# CITY HILIGHTS

IBC WORLD NEWS
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Certified English Daily

The Truth Speaks

SUNDAY ▸ NOVEMBER 15, 2026 ▸ VOL: 12 ▸ ISSUE: 120 ▸ PAGES 12 ▸ ₹4.00

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# DKS: Emphasizing cooperative sector as rural backbone

Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar championed rural cooperatives, women's empowerment, and infrastructural rights during recent addresses.

**BENGALURU**

Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said cooperatives help farmers gain financial independence and sustain rural livelihoods.

Inaugurating the 73rd Cooperative Week, he said nearly 17 lakh farmers benefit from interest-free crop loans backed by ₹1,135 crore in state support. District central cooperative banks and land development banks disbursed ₹1,551 crore in long-term loans to about 75,000 families.

Shivakumar defended the milk price increase, saying dairy farmers need better returns as fodder and cattle care costs rise.

He said Karnataka farmers receive ₹54 per litre, compared with ₹61–₹62 for Amul suppliers. The Ksheeradhare scheme provides a ₹5 per litre incentive.

He put enrolment in the Yeshasvini health scheme at 52 lakh cooperative members.

Karnataka has sought ₹22,000 crore in central drought relief against estimated losses of ₹60,000 crore. The state has approved a 250-bed multispecialty hospital in Ullal and a government college in Yeshwantpur.

Unveiling the logo for the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians India Region Conference, Shivakumar called for swift implementation of women's reservation in the Lok Sabha and state legislatures.

He pointed to women serving as Karnataka's Governor, Chief Secretary and Legislative Council Secretary.

About 150 legislators and presiding officers are expected at the Bengaluru conference, whose main sessions on November 17 and 18 will focus on online safety and strengthening women's legislative skills.

At a Children's Day event honouring Jawaharlal Nehru, Shivakumar credited India's first prime minister with laying the foundations for industrial, scientific and agricultural development.

He urged Congress workers to recruit members for the Bharat Jodo Yuva Sanghas and use party software to help eligible voters missing from revised electoral rolls. He said a second list of appointments to state boards and corporations would be released soon.



> The Mekedatu project is Karnataka's right, and it is our duty to implement it in accordance with the Supreme Court's directive. Instead of opposing the move, Tamil Nadu should send a delegation so I can explain the benefits they stand to gain from it.
>
> - **D.K. Shivakumar, Chief Minister**

### Government backing for the sector

- **Interest-Free Crop Loans**: Approximately 1.7 million farmers currently receive interest-free agricultural credit, backed by state grants exceeding ₹1,135 crore.
- **Dairy Industry Support**: With 2.5 million farmers enrolled in milk cooperatives, the administration continues to disburse a ₹5 per liter subsidy under the 'Ksheeradaana' scheme, alongside defending fair pricing to offset high cattle-rearing and fodder costs.
- **Healthcare Protection**: The popular 'Yashasvini' health insurance scheme provides medical coverage to 5.2 million cooperative members through a network of nearly 9,500 empanelled hospitals.

Shivakumar said Karnataka had the right to build the Mekedatu balancing reservoir and invited a Tamil Nadu delegation to visit the site. He said Karnataka would honour Tamil Nadu's share of Cauvery water under Supreme Court directives.

He put spending on subsidised power for farm pumps at ₹30,000 crore, up from ₹20,000 crore amid drought and demand for lift irrigation.

# RaGa questions voter roll integrity

**HYDERABAD**

Lok Sabha Opposition Leader Rahul Gandhi questioned the integrity of India's electoral rolls at the closing session of the Bharat Summit 2026.

He spoke at HICC Novotel alongside Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy before delegates from about 70 countries.

Gandhi alleged that 140 million people who voted in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections were later classified as ineligible or nonexistent during nationwide revisions of the electoral rolls.

"If the Election Commission has declared 140 million voters illegal non-voters, then how is that election possibly legitimate?" he asked.

He cited Maharashtra, where the opposition performed strongly in the general election before losing the Assembly election later that year.

Gandhi claimed the opposition received roughly the same number of votes in both contests and alleged that seven million voters were added, benefiting the Bharatiya Janata Party.

In an earlier response to Congress, the Election Commission reported about 4.88 million additions and 800,000 deletions between the two elections, a net increase of about 4.08 million.

Gandhi also argued that a surge in political funding and changes in campaigning in 2014 disrupted an era of close contests and coalition governments. He described intolerance of dissent in business, academia and politics and said authoritarian tendencies surface when institutions weaken.

The Election Commission and the BJP have previously rejected allegations of electoral manipulation. The commission has urged critics to submit signed declarations backed by evidence. BJP leaders have accused Gandhi of undermining constitutional institutions.



> Today, we fulfilled that promise: ₹5 lakh accident insurance, ₹10 lakh health insurance, 1% of earnings for pension, rights over their data and earnings, and rest centres with Wi-Fi at various locations.
>
> - **Rahul Gandhi, LoP Lok Sabha**

# PM pays tributes to Nehru on 137th birth anniversary

**NEW DELHI**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, independent India's first prime minister, on his 137th birth anniversary on Saturday. India observes the anniversary, November 14, as Children's Day, known as Bal Diwas.

In a post on X, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh recalled Nehru's role in India's freedom struggle and said his leadership left a lasting mark on the country's early years. Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi and former Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot laid flowers at Nehru's memorial at Shanti Van, remembering him as an architect of modern India.

Born on November 14, 1889, in Allahabad, now Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, Nehru led the country from independence in August 1947 until his death on May 27, 1964. Known affectionately as Chacha Nehru, he is remembered for championing children's education and welfare.




CWP COMMONWEALTH WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS

KARNATAKA LEGISLATURE


Shri Saleem Ahmed
Hon'ble Chairman
Karnataka Legislative Council


Dr. D. Purandeswari
Hon'ble Chairman
Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians India Region


Shri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka


Shri Om Birla
Hon'ble Speaker
Lok Sabha


Shri Harivansh
Hon'ble Deputy Chairman
Rajya Sabha


Dr. G. Parameshwara
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka


Shri G. S. Patil
Hon'ble Speaker
Karnataka Legislative Assembly


Dr. Umashree
Hon'ble Deputy Chairman
Karnataka Legislative Council

CWP INDIA REGION
COMMONWEALTH WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS


Shri Mankal Vaidya
Hon'ble Deputy Speaker
Karnataka Legislative Assembly

FIRST COMMONWEALTH WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS (CWP) INDIA REGION CONFERENCE

Date
17 - 18
November 2026

Venue
Vidhana Soudha
Bengaluru



Women Leaders, United for Progress

The Parliament of India, in collaboration with the Karnataka Legislature, is organising the first Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) India Region Conference in Bengaluru, bringing together women parliamentarians and legislators from across the country.

The two-day conference will feature deliberations on cyber safety and mentorship pathways for new women legislators, with a focus on establishing safe and supportive foundations, strengthening women leadership, and empowering their voices for greater participation in parliamentary democracy.

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

## Quick Read

### Child dies after falling into chemical bucket

**CH NEWS,** BENGALURU

Nine-year-old Subramani tragically passed away on November 14 after falling into a bucket filled with chemicals at an adjacent factory in Srirampura, Bengaluru. The incident occurred on November 2 while the child was playing and wandered into the facility. Bystanders quickly pulled him out and rushed him to the hospital, but treatment ultimately proved unsuccessful. CCTV footage captured the moment the child fell into the chemical container. Authorities are reviewing the case as investigations continue into the factory's safety measures.

### Drunk driver arrested for assaulting PSI

**CH NEWS,** BENGALURU

A 35-year-old car broker, Sachin, was arrested by Byadarahalli police following a drunken driving incident around 3:00 AM on November 13 near Sanjeevini Hospital on Mahadeshwara Nagar Main Road. Driving at high speed while intoxicated, Sachin crashed into a house compound wall. When questioned by locals and later by Hoysala personnel and Kamakshipalya Traffic PSI Krishna, he refused an alcometer test and acted indecently in public. As police attempted to detain him, Sachin assaulted PSI Krishna, striking his face and tearing his uniform, a behavior he continued at the hospital.

### Winter air quality varies across Karnataka cities

**CH NEWS,** BENGALURU

Winter weather has brought notable changes to air quality across Karnataka. In Bengaluru, the Air Quality Index stays at a moderate level, driven mostly by heavy road traffic and dust. However, pollution levels change depending on the region. Cities like Mysuru and Davanagere report higher readings, falling into unhealthy brackets. Meanwhile, coastal and northern regions like Hubballi and Belagavi maintain cleaner air. Health experts advise children, the elderly, and sensitive individuals to limit outdoor exercise during peak traffic hours to avoid potential breathing discomfort as seasonal shifts continue.

# KPSC sets stage for Gazetted Probationer prelims

Karnataka finalizes strict security for KPSC preliminary exams today across 345 centers statewide.




The Karnataka Public Service Commission office at Park House, Bengaluru.

**CH NEWS,** BENGALURU

Comprehensive administrative and security arrangements have been finalized across Karnataka as the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) prepares to conduct the preliminary examination for 319 Gazetted Probationer (Group A and B) posts today, November 15, 2026.

A total of 147,067 aspirants have registered to take the statewide examination, which will span 345 sub-centers across multiple districts, including Bengaluru Urban, Mysuru, Belagavi, Ballari, Davanagere, Kalaburagi, and Dharwad.

### Webcasting and jammers

Following previous malpractice controversies, strict oversight measures have been implemented. Examination centers will feature continuous CCTV surveillance, live webcasting monitored through command centers, and signal jammers to block electronic devices. Police personnel, including officers of the rank of PSI and above, have been deployed for rigorous frisking, and facial-recognition biometric verification will be enforced.

A 200-meter radius around all examination venues has been declared a restricted zone under Section 163 of the BNSS, with local photocopy shops and internet cafes ordered to remain shut during testing hours. Furthermore, OMR answer sheets will be scanned on the day of the exam, with copies securely distributed between candidates, the KPSC, and district treasuries.

**Exam schedule**

| | |
|---|---|
| PAPER 1 | 10 am-12 noon. General Studies and Humanities |
| PAPER 2 | 2 pm-4 pm. State-specific General Studies, Science & Technology, Mental Ability |
| EACH | 100 questions, 200 marks |

**DISTRICT-WISE DEPLOYMENT AND CENTER STATISTICS**

**BELAGAVI: 34 CENTRES, 12,244 CANDIDATES**
Comprehensive pre-exam briefing workshops for center heads; intensive police deployment overseen by PSIs and above; facial-recognition biometric screening and signal jammers installed.

**BALLARI: 20 CENTRES, 12,004 CANDIDATES**
Special accommodation arranged for out-of-station aspirants (Babu Jagjivan Ram Bhavan for men, KSOU Regional Centre for women); KKRTC extra bus services; paramedical staff deployed for candidates with special needs.

**DAVANAGERE: 13 CENTRES, 7,842 CANDIDATES**
Live webcasting monitored via KPSC headquarters, DC office, and Smart City Command Center; ENT specialists stationed at centers to screen hearing aids; strict 1 km perimeter restrictions on photocopy shops.

**MYSURU: 32 CENTRES, 14,874 CANDIDATES**
Section 163 BNSS prohibitory orders enforcing a 200-meter restricted zone around centers; CESC power backup secured; dedicated armed escorts for secure transport of question papers and OMR answer sheets.

### What candidates may wear

District administrations have clarified guidelines regarding religious and personal items. Candidates are permitted to wear traditional sacred symbols such as the mangalsutra (sacred necklace) and janivara (sacred thread). However, authorities have strictly prohibited other items, including religious wrist threads, shivadara, shivalinga pendants, amulets (tayita), rudraksha beads, earrings, caps, headgear, and heavy garments with excessive pockets. Aspirants are advised to wear light clothing and thin-soled sandals or slippers.

To assist out-of-town applicants, district bodies have arranged specialized travel and accommodation facilities such as designated regional centers alongside medical teams, emergency ambulances, and uninterrupted power supplies via local utility providers.

# FIR filed against 31 in e-Khata scam




**The Greater Bengaluru Authority uncovered a property e-Khata racket, leading to an FIR against an assistant commissioner and 30 others for illegal document issuance.**

**CH NEWS,** BENGALURU

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) revenue division has uncovered a major property documentation racket, leading the Halasuru Gate police to register a First Information Report (FIR) against 31 individuals, including Assistant Commissioner Basavaraj N. Maghi, over the illegal issuance of electronic property records (e-Khatas).

The legal action stems from an official complaint filed by Munish Moudgil, the GBA's Special Commissioner for Revenue. Investigators allege that administrative login credentials and special regulatory provisions were systematically manipulated to issue unauthorized e-Khatas to 98 ineligible properties across the K.R. Puram and Horamavu zones.

### A bank facility misused

At the center of the investigation is the alleged misuse of a statutory facility originally established under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act. Under normal legal frameworks, this provision allows financial institutions to secure e-Khatas when taking possession of and auctioning properties tied to defaulted loans.

According to the police complaint, however, certain municipal officials conspired with private developers and property owners between January 29 and June 19, 2026, to bypass statutory safeguards. Instead of legitimate SARFAESI auction certificates or bank repossession orders, officials allegedly accepted routine sale deeds and Joint Development Agreements (JDAs) uploaded through specialized bank portals to unlawfully clear title records for unauthorized constructions.

The FIR specifically names Assistant Commissioner Basavaraj Maghi, who served as the in-charge revenue official for the K.R. Puram division during the period in question, alleging that the fraudulent e-Khatas were authorized using his official login credentials. Alongside Maghi, 30 other individuals, including private applicants and intermediaries, have been implicated.

Law enforcement agencies have registered the case under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), incorporating severe legal charges relating to criminal conspiracy, cheating, document forgery, and the fraudulent presentation of fabricated records as genuine.

The unfolding scandal has triggered wider administrative scrutiny within urban civic bodies. Prior to the police filing, formal recommendations had already been initiated to suspend both Basavaraj Maghi and Lokamata D.S., Assistant Commissioner of the Kengeri division, pending departmental inquiries. Specialized cyber and economic offense units are currently examining system audit logs to determine the full extent of the conspiracy and whether additional municipal staff or external entities facilitated the illegal document issuances.

# ED files 585-page chargesheet in KPSC exam scam



**CH NEWS,** BENGALURU

Escalating its pursuit of public sector corruption, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has filed a comprehensive 585-page prosecution complaint backed by over 8,000 pages of supporting documents against four primary figures allegedly tied to a massive recruitment fraud within the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC).

The high-profile chargesheet names suspended KPSC Chairman Shivashankarappa Sahukar (62), KPSC member B.V. Geetha (46), former KPSC Controller of Examinations and IAS officer Gyanendra Kumar Gangwar (41), and alleged conduit Basavaraj Kannale (36). The federal financial investigation reveals a systematic conspiracy to compromise examinations for veterinary doctor posts held in January, where 1,400 aspirants competed for 400 vacancies, culminating in the selection of 328 candidates.

According to federal investigators, the accused orchestrated a lucrative bribery and question-leaking syndicate targeting roughly 19 candidates who allegedly funneled illicit payments ranging between ₹20 lakh and ₹40 lakh.

Gyanendra Kumar Gangwar, who was initially arrested by the ED on September 17, is accused of acting as the primary technical leak source. He allegedly supplied confidential answer keys to Sahukar and Geetha, while independently providing question papers and correct answers to 11 aspirants channeled through middleman Basavaraj Kannale.

Forensic audits and financial tracking indicate that the compromised test papers directly influenced the merit lists. Investigators uncovered that 19 candidates who gained unauthorized access to questions and answer keys ahead of the examination swept the top 19 rank positions. Specific findings allege that a candidate who paid an advance of ₹20 lakh to B.V. Geetha secured the first rank, whereas another who paid ₹10 lakh to Shivashankarappa Sahukar claimed the third rank. In total, Sahukar and Geetha are accused of directly soliciting and laundering bribes from at least nine top-ranking aspirants.

Legal proceedings have moved swiftly ahead of statutory timelines, with the complaint filed prior to the 60-day window following initial arrests. While bail applications for Gangwar, Kannale, and Sahukar have been systematically rejected by special courts, with Sahukar's plea denied as recently as November 11, B.V. Geetha secured conditional relief on statutory grounds pertaining to female accused provisions. Legal experts note that the submission of the formal prosecution complaint opens avenues for all incarcerated accused to seek fresh bail hearings.

To proceed with criminal trial prosecution against the senior officials, the ED must secure formal statutory sanctions: presidential sanction for Shivashankarappa Sahukar, gubernatorial clearance for B.V. Geetha, and central government authorization for IAS officer Gyanendra Kumar Gangwar.

Concurrently, a parallel criminal investigation is being spearheaded by a Special Investigation Team (SIT) constituted by the Karnataka High Court, expanding scrutiny into administrative dimensions previously unexamined by initial CID probes.

### SIT takes Shivashankarappa Sahukar into custody

**BENGALURU:** The Special Investigation Team probing the Karnataka Public Service Commission recruitment scam has taken former chairman Shivashankarappa S. Sahukar into custody for seven days. Investigators moved the 1st ACMM Court to secure his custody, which was granted until November 19. The Enforcement Directorate had previously arrested him on October 6 during questioning over alleged irregularities. Sahukar was transferred from Parappana Agrahara Central Prison to the custody of the special team. This development marks a significant escalation in the ongoing legal investigation into recruitment corruption, as authorities examine deeper financial and administrative networks involved in the high-profile case.

**E20 LEVEL CHECK**

# *State proposes mandatory digital display of ethanol blending*

**CH NEWS,** BENGALURU

Amid escalating political debate and mounting consumer concern over fuel quality across Karnataka, the state government has announced plans to mandate real-time digital screen displays at all retail petrol pumps. These screens will clearly show motorists the exact percentage of ethanol blended into their petrol.

Recent laboratory tests commissioned by state authorities revealed that certain petrol samples collected from various districts contained ethanol levels reaching up to 31.2 percent, well above the prescribed national E20 standard of 20 percent. These findings triggered immediate friction between state officials and oil marketing companies, who maintain that all distributed fuel strictly conforms to Bureau of Indian Standards specifications.

State leaders, including Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs Minister Rizwan Arshad, emphasized that the independent test results point to potential risks for vehicle engines, reduced fuel efficiency, and accelerated component wear. To ensure complete transparency, the upcoming regulatory framework will not only display blending proportions but also incorporate essential safety guidelines and handling protocols for retail fuel stations.




A motorist at a petrol pump.

Additionally, the state administration is developing a dedicated online public portal. This digital platform will allow commuters and vehicle owners to seamlessly submit formal complaints regarding fuel quality, dispensing discrepancies, or suspected over-blending at local outlets. State authorities intend to continue routine laboratory verifications of fuel samples across independent testing facilities and are preparing formal communications to urge central regulatory bodies to address the discrepancies.

Motorists across Bengaluru and surrounding districts have welcomed greater transparency, hoping the measures will prevent unexpected engine trouble. Industry representatives have noted that while biofuel integration remains a national priority, clearer consumer communication will help alleviate growing anxieties at the pump. The state government reiterated its commitment to protecting consumer interests through rigorous monitoring and continuous public reporting.

**Ethanol in petrol**

| THE LIMIT | FOUND |
|---|---|
| 20% the national E20 standard | 31.2% the highest level in state lab tests |

# Police probe chilling details of family murders

**CH NEWS,** BENGALURU

Investigators probing the brutal mass murder of seven members of a single family have uncovered chilling details of premeditation and a complete lack of remorse from the primary suspects, identified as Indushekhar and a co-accused.

According to police sources leading the interrogation, Indushekhar exhibited an eerie calmness following his arrest, flatly stating, "I feel relieved now." He justified the horrific crime by claiming that his wife subjected him to persistent verbal abuse and contempt, while alleging that her extended family supported her behavior. These domestic grievances were cited as the primary motive behind the coordinated massacre.

### Promise of property

The co-accused has reportedly confessed to active participation in the conspiracy, admitting that she aided him after he promised to transfer a family property located in Srirampura into her name. Investigators revealed that she was fully aware of the murder plot beforehand yet chose to remain silent. Beyond keeping the secret, she allegedly assisted in executing the killings, disposing of the bodies, and systematically destroying critical physical evidence.

As part of the clean-up operation, she reportedly procured commercial quantities of Phenyl and Lysol to scrub bloodstains from the crime scene, attempting to erase forensic traces.

Police uncovered evidence suggesting meticulous advance planning. Prior to carrying out the murders, Indushekhar had allegedly prepared official stamp papers and coerced all seven victims into providing their thumbprints. The accused reportedly believed that executing the family in secret would prevent discovery, allowing him and the co-accused to secure full ownership and control of the disputed real estate assets without interference.

Law enforcement agencies have intensified their inquiries, gathering forensic evidence and digital trails to construct a watertight prosecution case under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) as judicial proceedings commence.

### Police recreate Rajajinagar family murder scene

**BENGALURU:** Investigators probing the brutal murder of seven family members in Rajajinagar have taken the accused, Indushekhar, to the crime scene to conduct a detailed mahazar and reconstruct the sequence of events. Police led the accused through the house to detail how his wife, mother-in-law, and brother-in-law were killed. Authorities also visited locations in Yeshwantpur, Rajajinagar, and RMC Yard where items like rope, bedsheets, and chemicals were purchased, recording statements from local traders.

Quick Read

## 14 kg of ganja seized; 1 person arrested

**CH NEWS,** BIDAR

Police have arrested one person for allegedly transporting 14 kg of ganja in Bidar. The seizure was made during an operation by the police, following which the accused was taken into custody. Further details regarding the identity of the accused, the source of the contraband and its intended destination are awaited. Police are investigating the case to establish the circumstances surrounding the transportation of the narcotic substance.

## Kannada Literary Conference returns to Raichur after 29 years

**CH NEWS,** RAICHUR

The 12th District Kannada Literary Conference returned to Raichur after a gap of 29 years, bringing the city alive with celebrations of Kannada language, literature and culture. The conference began with a grand procession featuring Kannadambe (Mother Kannada) and the conference president. Major roads and thoroughfares were decorated with Kannada flags, creating a festive atmosphere filled with cultural pride. Thousands of Kannada enthusiasts, including women, children, writers, literary personalities and members of various organisations, participated in the procession. Their presence reflected the strong public enthusiasm for the language and its literary heritage. Several folk art troupes added colour and energy to the celebrations. Traditional performances, including Dollu Kunitha, accompanied by rhythmic beats and folk music, drew the attention of spectators. Artists showcased the region's rich cultural traditions, turning the procession into a vibrant display of Karnataka's folk heritage. Former Minister N.S. Boseraju joined the celebrations and enthusiastically danced during the procession, expressing his affection for Kannada and its cultural traditions. Raichur MP G. Kumar Naik also participated, walking alongside Kannada enthusiasts and extending his support to the literary festival.

The procession transformed the city into a centre of Kannada cultural celebration, with people from different walks of life coming together to mark the occasion. The return of the district-level literary conference after nearly three decades has generated renewed enthusiasm among writers, literary enthusiasts and the general public. The large turnout and colourful cultural performances made the opening celebrations a memorable event for Raichur, highlighting the enduring connection between the language, its literature and the people of the region.

# Priyank Kharge opens KrishiKalpa agri centre in Kalaburagi

The new Centre of Excellence and incubation facility fosters agri-enterprises by mentoring innovators and promoting value addition to farm produce.

**CH NEWS,** KALABURAGI

District In-charge Minister Priyank Kharge inaugurated the KrishiKalpa Centre of Excellence at Ghazipur Chakkar Katta in Kalaburagi city, marking an initiative to promote agricultural innovation, startups and entrepreneurship.

The newly established Centre of Excellence and incubation facility aims to encourage agriculture-based enterprises by offering guidance, supporting innovative ideas and facilitating value addition to agricultural produce.

Operated by the KrishiKalpa Foundation, the facility has received financial support under the LEAP scheme of the Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS), functioning under the Department of Electronics, Information Technology and Biotechnology.

The centre is expected to create a supportive ecosystem for aspiring entrepreneurs, startups and innovators in the agricultural sector. It will help emerging businesses develop new ideas, strengthen their entrepreneurial capabilities and explore opportunities to create value-added products and services. The facility will also provide guidance and support to individuals seeking to transform agriculture-related ideas into sustainable business ventures.



Minister Priyank Kharge (centre) with others at the KrishiKalpa Centre of Excellence in Kalaburagi

Medical Education, Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Minister Dr. Sharanaprakash R. Patil, Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation Chairperson and Kalaburagi North MLA Kaneez Fatima, Kalaburagi South MLA Allamaprabhu Patil, Legislative Council members Thimmanappa Kamaknoor and Jagadev Guttedar, JESCOM Chairman Praveen Patil Harwal, Kalaburagi Urban Development Authority Chairman Mazhar Alam Khan and Karnataka State Pulses Development Board Chairman Syed Mohammed Chishti Saheb were among those present.

IGP Shantanu Sinha, Deputy Commissioner Mohammed Ikramulla Shariff, City Police Commissioner Dr. S.D. Sharanappa, Superintendent of Police Adduru Srinivasulu, DCP Shalu, Zilla Panchayat CEO Rahul Sankanoor, City Corporation Commissioner P. Shravan Kumar and Additional Deputy Commissioner Rayappa Hunsagi also attended.

KrishiKalpa founder and industry representatives Dr. K. Ullas Kamath, Dr. Prashant Prakash, Sri Krishna Sridhar and CEO C.M. Patil participated in the programme.

### KITS backs KrishiKalpa agri-startup centre

Operated by KrishiKalpa Foundation and supported under Karnataka's LEAP scheme by KITS, this facility fosters an ecosystem for agricultural startups and innovators, helping emerging businesses develop ideas, build capabilities, create value-added products, and transform agri-concepts into sustainable ventures.

# ₹4.79 cr subsidy arrears threaten Kalaburagi Indira Canteens

**CH NEWS,** KALABURAGI

Indira Canteens in Kalaburagi are facing a serious financial crisis, with subsidy arrears of ₹4.79 crore pending from the State government and the Kalaburagi City Corporation.

Delayed payments and rising prices of essential commodities have made it increasingly difficult for contractors to maintain uninterrupted food services.

Eight Indira Canteens are operating at important locations across the city, including GIMS Hospital, Jayadeva Hospital, the Central Bus Stand, Railway Station, City Corporation premises and APMC. Thousands of students, unorganised workers and economically weaker sections depend on these outlets for affordable meals, with breakfast available for ₹5 and lunch and dinner for ₹10 each.

Launched in 2017, the scheme faced setbacks after a change of government, resulting in the closure of several outlets due to financial constraints. Following the Congress government's return to power in Karnataka, the canteens resumed operations in September 2024.

However, outstanding subsidies have again placed their functioning under pressure. According to payment details up to October-end, the City Corporation owes ₹2.97 crore, while the State government's pending share stands at ₹1.82 crore.

Over the past 26 months, the City Corporation has reportedly released only ₹30 lakh, while the State government has paid ₹1.50 crore in two instalments. Subsidies have reportedly remained unpaid for 23 months by the Corporation and 14 months by the State government.


An Indira Canteen in Kalaburagi

Raghavendra Gowdar, manager of the Indira Canteens in Kalaburagi, said contractors were struggling to manage expenses amid rising prices. He cited increases in LPG cylinder costs, supply disruptions and the need to switch to firewood for cooking. Rice prices, earlier around ₹40 per kg, have also nearly doubled, he said.

Under the existing arrangement, contractors receive ₹51 per beneficiary for three meals. Consumers pay ₹25, while the remaining ₹26 is shared equally by the State government and the City Corporation.

Gowdar said the fixed payment was no longer sufficient to cover expenses, including groceries and workers' salaries. Suppliers had also become reluctant to provide provisions on credit.

Contractors have been facing mounting financial pressure, raising concerns over the sustainability of the affordable meal service unless the pending subsidies are cleared.

### ₹4.79 crore pending

| CORPORATION OWES | STATE OWES |
|---|---|
| ₹2.97 cr | ₹1.82 cr |
| PAID IN 26 MONTHS | PAID IN 26 MONTHS |
| ₹30 lakh | ₹1.50 cr |
| UNPAID FOR | UNPAID FOR |
| 23 months | 14 months |

# Phone tapping exposes BJP's fear, says minister

**CH NEWS,** VIJAYAPURA

Karnataka Minister Madhu Bangarappa has accused the BJP-led Union government of misusing central investigative agencies and resorting to alleged phone tapping to target political opponents, describing such actions as a reflection of the ruling establishment's fear and insecurity.

Bangarappa launched a sharp attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government, alleging that agencies such as the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Income Tax Department were being misused to create political turmoil across the country through surveillance and other alleged abuses of authority.

> *"When people, including children, take to the streets to protest against the misuse of authority, the ruling establishment becomes nervous."*
>
> **MADHU BANGARAPPA**
> Minister

He also criticised what he described as the BJP's practice of targeting political opponents with allegations before inducting them into the party. "Those whom the BJP once criticises and portrays in a negative light are brought into its fold within a week, as if they have been put through a washing machine and come out completely clean. They are then given positions of power. Shouldn't they feel ashamed of indulging in such politics?" he questioned.

Referring to the phone-tapping controversy, the minister alleged that the reported surveillance demonstrated the government's apprehension over growing public resentment against the alleged misuse of power. "When people, including children, take to the streets to protest against the misuse of authority, the ruling establishment becomes nervous. The alleged phone tapping is intended to find out what people are discussing and what they are planning," Bangarappa alleged.

He further accused the Union government of abusing its constitutional authority by keeping political opponents and critics under surveillance.

The minister's remarks come amid a political controversy surrounding allegations of phone tapping involving opposition leaders.

# Women employees seek more buses on Chincholi route

**CH NEWS,** KALABURAGI

**The women employees' association in Kalaburagi has urged KKRTC to add buses on the Kalaburagi–Chincholi route to ease peak-hour overcrowding.**

The Kalaburagi district unit of the Akhila Karnataka State Government Women Employees' Association has urged the Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC) to introduce additional bus services on the Kalaburagi–Chincholi route to ease overcrowding during peak hours.

A delegation led by district unit president Renuka Ramesh Dange submitted a memorandum to KKRTC Chairman Arun Kumar M.Y. Patil, highlighting the difficulties faced by women government employees, particularly teachers, who commute daily between the two places.

According to the association, several women employees travel from Kalaburagi to Chincholi to attend their duties. However, inadequate bus services between 7 am and 8 am on the onward journey and between 4 pm and 5 pm on the return journey have caused considerable inconvenience.

The memorandum stated that buses operating during these peak hours are heavily overcrowded, leaving many commuters without seats and sometimes even sufficient standing space.

### Peak-hour crunch

- 7 am-8 am: Kalaburagi to Chincholi
- 4 pm-5 pm: Chincholi to Kalaburagi
- Promised: one extra bus each way

### Standing room only

The association pointed out that women teachers, who spend several hours standing while conducting classes, are forced to travel back in overcrowded buses, adding to their physical exhaustion and health-related difficulties. It said the situation could also affect their professional responsibilities.

The delegation requested the corporation to operate additional buses and trips during the morning and evening peak hours to ensure safer and more comfortable travel for women employees and other daily commuters.

Responding to the request, KKRTC Chairman Arun Kumar M.Y. Patil assured the delegation that the issue would be addressed. He promised to deploy one additional bus from Kalaburagi to Chincholi in the morning and another from Chincholi to Kalaburagi in the evening.

The association welcomed the assurance and expressed hope that the additional services would provide relief to daily commuters.

Chincholi taluk unit president Sunita Kallur, district unit vice-president Shobha Patil, Shanta Jatti, Sridevi and other office-bearers were present during the meeting.

# Khuba questions Sonia's book, rejects Rahul's tapping claims

**CH NEWS,** BIDAR

BJP leader and former Union Minister Bhagwanth Khuba has criticised Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi over their recent statements, questioning their claims and urging them to raise issues through appropriate democratic forums.

Reacting to a book authored by Sonia Gandhi, Khuba alleged that its contents largely focused on projecting her family and highlighting its achievements. He also claimed that the book contained allegations against Maneka Gandhi and several other Congress leaders.

"I read the book last week. Its contents appear to focus on projecting her family and its achievements. Such an approach could make Sonia Gandhi unpopular," he remarked.

### Claims called baseless

Criticising Rahul Gandhi's allegations of phone tapping and his remarks about Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Khuba termed the claims baseless and challenged him to produce evidence.

He said Rahul Gandhi, as Leader of the Opposition, should exercise responsibility while making allegations and explain the basis for them. Referring to earlier controversies, including the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls, Khuba accused him of repeatedly making claims without substantiating them.

### KHUBA'S DEMANDS

- Release the State's pending share under the PM Fasal Bima Yojana
- ₹3,800-₹4,100 a tonne for Bidar's cane growers
- Rahul Gandhi should raise his concerns in Parliament

### Debate in Parliament

Responding to Gandhi's challenge for an open debate with the Prime Minister, Khuba described Modi as a popular leader with international recognition. He said Rahul Gandhi should present his concerns in Parliament, seek time from the Speaker and initiate a discussion in the House.

"I welcome a debate on any issue he wishes to raise in Parliament," Khuba said.

### Insurance, cane price

Khuba also raised concerns over farmers' issues in Karnataka, urging Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and the Bidar district in-charge minister to release the State government's pending contribution under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana without delay.

He said the release of funds was necessary to ensure eligible farmers receive crop insurance compensation.

Khuba further demanded that sugarcane farmers in Bidar district receive between ₹3,800 and ₹4,100 per tonne, on par with the prices reportedly fixed in Belagavi. He urged the State government to address the crop insurance and sugarcane pricing issues on priority.

POLITICAL SURVEILLANCE CONCERNS

# *Phone tapping of Rahul Gandhi unacceptable: Dr Ajay Singh*

**CH NEWS,** RAICHUR

District In-charge Minister Dr Ajay Dharam Singh has criticised the Union government over allegations of phone tapping involving opposition leaders, describing such surveillance as unacceptable and raising concerns over privacy and democratic rights.

Reacting to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's social media post alleging phone tapping, the minister questioned the safety and privacy of opposition leaders and ordinary citizens.

The minister said allegations of surveillance targeting a senior opposition leader raised serious questions about the privacy and security of other political leaders and members of the public.

He also accused the Union government of restricting public protests and demonstrations organised by opposition parties. According to him, metro services are blocked, mobile jammers installed and bus services disrupted whenever protests or agitations take place.

He alleged that such measures affected the public's ability to participate in democratic demonstrations and created an atmosphere of uncertainty.

"Whenever there is a protest or agitation, the government blocks metro services, installs jammers and disrupts bus services.

The way the Union government is handling these situations is pushing the country towards a state of disorder," he alleged.

The minister's remarks came after Rahul Gandhi raised concerns on social media over alleged surveillance of opposition leaders.

The allegations have brought renewed attention to issues concerning privacy, surveillance and the rights of political parties to organise peaceful protests.



> **"Rahul Gandhi is our leader. If even his privacy and protection cannot be ensured and his phone is allegedly being tapped, what will happen to others? Such actions are not acceptable."**
>
> **Dr Ajay Dharam Singh**
> District In-charge Minister, Raichur

## Quick Read

### Police probe clears Nandini curd over SIM card controversy

**CH NEWS,** MANDYA

The Mandya police investigation has reportedly revealed that a Jio SIM card found in a packet of Nandini curd was not inside the product but accidentally fell into it from an outer delivery pouch. Arun Kumar, a resident of Maddur, had posted a video claiming that he found a SIM card inside Nandini curd. The video went viral, raising concerns about the quality of the Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) product. During questioning, Arun reportedly told police that the SIM card was stuck to the outside of the curd packet and fell into a pan while he was emptying the curd. He mistook it for an object found inside the product. The SIM card was registered in his brother-in-law's name and used by his wife. Arun later issued a video apology, admitting his mistake and clarifying his allegation.

### Use Mahadayi water for twin cities first: Sobaradamath

**CH NEWS, HUBBALLI**

The State Government should immediately utilise the 3.9 TMC of water allocated to Karnataka under the Mahadayi project to meet the drinking water requirements of Hubballi-Dharwad, said Raita Sena Karnataka State president Veeresh Sobaradamath. Speaking to reporters, he urged the government to resolve the legal hurdles delaying the project and consider appointing a more effective legal team to represent Karnataka in the Mahadayi water dispute. He announced that a meeting would be held on November 19 at 11 am at Sawai Gandharva Hall in Deshpande Nagar to discuss the project and the drinking water crisis. All 82 members of the Hubballi-Dharwad Municipal Corporation, concerned officials and farmers have been invited. Officials have been asked to bring relevant documents and provide detailed information. Demand to change legal team Sobaradamath said he had repeatedly requested the Chief Minister to review Karnataka's legal team, led by senior advocate Mohan Katarki. He argued that the government should first focus on utilising the water already allocated to the State for drinking purposes before pursuing additional demands. He said the Mahadayi Tribunal's award had been accepted by the concerned States, but Goa's petition in the Supreme Court and pending environmental and wildlife clearances had affected the project's progress.

# Temple belongs to society, says Minister Balakrishna

Balakrishna condemned temple entry restrictions, emphasising equal access rights and urging authorities to prevent such incidents statewide.

**CH NEWS,** RAMANAGARA

A temple belongs to the entire society and not to any individual. Locking its doors and preventing people from entering is condemnable, said Minister H.C. Balakrishna.

Speaking to the media at Kootagal in Ramanagara, he reacted to the incident at Dodda Kurubarahalli in Harohalli taluk, where a temple was reportedly locked to prevent JD(S) leader Nikhil Kumaraswamy from entering.

Balakrishna said everyone had the right to enter a temple and such incidents should not be encouraged. He added that the local MLA had already condemned the incident and expressed hope that similar incidents would not occur elsewhere in the State.



Speaking to the media at Kootagal in Ramanagara.

**Everyone has the right to enter a temple; such incidents should not be encouraged**

### Metro funding dispute

Commenting on the political dispute between the BJP and Congress over Metro funding, Balakrishna said opposition leaders should approach the Central Government and demand the release of funds due to Karnataka instead of engaging in public arguments.

He said Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar had already presented the State's concerns to Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Karnataka.

### Railway project challenge

Responding to Union Minister V. Somanna's allegation that the State Government was not cooperating with the Hejjala-Chamarajanagar railway project, Balakrishna offered to personally oversee the land acquisition process.

He challenged Somanna to provide the letter submitted to the Chief Minister regarding the project and said land acquisition could not be completed within just 25 days of submitting a request.

### Remarks on JD(S) leaders

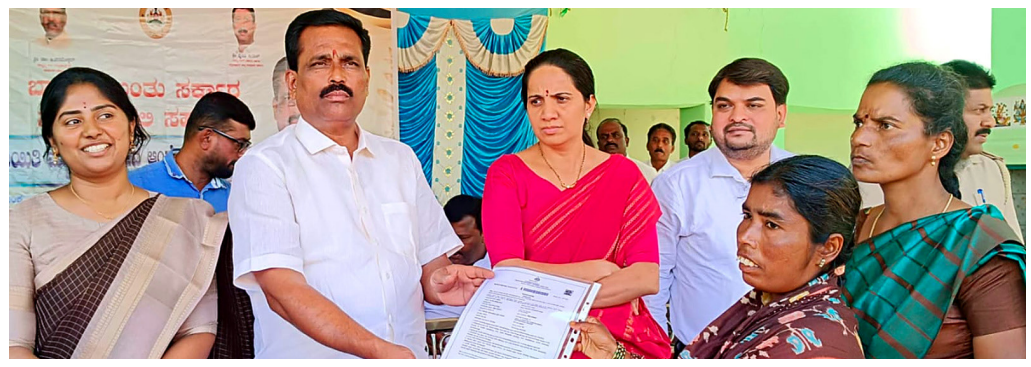
Reacting to A.T. Krishnappa's allegation that the Chief Minister had offered ₹500 crore to JD(S) MLAs, Balakrishna claimed that the funds were discussed in connection with constituency development.

He alleged that the issue was being used for political purposes and made remarks about the competition for the JD(S) ticket between Krishnappa and Masale Jayaram.

**THE MINISTER ON**

- **Metro funds:** opposition should press the Centre, not argue in public
- **Railway line:** offers to oversee land acquisition for Hejjala-Chamarajanagar
- **₹500 crore claim:** the funds were for constituency development

# Drinking water units planned for all government schools: MLA



Sanction letters for welfare schemes being handed out at the Praja Seva Andolana programme in Ganjigunte village.

**CH NEWS,** SHIDLAGHATTA

Clean drinking water units will be installed in all government schools across Shidlaghatta taluk, with their capacity determined by student strength, said MLA B.N. Ravikumar.

He was speaking at a Praja Seva Andolana programme organised at Ganjigunte village on Saturday. He said the State Government had launched the campaign to help people access government services without repeatedly visiting different offices.

He said officials had been instructed to resolve public grievances promptly. Of the 57 applications received at the programme, efforts were being made to settle eligible cases according to government rules. Applications that could be resolved immediately were being addressed on the spot.

Ravikumar also said that, with the support of Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) had started work on drinking water units in 25 villages at a cost of ₹1.40 crore.

**At Ganjigunte**

| | |
|---|---|
| 57 | APPLICATIONS RECEIVED |
| 25 | VILLAGES GET BEL WATER UNITS |
| ₹1.40 cr | COST OF THE UNITS |

### Criticism of State Government

Criticising the Congress government, the MLA alleged that repeated increases in milk prices, electricity tariffs and liquor prices had burdened the public. He said the government should provide incentive grants to farmers.

He also criticised the Congress over its protests against the Centre and said political demonstrations should not provoke young people.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047, he said the country was working towards becoming a global economic power.

### Rules out joining Congress

Ravikumar said he had received repeated invitations to join the Congress since becoming an MLA but remained committed to the ideals of former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda. He said his priority was to secure special grants and promote the development of his constituency.

Tahsildar N. Gagana Sindhu, Taluk Panchayat Executive Officer Hemavathi, CHIMUL director Bank Muniyappa, former Taluk Panchayat president Narasimhamurthy and Meluru Manjunatha were among those present.

During the programme, sanction letters for various government welfare schemes were distributed to beneficiaries.

# KAS exam: Tight security at Kalaburagi centres

**CH NEWS,** KALABURAGI

Deputy Commissioner Mohammed Ikramulla Shariff has directed officials to ensure strict security and transparent arrangements for the Karnataka Administrative Service (KAS) Gazetted Probationers Preliminary Examination scheduled for November 15.

The Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) is conducting the examination to fill 319 Group A and Group B posts for the 2026–27 recruitment cycle.

**11,745** candidates · **29** centres in the district · **10** routes for question papers · **2** invigilators in every hall

### Arrangements on election lines

Chairing a preparatory meeting at his office, the Deputy Commissioner instructed officials to make arrangements on the lines of election security. A total of 11,745 candidates will appear at 29 examination centres across the district. A separate centre has been arranged for candidates with disabilities.

Of the 240 candidates with disabilities, 212 will appear under the general category, while 28 will take the examination with the assistance of scribes. Paper I will be held from 10 am to noon and Paper II from 2 pm to 4 pm.

A three-member committee comprising the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Deputy Director of Pre-University Education and Deputy Director of the District Treasury has been formed to supervise the storage and distribution of confidential examination materials.

Ten routes have been identified for transporting question papers. Officers have been appointed to oversee their safe movement. Three personnel will monitor CCTV footage round the clock. Each centre will have designated supervisory officers, while six senior officers will serve as examination observers. Two invigilators will be deployed in every examination hall. CCTV cameras will be installed in all examination halls. A webcasting monitoring centre has been established at the Zilla Panchayat auditorium, with six officials assigned to monitor the centres.

# Mid-day meal workers oppose cluster kitchen centres

**CH NEWS,** KUDLIGI

Mid-day meal workers in Kudligi have urged the Karnataka government and the Education Department to withdraw the proposed cluster kitchen centre system and continue the existing Akshara Dasoha scheme in schools. The Karnataka Akshara Dasoha Mid-Day Meal Manufacturers Federation (AITUC) Taluk Committee and mid-day meal preparation workers organised a protest in Kudligi as part of a statewide agitation.

Hundreds of workers participated in the protest, demanding that the government reconsider its decision on cluster kitchen centres. They expressed concern over replacing the existing system and submitted a memorandum to the government through the Tahsildar. Workers from Kudligi town and other parts of the taluk took part in the demonstration. They urged the authorities to protect the existing scheme and consider their demands before introducing any changes.

# India's democracy serves as global model: Tenginkai

**CH NEWS,** HUBBALLI

India's democratic system and Constitution serve as an example to the world, said Hubballi-Dharwad Central MLA Mahesh Tenginkai. He described the Constitution drafted under the leadership of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar as the foundation of Indian democracy.

He was speaking after inaugurating a taluk-level Youth Parliament competition at Lamington High School on Station Road. The programme was organised jointly by the Taluk Administration, Taluk Panchayat and various education, legal services and social welfare departments.

Tenginkai said democracy ensures equality among citizens irrespective of caste, religion, race or gender. He urged students to understand their fundamental rights and duties and work towards building a corruption-free society.

He said India was progressing towards becoming a developed nation by 2047. Students should develop leadership qualities and participate in nation-building. The Youth Parliament programme provides an opportunity for them to express their views and understand legislative proceedings. He also said students would get an opportunity to observe the Legislative Assembly's winter session beginning December 2.

Hubballi City Tahsildar Mahesh Bhagavant Gaste said the programme aimed to develop leadership, communication skills, patriotism and social responsibility among students. He urged participants to respect the Speaker and maintain discipline during parliamentary discussions.

The dignitaries paid floral tributes to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar during the programme.

Hubballi City Education Officer H.M. Fadneshi and Social Welfare Department Assistant Director Meenakshi Gudagi attended the event along with teachers, students and officials.

Students of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Residential School sang Vande Mataram, while Lamington Girls' High School students presented the state anthem. Education Coordinator Vanita R. compered the programme, and hostel warden Prahlad Gejji delivered the vote of thanks.

# Bilimale warns Kannada schools are vanishing fast

**CH NEWS,** RAICHUR

Kannada schools are shutting down and employment opportunities for Kannadigas are declining, despite repeated government directives to protect and promote the language, said Kannada Development Authority Chairman Dr. Purushottama Bilimale.

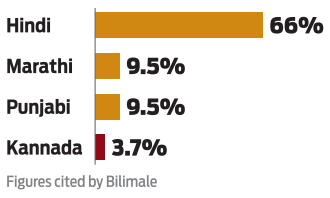
He was speaking after inaugurating the 12th District Kannada Sahitya Sammelana, organised by the district unit of the Kannada Sahitya Parishat at Pandit Siddarama Jambaladinni Rangamandira on Saturday.

Bilimale said Kannada faces challenges at the local, district and State levels. Although the government issues orders favouring Kannada, their implementation remains weak. He expressed concern over the closure of Kannada-medium schools and the declining number of students.



At the 12th District Kannada Sahitya Sammelana in Raichur.

**Growth by language**




Figures cited by Bilimale

### Employment for locals

Referring to the proposed investment of ₹10 lakh crore in Karnataka announced by Minister M.B. Patil, Bilimale said such investments must create sufficient employment for local people. He pointed out that the Sarojini Mahishi Report, aimed at securing jobs for Kannadigas, was yet to be implemented despite being revised and submitted to the government.

He said migrant workers were increasing in Bengaluru and other parts of Karnataka, while local people were moving elsewhere in search of jobs. He also expressed concern over the shortage of Kannada-speaking workers in Shivamogga's arecanut plantations.

Bilimale said nearly 2,000 schools had reportedly disappeared and many candidates appearing for examinations lacked adequate Kannada knowledge. He also criticised the declining use of Kannada words in visual media.

### Kannada must be first language

He stressed that Kannada should be the first language in all schools, irrespective of their medium of instruction. He warned that CBSE schools ignoring this requirement could face action, including cancellation of recognition.

Referring to language growth figures, he said Hindi had grown by 66 per cent, Marathi and Punjabi by 9.5 per cent, while Kannada's growth stood at just 3.7 per cent.

He urged literary organisations and the public to press the government for effective implementation of Kannada-friendly policies. While acknowledging the importance of English for international communication, he said Kannada must receive priority in its home State.

He warned that neglecting Kannada in favour of other languages could weaken the State's linguistic and cultural identity.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, BEBI DHULAKHED D/o DHAREPPA A DHULAKHED, W/o RAJASHEKHAR BIRADAR, R/o Anand Nivas 49/2171, Solapur Road, Behind Police Station, Banjara Nagar, Bijapur Vijaya College, Bijapur, Karnataka-586103, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RAJESHWARI BIRADAR..

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, ARVINDKUMAR AHELCHAND GULHATI S/o AHELCHAND GULHATI, R/o House No. 180, 2nd Main, 4th Cross, ST BED Layout, Near Nirguna Mandir, Koramangala, Bangalore South, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560034, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ARVIND GULHATI

**NAME CHANGE**

I, MOHAMED MUDDASSIR, S/o. Mohamed Dastagir, Resident of No. 6, D P Block, Aqsa Masjid Road, Benson Town Post, Bengaluru -560046, Karnataka, have changed my name to MOHAMMED MUDDASSIR, vide affidavit dated: 14.11.2026 before notary PRASAD SHETTY .K.B, Bengaluru.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

As per the instructions of my client Sri. B. Nagappa son of late. Basappa, 76 years, residing at: Ittamadu Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Bengaluru south District, I publishing this notice hereunder. My client is the absolute owner and in possession of the schedule property. My client executed General Power of attorney on 30-06-2017, vide registration No- 4ನೇ ಹುಸ್ತಕದ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು ನಂಬರ್. RMN-4-00117/2017-18 ಆಗಿ CD No. RMND-330 in favour of Sri. B.P. Nagarajaiah S/o late, Puttegowda, resident of: No.125, 3rd Main, 10th Block, 2nd Stage, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru-560 072, Register in Ramanagara sub-registrar office, in respect of schedule property empowering some powers to him. But he failed fulfill the terms and conditions of above said G.P.A. and has committed breach of trust, therefore my client has given notice to the B.P. Nagarajaiah calling him for cancelation of G.P.A. Under these circumstances the above said B.P. Nagarajaiah has no power to deal with the schedule property any manner whatsoever and has no power to alienate the schedule property in any way as per G.P.A. Hence it is most respectful pray to the public, not to do any transaction or acts along with said G.P.A. holder by name B.P. Nagarajaiah in respect of schedule property. If you done anything, my client will not liable for any such acts, deeds or transaction entered with him.

SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of the property bearing Sy.No. 111/P2, measuring 1 acre 15 guntas, situated at Heggadagere Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk bounded as follows: East By: Road, West By: Property bearing Sy.No. 111/5, North By: Road, South By: Uragahalli border.

Contact Adress:

Kantharaju. Y.S., B.com., LL.B., Advocate, District Law Association, Ramanagara Bengaluru South District-562159, Mobile: 7483204715

Place: Ramanagara. Date: 14-11-2026

**NAME CHANGE**

I, MOHAMMOD GUFRAN, S/o. Mohammod Sultan, Resident of No. 118, 12th Cross, P H Colony, Tumakuru -572101, Karnataka, today camp at Bengaluru, have changed my name to MOHAMMOD GUFRAAN, vide affidavit dated: 14.11.2026 before notary PRASAD SHETTY .K.B, Bengaluru.

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, B. NAGARAJACHAR, S/o BHASKARA CHAR BK., hereby declare that my minor daughter's name was previously mentioned as ANWITH in her Aadhaar Card, whereas her correct name as per Birth Certificate is ANWITHA N ACHARYA. Hence, I have corrected her name as ANWITHA N ACHARYA for all future purposes and official records. I declare that both names belong to one and the same person. Vide Affidavit dated 13th November 2026, before Advocate & Notary H.K. Ramesh, Tiptur.

IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE, AT DODDABALLAPURA.
C.Mis. No. 140/2026

Petitioners: 1. Smt. Sunandamma W/o Late Eranna, Aged about 52 Years, R/at Sakkaregollahalli Village, Doddaballapura Taluk, Adhar No. 5841 7008 7963 2. Sri. Lakshminarasaiah S/o Late Eranna Aged about 36 years, Adhar No. 7807 5309 5263. Both are R/at Sakkaregollahalli Village Doddaballapura Taluk, V/s

Respondent: The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, DODDABALLAPUR.

NOTICE THROUGH PUBLICATION

Whereas the above named petitioners have filed the petition in order to seek death certificate of 1st Petitioner's father namely Narasappa S/o Late Eraobalaiah who died on 12.08.1983.

Any person or persons having any objections regarding the issuance of death certificate of Narasappa S/o Late Eraobalaiah can file the necessary objections before the Hon'ble Court.

The above petition is posted on 17.12.2026 for your objections it is hereby called upon the general public is there any objections nor claims in respect of issuance of death certificate of Narasappa S/o Late Eraobalaiah, they can appear before the aforesaid date and time before the Hon'ble court, on the same day if the general public has not come up with any objections the court will decided the petition in your absence.

Given under my hand the seal of this court on this day 13th November 2026. Hon'ble Additional Civil Judge Court at Doddaballapura.

By Order of the Court
The Hon'ble Additional Civil Judge Court at Doddaballapura

Advocate: Sri. H.M. Madhusudhana, Advocates, Sri. Manjunatha Law Chambers, #28, 2nd Floor, PLD Bank Complex, Taluk office Circle, Doddaballapura

IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE, AT DODDABALLAPURA.
C.Mis. No. 142/2026

Petitioners: 1. Smt. Venkatalakshmi, W/o Murthy. D/o Late Narasimiaha, Aged about 52 years, R/at. No.47 Tumukur Road, Yashavantha Pura Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Aadhar No. 2919 4698 2590 2. Smt. Annapoorna.N W/o Late Narasimhamurth D/o Narasaiah, Aged about 45 Years, R/at No.24/1, Bandappa Road, Yashavantha Pura Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Aadhar No. 8441 4457 6899 3. Smt. Kavith.N D/o Late Narasimaiah, Aged about 40 Years, R /at Yashavantha Pura, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore. Aadhar No. 3461 2280 6979 Vs

Respondent: The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, DODDABALLAPURA.

NOTICE THROUGH PUBLICATION

Whereas the above named petitioners have filed the petition in order to seek death certificate of 1st Petitioner's father namely Narasimhaiah S/o Eraobalaiah who died on 26.10.2002.

Any person or persons having any objections regarding the issuance of death certificate of Narasimhaiah S/o Eraobalaiah can file the necessary objections before the Hon'ble Court.

The above petition is posted on 11.12.2026 for your objections it is hereby called upon the general public is there any objections nor claims in respect of issuance of death certificate of Narasimhaiah S/o Eraobalaiah, they can appear before the aforesaid date and time before the Hon'ble court, on the same day if the general public has not come up with any objections the court will decided the petition in your absence.

Given under my hand the seal of this court on this day 13th November 2026. Hon'ble Additional Civil Judge Court at Doddaballapura.

By Order of the Court
The Hon'ble Additional Civil Judge Court at Doddaballapura

Advocate: Sri. H.M. Madhusudhana, Advocates, Sri. Manjunatha Law Chambers, #28, 2nd Floor, PLD Bank Complex, Taluk office Circle, Doddaballapura

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

## Quick Read

### Hunsur invites public objections to guideline values

**CH NEWS,** HUNSUR

The process of revising market guideline values for lands and sites in Hunsur taluk for 2026-27 has begun. The draft schedule has been displayed on the notice board at the Sub-Registrar's office. The public can submit objections or suggestions in writing, along with supporting documents, to the Member Secretary and Sub-Registrar of Hunsur within 15 days of the announcement. Residents have been asked to examine the proposed values for their respective areas and submit their objections within the stipulated deadline.

### Prohibitory orders around KPSC exam centres

**CH NEWS,** DHARWAD

The Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) will conduct the 2026 Gazetted Probationers (Group A and Group B) preliminary examinations today (November 15) at 18 centres across Dharwad city. The examinations will be held in two sessions, from 10 am to noon and from 2 pm to 4 pm. To maintain law and order, Hubballi-Dharwad Police Commissioner Bhushan Gulabrao Borase has imposed prohibitory orders within a 200-metre radius of all examination centres. Scanning centres, photocopy shops and computer centres near the venues must remain closed during examination hours. The examination centres include KLE Society's RLS PU College, Karnataka Arts and Commerce College, Government First Grade College, Anjuman PU College, KE Board Composite PU College, Basel Mission Composite PU College, Kittel College, Vidyaranya institutions, Karnataka High School, JSS institutions and Basavaraddi PU College. The restrictions have been imposed as a precautionary measure to ensure the smooth and peaceful conduct of the examinations.

# Gadag BJP marches against hikes in bus fares and milk prices

BJP leaders criticised the state government over electoral roll revisions, bus fare hikes, and milk price increases

**CH NEWS,** GADAG

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Gadag district unit organised a protest march and public meeting in the city on Saturday under the slogan "Save Democracy – Erase Anarchy". The party protested against the state government's price hikes and what it described as misleading statements about constitutional institutions.

The march began at General Cariappa Circle, near the old Deputy Commissioner's office, passed through major streets and ended at the old bus stand, where party leaders addressed a gathering.

**What the BJP wants**

**Price hikes**
Withdraw the increases in bus fares and milk prices

**SIR**
Stop misleading statements on the revision of electoral rolls

**Warning**
The agitation will be intensified across the district


BJP workers at the protest march in Gadag against the price hikes

BJP leaders accused the state government of misleading people over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and making allegations against constitutional institutions. They also criticised the recent increases in bus fares and milk prices, demanding that the government withdraw the hikes.

Addressing the gathering, Shirahatti MLA Dr. Chandru Lamani alleged that the government was using misinformation about SIR to divert attention from administrative shortcomings. He said such statements could affect public confidence in constitutional institutions.

Youth leader Anil Menasinakai criticised the increase in essential costs and said the higher bus fares and milk prices would affect poor and middle-class families. He urged young people and the public to participate in the protest and warned that the agitation would be intensified across the district if the price increases were not withdrawn.

BJP Gadag district president Thotappa (Raju) Kuradagi, Legislative Council member S.V. Sankanur, Lingaraj Patil, R.K. Chavan, Pakkiresh Rattihalli, Sunil Mahantashettar, Anil Abbigeri, Gangadhar Menasinakai, Raghu Yelavathi, Umesh Mallapur and Santhosh Rathod attended the protest along with party workers and other leaders.

The gathering concluded with demands for the withdrawal of price increases and greater accountability from the state government.

# Chitradurga CMC plans ward-wise schedule for applications


A speaker at the Ward Sabha organised by the CMC for Wards 1 to 4 in Chitradurga

**CH NEWS,** CHITRADURGA

A ward-wise schedule will be introduced for the speedy processing of e-Khata and e-Swathu applications in Chitradurga city. A separate help desk will also be opened at the City Municipal Council (CMC) office to assist residents, Deputy Commissioner S. Ramya announced.

She was speaking after inaugurating a Ward Sabha organised by the CMC on Saturday at the Ekanatheshwari Padagudi premises on Kote Road. The meeting was held to address complaints from residents of Wards 1, 2, 3 and 4.

**e-Swathu, ward by ward**

1. **Schedule:** applications taken ward-wise
2. **Help desk:** documents checked at the CMC office first
3. **Directly:** no need for intermediaries
4. **Five days:** documents delivered after a complete application

Ramya said staff shortages at the CMC had delayed the processing of applications. Therefore, applications would be accepted according to a ward-wise schedule. A list of required documents would also be displayed, and residents could get their documents checked at the help desk before submission.

**Cleanliness and drinking water first**

The Deputy Commissioner urged residents to use designated waste bins instead of throwing plastic bottles, wrappers and other waste on roads. She said such waste blocks drains and creates difficulties for sanitation workers.

She also directed officials to give priority to drinking water supply and sanitation. Repairs to leaking water pipelines would be taken up shortly. Officials were instructed to speed up underground drainage maintenance before the monsoon.

She assured residents that the e-Swathu initiative would be implemented without inconvenience. Vacancies caused by the retirement or departure of permanent sanitation workers would be addressed through temporary outsourced appointments.

Municipal Commissioner Lakshmi said residents could apply directly for e-Swathu documents without approaching intermediaries. She stated that documents would be delivered within five days of submitting applications with the required records. Ward-wise application collection would begin the following Thursday.

**Residents raise civic concerns**

Former CMC president H.T. Krishnamurthy criticised delays in processing public applications. He urged officials to inform applicants about missing documents instead of keeping files pending for months.

He also sought urgent action on the proposed second-phase drinking water project from Marikanive reservoir, recruitment of 84 sanitation workers and control of stray dogs and pigs.

Residents submitted petitions regarding drinking water, streetlights, drainage and other civic problems. CMC environmental engineer Jaffer, officials, former presidents, members and residents of the four wards attended the meeting.

# Students must develop values alongside education: Ramesh

**CH NEWS,** HUNSUR

**Reduce mobile phone usage and develop the habit of reading books, he told students**

Education expert L.K. Ramesh urged students to develop cultural values, humanity and love for the Kannada language along with their education.

He was speaking at a joint Kannada Rajyotsava and Children's Day celebration organised at the Rotary Educational Institution in Hunsur.

Ramesh said parents and teachers should identify children's talents and encourage them to develop their abilities. He advised students to reduce mobile phone usage and develop the habit of reading books. He also encouraged them to participate in sports and cultural activities.

He said education should focus not only on academic marks but also on building a strong personality, good character and positive values.

Presiding over the programme, Rotary Educational Institution president Rajashekhar said students should develop discipline, cultural awareness and social responsibility.

Rotary Inner Wheel president Jayalakshmi Shettigowda contributed ₹3 lakh towards the development of the school building. The institution appreciated her contribution and felicitated her for her support.

Education expert L.K. Ramesh and Jayalakshmi Shettigowda were also felicitated during the programme.

School secretary Dharmapura Narayan, Rotary Club president Shyamanna, vice-president R. Anand, secretary Luis Perera, member Prasanna, Smitha Dayananda, Dr. Sarojini Vikram and headmaster Harish attended the event along with teachers and students.


Guests at the Kannada Rajyotsava and Children's Day celebration at the Rotary Educational Institution, Hunsur

Students presented various cultural programmes, while prizes were distributed to winners of different competitions.

The celebration highlighted the importance of education, cultural values and the overall development of students.

# Students organise food fair during Children's Day celebrations

**CH NEWS,** HUNSUR

Children's Day was celebrated at HPVS Government Boys' High School in Ward 11 of Hunsur town with enthusiasm and various activities.

The programme was inaugurated by School Development and Monitoring Committee (SDMC) members and teachers, who lit the ceremonial lamp and offered floral tributes to the portrait of former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri.

The main attraction was a food fair organised and managed entirely by students. Children from different classes set up food stalls on the school premises and displayed their skills in preparing and selling various items. The initiative gave students an opportunity to develop confidence, teamwork and entrepreneurial skills. It also highlighted the abilities of government school students to take up different activities and showcase their talents.

SDMC president Pallavi, vice-president Mohammed Rafiq, members Venkatesh, Santhosh, Cheluvaraj, Nandini, Ramesh and Ayesha attended the programme. CRP Farooq, headmaster Suresh, teacher Narasimhaiah and other teaching staff were also present.

# Congress leaders pay tribute to Jawaharlal Nehru

**CH NEWS,** MANDYA

District Congress Committee president Kumar Koppa paid floral tributes to former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru on his birth anniversary at the Congress office in Mandya.

Speaking on the occasion, Kumar Koppa said Nehru had great affection for children and considered them the nation's future. His birthday, November 14, is celebrated as Children's Day in recognition of his love for children.

**Love for children**

He said every child has unique dreams and aspirations, and parents have a responsibility to support them in achieving their goals. He recalled that Nehru often interacted affectionately with children and gifted them sweets. Children, in turn, held great affection for him.

Congress Women's Wing president Shubhadayini, KPCC general secretary Sundahalli Manjunath, MUDA member Kamalaraj, Youth Congress president Shailendra, Chennappa, Nagesh, Anuradha, Venkatesh, Prakash and Uday attended the programme.

The leaders remembered Nehru's contribution to the country and paid tribute to his legacy on the occasion of Children's Day.

# Kashempur backs Bidar farmers' sugarcane price protest

**CH NEWS,** BIDAR

Former Minister and senior JD(S) leader Bandeppa Kashempur visited the indefinite farmers' protest near Ambedkar Circle in Bidar on Saturday and extended his party's support to their demands.

The protest, organised by the District Farmers' Associations Coordination Committee, began on November 12 in front of the District In-charge Minister's office. Farmers are demanding a price of ₹4,000 per tonne of sugarcane and additional financial support from the government.

Addressing the protesters, Kashempur said sugarcane was the main commercial crop in Bidar district and farmers deserved a fair price. He also extended support to the large-scale agitation planned for November 18 and 19.

He criticised the government over drought relief payments, claiming that farmers had received only ₹500 or ₹1,000 in some cases. He questioned the difference between the initially announced relief of ₹2,500 per hectare and the later announcement of ₹5,000 per family.

**Opposes leasing out BSSK**

Kashempur urged farmers not to demand that the Bidar Sahakari Sakkare Karkhane (BSSK) be leased to private operators. Instead, he wanted the government to continue running the factory. He recalled that the previous JD(S)-led government had provided a grant of ₹20 crore to revive the factory.

He also referred to the farm loan waivers implemented during his party's tenure and criticised the present government for its response to farmers' difficulties.


Leaders and farmers at the indefinite sugarcane growers' protest near Ambedkar Circle in Bidar

**Drought relief**
per hectare, first announced
**₹2,500**
per family, announced later
**₹5,000**

**BJP leaders also extend support**

Former Union Minister Bhagwanth Khuba and other BJP leaders also visited the protest site and expressed solidarity with the farmers.

JD(S) district president Ramesh Patil Solapur, BJP district president Somanath Patil, farmer leaders Mallikarjuna Swamy and Shivaraj Patil Ativala, along with several other party leaders and farmers' representatives, attended the meeting.

The farmers reiterated their demand for fair sugarcane prices, financial assistance and government support for the farming community.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DIVISION, CHITRADURGA**
No. EE:PWD:CTA:AE-3:Tender-33:2026-27 Dated: 13.11.2026
**SHORTTERM E-TENDER EXTENSION NOTIFICATION**
It is notified to the Registered Contractors in KPWD that the tender for the 03 works vide Notification No. EE:PWD:CTA:AE-3:Tender-33:2026-27, Dated: 05.11.2026 is extended due to the technical reasons for remaining 01 work as mentioned below.
**Works Tender dates are as mentioned below: Last Date & time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications 20-11-2026 Time: 17.30**
**Last Date & time for receipt of tenders 21-11-2026 Time: 16.00**
**Date & time for opening of Financial Bid 23-11-2026 Time: 16.15**
Further details can be obtained from this office and helpline Numbers 91 9240214000 and 91 9240214001. The tender details published in the KPP portal are Final.
DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/412/2026-27
**Sd/- Executive Engineer PWD, Chitradurga.**

Government of Karnataka
**DIRECTORATE OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION**
9th Floor, Vishweshwaraih Towers, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru 560001 Telephone : 080-22866302/22867172
Fax : 080-22863576/22861665
No:2264678/DMA/EST-1/STCK/18/2026 Date : 14.11.2026
**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EoI)**
Expression of Interest in single cover system has been published in kpp portal on behalf of the Director, Directorate of Municipal Administration as per KPPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the rate list for procurement of stationery items required for Department of Urban Development and Directorate of Municipal Administration Offices from the eligible agencies. Interested eligible bidders/agencies are advised to participate in the EOI as per schedule date mentioned in the kpp portal. Any information can be obtained through kpp portal only.
**Sd/-**
**Superintending Engineer, Directorate of Municipal Administration Bengaluru.**
DIPR/CP/3702/Zen/2026-27

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

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
**ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ**
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು–570023.
ಸಂ./ಕಾಅ/ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿ/ಮೈ/ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್ ಮೆಂಟ್/ಸ.ಇಂ–1/ಸ.ಇಂ–2/ಕಿ.ಇಂ. ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್ ಮೆಂಟ್–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ. 07/2026–27, ದಿ:11–11–2026
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರುರವರು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರುರವರ ಸಹಯೋಗದೊಂದಿಗೆ, KPWD ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎನ್‌ರೋಲ್ ಮಾಡಿರುವ 4ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಮೂನೆ KW-1 & 2 ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಂತೆ ಮೈಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ವಿವಿಧ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆಗಳ ಯೋಜನೆ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಮೈಸೂರು, ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ ಮತ್ತು ನಂಜನಗೂಡು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅದರಂತೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ/ದುರಸ್ಥಿ/ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಹಾಗೂ ರಸ್ತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಲಿಫ್ಟ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಒಟ್ಟು 15 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಮೊತ್ತವು ರೂ. 5.93 ಲಕ್ಷದಿಂದ 50.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಮತ್ತು ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಫಾರಂಗಳನ್ನು ಆನ್ ಲೈನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16.11.2026 ರಿಂದ 30.11.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 16.00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟೀಕರಣ/ವಿಚಾರಿಸಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26.11.2026ರ ಸಂಜೆ 16.00 ಘಂಟೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01.12.2026ರ ಸಂಜೆ 17.00 ಘಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಬೆಲೆ ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಂತೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು.
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ (e-procurement portal) ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕುವೆಂಪುನಗರ, ಮೈಸೂರು (ಫೋನ್ ನಂ.0821–2461853) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:– : **8123267587, ನಂಜನಗೂಡು 9901040070 ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ 8971599285**
**ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರು**
DIPR/DDMYS/943/KSMCA/563/2026-27 **ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು**

## Quick Read

### 2 die after being found unconscious

**NEW DELHI**

A 46-year-old man and a 45-year-old woman died after being found unconscious inside a car in Mohan Garden, police said. Officers responded to a call from Lal Farm and took them to Tarak Hospital, where both later died. Police said two packets of Celphos were found in the vehicle. The man, Surender, worked with the Delhi Home Guards, while the woman, Geeta, lived in Mohan Garden. Police said they had known each other for about 10 years. An inquiry into the deaths is underway.

### Tagore urges Vijay to oppose Mekedatu dam

**CHENNAI**

Tamil Nadu Congress chief Manickam Tagore urged Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay to strengthen the state's legal challenge against Karnataka's proposed Mekedatu dam. Tagore said the Supreme Court had not ruled in Karnataka's favour and the matter remained pending. He accused Karnataka of failing to release Tamil Nadu's allocated Cauvery water on time. Tagore also criticised the Centre for approving the project's Detailed Project Report without Tamil Nadu's consent and called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to intervene.

### Fire crews battle blaze at Surat cloth godown

**SURAT**

Firefighters responded to a major blaze at a cloth storage godown in the Kharvasa area. Sub-Fire Officer Vijay Solanki said 10 to 12 fire tenders and 50 to 60 personnel were working to contain the flames. Two JCB machines were also assisting at the site. Crews focused on stopping the fire from spreading. The cause was not yet known. Officials said updates would follow once the blaze was controlled and cooling operations began.

# 2 killed, 20 injured as devotees' tractor-trolley overturns

Two people died and around 20 were injured when a tractor-trolley carrying devotees overturned in Datia district.

**DATIA**

Two people died and around 20 were injured when a tractor-trolley carrying devotees overturned in Datia district on Saturday.

Family members of injured passengers said the trolley overturned while taking a turn. Three tractors were travelling together, and two had crossed the spot before the third vehicle overturned. The accident took place near a bridge close to Ratangarh Mata Temple, according to Dr Jai Narayan Baghel, medical officer at Gwalior Trauma Centre.



An injured passenger is carried on a stretcher after the tractor-trolley overturned in Datia district

### Five referred to Gwalior

The injured were taken to hospitals in Datia and Gwalior. Five people with serious injuries, including two women and three men, were referred to Gwalior Trauma Centre. Other injured passengers were admitted to Datia Medical College and nearby facilities.

"Two people died while around 20 sustained injuries in the incident so far," Baghel said. Initial information suggested that 25 to 30 people had been travelling in the trolley. The five patients at the trauma centre were stable and conscious, he said. They could provide their names and other details. Doctors had conducted CT scans and X-rays.

**Injured patients**

- **Gwalior Trauma Centre:** five seriously injured, two women and three men
- **Condition:** all five stable and conscious
- **Tests:** CT scans and X-rays done
- **Datia:** others at Datia Medical College and nearby facilities

### Inquiry under way

Officials had not released the identities of the two people who died. The precise circumstances of the accident are under inquiry. Most injured were sent to Datia Medical College, while those requiring specialised care were transferred to Gwalior for further treatment.

# Assam announces compensation after Kaziranga road accident

**GUWAHATI**

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Saturday announced compensation of Rs 9 lakh for each family of the 26 people killed in a road accident near Kaziranga, and said the state government would support those affected.

Sarma visited the crash site in the Rongajaan area of Golaghat district to review the situation and meet officials managing the response. In a post on X, he called the incident "heartbreaking" and expressed condolences to families who had lost loved ones.

"Each bereaved family will receive Rs 9 lakh in compensation," Sarma said, adding that no payment could make up for the loss, particularly for households that had lost more than one member. He said the government would ensure families did not face the aftermath alone.

The chief minister said he would personally visit the home of every bereaved family within two to three days. Additional doctors had been sent from Guwahati and other hospitals to speed up post-mortems and provide care to injured people, he said. Sarma added that a detailed investigation was underway to establish the cause of the collision.



Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma at the crash site in Golaghat district

**Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced compensation for bereaved families and promised stricter traffic enforcement after a deadly Kaziranga collision.**

> **"We will bring back strict traffic rules and enforce them firmly, because people's lives come first."**
>
> **– Himanta Biswa Sarma**
> Assam Chief Minister

He also said the government would restore strict enforcement of traffic rules. Sarma acknowledged that some traffic decisions had been relaxed at a Nalbari Cabinet meeting following political pressure, and said the administration should not have yielded.

"We will bring back strict traffic rules and enforce them firmly, because people's lives come first," he said.

The crash occurred on Friday when a passenger vehicle and a container truck collided head-on near Kaziranga National Park. The death toll had risen to 26 by Saturday, officials said. Twenty-four victims had been identified, while two remained unidentified.

Nineteen injured people were initially taken to Jorhat Medical College and Hospital. Two later died there, and one person at the hospital was still unidentified, according to officials.

# Abhishek Banerjee questioned over May remarks

**KOLKATA**

Banerjee appeared at Bhowanipore police station after being summoned in a case linked to his May 2 post on X. He had replied to BJP leader Amit Malviya, who criticised his Diamond Harbour model. A complaint was filed on May 27. Complainant Arnabkanti Biswas said he objected to remarks he believed insulted Gujaratis and challenged the Union government.

The exchange took place on the day repolling was held at 15 polling stations in the Diamond Harbour and Magrahat Paschim constituencies. The Election Commission had not decided whether to order a repoll in Falta.



Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee speaks to reporters in Kolkata

After leaving the station, Banerjee said he had answered the summons and would cooperate with investigators. He said he had faced inquiries by the Enforcement Directorate, Central Bureau of Investigation and police. He added that he would continue to describe the BJP as "Bangla-birodhi," or anti-Bengal.

**All India Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee was questioned by Kolkata Police for about four hours over a media post he made in May.**

A first information report was registered against Banerjee at Girish Park police station over remarks about police officers. He had said he was keeping a list of officers acting on BJP leaders' instructions and warned they would face consequences if power changed. BJP spokesperson Debjit Sarkar accused him of making remarks against the Constitution and said he would receive no political immunity. Banerjee has faced complaints since the BJP took office in May.

# HC moots lowering juvenile age to 16

**KOCHI**

The Kerala High Court has urged lawmakers to consider lowering the age threshold for juveniles and children in conflict with the law to 16, citing growing maturity at that age.

Justice A. Badharudeen made the observation while hearing a petition by Kollam resident Vinod Vikram. He sought action against the sale and serving of liquor to people below 23, as well as their consumption of alcohol.

The petition referred to a crash at Nedumbassery. An 18-year-old, allegedly under the influence of alcohol, drove a Mini Cooper into a scooter, killing three people. The petition names the state government, the Director of the Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau, the Excise Commissioner and the managing directors of three bars alleged to have served liquor to Suhail Sajeev, the accused in the case.




The High Court of Kerala in Kochi

In an interim order on Friday, the court said the petition needed detailed consideration, pointing to similar incidents. It said lawmakers should consider changes to statutes dealing with juveniles and children in conflict with the law, taking account of what it described as growing maturity among 16-year-olds.

The court directed the Excise Commissioner to file a statement describing steps taken to enforce provisions of the Kerala Abkari Act. The commissioner must also suggest ways to apply the law and protect the public from danger.

# 5 tremors jolt Assam, J&K and Ladakh




**GUWAHATI**

Five earthquakes were recorded across Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on Saturday, with no reports of damage to life or property.

The strongest tremor measured magnitude 4.0 and struck Assam's Kamrup district at 2:43 p.m. It occurred at a depth of 10 kilometres, the National Center for Seismology (NCS) said. Tremors were felt in several parts of Assam, including Guwahati. The agency shared the earthquake details on X.

**Saturday's tremors**
Magnitude (NCS); Leh not given




Four other tremors, ranging from magnitude 2.9 to 3.9, were recorded in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh within 11 hours. Three were in the Chenab Valley region, while the fourth struck Leh.

Kishtwar district recorded a magnitude 3.3 earthquake at 2:38 a.m., with its epicentre 15 kilometres deep. Doda district experienced a magnitude 3.8 tremor at 8:48 a.m., at a depth of five kilometres. Another earthquake measuring 2.9 struck Doda at 1:09 p.m., with its epicentre 10 kilometres deep.

No damage or injuries were reported in the affected areas. The series of tremors occurred across three regions, with the Assam quake felt in Guwahati and other parts of the state.

# Pistols seized, man held in Mumbai

**MUMBAI**

The Mumbai Crime Branch arrested a man and seized two country-made pistols and 19 live cartridges in Agripada, police said.

The accused, identified as Ganesh Landge, was allegedly carrying the weapons without a licence or permit.

Police said Crime Branch Unit 2 received information that a man planned to bring illegal firearms and ammunition into the area. Officers laid a trap and detained Landge, who they said was moving suspiciously. A search allegedly found the two pistols and cartridges.

A case was registered at Agripada police station under relevant sections of the Arms Act. Investigators are examining where the weapons came from, why they were brought to the area and whether others were involved. Police told a court that information had pointed to four people sitting together with weapons, and said some suspects were absconding. The accused claimed officers had arrived suddenly to arrest him. Police also referred to the investigation of the Tiger Shroff case. The court remanded Landge to two days in police custody.

| SEIZED | |
|---|---|
| 2 | COUNTRY-MADE PISTOLS |
| 19 | LIVE CARTRIDGES |

In a separate operation on May 24, the Crime Branch's Anti-Extortion Cell arrested three alleged Lawrence Bishnoi gang operatives near St George's Hospital on P D'Mello Road. Police seized three Chinese-made pistols and 45 cartridges. Officials said the investigation would identify the weapons' source, intended use and any links to a wider illegal arms network operating in Mumbai and nearby areas.

# Argentine leader calls for shift to renewables

**HYDERABAD**

Climate change is a challenge for all humanity, and countries must shift to renewable energy and reduce fossil fuel use, Argentina's Socialist Party Secretary General Alfredo Remo Lazzeretti said on Saturday.

Speaking at the Bharat Summit 2026, Lazzeretti said El Niño was one of several problems linked to rising global temperatures. He said climate change affects people around the world and requires a shared response. He called for reducing fossil fuel consumption and moving to renewable energy as soon as possible, saying fossil fuels are a major source of pollution.

Lazzeretti said he had attended discussions over the summit's two days on the global economy, democracy, election campaigns, climate change and the changing world economic order. He said the meetings brought together people from different regions and allowed progressive political groups to exchange ideas and experiences.

He said he had joined panels on climate change, electoral campaigns and the new world economic order. Some sessions took place at the same time, preventing him from attending every discussion, he added. Lazzeretti said the range of perspectives had enriched the conversations.

**Bharat Summit 2026**

| WHEN | WHERE | DELEGATES |
|---|---|---|
| Nov 13 and 14 | Hyderabad International Convention Centre | About 1,000, from 70 countries |

The Bharat Summit was held at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre on November 13 and 14. Organisers brought together around 1,000 delegates, policymakers and thinkers from 70 countries.

The programme included discussions on geopolitics, democracy, climate change, artificial intelligence and progressive politics. Delegates also considered the protection of democratic institutions and social and political challenges facing different countries. The two-day event ended Saturday in Hyderabad.

**GANGA CLEAN-UP**

# *Haridwar canal clean-up removes waste near Har Ki Pauri*

**HARIDWAR**

Sanitation workers, government departments, civic bodies, local groups and volunteers took part in the clean-up. The waste included silt, plastic, discarded clothes and religious offerings.

A canal was reportedly closed for about 20 days, exposing rubbish along the riverbed near important ghats, including Har Ki Pauri. Workers and volunteers cleared the material before water flow resumed.

### Riverbed revealed

A video recorded afterward shows the riverbed and fish beneath the water. The images drew praise and calls to prevent more litter.



The cleared canal bed near Har Ki Pauri in Haridwar

### Ardh Kumbh ahead

Bharat Bhushan Sharma, a sub-divisional officer with the Uttar Pradesh Irrigation Department's Ganga division, said stopping the flow and removing waste was difficult. He said public participation helped make the work possible, with thousands joining government teams and local organisations.

The clean-up has drawn attention to the wider challenge of protecting the river, which serves households, farms and industries across a large basin. Authorities are preparing for the 2027 Ardh Kumbh in Haridwar, scheduled from January 14 to April 20. Large crowds of devotees and religious leaders are expected. A floating trash barrier is being installed to catch solid waste during the event. Officials and residents have also urged people not to leave clothes, plastic or offerings in the water, and to use bins instead.

## Quick Read

### Vaigai Dam water released to irrigate 45,041 acres

**THENI**

Water from Vaigai Dam was released at 900 cusecs on Saturday to support first-crop cultivation in parts of Madurai and Dindigul districts. The state plans to release 5,357 million cubic feet over 100 days, with continuous supply for 30 days followed by rotational releases for 70 days. The water is expected to irrigate 45,041 acres. Drought delayed the usual June release by five months, so farmers are expected to grow one crop instead of two this year. The dam held 2,738 million cubic feet.

### Bay depression may intensify into cyclonic storm by Nov 16

**NEW DELHI**

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said a low-pressure area over the Southeast Bay of Bengal may become a depression within 24 hours and strengthen into a cyclonic storm around November 16. Odisha may see scattered rain from November 14 to 18, with isolated heavy rain expected in four districts on November 18. Thunderstorms, lightning and gusty winds are also possible. A Western Disturbance may bring rain or snow to parts of Northwest India. Delhi could receive very light rain, followed by cooler temperatures.

### Students protest before Rahul Gandhi's Hyderabad visit

**HYDERABAD**

Osmania University students and Bharat Rashtra Samithi Vidyarthi (BRSV) leaders protested at an Ashok Nagar tea stall ahead of Congress MP Rahul Gandhi's Hyderabad visit, urging him to return and meet unemployed youth.

They said he had promised two lakh government jobs each year and accused the Congress government of failing to deliver. They claimed that nearly three years after it took office, fewer than 10,000 jobs had been filled, against a promised six lakh.

# UP Congress submits list of 180 seats for alliance talks

Congress leaders in Uttar Pradesh expect seat-sharing talks to begin soon, with a meeting tentatively planned for Nov 17.

**LUCKNOW**



Uttar Pradesh Congress incharge Rajendra Pal Gautam said the party had submitted a list of around 180 seats and expected several rounds of discussions to finalise the arrangement. "We have already provided them with a list comprising approximately 180 seats," he told ANI, adding that the meetings would aim to settle the matter.

Gautam also announced plans for Constitution Day on November 26. He said party workers would march from the Congress office to a statue of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar. Gautam accused the Election Commission of removing valid votes, adding fake entries and changing voter details without authorisation. He said thousands of workers would take part.

> **"We have already provided them with a list comprising approximately 180 seats"**
> — **Rajendra Pal Gautam,** UP Congress in-charge

Earlier, Uttar Pradesh Congress president Aradhana Mishra, known as Mona, said preparations had begun for "Mission 2027." She said the party had asked its Legal Cell, Social Media wing, Media wing and Connect Centre to prepare around four themes for the coming election.

Mishra said the themes would guide the party's election strategy. She added that the teams had been briefed and that district units and leaders of the party's affiliated groups were returning with renewed energy. Congress has not announced more details about the seat-sharing meetings. Gautam said several rounds were expected on November 17, when the arrangement would be finalised. The party's Constitution Day march is planned for November 26, the date India adopted its Constitution in 1949.

**180**
**seats, approximately, on the list UP Congress has given for the alliance talks**

# Telangana launches security scheme for gig workers



**Telangana says its new security scheme and Gig Workers Act will strengthen protections for workers, following a promise made during Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra.**

**HYDERABAD**

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and Lok Sabha Opposition Leader Rahul Gandhi took part in the launch of the state's Gig Workers Special Security Scheme. Reddy said the Gig Workers Act would be enforced under Gandhi's guidance.

The Chief Minister's Office said the state had set up a Gig Workers Board and was providing insurance coverage to workers. Reddy called the launch a promise fulfilled, recalling Gandhi's assurance during the Bharat Jodo Yatra in Telangana.

Reddy said gig workers had met Gandhi during his 4,000-kilometre march from Kanyakumari to Kashmir and shared difficulties they faced at work. He said Gandhi had promised that a Congress government in Telangana would pass a law to protect them. The state later enacted the legislation, Reddy said.

"The Lok Sabha LoP had gained a first-hand understanding of the hardships faced by the poor," Reddy said, describing the workers' meeting with Gandhi during the yatra. He said the government was committed to supporting gig workers and thanked Gandhi on behalf of the community.

Reddy said the government provides accident insurance to gig workers. He also said the coverage limit under the Aarogyasri health scheme had been raised to Rs 10 lakh. According to the Chief Minister, the law aims to protect gig workers in every aspect. He said the state would stand by them and provide support whenever needed. Reddy said the Gandhi family had a history of keeping commitments and described the new law as protection for workers statewide.

# "No Leniency": ABVP protests Haldwani assault case

**DEHRADUN**

The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) held protests in Dehradun and Haldwani over the alleged sexual assault of a minor in Haldwani, demanding swift action and strict punishment for anyone found guilty.

In Dehradun, protesters burnt effigies of the accused and called for justice for the girl. ABVP said one of the four arrested, Dheeraj Bisht, had earlier been a student union candidate but currently held no post in the organisation. The group demanded a full investigation into the role of everyone named in the case, including Bisht.



**CASE DETAILS**

**ARRESTED**
Dheeraj Bisht, Nitin Pal, Ansh Khatri and Himanshu Boni

**EVIDENCE**
Police inspected the hotel and reviewed CCTV footage

**DEMAND**
ABVP wants an impartial probe into everyone's role

ABVP Uttarakhand Secretary Yashwant Pawar said the incident was condemnable and called for an impartial inquiry. "No leniency should be shown towards anyone involved in such serious crimes," he said, adding that ABVP would support efforts to secure justice for the victim.

Police said four people had been arrested: Bisht, Nitin Pal, Ansh Khatri and Himanshu Boni. Nainital Senior Superintendent of Police Manjunath TC said the girl's family had filed a complaint with the police. The complaint alleged that the accused lured and pressured the minor to go to a hotel, where she was sexually assaulted through threats and intimidation.

Police registered a First Information Report. The SSP said investigators inspected the hotel and reviewed CCTV footage, which he said supported the occurrence of the incident. ABVP urged authorities to take strict legal action against anyone found guilty.

# Jagan accuses Naidu of taking credit for AP's AEI rise



**AMARAVATI**

YSRCP chief Jagan Mohan Reddy said in a post on X that Andhra Pradesh rose from 10th place in the 2021 Access (In)Equality Index (AEI) report to third in the 2024 report. He called Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's claim "credit chori" and said the progress reflected policies of his government.

Jagan said the index, published by OP Jindal Global University with the Centre for New Economic Studies, assessed states across five areas linked to social and human development. He said the 2021 report used data from before 2019, while the 2024 report drew on figures from 2021 to 2023.

**Andhra Pradesh in the AEI, 2021 to 2024**

| | |
|---|---|
| OVERALL<br>**10th to 3rd** | HEALTH<br>**8th to 2nd** |
| SOCIO-ECONOMIC SECURITY<br>**11th to 1st** | LEGAL RECOURSE<br>**15th to 2nd** |

He said Andhra Pradesh's Health Index position improved from eighth to second, while its Socio-Economic Security ranking rose from 11th to first. In the Legal Recourse category, he said the state moved from 15th place to second. Jagan attributed the changes to welfare programmes, support for private consumption during hardship, and assistance to industry and manufacturing.

Jagan also disputed Naidu's description of the state's finances under the previous government, saying the gains came during a period the Chief Minister had described as the state being "on a ventilator."

# YSRCP seeks proof of Lokesh's claim on Rs 5,000 crore fee dues

**AMARAVATI**

YSR Congress Party spokesperson G. Veera Shekhar Reddy challenged Andhra Pradesh Education Minister Nara Lokesh to provide evidence for his claim that Rs 5,000 crore in fee reimbursement dues had been paid.

Shekhar Reddy said the minister should answer questions about student dues instead of making personal remarks about Jagan's family. According to a YSRCP release, fee reimbursement and Vasathi Deevena payments total more than Rs 12,400 crore, including about Rs 9,100 crore in fee reimbursement and Rs 3,300 crore under Vasathi Deevena.

He claimed the government had paid Rs 2,800 crore in two years, leaving around Rs 9,600 crore outstanding. He also cited Comptroller and Auditor General figures, saying Rs 1,771 crore was paid under fee reimbursement in 2024–25.

### Students denied hall tickets

The spokesperson alleged that students were being denied entry to classes, hall tickets and certificates because colleges had not received payments. The release referred to two students at a private engineering college in Chittoor who reportedly attempted suicide amid fee-related pressure.

### A call for a white paper

Shekhar Reddy urged Lokesh to issue a white paper showing when the claimed Rs 5,000 crore was paid and which budget funded it. He said the government should prioritise students' education over publicity and event spending.

Earlier, YSRCP leaders Kalpalatha Reddy and A Ravichandra also accused the coalition government of leaving fee arrears unpaid for many students and demanded immediate payment. They said students in Chittoor had protested after colleges withheld certificates and restricted exam access.

**Dues, as YSRCP counts them**

| | |
|---|---|
| 12,400 cr | RUPEES DUE UNDER THE TWO SCHEMES |
| 2,800 cr | PAID IN TWO YEARS |
| 9,600 cr | STILL OUTSTANDING |

# "Bundle of Lies": Bawankule hits Rahul's claims

**NAGPUR**

**Bawankule dismissed the phone-tapping claim as having no substance**

Maharashtra Minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule criticised Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his allegation that the Central government had tapped his phone, calling the claim baseless.

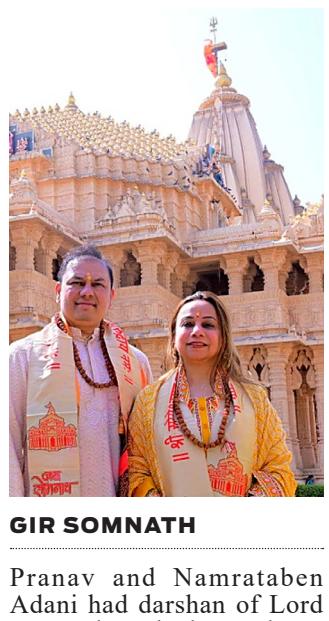
Speaking to reporters on Saturday, Bawankule accused Gandhi of making frequent allegations to attract public and media attention. "Rahul Gandhi is a bundle of lies," he said, dismissing the phone-tapping claim as having no substance. He also predicted a major National Democratic Alliance victory in the 2029 election.

Bawankule said Prime Minister Narendra Modi was committed to fulfilling promises made in the BJP's 2024 manifesto and to building a developed India. He argued that this would help the NDA win nationally and said Gandhi had lost his footing.

His comments followed Gandhi's claim that Modi was aware of surveillance because his phone was being tapped. Gandhi renewed his call for an open debate with the Prime Minister. In a video shared by Congress on X, he said a face-to-face discussion would allow the public to hear who was under the influence of foreign powers and who was acting against national interests.

Gandhi also said evidence supporting his claims was on his phone and that Modi knew what it contained.

# Adani couple offer prayers at Somnath temple



**GIR SOMNATH**

Pranav and Namrataben Adani had darshan of Lord Somnath Mahadev, a devotional visit to the deity, and performed Jalabhishek, a ritual offering of water. They also took part in Shri Someshwar Mahapuja and Dhwaja Puja, following traditional scriptural practices at the temple.

Somnath is revered as the first Jyotirlinga, a sacred shrine dedicated to Lord Shiva.

The couple offered an Annakut Manorath to the deity. Shree Somnath Trust General Manager Vijaysinh Chavda welcomed the couple on behalf of the trust and presented them with a memento and temple prasad.

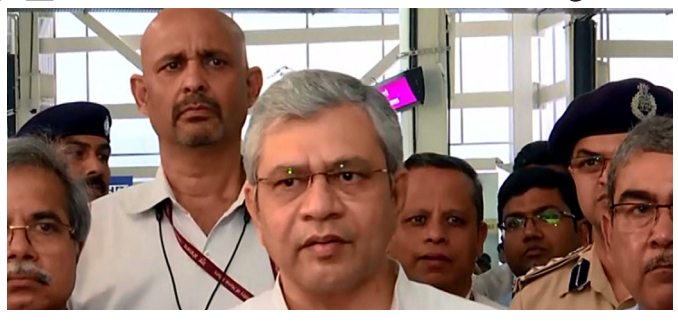
During the visit, Pranav Adani also went to the Baan Stambh, or Arrow Pillar, located within the temple premises. He appreciated the ancient geographical knowledge reflected in Sanatan culture.

The Shree Somnath Temple is in Gujarat's Gir Somnath district.

**JANAKPUR RAIL LINK**

# *India approves weekly train between Ayodhya, Janakpur*

**NEW DELHI**



The Ministry of Railways said the route connects two sites associated with the Ramayana tradition: Janakpur Dham, revered as the birthplace of Sita, and Ayodhya, regarded as the birthplace of Lord Ram.

The service will run between Janakpur Dham and Ayodhya Cantt, with commercial stops at Jaynagar, Madhubani, Shisho, Sitamarhi, Raxaul, Narkatiaganj, Gorakhpur, Basti, Mankapur and Ayodhya Dham.

The weekly train will leave Janakpur Dham on Saturdays and Ayodhya Cantt on Mondays. It is also expected to support travel for education, business and family visits, and bring opportunities for local traders, hotels, tourism operators and traditional artisans along the route.

Railway officials from India and Nepal have discussed the service, including customs, immigration, security, signalling and passenger facilities. Officials inspected the Jaynagar–Janakpur Dham–Kurtha section after reaching an initial understanding on responsibilities for passenger and train security on each side of the border. An Indian train also completed a trial run from Jaynagar to Kurtha earlier this month.

Nepal Railways Managing Director Paribesh Parajuli told ANI that Indian Railways would operate the service for now, with Nepal potentially taking over when it has the resources. He said the plan was for one round trip each week, with frequency subject to passenger demand. The new link adds a rail connection between neighbouring countries with longstanding cultural and social ties, and could make travel between the two religious destinations more convenient.

## Quick Read

### China's party discipline risks weakening governance

**NAYPYIDAW**

The Chinese Communist Party's tighter control over officials could leave them more worried about making political mistakes than solving public problems, the Ayeyarwaddy Times reported. President Xi Jinping's anti-corruption campaign, launched in 2012, has expanded across government agencies, state-owned companies and local administrations. The report said investigations can help uncover misconduct, but a rise in cases could reflect either more corruption or stronger enforcement.

### Brazil's grain harvest could shrink 2.6%

**RIO DE JANEIRO**

Brazil is expected to harvest 346.6 million tonnes of grain in 2027, down 2.6 per cent from a record 355.8 million tonnes in 2026, the national statistics agency said. Farmers are projected to plant grain on 83.2 million hectares, slightly less than in 2026. Soybeans and corn account for most of Brazil's grain output and are among its main agricultural exports.

### UN experts oppose Thailand's Uyghur extraditions

**GENEVA**

UN experts urged Thailand to halt the extradition of five Uyghur men to China, warning that they could face torture or enforced disappearance. Two are awaiting extradition in immigration detention after serving prison sentences. The five were among more than 350 Uyghurs who fled China and were detained near the Thai border in 2014.

### Greece deports Bangladeshi man after asylum rejections

**ATHENS**

Greece deported a 27-year-old Bangladeshi man after authorities rejected his third asylum application, Greek City Times reported. He left Athens for Bangladesh on Tuesday on a charter flight carrying 50 other people from Bangladesh and Pakistan.

# China and US weigh mutual tariff cuts

Trade officials explored lower import taxes on roughly $30 billion in goods from each country before Trump meets Xi Jinping.

**BEIJING**

China and the United States discussed lowering import taxes on goods worth about $30 billion from each country, days before US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping are expected to meet in Shenzhen.

Officials raised the proposal at the first meeting of the US-China Board of Trade, China's Commerce Ministry said on Saturday. The two sides also discussed farm trade and how to put agreements from earlier talks into practice.

### Lists of imports

Under the proposal, Washington and Beijing would each draw up a list of imports that could qualify for lower taxes. Both countries would have to agree on which products to include. Together, the two lists would cover roughly $60 billion in goods. Officials also have to work within domestic trade rules.

The plan grew out of talks between Trump and Xi in Washington in September. The White House said at the time that the new trade board would start by discussing which imports could get lower rates. Friday's meeting gave officials a chance to pick up that work before the leaders meet again.



US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping (file picture)

**$30 bn** in goods from each country could get lower import taxes

**$17 bn** of US farm products in the proposal, Reuters reported

### Farm goods

Farm goods could make up a large share of the US list. Reuters reported that the proposal includes about $17 billion worth of American farm products that China imported in 2024. Lower duties on those goods would reduce the taxes that Chinese importers pay when they bring them into the country.

Trump and Xi are expected to meet during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Shenzhen. The tariff plan is still under discussion, and Friday's meeting ended without a final deal. A decision on which products will qualify and how far their duties will fall would give exporters and importers a clearer idea of what the agreement would mean for their businesses.

### The road to Shenzhen

- **SEPTEMBER** — Trump and Xi hold talks in Washington; a new trade board is set to discuss lower rates
- **FRIDAY** — First meeting of the US-China Board of Trade
- **NEXT** — Trump and Xi expected to meet at the APEC summit in Shenzhen

# Pakistan sends its climate minister to Delhi forum



Leaders of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation member countries (file picture)

**ISLAMABAD**

Musadik Masood Malik will represent Pakistan at a gathering in India that brings countries together to discuss their cultural heritage.

Pakistan's Foreign Office announced Malik's nomination on Saturday. He will attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Civilisational Dialogue Forum, which runs from Nov. 20 to 22 in New Delhi. Malik is Pakistan's federal minister for climate change and environmental coordination.

India invited all members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, including Pakistan, to the first edition of the forum. Pakistan's Foreign Office said earlier this month that it had received the invitation and that the country's leaders would decide whether to take part. Saturday's announcement named Malik as Pakistan's representative.

Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced in October that New Delhi would host the event. He was speaking at a meeting of the organisation's heads of government in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The forum follows a proposal from Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi for member countries to hold talks about their cultures and histories.

India plans to open the forum on Nov. 20, with Modi expected to attend the opening ceremony. China, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye and Iran were among the countries that had confirmed attendance. The programme includes sessions on art and architecture, as well as languages, literature and manuscripts. Delegates are also expected to visit Purana Qila, a historic fort in New Delhi where excavations have uncovered traces of the city's past.

**Musadik Masood Malik will join delegates from across the region for three days of talks on art, literature and heritage.**

Pakistan took over the rotating chair of the organisation's Council of Heads of State from Kyrgyzstan in September. Malik's trip would be the first visit to India by a Pakistani minister in more than three years.

# INDIA REJECTS UN CALL TO PAUSE EXECUTIONS

**NEW YORK**

India voted against a United Nations draft resolution calling for a pause in the use of the death penalty. During Friday's vote in the General Assembly's Third Committee, India said countries should be able to decide their own laws and penalties. It argued that there was no international agreement against capital punishment.

India backed a separate draft resolution urging countries to end unlawful executions. However, it refused to support a paragraph asking governments to consider recommendations from a UN expert whose report said the death penalty itself amounted to torture or ill-treatment. India said its support for that draft reflected its opposition to executions carried out without legal authority.

Bhavika Mangalanandan, a first secretary at India's UN mission, said courts in India reserve the death penalty for the "rarest of rare" cases. She said a higher court must confirm every death sentence and that courts must consider circumstances that could justify a lesser penalty. She also argued that an international treaty on civil and political rights allows countries to use the death penalty under strict limits.

India's vote followed the position it took on similar proposals in 2016, 2018 and 2024. The United States also voted against the draft. US representative Yaryna Fencevych said decisions on capital punishment should go through each country's democratic process and comply with international law. She called for fair trials and a ban on execution methods designed to cause needless suffering.

The committee approved the draft calling for a pause by a large majority. France welcomed the result, saying a halt to executions would bring countries closer to ending the death penalty worldwide.



India's representative at the United Nations (file picture)

### How India voted

- ✗ Draft calling for a pause in the death penalty: against
- ✓ Draft urging an end to unlawful executions: backed
- – Paragraph on the UN expert's recommendations: not supported

# Zelenskyy highlights Danish aid and UK sanctions

**KYIV**

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Saturday that Denmark had offered Ukraine €645 million in defence aid and €20 million for its energy sector. He also pointed to new British sanctions targeting Russia's oil industry.

In a post on X, Zelenskyy said his visits to Denmark and Ireland had brought practical results. He visited Denmark on Nov. 10 and 11 before travelling to Ireland for the European Political Community summit. He said talks with European leaders covered ways to strengthen Ukraine's air defences and support its power supply and railways through the winter.

| €645m | €20m | 1,000+ |
|---|---|---|
| Danish defence aid | for Ukraine's energy sector | from each side in a possible prisoner exchange |

Zelenskyy also discussed Ukraine's bid to join the European Union with European Council President António Costa and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. He said Ukraine hoped to finish talks on the two remaining groups of issues by the end of the year and move faster next year.

Zelenskyy also said officials were preparing a possible prisoner exchange with Russia. More than 1,000 people from each side could be released, making it the largest exchange since the war began.

# Iran warns tankers after reported mine strike

**TEHRAN**

Iran's navy warned tankers on Saturday to stay out of a restricted area east of the Strait of Hormuz after it said an oil tanker struck a naval mine there. The navy said the ship had entered the area despite earlier warnings.

Iran's state news agency ISNA reported that the tanker had turned off systems used to identify and track it. The navy warned that other tankers entering the area could face the same danger. The report gave no details about the crew.

Hours earlier, Iran's Revolutionary Guard navy said two oil tankers caught fire after hitting mines while trying to cross the southern part of the strait without permission. Iranian state broadcaster IRIB reported the claim. It was unclear whether the tanker in the later warning was one of those two vessels.

The Revolutionary Guard urged shipping companies to contact its traffic control centre before crossing. Iran imposed limits on shipping through the strait after the United States and Israel began a military campaign against the country on Feb. 28. Tehran says ships must get permission from Iranian authorities to pass safely.

The Strait of Hormuz carries a large share of the world's oil.

# Rights commission demands release of Sindh protesters

**ISLAMABAD**

The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan has urged authorities to release protesters still in custody after a Nov. 10 demonstration in Kandiaro, in Sindh province. The commission said the gathering was peaceful and called on officials to protect the right to protest.

### Charges

In a statement on X, the commission said those detained included members of the Sindh Youth Action Committee, the Sindh Sagar Party and other local groups. The demonstrators wanted the government to set aside public land for the proposed university, hospital and park.

The protesters were charged with unlawful assembly, obstructing public servants and disrupting public order. At least 12 had been granted bail, the commission said. It raised concerns about those who remained in custody and urged authorities to respect freedom of speech and peaceful assembly.

In a separate statement, the commission cited reports of fresh violence in Rawalakot, with casualties reported among protesters and law enforcement personnel. It called on federal and regional officials to prevent further violence, open talks and let journalists report freely.

# Report warns Badr pact could weaken Washington

**WASHINGTON**

A defence agreement among four countries could reduce US influence over arms sales and sanctions if the members expand their military cooperation, the Middle East Forum said in a report.

Pakistan, Turkey, Qatar and Indonesia signed the Badr Agreement in Doha on Oct. 21. The report described it as a memorandum of understanding and said other countries could join later. The Turkish Defence Ministry said the agreement covers work on military equipment, technical training and joint exercises.

### Who brings what

The report said Turkey could provide technology, Pakistan and Indonesia could offer factories and skilled workers, and Qatar could supply funding. All four countries use Western military equipment, though they buy from several suppliers. The think tank warned that joint projects could give partners access to sensitive parts or technology that suppliers had originally approved for use by only one country.

**THE ADVICE**

**Act while the pact is still taking shape**

- Track technology transfers linked to it
- Seek assurances from Turkey on allied technology
- Review how Pakistan uses US-made equipment

### Track the technology

The forum urged Washington and its allies to track technology transfers linked to the agreement. It recommended seeking assurances from Turkey, a NATO member, that it would protect allied technology in shared projects. It also called for a review of rules governing how Pakistan uses military equipment made in the United States, citing Islamabad's close defence ties with China.

The report urged Washington to act while the agreement is still taking shape, before joint projects grow and more countries consider joining.

**MODI MANILA VISIT**

# *Manila hails ties as Modi visit nears*



**MANILA**

Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Theresa P. Lazaro called relations with India "excellent" on Saturday and said she expected the partnership to grow as Prime Minister Narendra Modi prepared to visit Manila.

Lazaro pointed to Modi's recent talks with Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. during the BRICS summit in New Delhi. The two countries agreed to make their relationship a strategic partnership when Marcos visited India in August 2025.

Modi is due in Manila on Nov. 16 and 17 for the 23rd ASEAN-India Summit and the 21st East Asia Summit. The Philippines is hosting the meetings as chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. Rudrendra Tandon, an official at India's Ministry of External Affairs, said Marcos would host Modi and other visiting leaders for dinner before the summits. Modi will attend both gatherings the following day. His schedule also includes separate meetings with several leaders.

**THE SUMMITS**

**Nov. 15:** meetings open at the Philippine International Convention Center

**Nov. 16-17:** Modi in Manila for the 23rd ASEAN-India Summit and the 21st East Asia Summit

**19 leaders** or more expected, among them Trump and Guterres

### Leaders in Manila

At least 19 leaders from countries and international organisations are expected at the wider ASEAN gathering. They include US President Donald Trump and United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. Chinese Premier Li Qiang is set to attend a separate meeting with ASEAN leaders. Trump is due to travel to Shenzhen, China, after his Manila stop.

The regional meetings begin on Nov. 15 at the Philippine International Convention Center. After the opening ceremony, ASEAN leaders will look back on what the Philippines achieved as chair. The focus will then shift to talks with India and other partners as Modi joins the summit programme.

Quick Read

## Patanjali Foods Q2 net profit falls 19%

**NEW DELHI**

Patanjali Foods Ltd reported a 19 per cent decline in consolidated net profit to Rs 419.76 crore for the quarter ended September 30, 2026. The company had posted a net profit of Rs 516.69 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Despite the fall in profit, the company recorded an increase in revenue to Rs 11,406 crore during the September quarter, according to its financial results.

## Rising deposit costs may limit banks' margin gains

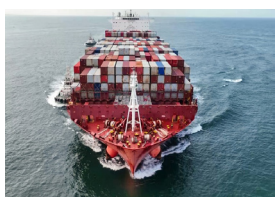
**NEW DELHI**

Rising deposit costs may limit Indian banks' profit margins in the second half of FY27, according to a report by 360 ONE Capital. The share of low-cost deposits fell to 34.4 per cent in the July-September quarter from 35.6 per cent in the previous quarter. The decline was mainly due to strong foreign currency deposit inflows. However, total deposits across 36 banks grew 16 per cent year-on-year and 6 per cent quarter-on-quarter.

## RHI Magnesita Q2 net profit rises 62%

**NEW DELHI**

RHI Magnesita reported a 62 per cent year-on-year increase in consolidated net profit to Rs 62.09 crore in the September quarter, supported by higher revenue from its India operations. The company had earned a profit of Rs 38.34 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year. Consolidated revenue rose slightly to Rs 1,038.26 crore from Rs 1,036.45 crore.



## Global economy set to grow 2.8% in 2027

**NEW DELHI**

The global economy is expected to grow 2.8 per cent in 2027, supported by lower energy prices and rising investment in artificial intelligence, according to Goldman Sachs Research.

In its 'Global Economic Outlook 2027' report, the financial services firm projected growth slightly higher than the estimated 2.7 per cent for 2026. It said easing energy costs and continued investment in AI would help offset tighter financial conditions and reduced government spending.

Goldman Sachs expects Brent crude oil prices to fall to USD 78 per barrel by the end of 2027.

India's economy is projected to expand by 7.2 per cent in 2027, compared with 7.9 per cent in 2026. Despite the slowdown, the forecast remains above the market consensus estimate of 6.8 per cent.

China's growth is expected to ease to 4.5 per cent from 4.6 per cent, while the US economy is projected to expand by 2.4 per cent against 2.3 per cent.

# Jaishankar: India-US trade deal nears completion

The proposed Modi-Trump meeting may boost trade negotiations and strengthen economic and diplomatic ties between India and the US.

**NEW DELHI**

India and the United States have resolved most issues in their proposed trade agreement, with negotiations nearing completion and a final deal expected soon, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Saturday.

Speaking at the HT Leadership Summit, Jaishankar said both countries had settled most concerns, including tariff-related matters. He described the negotiations as approaching the "finishing line" and expressed confidence that the remaining differences could be resolved.

He said some of the outstanding issues were not mainly on India's side, indicating that more changes had taken place on the American side. However, discussions were continuing to address the remaining concerns before the agreement could be finalised.



The minister's remarks come ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's likely visit to the United States next month for the G20 Summit. During the visit, Modi is expected to meet US President Donald Trump on the sidelines of the summit.

The proposed meeting could give the two leaders an opportunity to review the progress of the trade agreement and discuss the broader direction of India-US relations. The discussions may also help both countries strengthen economic and diplomatic ties.

**WHAT NEXT**

- Modi's likely US visit next month for the G20 Summit
- A meeting with US President Donald Trump expected on its sidelines
- Discussions continue on the remaining concerns

The proposed trade pact is expected to improve trade relations, address tariff-related concerns and create greater opportunities for businesses in both countries. However, the final agreement will depend on resolving the remaining differences through ongoing discussions.

Jaishankar's statement indicates that both sides have made considerable progress and are working towards completing the negotiations. He did not give a specific date for signing the agreement.

# India bans battery waste exports to boost recycling

**NEW DELHI**



*The government has banned exports of battery waste and lithium-ion black mass to strengthen domestic recycling and secure supplies of critical minerals*

The Centre has banned the export of battery waste, scrap and lithium-ion battery black mass with immediate effect to strengthen domestic recycling and reduce dependence on imported critical minerals.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) announced the restriction on Wednesday. Black mass is a powder obtained by shredding used lithium-ion batteries. It contains valuable minerals such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, manganese and graphite, which are used in electric vehicles, electronic devices and energy storage systems.

In 2025-26, India's imports of electrical and electronic waste rose nearly 29 per cent to USD 553.19 million, from USD 430.32 million in the previous year. Lithium imports also rose to USD 46.91 million from USD 35.71 million.

A DGFT official said the ban would give Indian recyclers better access to raw materials and encourage investment in recycling facilities.

Nitin Gupta, CEO of Attero, said exporting black mass for processing and importing refined materials resulted in a loss of domestic value addition. He said the ban would help recyclers expand operations. Uditanshu Agarwal of Staunch Electronics said the move would strengthen India's domestic supply chain.

# Piyush Goyal to lead business delegation to Egypt

**NEW DELHI**

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal will visit Egypt on November 15 and 16, leading a delegation of more than 130 business leaders and start-ups to strengthen trade and investment ties between the two countries.

During the two-day visit, Goyal and Egypt's Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade, Mohamed Farid Saleh, will co-chair the seventh session of the India-Egypt Joint Trade Committee (JTC) in Cairo on November 15, the Commerce Ministry said on Saturday.

The visit will include the India-Egypt Joint Business Council meeting and Business Forum, bringing together representatives from both countries to explore joint ventures, technology partnerships and investment opportunities. An India-Egypt Start-up Forum will also be organised to encourage cooperation between emerging businesses.



The ministerial-level JTC meeting will review bilateral trade and investment and discuss ways to expand the range of goods traded. Discussions will cover market access, trade barriers, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, engineering, textiles, fertilisers, renewable energy and green hydrogen.

Bilateral merchandise trade reached USD 5.04 billion during April-September 2026, registering 64 per cent growth compared with the same period last year.

India exported goods worth USD 3.87 billion to Egypt in FY 2025-26, while imports stood at USD 2.60 billion.

Goyal will also meet senior Egyptian ministers and interact with business and financial institutions. Both countries will explore cooperation in manufacturing, infrastructure, ports, logistics and the Suez Canal Economic Zone.

| $5.04 bn | 64% | $3.87 bn |
|---|---|---|
| trade, April-September 2026 | growth on a year earlier | exports to Egypt, FY26 |

# Cement sector earnings likely to recover in Q3

**NEW DELHI**

India's cement sector is expected to witness an improvement in earnings during the third quarter of FY27, supported by recent price increases and a seasonal recovery in demand, according to a report by Dolat Capital.

The brokerage expects earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) per tonne to rise sequentially by Rs 135, or 16.2 per cent, in Q3FY27. The improvement is expected to come from a 2.1 per cent increase in average selling prices and a 0.3 per cent decline in operating costs per tonne.

Cement prices in the trade segment increased by Rs 9 per bag in October, following a Rs 6 increase in September. Non-trade prices also went up by Rs 5-20 per bag across markets.

The report said further price increases after Diwali could help companies manage rising costs of cement bags, coal, petcoke and diesel.



During Q2FY27, the companies covered by the brokerage reported a 13.9 per cent rise in revenue to Rs 58,980 crore. Sales volumes rose 9.7 per cent to 103.7 million tonnes. EBITDA, however, declined 1.8 per cent to Rs 8,650 crore and EBITDA per tonne fell 10.4 per cent to Rs 834.

**Cement outlook**

- **Rs 135** EBITDA a tonne seen rising in Q3FY27
- **Rs 9** trade price rise a bag in October
- **8-9%** industry growth, first half of FY27

The brokerage noted that infrastructure and housing demand supported industry growth of 8-9 per cent during the first half of FY27.

However, additional capacity of 173 million tonnes annually against expected demand growth of 122 million tonnes during FY26-29 may restrict price increases. Cost control and efficiency will remain important for cement companies.

# Tata Sons listing could alter group's traditional values

**NEW DELHI**

Tata Trusts Chairman Noel Tata has warned that listing Tata Sons could change the group's traditional business approach by placing greater importance on profits than philanthropy.

Speaking at the Hindustan Times Leadership Summit on Saturday, Noel said increasing the number of shareholders after a public listing could affect the group's long-standing values. He said the Tata Group had, for more than 150 years, followed its unique approach, balancing business growth with social welfare.

He expressed concern that a listing could bring 30,000 to 40,000 shareholders, potentially shifting the focus towards profits. Noel said Tata Trusts would engage constructively with regulators and other authorities to find a solution that would allow Tata Sons to remain unlisted.

Tata Trusts owns nearly two-thirds of Tata Sons, the group's holding company. The issue has led to differences between the trusts and the company's management, led by Chairman N Chandrasekaran. While the trusts oppose listing, the management has maintained that it must follow regulatory requirements. Noel had also opposed Chandrasekaran's reappointment at a board meeting on September 17.




Noel said there was no change in the group's strategic direction, but stressed the need for better execution of major projects. He welcomed investments in semiconductors, batteries and electric vehicles as important contributions to nation-building.

He also spoke about Trent's retail brands, Westside and Zudio.

# RBI may raise repo rate by 25 basis points

**NEW DELHI**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may opt for a smaller 25-basis-point repo rate hike in December as global economic and domestic financial pressures begin to ease, according to an SBI Research report.

The report revised its earlier forecast of a possible 50-basis-point increase, saying the chances now favour a smaller adjustment. It also assigned a 50 per cent probability to the terminal repo rate settling at 6 per cent or 5.75 per cent.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rose to 6.09 per cent in October, crossing the RBI's upper tolerance limit of 6 per cent for the first time under the new series. The report expects inflation to remain above 6 per cent in November before declining.

SBI Research said the RBI had made progress in controlling rupee volatility and easing liquidity pressures.




**SBI Research sees**

- **December:** a 25-basis-point repo hike
- **Terminal rate:** 6% or 5.75%
- **CPI, October:** 6.09%, above the 6% limit
- **10-year yield:** 6.75-7%

Improved foreign investment flows and a better global economic outlook are also expected to support the rupee. Foreign institutional investors have invested around USD 7.65 billion since November 6, the report said.

The report expects India's 10-year government bond yield to remain between 6.75 and 7 per cent, with a downward trend. It said further rate increases in February would not be advisable ahead of the Union Budget.

# Pollution-linked health claims rise 4.3 times

**NEW DELHI**

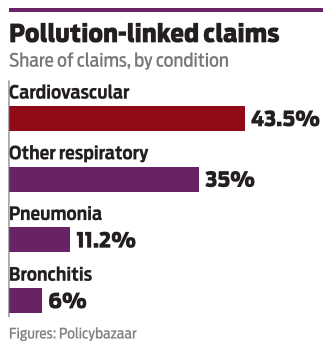
Pollution-related health insurance claims in India have increased more than fourfold in three years, with working professionals and senior citizens accounting for most claims, according to Policybazaar data.

The insurance aggregator reported that such claims rose 4.34 times between FY23 and FY26.

Interestingly, cardiovascular conditions accounted for the largest share of pollution-related claims at 43.5 per cent. Other respiratory infections contributed 35 per cent, followed by pneumonia at 11.2 per cent and bronchitis at 6 per cent.

Working professionals aged between 31 and 55 years accounted for 59 per cent of the claims, while senior citizens above 55 years contributed 31 per cent.

Delhi recorded the highest number of claims, followed by Pune, Bengaluru, Mumbai and Hyderabad. Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities together accounted for 55 per cent of the total claims, highlighting the growing impact of pollution beyond major metropolitan areas.




The data also showed that 56 per cent of annual claims in FY26 were recorded between October and March, when pollution levels generally rise in several regions.

The total claim amount increased 4.5 times between FY23 and FY26, while the average claim amount remained above FY23 levels.

PAYTM WALLET LICENCE

# *Paytm shares hit 52-week high after RBI approval*

**NEW DELHI**

Paytm shares touched a fresh 52-week high after the Reserve Bank of India granted in-principle approval to its subsidiary to operate digital wallets and other prepaid payment services.

Shares of One 97 Communications, the parent company of Paytm, rose to an intraday high of Rs 1,958.80 on Friday, surpassing the previous closing price of Rs 1,923.05.




In an exchange filing, the company said its wholly owned subsidiary, Paytm Payments Services Limited (PPSL), received an RBI letter dated November 13, 2026, granting in-principle authorisation to issue and operate prepaid payment instruments (PPIs) in India.

**RBI grants Paytm's subsidiary in-principle approval to operate digital wallets**

The approval was granted under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, subject to compliance with RBI guidelines on prepaid payment instruments. PPSL will be able to offer digital wallets and other prepaid services after receiving final authorisation and a certificate of authorisation.

Meanwhile, Paytm reported strong financial results for the September quarter of FY27. Its consolidated profit after tax increased more than tenfold to Rs 225 crore from Rs 21 crore in the corresponding quarter last year. This marked its sixth consecutive profitable quarter.

Operating revenue grew 28 per cent to Rs 2,648 crore, while EBITDA increased 90 per cent to a record Rs 270 crore. The EBITDA margin reached 10 per cent for the first time.

For the first half of FY27, profit after tax rose to Rs 445 crore from Rs 144 crore a year earlier. Payment services revenue increased 25 per cent to Rs 1,434 crore.

# 'Maarige Daari' Trailer Promises Action, Revenge and Emotion



Agastya has written the story, screenplay and dialogues, besides directing and playing the lead role. The film is produced by Radha under the banner of Radha Films.

Mahalakshmi, who has acted in five to six films and is currently appearing in the television serial 'Lakshmi Nivasa', plays the female lead. The supporting cast includes 'Cockroach' Sudhi, Balarajawadi, Benaka Nanjappa, Vardhan, Pradeep Poojari, 'Mandya Star' Ananthakumar, Tharaka Ram and Nawaz, among others.

Rio Antony has composed music for four songs, with lyrics by Kinnal Raj, Pramod Maravanthe and Triloka Trivikrama. Jagadish Gowda has handled cinematography and editing, while Syk Soori has choreographed the action sequences.

The trailer features several powerful dialogues. Speaking about the film, Agastya said it combines emotional revenge with a story about a man named Veera, who fights against the exploitation of women. He plays two different characters, Shiva and Maari.

He also revealed that the climax includes a 2.18-minute fight sequence filmed in a single take. The sequence required three months of intensive training. Responding to questions, he said the film's complete story could not be judged through a two-minute trailer and expressed confidence that audiences would enjoy it in theatres.

Producer Radha said she had invested her savings from working as a domestic cook to fulfil her son's dream of entering the film industry. Her emotional statement moved those present.

The film was shot in Varanasi, Bengaluru, Mandya, Hassan, Chikkamagaluru, Madikeri and Mysuru. Distributor Baguru Prashanth, known for 'Premada Oorali', is planning its release this month.




# 'Ramayana' Crosses ₹1,100 Crore Worldwide Milestone

Directed by Nitesh Tiwari and produced by Namit Malhotra, 'Ramayana: Part 1' has achieved a major milestone within ten days of its theatrical release. The film has crossed Rs 1,100 crore in worldwide collections and collected Rs 630.83 crore in India net earnings.

Starring Ranbir Kapoor as Rama, Sai Pallavi as Sita and Yash as Ravana, the mythological drama enjoyed a strong opening week, setting several box-office records. It recorded the highest-ever Monday collection for a Hindi film, along with impressive earnings on Tuesday and Wednesday.

According to Sacnilk, the film collected Rs 564 crore in India during its first seven days. It earned Rs 53.50 crore on the eighth day and around Rs 48.10 crore on the ninth day. On Saturday, its tenth day, the film collected Rs 18.13 crore by the afternoon.

The makers are expecting collections to improve during the second weekend, particularly through evening and night shows.

The film has also performed well in IMAX theatres and recorded strong ticket sales across markets.The supporting cast includes Ravi Dubey, Sunny Deol, Lara Dutta and Arun Govil in important roles. The film's grand presentation, performances and mythological theme have attracted audiences across the country.

With its worldwide earnings crossing Rs 1,100 crore, 'Ramayana: Part 1' has strengthened its position among the biggest Indian box-office successes.

## 'Ottanjaavalmaram' Selected for IFFI 2026 Premiere




Malayalam filmmaker Shruthi Sharanyam's second feature film, 'Ottanjaavalmaram' (A Lone Jamun Tree), will premiere at the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa on November 25, 2026.

The film has been selected for the New Horizon section of Indian Panorama, which showcases contemporary Indian cinema and introduces distinctive filmmaking voices to audiences across the country.

Written and directed by Kerala State Award-winning filmmaker Shruthi Sharanyam, the film is jointly produced by her and colourist Liju Prabhakar under the banner of Janaala Encore. Prabhakar, a three-time Kerala State Film Award winner, makes his Malayalam production debut with this project. He has also handled post-production supervision and colour grading.

The story follows Maya, a theatre actor in her sixties who is living with dementia. Award-winning actress Beena R Chandran plays the central character. Once celebrated for her stage performances, Maya gradually struggles to separate her memories from present-day experiences. Characters from her earlier plays begin to appear in her personal recollections.

Maya's nephew, Appu, starts recording her life through his camera.

His footage captures moments when her former theatrical roles return.

## ICON STAR ALLU ARJUN TO ATTEND DULQUER SALMAAN'S FILM EVENT



Actor Allu Arjun will attend the pre-release event of Dulquer Salmaan's upcoming Telugu film 'Aakasamlo Oka Tara' as the chief guest.

The film, starring Dulquer Salmaan and Satvika Veeravalli, is scheduled for a theatrical release on November 20. Directed by Pavan Sadineni, the project has already generated considerable interest through its teaser and songs.

The makers are planning an aggressive promotional campaign ahead of the film's release. As part of these efforts, they have invited Allu Arjun to attend the grand pre-release celebration as the chief guest.

The event is scheduled to take place in Hyderabad on November 15. The announcement of Allu Arjun's participation has added fresh excitement to the film's promotional activities.

His presence is expected to attract wider attention and bring additional visibility to the project. The appearance of the two popular actors on the same stage is also likely to create excitement among their respective fan groups.

Dulquer Salmaan has a strong following among audiences across different film industries, while Allu Arjun enjoys considerable popularity among Telugu cinema fans and beyond. Their coming together at the promotional event is expected to make the occasion special for movie lovers.

The teaser and songs released so far have helped build expectations around the film.

## Huma Qureshi Faces Yash Fans' Anger Over 'Toxic' Jokes

Samay Raina's latest comedy episode featuring Huma Qureshi has triggered a debate among fans of Kannada actor Yash. Huma, who plays an important role in Yash's upcoming film 'Toxic', faced trolling after the movie became the subject of jokes during the show. During one segment, comedian Krushna Abhishek spoke about an incident involving his uncle, actor Govinda, who accidentally shot himself in the foot while handling a gun. Another panel member then made a sarcastic comment about 'Toxic', saying the film was so bad that he wanted to shoot himself after watching it. The remark received loud applause from the audience. Huma was also seen enjoying the moment, which surprised some viewers. The repeated jokes about the film did not go down well with several Yash fans, who expressed their displeasure on social media. Samay Raina's show is known for its dark humour, bold comments and controversial punchlines. However, some fans questioned why Huma appeared comfortable with jokes targeting a film in which she herself has acted. Clips from the episode have since circulated widely online, attracting mixed reactions. While some viewers criticised Huma for her response, others defended her, pointing out that she did not make any insulting remarks about the film. The controversy has once again highlighted the strong emotions surrounding Yash's project.

## 'SCENE' SECURES RS 88 CROORE NETFLIX DEAL

Suriya's Tamil crime thriller 'Scene' is reportedly heading for a December digital premiere after securing a streaming rights deal. The film, directed by Jithu Madhavan, was released in theatres on November 6.

According to a report by Filmibeat, Netflix has acquired the film's digital rights for Rs 88 crore. The reported agreement includes a four-week theatrical window, making December 4 a likely date for its online premiere. However, the makers have not confirmed either the streaming platform or the date. The details remain tentative until an official announcement.

Suriya plays DSP Inbaraj in the crime thriller, which also stars Nazriya Nazim and Naslen K. Gafoor. The story follows an investigation into a series of murders, with the case exposing links to an earlier incident.The film has continued to draw audiences during its first week in theatres. According to Sacnilk, it earned Rs 6 crore net in India on Friday, November 13. This took its domestic net collection to Rs 117.70 crore and India gross to Rs 136.70 crore.

Friday's earnings were below Thursday's Rs 6.25 crore. The film recorded 4,049 shows across its Tamil and Telugu versions on its eighth day. The Tamil version remains the contributor to its domestic earnings, while the Telugu release has added to the total.

Overseas collections have supported its performance. The film reportedly earned Rs 4 crore internationally on Friday, taking its overseas gross to Rs 74.50 crore. Its worldwide gross has crossed Rs 211 crore, strengthening its position at the box office.




## 'OM: Chapter 1' Trailer Reveals Dhanush's Fierce Battle

The trailer of Dhanush's upcoming Tamil action thriller 'OM: Chapter 1' has been released, offering a glimpse of an intense battle involving crime, police and undercover operations.

Directed by Rajkumar Periasamy, the film features Dhanush, Mammootty, Sai Pallavi and Sreeleela in important roles. The trailer attracted millions of views within hours of its release on Friday night.

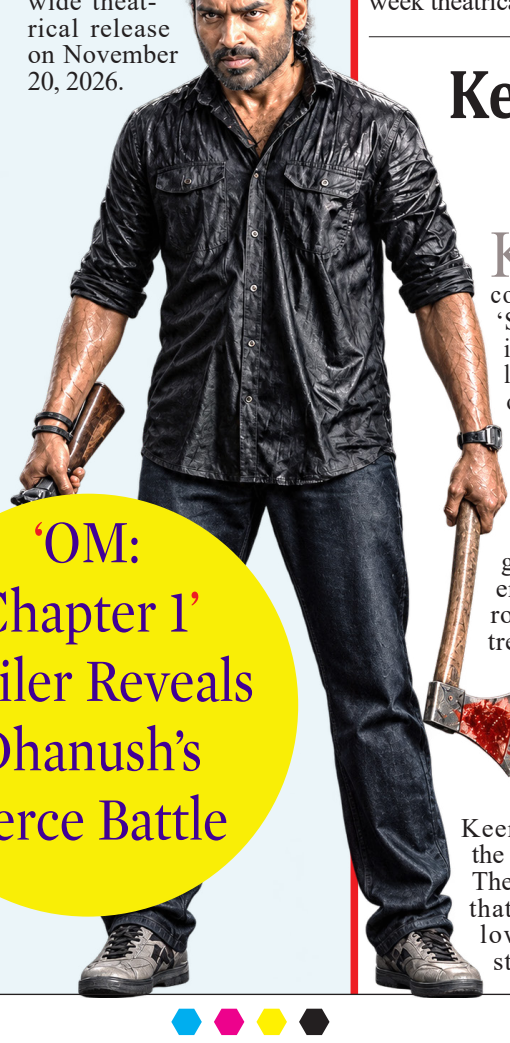
Dhanush plays D-402, an undercover operative from the Organised Crime Intelligence Unit. He is assigned to infiltrate a powerful network involved in red sandalwood smuggling. The trailer shows him working as a woodcutter while secretly carrying out his mission. Several intense forest action sequences add to the film's appeal. His position between criminals and police creates questions about his actual loyalties.

Mammootty plays the antagonist, Red Hills Karthikeyan, also known as Burma Karthikeyan 'Siya'. He is a powerful smuggler and politician who controls the criminal network. His confrontations with Dhanush are among the major highlights of the trailer.

Sai Pallavi appears as Nithya Reddy, an ASP and CBI officer leading Operation Mole. Her character is determined to expose and destroy the smuggling network. This creates a tense confrontation involving the undercover agent, the crime boss and the investigating officer.

Sreeleela plays Dhanush's frustrated wife, while Naseeruddin Shah appears in another important role.

The film has music by Sai Abhyankkar and cinematography by Ezhil Arasu K. Wunderbar Films and RTake Studios have jointly produced the project. The film is scheduled for a worldwide theatrical release on November 20, 2026.



## Keerthy Suresh Fights Courtroom Battle in 'Satyavan Savitri'

Keerthy Suresh's upcoming courtroom drama 'Satyavan Savitri' is scheduled to release in theatres on November 20.

The makers have released the official Telugu trailer, offering a glimpse of an emotional courtroom battle centred on marriage, murder and justice.

Directed by Praveen S Vijay, the film features Keerthy Suresh in the role of a lawyer. The trailer suggests that the story follows a woman's struggle to save her husband, who becomes involved in a murder case.

The film revolves around a marriage that takes place under difficult circumstances. Despite being forced into marriage, the husband finds himself facing serious criminal charges.

His wife takes up the challenge of defending him and fights to prove his innocence in court.

The trailer highlights the emotional challenges faced by the woman as she tries to protect her husband while dealing with the legal battle. Keerthy appears in a strong role, with the courtroom setting forming the central part of the story.

The film promises a combination of family emotions, legal arguments and suspense. The newly released trailer has offered audiences a first look at the storyline and Keerthy's character.




The actress has been busy with several projects and recently appeared in the web series 'Akkka', which brought her before audiences in a different role. With 'Satyavan Savitri', she is now set to explore the courtroom drama genre.

The shooting of the film has been completed, and the makers are preparing for its theatrical release. 'Satyavan Savitri' is scheduled to arrive in cinemas on November 20.

The trailer has created interest among fans, who are eager to see Keerthy in this lawyer's role.

## Margot Robbie Joins Kristoffer Borgli's New Film

Hollywood actor Margot Robbie will headline 'The Week of Pain', a new film written and directed by Kristoffer Borgli, known for 'The Drama'.

The film will be produced and financed by Hollywood studio A24. Production companies Square Peg, Dilemma Films and Robbie's LuckyChap will also back the project, according to Variety.

Borgli has earned recognition for directing films such as 'Dream Scenario' and 'Sick of Myself'. He recently worked with A24 and Square Peg on 'The Drama', featuring Robert Pattinson and Zendaya.

'The Drama' is an original romantic comedy-drama about a wedding week that takes an unexpected turn after a childhood secret comes to light.

The film reportedly earned USD 135 million worldwide against a production budget of USD 28 million.

Meanwhile, Robbie was recently seen in Warner Bros' 'Wuthering Heights', where she played Cathy opposite Jacob Elordi, who portrayed Heathcliff. The film collected USD 241 million worldwide.

The actor has several major projects lined up.

She will also star in an upcoming prequel to 'Ocean's 11' alongside Bradley Cooper, who is directing the film.

At CinemaCon 2026, Robbie revealed that the story would revolve around an elaborate robbery planned during the 1962 Monaco Grand Prix.

The period setting and the high-profile cast have already created interest among movie lovers.

With 'The Week of Pain', Robbie is joining hands with Borgli for another interesting cinematic project.

# How Beijing Cleared Its Air and Why Delhi Is Still Struggling to Breathe





**BEIJING** 27 | **DELHI** 97

Annual average PM2.5 in 2025, micrograms per cubic metre

*China's capital cut its annual fine-particle pollution by nearly 70 per cent between 2013 and 2025. Delhi's slower progress exposes the difficulty of turning emergency restrictions into lasting changes in energy, transport, industry and agriculture.*

Every winter, the capital's air becomes a public emergency. Pollution readings determine whether children should attend school, whether construction can continue and whether some vehicles can enter the city. The conversation turns to crop fires, traffic, fireworks and the weather. Eventually, conditions improve, restrictions ease and attention moves elsewhere. The underlying sources of pollution survive to meet another winter.

Beijing once appeared trapped in a similarly bleak future. Its smog became an international symbol of the environmental costs of rapid economic growth. Today, its transformation poses an uncomfortable question for India's capital: if another enormous, congested and economically important Asian city could sharply reduce pollution, why has Delhi struggled to achieve a comparable breakthrough?

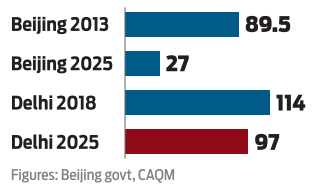
The difference is measurable. Beijing's municipal



government reports that annual average concentrations of PM2.5, the fine particles that penetrate deep into the lungs, fell from 89.5 micrograms per cubic metre in 2013 to 27 in 2025. That represents a reduction of 69.8 per cent. Delhi's annual average in 2025 was 97, according to the Commission for Air Quality Management, or CAQM. On these official measures, Delhi's concentration was about 3.6 times Beijing's.

Delhi, meanwhile, has made some progress. The CAQM's updated series shows annual PM2.5 falling from 114 in 2018 to 97 in 2025, roughly 15 per cent.

**Annual PM2.5**
micrograms per cubic metre




Figures: Beijing govt, CAQM

The latter was its lowest annual concentration in that period apart from the pandemic year of 2020. These are different comparison periods from Beijing's, so the percentage reductions cannot be treated as a controlled contest. Nevertheless, Delhi's remaining pollution burden shows how much further it must travel.

## Beijing's transformation began well before its most celebrated recent gains

A United Nations Environment Programme review traces intensified pollution control back to 1998. The work covered energy infrastructure, coal combustion and vehicle emissions. Progress accumulated over years, before a more intensive campaign accelerated the decline after 2013.

The 2013–2017 clean-air programme marked a decisive phase. UNEP found that Beijing's PM2.5 concentration fell by approximately 35 per cent during those five years, while the surrounding Beijing–Tianjin–Hebei region improved by about 25 per cent. Controls on coal-fired boilers, cleaner household fuels and industrial restructuring were major contributors.

Coal was an especially important target. Burning it in small boilers and household



heating systems dispersed pollution through numerous sources that were difficult to manage individually. Replacing dirty combustion with cleaner energy changed what entered the atmosphere every day. It reduced the burden that favourable winds would otherwise have to carry away.

**Beijing's long clean-up**

- **1998** Pollution control intensifies, a UNEP review finds
- **2013–2017** Clean-air programme: PM2.5 falls about 35 per cent
- **2017** A hurried coal-to-gas switch leaves some northern villages without adequate heating
- **2018–2020** Second phase: the pace of improvement slows
- **2025** Annual PM2.5 at 27, down 69.8 per cent from 2013

## Money helped turn those requirements into practical changes

A World Bank-supported clean-energy financing programme in the Beijing–Tianjin–Hebei region backed energy efficiency, renewable energy and emissions controls. By its 2020 results report, it had supported 27 subprojects with total investment of about $1.3 billion. That was one financing initiative, rather than the total cost of Beijing's clean-up, but it illustrates the investment behind the regulatory ambition.

For Delhi, the implication is straightforward: an order to use cleaner fuel is only part of a transition. Businesses need reliable supplies and finance for equipment. Households need affordable alternatives. Transport operators need charging or refuelling infra-



structure. Environmental rules are more likely to endure when compliance is physically possible and economically manageable.

China's experience also warns against treating rapid enforcement as an unqualified virtue. Its hurried coal-to-gas transition left some northern villages without adequate heating in 2017. That failure shows why replacement infrastructure must be ready before existing supplies are withdrawn. Cleaner air cannot be built on an assumption that households will absorb any hardship imposed in its name.

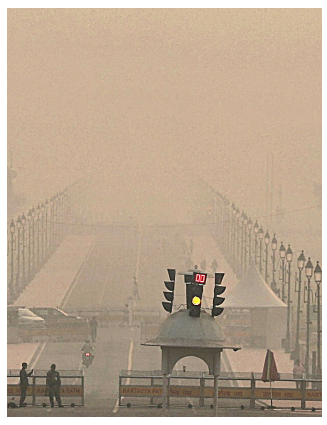
**Nor does Beijing's progress prove that India must copy China's political system.**

## Delhi's challenge begins with the size of the atmosphere it shares

Although often described as New Delhi's pollution crisis, the problem extends across the National Capital Territory, its satellite cities and a much wider northern Indian region. A municipal boundary offers no protection against polluted air arriving from elsewhere.

The World Bank's work on South Asia emphasises management at the level of an "airshed": a geographical area connected by common air flows. Pollution can travel hundreds of kilometres. Its sources include households, agriculture, industry, transport and power generation. A city may regulate activities within its own territory and still receive a substantial pollution load from upwind areas.

An influential TERI–ARAI study published in 2018 estimated that Delhi's own emissions accounted for 36 per



cent of its PM2.5 concentration in winter and 26 per cent in summer under that study's modelling framework. These historical estimates are not fixed percentages for present-day Delhi. Their significance is the regional dependence they reveal, rather than a permanent allocation of blame.

Delhi therefore needs two approaches simultaneously. It must reduce emissions within the city, where local authorities can act directly, while securing comparable action across the wider region. Outside pollution does not excuse failures inside Delhi. Equally, local improvements cannot substitute for work in neighbouring industrial clusters, towns, villages and farming areas.

India has recognised this institutional problem. Parliament established the CAQM through legislation in 2021 to coordinate air-quality management in the National Capital Region and adjoining areas. Its comprehensive policy,

**36%** **Delhi's own emissions:** their share of its winter PM2.5 in a 2018 TERI–ARAI estimate

issued in 2022, covers transport, industry, construction, road dust, waste burning, crop residues and other sources. It includes short-, medium- and longer-term measures.

## The most visible response remains the Graded Response Action Plan, or GRAP

**WHAT A CURB CANNOT DO**

**Construction restrictions**
→ cannot replace permanent dust management

**Vehicle restrictions**
→ cannot create a dependable public-transport network

**School closures**
→ do not remove the pollution source

The government describes it as an emergency mechanism that escalates preventive and restrictive measures according to air quality and forecasts. Such a system has a necessary role: severe episodes require immediate action to limit emissions and protect people.

Its limitation is inherent in its purpose. Temporarily stopping an activity does not necessarily make that activity cleaner when it resumes. Construction restrictions cannot replace permanent dust management. Vehicle restrictions cannot create a dependable public-transport network. School closures can alter exposure for some children, but



they do not remove the pollution source.

The question for policymakers is consequently what happens between emergencies. How many highly polluting operations have permanently upgraded? How much waste is reliably collected and processed? How many commuters have a usable alternative to driving? The answers determine whether each winter begins with a lower emissions burden or merely another revised emergency schedule.

## Transport offers another example of real progress that has not been sufficient

India introduced BS-VI-compliant vehicles nationally in April 2020, while Delhi had received BS-VI fuel earlier. Cleaner fuels, stricter standards and measures to divert traffic not destined for the capital have all formed part of the official response.

These improvements need complementary policies. Cleaner new vehicles gradually enter a fleet that still requires maintenance and enforcement. Electric vehicles reduce tailpipe emissions but do not eliminate congestion or all particulate pollution associated with road use. A durable transport strategy must also make buses, trains, walk-



ing and last-mile connections practical for ordinary journeys.

The relevant measure is the service available to the commuter. A bus that exists in a procurement announcement but is not reliably available on a useful route cannot replace a car trip. Frequency, affordability, safe access and integration across city boundaries deserve the same attention as fleet numbers. These are everyday transport decisions with significant consequences for air quality.

## Crop-residue burning requires practical thinking

It is a serious seasonal contributor, but it is also a farm-management problem. Farmers must clear fields between crops, and alternatives depend on timely access to machinery, operators, transport and buyers for the straw.

A CEEW study based on a survey of nearly 1,500 farmers across 11 Punjab districts found that machinery adoption did not necessarily eliminate burning. Among surveyed farmers using in-situ residue-management machines during the 2022 kharif season, nearly half still practised partial burning. The findings show why counting distributed machines cannot establish whether the intended environmental outcome occurred.

The policy challenge is to



make non-burning methods dependable during the narrow period when farmers need them. Rental services must arrive on time. Collection and storage must work. Markets for straw must be viable. Longer-term diversification also needs credible economic alternatives, because asking farmers to change production without addressing their income risks is unlikely to deliver lasting cooperation.

**? DID YOU KNOW?**
Nearly half of the surveyed Punjab farmers using in-situ residue-management machines in the 2022 kharif season still practised partial burning (CEEW).

## Beijing's success should encourage ambition without creating an illusion of easy replication

Its pollution sources, fiscal resources, urban development and governmental structure differ from Delhi's. The exact contribution of a coal-focused intervention in northern China cannot be assumed for the Indo-Gangetic Plain. Delhi needs its own periodically updated evidence about which measures will reduce exposure most effectively.



Even China faces diminishing returns. Research published in Nature Geoscience in 2024 found that the pace of policy-driven PM2.5 improvement slowed during the second phase of its clean-air actions, from 2018 to 2020, compared with 2013–2017. Further reductions became more costly, and the authors called for better-balanced controls across multiple pollutants.

India's capital does not lack warnings. Its challenge is to make clean air an ordinary requirement of economic administration: how transport is run, factories are regulated, farms are supported, waste is collected and energy is supplied. That work must remain politically important when the sky looks clear.

Beijing's story shows that a city's polluted past need not determine its future. Delhi's recurring emergency shows the cost of failing to turn that possibility into routine delivery. The decisive test will be what changes before the next cloud of smog arrives.

# Sooryavanshi forgets Bihar XI on captaincy debut

When asked about his team combination after batting first, Sooryavanshi chuckled, "I think, sir, I forgot."



**INDORE**

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi experienced a light-hearted moment on his historic captaincy debut on Saturday when the 15-year-old forgot the details of Bihar's playing XI after winning the toss against Saurashtra in their Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy (SMAT) 2026-27 opener at Holkar Stadium.

Asked about the team's combination after opting to bat, Sooryavanshi smiled and replied, "I think, sir, bhool gaya lagta main (I think, sir, I have forgotten)." His candid response brought a humorous touch to an otherwise significant occasion in his young cricketing career.

The Bihar youngster created history by becoming the youngest captain in men's T20 cricket at the age of 15 years and 232 days. He surpassed Croatia's Zach Vukusic, who previously held the record after captaining his national side at 17 years and 311 days.

Speaking about leading his home state, Sooryavanshi described the opportunity as a dream come true. He said he was grateful to captain the same state where his cricketing journey began and promised to fulfil the responsibility to the best of his ability.

However, his first outing as Bihar captain was modest with the bat. After winning the toss and electing to bat, he managed 18 runs off 12 deliveries before being caught and bowled by left-arm pacer Chetan Sakariya.

Bihar struggled following his dismissal and finished at 137 for nine in their allotted 20 overs. Prithvi Raj was the top scorer with 38 runs.

Sooryavanshi's participation in the tournament will be limited, as he is scheduled to join India A for the ACC Rising Stars Emerging tournament in Doha after playing just two matches for Bihar.

The teenager recently impressed in India's T20I series against New Zealand, scoring a blistering 45 off 19 deliveries in an opening partnership with Abhishek Sharma. India won the five-match series 3-2.

Despite the brief batting contribution, Sooryavanshi's captaincy debut marked another milestone in his rapidly developing cricket career.

# INDIA EDGE PAKISTAN BY ONE WICKET IN FINAL



**AL AMERAT (OMAN)**

India defeated Pakistan by one wicket in a thrilling last-ball finish to clinch the Under-19 Asia Cup title at the Al Amerat Cricket Ground on Saturday.

In a final filled with dramatic twists and turns, India successfully chased down the target on the final delivery to secure the championship. The narrow victory over arch-rivals Pakistan made it a memorable contest, with the result remaining undecided until the last ball.

Pakistan had posted a challenging total, putting considerable pressure on the Indian team during the chase. Indian pacers Kavya Patel and C. Venkata claimed some crucial wickets towards the latter stages of Pakistan's innings. However, by then, Pakistan had already managed to build a substantial score.

India faced a demanding task in the run chase but held their nerve through the closing stages to cross the finish line with just one wicket remaining.

The last-ball victory underlined the intensity of the contest, as both teams fought hard for the continental title. India eventually emerged victorious in one of the most closely fought finals of the tournament.

The triumph also marked India's return to the top of the Under-19 Asia Cup, with the team regaining the title after a dramatic encounter against Pakistan. The final at Al Amerat provided a fitting conclusion to the tournament, with India sealing the championship in a contest that went down to the wire.

## Mumbai, Punjab, Chandigarh, Puducherry win SMAT openers

**NEW DELHI**

Mumbai, Punjab, Chandigarh and Puducherry began their Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy Elite 2026 campaigns with victories on the opening day of the tournament on Saturday. Mumbai registered the most emphatic win, defeating Hyderabad by seven wickets after chasing down a target of 173 in just 13.1 overs. Suryakumar Yadav led the charge with an unbeaten 60 off 21 balls, while Musheer Khan smashed 51 off 24 deliveries. Angkrish Raghuvanshi contributed 27 off 13 balls as Mumbai raced to 174/3.

Earlier, Hyderabad managed 172 in 20 overs, with Abhirath Reddy scoring 35. Maxwell Swaminathan claimed three wickets for Mumbai, while Sairaj Patil and Shivam Dube picked up two each. Punjab also secured a successful run chase, defeating Haryana by four wickets. Chasing 191, Punjab reached 193/6 in 19.1 overs. Vihaan Malhotra anchored the innings with an impressive 86 off 50 balls, while Uday Saharan remained unbeaten on 38 off 17 deliveries, hitting the winning boundary against Rahul Tewatia.

Haryana posted 190/6, with Dinesh Bana scoring 42 off 20 balls, Tewatia making 35 off 20 and Samant Jakhar adding 24 off 12. Harpreet Brar took two wickets for Punjab.

Chandigarh registered a thrilling three-wicket victory over Baroda, reaching 149/7 in 19.5 overs after restricting their opponents to 148/6. Shivam Bhambri top-scored with 45 off 41 balls, while Aarush Bhandari contributed 26 off 18. Jagjit Singh struck the decisive boundary in the final over to seal the victory.

For Baroda, Shivalik Sharma scored 45 off 42 balls, while Krunal Pandya remained unbeaten on 40. Krunal also impressed with the ball, claiming two wickets for just seven runs. In the fourth encounter, Puducherry defeated Maharashtra by 15 runs while defending a total of 204/9. Bhanu Anand and Parameeswaran Sivaraman scored 46 each, while Pugazhendi Akash provided a late flourish with a blistering 42 off just 14 deliveries.

# India eye winning finish in series decider against New Zealand

**MOUNT MAUNGANUI**

India will look to bounce back from their heavy defeat in the fourth ODI and finish the five-match series on a winning note when they face New Zealand in the final match at Bay Oval on Sunday.

While India have already ensured they cannot lose the series, the hosts will aim to level it 2-2 with another strong performance.

The contest has gained significance following New Zealand's emphatic 244-run victory in the fourth ODI. After posting 333 runs, the hosts bowled India out for just 89. Will Young led the batting effort with a career-best 125, while Matt Henry produced a devastating spell of 6/27.

Henry's early strikes, which removed Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Shreyas Iyer, exposed India's vulnerability against disciplined pace bowling. The visitors will need a more assured start against New Zealand's fast bowlers, particularly in conditions that could favour seam movement.

India's batting will remain under scrutiny following the absence of Shubman Gill and KL Rahul, who have moved on to prepare for the upcoming Test assignment. Captain Iyer will be eager to provide stability, while Rohit and Kohli will be expected to lead the recovery. Ishan Kishan, Ruturaj Gaikwad and other middle-order options will also look to make valuable contributions.

India, however, have enjoyed success in the earlier matches, winning the opening ODI in Auckland and the second in Wellington. Their bowling attack has also delivered important performances, with Gurnoor Brar claiming four wickets in the second match. New Zealand will hope to carry forward their fourth-match momentum. Young's century and Tim Seifert's attacking 58 have strengthened their batting prospects, while Henry's return to form has provided a major boost to the pace attack.

The final match offers New Zealand an opportunity to deny India a series victory and build confidence ahead of the Test assignment. For India, a convincing all-round performance will be important to end the tour's ODI leg on a positive note.



**NEW ZEALAND vs INDIA**
Sunday, November 15 • 7.30 am IST
Bay Oval, Mount Maunganui

| NEW ZEALAND | INDIA |
|---|---|
| Mitchell Santner (c) | Shreyas Iyer (c) |
| Finn Allen | Rohit Sharma |
| Michael Bracewell | Virat Kohli |
| Kristian Clarke | Tilak Varma |
| Josh Clarkson | Ishan Kishan (vc, wk) |
| Jacob Duffy | Axar Patel |
| Matt Fisher | Naman Dhir |
| Dean Foxcroft | Auqib Nabi |
| Mitch Hay (wk) | Ruturaj Gaikwad |
| Nick Kelly | Arshdeep Singh |
| Brett Randell | Kumar Kushagra (wk) |
| Tim Seifert (wk) | Mohammed Siraj |
| Blair Tickner | Yash Thakur |
| Will Young | Kuldeep Yadav |

# Jamil urges India to bounce back against New Zealand

**CHRISTCHURCH**

India head coach Khalid Jamil has urged his players to take responsibility and deliver a stronger performance when they face New Zealand in the second international friendly at One New Zealand Stadium on Sunday.

India will be keen to recover from their disappointing 0-5 defeat in the opening friendly in Auckland. New Zealand dominated the contest, scoring through a Bijoy Varghese own goal, a brace from Jesse Randall, and goals from Chris Wood and Lachlan Bayliss. Acknowledging the team's shortcomings, Jamil said there could be no excuses and called on every player to give their best in the upcoming fixture.

India faced several challenges ahead of the opening match, including a seven-and-a-half-hour time difference and limited preparation time. However, Jamil believes the players have now adjusted to the conditions.

The coach also accepted responsibility for the heavy defeat, while acknowledging individual errors that contributed to the goals conceded. He remained encouraged by the players' attitude and determination to improve.

Captain Anirudh Thapa described the Auckland result as disappointing and stressed the need for greater discipline, better communication and collective responsibility.

"We cannot change the past result, but we can learn from it. We want to put in a much better performance," Thapa said, expressing confidence ahead of Sunday's encounter.

India travelled to Christchurch on Friday and held their final training session at the match venue on Saturday.

Jamil also appealed to Indian football supporters to remain patient as the team continues its rebuilding process and provides opportunities to emerging players. Four players Muhammad Suhail, David Lalhlansanga, Tomba Singh Haobam and Ricky Meetei Haobam made their international debuts in the first friendly.

# Sandpapergate reviewer says players refused to change statements

**NEW DELHI**

Dr Simon Longstaff, the ethics expert commissioned by Cricket Australia (CA) to review the men's team's culture following the 2018 Sandpapergate scandal, has revealed that his efforts to encourage players to disclose the full truth about the ball-tampering episode received little response.

Longstaff said he had given senior players an opportunity to revise or add to their statements after hearing suggestions that more people knew about the incident than the three players who were sanctioned. However, nobody came forward with additional information.



"Nobody chose to make any alteration to their statement, so I was left with basically a blank wall," Longstaff said.

The controversy has resurfaced following revelations in Usman Khawaja's book, Sabr, in which the Australian batter claimed that the entire team knew about the ball-tampering incident during the Cape Town Test in 2018. He also alleged that sandpaper had been used during an earlier Test match.

Australia's Test and ODI captain Pat Cummins has strongly rejected the allegations, describing them as "complete and utter nonsense". However, former Australia opener David Warner has backed Khawaja's claims and criticised Cricket Australia. Longstaff said he had heard whispers that the ball-tampering practice might have occurred before the Cape Town Test and that more players could have been aware of it. He added that the conflicting accounts were insufficient to justify another investigation at the time.

Khawaja, meanwhile, claimed in his book that he had been willing to participate in Cricket Australia's investigation but was never interviewed. He said he had expected a phone call that never came before the penalties were announced.

Longstaff said several people had been invited to contribute to the wider review, although not everyone accepted the invitation. He could not recall whether Khawaja was among those approached.

# FIA ban spurs daily mail boycott

**LONDON**

The Daily Mail has announced a boycott of the final three races of the 2026 Formula One season after the sport's governing body, the FIA, revoked the media credentials of veteran journalist Jonathan McEvoy over an opinion column criticising Ferrari driver Charles Leclerc.

The would not report on races or news conferences for the remainder of the season in protest against the decision to bar McEvoy from covering the Las Vegas, Qatar and Abu Dhabi Grands Prix.

McEvoy, who has covered Formula One for more than two decades, was informed on Thursday that his accreditation had been withdrawn. The action followed a November 4 opinion column in which he used insulting language to describe Leclerc while criticising the driver's conduct during an incident at the Mexico City Grand Prix.

The controversy arose from an opening-lap battle involving Leclerc and his Ferrari teammate Lewis Hamilton. Both drivers went off the track while contesting the lead at Turn 4. Leclerc crossed the grass and emerged ahead, subsequently receiving a five-second penalty for gaining an advantage off the track.



The FIA defended its decision, stating that McEvoy's article fell short of the professional standards expected of accredited journalists. It also said its accreditation guidelines allowed it to withdraw media credentials without notice and clarified that the decision did not prevent the newspaper from sending another reporter.

Daily Mail head of sport Chris Dean condemned the move, describing it as an attack on press freedom and demanding McEvoy's reinstatement.

The Society of Editors also criticised the decision, saying that withdrawing accreditation over published criticism could threaten independent sports journalism.

In a subsequent column, McEvoy suggested that Ferrari team principal Fred Vasseur had prompted the FIA's action. However, a Ferrari source told The Athletic that Vasseur had not lodged a complaint.

**City Hilights (English Daily) published by P. Sunil Kumar (Publisher) on behalf of Immaculate Broadcasting Consortium World News (P) Ltd.,** No. 18, JRV Court, Queens's Road, Bengaluru – 560001 and printed at Vihaan Media #85/J, Industrial suburb 2nd stage, Yeshwantpur Extension,Bangalore-560022, Printed at No-7/2 plot no.CA-3/1,28(p)&29(p) Kapanoor 2nd Stage Industrial Area Kapnoor Village Kalaburagi -585104. Printed at S. J. R. V. Printers, No. 208 Plot No. B-019 KSSIDC Industrial Area, Irfan Ahamed Khan Pathan, 4th Main Road Gamanagatti, Hubballi-Dharwad – 580025. and Elegant Offset Printers Pvt. Ltd. No. 5-61/1, Shed No. M-6, Yeyyadi Industrial Estate, Yeyyadi, Mangalore - 575 008. (RNI No: KARENG / 2015 / 63243), Regd. No. BGGPO-2581/2017-2019 Posted at Bengaluru PSO-560026 Email - cityhilights.news@gmail.com Phone: 080-41209042. Copyright. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited.