



'Koyilaa' cafe opened in Madhapur

The House of KOYILAA - kitchen, café, and bake house, a one-stop destination for food lovers of the city, is opened at Road No.11, near Alamgir...

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Cotton procurement deadlock resolved with intervention of Tummala

The ongoing impasse in cotton procurement has been cleared following the initiative of Telangana agriculture and marketing minister Tummala Nageswara Rao. In a meeting with...

02



Asian Aquatics C'ships: India lose 6-20 to Kazakhstan in water polo

The third day of Water Polo and Artistic Swimming in the 11th Asian Aquatics Championships 2025 witnessed...

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US pharma giant Eli Lilly to invest over \$1 billion in Telangana

Hyderabad, Oct. 6 (NSS): Telangana secured a massive investment of \$1 Billion by US Pharma major Eli Lilly, which will expand its manufacturing and global medicine supply capacity in Hyderabad. The expansion will be facilitated through new contract manufacturing, adding huge job opportunities for Telangana's youth. The announcement was made



after the company's global delegation met Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu at the Integrated Command Control Centre on Monday. The investment decision reiterates the company's trust in Telangana's leadership and effective governance, after having inaugurated the global capability centre in Hyderabad in August this year. Despite strong interest from sev-



eral states, Eli Lilly chose Telangana owing to the favorable ecosystem in terms of availability of highly skilled manpower, infrastructure, and support from the government.

The investment by Eli Lilly marks the company's interest in Telangana beyond GCCs and addressing new medicines to treat diabetes and obesity. **Continued on pg 02**

Prepare comprehensive report on revenue land allocations : Ponguleti

Hyderabad, Oct. 6 (NSS): Minister for Revenue, Housing, Information and Public Relations Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy has directed officials to compile a detailed report regarding the lands assigned to government departments by the Revenue department over the past 30 to 40 years. This report should include information on the usage, current condition, and any related issues of these lands. The Revenue department has distributed thousands of acres to various departments, notably the Irrigation and Forest departments, for a range of projects. However, following the bifurcation of Telangana State, there have been modifications and new additions to these



projects, with some being canceled altogether. Officials were instructed to take these developments into account when preparing the report and conducting their analyses. In a statement here on Monday, the Minister recommended that the two departments collaborate on a report outlining the amount of land the Revenue department has allocated to the Forest department.



The Vice President of India & Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan interacted with the officials of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat and reviewed its functioning, including its role in providing legislative, administrative, and procedural support to the House and its Members at Rajya Sabha Secretariat, in New Delhi on October 06, 2025.



Sajjanar visits Madannapet police station

Hyderabad, Oct. 6 (NSS): Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar on Monday visited Madannapet police station in the city. After assuming charge as the city police Commissioner, this was his first visit to the Madannapet police station. During the visit, the Commissioner reviewed the progress of various cases, policing aspects, communal situation, and other related matters. He interacted with the staff, enquired about their daily duties, attendance, and discipline, and also inspected the police station records. Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner stated that the Hyderabad city police will focus on people welfare Policing.

Komatireddy inaugurates Erramanzil Govt school with 8-Cr corporate-level facilities

Hyderabad, Oct 6 (NSS): Minister for Roads and Buildings Komatireddy Venkat Reddy on Monday inaugurated the newly constructed Government

school at Erramanzil, developed with an expenditure of ₹8 crore and equipped with corporate-level amenities. Local MLA Danam Nagender, MP Anil Kumar Yadav,



corporator Vijaya Reddy, Hyderabad Collector Harichandana and senior R&B officials were present. Speaking on the occasion, Komatireddy said the Erramanzil govt school has been designed to emerge as one of the best model schools in the Telugu states. **Continued on pg 02**



The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu presents MY Bharat - National Service Scheme Awards for 2022-2023 at Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi on October 06, 2025.

Women's economic empowerment is state's top priority: Seethakka

Hyderabad, Oct. 6 (NSS): Minister for Panchayat Raj Seethakka stated that the State government is earnestly committed to empowering women economically, with a target of creating one crore women millionaires.

On Monday, the Minister visited the saree production centres operating under the Indira Mahila Shakti scheme in Venkata ravnagar, Sircilla. During her visit, she engaged with the weavers to gain insights into their challenges and gather their feedback.



Governor launches 76th TB Seal Sale Campaign at Raj Bhavan

Hyderabad, Oct 6 (NSS): Governor Jishnu Dev Varma on Monday inaugurated the 76th Tuberculosis (TB) Seal Sale Campaign at a special function held at Raj Bhavan, Hyderabad. In his address, the Governor described the TB Seal Sale Campaign as not just a tradition but a shared moral responsibility to build a healthier and compassionate India. He said tuberculosis remains a major public health

and social challenge closely linked to poverty, nutrition, and awareness. The Governor called for collective participation in eradicating TB and appealed to youth icons, artists, sportspersons, NGOs, corporates.

	INDIA SHELTER FINANCE CORPORATION LTD.	Possession Notice for IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
Head Office: Plot-16, 6th Floor, Sec-44, Institutional Area, Gurugram, Haryana-122002. Branch Office:- Sy No-248/E/1 New Ramnagar, Bhangor Town, Naglanda Road, Yadadi District, Telangana, 508116		
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd., under the Securities Act Reconstruction of Financial Institutions (Securities Interest) and Power conferred under Section 13(2) Read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice on the date noted against the account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon the borrower and also the owner of the Property/Surety to repay the Amount within 60 days from the date of the said notice. Whereas the owner of the Property and the other having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given in the under noted borrowers name to charge the said Property and the interest thereon to the India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd. To exercise its power conferred under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rules 8 & 9 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each account. Now, the borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties/ies and any dealing with the properties/ies will be subject to charges levied by India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd. for an amount mentioned below and any legal costs, etc.		
Nature of Charges/Guarantor (Owner of the Property & Loan Account Number)	Description of the charged/ Mortgage/Property Addressed to the Guarantors/ As per the Home Loan Agreement No. No.1252801345/ C. Containing one of Room and Open Yard WITH R.C.C Road 282.75 S.F.T & Age Of Building 12 Years, In All Addressing An Extent of 17.36 Sq.Mtrs. to 173.26 Sq.Mtrs. Situated at Padma Nagar Colony, Bhodan Pochampally Village and Mandal, Yadadi Bhongir District, Under Pochampally Municipality and Police Station of Padma Nagar, District of Nalgonda - North : 3' Wide Lane and after H.No.5-122 of Veshala Rajula. South : 3' Wide Lane and after H.No.5-120 of Sureplyal Laxminarayana, East : 3' Wide Lane and after H.No.5-132 of Chepur Brahmaychey, West : 15' Wide Road.	Date of Possession
1/ MRJ.R.S. Pagudala Vijaya 2/ M/R Mrs. Pagudala Ramesh 3/ M/R Smt. Padma Narayana Nagar Colony Pochampalle, Nalgonda Telangana 508284. House No-5-121, Padma Nagar Colony, Pochampally Village, Mandal, Municipality, Yadadi Bhanuvangari District And Telangana State 508284 LOAN ACCOUNT NO- LAHYLVLNS000005076357	Amount Due as on Date of Demand Notice Demand Notice Dated 10th July 2025 calling upon to all above mentioned to repay being MRJ.R.S. Pagudala Vijaya and M/R Mrs. Pagudala Ramesh and Smt. Padma Narayana to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being Rs. 1446168/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Forty Six Thousand and Eighty One Rupees Only). Calling to loan account No. LAHYLVN- LNS000005076357 as of 10th July 2025 with further interest applicable from 11th July 2025, and cost till the date of the payment.	04-10- 2025

HYDERABAD MAIN BRANCH
P.B.No.134, 5-8-65, Abids, Nampally
Station Road, Hyderabad-500001,
Telangana Tel No: 040- 23203478, 23204117 Fax No.23203225.
Email:HYDMain.telangana@bankofindia.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFEEI ACT, 2002

Whereas the notice is hereby given that the following Borrower/Guarantor as mentioned below have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loan facilities obtained by them from the bank and the loan has been classified as non performing asset (NPA). The notice was issued to them under section 13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last date of payment, but they have been returned unserved and as such they are here by informed by this of this public notice.

Name of the Borrower & Mortgagor: 1) Mr. Praveen Kumar Bohra H. No. 30-265/3-2, Deen Dayal Nagar, Neredmet, Malkajgiri, Secunderabad, Medchal-Malkajgiri District - 500056, Telangana, 2) Mr. Praveen Kumar Bohra H. No. 30-265/171A, Deen Dayal Nagar, Neredmet, Malkajgiri, Secunderabad, Medchal-Malkajgiri District - 500056, Telangana, 3) Praveen Kumar Bohra H. No. 30-10459/1, Plot No. 50 S.Y. No. 303/31, Flat No. 101, Mangla Vihar, Old Safilguda Village, Malkajgiri Mandal, Medchal- Malkajgiri District - 500056, Telangana

Demand Notice date: 22-09-2025 **NPA Date:** 08-09-2025

Amount Outstanding: Rs. 58,92,881.25 (Rupees Fifty Eight lakhs Ninety two Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty one and paise Twenty five) plus further interest @ 9.50 % p.a at compound with monthly instalments from 10-08-2025 and all costs, charges, expenses incurred by the Bank etc.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTIES

Schedule 'A' Property: All that the Residential Premises bearing H.No.30-104/59-10, on Plot No.50, under Survey No.303/1, land measuring 450.0 Sq.Yds., or 376/20 Sq.Mtrs., situated at Old Safilguda, Malkajgiri, the then Malkajgiri Municipality, now under GHMC, Malkajgiri Circle & Mandal, the then Rangana Reddy District, now Medchal-Malkajgiri District, bounded by North: Neighbour's Land, South: 30/0 Wide Road, East: Plot No.51, West: Plot No.49

Schedule 'B' Property: All that the Residential Flat bearing Flat No.101, in First Floor, of Manasa Vihar, Municipal H.No.30-104/59/101, (PTI No.128089413), Premises bearing H.No.30-104/59-10, on Plot No.50, under Survey No.303/1, consisting building area 137.5 Sq. Ft., of Circle Road, (including all common areas), Sft., Car Parking at Old Safilguda Vill. together with an undivided share of land measuring 45.0 Sq.Yds., or 37.62 Sq.Mtrs., out of 450.0 Sq.Yds., or 376/20 Sq.Mtrs., situated at Old Safilguda, Malkajgiri, the then Malkajgiri Municipality, now under GHMC, Malkajgiri Circle & Mandal, the then Rangana Reddy District, now Medchal-Malkajgiri District, (Still in the process of being Acquired by the Government of T.S., Staircase & Corridor, South: Open To Sky, East: Open To Sky, West: Open To Sky.

If you the above mentioned person/s fail to repay the above mentioned amount due by you with future interest and incidental expenses, costs as stated above in terms of this notice under section 13(2) of SARFEEI Act within 60 days from the date of this notice, the Bank will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under SARFEEI Act 2002 and will not be liable to pay any compensation to you. This notice is without prejudice to the Bank's right to initiate such other actions or legal proceedings, as it deem necessary under any other provisions of law.

Date: 22-09-2025, **Place:** Hyderabad **Sd/- Authorised Officer, Bank of India**



Heavy rain likely in four TN districts; weather office warns of thunderstorms

Chennai, Oct 6 (IANS) The Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC) in Chennai has forecast heavy rainfall on Monday over Tiruvannamalai, Villupuram, Cuddalore and Kallakurichi districts, as weather systems continue to influence conditions across Tamil Nadu and adjoining southern states.

According to the RMC, a low-pressure area persists over parts of Tamil Nadu and the southern peninsula, enhancing the likelihood of intense showers accompanied by thunder and lightning. The department has also warned that the current unstable weather could extend into the next three days, bringing moderate rain and thunderstorms to several parts of Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal through October 9.

In the 24 hours ending Monday morning, Egumalai in Madurai district recorded the state's highest rainfall at 13 cm. Other notable figures include Krishnagiri (12 cm), Namakkal (11 cm).



CBI books five postal staff in J&K for swindling money from dead woman's account

Jammu/New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) : Exposing a financial racket operating from a Jammu and Kashmir post office, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a case against five postal employees for swindling thousands of rupees from the savings accounts of a late senior citizen operating in Gandhi Nagar Head Post Office in Jammu. The federal agency has named as accused: Sadaf Gulzar, then Postal Assistant; Surinder Singh, then Postal Assistant; Karun Sharma, then Postal Assistant, Joginder Singh, then Postal Assistant and Amita, the Postal Assistant, and unknown others.

Cuttack violence : Police enforce curfew in sensitive areas

Bhubaneswar, Oct 6 (IANS) In the wake of fresh violence in Cuttack during a bike rally organised by the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) on Sunday evening (October 5) over the attack on a Durga Puja immersion procession, the authorities imposed a curfew in several sensitive areas of the city for the next 36 hours, said officials on Monday.

Speaking at a press conference in Cuttack on Sunday, Commissioner of Police S. Dev Datta Singh said, "The situation has been brought under control. A curfew has been imposed in the violence-affected area and other vulnerable areas for the next 36 hours. Any person found participating in riots will be dealt with strictly. Strict action will also be taken against those involved in today's violence."

The Commissioner of Police also informed that the curfew will remain in force in Dargha Bazar, Mangalabag, Cantonment, Puri Ghat,

Lalbag, Bidanasi, Markatnagar, CDA-Phase II, Malgodown, Badambadi, Jagatpur, 42 Mouza and Sadar Police station area for the next 36 hours.

He, however, clarified that medical and other essential services, government offices, schools, and market areas where milk and basic groceries will be available have been exempted from the curfew.

Singh said that four persons had been injured in the violent incident perpetrated by some individuals during the Durga Idol immersion at Dargha Bazar late Friday night.

He noted that six accused persons identified through CCTV footage



analysis were arrested on Saturday and presented in court. Singh also rubbished a rumour doing the rounds on social media platforms regarding the death of one of the four victims injured during the violence on Friday night. He also warned action against the persons spreading such rumours on social media.

Defeat conspiracies to divide Indian origin on communal lines in Canada : Akali Dal

Chandigarh, Oct 6 (IANS) : Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) Working President Balwinder Singh Bhunder on Monday condemned incidents of violence outside religious places in Canada and appealed to people of Indian origin to defeat the conspiracies to divide them on communal lines. He called upon the Canadian government to ensure all places of religious worship were secure from such acts of violence.

"Attempts are afoot to divide Sikhs and Hindus in Canada on communal lines. This is against the teachings of our Guru Sahiban who have preached the concept of 'sarbat da bhala'," said Balwinder Singh Bhunder. The Akali Dal has always stood for communal harmony and has also made numerous sacrifices to uphold this principle. He appealed to people from both communities in Canada to recognise their common roots, exercise utmost restraint and maintain communal harmony at this critical juncture.



Such parties will never return to power: Rijiju slams Congress for 'attacking' armed forces

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) Union Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Monday hit out at the Congress and other Opposition parties for "attacking" Indian armed forces and repeatedly doubting their capability and asserted that such 'negative' approach would never gain people's trust.

He termed their conduct "unfortunate" and said that they can never be trusted with power by the people of the country. His remarks came in response to Uttar Pradesh Congress chief Ajay Rai casting doubts over government and the armed forces' statements, regarding the success of Operation Sindoor. The Indian Air Force Chief Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh recently revealed for the first time

that Indian forces shot down US and Chinese-made fighter jets in Pakistan, during the four-day military operation in May. Reacting sharply to Ajay Rai's comments, Rijiju, in an interview with IANS, said, "It is unfortunate that whenever our top Army officials respond to Pakistan, Congress and opposition leaders attack our armed forces even before Pakistan does. Can you imagine such a situation?" He said that while Pakistan resorts to lies and misinformation, India's armed forces respond with strength and integrity; however, the Opposition chooses to 'align' with them and keeps questioning own military operations. "When Pakistan lies, our Air Force, Army, and Navy give a fitting reply.



J&K : Terrorist associate arrested with pistol in Kupwara

Srinagar, Oct 6 (IANS) : A terrorist associate was arrested on Monday with a pistol by police in Jammu & Kashmir's Kupwara district. Officials said that during a CASO (Cordon & Search Operation) at Bongam Chogul in the jurisdiction of Handwara police station in Kupwara district, police, 22 Rashtriya Rifles and 92 battalion CRPF, apprehended one terrorist associate, namely Ashiq Hussain Wani, and recovered one pistol along with one magazine and seven live rounds. A dozen civilians were injured when terrorists hurled a grenade at a CRPF vehicle in the busy Sunday market.

The grenade missed the target and exploded on the road. The place where the grenade exploded is thronged by shoppers on Sundays because the Sunday market (Hawkers selling warm clothes, blankets, jackets, utensils, crockery, shoe ware etc) operates in the area as shops remain closed otherwise.



Congress obstructing quota for women in teaching jobs : Rajasthan Minister

Jaipur, Oct 6 (IANS) : Rajasthan Education Minister Madan Dilawar on Monday hit out at Congress for its attempts to create roadblocks in implementing the 50 per cent women quota in the process of recruiting school teachers for class three.

Assam : Cong, AASU oppose uprooting trees for building flyovers

Guwahati, Oct 6 (IANS) : Assam Leader of Opposition (LoP) Debabrata Saikia on Monday slammed the state government over the chopping of trees in Guwahati to build flyovers. "The state administration has not conducted any study regarding the ecological impact of cutting trees for building flyovers. I have moved to Gauhati High Court against the government's initiatives to build flyovers without conducting any study regarding its impact on the environment,"

Assam LoP said. All Assam Students Union (AASU) leader Samujjal Bhattacharya also criticised the state government over the chopping of trees. "We oppose the government's move to uproot trees for the infrastructure development in Guwahati. It is very important to preserve the heritage of this city along with environmental balance. I request the Chief Minister not to take any steps for building flyovers which can destroy the heritage of this city," Bhattacharya told media persons. Meanwhile, Chief Minister

Himanta Biswa Sarma earlier asserted that the state administration is committed to protecting the heritage of the city with the advancement of infrastructure work. The state government has planned to build a flyover from Dighalipukhuri to Noonmati locality in the city and due to this the authorities marked some 200-year-old trees for felling in Dighalipukhuri. Sarma said: "I want to assure you that the government is deeply committed to preserving our city's heritage and environment while advancing infrastructure. In con-

structing the flyovers from Dighalupukhuri to Noonmati, we are sincerely working to protect the old trees in the area." "I urge all stakeholders to allow the Public Works Department a few days to explore an alternative proposal and assess its feasibility," he added. Following a recent redesign of the flyover that now incorporates the Tayabullah Road, the project caused a great



deal of unhappiness among Guwahati residents, possibly endangering Dighalipukhuri's historical and aesthetic appeal.

CM Mohan Yadav heads to Chhindwara as cough syrup tragedy sparks outcry

Bhopal, Oct 6 (IANS) : In a swift response to a tragic health crisis, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav will visit Chhindwara on Monday to assess the aftermath of a series of child fatalities reportedly linked to the consumption of 'Coldrif' cough syrup. The visit comes as the state grapples with the loss of 14 children, while eight others remain critically ill in hospitals across

Nagpur district. CM Yadav is expected to depart for Chhindwara by 1 p.m. and will travel to Parasia, the town where the banned syrup was allegedly administered to the ill-fated children. His previously scheduled appearance at a public event in Jabalpur was cancelled following national attention on the incident. During his visit, the Chief Minister is expected to meet with the

grieving families and inspect the Chhindwara district hospital. He will also hold discussions with senior administrative and medical officials to review the state's response and preventive measures. Dr Yadav had already announced financial assistance of Rs 4 lakh each to the families of the deceased children. He also assured families that the state government will bear the full medical expenses

of children under treatment. He has ordered the formation of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the deaths. The SIT will travel to Tamil Nadu to investigate the operations of Sresan Pharmaceuticals, the manufacturer of "toxic Coldrif syrup". An FIR has been registered at the Parasia police station against the promoters of Sresan Pharmaceuticals and Dr Praveen Soni.



Mahabharata-linked sites in Kurukshetra will be developed : Haryana minister

Chandigarh, Oct 6 (IANS) : Haryana Heritage and Tourism Minister Arvind Kumar Sharma said on Monday that Mahabharata-linked historical pilgrimage sites in Kurukshetra and surrounding districts would be developed as key tourism destinations. In this regard, officials from the Union Ministry of Tourism and the state Tourism Department were working together in a coordinated manner. Minister Sharma informed this after attending the Second Mahabharata Circuit Conference, held in Karnal.

OPINIONmail

India, US actively working to resolve tariff issues : Jaishankar

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Sunday said that India and the United States are actively working to resolve the ongoing tariff issues through dialogue, expressing confidence that these challenges will not affect the broader trade relationship between the two nations. Speaking at the Kautilya Economic Conclave (KEC 2025), he said a large part of India's trade with the US remains "business as usual" despite the current differences. Jaishankar explained that the ongoing trade tensions largely stem from the inability of both sides to reach a common ground on several issues. "We have issues with the US and a big part of it is because we have not arrived at a landing ground. The inability to reach there has led to tariffs being levied," he said. The minister revealed that negotiations are ongoing regarding the 50 per cent tariffs imposed on Indian exports.

He stressed that India's "red lines have to be respected" while finding a solution. "There has to be an understanding with the US because it is the number one market and because a lot of the world has reached that understanding," Jaishankar said.

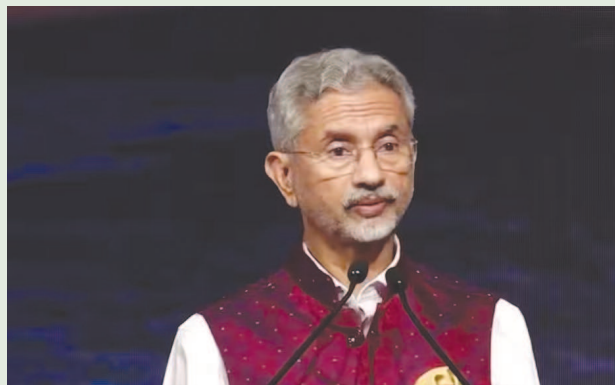
Despite the tariffs, the minister underlined that trade between the two countries is largely continuing smoothly.

"I don't think this will percolate to every dynamic of trade. Some issues will need to be negotiated, but I would hesitate to read very much more into it than the issues themselves," he said.

Jaishankar also highlighted the challenges that tariffs pose for policymakers in today's global trade environment.

"When you have a world where the central consideration of trade has become tariffs, please explain to me where comparative advantages and competitive advantages go," he remarked.

He noted that additional tariffs have been imposed on India's energy trade, but assured that both nations are engaged in active negotiations to resolve these matters. The minister pointed out that India has successfully signed trade agreements with several Asian countries, though some of these economies are highly competitive. "And in many cases, because of the supply chain nature, they have also provided a pathway for China. Our focus should be on FTAs with economies that are not competitive," he said.



Pak identity of grooming gang members in UK suppressed due to fears of community tensions: Report

London, Oct 6 (IANS) A recent national review by Louise Casey highlighted that in about two-thirds of cases of child sexual exploitation by grooming gangs in the UK, the nationality or origin of the predominantly Pakistani perpetrators was not recorded due to fears of community tensions, a media report said on Monday. A 2014 report found that many children in Rochdale, England,

were abused for years by groups of men, primarily of Pakistani origin, the report said on Geostrategic Media website. The article by Dimitra Staikou referred to the 2014 report and said that it indicated that municipal and social services were slow to respond due to fears of accusations of racism or disrupting social cohesion.



EDITORIAL
the indian mail

Piyush Goyal to visit Qatar for India-Qatar joint trade commission meeting

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal will visit Doha, Qatar, on October 6 for a two-day meeting of the Qatar-India Joint Commission on Trade and Commerce, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry said on Sunday. The meeting will be co-chaired by H.E. Sheikh Faisal bin Thani bin Faisal Al Thani, Qatar's Minister of Commerce and Industry. During the visit, both sides are expected to discuss the proposed India-Qatar Free Trade Agreement (FTA). The talks will focus on finalising the Terms of Ref-

erence (ToR) for the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), which aims to strengthen economic cooperation between the two countries. This will be Goyal's first visit to Qatar, where discussions are likely to cover a wide range of issues including bilateral trade performance, existing trade barriers, and non-tariff challenges. The two nations are also expected to explore new opportunities to boost trade and investment flows. Goyal will be accompanied by senior officials from various ministries. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry said in a statement that the visit highlights India's commitment to deepening its trade and investment relationship with



Qatar. "This visit underscores the importance that India attaches to its trade and investment ties with Qatar, one of our important trading partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) with bilateral trade estimated at over USD 14 billion in 2024-25," the ministry said. Qatar is one of India's key

trading partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), with bilateral trade valued at over \$14 billion in 2024-25.

Goyal is also likely to hold discussions on cooperation in several sectors such as finance, agriculture, environment, tourism, culture, and healthcare.

BRICS A RAY OF HOPE FOR PEACE AND JUST INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

The declaration of the recently ended 16th summit of the BRICS (now expanded BRICS) has several points for which the developing and least developed countries have been aspiring for many decades. Even though colonization through direct military control by the erstwhile colonial powers has largely ended, the grievances of these countries continue as the imperial powers have evolved new methods to exert their control. Only a few decades ago the possibilities of non-capitalist path of development appeared real. The situation has however changed. After the collapse of Soviet Union the im-

perialism has become powerful and dictating the world economically as well as militarily. The world had become complacent as it was presumed that with the world becoming unipolar the arms race including the nuclear arms race will decrease and a lasting peace will be ensured. There was hope that economic development and prosperity which was the slogan of the new situation under the phrase of globalisation will be a boon for majority of population of the world. However this was not to be. We are watching ever increasing wars in different parts of the world with overt or covert involvement of the economically

rich and militarily powerful countries. The new economic treaties, particularly the World Trade Organisation (WTO), even though a multilateral treaty, has led to the disadvantage of the developing world. The clause of the intellectual property rights has deprived the developing countries who could produce the items under the process patent are now in a fix under the product patent in this new regime. Blackmail by the vaccine producing countries of the west has proven this point. Small countries were forced to accept the conditions laid-down by these companies if they desired to purchase the vaccines.

Indian Army conducts humanitarian assistance, disaster relief ops in flood-hit Bhutan

Amid the unprecedented floods triggered by a low-pressure system over the Bay of Bengal, incessant rainfall led to the swelling of the Torsa river, inundating vast areas across West Bengal and Bhutan. Responding swiftly to an emergency evacuation request on Sunday, the Indian Army launched two helicopters from Sevoke Road Aviation Base to undertake a critical rescue mission in the Phuentsholing area of Bhutan. Braving marginal weather conditions and low visibility, the Army Aviation pilots conducted an aerial reconnaissance before skillfully landing in challenging

terrain to evacuate stranded civilians to safety. A senior military official remarked: "The Indian Army remains ever ready to assist civil authorities in times of crisis. This operation reflects our deep commitment to humanitarian values and the enduring friendship between India and Bhutan." The successful mission highlights the Indian Army's commitment to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations, exemplifying its ethos of 'Service Before Self' while further strengthening bilateral cooperation and goodwill between the two nations. The Royal Government of Bhutan has expressed sincere gratitude to



the Indian Army for its timely and life-saving assistance, as well as to the Royal Bhutan Army and Druk Air teams for their courageous efforts. "During the early stages of the res-

cue operation, two individuals were reported missing; one believed to have been washed away and the other unaccounted for," Bhutan's Ministry of Home Affairs said in a press note.

World Bank to support farmers of Kerala to adapt climate impacts

The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved a new program to support farmers in Kerala to adapt to climate change and promote agri-entrepreneurs to market value-added products. It will also leverage at least \$9 million of commercial finance including for agri-food small and medium enterprises (SMEs), especially for women. As the leading producer of spices such as cardamom, vanilla and nutmeg, Kerala accounts for about 20 per cent of India's total agri-food exports. However, climate change is impeding these achievements. Natural disasters like floods and forest fires, as well as challenges to reach broader markets, have been impacting farmer households. The \$200 million Kerala Climate Resilient Agri-Value Chain Modernization (KERA) Project will help strengthen the resilience of the state's agricultural sector to climate change.

NEWLY ELECTED CONSERVATIVE PARTY LEADER KEMI BADENOCH IS SURE TO GIVE A TOUGH FIGHT TO STARMER

The election of Kemi Badenoch, as the new leader of Britain's Conservative Party seems to have rattled not just the common public but even the diehard Tories. But this should also be seen as the last-ditch efforts by the Conservatives to revive the party's fortunes to take on the ruling Labour Party. Last week, Britain's chastened Conservative Party, which faced its biggest defeat and the lowest tally of seats in the House of Commons, in the general elections earlier this year, elected Kemi Badenoch as its new leader. This marks the Tories' looking-up to a right-wing favourite who has raised concerns about identity politics, transgender

rights, and state spending, to rebuild its reputation after a devastating election defeat. Badenoch defeated Robert Jenrick in a vote of party members by 53,806 votes to 41,000, after a months-long contest to replace Rishi Sunak as the party's leader. She's the first Black woman to lead a major British political party, and the Tories are brandishing this as being a diverse and inclusive party as compared to Labour, which so far has been led by White men only.

Pakistan: Protest by teachers leaves thousands of students without education

Peshawar, Oct 6 (IANS) : More than 22,000 students across primary schools in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) have no option but to sit at home as the province's All-Primary Teachers Association (APTA) are holding a major sit-in protest at Peshawar's Jinnah Park to press for their demands. APTA Provincial President Azizullah has said that the protest will continue until the KP Education Minister issues an official notification for teachers' upgradation. On the other hand, the KP Education Department has taken the forced closure of schools

as a challenge to the provincial government's authority, warning to take strong action against APTA and the thousands of teachers involved in the protest. Azizullah, meanwhile, continues to mobilise support, insisting that the government plans to launch a crackdown on the protest. "Our phones are off and we are all keeping a low profile. Schools will only reopen once the government issues an official upgradation notification for teachers, as there will be no compromise on this demand. Teachers are united; they have made sacrifices in the past and are prepared to face any difficulty to secure their rights," he said.

APTA had warned last month that it would shut down all 26,000 primary boys and girls schools from November 5 and would not reopen them until their demands are met. "The sit-in would mark a historic event, as it is being held to demand the notification of upgradation, and regularization of 13,500 teachers, the restoration of forced promotions, and the revival of the fargo option", remarked Azizullah. Along with the demand of regularization of teachers, the teachers' protest also opposes the privatization of primary schools. APTA is demanding creation of senior primary school teacher posts with position codes in



merged districts of KP, class-wise teacher appointments at every primary school and teacher regularization under the 2022 Act and its inclusion into the General Provident (GP) Fund. APTA says that even though it remains open to positive negotiations, no flexibility would be shown in their demands and the primary education system of KP

province will remain completely shut. The protest by the teachers is fast becoming a major challenge for the KP government as thousands of primary teachers, including men and women, take to the streets and force the education system of the province to shut down completely for an indefinite period of time.

Seven 'terrorists' killed in military operations in Pakistan

Islamabad, Oct 6 (IANS) : Seven "terrorists" were killed and three others injured in separate operations by the Pakistani military across the country. The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the media wing of Pakistan's military, said one incident happened in the North Waziristan tribal district where a "terrorist" was killed in an intelligence-based operation. The second incident took place in the neighbouring South Waziristan district where troops intercepted "terrorists" trying to infiltrate through the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, Xinhua news agency reported quoting ISPR. The incident triggered an exchange of fire, in which five "terrorists" were killed, while three others got injured.



Germany to continue commitment to defence : Scholz

Berlin, Oct 6 (IANS) : German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said Germany will continue its commitment to strengthening defence forces in the coming years, including modernising the Bundeswehr with a special fund of 100 billion euros (\$108 billion). Scholz made the remarks at a joint press conference with visiting NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte in Berlin on Monday, reports Xinhua news agency. Noting that Germany has reached the target of spending 2 per cent of its economic output on defence for the first time this year.

Nigerian president orders release of minors arrested in recent protests

Abuja, Oct 6 (IANS) : Nigerian President Bola Tinubu ordered the unconditional release of dozens of minors allegedly arrested during recent hunger protests in the country while calling for a probe into their detention. Minister of Information and National Orientation Mohammed Idris told reporters in Abuja, the Nigerian capital, that the president's directive to the country's attorney-general took immediate effect, not minding the ongoing legal processes instituted against the young citizens, reports Xinhua news agency. Tinubu also directed that all the law enforcement agents involved in the arrest and the legal processes be investigated, the minister said, adding that "if there are any infractions found to have been committed by any official of the government ... appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against him or her." The minors, whose ages were below 18 years, according to local au-



thorities, were arrested in the northern part of the country during the hunger protests across Nigeria in August and prosecuted for treason last week in Abuja. Their arraignment sparked a nationwide debate after a local court gave strident bail conditions, including 10 million nairas (approximately \$6,000) and two sureties for

each of them. "The president has also directed the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction to immediately see to the welfare of those minors and also take part to ensure that they have a smooth reunion with their parents or guardians, wherever they are in the country," Idris said.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen faces two no-confidence votes

Brussels, Oct 6 (IANS) : European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen faces two votes of no confidence this week, three months after surviving her first-ever motion of censure. The Patriots for Europe (Pfe) and The Left have tabled no-confidence votes against Leyen. The debate in the European Parliament is scheduled to take place jointly on Monday at 5 pm CEST while the voting will be conducted separately on Thursday at noon CEST, Euro News reported. It mentioned that while the two motions filed against Ursula von der Leyen are doomed to fail, they demonstrate a new challenge to von der Leyen's stay in power and governance style, which has

been facing increasing scrutiny since the beginning of her second mandate. The two bids have one common thread which is criticism over the European Union-US trade deal and the disfavoured terms it has placed on European exporters. The agreement, which includes non-binding commitment to spend €750 billion on US-made energy and invest €600 billion in the American market, faces intense criticism from all sections of the political spectrum. In a recent poll, 52 per cent of respondents have termed the deal a "humiliation" for Europe. Ursula von der Leyen has acknowledged that the deal is "imperfect." However, he stressed that it is "solid" enough to deal with the commercial turmoil unleashed by US President Donald



Trump. Pfe and The Left, which have tabled the motion against Ursula von der Leyen, have expressed concerns about the damaging impact of EU-Mercosur free trade deal on European farmers. The EU-Mercosur free trade deal was concluded by Ursula von der Leyen in December last year and whose legal texts are now up for adoption. They also slammed von der Leyen's lack of transparency. The Patriots for Europe (Pfe) and The Left, however, differ on other issues. The Pfe has issues regard-

ing the Commission's handling of irregular migration and "misguided" green policies, while The Left slams EU's "failure" to address the climate and social crisis, and Israel's war on Gaza. The Left spokesperson, Thomas Shannon, was quoted by the Euro News as saying, "The plan is to topple the Commission." He said, "It is not the plan to actually create something where we're constantly bringing this up over and over and over again.



Teachers catalysts of Cambodia's AI transformation: PM Hun Manet

Phnom Penh, Oct 6 (IANS) : Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet said on Monday that teachers are the catalysts of Artificial Intelligence (AI) transformation in the Southeast Asian country. In a text posted on his official social media platforms to mark World Teachers' Day, Hun Manet said Cambodia observed the event under the national theme of "Teacher is the catalyst of AI transformation."

Canadian ports lock out dock foremen following strike notice

Ottawa, Oct 6 (IANS) : Maritime employers in Canada's British Columbia locked out more than 730 dock foremen across the country's west coast ports, including the largest port, Vancouver, in a labour dispute. The British Columbia (BC) Maritime Employers Association said on Monday that its plan to lock out workers was

meant to "facilitate a safe and orderly wind-down of operations" in light of escalating and unpredictable strike action. Last week, International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 514 issued a 72-hour strike notice for job action, which was due to start at 8 am PT (1300 GMT) on Monday. The union's main task was said to protect jobs from automation.

The lockout began at 4:30 pm PT (2130 GMT) and will remain until further notice, the B C Maritime Employers Association said in a news release. In a joint written statement, Alberta Premier Danielle Smith and Transportation Minister Devin Dreesen on Monday called on the federal government to take whatever steps are necessary to maintain critical port operations and urgently intervene

with binding arbitration in future disputes, Xinhua news agency reported. "Alberta is a landlocked province that relies on the safe, dependable movement of goods to and from west coast ports. These ports export about 50 million Canadian dollars (\$36 million) worth of Alberta's key commodities every day including agricultural, energy and manufacturing-related products," the statement said.



Philippine troops kill two suspected rebels in clash

Manila, Oct 6 (IANS) : Philippine troops killed two suspected rebels during a clash in Philippines on Monday morning, the military said.

The military said the clash broke out in Northern Samar province and lasted several minutes before the New People's Army (NPA) retreated, leaving behind their two dead members. No government soldier was killed or wounded in the clash, Xinhua news agency reported. NPA rebels have been fighting government troops since 1969. Military data showed that the NPA's personnel strength has declined since its peak of around 25,000 armed members in the 1980s. Despite its dwindling fighters, the NPA continues to launch small-scale attacks in the countryside.



'Exposed serious shortcomings in safety standards': Sachin Pilot on Jaipur hospital fire

Jaipur, Oct 6 (IANS) Following the devastating fire at Jaipur's Sawai Man Singh (SMS) Hospital Trauma Centre that claimed the lives of eight patients, former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot has termed the incident a result of "clear negligence" and called for accountability at every level. "The fire that broke out late Sunday night at SMS Hospital in Jaipur is ex-

tremely serious. The incident claimed the lives of several patients and created widespread panic. The accident at the state's largest government hospital is deeply concerning and demands a thorough investigation. The families of the patients who lost their lives should receive appropriate assistance and justice. This incident has exposed serious shortcomings in safety standards and systems," he said on his X handle.

Pilot, addressing the media, said, "The accident at SMS Hospital is very tragic. I express my heartfelt condolences to the families of those who died. Such an accident at the state's most renowned hospital was certainly due to negligence." His comments came as rescue operations continued and investigators began collecting forensic evidence from the ICU where the fire broke out late Sunday night. The blaze, which origi-

nated in a locked storeroom inside the Trauma Centre's ICU, quickly spread thick smoke throughout the unit, leading to the suffocation of patients who were unable to be moved in time. Pilot emphasised that the tragedy highlighted serious lapses in safety measures and emergency preparedness at one of the state's most advanced hospitals. He called on the state government to ensure that those responsible are held accountable



and that systems are reviewed to prevent such disasters in the future. "It's not enough to offer condolences. The government must

ensure strict action against any negligence and urgently revisit fire safety protocols across all hospitals," he added.

Arunachal musician booked for publicly killing chicken, drinking its blood

Itanagar, Oct 6 (IANS) : Arunachal Pradesh Police registered an FIR against artist Kon Waii Son for publicly killing a chicken by slitting its throat and then drinking the bird's blood during a recent performance in Itanagar, officials said on Monday.



Police officials said that the FIR has been registered under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, and The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960, against Kon Waii Son. Kon Waii Son, who hails from Seppa in Arunachal Pradesh's East Kameng district, is a songwriter, composer, and musician. Following the killing of the chicken and drinking of its blood, police filed the FIR at the Itanagar Police Station on

Monday against Kon Waii Son based on a complaint made by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), India. Controversy widely erupted in Itanagar after the artist killed the chicken and drank its blood during a performance on October 28. The video of the incident widely circulated on social media led to criticism of the artist.

Punjab Police solve petrol bomb incidents targetting Shiv Sena leaders

Chandigarh, Oct 6 (IANS) : In a major breakthrough, Punjab Counter Intelligence and Ludhiana Commissionerate Police in a joint operation have solved the petrol bomb incidents targetting Shiv Sena leaders with the arrest of four members of Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) module being operated by foreign-based individuals Harjit Singh and Sabi, said Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav here on Monday. Those arrested have been identified as Jaswinder Singh, alias Binder, a resident of Boothgarh in Ludhiana; Ravinder Pal Singh, alias Ravi (38), Manish Sahid, alias Sanju (30), and Anil Kumar, alias Honey (27), trio resi-

dents of Rahon in Nawanshahr. Police teams have also recovered two mobile phones and impounded the red coloured TVS Raider motorcycle used to commit the crimes. "This operation has successfully solved the petrol bomb incidents targetting Shiv Sena leaders, including the October 16 attack on Yogesh Bakshi's residence and the November 2 incident at Harkirat Singh Khurana's home in Model Town Extension, Ludhiana," said DGP Yadav. As per the information, three people hurled a petrol bomb at the house of Shiv Sena leader Yogesh Bakshi located in Ludhiana at around 9.40 pm. A little over a fortnight after a similar petrol bomb attack took place on the house of Shiv Sena Leader Harkirat Singh located in Model



Town Extension. The DGP said foreign-based handler Harjit Singh, alias Laddi, is also an accused wanted in the murder of Vikas Prabhakar in Nangal in Punjab and carried a reward of Rs 10 lakh by the National Investigation Agency (NIA). Further investigations are ongoing to establish backwards and forward linkages in this case and more arrests are expected in coming days, he added. Sharing operation details, Commissioner of Police (Ludhiana) Kuldeep Singh

Chahal said acting promptly to trace both cases, various teams of Ludhiana Commissionerate Police and Counter Intelligence (CI) were formed under the supervision of DCP (Investigation) Shubham Aggarwal. He said the investigation, including following the trail of CCTV footage and gathering of technical evidence, led to the arrest of four members of the BKI module involved in executing both crimes.

Ashok Kumar Garg takes charge as Gurugram MCG commissioner

Gurugram, Oct 6 (IANS) : Ashok Kumar Garg took charge as the new Municipal Commissioner of Gurugram (MCG) on Monday. Garg is a 2009 batch IAS officer. He previously served as the Municipal Commissioner Manesar (MCM). The newly appointed MCG Commissioner on Tuesday outlined his key priorities for Gurugram. As soon as he took charge, he first presided over the Samadhan Camp organized here and gave neces-

sary instructions to the officials while listening to public complaints. He said that along with improving the sanitation and sewerage system of Gurugram, his main focus will be on creating a responsible administration. "The complaints received in his office will be registered in a separate register and along with sending the complaint to the concerned officer, a copy of the complaint will be made available to the complainant. These complaints will also be reviewed weekly and a

report of its progress will be taken from the officers," he said. He gave clear instructions to the officers that in the Samadhan camp, complaints related to property tax, development fees, cleanliness, and garbage lifting should be resolved on the spot. He said that the cleanliness system, sewerage system and responsible administration are on his priority list. He told the officers that the complainants coming to the Samadhan camp must be provided with the mobile number of the officer re-



lated to that complaint so that the complainant can get information about the solution to the complaint from the concerned person.

Care hospitals & jubilee hills rotary club's "pink victory run"

Hyderabad, Oct 6 (NSS): CARE Hospitals in association with the Rotary Club of Jubilee Hills have successfully organised the "Pink Victory Run 2025" at Jalavihar, Necklace Road to raise awareness about 'breast cancer and the importance of early detection'. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from healthcare professionals, fitness enthusiasts, breast cancer survivors and hundreds of women who came together to support the cause and spread the message of preventive healthcare. The run was flagged off by Dr. Geetha Nagasree, senior con-



sultant and associate clinical director, CARE Hospitals. Rtn. Ram Prasad, district Governor, Rotary Club of Jubilee Hills; Rtn. Srinivas, district secretary; Dr. Amaresh Rao, Head of Cardiology, NIMS; Mr. Nilesh Gupta, chief operating officer, CARE Hospitals.

Eight killed in ICU fire at SMS Hospital in Jaipur; CM orders probe

Jaipur, Oct 6 (IANS) A devastating fire broke out late Sunday night in the ICU of the Trauma Centre at Sawai Mansingh (SMS) Hospital in Jaipur, claiming the lives of eight patients, including three women. The fire reportedly started around 11.20 p.m. in the storeroom of the Neuro ICU ward, where paper, ICU equipment, and blood sampler tubes were stored. A short circuit is suspected to be the cause, according to the Trauma Centre's nodal officer and senior doctor. At the time of the incident, 11 patients were in the Neuro ICU, while 13 were in an adjacent ICU. In response, the government has constituted a six-member committee to investigate the cause.

Unable to stand 'injustice', govt staffer commits suicide in K'taka

Bengaluru, Oct 6 (IANS) : A government staffer committed suicide, allegedly over the injustice meted out to him by his seniors and Personal Assistant to State Women and Child Welfare Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar in Karnataka's Belagavi district. The deceased, identified as Rudaranna Yadavanna who worked as the Second Division Assistant (SDA) at the Tehsildar's office, named the Personal Assistant of Hebbalkar in his death note. Following the incident, the Karnataka BJP demanded the minister's resignation. Yadavanna sent a message in the staffer's WhatsApp group mentioning the names of Tehsildar Basavaraja Nagarala and the Minister's PA Somu holding them responsible for his death. He also stated that too much injustice was taking place in the office and he could not bear it. The deceased officer had asked other employees of the Tehsildar's office to fight the "injustice" unitedly. Even as the victim posted the message around 7.30 p.m. on Monday, no action was taken.



Yadavanna, who was working for many years, was recently transferred. Yadavanna's wife also works as the village accountant in the Tehsildar's office. The jurisdictional Khadebazar police have taken up the investigation.

Stubble burning : AAP slams Centre for rejecting Punjab's demand of Rs 1,200 crore

Chandigarh, Oct 6 (IANS) : The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Monday criticised the BJP-led central government for rejecting Punjab's demand of Rs 1,200 crore to prevent stubble burning, and has accused it of discriminating against the state. AAP MP and spokesperson Malwinder Singh Kang told the media here that the Modi government has been consistently discriminating against Punjab. It has already withheld several funds from Punjab, such as the Rural Development Fund, Mandi Development Fund, and



the National Health Mission Fund, amounting to nearly Rs 10,000 crore. Issues were deliberately created in the lifting of paddy.



Reliance Power's stock hits 5 pc lower circuit after SECI ban

Mumbai, Oct 6 (IANS): Shares of Anil Ambani-led Reliance Power on Monday hit the lower circuit of 5 per cent at Rs 41.58 after the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) debarred the company from floating any tender for the next three years for allegedly submitting fake documents.

According to the SECI, "Reliance Power and its subsidiary Reliance NU BESS were banned after it became the lowest bidder for a project based on fake documents".

A statement issued by SECI said that as per the requirements of the tender, the bank guarantee against the EMD (issued by a foreign bank) submitted by the bidding company was "fake". This discrepancy was found after the e-reverse auction. Due to this, the SECI had to cancel the tender process.

Indian stock market ends flat, Nifty below 24,150

Mumbai, Oct 6 (IANS) : The Indian stock market closed flat on Monday as selling was seen in the auto, PSU bank, financial service, metal, and realty sectors at the end of trading. Sensex slipped 55.47 points, or 0.07 per cent, to 79,486.32. On the other hand, Nifty fell 51.15 points, or 0.21 per cent, to 24,148.20. Nifty Bank fell 355.30 points or 0.68 per cent to 51,561.20. Nifty Midcap 100 index closed at 56,352.00 at the end of trading after falling 757.15 points or 1.33 per cent. The Nifty Smallcap 100 index

closed at 18,445.60 after falling 318.25 points or 1.70 per cent. The realty, energy, and media sectors of Nifty fell by more than 2 per cent. Apart from this, selling was seen in auto, PSU bank, financial service, metal, private bank and infra sector. Asian Paints, Tata Steel, SBI, Tata Motors, Reliance, NTPC, ICICI Bank and Bharti Airtel were the top losers in the Sensex pack. At the same time, M&M, Titan, Tech Mahindra, Nestle India, and Infosys were the top gainers.



Ashok Leyland registers 37 pc jump in Q2 net profit, declares dividend

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) : Heavy commercial vehicle maker Ashok Leyland reported a net profit of Rs 770 crore for the July- Sept quarter, which marks a 37 per cent growth over the same period last year. "Owing to continued improvement in the company's fiscal performance and a positive outlook for the balance half of the year, the Board has recommended an interim dividend of Rs 2 per share on face value of Re 1," a company statement said. The Hinduja group company said its earnings before interest,

tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) for the quarter was up at 11.6 per cent, at Rs 1,017 crore, as against 11.2 per cent, or Rs 1,080 crore in the corresponding period last year. Ashok Leyland's domestic MHCV market share continues to be over 31 per cent. The company maintained market leadership in the bus segment. The light commercial vehicle (LCV) domestic market share in the addressable segments has also gained in the first half of the year, according to a company statement. The Chennai-based company

said its MHCV domestic sales volume was at 25,685 vis-a-vis 29,947 in Q2 FY'24. LCV volume was at 16,629 vis-a-vis 16,998 in Q2 last year. Export volumes for the quarter at 3,310 nos. were higher by 14 per cent. Defence, power solutions and aftermarket businesses continue to perform well and are expected to post good growth in the current fiscal. The company continued to expand its innovative product offerings in Q2 by launching new products in the tipper, bus, haulage, and LCV segments.

'Koyilaa' cafe opened in Madhapur

Hyderabad, Oct 6 (NSS): The House of KOYILAA - kitchen, café, and bake house, a one-stop destination for food lovers of the city, is opened at Road No.11, near Alamgir Masjid, Kakatiya Hills in Madhapur. Telangana state PAC chairman and Serilingampally MLA Arekapudi Gandhi along with TPCC general

secretary and GHMC corporator Jagadeeswar Goud, inaugurated the cafe. Speaking on the occasion, MLA Gandhi said that bringing together a kitchen, café and bake house under one roof is truly a unique concept. It serves as a one-stop destination for food lovers across the city. Hyderabad is rapidly emerging as a food hub, and the addition of "The House of KOYILAA"

only strengthens that reputation. He lauded the founders for creating a space that seamlessly blends traditional and contemporary culinary experiences. P. Revathi, director of the cafe, said "We are proud to introduce a place that serves a diverse menu featuring vegetarian and non-vegetarian South Indian delicacies, along with pizzas, pastries, freshly baked bread,

cakes, artisanal coffee, ice creams, and desserts. The establishment offers corporate lunches, party orders and curated food experiences, making it an ideal spot for both casual dining and professional gatherings. The interiors have been thoughtfully designed to provide an inviting and cozy atmosphere suitable for guests of all age groups."



India's coal production from captive, commercial mines crosses 100 MT

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) : India's coal production from captive and commercial mines has exceeded 100 million tonnes (MT) in the current fiscal (as of November 8) which is a 33 per cent year-on-year growth, the government said on Monday. This time, the feat was achieved nearly 100 days earlier than the previous financial year, which was achieved in

January 2024, thus marking a significant milestone in the nation's journey towards Viksit and Atmanirbhar Bharat. According to a Ministry of Coal statement, the production from captive/commercial coal mines during the period of April 1 to November 8, 2024, is 100.08 MT, whereas the total production during the same period in FY 2023-24 was 75.05 MT -- indicating a year-on-year growth of 33 per cent.



Similarly, the total dispatch from captive/commercial coal mines during the period of April 1 to November 11 is 107.81 MT whereas the total dispatch during the same pe-

riod in FY 2023-24 was 80.23 MT, indicating a year-on-year growth of 34 per cent.

Flipkart's logistics arm Ekart sees 5-fold surge in net loss at Rs 1,718 crore in FY24

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) : E-commerce platform Flipkart's logistics arm reported a more than five times surge in its net losses to Rs 1,718.4 crore last fiscal (FY24), compared to Rs 324.6 crore in the previous fiscal (FY23). Instakart Services, which operates Ekart Logistics, also clocked a 5 per cent revenue decline at Rs 12,115.3 crore in FY24, compared to Rs 12,787.4 crore in the year-ago period. The expenses rose by over 6 per cent to Rs 14,149.4 crore from Rs 13,325 crore. Total income narrowed by 4.3 per cent to Rs 12,431 crore from Rs 13,001 crore, as per its regulatory documents. As per the documents, the company reported depreciation, depletion and amortisation expenses at Rs 1,183 crore and employee benefit expenses of Rs 1,244 crore in FY24. In FY23, the depreciation, depletion, and amortisation expense was Rs 1,204 crore. and the employee benefit expense



Asian Paints posts huge 42.4 pc net profit drop at Rs 694 crore

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) : Asian Paints Ltd on Monday posted a huge 42.4 per cent drop in net profit at Rs 694.6 crore in the July-September period (Q2 FY25), from Rs 1,205.4 crore in the year-ago period. Revenue also decreased 5.3 per cent to Rs 8,003.02 crore, compared to Rs 8,451.93 crore in the same period last year. For the first six months of the current fiscal (H1 FY25), net profit decreased by 32.3 per cent to Rs 1,864.6 crore from Rs 2,755.8 crore. Consolidated net sales decreased by 3.7 per cent to Rs 16,946.3 crore from Rs 17,605.7 crore, the company said in its regulatory filing. The paint industry faced a subdued demand environment during the quarter. "Domestic decorative coatings segment volumes declined marginally while overall domestic coatings revenue declined by 5.5 per cent for the quarter impacted by muted consumer sentiments and extended rains and floods in some parts of the country," Asian Paints Managing Director and CEO Amit Syngle said.



MapmyIndia reports 8.2 pc drop in net profit in Q2, revenue up 14 pc

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) : CE Info Systems Ltd, the parent company of MapmyIndia, on Monday reported 8.26 per cent drop in net profit in the July-September period at Rs 30.4 crore, from Rs 33.1 crore in the year-ago quarter. The Q2 FY25 revenue from operations increased to Rs 104 crore, a 14 per cent growth and the first half of FY25 (H1 FY25) saw revenue at Rs 205 crore as against Rs 181 crore in H1 FY24. The company announced that it has received board approval to establish a joint venture with Hyundai Autoever, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Hyundai Kia. "MapmyIndia will hold a 40 per cent stake with a capital investment of \$4 million. The joint venture, named PT Terra Link Technologies, will be based in Indonesia and will concentrate on pro-

viding map-based solutions for automotive OEMs and other businesses across Southeast Asia," said Rakesh Verma, Chairman and Managing Director, MapmyIndia. EBITDA for H1 FY25 reached Rs 80 crore, yielding a margin of 39.1 per cent.



Blow for BJP as Gavit
quits to contest as
Independent from Akkalkuwa

Nandurbar, Oct 6 (IANS) : Ahead of the Assembly elections slated for, the BJP on Monday received a major jolt after its two-term MP Heena Gavit quit the party, especially after she decided to contest from the Akkalkuwa constituency as an Independent, defying the party's diktat. In her resignation letter, Gavit, who is the daughter of BJP minister and nominee Dr Vijaykumar Gavit, said, "I am resigning so that the party does not face any problem because of my decision to contest as an Independent." She is pitted against the Shiv Sena legislator and nominee Aamshya Padvi and Congress nominee and former minister KC Padvi. Gavit's decision has made the contest for both Shiv Sena and Congress nominees tougher.

Siddaramaiah's resignation
timing has been decided, claims K'taka BJP

Bengaluru, Oct 6 (IANS) : Karnataka BJP State President and MLA B.Y. Vijayendra claimed on Monday that the timing for Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's resignation has been decided. He added Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, and Deputy Chief Minister D.K.

Shivakumar have already discussed and decided on Siddaramaiah's resignation. Referring to the Lokayukta notice to Siddaramaiah to attend the investigation, Vijayendra questioned whether he would face the investigation as Chief Minister or as an accused, urging him (Siddaramaiah) to clarify this to the public.

"Siddaramaiah should reveal the exact timing of his exit. His resignation is certain. I challenge Siddaramaiah to declare that he will serve as Chief Minister for a five-year term," he stated. He further demanded that Siddaramaiah, along with his family, owes the people of Karnataka answers regarding corruption allegations, pointing out that the



Lokayukta has issued a notice for investigation. He also criticised the Congress

leaders, including Siddaramaiah, for giving long speeches on corruption, while stating that contractors are committing suicide due to the state's financial mismanagement and non-payment of bills for government projects. He further accused Siddaramaiah of supporting "questionable actions" by Minister Zameer Ahmad Khan in the Waqf Board. He claimed that the Chief Minister is complicit in Minister for Waqf Zameer Ahmad Khan's "conspiracy" behind these actions.



RTC fare hike should be withdrawn
immediately: CPM State Secretary John Wesley

Hyderabad, Oct 6 (NSS): CPM State Secretary John Wesley Toft's said that their

party was strongly opposing the government's decision to increase state owned RTC fares in the twin

cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad by Rs. 5 for the first three stages and Rs. 10 for the fourth stage and demanded it for the immediate withdrawal of the decision of the increased fares. In a statement, he said that It was ridiculous for the state government to say that Rs. 392 crore would be spent on setting up new depots and new charging stations with the increased fares while urging the people to cooperate with it. He reminded that After the Congress government came to power, it had increased the electric bus fares and bus pass fares in Hyderabad drastically and added that 50 percent additional Fare was being collected on special buses of the state in the name of festivals. "It is not reasonable to put additional burdens on the people once again without exploring alternative ways for infrastructure.



UP CM slams JMM leader
Alamgir for 'looting' people,
likens him to Aurangzeb

Koderma, Oct 6 (IANS) : Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister and BJP leader Yogi Adityanath on Monday drew parallels between Mughal emperor Aurangzeb and Jharkhand minister Alamgir Alam. Addressing an election rally in support of BJP candidates from Koderma and Barkatha Assembly seats, he said Aurangzeb destroyed temples and Alamgir "looted" poor people's money in the state. Chief Minister Adityanath accused the JMM, Congress and RJD coalition government of patronising mafia and corrupt people. He called upon the people to vote for the BJP in the state for the sake of development, security, respect and good governance. He said, "Aurangzeb came to this country and destroyed holy temples, and Alamgir, a minister in the Jharkhand government, looted the money of the people of the state." "Currency notes valuing crores of rupees were recovered from Alamgir's servants and family members. What could be a worse level of robbery than this?", the UP CM wondered.

Allocation of graveyards by govt is
to protect the honour of Muslims: Minister Adluri

Hyderabad, Oct 6 (NSS): Respect for religion and priority for humanity are the goals of the Revanth Reddy government, said state Minority Welfare Minister Adluri Laxman Kumar on Sunday. He also said that the historic decision taken by the state government to allocate graveyards for the Muslims was proof of the sincerity of the Congress government and its commitment towards the minorities of the state. In a meeting organized in Rahmatnagar of Jubilee Hills assembly constituency on Sunday, Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar, Gaddam Vivek, MP Anil Kumar Yadav, state Minority Advisor Mohammad Ali Shabbir, Corporation Chairmen Obedullah Kotwal,

Azharuddin and religious leaders unveiled the relevant government orders for the allotment of the graveyard lands to the Muslims. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Adluri Laxman Kumar said that Just as Muslims have dignity in life, they should also have dignity after death. He said that the fact that this government had resolved the issue of the graveyard lands that had been pending for decades was a respect given by it to the faith of the people. "Under the guidance of our party leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, the Congress government in Telangana is following a clear path towards social justice and the advancement of the minorities. The Congress party is the only party in the country that stands by the weaker sections," the minister commented.



He said that decisions had been taken to ensure justice despite the lack of space in the surrounding areas of Jubilee Hills, Banjara Hills, Sheikhpeta and Golconda areas. He explained that legal and geographical obstacles were being removed in coordination with the HMDA and the district collectors. "We will allocate special funds for the development of the old graveyards. We will undertake lighting, drainage, roads and water supply works. We will construct a boundary wall to prevent encroachment. The goal is to identify at least one burial ground in each constituency," he said. Noting that True secularism is to protect religious rights, he said that the people's government led by CM Revanth Reddy was a symbol of religious harmony.

TGPRB extends deadline
for APPO posts till October 11

Hyderabad, Oct 6 (NSS): It is known that the Telangana State Level Police Recruitment Board (TGPRB) has invited applications for filling up of 118 Assistant Public Prosecutor posts. The application deadline was to end at 5 pm on October 5. But due to the consecutive holidays and requests from the candidates, the application deadline was extended till the 11th of this month. While 7183 people registered online to apply for these posts, only 2193 people applied till 1 pm on Sunday. This means that only 30 percent of the people submitted their applications. TSLPRB has released an official notification in this regard. For other details, it advised the aspirants to visit its website www.tgprb.in. It has been stated that lawyers, who have practiced in criminal courts.

Congress fulfilled promise
of graveyard land allotment in Jubilee Hills, says Shabbir Ali

Hyderabad, Oct 6 (NSS): Advisor to Telangana Government and senior Congress leader Mohammed Ali Shabbir on Sunday claimed that the Congress government had fulfilled its election promise of allotting land for a Muslim graveyard in Jubilee Hills. He was speaking on the occasion of the formal announcement and ceremonial handover of one acre and five guntas of land near Masjid (Ghairabad) in Shaikpet, intended to serve residents of Rahmat Nagar, Erragadda, Borabanda, and neighbouring areas. The announcement was made at a joint press conference held at H.F. Community Hall in Rahmat Nagar, Jubilee Hills, in

the presence of Ministers Ponnamp Prabhakar and G Vivek Venkataswamy, Telangana State Wakf Board Chairman Syed Azmatullah Hussaini, TPCC Working President Md Azharuddin, TMREIS President Faheem Qureshi and several corporation chairpersons. Shabbir Ali said the allotted land would be developed into a functional graveyard with essential amenities, including a boundary wall, watchman quarters, and arrangements for bathing and preparing bodies (ghusl and kafan). A local community committee would oversee the site's development and upkeep. He added that an adjacent plot, currently facing access-related issues, would also be handed over once technical

challenges were resolved. He emphasised that the allotment was not merely a political gesture but a step towards dignity and justice for under-served communities. "This is not charity. This is a right. It was promised in our manifesto and we are now fulfilling it," he said. Responding to criticism from opposition parties, Shabbir Ali asserted that the Congress government was delivering inclusive development. "Whether it's free bus travel for women, ration cards, or fine rice, these benefits are reaching Hindus, Muslims, Christians and all communities alike," he said. He noted that ration cards were being issued after a 13-year gap, and names of children born during that period were now being

added. "The poorest among us, particularly Muslims, who waited for years, are finally receiving what they were entitled to," he added. Highlighting the state's welfare initiatives, he pointed to the distribution of fine rice under the Public Distribution System, claiming that no other state in India was offering such high-quality grains. "This initiative is not selective. It benefits everyone, without religious bias," he said.



Attending Lokayukta a
'drama' by Siddaramaiah to escape
CBI probe : Pralhad Joshi

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) : Union Minister for Food, Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs Pralhad Joshi alleged on Monday that attending the investigation in the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) case by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is mere 'drama'. He said that attending the Lokayukta investigation by Siddaramaiah will help him to escape the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) investigation in the future. "I am not talking about the Lokayukta Justice or the Upa Lokayukta Justice. But officers who are stooges of Siddaramaiah have been deputed to Mysuru Lokayukta office," he claimed.

North Korea's Kim calls for bolstering naval power to counter enemy's provocations

Seoul, Oct 6 (IANS) North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has visited the nation's first 5,000-tonne destroyer, calling for bolstering the naval combat force to "thoroughly" deter and counter the enemy's provocations, state media reported on Monday. Kim visited the Choe Hyon destroyer on Sunday, accompanied by key party and government officials, as part of

his schedule over a military hardware exhibition, reports Yonhap, quoting the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA). In April, North Korea unveiled its new 5,000-tonne multipurpose destroyer, named the Choe Hyon, as part of its efforts to enhance its naval power. During the visit, Kim said "the tremendous ability of our navy should be exercised in the vast ocean to thoroughly deter or

counter and punish the enemy's provocations" to defend the nation's sovereignty and its security interests, according to the KCNA. "He noted that our (Workers') Party would continue its struggle without even a moment's stagnation for the overall and accelerated expansion and growth of the naval combat force defending the core of the national rights," it added.



Over 65 million people food insecure in Horn of Africa: report

Nairobi, Oct 6 (IANS) : At least 65 million people are food insecure in the Horn of Africa, according to a joint report released Monday by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), an East African bloc. This figure marks a slight decline from 66 million in August, attributed to improved rainfall over the past two seasons, particularly in the IGAD region, said the report.

Of the 65 million affected individuals, 36 million reside in IGAD member states, including Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda. "Extreme weather and climate change, now more severe and frequent, are the primary drivers of food insecurity," the report said, adding that conflict is another key contributor to food insecurity, Xinhua news agency reported.

California to sue over Trump sending National Guard to Portland

Los Angeles, Oct 6 (IANS) California Governor Gavin Newsom announced that the US State of California would sue the Trump administration for deploying National Guard from the state into Portland, Oregon, saying Trump "is using the US military as a political weapon against American citizens." In a press release, Newsom disclosed that US President Donald Trump is deploying 300 California National Guard troops to Portland after a federal judge temporarily denied Trump the ability to federalize the Oregon National Guard, Xinhua news agency reported. "They are on their way there now," the press release said. "This is a breathtaking abuse of the law and power. The Trump Administration is unapologetically attacking the rule of law itself and putting into action their dangerous words -- ignoring court orders and treating judges, even those appointed by the President himself, as po-



litical opponents." "We will take this fight to court, but the public cannot stay silent in the face of such reckless and authoritarian conduct by the President of the United States," Newsom said. Trump claimed that the deployment of federalized troops was necessary because the city of Portland was under siege by protesters opposing the immigration enforcement actions conducted by federal agents. On September 27, Trump ordered to send "all necessary troops" to Portland, putting 200 members of the Oregon National Guard under the command of Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth. Oregon State and the city of Portland filed a lawsuit in response to this order on September 28.



'India wants to see free, fair, inclusive and participatory election in Bangladesh'

Dhaka, Oct 6 (IANS): Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on Monday said New Delhi wants to see a free, fair, inclusive and participatory election in Bangladesh at the earliest possible time. In India, Misri was quoted as saying by the Bangladeshi media, is ready to work with the democratically elected government in Dhaka following the results of an inclusive and participatory

election. The Foreign Secretary made remarks during an interaction with a 23-member visiting delegation of the Diplomatic Correspondents Association Bangladesh (DCAB) at the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in New Delhi, the United News of Bangladesh (UNB) reported. MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, Joint Secretary (Bangladesh and Myanmar).



Mycoplasma pneumonia cases in Japan continue to surge

Tokyo, Oct 6 (IANS) : Cases of mycoplasma pneumonia, a respiratory disease caused by bacteria, have been surging in Japan, hitting a record high for four consecutive weeks as of October 20, local media reported Monday. The average number of cases reported by about 500 medical institutions nationwide was 2.01 per institution in the week ended on October 20, with the figure surpassing two for the first time, Xinhua news agency reported quoting Jiji Press, citing data from the National Institute of Infectious Diseases. Patient numbers have been at the highest-ever weekly total since the current reporting method was introduced in 1999. Before the recent surge in mycoplasma pneumonia cases, the record weekly average number of patients was 1.64 logged in October 2016. The respiratory infection, caused by the bacterium mycoplasma pneumonia.

Former VP of China Development Bank receives 15-year sentence for bribery

Beijing, Oct 6 (IANS) : Zhou Qingyu, former Vice President of China Development Bank, was on Monday sentenced to 15 years in prison for bribery crimes, according to a verdict handed down by a court in Changchun, Jilin Province. Zhou has also been fined 5.2 million yuan (about 732,000 US dollars), and his illegal gains are confiscated and turned over to the state treasury, according to the verdict by the Changchun Intermediate People's Court. An investigation into Zhou's case revealed that between 2013 and 2023, he took advantage of his various positions at the bank to assist others in such matters as loan financing, project contracting, business operations and personnel arrangements. In



return, Zhou accepted money and valuables worth over 67.43 million yuan. It was also established that Zhou, after leaving the bank, had used his influence to seek illegal benefits for others in project contracting and other matters, and accepted money and valuables worth approximately 1 million yuan in return. The court noted that Zhou had been cooperative throughout the investigation and in returning his illegal gains, and he was given a lenient sentence in accordance with the law, Xinhua news agency reported.

Poland enforces extended border controls with Germany, Lithuania

Warsaw, Oct 6 (IANS) Poland has extended temporary border control measures with Germany and Lithuania for another six months, with the regulation taking effect on Monday and remaining in force until April 4 next year. According to Polish media reports, the decree was signed by Polish Minister of the Interior and Administration Marcin Kierwinski on Wednesday. Poland intro-

duced the temporary border controls on July 7 at its western border with Germany and northeastern border with Lithuania, later extending them to October 4. Checks are currently conducted at 50 points along the Polish-German border and 13 along the Polish-Lithuanian border, according to the Polish Press Agency. Speaking at a press conference after the Munich Migration Meeting on Saturday, Kierwinski said Poland is unwilling to agree to any regu-



lations on relocating migrants within the European Union, Xinhua News Agency reported. He added that Poland has already paid a heavy price for guarding the bloc's external border, with nearly 25,000 illegal crossings recorded on the border with Belarus so far this year. Earlier in September, Poland reopened its border with Belarus at midnight on Thursday.

Three injured in stabbing attack at Melbourne shopping centre

Sydney, Oct 6 (IANS) : A man has been arrested after he allegedly stabbed multiple people at a shopping centre in Melbourne on Monday. Police in the state of Victoria said in a statement that emergency services were called to the Fountain Gate shopping centre in Melbourne's southeast at about 2:25 p.m. local time on Tuesday following reports that three people were attacked at a bus stop. The three victims, two men and a woman, were taken to a nearby hospital with non-life-threatening injuries, Xinhua news agency reported.

Vehicles burnt in alleged Sydney arson attack

Sydney, Oct 6 (IANS) : Police in Australia's Sydney are investigating after multiple vehicles were damaged in an alleged arson attack on Monday. Police said in a statement that two vehicles were set alight in the driveway of a home in the suburb of Green Valley, approximately 32 km southwest of Sydney, at about 12:50 am local time on Monday. Emergency services were called to the scene and the fire was extinguished by Fire and Rescue New South Wales (NSW), Xinhua news agency reported. "Minor damage was caused to the home, and there



have been no reports of injuries," NSW Police said. Local officers established a crime scene and have launched an investigation into the fire, which is being treated as suspicious. Anyone with information about the incident, or dashcam footage, has been urged to come forward.

CM Stalin to begin state tour in Coimbatore; sanitary workers, traders to raise grievances

Chennai, Oct 6 (IANS) : Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin will visit Coimbatore as part of his statewide tour to monitor government schemes. During his visit, he will meet with government officials, elected representatives including MPs, MLAs, and local body representatives to assess the implementation of Dravidian model of governance under his leadership. In a letter to party cadres, Stalin announced plans to conduct ground-level inspections across districts to evaluate the functioning of various state schemes. Sanitary workers and traders from Coimbatore will have the opportunity to present their grievances to the Chief Minister. Sanitary workers displaced by the Ukkadam flyover project continue to live in temporary shelters. Sumana (43), a sanitary worker, expressed her concerns: “We were displaced for the Ukkadam flyover project and promised new homes on the land of the old corporation fish market, which is still operational.” The ongoing presence of this fish market has delayed progress on their housing. Traders from the fish market



are also seeking approval to relocate to a newly built facility. The Ukkadam-Aathupalam flyover project, initiated in 2018 and completed in 2024, required the demolition of 727 homes within the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation (CMC). Temporary shelters were provided at Pullukadu, with promises of permanent housing in the same area. Under the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board’s (TNUHDB) Ukkadam Phase IV Project, 235 homes have been constructed and allocated to displaced residents. However, for the remaining 492 families, housing remains incomplete. Although work on a 222-unit housing block began in 2020, it is yet to be completed.



Shia Board welcomes SC's validation of UP Madarsa Education Act

Lucknow, Oct 6 (IANS) : Maulana Yasoob Abbas, General Secretary of the All India Shia Personal Law Board (AISPLB), expressed his support for the Supreme Court's decision to uphold the validity of the Uttar Pradesh Madarsa Education Act, 2004. The Supreme Court's ruling on Monday overturned a previous decision by the Allahabad High Court, which had declared the Act unconstitutional, claiming that it violated principles of secularism. By setting aside the High Court's ruling, the Supreme Court has reaffirmed the legality of the Act and the role of Madrasas in the educational landscape of Uttar Pradesh.

Country's first museum on women achievers to open in Delhi next year : L-G

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) : Delhi Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Vinai Kumar Saxena on Monday said the iconic Gole Market in Central Delhi would turn into the country's first museum dedicated to women achievers and open to the public next year. “This will be the first museum of its kind to honour the contributions of leading Indian women across various fields. We hope that the redeveloped and restored Gole Market will be open for the people of Delhi by next year,” said Saxena in a social media post. The LG reviewed the ongoing restoration of the iconic Gole Market and also unveiled an Elephant Family Sculpture at the RML Hospital roundabout in central Delhi. He complimented the NDMC for installing foun-

tains in public places as these not only reduce dust particles and air pollution but also reduce the surrounding temperature. Talking about the conversion of Gole Market into a museum, the L-G said: “Retrofitting of the old, dilapidated structure of the building is progressing in full swing and the arches and outer architecture have begun taking shape. Lying in a state of neglect for over a decade, Gole Market stands as a testament to India's rich heritage and Delhi's evolution since the colonial era.” After unveiling the RML roundabout sculpture, Saxena said: “Hundreds of sculptures and artefacts have been installed across the city to enhance its aesthetics over the last two and half years. The Elephant Family Sculpture installed at RML hospital roundabout is another addition to the efforts undertaken to beautify the city.” At the heart of the reju-



venated RML roundabout, the NDMC has installed a majestic white stone Elephant Family to take centre stage, encircled by water channels having fountains all around. BJP's MP from the New Delhi constituency Bansuri Swaraj, NDMC Chairman Ashwani Kumar and other senior officers of the civic agency were present at the event to unveil the sculpture. Saxena lauded the initiative of the NDMC to enrich the aesthetic landscape of the city through meticulous planning. He said the NDMC has placed 35 sculptures at around 20 locations featuring exquisite creations such as Buddha, marble lions, polo horses, horse families.

Bank deposit growth in India outpaces credit offtake for 1st time in last 30 months



New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) : Bank deposits rose at 8.6 per cent compared to December 2023, reaching Rs 218.1 lakh crore (as of October 18), a report showed on Monday, adding that on an annual basis, deposit growth has outpaced

credit offtake for the first time in the last 30 months. This growth can be attributed to rising term deposit rates of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), said the report by CareEdge Ratings. In absolute terms, deposits have expanded by Rs 17.3 lakh crore over the last nine months. “Deposits have remained prominent in FY25 as banks have intensified efforts to strengthen their liability franchise. The banks are also sourcing funds via the certificates of deposits at a relatively higher cost,” the report mentioned.

‘Nation is proud of you’: West Bengal Govt to GRSE on laying keels of two NGOPVS

Kolkata, Oct 6 (IANS) : West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose laid the keels of two Next Generation Off-shore (or Ocean-going) Patrol Vessels being built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd, in Kolkata on Monday. In his address, the Governor hailed GRSE's capabilities in building modern, state-of-the-art warships. “The Nation is proud of you. I can assure you that all 140 crore people of this country love you and stand by you. Thanks to efforts by shipbuilders like GRSE, India now matches the capabilities of companies involved in shipbuilding in countries like China, South Korea and Japan. India has the capability. India is powerful. We need to

assert that we are capable. We need to assert that we are powerful,” the Governor said. GRSE is building four NGOPVs for the Indian Navy. According to chairman and managing director Cmde P R Hari, IN (Retd), though the keels of the first two vessels were ceremoniously laid during the day, work has already begun on all four. “We are presently working on 43 platforms, including 17 warships for the Indian Navy. These 17 warships include the four NGOPVs. We are also handling eight export orders. These include a warship and two other platforms for Bangladesh. To date, we have delivered 72 warships to the Indian Navy and 36 to the Indian Coast Guard,” Cmde Hari informed the gathering of senior officers of the Indian Navy, Indian Army, Indian Air Force, Indian



Coast Guard and classification societies. In the past, GRSE has built and delivered several Off-shore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) to the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard. The shipyard also built the OPV CGS Barracuda, the first warship exported by India to Mauritius in 2014. GRSE bagged the Defence Minister's Award of Excellence for its in-house Design Effort for that warship. The NGOPVs will be much larger warships than the OPVs built earlier and have greater endurance and firepower. These platforms will be about 113 metres long and

14.6 metres wide, with a displacement of 3,000 Tons. The NGOPVs will achieve speeds of up to 23 knots. Their endurance will be 8,500 nautical miles at a speed of 14 knots. The crew will comprise 20 officers and over 100 sailors. The contract for these four warships was signed by GRSE on 30 March 2023. The total value of the order is Rs 3,555.75 crore and the first vessel is to be delivered in 44 months after the date of contract signing. The others are to follow in six-month intervals.

BJP backtracks: Will support Shiv Sena nominee Sarvankar not MNS in Mahim

Mumbai, Oct 6 (IANS) : In a major turnaround, the BJP on Monday declared that the party will support the Shiv Sena nominee Sada Sarvankar in Mahim constituency and not the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena candidate Amit Thackeray who is the son of

MNS chief Raj Thackeray. The BJP's move comes after Sarvankar remained adamant despite repeated calls to withdraw his candidature in favour of Amit Thackeray. Sarvankar's decision to fight the elections has left the BJP with no option but to support him in ad-

herence to the alliance dharma. Further, the BJP's move for the moment has stopped its efforts to bring the MNS into the Mahayuti or extend its support to the MNS in a few other seats to checkmate the Shiv Sena UBT in particular and the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) in general.



With Sarvankar, who is a three-term legislator, the Mahim constituency will witness a triangular contest as he is pitted against the MNS nominee Amit Thackeray and Shiv Sena (UBT) candidate Mahesh Sawant. “As far as the Mahayuti is concerned, the issue of Mahim constituency is over.



BJP Telangana State Office Bearers Meeting Focuses on Local Body Elections

Hyderabad, Oct 6 (NSS): A preparatory meeting of state BJP office bearers was held to involve a strategy for local body election here today. The meeting was held at the state BJP office which was chaired by party president N Ramchander Rao . The meeting was attended by union minister for Coal and Mines, G. Kishan Reddy; BJP National Vice President, D.K. Aruna; BJP Legislature Party Leader, Yeleti Maheshwar Reddy; BJP Legislative Council Party Leader, A.V.N. Reddy; BJP Co-Incharge for Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, Ponguleti Sudhakar Reddy, along with other party MPs, MLAs, MLCs, and state office bearers.

French PM Sebastien Lecornu resigns after few weeks in office

Paris, Oct 6 (IANS) French Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu resigned on Monday, indicating a renewed crisis in the country's politics. His resignation comes just weeks after his appointment. French President Emmanuel Macron accepted his resignation on Monday morning, hours after Lecornu revealed first names of his government, Euro News reported. After unveiling his cabinet, Lecornu has faced criticism



from his own camp and the opposition. The conservative Republicans party has expressed outrage over the return of France's former Economy Minister Bruno Le Maire as Defence Minister, reports cited.

Rajasthan signs 2 MoUs in hospitality sector with Saudi Arabia-based firms

Jaipur, Oct 6 (IANS) : Apart from signing two MoUs in the hospitality development sector, a delegation led by Rajasthan's Minister of State for Industry and Commerce K.K. Vishnoi invited Saudi Arabia to participate as partner country in ‘Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit 2024’ to be held here next month, an official said on Monday. Vishnoi said, “Saudi Arabia is one of the largest economies in West Asia and is replete with leading business groups in sectors ranging from petrochemicals and engineering to real estate and renewable energy, which are crucial to Rajasthan's economy.” “We had very fruitful discussions with leading busi-



ness groups, which resulted in us signing two investment MoUs in the hospitality development sector,” he said in a statement.

Greece uncovers 'terrorist' attack plan by domestic group



Athens, Oct 6 (IANS) : Greek authorities have uncovered a "terrorist" attack plan by four Greek nationals suspected of participating in a domestic group, Greek Citizen Protection Minister Michalis Chrysochoidis said. A bomb that exploded prematurely in a central Athens apartment last Thursday, resulting in one casualty, one injury and severe material damage in the building, would have caused major destruction to any intended tar-

get, Chrysochoidis told local media on Monday. The findings of an ongoing police investigation into the explosion so far indicate that a 36-year-old man who died, a 33-year-old woman who is hospitalised, a 31-year-old man who was arrested last week and his 30-year-old girlfriend who was arrested on Monday, were members of a group of Greeks "aspiring to become the next generation of domestic terrorists," Xinhua news agency quoted the official as saying. The suspects have already been charged with formation and participation in a "terrorist" group, possession of explosives, construction of a bomb and involvement in "terrorist" acts, authorities said.



Spain: Floods hit Barcelona as rescue work continues in Valencia region

Madrid, Oct 6 (IANS) : The region of Catalonia in the north-east of Spain was hit by flooding, as rescue work continues in the neighbouring region of Valencia in the wake of the floods that claimed 217 lives six days previously. Spain's Minister for Transport, Oscar Puente, on Monday, confirmed that local rail services in the region had been cancelled af-

ter the Spanish Meteorological Agency (AEMET) issued a red alert for torrential rain for the provinces of Castellon, Tarragona and Barcelona, reports Xinhua news agency. "Do not travel unless strictly necessary," informed Puente. Barcelona's El Prat airport was badly hit by rainfall, estimated to be around 150 litres per square metre, with over 80 flights can-

celled or delayed and numerous arrivals diverted to other airports. Images posted on social media from the airport show large areas under water, while parts of the terminal buildings were also flooded, with water cascading down flights of stairs. Several roads in the region have also been closed by the flooding, but fortunately, no lives have been reported lost.



UK to raise university tuition fees for first time in 8 yrs

London, Oct 6 (IANS) : UK Education Secretary Bridget Phillipson has announced that university tuition fees in England will increase by 3.1 per cent next year, the first rise since 2016. The hike, attributed to inflation, will bring the maximum annual fee up to 9,535 pounds (\$12,335). Alongside this, maintenance loans for students will also see a 3.1 per cent increase to help cover living expenses, reports Xinhua news agency. Phillipson highlighted financial challenges in higher education and hinted at upcoming reforms aimed at expanding access for disadvantaged students.



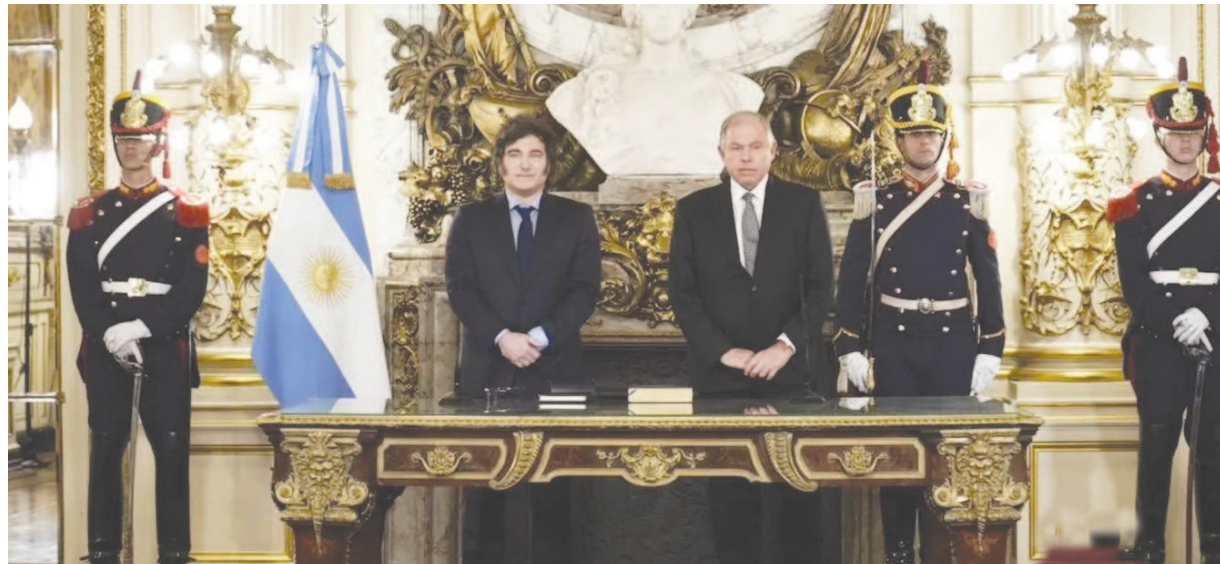
Iraqi militia claims six drone attacks on Israeli targets

Baghdad, Oct 6 (IANS) : The Islamic Resistance in Iraq, a Shiite militia group, on Monday claimed responsibility for six drone attacks on Israeli targets. According to its statements, the group's fighters launched three drone attacks on "vital sites" in the northern Israeli city of Haifa, two more on other locations in Israel, and one in the south. The statements did not provide further details about the targeted sites or report any casualties, Xinhua news agency reported. The group said that the strikes were carried out "in solidarity with our people in Palestine and Lebanon," pledging to continue targeting "the enemy's strongholds at an escalating pace."

Iran, Azerbaijan hold joint naval drill in Caspian Sea

Tehran, Oct 6 (IANS) : The Iranian and Azerbaijani naval forces staged a joint rescue and relief drill in the Caspian Sea, Iran's official news agency reported. The exercise, dubbed "AZIREX2024," was hosted by Iran's Navy and themed "Cooperation for Peace and Friendship," reports Xinhua news agency, quoting IRNA on Monday. It added the drill involved the Iranian army's maritime and aerial units, including home-grown Deylaman destroyer, Peykan (Arrow), Separ (Shield), Joshan (Armor) guided-missile cruisers, a Bell

212 helicopter, and watercraft belonging to other Iranian armed forces, as well as Azerbaijan's rescue and relief vessels. Mohsen Razaqi, spokesman of the exercise, said the two countries' vessels successfully carried out rescue and relief operations, having transferred passengers from a burning watercraft to the coast and extinguished the fire. He added that the other operations carried out during the exercise were aerial photography, conformation simulation, and tactical arrayal scenarios.



Argentine President swears in new Foreign Minister

Buenos Aires, Oct 6 (IANS) : Argentine President Javier Milei swore in Gerardo Werthein as his new Minister of Foreign Affairs, the President's office said in a

statement. Werthein, a 68-year-old veterinarian and businessman, has served as Argentina's ambassador to the United States since May, reports Xinhua news agency. His predecessor, Diana

Mondino, was removed from office by Milei. Mondino's departure marks the fourth departure from Milei's cabinet since he took office in December last year.

Sudan records 2 to 3 million malaria cases annually: Health minister

Port Sudan, Oct 6 (IANS) : Sudanese Health Minister Haitham Mohamed Ibrahim said that Sudan records between two and three million malaria cases annually. "Sudan records the highest rate of malaria infection in the Eastern Mediterranean Region," Ibrahim said on Monday at a press conference in Gedaref, the capital city of Gedaref State in Sudan. "Sudan also records the highest malaria death rate in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, accounting for 50 per cent of the total deaths," he noted, referring to the interventions undertaken by the ministry to reduce the malaria death rate, Xinhua news agency reported. On Monday,

the Sudanese Health Ministry launched the integration of the malaria vaccine into routine childhood vaccinations, covering Gedaref State and Blue Nile State in Sudan. "We have started introducing the

malaria vaccine approved by the World Health Organisation in the two states, to be followed by the rest of the high-risk states next year," the minister said.



Serbian Minister announces resignation following roof structure collapse

Belgrade, Oct 6 (IANS) : Serbian Minister of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure Goran Vesic announced that he will step down, following the collapse of a roof structure at the Novi Sad railway station. The collapse left 14 people dead and three others injured on Friday, as reported by Xinhua news agency. In a statement released on Monday evening, Vesic expressed condolences to the victims. "I offered my resignation on the day of the accident. Tomorrow morning, I will formally submit my resignation to the Prime Minister," Vesic said.



94,000 children vaccinated in polio campaign in Gaza

United Nations, Oct 6 (IANS) : The UN-supported third phase of the polio vaccine campaign concluded in the besieged northern Gaza Strip, with 94,000 children vaccinated, but thousands still remain out of reach, according to UN agencies. Nearly 79 per cent of children in northern Gaza have been vaccinated against polio, the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) said on social media on Monday. The third phase of the vaccine campaign, which had been postponed since October 23 due to the escalating conflict, resumed from Saturday to Monday during agreed-upon humanitarian pauses, reports Xinhua

news agency. Early Saturday morning, 216 medical teams, supported by the Palestinian Ministry of Health, the World Health Organization (WHO), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNRWA, and partners, deployed across 106 fixed sites in the north. In addition, more than 200 social mobilisers engaged communities and raised awareness around vaccination efforts, according to UN agencies. Richard Peeperkorn, a WHO official, said the target was to reach all children in the north with the second and final dose. "We covered many more children than we expected, but we missed some," he said at a briefing via video for reporters at UN headquarters on Monday.



Looking forward to playing under
Ponting's coaching:
Rishad Hossain on maiden BBL stint

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) Bangladesh leg-spinner Rishad Hossain expressed his excitement about playing under Australian legend Ricky Ponting's coaching as he prepares to take part in the Big Bash League (BBL 15) for the Hobart Hurricanes this season.

The legspinner, who has just finished a white-ball series against Afghanistan, will be available to play throughout the tournament as the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has granted him a No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the entire season of the BBL, which begins on December 14.

"Ponting was one of my favourite players growing up; I used to watch him play. I'm really looking forward to working with him," Rishad said in a Zoom interaction with reporters on Monday, as quoted by Cricbuzz.

"More than the players, I'm looking forward to working with Ricky Ponting and playing under his coaching," he added.

Hossain, who would be familiar to Hurricanes fans after being drafted last year in the BBL 14 draft, but was unable to participate due to commitments with the Bangladesh Premier League.



PVL 2025: Mumbai
Meteors beat Calicut Heroes
3-0 to continue perfect run

Hyderabad, Oct 6 (IANS) Mumbai Meteors defeated the Calicut Heroes 15-9, 15-8, 15-12 in the Prime Volleyball League at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium, Hyderabad on Monday, to continue their perfect run in the competition.

Amit Gulia was named the player of the match. Calicut Heroes started the game with passes to the middle, allowing setter and captain Mohan Ukkrapandian to have options in the attack. But blocker Abhinav Salar's commanding presence for Mumbai allowed the Meteors to tackle Calicut's attacking threats.

Ukkrapandian's double touch cost Mumbai an early super point, and the Meteors took the lead. Shubham Chaudhary's strong spikes did not allow any Calicut's defence any momentum, while Mathias Loftesnes too tested the opposition.

It's not a small deal to be a player
of the match in WC game: Kranti Goud

Colombo, Oct 6 (IANS) Young fast bowler Kranti Goud described her getting Player of the Match award post India's huge 88-run win over Pakistan in the 2025 Women's ODI World Cup clash at the R Premadasa Stadium as a 'very proud moment'.

Kranti returned figures of 3-20 in her ten overs, including six bowled on the trot, to play a pivotal role in dismantling Pakistan's top order and ensuring India's unbeaten run in the tournament continues.

"When I took six wickets in England and Harman di shared Player of the Match award with me, to now getting Player of the Match award in a World Cup, that was also a very proud moment for me. This too is also a very proud moment for me, as it's not a small deal to be the player of the match in a World Cup game.

"I have been playing all my matches normally because all the things coaches have said to me, I am doing all of that in the games where I am featuring. I will carry this momentum forward," said Kranti in a video posted on bcci.tv. on Monday.

It's been a rapid rise for Kranti, who was handed an ODI at the R Premadasa Stadium in May 2025 as a replacement for injured Kashvee Gautam.



National Tennis C'ship:
Prakaash, Hruthik & Tavish
cruise into second round

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) Prakaash Sarran, Hruthik Katakam and Tavish Pahwa record dominant wins to march into the next round of the National Tennis Championship at the DLTA Complex in New Delhi on Monday.

Indore, Oct 6 (IANS) Tazmin Brits' superb 101, along with an unbeaten 83 from Sune Luus, powered South Africa to a commanding six-wicket victory over New Zealand in their Women's World Cup clash at the Holkar Stadium on Monday.

Chasing 232, Proteas were on a roll as the openers Brits and Laura Wolvaardt kept the scoring rate high early in the innings.

Brits and Wolvaardt smashed three boundaries in the first two overs of the powerplay to set the tone of their chase.



Women's World Cup:
Brits century,
Luus brilliance secure
six-wicket win for
South Africa



Pant likely to return
via Ranji Trophy in
late October, pending
fitness clearance

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) India wicket keeper-batter Rishabh Pant is likely to make his return to competitive cricket for Delhi in the 2025/26 Ranji Trophy later this month, and pending medical clearance from the BCCI's Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Bengaluru.

IANS understands that Pant, who has been at the CoE since mid-September, is scheduled to have another assessment on his right foot next week by the medical team.



Checkmate organisers troll FIDE
CEO for criticising Nakamura's
'childish act' against Gukesh;
American GM reacts with a laugh

New Delhi, Oct 6 (IANS) The chess world was marred by controversy when Japan-born American GM Hikaru Nakamura defeated the world champion Gukesh Dommaraju to secure a 5-0 victory for Team USA over Team India at the Checkmate: USA vs India and grabbed the Indian GM's king, tossing it into a cheering crowd and waved his arms in celebration.

The act sparked mixed reactions on social media, with many calling his celebration disrespectful. A video of Nakamura's act rapidly went viral on social media.

FIDE CEO Emil Sutovsky also criticised Nakamura for his behaviour by posting on X, "The event was a show. Fans were ecstatic. Players were encouraged to behave accordingly."

Asian Aquatics C'ships:
India lose 6-20 to Kazakhstan in water polo

Ahmedabad, Oct 6 (IANS) The third day of Water Polo and Artistic Swimming in the 11th Asian Aquatics Championships 2025 witnessed Indian Men's Water Polo team lose 6-20 to Kazakhstan at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex on

Monday. Meanwhile, in Artistic Swimming, Kazakhstan's Karina Magrupova and Viktor Druzin secured the top spot in the Women's Solo Free and Men's Solo Free, respectively. Kazakhstan secured a convincing 20-6 win over India in Men's Group B. Baltabkuly

Adil and Nedokontsev scored 4 goals each, Tosoy Eduard netted thrice, while Lamayev Maxim, Shakenov Murat, and Akimbay Aldiyar scored two goals apiece. And Akhmetov Ruslan, Madimar Almat, and Bobrovskiy Mstislav added 1 goal each.

