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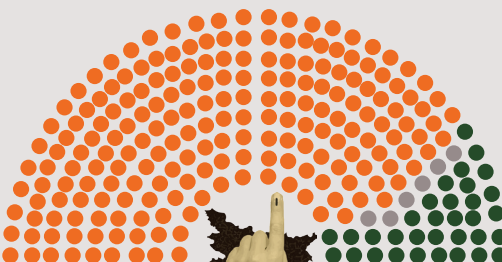
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BIHAR ASSEMBLY ELECTION RESULTS

89 BJP	85 JD(U)	25 RJD	19 LJP	6 INC	5 AIMIM	5 HAMS	9 OTH

Total Seat: 243 Magic Number: 122



NDA: 204 MGB: 33 OTH: 6

Congress repeats pattern, sinks in Bihar

PATNA: The aggressive campaign of the INDIA bloc, popularly known as the Mahagathbandhan in Bihar, was centered around Congress leader's 'vote chori' (vote theft) allegations against the BJP, but appears to have not fallen flat with voters with the BJP-led NDA registering a historic victory in the state assembly elections 2025. Nine months after the Congress' poor electoral show in the Delhi Assembly election, the grand old party slumped to defeat in Bihar. The Congress, which could hardly secure six seats, lost to the BJP, the Janata Dal, and Chirag Paswan's LJP.

Top winning candidates

	Name: Sujeet Kumar Constituency: Rajnagar Vote: 1,08,362 Party: BJP
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	Name: Hari Narayan Singh Constituency: Harnaut Vote: 1,06,954 Party: JD(U)
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Top losing candidates

	Name: Ram Narayan Yadav Constituency: Jhunjharpur Vote: 54,849 Party: CPI
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	Name: Bishwanath Chaudhary Constituency: Rajgir Vote: 55,428 Party: CPI(ML)
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Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) supporters celebrate as early trends show the ruling National Democratic Alliance leading in the Bihar state assembly election results, in Patna.

NI-MO STORM SWEEPS BIHAR

Riding on BJP and JD(U) surge, Modi-led NDA takes Bihar with ease; INDIA bloc bites the dust; Bihar's fondness for 'Sushasan Babu' ensures Nitish remains in the hot seat

PATNA

Nitish Kumar, the state's longest-serving Chief Minister, is set to extend his reign for a record fifth term as the opposition has failed to strike a chord, including in key RJD bastions like Raghopur, in the 2025 Assembly elections.

The BJP-led ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has widened its margin to over 204 seats, registering a landslide victory, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the alliance's national poll mascot.

According to the Election

Commission of India (EC), the BJP-led NDA has crossed the crucial majority mark with 204 seats in the 243-member Assembly, while the opposition Mahagathbandhan has collapsed in the high-stakes electoral battle with just 33 seats. This marks a dramatic fall from the 2020 election, when the opposition alliance had won 114 seats.

Within the ruling alliance, the BJP has emerged as the single largest party with 89 seats. The alliance partner Janata Dal (United) secured 85 seats.

Chirag Paswan's Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) made mas-

sive gains by grabbing 19 out of the 19 seats it contested, according to the EC website. Notably, Chirag Paswan's party had secured a massive 100% strike in last year's Lok Sabha elections in which it bagged all six seats it contested.

Cong bites dust

Mahagathbandhan's hopes of a comeback in Bihar took a nose-dive with the RJD struggling even in its key bastions with just 25 seats, while the Congress has slipped to single-digit seats. The INC reduced to six seats while All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) secured victory in five constituencies. Hindustani Awam Morcha (Sec-

ular) (HAMS) won in five seats, Rashtriya Lok Morcha (RSH-LKM) (4); Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) (Liberation) - CPI(ML)(L) (2); Indian Inclusive Party (IIP) (1); Communist Party of India (Marxist) CPI(M) (1) and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) could win in only one seat.

Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraj Party has delivered a muted poll debut, failing to lead in any of the 243 seats it contested.

Bihar recorded a historic 67.13% turnout in the two-phase elections to its 243-member assembly on November 6 and 11, with women outnumbering men at the polls, voting 71.78% to 62.98%.

Good governance, development won: PM Modi

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi termed it a "victory of good governance" after the BJP-led NDA, under the leadership of CM Nitish Kumar of the JD(U), achieved a massive win in the Bihar assembly election 2025, results of which were coming in on Friday.

The NDA was leading on, or had won, around 200 seats in the 243-strong Bihar Vidhan Sabha, as per latest data by the Election Commission. This was its best performance ever in Bihar. "Victory of development has been achieved. Victory of social justice has been achieved," PM Modi's post read. "My deepest gratitude to the family members of Bihar, who have blessed the NDA with a historic and unprecedented victory in the 2025 assembly elections. This resounding public mandate will empower us to serve the people and work with new resolve for Bihar," the PM added.

Tagging all allies of the BJP in his series of posts, the PM wrote, "The NDA has ensured all-round development of the state. The people have given us a massive majority after witnessing our track record and our vision to take the state to new heights. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to CM Nitish Kumar ji and our NDA family colleagues Chirag Paswan ji, Jitan Ram Manjhi ji, and Upendra Kushwaha ji for this resounding victory."

IAF Pilatus trainer aircraft crashes

CHENNAI

An Indian Air Force (IAF) Pilatus PC-7 basic trainer aircraft crashed near Tambaram, Chennai, today. The pilot ejected safely, and no damage to civil property has been reported. A Court of Inquiry has been constituted to ascertain the cause of accident. The Indian Air Force uses Pilatus aircraft to train its young pilots during their initial training.

craft met with an accident during a routine training mission and crashed at about 1425 Hr near Tambaram, Chennai, today. The pilot ejected safely, and no damage to civil property has been reported. A Court of Inquiry has been constituted to ascertain the cause of accident. The Indian Air Force uses Pilatus aircraft to train its young pilots during their initial training.

Finally seeing change: Shaw

NEW DELHI

Industrialist and Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, who earlier had an online spat with D K Shivakumar over Bengaluru's bad roads and garbage issue, on Friday appreciated the Karnataka Dy CM for "cleaner footpaths and asphalted roads" across the city. The businesswoman posted on X praising Shivakumar for "rescuing

Bengaluru from the "weight of garbage debris and potholes". "We are finally seeing visible change in cleaner footpaths n asphalted roads across the city. @DKShivakumar your leadership has been key in rescuing our city from collapsing under the weight of garbage debris n pot holes. Please continue to drive Please continue to drive this important development. Credit is also due to @GBA-ChiefComm," she wrote on X.

'Tree-mother' Thimmakka dies at 114

BENGALURU

Renowned environmentalist Saalumara Thimmakka, famously known as the 'Tree-mother' for her life-long dedication to planting and nurturing trees, passed away on Friday at the age of 114.

Family sources said the Padma Shri awardee had been ailing for some time and was undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Bengaluru, where she breathed her last.

Born on June 30, 1911, in Gubbi taluk of Tumakuru district, Thimmakka devoted her life to nurturing trees along roadsides, treating them as her own children. She earned the name "Saalumara", meaning 'row of trees', after planting 385 banyan trees along a 4.5 km stretch between Hulikal and Kudur in Ramnagara district, part of Bengaluru South.

Throughout her life, she received numerous awards recognizing her efforts. These included the National Citizen Award in 1995, the Indira Priyadarshini



Famous for planting 385 banyan trees, she became a national symbol of grassroots conservation and received multiple honours, including the Padma Shri

Vrikshamitra Award in 1997, the Padma Shri in 2019, the Rajyotsava Award, and the Nadoja Award. She was also honored with a doctorate from the Central University of Karnataka in 2020.

In addition, Thimmakka received the Karnataka Kalpavalli Award, Godfrey Phillips Bravery Award, Pampapati Environment Award, Babasaheb Ambedkar Award, Vanamate Award, Magadi Pachichi Award, Shrimata Award, H Honniah Social Service Award,

Karnataka Environment Award, Mahila Ratna Award, and the Vishalakshi Award from the Art of Living Organization. She was further recognized by the Karnataka Women and Child Welfare Department and the Indian Institute of Arboriculture and Technology.

Thimmakka's life remains a shining example of environmental stewardship, courage, and dedication. Her legacy of love for nature and selfless service will continue to inspire generations to come.

ECI distributes 46.5 cr forms across 12 states

NEW DELHI

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has made significant progress under Phase II of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, distributing 46.50 crore Enumeration Forms (EFs) across 12 States and Union Territories as of November 12.

According to the Commission's latest daily bulletin, a total of 50.97 crore forms have been printed—marking 99.95 per cent completion—of which 91.20 per cent have already reached electors. The ongoing enumeration drive runs from November 4 to December 4.

Goa and Lakshadweep have



achieved 100 per cent printing and distribution, showcasing exemplary ground-level coordination. Several other regions have also recorded impressive progress. Puducherry has distributed 93.63 per cent of its printed forms, while Andaman and Nicobar Islands have reached 96.86 per cent. Gujarat has delivered more

than 4.95 crore forms, achieving 97.38 per cent coverage, and Tamil Nadu has distributed 5.62 crore forms, covering 87.66 per cent of electors. Chhattisgarh has crossed 88 per cent distribution with 1.87 crore forms delivered.

Uttar Pradesh, India's largest state by electorate, has distributed 13.74 crore forms,

covering nearly 89.01 per cent of its voters. Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have reported 93.3 per cent and 95.11 per cent coverage, respectively. Poll-bound West Bengal has also made swift progress, with more than 7.40 crore forms distributed—96.66 per cent of its electorate.

To ensure comprehensive coverage, the ECI has deployed over 5.33 lakh Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and 10.41 lakh Booth Level Agents (BLAs). Political parties have been urged to appoint additional agents to improve field-level verification and enhance the accuracy of voter lists.

QUICK READ

Narayana Guru
Awards celebrate
excellence in K'taka

Bengaluru

The Karnataka Backward Classes Recognized Editors and Reporters Association announced the recipients of the Narayana Guru Award. This year's honorees include Saroja Bannappa from the Co-operative Sector, H.R. Jayaram and Amita Anand from the Social Service Sector, Dr. Nagesh Basavaraja from the Medical Sector, and Pundalik Kalliganura from the Complex Sector. The awards recognize outstanding contributions in their respective fields. The ceremony is scheduled for November 23 at 11 am in the auditorium of Green Path Hotel. The event aims to honor dedication, service, and excellence, inspiring others to contribute meaningfully to society.

B'luru launches
mega mass cleanliness
drive today

Bengaluru

Bengaluru Central City Corporation will conduct a large-scale cleanliness drive on from 5:30 am on November 15. Officials and staff from Engineering, Solid Waste Management, Horticulture, and Forest departments will cover 14.7 km across six divisions, including Shantinagar, C.V. Raman Nagar, Shivajinagar, Gandhinagar, Chickpet, and Chamarajpet. Key areas like major roads, arterial routes, and densely populated streets will be cleaned under supervision of Executive Engineers and Deputy General Managers, with support from traffic police. The drive emphasizes urban hygiene, community well-being, and coordinated civic action, aiming to keep Bengaluru cleaner and healthier for all residents.

City traffic goes out of
gear after woman
driver clash

Bengaluru

Chaos broke out near Baiyappanahalli, Bengaluru, when a woman on a scooter collided with an auto rickshaw on a bridge leading to Swami Vivekananda Metro Station. The woman was reportedly driving on the wrong side, triggering the minor accident. She argued aggressively with the auto driver, ignoring traffic police intervention, causing nearly a 1 km traffic jam. Netizens criticized her behavior, calling for strict penalties and vehicle towing for such violations. The incident highlights the importance of civic sense and road discipline, with online users demanding harsher enforcement to prevent similar disruptions in the city's busy traffic.

Kengeri MLA accelerates
development projects for residents

BENGALURU

MLA S. T. Somashekar has promised faster development in Yeshwantpur assembly constituency, aiming to meet the expectations of local residents. He made the statement while launching new road and drainage projects in Megalabeedi Dr. Vishnuvardhan Circle of Kengeri ward and Vinayak Nagar in Bandemath ward.

Speaking at the event, Somashekar said that education and basic facilities are being given top priority. He added that the focus is on building good roads in every village, supplying clean drinking water, and providing better learn-

Nehru the true builder
of modern India: CM

‘The future of the country depends on young minds who think scientifically and act with good values’

BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said that some people speak negatively about Jawaharlal Nehru even though they never took part in the freedom struggle.

He called Nehru the true builder of modern India while speaking at the Children's Day celebration and parent-teacher meeting held at the Banquet Hall of Vidhana Soudha.

He told students that the future of the country depends on young minds who think scientifically and act with good values. He urged children to stay away from ignorance and corruption from an early age. He also reminded everyone that Nehru believed children would shape India's tomorrow, which is why he focused strongly on education. The Chief Minister said the government has given top



priority to education, allocating ₹65,000 crore for the sector.

Siddaramaiah highlighted that Nehru spent more than 3,200 days in jail during the freedom movement, even though he came from a wealthy family. As India's first Prime Minister, Nehru laid the foundation for progress in agriculture, science, irrigation, and technology. He was behind major institutions and industries, including IITs, AIIMS, and large dam proj-

ects. Siddaramaiah criticized those who supported the British instead of joining the independence struggle, yet now blame Nehru and Gandhi.

He reminded children, teachers, and parents that Nehru dreamed of a nation led by curious, intelligent, and scientific thinkers. Many talented students come from poor families and government schools, he said, adding that 900 new Karnataka public schools are being opened this year.

He urged people to reject discrimination based on caste, religion, or language and protect India's unity in diversity. The government is providing many facilities—Indira Kits, shoes, uniforms, eggs, bananas, textbooks, and scholarships—so that every child can learn with dignity. Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa and officials also attended the event.

Karnataka opens
loans, subsidies
for Christians

BENGALURU

The Karnataka Christian Community Development Corporation (KCCDC) has invited members of the Christian community to apply online for loans and subsidies under various schemes for the year 2025-26. The announcement aims to support entrepreneurship, education, and skill development within the community. The schemes open for applications include the Shramshakti Loan/Subsidy Scheme, Shramshakti Special Women's Loan/Subsidy Scheme, Taxi and Goods Vehicle Purchase Subsidy Scheme, Vocational Promotion Loan/Subsidy Scheme, Christian Community-Based Skill Development Training Scheme, Foreign Education Loan Scheme, Arivu Education Loan Scheme, Ganga Kalyan Scheme, Business Enterprise/Direct Loan Scheme, and Subsidy Scheme for Women Self-Help Groups.

Interested applicants can submit their forms online at www.kccdconline.karnataka.gov.in before the deadline of November 30, 2025. The programs are designed to empower community members by providing financial support for education, business ventures, skill training, and women-led initiatives.

BJP workers celebrate Bihar NDA poll triumph

BENGALURU

BJP leaders and supporters in Bengaluru came together this afternoon to celebrate the party's stunning victory in the Bihar Assembly Elections. The celebration took place near the BJP State Office at Jagannath Bhavan, drawing a large gathering of party workers and leaders.

Prominent attendees included Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok, Legislative Council Leader Chalavadi

Women should step
forward in every field: Min

BENGALURU

Women should step forward in every field, and supportive platforms must continue to grow to help them succeed, said Women and Child Development Minister Lakshmi Hebbalkar at the 4th CII Conference on Women's Workplace held in Bengaluru. Speaking to a gathering of women entrepreneurs, she praised the CII for creating opportunities that encourage women to build their own careers and businesses.

The minister highlighted that her department has already launched several programmes aimed at promoting women entrepreneurs and ensuring they receive the guidance and support they need. She noted how times have changed, explaining that earlier many women worked quietly behind the scenes, often helping their husbands in business. Today, she said, women are stepping into lead-



Lakshmi Hebbalkar highlighted that her department has already launched several programmes aimed at promoting women entrepreneurs and ensuring they receive the guidance and support they need.

ership roles on their own and starting successful ventures across sectors. This shift, she added, reflects the growing strength and confidence of women in modern India.

Sharing her own experi-

ence, Minister Hebbalkar said she manages two factories and understands the challenges women face when starting or expanding a business. One of the biggest hurdles, she explained, is accessing bank loans, as financial institutions often demand high account balances or strong collateral. She encouraged women not to be discouraged by these obstacles and reminded them that courage is the most important ingredient for success.

The conference saw participation from women entrepreneurs from within Karnataka and other states. Many attendees shared their experiences, challenges, and achievements, turning the event into an inspiring platform for networking and learning. The gathering also reinforced the growing belief that women's leadership is essential for India's progress and that stronger institutional support can help unlock even greater potential in the years ahead.

GBA CHO calls for building
pneumonia-free society

BENGALURU

Dr Sirajuddin Madani, GBA Chief Health Officer, called on officials and the community to join efforts in creating a “pneumonia-free society” in Bengaluru. The appeal came during the launch of a pneumonia awareness programme at H. Siddaiah Road Referral Hospital, marking World Pneumonia Day.

Pneumonia is a severe infection affecting people of all ages, from young children to the elderly. Dr. Madani highlighted that vaccination, hygiene, proper nutrition, and timely treatment are the most effective ways to prevent the disease.

Pediatrician Dr. Vinuta emphasized the importance of raising awareness at the community level, particularly among pregnant women, mothers, and children, as part of preventive healthcare initiatives. Medical Superinten-

dent Dr. Bharathi assured that pneumonia detection, treatment, and public awareness would continue with the full cooperation of hospital staff.

The programme included Information-Communication-Education (ICE) sessions on pneumonia symptoms, emergency care, pneumococcal vaccination for children, and preventive measures for pregnant women and infants. Officials stressed the importance of community participation in reducing the disease burden.

District RHC Officer Dr. Kalavathi, H. Siddaiah Road UPHC Dr. Bhumi, along with all hospital and UPHC staff, participated in the event. The health department reaffirmed its commitment to working with the community to promote vaccination, early treatment, and preventive care to achieve a healthier, pneumonia-free society.

Bengaluru to
celebrate
National Press
Day on Nov 17

BENGALURU

Bengaluru is all set to celebrate National Press Day on November 17, 2025. The event is being organized by the Karnataka Media Academy, the Department of Information and Public Relations, and the Press Club of Bangalore. The program will start at 11:00 am at the Press Club premises on Cubbon Park Road. The celebration will be inaugurated by Karnataka Legislative Assembly Speaker U.T. Khader Farid and Minister for Large and Medium Industries and Infrastructure Development M.B. Patil. Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad will preside over the function.

Chief Minister's Media Advisor K.V. Prabhakar and Bengaluru Central Lok Sabha MP P.C. Mohan will attend as the chief guests. Retired NDTV editor Nupur Basu and senior journalist and author Dr. R. Poornima will deliver the keynote addresses, sharing their experiences and insights into journalism.

Secretary to the Chief Minister B.B. Kaveri, Commissioner of Information and Public Relations Hemant M. Nimbalkar, and Press Club Bangalore President R. Sri-dhar will also attend as honorary guests.

PHONE-IN PROGRAMME

BNCC chief acts swiftly on citizen complaints

BENGALURU

Bengaluru North City Corporation (BNCC) Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar held a Phone-In Programme today at 7:00 am from the Byatarayanapura Control Room on Amruthahalli Main Road to directly listen to citizen grievances.

During the session, 46 complaints were registered, covering issues from road repairs and waste management to streetlights, parks, and urban planning. Thirteen complaints were related to potholes and road maintenance. The Commissioner confirmed that day-



and-night pothole-filling work is already underway and instructed engineering teams to

expedite work at critical locations while maintaining quality standards.

Eight complaints concerned improper waste collection and disposal. The Commissioner directed officials to act immediately and ensure timely collection and proper disposal across all wards. Other issues included streetlight maintenance (3), dangerous trees (2), health and sanitation (2), park upkeep (3), traffic concerns (1), animal husbandry (3), stormwater drains (1), E-Khata services (2), and urban planning matters (3).

Citizens expressed their gratitude to the Commissioner, praising the ongoing development efforts and timely resolution of public issues.

Commissioner Sunil Kumar reiterated his commitment to directly engage with the public. To ensure continuous monitoring and quick resolution of civic concerns, the Phone-In Programme will continue every Friday, providing residents a platform to voice grievances and receive prompt attention from the Corporation.

This initiative reflects Bengaluru North City Corporation's focus on citizen-centric governance and timely implementation of developmental projects, ensuring safer roads, cleaner streets, and improved public services.

QUICK READ



BJP celebrates NDA win in Bihar elections

Kalaburagi

As the NDA alliance heads toward victory in the Bihar Legislative Assembly elections, the BJP celebrated in the city. BJP leaders and workers gathered at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Circle in the city, burst crackers, distributed sweets to one another, and raised slogans in celebration. They chanted slogans such as “Narendra Modi, you march ahead, we are with you,” and “How should the leader of the nation be? Like Prime Minister Narendra Modi!” BJP Rural District President Ashok Bagali and City District President Chandu Patil addressed the gathering. On this occasion, all current and former public representatives of the party, district and mandal-level office-bearers of various morchas, party leaders, and workers participated.

Kalaburagi launches campaign to detect active TB

Kalaburagi

District Commissioner B. Fauzia Tarnnum has directed officials to ensure the success of the Active Tuberculosis (TB) Detection Campaign scheduled from November 15 to 30 across the district. Speaking at a progress review meeting on national health programs, he emphasized coordinated efforts by health officials to achieve the campaign's goals. District Health and Family Welfare Officer Dr. Sharanbasappa Kyatanal reported that between August and October 2025, the district recorded 11 maternal deaths. The Commissioner instructed hospital authorities to provide detailed reports and implement preventive measures to avoid future cases. During the meeting, the district also launched awareness programs for the upcoming Leprosy Detection Drive (November 24 to December 9) and the Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 3.0. Certificates of recognition were presented to doctors and staff selected under the Kayakalp program. Key officials present included RCH Officer Dr. Sidramappa Patil, Family Welfare Officer Dr. Shivasharanappa Bhushanoor, TB and Leprosy Control Officers, hospital heads, gynecologists, training program coordinators, and taluk health officers, ensuring comprehensive participation in the initiatives.

BJP demands ₹3,200 per ton sugarcane price for Bidar farmers

BJP leaders demand Bidar sugarcane price be fixed at 3,200 per ton, matching Kalaburagi, citing farmer hardships

BIDAR

While the Kalaburagi district administration has decided to pay ₹3,172 per ton to sugarcane farmers, the Bidar district administration should fix the price at ₹3,200 per ton, demanded BJP District President Somnath Patil.

Speaking at a press conference at the District Press Bhavan on Friday, he questioned why Bidar could not match Kalaburagi's rate, pointing out that Sugar Account Minister Shivanand Patil had stated that “there is no single law for Belagavi and Bagalkot,” so why a separate rate for Kalaburagi and Bidar?

He criticized the state government, noting that Maharashtra is already paying ₹48,000 per hectare, while Karnataka is offering only



₹17,000, and currently only ₹8,500 has been released, leaving farmers waiting for the remaining payment. He described the situation in North Karnataka as critical.

Patil also condemned police actions, alleging that officers are acting like agents of the Congress, detaining protesters, and confiscating placards. He highlighted that flood relief payments have reached farmers in Bhalki but

not in other taluks like Humnabad, Bidar, or Basavakalyan, questioning the delay.

He urged the government to release the payments in a single installment, noting that no government could survive if farmers are neglected.

Humnabad MLA Dr. Siddalingappa Patil recounted that farmers had staged a highway blockade protest on November 12 demanding a fixed sugarcane price. BJP

leaders supported the protest in advance, but during the protest, police allegedly detained BJP leaders and destroyed their placards, while Congress leaders were left unharmed. Other BJP leaders present included Vishwanath Patil Madagula, Basavaraj Arya, Rajshekhar Nagamurthy, Srinivas Choudhary, Basavaraj Pawar, Veeru Digwal, Shashidhar Hosalli, and Anil Pasarge.

Govt approves upgrades for Bhalki and Kamalnagar

BHALKI

The decision by the state cabinet to grant upgraded status to the local bodies of Kamalnagar and Bhalki has brought joy, said Nadoja Dr. Basavalinga Pattaddevara, President of Basavakalyana Anubhava Mantapa, and Gurubasava Pattaddevara, Peethadhipati of Hirematt Samsthana.

Kamalnagar, the birthplace of Shatayushi Dr. Channabasava Pattaddevara, who envisioned comprehensive development, is now being upgraded from a Gram Panchayat to a Town Panchayat, bringing delight to the local community.

Similarly, Bhalki, the birthplace of Pattaddevara of Bhalki Town, is seeing its Municipal Council upgraded to a City Municipal-

ity, with simultaneous upgrades for Kamalnagar and Bhalki, reflecting a significant decision by the government.

The contribution of the Khandre family to the district's progress has been immense. Eshwar Khandre, as the district in-charge minister, has played a pivotal role in this development.

Due to their dedicated efforts, the local bodies of

Kamalnagar and Bhalki are receiving this upgrade. The contributions of Urban Development Minister Rahim Khan and Aurad MLA Prabhu Chauhan were also significant in this important decision.

Through this announcement, they have wished that all public representatives continue to strive for the development of the district.



9-year-old Veerabhadra masters Gandhari Vidya

LINGASUGUR

Veerabhadra, a 9-year-old boy who has mastered Gandhari Vidya, has set a record by answering 65,000 questions.

Veeresh-Sangeeta Majjagi, who run a sound system business for weddings and other functions in the town, are the parents of Veerabhadra. He is studying in 3rd standard at the Government Primary School in Anahosur village of the taluk. In a very short time, he answers 65,000 questions fluently, astonishing the listeners. Along with an extraordinary memory, he has mastered Gandhari Vidya and achieved several accomplishments.

At a very young age, Veerabhadra has shown remarkable memory and knowledge, gaining information about many subjects related to the world in a short period of time. This young boy is an ocean of knowledge, capable of answering not one, not a

hundred, but an astonishing 65,000 questions. Alongside academics, he studies general knowledge for one hour every day.

Born on September 14, 2016, Veerabhadra displayed extraordinary memory power from the age of four and has already set several records. In 2022, he received recognition from India World Book of Records – America, Abdul Kalam Book of Records – Chennai, and in 2023 from Worldwide Book of London, India World Record – Jharkhand, International Kalam Golden Award, International Talent and Intel Kelts, Multi-Talent Kids Award, India Proud Award, Exclusive World Award, Master Award, among others — totaling 19 national and international awards.

He has also received a Doctorate Award from Jharkhand. Various organizations have congratulated him for his achievements.



Gandhari Vidya Mastered

Gandhari Vidya is an extraordinary skill. Having mastered it, Veerabhadra can:

- Read and write while blindfolded
- Identify colors
- Color pictures accurately
- Identify the value of currency notes with precision
- Ride a bicycle
- all while blindfolded, drawing everyone's attention.

HE KNOWS BY HEART

- Bhagavad Gita shlokas
- Names of the 18 Puranas
- 18 Gayatri mantras
- Amavasya, Purnima, seasons
- Names of major rivers, seas, lakes, deserts, waterfalls, islands of the world
- Kannada Jnanpith awardees and their works
- Founders of various religions and their major scriptures
- Names of vitamins and diseases caused by their deficiencies
- Vaccines and their discoverers
- Famous personalities, countries ... and much more



Dalit groups to skip RSS march and celebrate Constitution day

KALABURAGI

As an alternative to the RSS route march being held in Chittapur on November 16, a decision has been taken to celebrate Constitution Dedication Day in Chittapur on November 26.

A large convention has been organised on the same day, said Mallappa Hosamani, State President of the Bharatiya Dalit Panther organisation.

Speaking after a meeting of various Dalit-oriented and farmer-oriented organisations — including the Bharatiya Dalit Panther, Bhim Army, and Karnataka State Chalavadi Welfare Association — held at the Ivan-e-Shahi guest house here on Friday morning, he said:

“The district administration, in the presence of the court, has granted permission to the RSS to hold its route march on November 16.

We welcome this. On the same day, various Dalit organisations had also planned to hold a march and rally.

However, as an alternative to the RSS route march, we have now decided to hold a Constitution Convention on November 26, in memory of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar dedicating the Constitution to the nation.

Thousands of people will gather for this event.”

Present on the occasion were Bhim Army State Youth Wing President Santosh Palla, Karnataka Chalavadi Welfare Association leader Dinesh Doddamani, Santosh Melamani, Uday Sagar, Mallikarjun Moodabulakar, Bharat Dhanna, Suryakant Raddewadi, Gurupad Doddamani, Devendra Siranur, Rahul Uppar, Gundappa Landanakar, Siddharth Diksangi, Satish Male, and many others.



Protecting children's rights is everyone's duty: CEO Badole

BIDAR

Protecting the rights of children is the responsibility of all of us, said District Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Dr. Girish Badole.

He spoke on Friday while inaugurating the district-level Children's Day celebration held at the city's Bal Bhavan, organized jointly by the District Administration, District Panchayat, Women and Child Development Department, and District Bal Bhavan Committee. He emphasized that it is very important to safeguard all rights of children, including education, health, protection, and basic facilities, and to help shape their bright fu-

ture. He mentioned that the birthday of India's former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru is celebrated as Children's Day, as Nehru had immense love and affection for children.

Dr. Badole highlighted that children are the future of the nation, and the government has launched several programs for their holistic development. Today's children will grow up to occupy various positions and roles in different fields, such as IAS, IPS, scientists, doctors, teachers, athletes, and entrepreneurs.

He also pointed out that the home is the first school, and it is the responsibility of families to protect childhood, im-

part good values, education, and proper upbringing to ensure that children become responsible citizens.

During the program, prizes were distributed to winners of various competitions, and several cultural programs were organized.

The event was attended by M. S. Sridhar, Deputy Director of Women and Child Development Department; Rupa Kotegowdar, District Child Protection Officer; Sharada Kalmalkar, Child Development Officer; Subhash Ratna, District Welfare Officer for Persons with Disabilities; Srikanth, District Evaluation Officer; other officials; and numerous children.

Bihar people delivered a fatal blow to Cong: Khuba

BIDAR

Former Union Minister Bhagavant Khuba stated that the people of Bihar handed an unprecedented victory to the Bharatiya Janata Party, reaffirming their faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. By rejecting the Congress and the “Indi alliance” (Mahagathbandhan) and countering their attempts at spreading misinformation about voter fraud, supporting anti-national elements, creating instability, and maligning India internationally, the people of Bihar delivered a decisive blow to the Congress and the alliance.

In a press release, he noted that the Election Commission had introduced a new policy called S.I.R (Special Intensive Revision) to ensure impartial elections, allowing only eligible voters to participate after updating the voter lists. The Congress misrepresented this policy, but the people of Bihar decisively rejected their propaganda.

Khuba said the voters recognized that Bihar's development is possible only under a

“double-engine” government and gave a clear mandate to the NDA, keeping the Lalu Prasad Yadav-led “jungle raj” far away from power. He emphasized that the BJP's governance is essential for the nation.

He further criticized the state Congress government for corruption and mismanagement, saying people are increasingly frustrated with false promises, farmer protests are rising, and citizens are turning against the government.

Farmers reportedly expressed that even Virappa's Congress ministers were better than the current ministers, highlighting the widespread public anger. Khuba warned that a government filled with such corrupt ministers cannot complete its full term.

He extended gratitude and congratulations to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP National President J.P. Nadda, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar, and all the people of Bihar for playing a pivotal role in achieving this historic electoral victory.

Dr. Mukherjee's birth anniversary celebrations from Nov 16-18

BIDAR

The Karnataka Sahitya Sangha auditorium will host a three-day celebration from November 16 to 18 to mark the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, featuring lectures, poetry sessions, and cultural programs, said Dr. Rajkumar Hebbale, program coordinator and General Secretary of the National Folk Tribal Arts Council. On November 16 at 10:30 AM, the Karnataka Janapada Parishat Women's Wing will organize a Rangoli and Art Competition, inaugurated by cultural thinker Ullas-

ini Mudale and presided over by Dr. Savitribai Hebbale. Chief guests include Lumbini Gautam, Priyanka Shriguru, Maheshwari Panchal, and Yogesh Mathad. On November 17 at 11:00 AM, the inauguration and poetry session will be conducted by Dr. S. Prabhu, with Prof. Jagannath Hebbale presiding. About 21 poets will perform, and special lectures will be delivered by Vijaykumar Patil, Ambadas More, Dr. Deepa Raga, and Nagesh Reddy. The November 18 cultural program will be inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Shivanand Karale.

BHALKI

“Preventing accidents through safe driving remains our foremost goal,” said Additional Deputy Transport Commissioner K.T. Halaswamy during a press conference at the new Transport Office here on Friday. He highlighted that the department holds monthly meetings in each division, often combined with tree-planting drives, to discuss issues including air and noise pollution. This month, the well-organized Bhalki Transport Office hosted the meeting along-



side a sapling-planting program, enabling divisional officers to share updates and best practices.

Halaswamy noted that the Kalaburagi division has

SAFE VEHICLE OPERATIONS

Preventing accidents is our foremost goal: Halaswamy

Out of the allocated ₹30 crore revenue target for Bhalki Transport Office, ₹14.5 crore has already been collected. In the taluk, 47 cases have been booked for vehicles with Pondicherry registration, with further efforts underway to identify more violations and increase revenue.

— Mahamad Jafar Sadhik, Assistant Transport Officer, Bhalki

achieved the highest revenue collection this year, with 85% of the projected target already met. Taxes and fines from transport-related offenses are

being deposited into the state treasury. Strict action has been taken against tax evasion and vehicles registered in other states, recovering ₹1.5 crore to date. In total, 1,309 vehicles have been seized, with fines amounting to ₹3.5 crore collected. Inter-state registration violations are being penalized in accordance with the law.

The Additional Deputy Transport Commissioner also stressed road safety, particularly for school children. School vehicles operating beyond permitted seating or vi-

olating rules will face immediate seizure, ensuring that child safety remains a top priority.

Halaswamy called upon vehicle owners and drivers to comply with regulations and cooperate with authorities to reduce accidents and improve overall traffic discipline in the division.

This initiative reflects the department's dual focus on public safety and efficient revenue collection while promoting environmental awareness through tree-planting efforts.

QUICK READ

Youth brutally murdered over personal rivalry

Ramanagara
A 25-year-old youth, Nishanth from Kondapura village in Channapatna taluk, was brutally killed near Kadamba Hotel in Bidadi on Thursday night. Nishanth had been working as a security guard at the hotel for the past two and a half months. Police suspect that the murder was carried out due to an old rivalry. The assailants allegedly stabbed him near the ear while he was asleep inside the hotel and later fled with the hotel's CCTV DVR to destroy evidence. Bidadi police, along with fingerprint experts and a dog squad, conducted a thorough inspection of the spot. Nishanth reportedly had a previous FIR registered against him at Kananakunte police station in Bengaluru. Police have launched a search to nab the accused.



Man stabbed to death on Mantur Road

Dharwad
A 27-year-old man, identified as Mallik Jan Ahmed, was brutally stabbed to death late Thursday night on Mantur Road in Hubballi. According to police, a group of youths attacked Mallik Jan with knives, leading to severe bleeding. He was rushed to KIMS Hospital for treatment, but despite efforts, he succumbed to his injuries due to excessive blood loss and deep stab wounds. A case has been registered at the Bendigeri Police Station. After the post-mortem examination, the body was handed over to the family. Outraged by the murder, local residents blocked the road near the KEB office, alleging that negligence by the Bendigeri police had allowed such an incident to occur in the area.



Patel School celebrates Kannada Rajyotsava and Children's Day

RAMANAGARA
Patel Public English School, Magadi Road, in collaboration with the District Negilayogi Social Service Trust (Ramanagara-Bengaluru South), celebrated the 70th Kannada Rajyotsava along with Children's Day on the school premises. Inaugurating the programme, the school's founder-secretary Patel C. Raju highlighted the historical significance of the Kannada language, noting that the Halmidi inscription stands as its earliest documented evidence. He said Kannada is a rich language with a strong identity of its own and does not need to be "saved" repeatedly. Instead, people must develop genuine love and pride for Kannada, especially within Karnataka. He urged the government to ensure Kannada is taught as the first language in all schools and colleges across the state. Speaking about Children's Day, he recalled Jawaharlal

Judge Vijay urges nurturing children as responsible citizens

Children are a nation's greatest asset, and nurturing them into responsible global citizens is a shared duty of society, said Senior Civil Judge M. Vijay

CHITRADURGA

Children are the true asset of the nation, and it is our collective responsibility to guide them into becoming responsible global citizens, said Senior Civil Judge and Member Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority, M. Vijay. He was speaking after inaugurating the district-level Children's Day celebration held at the Zilla Panchayat auditorium on Friday. The event was organised by the Directorate of Child Protection, District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, District Legal Services Authority, Department of Women and Child Development, and the District Child Protection Unit under the theme Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao. Addressing the gathering, he emphasized that children must receive proper support, protection, quality education, and opportunities that help



them grow and compete confidently at the global level. He urged children to raise their voices against social evils like child marriage and report any issues to concerned authorities. Student life, he said, is a golden phase, and children should focus not only on academics but also creative and extracurricular activities to grow into responsible citizens. Zilla Panchayat Deputy Secretary Dr. Rangaswamy highlighted the importance of children's village assemblies

(Makkala Grama Sabhas), which give children a platform to express their opinions on their rights, challenges, and village development. Issues such as education, mid-day meals, sanitation, cleanliness, and transportation are discussed, and solutions are initiated through these forums, he added. Child Welfare Committee Chairperson P. Sheela described children as fountains of energy who bring peace and joy. She stressed the need for both internal and external

education for their holistic development. On this occasion, students including Swapna from Reddihalli (Challakere) and Gangamma from Molakalmuru, along with high scorers in SSLC and PUC exams under the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao scheme, were honoured. District-level competitions such as essay writing and drawing were also conducted, and prizes were distributed to winners. Several officials from various departments participated in the event.

Bihar voters have endorsed 'Ni-Mo' governance: MLA

UDUPI

BJP MLA Sunil Kumar said that the people of Bihar have once again brought the NDA alliance to power, appreciating Prime Minister Narendra Modi's development model and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's governance. Speaking to the media in Udupi about the NDA's majority in Bihar, he remarked that the people have clearly accepted the "Nimo" style of administration. Taking a dig at the Congress, he said the party keeps blaming EVMs and ballot papers, and may soon start blaming the voters



themselves. He added that the Mahagathbandhan had planned major political changes in the country, but the left-liberal strategies failed to gain traction. The Bihar result, he said, has created curiosity about how it will influence Karnataka's so-called "November Revolution." Sunil Kumar further accused the Congress of creating an environment of distrust in democratic systems. The party itself, he said, is facing internal turmoil, raising questions about leadership: whether

the Congress will split, where dissenting groups will go, whether Siddaramaiah will step aside, and whether D.K. Shivakumar will take over. These debates, he claimed, are active within the party. He also said the people of India have rejected the Congress completely, pointing out that it could not even cross double digits. According to him, those who relied on minority appeasement have been defeated. He argued that the mindset that insulted national operations and criticised the RSS has been rejected by the public, who have supported nationalism and service-oriented politics.

Sulluvadi poisoned prasada case: Bail to accused sparks protest

CHAMARAJANAGAR

Residents of Sulluvadi and the families of those who died in the notorious poisoned prasada tragedy have strongly opposed the High Court's decision to grant bail to the prime accused. The incident, which occurred a few years ago at the Kichuguththi Maramma Temple near Martalli in Hanur taluk, Chamarajanagar district, had shocked the entire state after 17 devotees lost their lives from consuming poisoned prasada distributed during a temple event. Following the recent court order granting bail to Immdi Mahadevaswamy, the main accused in the case, grieving families and local villagers gathered at the temple premises to register their anger and disappointment. As a mark of protest, the demonstrators symbolically burnt

an effigy of Mahadevaswamy, expressing their deep anguish over what they described as an unjust decision. Protesters argued that the tragedy had torn apart many families and left irreversible emotional scars, and therefore the accused should not be allowed bail under any circumstance. They demanded that the High Court reconsider its decision immediately and cancel the bail granted to the accused. According to them, releasing the prime accused at this stage could affect the ongoing legal proceedings and undermine the victims' fight for justice. The protestors vowed to continue their agitation until the authorities take necessary action to ensure that the bail order is withdrawn and the accused remains in custody.

Bihar voters backed NDA after seeing Modi's work: BSY

SHIVAMOGGA

Former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa said that the Congress has once again faced a major defeat, this time in Bihar, where voters chose the NDA after recognising the development and leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Speaking to reporters in Shivamogga, he said the election results clearly reflect people's approval of Modi's governance. According to him, both Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah played a crucial role in crafting an effective strategy that led to the NDA's victory in the state.

Yediyurappa added that the people have rejected the leadership of Rahul Gandhi, which he said is evident from the Congress party's poor performance. He further stated that the decision on who will serve as Bihar's Chief Minister will be taken jointly by Modi and Amit Shah after due discussions, as the mandate has strongly favoured their leadership. Shifting focus to Karnataka, Yediyurappa addressed concerns related to sugarcane farmers. He assured that the ongoing issues faced by sugarcane growers will be resolved soon. The state government, he said, must re-



Former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa said the Congress has suffered another major defeat in Bihar, where voters backed the NDA after recognising Prime Minister Narendra Modi's development-focused governance

spond seriously and take appropriate measures to address the challenges affecting farmers. He urged the administration to act swiftly to provide relief and ensure that farmers' demands are met without delay. Yediyurappa reiterated that the Bihar results send a strong message about national leadership and governance, and that people across the country continue to place their trust in the NDA because of Modi's developmental agenda and decisive leadership.

Car bursts into flames near Nanthoor junction

MANGALURU

A car suddenly caught fire near Nanthoor in Mangaluru, creating panic among motorists. The incident involved a white Hyundai Verna, which began burning mid-way while travelling on the road. As smoke and flames intensified, a water-supply tanker from the city corporation rushed to the spot. The tanker staff immediately

sprayed water in an effort to bring the fire under control. Traffic police also arrived and regulated vehicle movement in the busy junction to prevent congestion. The exact cause of the fire is yet to be determined, and officials are investigating whether it was triggered by a technical fault or another issue. Fortunately, no injuries were reported, but the car suffered extensive damage.

ZP CEO launches Kayaka Grama Programme

MANDYA

Mandya Zilla Panchayat CEO Nandini K.R. inaugurated the Kayaka Grama programme at Chikkankanaahalli Gram Panchayat in Srirangapatna taluk, as part of the 2025-26 budget announcement to strengthen rural development. The initiative aims to ensure that senior district and taluk-level officials adopt and support backward gram panchayats to improve the implementation of state and central government schemes.

Speaking at the launch, CEO Nandini said that under

the programme, action plans with long-term vision will be prepared. Regular meetings will be held to address drinking water supply, infrastructure development, streetlight maintenance, tax collection, timely service delivery, upgrading anganwadis, improving GP libraries and information centres, protecting child rights, empowering women, supporting SC/ST communities, and enhancing health and sanitation. A total of 19 key areas will be monitored for effective implementation, she added.



Appreciation for GP's record management: During her visit to the Chikkankanaahalli GP office, Nandini inspected the archive room and reviewed the e-property (e-Swathu) documentation. She praised the staff for maintaining records systematically and instructed that similar record-keeping practices should be adopted across all GPs in the district. She also directed the PDO to initiate steps for digitalizing all documents in the coming days. **Directions to strengthen Makkala Grama Sabhas:** Nandini emphasized the need for meaningful children's village assemblies that address child rights, prevention of child marriage, identifying and supporting school dropouts, hygiene, nutrition, and creating child-friendly environments. GPs must ensure active participation of children and act on their concerns, she said. Taluk officials, GP members, and local leaders were present at the programme.

DIABETES REVERSAL DAY

Demand to declare Nov 14 as 'Diabetes Reversal Day'

SHIVAMOGGA

In Shivamogga, doctors from the Diabetes Reversal Centre have urged the government to officially declare November 14—currently observed as World Diabetes Day—as Diabetes Reversal Day. Speaking at a press conference, Dr. Preetham announced that a formal request will be submitted to the government through the Deputy Commissioner in the coming days. He explained that World Diabetes Day has been observed since 2006, but public



awareness still remains limited regarding the root causes of diabetes. According to him, poor dietary habits and chronic mental stress are the primary contributors to diabetes.

Medication, he noted, only offers temporary relief and does not provide a permanent cure. Instead, significant improvements can be achieved when individuals adopt healthier food practices and lifestyle changes. Through diabetes reversal techniques, many patients can reduce or even completely discontinue their medication. Dr. Preetham highlighted that nearly 90 out of every 100 diabetic patients suffer from Type-2 diabetes. In 2016, the World Health Organization confirmed that Type-

2 diabetes can indeed be reversed. Similarly, the American Diabetes Association acknowledged in 2019 that Type-2 diabetes reversal is possible. Medical evidence supporting reversal has existed even earlier: in 2008, researcher Roy Taylor scientifically demonstrated that Type-2 diabetes can be reversed through targeted interventions. Further, he noted that as early as 1995, Dr. Walter Pories showed that bariatric surgery could lead to diabetes reversal in certain patients.

With substantial scientific backing and growing public awareness, Dr. Preetham said it is essential to promote the concept of diabetes reversal more widely. Declaring November 14 as Diabetes Reversal Day, he argued, would help educate the public and encourage lifestyle-based approaches to managing and reversing the condition. Doctors Manjunath, Vishwanath Kashi, Seetharam, Rajanna, Yogeesh, Dr. Siraj Ahmed, Vinay and Shyam were present at the press meet.

SUBMIT DETAILED REPORT ON DISABILITIES ACT: HC TO STATE

The Karnataka High Court has directed the State government to submit a detailed report on the implementation of the Rights of Persons With Disabilities Act, 2016.

BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court on Friday directed the State government to file a comprehensive report within six weeks detailing the status of implementation of the Rights of Persons With Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C.M. Poonacha issued notice on a plea alleging the State's failure to comply with Sections 17, 24, 34, 35, 37, and 88 of the Act. The court ordered the government to provide a detailed report on steps taken under the said provisions.

Section 17 mandates the government to ensure inclusive



education in institutions it funds. This includes conducting surveys every five years, establishing and staffing teacher training institutions, providing necessary learning aids, resource centres, scholarships, and curriculum modifications.

Under Section 24, the government is required to create schemes to safeguard and promote independent living for persons with disabilities. Section 34 requires 4% reservation in government jobs, including specific allocations for various disabilities. Section 35 mandates incentives for private employers to ensure at least 5% of their workforce comprises persons with benchmark disabilities.

Section 37 stipulates 5% reservation for persons with disabilities in agricultural land allotment, developmental schemes, and concessional land allotment for housing. Section 88 calls for the creation of a dedicated state fund for persons with disabilities.

The plea seeks the establishment of additional special schools and accessible infrastructure, registration of teachers under the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992, and creation of vocational training centres. It also requests enhancement of disability pensions to Rs 10,000, free bus travel, increased funding for assistive technologies under the ADIP scheme, and issuance of Unique Disability Identity (UDID) cards to eligible persons.

Advocate Pradeep Nayak, representing the petitioner, argued that the State had not effectively implemented the Act, undermining the constitutional rights of persons with disabilities.

District panchayats celebrate Children's Day with sports

CHIKKAPALLAPUR

The district witnessed a grand celebration of sports and cultural activities as 157 Zilla Panchayats organized events for children across various schools. On Children's Day, competitions in four major games were conducted in all Panchayat-run schools, engaging students from rural and urban areas.

A total of 5,300 children participated district-wide, with 3,000 in primary schools, 2,000 in upper primary, and 1,000 in high schools. Winners were awarded cash prizes totaling ₹18,84,000, along with certificates of appreciation for their achievements.

The events were meticulously planned and executed under the supervision of District Panchayat officials, led by Deputy Director V.L. Navin Bhatt. District Panchayat CEO N. Bhuniraj, local Panchayat officials, and elected representatives actively participated in organizing



District Panchayats celebrated Children's Day with sports competitions across 157 schools, involving over 5,300 students, awarding ₹18.84 lakh in prizes.

and monitoring the competitions. The games aimed to promote physical fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship among school children. Special arrangements ensured smooth conduct of events, and officials Anand Y., along with other Panchayat officers, were present to oversee the programs.

Officials emphasized that such sports activities not

only enhance physical and mental well-being but also encourage participation in cultural and social events, fostering holistic development. District Panchayat authorities also highlighted their commitment to ensuring equal opportunities for students across all Panchayat-run schools.

The day concluded with prizes and recognition distributed to students, reinforcing the importance of sports and extracurricular activities in shaping young minds and encouraging community engagement. The initiative reflects the Panchayat's efforts to integrate education with physical development, health awareness, and community participation.

Parents' role crucial in children's growth: ZP CEO Dr. S. Akash

CHITRADURGA

District Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Dr. S. Akash emphasized that children need consistent effort and guidance to achieve their dreams. He spoke at the Children's Day celebration and Parents-Teachers Grand Meeting held at the Government Senior Primary School, Kavadiyara Hatti, inaugurating the event by paying floral tribute to Jawaharlal Nehru's portrait.

Dr. Akash highlighted that parents' encouragement during childhood significantly shapes a child's mindset and paves the way for future achievements. He urged parents to actively support both the mental and

physical development of their children and to participate in monthly school meetings after enrollment to discuss learning progress and provide feedback. Such engagement, he said, strengthens the connection between home and school, enhancing educational outcomes.

He further noted that government initiatives, including free uniforms, textbooks, midday meals, scholarships, and supplementary nutrition programs, support children's overall growth. However, to fully benefit, parents must enroll children in government schools and ensure daily attendance.

Dr. Akash stressed the importance of evaluating learning by discussing school activities with

children, rewarding achievements, and collaborating with teachers. Monthly SMC meetings should focus on academic progress and school development, with teachers striving for 100% attendance and active learning enhancement.

The program saw participation from SMC President S. Kumar, Deputy Directors of School Education M.R. Manjunath and Nasiruddin, DVPIC Venkateshappa, DIET Senior Lecturer S. Nagabhushan, Taluk Education Officer Giriya, Field Coordinator Sampathkumar, Gram Panchayat member N. Prabhu, and Headmaster Rudramuni.

Bihar voters bless NDA, says MP Raghavendra

SHIVAMOGGA

MP B.Y. Raghavendra said the people of Bihar have given a clear mandate in favour of the NDA, completely rejecting the Mahagathbandhan. Speaking to reporters, he noted that even top leaders of the opposition alliance were defeated in their own constituencies, which shows the strong support for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's policies and programmes among Bihar's voters.

He alleged that the Congress party, which ruled the country for 65

years, often won elections through vote manipulation. This time, he claimed, the Election Commission's strict measures exposed their practices, deleting around 43 lakh invalid votes while adding genuine new voters to the rolls. Raghavendra expressed confidence that the NDA would continue its winning streak in future elections as well.

He added that the Congress is now facing the consequences of years of appeasement politics pursued in the name of inherited governance.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to public at large Mrs. Mubark Begum W/O Shafi Ulla Khan, Residing at No. 53/2, 5th Cross Railway Parallel Road, Harijana Colony, Bangalore North, Karnataka - 560022 she has lost the Registered Original Sale Deed of Plot No.455-1985-86 dated on 03-06-1985 he has lost at Near Yaswanthpura bus stop Accordingly he has lodged the complaint on Bangalore City Police with E-Lost dated 12/11/2025 Report No.1898507/2025.

SCHEDULED PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing No.85A, khathal/Assessment No. 1471/1281/40-E-Pid- No.6-2-629 -85A.Situated at 1st A Main Road CMC, Municipal Layout and APMC Ward, 1st Division Ward No.6, Chikkabagalapura, measuring East to West 12-19204 Mtrs. and North to South: 9-144018 Mtrs. totalling measuring 111-4836Sq. Mtrs. bounded on East by: Road, West by: House built on Plot No.52, North by: House built on Plot No.41, South by: House built on Plot No.39. If anyone finding the aforesaid document is hereby requested to handover the same to our office at the address mentioned hereunder.

HARISHA S. Advocate
No.21st Floor Byrama Building,
Madanayakanahalli, Bengaluru-562162
Mobile No.90609 50265.

CHANGE OF NAME

I KURUVA NIRMALA W/O LATE KURUVA NINGANNA R/O No 10, 2nd Cross, Gangondanahalli, Lakshmiipur, Bangalore, Karnataka 562123, have changed the name of my minor daughter GONEGANDLA BHAGYA aged 14 years and she shall hereafter be known as BHAGYASHREE.

CHANGE OF NAME

I LAKSHMAMMA W/O THIMMEGOWDA, R/O Muduguppe, K R Nagara, Taluku, Meluru, Karnataka- 571604, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as KEMPAMMA.

CHANGE OF NAME

I SHRIKANT JAGATAP S/O ARJUNARAO JAGATAP, R/O Dyampur, Koppal, Karnataka - 583232, have changed the name of my minor son RAGHAVENDRA RAO aged 11 years and he shall hereafter be known as NANDAN VIRAJ JAGATAP.

CHANGE OF NAME

I SHRIKANT JAGATAP S/O ARJUNARAO JAGATAP, R/O Dyampur, Koppal, Karnataka - 583232, have changed the name of my minor son RAGHAVENDRA RAO aged 11 years and he shall hereafter be known as NANDAN VIRAJ JAGATAP.

CHANGE OF NAME

I SHRIKANT JAGATAP S/O ARJUNARAO JAGATAP, R/O Dyampur, Koppal, Karnataka - 583232, have changed the name of my minor son RAGHAVENDRA RAO aged 11 years and he shall hereafter be known as NANDAN VIRAJ JAGATAP.

NAME CHANGE

I, ARSHIA. A. W/o. Mohammed Farooq, resident of No. 4, 1st Cross, 1st Main, Vishwaswara Nagar, Opp. New Bright School, D.J. Halli, Bangalore - 560045, have changed my name to ARSHIA, Vide Affidavit Dated 12.11.2025 before notary CHANDRASHEKAR .M, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

We, MUNEE AHMED H N AND JABEEN TAJ, Resident of No. 12/3, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, L R Bande Main Road, Appajiappa Layout, Shampura, A C Post, Bengaluru -560045, Karnataka, have changed our minor son's name from HUSSAIN AHMED to HUSSAIN AHMED M, vide affidavit dated: 14.11.2025 before notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

We, MUNEE AHMED H N AND JABEEN TAJ, Resident of No. 12/3, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, L R Bande Main Road, Appajiappa Layout, Shampura, A C Post, Bengaluru -560045, Karnataka, have changed our minor son's name from VAZEER AHMED to M VAZEER AHMED, vide affidavit dated: 14.11.2025 before notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, MUNEE AHMED, S/o. Vazeer Ahmed Sab H P, Resident of No. 12/3, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, L R Bande Main Road, Appajiappa Layout, Shampura, A C Post, Bengaluru -560045, Karnataka, have changed my name to MUNEE AHMED H N, vide affidavit dated: 14.11.2025 before notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, YASIR ARFATH MUSHTAQ, S/o. Haji Mushtaq Ahmed Shariff, Resident of No. 39, Cock Burn Road, Opp HBS Hospital, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka, have changed my name to YASIR ARFATH, vide affidavit dated: 14.11.2025 before notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, ABDUL AFIZ NAZEER AHAMED S/o. Abdul Afiz resident of No. 424, Rajiv gandhi Nagar Behind Nithyananda School Anekal Jigani Po Bengaluru - 560105, have changed my name to A NAZEER AHAMED Vide Affidavit Dated : 14.11.2025 before notary R BASAVARAJA, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, SHOAB KHAN, S/o. Ibrahim Khan, Resident of No 4, 1st Cross Tippu Nagar Chamarajpet Bengaluru Dist.560018, have changed my name to SHOHEB KHAN, vide affidavit dated: 14.11.2025 before notary B.A. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, JAMSHIDA BEGUM, W/o. Syed Amjad Pasha, Resident of No. 261, Nalbandvadi Road Tiptur Town Tumakuru Dist, 572201, have changed my name to JAMSHIDA BEGAM, vide affidavit dated: 14.11.2025 before notary B.A. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO, Bengaluru.

Document Lost

I, MOHAMMED NOORULLA, S/o. Abdul Jabbar, aged about 52 years, residing at No.5, 2nd Cross, Arekempnanahalli, Opposite 10th Cross, Wilson Garden, Bangalore 560 027, do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as follows: I further declare that my son MASSAB NOOR has studied 10th std., at Bishop Cotton Boys School, Residency Road, Bangalore - 560 025, and my son has passed S.S.C during the year 2024 and vide Unique ID NO. 8112755 and I have lost my son 10th Class. Original Marks Card. while traveling and the same could not be traced. I hereby affirm that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, belief, and information. Vide affidavit dated: 13.11.2025, before Notary R. BASAVARAJA, Bengaluru.



Scheduled power outage

CHIKKAPALLAPUR

The Chikkapallapur substation of the 220/66 kV electricity grid has announced a scheduled power shutdown affecting several areas. The 220 kV power line will supply electricity through 66/11 kV substations. Due to maintenance work at these substations, electricity will be temporarily disrupted. On November 16, from 10 am to 1 pm, power supply from the 66/11 kV substations will be unavailable. Residents and establishments in areas including Diffu, Galla, Bhayalu, Angirala, Dalsahthan, Hulivalkana, Raldigal, S. Galle, Kalmna, Nahasatibmana, Inammanchana, Klugunta, Nalegutusa, and nearby localities will experience interruptions. Officials have warned that electricity-dependent activities may be affected and requested the public to plan accordingly. Chikkapallapur Electric Division Engineer, Yamesh Kumar P.G., confirmed the details and urged residents to take precautions during the power cut.

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Government of Karnataka
BENGALURU URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYAT
O/o Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division,
First Floor, Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road,
Banashankari (Near Banashankari Temple) Bengaluru-560070.

No.EE/RDW&S/BNG/U/TND/11/2025-26 Date: 12.11.2025

E-Procurement Tender Notice

Tenders are invited through e-procurement for Two Numbers of scrap vehicles. The Tender Documents can be obtained and submitted on or before 27.11.2025 up to 4.00 pm. For further details contact the above address during office hours or visit <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>. (RWSSD/2025-26/AUCTION4250)

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
RDW&S Division, Bengaluru Urban Dist, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/Shirdi Sai/3809/2025-26

Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD Ramanagara Division
Bengaluru South District

No. EE/PWD/RD/TND-10-1/2025-26 Date : 14.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender Notification No. 10/2025-26 Dated:09.10.2025, invited from qualified contractors for the works through KPP portal as per standard bid document is being extended due to technical reasons. The eligible contractors can participate in this tender through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>. Documents may be downloaded from : 21.11.2025 & Last date for submission of tenders Dt: 20.12.2025 up to 16.00 hours. Date of opening of Technical bid Dt: 22.12.2025 at 11.00 hours (if possible). Tender processing fees & EMD as per KPP Portal. No of works 01, Estimate Cost Rs. 6350.00 lakhs. For more information contact the above office during office hours.

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

Executive Engineer
PWD Ramanagar Division, Bengaluru South District
DIPR/SAD/444/SA/2025-26

Govt. of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Vijayapur
Tel.No:08352-277816, Fax.No:08352-277817,
E-Mail:zpebjp9@yahoo.co.in
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕಾಇಂ/ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇ.ಎ/ವಿಜ/ಇವಾ/ಚಿಂರಡ್/2025-26/2457
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)

Executive Engineer, PRE Division, Vijayapura has invited e-tender for the works under the 5054 SCP/TSP Grant, 5054 CM Special Grant and Other Department Grant Scheme for the year 2023-24, 2024-25 & 2025-26, Work Indent No: RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT20267, 20263, 20265, 20318, 20320, 20305, 20240 & 16188/Call-3) for General Bidders, RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT20321) for SC Bidders, RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT20314 for CAT-II(A) Bidders, Rs. 6.00 Lakhs to 60.00 Lakhs Total 10 work vider Tender Publication No. 2457 Date: 12.11.2025. Last Date for Submission of Tender is 27.11.2025 time 5.30 PM.

For more information about the tender, the information can be collected at the website: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in or visit the office of the said Division during officer hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division, Vijayapur
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/458/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಎಂ/2025-26

QUICK READ

**5 killed as car plunges into gorge on Delhi-Mumbai expressway****Ratlam**

A tragic accident claimed the lives of five people, including a 15-year-old boy and a 70-year-old man, when their car veered off the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway and plunged into a deep gorge near Bhetia-Bhimapura village in Madhya Pradesh's Ratlam on Friday. The incident occurred shortly before 7.30 a.m., just ahead of the Mahi River bridge under the jurisdiction of Rawati police station. The vehicle, a sedan bearing Maharashtra registration MH03 EL 1388, smashed through the roadside railing before free-falling into the ravine below. Those who have been killed were from Gujarat and Mumbai.

HC ruling on delay in panchayat, municipal elections**Jaipur**

The Rajasthan High Court will on Friday deliver its crucial verdict on the delay in holding elections for nearly 6,759 Panchayats and 55 Municipalities across the state, despite the expiry of their terms. A division bench headed by Acting Chief Justice S.P. Sharma will pronounce the judgment on a series of petitions, including a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by Giriraj Singh Devanda, former MLA Sanyam Lodha, and others. The court had reserved its judgment on August 12, after completing the hearing. Nearly three months later, the decision is set to come on Friday.

Kerala HC grants partial relief to makers of 'Haal'**Kochi**

The Kerala High Court on Friday granted partial relief to the makers of the Malayalam film 'Haal', setting aside a Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) directive that mandated six cuts and restricted the film to an Adults-only (A) certificate. The Court, however, directed the filmmakers to carry out two modifications before the film could be reconsidered for certification. Justice VG Arun, who viewed the film before issuing the order, held that the CBFC's insistence on six cuts for granting even an A certificate could not stand.

Kerala Health Min defends treating patients lying on floor**Thiruvananthapuram**

Kerala Health Minister Veena George on Friday defended the strong criticism that erupted over patients being treated on the floor at the Thiruvananthapuram Medical College Hospital and attributed it to overcrowding and shortage of beds in medical colleges. The Minister said the situation was a direct result of overwhelming patient inflow and insisted that no patient is ever denied treatment, even if it means treating them on the floor. According to her, medical colleges across Kerala are receiving far more patients than they can physically accommodate.

India-Canada revises ties with critical minerals, aerospace deals

Both counties agreed to intensify ministerial-level trade engagement next year, reaffirming their strong and growing economic partnership

NEW DELHI

India and Canada have agreed to hold sustained ministerial engagements with trade and investment stakeholders early next year, signaling renewed momentum in bilateral economic cooperation.

The agreement was reached during the latest 'Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment', held between India's Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal and Canada's Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development, Maninder Sidhu.

Sidhu's four-day visit to India concluded on Friday, with both ministers underscoring the importance of continued engagement with the private sector to unlock new avenues in trade, investment and supply-chain collaboration. They stressed that the India-Canada



economic partnership remains strong and resilient despite recent diplomatic tensions.

According to the joint statement, bilateral trade in goods and services reached USD 23.66 billion in 2024. Merchandise trade alone hit USD 8.98 billion, marking a 10 per cent year-on-year increase — a sign of strengthening commercial ties and diversified

sectoral growth.

Both sides agreed to promote long-term supply-chain partnerships in critical minerals, an area where Canada is a major global supplier and India seeks to secure stable inputs for its clean energy and manufacturing ambitions. They also committed to deeper cooperation in clean energy technologies to support each

country's energy transition goals.

In addition, the ministers discussed expanding investment and trade opportunities in aerospace and dual-use capabilities. With India's aviation sector experiencing rapid expansion, both nations see potential in jointly identifying opportunities for technology exchange, manufacturing and long-term industrial partnerships.

The dialogue also underscored the importance of strengthening resilience across critical sectors, including agriculture, and the need for diversified and reliable global supply chains. Both ministers reaffirmed that sustained engagement will help build a forward-looking and mutually beneficial economic relationship, setting the stage for enhanced collaboration in 2025.

PM Modi to review bullet train progress during Gujarat visit

AHMEDABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be in Gujarat on Saturday to inspect progress on one of India's most ambitious infrastructure projects — the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Corridor (MAHSR).

At around 10 am, the Prime Minister is scheduled to review the under-construction Bullet Train Station in Surat, a crucial node on the 508-km route that will mark India's entry into high-speed rail travel.

The corridor spans Gujarat, Maharashtra, and the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, connecting major cities such as Sabarmati, Ahmedabad, Anand, Vadodara, Bharuch, Surat, Bilimora, Vapi, Boisar, Virar, Thane, and Mumbai. Of the total stretch, 352 km lies in Gujarat and the Union Territory, while 156 km passes through Maharashtra.

Designed to meet global high-speed rail standards, nearly 85 per cent of the corridor above 465 km, is being constructed on elevated vi-

The under-construction Bullet Train Station in Surat considered as a crucial node on the 508-km route that will mark India's entry into high-speed rail travel

ducts to enhance safety, efficiency, and reduce land acquisition challenges. Project officials report significant progress, with 326 km of viaduct already completed, along with 17 of the planned 25 river bridges.

Once operational, the Bullet Train is expected to cut travel time between Mumbai and Ahmedabad to around two hours, reshaping regional mobility, boosting business connectivity, and stimulating tourism. Authorities say the project will serve as a major economic catalyst, driving investment and development along the entire route.

The Surat-Bilimora section, spanning 47 km, is among the most advanced stretches, with civil work and track-bed preparation fully completed.



BJP leaders, workers celebrate across country

**NEW DELHI**

As the NDA is poised to win over 200 seats in the 243-member Bihar Assembly, BJP leaders and workers on Friday celebrated across different parts of the country. In Rewari, Haryana, BJP leaders and workers celebrated with great enthusiasm. In Viluppuram, Tamil Nadu, BJP workers celebrated following the NDA's lead in the Bihar Assembly election. Similarly, in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, celebrations erupted following the NDA's projected victory. Supporters celebrated with fireworks and cutouts featuring PM Modi and CM Yogi. In Patna, Bihar, BJP supporters gathered at the party's state headquarters to mark the alliance's strong lead in the results.

While inaugurating the 72nd State Cooperative Week, Saini emphasised cooperation's role in rural prosperity and development

Soul of nation resides in rural communities: Haryana CM

SONIPAT

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Friday inaugurated the 72nd state-level Cooperative Week in Sonipat, stressing that the future of India's development lies in empowering villages through strong cooperative structures.

Addressing a large gathering, the Chief Minister said that the soul of the nation resides in rural communities, and cooperation remains the most effective path to achieving sustainable progress and self-reliance. This year, he noted, has been declared the 'Year of Cooperatives', giving the week-long celebration added significance.

Saini called upon the youth to break away from conventional mindsets and embrace cooperatives as modern enter-

prises that can be scaled into global brands with the support of Digital India. He said India's cooperative movement was built by millions of ordinary citizens who contributed small savings and collective efforts, creating a foundation that continues to strengthen the nation's economic trajectory. With India now the world's fourth-largest economy and moving rapidly toward the third position, he emphasised that cooperatives will play a crucial role in realising this aspiration.

Recalling Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment to strengthening the cooperative sector, the Chief Minister highlighted the historic establishment of the Ministry of Cooperation in 2014. He stated that Haryana, in alignment with this vision, is working to

transform cooperatives into a mass movement that benefits every section of society.

CM Saini detailed some of the state's key achievements in the sector, including the issuance of RuPay Kisan Credit Cards to over three lakh farmers through 19 District Central Cooperative Banks. He also announced that 21 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies have been chosen for the construction of new warehouses aimed at improving rural storage capacity.

A major highlight of Haryana's cooperative initiatives is the zero-interest crop loan scheme for timely-paying members of primary cooperative societies. So far, the scheme has provided interest relief of ₹1,223 crore to 5,31,652 farmers, strengthening their financial stability and supporting inclusive agricultural growth.



Jharkhand High Court issues notice to IG Prisons

RANCHI

The Jharkhand High Court has taken suo motu cognisance of a viral video showing inmates dancing inside Birsra Munda Central Jail in Hotwar, Ranchi, raising serious concerns over the security and management of the state's prisons. During a hearing on Friday, a division bench headed by Chief Justice Tarlok Singh Chauhan expressed strong displeasure over the incident and questioned how such a lapse could occur inside a high-security prison.

The court directed the Inspector General of Prisons to appear in person on the next date of hearing and ordered the

production of the DVR containing the original CCTV footage related to the incident.

Describing the video as unfortunate and shameful, the bench observed that the incident exposes glaring weaknesses in the prison administration.

The court also noted that the video clearly suggests the use of mobile phones inside the jail, a violation that has repeatedly been flagged as a major security threat in many prisons across India. The judges questioned how inmates, including those facing charges in serious financial crimes, were able to gather in a special hall and engage in such activities without the knowledge of prison authorities.

ED issues fresh summons to Anil Ambani

NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has issued fresh summons to Reliance ADAG Group chairman Anil Ambani, directing him to appear for questioning at its Delhi headquarters on Monday, according to reliable sources.

The development comes after the industrialist reportedly sought permission to join the inquiry virtually, a request the agency has declined.

Ambani, who had responded to an earlier summons by email on Friday, asked the ED to allow him

to participate via video conferencing. However, officials rejected this proposal and issued a renewed directive requiring his physical presence on November 17.

In a media statement, Ambani reiterated that he is willing to offer to appear by virtual means and assured that he will fully cooperate with ED on all matters.

His statement further clarified that the summons pertain exclusively to an inquiry under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) and not to

any matter under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The matter, the statement explained, is linked to a 2010 domestic EPC contract for the Jaipur-

Reengus Toll Road and involves issues concerning a road contractor, with no foreign exchange component.

The Reliance ADAG chairman also distanced himself from the operational aspects of the case, noting that he is not a board member of Reliance Infrastructure. Ambani stated that he served as a non-executive

director from April 2007 to March 2022 and was never involved in the day-to-day management of the company.

The ED had previously summoned Ambani on November 14 in connection with a money laundering investigation involving the conglomerate. In August, he underwent an almost nine-hour questioning session at the agency's Delhi office in relation to an alleged ₹17,000 crore loan fraud case. The fresh summons indicate the agency's continued scrutiny into the financial dealings linked to the group.



UNION OF POLITICS & CRICKET

Yogi meets champ Deepti, lauds field feat

LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, on Friday, met the state's World Cup winning Women's Cricket Team player Deepti Sharma and also led a Cabinet meeting which took 20 key decisions, including one on easing the registration process for old age pension, an official said.

Sharma, who is serving as Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) in the state, was praised by Chief Minister Adityanath for her good performance in the World Cricket final and winning the Player of the Tournament award.

Deepti has done the Uttar Pradesh Police proud at the world stage, CM Adityanath had tweeted soon after the women's cricket team lifted the World Cup on November 2.

Cricketer Deepti Sharma was earlier appointed as DSP in January this year under the sports quota as part of Chief Minister Adityanath's Skilled Athlete Scheme.

During the Cabinet meeting held at the CM residence on Friday, CM Adityanath led his Ministers in congratulating the women's cricket team for winning the World Cup.

The Cabinet also condemned the fatal Delhi blast on November 10. A key deci-



sion taken at the meeting relates to saving the elderly the trouble of running around for pension. The Cabinet decided that the social welfare department will deploy call-centre executives to contact and seek consent of the beneficiary and fill their

forms online through common service centres.

The forms will be verified using family IDs before the release of their pension, saving the elderly to run around to complete formalities. As a pilot project, the scheme will be tried in five districts, including Ghaziabad, Gorakhpur, Hardoi, Kannauj and Lalitpur, an official said.

In the existing system, an online application by an elderly person seeking pension needs the verification by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and village Block Development Officer before an approval from the District Magistrate-led Committee.

CDS Chauhan stresses on defence R&D, lauds PSUs

NEW DELHI

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan led the discussions on Defence R&D, Autonomous Systems and Futuristic Technologies and Ammunition and Explosives at the second edition of the Brainstorming Session (BSS 2.0) on Friday. While delivering the keynote address at Manekshaw Centre, the CDS highlighted the contribution of PSUs, the private sector and MSMEs in defence manufacturing. The Brainstorming Session 2.0 with the theme Atmanirbharta in Defence – Leverag-

ing Defence Industry Ecosystem for Future Warfare was organised by the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS), in association with the

Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM). Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, Chief of Integrated Defence Staff, in his welcome address, emphasised providing a boost to domestic industries focusing on technological advancement and Research and Development, said the Headquarters, Integrated Defence Staff, on X.

The event witnessed significant participation from defence industries, said a statement.



‘Massive majority, complete unity’: Nitish thanks NDA

PATNA: As the NDA is speculated to again form the government in Bihar, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar expressed gratitude to alliance partners, emphasising that the “massive majority” reflects the “Unity” of the alliance.



In a post on X, Nitish thanked voters and expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas), Rashtriya Lok Morcha and Hindu-stani Awam Morcha. He asserted that Bihar will now progress even further with the support of all the NDA members. “The NDA alliance has achieved a massive majority in this election by demonstrating complete unity. For this massive victory, thanks and gratitude are also due to all the partners of the NDA alliance – Shri Chirag Paswan Ji, Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi Ji, and Shri Upen-dra Kushwaha Ji,” he said. “I express my heartfelt gratitude and thanks to the Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji for the support received from him, while bowing to him,” CM Nitish Kumar said.

Tejashwi retains Raghopur after day-long seesaw thriller

PATNA: While Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) supremo Lalu Prasad Yadav has been a two-time chief minister of Bihar, his sons Tejashwi Yadav and Tej Pratap Yadav had a tough time winning the elections, even in the party bastion. After day-long seesaw thriller, sitting MLA Tejashwi Prasad Yadav finally retained the Raghopur Assembly constituency in Bihar, a traditional RJD stronghold with a 68.54% voter turnout. As per the Election Commission of India (ECI) data, the grand alliance's chief ministerial face face and RJD top leader Tejashwi secured victory in Raghopur, finishing with 1,18,597 votes, a winning margin of 14,532 over BJP's Satish Kumar, who ended with 1,04,065 votes after the 32nd and final round of counting. While his brother Tej Pratap lost in Mahua.



Bihar reserves hot seat for ‘Sushasan Babu’

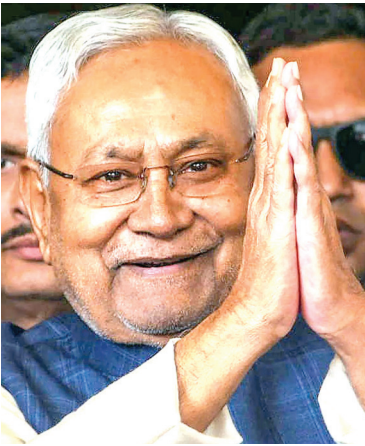
‘People have expressed their confidence in our govt and I bow to them for giving us a massive majority’ | It’s a victory of good governance, development, public welfare and social justice, says PM Modi

LUCKNOW

set to return as Bihar’s chief minister for a record fifth time with a sweeping victory for the JD(U)-led NDA.

The 74-year-old has been at the centre of Bihar politics for more than two decades, building a reputation as a reformer and earning the nickname ‘Sushasan Babu’ against the backdrop of the RJD’s so-called ‘Jungle Raj’. For him, this election has been widely viewed as a test of both political endurance and public trust.

Nitish Kumar’s 2025 resurgence has been aided by strong backing from women voters, who outnumbered men at the polls, with a record turnout of 71.6%, the highest in 15 years. The boost came with the NDA’s manifesto, which promised to create one crore ‘lakhpati didis,’ offering up to Rs 2 lakh financial aid. Ahead of the elections, Nitish also transferred Rs 2,500 crore via direct benefit transfer (DBT) to 25 lakh women across the state.



Born in 1951 in Kalyan Bigha village of Nalanda in Bihar, Nitish grew up in a household shaped by the freedom movement. As a student, he got attracted to socialist ideas and the Lohia School principles of caste justice.

Rising through the JP movement of the mid-1970s, he entered the electoral politics in 1977 when the nation was witnessing a Janata wave, but got defeated twice by in-

dependent candidates in Harnaut. His breakthrough came in 1985 when he captured the same seat on a Lok Dal ticket and emerged as a significant voice for backward castes and secular politics.

Nitish, who in his initial days in state politics was seen as Lalu Prasad Yadav’s ‘Chota Bhai’ (younger brother), eventually carved his own support base among the backward classes, especially Kurmis. He broke away from Lalu over the latter’s ‘growing dominance’ and formed the Samata Party with George Fernandes in 1994.

After his shift to national politics, Nitish won six Lok Sabha elections between 1989 and 2004 from Barh and Nalanda, establishing his presence on the national political stage. Often targeted by the opposition as ‘paltu ram’ (frequent turncoat), Nitish held his ground and vote bank stronger always. His political journey and lasting popularity are a testament to his adaptability and strategic growth.



The dual formula that rode to a historical triumph

The mix of PM Modi’s national appeal and Bihar CM Nitish Kumar’s deep grassroots connect has emerged as a formidable electoral force, which helped the alliance to translate the political momentum into a historical triumph in Bihar, India’s third most populous state.

The results reaffirmed a pattern of voting witnessed in multiple nationwide elections, with Bihar giving the Narendra Modi and his party an overwhelming support in the 2014, 2019, and 2024 Lok Sabha polls, as well as in the 2020 and 2025 Assembly elections.

The ruling alliance also accused the INDIA bloc of disrespecting the state’s identity, pointing to the remarks made by its leaders, including Rahul



Gandhi who criticised PM Modi when he performed ‘Chhath Puja’ during the election rally. Following the controversy, Modi pushed for ‘Chhath Puja’ to be listed in UNESCO’s intangible cultural heritage category as evidence of NDA’s commitment to preserving Bihar’s heritage.

With Modi standing firmly beside Nitish throughout the campaign, the NDA projected a united and reinvigorated front, stressing welfare of all.



Remember, we were not the senior partner in the alliance and that RJD also has to look carefully at its own performance. But, it's very important that we look at the totality of our performance

—Shashi Tharoor, Cong leader



The people of Bihar have given their verdict and we take that as a lesson. We will work on a new strategy for Congress party and India bloc.

—DK Shivakumar
DyCM, Karnataka



The mandate is ‘unexpected’ and ‘unacceptable’. While the results are now out, the reasons behind such a verdict need to be examined.

—Priyank Kharge
Karnataka Minister



The people of Bihar have blessed the party with unexpected support and sent a message to the nation that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's hands should be strengthened.

—R ASKOKA, BJP leader

Cong, BJP, PDP register win assembly bypolls

NEW DELHI

The counting of votes for the recent assembly by-elections reveals a mixed outcome with both the BJP and the Congress marking notable victories.

Cong wins Jubilee Hills, Rajasthan's Anta seats

The Congress registered crucial wins in two separate states. In Rajasthan’s Anta, Pramod Jain ‘Bhaya’ defeated the BJP’s Mopal Suman and Independent Naresh Meena, securing 69,571 votes and winning by a margin of 15,612 votes. The Congress also celebrated a victory in the Telangana’s Jubilee Hills by-poll, where Naveen Yadav was declared the winner.

BJP retains Nagrota

The BJP marked its dominance in two key areas. In Jammu & Kashmir’s Nagrota, Devyani Rana secured a massive victory, winning by a substantial margin of 24,647 votes. Similarly, in Odisha’s Nuapada, the BJP’s Jay

Dholakia established a commanding lead of 82,911 votes.

Budgam goes for PDP

Regional parties proved their resilience in their respective strongholds. The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) secured a significant victory in J&K’s Budgam, where Muntazir Mehdi won with 21,576 votes, defeating the National Conference (NC) and an independent candidate by a margin of 4,478 votes. The BJP’s candidate, Mohsin Mosvi, finished sixth with 2,619 votes.

MNF shines in Dampa

In Mizoram, the Mizo National Front (MNF) successfully retained the Dampa constituency with Dr R Lalthangliana won by a narrow margin of 562 votes.

AAP rules Tarn Taran

The ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Punjab retained the Tarn Taran Assembly seat in the by-elections.

95 DEFEATS FOR RAHUL GANDHI

While many will call him a 9-to-5 blame-game politician, Rahul Gandhi has now accumulated 95 electoral defeats in two decades, five short of a century. Is the attack on India’s institutions a diversionary tactic by the silver-spoon scion?

State/Constituency	Years of Defeat
Himachal Pradesh	2007, 2017
Uttarakhand	2007, 2017, 2022
Sikkim	2004, 2009, 2014, 2019, 2024
Arunachal Pradesh	2019, 2024
Assam	2016, 2021
Nagaland	2008, 2013, 2018, 2023
Manipur	2017, 2022
Tripura	2008, 2013, 2018, 2023
Mizoram	2018, 2023
West Bengal	2006, 2016, 2021
Odisha	2004, 2009, 2014, 2019, 2024
Chhattisgarh	2008, 2013, 2023
Jharkhand	2005, 2009, 2014
Andhra Pradesh	2014, 2019, 2024
Tamil Nadu	2011, 2016
Puducherry	2011, 2021
Kerala	2006, 2016, 2021
Karnataka	2004, 2008, 2018
Goa	2012, 2017, 2022
Maharashtra	2014, 2019, 2024
Gujarat	2007, 2012, 2017, 2022
Madhya Pradesh	2008, 2013, 2018, 2023
Rajasthan	2013, 2023
Delhi	2022, 2020, 2025, 2013, 2015, 2020, 2025
Haryana	2014, 2019, 2024, 2017, 2010, 2024
Punjab	2007, 2009, 2007, 2012, 2022
Jammu & Kashmir	2014

Source: Agencies

We bow down to people’s verdict in Bihar: DKS

BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka DK Shivakumar on Friday said he would bow down to the verdict given by the people of Bihar.

Addressing the media at Vidhana Soudha, he said, “The people of Bihar have given their verdict and we take that as a lesson. We will work on a new strategy for Congress party and India bloc.” “The NDA government in Bihar has deposited Rs 10,000 to the women and hence their voting percentage has gone up by 11%,” he explained.

Asked if higher voting by women was the reason for the defeat, he said, “I will look at the numbers in detail and then comment on it.”

Grateful to Bihar people: Owaisi

PATNA

AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi thanked the people of Bihar for ensuring the success of party’s candidates in five assembly constituencies and urged non-NDA parties to introspect. He said non-NDA parties should try to address their shortcomings instead of assuming voters would automatically favour them. “I am grateful to the people of Bihar. Especially, I have been saying from the beginning that RJD would not be able to stop BJP. You can check my speeches. I had said that. Today also, I am appealing to those people in Bihar who have misconception about the ‘MY’ (Muslim and Yadav) combination,” Owaisi said.



QUICK READ

Steady ties between India and Japan can ensure Indo-Pacific stability

Tokyo

Although the Indo-Pacific continues to be a contested and dynamic theatre, steady and practical cooperation between Japan and India can ensure that it remains open, stable, and secure, a report said on Friday. It added that at a fundamental level, Tokyo and New Delhi view the Indo-Pacific as an interconnected strategic space spanning from Africa's eastern coast to the western Pacific, underpinned by inclusivity, freedom of navigation, and respect for international law as the normative basis for their engagement.



Hasina denounces ICT trial as politically motivated hatchet job

Dhaka

Bangladesh's former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has dismissed the country's International Court Tribunal (ICT), which is set to deliver its verdict on her case on November 17, describing it as a politically motivated hatchet job orchestrated by her rivals, a report said on Friday. It added that Hasina has already been sentenced to six months' imprisonment for contempt of court, and separately faces corruption charges. Several officials from the former Awami League government led by Hasina also face charges, including the former interior minister and the former police chief.

Traders Warn of Major Economic Losses in Afghan

Taliban's suspension of trade ties with Pakistan has triggered widespread concern among businesses fearing severe economic fallout

KABUL

The Taliban's recent announcement to suspend trade relations with Pakistan has sparked deep anxiety among traders and customs clearing agents in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, who fear that the move could inflict significant damage on the region's fragile economy, local media reported. The abrupt halt, they say, threatens not only daily commercial activity but also the long-standing economic interdependence between the two neighbouring countries.

Reacting to the announcement, Ziaul Haq Sarhadi, Senior Vice-President of the Pak-Afghan Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry, warned that Pakistan stands to



lose a substantial export market in Afghanistan and the Central Asian states. He noted that Pakistan had recently signed trade agreements with several countries in the region, but the suspension now places those gains at risk. Sarhadi explained that Pakistan exports a wide range of goods to Afghanistan, including

fresh fruits, cement, medicines, surgical tools, agricultural machinery, fabrics, shoes, cosmetics, sanitary products and plastic pipes collectively valued between USD 100 million and USD 200 million per month.

We are the ultimate losers due to the closure of our border with Afghanistan as Kabul

has more choices than us, he said, emphasising the imbalance in market alternatives between the two nations.

Former president of the Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Zahidullah Shinwari, echoed similar concerns, stating that the suspension would severely affect the Federal Board of Revenue's tax collection.

He noted that millions of rupees were collected daily from imports and exports across the border, forming an essential revenue stream for the government. Shinwari added that industries in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa would suffer the most, as many rely heavily on Afghan imports particularly coal to sustain production.

Door opened for South Korea's pursuit of uranium enrichment

SEOUL

South Korea took a major step forward on Friday in its long-running quest to secure rights to enrich uranium and reprocess spent nuclear fuel for peaceful purposes, with the United States affirming its support in the countries' joint summit document.

The joint fact sheet, released earlier in the day, outlines the agreements reached in the two summits between President Lee Jae Myung and US President Donald Trump. It covers the allies' commitments on a range of key trade and security issues.

Consistent with the bilateral 123 agreement and subject to US legal requirements, the United States supports the process that will lead to the ROK's civil uranium enrichment and spent fuel reprocessing for peaceful uses, the document showed. ROK stands for South Korea's official name, the Republic of Korea. Under the 123 agree-

ment on peaceful nuclear energy cooperation, South Korea has very limited authority to reprocess spent nuclear fuel or enrich uranium for civilian purposes, as such activities require US consent through bilateral consultations under the relevant treaties, laws and regulations governing both countries.

The agreement only allows South Korea to enrich uranium up to less than 20 per cent based on US consent, with US concerns over nuclear proliferation known as the primary reason.

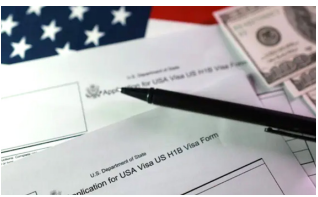
The nuclear energy pact, forged in 1974, was revised once in 2015 for a 20-year term, to accommodate Seoul's request for the rights to reprocess spent fuel and enrich uranium, but it has been seen as effectively barring Seoul from producing its own civilian nuclear fuel. South Korea, a global nuclear energy powerhouse, has long sought to expand its rights as a way to address growing nuclear waste stockpiles.

Marjorie Taylor Greene Moves to Abolish H-1B Visa

WASHINGTON

Republican lawmakers have renewed their offensive against the United States' H-1B visa programme, despite former President Donald Trump recently defending the non-immigrant work visa that allows American employers to hire skilled foreign workers. The latest move comes from Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene, who announced her intention to introduce a bill seeking to completely eliminate the programme and revoke the pathways to permanent residency it provides.

The H-1B visa, widely used in STEM fields, offers a route to U.S. citizenship through employer-sponsored green cards. After receiving permanent residency, workers can apply for citizenship within five years. This system has particularly benefited Indian professionals, who account for more than 70 per cent of



A new Republican push to abolish the H-1B visa reignites concerns for thousands of skilled foreign professionals, especially Indians.

all approved H-1B applications in recent years, driven by strong demand for specialized talent in American industries. In a video posted on X, Greene claimed the programme has been riddled with fraud and abuse and accused it of displacing American workers. She argued that eliminating the visa would force foreign workers to return home upon expiration of their current status.

Greene's proposal includes a narrow exemption for medical professionals, allowing up to 10,000 visas annually for doctors and nurses providing essential services. However, she added that even this small provision would be phased out over a decade, giv-

ing the U.S. time to build our own pipeline of medical professionals. The bill would further bar Medicare-funded residency programmes from admitting non-citizen medical students.

She pointed to last year's mismatch in medical placements, noting that over 9,000 U.S. medical graduates failed to secure residency positions, while more than 5,000 foreign-born doctors obtained placements in 2023.

If Greene's bill advances, immigration analysts warn it could severely disrupt American industries reliant on skilled talent and deliver a major blow to Indian professionals who form the backbone of the H-1B workforce.

Hundreds of expatriate Bangladeshis rallied outside the ICJ in The Hague protesting alleged human rights violations in Bangladesh

Bangladeshi Expatriates across Europe Protest Outside ICJ

THE HAGUE

Hundreds of Bangladeshi expatriates from across Europe formed a human chain outside the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague, accusing the Muhammad Yunus-led interim government of committing serious human rights abuses. The demonstration, organised by the Netherlands chapter of the Awami League, took place on Friday and was led by its President Mostofa Zaman and General Secretary Murad Khan.

Former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addressed the crowd virtually as the Chief Guest, expressing solidarity with the protesters. According to the Awami League, demonstrators later submitted a formal complaint to the ICJ President, outlining allegations that included arbitrary arrests, torture of minorities and party members, systematic persecution, and politically motivated cases filed against Hasina and her supporters.

The complaint accused Yunus and his associates of illegally seizing power and



working with anti-liberation and extremist forces to destabilise the country. It also cited incidents such as the burning of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's historic residence at 32 Dhanmondi, attacks on state institutions, and the banning of the Awami League and its student wing, the Chhatra League.

Several senior Awami League leaders from Europe — including Hasan Mahmud, M. Nazrul Islam, Mujibur Rahman, M.A. Kasem, Dilwar Hossain Koiech, and Shahidul Haq — joined the rally, calling for international intervention. Protesters held placards demanding justice for Hasina and all Bangladeshis who they said had been deprived of basic rights. The international community must not remain

silent. Yunus must be held accountable, the Awami League quoted participants as saying.

The demonstration came a day after the Awami League urged its supporters to stay alert against what it described as conspiracies by the Yunus-led interim administration, particularly in connection with the party's Dhaka Lockdown programme. The initiative centres around the upcoming verdict of the Bangladesh International Crimes Tribunal in a case against Hasina, reportedly due on November 17.

Condemning the interim government, the party alleged that the illegal, usurping, fascist regime had deprived it of its democratic rights and violated the rights of its leaders and activists.

First Chief Justice of Federal Constitutional Court sworn

ISLAMABAD

Justice Aminuddin Khan took oath as the first Chief Justice of Pakistan's newly-established Federal Constitutional Court (FCC) on Friday, a day after Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari signed the 27th Constitutional Amendment Bill into a law.

Zardari administered oath to Justice Khan as

Chief Justice of FCC at Aiwan e Sadr, the official residence of Pakistan's President.

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) General Sahir Shamshad Mirza and Supreme Court Chief Justice Yahya Afridi were also present during the ceremony.

Israel recovers hostage body from Gaza

JERUSALEM

Israel said Friday it recovered the body of a deceased hostage identified as Meny Godard held by militants in the Gaza Strip. After completing the identification process, officials notified the family of Godard that his remains had been returned for burial, the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) said in a statement.

According to the Prime Minister's Office, Godard's body was handed over to the Red Cross in Gaza and later transferred to Israel, where forensic experts confirmed his identity. Godard, 73, and his wife were killed outside their home in Kibbutz Be'eri during the Hamas-led attack on southern Israel on October 7, 2023. His body was taken to Gaza.

He was pronounced dead on August 12, 2023 and leaves behind four children and seven grandchildren. His

wife, the late Ayelet Goddard, was also murdered in an attack on the Kibbutz. In a statement, the said that it shares the family's grief and continues to invest all efforts in the return of the deceased abductees. Hamas, the IDF said, is required to fulfill its part of the agreement and make all necessary efforts to return the deceased hostages to their families and for a proper burial.

Earlier this week, the Israeli forces received from the Red Cross in Gaza the remains of a hostage whose body was held by Hamas for the past 11 years, the Israeli Prime Minister's office said.

Hamas announced it was handing over the body of Goldin, an army officer killed during Israel's 2014 Gaza war. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu later confirmed the remains were believed to be Goldin's. At the start of his weekly cabinet meeting,

Over 7,000 Afghan refugees return home from Pakistan and Iran in single day

KABUL

Around 7,061 Afghan refugees were forcibly deported to Afghanistan from Pakistan and Iran, according to Afghanistan's High Commission for Addressing Refugee Affairs. In a daily operational report shared on X, Afghanistan's Deputy Spokesperson Mullah Hamdullah Fitrat stated that 1,353 Afghan families, comprising 7,061 people returned from Iran and Paki-

stan. Fitrat stated that Afghan refugees returned to Afghanistan through Spin Boldak in Kandahar, Bahramcha in Helmand, Islam Qala in Herat, Pul-i-Abresham in Nimroz and Torkham in Nangarhar provinces. He further said that assistance was given to 1,436 families that returned to Afghanistan while 3,448 returnee families, comprising 27,223 people were taken to their respective areas. Mullah Hamdullah Fitrat stated that

telecommunication companies distributed 1,338 SIM cards to the refugees.

As many as 10,637 Afghan refugees were forcibly deported from Iran and Pakistan. Last month, Afghan refugees voiced concerns over escalating challenges and growing fear amid the ongoing crackdown in Pakistan. They alleged that the Pakistani police have made announcements in some mosques warning that anyone assisting the refugees.

GAZA AID CRISIS

Israel Is Systematically Crippling Aid Operations: UNRWA

NUSEIRAT

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) has accused Israel of intentionally paralyzing its humanitarian operations in Gaza, warning that millions of Palestinians are being left exposed as heavy rains and winter conditions set in. The agency said the Israeli blockade, now entering its third year amid the ongoing war, has restricted essential aid and hampered its ability to reach Gaza's displaced population. Addressing the UN General



Assembly's Fourth Committee, UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini said the agency's mandate is protected under international law and must be upheld. He cited conclusions from the UN Commission of Inquiry

survival of millions of Palestinians; and it is essential for a political solution, Lazzarini said.

Speaking to reporters in New York, Lazzarini warned that the agency is also facing a severe funding crisis worsened by cuts from major donors, including the United States. He said the organisation is struggling to sustain its basic functions. We run week by week, month by month. I know that as of today, we will be able to process our salaries in November, but have no idea if... we will be able to process our salaries in De-

cember, he said.

Israel barred UNRWA from operating on its territory earlier this year after accusing several of its staff of participating in the Hamas-led October 7, 2023 attack. However, Israel has not provided evidence supporting these allegations, which UNRWA has called baseless and politically motivated. With resources shrinking and access blocked, UNRWA warns that essential services including food distribution, medical care, and shelter support could soon collapse, leaving Gaza's population in even deeper peril.

SU DO KU

Brain-Bender: Can You Solve It?

6		4	3			5	
	8		9		5	7	2
	7		8	4	2	6	1
	9	2	6	8	3		4
4	3	7			9	2	6
8		1			4	9	5
3	4		2	1		8	6
	1	8	5			4	9
7		6		9		3	

4	5	8	3	1	7	2	9	6
6	7	1	9	4	2	3	8	5
9	3	2	6	8	5	4	7	1
7	4	5	1	2	9	8	6	3
2	1	6	8	3	4	7	5	9
3	8	9	7	5	6	1	4	2
8	2	7	5	9	1	6	3	4
1	9	3	4	6	8	5	2	7
5	6	4	2	7	3	9	1	8

Fill a 9x9 grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3x3 section contain all of the digits between 1 and 9.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle





The actor says she focuses on confidence, kindness, and emotional strength rather than following traditional expectations

ISHA KOPPIKAR champions communication in parenting

Actress Isha Koppikar shared her heartfelt thoughts on modern parenting this Children’s Day, explaining how open communication, trust, and emotional awareness guide her journey as a mother, she said she avoids strict, fear-based methods and instead encourages her daughter Rianna to understand her feelings and learn from everyday experiences. Isha explained that she focuses on confidence, kindness, and emotional strength rather than following traditional expectations. She said she tries to

guide her daughter through honest conversations instead of control. When Rianna faces challenges, Isha encourages her to think through the situation, find solutions, and reflect on what she feels, rather than simply following instructions. The actress shared that every night they talk about their day—the good, the mistakes, and the lessons learned. She believes showing her own flaws helps her daughter see that strength includes honesty, compassion, and the willingness to grow. According to her, parenting is not about perfection but about creating a bond built on trust and understanding. Speaking about her hopes for Rianna, Isha said she wants her to grow up feeling safe, loved, and free to choose her own path in life. She wishes for her daughter to know her worth and believe she can become anything she dreams of.

Isha welcomed Rianna in July 2014 with her former husband, Timmy Narang. The actress, known for films across several languages, made her debut with the Tamil movie “Kaalhal Kavithai,” which won her the Filmfare Best Female Debut Award.

‘Love Never Dies’

Just as the title ‘Premam Madhuram’ suggests, the story revolves around love and romance. The film contains situations that today’s youth will easily connect with. In everyone’s life, love either succeeds or fails. This applies to all. As we watch, many incidents we experienced or witnessed during our school and college days come back vividly before our eyes.

The film shows what love looks like at three different stages of life. Even though it doesn’t try to say anything entirely new, certain aspects of love manage to capture our attention. It also portrays what goes on in the glamorous world and the struggles new talents face when they enter the industry.

In the end, the message to young lovers is that love is eternal, it has no death. How the love story between Vikram, Meghana, and Charmi



concludes can be known only by watching the film in the theatre.

Gandhi.A.B., who has taken on the dual responsibility of Director and lead actor, has handled both roles neatly. In his very first attempt, he succeeds in creating scenes that do not feel boring. Heroines Aishwarya Dinesh and Anusha Jain look charming on screen.

Lapangaraj, an artist from North Karnataka, entertains with dialogues in the local dialect. Likewise, Sihi Kahi Chandru, Rajeswari, Anoop Agastya, and others do justice to their roles. Two songs by Vishal Aalap stand out as pleasant to listen to. Producer Aragonda Shekhar Reddy can be credited with giving the audience a good film.

Priyanka Chopra calls Hyderabad biryani world’s best

Global star Priyanka Chopra, currently shooting for SS Rajamouli’s much-anticipated film *Globe Trotter*, has praised Hyderabad for its food and warm hospitality. The actress has been filming in the city since January 2025 and has explored many corners of Hyderabad and its surroundings.

During a recent fan interaction on X (formerly Twitter), Priyanka spoke fondly about her collaboration with Mahesh Babu and the close bond she shares with both his family and Rajamouli’s family. She even visited Rajamouli’s farm, located about 50 km from Hyderabad, where she enjoyed spending time with a calf and experiencing the serene countryside. Describing her experience on the

film as “adiripoyindi,” Priyanka revealed that she has thoroughly enjoyed every moment of working on the project. When asked about her favorite Hyderabad food, she didn’t hesitate to declare, “Hyderabad biryani is the best in the world!”

In *Globe Trotter*, Priyanka plays the character Mandakini. The first look poster of her role has already created a buzz among fans, heightening anticipation for the film. Her candid comments and excitement about both the city and the project reflect her genuine appreciation for local culture and the collaborative spirit on set.



Nani’s ‘The Paradise’ faces major challenge ahead



Chikiri Chikiri, which is trending online, adding pressure on *The Paradise* team to speed up music production. Director Odela is currently in Chennai coordinating music sessions with Anirudh.

The film is being planned for a global release, with earlier reports suggesting talks with Hollywood star Ryan Reynolds as a presenter to expand its international reach, though no official update has emerged.

Actor Nani’s upcoming film *The Paradise*, touted as his most ambitious and expensive project yet, is facing a tough challenge as it gears up for a March 26, 2026 release. Set in the historic era of Secunderabad, Nani plays Jadaalu, a rugged character with braided hair and tattoos, including one bold tattoo on his hand that reads “ba**rd.”

Directed by Srikanth Odela of *Dasara* fame and produced by Sudhakar Cherukuri, the film is currently being shot across Hyderabad. Key sequences featuring Nani, Mohan Babu, and Sonali Kulkarni are underway, but the production faces a pressing hurdle—none of the songs have been recorded yet. Music director Anirudh Ravichander, who is handling multiple high-profile projects like *Jailer 2* and *King*, is taking time to complete the soundtrack. Meanwhile, competitor Ram Charan’s *Peddi* has already released its first song,



CHADWICK BOSEMAN

honoured with Hollywood star posthumously

Late actor Chadwick Boseman will be honoured with a posthumous star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame five years after his passing at age 43. The ceremony is scheduled for November 20 at 6904 Hollywood Blvd, Los Angeles. Boseman’s wife, Simone Ledward-Boseman, will accept the award on his behalf, while filmmaker Ryan Coogler and actress Viola Davis, both longtime collaborators, are set to speak at the event. Ana Martinez, producer of the Hollywood Walk of Fame, said in a statement that Boseman’s “powerful performances and enduring impact both on and off screen continue to inspire generations around the world.”

Boseman built a celebrated career portraying iconic figures in Black American history. He earned widespread acclaim for playing Jackie Robinson in *42*, James Brown in *Get On Up*, and Thurgood Marshall, the first Black U.S. Supreme Court Justice, in *Marshall*. His performance as troubled trumpet player Levee Green in *Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom* earned him a posthumous Academy Award nomination in 2021 and wins at the Golden Globe, Critics’ Choice, and Screen Actors Guild Awards. Among Marvel fans, Boseman became a global icon for his role as T’Challa, the superhero Black Panther, in the blockbuster franchise directed by Ryan Coogler. His legacy continues to resonate both on the big screen and beyond, inspiring audiences and actors worldwide.

The Walk of Fame star will serve as a lasting tribute to Boseman’s talent, dedication, and the cultural impact he made during his brief but extraordinary career.



‘MAD’ fame Gouri Priya shines in two films

Actress Sri Gouri Priya, who regained fame with the show *MAD*, is keeping busy with two promising Telugu projects. On her birthday, both film teams released special posters to celebrate her milestone. In *Chennai Love Story*, she stars opposite Kiran Abbavaram. Written by Sai Rajesh and co-produced by SKN, the film is generating buzz, especially following Kiran Abbavaram’s recent hit *K-Ramp*. Sources say Gouri Priya plays a strong, pivotal role in the romantic drama, adding depth to the story.

Her second project, *Visa*, produced by Sithara Entertainments, casts her as an NRI girl alongside Rahul Vijay. The film promises to showcase her versatility and charm in a completely different character. With consecutive projects in Telugu cinema and a growing presence in Tamil through her web series and the film *Lover*, Sri Gouri Priya’s career appears to be on a steady upward trajectory. Her choices reflect a mix of strong roles and commercial appeal, making her one of the rising stars to watch in South Indian cinema.

Fans and industry insiders are excited to see how she juggles these two films and further establishes herself as a leading actress in both Telugu and Tamil entertainment.

Ankit Siwach’s dialogue strikes deep with fans



Actor Ankit Siwach is thrilled by the growing craze around his powerful dialogue from the trailer of Farhan Akhtar’s upcoming drama *120 Bahadur*. Since the trailer’s release, one line spoken by Ankit has taken social media by storm. The dialogue, in which he expresses devotion, bravery, and the spirit of a soldier, has become widely shared and discussed by fans online.

Ankit said the overwhelming response feels like a dream come true. He shared that every actor hopes for moments where their performance touches people so deeply. According to him, the line has connected with audiences because it reflects pure emotions tied to loyalty, sacrifice, and love for the country. He recalled shooting the scene in freezing weather, but also feeling a strong emotion that rose beyond acting and made the moment unforgettable.

Legendary actress Kamini Kaushal passes away at 98

Veteran actress Kamini Kaushal, one of Indian cinema’s most respected and long-lived stars, passed away on Friday at the age of 98. Family friends said she had been dealing with age-related health issues and that her loved ones have asked for privacy as they cope with the loss. Born in Lahore as the youngest of five siblings, Kaushal made a mark early in her career with “Neecha Nagar,” the film that won the Palme d’Or at the 1946 Cannes Film Festival. Through the decades, she went on to act in more than 90 films and became a familiar face to generations of moviegoers. Her standout works included “Shaheed,” “Nadiya Ke Paar,” “Shabnam,” “Aarzoo,” and “Biraj Bahu,” along with noted films such as “Do Bhai,” “Ziddi,” “Paras,” “Namoonaa,” “Aabroo,” and “Godaan.”

Kaushal was admired for her natural screen presence and for her work with leg-



endary actors like Dilip Kumar, Raj Kapoor, Dev Anand, and Ashok Kumar. Her on-screen partnership with Dilip Kumar, especially in films like “Shaheed” and “Aarzoo,” won widespread praise. She also reached audiences through television, most memorably with the Doordarshan show “Chand Sitar.” Even in her later years, she remained connected to films, appearing in “Laal Singh Chadha” in 2022.

Kamini Kaushal is survived by her sons Shraavan, Vidur, and Rahul Sood. Her colleagues remembered her as gentle, disciplined, and deeply devoted to her craft.



Bumrah’s five-for lights up Eden as India seizes control of first test

Jasprit Bumrah’s fiery five-wicket haul turned the opening day firmly India’s way

KOLKATA

Jasprit Bumrah produced a spell of high-class fast bowling to claim a superb five-wicket haul and dismantle South Africa for 159 on Day 1 of the first Test at Eden Gardens on Friday. In front of a roaring crowd of nearly 35,000, the Indian spearhead changed the course of the innings the moment he took the ball at the Clubhouse End.

South Africa’s openers Aiden Markram and Ryan Rickelton had begun confidently, racing to 57 without loss as India

searched desperately for a breakthrough. Bumrah delivered instantly, going around the wicket to remove Rickelton with precision before unleashing a sharp, rising delivery that forced Markram to glove behind. With minimal assistance from the surface, his relentless accuracy and attacking lengths made him unplayable.

Bumrah’s return spell proved just as destructive. Tony de Zorzi, well set and batting fluently, was trapped by one that skidded back in. Kyle Verreynne then faced a searing yorker first ball, sur-

living only by inches. The pressure was unrelenting, and Bumrah eventually cleaned up the tail to complete his 16th Test five-wicket haul—and his first at Eden Gardens.

Since 2018, Bumrah has dismissed more Test openers than any bowler in the world, a reflection of his unmatched potency with the new ball and old. His Test average of 19.67—earned across conditions in Asia, Australia, England and South Africa—underscores his stature as one of modern cricket’s most complete fast bowlers.

Former India batting coach Sanjay Bangar praised Bumrah’s immaculate control, noting how he offers almost no scoring opportunities with his stump-to-stump consistency.

A brief on-field exchange during a DRS discussion involving a remark picked up on the stump mic created some online chatter, but it did little to overshadow the day.

On a pitch offering variable bounce and early reverse swing, Bumrah stamped his authority, sending the crowd into a frenzy and putting India firmly in command of the contest.

Kartik Kumar Accepts 3-Yr Ban after Multiple Positive Tests

KOLKATA

Long-distance runner Kartik Kumar, a Hangzhou Asian Games silver medallist in the 10,000m, has accepted a three-year ban after testing positive for multiple prohibited substances during an out-of-competition test conducted in the United States. The 26-year-old, who had been training in Colorado Springs, was tested by the USA Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) following a tip-off.

Kartik was part of a training group under noted coach Scott Simmons, working alongside fellow long-distance star Gulveer Singh and other elite athletes. His sample returned adverse findings for several banned substances, prompting USADA to place him under provisional suspension. The Athletics Integrity Unit and Indian authorities were subsequently informed of the violation.

Kylian Mbappé, Olise Shine as France Seal 2026 World Cup Berth

PARIS

France stormed into the 2026 FIFA World Cup with a commanding 4-0 victory over Ukraine in Paris, a night that blended footballing excellence with poignant remembrance. Kylian Mbappé struck twice, while Michael Olise and Hugo Ekitike added one each, ensuring Les Bleus confirmed qualification with a game to spare.

A minute’s silence preceded kick-off at Parc des Princes as 41,000 spectators honoured victims of the 2015 Paris attacks. France, led by long-serving coach Didier Deschamps, responded with a composed display that underlined their consistency on the global stage.

Mbappé opened the scoring early in the second half, calmly converting a penalty after Olise was fouled. Olise, thriving in a more central role, doubled the lead in the 76th minute with a sharp turn and finish.



Mbappé’s brace and Olise’s brilliance power France into the 2026 World Cup.

The momentum stayed with France as Mbappé added his second, taking his international tally to 55—just two behind Olivier Giroud’s all-time record. Ekitike then completed the rout with his first senior international goal.

Deschamps, set to lead France for the final time at the upcoming World Cup, expressed satisfaction at meeting the team’s primary objective.

With an unassailable lead in Group D, France extended their remarkable qualification streak, having featured in every World Cup since 1998.

Though the qualifying campaign had occasional dips, notably a draw against Iceland, France rediscovered fluency when it mattered. As they await the December 5 draw in Washington, D.C., Ukraine and Iceland now face a decisive clash to keep their hopes alive through the playoffs.

Vaibhav Suryavanshi Fires 32-Ball Ton in Tournament Opener

DOHA

Vaibhav Suryavanshi produced a sensational batting display, hammering a 32-ball hundred to equal the joint-second fastest T20 century by an Indian, during India’s Rising Stars Asia Cup match against the UAE at the West End Park International Cricket Stadium in Doha on Friday.

Walking out to open India’s campaign, Suryavanshi showed intent from the very first over, unleashing an array of fearless strokes across the ground. His innings was fuelled by 10 fours and nine towering sixes, a clean striking effort that left the UAE bowlers with no answers. The right-hander mixed timing with raw power, often stepping out to loft over long-on or backing away to carve shots over point, maintaining a relentless scoring tempo throughout his knock.

Suryavanshi’s 32-ball effort places him behind only Urvil Patel and Abhishek Sharma, the joint record-holders for the fastest T20 hundreds by an Indian, both achieving the milestone in 28 balls.



Young opener Vaibhav Suryavanshi lit up India’s tournament opener with a blistering century.

His innings also provided India with an ideal start to the multi-nation youth competition, injecting confidence into a team eager to make a strong early impression.

The pitch in Doha offered true bounce and value for shots—conditions Suryavanshi capitalised on brilliantly. Despite the UAE bowlers’ attempts to alter pace and length, he continued to dominate, frequently clearing the infield and forcing the opposition captain to spread the field as early as the third over.

Beyond its statistical significance, the knock further elevates Suryavanshi’s reputation as one of India’s most exciting young batters. His ability to accelerate instantly, maintain control under pressure, and convert a flying start into a monumental score will hearten the Indian team management as the tournament progresses.

India will hope this commanding beginning sets the tone for a successful Rising Stars Asia Cup campaign, with Suryavanshi’s whirlwind hundred already emerging as one of the tournament’s stand-out early highlights.

Ronaldo’s red card puts his 2026 World Cup participation under serious threat

Ronaldo Risks World Cup Ban after Red Card in Defeat to Ireland

DUBLIN

Cristiano Ronaldo could face a suspension that threatens his participation in the opening match of the 2026 FIFA World Cup after being sent off during Portugal’s 2-0 defeat to Ireland in a crucial qualifying match on Thursday. The veteran forward received a red card in the second half for elbowing Ireland defender Dara O’Shea, an incident that now places him at risk of a multi-match FIFA ban.

Ronaldo will automatically miss Portugal’s next qualifier against Armenia on Sunday, where a win would secure their place at the World Cup in the United States, Canada and Mexico. However, FIFA’s disciplinary regulations stipulate a minimum two-match suspension for serious foul play, and at least three matches for violent conduct or assault—categories under which elbowing can fall. Any suspension he receives would apply only to competitive fixtures, meaning it cannot be served in warm-up games before the tournament.

The flashpoint occurred around the hour mark at Dublin’s Aviva Stadium, with Ireland leading 2-0. As players awaited a cross, Ronaldo spun and struck O’Shea with his elbow, initially earning a yellow card before the referee upgraded it to a red following a pitchside video review. The Portugal star reacted with a wry smile, later clapping sarcastically toward jeering Irish fans as he left the field.

Ronaldo, who turns 41 in February, hopes to feature in his sixth World Cup—a record achievement if realized. The tournament draw will take place on December 5 in Washington, D.C., where Portugal, provided they qualify, will learn their group-stage opponents.



Joseph Parker Returns Positive Test for Cocaine

LONDON

Former heavyweight world champion Joseph Parker has failed a drugs test after traces of cocaine were detected in a sample submitted to the Voluntary Anti-Doping Agency (VADA). A source confirmed the development on Friday, revealing that the test was conducted on the same day as Parker’s bout against Britain’s Fabio Wardley last month.

The result, which only came to light this week, casts a shadow over Parker’s recent resurgence in the heavyweight division. The 33-year-old New Zealander entered the fight in exceptional form, having won six consecutive contests since his punishing 2022 defeat to Joe Joyce. That run included high-profile victories over Deontay Wilder and Zhilei Zhang, as well as capturing the WBO interim title.

Wardley ultimately defeated Parker in a surprise result, and the failed test now raises serious questions about the former champion’s future. VADA notified all relevant parties on Thursday evening, according to a statement released by Frank Warren’s Queensbury Promotions. “Joseph Parker returned an adverse finding following an anti-doping test conducted on October 25 in relation to his bout with Fabio Wardley. While the matter is investigated further, no additional comment will be made at this time,” the statement read.

Sky Sports News has contacted Parker’s management team for comment, though no response has yet been issued. Parker, who lost his WBO belt to Anthony Joshua in 2018, had positioned himself as the mandatory challenger for undisputed champion Oleksandr Usyk.

Alcaraz Seals Year-End No. 1 Spot with Commanding Win

TORINO

Carlos Alcaraz needed less than 90 minutes to wrap up the year-ending No. 1 ranking in men’s tennis, completing a commanding 6-4, 6-1 victory over Italy’s Lorenzo Musetti at the ATP Finals. The win ensured the Spaniard topped his group and finished ahead of rival Jannik Sinner in the year-end standings.

Alcaraz, who entered the tournament needing three victories to guarantee the top spot, delivered exactly that, sweeping all his group-stage

matches. “It means the world to me,” he said. “At the start of the year, No. 1 felt far away with Jannik winning everything. But from mid-season onward, I believed it was possible. I’m proud of my team and myself.” This marks the second time the 22-year-old

has ended a season at No. 1, having first achieved the feat in 2022 at just 19, making him the youngest man to do so. Despite initial nerves, Alcaraz settled quickly and silenced the partisan Italian crowd, sealing the match on his third match point.

KOLKATA

Rabada Ruled Out of First India Test with Rib Injury



South Africa fast bowler Kagiso Rabada has been ruled out of the first Test against India at Eden Gardens after suffering a rib injury during the team’s opening training session. His availability for the second Test in Guwahati remains uncertain. Rabada underwent a scan the day after sustaining the injury and attended Wednesday’s training, though his

workload was unclear. He skipped Thursday’s optional session and failed a fitness test on Friday morning, prompting a late decision to withdraw him from the XI. All-rounder Corbin Bosch replaced Rabada, joining Marco Jansen and Wiaan Mulder in South Africa’s three-man pace attack. With Lungi Ngidi omitted for the subcontinent tours.

NEW DELHI

Ghazanfar Credits Hardik’s Support, Hopes for MI Retention



Afghanistan’s 19-year-old mystery spinner Allah Ghazanfar hopes his strong international progress over the past year will convince Mumbai Indians to retain him ahead of the 2026 IPL season. Ghazanfar missed his debut opportunity last year due to a back injury but says regular motivation from MI captain Hardik Pandya kept him

going. “Hardik bhai stayed in touch and motivated me a lot,” Ghazanfar said, adding that he also had valuable discussions with teammate Tilak Varma. Now fully fit, he is set to play in the Rising Stars Asia Cup in Doha. Reflecting on a taxing year that included his Test debut, Ghazanfar said he has become wiser and stronger.

NEW DELHI

Rohit to Lead India at Junior World Cup 2025



Hockey India announced the FIH Junior Men’s World Cup 2025, naming defender and drag-flicker Rohit as captain. The tournament will be held from November 28 to December 10 in Chennai and Madurai, with India placed in Pool B alongside Chile, Switzerland, and Oman. Coached by former India

goalkeeper PR Sreejesh, the squad blends experience and emerging talent. India, however, will miss key forward Arajjeet Singh Hundal, ruled out with a shoulder injury. The goalkeeping duties will be shared by Bikramjit Singh and Princedeep Singh, while Rohit anchors a strong defence featuring Amir Ali, Anmol Ekka, and Shardanand Tiwari.



Let Blind Cricket Gain Global Recognition: Hebbalkar

Minister said, state has led the way in promoting inclusivity and equal opportunities

BENGALURU

Women and Child Development Minister Lakshmi Hebbalkar expressed hope that blind cricket tournaments, which empower especially abled children, will gain well-deserved global recognition. She was speaking after inaugurating the first-ever Blind Women's T20 World Cup at the Samprasiddhi Ground in Thirumenahalli, Bengaluru. Addressing the gathering, the minister highlighted the challenges faced by visually impaired players. She

noted that even individuals with full physical ability and clear eyesight often struggle to participate in sports. "For children with visual impairment, stepping onto the field and playing cricket requires extraordinary courage and determination. Their efforts are truly inspiring," she said. Hebbalkar added that Bengaluru hosting a significant portion of this prestigious international tournament is a matter of immense pride for Karnataka. The state, she said, has consistently led the way in promoting inclusivity and

equal opportunities in sports. She assured that the Women and Child Development Department would extend complete support to initiatives that uplift especially abled athletes and encourage their participation at all levels.

Minister Watches India–Nepal Match

Following the inauguration, Hebbalkar watched a segment of the match between India and Nepal. She applauded both teams, cheering enthusiastically to motivate the players. Later, she briefly joined

the commentary team, adding to the excitement of the event. The occasion was attended by Samarthanam Trust founder Dr. Mahantesh, along with several dignitaries, organisers, and supporters of blind cricket. Their presence reflected the growing recognition and support for visually impaired athletes in India and beyond. With the successful launch of the Blind Women's T20 World Cup, organisers hope the platform will inspire many more players and pave the way for global appreciation of blind cricket.



Asian Archery Championship: Indian Recurve Men Stun S Korea

DHAKA

The Indian men's recurve team clinched a historic gold at the Asian Archery Championship, defeating South Korea in a tense shoot-off to win their first title since 2007. Yashdeep Bhoge, Atanu Das and Rahul rallied from 2-4 down to edge out a strong Korean trio of Seo Mingi, Kim Yechan and Jang Jiho. Both teams shot 29 in the shoot-off, but India prevailed after Atanu delivered a perfect 10 closer to the centre. The win lifted India's tally to four gold and two silver medals, following a dominant compound performance led by Jyothi Surekha Vennam, who claimed two golds. For coach Rahul Banerjee, part of the 2007 champion team, the victory was deeply emotional. India remain in medal contention with several recurve archers reaching the semifinals.

PAK-SL SECURITY Pak Hands SL Team's Security to Army after Islamabad Blasts

ISLAMABAD

The Pakistan government has handed over the security of the visiting Sri Lankan cricket team to the Army and paramilitary forces after several players expressed a desire to return home following the serial bomb blasts that struck Islamabad earlier this week. Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman and Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi confirmed that the team is now under state-level protection, with the Army, Rangers and police jointly overseeing all security arrangements. Naqvi said the decision came after the Sri Lankan squad agreed to continue the tour following the intervention of Pakistan's Army Chief, General Asim Munir.

Naqvi told reporters in Rawalpindi that both the Sri Lankan government and its cricket board had displayed "immense support" and solidarity with Pakistan by not calling off the tour. He acknowledged that some Sri Lankan players were initially keen to return due to security concerns triggered by the Islamabad terror attack. "The positive outcome was only achieved through sustained engagement between Pakistani and Sri Lankan leadership," Naqvi said. He added that Army Chief Munir had personally assured Sri Lanka's Defence Minister Pramitha Bandara Tennakoon of the team's safety. "The Field Marshal himself spoke to the Sri Lankan Defence Minister and Secretary, and I am grateful the players

showed great bravery in deciding to remain in Pakistan," he noted. Naqvi said he also held an extended meeting with the players to address their apprehensions, stressing that their well-being was the responsibility of the Pakistan government. Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Disanayake, he added, also spoke directly to the squad to reassure them. Pakistan are currently hosting Sri Lanka for a three-match ODI series, which will proceed as scheduled under heightened security.



KARACHI

Pakistan Cricket Board Declines Bangladesh's Proposal for Tri-Series



The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has turned down an invitation from the Bangladesh Cricket Board to take part in a December triangular T20 series also involving Sri Lanka. A PCB official said the board preferred to manage player workload, especially since several key cricketers have been granted NOCs to participate in overseas leagues. Top players,

including Babar Azam, Mohammad Rizwan, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Haris Rauf and Shadab Khan, are committed to the Big Bash League, while others such as Fakhar Zaman will feature in the Emirates International League. Although Pakistan has no international fixtures in December and January, the PCB had already prioritised league participation.

DHAKA

Ankita Bhakat Shocks Olympic Medallist to Win Asian Archery Gold



India's Ankita Bhakat scripted the biggest victory of her career, defeating Paris Olympics silver-medallist Nam Suhyeon of South Korea 7-3 to clinch the women's recurve gold at the Asian Archery Championships on Friday. Ankita opened strongly, taking the first set with two 10s and maintained composure in the decider to

seal the title. India also claimed the women's recurve bronze as Sangeeta edged past five-time Olympian Deepika Kumari 6-5 in a tense shoot-off. Earlier, Ankita had beaten Deepika in the semifinals. The win marks a major breakthrough for Ankita and adds to India's growing medal tally at the continental event.

Winning a Series in Ind Would Rank Below WTC Title: Bavuma

KOLKATA

South Africa captain Temba Bavuma believes that winning a Test series in India would be the team's biggest achievement after their World Test Championship (WTC) triumph earlier this year. Bavuma said conquering India remains a long-standing ambition for the Proteas. "Winning the World Test Championship—there's not much that can top that. But right behind it would be winning in India," Bavuma said on the eve of the series opener. "It's not something that has eluded us, but it's something we haven't been able to achieve for a very long time. We understand the magnitude of the challenge." He added that many players in the current squad carried "moments of hurt" from previous tours and were determined to prove themselves. "It's exciting when you



Bavuma says conquering India in Tests would be South Africa's next greatest milestone

look at the makeup of both teams. India have fantastic players but also a bit of inexperience. Similarly, our guys want to measure themselves against the best in the world." Bavuma returns to the national Test side after a lengthy injury break, having regained fitness during South Africa A's four-day match against India A in Bengaluru. The

skipper said spending time in the middle was crucial for his confidence. "Getting back on the field, proving my fitness, and batting for long periods was important." He also welcomed the opportunity to face India's left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav for the first time. "I'd rather face him in the A game than here in Kolkata—if he plays. He's not a big turner, but he's deceptive off the pitch and a genuine wicket-taker." With no Boxing Day Test this year, Bavuma said the India series carries added significance. "This becomes our festive season. It's disappointing for players and fans, but we'll make the most of it. Back home there's a renewed appreciation for the Proteas." South Africa now aim to script a historic triumph on Indian soil—a feat they have long pursued but never accomplished.

MI strengthen squad with strategic trades ahead of IPL 2026

IPL 2026: MI Sign Thakur, Rutherford in Trade Window

MUMBAI

With the IPL 2026 player retention deadline nearing, Mumbai Indians (MI) boosted their squad by securing India pacer Shardul Thakur and West Indies batter Sherfane Rutherford in two significant trade-window moves. The five-time champions, aiming to rebuild after an inconsistent 2025 season, moved swiftly to finalize deals before the November 15 retention cut-off. MI acquired Shardul Thakur from Lucknow Super

Giants (LSG) for ₹2 crore in an all-cash deal. Thakur, who went unsold in the 2025 mega auction and was preparing for a county stint with Essex, was later drafted by LSG as an injury replacement for Mohsin Khan. Despite a bright start, picking up six wickets in his first two matches of IPL 2025, Thakur's form dipped as he finished the season with 13 wickets in 10 games at an economy of 11.02. MI are banking on his experience and proven ability as a wicket-taking middle-overs bowler. The franchise also strengthened their middle order by bringing back Sherfane Rutherford, signing him from Gujarat Titans (GT) for ₹2.6 crore. Rutherford played 13

matches for GT in 2025, scoring 291 runs at an average of 32.22 and an impressive strike rate of 157.29. Although he was previously part of MI's title-winning 2020 squad, he did not feature in any games that season. His explosive batting and finishing skills are expected to add depth to MI's lineup. In another move, MI traded left-arm pacer Arjun Tendulkar to LSG for ₹30 lakh. Tendulkar, who debuted in IPL 2023, has played five matches overall, taking three wickets at an economy of 9.36. With the auction set for December 14–17 in Abu Dhabi, MI's early trade activity signals their intent to reshape the squad for a stronger 2026 campaign.



NEW DELHI

India's top men's tennis player Sumit Nagal has received his Chinese visa, clearing the way for him to compete in the Australian Open Playoff starting November 24 in Chengdu. Nagal shared his gratitude on X, thanking Indian and Chinese authorities for expediting the process after his initial visa application was rejected without explanation. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian later stated that visas are issued to athletes according to regulations, expressing hope that all required documents would be submitted promptly. The Playoff serves as a qualification pathway into the 2026 Australian Open main draw. Ranked 275, Nagal now depends on qualifiers or wild cards for Grand Slams, having dropped out of the top 100. He last played a Slam main draw at the 2025 Australian Open.

Sumit Nagal Secures Chinese Visa for AO Playoff



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KUMAMOTO

Lakshya Sen Enters Quarters, Prannoy Bows Out in Japan Masters



India had mixed results at the Kumamoto Masters Japan as Lakshya Sen reached the quarterfinals while HS Prannoy exited in the second round. Seventh seed Lakshya dominated Singapore's Jia Heng Jason Teh 21-13, 21-11 in 39 minutes, showing sharp control and tactical discipline. After pulling away

from 14-13 in the first game, he completely dictated the second with an early 5-0 lead. He will next face former world champion Loh Kean Yew. Prannoy, however, lost 18-21, 15-21 to Denmark's Rasmus Gemke, leaving India's men's singles hopes resting on Lakshya's strong form.

