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CM Naidu launches 'Auto Driverla Sevalo' scheme

Vijayawada, Oct 4 : Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Saturday launched the 'Auto Driverla Sevalo' scheme in NTR district, offering annual financial assistance of Rs 15,000 to more than 2.9 lakh eligible autorickshaw, cab and maxi cab drivers. The

scheme is aimed at supporting drivers whose livelihoods have been affected by the 'Stree Shakti' initiative, which provides free bus travel for women in select APSRTC services. For 2025-26, the State government will disburse Rs 436 crore directly into the ac-



counts of over 2.9 lakh beneficiaries. Naidu formally launched the scheme at Singh Nagar in Vijayawada in the presence of beneficiaries and officials.



RRR north part tenders in two months; works to begin in Jan 2026 - Komatireddy

Chityal (Nalgonda), Oct 4 (NSS): Telangana minister for roads and buildings Komatireddy Venkat Reddy today announced that the tender process for the proposed Regional Ring Road (RRR) North Part will begin within two months and works are expected to start by January 2026. Tendering process would be completed by end of this December to ensure quick rollout of works. The 161.5-km stretch, redesigned as a six-lane road, will pass through Sangareddy, Narsapur,

Toopran, Gajwel, Jagdevpur, Bhongir and Choutuppal, he noted. Talking to newsmen, Komatireddy accused the previous BRS government for neglecting the RRR project despite the Centre's approval in 2017-18. "When I took charge, only six per cent of land acquisition was done. Now it's over 98%.



Internal conflicts plague Congress's Jubilee Hills ticket selection

Hyderabad, Oct.4 (NSS): Amid the backdrop of the Jubilee Hills by-election, differences among Congress leaders have reached a peak. Senior leader Anjan Kumar Yadav, who is trying for the ticket, became serious about Hyderabad in-charge Minister Ponnampati Prabhakar. Anjan Kumar Yadav gave a strong warning to Ponnampati Prabhakar, stating, "I am more senior than Ponnampati Prabhakar."



BRS leaders criticise Congress for stalled health projects, inspect TIMS hospital

Hyderabad, Oct.4 (NSS): BRS MLA and former minister T Harish Rao criticised the Congress government on Saturday for the stagnation in the health sector over the past two years and the decline in the state's medical and health ser-

vices. Led by him, a delegation of BRS leaders, including former minister Sabitha Indra Reddy, local MLA Sudheer Reddy, MLAs Vivekananda and Kaleru Venkatesh, MLC Yadav Reddy, former chairpersons, senior leaders and party workers, inspected the stalled construction activity at the Telangana Institute of Medical Sciences (TIMS) hospital in LB Nagar, Hyderabad. Continued on pg 02

'What is left to talk about': Amit Shah asks Maoists to surrender or face elimination

Jagdalpur, Oct 4 (IANS) Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday firmly ruled out any possibility of dialogue with Maoist groups, stating that neither the Centre nor the Chhattisgarh government is willing to engage in talks. Speaking during his visit to Bastar, he said, "When the best rehabilitation policy is in place and nearly Rs 5 lakh crore has been invested in Chhattisgarh's development over the past decade, what is left to talk about?" His remarks come in response to recent overtures from Maoist factions, who have issued pamphlets and letters ex-



pressing interest in initiating dialogue with the state government. HM Shah, however, dismissed these gestures, reiterating that the government's stance remains clear: surrender or face elimination. Continued on pg 02



Effectively Communicate Cong Govt's Developmental Activities - Sridhar Babu To Cadre

Hyderabad, Oct.4 (NSS): Providing strategic direction on the electoral approach, Telangana minister and in-charge of the erstwhile Ranga Reddy district D Sridhar Babu today emphasized the need to effectively communicate the Congress Government's Six Guarantees and developmental initiatives, while exposing the failures and irregularities of the previous regime. Sridhar Babu held a detailed constituency-wise review to assess the party's strengths, weaknesses and past election outcomes. He urged the party leaders to work with unity and a single goal - to hoist the Congress flag across every seat in the erstwhile Ranga Reddy district. Today, he convened a crucial meeting with Congress MLAs and Constituency In-charges from Ranga Reddy and Vikarabad districts to review party preparedness for the upcoming Local Body Elections.

Minister Tummala urge the Centre to resolve Cotton farmer issues

Hyderabad, Oct.4 (NSS): Telangana agriculture minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has explained the concerns of cotton farmers to the Central Government following non-participation of ginning mills in cotton purchase tenders. Acting on Minister Tummala's instructions, state officials met with Central Government representatives in Delhi on October 1 to discuss Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) procurement. The Central Government has agreed to implement two newly introduced rules this year with certain relaxations. Recently, Minister Tummala convened a meeting with representatives of ginning mills and the CCI Managing Director.



BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar slams ministers Seethakka, Jupally over neglect of Sirpur (T) constituency

Kumram Bheem Asifabad, Oct 4 : BRS leader Dr RS Praveen Kumar slammed both Panchayat Raj minister D Seethakka and her colleague Jupally Krishna Rao for neglecting Sirpur (T) Assembly constituency.



PM Modi launches Rs 62,000 crore youth-focused initiatives, highlights Bihar's role

Patna/New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday unveiled a series of education and skill development projects worth over Rs 62,000 crore.



BANK OF BARODA
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Tel No. 040-27159002, Fax: 040-27159000,
Ph.No.7993316561, e-mail: nacharam@bankofbaroda.com

CORRIGENDUM
Please refer to the "ABRIDGED VEHICLE E-AUCTION NOTICE" pertaining to A/c No.: 4031060003570 published in this newspaper on 18-09-2025. In this notice, Borrower's Name should be read as "Mr. Miryala Madhav Reddy" instead of "Mrs. Miryala Madhav", in the Description of the Vehicle column, Vehicle Name should be read as "MOTOR CAR CITREON BS VI" instead of "FEEL BSVI" and Please read the "Vehicle Registration Date as 27-03-2023". All other details remain same.
Date: 04-10-2025, Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place: Hyderabad Bank of Baroda

KTR to inaugurate national student motorsports competition in Coimbatore

Hyderabad, Oct.4 (NSS): BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao will be the chief guest at the inauguration of the 10th FMAE national student motorsports competition 2025, to be held on October 11 at Kumaraguru Institutions, Coimbatore.

Organised by the Fraternity of Mechanical and Automotive Engineers (FMAE), the event will showcase engineering talent from 101 colleges across India, with over 70 student teams and 1300+ young engineers participating. Students will present self-built

vehicles and innovations, evaluated by a jury of 25 leading automotive experts. FMAE, in its invitation, lauded KTR's role in bringing Formula E to Hyderabad, which placed Telangana on the global motorsport map.

Vehicle tax should be paid : Transport Officer Vamsidhar

Rajanna Siricilla, Oct 4 (TIM Bureau) : Vamsidhar, District In-charge Transport Officer, in a statement, suggested that the owners of 4,419 vehicles related to vehicles transporting goods and passengers in Rajanna Siricilla district should pay tax. He said that the vehicles are being used without paying road tax. He revealed that there are 2,787 vehicles related to Siricilla division and 1,632 vehicles related to Vemulawada division. He also said that 11,425 vehicles are circulating in the district without fitness certificates. He stated that there are 6,647 in Siricilla Revenue Division and 4778

in Vemulawada Division on record. He suggested that the owners of vehicles without tax and fitness certificates should pay tax and get them fit. It was clarified that special inspections will be conducted from Monday, the 6th of this month, and cases will be booked and seized.



DGP Shivadhar Bhatti Vikramarka

Hyderabad, Oct.4 (NSS): The newly appointed DGP Shivadhar Reddy and ADL DG Intelligence Vijay Kumar paid a courtesy call on Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu at Praja Bhavan here on Saturday. On the occasion, Vikramarka congratulated them on taking up new responsibilities. He advised them to strive hard to provide better services to the people.

BRS leaders criticise Congress for stalled health projects, inspect TIMS hospital

Continued From pg 01
Speaking on the occasion, Harish Rao cautioned Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy about a potential "public uprising" if essential healthcare initiatives are not expedited. He criticised the Congress party for failing to show the "fore-sight" that former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao exhibited in establishing strong healthcare infrastructure after the COVID pandemic. "KCR had planned with a hundred-year vision to build four TIMS hospitals around Hyderabad. Along with TIMS, he laid the foundation for a 2,000-bed NIMS hospital. KCR launched four TIMS hospitals and Warangal Health City to provide quality super-specialty care close to the people. He allocated

all funds and almost completed the works. After Congress came to power, works have not moved ahead. In two years, only five floors have been built. If BRS had continued, the hospital would have been ready and serving the people by now," he said. Harish Rao further stated that the BRS government had sanctioned a medical college at Maheshwaram in Rangareddy district and issued a GO. But, this government has cancelled the sanctioned college and merged it into LB Nagar TIMS, destroying the goal of giving super- special-

ity services to the poor. Similarly, at Qutbullapur a medical college was sanctioned but merged into TIMS Alwal. KCR planned a medical college and 500-bed hospital at Alwal, but Congress has taken away the medical colleges and 500-bed hospitals at Maheshwaram and Qutbullapur, he pointed out. "Because of Congress leaders' wrong actions, people are suffering great loss. Even after two years the hospital works are incomplete. Don't play politics with hospitals that save lives. Dates and deadlines change, but work doesn't progress. We're

warning Revanth Reddy: Complete these on a war footing, or a revolt from the people is inevitable," he asserted. The BRS leader also stated that KCR government had launched 450 Basti Dawakhana and the Centre and the 15th Finance Commission praised Telangana. But thanks to Revanth, Basti doctors, staff nurses and employees have not been paid for six months. Is Revanth's goal to shut down Basti Dawakhana started by KCR? KCR set up 350 Basti Dawakhana in Hyderabad alone. What will you tell the people of Jubilee Hills, Revanth Reddy? You are giving less than half the 108 ambulances.

Housing Board land auction to be held next week

Hyderabad, Oct 4 (NSS): The Housing Board will be selling vacant plots in various urban areas including GHMC limits from October 6 (Monday). On Monday, 22 residential plots and flats in Chintal and Nizampet Bachupally areas of the city will be sold through public auction. The notification in this regard was issued on the 15th of last month. 18 MIG and HIG plots in Chintal area and 4 plots in Nizampet Bachupally will be put up for public auction. It is known that in the recent land sales conducted by the Housing Board in several phases

in the KPHB colony area, an acre of land was sold for about Rs 70 crore per acre through e-auction. In this context, four commercial plots in KPHB Colony will be sold through e-auction process on October 7 and 8. In addition to 6549 square yards in Phase 1 and 2, plots measuring 2420 sq. yards, 2397 sq. yards, and 726 sq. yards will be sold through the e-auction on Tuesday. Similarly, a 1148 sq. yards commercial plot in Nampally area will also be sold through the e-auction on the 8th, the Housing Board officials said in a statement.

'What is left to talk about': Amit Shah asks Maoists to surrender or face elimination

Continued From pg 01
The Union Home Minister is in Bastar to participate in the Dussehra celebration. Chhattisgarh has a traditional way of celebrating Dussehra for 75 days. While addressing a gathering in Jagdalpur, HM Shah urged villagers across Chhattisgarh to motivate Maoists who have strayed from the mainstream to lay down arms and contribute to the state's progress. He highlighted that Rs 4.40 lakh crore has already been disbursed for development projects, resulting in new industries, educational institutions, and hospitals. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ensured more than 15,000 houses for families affected by Naxal violence," the Union Home Minister added. He also underscored the government's aggressive push to dismantle the insurgency.



SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
(Formerly Known as Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited)
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No. 14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032

Branch Office: D.No:3-6-629, 1st Floor, Bhoopal Reddy Complex, Street No.8, Himayathnagar, Hyderabad

RULE-[8(3)] POSSESSION NOTICE
Note: "It is informed that "SHRIRAM CITY UNION FINANCE LIMITED" has been amalgamated with "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" as per order of NCLT, Chennai. Subsequently the name of "SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE LIMITED" was changed as "SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED" with effect from 30.11.2022 vide Certificate of Incorporation pursuant to change of name dated 30-11-2022." Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **Shriram Finance Limited (SFL)** under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **SFL** has been handed over the physical possession of the mortgaged Properties described herein below in pursuance of the order passed by the Hon'ble The Court Of The XI ADDL. CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE AT SECUNDERABAD, IN CRL. MP. NO.1887 OF 2025, under Section 14 of the said Act and Rules, on this **01.10.2025**.

BORROWER NAME AND ADDRESS	Amount Due as per Demand Notice
1)Sada Purushotham Reddy , S/O. S.Hanumantha Reddy, Aged about 62 Yrs, R/O.H.No.23/A, Tarbundi, Sikh(Vill), Chita Reddy Colony, Secunderabad, Hyderabad-500009. 2) S.Srinivas Reddy , S/o.S.Hanumantha Reddy, Aged about 49 Yrs, R/O.H.No.23/A, Tarbundi, Sikh(Village), Chita Reddy Colony,Secunderabad, Hyderabad-500009.	Rs.5,78,56,571/- (Rupees Five Crores Seventy Eight Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand Five Hundred Seventy One only)

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY :- SHMYNTF05310004: Property on the name of S.PURUSHOTHAM REDDY, All that the Plot bearing No.39, forming part of Sy.No.14, 15/A, 16, 17/A, 18/A, 20/A And 181 admeasuring 300 sq.yards. Or 250.80 Sq.Mts., situated in the layout plan of Sanjeevaiah nagar Co-op. House Building Society at Chandulal Bowli, Thokatta, Secunderabad Cantonment, Within the district of Hyderabad and Sub-Registration District, Bowenpally, and **Bounded as follows:TOWARDS EAST:** Service Lane and Plot No.43, **TOWARDS WEST:** 30' wide Road, **TOWARDS NORTH:** Plot No.38,, **TOWARDS SOUTH** :Plot No.40.Within this constructed G+3 storied building with all fixtures and appurtenant site therein.
This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of **SFL** is in the lawful **Physical Possession** of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not after receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of **SFL**.
Date : 04.10.2025 Sd/-Authorized Officer
Place : HYDERABAD SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

Telangana student died in shooting in US

Hyderabad, Oct.4 (NSS): A student from Telangana was killed in an early morning shooting incident in Dallas, USA. The victim Pole Chandrasekhar, a resident of BN Reddy Nagar in LB Nagar, had completed his BDS in 2023 and moved to the US for higher studies. Former Minister T. Harish Rao, along with local MLA D Sudheer Reddy, visited Chandrasekhar's family to offer condolences. Harish Rao expressed deep sorrow over the death of the young Dalit student and urged the government to take immediate steps to bring his body back to Hyderabad.



Aadi Srinivas accuses Harish Rao of political dramas

Hyderabad, Oct.4 (NSS): Government Whip Aadi Srinivas stated that with the Jubilee Hills by-elections approaching, former minister and BRS MLA T. Harish Rao has been putting on a show and laying blame on the Congress government for various issues. In a statement here on Saturday, Aadi Srinivas accused Harish Rao of attempting to deceive the residents of Hyderabad by concealing the shortcomings of the previous BRS administration. He criticised Harish Rao for inspecting the construction progress of the LB Nagar TIMS Hospital, claiming that he was making unfounded accusations against the State government.



Canara Bank
(Assurance of India Lending Together We Grow)

Suchitra Circle, Plot No.115/A, Green Park Colony, Suchitra X Road, Main Road, Suchitra, Secunderabad -500067

POSSESSION NOTICE [SECTION 13(4)] (for Immovable property)
Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **Canara Bank** under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a **Demand Notice dated 03-07-2025** calling upon the borrower **Sri. Neelesh Kumar** H.No.5-9-187, bapujinagar, Community Hall Yaprail Alwal, Secunderabad-500087 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being **Rs.15,40,109.51(Rupees Fifteen Lakhs forty thousand one hundred nine and fifty one paise)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this of **30th September of the year 2025**. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Canara Bank for an amount as on date **Rs.15,30,356.51(Rupees.Fifteen lakhs thirty thousand three hundred fifty six and fifty one paise only)** and interest thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY :
Name of Title holder:Sri. S Neelesh Kumar: All that the Residential part of House bearing No.5-9-187,EAST SIDE(P.TIN No. 1160501926) admeasuring Undivided share of land 60.0 Sq yards or 50.16 Sq.mts, out of 120.0 sq.yds, plinth area 100.0 sft, RCC roof, situated at Yaprail Village, under GHMC Alwal, Circle, Malkajir Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, now Bapuji Nagar Yaprail Village, within the limits of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Malkajigiri Circle and Alwal Mandal, Medchal Malkajigiri District. **Bounded by:** North: H.No.5-9-192, South: Road, East: H.No.5-9-186, West: Part of H.No.5-9-187, West side Mr.Indra Shekar.
CERSAI ID: 40002274407
Date : 30.09.2025 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place:Hyderabad CANARA BANK

Bihar government approves land acquisition for two airports

Patna, Oct 4 (IANS) Nitish Kumar-led Cabinet on Saturday approved a series of major decisions aimed at boosting Bihar's air connectivity and electoral infrastructure. In a significant step, the cabinet granted administrative approval for land acquisition and compensation for two key airport projects in Saharsa and Bhagalpur. For Saharsa Airport, an additional 1,208.891 acres of land will be acquired to expand the runway. The government has sanctioned a compensation package worth Rs 147.76 crore, paving the way for passenger services

in the Mithila region. Long demanded by locals, the expansion is expected to transform Saharsa into a hub for commerce and tourism. For Bhagalpur Greenfield Airport, located in the Sultanganj zone, the cabinet approved the acquisition of 931 acres of land with compensation of Rs 472.72 crore. As a greenfield project, the airport will be built from scratch, emerging as a major air hub for Bhagalpur and the surrounding districts. Both projects form part of Bihar's broader strategy to strengthen regional air connectivity under the UDAN scheme, following the successful operationalisation of Darbhanga,

Purnea Airports and ongoing work at Bihta Civil Enclave near Patna. In another crucial decision, The cabinet approved the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) for the 2026 Panchayat General Elections. Funds amounting to Rs 208.27 crore have been sanctioned for the purchase of multi-post EVMs, detachable memory modules, totaliser machines, and power packs from ECIL Hyderabad on a nomination basis. The move marks a shift toward greater efficiency and transparency in local body elections.



Ensuring safety of North East students top priority: Delhi CM Rekha Gupta

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said on Saturday that ensuring the safety, education and future of North East students in the city is her government's top priority. Speaking at the 8th North East Students' Festival (NESt Fest 2025) held at Talkatora Stadium, the CM assured the North East students and youth residing in Delhi that the government stands firmly with them for their safety, education, and future. She announced that in the coming years, the North East Students' Festival will be organised on an even grander scale with the support of the Delhi government. On this occasion, former Army Chief and Governor of Mizoram V.K. Singh, former BJP National

Secretary and founder of My Home India Sunil Deodhar, along with other distinguished dignitaries, were also present, a statement said. Addressing the youths present at the event, the Chief Minister said that the essence of the entire India is contained within the three words "My Home India." She praised the rich culture, traditions, and natural beauty of the North Eastern states and said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the region is now firmly connected to the mainstream of the nation. Facilities like roads, railways, airports, colleges, and IITs have now reached the North Eastern states, which were once called the "last end", she said.



Laxity of Canadian administration behind temple attack : VHP

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS): Demanding security for Hindus across the globe, Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) International Wing president Alok Kumar on Saturday condemned the attack on a temple in Canada and described it as a result of the local administration's laxity. "The attack is a matter of grave concern as the consular camp, held at the temple in coordination with the Indian High Commission, was planned in advance and a three-day prior notice was given by the High Commissioner seeking security," Alok Kumar told IANS. Referring to the attack by pro-Khalistan protesters on Indians present at Brampton's Hindu Sabha Temple on Sunday as an intentional dereliction of duty by Canadian law enforcers, Alok Kumar said: "This was not an isolated incident. Similar incidents have taken place in the Greater Toronto Area and British Columbia. This series of incidents reflects the administration's negligence."



Allahabad HC to hear plea challenging demolition drive against encroachments in Sambhal

Prayagraj, Oct 4 (IANS) The Allahabad High Court will hear a plea on Saturday challenging the demolition drive against illegal construction in Uttar Pradesh's Sambhal. The petition named the state government, the District Magistrate, the Superintendent of Police (SP) of Sambhal, the Additional District Magistrate (ADM), the Tehsildar, and the village council of Gosulbara Ravan Buzurg as parties. On Dussehra, the district administration in Sambhal launched a major demolition drive against encroachments, bringing down a mosque and a marriage hall built on government land in Rawa

Buzurg village. The operation, carried out on October 2, turned the area into a heavy security zone. Nearly 200 police and Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) personnel were deployed. Drones were also used to monitor the exercise in real time. According to SDM Vikas Chandra, the marriage hall had been constructed on land recorded as a government pond. "The village has two government records -- plot number 691 designated for a pond and plot number 459 earmarked as a compost pit. The hall stood on pond land, and hence it has been demolished," he said.

Army successfully completes Mount Gorichen expedition in Arunachal

Itanagar, Oct 4 (IANS) In a remarkable display of courage, endurance, and teamwork, a team of the Indian Army completed the expedition to Mount Gorichen in Arunachal Pradesh showcasing the grit, discipline, and adventurous spirit of the soldiers in the challenging terrain of the Eastern Himalayas, officials said on Friday. Defence spokesman Lt Col Amit Shukla said that the ex-

pedition was flagged off by the GOC, Spear Head Division Lt Gen AS Pendharkar from Likabali Military station on August 20. He said that the advance party had moved earlier on August 13 for reconnaissance, liaison, and coordination. The team, thereafter, moved through Missamari, Tenga, and Senge, carrying out systematic acclimatisation and preparatory training up to Senge (9,500 feet). This phase ensured that the sol-



diers were physically conditioned and operationally ready for the demanding climb ahead, the spokesman said, adding that commencing the climb from Mago Road

Head (12,200 feet) on September 1, the expedition advanced via Merathang Base Camp, Chokarsum, Camp-I, and Summit Camp.

K'taka : Two arrested for raping young woman in Mysuru

Mysuru, Oct 4 (IANS) : Karnataka Police have arrested two accused for gang-raping a young woman on Saturday who (accused) got acquainted with her (victim) in Mysuru city of Karnataka.

According to police sources, the incident had taken place on Sunday and the victim lodged a complaint with the Vijayanagar police station in Mysuru. According to preliminary reports, the young woman had met the accused at a pub in Mysuru and after luring her the accused had taken her to a lodge and committed the crime. Sources said that the police have collected CCTV footage of a young woman partying with one of the accused persons in the pub for a long time. The accused and the victim had consumed more than seven bottles of beer together.



Yogi govt launches initiative to enhance para-vet workforce in rural areas

Lucknow, Oct 4 (IANS) : To strengthen veterinary services in rural areas and increase the number of trained para-veterinary workers, the Uttar Pradesh government, led by Chief Minister Yogi

Adityanath, approved a new policy on Saturday. This policy will introduce diploma and certificate courses in animal husbandry and para-veterinary medicine.



Suvendu Adhikari lodges complaint against soccer club officials for poll campaigning

Kolkata, Oct 4 (IANS) : West Bengal Leader of the Opposition (LoP) Suvendu Adhikari on Saturday wrote to Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports Mansukh Mandviya complaining against the officials of three rival football clubs as well as the Indian Football Association (IFA)'s secretary of unethically campaigning for the Trinamool Congress candidate in the bypolls for Naihati constituency in North 24 Paragans district. "In an unprecedented and unethical move, some top Officials of Football & Sporting Clubs like Mohun Bagan, East Bengal and Mohammedan Sporting have endorsed TMC Candidate Sanat Dey for the upcoming Assembly by-elections in Naihati. Even more surprisingly, the Secretary of West Bengal State Football's Governing Body; IFA (Indian Football Association).

Delhi BJP chief slams AAP's misleading comments on health services

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) : Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva on Saturday hit out at the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) for misleading remarks made by the party's Delhi unit chief Saurabh Bharadwaj regarding a 'plan' to privatise Delhi's healthcare services. Calling Bharadwaj's comments about alleged mismanagement in government hospitals and plans to privatise services a lie, Sachdeva said such remarks were unfortunate.



Cashless transactions at 588 booking counters in Northeast Frontier Railway zone

Guwahati, Oct 4 (IANS) : The Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR), which operates in the northeastern states and in seven districts of West Bengal and five districts of north Bihar, has equipped 588 booking counters with QR code machines across its five divisions in a bid to support 'Digital India' and enable cashless transactions, officials said on Saturday. NFR Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) Kapinjal Kishore Sharma said that 588 numbers of booking counters with QR code machines have



been installed in five divisions -- Katihar, Rangiya, Alipurduar, Lumding, and Tinsukia. He said that this initiative ensures that passengers at almost all major stations within the NFR network can benefit from seamless digital payments, making ticketing more convenient and efficient.

OPINIONmail



EAM Jaishankar and Brazil
President's Special Advisor discuss
deepening strategic cooperation

External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar on Friday met the visiting Special Advisor to President of Brazil, Celso Luis Nunes Amorim in New Delhi as they discussed opportunities to deepen strategic cooperation between the two nations. Following their meeting, EAM Jaishankar in a post on X wrote, "A pleasure meeting Amb. Celso Amorim, Special Advisor to President of Brazil, today in New Delhi. Had a useful exchange on the current global scenario and on opportunities for deepening our strategic cooperation." Earlier in the day, Amorim called on National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval as they held the 6th India-Brazil Strategic Dialogue. The two officials reviewed ongoing progress in the Strategic Partnership, including in various sectors like defence and security, energy, rare earths and critical minerals, and health and pharmaceuticals. The top officials agreed to carry forward the work to implement the vision laid down by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and also discussed cooperation in multilateral fora such as the BRICS, India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) and the COP30 set to be hosted by Brazil in November. According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Amorim was accompanied by a delegation of senior Brazilian government officials and advisors. "The dialogue was an opportunity to follow up on the issues identified under five pillars of cooperation during the State Visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Brazil in July 2025," read the MEA statement. On September 7, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, while extending greetings to his Brazilian counterpart Mauro Vieira and the people of Brazil on the country's Independence Day, had noted that the strategic partnership and ties between two nations will continue to strengthen. "Warm greetings to FM Mauro Vieira, the Government and people of Brazil on their Independence Day. Our Strategic Partnership and multifaceted ties continue to strengthen for the benefit of our peoples," Jaishankar posted on X. On August 7, PM Narendra Modi had received a telephone call from Brazilian President Lula da Silva. PM Modi recalled his visit to Brazil in July, where the two leaders agreed on a comprehensive framework to expand cooperation across key sectors, including trade, technology, energy, defence, agriculture, health, and people-to-people ties. "Building on these discussions, they reiterated their commitment to take India-Brazil Strategic Partnership to new heights. The two leaders exchanged views on various regional and global issues of mutual interest," the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said in a statement. Following their conversation over phone, PM Modi in a post on X wrote, "Had a good conversation with President Lula. Thanked him for making my visit to Brazil memorable and meaningful. We are committed to deepening our Strategic Partnership, including in trade, energy, tech, defence, health and more. A strong, people-centric partnership between Global South nations benefits everyone."

EDITORIAL
the indian mail

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT
FOR WOMEN IN INDIA GRADUALLY WORSENING

Due to declining scope of job opportunity in the organised and formal sector, women workers in India have been increasingly trying hard even to find a place in the unorganised and informal sectors sans social security. Periodic Labour Force Sur-

vey (PLFS) 2023-24 for the period of July 2023 – June 2024 shows that their participation in the non-agriculture informal sector has been rising and stood at 61.2 per cent as against 58.4 per cent in 2021-22 on the usual status basis. During this period, percentage of women engaged in the informal sector on usual sta-

tus basis rose from 55 per cent in the urban areas in 2021-22 to 56.5 per cent in 2023-23. In rural areas, it rose from 61.6 per cent to 65.5 per cent. Working conditions for women workers were also very bad with 57.3 per cent of them had no written job contacts even when they were engaged as regular wage or sala-

ried employees. In urban areas, 59 per cent of female workers, and in rural areas 54.6 per cent had no written job contracts. Percentage of regular/ salaried female employees not eligible for paid leave were 45.9 per cent in 2023-24, more than 43.5 per cent in 2022-23.



West coast Sindhis genetically
distinct from Pakistani Sindhis: Study

The Sindhi population on the west coast of India has a unique genetic makeup, which is different from Pakistani Sindhis, according to a study conducted by scientists at the CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad. According to Dr. Kumarasamy Thangaraj, CSIR Bhatnagar Fellow at the CSIR-CCMB, who conducted the study along with his colleague, Dr. Lomous Kumar, Sindhis on the west coast of India show genetic affinities toward the Burusho or Hazara-like group from Pakistan, as well as recent genetic assimilation with local populations such as

the Konkani. Dr. Kumarasamy added that the existence of a unique East Asian genetic component in Sindhis of the west coast of India, compared to Pakistani Sindhis, can be attributed to minor admixtures occurring either directly through Mongolian migrations or with contacts through Burusho and Hazara-like groups in present-day Pakistan, alternatively. Burusho and Hazara are population groups with Mongoloid features found in present-day Pakistan. "Our genetic study also found that the Indian Sindhi group has a small, unique genetic component

from East Asia that might have incorporated much earlier in the history, likely reflecting imprints of Iron Age or later migrations, possibly Mongols, in their genomes," said Dr. Lomous Kumar, one of the authors of the study and a postdoctoral researcher at DST-Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences (BSIP), Lucknow. "These findings conclusively demonstrate the demographic changes and population shifts in western India associated with multiple migrations. Some of these happened as early as the Iron or Middle Ages and some as recent as post-independence,"

SEBI CHIEF'S REFUSAL TO
APPEAR BEFORE PAC AND
BJP'S STOUT DEFENCE REVEAL
A SINISTER PLOT



The desperation shown by BJP members of the parliamentary accounts committee to shield SEBI chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch from criticism for her failure to appear before the panel shows how her acts of commission and omission were not just a reflection of certain deficit in personal integrity, but how a sinister plot to use the market regulatory mechanism to safeguard the interests of corporates dear to the ruling party was brought into play. Madhabi Puri Buch skipped a Parliament's Public Accounts Committee meeting on Thursday, prompting panel chairman K C Venugopal to postpone the sitting.

WITH CONGRESS OUT
OF BYPOLLS, IT IS YOGI VS.
AKHILESH IN UTTAR PRADESH

The Congress has left the Uttar Pradesh bypolls, leaving the field open for the Samajwadi Party Supremo Akhilesh Yadav against the state-BJP led by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, who has sole responsibility of redeeming BJP after Akhilesh Yadav took the saffron party to the cleaners in the Lok Sabha elections with his 'Pichada Dalit Alpsankyak (PDA)' axis of resistance. The Samajwadi Party head has sworn to repeat his 2024 success in the 2027 assembly elections with the bypolls, set to take place on November 13, a stepping stone for the assembly polls. The Samajwadi Party chief is confidence-personified, his dependency on 'PDA' full and final.

LEFT WING DIE LINKE OF GERMANY IS IN
A RENEWAL MOOD AFTER NATIONAL PARTY CONGRESS

"There is hope." This was one of the most repeated sentences when talking to delegates at Germany's Die Linke's national congress last weekend, as the left-wing party convened in Halle, in the eastern state of Saxony-Anhalt. This hope clearly isn't inspired by polling data, which has turned from bad to worse over the last year. Right now, Die Linke is languishing between 3 and 4 percent in national polling, well below the 5 percent threshold required to reenter parliament in the 2025 elections to the Bundestag. The last nationwide contest, the elections to the European Parliament this past June, pointed in the same direction, as Die Linke received only 2.7 percent of votes — half of its 2019 score. And yet, there was a feeling of re-energization in Halle. This may have to do with the relatively harmonious course of the party congress itself. Die Linke's positions regarding the ongoing wars in Gaza and Lebanon, the conflict in Ukraine, and the appropriateness of a universal basic income in Germany, were hotly con-

tested. The debate on Israel-Palestine is especially fraught, as shown when five of Die Linke's twenty-one representatives in the Berlin regional parliament quit the party three days after the national congress. They justified their exit with, among other reasons, what they allege to be the Berlin section's insufficient commitment to countering antisemitism. Although their departure has somewhat shifted the conversation in recent days, external observers and party delegates alike agreed that the congress in Halle had been less convulsive than in the past.

(IPA Service)

PM Modi welcomes progress in Gaza
hostage deal, praises Prez Trump's peace efforts



New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi has welcomed the reported breakthrough in Gaza, expressing strong support for the re-

lease of hostages and broader efforts toward lasting peace in the region. In a post on X on Saturday, PM Modi said: "We welcome President Trump's leadership as peace efforts in Gaza make decisive progress. Indications of the release of hostages mark a significant step forward."

INDIA, CHINA ARE LOOKING AT POSSIBLE
GAINS AND LOSSES WITH CHANGE OF GUARDS IN THE US

Domestic issues often override international commitments in diplomacy. China's preference of Kamala Harris to Donald Trump as the next US president may look unusual but not entirely illogical from the world's second largest economy's business point of view. China may not mind if such a possibility could enhance diplomatic discomfort to its ally, Russia, which has been fighting

Ukraine to prevent its western neighbour from joining NATO. Under the leadership of President Joe Biden, the US has extended massive fund and military equipment support to Ukraine to face off the Russian assault head on in the last two years, making the US arms manufacturing industry a major gainer so far. A Trump victory could mean a US pull back forcing the end of the Ukraine war. But, going by past experience, it

could also embitter China-US trade and diplomatic relations. Adversely, a Kamala Harris victory next month is most likely to escalate the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war diminishing the prospect of an early resolution of the bitter conflict. The Russia-Ukraine war, leading to a host of the US-led NATO trade and financial sanctions on Russia, had brought China closer to Russia. Many feel that China is

the single biggest beneficiary of the Russia-Ukraine war. For example, last year, Russia surpassed Saudi Arabia as China's biggest oil supplier. China, the world's largest crude oil importer, shipped 107.02 million tons of Russian crude, 24 percent more than its import in 2022. However, with the war spilling over to the third year China is concerned about maintaining its delicate balancing act between Russia and the West.



Uganda, AU destroy illicit firearms to curb proliferation of small weapons

Kampala, Oct 4 (IANS) Uganda and the African Union (AU) have destroyed more than 100 illicit firearms, marking the launch of joint efforts to curb the spread of small arms and light weapons across the continent. Ugandan Minister of Defence and Veteran Affairs Jacob Marksons Oboth presided over the symbolic burning of weapons at the Gaddafi Army Barracks in Jinja, eastern

Uganda, on Friday (local time). The exercise was part of the ninth Africa Amnesty Month, observed under the theme "Safer Communities through Voluntary Disarmament." Oboth called on individuals still in possession of illegal firearms to hand them over voluntarily in the interest of peace and security. "The 2025 Africa Amnesty Month commemoration here

highlights Uganda's commitment to safer communities through disarmament. We need to silence the guns through voluntary disarmament," he said in a joint statement issued on Saturday. Tebelelo Boang, chairperson of the AU Peace and Security Council, said, "firearms destroyed, potential lives saved, and hope renewed."

Four airports in Indonesia temporarily closed as Mount Lewotobi erupts

Jakarta, Oct 4 (IANS) : Four airports in East Nusa Tenggara province, Indonesia, were temporarily closed due to the eruption of Mount Lewotobi late Saturday night, which killed at least 10 people, the National Disaster Mitigation Agency (BNPB) announced on Saturday. "Frans Xavier Seda Airport in Sikka regency, East Nusa Tenggara, is temporarily closed," said BNPB spokesperson Abdul Muhari at a press conference. Three other airports in the province also affected by closures are H. Hasan Aroeboesman Airport in Ende regency, Bajawa Soa Airport in Ngada Regency, and Gewayantana Airport in East Flores regency.



WHO urges sustainable access to clean water, sanitation to curb cholera outbreaks in Somalia

Mogadishu, Oct 4 (IANS) : The World Health Organization (WHO) on Saturday called on all stakeholders in Somalia to prioritise sustainable access to clean water and improved sanitation and support the widespread delivery of cholera vaccines to help address recurring outbreaks. These actions can protect vulnerable populations and ensure that life-saving health services reach those most in need, the WHO said. "Cholera remains a major public health challenge in Somalia, especially in regions affected

by conflict and displacement, and with limited access to clean water and sanitation," the WHO said in a statement issued in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia. According to the WHO, Somalia recorded 768 new cholera cases in the last four weeks across 31 districts, with a rise in cases in the areas of Kismayu, Jowhar, Marka, Burhakab, Barawe, Borama and Baidoa. Of these cases, 399, or 52 per cent, were female while 407, or 53 percent, were children under five years, Xinhua news agency reported.

Iran says to use all resources to respond to Israeli attacks

Tehran, Oct 4 (IANS) : Iran's Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmail Baghaei said on Saturday the country would use all its resources to respond to Israel's recent "aggressions" against its territory. He made the remarks at a weekly press conference in the capital Tehran while answering a question about recent reports that Iran may respond to Israel's October 26 attack on its soil from Iraqi territory.

"The patterns of our response to Israel's aggressions are clear," he said, stressing, "We will naturally use all our material and non-material resources and facilities with all force to respond to Israel's aggressions." When asked if Iran would refrain from retaliatory military action against Israel in the event of ceasefires in Gaza and Lebanon, Baghaei replied, "Our action against any aggression is certain and decisive", Xinhua news agency reported. On October 26, the Israel Defense



Forces (IDF) announced that they had conducted "precise and targeted" airstrikes on sites in Iran in response to recent attacks from the country. Iran's air defence headquarters said it successfully countered the Israeli attacks, which resulted in only "limited damage." Following the attack, Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and President Masoud Pezeshkian vowed to respond to the Israeli attack.



UK announces extra 75 million pounds to strengthen border security

London, Oct 4 (IANS): United Kingdom (UK) Prime Minister Keir Starmer announced on Saturday to inject an additional 75 million British pounds (97.3 million US dollars) to combat the people-smuggling issue. In a speech to the 92nd session of the Interpol General Assembly in Glasgow, Starmer called on global leaders to "wake up to the severity" of the challenge smuggling presents to border security. People-smuggling is "a vile trade that must be stamped out" and should be viewed as "a global security threat similar to terrorism," he said. The prime minister said the extra cash injection would bring investment in the UK's new Border Security Command over the next two years to 150 million pounds. The money will help fund additional specialist investigators and surveillance equipment. The announcement came after 5,417 people crossed the Channel in small boats in October, the highest monthly figure for illegal crossings since October 2022, Xinhua news agency reported.

UK starts second four-day week pilot campaign

London, Oct 4 (IANS) : The second pilot campaign for a four-day working week, involving thousands of workers, began on Saturday, marking the first campaign under the new Labour government. Launched by the 4 Day Week Campaign and flexible working specialists Timewise, the trial includes 17 businesses and will span six months, with findings expected to be presented to the Labour government by the summer of 2025. A recent report from the think tank Autonomy, in collaboration with academics from the University of Cambridge and Boston College in the United States, underscored positive outcomes from the initial pilot. Of the companies that participated, 92 per cent opted to continue the four-day week after the trial period, with 18 organisations adopting it as a permanent policy. Around 2,900 employees participated in the first trial,

which began in June 2022, with results published in February 2023. The report also noted high satisfaction levels among participating companies, with most observing stable business performance and productivity. Additionally, 71 per cent of employees reported reduced burn-out, and company revenue experienced an average increase of 1.4 per cent. Notably, there was also a decline in employee turnover and sick leave. The four-day working week has received support from Labour's Deputy Leader Angela Rayner, who remarked, "If you can deliver within a four-day working week, then why not?" Xinhua news agency reported. However, the Conservative Party has voiced opposition to the initiative. Kevin Hollinrake, Conservative shadow business and trade secretary, criticised the proposal, saying, "Despite repeated warnings from industry.



New antibody treatment boosts immune response against tumor: study

Jerusalem, Oct 4 (IANS) : Israeli researchers and their colleagues from the United States developed an antibody-based treatment that empowers the body's immune system to effectively attack cancer cells and prevent their spread, Israel's Weizmann Institute of Science (WIS) said in a statement on

Saturday. WIS-led scientists revealed that a form of breast cancer known as triple-negative breast cancer encourages nearby immune cells to form "molecular bridges." These bridges prevent immune cells from attacking the tumor, resulting in immune suppression. The research team demonstrated

that an antibody treatment blocking the formation of these bridges can revive the immune system's ability to mount a robust attack on cancer cells, halting tumor progression in mouse models. They explained that while the breast cancer cells themselves express very low levels of the protein CD84, which is used to build the

bridges, they induce nearby immune cells to produce large quantities of this protein, creating the bridges that suppress the immune response. The study also found that higher levels of CD84 in patients' tumors were linked to shorter survival times. Experiments with genetically engineered mice lacking



CD84 revealed smaller tumor growth, highlighting how CD84 within the tumor environment suppresses T cell activity in the immune system.

Vietnam strives to be among top three ASEAN countries in industrial competitiveness



Hanoi, Oct 4 (IANS) : Vietnam strives to be among the top three Southeast Asian countries in terms of industrial competitiveness by the end of this decade, Vietnam News on Saturday cited the goal proposed by the Ministry of Industry and Trade as saying. The country's industrial sector aims to have over 40 per cent share in gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030. The manufacturing and processing industry alone is expected to account for around 30 per cent of the GDP, according to the ministry's action plan.

Tokyo Stock Exchange to extend trading hours by 30 minutes



Tokyo, Oct 4 (IANS) : The Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE) will extend its trading hours by 30 minutes starting Saturday, shifting the market's closing

time from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the first such adjustment in 70 years. The TSE's trading schedule will be 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., with a one-hour lunch break, resuming from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for a total of five and a half hours. The move aims to boost market activity and appeal to both domestic and international investors by expanding trading opportunities, Xinhua news agency reported. Although there were prior discussions about extending trading hours, concerns about administrative burdens on securities firms had prevented such changes until now.

Sudanese leader conducts partial government reshuffle amid escalating conflict

Port Sudan, Oct 4 (IANS) : Chairman of Sudan's Transitional Sovereign Council, Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, conducted a partial government reshuffle amid escalating conflict on Saturday, the council announced in a statement. Al-Burhan dismissed Hussein Awad as minister of foreign affairs, appointing Ali Yousif Ahmed as his successor, according to the statement. Graham Abdel-Qadir was removed from his post as minister of culture

and information and Khalid Ali Aleisir was appointed to the role, Xinhua news agency reported.





CM Pema Khandu voices concern over rising HIV/AIDS cases in Arunachal

Itanagar, Oct 4 (IANS) Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Saturday expressed concern over the rising incidence of HIV/AIDS in the Northeastern state. The Chief Minister on Friday chaired the 3rd State Council on AIDS (SCA) meeting and reviewed the overall HIV/AIDS related situation and ongoing steps to curb the spread of the disease. State's Health and Family Welfare Minister Biyuram Wahge and senior officials were present in the meeting held at the CM's Office, Niti Vihar. Taking to the social media platform X, CM Khandu wrote: "The spread of HIV-positive cases is a matter of deep concern. It is imperative that we take urgent and effective steps to curb its spread, fight ignorance, and end social ostracism." He said:

"Chaired the 3rd State Council on AIDS (SCA) Meeting of the Arunachal Pradesh State AIDS Control Society today, along with Hon'ble Cabinet colleagues, Hon'ble Advisors, senior officers, NGOs, and CBOs. Our collective resolve is to strengthen awareness, prevention, and care measures to protect every life and build a compassionate, informed society." The Chief Minister, in a separate post on X, said: "Chaired the 2nd Meeting of the Arunachal Pradesh Psychoactive Substances Control Authority (APPSCA). The meeting underlined that consumers are victims who need care and support, not punishment. The focus has now shifted towards suppliers and peddlers, the real drivers of this menace."

Over 18 lakh health camps screened 10 crore citizens under Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan : Govt

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) More than 18 lakh health camps were set up under the Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan, which screened 10 crore citizens across the nation for various non communicable diseases, the government said on Saturday. The health camps, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his birthday on September 17, concluded on Thursday and benefitted more than 6.5 crore women, as well as children, and families through comprehensive health services.

It marked the largest ever health outreach for women and children in India. "Over 1.78 crore citizens were screened for hypertension; 1.72 crore for diabetes," said the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. "More than 37 lakh women were screened for breast cancer; over 19 lakhs for cervical cancer and more than 96 lakh for oral cancer," it added. Further, the camps also held more than 62.60 lakh antenatal check-ups, while over 1.43 crore children received life-saving vaccines. More than 1.51 crore women and girls were also screened for



anaemia; over 85 lakh for TB and 10.23 lakh for Sickle Cell Disease, the Ministry said. It added that more than 4.30 lakh people registered as blood donors, and 10.69 lakhs Ayushman/PM-JAY cards were issued. In addition to the extensive network of NHM health camps,

AIIMS, other Institutes of National Importance (INIs), tertiary care hospitals, Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, medical colleges, and private institutions have also been at the forefront of this national drive. The facilities hosted thousands of specialty camps.



J&K Assembly Speaker says detained MLA Malik can attend session if court or govt permits

Srinagar, Oct 4 (IANS) J&K Assembly Speaker, Abdul Rahim Rather, said on Saturday that it would be a welcome step if incarcerated Doda MLA Mehraj Malik attends the upcoming session, but clarified that the decision lies with the court or the government. Rather said Malik would need to seek permission through legal channels. "He needs to approach the court, or if the government allows him, he should attend. It depends on whether the government or the court permits him," he said. On the issue of PDP legislator Waheed Parra, Rather confirmed that the show-cause notice issued against him is still under examination. "Parra has submitted his reply, and the matter is under consideration," he said. The Speaker added that Parra had earlier spread misinformation claiming that the Assembly Secretariat had approved the Public Safety Act (PSA) against the Doda legislator, which, he clarified, was incorrect. "The Secretariat does not have such powers. PSA is imposed by the District Magistrate," Rather asserted. The Speaker said that the upcoming session of the J&K Assembly summoned by the Lt Governor on October 23 will be short and that a provisional calendar will be issued soon.

Bihar : Nalanda residents drawing double benefits of Jan Aushadhi Kendras

Patna, Oct 4 (IANS) : It's raining bonanza period for Nalanda residents under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) scheme, as they are drawing double benefits from the scheme – first is availing medicines at reasonable rates and second is the opportunity to set up Jan Aushadhi Kendras, as a venture towards attaining self-reliance. Kumari Meena Sinha, Assistant Pharmacist at the Jan Aushadhi centre in Bihar Sharif Sadar Hospital told IANS that this has brought unimaginable changes in people's lives. "Today, medicines are available at affordable rates. People are very happy and thankful to Prime Minister Narendra

Modi," she told IANS. She informed that earlier 90 per cent of the family's income was spent on medicines. But, now they were getting up to 50 to 90 per cent discount. Because of this, their children are able to study and the financial condition of the family has also improved. "Three of us work at this Kendra -- one pharmacist and two assistants," she said. "We never thought that we would go beyond being a housewife. But, today, we are heading towards self-reliance and are able to serve people.



Gurugram will be included in top 10 cities of country: Haryana Minister

Gurugram, Oct 4 (IANS) : Haryana Industry and Commerce, Environment, Forest and Wildlife Minister Rao Narbir Singh said that the state government aims to include Gurugram in the top 10 cities of the country. He also directed the Municipal Corporation Manesar (MCM) officials to work towards freeing the government land from encroachment and ensuring polythene. Singh chaired a



meeting with the MCM officials and discussed points related to the MCM.

As Delhi AQI improves to 88, Sirsa credits relentless ground-level action

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) A day after burning of Ravana effigies on Dussehra, Delhi Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa said on Saturday that the city recorded a significant improvement in air quality with the Air Quality Index

(AQI) dropping to 88 (Satisfactory category). Two of the city's key pollution hotspots — Narela (66) and Mundka (76) — registered 'Satisfactory' AQI levels, reflecting the success of sustained and targeted interventions, he said.

Highlighting that October is a month that is usually associated with rising pollution levels, Sirsa credited the turnaround to relentless ground-level action. "A satisfactory day in October is the clearest proof that interventions like mechanised sweeping,

misting, dust control at construction and demolition sites, and legacy waste bio-mining are working. This is the result of consistent 24x7 environmental action — not chance," he said in a statement. Sirsa reiterated that weather is no



longer the sole driver of Delhi's air quality improvement. "The clean air we are seeing today is a

consequence of policy, enforcement, and teamwork. Delhi is proving that with resolve, systems, and continuous action, cleaner air is achievable and sustainable," he said. Delhi has already recorded 190 clean air days between January 1 and October 3, 2025 — the highest for this period in nearly a decade.



Odisha: CM Mohan Majhi expresses grief over landslide and flood deaths; announces aid

Bhubaneswar, Oct 4 (IANS) Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Friday expressed grief over the death of two persons caused by flooding and a landslide triggered by heavy rainfall in Gajapati district on October 2. According to the Chief Minister's Office (CMO).

Youth arrested in Bengal's Bankura on charges of raping minor girl

Kolkata, Oct 4 (IANS) : The cops of Bankura district police in West Bengal, on Saturday, arrested a youth on charges of raping a minor girl, who is a ninth-standard student of a district school. The accused was also presented at a district court on Saturday and the court remanded him to two days of police custody. This is the fourth incident of rape involving minor victims that has been reported from the state in the last 48 hours, the previous three being at Kumargram in Alipurduar district, Domkal in Murshidabad district and Gaighata in North 24 Paragans

district. It is learnt that the victim girl went to her paternal aunt's place with her mother on the occasion of Kali Puja. she suddenly went missing after she went out. The tense family members started looking for her but were unable to trace her. Finally, at around 3 a.m. on November 3, she came back home profusely crying. Thereafter, she confided to her mother that she was abducted by a local youth, taken to a nearby forest area and then raped. The victim's family members lodged an FIR at the local Jaipur Police Station. The police started the investigation but initially were unable to trace the accused youth. However, finally, on getting infor-



mation from their sources that the accused youth was hiding at his elder sister's residence, the cops conducted raid operations there on early Monday morning and nabbed the accused. The victim's mother complained that previously the same youth tried to enter into a relationship with her daughter which the latter refused. "Probably, he committed such a macabre crime on my daughter out of that grudge for refusal."



Take medicines only after registered doctor advises: Rajasthan health official

Jaipur, Oct 4 (IANS) Rajasthan Health Department has issued strict instructions to ensure the safe use of medicines under the Chief Minister's Free Medicine Scheme and to prevent cases of adverse drug reactions. Principal Secretary (Medical & Health) Gayatri Rathore

emphasised that medicines must only be taken as per a registered doctor's advice, and no self-medication should be practised. She warned that accountability will be fixed if medicines are dispensed or consumed without proper consultation, or if negligence leads to side effects.

Indian stock market ends holiday-shortened week on positive note

Mumbai, Oct 4 (IANS) The Indian equities closed the holiday-shortened week with a positive bias after recent corrections as investors' confidence was reinforced with the RBI's growth stance, analysts said on Saturday. On Friday, Sensex ended

the session at 81,207.17, up 223.86 points or 0.28 per cent. Nifty closed at 24,894.25, up 57.95 points or 0.23 per cent. The Nifty extended its pullback for the second straight session, crossing above its key 50-DMA at 24,830 and forming a bullish candle on the daily chart.



SAIL posts Rs 834 crore net profit for July-September quarter

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) : Public sector steel giant SAIL on Saturday reported a standalone net profit of Rs 834 crore for the July-Sept quarter of the current financial year which represents a 32.7 per cent decline over the corresponding figure of Rs 1,241 crore during the same quarter of 2023-24. The company's revenue was adversely impacted by the flood of cheap Chinese imports which led to a decline in steel prices. SAIL revenue came down by 17 per cent to Rs 24,675 crore during the second quarter compared to Rs 29,714 crore in the same quarter of the previous year. The company's earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA).



Mahindra and Mahindra launches new Thar 2025, price starts at Rs 9.99 lakh

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) Mahindra and Mahindra on Saturday launched the new 'Thar 2025' starting at Rs 9.99 Lakh (ex-showroom), with new design elements, advanced comfort features and smart technology integration for better urban commute. "This Iconic SUV is engineered to redefine urban commuting and elevate rugged weekend adventures," the automobile manufacturer said in a statement. The 'Thar' brand has garnered a dedicated community

of over 3 lakh passionate owners. More than just an SUV, it represents a lifestyle statement, inspiring to embrace adventure and exploration with unmatched capability and a timeless design, the company said. The new model is equipped with a 26.03 cm HD infotainment screen that supports both Android Auto and Apple CarPlay, along with Type-c USB ports, providing seamless integration of your smartphone's functionalities. The tyre direction monitoring system gives real-time information on tyre orientation, enhancing safety.

"For adventure enthusiasts, the adventure stats gen II feature offers valuable off-road data such as racing tab, altimeter, outside temperature and pressure, trip meter and steering direction, adding an extra dimension to your journey and ensuring a smart and connected driving experience," Mahindra and Mahindra said. Additionally, the company offers a range of engine options to suit diverse driving preferences paired with multiple transmissions -- 6-speed manual transmission.

US Fed's 2nd consecutive rate cut a booster for emerging markets like India

Mumbai, Oct 4 (IANS) : The US Fed's second consecutive rate cut this year of 25 basis points should be bullish for emerging markets like India, market experts said on Saturday. It wasn't a surprise when the US Fed cut interest rates by 25 basis points (bps) to 4.75 per cent and given the US macro indicators, the rate cuts now are rather preemptive. "India, on the other hand, is facing sticky food inflation but also lower growth pos-

sibilities. The RBI is facing the trilemma between growth, inflation and currency movements. In that sense, a domestic rate cut will help," according to a note by Angel One Wealth. The RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das this week said that although the central bank had shifted towards a softer neutral monetary policy stance to spur growth, this did not mean that an interest rate cut would happen immediately.



Tata Power to supply wind, solar energy to run Noida airport

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) : Tata Power announced on Saturday that it has signed an agreement with Noida International Airport (NIA) which will entail a total investment of Rs 550 crore in solar and wind power supply, as well as the development of essential dry utilities and smart energy infrastructure at the airport. Under this arrangement, Tata Power Trading Company Ltd. will supply 10.8 MW of wind power to NIA, with secured assets from Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd.

(TPREL). In addition, TPREL will develop, operate, and maintain a 13 MW onsite solar power capacity to meet the airport's overall energy needs. Further bolstering the airport's operational resilience, Tata Power has undertaken the development of critical dry utilities, including essential electrical infrastructure, and will provide operation and maintenance (O&M) services for this infrastructure over a 25-year period to meet the airport's smart energy requirements.



LG Energy Solution secures 5-year deal to supply EV batteries to Rivian

Seoul, Oct 4 (IANS) : South Korea's leading battery maker LG Energy Solution (LGES) said on Saturday it has clinched a deal to supply electric vehicle batteries to US automotive manufacturer Rivian. Under the deal, LGES will provide Rivian with its advanced 4695 cylindrical batteries, totaling 67 gigawatt hours, for over five years, according to the company. The company did not disclose further detailed financial terms of the contract, reports Yonhap news agency. LGES said the batteries will be manufactured at the company's U.S. plant in Arizona and will be used in Rivian's R2 sport utility vehicles. The deal with Rivian follows the Korean company's similar battery-supply contracts with global carmakers, including Mercedes-Benz and Ford. LGES said its 4695 cylindrical battery cells are gaining popularity thanks to their larger capacity, higher energy efficiency and enhanced safety features amid increasing demand for cylindrical batteries. "Due to the dynamic nature of the current EV market, an increasing number of global automakers are demonstrating a strong preference for a diverse range of battery form factors," said David Kim, CEO of LG Energy Solution. "This large-scale order from Rivian for 4695 batteries marks a key milestone for LG Energy Solution in expanding its client base within the cylindrical battery segment."

RBI proposes easier rules for companies to raise foreign currency loans

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Saturday released draft rules to make it easier for Indian companies to raise money in foreign currencies. The central bank has suggested widening the pool of both borrowers and lenders who can take part in external commercial borrowings (ECBs). "As announced in the statement on developmental and regulatory policies dated October 01, it has been decided to rationalise regulations pertaining to external commercial borrowing (ECB) included in the Foreign Exchange Management (Borrowing and Lending) Regulations, 2018 issued under FEMA, 1999," RBI said in its statement. "The borrowing limits are proposed to be linked to a borrower's financial strength and ECB are proposed to be raised at market determined interest rates," the Central Bank added. Under the draft, companies will be allowed to raise funds overseas based on their financial strength. "The borrower and lender base eligible for ECB transactions is proposed to be expanded to enhance opportunities of credit flow," RBI stated. Firms could borrow up to \$1 billion or as much as 300 per cent of their net worth, whichever is higher. "The end-use restrictions and Minimum Average Maturity requirements are proposed to be simplified," the Central Bank added. The RBI has also said that these borrowings can be raised at market-determined interest rates.



Indian stock market opens flat after US Fed rate cut

Mumbai, Oct 4 (IANS) : The Indian benchmark indices opened flat on Saturday after the second consecutive rate cut by the US Fed, as selling was seen in auto, PSU bank, media, oil and gas sectors. Sensex was trading at 79,522.39 after slipping 19.40 points or 0.02 per cent. At the same time, Nifty was trading at 24,179.85 after slipping 19.50 points or 0.08 per cent. The market trend remained negative. On the National Stock Exchange (NSE), 746 stocks were trading in green, while 1463 stocks were trading in red. Nifty Bank was at 51,897.05 after slipping 19.45 points or 0.04 per cent. The Nifty Midcap 100 index was trading at 57,116.50 after gaining 7.35 points or 0.01 per cent. The Nifty Smallcap 100 index was trading at 18,749.75 after slipping 14.10 points or 0.08 per cent. Tata Motors, Reliance, ICICI Bank, Asian Paints, Maruti and NTPC were the top losers in the Sensex pack. Infosys.

Niva Bupa Health Insurance's IPO subscribed 65 pc on day 1

Mumbai, Oct 4 (IANS) : Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company saw its initial public offering (IPO) subscribed 65 per cent on the first day of bidding. The issue received bids of 11,19,04,400 shares against the offered 17,28,57,143 equity shares, at a price band of Rs 70-74, according to the data available on the stock exchanges, according to a company statement. Retail portion and non-institutional investors portion

were subscribed 0.71 times and 0.33 times respectively, whereas Qualified Institutional Buyer portion was subscribed 0.79 times. The issue will close on Monday. The IPO is a mix of fresh issue of up to Rs 800 crore and an offer of sale (OFS) up to Rs 1,400 crore by Bupa Singapore Holdings Pte. Ltd., Fettle Tone LLP. A day before the opening of the issue, Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company raised Rs 990 crore from anchor investors.



Rajasthan: Cong’s Sukhbir Chaudhary with 14 others join BJP

Jaipur, Oct 4 (IANS) : Veteran Congress leader Sukhbir Singh Chaudhary in Rajasthan on Saturday joined the BJP with 14 other leaders, giving a major jolt to the grand old party just before the by-elections which are scheduled on November 13 on seven Assembly seats. Sukhbir Singh joined the party in the presence of BJP chief Madan Rathore and Jyoti Mirdha while senior party

leaders including former MP Gopal Singh Idwa and Hapuram Chaudhary were also present. BJP state chief took a dig at Congress, saying that people have become disillusioned with the policies of Congress. “Leaders are leaving the Congress party after being influenced by BJP and the policies of PM Modi,” he said. BJP leaders said that the party has grown stronger in the Khinvsar which is a stronghold of RLP.



Jyoti Mirdha wrote on X that the BJP caravan is constantly growing in Khinvsar. “I am confident that lotus will bloom with full majority on the Khinvsar Assembly seat with everyone’s support this time in the by-election,” she added. RLP convenor Hanuman Beniwal is MP from Nagaur. He won the Assembly elections in 2023. He later contested in the general election which he won defeating his BJP rival Jyoti Mirdha, leaving the Khinvsar Assembly seat vacant.

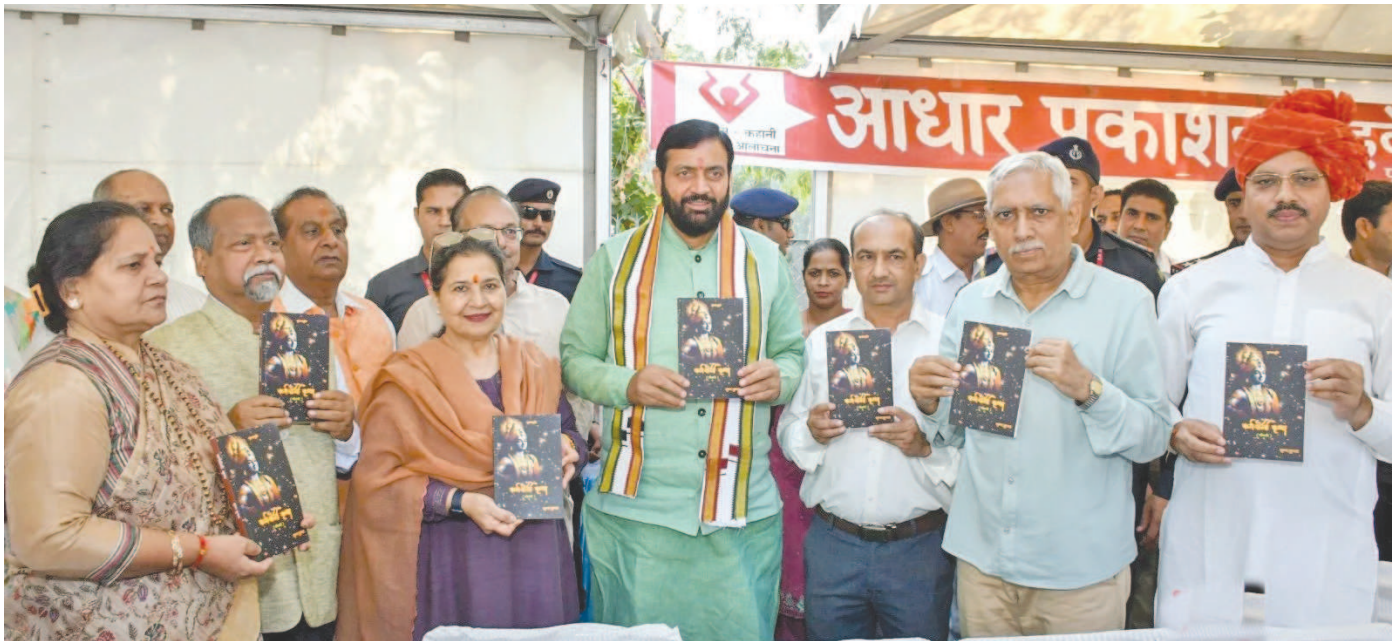
PGI Chandigarh makes history with three cervical spine disc replacements

Chandigarh, Oct 4 (IANS) : The PGIMER in Chandigarh has achieved a significant milestone in healthcare by successfully performing three cervical spine disc replacements in the span of just one week. The surgeries, conducted by Dr Vishal Kumar, Additional Professor of Orthopedics, have brought relief to patients suffering from degenerative cervical myelopathy. The patients, including a 57-year-old woman and two men patients aged 49 and 54, were experiencing difficulty in walking, decreased hand grip and neck pain radiating to their upper limbs. Following the surgeries, all patients reported improved pain and are on the path to recovery, the PGI said on Saturday. The procedures, which involve the replacement of cervical discs to restore normal function.



Aerial & satellite imaging planned as ‘New Noida’ project moves forward

Noida, Oct 4 (IANS) : An important meeting regarding the Dadri Noida Ghaziabad Investment Region (DNGIR), also known as New Noida, was held on Saturday at the Noida Authority. The meeting was chaired by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Lokesh M. According to official information, several important decisions were made during this meeting, including the establishment of a temporary office near the Eastern Peripheral Expressway, as well as plans to obtain aerial and satellite photographs related to the project. Officials from all departments were present during the interactions at the meeting. The DNGIR area was notified on August 29, 2017, and its master plan for 2041 was approved by the Cabinet on October 18, 2024. The notified area encompasses a total of 80 villages in the Gautam Buddha Nagar and Bulandshahr districts. Development of the area is planned in four phases, scheduled to be completed by 2041. In the first phase, the development of 3,165 hectares of land is to be completed by 2027.



Our culture & heritage is available in books : Haryana CM

Chandigarh, Oct 4 (IANS) : Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Saturday inaugurated the third Panchkula Book Fair being organised at Indradhanush Auditorium in Panchkula, near here. He also inaugurated Sardar Patel libraries built in Arunai village in Kurukshetra district, Bara village in Karnal district and Madana Kalan village in Jhajjar district through video conferencing. He also went around the Book Fair and released several books. “Our culture and heritage are available in books. The darkness of life can be dispelled only with the light of knowledge. The purpose of this book fair is also to enhance our knowledge,” the Chief Minister said. He said the Prime Minister has

said that “where there is darkness, it is not forbidden to light a lamp. If we read even one book today, that one book will light a lamp.” Saini said the book fair features thousands of books in various languages. “Observing the large crowd gathered,” he underlined the significance of books in “our lives”. “Anyone with an interest in a particular subject can find valuable knowledge in the wide selection available at this fair,” he added. The Chief Minister highlighted that Mata Saraswati, the goddess of knowledge, is revered in schools and libraries. He emphasised that by learning under the guidance of teachers and studying in libraries, “we acquire in-depth knowledge of various subjects”. He said the Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam

(UHBVN) has established over 25 libraries in the past three years through its CSR initiatives. “Today, we inaugurated three more libraries, which serve as an inspiration for other departments,” he said. Saini said the BJP government has committed to providing 2 lakh jobs for the youth. He emphasised the importance of libraries for preparing for recruitment and competitive examinations. District-level libraries are already operational at district headquarters, and the government is now upgrading digital libraries in colleges and schools. “The government is also opening libraries in villages, equipped with computer facilities,” he said. “Online resources and e-books are being made available, allowing youth to access information about their subjects online.” He said for the past 10 years, the youth in the state have been securing jobs without the need for bribes or recommendations. “Now, instead of seeking recommendations, the youth are preparing for their future by utilising library resources,” he added.



Chhattisgarh: Widow sisters of Ambikapur share touching story of transformation under PMAY scheme

Raipur, Oct 4 (IANS) : Building a house is a dream of everyone’s life. A person works arduously and rigorously to build a home of his dreams but for the poor and downtrodden families, this dream rarely transforms into a reality. However, the situation is no longer the same under

the Modi government. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), a flagship scheme of the Modi government is helping realise the dream of many poor families to build their own ‘pucca’ houses.



Lalu Prasad Yadav is 'promoter' of dynastic politics : Jitan Ram Manjhi

Patna, Oct 4 (IANS) : Amid 'dynastic politics' criticism, Union Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi on Saturday defended his decision to field her daughter-in-law Deepa Manjhi from the Imamganj seat in Gaya, saying that RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav is a 'promoter' of the dynastic politics. The issue of dynastic politics has become a prominent topic in the ongoing Bihar by-elections, with Prashant Kishor pointing out the family-based candidate selections

across the four contested seats. In this by-election, candidates with family political legacies are contesting in each seat: Deepa Manjhi, daughter-in-law of Union Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi, is contesting from the Imamganj seat in Gaya, Vishwanath Kumar Singh, son of RJD MP Surendra Yadav, is contesting from the Belaganj seat, Vishal Pandey, son of the influential leader Sunil Pandey, is a BJP candidate for the Tarari seat.

Bengal govt alerted of JMB’s ‘plans for state’ to create unrest

Kolkata, Oct 4 (IANS): Central intelligence agencies have alerted their state-level counterparts in West Bengal on Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) targeting some unrecognised educational institutions in the state with the dual motive of selecting new recruits as well as opening new terror modules. Sources said that the central intelligence agencies have also alerted their counterparts in the state of future plans and initiatives by JMB to reorganise their existing terror modules in seven districts which especially include those which are having borders with neighbouring Bangladesh. These seven districts include



Malda, Murshidabad and North Dinajpur in the initial phase and Birbhum, Nadia, North 24 Parganas and South 24 Parganas in the next phase. Sources said that the JMB activists will target the teachers of unrecognised educational institutions and convince them to encourage their students to join the modules.

“Once that brainwashing phase is over, in the next phase the process of selecting young students for the terror modules will start. In the next phase, the selected candidates will be taken to the different terrorist training camps for training on the use of arms and explosives,” sources said.



Pak flare-ups a result of misgovernance, repression of people

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) This week’s flare-up in Pakistan-Occupied-Jammu and Kashmir (POJK) is not one in isolation. The rise in voices of revolt from various parts of the country reflect decades of misgovernance and quixotic adventures by Islamabad. As Islamabad grapples with widespread revolt for independence in Balochistan and unrest in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP).



Jharkhand: PM Gram Sadak Yojana transforms Tetariya village of Hazaribagh

Hazaribagh, Oct 4 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi's flagship Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) has significantly transformed the condition and connectivity of Tetariya village in Ichak block of Hazaribagh district in Jharkhand. Once neglected due to a severely dilapidated road network, the village is

now connected by a newly constructed pucca (paved) road under the scheme — a change that has brought remarkable improvements to the lives of residents. Until recently, villagers hesitated to step outside their homes due to poor road conditions. Today, they can easily access the block office and other essential services.

Marathi will always remain a classical language: CM Fadnavis

Mumbai, Oct 4 (IANS) Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Saturday said that Marathi was a classical language in the past, is still so today, and will remain that in the future also. “Language is a medium to keep culture alive. Every language in the country has given a cultural legacy. Since language is important in this cultural uplift, everyone should try to keep their own language, mother tongue and other languages alive. “Marathi language was classical in the past, is still today, and will remain so in the future also,” he added. He was speaking after the inauguration of Abhijat (classical) Marathi Bhasha Samman Diwas and Abhijat Marathi Bhasha Week. “Respect for Marathi is our respect. It is the respect of the poets who sang Ovees (poetic meter used in Marathi poems for rhyth-

mic prose) in the villages and in the house. It is the respect of Vasudev (who sings devotional songs for alms) who comes to Ramprahari (early morning). It is the respect of the aarti, bhajans and kirtans that echo from the temples. It is the respect of the tradition of saints, the poetry of the poets. “It is the respect of all such thinkers, from the meaningful Deepika (commentary on the Bhagavad Gita) of Sant Dnyaneshwar to the philosophical thoughts of Babasaheb Ambedkar,” said the chief minister. He further said that 25 per cent of the total number of libraries in the country are in Maharashtra and Marathi language has become rich because the Marathi people have tried to pass on the love of literature and ideas to the next generation. “It is a matter of pride that the largest number of literary dictionaries are in Marathi language. At the



same time, more than 200 literary conferences are held in Marathi every year. Marathi is the only language that expresses all kinds of ideas and provides various platforms,” he expressed. CM Fadnavis said that in the digital age, literature and books worth crores of rupees are still being sold. Along with literature, there were theaters in different languages in the country today, but now it seems that there has been some relaxation in it. He added that Marathi fans and theatre workers have cultivated a rich Marathi theatre. In his speech, the Minister of

Marathi Language Uday Samant said that the government will continue to work to take Marathi to the global stage. “Marathi is not just a language, it is the breath of Maharashtra's culture. The Maharashtra government will continue to work to take this language of Dnyaneshwar, Tukaram, and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj to the global stage,” he added. “Due to the historical heritage of Dnyaneshwari, Tukaram Gatha, and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's Marathi language Rajkosh (reference book), the Central Government decided to give Marathi the classical language status.



PMK urges withdrawal of TN Land Consolidation Act

Chennai, Oct 4 (IANS) : Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK) state president and former Union Minister Anbumani Ramadoss has called on the Tamil Nadu government to suspend the Tamil Nadu Land Consolidation (for Special Projects) Act, 2023 and withdraw it in the next Assembly session. The PMK leader noted that the Act had come into effect on October 18, despite strong opposition from political parties, including PMK, and several farmers' associations. Ramadoss claimed that the Act favours private companies rather than public welfare, describing its implementation as “condemnable.” “The Tamil Nadu Land Consolidation (for Special Projects) Act, 2023, was implemented even after opposition from PMK and numerous farmers' organisations,” he said. He added that the Act appears to prioritise the interests of private companies, which is unacceptable. Ramadoss also highlighted that the state government passed the bill on April 21, 2023, allowing land acquisition for special projects without any debate in the assembly.

Giriraj Singh is an attention seeker : Misa Bharti

Patna, Oct 4 (IANS) : Patliputra Lok Sabha MP Misa Bharti criticised Union Textile Minister Giriraj Singh on Saturday and accused him of seeking attention rather than addressing issues of the people in the state. Bharti challenged Singh's contributions to his home state, particularly questioning the development of textile-related infrastructure in regions like Bhagalpur and Motihari, which have the potential for cottage industries

and factory setups but, according to her, have seen little progress under his tenure. “How many factories and cottage industries he has set up in Bihar's Bhagalpur or Motihari area,” she questioned. During the inspection of the Chhath Ghat in Nasriganj, Danapur, which is part of her Patliputra constituency, Bharti further criticised Singh's recent comments regarding perceived threats to Hindus, calling the statement unfounded. “We are living in India, not in Pakistan,” she remarked, asking

Singh to clarify if he felt endangered by the Prime Minister or the citizens of India themselves. MP Misa Bharti also criticised Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar for his approach to inspecting Chhath Ghats, implying that his inspections are superficial and lack meaningful engagement with the public. Bharti highlighted that, during crises like floods, the Chief Minister conducts aerial and water-based inspections of Chhath Ghats but fails to interact with locals or address their concerns directly.



She added that the Chief Minister did not meet with ward councilors or local residents during these visits, nor did he discuss the prepa-

ration status with the media. She also questioned the Chief Minister's understanding of local issues.

Mizoram's Lengpui Airport halts operations as potholes spotted on runway, 4 flights cancelled

Aizawl, Oct 4 (IANS) Flight operations in Mizoram's lone airport, Lengpui, were halted on Saturday after at least two potholes were spotted on the runway, forcing diversion and cancellation of four flights, officials said. An official said that after at least two potholes were noticed on the runway, flight operations at Mizoram's Lengpui airport were halted. Two flights were diverted to Agartala, while one each from Kolkata and Guwahati had to return as they could not land. “As a precautionary measure, flights from Kolkata, Delhi



and other airports scheduled to land at Lengpui were cancelled due to safety concerns,” the official said, adding that the airport authorities have undertaken emergency repair work and normal flight operations are expected to resume once the runway is restored.



Aditya Sahu takes charge as Jharkhand BJP working president, vows to strengthen organisation

Ranchi, Oct 4 (IANS) Rajya Sabha MP Aditya Sahu, who was appointed the new working president of the Jharkhand BJP on Saturday, pledged to discharge his responsibilities with “utmost devotion and the spirit of a dedicated worker.” Sahu expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and BJP national president J.P. Nadda for reposing faith in him. His appointment was formally announced in the morning by the party's national general secretary Arun Singh. The decision was widely welcomed in Jharkhand. State BJP president Babulal Marandi, former chief ministers Raghubar Das and Arjun Munda, MP Nishikant Dubey, and several senior leaders

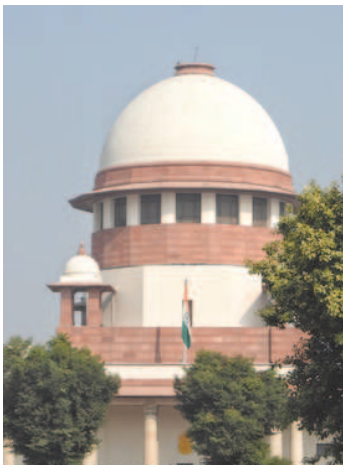
hailed the move as one that would inject new energy into the state unit. When Sahu arrived at the state BJP office in Ranchi later in the day, Marandi and state organisation general secretary Karmveer Singh felicitated him with a shawl and a bouquet. Party workers celebrated the occasion by bursting crackers, distributing sweets, and raising slogans in his honour. Marandi, in his address, praised the central leadership's choice, saying, “Aditya Sahu has risen from the booth level to this position. As an MP, he has gained valuable parliamentary experience. His commitment and efficiency will strengthen the organisation and give it a new direction in Jharkhand.” In an emotional address, Sahu reaffirmed his identity as a

grassroots worker. “I am a worker and will continue to work as one. Responsibilities may change, but the spirit of a worker should never change,” he said. He further said his focus would be on building an inclusive and broad-based organisation, exposing the failures of the present state government, and working with party cadres to ensure the return of a double-engine government in Jharkhand. Several party leaders and office-bearers, including Vice President Rakesh Prasad, Vikas Pritam, MP Dr Pradeep Verma, Manoj Kumar Singh, Saroj Singh, Hemant Das, Shivpujan Pathak, Yogendra Pratap Singh, Varun Sahu, Balram Singh, and Jitendra Verma, were present at the event.

SC issues notice on PIL seeking effective implementation of RPwD Act 2016

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS): The Supreme Court issued notice on a public interest litigation (PIL) on Saturday seeking full and effective implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. “Issue notice, returnable in three weeks. List the Petition on 25 November 2024,” ordered a bench headed by CJI DY Chandrachud and comprising Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra. The plea, filed through advocate

Mohammed Sadique T. A., sought direction to the Union and all state governments to take effective measures for sensitisation among the officers in the government, especially the civil services, concerning the rights of persons with disabilities under the RPwD Act, 2016. Referring to several reports, the plea said that the provisions of the RPwD Act have not been implemented properly and effectively. It said that as per the Annual Report of the year 2021-2022 published by the Office of the



Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities in 2022, the majority of states still suffer from non-application or weak application of the provisions of the RPwD Act.

Will fight anti-national narratives: J&K BJP chief

Jammu, Oct 4 (IANS) : Newly-elected Jammu and Kashmir BJP president Sat Sharma on Saturday vowed to fight all forms of anti-national narratives and committed himself to equal development of both the Jammu and the Kashmir regions of the Union Territory. Soon after taking over the party responsibility in Jammu, Sharma told IANS, "Our 28 MLAs and party workers in the field will work hard to counter anyone who tries to harm the interest of the Union

Territory." Asked about the recent spurt in terror attacks in J&K, Sharma said, "Just as Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said, terrorism will be dealt with firmly." "We saw the Assembly elections were conducted without any untoward incident. I am confident the Central government and the L-G administration will firmly deal with all such activities in future," he said. The new J&K BJP chief also thanked PM Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and the National President J.P. Nadda for giving him the opportunity to lead the



party in J&K for the second time. Outgoing state BJP chief Ravinder Raina also hit out at UT politicians allegedly trying to mislead people by claiming to bring a proposal in the J&K Assembly to revive Article 370 of the Constitution.

Massive upgradation of power infrastructure in Kashmir on anvil

Srinagar, Oct 4 (IANS) : In a major step set to transform the Low Tension (LT) network at the distribution periphery, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) is in the process of installing 7,000 new Distribution Transformer substations across Kashmir Valley under the Centre's premier Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS). All 13 packages under RDSS-LR (Loss Reduction) works have been awarded in the Kashmir Division and are in various stages of completion. In a statement issued on Saturday, a KPDCL spokesperson stated that the installation of new DT Substations shall substantially improve the quality and reliability of electricity supply in all 10 districts of the Kashmir division. "While 05 packages are being executed by KPDCL, 04 packages each in North and South Kashmir, are being executed by NTPC and PESL as PIAs, at a total cost of Rs 2,316 crore."



SAIL inks pact with Administrative Staff College of India for special courses

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) : The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad on Saturday signed an MoU for academic collaboration under which the steel giant's executives will attend specialised courses to upgrade their leadership skills. "This MoU will facilitate the conduct of customised Management Development Programmes for the newly promoted executives of SAIL, among others. Collaboration with reputed institutions is part of the overall Learning & Development strategy of SAIL to provide further academic exposure to the company's executives facilitating them to grow in their leadership positions," the company said in a statement.

The MoU was signed at SAIL's corporate office in the national capital in the presence of KK Singh, Director (Personnel), SAIL and Nirmalya Bagchi, Director, ASCI, Hyderabad. Established in 1956 at the initiative of the government and the corporate sector, the ASCI, Hyderabad, has pioneered post-experience management education in India. Considered as the College for Practising Managers, ASCI equips corporate managers, administrators, entrepreneurs and academicians with the skills to synthesize managerial theory and practice; and respond to the ever-increasing complexity of managerial issues confronting government, industrial enterprises and non-government organizations.

Weren't you ashamed after reading contractors' letter: BJP asks K'taka CM on 80 pc commission row

Belagavi (Karnataka), Oct 4 (IANS) Commenting on the letter by Karnataka State Contractors' Association to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah alleging 80 per cent commission and nepotism in state contracts by ministers and leaders, the BJP's former national general secretary and Member of the Legislative Council, C.T. Ravi, stated on Saturday, "Weren't you ashamed after reading the contractors' letter." Speaking to the media in Belagavi on Friday, Ravi questioned, "Did you not think about what people would think of us?" He further noted that the letter was written to none other than Chief Minister Siddaramaiah himself. "Contractors have written a letter. They have written that corruption has doubled. Don't you feel ashamed after reading it," Ravi questioned CM Siddaramaiah. He also added, "People have given you power, respond to their distress." Ravi further chided, "Siddaramaiah says that he will be the Chief Minister for the next two years and complete the term. Have you become Chief Minister for indulging in corruption?" Commenting on the power sharing tussle between the supporters of CM Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM Shivakumar, he said, "There is no faith that things will get better no matter who becomes Chief Minister. If one corrupt person goes and another corrupt person comes, it won't benefit the state." He further claimed that the Karnataka government had lost all sense of sensitivity and the state government and ministers were more bothered about elections of cooperation banks



than the suffering of the people. He expressed concern that while they were immersed in the cooperative sector elections, they had no sensitivity to listen to the difficulties faced by the people. He pointed out that crops on millions of hectares of land have been damaged, homes and livestock have been lost, and many people are in distress, with some losing their lives. He urged the government to show compassion at this stage. Amid the farmers' suffering, Ravi said, "The ministers seem more focussed on claiming, 'I am the Chief Minister', 'I am the Chief Minister.' Who becomes the CM is not important. The people have entrusted you with power. You must respond to the hardships of farmers and the public." "The damage has occurred in Belagavi, Vijayapura, Raichur, Bidar, and Kalaburagi districts. Farmers in these districts are in distress. At least now, the district minister should show some sensitivity," he said. "Common people are in distress due to price rise. After you came, you have increased the prices of 60 items. Should I give you the list? If you see the situation today, it won't improve just by changing the Chief Minister. The situation will only improve if the government is changed. Celebrations have become more important to CM Siddaramaiah than responding to distress," he claimed.

Bihar : Sultanganj railway station to be renamed Ajgaibinath Dham

Patna, Oct 4 (IANS) : Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary on Saturday said that the Sultanganj railway station in Bhagalpur district will be renamed Ajgaibinath Dham. He said that the Municipal Council of Ajgaibinath Dham has sent a proposal to the state government to change the name of the Sultanganj railway station. "This decision aligns with a longstanding demand from local communities and religious groups, who believe that Ajgaibinath Dham better represents the station's cultural significance," he said. He added that the Municipal Council of Ajgaibinath Dham had formally proposed the name change, which will soon be forwarded to the Railway Ministry for final approval. He added that to rename Sultanganj has been ongoing for over a decade. "In June of this year, the proposal received local government support when it was passed by the Municipal Council and sent to the state government," he said. He said that since 2007, various communities, including the chief Mahant of the Juna Akhara Committee, local residents, and the Panda community, have advocated for the station to reflect the ancient significance of Ajgaibinath Dham.



Gurugram: 294 illegal colonies to be legalised soon

Gurugram, Oct 4 (IANS): People residing in 294 illegal colonies of Gurugram are expected to get a big relief as the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) has completed the survey of these colonies and submitted its report to the government. These colonies can be regularised as soon as the government approves so that lakhs of residents living here will be able to get basic amenities like water, roads, sewer and street lights for the first time. The Urban Local Bodies (ULB) Department issued a list of these colonies to the MCG in February 2023, in which it was directed to regularise them as per the prescribed standards. Under this, the survey has examined standards like road width of the colonies, area of the colony and validity of the land. This work took eight months in which the corporation ensured that all the colonies were assessed in depth during the survey. These colonies were mainly settled illegally around or between the regular colonies of the MCG limits.

Capturing images of a woman standing outside her house is not 'voyeurism' : Kerala HC

Kochi, Oct 4 (IANS) : Kerala High Court on Saturday ruled out that if a woman's photographs are clicked while she is standing in front of her house without any secrecy will not call for an offence of voyeurism under Section 354C of IPC. The Court therefore quashed the proceedings against an accused after finding that the alleged occurrence of capturing images took place when

the de facto complainant was standing in front of her house without any secrecy. "Indubitably, watching or capturing the image of a woman, engaged in a private act in circumstances where she would

usually have the expectation of not being observed either by the perpetrator or by any other person at the behest of the perpetrator or disseminates such image alone is punishable.



Stopping horse trading becomes impossible if Centre supports it : Kamal Nath

Bhopal, Oct 4 (IANS) : Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath on Saturday accused the BJP of indulging in 'horse trading' and 'toppling' of elected governments in the states, saying that stopping horse trading becomes impossible if the Centre supports it.

"We have examples of toppling the state governments like Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra. In all these states, the BJP has satisfied its hunger by toppling the non-BJP governments," he said. "Laws have been made to stop horse trading, but when the Central government itself

supports it then the law becomes incapable of stopping it," the former Chief Minister added. He pointed out that horse trading not only kills a democratic government but also kills the basic decision of the people for change.



Sri Lanka launches measles vaccination programme targeting youth

Colombo, Oct 4 (IANS) : Sri Lanka's Ministry of Health has launched a special measles vaccination programme from Saturday and running until November 9, targeting selected districts in response to recent cases of the disease. Hasitha Tissera, a senior epidemiologist at the Ministry of Health, announced that the programme will be conducted in 12 districts across the country. Although Sri Lanka successfully eliminated measles, cases were reported in certain areas last year, according to Tissera. This programme specifically targets young people who, for various reasons, did not receive the full dose of the measles vaccine.

Israel claims killing senior Hezbollah commander in Lebanon

Jerusalem, Oct 4 (IANS) : An Israeli airstrike has killed senior Hezbollah commander Abu Ali Rida in Lebanon, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) confirmed on Saturday. Rida, targetted near Baraachit, was described by the IDF as a key operative coordinating rocket and anti-tank missile attacks on Israeli forces and overseeing Hezbollah's activities in the region. The IDF did not specify when the strike took place. However, Lebanese military sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, reported that 13 people, including Rida, were killed on Monday in Israeli airstrikes on southern Lebanon. According to the sources, Israeli forces conducted 13 airstrikes and artillery shelling, launching approximately 45 shells across 12 towns and villages near the border, resulting in casualties and damage to civilian infrastructure, Xinhua news agency reported.



Amid shutdown, Trump blocks funding for Democrat-run Chicago

Washington, Oct 4 (IANS) The US government shutdown stretched into its third day, with Republicans and Democrats yet to reach a breakthrough. Another round of votes by Republican and Democrat Senators was defeated by each side on Saturday as Democrats continued to demand the reversal of healthcare cuts for American citizens in the "Big Beautiful Bill," which was passed earlier this year. Republican lawmakers and the White House allege that the Democratic Party wants healthcare subsidies for illegal immigrants, which Democrats reject as a lie peddled by the Trump administration. The Trump administration on Friday also suspended \$2.1 billion in federal funding for a rail transit project in the Democratic-run city of Chicago. Russell Vought, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, announced the cut on X, saying that it has been "put on hold to ensure funding is not flowing via race-based contracting." On Wednesday, the administration froze \$26 billion for 16 Democratic-leaning states, including \$18 billion for transit projects in New York, the home state of House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer. In a press conference on Friday, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt defended the



suspension of funding for Chicago. "We paused \$2.1 billion in Chicago Infrastructure projects, specifically the red line extension in the red and purple modernization projects, and it's because the administration is concerned that the Biden administration was handing out taxpayer dollars to pay for this construction based on DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion), the DoT (Department of Transportation) is reviewing the race-based contracting on unconstitutional grounds," she added. She also reiterated the threat of firing thousands of federal employees if Democrats continued to

block the Republican-led bill. "If this shutdown continues, layoffs are an unfortunate consequence of that. The Democrats have given the administration this opportunity, and we don't like laying people off. Nobody wants to do that. But sometimes in government, you have to make tough decisions," she claimed. In a post on Truth Social on Thursday, Trump called the shutdown an "unprecedented opportunity." About 750,000 federal workers have been furloughed, while many others have been forced to work without pay.

Spanish naval vessel arrives in Valencia to help with flood relief operation

Valencia, Oct 4 (IANS) : The Spanish Navy vessel Galicia arrived at the port of Valencia on Saturday to aid in the relief operation following severe floods that have claimed at least 217 lives, with many more people still unaccounted for. The Galicia arrived from Rota in southwestern Spain, carrying 104 marines who will join the over 5,000 soldiers already deployed in the area to support emergency response efforts caused by the flooding in the region. The vessel has also brought trucks loaded

with food, water, support materials, and two SH-60F helicopters for humanitarian assistance and reconstruction work in the heavily impacted areas of Aldaia, Algemesi, Massanassa, Alfafar, Benetusser, Ribarroja, Chiva, Torrente, Cheste, Utiel, and Catarroja. These towns suffered extensive damage after more than 400 litres per square metre of rain fell from Tuesday night to early Wednesday morning last week. The hard ground, unable to absorb the deluge, resulted in Spain's worst flooding in decades. Rescue op-



erations are ongoing in the Valencia region, as well as in Castilla-La Mancha and Andalusia. On Monday, divers began searching underground car parks, where many of those still missing may be located. Classes have been suspended in 22

municipalities, while the Spanish government delegate in the Valencia region Pilar Bernabe urged anyone able to work from home to do so. The Valencia Business Federation (CEV) has endorsed her request.

Indian envoy stresses IMEC's role in global connectivity at Cyprus Forum 2025

Nicosia, Oct 4 (IANS) At Cyprus Forum 2025 held in Nicosia, Indian High Commissioner to the Mediterranean nation, Manish, highlighted the profound implications of India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor on international connectivity, trade, and sustainable development. "High Commissioner Manish participated as a distinguished panelist at the Cyprus Forum 2025, contributing to discussion on The Eastern Mediterranean strategic significance to European and global processes. In his remarks he touched upon the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) and its far-reaching im-

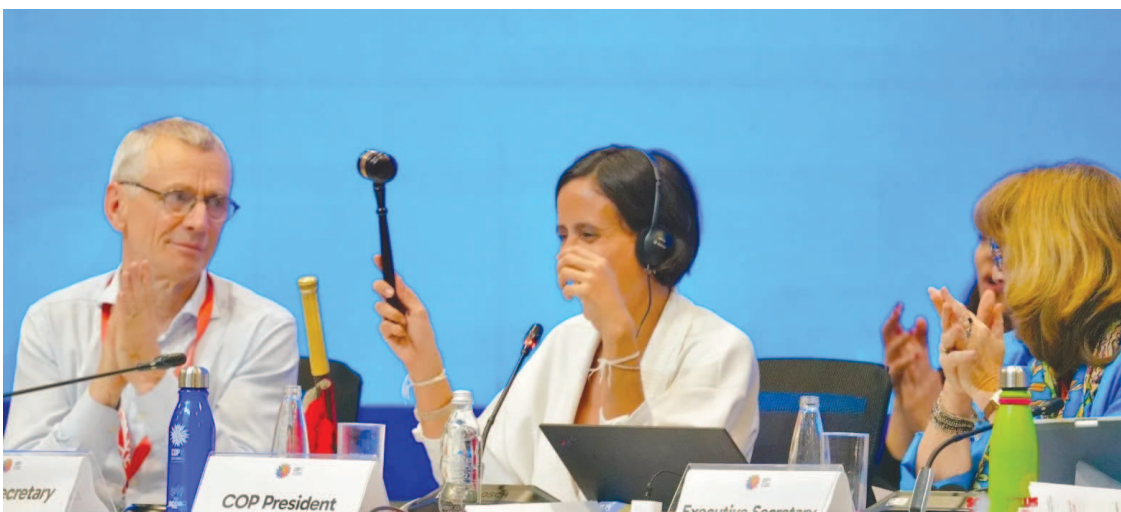


plications for global connectivity, trade, and sustainable growth," Indian High Commission in Nicosia posted on X on Saturday. Addressing the event, the Indian High Commissioner underscored India's vision of IMEEC as a transformational connectivity initiative – reducing logistics costs, cutting transport times, and creating new trade pathways linking Asia, the Gulf, and Europe.

Geneva: Awami League stages protest against human rights violations in Bangladesh

Geneva, Oct 4 (IANS) Bangladesh's Awami League party on Saturday stated that a protest rally and human chain were organised beside the historic 'Broken Chair' in front of the UN Human Rights Commission Headquarters in Geneva, against killings, terrorism, and human rights violations being committed under the Muhammad Yunus-led interim government. Accusing the Yunus regime of carrying out widespread human rights abuses in the country, the protestors demanded the rescue of the country and its people from the grip of the "fascist Yunus clique". The rally organised by the Switzerland branch of Awami League was presided over by the organisation's President, Jamadar

Nazrul Islam, and conducted by its General Secretary, Shyamal Khan. Addressing the rally virtually as the Chief Guest, Awami League President and former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also delivered her speech. Other speakers included Nazrul Islam, President of the All-European Awami League, leaders of Awami League units from various European countries, as well as leaders of the Swiss Awami League. "At the conclusion of the rally, a memorandum was submitted to the UN Secretary-General and the head of the UN Human Rights Commission. An official of the Commission formally received the document.



UN biodiversity talks in Cali end with key decisions on finance delayed

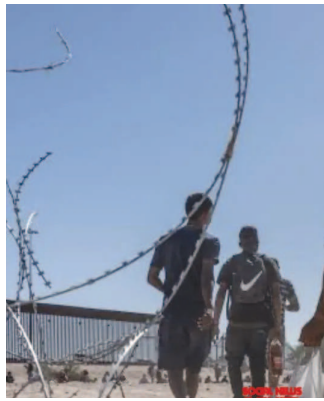
New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) : As the two-week negotiations at the United Nations biodiversity summit known as COP16 in the Colombian city of Cali have broken down amid calls to save nature from the current rapid rate of destruction, key decisions on finance were thwarted by developed countries. Among the notable achievements after 12-days of negotiations involving 196 nations was the launch of "Cali Fund" -- sharing the benefits of digital genetic information. However, negotiators told IANS on Saturday that the developed world blocked the

establishment of a biodiversity-related fund agreed at COP15 in Montreal in 2022 to establish a multilateral mechanism to share the benefits from the uses of digital sequence information on genetic resources more fairly and equitably. Developed countries are lagging on their commitments to provide \$20 billion annually in international biodiversity financing by 2025. Delegates at COP16 under the Colombian presidency advanced the fund's operationalisation -- a historic decision of global importance. Also, they warmly welcome the historic decision to create a subsidiary body for indigenous peoples and local communities under the biodiversity convention.

The 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16) was suspended on Saturday by COP President Susana Muhamad, but not before countries agreed on an expanded role of the indigenous people and local communities in saving biodiversity and a groundbreaking agreement on the operationalisation of a new global mechanism to share benefits from digital genetic information. The strong results, built on a spirit of compromise, and dialogue, demonstrate that multilateralism can still achieve results in a fractious time.

Immigrants scapegoats in US governance dilemma

Beijing, Oct 4 (IANS) : The United States, a country built by waves of immigrants, is now grappling with a dilemma of illegal immigration, which has become both a flashpoint and a partisan weapon in American politics. As Republicans and Democrats turn to immigration as a defining issue in the presidential election campaign, genuine solutions appear increasingly out of reach. Instead, immigration has become a high-stakes game, with each side focusing more on how to exploit the issue than addressing its complex underlying causes. In recent months, immigration has soared to the top of voters' concerns.



No need to panic or overreact, says Mohammad Yousuf after Pakistan's Asia Cup loss

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) Former Pakistan cricketer Mohammad Yousuf has backed the national side after their underwhelming campaign at the recently concluded 2025 Asia Cup, where they finished runners-up, and wished them luck for the upcoming home series against South Africa. Notably, Pakistan suffered

a five-wicket defeat to India in the tournament's final as the Men in Blue emerged victorious for a record-extending ninth time. It was Pakistan's third straight loss to India at the Asia Cup, with the Suryakumar Yadav-led side beating them in the group stage and the Super 4s. Yousuf, who has previously served as the team's head coach, said that there was nothing

to panic about, and all the team needed was a few months of focused and disciplined effort. He also wished the team luck for their forthcoming multi-format home series against the Proteas. "There's no need to panic or overreact — we don't need miracles, just a few months of focused, disciplined effort. With the right intent, the right people who understand the game, and true teamwork, we can bring this team back to its best and make it great again. Best of luck to the team for the South Africa series," Yousuf wrote on X.



**Women's World Cup: Devonshire ruled out of
New Zealand squad with finger injury**

Guwahati, Oct 4 (IANS) New Zealand have been dealt with an early setback in their Women's World Cup campaign, with left-arm off-spinning allrounder Flora Devonshire ruled out of the tournament due to a hand injury. Devonshire, who had earned her maiden World Cup call-up, sustained a laceration to her left hand while fielding during a training session and is expected to be sidelined for two to three weeks. In her place, right-arm pace-bowling allrounder Hannah Rowe has been drafted into the squad. Rowe, a seasoned cricketer with 60 ODI caps, will be attending her third one-day World Cup, bringing valuable experience to the White Ferns setup. Confirming the development, head coach Ben Sawyer voiced his disappointment at losing Devonshire so early in the tournament.



PKL 12 : If Dabang Delhi K.C. maintain this form, they are strong contenders for title, says Rishank Devadiga

Pune, Oct 4 (IANS) The day four of Kabaddi Premier League season 12's 'Revenge Week' produced two dominant performances, with Dabang Delhi K.C. overpowering UP Yoddhas 43-26 and Tamil Thalaivas cruising past Haryana Steelers 45-33. Reflecting on the day's action Rishank Devadiga praised Delhi's composure, Tamil Thalaivas' captain Arjun Deshwal's explosive second-half display, and also dissected UP Yoddhas' recurring raiding struggles. Devadiga was effusive in his praise for Dabang Delhi K.C., who climbed to the top of the points table after another clinical outing. "Dabang Delhi performed like true champions. If they maintain this form, they are strong contenders for the title. Their game showed maturity, with very few mistakes. Credit goes to Ashu Malik and the raiding squad, who covered for any weaknesses. The way Ashu dominated was remarkable. Despite concerns about his head-to-head with UP Yoddhas' Sumit, Ashu unsettled the defense from the start. This disruption scattered the team, allowing Ashu to capitalize and deliver an extraordinary performance," he said.



PVL 2025: Bengaluru Torpedoes look to build momentum against Kolkata Thunderbolts

Hyderabad, Oct 4 (IANS) After a pulsating five-set victory over the Goa Guardians on opening night, Bengaluru Torpedoes will look to carry their winning momentum

when they face the Kolkata Thunderbolts in their second match of the Prime Volleyball League at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium, Hyderabad.



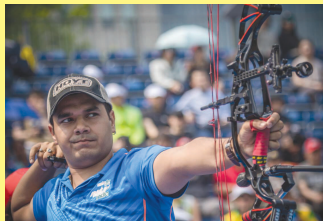
Golf: Bhatia misses cut as Higgs takes narrow lead at Sanderson Farms

Jackson (Mississippi), Oct 4 (IANS) Akshay Bhatia's week at the Sanderson Farms Championship came to an early end as he failed to advance past the halfway stage at the Country Club of Jackson. The 22-year-old followed his opening even-par 72 with a 1-over 73 in the second round, finishing at 1-over 145 for 36 holes — five shots adrift of the cut line set at 4-under. Starting his second round on the 10th tee, Bhatia dropped shots on the 14th and 16th but recovered with birdies on the 3rd and 5th. However, a closing bogey on the 8th, his penultimate hole, dashed hopes of a weekend appearance. He will look to bounce back quickly as the PGA TOUR's

fall schedule continues. At the top of the leaderboard, South African Garrick Higgs surged ahead with rounds of 65 and 66 to reach 13-under. His second day included a composed back nine highlighted by four birdies, marking an impressive showing in his comeback season following hip surgery. One stroke behind, Eric Cole and Taylor Montgomery share second at 12-under.

Abhishek Verma hails APL for boosting archers' exposure and confidence

New Delhi, Oct 4 (IANS) The buzz around the Archery Premier League (APL) has gone up several notches as the tournament continues to deliver exciting contests and keeps fans engaged. The league, which brings together top Indian and international archers, has been praised for giving the sport a professional stage and competitive environment. Prithviraj Yoddhas' ace archer and Arjuna Awardee, Abhishek Verma, expressed his appreciation for the initiative.



1st Test: I have time to prepare myself and I can pace my innings, says Jadeja

Ahmedabad, Oct 4 (IANS) : Ravindra Jadeja, who was named Player of the Match for his all-round performance in India's thumping win over the West Indies by an innings and 140 runs, said the clarity in his batting role has ensured that he has enough time to prepare himself and pace his innings well. Although Jadeja missed out on a five-wicket haul, he did have a memorable Test by scoring an unbeaten 104, his sixth century in the format, along with taking 4-54 in the second innings. "I have been working hard with my batting. We had a two-month off, there was no Test cricket or ODIs. I was working on my fitness and I went to the Centre of Excellence in Bangalore, worked on my skills and fitness there."



Would have been difficult even if India had not won CT: Agarkar on Rohit's removal as ODI captain

Ahmedabad, Oct 4 (IANS) The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) named India's ODI and T20I squads on Saturday for the upcoming white-ball tour of Australia, starting October 19, and one thing that grabbed everyone's attention was Shubman Gill's appointment as India's ODI captain. Chief selector Ajit Agarkar confirmed that Gill had succeeded Rohit Sharma as the captain in the 50-over format and also shed light on the panel's reason behind making this decision. With former captains Rohit and Virat a part of the squad that'll face Australia, Gill will now take charge in ODIs besides his red-ball captaincy. Here are the excerpts from Agarkar's press conference, where he addressed the media after announcing a 15-man squad for the ODIs and a 16-member T20I squad. On having three different captains for the three formats.