, and farmers battle drought conditions, the administration remains obsessed with sensational sting operations. Recalling previous controversies, he charged that the Chief Minister had earlier attempted political arm-twisting by targeting North Karnataka legislators settled in Bengaluru with claims regarding multiple marriages, and has now shifted to sting operation threats. Turning his attention toward Congress MLA Ravi Ganiga, the BJP leader challenged him to answer for his close associates in Mandya who stand implicated in a multi-crore milk powder scam. Narayanaswamy urged



Chalavadi Narayanaswamy
Leader of the Opposition, Council

Poor-quality groundnut seeds leave farmers facing losses

CH NEWS, YADGIR

Hundreds of farmers who sowed groundnut seeds for the rabi season are facing severe financial distress after a large proportion of the seeds reportedly failed to germinate, compounding the hardships caused by drought and poor rainfall. Farmers in Nalwar, Yagapur, Ladlapur, Belagera, Shivanagar, Bapunagar and several other villages allege that around 60 to 70 percent of the seeds they sowed have failed to sprout. Even after 15 to 20 days, many seeds remain buried in the soil, where they are reportedly rotting without germinating. The few seeds that have sprouted have also shown little sign of healthy growth, raising fears of substantial crop losses. According to the affected farmers, they purchased groundnut seeds from private shops and mills in Adat Bazaar after being promised higher yields. They paid between Rs 14,500 and Rs 15,000 per quintal, in addition to transportation expenses, hoping to secure a good harvest. However, their expectations have turned into disappointment, with many now facing the prospect of having to spend additional money on fresh seeds and re-sowing their fields. Farmers also said delays in the supply of seeds through the Agriculture Department had forced them to purchase seeds from private traders and proceed with sowing. By this time, the fields should have been covered with healthy green crops. Instead, a large proportion of the seeds have



rotted in the soil, affected farmers said, expressing concern that nearly 70 percent of their expected crop could be lost. With the region already reeling under rainfall deficiency, the reported seed failure has added to the financial burden on farming families. Farmers have urged the Agriculture Department to inspect the affected fields, verify the quality of the seeds supplied and take appropriate action if substandard seeds are found to have been sold. They have also sought compensation for their losses and immediate assistance to enable them to resume cultivation before the sowing window closes.

Mangaluru Airport expands flights for winter schedule

CH NEWS, MANGALURU

Mangaluru International Airport is gearing up for a major network expansion in its forthcoming winter schedule, with total weekly flight movements rising from 181 to 195, airport authorities announced on Friday. Domestic connectivity receives a strong boost as regional carrier Fly91 launches daily services connecting Mangaluru to Pune and Agatti, contributing 14 new weekly movements. In addition, Air India Express will operate thrice-weekly flights to Hyderabad using Boeing 737-8 aircraft, alongside bolstered frequencies to Bengaluru. IndiGo is also expanding capacity on its popular Mumbai route, taking total domestic weekly departures from 133 to 136. On the international front, weekly departures to the Middle East will climb from 48 to 59. Air India Express is adding the United Arab Emirates' Ras Al Khaimah as a brand-new sector, restarting services to Kuwait, and stepping up frequencies to Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Bahrain. The carrier's international departures from the coastal hub will jump from 34 to 45 per week. Managed by Adani Airport Holdings Limited, Karnataka's second-busiest facility recently attained Level 5 accreditation from Airports Council International for customer excellence. Passengers will also benefit from 43 retail and dining establishments across terminals. The winter timetable solidifies Mangaluru's standing as a vital regional and international transit gateway.

195 weekly flights, up from 181	136 domestic, up from 133	59 international, up from 48
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Gadag prepares for transparent Youth Parliament sessions

CH NEWS, GADAG

Deputy Commissioner C.N. Sridhar directed officials to ensure total transparency and impartiality in selecting and evaluating participants for the upcoming district-level Youth Parliament, organized to commemorate the International Day of Democracy. Presiding over a preparatory review meeting at his office hall on Friday, Sridhar stated that students must understand legislative protocols and constitutional conduct thoroughly. To ensure fair opportunities, key responsibilities will be assigned via lottery rather than direct appointment. Students divided into treasury and opposition benches will democratically elect their own leaders, including the Chief Minister and Leader of the Opposition. Sridhar ordered the creation of an independent expert judging panel, composed of college lecturers and committee delegates, to assess participants on presentation skills, argumentation, and parliamentary decorum. Selected top performers will qualify for state-level competitions. Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Mukul Jain explained that representation



Gadag gears up for state wrestling tournament

GADAG: Deputy Commissioner C.N. Sridhar directed officials to ensure smooth arrangements for the upcoming state-level wrestling championship hosted in Gadag. Presiding over a preparatory review meeting on Friday, Sridhar instructed administrative teams to arrange safe lodging, nutritious meals, clean drinking water, and transit for youth

competitors across age categories. To prevent fraud, authorities must strictly verify participant records through online SATS software and school documents. Nodal officers will oversee hostel facilities while medical teams remain on standby. Sridhar urged seamless departmental coordination to conduct all wrestling bouts with complete sporting discipline.

would encompass various academic tiers: 8 to 10 percent from primary schools, 10 to 15 percent from high schools, 50 to 60 percent from degree colleges, and 25 to 30 percent from postgraduate and law institutions. The designated venue will authentically replicate the

HASTY COMPLAINT CHECKED

Interim relief granted to Malleshwaram booth agents

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court on Friday granted an interim stay on an FIR registered against Malleshwaram booth agents Vasanthalakshmi and Deepak Singh, who were accused of misusing Form 7 applications to delete voters from the electoral rolls during the Special Summary Revision. Hearing a petition seeking the quashing of the case registered at Vyalikaval police station following a complaint by Congress leader Anoop Ayyangar, a single-judge bench presided over by Justice Anant Ramanath Hegde observed that the police complaint appeared hasty on the face of it. Appearing for the petitioners, Senior Advocate Arun Shyam argued that booth level agents have the legal right to submit applications seeking verification and deletion of entries from the voter list, emphasizing that statutory election authorities are empowered to verify facts before passing orders. Contesting the plea, Additional Special Public Prosecutor Anoop Kumar claimed that submitting 778 Form 7 applications demonstrated malicious intent to disenfranchise legitimate electors rather than routine administrative compliance. Intervening during the arguments, Justice Hegde questioned the prosecution on the legal basis of the criminal case, asking under which specific statute filing more than 50 revision applications amounts to a cognizable offence. The court asked whether election officials do not conduct independent inquiries, determine the veracity of representations, and issue mandatory prior notices to affected citizens before striking names off the register. Observing that statutory safeguards and administrative verification processes already exist within the election machinery to discard defective applications, the bench ordered an interim stay on further police investigation in the matter.

At a glance	PETITIONERS
JUDICIAL ACTION	Vasanthalakshmi & Deepak Singh (Booth Agents)
COMPLAINANT	BENCH
Anoop Ayyangar (Congress Leader)	Justice Anant Ramanath Hegde

by Congress leader Anoop Ayyangar, a single-judge bench presided over by Justice Anant Ramanath Hegde observed that the police complaint appeared hasty on the face of it. Appearing for the petitioners, Senior Advocate Arun Shyam argued that booth level agents have the legal right to submit applications seeking verification and deletion of entries from the voter list, emphasizing that statutory election authorities are empowered to verify facts before passing orders. Contesting the plea, Additional Special Public Prosecutor Anoop Kumar claimed that submitting 778 Form 7



Quick Read

Nineteen Karwar athletes qualify for state level

CH NEWS, KARWAR

Promising young athletes from the Karwar Sports Hostel have secured berths in the upcoming state-level sports competitions following exceptional performances at recent district meets. Fourteen track and field competitors in the under-17 division earned their selection during trials held in Bhatkal taluk on October 3. An additional five junior athletes in the under-14 category made the cut at the Ankola taluk trials on September 29. Youth Empowerment and Sports Assistant Director Ravi Nayak and coach Shivananda Naik commended the nineteen qualifiers, wishing them success as they gear up to compete on the state stage.

Nine-day Vachana festival to begin in Hubballi

CH NEWS, HUBBALLI

The Women's Wing of Basava Kendra, alongside Mahasharane Gangambika Balaga, will host the nine-day 'Vachana Vijayotsava' from October 11 to 19 at Vidyanagar's Sri Basaveshwara Temple hall. Starting daily at 5:00 PM, each evening focuses on the spiritual teachings of prominent female saints, including Akkamahadevi, Kadira Remmavve, and Satyakka. Scholars, educators, and community leaders will deliver insights on selected verses under the guidance of Kendra President Prof. G.B. Hallala. Organizing secretary Dr. Suresh D. Horakeri urged all followers to attend the celebrations and celebrate the enduring philosophy of the Sharanes.

Thirteen candidates compete for Northeast Council seat

CH NEWS, KOPPAL

The race for Karnataka's Northeast Teachers' Council seat has narrowed to thirteen contestants following Friday's nomination deadline. Returning Officer Zahira Naseem confirmed that independent hopeful Nabirasool withdrew his papers, leaving thirteen candidates in the field after fourteen had passed initial scrutiny. The ballot features Congress candidate Sharanappa Mattur, BJP rival Shashil G. Namoshi, AAP's Sayabanna, and JD(S) nominee Shankareddy Patil, alongside nine independents. Eligible teachers across the region will cast their votes on October 23 between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM to elect their next representative to the state legislature.

Prajwal Revanna ordered moved to Belagavi jail

The decision follows controversy after authorities found a smartphone and flash drive in Revanna's high-security cell, despite his life sentence

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

In a significant disciplinary move, Director General of Police for Prisons and Correctional Services Alok Kumar has ordered the transfer of former Member of Parliament Prajwal Revanna from Parappana Agrahara Central Jail in Bengaluru to Hindalga Central Jail in Belagavi. The decision comes in the wake of a massive controversy triggered by the recovery of contraband from his high-security cell. Revanna, who is currently serving a life sentence, was caught in an intense administrative storm after authorities discovered a smartphone and a flash drive in his living quarters. The breach was initially exposed on August 11, 2026, when teams from the Central Crime Branch, headed by Deputy Commissioners of



Police Haribabu and Imam Kasim, conducted an unannounced search operation inside the central prison. During the surprise inspection, police personnel confiscated an Android phone, a charging adapter, a blue notebook, and a pen drive. A subsequent forensic examination revealed password-secured social applications—including WhatsApp, Instagram, and Facebook—alongside active streaming accounts such

as Netflix and Prime Video. Crucially, investigators also uncovered multiple video recordings stored inside the device. The situation worsened when an image circulated showing the convict speaking on the confiscated phone, confirming egregious lapses in prison monitoring. In response, a departmental inquiry was launched under the supervision of Deputy Inspector General Jinendra Khanagavi

At a glance

■ Inmate: Prajwal Revanna (Life-term convict)

■ Action: Transferred to Hindalga Jail

■ Origin: Parappana Agrahara, Bengaluru

■ Reason: Contraband and smartphone seizure

to uncover how unauthorized electronics bypassed perimeter security checks. Following recommendations and internal findings, DGP Alok Kumar authorized his relocation. An official notification has been dispatched to Hindalga Jail's Chief Superintendent, instructing staff to make immediate security arrangements. Prajwal Revanna is slated for transit under tight police escort, marking an end to his privileges at Parappana Agrahara.

‘Eligible voters will remain on electoral rolls’

CH NEWS, CHITRADURGA

District Election Officer and Deputy Commissioner S. Ramya assured political leaders that not a single eligible voter would be removed from the electoral roll during the Special Summary Revision process. She gave this assurance while chairing a meeting with recognized political party representatives at the K-SWAN Hall in the Deputy Commissioner's office on Friday. Addressing concerns regarding public inconvenience during hearings, Ramya announced that officials would conduct direct home visits for citizens unable to attend physical sessions. Verification teams will cross-check residential ad-

resses and photographs on-site so nobody gets left behind. To prevent overcrowding at verification centers, authorities will stagger the schedule and conduct phase-wise checks at the booth level alongside Booth Level Officers and party agents. During the discussion, District Congress General Secretary D.N. Mailarappa raised questions about suspicious Form-7 deletion requests. He demanded police action against whoever filed those forms, arguing that honest voters faced unnecessary distress and interrogation. Other party leaders also highlighted clusters of objection forms coming from identical locations, confusing local ground staff. Ramya clarified that citi-

Highlights

→ No eligible voter names will be excluded.

→ Complete transparency maintained during verification process.

→ Officials to visit unavailable voters directly.

→ Political parties demand FIRs on Form-7.

→ Single-location bulk applications face site verification.

→ Strict legal action for false applications.

zens retain the legal right to submit claims or objections, but bulk forms from single sources will undergo strict on-site scrutiny before acceptance. She affirmed that no valid voter will face ha-

arrassment, warning that anyone submitting fraudulent applications to strike off names will face severe criminal prosecution once inquiries conclude. The review was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner B.T. Kumaraswamy, Tahsildar B.M. Govindaraj, Election Tahsildar Bibi Fathima, and key party delegates, including Congress leaders H. Shabbir and K.P. Sampath Kumar, BJP general secretaries Dr. P.M. Manjunath and G.H. Mohan Kumar, JD(S) representative Gopalaswamy Nayaka, CPI(M) leader C.K. Gauspeer, and BSP president N. Prakash. Transparent voter registration remains top priority across the district.

EPFO delivers relief to dead worker's kin

CH NEWS, MANGALURU

In an exemplary display of administrative efficiency and social responsibility, the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) Regional Office in Mangaluru has promptly sanctioned and released all statutory security dues to the grieving relatives of the late Shri Manish Karkada, an industrial employee who lost his life during an on-duty mishap at Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) on September 30, 2026. Demonstrating notable urgency, the regional pension bureau completed statutory clearances within eight days of the mishap. Authorities released all accrued Employees' Provident Fund savings



alongside complete Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance compensation benefits directly to the registered heirs. Simultaneously, the authorities approved a permanent monthly household pension plan, with regular financial disbursements officially commencing on October 8, 2026. Marking solidarity with the bereaved kin, Regional Provident Fund Commissioner Sandeep Biswas led a senior delegation to the family's per-

sonal home on Friday morning. Joined by Assistant Provident Fund Commissioner Ankit Singh and Enforcement Officer Smt. Anitha R, the officials personally handed over the vital Pension Payment Order book directly to the dependents. Agency representatives highlighted that the rapid settlement illustrates their institutional priority to safeguard vulnerable households facing unforeseen personal tragedies. The timely financial intervention guarantees immediate economic sustenance for the surviving members, providing crucial relief while they mourn the untimely loss of their primary breadwinner. Providing essential safety nets remains the core pillar of statutory social security.

BJP hired agency for sting operations: Ravi

CH NEWS, MANDYA

Congress MLA Ganiga Ravikumar leveled serious charges against the opposition on Friday, claiming a Union Minister and a top Bharatiya Janata Party leader hired private detective agencies to orchestrate undercover sting operations against Karnataka ministers.

Speaking to journalists in Mandya, Ravikumar corroborated recent statements made during a state cabinet meeting, insisting that outside firms based in New Delhi and Kolkata were contracted to entrap key ministers and top officials in the Chief Minister's Office. He alleged that opposition leaders funded

these private investigators and lodged them in luxury Bengaluru hotels over the past two months to orchestrate traps against the government. Holding up a pen drive during the press briefing, the legislator claimed the ruling party possessed irrefutable digital records exposing the plot.

Catholic Sabha urges DC to stop Form-7 misuse

CH NEWS, UDUPI

The Catholic Sabha Udupi Pradesh submitted a memorandum to Deputy Commissioner and District Election Officer TK Swaroopa, urging the authorities to prevent the misuse of Form-7 applications during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and ensure that the names of eligible voters are not removed from the voters' list unjustly. With the SIR process of electoral rolls underway across Karnataka, concerns and apprehensions have been raised in public circles over the alleged misuse of Form-7 applications, which are used for seeking deletion of names from the electoral rolls. The memorandum also referred to concerns that such applications were allegedly being filed targeting minority communities, particularly Christians and Muslims. Against this backdrop, the Catholic Sabha urged the dis-

trict administration and the Election Department to take strict measures to prevent any form of misuse or injustice. It stressed that special care should be taken to ensure that the names of eligible voters are not deleted from the electoral rolls on the basis of incorrect information, false objections or other unjustified grounds. The Sabha stated that the removal of an eligible voter's name from the electoral roll is a serious matter as it directly affects the person's fundamental democratic right. It therefore stressed the need to ensure complete transparency, impartiality and adherence to prescribed procedures throughout the SIR process. The organisation also requested the authorities to publicly disclose the total number of Form-7 applications received so far in the district, along with complete details of the applications that have been accepted and rejected.

It further sought clear information on whether every voter is being mandatorily served a notice before their name is removed from the electoral roll and whether adequate opportunity is being provided to file objections and present their case during the hearing process. The Catholic Sabha urged the authorities to take all necessary precautionary measures to prevent the misuse of Form-7 applications and ensure that the names of eligible voters are not inadvertently or unjustly deleted from the electoral rolls. It called for special attention to be given to eligible voters belonging to minority communities, Dalits and other vulnerable sections so that their names are not removed on unjustified grounds, the memorandum stated. The delegation comprised Catholic Sabha Udupi Pradesh President Melvin Aranha Shirva, Secretary Juliet D'Souza.

IN THE COURT OF THE I ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFC, AT DODDABALLAPURA
Cri. Misc. 669/2026

BETWEEN: 1. Smt. Rathnamma W/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 60 years, 2. Smt. Manjula D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 40 years 3. Smt. Nagaveni D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 38 years 4. Smt. Radha D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 35 years 5. Smt. Basavaraju D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 33 years All the petitioners are R/o Garudagalli Village, Sasalu Hobali, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. ...Petitioners.

AND: The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural Dist. ...Respondent.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the general public, that the above named petitioners have filed this petition to obtain the death certificate of the husband of Petitioner No.1 namely Late.Muthamma W/o Late. Chikkaragalli who was died on 10-07-1955 at Desarayapalli Village, Kasaba Hobali, Doddaballapura, if anybody who have any objection to the above petition or having any rights, claims are hereby informed to take notice of this petition and hereby directed to appear before this Court in person or through person or by their Advocate on 05-01-27 at 11:00 a.m. if failed to appear the above petition will be heard and will be placed ex-parte. Issued as per the order and seal of this Hon'ble Court, on this day of 07th OCT 2026

By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Ptl Civil Judge & JMFC
Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Smt. Suneetha N, Advocate Opp. to Court Complex, Rojupura, Doddaballapura, Bengaluru Rural District

IN THE COURT OF THE I ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFC, AT DODDABALLAPURA
Cri. Misc. 668/2026

BETWEEN: 1. Sri. Rangaswamiiah S/o Huliappa Agal about 75 years, 2. Smt. Rathnamma W/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 60 years, 3. Smt. Manjula D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 40 years 4. Smt. Nagaveni D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 38 years 5. Smt. Radha D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 35 years 6. Smt. Basavaraju D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 33 years All the petitioners are R/o Garudagalli Village, Sasalu Hobali, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. ...Petitioners.

AND: The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural Dist. ...Respondent.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the general public, that the above named petitioners have filed this petition to obtain the death certificate of the husband of Petitioner No.1 namely Late. Rangaswamiiah W/o Late.Huliappa died on 05-03-1967 in home at Garudagalli Village, Kasaba Hobali, Doddaballapura, if anybody who have any objection to the above petition or having any rights, claims are hereby informed to take notice of this petition and hereby directed to appear before this Court in person or through person or by their Advocate on 05-01-27 at 11:00 a.m. if failed to appear the above petition will be heard and will be placed ex-parte. Issued as per the order and seal of this Hon'ble Court, on this day of 07th OCT 2026

By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Ptl Civil Judge & JMFC
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IN THE COURT OF THE I ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFC, AT DODDABALLAPURA
Cri. Misc. 667/2026

BETWEEN: 1. Sri. Rangaswamiiah S/o Huliappa Agal about 75 years, 2. Smt. Rathnamma W/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 60 years, 3. Smt. Manjula D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 40 years 4. Smt. Nagaveni D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 38 years 5. Smt. Radha D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 35 years 6. Smt. Basavaraju D/o Late. Govindappa Agal about 33 years All the petitioners are R/o Garudagalli Village, Sasalu Hobali, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. ...Petitioners.

AND: The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural Dist. ...Respondent.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the general public, that the above named petitioners have filed this petition to obtain the death certificate of the father of Petitioner No.1 namely Late. Huliappa S/o Late. Rangaswamiiah, died on 03-11-1997 in home at Garudagalli Village, Kasaba Hobali, Doddaballapura, if anybody who have any objection to the above petition or having any rights, claims are hereby informed to take notice of this petition and hereby directed to appear before this Court in person or through person or by their Advocate on 05-01-27 at 11:00 a.m. if failed to appear the above petition will be heard and will be placed ex-parte. Issued as per the order and seal of this Hon'ble Court, on this day of 07th OCT 2026

By Order of the Court
Chief Ministerial Officer, Ptl Civil Judge & JMFC
Doddaballapura
Advocate for petitioner: Smt. Suneetha N, Advocate Opp. to Court Complex, Rojupura, Doddaballapura, Bengaluru Rural District

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the public in general that my client Sri. SYED MOHAMMED MA-SEEH ULLA son of Syed Shaif Ulla Saheb, residing at No. 3398, Kumundan Mohalla, Ward No.13, Ramanagara Town is the absolute owner of the property mentioned in the schedule hereunder. The Parent Deed i.e. the original registered Sale Deed dated: 18-2-1972, duly registered as Document No. 3027/1971-72, Volume No. 1189, Book-1 at pages 207-208 on 18-02-1972 which was executed by Smt. Rehmath Bi in favour of Smt. Naseerunnisa was lost on 06-10-2026 Near KSRTC Bus stand, Ramanagara. It is hereby requested to the public in general that if anyone finds the above said original Sale Deed, be pleased to bring the same to the address mentioned below. If any person has any claim on the above said property shall contact me on the address mentioned below with supporting documents within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE

Property bearing old Municipal katha No.1592/1201, New katha no. 20/20/4283 PID No. 11-1-29-10A measuring East to West 29.80 meters and North to South: on the east 7.80 meters On the west 6.70 meters Total Area 216.05 sq.mtrs bounded on East By: Old B.M.Road, West By: Property of Abdul Sattar (earlier Hosur Rasheed Saheb), South By: Property of Ahmed Pasha (earlier School Master Khader Mo-hidden Sab), situated at Old Bangalore -Mysore Road, Masjid Mohalla, Ward no.11, Ghousianagar, Ramanagara Town.

Mr. K.M.Amarnath
ADVOCATE
1st Floor, New Guptha Cloth Emporium, Railway Station Road, Ramanagara Town. Mobile: 9845622963

CH CLASSIFIED

To Place Classified ad
Contact : 080-41209042



There is no shortage of diesel. There is no problem for the public in bus traffic at present. Enough diesel has been brought for three days. Information about the availability and shortage of diesel has already been conveyed through a meeting. Also, steps have been taken to run more buses on the occasion of the Dasara festival.”

—H.S. Keerthana, Managing Director, NWKRTC

pending debts immediately and restores regular oil supplies, public frustration will soon boil over into widespread street protests. Shirahatti JD(S) president Shankar Balikayi said: “Due to the unscientific administration and propaganda-loving ‘Shakti’ scheme of the Congress government in the state, the entire transport department has reached a state of begging. This diesel shortage is proof that the government’s coffers are completely empty. The concerned transport minister and senior officials should immediately pay attention to the diesel problem on a war footing. Otherwise, the rural people will be organized and violent protests will be held in front of the transport agency office.”

Quick Read

Mandya hosts bank walk-in recruitment drive

CH NEWS, MANDYA

A walk-in interview drive will be held on October 14 at 10:00 AM at the AU Small Finance Bank branch, located on 100-Feet Road near Twinkle School. The initiative is organized jointly with the District Employment Exchange. Vacancies are open for Bank Officers and Late Recovery Officers within Mandya district. Job seekers aged 18 to 35 who have cleared SSLC, PUC, Diploma, ITI, or any graduation degree can attend with their resumes. Interested candidates may call 9164642684, 9113500761, 8970646629, 7483630318, 9964113232, or 9741939716 for details.



Police exhume businessman's body over murder suspicions

CH NEWS, MANGALURU

Urwa police on Friday exhumed the buried body of local businessman Albert Rego following allegations that his daughter and her boyfriend murdered him over ancestral property. Rego, a resident of Kottara First Cross, was allegedly killed on July 19. His daughter, Maya Rego, quietly buried him in a Derebail church cemetery without informing relatives. Suspicious family members alerted law enforcement, prompting officials to unearth the remains nearly two and a half months later for forensic examination. Police Commissioner Sudheer Kumar Reddy confirmed an active probe is underway to uncover the truth behind the suspicious death.

Blackout in hospital leaves new mothers helpless

CH NEWS, BALLARI

A prolonged electrical blackout plunged the Tekkalakote Government Community Health Centre into pitch darkness on Friday, forcing new mothers, newborns, and medical attendants to rely on handheld mobile phone flashlights. The power disruption, which plagued the medical facility across Siruguppa taluk for two days, culminated in severe distress overnight. Visuals of women nursing newborn infants un-

der smartphone torches sparked intense public outrage over hospital negligence on social media platforms. Attendants complained that on-duty nurses and ward assistants dismissed their pleas for help rather than resolving the crisis immediately. Although the health-care center possesses an on-site diesel generator, authorities wired backup electricity solely to the outer entry lobby, reception counter, and physician consultation cabins. The postnatal and mater-

nity wings were left without power, triggering severe backlash from patients' relatives over administrative callousness. Clarifying the lapse, Chief Administrative Medical Officer Dr. Ramakrishna claimed that an independent uninterrupted power supply (UPS) unit serves the maternity wing. He insisted that the sudden blackout occurred simply because someone inadvertently turned off the main power switch leading to the system.

CH CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad contact: 080-41209042

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.: 23/2026-27/1842 Date: 07.10.2026

Tender Notice
Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Chikkamagaluru invites Tenders through K.P.P.P. related to works of Chikkamagaluru, Koppa, Mudigere, N.R. Pura, Shringeri and Tarikere Taluks in Chikkamagaluru District.. Amount put to Tender for the work Max. Rs. 63.47 lakhs and Min. Rs. 2.55 lakhs. Details of capability to undertake or of having implemented the works should be attached as per Standard Tender Document KW-1,2&3. For the said works the documents downloaded from K.P.P.P. can be filled and uploaded from 07.10.2026 to 21.10.2026 up to 5.30 PM. If possible the Technical Bid will be opened on 23.10.2026 at 5.30PM.If possible the Financial Bid will be opened on 30.10.2026 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/26-27/125/926

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Public Works Department
Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi
No/PWD/CKD DIV/AE-3/TENDER/2026-27/4782 DATE: 09/10/2026

Short Term E-Tender Notification
Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi has invited item wise e-Tenders from Eligible registered contractors for the works coming under the jurisdiction of Chikodi PWD Division 3 work under head of account 5054-KRDCL, amount put to tender is minimum of Rs. 200.00 and maximum of Rs. 240.00 Lakhs.
Calendar of events:1)Pre-bid meeting date: 17-10-2026 at 11.00 AM, at The O/o on the under signed. 2)Last date for queries & clarifications : 19-10-2026 up to 5.30 PM, 3)Last Date of Receipt of Bids : 22-10-2026 up to 5.00 PM, 4)Date of opening of Technical bids (Two Cover System): 27-10-2026 at 4.30 PM, 5)Date of opening of Financial bids (Two Cover System): "after approval of Technical bids", 6)If no bid received auto extension will be done by e-proc itself for 2 days.
For more information & forms of tender can be downloaded from kppp.karnataka.gov.in & departmental web site www.kpwd.gov.in. Further details can be collected from O/o Executive Engineer Public Works Dept.,Division Chikkodi during working hours.
Sd/- Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi.
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-953/KSMCA/2026-27

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA ENTERPRISE)
Executive Engineer KNNL BNT Project Div No 4 Hebbal Tq: Kalgi Dist Kalaburagi

No: -EE/KNNL/BNT/DN/PB-3,4/2026-27/910 Date:09.10.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPPP Portal system only)
On behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL (Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Niyamita), Bengaluru, tenders are invited from eligible contractors, through the KPPP portal, for 4 works under the Bennethora Project. The minimum tender amount is **Rs. 4,53,216.00/-** and the maximum tender amount is **Rs. 1,43,17,253.55/-** the minimum EMD amount is **Rs. 11,330.00/-** and the maximum EMD amount is **Rs. 2,14,800.00/-**.
Among these works, 1 work is under the two-cover system and 3 works are under the single-cover system, invited through the KPPP portal. The dates for obtaining, submitting, and opening of tenders are fixed as follows:
1) Date for downloading blank tender documents — from **09.10.2026, 17:00 hrs to 28.10.2026, 17:00 hrs**, 2) Last date for submission of filled tender documents — up to **28.10.2026, 17:00 hrs**, 3) Date of opening of technical bids: after **29.10.2026, 17:15hrs**
4) Date of opening of financial bids: will be intimated after approval of the technical bid
Contractors may obtain details regarding eligibility/tender conditions/tender processing fee, etc., through <http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>, or may contact the office during office hours. The accepting authority reserves the right to reject any tender, or all tenders, without assigning any reason.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, KNNL., BNT Project Divn, Hebbal.
DIPR/Kalaburagi/602/KSMC&A/2026-27

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಸಿವಿಲ್ ವಿಭಾಗ ಸಂಸ್ಥಾಪನಾ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಇ-ಮೇಲ್- eewmccmys@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಮೈಸೂರು/ಕಾ.ಇಂ(ಪೂ & ಪ)/ಸಾ.ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ-19/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05.10.2026

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ವರ್ಕ್ಸ್ ಡಿವಿಷನ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವಿಧ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ	ಒಟ್ಟು ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಜಾಲಿಗಾಗಿ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಮುಕ್ತ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ
1	ಮೈಸೂರು/ಕಾ.ಇಂ(ಪೂ&ಪ)/ಟಿ.ಎನ್-53/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ:05.10.2026	05	329.55	05.10.2026 & 12.10.2026	12.10.2026 & 19.10.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ	13.10.2026 & 22.10.2026ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4.15.ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ

ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು (<https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>) ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರವನ್ನು ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕಾ.ಇ (ಪೂರ್ವ & ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ: ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ/ಬದಲಾವಣೆ/ತಿರುವಿಡಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ (<https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>) ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.
ಸಹಿ/-ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
ಪಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಮೈಸೂರು/837/ಆರ್.ಸಾಯಿ/2026-27

MLA tells officials to speed up Srirangapatna Dasara work

The legislator inspected stadium preparations, directing officials to ensure proper seating, security, sanitation, parking, transport, food stalls, and timely completion

CH NEWS, MANDYA

Srirangapatna MLA A.B. Ramesh Bandisiddegowda directed officials to complete all logistical arrangements to ensure the orderly conduct of the upcoming Srirangapatna Dasara festivities, including the Yuva Sambhrama youth festival.

The legislator visited the Srirangapatna Taluk Stadium to inspect ongoing ground-work, assessing the main stage setup, public seating, illumination, and acoustics. He told administrators that visitors must face no discomfort, demanding streamlined entry and exit channels alongside designated parking areas to



curb vehicular congestion. He also ordered security barricades at vulnerable spots, regular sanitation of restrooms, dedicated green rooms for performing artists, convenient transport links, and organized food stalls. Emphasizing department coordination, he urged staff to meet strict deadlines.

Bandisiddegowda later inspected the historic Bannimantap grounds, the site for the festival's official inauguration. He instructed municipal workers to maintain high cleanliness standards across the open grounds and around the nearby water pond. The lawmaker stressed the need for strict surveillance to avoid untoward episodes, directing officials to provide spacious shamanias and quality meals for visiting folk artists. He noted that advance preparation is vital to showcase the

cultural grandeur of Dasara without inconveniencing dignitaries or the public. Meanwhile, Mandya Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumara conducted a separate inspection across the Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple premises, where traditional cultural programs and a cow-milking contest are scheduled. Touring the grounds, the Deputy Commissioner instructed staff to supply continuous drinking water through reverse osmosis units, keep public walkways clean, and spread gravel over dusty paths to ensure unhindered movement. Authorities across departments were asked to maintain basic amenities, proper hygiene, and essential crowd-management measures, ensuring that devotees and tourists enjoy a seamless, festive experience during the celebrations.

Officials review preparations for Cauvery Arathi event

Srirangapatna MLA A.B. Ramesh Bandisiddegowda and Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumara inspected arrangements at the Krishna Raja Sagara reservoir ahead of the grand Cauvery Arathi celebrations, instructing administrative departments to ensure seamless execution. The lawmaker directed engineers to maintain adequate water levels at the venue to create a scenic environment. Anticipating high public turnout, authorities established two temporary bus stations with drinking water facilities to manage three hundred shuttle buses. Designated parking lots behind the local degree college will segregate four-wheelers and buses to avert gridlock. Officials were instructed to install floodlights, generator backups, signboards, and

temporary toilets around all arrival zones. Superintendent of Police Dr. V.J. Shobharani ordered police deployment, crowd barricades, and towing services along main arterial corridors. Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumara called for round-the-clock public address announcements and surveillance cameras to monitor crowd movement. Earlier in the day, the dignitaries attended the taluk-level Youth Parliament competition at Srirangapatna's TAECMS Hall. Addressing young participants, Dr. Kumara urged students to embrace constitutional values, constructive dialogue, and mutual respect to strengthen democratic traditions. Coordinated preparations remain in high gear to ensure safety and discipline.

'Nandini drives rural growth and farmers' prosperity'

CH NEWS, MANDYA

Describing the cooperative giant as a cornerstone of rural empowerment, Mandya Milk Union (Manmul) Managing Director Raghu H.R. highlighted that brand Nandini has achieved an impressive turnover of ₹30,000 crore, supporting the livelihoods of nearly 40 lakh dairy farmers across Karnataka.

Speaking at the 'Nandini Suggi Sambhrama-2026' celebration organized at the Government Women's College in Mandya, Raghu stated that Nandini stands as the nation's second-largest dairy cooperative after Amul. He voiced confidence that it would soon emerge as India's premier milk federation. He noted that Mandya taluk alone

₹30,000 cr Nandini's annual turnover	40 lakh dairy farmers supported
3 lakh L milk a day from Mandya taluk	₹3 lakh reward for top students

contributes nearly three lakh liters of milk daily to the network. Raghu commended the brand's latest rollout of sweets made using locally sourced organic sugarcane jaggery, explaining that such value-addition directly enhances farm incomes. Emphasizing collective progress, he urged households to channel cattle milk through dairy co-operatives to strengthen village economies. He also urged youth to embrace civic

cleanliness and called for education reforms emphasizing practical skills over rote memorization. Addressing the assembly, College Principal Prof. Gururaja Prabhu hailed the festive celebration as a vital stage for young women to display artistic talents and discover their creative potential. He encouraged students to seize academic and cultural opportunities to build successful futures.

Udupi prepares for student youth parliament sessions

CH NEWS, UDUPI

Deputy Commissioner Swaroopa T.K. instructed district officials to conduct upcoming Youth Parliament sessions systematically to introduce young students to constitutional ideals and legislative procedures. Presiding over a preparatory review meeting at the Rajatadri administrative complex in Manipal to mark International Democracy Day, she stated that modern democratic governance functions strictly according to constitutional values established by citizen representatives.

The initiative aims to educate students on legislative debates, democratic policy drafting, and civic responsibility. Contests will run across taluk

levels, with qualifiers progressing directly to the district assembly organized alongside the District Advocates' Association. From every Assembly segment, one top-performing orator will be nominated to represent Udupi at the Karnataka State Youth Parliament by November 3. The district session will mirror State Legislative Assembly operations, beginning at 10:00 AM with the state anthem, followed by constitutional preamble reading, question hour, urgent motions, legislative bill debates, and final sine die adjournment.

Literary outreach

In a separate cultural development, noted author Dr. Rekha V. Bannadi urged students to

embrace literary reading during the 'Granthalayadalli Namma Sahiti' event held at the City Central Library in Ajjarkadu. The literary outreach was organized jointly by the Department of Public Libraries, the City Central Library, and the Kannada Sahitya Parishat taluk unit. Dr. Bannadi voiced concern that storytelling traditions and library visits have declined in a commercially driven society, despite Karnataka's rich literary heritage forged by luminaries like Kuvempu and Karanth. She emphasized that reading diverse literature, biographies, and poems equips individuals to overcome modern mental pressure with balance, compassion, and resilience.

 BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560020																				
No. UDD 299 MNX 2026										FINAL NOTIFICATION					Dated: 23.09.2026					
Whereas the Government of Karnataka has sanctioned an improvement scheme for the formation of Peripheral Ring Road-Part-1 (PRR-I) (between Tumkur Road, Old Madras Road and Hosur Road) with providing Truck Terminals, B.M.T.C. Depots by the Bangalore Development Authority. PRR-1 Scheme was sanctioned vide Government Order No.UDD/399/MNX/2006, dated 23/04/2007 and Final Notification No. UDD/399/MNX/2006, dated 29.06.2007. PRR-1 Scheme has been renamed as Bangalore Business Corridor Vide Government order No:ನಳವಾ 79 ಬೆಂ.ಭೂಸ್ವಾ, 2024(E), dated: 23.07.2024 and Bangalore Business Corridor Scheme was implemented vide Government order No:ನಳವಾ 168 ಬೆಂ.ಭೂಸ್ವಾ, 2024, dated 12.09.2024.The Preliminary Notification for the formation of Peripheral Ring Road-Part-1 (PRR-1) "SHEEGEHALLI ALTERNATE ALIGNMENT" has been published in the Karnataka Gazette dated 07/05/2022 in Part III at Pages 4785 to 4816 vide Preliminary Notification No. BDA/SALAO-2/188/2020-21 dated 18/04/2022. Whereas it appears to the Bangalore Development Authority, that the lands specified in the schedule hereto likely to be needed for the purpose of Integration of "Bangalore Business Corridor (PRR-1) "SHEEGEHALLI ALTERNATE ALIGNMENT" for several survey numbers of Bidare Agrahara, Doddabanahalli, Khajissonnanhalli, Sheegehalli, Kadugodi, Kannamangala, village of Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk & Dodda Amanikeri Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District.Now, therefore in exercise of the powers conferred under Sub-Section (1) of Section 19 of the Bangalore Development Authority Act 1976 (Karnataka Act No. 12 of 1976), the Government of Karnataka hereby declares that the lands specified in the schedule noted below be the same a little more or less are needed for public purpose for purpose of Integration of "Bangalore Business Corridor (PRR-1) "SHEEGEHALLI ALTERNATE ALIGNMENT" and in exercise of the powers conferred by Clause © of Section 3 and 7 of Land Acquisition Act 1894 (Central Act I of Amendment Act 1961) (Karnataka Act 17 of 1961) read with Section 36 of the Bangalore Development Authority Act 1976. The Special Land Acquisition Officer-4, PRR-1(BBC)-4 Bangalore Development Authority. Bangalore, is here by appointed to perform the functions of the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition) under the said Land Acquisition Act and directed to take order for the acquisition of the said lands. A plan of the lands is kept in the Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer of the Bangalore Development Authority T. Chowdaiah Road, Bangalore-560 020, for information.																				
Sl. No.	Name of the Khatedars/Anubhavaders.Smts./ Sriyuths	Sy. No.	Hissa	Whether/ Dry/ Wet/ Garden	Total Extent		Kharab Land		Remaining Extent		Assess-ment	Extent Proposed for Acquisition		Boundaries						
					A	G	A	G	A	G		Rs. Ps	A	G	East	West	North	South		
1	2	3	4	5	6		7		8		9	10		11	12	13	14			
District: Bangalore					Taluk: Bangalore East					Hobli: Bidarahalli					Village: Bidarena Agrahara					
1	Poojappa s/o Thokirappa	15	3C	Dry	0	16	0	3	0	13	0.75	0	8	32	15/2	15/3	40			
2	M.Balappa s/o late Munivenkatappa, M. Muniyappa s/o late Munivenkatappa, M. Venkatesh s/o late Munivenkatappa, M. Ravi s/o late Munivenkatappa	15	3D	Dry	1	3	0	3	1	0	2.08									
3	C. Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar, C. Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar-C Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar ALN	32	1	Dry	1	5	0	11	0	34	1.90	1	25	33	40,15	32 Part	32 Part			
4	C Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar, Krishnamma w/o late Papanna, Muniithayappa	32	2	Dry	0	13	0	0	0	13	0.75									
5	Siddappa s/o Chikkanarayanappa, C. Manjunath s/o Chikkanarayanappa,	32	3	-	0	5	0	0	0	5	0.30									
6	C. Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar, C. Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar,C. Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar-ALN, C.A Balakrishna s/o Appaiah, C.A Ravichandra s/o late Appaiahanna, C.A, Naveenkumar s/o late Appaiahanna, C. Manjunath s/o C. Channappa	32	4	Dry	2	34	0	12	2	22	4.27									
7	J. Muniyappa s/o Jayaram, Ramya.R d/o Rajanna J, Sowmya.R d/o Rajanna J, J. Narayana s/o Jayaram, J. Lakkappa s/o Jayaram	33	1A	-	0	22	0	0	0	22	2.32	0	19	33/3	32	31	33/2			
8	Harshavardana reddy s/o T.N Raghunatha reddy	33	1B	-	0	22	0	0	0	22	0.88									
9	T.N Harshavardana reddy s/o Raghunatha reddy	33	3	-	0	35	0	1	0	34	1.69	0	17	33/4	33/1B, 33/2	31	37			
10	K.N Harshavardana reddy s/o Raghunatha reddy	33	4A	-	0	30	0	3	0	27	1.32	0	22.50	34	33	33/4 Part	37			
11	Harshavardana reddy s/o T.N Raghunatha reddy, J. Muniyappa s/o Jayaram, Ramya R d/o Rajanna J, Sowmya.R d/o Rajanna J, J. Narayana s/o Jayaram, J. Lakkappa s/o Jayaram	33	4B	-	0	30	0	3	0	27	1.31									
12	J. Muniyappa s/o Jayaram, Ramya R d/o Rajanna J, Sowmya.R d/o Rajanna J, J. Narayana s/o Jayaram, J. Lakkappa s/o Jayaram	34	1A	-	1	7	0	0	1	7	1.74	0	26	Doddabanahalli border	33/4	34/1 Part	34/2			
13	Harshavardana reddy s/o T.N Raghunatha reddy	34	1B	-	1	7	0	0	1	7	1.73									
14	C.Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar, C.Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar-ALN	34	2	Dry	2	19	0	0	2	19	4.60	0	15	Doddabana halli border	37, 33	34/1	34/2 part			
15	C.Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar-ALN, C.Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar-ALN, C.Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar-ALN, C.Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar-ALN, C.Bhaskaran s/o late PK Panikar	37	-	-	6	21	0	3	6	18	10.38	0	22.25	34	33	33	37 Part			
16	Govt Kere	40	-	-	16	9	0	0	16	9	0	1	15.25	32	15	15	40 Part			
Total												6	10							
District: Bangalore					Taluk: Bangalore East					Hobli: Bidarahalli					Village: Doddabanahalli					
1	Sarkari Gomala, Bangalore Development Authority, Bengaluru Mahanagara Sarige Samsthe, Chandrashekar s/o G. Muniyappa, Munipoojappa s/o Maddappa, M. Chandrashekar s/o G Muniyappa, Kempanna s/o Eraswamappa, P. Subramani s/o late Papaiah, Nanjundachari s/o Venkatachari, L. Shivaramaiah s/o late Lakshmanaiah, V.K. Anjinappa s/o Kenchappa, Manjunatha s/o Venkataswamappa, S.L Venkateshappa s/o Lakshmana, N.K Ravindra s/o Karegowda, Narayanamma w/o late K.V Munishamappa,Sallapuramma, w/o.late Munipoojappa, Asha W/o.late Chikkanarasimaih, Pradeep Kumar.N, S/o.Chikkanarasimaih, Dilip.N, S/o.Chikkanarasimaih, Krishnappa, S/o.Late Munipoojappa, Munirajappa S/o.Late Munipoojappa, K.Manjunatha s/o. Late Krishnappa, M.Chandrika W/o. K.Manjunatha, M.Premasagar s/o. K.Manjunatha, M.Madhusagar s/o. K.Manjunatha, C.Muniyappa s/o.late Munikempaiah	3	123	124	126	-	-	42	20	0	0	42	20	16.00	6	38.5	Kannamangala Boundary	Bidare Agrahara border	3 part	3 part
Total												6	38.5							
District: Bangalore					Taluk: Bangalore East					Hobli: Bidarahalli					Village: Khajissonnenahalli					
1	Sarkari Smashana	73	-	-	0	10	0	0	0	10	0.00	0	2.25	73part	74	73 part	Kannamangala border, Nala			
2	H. Lokesh s/o Hiriyanna, C. Nagaraj s/o Chikka appaiah, V. Leelavathi w/o R. Shivashankar, S. Vijayamurthy s/o late M. Subbaiah, D.C Rajanna s/o late Chikka basappa, N. Ashwathachari urf Ashwathappa s/o Narayanachari, Neelamma w/o Nagarajachari, V. Leelavathi w/o R. Shivashankar, Nalina alias Nalinakshi w/o Rajashekhar, Lakshmidhevamma w/o Dyavegowda, S. Reddappareddy	74	1	-	0	39.06	0	2	0	37.06	1.66	0	2.25	73	Nala, Kannamangala border	74 part	Nala, Kannamangala border			
3	Smt N. Kamalamma w/o R. Purushotham	74	6	-	0	2	0	0	0	2	0.10									
4	Smt N. Kamalamma w/o R. Purushotham	74	7	-	0	2	0	0	0	2	0.10									
5	SBR Instaspace represented by designated partner T.Venugopal s/o.T Venkataramana	95	1	-	2	28	0	1	2	27	7.71									
6	Dwarakamai Builders & Developeres Authorised Signatory Sri Sanjay kumar mupparaju s/o. Rajendraprasad .M	95	2	-	1	5.5	0	0.5	1	5	3.24	1	18.25	Nala, Kannamangala border	Nala	95 part	Nala, Kannamangala border			
7	Vijayamurthy s/o late Srinivasappa, H.Keshavamurthy s/o late Sampangiramaiah, Parvathamma w/o late H. Channappa, C. Venkatesh s/o late Channarayappa, Susheelamma w/o late H. Krishnappa	95	3	-	1	5.5	0	0.5	1	5	3.24									
8	P.Subramani S/o Late Papayya, S.Pradeep S/o PSubramani,	96	1	-	0	25	0	0.5	0	24.05	0.96	1	8.75	Nala	97	Nala	Nala, Kannamangala border			
9	P.Subramani S/o Late Papayya, S.Pradeep S/o PSubramani,	96	2	-	0	25	0	0.5	0	24.05	0.96									
10	S.Subramani S/o late Papaiah, S.Pradeep S/o. P Subramani	97	-	Dry	4	12	0	3	4	9	10.14	3	17.5	96	127	101, Nala	Kannamangala border			
11	Sarkari Thotagarike Ilake, M/s Mother Dairy Fruit & amp;amp;Vegetables Ltd, Abdul Majid s/o Kunjali kuk	99	-	-	80	28	2	0	78	28	0.00	1	13	Road	Kannamangala border	99 part	Kannamangala border			
12	H.G Rangangowda s/o late H.R Gaviyappa-ALN, P.V. Rajalakshmi w/o N. Shyamasundar Naidu	101	1	-	3	29	0	4	3	25	5.77	0	14.50	102	128	101 part	97, Nala			
13	H.G Rangangowda s/o late H.R Gaviyappa-ALN, P.V. Rajalakshmi w/o N. Shyamasundar Naidu	101	2	-	0	35	0	1	0	34	1.36.									
14	H.G Rangangowda s/o late H.R Gaviyappa-ALN	101	3	-	0	35	0	1	0	34	1.36									
15	Gogineni Geetha Sudha w/o Vishnuvardhan Rao	102	1	-	0	25	0	1	0	24	0.95									
16	Mr.S Pradeep S/o P Subramani	102	2	-	0	6.75	0	0.5	0	6.25	0.23	0	0.75	103	Nala	102 Part	Nala			
17	S.Pradeep S/o. P Subramani	102	3	-	0	7	0	0.5	0	6.5	0.24									
18	Gogineni Geetha Sudha w/o Vishnuvardhan Roa,	103	1	-	0	3	0	0	0	3	0.15	0	5.25	103 part and Nala	102	103 part	Nala			
19	Gogineni Geetha Sudha w/o Vishnuvardhan Roa,	103	2	-	0	2.50	0	0	0	2.50	0.90									
20	R.P Nambiyar, Renuka Nambiyar, Binadas, R.PNambiyar M/s.Nambiyar Builders Private Ltd represented by its authorised signatory Ms.Bindu.G C/o.M/s Nambiyar builders pvt ltd	127	1	Dry/Wet	1	13	0	1	1	12	1.93	3	23.75	97, 101	136	127 part	Kannamangala border			
21	PA.Sharaf	127	2	-	2	28	0	4	2	24	3.88									
22	C.Ishwarachari s/o.Late Chinnachari ALN	127	3	-	1	15	0	3	1	12	1.94									
23	PA Sharaf	136	-	-	3	0	0	0	3	0	4.14	2	4.25	127	Road	136 part	Kannamangala border			
Total												13	30.50							
District: Bangalore					Taluk: Bangalore East					Hobli: Bidarahalli					Village: Sheegehalli					
1	R. Krishnamma w/o B. Nanjundappa, R. Prema w/o M. Venkatareddy	57	-	-	3	16	0	0	3	16	7.59	1	39.25	57part	58	Kadugodi border	Kadugodi border			
Total												1	39.25							
District: Bangalore					Taluk: Bangalore East					Hobli: Bidarahalli					Village: Kadugodi					
1	Hebbaga bin Giddappa, M. Krishnappa bin Muniyappa, Narasappa S/o. Nanjappa, S.N. Suresha S/o. late Nanjundappa, Lalitha S/o. late Nanjundappa Joint.	35	1	-	4	29	0	3	4	26	8.43	1	0	35part, Dakshina pinakini Rivar	34, 36, 37, Nala	Hosakote Doddamanikere Border, Dakshina pinakini Rivar	36, 39			
2	Narasappa S/o Nanjappa, M. Krishnappa S/o Muniyappa, S.N. Suresha S/o. late Nanjundappa, Lalitha D/o. late Nanjundappa	35	2	-	3	0	0	0	3	0	5.43	1	27.75	39 part	38, 40, 42	35	43			
3	Y. Krishnappa S/o late C. Yarappa, Sushil D/o. Late R.Ramaiah, R.Sumithra D/o.Y.Late Ramaiah, C.Sujatha W/o. late R.Muralidhar, C.Pallavi D/o. Late Y.Chowdappa, C.Yamini, D/o. Late Y.Chowdappa, C.Sahana D/o. late Y.Chowdappa,	36	1	-	1	2	0	0	1	2	2.24	1	2	35	36 part Nala	35	36/2			
4	S. Krishnappa s/o Madappa	36	2	-	1	21	0	0	1	21	3.24	1	21	35	36/2 Part	36/1	37			
5	Mr. R Jayakumar S/o. C Ramakrishna	37	-	-	3	8	0	1	3	7	7.09	2	25	35	37 part	36	38			
6	Mr. R Jayakumar S/o. C Ramakrishna	38	-	-	2	31	0	0	2	31	6.19	1	17.75	39	38 part	37	40			
7	Kasturi bai W/o late Ganesh Singh	39	1	-	0	12.75	0	0.25	0	12.50	0.70	0	7	39 part	38, 40, 42	35	43			
8	Sharat S/o.C.Channakeshava Murthy	39	3	-	0	31	0	0	0	31	1.73	0	8	0	10.75	39	40 part	38	41	
9	Lakshamma W/o R. Narayanaswamy	40	1	-	1	0.50	0	0	1	0.50	2.26									
10	Sumitra w/o Ramamurthy	40	2	-	0	20.25	0	0	0	20.25	1.13									
11	Ramesh s/o late N. Narayanappa	40	3	-	0	20.25	0	0	0	20.25	1.13									
12	Sudarshan.V S/o.Late Vedanandamurthy,	41	1	-	0	20.50	0	0	0	20.50	1.14	0	10.50	39	41 part	40	42			
13	Keshavamurthy S/o S. Narayanappa	41	2	-	0	20.50	0	0	0	20.50	1.15									
14	Chowdamma W/o Siddaramaiah, R. Mohan s/o late Ramaiah, Nanjundaswamy s/o S. Krishnappa Joint	42	-	-	1	7	0	1	1	6	2.57	0	12.50	39	42 part	41	43			
15																				

- 3 -																	
Sl. No.	Name of the Khatedars/Anubhavaders.Smts./ Sriyuths	Sy. No.	Hissa	Whether/ Dry/ Wet/ Garden	Total Extent		Kharab Land		Remaining Extent		Assess-ment Rs. Ps	Extent Proposed for Acquisition		Boundaries			
					A	G	A	G	A	G		A	G	East	West	North	South
1	2	3	4	5	6		7		8		9	10		11	12	13	14
92	Siddamma W/o. Muniswamy, Muniswamyreddy bin late C.Venkatappa,	160	3	-	0	39	0	0	0	39	2.08						
93	B.Bharathi W/o late Mruthunjaya, Moola Khatedar	160	4	-	0	5.50	0	2	0	3.50	0.08						
94	Praveen P S/o. late N.Pillaraju	160	5	-	0	2.50	0	1	0	1.50	0.08						
95	C.R Chandrika D/o late C Ramaiah Reddy, C.R Vedavathi D/o late C Ramaiah reddy, C.R Lalithalakshmi D/o late C. Ramaiah reddy Joint	161	-	-	1	26	0	1	1	25	3.29	0	32.25	160/3	161 part	147	162
96	C.H Chethan S/o C.R Hemachandra Reddy, C.H. Varun S/o Minor gardian C.R Hemachandra reddy, C.A Nayan Minor gardian C.R Vedavathi Joint	162	-	Wet	1	14	0	2	1	12	2.63	0	21	163	Nala	161, 160	165
97	Premamma Hullurappa W/o.Hullurappa,	163	1	Wet	1	0	0	0	1	0	2.13	0	6.75	163 part	162, 165	160	164
98	Renuka w/o M. Manjunatha	163	2	Wet	0	8	0	0	0	8	0.44						
99	Renuka w/o M. Manjunatha	163	3	-	0	20	0	0	0	20	1.06						
100	M. Narayanappa s/o Munishamappa	163	4	-	0	20	0	0	0	20	1.06						
101	Nagalakshmi w/o late Suryanarayana rao	164	-	-	2	5	0	0	2	5	4.76	0	6	164 part	165	163	Channasandra border
102	T. Ramachandra, V. Shamanna s/o late Venkatappa, Appaji s/o V. Shamanna, V. Nagaraju s/o late Venkatappa, Y.Gopal S/o.late Chikka Yallappa, Manjunatha S/o.V.Nagaraju, Nagamma W/o.V.Nagaraju Joint,	165	-	-	3	7	0	0	3	7	6.77	0	7	163, 164	166, 167	162	Channasandra border
103	Prameela s/o late Doreswami reddy, Maniyamma, D/o.Late Govinda Reddy, R.Maheshwari D/o.Late Govindareddy, Ravichandra Reddy.G S/o.Govindareddy, B.Dhanalakshmi, D/o. Late Govindareddy, Harish S/o. Late Govindareddy, Andalamma w/o late Chinnaiah reddy, Rukminiyamma w/o late Krishnareddy Joint.	167	2	-	0	25	0	1	0	24	1.45	0	6.75	Nala	Nala	167/1	Channasandra border
104	Pillamma w/o late Chikkamuniyappa	167	3	-	0	12	0	1	0	11	0.59			Nala	Nala	167 Part	Channasandra border
Total												42	36.5				
District: Bangalore				Taluk: Bangalore East						Hobli: Bidarahalli				Village: Kannamangla			
1	Pa. Appajigowda s/o Dodda basavegowda, D. Basavegowda s/o Chikkabasavegowda, Rudramma w/o D. Basavegowda, Sugnyanappa s/o D. Basavegowda	2	1	-	5	3	0	15	4	28	7.48	2	23	3	176	Nala	2 part
2	B. Narayanaswamy, Sonnappa s/o Gudisalu Muneppa	3	1	-	2	21	0	3	2	18	3.66	1	23.75	9	2	Nala, 4	12, 3 part
3	B. Narayanaswamy /so Bodappa	3	2	-	2	1	0	0	2	1	3.03	2	0	4 part	Khaji sonnenahalli border	4 part	Nala, 3
4	B. Narayanaswamy /so late Bodappa	4	1	-	0	7	0	0	0	7	0.30						
5	V. Venkateshaiah s/o Venkataramanappa	4	2	-	2	38	0	1	2	37	4.98						
6	N. Devaraj	4	3	-	0	12	0	1	0	11	0.46						
7	Basavarajaiah, Lakshmiddevamma	4	4	-	0	17	0	0	0	17	0.74	0	37	9 part	3, 12	9 part	10, 11
8	Chennamma W/o Late Narayanaswamy, Sakumaga Munegowda S/o Late Muninanjappa, Venkataramanappa	9	1	-	2	3	0	3	2	0	3.18						
9	Motappa S/o Muniyappa,	10	1	-	0	27	0	0	0	27	1.08						
10	Anuradha W/o.Late Subramani, V.Ramesh S/o.Late B.Venkataramanappa, Girijamma W/o.late B.Venkataramanappa, V.Srinivas S/o. Late B.Venkataramanappa V.Venugopal S/o. late B.Venkataramanappa,	10	2	-	0	29	0	0	0	29	1.16						
11	Anuradha W/o.Late Subramani, V.Ramesh S/o.Late B.Venkataramanappa, Girijamma W/o.late B.Venkataramanappa, V.Srinivas S/o. Late B.Venkataramanappa V.Venugopal S/o. late B.Venkataramanappa,	10	3	-	0	33	0	1	0	32	3.56	2	17	10 part	11	9, 11	28, 29
12	Anuradha W/o.Late Subramani, V.Ramesh S/o.Late B.Venkataramanappa, Girijamma W/o.late B.Venkataramanappa, V.Srinivas S/o. Late B.Venkataramanappa V.Venugopal S/o. late B.Venkataramanappa,	10	4	-	0	32	0	0	0	32	2.99						
13	Ramanna, Muniyappa, L.Lakshmaiah, Krishnappa, Narayanaswamy	10	5	-	0	32	0	0	0	32	1.28						
14	Narayaswamy Urf Narayanapadaswamy S/o Muniswamy	10	6	-	0	11	0	0	0	11	0.45						
15	Motappa S/o Muniyappa,	11	-	-	1	19	0	4	1	15	2.06	1	4.50	10	12	9	11 part, 10
16	B. Narayanaswamy s/o Bodappa, Subbayya S/o Subbayya, Balappa S/o Muniswamappa, Kallappa S/o Sakalappa, K.N.Shankarappa S/o Gopanna Nagappa, C. Narayanaswamy S/o Late Chowdappa, M.Jayarama S/o Nararayanappa, Raman S/o Perumal Gowda, V.Nagendrakumar S/o Venkatesh, P.Vasanthakumar, K.M.Venkatesh S/o Munichowdappa, N.Ramesh S/o Narasimaiah, S.Venkatasubbaiah, Srilakshmi W/o Sriram, V.Krishnakumar S/o Padmanabhan, Shivaramaiah S/o Hanumanthappa, Sumitramma W/o N.Krishnappa, C.Bharathi W/o R.Jayaprakash,	12	-	-	2	14	0	2	2	12	5.49	0	36	9, 11	12 part	3	12 part
17	Venkatamma W/o Sonnappa, H.Bhaskaraiah, M.Krishnamurthy, M.Narayan, M.Gopal, M.Nandakumar,	28	1	Dry	2	26	0	0	2	26	4.81	0	22.25	29, 10	28 part	10	28part
18	Venkatamma W/o Sonnappa, Sumitramma W/o N.Krishnappa, H.Bhaskariah S/o Hanumantharayappa,	28	2	-	1	35	0	0	1	35	2.39						
19	Nagaveni D/o. Krishnappa,	29	1	Dry	0	10	0	0	0	10	0.39						
20	P.Subramani S/o Late Papayya, B.C.Nayankumar S/o PSubramani, S.Pradeep S/o PSubramani,	29	2	-	1	14.75	0	0	1	14.75	2.17	2	20.25	30, 31	28, 29 Part	10	30, 29 part
21	Gururaj P. S/o Puttaswamygowda,	29	3	-	0	1.25	0	0	0	1.25	0.06						
22	Narashimaraju S/o Late H Obanna, Bharath.N S/o Narasimharaju, Keerthisagar.N S/o Narasimharaju	29	4	-	0	10	0	0	0	10	0.40						
23	Susheelamma W/o Krishnappa	29	5	-	0	10	0	0	0	10	0.40						
24	K.Manjunath S/o Krishnappa	29	6	-	0	10	0	0	0	10	0.40	3	31.75	30 Part	30 part	31	120
25	Susheelamma W/o Krishnappa	29	7	-	0	4	0	0	0	4	0.40						
26	Ramanna, Muniyappa, Lakshmaiah, Krishnappa, Narayanaswamy	30	1	-	1	29	0	0	1	29	2.75						
27	Krishnamurthy T s/o Thammaiah	30	2	-	1	31	0	6	1	25	2.59	0	9.25	31 part	29	10	30
28	T. Rajesh s/o Thammaiah	30	3	-	1	19	0	2	1	17	2.28						
29	Sarakari Kere,	31	-	-	17	23	0	0	17	23	0.00	0	9.25	31 part	29	10	30
30	Shruthi.N. D/o.Nagaraj, Urf Nagaraj.D	87	1	Dry	1	12	0	0	1	12	2.06	4	6.25	87 Part	87 Part	Nala 110	93
31	Narayanaswamy s/o late Ramaiah	87	2	Dry	1	12	0	0	1	12	2.15						
32	Puttamma W/o late Venkatappa @ Venkatarajappa	87	3	Dry	2	16	0	0	2	16	3.85						
33	Manjulamma, V. Kushal S/o late Venkategowda, Kempegowda, Nagaraja, Lakshmiddevamma W/o. late Krishnappa, Narayanaswamy S/o. late Krishnappa, Shankar s/o late Krishnappa, Ravi S/o. late Krishnappa Joint	87	4	Dry	5	0	0	0	5	0	7.95	1	24.50	93 Part & 95	93 Part	87	94
34	Anjinappa S/o.Late Sonnappa	93	2	Dry	0	14	0	0	0	14	0.56						
35	Gopalli Venkataramanappa S/o Ramaiah	93	3	Dry	0	15	0	0	0	15	0.61						
36	Ramakka W/o Late Muniyappa	93	4	Dry	0	9	0	0	0	9	0.37	0	7.75	108, 110	105 part	107, 106	105 Part
37	Manjamma D/o late Sonappa.T, T.Nagaraj S/o late Thammanna Joint, T.Sonnappa, S/o.Late Thammanna, Krishnaveni.T.W/o.Late T.Nagaraj Joint	93	5	Dry	1	7	0	0	1	7	1.88						
38	Sarakari Thopu	94	-	-	2	16	0	0	2	16	0.00	0	13	100, 95	94 Part	93	100
39	P.Govindappa S/o Poojappa	95	-	-	0	35	0	0	0	35	1.50	0	35	Nala	93, 94	95 Part 93	100
40	P.Govindappa S/o Poojappa	96	-	-	2	17	0	0	2	17	5.83	1	33	Hosakote Doddamanekere Border	Nala	Nala, 96 Part	Nala
41	S.Pradeep S/o P Subramani	97	-	-	0	17	0	3	0	14	2.27	0	16.75	Hosakote Doddamanekere Border	Nala	Nala	98 Part
42	V.Manjunath S/o Venkatappa,	98	1	-	1	8	0	1	1	7	2.25	0	7.50	Hosakote Doddamanekere Border	Nala	97	98 Part
43	C.Pillegowda S/o S.Channappa	100	1	-	0	33	0	33	0	33	1.24	0	30	Nala	94, 100 part	95	100
44	S. Trilok Chandar s/o Sugunaanthaiah represented by G.P.A holder Shashidhar B.K s/o B. Krishnapooja	100	2	-	0	36	0	6	0	30	1.12	0	0.1.50	Nala	100/2 part	100/1	99
45	Doddappa, Nagaraju, Krishnappa	105	1	-	2	16	0	0	2	16	3.82	0	7.75	108, 110	105 part	107, 106	105 Part
46	Muniyamma W/o Late Mutthappa	105	2	-	1	19	0	0	1	19	2.36						
47	Sarakari Smashana	106	-	-	0	15	0	0	0	15	0.00	0	0.75	107	106 part	120	107, 106
48	Sarakari Gundu thopu Shala Kattada	107	-	-	1	23	0	0	1	23	0.00	1	23	109	106, 107 part	119, 120	108
49	Sarakari Smashana	108	-	-	0	26	0	0	0	26	0.00	0	26	109	105	107	110
50	Krishnamurthy S/o Thammaiah, Chikkatayamma W/o Muniveerappa, Rathnamma W/o M.Ramaiah, Panindra kumar, S/o.Janardhan.H	109	-	-	3	29	0	2	3	27	6.25	0	34	109 part	108, 107 Nala	119	Nala
51	B.J. Mala W/o late Lakshminarayana urf Lakshminarayanagowda	110	1	-	0	33	0	0	0	33	1.32	3	16.5	Nala, 110 part, 109	110 part, 105	108	Nala
52	Krishnappa S/o. Doddachowdappa, Ramaiah, Chowdappa, Varalakshmi S/o late Munirappa Joint	110	2	-	3	14	0	0	3	14	5.33						
53																	

Quick Read

B'desh's infrastructure buys sideline deepening inequality problems

DHAKA

Bangladesh's economic policy priorities are being ridiculed as inequality widens and poverty rises while large infrastructure and defence purchases risk sidelining measures to protect the poor, a new report has said. The report said 2.1 million people slipped into poverty in the last fiscal year and the World Bank projects that 62 million more people globally could be pushed into poverty by persistent inflation and an energy crisis. Rising prices and power shortages are hitting manufacturing, reducing investment and cutting jobs in the private and informal sectors.

Pakistan's poverty rate jumps 6.4 pc in over six years

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's poverty rate jumped by 6.4 per cent at the \$3-a-day line between 2018-19 and 2024-25, following a succession of adverse shocks, including Covid-19, 2022 floods and a macroeconomic crisis, according to a report. According to a report by Dawn, the country accounts for almost half of the extremely poor population in the entire Middle East, North Africa and Afghanistan-Pakistan region. "MENAAP is the only region in the world in which poverty remains above pre-pandemic levels and continues to rise. Pakistan accounts for nearly half of the region's extreme poor," the report said.

TRAI releases draft DRM-based broadcasting audit manual

NEW DELHI

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on Friday released the draft Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Digital Rights Management (DRM)-based Digital Addressable Systems Audit Manual, 2026, inviting stakeholders to submit comments on the proposed framework for auditing DRM-based television distribution systems. The draft manual aims to establish an audit framework for digital addressable systems that use Digital Rights Management technology in television distribution. TRAI has invited feedback from stakeholders to gather industry perspectives on the proposed procedures and requirements before the framework is finalised.

India's industrial, logistics absorption rises 14 pc to 24.3 million sq ft in Q3

MUMBAI

India's industrial and logistics sector recorded a 14.1 per cent year-on-year increase in space absorption to 24.3 million square feet in the third quarter of 2026, according to a report released on Friday. The growth indicates continued demand for industrial facilities and logistics infrastructure amid evolving business and supply chain requirements. The increase in absorption during Q3 2026 points to sustained occupier activity in the sector.

CEA seeks flexible NPA norms for MSMEs

CEA V. Anantha Nageswaran has urged the RBI to reconsider MSME NPA norms, citing diverse cash flow cycles, while calling for greater savings discipline in microfinance.

NEW DELHI

Chief Economic Adviser V. Anantha Nageswaran on Friday urged the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to review non-performing asset (NPA) classification norms for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), arguing that the existing framework does not adequately reflect their business practices and cash flow patterns.

Speaking at Sa-Dhan's national conference, Nageswaran said businesses across different sectors operate on varying working capi-

tal cycles, making a uniform 90-day deadline for classifying overdue loans as NPAs unsuitable for all MSMEs.

He also pointed out that the classification of loan accounts as Special Mention Accounts (SMAs) can have serious consequences for borrowers, even before their accounts are formally declared non-performing assets.

"The moment you are classified as SMA, then you almost end up becoming de facto, if not de jure, NPA (non-performing asset) already. I think that needs to change," Nageswaran said.



"We need to evolve such norms consistent with the practices and cash flow patterns, rather than adopting a globally uniform benchmark," he added.

Under the existing system, banks classify overdue loan accounts as SMA-0 when payments are overdue for up

We need to evolve such norms consistent with the practices and cash flow patterns, rather than adopting a globally uniform benchmark."
— V. Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Adviser

to 30 days, SMA-1 when overdue for 31 to 60 days, and SMA-2 when overdue for 61 to 90 days. Accounts overdue for more than 90 days are classified as NPAs. Nageswaran said difference-

NPA norms for MSMEs need to be reviewed
→ CEA seeks review of RBI's MSME NPA classification norms
→ Uniform 90-day benchmark may not suit every sector
→ SMA classification can create difficulties before accounts become NPAs
→ Nageswaran urges microfinance lenders to prioritise savings and insurance over credit
→ Microfinance loan book contracted 11% in FY26, according to Sa-Dhan

es in business operations and payment cycles across MSME sectors warrant a closer examination of these timelines. Separately, the CEA stressed that the microfinance

sector must prioritise savings and insurance before extending credit. He said excessive borrowing and dependence on loans had contributed to recurring crises in the sector.

BJP's Chandrasekhar flags Starlink security concerns

NEW DELHI

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Kerala president Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Friday said Elon Musk's Starlink represents a significant technological innovation but stressed that the Indian government must prioritise national security, sovereignty and the protection of its citizens.

Chandrasekhar's remarks underline the importance of examining the security implications of emerging satellite-based internet services as India considers their role in the country's telecommunications landscape.

Describing Starlink as a major innovation in recent times, Chandrasekhar said technological progress cannot override the government's responsibility to safeguard national interests.

"Starlink is certainly a great innovation in recent times," he said, adding that the Gov-



"The Government of India has to do what it is obliged to do — to protect its national security, sovereignty and people."

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR
BJP Kerala president

ernment of India must fulfil its obligations to protect national security, sovereignty and the people.

Starlink, operated by Musk's SpaceX, provides broadband internet connectivity through a constellation of satellites in low Earth orbit. The service is designed to de-

BJP Kerala president Rajeev Chandrasekhar praised Starlink's innovation but said India must safeguard national security, sovereignty and its citizens.

liver internet access to areas where conventional broadband and mobile networks may be difficult to establish or expand.

Satellite-based connectivity has the potential to improve internet access in remote and underserved regions. However, its deployment also raises questions around regulatory oversight, data security, lawful access and the protection of critical communications infrastructure.

Chandrasekhar did not provide specific details in the quoted remarks about the security measures or regulatory conditions he believes should apply to Starlink.

NEW DELHI

Mobile network traffic in India is expected to grow at approximately 17 per cent annually between 2025 and 2030, while telecom operators' revenues are projected to increase by just 2.7 per cent annually, highlighting a widening gap between data demand and revenue generation, according to a report released on Friday.

The projections point to a growing challenge for India's telecommunications industry as operators prepare to accommodate rising network usage while seeking to improve the financial returns generated by their infrastructure and services.

The expected increase in traffic reflects the continued expansion of digital consump-



tion, with mobile networks supporting activities such as video streaming, online communication, digital payments, gaming and other data-intensive services. As consumers and businesses rely increasingly on mobile connectivity, operators will need to ensure that their networks can handle higher volumes of data.

However, the comparatively slower projected growth in operator revenues suggests that increased network usage may not translate into propor-

17% mobile traffic growth a year	2.7% operator revenue growth a year	2025-30 projection period
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UN report projects India's GDP growth at 7.3% for FY27

NEW DELHI

India continues to be the fastest-growing major economy, with its GDP projected to expand by 7.3 per cent in 2026 (FY27) and 6.8 per cent in 2027 (FY28) due to robust domestic demand, increasing manufacturing capacity, and public infrastructure programmes, a United Nations (UN) report said on Friday.

UNCTAD's 'Trade and Development Report 2026: the Geoeconomics of Development' said that together, these factors sustain growth for the Indian economy despite heavy reliance on oil imports.

"India continues to post dynamic growth in household consumption, estimated at 6.9 per cent this year and 5.6 per cent next.

These rates nonetheless mark a significant deceleration from previous years, as higher prices and input costs rein in expansion," it said.

Growth in the developing world is bifurcating. A few large economies are driving global expansion, with India fastest among them at 7.3 per cent in 2026.

"The Indian digital public infrastructure (DPI) model, for example, involves agreements with 23 coun-



UNCTAD's projections

- India, 2026 (FY27): 7.3% GDP growth
- India, 2027 (FY28): 6.8%
- Global growth, 2026: 2.6%, down from 2.9%
- Developing economies: 4%, down from 4.7% in 2025

tries to share its architecture; technical cooperation is already operational in eight countries, including Sri Lanka and the United Arab Emirates," said the report.

"Rising economies of the Global South are becoming regional anchors, extending trade integration to new financial initiatives.

This works best alongside a multilateral trading system that keeps non-discrimination and special and differential treatment at its core," UNCTAD's Acting Secretary-General Pedro Manuel Moreno said.

'RBI should go for off-cycle 50 bps hike sooner than later'

MUMBAI

A report released on Friday has recommended that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) consider an off-cycle interest rate hike of 50 basis points sooner rather than later, alongside widening the interest rate corridor, as global economic uncertainty intensifies and emerging markets face mounting pressure.

The recommendation comes amid concerns over the impact of international economic developments on financial markets, inflation, currency movements and capital flows. Emerging economies are particularly vulnerable to global volatility because changes in investor sentiment and international interest rates can influence capital flows, borrowing costs and exchange rates.

An off-cycle rate hike would involve the RBI increasing its policy interest rate outside its regularly scheduled monetary policy review. A 50-basis-point increase would raise the rate by 0.50 percentage points. Such a move could be aimed at responding to changing economic conditions without waiting for the next scheduled policy announcement.

The report also called for

widening the interest rate corridor, which refers to the range formed by the central bank's key standing liquidity facility rates around its policy framework. Changes to the corridor can influence short-term money market rates and liquidity conditions in the banking system.

However, higher interest rates can have wider economic consequences. While tighter monetary policy may help contain inflationary pressures and support currency stability, it can also increase borrowing costs for businesses and households. Higher lending rates may affect investment, consumption and credit demand, particularly in interest-sensitive sectors.

For emerging markets such as India, policymakers must balance domestic growth priorities with risks arising from global financial conditions. External shocks, currency fluctuations and changing investor expectations can complicate monetary policy decisions. The report's recommendation reflects a call for a proactive response to heightened global uncertainty. It does not, by itself, indicate that the RBI has decided to raise rates or alter the interest rate corridor.

Health Ministry proposes tighter curbs on prescription drug ads

NEW DELHI

The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on Friday proposed stricter regulations governing advertisements for prescription medicines, seeking to extend existing restrictions beyond pharmaceutical manufacturers to pharmacies, wholesalers and other licensed drug sellers.

The proposed changes aim to broaden the scope of accountability in the promotion of prescription drugs and strengthen oversight of how such medicines are advertised and marketed across the pharmaceutical supply chain.

Prescription medicines are generally intended to be used under the supervision of qualified medical practitioners, as their suitability and dosage depend on a patient's medical condition and other clinical factors. Their promotion therefore requires safeguards to prevent misleading claims, inappropriate demand and use without proper medical guidance.

Under the proposed approach, pharmacies, wholesalers and other licensed sellers could also come under advertising restrictions that have traditionally focused on pharmaceutical manufacturers. The move would widen



regulatory scrutiny of promotional activities and clarify that responsibility for compliance may extend to multiple participants involved in the distribution and sale of medicines.

The proposed framework could have implications for pharmacies and drug distributors that use promotional material to market prescription products. Businesses may need to review their advertising practices and ensure that their communications comply with applicable rules if the changes are adopted.

Stricter oversight of prescription medicine advertisements could also help address concerns about misleading promotional claims and the potential influence of marketing on patients' decisions.

The proposal represents a potential expansion of India's regulatory approach to pharmaceutical advertising, bringing a wider range of licensed participants within its scope.

Gold ETFs surge 164 pc as commodities gain traction

NEW DELHI

Gold exchange-traded fund (ETF) assets in India rose to Rs 1.91 lakh crore in August 2026, marking a 164 per cent increase from approximately Rs 72,500 crore recorded a year earlier, according to a report released.

The sharp rise highlights growing investor interest in gold-backed investment products as individuals increasingly explore market-linked avenues to gain exposure to the precious metal. Gold ETFs

allow investors to invest in gold without physically purchasing or storing jewellery, coins or bars.

These funds are traded on stock exchanges, enabling investors to buy and sell units through their demat and trading accounts. Their value generally tracks domestic gold prices, subject to expenses and tracking differences.

The expansion in assets under management reflects a combination of factors, including changes in gold prices and investor flows into gold ETFs.

A rise in gold prices can increase the value of existing investments, while fresh purchases can add to the total assets managed by these funds.

Gold has traditionally been viewed as a store of value and a potential hedge against economic uncertainty. Investors often consider the metal during periods of market volatility, inflation concerns and fluctuations in major currencies. However, gold prices can also experience significant movements depending on global economic conditions, interest rate expect-

tations, currency trends and geopolitical developments.

Gold ETFs offer an alternative to physical gold by eliminating concerns related to storage and purity, although investors may incur fund expenses and brokerage charges. Their market prices and liquidity can also vary depending on trading conditions.

The growth in gold ETF assets comes amid increasing participation in India's investment markets and a broader range of financial products available to retail investors.



Gold ETF assets	
AUGUST 2025 Rs 72,500 cr approximately	AUGUST 2026 Rs 1.91 lakh cr up 164%

Quick Read

Police register unnatural death case after Nana Patekar's death

PANAJI

Goa Police have registered an unnatural death case following the death of veteran actor Nana Patekar, 75, who was brought dead to Manipal Hospital after being found unresponsive at his residence in Dona Paula. According to police records, Panaji police station received a call at 8.07 am on Thursday from the hospital's medical officer informing them that Vishwanath Gajanan Patekar had been brought dead to the casualty ward. Police subsequently visited the hospital, informed senior officers and registered a case under Section 194 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

Guard held for allegedly killing wife and daughter

LUCKNOW

A 56-year-old Uttar Pradesh Home Guard, Ravindra Shankar, was arrested after allegedly strangling his wife and daughter with a data cable while they were asleep at their home in Krishnanagar, police said on Friday. The incident came to light around 6 am after police received information about the deaths in the Bholakhera locality. The deceased were identified as Shyama Dulari and her daughter, Pooja Sahu. Preliminary investigations indicated frequent domestic disputes between Shankar and his wife. Police said she had earlier left home following a dispute and returned a few days ago. The accused is being questioned, and the motive behind the killings remains under investigation. A case has been registered, police said.

ED arrests 2 in international drug network case

MUMBAI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has arrested two men in connection with an alleged international drug trafficking network operated by Salim Ismail Dola, a close aide of underworld figure Dawood Ibrahim. The accused, Pravin alias Nagesh Ramchandra Shinde and Brijesh Kanjibhai Moradiya, were arrested by the agency's Mumbai Zonal Office. According to the ED, the network allegedly involved clandestine mephedrone manufacturing, procurement of precursor chemicals, interstate distribution and international trafficking. Investigators also found alleged use of hawala channels to transfer proceeds from drug sales. The agency alleged that Shinde was involved in manufacturing mephedrone, commonly known as MD, and handling proceeds from its illicit sale.

BJP MP launches campaign on tribal student rights

BJP MP Nishikant Dubey launched a Jharkhand campaign focused on tribal student rights, amid political tensions over alleged illegal migration and electoral roll revision.



NEW DELHI

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Nishikant Dubey on Thursday launched a campaign titled “Bangladeshi Muslim Bhagao, Aadivaasi Bachao” in Jharkhand, stating that its objective was to protect the rights of tribal students. The move comes amid continuing Opposition protests against the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Dubey met students from six districts in the Santhal Pargana

region at Deoghar to discuss public outreach initiatives aimed at spreading the campaign’s message. The programme focuses on concerns raised by the BJP over the alleged impact of illegal migration on tribal communities and their rights in the region. The campaign comes as the Opposition continues to challenge the SIR exercise, which the BJP has defended as a process to clean up electoral rolls by removing undocumented immigrants. The BJP has also raised con-

cerns about changes in the demographic composition of Santhal Pargana, an Adivasi-dominated region of Jharkhand. Dubey’s initiative seeks to bring tribal student rights into the public debate through meetings and outreach activities. The discussions with students from six districts were intended to help communicate the campaign’s objectives across the region. The launch adds another dimension to the ongoing politi-

SANTHAL PARGANA

An Adivasi-dominated region of Jharkhand, Alleged illegal migration from Bangladesh was among the key issues the BJP highlighted in the 2024 Jharkhand Assembly elections.

SFI protest turns violent over suspensions

KASARAGOD

A protest march organised by the Students’ Federation of India (SFI) against the suspension of five students at the Central University of Kerala turned violent on Friday, prompting police to use water cannons to disperse protesters at Periya, officials said.

The university suspended the five students for two weeks on Thursday following a protest during a two-day seminar marking the 150th anniversary of the national song, Vande Mataram, held on October 6 and 7. The students had opposed the organisation of the seminar and the presence of J Nandakumar, national convener of an organisation linked to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS).

The protesting students also alleged that several students who had registered for the seminar were denied entry. The incident led to a police case being registered against 25 student leaders, following which the university initiated disciplinary action against five students.

Those suspended include Sayed Ali S and Aved V B, who are SFI activists, along with Shabeer and Taqiuddin of the Muslim Students Federation (MSF) and Mohammed Yasin of the Kerala Students Union (KSU).

On Friday, SFI activists marched towards the university campus, raising slogans against the suspensions.



SFI protesters clashed with police in Kerala after five students were suspended over objections to a Vande Mataram anniversary seminar.

SFI protest at a glance

→ 5 students suspended for two weeks

→ 25 student leaders named in a police case

→ 2-day seminar held on October 6–7

→ 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram marked

→ Water cannons deployed to disperse protesters

Police had erected barricades to prevent the protesters from reaching the administrative block, officials said.

Tensions escalated when some protesters allegedly attempted to climb over and pull down the barricades. Police subsequently deployed water cannons to disperse the crowd.

House panel urges CBT for NEET, NTA reforms

NEW DELHI

A parliamentary panel has called for deeper institutional and procedural reforms in the medical entrance examination system following the cancellation of NEET-UG 2026, recommending that the examination be shifted from pen-and-paper mode to computer-based testing (CBT).

The panel also proposed establishing a framework to make the National Testing Agency (NTA) accountable to Parliament, according to a report by the Press Trust of India (PTI). The recommendations come amid continuing efforts by the Centre to strengthen examination security and prevent paper leaks.

The panel said the episode demonstrated the need for comprehensive reforms to improve examination procedures and institutional accountability.

Officials said on September 30 that the Ministry of

The panel’s call

■ CBT: move NEET from pen and paper to computer-based testing

■ NTA: a framework to make it accountable to Parliament

■ Next: the final decision waits for the Nandan Nilekani task force's report

Education is drawing up a national plan to build computer-based testing centres fit for examinations.

However, the final decision on the transition is expected after a high-level task force submits its report.

Officials have indicated that moving to computer-based testing would require adequate infrastructure, standardised examination centres and robust safeguards to ensure fairness. Particular attention would be needed to provide equitable access to candidates in rural areas and regions with limited internet connectivity.

RAJASTHAN TO ARM FOREST STAFF IN CHAMBAL

JAIPUR

Rajasthan Chief Secretary V Srinivas has directed officials to provide weapons and vehicles to forest personnel deployed in vulnerable areas of the National Chambal Gharial Sanctuary, following repeated attacks linked to alleged illegal sand mining. He also called for a coordinated action plan to curb unlawful mining and strengthen field-level security.

Chairing a state-level coordination and monitoring committee meeting convened on the Supreme Court’s directions, Srinivas stressed a zero-tolerance approach towards illegal mining. He directed departments to strengthen patrolling, conduct inspections in vulnerable areas and ensure timely sub-

mission of compliance reports.

The directions follow several incidents involving attacks on forest and police personnel attempting to prevent illegal sand extraction and transportation. On October 7, police constable Surendra Singh was injured after a speeding tractor-trolley allegedly involved in illegal sand mining ran over his leg in Chauth Ka Barwara area of Sawai Madhopur. An elderly woman was also injured, while the driver fled the spot.

The latest developments follow the death of forest ranger Pratap Singh Chundawat on September 21. He was allegedly dragged by a dumper while attempting to stop the vehicle in Pratapgarh district over suspected illegal mining. The Supreme Court



subsequently directed the Rajasthan government to submit a report on illegal sand mining in the Chambal sanctuary.

In another incident on September 26, a forest team was allegedly attacked with stones and gunfire near Kondapura village in Bharatpur district after seizing a tractor-trolley and a compressor machine. Earlier incidents included attacks on forest personnel in

Tonk and an attack on a forest outpost in Ranthambore Tiger Reserve.

The Supreme Court has directed Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh to strengthen surveillance, establish checkpoints, act against organised mining networks and protect frontline personnel. It has also asked the states to consider preventive detention against alleged key operators and habitual offenders involved in organised illegal sand mining.

During his visit to Kota, he also reviewed cybercrime policing, hospital services and power infrastructure, directing officials to improve coordination between banks and police and strengthen healthcare delivery, including maternal and child health services.

Assam Minister calls for stronger revenue base

GUWAHATI

Assam Panchayat and Rural Development Minister Atul Bora has called for strengthening the own-source revenue base of Panchayati Raj Institutions to make Gaon Panchayats financially self-reliant, sustainable and more responsive to rural communities.

Bora made the remarks during the valedictory session of a two-day state-level workshop organised by the Golap Borbora State Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development (GBSIPRD) on Thursday and Friday. The workshop focused on developing a roadmap to improve revenue generation and financial independence among Gaon Panchayats across Assam.

The initiative aligns with the national vision of “Viksit Panchayat to Viksit Bharat@2047”. It aims to establish a comprehensive framework to strengthen the financial capacity of Panchayati Raj Institutions, improve

local resource mobilisation and enable rural bodies to address development needs more effectively.

Arup Sarma, Secretary of the Panchayat and Rural Development Department, attended the inaugural session and participated in discussions. The valedictory session was attended by Bora, B K Chakravarty, Additional Chief Secretary of the department, Oinam Sarankumar Singh, Commissioner of the P&RD Commissionerate, and other senior government officials.

Addressing the gathering, Bora emphasised that financially empowered Panchayats are essential for strengthening grassroots governance and allowing local institutions to take greater responsibility for development priorities.

He called for moving beyond the conventional perception of Panchayats as institutions primarily responsible for implementing government schemes. Instead, he said, they should be recognised as capable local bodies that can



mobilise resources, manage community assets and contribute to local economic development.

Strengthening own-source revenue, according to the workshop’s objectives, would help Panchayats plan and undertake development initiatives based on locally identified needs and priorities. Discussions involving government departments and Panchayati Raj representatives explored possible revenue-generation opportunities while highlighting the importance of transparency, ac-

countability and community-oriented governance.

In his concluding remarks, Chakravarty appreciated GBSIPRD’s initiative to develop a comprehensive framework for improving Panchayat revenue. He said developed Panchayats must have the institutional capacity to implement government schemes, use grants effectively, generate revenue, manage assets and deliver public services.

Chakravarty also stressed that Panchayats must remain accountable to Gram Sabhas and citizens. He urged the institute to prepare a transparent and accountable framework for revenue generation and collection in Gaon Panchayats.

Representatives of Zilla Parishads, Anchalik Panchayats and Gaon Panchayats were encouraged to contribute practical experience, provide feedback and identify innovative revenue-generation opportunities in response to Assam’s changing rural development needs.

Bombay HC seeks stray dog census

MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court on Friday asked the Maharashtra government to submit data on the state’s stray dog population, sterilisation and vaccination figures to assess the effectiveness of measures aimed at controlling their numbers and preventing dog-bite incidents.

A bench comprising Chief Justice M C Tripathi and Justice Advait Sethna raised the issue while reviewing the state’s compliance with directions on stray dog management. The court sought information to evaluate whether existing measures were ade-



quate to address the problem.

The bench was hearing a suo motu petition initiated following a May 19 judgment of the Supreme Court. The judgment directed High Courts to register suo motu cases and monitor compliance by state governments and Union Territories with orders concerning stray dog management.

The proceedings focus on the implementation of mea-

sures intended to control stray dog populations and reduce the risk of dog-bite incidents. Information on the number of dogs sterilised and vaccinated is expected to help the court assess the progress of the state’s efforts.

During an earlier hearing, the High Court had asked the Maharashtra government to “aggressively” implement the animal birth control (ABC) programme. The programme includes sterilisation measures aimed at managing stray dog populations.

The latest direction places emphasis on collecting reliable population figures and monitoring sterilisation and

vaccination coverage. These details are important for assessing the reach of existing interventions and identifying gaps in implementation.

The court’s proceedings form part of broader judicial oversight of stray dog management across states and Union Territories. The Supreme Court’s directions require High Courts to monitor how authorities implement the prescribed measures.

The Maharashtra government’s data is expected to help the High Court evaluate the adequacy of its efforts to manage stray dogs and address public safety concerns associated with dog bites.

Navy to commission anti-submarine craft Mangrol on Oct 12

NEW DELHI

The Indian Navy will commission Mangrol, its third Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC), at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai on October 12, 2026, strengthening its ability to detect and counter underwater threats in coastal waters.



3rd

shallow-water anti-submarine craft for the Navy

80%+

indigenous content, built by Cochin Shipyard

Oct 12

commissioning at the Naval Dockyard, Mumbai

Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) built the vessel, and more than 80 per cent of its content is indigenous, reflecting India’s push to strengthen

domestic defence manufacturing and reduce dependence on imported equipment. Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan, Flag Officer Com-

manding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command, will preside over the commissioning ceremony.

The induction of Mangrol will improve the Navy’s capacity to protect ports, harbours and coastal approaches. These shallow-water areas can restrict the operations of larger warships, making specialised vessels important for

detecting and responding to underwater threats close to the coastline.

Anti-submarine warfare shallow-water craft are designed to operate in coastal environments and support surveillance and underwater threat detection. Their induction strengthens maritime security in strategically important littoral areas.

Quick Read

1 dead, 2 injured in ambulance explosion

MAYURBHANJ

A 35-year-old patient died and two people suffered burn injuries after an oxygen cylinder reportedly exploded inside a private ambulance outside Udala Sub-Divisional Hospital in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district on Thursday evening. The deceased, Suyash Kumar Barik, was being transported to Bhubaneswar for treatment for a severe blood infection when the incident occurred. Police said the explosion reportedly happened when the driver opened the cylinder valve to supply oxygen. The ambulance caught fire, and two people were injured while attempting to rescue the patient. Firefighters brought the blaze under control.

Fire breaks out at Government Civil Hospital

GODHRA

More than 200 patients, including pregnant women, were safely evacuated after a fire broke out in the medicine storeroom of the Government Civil Hospital affiliated with the Medical College in Godhra, Gujarat, around midnight on Thursday. Fire brigade personnel and police rushed to the hospital and launched rescue operations. The blaze triggered panic on the premises, while firefighters faced difficulties bringing it under control. A large quantity of medicines stored in the room was reportedly damaged. However, the prompt response by the administration ensured that all patients were evacuated safely, averting a major tragedy. The cause of the fire remains unknown.

10 arrested in ₹700-crore govt land grab plot

HYDERABAD

Ten people, including an employee of the Telangana State Archives and Research Institute, have been arrested for allegedly attempting to grab 100 acres of government land worth around ₹700 crore by forging a historical decree from the Nizam era, police said on Friday. The disputed land is located at Nadergul in Balapur mandal of Rangareddy district. Police said 46 people were allegedly involved in the conspiracy and further arrests were possible. Investigators said the accused allegedly fabricated a royal decree, known as a farman, with the help of an archives employee. The document was purportedly created on March 28, 2023, to support claims of ownership over the land. The claimants reportedly submitted the document to the Rangareddy District Legal Services Authority during proceedings seeking recognition of their ownership rights. Officials grew suspicious of discrepancies in the document during a hearing on February 22, 2025. Verification of original records maintained by the State Archives and Research Institute established that the farman was forged, police said. A complaint was subsequently filed, and a case was registered under various provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita relating to conspiracy, cheating and forgery, among other offences.

Health Secretary pushes digital access for medical colleges

The government aims to strengthen medical research, promote lifelong learning and improve healthcare delivery by expanding access to digital academic resources nationwide.

NEW DELHI

Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava has called for expanding access to digital medical resources to all medical colleges across India, particularly institutions in under-served areas, to strengthen medical education, research and patient care. Speaking at the fifth National Training-cum-Conference on the ERMED Consortium, organised by the National Medical Library (NML) on October 9, Srivastava highlighted the library network's expansion to 93 medical colleges. She urged the NML to develop a comprehensive roadmap to extend its reach nationwide and improve access to quality medical literature and digital learning resources. Srivastava said continuous learning was essential in healthcare, where diseases,



treatments and clinical practices evolve rapidly. She emphasised that digital resources support professional development, evidence-based clinical practice and research. She also called for strengthening India's indigenous research capabilities, noting that access to scholarly information could help build a stronger research culture. The One Nation One Subscription initiative and the ERMED Consortium, she

said, could broaden access to academic publications and encourage innovation. "We may be able to manage with research conducted elsewhere, but that alone cannot fulfil our resolve to build a strong research ecosystem of our own. For this, we must develop a research mindset, and access to digital health resources is crucial to nurturing that mindset," Srivastava said. She urged the NML to ex-

Research from elsewhere is not enough; building our own research ecosystem requires a research mindset, nurtured through access to digital health resources." — Punya Salila Srivastava Health Secretary

plore artificial intelligence in healthcare education, research and professional development. She also called for greater cooperation with States and Union Territories, the sharing of effective library practices and focused seminars to improve the use of digital educational resources. The conference focused on making medical knowledge more accessible and supporting lifelong learning, research and better patient care nationwide.

MP deputy CM removes OSD over alleged liquor bribe

BHOPAL

Madhya Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Excise Minister Jagdish Devda on Friday removed his officer on special duty (OSD), Deepam Raichura, following allegations that he accepted a ₹1 crore bribe from a liquor contractor during 2024-25. Devda ordered an inquiry and clarified that Raichura was not serving as his OSD when the alleged transaction took place. The allegations emerged from a purported statement given to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) by Mohit Gogia, an accused in an alleged ₹930 crore fraud involving nightclubs, restaurants and luxury real estate across Delhi, Haryana and Punjab. A copy of the statement circulated on social media, but its authenticity could not be independently verified. According to the purported

The case so far

- SINCE 2023** Mohit Gogia lives in Bhopal
- 2024-25** ₹1 crore allegedly paid for two liquor outlets in TT Nagar, Gogia's purported statement to the ED claims
- NOVEMBER 2025** Delhi Police arrest Gogia in the alleged ₹930 crore fraud
- FRIDAY** Devda removes Raichura as his OSD and orders an inquiry

statement, Raichura allegedly helped secure two liquor outlets in Bhopal's TT Nagar area for 2024-25 in the name of Jaswant Kumar. The statement further alleged that Raichura helped arrange approval for a fake fixed deposit receipt required as a bank guarantee for the liquor contracts. These allegations have not been independently established.

Kharge accuses Modi government of economic monopolies

NEW DELHI

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge accused the Narendra Modi government of promoting monopolies and duopolies across key economic sectors, alleging that its

Modi's policies favour capitalists, promote monopolies and weaken competition, while benefiting the BJP and undermining economic liberalisation."

— Mallikarjun Kharge, Congress president

policies favour select business groups, weaken competition and worsen unemployment among young people. In a post on X, Kharge claimed the government was transferring economic control to favoured capitalists in exchange for benefits to the BJP. Kharge described the



Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge accused the Modi government of favouring business groups, weakening competition and worsening unemployment through monopolistic economic policies.

government's approach as "economic terrorism" and alleged that it served political and business interests. Citing the telecom sector, Kharge said 13 players operated before 2014, while only three major private players remained. In domestic aviation, he claimed, the number of major players had declined from seven to two. He also accused the government of reducing competition in digital payments, cement and food delivery applications.

Kharge said these policies had harmed micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and other smaller industries, contributing to severe unemployment among the country's youth. Congress MP Jebi Mather separately raised concerns about the suspension of the Permanent Labour Certification Programme by the United States government and its potential impact on major Indian information technology companies.

NEW DELHI

Assam Environment and Forest Minister Jayanta Mallabaruah has called for greater administrative flexibility for destination states under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) framework, citing practical challenges faced by consumer-oriented states in implementing tax policies effectively. Speaking after the 57th GST Council meeting at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, Mallabaruah said his suggestion was based on Assam's experience as a consumer state. He stressed the need to empower senior administrative officials in destination states to ensure smoother implementation of GST-related proposals and address difficulties arising under the existing indirect tax system. In a post on X, the minister said the recommendation reflected the practical experience-

Assam seeks greater GST flexibility for consumer states

GST PENALTY EASED

BEFORE Rs 25,000 general penalty

NOW Rs 10,000 for offences with no specific penalty

es of consumer states such as Assam. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said GST rate changes would be considered once a year, with decisions taking effect from April 1. She clarified that Thursday's meeting focused on process reforms rather than changes to tax rates. The Council also approved measures to ease business operations. The general penalty for offences without a specifically prescribed penalty was reduced from



Rs 25,000 to Rs 10,000, while minimum punishments were removed, leaving courts to decide on imprisonment or specific fines. To ease working capital pressures, businesses will receive 90 per cent of claimed refunds within 13 days under an automated, fast-tracked system. Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta welcomed the discussions, saying states had considered ways to make GST simpler and more user-friendly.

Railways cancel Delhi trains for 10 hours amid CJP protest

NEW DELHI

Indian Railways has cancelled mail and express trains scheduled to arrive at New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin railway stations between 4 am and 2 pm on Saturday, October 10, citing anticipated traffic congestion due to a planned protest in central Delhi.

The protest, organised by the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) at Jantar Mantar, demands the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

According to the Ministry of Railways, intelligence inputs and traffic advisories indicate severe congestion around the two railway stations during the protest. A senior railway official said around 5,000 passengers had

Trains cancelled	
WHEN	Arrivals from 4 am to 2 pm, Saturday, October 10
WHERE	New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin stations
WHY	Congestion expected from the CJP protest at Jantar Mantar
ADVICE	Check train status before travelling

missed their trains on Thursday. Several services have been affected, including the Howrah-New Delhi Rajdhani Express and Sealdah-New Delhi Rajdhani Express, both scheduled to depart on October 9. Passengers have been advised to check their train status before travelling and make alternative arrangements where necessary.

Rajeev Chandrasekhar demands Satheesan's resignation

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

BJP state president Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Friday questioned the legitimacy of the Kerala Assembly and demanded that Chief Minister V D Satheesan resign if the House was found to be illegal. His remarks came amid Congress-led protests against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Chandrasekhar said the BJP would raise the issue during the Assembly session scheduled to begin on October 12. He announced that BJP legislative party leader Gopakumar would write to the Speaker seeking discussion on the matter. The BJP leader questioned whether the elections conducted after the SIR exercise had produced a legitimate Assembly.



The BJP has three legislators in the 140-member Assembly following the April election. Chandrasekhar demanded that Satheesan clarify the issue on the floor of the House, stating that the question affected all elected representatives. Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee president and Electricity Minister Sunny Joseph dismissed the BJP's objections as excuses. He said he had approached the Kerala High Court and Supreme Court over the electoral process and obtained directions.

CPI(M) accuses Congress of SIR manipulation

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Communist Party of India (Marxist), or CPI(M), has accused the Congress of benefiting from alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Kerala, claiming that genuine voters were removed while bogus names were added in constituencies favouring the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF). The charge gained momentum after Abhijeet Dipke, a leader of the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP), claimed in Bengaluru on Thursday that alleged manipulation during the SIR exercise had helped bring about the fall of the Pinarayi Vijayan government in Kerala. Senior CPI(M) leader M V Jayarajan claimed that the names of 24 lakh genuine voters had been struck off the



electoral rolls, even as several bogus voters were included in party strongholds. "We've raised the matter even during a meeting of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar in Kerala ahead of the Assembly polls. Our demand to publish the list of persons removed from SIR wasn't considered by the commission yet," Jayarajan told Deccan Herald. The newspaper noted that the claims about the revision process have not been independently established.

RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION PROGRESS

Indian Railways achieves 99.7% electrification

NEW DELHI

Indian Railways has electrified 99.7 per cent of its broad-gauge network, with only 191 route kilometres remaining across Assam, Karnataka and Goa as of September 30, 2026, according to the Ministry of Railways. Of the total 70,502 route kilometres of broad-gauge lines, 70,311 kilometres have been electrified. According to the latest figures, 27 states and Union Territories have



already completed electrification of their entire broad-gauge networks, leaving no pending sections.

Assam, Karnataka and Goa are the only three states with stretches still awaiting electrification. The ministry has also

stated that all new railway line and multi-tracking projects are being sanctioned and constructed with electrification, supporting the transition towards a fully electrified network. The electrification programme has progressed through several recent milestones. Southern Railway achieved complete electrification of its 5,068-kilometre broad-gauge network last month, following the completion of work on the 71-kilometre Pattukkottai-Karaikudi section. Assam also achieved 100 per cent railway electrification in September 2026, according to the Northeast Frontier Railway. Railway electrification in India began in 1925, when the country's first electric train operated between Bombay Victoria Terminus and Kurla Harbour in Maharashtra using a 1,500-volt direct-current system.

Quick Read

French student protesters vow to keep up their fight

PARIS

French student unions said on Friday they would press on with their protests after what they described as the first victory of a campaign that is drawing growing support from Paris' elite universities, with 141 schools still closed across the country. The protests have grown into a broader movement as more university students voice their anger at what they call a dysfunctional system, made worse by spending cuts driven by France's budget crunch. The education ministry is urgently contacting about 3,000 spare teachers who could be sent to the schools in greatest need, many of them in low-income areas.

Palestinians set to delay legislative elections

PARIS

Palestinian Vice President Hussein Al Sheikh has told France that the Palestinian legislative election set for November 28 will be put off, possibly until September 2027, because conditions across the Palestinian territories have worsened, according to a letter seen by Reuters. "The assessment concluded that the anticipated political, security and economic conditions, on which the scheduling of the legislative elections for 28 November 2026 was based, have not materialized," said the letter, which was dated October 8 and addressed to French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot.

Netanyahu invites Flavio Bolsonaro to Israel

JERUSALEM

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has invited Brazilian presidential candidate Flavio Bolsonaro to Israel in a bid to renew ties between the two countries, as Brazil heads for a presidential runoff on October 25.

Netanyahu spoke to Bolsonaro and congratulated him on his showing in the first round of the presidential election, his office said on Friday.

Bolsonaro's brother Eduardo also took part in the call.

Flavio Bolsonaro, 45, is the eldest son of former Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro, a far-right leader under house arrest over allegations that he plotted a coup after losing the 2022 election. The younger Bolsonaro, a senator, faces incumbent leftist President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva in the October 25 runoff. A Datafolha poll published on Thursday had Bolsonaro on 52 per cent and Lula on 48 per cent. Given the candidate's right-wing positions, a Bolsonaro win could move Brazil towards a more pro-Israel foreign policy. Brazil is Latin America's most populous country and an influential regional power.

In recent years, several right-wing leaders who support Israel have won elections in Latin America, including in Argentina and Colombia.

Netanyahu also faces an election in Israel, set for October 27, just two days after Brazil's runoff. The invitation comes as Israel works to strengthen diplomatic ties across South America.

Houthi strikes kill three at Riyadh airport

Three people died in Houthi attacks on Riyadh airport as Saudi Arabia intensified airstrikes amid escalating regional conflict and shipping threats.

RIYADH

Three people were killed in attacks on Riyadh airport, Saudi authorities said on Friday, as Yemen's Houthi group stepped up its missile strikes on the kingdom in a widening regional conflict set off by the US-Iran war.

Several airlines cancelled flights to the Saudi capital after the attacks, days before the city is due to host a major gathering of global oil industry leaders.

Saudi Arabia carried out airstrikes on Houthi targets in Yemen's capital, Sanaa, overnight, Houthi officials and affiliated media said. The strikes are part of a growing air campaign meant to reverse the group's territorial gains, counter threats to international shipping and stop attacks on Saudi territory.

The Saudi-led coalition backing Yemen's internationally recognised government said it had destroyed three missile launch platforms used by the Houthis. The coalition warned that it would respond firmly to attacks on civilians.

The Houthis have surrounded government forces in Taiz, Yemen's third-largest city, while holding positions along the Red Sea coast against a Saudi-backed offensive. Earlier in the week, the group had already killed three people in attacks on airports.

Flight-tracking data showed flights gradually resuming, including those of several Middle Eastern airlines. Saudia Airlines confirmed that one of the victims was its employee.

The escalating conflict is fuelling concern over regional security and global energy



Key developments

→ Three people killed in Riyadh airport attacks.

→ Saudia Airlines aircraft damaged; several flights cancelled.

→ Saudi-led coalition says three Houthi missile launch platforms were destroyed.

→ Conflict threatens Red Sea shipping and Gulf energy supplies.

supplies. Houthi attacks on shipping in the Red Sea and the Bab el-Mandeb Strait have put pressure on Gulf oil flows,

and Iran's partial blockade of the Strait of Hormuz has disrupted energy movements further.

Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor gains £302,000 compensation

LONDON

Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor, the younger brother of Britain's King Charles, has benefited from £302,000 in compensation after he was forced to end his mansion lease early over revelations about his ties to the late sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

Last year, Charles stripped Mountbatten-Windsor of his title of prince and forced him out of his Windsor home, as the royal family sought distance from the Epstein scandal. Mountbatten-Windsor was later arrested on suspicion of misconduct in public office. He has denied any wrongdoing.

Britain's Crown Estate, which manages King Charles' public property, said on Friday that Mountbatten-Windsor had surrendered the lease on Royal Lodge more than 50 years early, entitling him to £302,000 in compensation.

Under the terms of the lease, Mountbatten-Windsor also paid £1.8 million to fund repairs needed on the property, but the compensation reduced that bill to £1.5 million, the Crown Es-

tate said in a statement.

Andrew had already spent £7.5 million on refurbishing the 30-room property when he first moved in over 20 years ago.

"The lease for Royal Lodge has ended and our focus now is firmly on its future use and the opportunities to generate additional financial value for the nation from its early return," a spokesperson for The Crown Estate said.

British police said warrants they secured to search properties linked to Mountbatten-Windsor had been issued unlawfully and must be quashed, but added that their investigation following his arrest was ongoing.

Mountbatten-Windsor, the second son of the late Queen Elizabeth, has always denied any wrongdoing in relation to Epstein, and said he regrets their friendship.

Amid heightened scrutiny of royal finances, a Buckingham Palace source said this week that the former prince had been told that money provided from private funds by the king should not be used to fund his legal challenge.

Taiwan President to defend military spending

TAIPEI

Taiwan President Lai Ching-te will use his national day speech on Saturday to defend his government's decision to raise military spending and strengthen national security, saying the measures reflect the people's wish to preserve peace, freedom and democracy.

A senior Taiwanese official briefed on the speech said Lai would stress that stronger defences for the island should not be seen as a provocation. The president will instead present the investment as a responsible effort to protect Taiwan's democratic way of life and keep stability across the Taiwan Strait.

Taiwan faces mounting military and political pressure from China, which regards the self-governed island as part of its territory. Beijing has repeatedly opposed steps it believes could advance Taiwanese independence, while Taipei rejects China's sovereignty claims.

The island is raising defence spending and modernising its armed forces to counter China's far larger military.



Boosting defences and spending more on the military is not a provocation.

— Senior Taiwan official

Beijing has expanded its military capabilities, including advanced weapons systems, stealth fighter jets and aircraft carriers.

Taiwan's defence ministry underlined the security concerns, reporting another Chinese "joint combat readiness patrol" near the island. The patrol involved 19 aircraft, including J-16 fighters, along with an unspecified number of naval vessels. China's defence ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Spanish right keeps solid lead ahead of November election

MADRID

Spain's centre-right People's Party and far-right Vox are on course to win a combined parliamentary majority in a snap general election the ruling Socialists have called for November 29, according to two opinion polls published on Friday.

Socialist Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez, in power since 2018, called the early election this week after parliament rejected his government's proposals to tackle a mounting housing crisis.

He is betting that protests over housing shortages and soaring rents, which followed the eviction of an 87-year-old woman, could rally leftist voters.

A survey by El País newspaper, one of the first carried out after the election was called, showed the People's Party (PP) and the anti-immigration Vox together winning 198 seats, above the 176-seat threshold for a parliamentary majority.

The Socialists would drop to 112 seats from 121 three years ago, and their chances of



2023 ELECTION	EL PAÍS POLL
170 seats, short of the 176 needed	198 seats; 176 make a majority

governing would be badly hurt by falling support for their far-left coalition partner Sumar, the survey showed.

Both parties lose votes compared with 2023, but the Socialists fall further.

"All the polls we are seeing reflect the same message: Spain wants a change, wants an alternative," PP's parliamentary spokesperson Ester Muñoz told Telecinco TV on Friday.

Trump envoy kept ties to firm behind \$15 bn Hormuz-bypass pipeline

DUBAI

Thomas Barrack, a top US diplomat in the Middle East, advocated for a firm run by his business partner to take part in the development of an oil pipeline from Iraq to Syria, three people said, activities which appear to violate federal ethics rules.

In July, Iraq and Syria signed memorandums of understanding with a consortium made up of the company, Californian investment group TI Capital, along with Chevron and Qatar's UCC Holding, to carry out technical and financial studies in preparation for rehabilitating the pipeline, which would skirt the Strait of Hormuz chokepoint.

Barrack, US presidential

special envoy to both Iraq and Syria as well as Ambassador to Turkey, has a longstanding business relationship with TI Capital and its founder Ziad Ghandour. At the time of his confirmation hearings in 2025 he had a financial interest entitling him to as much as a fifth of the profits from a real-estate venture near San Francisco, California and managed by TI Capital - with Ghandour as chief executive - that he said he intended to retain, public records show.

During engagements with Syrian and Iraqi officials after the start of the war in Iran, Barrack pressed for Ghandour's firm to be included in the project, according to two of the people, who have direct knowledge of the



The pipeline deal

- JUNE 16** Barrack and Iraqi PM Ali al-Zaidi commend a memorandum with TI Capital
- JULY** Iraq and Syria sign memorandums with TI Capital, Chevron and UCC Holding

discussions.

Merz 'deeply outraged' that Schroeder attended Putin's birthday

BERLIN

Germany's Chancellor Friedrich Merz is "deeply outraged" by former Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's visit to Vladimir Putin's home to celebrate the Russian president's birthday this week, a German government spokesperson said on Friday.

Schroeder, who served as chancellor from 1998 to 2005, has faced criticism in Germany and abroad over his links to Russian business and Putin, ties that have persisted despite Moscow's 2022 invasion of Ukraine and subsequent waves of Western sanctions.

"Putin alone is responsible for the war in Ukraine. His orders are the cause of immeasurable suffering, civilian

casualties, families being torn apart, dead and wounded," the spokesperson said. "The chancellor sees ... it as downright immoral for Mr. Schroeder to attend such a celebration."

Putin turned 74. Schroeder, 82, and his wife, So-Yeon Schroeder-Kim, who sometimes handles his communications, did not immediately respond to Reuters requests for comment.

The visit also drew criticism from within Schroeder's own Social Democratic Party (SPD).

The party's co-leader Lars Klingbeil, who is also Germany's finance minister in Merz's conservative-led coalition, called it "completely unacceptable" in view of the

suffering caused to Ukraine's people, according to the Sueddeutsche Zeitung daily.

Schroeder has been appointed to several high-ranking positions in Russian companies in the last 20 years.

Shortly after stepping down, he became chairman of the shareholders' committee of Nord Stream, the Gazprom-led Baltic Sea pipeline project he had championed while in office, and later held senior positions at Russian oil producer Rosneft.

Earlier this year, Putin said Schroeder would be his preferred interlocutor for talks on new security arrangements for Europe, an idea immediately rejected by the European Union and Merz's government.

DRONE WAR ESCALATES

Ukraine strikes Yandex data centre in Russia

KALUGA

Ukraine struck and partially disabled a major data centre operated by Russian technology company Yandex in the Kaluga region southwest of Moscow on Friday, expanding its campaign against Russian infrastructure after a similar facility was attacked a day earlier.

Yandex confirmed that Ukrainian drones had struck the facility and partially put it out of action. Ukrainian arms

manufacturer Firepoint said Kyiv had used its FP-1 one-way attack drones against what it described as Yandex's largest data centre, adding that several modules had been completely disabled.

The latest attack followed a strike on Yandex's data centre in Sasovo, in Russia's Ryazan region. The facility houses two of the three supercomputers used to develop the company's artificial intelligence model. Yandex said it was assessing the damage and

could not confirm whether the affected equipment could be restored.

The attacks mark an expansion of the infrastructure targeted in the war between Russia and Ukraine, which has continued for more than four years. Both sides have increasingly used drones against energy facilities, oil refineries, ports, vessels carrying oil and grain, e-commerce warehouses and data centres.

Yandex, often described as



Russia's Google, plays a major role in the country's technology sector and artificial intelligence development. Its applications are widely used

"Data centers are the iron heart of Yandex. Their operation is critical for services that have become part of people's everyday lives."

YANDEX Russian technology company

for navigation, music, films, grocery deliveries and other everyday services.

The company warned that the attacks had struck at the

core of its operations. It said it was working to maintain services and had reached an agreement with other cloud providers to help Yandex Cloud customers transfer their data and services.

The full extent of the disruption remained unclear, although at least one Yandex application displayed warnings about possible operational problems. The company said its teams were working around the clock to restore affected services.

Senior men’s national hockey championship begins on Saturday

THE TOURNAMENT WILL ALSO PROVIDE EMERGING HOCKEY PLAYERS A PLATFORM TO SHOWCASE THEIR TALENT AND GAIN EXPERIENCE.

JHANSI

The Hockey India Senior Men National Championship 2026 is set to begin in Jhansi on Oct 10, with 29 teams competing across three divisions in the national-level tournament. The competition will continue until October 21, with the Division A final scheduled for the concluding day.

The championship will bring together teams from different parts of the country, providing players an opportunity to showcase their skills and compete for national honours. The tournament is also expected to offer a platform for emerging hockey players to demonstrate their talent and gain valuable experience.

With matches scheduled across three divisions, the competition will feature teams competing at different levels of the national championship structure. The format



is aimed at providing opportunities for teams to test their abilities and improve their performances against strong opponents.

The tournament is an important event on India's domestic hockey calendar, as national-level competitions help strengthen the sport's development across the country. Such championships allow players to gain competitive exposure while giving team managements an opportunity to assess individual performances and team combinations.

The event will also contribute to the continued promotion of men's hockey in India, where domestic tournaments play a significant role in developing talent for higher levels of competition. Consistent performances in these championships can help players build their reputations and strengthen their prospects in the sport.

The Division A final, scheduled for October 21, will bring the championship to a close. Teams competing in the top division will aim to produce strong performances

KEY POINTS

- National men's hockey championship begins.
- 29 teams across divisions.
- Hosted in Jhansi city.
- Runs October 10-21.
- Division A final on 21st.
- Promotes Indian domestic hockey talent.

and secure the title.

With 29 teams participating, the 2026 edition is expected to provide several days of competitive hockey in Jhansi. The championship will run for 12 days, beginning on October 10 and concluding on October 21.

The tournament is expected to attract attention from hockey followers as teams compete for honours and players look to make their mark in the national competition.



Smriti Mandhana urged to build her own leadership path

NEW DELHI

Former India captain Anjum Chopra believes Smriti Mandhana should establish her own identity as a leader rather than trying to fill Harmanpreet Kaur's shoes after taking charge of the Indian women's cricket team across formats.

Chopra's comments come as Mandhana prepares to shoulder greater responsibility following her appointment as captain. The former India skipper believes the left-handed batter should focus on developing her own leadership style instead of comparing herself with her predecessor.

According to Chopra, every captain brings different qualities and approaches to the game. Mandhana, one of India's most accomplished batters, has the opportunity to shape the team's future according to her own vision while building on the foundation laid by previous leaders.

Harmanpreet has played a significant role in Indian women's cricket, leading the side through important international campaigns and helping

ing raise the profile of the women's game. Her experience and aggressive approach have influenced the team during her tenure as captain.

However, Chopra believes Mandhana does not need to replicate Harmanpreet's methods to succeed. Instead, she can identify her strengths, establish her own strategies and develop a distinct approach to managing players and making decisions on the field.

Mandhana has been a key figure in India's batting line-up for several years, earning recognition for her stroke-making ability and consistency across formats. Her experience at the international level is expected to be valuable as she takes on the additional demands of captaincy.

Leading a national side involves more than individual performance. Captains must manage team combinations, make tactical decisions under pressure and maintain unity within the dressing room. Mandhana will have to balance these responsibilities with her role as a leading batter.

Chopra's assessment high-

Mandhana's new leadership era

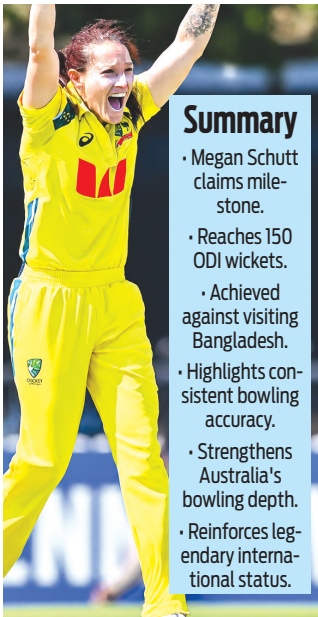
Smriti Mandhana takes charge of Indian women's cricket across formats. Rather than replicating Harmanpreet Kaur's aggressive style, Chopra advises developing her distinct approach, balancing tactical decisions and dressing room unity with her primary batting duties.

lights the importance of allowing new leaders to develop naturally rather than judging them against those who held the position before them.

With Mandhana taking charge across formats, attention will be on how she shapes India's approach and guides the team through upcoming international assignments. Her leadership journey will provide an opportunity to establish a style of her own while pursuing success for Indian women's cricket.

MEGAN SCHUTT REACHES 150 ODI WICKETS MILESTONE

Schutt is the third Australian woman to take 150 ODI wickets, cementing her legacy in the national team.



BRISBANE

Australian fast bowler Megan Schutt achieved a significant milestone in her international career by completing 150 wickets in One Day International (ODI) cricket during the first ODI against Bangladesh women at Allan Border Field in Brisbane on Friday.

Schutt became the third Australian woman to reach the 150-wicket mark in ODI cricket, joining an elite group of bowlers who have made significant contributions to the country's women's cricket team. The achievement highlights her consistency, experience and long-standing role in Australia's bowling attack.

Known for her accuracy, swing and ability to deliver under pressure, Schutt has been an important member of the Australian women's team across formats. Her performances have helped Australia

Her experience has also made her a valuable presence in the Australian dressing room, where she contributes both on and off the field.

The first ODI against Bangladesh provided the setting for Schutt to add another landmark to her career. The match was part of Australia's international campaign, with the team looking to build momentum in the series against the visiting side.

Schutt's achievement further underlines the strength and depth of Australia's women's bowling resources. Over the years, Australian bowlers have played a crucial role in the team's success, combining disciplined line and length with the ability to take wickets at important stages of matches.

The 150-wicket milestone adds to Schutt's achievements in international cricket and reinforces her standing among Australia's leading ODI bowlers. As she continues her career, her experience and skills are expected to remain valuable assets for the national team in upcoming international assignments.

Kisan Cricket League launches nationwide rural talent hunt

NEW DELHI

In-Dot Sports Pvt. Ltd. and Prasar Bharati have announced the launch of the Kisan Cricket League (KCL), a nationwide initiative aimed at discovering and promoting cricketing and singing talent from rural and semi-urban India. Built around the slogan “Khelega Bharat, Dekhega India,” the platform will use digital auditions, artificial intelligence-assisted screening and physical trials to identify promising participants. The initiative aims to provide opportunities to talented youngsters who lack access to conventional cricket academies and professional scouting networks.

The inaugural cricket season will feature a 15-over white-ball format, with 45 live matches scheduled across seven stadiums in tier-two and tier-three cities. Seven teams comprising 140 emerging cricketers will compete, while 30 singers will participate in the entertainment programme.

Selected singers will perform regional team anthems, appear in music videos and entertain audiences during halftime and match-day events. The organisers envision a six-month cultural and sporting extravaganza for audiences in India and abroad.

KCL content, including live matches, two reality shows and biographies of successful participants, will be available free of charge through Waves OTT, Doordarshan and Akashvani.

Maddinson earns Test spot after battling cancer

DURBAN

Australian cricketer Nic Maddinson has made a remarkable comeback to the international stage after battling cancer, earning selection in the playing XI for the first Test against South Africa at Kingsmead in Durban on Friday.

Maddinson's inclusion in the Test side marks a significant moment in his cricketing career, with his journey back to competitive cricket drawing attention because of the health challenges he has overcome. His selection reflects a major personal achievement after facing one of the toughest periods of his life.

The left-handed batter has worked towards returning to the highest level of the game after dealing with cancer. His comeback to the Test team is an inspiring story of determination and perseverance, highlighting the challenges athletes can face away from the cricket field.

Being named in the playing XI for the opening Test gives Maddinson an opportunity to demonstrate his abilities in the longest format of the game. The contest against South

Africa at the historic Kingsmead ground provides the setting for his return to Test cricket.

Test cricket demands patience, concentration and physical endurance, making a return to the format particularly significant for a player recovering from a serious illness. Maddinson's selection is therefore an important milestone in his personal and professional journey.

His inclusion also adds an emotional dimension to the opening match of the series, as supporters follow his return after a difficult period. For Maddinson, the opportunity to represent his team again at the Test level represents a major step forward.

The first Test against South Africa is scheduled to begin at Kingsmead on Friday, with attention focused on the contest and Maddinson's return to the playing XI.



Indian Army athletes achieve record 20-medal haul

NEW DELHI

Indian Army athletes delivered their best-ever performance at the 2026 Asian Games, winning a record 20 medals, including six gold, eight silver and six bronze, contributing significantly to India's overall fourth-place finish.

According to an official release, 62 Army athletes competed

ed across 15 disciplines, accounting for 23.52 per cent of India's total 85 medals. Their six gold medals represented 29 per cent of the country's 21 gold medals at the Games.

The Army's gold medal tally doubled compared with the 2022 Asian Games, reflecting improvements in athlete development, specialised coaching and training facilities. The institution provides athletes with scientific support, equipment, technical guidance and international competition exposure.

Among the standout performers, Neeru Dhanda won two gold medals and

one silver in shooting, while Gulveer Singh secured two silver and one bronze. Nine women athletes represented the Army, winning two gold and one silver medal.

Shooting emerged as a major strength, with Army athletes improving their medal tally from one silver in 2022 to three gold and one silver in 2026. The Army contingent also secured three medals in boxing, comprising one gold and two bronze.

Several athletes established new records. Sawan Barwal set a national record in the men's marathon with a time of 2:11:37, while



off 18 balls. Tilak Varma provided a spectacular finish, remaining unbeaten on 44 off just 18 deliveries. Roston Chase was West Indies' most successful bowler, claiming three wickets for 24 runs.

India initially threatened to defend their total after Mayank Yadav dismissed two batters early. However, Hope

and Rutherford counterattacked aggressively, exploiting the conditions and putting India's bowling attack under immense pressure.

The victory marked West Indies' highest successful run chase in T20 internationals, delivering a major statement ahead of the remaining matches in the series.

Highlights

- Army athletes achieve record success.
- Shooting yields three gold medals.
- Sawan Barwal sets marathon record.
- Dhiraaj Bommadevara sets archery record.
- Historic high jump medal won.
- Structured system nurtures talent effectively.

Dhiraaj Bommadevara achieved a national record in men's recurve archery with 698 points out of 720.

The Games also witnessed historic achievements.