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'Shah has amnesia or is economical with truth': Chidambaram hits back on women's quota

Patna. (Agency).

Congress leader P Chidambaram on Friday accused Union Home Minister Amit Shah of misrepresenting the Congress's stand on women's reservation, saying the BJP leader either had "amnesia" or was "economical with the truth".

Responding to Shah's criticism of the Congress over the implementation of the 33 per cent reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state Assemblies, the former Union finance minister said the Congress had fully supported the passage of the women's reservation law and was demanding its immediate implementation.In a post on X, Chidambaram pointed out that the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act, 2023, had already been passed by both Houses of Parliament on September 20 and 21, 2023, and questioned why the government was not implementing it.He said the Act inserted Article 334A, linking the implementation of women's reservation to a delimitation exercise following the next Census. The Congress and other Opposition parties had opposed this provision during the parliamentary debates, arguing that it created two unnecessary hurdles, the Census and subsequent delimitation, he said.

Accusing the BJP of insisting on the provision, Chidambaram said the government .

BJP predicts sweeping win in Tripura civic polls, Left calls elections 'total farce'

Agartala.(Agency)

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha expressed confidence that the BJP would win all 16 civic bodies where polling was held on Friday by large margins, news agency Press Trust of India reported.Former chief minister and veteran Left leader Manik Sarkar, however, alleged that the ruling party had turned the civic election into a "total farce" and described the BJP government's performance in the state as "minus zero".

Voting was held amid tight security for 16 urban local bodies, including the Agartala Municipal Corporation. A total of 5.56 lakh voters were eligible to decide the fate of 733 candidates contesting 268 seats.A poll official told PTI that a little over 17 per cent voter turnout was recorded till 9 am. Of the 21 civic bodies that went to the polls, the BJP won five unopposed.Speaking to reporters, Saha said, "Going by the confidence we see in the eyes of voters, we are sure to win all the civic bodies, including the Agartala Municipal Corporation, with massive vote margins.""We don't go to the voters only during elections like other political parties do. We work for the people every day, and they will certainly support the BJP candidates," he said.Saha said the civic election results would have an impact on national politics, with Parliament set to convene shortly. "Good election results will definitely send a positive message for the party, especially when Parliament is set to be in session soon," he said.

Defeat to dominance? How non-NDA parties are boosting BJP's confidence on delimitation bill

The BJP-led NDA fell 54 votes short of the two-thirds majority needed to pass its delimitation and women's reservation legislation in April 2026. Eight months on, the BJP is confident of getting it passed. This is how changing political equations have altered parliamentary maths in a few months.

New Delhi. (Agency).

Just eight months ago, the BJP-led NDA government fell short of the numbers needed to push through its delimitation and women's reservation legislation. It was the first time in 12 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's tenure that a major government bill had been defeated on the floor of Parliament. Now, the political arithmetic appears to have changed. With reports of back-channel conversations with opposition MPs, possible support from regional parties and fresh proposals to address concerns raised by southern states, the BJP-led government is preparing for another test of strength in Parliament on the delimitation bill.The government, which suffered a legislative defeat in April 2026 when its Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill failed to secure the required two-thirds majority, is now counting on regional parties, including the DMK and the Sharad Pawar-led NCP (SP), to bridge the gap. Then there are the rebel Trinamool Congress MPs who have flocked to the obscure NCPI.

The question is whether these additional political equations can deliver the numbers that the NDA could not muster in April. The BJP seems to be confident. The government kept the monsoon session alive well into the



winter months.After more than 100 days since Parliament was prorogued following the Monsoon Session, the government has now announced fresh sittings of both Houses.Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Thursday (November 26) said the Centre had requested the Lok Sabha Speaker and the Rajya Sabha Chairman to reconvene the Lok Sabha on Monday, November 30, and the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, December 2, to transact "essential government business". Subject to the exigencies of business, the sittings of both Houses may conclude on December 2, 2026, he said.According to news reports, the government is expected to use the session to introduce a fresh delimitation bill, with the revised proposals likely to address some of the objections that led to the earlier legislation's defeat.

FROM 293 IN 2024 TO 298 VOTES IN APRIL: THE BJP'S 2/3RD CALCULATION

The 2024 Lok Sabha election results left the BJP with 240 seats, 32 short of the 272 majority mark. Its allies contributed another 53 seats, taking the NDA's tally to 293.The Telugu Desam Party, with 16 MPs, and the JD(U), with 12, were the two biggest pillars of the alliance. The Shiv Sena led by Eknath Shinde contributed seven MPs, while the Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) won five seats. Other allies included the Janata Dal (Secular) of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh's.

No compromise: MK Stalin clarifies delimitation stand amid talk of backing bill

DMK chief MK Stalin put to rest all speculation of the party supporting the Centre's delimitation bill, clarifying that it would not compromise on its two core demands. Earlier in the day, Vijay's TVK hinted that the DMK was preparing to support the BJP.

New Delhi.(Agency)

Former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin ruled out any compromise on the DMK's position on the proposed delimitation bill, hours after the ruling TVK of Vijay suggested that the party was preparing to join hands with the BJP. Putting to rest all speculation that the DMK could support the Centre's delimitation bill, which it has linked to 33% women's reservation, Stalin emphasised that the DMK remained firm on two key demands.The clarification comes amid strong buzz that the DMK, which walked out of the INDIA bloc earlier this year, might be open to backing the Constitution amendment Bill if Tamil Nadu's existing share of Lok Sabha seats is assured.



The DMK has 22 MPs in the Lok Sabha.

WHAT HAS DMK SAID ON SUPPORTING **DELIMITATION BILL**

Reiterating the party's demands, Stalin said Tamil Nadu's existing 7.18% share of seats in the Lok Sabha must not be reduced even if the total number of constituencies is increased. The DMK supremo also demanded that the existing proportion of parliamentary representation among states, based on the 1971 Census, remain frozen for another 25 years."The DMK stands firm on these two demands and will continue to do so. There is no change in our position, and there is no question of any compromise," Stalin asserted.

He also stressed that the DMK was the first party to raise concerns over the possible consequences of delimitation."Neither the speculations being circulated in the media nor the wails of backstabbers can shake our resolve. The shameless and ungrateful lot who abandoned their principles for positions of power must realise this," Stalin further said.

Delimitation bill: Kharge reaches out to DMK, AAP, BJD for opposition unity

NEW DELHI.(Agency).

Mallikarjun Kharge, Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, has called a meeting of opposition floor leaders at his residence on Saturday to discuss a coordinated strategy ahead of the government's expected move to reintroduce a constitutional amendment bill in Parliament concerning delimitation, according to sources.The meeting is expected to bring together floor leaders of INDIA bloc parties, along with representatives of opposition parties outside the alliance, including the DMK, AAP and BJD, among others.Sources said the meeting would take place at 11.30 am on Saturday at Kharge's residence at 10, Rajaji Marg.A special sitting of Parliament has been convened from November 30 to transact "essential" business, amid indications that the government may reintroduce a constitutional amendment for early implementation of women's reservation that involves delimitation.

The Lok Sabha has been reconvened on November 30 and the Rajya Sabha on December 2.The two Houses were reconvened following separate directives issued by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and Rajya Sabha Chairman C P Radhakrishnan, official sources said.The sittings will conclude on December 3, subject to exigencies of government business, they said.The opposition bloc is looking to close ranks and fight the government's move unitedly.It would be interesting to see whether non-INDIA bloc parties such as DMK, AAP and BJD respond to Kharge's invite or not.Amid the buzz over delimitation, DMK president M K Stalin on Friday asserted that under no circumstances should Tamil Nadu's existing 7.18 per cent share of seats in the Lok Sabha be reduced.The Dravidian party chief also said that the existing proportion of Parliamentary representation among states, as determined based on the 1971 Census and frozen earlier, must remain frozen for another 25 years.

Centre scrapped this land law in 1999. Bengal dumps it 27 years later

New Delhi.(Agency).

For decades, West Bengal has struggled to shake off its image of being unfriendly to businesses and investments. Now, the state is looking to shed that tag by doing away with a 50-year-old regulatory hurdle for real estate developers and investors. The Suvendu Adhikari-led BJP government is now set to scrap the 1976 Urban Land Ceiling Act that restricted how much urban land a person or entity could own.The interesting fact is that the Centre had already repealed the law way back in 1999. Now, land being a state subject, Bengal and Kerala chose not to adopt the Centre's repeal legislation. It had long been a source of frustration for the real estate sector and businesses (we will explain why shortly). On Wednesday, the Bengal Cabinet eventually cleared a proposal to repeal the



law."This is a very major reform," Sanjeev Sanyal, a member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), tweeted.Besides, the Bengal government is also working to reacquire the 997-acre land that was at the heart of the Tata Nano row in Singur during the Left government. The government wants to bring truck maker Ashok Leyland to Singur. You can read about it here.

WHAT IS THE URBAN LAND CEILING ACT?

Before we move further, it is important to understand why the Urban Land Ceiling Act was brought in 1976 and what restrictions it put in Bengal.The legislation was brought by the Indira Gandhi government during the Emergency to prevent the concentration of urban land in the hands of a few individuals or entities. It was tabled in Parliament by then Housing Minister Inder Kumar Gujral.

Manufacturing fraudulent 2/3 majority: Congress targets Centre over delimitation

New Delhi(Agency).

The Congress on Friday launched a sharp attack on the Modi government over its proposed delimitation exercise, accusing it of attempting to "manufacture a



fraudulent two-thirds majority" in the Lok Sabha to push through constitutional changes, rather than addressing the country's manufacturing sector.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh described the move as an assault on the Constitution and vowed to resist it, as the Centre prepares to convene special sittings of Parliament beginning November 30."Unable to get the manufacturing industry moving, the Modi Govt is moving to manufacture a fraudulent two-thirds majority in the Lok Sabha," Ramesh said in a post on X."This is an assault on the Constitution of India. It must and will be resisted with all might," he added.Outlining the party's position, Ramesh said the Congress remained firm on retaining the current strength of the Lok Sabha and the existing state-wise distribution of seats for another 25 years.

The party also demanded the implementation of one-third reservation for women, including reservation within the quota for women belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, from the 2029 Lok Sabha elections.

Delimitation Bill BJP plot to strip people of power: Sanjay Raut warns parties

Mumbai(Agency).

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Friday alleged that the delimitation bill was a BJP conspiracy to take power away from the people, news agency Press Trust of India reported. He warned that those supporting the bill would be remembered as the biggest traitors of the 21st century.His remarks came after a special sitting of Parliament was convened from November 30 to conduct essential business, amid indications that the government may reintroduce a constitutional amendment linking the implementation of women's reservation to delimitation.

In a post on X, Raut said Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray was no longer alive, while NCP (SP) president Sharad Pawar was unwell and not in a position to fight or make decisions. He claimed that otherwise, the "anti-national" delimitation bill would not have been brought before Parliament in such a "corrupt" manner."Delimitation is a BJP conspiracy to strip the people of this country of their power. Anyone who supports it is



betraying the people of this country They will be known as the biggest traitors of the 21st century!" Raut said in a post.

Raut said every patriotic and democratic party should reject the delimitation bill in Parliament. "History always remembers the names of traitors. Explanations for betrayal fade into thin air," he said in the post, tagging Pawar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.The Lok Sabha was reconvened for November 30 and the Rajya Sabha for December 2, hours after the government proposed the special sitting on Thursday. The two Houses were reconvened through separate directives issued by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and Rajya Sabha Chairman C P Radhakrishnan.The development followed Modi's assertion on Thursday that no force could stop justice from being delivered to women. He blamed "one opposition party" for the defeat in Parliament in April of the delimitation-linked Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026, which provides 33 per cent reservation for women in legislatures.

Ghaziabad to get another plant to process 2k tonne waste daily

Ghaziabad.(Agency)

A cluster-based solid waste management plant in Nidauri, which will process waste from the city and neighbouring urban local bodies (ULBs) at a shared facility, is set to start operations soon. The plant, currently undergoing trial runs, was inspected by municipal commissioner Himanshu Nagpal on Wednesday.

Spread over 45,000 sqm, the facility has the capacity to treat 1,000-2,000 tonnes of waste daily, produce compost and refuse-derived fuel, and is expected to strengthen the corporation's waste processing capacity.

The cluster-based model pools municipal solid waste from multiple nearby towns and ULBs at a central processing facility, instead of each civic body setting up its own treatment plant. The Nidauri facility will process waste from Ghaziabad and neighbouring areas, including Khoda-Makanpur Nagar Palika.

Officials said it is the first plant of its kind in the city.

The city currently generates around 1,400 metric tonnes of waste daily and has been struggling to manage it. The new facility is expected to provide additional capacity for scientific waste processing under the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2026, which took effect in April.

Teen dies by suicide in Faridabad, mother says he wanted an iPhone

Ghaziabad.(Agency)

An 18-year-old man was found dead at his home in Faridabad's Bhupani Colony on Wednesday evening, three days before his birthday. Police said his mother had told them that he had been upset over her inability to buy him an iPhone after he lost his previous handset.The youth had been insisting on an iPhone ever since losing his Android handset on Oct 18. His mother, a domestic worker and a widow, had bought him an Android phone worth Rs 52,000 a few months earlier. She gave him her own mobile phone to use after he lost it, but told him she could not afford an iPhone immediately. She had, however, been planning to surprise him with one on his birthday on Nov 28.According to police, the teenager was found hanging in a room at the house on Wednesday evening. His mother, who had raised him as her only child, was devastated. His father was murdered in Delhi in 2016, after which she brought him up at her parents' home.The SHO of Bhupani police station said the mother had tried to meet her son's earlier demands despite financial difficulties, but had told .

In Yamuna eway zone, business parks in PPP mode get green light

Noida.(Agency)

Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) has adopted the Uttar Pradesh Private Business Park Development Policy, 2025, to attract multinational companies and IT firms by facilitating the development of ready-to-use commercial office infrastructure in the region.

Private firms will develop and operate integrated business parks on govt-owned land through a public-private partnership (PPP) model. Each park will require a minimum of 10 acres, with a concession period of 45 years, which can be extended by another 45 years.

YEIDA chief executive officer Rakesh Kumar Singh said the board has adopted the state govt's policy in principle. "After the approval, the Authority will identify sectors for the scheme, allot plots and prepare a brochure outlining its provisions," he said.

The decision was taken at YEIDA's 94th board meeting, chaired by Authority chairman and Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner Alok Kumar.The board also approved YEIDA's Service Master Plan 2041, which will serve as a blueprint for developing essential infrastructure and civic services in the region.

Site ok? Certificates must before making project estimates in Gurgaon: Sample reports of works costing over Rs 50L to be submitted to commissioner's office

Gurgaon.(Agency)

MCG has made site clearance certificates mandatory before the preparation of estimates for development works. The move assumes significance in light of past instances in which MCG projects ran into land-related hurdles after work had been initiated. The civic body has directed its engineering wing to ensure that project sites are free of disputes and encroachments before proposals move forward. MCG will also conduct a survey of all roads in the city.The decision was taken at a review meeting chaired by MCG commissioner Pankaj on Thursday, where engineering officials were instructed to inspect proposed sites and resolve any disputes or encroachments before preparing estimates. In one such case, the corporation's proposed cultural complex in Sector 53 remained stalled after MCG discovered in 2023 that HSVP had sold the five-acre plot earmarked for the project in 2021. The project, conceived in 2015, had already seen over Rs 1 crore spent on consultancy, an expenditure later flagged as wasteful by the state auditor. Pankaj directed officials to initiate work towards replacing drinking water and sewer lines that are 30 years old."I have directed junior engineers to regularly inspect development works in their respective wards, while assistant and executive engineers were asked to conduct periodic field visits. I have also told the engineers that estimates for roads and streets must clearly specify the stretches to be covered and take the defect liability period into account," said the commissioner.The commissioner directed the department to hold a workshop for contractors to explain quality standards, prescribed procedures and contractual obligations. Agencies failing to complete projects within the stipulated timeline or compromising on quality must be issued notices within a week, he said. Officials were told that penalties, blacklisting and termination of contracts could follow as per rules. Sample reports of development works costing more



than Rs 50 lakh will also have to be submitted to the commissioner's office.The engineering wing has been directed to complete the tendering process on time so that road improvement works can begin in Jan and be completed by the end of May. The commissioner also said a project would be treated as complete only when it was fully functional, making a satisfaction certificate from the concerned councillor mandatory after completion. The engineering wing has also been asked to prioritise development works suggested by elected representatives and RWA representatives and maintain regular communication with them.

Separately, the horticulture wing was asked to install grills along green belts and road dividers under the corporation's jurisdiction and increase greenery. Officials were also directed to ensure the installation of good-quality streetlights. It has also been asked to prepare proposals for projects such as parks, libraries and swimming pools. Officials were directed to review pending works and prioritise their completion.

Work on orbital rail tunnel forces families out of homes in Nuh

Gurgaon.(Ajency)

The cracks have reached the walls of their homes, the staircases are shifting and the fields they had sown with wheat are disappearing into the ground.

In Patuka village of Nuh's Tauru, repeated cave-ins linked to tunnelling work for Orbital Rail Corridor have turned the ground beneath families' feet into a source of fear. Four to five families have left their ancestral homes for rented accommodation, while farmers are counting the losses as more agricultural land sinks.For Tahir Khan, the damage is already devastating. According to him, 14 acres of farmland have been affected by successive collapses over the past few months. The latest, between Nov 23 and 25, swallowed another stretch of nearly 300 metres, including land where wheat had recently been sown. An earlier major collapse had affected around 500 to 600 metres, followed by another cave-in within 10 to 15 days."We watched our land disappear before our eyes. We had sown wheat hoping to earn something from this season, but that crop too has been swallowed. Every time officials assure us that the ground will not sink any further, another collapse follows. We no longer know how much of our remaining land is safe," Khan said.

The damage has moved beyond the fields. Six to seven houses have developed deep cracks, residents said, leaving families worried that the structures could give way. Walls are separating and staircases have shifted. Four to five families have already moved into rented homes, unwilling to risk staying in buildings whose structural safety they can no longer trust.

The scale of the financial loss is enormous. Khan said agricultural land in the area is worth around Rs 4 crore an acre, while its value could rise to Rs 6 crore if developed into residential plots. With his 14 acres affected, the losses could run into several crores."This land is our livelihood and the future of our children. We have put our savings and years of hard work into it.

Buyer made to pay twice, company asked to refund Rs 26,000

Gurgaon.(Agency)

A consumer who paid Rs 1,022 for a blood pressure monitor through a QR code generated on the delivery invoice was denied the product after the delivery agent allegedly demanded that he pay the same amount again. The District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Gurgaon, has held Flipkart, its seller and delivery partner guilty of deficiency in service, directing them to refund the amount with interest and pay Rs 26,000 in compensation and litigation expenses.The commission, headed by president Sanjeev Jindal, with members Jyoti Siwach and Khushwinder Kaur, passed the order on a complaint filed by Lalit Kumar Verma. Verma had ordered a Dr Morepen BP-15 blood pressure monitor through Flipkart on Oct 13, 2025. The product was delivered through Ekart Services on Oct 17. According to the complaint, after the delivery agent opened the package, an invoice generated by the seller, Dawa Dost Pharmacy Pvt Ltd, was presented to him. Verma paid Rs 1,022 through Paytm by scanning the QR code on the invoice.However, when he asked for the product, the delivery agent allegedly refused to hand it over and demanded another Rs 1,022 through his own QR code, claiming the earlier payment was not reflected. Verma refused to pay twice, following which the agent returned with the product.The complainant told the commission that despite repeatedly approaching Flipkart, the seller and the delivery partner for resolution and refund, no relief was provided, forcing him to file the consumer complaint.Flipkart and Ekart, represented by advocate Mukesh Maurya, contested the complaint, while advocate Kamal Gupta represented Verma. Dawa Dost Pharmacy Pvt Ltd did not appear and was proceeded against ex parte.The commission observed that the complainant's assertions were supported by documentary evidence, including the invoice, payment receipt and email correspondence. It noted that the opposite parties failed to produce evidence to rebut his claims or establish anything contrary.

AQI 'poor' for 6th day, no respite as dispersal of pollutants remains weak

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Poor air quality is likely to persist in the city over the next two days, with unfavourable meteorological conditions expected to hamper the dispersal of pollutants, according to the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) Air Quality Early Warning System.The city recorded an AQI of 239 on Thursday, according to the daily reading updated at 4pm. Air quality remained in the poor category for the fifth consecutive day, with the AQI staying above 200 since Nov 22. It peaked at 277 on Nov 24.Sector 51 recorded the highest AQI of 258, followed by TERI Gram at 242 and Vikas Sadan at 217. A reading for Gwal Pahari was unavailable, though the dashboard showed four active monitoring stations.The maximum mixing height is forecast to remain at 1,350 metres on Thursday before dropping to 1,100 metres on Friday.



The ventilation index is also expected to remain unfavourable on both days, indicating limited scope for pollutants to disperse.Air quality deteriorated sharply during the first half of November, with the AQI crossing 300 and entering the very poor category on several days. The city recorded its highest AQI of 368 on Nov 6.According to CPCB, the annual permissible limits for PM2.5 and PM10 are 60 µg/m³ and 100 µg/m³, respectively. With both pollutants remaining above these limits, experts attributed the deterioration earlier this week to vehicular emissions, road dust and falling wind speeds.CPCB guidelines state that people with asthma and lung or heart conditions may experience breathing discomfort even at moderate AQI levels, while prolonged exposure to poor air quality can cause discomfort to most people.An AQI of 0–50 is considered good, 51–100 satisfactory, 101–200 moderate, 201–300 poor, 301–400 very poor and 401–500 severe.

Wind speed picks up but AQI stays poor in Noida and Ghaziabad for two days straight

Noida.(Agency)

The air quality of Noida and Greater Noida deteriorated marginally on Thursday but stayed in the 'poor' category. From 211 on Wednesday, the AQI in Noida dropped to 228, while in Greater Noida, the air quality worsened by 22 points from the previous day to settle at 254. Ghaziabad's AQI — 255 — did not change from Wednesday.A

ccording to the IMD, during the last 24 hours, minimum temperature in Noida dropped by 2.3 degrees Celsius and was recorded at 9 degrees Celsius. Early morning wind from the west blew at 5-10 kmph but grew favourable by afternoon as the speed increased to 10-15 kmph.On Thursday, as many as five Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) out of the total of 24 in the NCR cities were not functioning. In Greater Noida, four out of the seven stations were inoperative, leaving significant gaps in the city's monitoring of air quality. Of the remaining three, Knowledge Park III recorded the best air quality, with an AQI of 245. Knowledge Park V and Gautam Buddha University followed with AQIs of 254 and 263, respectively.The Sector 143 station in Noida was also out of order. One station in the city — the commercial hub of Sector 62 — logged a reading of 307 ('very poor'), although it improved from Wednesday's 333. The stations at sectors 39, 150, 116 and 125 all recorded 'poor' air, with readings of 216, 231, 244 and 247, respectively. Sector 1 and Sector 116 were the only two stations across the three NCR cities to record



'moderate' quality air at 166 and 187, respectively. The newly added AQMS of Noida at Sector 143 also remained out of order. Of the 24 CAAQMS, air quality data was available from 19, of which two — one each in Noida and Ghaziabad — recorded 'very poor' air quality in the range of 300-400, while two — both in Noida — recorded moderate air quality in the range of 100-200. The remaining 15 monitoring stations across the three cities recorded an AQI in the poor category in the range of 200-300.

Haryana Olympic Association gets ISO certification for sports governance, athlete welfare

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Haryana Olympic Association has received ISO 9001:2015 certification for its quality management system, bringing its sports governance, administration, athlete welfare and grievance redressal mechanisms under internationally recognised quality standards.

The certification has been awarded to the association's office at Olympic Bhawan in Sector 3, Panchkula, by Trans Continental Certifications Pvt Ltd. Issued on Oct 21, 2026, it will remain valid until Oct 20, 2029.ISO 9001:2015 is an international standard that sets out requirements for quality management systems, focusing on consistent processes, service delivery, monitoring and continual improvement. The certification covers the association's sports governance and administration, athlete welfare, sports development programmes, recognition and coordination of state sports associations, selection governance, event management and complaint handling. It also includes stakeholder engagement activities aimed at promoting and developing sports in Haryana.The scope extends to the establishment and promotion of sports libraries and sports knowledge resource centres in schools, healthcare institutions, educational establishments, sports academies and community centres across the country. The inclusion of athlete welfare and complaint handling in the quality management framework is significant, as it brings these functions within a structured system of monitoring and accountability.

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India takes note of ICJ verdict on Myanmar genocide, backs Rohingya return

New Delhi: India on Friday took note of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) judgment in the genocide case against Myanmar over its treatment of the Rohingya minority, reiterating its support for the safe, speedy and sustainable return of displaced Rohingya people to their homes in Rakhine State. The Indian response came a day after the ICJ delivered its judgment in the case brought by The Gambia against Myanmar over the 2017 military crackdown that forced hundreds of thousands of Rohingya to flee to neighbouring Bangladesh. "We have taken note of the verdict. India has consistently supported safe, speedy and sustainable return of the displaced Rohingya people from Rakhine State," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at a media briefing.Buy Maps The case, formally titled "The Gambia v Myanmar", concerns allegations of violations of the 1948 Genocide Convention through Myanmar's treatment of the Rohingya, a predominantly Muslim minority from Rakhine State. The 2017 military operations triggered a mass exodus into Bangladesh, creating one of the world's largest refugee crises. Highlighting India's humanitarian and developmental assistance, Jaiswal said New Delhi had supported Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh with relief supplies in five tranches under Operation Insaniyat. India had also extended support to the Rakhine State Development Programme



in Myanmar, he added. Meanwhile, former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina welcomed the ICJ judgment, describing it as an important step towards international justice and the eventual return of Rohingya refugees to their homes. She also highlighted her government's role in bringing the case before the international court. In a statement, Hasina recalled that Bangladesh had sheltered nearly one million Rohingya refugees fleeing Myanmar's military crackdown in 2017. She claimed her government had played a central role in facilitating international legal action against those responsible. She said she had instructed her counsel, Professor Payam Akhavan, to pursue proceedings before the International Criminal Court, invoking Bangladesh's jurisdiction. She also claimed to have secured diplomatic and financial support within the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for The Gambia to initiate proceedings against Myanmar before the ICJ. Hasina said Bangladesh had facilitated investigations and the collection of crucial evidence from witnesses and survivors in refugee camps. "Bangladesh played a central role in the investigations and gathering of crucial evidence among the witnesses and survivors in the refugee camps. Those efforts have now come to a successful conclusion," she said. Calling the judgment a proud moment for Bangladesh, Hasina urged all UN member states to ensure that the ruling was respected and implemented. She also criticised the current situation in Bangladesh, alleging that a country which had once occupied a leadership position on international human rights issues was now witnessing human rights abuses, political persecution, chaos and decline.Follow Politics "But Bangladesh will rise again and contribute its share to building a stronger UN and global governance in betterment of humankind's future," she said.

NIA seeks UAE help to trace Indian links of co-pilot who attacked Smit Machchhar

New Delhi: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has sent a mutual legal assistance (MLA) request to the UAE to investigate possible Indian links of the co-pilot accused of attacking Indian pilot Smit Machchhar aboard a flydubai flight. The anti-terror agency is probing the attack on Machchhar, allegedly carried out by his co-pilot in an attempt to crash the Israel-bound aircraft. Top sources in the agency said the investigation would focus on possible Indian links in the co-pilot's academic background and circle of friends. The probe is likely to examine whom the co-pilot came in contact with and whether any of his friends or educational institutions had links to India, sources said. The NIA identified the co-pilot as an Omani national in its FIR filed on October 9. The agency registered the case as an Indian citizen, Captain Machchhar, was involved.Buy Maps Sources said the MLA request had been sent to the UAE seeking copies of certain documents and permission to examine some people there. The NIA can investigate offences committed abroad if the acts, had they been committed in India, would fall within the category of offences the agency is empowered to probe, sources explained. Such investigations can be undertaken when India's interests are affected or Indian citizens are involved as victims or in other capacities specified under the law, they added.

NIA eyes deportation route for early return of terrorists Dalla, Passia

New Delhi: The NIA has indicated that it is exploring the option of seeking deportation of wanted Punjab gangsters Arsh Dalla and Happy Passia, and there is a possibility of a positive outcome by next year.Buy Maps According to sources, the anti-terror agency is seeking deportation of these terrorists as it is a faster process compared to an extradition request. It is mainly an executive decision of the government of the nation from which the deportation is sought. The development comes at a time when the Punjab Assembly elections are just months away and any success in deportation of these wanted terrorists could act as a political boost for the BJP, which is seeking an alliance with the Akali Dal in the state. Sources said once the government of the country to whom the deportation request was made was convinced that the individual was wanted in the country of his or her origin, there were chances that the request could be successfully expedited. As both Passia and Dalla are Indian citizens, it will be lot easier to seek their deportation from the US and Canada, respectively. "Since deportation of Indian citizens is possible, such cases have shown a gradual improvement in recent times and there is a possibility that by next year, these individuals may be deported," the sources said. They said seeking extradition was a long process as it involved proper documentation by agencies. Moreover, since every nation is sovereign, what is unlawful in India may not be so in that particular country. Also, wanted fugitives put up appeals in courts citing threat to their lives and infringement of human rights in the country which is seeking their extradition.Buy Maps This, the sources said, made extradition a long-drawn process, involving legalities, while deportation was a faster process. US-based Khalistani terrorist Passia was arrested in April 2025. He is wanted in connection with at least 16 terror attacks across Punjab and is alleged to have collaborated with Pakistan's ISI and the Khalistani terrorist group, Babbar Khalsa International (BKI). He has also carried out multiple hand grenade attacks on police stations in Punjab and the US. Dalla is a Canada-based gangster and the de facto chief of the banned Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF). Dalla, once a local gangster from Dalla village in Moga, Punjab, climbed the list of India's most-wanted terrorists after taking over the reins of the KTF following Nijjar's assassination last year. He was a local gangster before relocating to Canada in 2020 on a study visa.

NAME CHANGE
I, No.-2616362P Rank-HAV Name-PILLA MAREESU legal father of PILLA LASYA PRIYA residing at VILL-MUMMANAVANIPALEM, POST- KOTHAVALASA, TEH-KOTHAVALASA, DIST-VIZIANAGARAM, ANDHRA PRADESH-535183, have changed my minor daughter's name from PILLA LASYA PRIYA to PILLA LASHYA PRIYA for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 27/11/2026 before Notary Public Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, PILLA RAMANAMMA mother of No. 2616362P Rank-HAV Name-PILLA MAREESU residing at VILL-MUMMANAVANIPALEM, POST-KOTHAVALASA, TEH-KOTHAVALASA, DIST-VIZIANAGARAM, ANDHRA PRADESH-535183, have changed my name from PILLA RAMANAMMA to PILLA RAVANAMMA for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 27/11/2026 before Notary Public Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, G PREMA wife of JC- 442444Y Rank-SUB Name- N VELU residing at VPO-MALAIYANDAHALLI, P.S-KAVERIPATTINAM, TELEGRAPH OFFICE, TEH & DIST-KRISHNAGIRI, TAMILNADU-635112, have changed my name from G PREMA to PREMA G, vide affidavit dated 27/11/2026 before Notary Public Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I hitherto known as IBRAHIM S/O ZAKIR HUSAIN R/O f-2/719, Sangam Vihar, Devil, PO-Dr. Ambedkar Nagar, Dist-South Delhi, Delhi-110080 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MOHD IBRAHIM.

NAME CHANGE
I, SANDHYA KUMARI W/O ANIL KUMAR R/O H.NO. B-29, B-BLOCK, JHILMIL COLONY, SHAHDARA, JHILMIL, EAST DELHI, DELHI-110095 declare that my name has been mentioned as SANDHYA THAKUR instead of SANDHYA KUMARI in various documents. That SANDHYA THAKUR and SANDHYA KUMARI is one and the same person.

NAME CHANGE
I, ANIL KUMAR S/O LATE HARBANSH SINGH R/O H.NO. B-29, B-BLOCK, JHILMIL COLONY, SHAHDARA, JHILMIL, EAST DELHI, DELHI-110095 declare that my name has been mentioned as ANIL KUMAR THAKUR, ANIL THAKUR instead of ANIL KUMAR in various documents. That ANIL KUMAR THAKUR, ANIL THAKUR and ANIL KUMAR are the names of one and the same person.

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I, It's General Information that RUPALI W/O SHIV NATH R/O B-1/35/1, SAFDARJUNG ENCLAVE S.O SOUTH WEST DELHI DELHI-110029 mine and my husband name wrongly mentioned in UID No. 2459 3046 7376) and the actual and correct name mine my husband RUPALI JOARDAR, SHIVNATH JOARDAR which may be amended ascendingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I, SHIVNATH S/O NIPENDERNATH R/O B-1/35/1, SAFDARJUNG ENCLAVE S.O SOUTH WEST DELHI DELHI-110029 mine and my father's name wrongly mentioned in UID No. 3309 2835 5780) and the actual and correct name mine my father's SHIVNATH JOARDAR NIPENDRA NATH JOARDAR which may be amended ascendingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

NAME CHANGE
I RAMDEI DEVI legally mother of Army No - 15228669Y, Rank - NK, Name - RAKESH KUMAR PASWAN, Presently Residing At, Post Maharajganj, Vill Mujahana khurd, Teh - Maharajganj, Dist Maharajganj, State Uttar Pradesh, Pin 273303, have changed my name from RAMDEI DEVI to RAM DAI for all future purposes, and in my son's service records my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 10/06/1970 instead of my correct date of birth as 06/02/1972 vide Affidavit dated 26/11/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, Shambhavi Kailash Chandra Purohit D/O Kailash Chandra Purohit R/O C-490 Head Post Office SEC 19 Noida Up 201301 Have change my name to Shambhavi Purohit for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I, RITU SHARMA W/o Ajay Kumar R/o Flat No.B-7, New-218, Krishna Appt, Gali No.12, Tomar Colony, Burari, Delhi-110084, have changed my name from RITU SHARMA to RITU permanently.

NAME CHANGE
I, TRISHA PRADEEP BHATIA D/o Pradeep Narendra Bhatia R/o H.No.168, Satya Niketan, Near Gurudwara, Moti Bagh-2, South Moti Bagh, Delhi-110021, have changed my name to TRISHA BHATIA permanently.

NAME CHANGE
I, SURJA KUMAR DEBNATH father of Army No – 15232108F, Rank –LNK(OPR), Name – SUMAN DEBNATH, Unit – 110, MEDIUM REGIMENT, permanent residing at HOUSE No-186, WEST CHANDMARI, NEAR RUBBAR BOARD, PO-KUNJABAN, VTC-AGARTALA, DIST-WEST TRIPURA, TRIPURA-799006, have changed my name from SURJA KUMAR DEBNATH to SURJYA KUMAR DEBNATH for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 27/11/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

LOST AND FOUND
I, SANJAY JAIN, SON OF SHRI VIMAL KUMAR JAIN, RESIDING AT 276, WARD NO 7, SHIV COLONY, HANUMAN NAGAR, BHILWARA, RAJASTHAN -211201, LOST MY ORIGINAL PROPERTY DOCUMENTS OF PROPERTY NO 110 IST FLOOR PART PF PROPERTY NO XVI/2574 PLOT NO 269, BLOCK M-GALI NO 5-6, NAIWALA ESTATE, BEADON PURA, KAROL BAGH NEW DELHI -110055THE PROPERTY PAPER HAS BEEN LOST IN DELHI KAROLBAGH ON 04/11/2026. IF ANYONE FINDS THIS PAPER, PLEASE CONTACT TO ME ON THIS MOBILE NO. 7291853252

NAME CHANGE
I, NEELU KUMARI, daughter No-2495372N, Rank-HAV, Name-RAKESH KUMAR, Unit-25 Punjab Regt, resident of VILL-MAGURJAN, PO-NIPANIYA, PS-BARHARA KOTHI, DIST-PURNIA, BIHAR-854202, have changed my name NEELU KUMARI to NILU KUMARI for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 27/11/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, JC- 442444Y Rank-SUB Name-VELU N residing at VPO-MALAIYANDAHALLI, P.S-KAVERIPATTINAM, TELEGRAPH OFFICE, TEH & DIST-KRISHNAGIRI, TAMILNADU-635112, have changed my name from VELU N to N VELU vide affidavit dated 27/11/2026 before Notary Public Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, ATIF KHAN S/O MD. ZULKARNAIN KHAN R/O E-160, 3RD FLOOR, ABUL FAZAL ENCLAVE PART-2, LAL DUKAN, SHAHEEN BAGH, JAMIA NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110025, declare that, the name of my father has been wrongly written as Zulkarnain Khan in 10th, 12th and Graduation certificates. The actual name of my father is Md Zulkarnain Khan for which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I MOHAMMAD ALI ASGAR S/0 AKBAR ALI R/0 H.NO 313/57-C FIRST FLOOR ANAND NAGAR INDER LOK DELHI 110035 CHANGED MY NAME TO ASGAR ALI

NAME CHANGE
I MOHAMMAD ALI AKBAR S/0 ALI AHMED R/0 H.NO 313/57-C FIRST FLOOR ANAND NAGAR INDER LOK DELHI 110035 CHANGED MY NAME TO AKBAR ALI

NAME CHANGE
I, DEVANAND MANDAL, father No-2495372N, Rank-HAV, Name-RAKESH KUMAR, Unit-25 Punjab Regt, resident of VILL-MAGURJAN, PO-NIPANIYA, DIST-PURNIA, BIHAR-854202, have changed my name DEVANAND MANDAL to DEBANAND MANDAL, for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 27/11/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I,Mohammad Saad S/o Abdul Rehman R/o S-8/29, Upper Ground Floor, Flat No.4, Saqlane Road, Joga Bai Extn. Jamia Nagar, Okhla, Delhi-110025 have changed my name to Mohd Saad.

NAME CHANGE
I,Abdul Reman S/o Abdul Mannan R/o S-8/29, Upper Ground Floor, Flat No.4, Saqlane Road, Joga Bai Extn. Jamia Nagar, Okhla, Delhi-110025 have changed my name to Abdul Rehman.

NAME CHANGE
I, SUNITA GUSAIN, D/o. BALWANT SINGH GUSAIN, & W/o. LAXMAN SINGH RAWAT, R/o. J-144, GALI NO-9, PURAN NAGAR, PALAM COLONY, NEW DELHI-110045, have changed my name from SUNITA GUSAIN to SUNITA RAWAT for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I, Deepika Savita D/O Ranjeet Singh W/O Anil Kumar Savita R/O 141C 2nd Floor, Block- 36, LIG Flats, Sector- 99, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, 201301 Have Changed My Name to Deepika for All Future Purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I.SACHIN JAIN S/O SURESH KUMAR JAIN R/O IV/2985 PLOT NO-10 GALI NO-12 BHOLA NATH NAGAR 3RD F SHALIMAR PARK EXT SHAHDARA DELHI-110032. Have changed my name to SACHIN KUMAR JAIN for all purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I hitherto known as RAMESH CHAND GUPTA S/O PARMA NAND AGGARWAL R/O 130 Kapil Vihar Shakur Basti Saraswati Vihar North West Delhi Delhi-110034 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as VINAY AGGARWAL.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Information is given to general public at large that our client Mr. Lokesh and Mr. Kapil Yadav both Sons of Late. Rajpal Yadav are the owner of Freehold Residential Bearing Property Id No. 1CCC3925 Bearing Plot No. 572, Area Measuring 278 Sq. Yds., approx., having its Covered area measuring 2500 Sq. Ft., Situated within the Revenue Estate Mauja Lal Dora of Village- Chakarpur, Tehsil Wazirabad, District Gurugram Haryana. by virtue of Registered Transfer Deed Doc. No. 14620 dated 13.11.2026 in the chain documents below mentioned documents not available i.e. Legal Heirs Certificate/SMC issued from the concerned Department in favour of the legal heirs of Late. Rajpal now our client is declaring that that any other person does not have any right over the said property, and same has been financed by Piramal Finance Limited Branch: Sohna Road Gurgaon Haryana. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the` right, title or interest in the Said Property then contact us within 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by anyone. Thereafter no claim shall be entertained

[NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA]
Advocate
1/566-A, Ground Floor,
Sector-1, Vaishali,
Ghaziabad, Uttar
Pradesh-201010.
Contact at
09958871432

PUBLIC NOTICE
MY CLIENT SH. MANGAL SINGH S/O SH. RAJ KUMAR R/O H.NO. 6/15, FRIENDS ENCLAVE WEST, SULTANPURI, DELHI, DO HEREBY DISOWN/DEBAR HIS SON MUKUL AND HIS DAUGHTER PRACHI FROM HIS ALL MOVABLE/ IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES AND SEVER HIS RELATIONS FROM THEM DUE TO THEIR MISCONDUCT AND MISBEHAVIOUR. THEREFORE, MY CLIENT WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR ANY ACTS.

MANISHA Advocate
Ch. No.334, 3RD Floor
Lawyers Chamber Block,
Rohini Courts Delhi-110085

MODIFICATION OF FEEDING ARRANGEMENTS
E-Tender Notice No. EL-RNY-TRD-13-2026-27 Dated: 25-11-2026. Works tenders through "E" Tendering system for and on behalf of the President of India are invited for the works as detailed below:- **Name of work:** At Rangiya Division:-Modification of feeding arrangements by providing extra isolators at all Switching station under Rangiya Division. **Tender Value:** ₹2,78,86,875.51/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹5,57,700/-. **Date & Time of closing of tender:** At **11.00** hrs. on **17-12-2026**. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available in the website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr. DEE, Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

PUBLIC NOTICE
Information is hereby given to the general public that our client Mrs. Neelam W/o Mr. Vicky Kumar Sharma is the owner and in possession of a Freehold Residential Vacant Plot No. C77 and C-77/A, area measuring 25 + 29 = 54 Sq. Yds, Out of Khasra No. 574, Situated at Residential Colony Shiv Vatika, in the area of Village Behta Hazipur, Pargana & Tehsil Loni, District Ghaziabad, U.P.,. Our client acquired the said property by virtue of Sale Deed dated 12.11.2024 as duly registered in the SRO- Loni II Ghaziabad, Vide Doc No. 20463, in Book No. 1, Vol. No. 2757, on Pages 331-350, dated 12.11.2024.& Sale Deed dated 28.04.2025 as duly registered in the SRO- Loni II Ghaziabad, Vide Doc No. 7921, in Book No. 1, Vol. No. 3362, on Pages 281-302, dated 28.04.2025., in the chain documents below mentioned documents not available i.e. Death Certificate & SMC of Late Mr. Ram Sharan S/o Mr. Ratan Singh., Therefore, our client hereby declares that except him, no other person has any right, title, interest, claim or objection in respect of the above-mentioned property., and the said property to be financed/ mortgaged with Piramal Finance Ltd., Branch: Peeragarhi New Delhi. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the` right, title or interest in the Said Property then contact us within 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by anyone. Thereafter no claim shall be entertained

[NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA]
Advocate
1/566-A, Ground Floor,
Sector-1, Vaishali,
Ghaziabad, Uttar
Pradesh-201010.
Contact at
09958871432

OHE AND PSI MODIFICATION WORKS
Tender Notice No: EL-RNY-TRD-14-2026-27; **Dated:** 25-11-2026. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work; **Name of Work :** OHE and PSI modification in connection with RAP and non-RAP items work with latest special modification instructions. **Advertised Value:** ₹3,10,85,099.92/-; **Earnest Money**: ₹6,21,700/-; Date & time **closing/opening** of tender at **11:00** hrs. on **17-12-2026.** Complete information alongwith tender document of above e-tender are available in the website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr. DEE/TRD, Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Corrigendum

Ref: **(i). Tender Notice No. 56/2026-2027 dated 06.11.2026**
(i). Tender No. 08265530 due on 07.12.2026.

(i). In reference to above tender, the **due date has been extended** from 30.11.2026 to **07.12.2026.**

(ii). One documents has been attached in the tender.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

The corrigendum has been published on website **www.ireps.gov.in.**

4129/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

The Chief Mechanical Engineer/Planning & EnHM, Northern Railway, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-06, for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open e-tender under Two Packet System of the under noted work: -

1	**Full Name of work**	Upgradation/Development of Maintenance Infrastructure at Bijwasan (BWSN) as Maintenance cum Workshop Depot for Vande Bharat Sleeper Trains including all provisions as per contract condition of WTA-527 for the provisions of M&P, simulators & training facility etc.
2	**Approx. Cost of work**	Rs. 2,42,12,31,308.72/-
3	**Completion period of the work**	30 (Thirty) months
4	**Earnest Money to be deposited**	Rs. 4,84,24,600/-
5	**Sale/availability of tender document on railway website**	Tender documents will be available on IREPS web site i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in** from 26.11.2026 to 12.01.2027 upto 15:00 hrs.
6	**Pre-Bid Conference**	08.12.2026 at 11:00 hrs at CAO/C Office, N. Rly., Kashmere Gate, Delhi and through online VC Link.
7	**Last date of receipt of pre-bid queries**	11.12.2026 up to 18:00 hrs.
8	**Authority response to queries**	17.12.2026 up to 18:00 hrs.
9	**Last date/Time of upload of tenders**	12.01.2027 up to 15:00 hrs. Tender Documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS website i.e **www.ireps.gov.in** w.e.f. 29.12.2026 to 12.01.2027.
10	**Date and time of opening of tender**	13.01.2027 at 15:00 hrs. The detailed tender notice can also be seen on the notice board of the above office.

Tender notice no. - 74-W-4-1-492-WA-RS-INF Date: 26.11.2026 4113/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

FORM NO. INC-26
PUBLIC NOTICE
(Pursuant to Rule 30 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014)
Before the Central Government
Regional Director, Northern Region Directorate I,
New Delhi

In the matter of Section 13(4) of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rule 30(5) of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014
AND
WEBCRAWLER SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
CIN: U62091UP2025PTC237800

Registered Office: A-317, NX One Project, Tower T3, NX Byte, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India - 201301.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that the Company proposes to make an application to the Central Government under Section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013 for confirmation of alteration of its Memorandum of Association in terms of the Special Resolution passed at the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting held on [EGM DATE], to enable the Company to shift its registered office from the State of Uttar Pradesh to the State of West Bengal.

Proposed registered office: Unit No. 609, 6th Floor, Arch Square-X2 Building, EP-GP Block, Sector V, Bidhannagar, Kolkata, West Bengal - 700091.

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change may submit objections through the MCA-21 portal (www.mca.gov.in) by filing the Investor Complaint Form or send objections by registered post, supported by an affidavit stating the nature of interest and grounds of opposition, to the Regional Director, Northern Region Directorate I, B-2 Wing, 2nd Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi - 110003, within fourteen (14) days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the Company at its existing registered office stated above.

For and on behalf of
WEBCRAWLER SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
Akash Pandey
Director | DIN: 11414143

Place: Noida
Date: [PUBLICATION DATE]

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the general public that Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited ("ABHFL"), having its Branch Office at Barakhamba Prime, New Delhi, proposes to extend a loan facility to Mr. Lalit Kumar against the security of Upper Ground Floor without roof rights, upto the extent of Ceiling Level, Backside, Part of Property Bearing No. G-14, (Old No.G-4), area measuring 75 Sq. Yds., Yds., (i.e., 62.70 Sq. Mts)., Out of Khasra No. 76, Situated at the abadi of Laxmi Nagar Extn. In the area of Village Shakarpur Khas, Illaqa Shahdara, Delhi-110092; (hereinafter referred to as the "Said Property"). The Said Property was originally owned by Mr. Mukesh Kumar Thakur, by virtue of by virtue of Sale Deed dated 11.11.2005, duly registered as Document No. 13944 on 11.11.2005. Mr. Mukesh Kumar Thakur died intestate on 05.02.2016, leaving behind the following legal heirs: - Mrs. Sharda Devi (Wife), Mr. Amit Thakur (Son), Mr. Lalit Kumar (Son) and Mrs. Deepa Thakur (Daughter). Thereafter, all the aforesaid legal heirs executed Relinquishment Deed dated 27.02.2023, duly registered as Document No. 1299 on 28.02.2023 in favour of 1) Mr. Amit Thakur, 2) Mr. Lalit Thakur & 3) Mrs. Deepa Thakur in respect of her share in Property No. G-14 (Old No. G-4), area measuring 300 Sq. Yds. Subsequently, 1) Mrs. Deepa Thakur & 2) Mr. Amit Thakur executed a Release Deed (with Natural Love and affection without consideration) dated 06.07.2023, duly registered as Document No. 4915 on 07.07.2023 in favour of Mr. Lalit Kumar in respect of Property No. G-14 (Old No. G-4), area measuring 150 Sq. Yds., Out of land area measuring 300 Sq. Yds. Finally, Mr. Lalit Kumar Gifted Said Property i.e., Upper Ground Floor without roof rights, upto the extent of Ceiling Level to Mrs. Bindu, vide Gift Deed dated 01.10.2026, duly registered as Document No. 2026/4/I/10668 on 07.10.2026. This notice is being published due to the non-availability of the Succession/Surviving Member Certificate (SMC) of Late Mr. Mukesh Kumar Thakur, to ascertain the complete particulars of his legal heirs and invite claims/objections, if any Any person(s) claiming any right, title, interest or share in the Said Property by way of inheritance, succession, sale, mortgage, lien, lease, possession or otherwise, is hereby called upon to submit their claim or objection, along with supporting documentary evidence, within 07 (Seven) days from the date of publication of this Notice to Adv. Rishi Maheshwari (Mobile: +919340118309). In the event no claim or objection is received within the stipulated period, ABHFL shall be entitled to proceed with the proposed loan facility against the security of the Said Property, on the basis of the documents available, at its own risk and responsibility, without any further reference to any such person(s), subject to applicable law.

Rishi Maheshwari (Advocate)
Contact No- +91- 9340118309
Email Address: - lsrlexicure@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
Information is hereby given to the general public that our client Mr. Parmod Kumar Dang S/o Mr. Radhey Sham Dang is the owner and in possession of a Freehold Residential property area measuring 650 square yards, out of Khasra Nos. 595/1, 598 & 598/2, situated in the revenue estates of Village Khanpur, Tehsil Hauz Khas, New Delhi., Our client acquired the said property by virtue of WILL dated 04.01.2016 Vide Doc. No. 345, in Book No. 3, Volume No. 86, on Pages No. 188 to 189, on dated 04.01.2016, in Sub-Registrar Office- SR V A Hauz Khas, New Delhi/Delhi..., in the chain documents below mentioned documents not available i.e. (1) SMC of SMC of late Mr. Radhey Sham Dang S/o Late Mr. S. Tirath Singhji Dang & Probate Order of WILL dated 04.01.2016., Therefore, our client hereby declares that except him, no other person has any right, title, interest, claim or objection in respect of the above-mentioned property., and Built-up Third Floor without roof rights, Built-Up Property Bearing No. D-262, area measuring 160 Sq. Yds. Approx., sold to be Mrs. Uma Sah and the said property to be financed/ mortgaged with Piramal Finance Ltd., Branch: Rohini New Delhi. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the` right, title or interest in the Said Property then contact us within 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by anyone. Thereafter no claim shall be entertained

[NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA]
Advocate
1/566-A, Ground Floor,
Sector-1, Vaishali,
Ghaziabad, Uttar
Pradesh-201010.
Contact at
09958871432

Oscar-nominated Iranian writer arrested after speaking out on protester executions

World.(Agency).

Iranian authorities have arrested Oscar-nominated screenwriter and prominent human rights activist Mehdi Mahmoudian at his home in Tehran, days after he raised concerns about the possible execution of protesters jailed over the 2022 anti-government demonstrations.Mahmoudian, one of the writers behind the Iranian drama It Was Just an Accident, was detained on Wednesday, according to a friend and an activist based in Europe who spoke to The Associated Press on Thursday. The circumstances surrounding his arrest remain unclear, and Iranian authorities have not issued an official statement explaining the detention.

His personal Telegram channel reported that security agents arrived at his residence, detained him and seized his electronic devices. Reformist news outlet Emtedad also reported his arrest on Wednesday.Hosein Razzagh, a friend of Mahmoudian and an Iranian activist living in Europe, told the AP that he last spoke to the screenwriter by phone at around 2-3 am on Wednesday. Their conversation centred on a death penalty case involving protesters.

India weakened Pak in 1971, did not help Bengalis: Bangladesh Speaker

World.(Agency).

Bangladesh Parliament Speaker Hafiz Uddin Ahmed has used his visit to Pakistan to push a hostile narrative against India, claiming New Delhi did not help Bengalis in 1971 but instead worked to weaken Pakistan. Making the provocative remarks from Islamabad, Ahmed has sought to turn one of the most consequential chapters in the subcontinent's history into a fresh political attack on India amid sharp deteriorating Delhi-Dhanka ties after Sheikh Hasina's ouster.

On Wednesday, he visited Parliament House in Islamabad, where he recalled the events related to the 1971 war and the fall of Dhaka while speaking to reporters. At one point, he said that in 1971, India "did not help the Bengalis but weakened Pakistan," BBC Urdu reported. He also alleged that Bangladesh had effectively become a "colony" of India during Sheikh Hasina's 15-year rule and claimed that the country's people had suffered as a result.Ahmed, a former captain in the Pakistani army who fought in the 1971 war and was later honoured in Bangladesh for his bravery, questioned India's role in the conflict.

Video: Anti-Munir Maulana's protest call triggers highway blockades across Pakistan

World.(Agency)

Tensions in Pakistan escalated on Thursday after several senior leaders of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F), including party chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman and secretary-general, Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri, were detained ahead of a planned public gathering in Sargodha. Punjab Police said the leaders were detained over alleged violations of restrictions imposed on public gatherings.Following the detentions, JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman called for nationwide protests and asked supporters to block major highways and motorways across Pakistan.According to Pakistani media, his call was quickly followed by highway blockades in several parts of the country. Traffic was disrupted from the Peshawar Motorway to Karachi and parts of Balochistan.Once a key ally of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) coalition that removed Imran Khan from power in 2022, Fazlur Rehman has since moved into opposition and developed working ties with Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI).He has also been at odds with Pakistan's powerful military establishment and its chief, Field Marshal Asim Munir.

Silent crackdown on Hasina's Gopalganj? Dhaka freezes funds, plans trains to bypass it

Awami League supporters set fire to public facilities in Gopalganj, the home district of party chief Sheikh Hasina, during violent protests. While desisting from using force against them, the Tarique Rahman-led government isn't rebuilding the burnt-down facilities and has frozen funds to the district as part of a strategy.

World.(Agency).

The Tarique Rahman-led BNP government in Bangladesh has decided to withhold financial allocations to local bodies and keep public services suspended indefinitely in Gopalganj, the home district of ousted PM and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina. This comes after Awami League supporters burnt down public facilities, as part of their protest, ahead of Hasina's planned return to Bangladesh. The strategy, it seems, is to desist from using force, while making the Awami League backers bear the consequences for unprovoked acts of violence.

On November 15, hundreds of armed Awami League supporters took to the streets, and the demonstrations escalated into attacks on public infrastructure, police stations and properties belonging to leaders of Tarique Rahman's BNP.The violence was not confined to Gopalganj. Incidents of arson and sabotage have been reported across Bangladesh, including Dhaka. In Chattogram, unidentified individuals torched an unused part of the former chief of the interim administration, Muhammad Yunus's ancestral home, while a BNP office was burnt down in Tarique Rahman's hometown, Bogura."It obviously looks as though there is a strategy in whatever is being done," Shafquat Rabbee, a Bangladeshi-American political commentator, told India Today Digital, suggesting that the government was deliberately avoiding the use of force against protesters while allowing the consequences of the unrest to play out."The government has two options, either to deal with force, or let the people of Gopalganj reflect and realise that they have hurt their own interests without any provocation," Rabbee said, adding that the government had decided to choose the latter.The remarks come amid speculation over Dhaka's decision to suspend financial allocations and keep train services and police stations in Gopalganj following a series of violent incidents and demonstrations by members and supporters of the Awami League. The violence comes ahead of Hasina's announced return from exile from India on December 16, two years after nationwide protests forced her to flee the country.The decision has raised concerns over whether the entire district is being made to pay for the actions of a section of its residents, particularly amid escalating political tensions across Bangladesh.What is interesting is that, with the Awami League banned, Tarique Rahman's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) won the three Gopalganj seats in the February general elections.



FROZEN FUNDS, SUSPENDED TRAINS AND SHUTTERED POLICE STATIONS

According to a November 25 report by the Dhaka-based Prothom Alo, the government has decided to withhold the third instalment of financial assistance to Gopalganj's district council, upazila councils, municipalities and union councils.

Dutch leader wipes away 'left-wing tears' over Gaza crisis, gets challenged

World.(Agency)

A debate on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza took a contentious turn when Dutch MEP Sebastian Kruis walked up to the podium mimicking someone wiping away tears.The gesture appeared to mock lawmakers raising concerns about the humanitarian crisis in the Palestinian enclave.Kruis, who represents the right-wing Party for Freedom (PVV), later dismissed concerns about Palestinians suffering from cold weather.He claimed temperatures in Gaza were warm and accused critics of spreading "fake news".He also launched a personal attack on European Union foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas, calling her a "notorious liar" and a "political Pinocchio".The remarks prompted the presiding chair to intervene and remind lawmakers of parliamentary rules governing personal attacks.

MEP QUESTIONS KRUIS OVER TEAR-WIPING GESTURE

The gesture became a point of confrontation when Swedish MEP Abir Al-Sahlani challenged Kruis using the Parliament's blue-card procedure, which allows lawmakers to put questions to a speaker.Al-Sahlani questioned the gesture he had made while walking towards the podium and asked whether it was directed at lawmakers raising concerns about the humanitarian situation in Gaza."What did you just do when you took the microphone? Did you do that to us?" she asked, while mimicking the motion of rubbing her eyes.



Kruis defended his actions, saying he was wiping away the "left-wing tears" caused by interventions from other lawmakers.

He also referred sarcastically to their objections as "tear-breaking interventions" and maintained that the gesture was not prohibited.

KRUIS DISMISSES CONCERNS OVER WINTER CONDITIONS IN GAZA

During the debate, Kruis disputed warnings about the impact of cold weather and flooding on Palestinians in Gaza.

1 killed, several injured as Houthi projectile strikes Saudi oil refinery

Jazan.(Agency)

A Nepalese national was killed, and several others were injured after a projectile struck an Aramco refinery in Saudi Arabia's Jazan early on Friday, triggering a fire and forcing a temporary suspension of some operations at the facility.Saudi Arabia's Energy Ministry confirmed the casualties, saying the injured workers were of various nationalities and were receiving medical care. The blaze was brought under control, while emergency and technical teams began assessing the damage and checking the safety of the installations.

The ministry did not identify those responsible for the attack. However, the Saudi-led military coalition fighting Yemen's Houthis blamed the Iran-aligned group for the strike.



The coalition said it had destroyed a ballistic missile launch platform in Yemen's port city of Hodeidah, which it claimed the Houthis had used to carry out the attack on the refinery. It had earlier warned that attacks targeting civilians and civilian infrastructure would be met with a firm military response.The latest strike follows a series of Houthi attacks on Saudi targets. On November 24, a strike on a tower in Riyadh's King Abdullah Financial District injured 11 people, including two Indian nationals. The injured also included two Saudi citizens, three Nepalese nationals and four Egyptians, according to Saudi Civil Defence.A day later, the Houthis claimed attacks on Ras Tanura, the kingdom's largest refinery and a major crude export hub.

Thanksgiving storm delays 1,800 flights, leaves lakhs without electricity in US

Pennsylvania.(Agency).

A powerful storm disrupted Thanksgiving celebrations across much of the US East Coast, bringing down trees and power lines, flooding coastal areas and leaving hundreds of thousands of utility customers (homes, businesses, and several other institutions) without electricity. Wind gusts of up to 70 mph (112 kph) battered several states, while the storm also caused major disruptions to holiday air travel, news agency Reuters reported.FlightAware reported 417 US-related flight cancellations and around 1,800 delays by early Friday. Major airports in the Washington and New York City areas were among the worst affected.The scale of power outages grew as the storm swept across the country. More than 836,000 US utility customers were without electricity as of 2.36 am IST on Friday, according to poweroutage.us.Virginia and Maryland each reported more than 1,70,000 outages, while Pennsylvania had nearly 1,70,000 customers without power. The figures also included more than 1,17,000 outages in Missouri, over 91,000 in New Jersey, more than 20,000 in Delaware and nearly 16,000 in North Carolina.Utilities and state officials had warned that strong onshore winds and rain-soaked ground could bring down trees and power lines, increasing the risk of widespread power disruptions.Wind gusts of 50 to 70 mph were reported or forecast across parts of Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, New York and coastal New England, according to the US National Weather Service (NWS). New York City Emergency Management reported that winds intensified in the early hours of Friday, reaching 56 mph (90 kph) at LaGuardia Airport.The NWS also warned that strong onshore winds, combined with king tides, were causing coastal flooding in low-lying communities along parts of the East Coast.Conditions were expected to gradually improve across the Mid-Atlantic overnight, with the heaviest rain and strongest winds moving into New England. However, blustery conditions, with gusts of 25 to 35 mph, were forecast across parts of the East Coast on Friday.

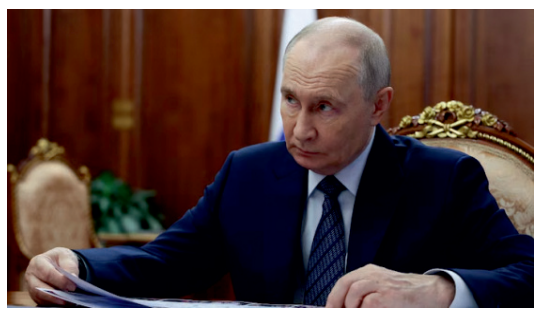
Biggest since Soviet era, Putin approves record $609 billion defence budget

World.(Agency)

Russia's parliament has approved a record defence budget for 2027-2029, allocating more than 50 trillion roubles (around $609 billion) to national defence over the three-year period.The spending marks the highest military allocation since the collapse of the Soviet Union and signals Moscow's continued focus on its war effort in Ukraine.The Russian State Duma passed the draft federal budget in its third and final reading.Under the plan, defence spending will account for around 35.2 per cent of Russia's total federal expenditure in 2027, highlighting the priority given to military needs as the conflict with Ukraine continues.According to the figures cited by the State Duma's Defence Committee, Russia will allocate 17.15 trillion roubles (approximately $208.8 billion) to defence in 2027.This is around 33 per cent higher than the 12.93 trillion roubles ($157.4 billion) earmarked for 2026 under the previous budget plan.The allocation is expected to decline slightly in the following two years but will remain significantly above current levels.Russia plans to spend 16.61 trillion roubles ($202.2 billion) on defence in 2028 and 16.30 trillion roubles ($198.4 billion) in 2029.

RUSSIA'S MILITARY SPENDING TO CROSS $1.3 TRILLION

The new budget represents a substantial increase over the previous three-year spending plan.Defence funding has been raised by approximately 3.58 trillion roubles ($43.6 billion) for 2027 and 3.56 trillion roubles ($43.3 billion) for 2028 compared with earlier allocations.The planned spending also adds to the enormous financial burden of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, which began in February 2022.According to calculations by Janis Klug, a researcher at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), Russia had spent around 58.3 trillion roubles, or $710 billion at the exchange rates applicable at the time, on military needs since the start of the invasion.If the allocations for 2027-2029 are fully implemented, cumulative military spending since the invasion could exceed 108 trillion roubles, or approximately $1.31 trillion.The figures include both publicly disclosed and classified expenditure under the National Defence budget section. However, Russia's actual war-related spending could be higher, as some military expenses are covered through other budget heads.



CIVILIAN SECTORS FACE FUNDING CUTS

The increase in defence spending is expected to coincide with reductions in allocations for several civilian sectors.According to The Moscow Times, compared with the allocations set for 2026 under the previous.

It's a great thing: Trump welcomes Jensen Huang's second term at Nvidia

World.(Agency)

US President Donald Trump has praised Jensen Huang's return as Nvidia CEO, calling it a "great thing" and saying he expects the chipmaker's chief to do an even better job in his second stint."I think it's a great thing that he's going back. When I did speak to him, he is so happy to be going back. He calls it his 'second term'," he said. "He's going to do a better job the second time than even in the first, if that's possible," he added.

The remarks came days after Nvidia's board unanimously reinstated Huang as president and CEO, reversing its earlier position that it did not intend to bring him back. Huang had stepped down on November 12 amid reports of multiple extramarital affairs, including one involving Alice Huang, a former executive at Singapore-based Megaspeed International who was suspected by US intelligence officials of having links to China. The allegations have not been established, and Beijing has denied them.

Trump had publicly backed Huang's return even before the board announced its decision. During his meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Shenzhen last week, Trump said he had told Xi that Huang deserved a "second chance".On Monday, after Nvidia announced the reinstatement, Trump called it the "correct and proper decision", describing Huang as a "great patriot and national treasure". He said the US needed Huang's leadership to ensure the success of Nvidia and the American economy.Trump also said the US government had no reason to believe Huang's return posed a national security risk and cited the Attorney General's confirmation that the government had no evidence of Huang engaging in unlawful conduct.Nvidia said its board had voted unanimously to reinstate Huang after discussions with him and input from senior US government officials. It said the information received gave it confidence that his return posed no national security risk. Harvey C Jones will continue as board chairman, while Colette Kress, who served as interim.



Andhra Pradesh RTC to pay salary to drivers cleared in accident inquiries

VIJAYAWADA.(Agency)

The Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) has decided to provide alternative duties and pay salaries to drivers involved in road accidents if departmental inquiries establish that they were not responsible for the mishaps but their DLs remain suspended by Regional Transport Authorities (RTAs).APSRTC Joint Managing Director (JMD) M Siva Prasad directed officials to assign alternative duties to drivers whose licences are suspended following fatal accidents until restoration. The decision follows employee associations' representations highlighting salary losses during suspension under Section 19 of the Motor Vehicles Act. Relief will cover drivers found not at fault in departmental inquiries.Under the instructions, Depot Managers and Unit Officers must approach the respective Regional Transport Officers (RTOs) to seek restoration of eligible DLs under government guidelines. DPTOs can approve alternative duties for drivers whose licences are suspended for up to three months.The notification states that drivers will receive their salaries while performing alternative duties.

Keralam launches 24-hour helpline for pilgrims from Andhra Pradesh

VIJAYAWADA.(Agency)

Director general of police (DGP) Harish Kumar said the Keralam Police has launched a dedicated 24-hour helpline to assist pilgrims visiting Sabarimala during the Mandala-Makaravilakku pilgrimage season 2026-27.

Pathanamthitta district police chief R Anand said pilgrims from AP within Kerala could contact 14432, while those calling from outside the State could dial 04735-14432 including the STD code, to access emergency assistance.The helpline will provide assistance in tracing missing persons, responding to road accidents, addressing vehicle breakdowns and arranging recovery vehicles to transport disabled vehicles to Nilakkal. It will also facilitate emergency medical assistance, ambulance services and hospital support.Special medical assistance will be coordinated for pilgrims experiencing cardiac emergencies along the Neelimala trekking route, considering the difficulties associated with the uphill journey.They can also obtain information about spot booking availability, Sabarimala darshan timings, temple opening hours and pooja schedules.

Keralam police advised pilgrims using Airtel, Idea and Vi mobile networks to maintain sufficient account balance, as calls to helpline may not connect without balance.

Telangana HC issues notices on ED plea against AP liquor scam accused's bail

HYDERABAD.(Agency)

The Telangana High Court on Thursday issued notices to Donthireddy Vasudeva Reddy, an accused in the Andhra Pradesh liquor scam, on a petition filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) challenging the conditional bail granted to him by a special court in Hyderabad.Justice Vakiti Ramakrishna Reddy issued the notices while hearing a petition filed by the ED assistant director and adjourned the matter to December 10.The ED has sought cancellation of the bail granted to Vasudeva Reddy by the Nampally Sessions Court on September 24. It has also requested the High Court to direct him to surrender before the trial court and be remanded to judicial custody.The special court had granted him conditional bail, directing him to furnish two sureties of Rs 1 lakh each. It had also barred him from leaving the country without the court's permission, influencing witnesses or tampering with evidence. He was further directed to appear before ED officials whenever summoned and cooperate with the investigation.

The ED arrested Vasudeva Reddy on June 11 in connection with alleged irregularities in the award of liquor transportation contracts during the previous YSRCP government in Andhra Pradesh.

SAIL pays Rs 53.88 crore for HR facelift, price 288% higher than estimated cost

ROURKELA.(Agency)

An official audit report has flagged major cost and discrepancies in the Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) engaging an external consultant for transformation of HR framework and digital tools at Rs 53.88 crore, a price 288 per cent higher than the estimated cost of Rs 14.16 crore.The report, seen by this paper, also notes the tender was not initiated through GeM (Government e Marketplace) portal, nor did clear the two-stage clearances from the SAIL Board.What's more, a whistleblower has sent a complaint to the Central Vigilance Commission, seeking an inquiry into the deal. The whistleblower has requested identity protection under the Public Interest Disclosure & Protection of Informers Resolution, 2004.According to the audit observation by the office of the Director General of Audit (Steel), Ranchi, the Boston Consulting Group (India) Pvt Ltd (BCG) was awarded the work through the QCBS (Quality-cum-Cost Based Selection) route of 80:20. It had made the bid at Rs 54.28 crore. Ernst & Young LLP (EY) quoted Rs 28.42 crore and was ignored. Mckinsey and Company India LLP (Mckinsey) was the third bidder in the fray. Eventually, BCG bagged the deal which was negotiated at Rs 53.88 crore.The estimated cost noted by the audit report was prepared based on lowest budgetary quotation of consultancy firm Deloitte amounting to Rs 14.16 crore. Deloitte, however, did not make the cut as its bid sent in post was rejected for arriving after the due date of tender opening on December 23, 2024.The tender was floated for 'Engagement of External Consultant for carrying out Comprehensive Diagnosis, Design and Development of HR Policy Framework and Associated Digital Enablers in SAIL' on November 16, 2024.Official documents note the tender committee meeting on January 14, 2025 recommended for opening of financial bids of BCG, EY and Mckinsey after all three scored above 70 per cent in technical stage.

The audit report raises concern over cost reasonableness and calls for reconsideration of the marking criteria. The report says award of the work to BCG resulted in avoidable expenditure of additional Rs 25.86 crore. The report states all three bidders were technically qualified and either revised tender should have been floated or work awarded to another technically qualified bidder.The work was awarded to BCG in April 2025 and has contract duration of 18 months followed by inbuilt-maintenance contract for 36 months.The report also notes the tender was not initiated through GeM (Government e Marketplace) portal. The SAIL management said the assignment was project-based and not a standard consultancy service.The whistleblower told , "Despite the huge gap between the estimate and bid price of the H1 vendor (BCG), the records examined do not establish why a fresh tender with refined terms and more balanced quality-cost ratio was not pursued."Response from SAIL's chief general manager (corporate affairs division) and communication head Pankaj Kumar Mathur over the issue is awaited.



Mizoram student leader hospitalised on Day 4 of fast over recruitment lapses

Mizoram Students' Union president Laldinsanga was hospitalised on the fourth day of his indefinite fast demanding the resignation of the state Public Service Commission chairperson over recruitment lapses.

Ahmedabad.(Agency)

Mizoram Students' Union president Laldinsanga was hospitalised on the fourth day of his indefinite fast demanding the resignation of Mizoram Public Service Commission chairperson R Lalramnghaka, news agency Press Trust of India reported.

Two other union leaders joined the hunger strike after Laldinsanga was taken to hospital with health complications. He, however, said he would not end his protest.According to the Mizoram Students' Union, Laldinsanga was taken to the emergency department of Ebenezer Hospital around 8.40 pm on Thursday.Following his hospitalisation, union General Secretary Lalrampanmawia and Games and Sports Secretary-in-charge Johan Lalremruata joined the hunger strike outside the commission's office on Thursday night.The union has accused the Mizoram Public Service Commission of repeated errors, delays and administrative lapses that have caused distress to job seekers. It said students and job-seeking youths had lost confidence in the commission and held its chairperson responsible for the difficulties faced by aspirants over the past two years.

The union claimed that the commission had issued more than 24 corrections in job-related matters since Lalramnghaka assumed office in May 2024.It said it would picket outside the commission's office on Friday to prevent the chairperson from attending office. It also warned that it would hold a large rally in Aizawl on November 30 if Lalramnghaka did not resign on moral grounds.Lalramnghaka said he would step down if "God commands him", according to PTI. He also said he had long been considering retirement from the post to devote his time to church activities.

Lalrampanmawia said a union delegation had urged Mizoram Governor Vijay Kumar Singh to initiate steps to remove the commission's chairperson.

According to Lalrampanmawia, the governor told the delegation that he was aware of the difficulties faced by youths appearing for commission examinations and the recent controversies surrounding the body.

Singh expressed sympathy for those affected and assured the delegation that he would take steps to address the issue and discuss it with Chief Minister Lalduhoma, PTI reported.

The governor also said he would meet the commission's chairperson if necessary.The union's protest will continue despite Laldinsanga's hospitalisation, with two other leaders joining the fast and the organisation planning further demonstrations unless the commission's chairperson steps down.



Adilabad: Tenant farmers remain invisible in govt records

HYDERABAD.(Agency)

Only 481 of the 37,666 farmers enumerated in Adilabad by November 20 were identified as tenant farmers. In Sangareddy, the figure was even lower, with just eight tenants among 1,74,846 farmers enumerated.The Kaulu Raitula Gurtimpu Sadhana Committee, at a press conference at Basheerbagh Press Club, expressed concern over the poor identification of tenant farmers, warning that their exclusion could deny them access to government assistance, including crop loss compensation and Rythu Bharosa.It said the lack of official recognition, mounting debts and delayed crop loss surveys had compounded their problems.

Committee chairman Prof D Narasimha Reddy called on the government to issue guidelines to ensure tenant farmers were included in the enumeration.Rythu Swarajya Vedika (RSV) representatives Ravi Kanneganti and Kiran Vissa said the crop loss survey had also been delayed, leaving farmers who had harvested crops such as soya, maize and black gram in September and October uncertain about compensation.The panel pointed out that tenant farmers faced particular difficulties as they lacked formal recognition, making it difficult to access government assistance, including crop loss compensation and Rythu Bharosa. It also sought the implementation of GO 194, which provides for `6 lakh compensation to families of farmers who die by suicide.The difficulties are illustrated by the case of Kuruva Manjula, 30, of Tondapalli village in Vikarabad district. Her husband, a tenant farmer, died by suicide seven years ago after their cotton crop yielded just 10 quintals against the normal 40-45 quintals.She was left with a debt of 5 lakh, which subsequently rose to 10 lakh. Despite selling jewellery and repaying 4 lakh, she still owes 6 lakh.

Her current maize crop has yielded only 20 quintals against the usual 30, adding to her financial burden. She was also denied Rythu Bima as the family's two-acre land was registered in her mother-in-law's name.RSV's Kiran Vissa warned that failure to address tenant farmers' problems could add to the 68 farmer suicides reported in the state over the past two months.

Leopard caught after 4 days of search at Bharuch township



Vadodara.(Agency)

For four days, a leopard managed to avoid capture despite leaving behind its pugmarks in Bharuch's GNFC township. On Thursday, it was finally rescued near the golf course as it was trapped in a cage set up by the forest department.The seven-year-old male leopard was caught a day after officials found fresh pugmarks near two water sources in the township, Bharuch Range Forest Officer Divya Chaudhari said. "Though it was not seen again at the spot where it was first sighted on Sunday, the tracks indicated that it was still moving through the area. We had found its pugmarks near the water source in the township."Forest officials believe the animal might have travelled a few kilometres from nearby villages, where leopards are regularly sighted. "It's presence in the township is rare as leopards generally do not venture into urban areas. The GIDC area, where a leopard had been reported around 15 days earlier, is just adjacent so we suspect that the sightings may have involved the same animal… It is not unusual for leopards to be spotted in the village areas."

GNFC's township covers 185 acres and has more than 942 residential units, according to the official website of the company. "There is a green belt, thick overgrowth and abandoned buildings in the township that serve as places to hide. The leopard was caught from the golf course near the GNFC plant, where one of the cages had been set up," Chaudhari said. It will be released into the wild after veterinary checks.Since its Sunday sighting, the leopard did not attack any human or animal, Chaudhari said. The rescue, however, has brought respite for residents.

Haryana professor to take fight against whiteflies to US with Fulbright fellowship

Lucknow.(Agency)

At a time when whiteflies continue to threaten cotton crops across Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan, a professor from Chaudhary Devi Lal University (CDLU), Sirsa, will take the fight against the pest to the United States through the prestigious Fulbright-Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Fellowship for 2026-27.As part of the fellowship, Prof Priyanka Siwach of the university's Department of Biotechnology will undertake a six-month research programme at the University of Arizona, where she will study how Ribonucleic Acid (RNA)-based methods can be used to control harmful insects by disrupting specific genes they need to survive, offering a possible alternative to conventional chemical pesticides.RNA is a molecule found in living cells that helps carry and use genetic information, playing an important role in how organisms function. The research will explore how this natural process can be used to target harmful insects without relying on chemical pesticides.She will work at the University of Arizona, Tucson, from January to July 2027, in collaboration with Prof Judith K Brown, an internationally recognised scientist in plant virology and insect-vector biology, the CDLU mentioned in a statement on Thursday.The research will focus on cotton leaf curl disease, a major threat to cotton cultivation in northwestern India, particularly Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan. Transmitted by whiteflies, the disease has caused recurring outbreaks across the Indian subcontinent over the past three decades, affecting cotton productivity and farmers' livelihoods.



Prof Siwach said, "What makes the disease particularly difficult to manage is the evolving nature of the viruses responsible for it, coupled with the growing resistance of whiteflies to conventional insecticides. Farmers often resort to repeated pesticide applications, increasing cultivation costs while raising concerns over chemical residues, environmental contamination and damage to beneficial organisms."

Pressing matters: Cold-pressed juice versun cold-pressed oils

Cold-pressed products have become increasingly popular among health-conscious consumers. From premium cold-pressed juices to traditionally extracted cooking oils, the term cold-pressed is often associated with better nutritional quality. But does the processing method actually make a difference? Interestingly, the answer is different for juice and oil.Cold-pressed juice is produced using a hydraulic or slow-pressing mechanism that extracts liquid from fruits and vegetables without relying on high-speed rotating blades. Conventional centrifugal juicers, on the other hand, use rapidly spinning blades to separate juice from the pulp.The popular belief is that cold pressing generates less heat and oxidation, thereby preserving more vitamins, antioxidants, and other beneficial plant compounds.In 2019, researchers compared cold-pressed juices with juices prepared using conventional centrifugal juicers. The findings were interesting: there were no statistically significant differences between the extraction methods in the measured nutritional parameters. In other words, cold-pressed juice did not demonstrate a meaningful nutritional advantage over conventionally extracted juice in the conditions tested.The researchers also investigated how storage affected juice quality. When refrigerated at 4°C, most measured nutritional parameters remained relatively stable until day five, followed by a decline in several parameters from day six onwards. At room temperature, however, nutritional quality deteriorated much faster.This highlights an important point: freshness and storage conditions may matter more than the extraction method itself.

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Ambedkar's warning still rings true

We, the People of India, must come forward to defend the temple called the Constitution

DR BR Ambedkar made his last great speech to the Constituent Assembly on November 25, 1949. He did not bask in glory. He warned. Independence, he said, had cost Indians an old excuse: "we have lost the excuse of blaming the British for anything going wrong." Then he asked a question that still cuts: "Will Indians place the country above their creed or will they place creed above country?" Seventy-seven years on, that is the question of our time. The answer has not yet gone against us. But it now depends less on our institutions than on citizens who are learning to watch them.**A rejection from the start**

The Constitution had enemies at birth. Just four days after its adoption, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) weekly Organiser complained that it contained nothing Bharatiya and ignored Manu's laws. MS Golwalkar dismissed it as a patchwork of Western borrowings. The RSS did not hoist the national flag at its Nagpur headquarters for five decades.The unease ran wider than the RSS. On November 17, 1949, Kengal Hanumanthaiah, a Gandhian Congressman from Mysore, told the Assembly: "We wanted the music of Veena or Sitar, but here we have the music of an English band." This was a quarrel over the idea of India: creed or country.



"We, the People of India" chose a republic in which citizenship did not depend on faith. Secularism lived in it from the first, in Articles 14, 15 and 25 to 28. The Hindutva project wanted a nation of one culture, with all others present on sufferance. Its heirs did not abandon that aim. They changed their method. One need not tear up a charter to defeat it. One can occupy it.**The devil in the temple**Ambedkar once threatened to burn the Constitution. His detractors rarely quote him in full. In the Rajya Sabha in September 1953, fearing that majorities would trample smaller communities, he said: "I shall be the first person to burn it out. I do not want it. It does not suit anybody." Reminded of it in March 1955, he explained: "We built a temple for a god to come in and reside, but before the god could be installed, if the devil had taken possession of it, what else could we do except destroy the temple?"That is an architect who found squatters. He feared the occupants, not the text. In 1948, he had warned that it was "perfectly possible to pervert the Constitution, without changing its form, by merely changing the form of the administration." The devil need not knock the temple down. He need only move in.Capture without a coupIndia has had no coup. Institutions keep their names and letterheads. What changes is who sits in them, and whom they serve. In 2023, the Supreme Court put the Chief Justice of India on the panel that chooses election commissioners. Parliament replaced him with a Union minister. Electoral bonds carried anonymous money, mostly to the ruling party, until the Court struck them down. Bills wait without end in Raj Bhavans. In December 2023, Parliament suspended 146 Opposition members and passed new criminal codes in their absence. No single step abolishes democracy. Each wears the language of law. That is the point. Capture is a slow change of habit. Institutions learn that deference is safe and independence costly. Soon nobody needs to give an order.Ambedkar named the antidote: constitutional morality. "It has to be cultivated," he said. Democracy in India was "only a top-dressing on an Indian soil, which is essentially undemocratic." Deference is what grows when nobody tends the soil.People to the foreYet the soil has not gone barren. In 2024, voters held up small red copies of the Constitution at rallies. The verdict denied the ruling party a majority of its own. Ambedkar had warned that India would enter "a life of contradictions": equality in politics, inequality in social and economic life. For millions, the vote remains the one equality they can count on. They rose when they sensed it under threat.

The contest has moved to the electoral roll. The Special Intensive Revision asked millions to prove their place on it. Citizens went to court. The Court upheld the revision, but rebuked the Election Commission in open court for claiming approval of its new Form 6. Citizens have fasted and rallied, and endured lathi charges, tear gas and pellet guns. A citizenry of cockroaches has challenged a collegium of institutions.Ambedkar urged Indians to abandon "the Grammar of Anarchy." But he excused such methods only where no constitutional road lay open. These citizens took that road: to the courts, the rolls and the ballot. It is no anarchy to insist that the umpire obey the rules. A Commission that once spoke ex cathedra (from the chair) now explains itself in affidavits.**Trust, but verify**Questions are a start, not a system. The framers divided power so that each organ would check the others. Lawyers must confess a fault of our own. The presumption of constitutionality is sound, but it has become an excuse for judicial self-abnegation: sealed covers, bare claims of national security, liberty petitions left pending. The bonds case waited six years while the scheme did its work. Delay is not neutrality. Where a law touches the franchise, the press, personal liberty or minorities, the State should carry the heavier burden.Neither idol nor illusionAmbedkar's sharpest warning came from John Stuart Mill: a people should not "lay their liberties at the feet of even a great man." In politics, Ambedkar added, "Bhakti or hero-worship is a sure road to degradation and to eventual dictatorship." The warning cuts both ways.

No leader should become the measure of the nation. Nor should we worship hollowed-out institutions. Institutions are tools, not shrines, and tools need tending.A good lotEarly in that last speech, Ambedkar said: "However good a Constitution may be, it is sure to turn out bad because those who are called to work it, happen to be a bad lot. However bad a Constitution may be, it may turn out to be good if those who are called to work it, happen to be a good lot." The Constitution does not work itself. Every citizen who checks her name on the roll works it. So does every lawyer who files and argues a petition, every reporter who asks the second question and every official who refuses the unspoken order.This Constitution Day, the temple still stands. Ambedkar did not burn it. He left it to us. Good men and women must come forward, not to worship it, but to defend it. It has survived 77 years because enough Indians cared. It will only survive on that condition, and on no other.

Karthigai Deepam | A Lamp Lit, a Court Defied: The Thiruparankundram Question

The issue is not whether the traditional place of lighting the lamp should be respected. It unquestionably should.

The controversy over lighting the Karthigai Deepam at Thiruparankundram raises a fundamental question: can public officials selectively implement a judicial order by relying on administrative or institutional preferences? The Collector's assurance before the Madurai Bench, the Supreme Court's interim direction and the Temple Trust Board's resolution must be examined together.The issue is not whether the traditional place of lighting the lamp should be respected. It unquestionably should. The question is whether that practice could be invoked to defeat a separate arrangement expressly contemplated by the top court.**An assurance before the Madurai Bench**

In a spate of writ petitions filed before the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, the Collector appeared not as a private individual expressing a religious preference, but as the District's chief administrative authority and the State's representative, entrusted with implementing the Supreme Court's directions.His assurance carried institutional responsibility. His subsequent conduct must be assessed against both the Supreme Court's order and the assurance given to the High Court. The Madurai Bench clarified, citing judicial precedents that the pendency of a review application before the Supreme Court could not, by itself, justify non-compliance.**What did the Trust Board resolve?**After the High Court passed its order at 4 pm, the appointed time came and went at 6 pm. The Collector has filed a preliminary status report late in the night that although he had assembled all the observers, Executive Magistrates, ASI officials, fire and rescue team, medical team, videographer and photographer, as also that police protection and regulation of access were in place, the Collector had not received the authorised list of persons of the Devasthanam till 7.32 PM, when the Executive Officer gave a report to him that the Board of Trustees had resolved to light the lamp only at the place where it was customarily lit and that it was done at 6 PM.The EO was reported to have stated that the District Administration had no power to authorise the lighting of the lamp if the Devasthanam itself did not so authorise.The Collector's inability is said to arise by the fact that there were no authorised representatives of the Devasthanam. Neither the Collector nor the HR&CE department nor indeed the Devasthanam was required to decide whether the lamp could also be lit elsewhere, or authorise disregard of a judicial direction concerning that additional observance. Trustees may protect religious practices, but cannot by resolution override a constitutional court. Preserving a custom and preventing an additional observance are different things.**The Supreme Court drew a distinction**The Supreme Court's order of November 20, 2026, permitted the lamp to be lit at Deepathoon on November 24 as a one-time interim arrangement, subject to safeguards and without recognising any customary, religious or proprietary right at that location. Paragraph 14(vi) is central. It provides: "The existing religious observances at the customary locations shall continue undisturbed." That may explain the Board's preference for what it chose to resolve, but not the failure to implement the Court's separate arrangement.

The Court protected customary observances while separately permitting the ceremony at Deepathoon. Neither displaced the other. The traditional lamp nearUchhi Pillayar was not to be extinguished; nor could that observance substitute forthe additional ceremony. Paragraph 13 identifies the stone pillar as the place for the lamp, while paragraph 14 prescribes the arrangements.

Neighbourly trade | Delivering on Himalayan vision

India-Nepal trade punches far below potential. Prime Minister Balendra Shah's recent visit resulted in plans for cross-border logistical, financial and energy links that can realise the promise. Healthcare, pharma and tourism exchanges can boom. A high-level monitoring group can help assure outcomes

India is Nepal's largest trading partner and a major source of investment, infrastructure development and essential supplies. Yet the potential of bilateral economic engagement remains considerably greater than its present scale. The complementarities between the two economies offer significant opportunities to develop integrated value chains, expand manufacturing capabilities, facilitate cross-border investments and generate employment.The proposed review of the existing trade and investment frameworks is particularly significant. A more contemporary and facilitative economic framework can address emerging business requirements, improve market access and provide greater predictability for investors. Equally important is the commitment to encourage Indian investments in Nepal's priority sectors through arrangements that strengthen investor confidence and improve the ease of doing business.

The development cooperation package of `15,000 crore, comprising `3,500 crore for post-disaster reconstruction and infrastructure projects and an `11,500 crore concessional line of credit for energy projects, underlines India's commitment to Nepal's long-term development. It also presents opportunities for Indian businesses in infrastructure, construction, engineering, equipment manufacturing and project management.A particularly promising initiative is the proposed establishment of crossborder special economic zones and industrial parks. These could become important platforms for export-oriented manufacturing, processing industries and integrated supply chains. Indian companies can partner with Nepali enterprises in food processing, textiles, pharmaceuticals, light engineering, automobile components and consumer goods. The proposed IT parks and digital infrastructure can further expand opportunities for technology and service-sector investments.The proposed Agro-Industrial Park in Chitwan, with grant assistance from India, is another important initiative. By connecting agricultural production with processing, packaging, cold-chain logistics and distribution, it can help Nepal move up the agricultural value chain while creating opportunities for Indian companies in food technology, farm equipment and supply-chain management.Recent initiatives such as the Ayodhya-Janakpur rail service, the Dharchula-Darchula motorable bridge and progress on integrated check posts at Bhairahawa, Sunauli, Banbasa and Dodhara Chandani represent tangible advances in connectivity. Progress on the proposed electrified Raxaul-Kathmandu railway and Nepal's East-West Railway network could further transform regional trade.India's decision to provide Nepal access to additional ports, including Deendayal Port at Kandla and, subject to requisite infrastructure, Paradip Port, is equally significant. Diversifying transit routes can improve supply-chain resilience, expand export opportunities and reduce dependence on limited logistics corridors. Improved air connectivity, including the proposed bidirectional operation of the Kathmandu-Bhairahawa-Lucknow route, can also facilitate business travel, tourism and commercial exchanges.The expansion of petroleum infrastructure through Phase II of the Motihari-Amlekhgunj pipeline and the proposed Siliguri-Jhapa pipeline demonstrates how shared infrastructure can strengthen energy security while creating opportunities for Indian engineering, procurement and construction companies. Energy cooperation remains one of the most promising pillars of the India-Nepal economic relationship. Nepal's considerable hydropower potential, combined with India's expanding energy requirements, provides a natural basis for mutually beneficial cooperation.The foundation stone for the 669-MW Lower Arun Hydroelectric Project and renewed commitment to accelerate the Pancheshwar, Saptakoshi and Sunkoshi multipurpose projects signal the potential to deepen this partnership.

Crossborder transmission infrastructure will be equally important in facilitating electricity trade and strengthening regional energy security.Indian companies can explore opportunities in hydropower development, transmission infrastructure, renewable energy, project financing and engineering services. Cooperation in solar energy and the proposed green hydrogen pilot project could also open new avenues in clean-energy technologies.The economic partnership must increasingly reflect the realities of a technology-driven global economy. Expediting cross-border retail payments, building on the linkage between India's UPI and Nepal's national payment system, is an important step towards reducing transaction costs and facilitating commerce, tourism and remittances.The emphasis on digital public infrastructure, artificial intelligence, startups, data centres and next-generation telecommunications creates opportunities beyond traditional sectors. The India-Nepal Startup Partnership Network, proposed Startup Centre of Excellence in Kathmandu and Digital Nomads and Innovation Hub in Pokhara can strengthen entrepreneurial ecosystems. Indian technology companies, venture capital funds and research institutions can partner with Nepali startups in fintech, agritech, health tech and artificial intelligence.The agreement to establish an offshore IIT campus in Nepal is particularly noteworthy. It can strengthen technical education, research and industry-academia collaboration while developing a skilled talent pool for emerging industries in both countries.Healthcare and pharmaceuticals offer considerable potential for mutually beneficial collaboration. Indian pharmaceutical companies, healthcare providers and medical technology enterprises can explore partnerships in affordable medicines, medical equipment, diagnostic services, hospital infrastructure and telemedicine. Joint initiatives in healthcare training and capacity building can further strengthen Nepal's healthcare ecosystem while expanding opportunities for Indian service providers.Similarly, cooperation in higher education, vocational training and skill development can help address emerging industry requirements in both economies. Partnerships between universities, technical institutions and industry can facilitate student andfaculty exchanges, applied research and industry-oriented training, particularly in

Residents of bordering villages in Ganjam, Gajapati vote in AP polls

BUDARSINGI .(Agency)

Despite heightened vigilance by the Odisha administration, residents of several border villages in Ganjam and Gajapati districts reportedly exercised their voting rights in Andhra Pradesh's panchayat elections on Thursday, bringing the long-standing problem of overlapping electoral identities and administrative jurisdiction along the inter-state border into focus.Administrations of both the districts had taken several measures to dissuade villagers from participating in the neighbouring state's elections. Officials, who recently visited the bordering villages to distribute cyclone relief assistance including free rice and `2,500 cash, also maintained close surveillance. However, their efforts failed to prevent villagers from crossing over and casting their votes in AP.Although no official from Ganjam was seen in the area, Rayagada tehsildar Sukant Pradhan and a police team from Garabandha in Gajapati district camped.

Rambutan traders in Keralam flesh out harvest deals before trees bloom

KOCHI.(Agency)

Suresh and Karpaga Kumar are on a buying spree across Keralam's rubber heartland. The fruit merchants from Tamil Nadu are striking deals worth lakhs of rupees for a fruit that is still months away from sprouting on trees. In fact, the trees have not even begun to flower.

The two are among a growing number of traders rushing to secure next year's rambutan harvest, offering farmers advance payments and a premium of Rs 15-20 per kg over this season's farmgate prices. The unprecedented scramble for the exotic tropical fruit is turning traditional rubber belt into a new agricultural gold mine.Every June, as monsoon clouds gather over central Keralam, vast swathes of the traditional rubber belt turn crimson. Thick clusters of rambutan, with their hairy protuberances, are steadily redrawing the state's agricultural landscape. The Rambutan and Mangosteen Farmers Association estimates that the crop's footprint could be as large as 25,000 acres, much of it replacing rubber plantations, with an annual production potential of 1 lakh tonnes.A native of Tenkasi, Suresh, who has been sourcing rambutan from Keralam for 15 years along with his elder brother, is sealing deals with plantation owners in Thodupuzha, Vazhakulam, Kanjirappally and other parts of Kottayam and Pathanamthitta.

Odisha: AAI reply belies MP Pradip Purohit's claim of Rs 2,100 cr airport revamp

SAMBALPUR. (Agency)

Amid the claims of Bargarh MP Pradip Purohit of the Centre approving Rs 2,100 crore for the expansion of Veer Surendra Sai airport in Jharsuguda, an RTI reply from the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has revealed that no such project had been sanctioned till date.

Responding to an online RTI application filed by a Sambalpur-based activist on October 23, the AAI stated that neither the Union government nor the Airports Authority had approved or sanctioned Rs 2,100 crore for development or expansion of the VSS airport.In response to a specific query seeking details of the sanctioned project cost, approval date, approving authority and funding agency, the AAI marked the information as not applicable.

The RTI applicant had also sought copies of the detailed project report, feasibility study, master plan, technical assessment, expenditure details, official correspondence and approval documents related to the proposed expansion. The AAI marked these queries as "N/A", indicating that the requested records were not available in the context of a sanctioned project.

.The disclosure assumes significance in the wake of Purohit's earlier statement that the Centre had approved Rs 2,100 crore for the airport's expansion following the VSS Airport Advisory Committee meeting last month. The MP is the chairman of the airport advisory committee.

Demolitions in Surat's Nasirnagar: Relief for top civic officials as HC stays contempt show-cause

The court has directed the affected residents to file their objections on affidavit on or before December 18, while the next date of hearing has been scheduled for December 23.

Vadodara (Agency)

A division bench of the Gujarat High Court on Thursday put in 'abeyance' a single judge's order summoning the Surat Municipal Commissioner and Standing Committee Chairperson to explain why they should not face criminal contempt. The municipal corporation's 'reversal' of a promise to house demolition-hit Nasirnagar families had triggered a sharp judicial rebuke on October 23.A division bench of Acting Chief Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak and Justice Nirzar S Desai on Thursday stayed the direction of the single judge requiring Commissioner Rajkumar Beniwal and Chairperson Rajan Patel to remain personally present before the court. The stay came after a marathon hearing of nearly four hours on an appeal filed by the two officials against the single judge's order. Now, the two will not have to appear before the court on Friday, November 27, as directed earlier.

Representing the State, including Surat police, G H Virk said the single judge's concerns were genuine. Virk submitted that judges of the Gujarat High Court had consistently treated government officers appearing before them with courtesy and respect and added that the State's concern was that "groups with vested interests or political motives were using courtroom proceedings to circulate selected video clips on social media, mock senior public officials and advance their own agendas".



Virk submitted that the issue was not the court's handling of officials, "but how proceedings were being used beyond the courtroom". Pointing out that the municipal commissioner and Standing Committee chairman held important responsibilities in running one of Gujarat's largest cities, the state submitted that the court "could be given the necessary assistance through lawyers, affidavits and official records, without requiring the two officials to attend in person".Senior Advocate Mihir Joshi, appearing for the Chairperson, submitted that the Corporation was represented by a counsel and could place its position on record through affidavits. He submitted that the corporation's earlier proposal to provide alternative accommodation was conditional on the residents meeting the eligibility criteria under the applicable schemes.Stating that efforts to arrange the accommodation had 'not succeeded', he disputed that the corporation had 'reversed its position', as per the prima facie observations of the single judge.The counsel for the affected residents opposed the corporation's position and drew the court's attention to what she described as "its shifting stand on rehabilitation", particularly considering its earlier assurances that alternative accommodation would be provided.

Up to 10 metres a night: How Mumbai's Elphinstone bridge will cross rail tracks

MahaRail will slide the 92-metre steel girders over the railway tracks in two-hour night blocks, if the railways clear them. The double-decker bridge will also carry the Sewri-Worli Connector, linking the Coastal Road at Worli to Atal Setu.

Mumbai.(Agency)



With the last stretch of work on the soon-to-be reconstructed Elphinstone bridge underway, MahaRAIL, or the Maharashtra Rail Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (MRIDC) is set to launch the structure's girders from December 20.Weighing 1,300 metric tons, 92 meters long, 11 meters high and placed on temporary structures seven meters tall, the gigantic open web girders will form the bones of the reconstructed Elphinstone bridge. The launch will be subject to whether approvals for railway blocks are given."The last stretches of work are ongoing," said officials from the MRIDC tasked with completing the stretch of the reconstruction over the railway lines. "This includes the final works on the piers next to the railway tracks on which the bridges will stand, and the temporary trusses over them. The second girder is partly assembled, with more than half of the work on it complete."The reconstructed Elphinstone will be a double-decker bridge, with the bottom deck serving local traffic as a replacement of the old railway bridge. The top deck will be a part of the Sewri-Worli Connector, a 4.5 km connector connecting the Coastal Road at Worli to the Atal Setu at Sewri, which is being built by the MMRDA."The girders are being assembled in the day on top of the temporary arrangement built, using parts fabricated in Ghaziabad and then shipped here," said an official. While the first web girder has been assembled, the second one, assembled behind the first, is around halfway done.In response to a video circulating on social media that showed construction work continuing as commuters walked underneath it, officials said workers were equipped with all safety material and wear safety harnesses when working at a height.Once all preparations are in place, MRIDC will begin launching the girder. The official said, "A trolley system will be used to slowly slide the girder from the temporary structure over the railway tracks. Because the girder is currently at a height, it will go atop temporary trusses on the piers and temporary girders placed between the railway tracks. All this will be done in nightly corridor blocks of around 2 hours, pushing the girder around 8 to 10 meters every night."With a deadline of January in place to get the girders into place, MRIDC will begin road work on the lower and upper decks of the bridge. Once the girders are in place, this would free up space for J Kumar, the MMRDA's contractor, to complete works on the portion of the bridge that leads up to the railway portion.

Christian family moves Kerala HC after temple objects to conversion request

VISAKHAPATNAM.(Agency)

An eight-member Christian family from Punalur in Kollam has approached the Kerala High Court, alleging that the Kottarakara Maha Ganapathy Temple under the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) has refused to allow their application for conversion to Hinduism.According to Suryalekshmi S, the petitioner, the family — belonging to the Church of South India (CSI) — had submitted the application before the Kottarakara temple administrative officer on June 24, 2026. However, instead of facilitating the conversion ceremony, the officer forwarded the application to the devaswom assistant commissioner citing an objection letter from the temple advisory committee, it said. He has forwarded the application to the commissioner, and as per the reply to an RTI application, the commissioner is yet to take a decision.

The court is expected to hear the case on December 4."Though born and brought up in Christian faith, we have, over time, developed a sincere and abiding faith in our ancestral religion and have decided to return to swadharma. The decision is entirely our own, taken freely without any coercion, undue influence, allurement or inducement from any quarter," the petitioner said.Meanwhile, temple administrative officer S Vinod Kumar said some members of the advisory committee and local residents have opposed conducting the ceremony. He said if Christian groups protest against the ceremony, it may affect the reputation of the devaswom board."The first application submitted by the family did not have the relevant documents. They submitted the application again as per our guidance. Once they convert to Hinduism, the board has to issue a certificate," he said.

Request forwarded to board for legal opinion: temple admn officer

"Since there is no previous record of a similar ceremony at the temple, I forwarded the application to the board to get legal opinion. We have not rejected the application," Vinod Kumar told .In the petition, Suryalekshmi said her ancestors were Hindus and they belong to the Kurava community. "My grandfather Samuel is 73-years-old and is suffering from age-related ailments.

Mumbai's Zaika Biryani, Al Ashraf closed after FDA raids expose kitchen horrors

Mumbai.(Agency)

Tukaram Mundhe-led Maharashtra food safety regulator has suspended licences of as many as 10 food establishments in Mumbai after raids exposed safety violations. The Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) action followed a statewide inspection drive conducted from November 24 to 26, during which the regulator suspended 20 licences and registration certificates across the state.

Among the Mumbai eateries that came under Tukaram Mundhe's scanner were Ayan's Darbar (Ghatkopar West), Al Ashraf Hotel (Govandi), Star Chinese (Govandi), Maharashtra Juice & Snacks Centre (Ghatkopar West), Zaika Biryani (Sakinaka), Spice N Ice (Sakinaka), and Royal Punjab Restaurant and Bar (Kanjurmarg East).At Ayan's Darbar Chinese Restaurant in Ghatkopar West, inspectors reported pest infestation, improper thawing of frozen food, and storage of raw and cooked food together. At Star Chinese in Govandi, the FDA found raw chicken kept in an open vessel on the floor.In Sakinaka, the licences of Zaika Biryani and Spice N Ice Hotels & Restaurant were suspended after officials found improper storage of raw materials, unclean cooking areas, and the absence of water test reports. Maharashtra Juice & Snacks Centre in Ghatkopar was found using industrial-grade flavour essences and colours in juices, which were destroyed on the spot. The licence of Royal Punjab Restaurant and Bar in Kanjurmarg East was also suspended, although the FDA's inspection note did not specify the reasons.The action also covered food suppliers and retailers. The FDA found live cockroaches near food stock at Zepto's dark store in Sakinaka, and suspended the licence of retailer Khandelwal & Sons in Ghatkopar West. D.S. Food in Goregaon East faced action after a sample of Sweet Mawa was declared "unsafe".The FDA also issued stop-business notices to eight unlicensed operators in Chandivali, Sakinaka and



Chembur East.At the Nerul facility, operated by Innovative Retail Concepts Private Limited, the FDA suspended the food licence with immediate effect on November 25. Officials reported rat infestation, with several edible oil packets found torn open by rats and gnawed stock kept aside. The warehouse was also found selling cigarettes alongside food items, in violation of a 2018 order issued by the Commissioner of Food Safety.

Father-son duo drugs man, takes him on bike 40 km away, pushed him into Rajkot river

Ahmedabad.(Agency)

Eight days after the body of a 27-year-old man was found on the banks of Bhadar river in Rajkot rural, the Junagadh Police on Wednesday arrested a father-son duo for his muder.According to police, the accused, Nasir Khan Pathan and his son Daud Khan Pathan, allegedly rendered Sameer Hanif Jamal Shaikh unconscious by giving him a spiked lassi, took him on the victim's two-wheeler to a riverside 40 km away and pushed him into the river. According to police, Shaikh is believed to have died by drowning.However, the results of the postmortem and toxicology tests are still awaited from the FSL, police said.The body of Shaikh, a resident of Junagadh city in the neighboring district, was found on the banks of Bhadar river on November 18. Udhyognagar police in Rural Rajkot filed an Accidental Death (AD) report and launched a probe. The FIR in Junagadh had been filed after an 8-day investigation by Udhyognagar police.

Rs 80,000 loan, family's suspicion

Speaking at a press conference on Thursday, DySP Hitesh Dhandhaliya stated that Shaikh's family suspected the role of Nasir Khan Pathan and his son Daud Khan Pathan in Shaikh's death since he owed them Rs 80,000 which they had allegedly been trying to recover from him. Shaikh had disappeared on November 16 when he was at the house of the accused for a painting job, the FIR said. This also intensified the family's suspicion.According to the FIR, Shaikh had borrowed Rs 40,000 each on two occasions from the accused and used the money to buy a used auto rickshaw for



his father and a new two-wheeler for himself on EMI (equated monthly installment).The C Division Police in Junagadh arrested both the accused following the filing of an FIR on Wednesday based on a complaint by the brother of the deceased. The accused were booked for murder, abduction and criminal conspiracy, among other sections of the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS).

Park horror again: Man tries to sexually assault 10-yr-old

Delhi.(Agency)

A 36-year-old man was arrested for allegedly attempting to sexually assault a 10-year-old girl at a park in northwest Delhi, police said on Thursday. The accused was caught by a security guard and members of the public, who intervened and rescued the child before handing him over to the police. The accused, identified as Rajesh Kumar, allegedly lured the girl away while she was playing at Ismail Khan Park under Bharat Nagar police station.Deputy Commissioner of Police (Northwest) Akanksha Yadav said a PCR call was received around 11.30 am on November 24, reporting an attempted sexual assault on a minor girl at the park. Following the call, a police team rushed to the spot and found that a crowd had caught and beaten Kumar, leaving him injured.According to police, the girl was on her way to her maternal uncle's house when she stopped at the park for some time. Kumar, who was sitting in the park where several children were playing, allegedly lured her to a secluded spot and attempted to disrobe and sexually assault her.

The park guard and some members of the public spotted the accused's actions and immediately intervened, rescuing the girl, the DCP said. They subsequently alerted the police, who reached the spot and took Kumar into custody.The accused was arrested under relevant provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and remanded to judicial custody, Yadav said.

Northern Ridge to open up its heritage through guided walk

Delhi.(Agency)

From prehistoric stone tools and an Ashokan pillar to structures associated with the uprising of 1857 and a mediaeval hunting lodge, Delhi's Northern Ridge will be explored through a guided heritage walk organised by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) in collaboration with INTACH Delhi Chapter on December 12.

The walk is set to cover five heritage landmarks – Mutiny Memorial (Ajitgarh), Ashoka Pillar, Hindu Rao Hospital, Old Baoli and Pir Ghaib – thereby offering participants a glimpse into the different historical periods that shaped the capital.The initiative is part of a programme under which 12 guided heritage walks are to be organised over six months, with two walks every month. INTACH will be curating the routes and themes, developing interpretative content and arranging heritage experts and guides in coordination with DDA.The visitors will get an opportunity to explore these fascinating stories during a guided heritage walk through the Northern Ridge on 12 December 2026, organised by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) in collaboration with the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), Delhi Chapter.

LG Taranjit Sandhu had paid two visits to Northern Ridge and had several meetings for the preservation of heritage by bringing people closer to heritage and making them stakeholders in its protection and preservation before this walk started.Participants will also get to see the imposing Mutiny Memorial (Ajitgarh), a striking red sandstone Gothic-style tower built in 1863 at an important British artillery position during the First War of Independence of 1857. The monument, originally erected to commemorate British military personnel who lost their lives during the uprising, also carries a commemorative plaque honouring Indian freedom fighters, reflecting the changing historical perspectives on the 1857 events.

Treated, cured, then sick again: Why tuberculosis keeps returning to haunt patients

Delhi.(Agency)

For 22 years, Navjot Singh has been fighting a disease that keeps returning. Tuberculosis (TB) has struck him thrice. Each time, he recovered after treatment. Each time, it came back, leaving him weaker and his family struggling to survive.



Singh (42) is among patients battling recurrent TB – a challenge for India, which has missed its target of eliminating the disease by 2025. According to doctors, TB can return when bacteria survive treatment, a patient contracts a fresh infection, dormant bacteria become active again, or treatment fails. Incomplete treatment, malnutrition, overcrowded homes and weakened immunity can also increase the risk.

At the National Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (NITRD) in Mehrauli, Singh walked slowly down the corridor of Ward 6 towards the garden. Doctors had advised him to get some sunlight, but even walking was a struggle.Until two years ago, Singh, a resident of Nirman Vihar, worked as a taxi driver, earning Rs 15,000 a month. But after TB relapsed, he could no longer work.

"We are surviving with the help of relatives and friends. When my son, who is in Class 10, asks for a new book or a gadget, I just stare at his face," he said.This July, Singh spent 18 days at the Rajan Babu Institute of Pulmonary Medicine and Tuberculosis in GTB Nagar. As his condition deteriorated, he was referred back to NITRD, where he is undergoing treatment for recurrent pulmonary TB.A 2024 review – published in National Library of Medicine (NLM) – of 23 studies involving 75,224 patients from all continents found recurrent TB in 2.9% of the patient. A 2026 study in The Lancet Global Health, which followed 1,076 TB survivors across six government clinics in Maharashtra, found that 7% developed TB again within 12 months – about 2.4 times the rate in the NLM study.

India accounts for around a quarter of the world's TB cases. In 2024, India recorded an estimated 27.1 lakh new TB cases and over 3 lakh deaths, against 10.7 million cases and 1.23 million deaths worldwide, according to WHO's Global TB Report 2025.A Doctor at NITRD told The Indian Express, "TB can relapse in four ways – when the original bacteria survive treatment, reinfection occurs when a person contracts a new infection from someone else, dormant bacteria from a past infection wake up, often when immunity wanes, and then due to treatment failure… Drug resistance is also a concern."Molecular tests and drug susceptibility testing help determine whether bacteria are resistant to particular medicines, the doctor added.

Kejriwal, Sisodia acquittal order defective: CBI

Delhi.(Agency)

The CBI on Thursday told the Delhi High Court that a trial court's order discharging AAP leaders Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia and others in the alleged excise scam case "suffered from palpable errors and ignored material evidence" and that case "could not be thrown at the threshold."The counsel for the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) made the submission before Justice Sachin Datta while seeking to set aside the trial court's February 27 order."There were several glaring defects in the trial court's decision. The trial court judge travelled beyond the scope of its powers. It was not supposed to conduct a mini trial at the stage of charge.

The trial court judge conducted a mini trial, which was not permissible. The order should be set aside," Additional Solicitor General S V Raju told the court. Raju told the judge that the trial court order was "patently illegal, perverse and suffered from errors apparent on the face".



"There were palpable errors on the face of it, and material evidence was ignored and not considered by the trial court. There was a lot of evidence on record to show that criminal conspiracy existed, but the trial court judge failed to appreciate that conspiracy existed in the case. The trial court has erred by commenting on evidentiary value of the material at the stage of charge," he claimed.The judge heard the submission and listed the matter for December 9 for further hearing, when the court is likely to hear the submissions from AAP leaders and other respondents, who have challenged the maintainability of CBI's revision petition.

Nine in 10 city dairies illegal, pollution burden spirals

The unchecked spread of these dairies is adding to Delhi's pollution burden, with untreated cattle dung, urine and wastewater contaminating water and soil, choking drainage systems and littering public spaces.

Delhi.(Agency)

Nearly nine out of every 10 dairies in Delhi are operating illegally, with more than 22,000 cattle housed in unauthorised establishments across the city.The unchecked spread of these dairies is adding to Delhi's pollution burden, with untreated cattle dung, urine and wastewater contaminating water and soil, choking drainage systems and littering public spaces.The waste has become a concern in environmentally sensitive areas, including the Yamuna floodplains. Illegal dairies are further contributing to air pollution, traffic congestion and the encroachment of government and public land.In March last year, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta's convoy had to stop when a herd of cows blocked the road. She reprimanded the officials for failing to check the menace. Stray cattle from illegal dairies not only disrupt traffic but also pose a threat to motorists.The scale of the problem is reflected in the findings of Delhi agencies. Of the 557 dairy and gaushala units assessed for waste generation, 500 were found to be unauthorised. Together, these establishments house more than 22,000 cattle and generate around 275 metric tonnes (MT) of waste every day, according to sources.

Pollution clearance within 15 days needed for dairies

The unauthorised dairies in Delhi create the problem of hygiene and safe disposal of cattle waste. With over 22,000 cattle in these illegal dairies, the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) has directed all dairy farms and gaushalas in the capital to apply for mandatory pollution clearances within 15 days, warning of regulatory action against those that fail to comply.The directive follows an National Green Tribunal order on May 20, 2020, and Central Pollution Control Board guidelines for managing pollution from dairy farms and gaushalas. These norms focus on the proper handling and treatment of cattle dung, urine, wastewater from animal washing and cleaning activities, and other operational waste.Enforcing the rules, however, has proved difficult. Illegal dairies have not only resisted civic action but, in some instances, their owners have resorted to violence.In February 2024, the Veterinary Department of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi's Keshav Puram zone, accompanied by police personnel, launched a drive against illegal dairies following complaints from local residents."While the premises were being checked, the owners of the illegal dairies in the area, joined by their counterparts on motorcycles, attacked the officials of MCD and police. The police tried to control the attackers," the civic body said. The department subsequently lodged a police complaint.An MCD official said enforcement teams often find it difficult to catch cattle because dairy operators conceal the animals after learning about impending raids.



'60 per cent of Yamuna stretch cleaned, remaining to be rejuvenated'

Delhi.(Agency)

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Thursday said 60 per cent of the Yamuna in the capital had been cleaned, with work underway to rejuvenate the remaining stretch of the river.Speaking at the launch of the Amrita SREE self-help group programme, Gupta praised spiritual leader Mata Amritanandamayi, popularly known as Amma, for her philanthropy.



"Amma said to me that the Yamuna has to be cleaned. I assured her that the Yamuna will be cleaned. I am happy that 60 per cent of the Yamuna has achieved the clean dimension and work is going on full swing to clean the remaining 40 per cent," Gupta said. The Chief Minister said Amma had promised to visit the Yamuna.On Monday, Delhi Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa had claimed that 60 per cent of the Yamuna had been cleaned and that its water was now potable. He said the entire river would be cleaned by 2029 or 2030. Sirsa credited Gupta and the Union government for supporting the work. He said it was being carried out in phases, with one stretch cleaned before moving to the next.

Around 50 km of the Yamuna flows through Delhi. Of this, nearly 22 km, between the Wazirabad and Okhla barrages, passes through densely populated areas and is heavily polluted due to sewage discharge. The river enters Delhi at Palla, along the Haryana border, and flows towards Uttar Pradesh.Rejuvenation of the Yamuna was one of the BJP's key poll promises ahead of the 2025 Delhi Assembly elections. The Gupta government has taken steps including upgrading sewage treatment plants (STPs), setting up 39 decentralised STPs and trapping drains carrying sewage into the river, with support from the Centre.

With price tags, BJP opens Arvind Kejriwal's 'Sheesh Mahal' to public

Delhi.(Agency)

The official residence of Arvind Kejriwal, former Chief Minister of Delhi, called 'Sheesh Mahal' by the BJP will be open for visitors on Friday.

The official residence is located at 6, Flagstaff Road, a bungalow in North Delhi, where Kejriwal lived as Delhi chief minister. The BJP-led Delhi government has put a price tag on all the products and amenities. The residence has a powder room, with a toilet and a wash basin of "Rs 5.8 lakh", a baithak with a sliding door worth "Rs 41.16 lakh", the lobby area priced at "Rs 7.58 lakh", and a kitchen dumbwaiter costing "Rs 7 lakh". A TV set worth "Rs 3 lakh" and a table costing "Rs 6 lakh" are also on display.The costs of amenities are also being displayed at the 'home tour' open to the public. The move comes ahead of Punjab polls next year.Kejriwal lived in the bungalow with his family from 2015 until October 2024, when he vacated it after stepping down as chief minister. According to officials, the ticket price is likely to be around Rs 20 and for senior citizens and college students, the entry would be free.



Parvesh Verma says ensuring transparency only objective

Delhi Minister and Deputy CM Parvesh Verma said the premises would soon be opened to visitors. He told news agency ANI that the move was aimed at informing people about the money spent on the property and ensuring transparency in the use of taxpayers' funds."Our sole objective is this: since public money, taxpayer money, has been invested here, we owe the public an account for every single penny. We must explain exactly where their funds have been spent, and, in fact, every government should do the same," Verma said.Reacting on the opening of Arvind Kejriwal's official residence for public, AAP spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj said that this is cheap tactic practised by the BJP and that the biggest culprits and beneficiaries are those corporates who are controlling the majority media.The BJP had accused the AAP leader of lavish spending on the property ahead of the 2025 Assembly elections, a charge denied by the AAP.

Cheating on a pregnant woman: Neuer's wife shares cryptic post amid affair rumours

New Delhi.(Agency)

Manuel Neuer's wife Anika has reportedly reacted to allegations surrounding the German goalkeeper's personal life, reposting a strongly worded message about infidelity amid reports that the couple have separated. According to The Sun, Anika shared a post condemning men who cheat on their pregnant partners, describing such behaviour as selfish, disrespectful and deeply hurtful.



The repost surfaced after German media reported that Neuer and Anika had split shortly after welcoming their second child in August.

The 40-year-old goalkeeper was recently pictured in Brazil with a woman reportedly identified by Bild as a 23-year-old physiotherapist who has worked with him. German reports have also claimed the pair were together in Sicily in late September. Neuer travelled to Brazil after sustaining a partial tendon tear in his right foot during Bayern Munich's Bundesliga clash against Mainz on November 7.

SOCIAL MEDIA REPOST

The message shared by Anika criticised infidelity during pregnancy, highlighting the physical and emotional demands of carrying a child and the betrayal involved when a partner cheats during that period.

It described such behaviour as a deliberate and selfish choice, arguing that a pregnant woman should be supported, loved and protected rather than left dealing with the emotional fallout of betrayal.

I'm carefree: Shami not thinking about India comeback, explains Test retirement

New Delhi.(Agency)

Mohammed Shami has ruled out keeping an India comeback on his mind after retiring from Test cricket, saying he has stopped counting the upcoming World Cups and will focus on playing for Bengal and in the IPL.

The 36-year-old, whose last international appearance came in the Champions Trophy in 2025, said he was happy to leave selection decisions to the selectors



and wanted to enjoy whatever cricket he had left in him.

Asked if the 2027 ODI World Cup or the 2028 T20 World Cup featured in his plans, Shami said he was no longer looking that far ahead. "I have stopped counting all these things," Shami said in Mumbai. "Now I am focusing on my game. Whatever they (the selectors) will decide will be better. But from my side, the only thing is to keep continuing, to stay in rhythm, and keep playing at least for the state and the IPL."

Shami played the first leg of the Ranji Trophy season before announcing his retirement from Tests earlier this month. He then turned out for Bengal in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy (SMAT), where their campaign ended with a defeat to Rajasthan at the Wankhede Stadium on Thursday. The fast bowler picked up four wickets in the tournament at an average of 43, having taken 14 wickets in three Ranji Trophy matches at an average of 14.

Gukesh vs Sindarov: 60-move marathon marks 3rd successive draw of World Championship

D Gukesh and Javokhir Sindarov played out a marathon 60-move draw in Game 3 of the World Championship match, with the contest lasting nearly five hours. Playing with Black, Gukesh dominated long passages, but Sindarov survived the pressure to ensure a third consecutive draw.

New Delhi.(Agency)

It was a battle of patience, nerves and endurance that stretched for nearly five hours and went well past midnight in India. D Gukesh and Javokhir Sindarov produced their longest contest of the World Championship match so far, exchanging blows for 60 moves before settling for a draw in Game 3 in Geneva on Thursday. While the result extended their sequence of draws to three games, the defending champion had plenty of reasons to take heart from the contest.

Despite playing with the black pieces, Gukesh dominated long passages of the game and repeatedly put the Uzbek challenger under pressure. The Indian Grandmaster was so confident in his opening preparation that he blitzed out his first 15 moves in just 132 seconds, leaving Sindarov to spend valuable time trying to find the right responses.

The contest eventually ended in a draw after Gukesh forced a repetition of moves with his king. The match remains level at 1.5-1.5 after three games, with the players heading into their first rest day on Friday.

GUKESH PUTS SINDAROV UNDER EARLY PRESSURE

The game began with the Berlin Defence, with Sindarov opening with 1.e4 and Gukesh responding with e5. However, the Indian opted for a different continuation from the one seen in the opening game of the match,



choosing 5...Be7 instead of 5...Nd6.

The change ensured that the queens stayed on the board for longer, allowing both players more opportunities to explore an ambitious position. Gukesh continued to find his moves quickly, while Sindarov was repeatedly forced to think for long periods.

The Indian's preparation was particularly evident in the opening exchanges. After 15 moves, Gukesh had spent just over two minutes at the board, while Sindarov had already used a considerable portion of his allotted time.

The queens eventually came off the board on the 17th move, but Gukesh continued to make life difficult for his opponent. He pushed his pawns forward on the kingside with g5 and h5, while also bringing his king into the game with Kd7. Sindarov struggled to find a way to seize the initiative. By the time the game crossed the 25-move mark, the Uzbek was already facing considerable time pressure, with less than 20 minutes remaining before the first time control.

Nathan Lyon allegedly suggested using breath mints after Sandpaper scandal

Nathan Lyon has been identified as the Australian player who allegedly proposed using breath mints to shine the ball during the 2018 Pakistan series, months after the Sandpapergate scandal in South Africa.

New Delhi.(Agency)

Nathan Lyon has been named as the Australia player who allegedly floated the idea of using breath mints to help shine the ball during a Test series against Pakistan in the UAE in 2018, adding another layer to the fallout from the infamous Sandpapergate scandal.

The revelation comes months after Australia's ball-tampering episode in Cape Town rocked the cricketing world and led to a major upheaval within the team. The latest claim centres on a remark allegedly made during Australia's series against Pakistan in October 2018, just months after the South Africa tour.



A report by Australia's NewsCorp, as mentioned on the West Australian, on Friday identified veteran off-spinner Lyon as the player behind the mints remark, following revelations earlier this week that a senior Australian player had suggested using mints to generate more saliva for shining the ball. Whether the comment was made seriously or in jest remains unclear.

MINTS AFTER CAPE TOWN

The latest details emerged earlier this week through former Australia batter Usman Khawaja, who discussed the incident during an appearance on The Grade Cricketer podcast.

Khawaja revealed that a senior player had proposed using mints to produce additional saliva to shine the ball during the Pakistan series. He also confirmed that the player had been part of Australia's squad during the South Africa tour, where the team was caught in the ball-tampering controversy. The October 2018 series in the UAE came barely six months after the Cape Town Test against South Africa, where Cameron Bancroft was caught attempting to conceal sandpaper on the field. The incident triggered one of the most damaging controversies in Australian cricket, with Bancroft, captain Steve Smith and vice-captain David Warner facing suspensions.

The fresh revelation has revived scrutiny of the team's conduct in the months following the scandal, when Australian cricket was attempting to rebuild its reputation.

PAINE, LANGER REACT

Lyon was identified as the player who made the mints remark, with the revelation reportedly prompting strong reactions from former Australia captain Tim Paine and coach Justin Langer. The suggestion was allegedly shut down by another member of the team, identified as Travis Head, who was one of three Australian batters making their debut on the tour alongside Marnus Labuschagne and Aaron Finch.

Sanju Samson puts Keralam first, Azharuddeen's century is tribute in return

New Chandigarh.(Agency)

Mohammed Azharuddeen had a hundred to celebrate. Yet, when he reached three figures, his eyes went to the bat in his hands, and the name written on it. Sanju Samson. The gesture was deliberate. Azharuddeen had promised himself that if he ever scored a century after getting his opportunity at the top of the order, he would dedicate it to his captain. On Thursday, against Himachal Pradesh in the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy, he finally got to do just that. His 57-ball 101 powered Kerala to a commanding 67-run victory and a place in the Super League stage. But the story of the celebration was about something beyond the runs. It was about a captain willing to move aside, and a teammate who wanted to acknowledge that choice.

A PROMISE TO SANJU

Azharuddeen has been using Samson's bat since his Under-19 days. The connection, however, ran deeper than the equipment he carried to the crease. With Samson dropping down the order to accommodate Kerala's opening options, Azharuddeen felt he owed his captain something.

He had watched the decision unfold and understood what it meant for a player who had already done so much for Indian cricket. "I've been playing with Sanju bhai's bat since Under-19. So I didn't celebrate because the bat belonged to Sanju bhai," Azharuddeen told MediaOne. He had missed Kerala's first two matches, watching from the sidelines. When his opportunity finally arrived, he was determined to make the most of it. "I couldn't do it in the first two matches; I sat outside happily. When I finally got my chance and started scoring runs, I had it in my mind that if I scored a hundred, I would definitely dedicate it to Sanju bhai," he said. The opportunity



came against Himachal Pradesh. And Azharuddeen didn't leave his promise unfulfilled.

SAMSON'S BIGGER PICTURE

At the toss, Samson spoke about what playing for Kerala meant to him. For the captain, this wasn't simply another domestic tournament. It was an opportunity to win something for the state where his cricketing journey began.

"I take great pride in representing Kerala. It has always been a dream to win a championship for my state," he said at the toss.Samson spoke about the things he had achieved with India, but also about remembering where he started and what Kerala had given him along the way.

2nd Test: Akash Deep leads India's charge, but NZ stay ahead on a seesaw Day 1

New Zealand recovered from a mid-innings wobble to reach 246 for 5 at stumps on the opening day of the second Test in Christchurch. India fought back through Akash Deep, whose three-wicket burst left the hosts reeling at 110 for 4, but half-centuries from Tom Latham and Tom Blundell helped New Zealand regain control after India won the toss and elected to bowl.

New Delhi.(Agency)

It was a day of shifting fortunes at Hagley Oval, with neither side able to take complete control. India fought back after New Zealand's openers had made a steady start, only for the hosts to recover from a mini-collapse and finish the day at 246 for 5. India had their moments, but New Zealand will be the happier side at stumps.

India won the toss and elected to bowl on a grassy-looking surface at Hagley Oval. But, as in the first Test, the pitch did not quite live up to its appearance. There was some movement for the seamers, but batting was not particularly difficult. New Zealand's openers showed as much with a 77-run stand, even if Tom Latham had a couple of close calls along the way.

New Zealand would have been pleased with the way the morning session unfolded, but the final ball before lunch brought India a breakthrough. The hosts then lost three wickets without adding a run to slip to 110 for 4, with Akash Deep leading India's fightback. But they dug in, stitched together two useful partnerships and walked off with the upper hand.

Latham had been fortunate from the start. He overturned an LBW decision against Jasprit Bumrah in the first over and got another reprieve when KL Rahul put down a catch at second slip off Akash Deep. Latham was on 29 at the time, and India would have rued the missed opportunity. The New Zealand captain made the most of his luck, playing some fluent drives on either side of the wicket. Devon Conway, after a watchful start, also began to find his feet. Their 77-run stand had taken the sting out of India's opening attack before



debutant Gurnoor Brar, playing in place of Prasidh Krishna, trapped Conway in front for 31 with the final ball before lunch.

AKASH DEEP INSPIRES FIGHTBACK

India needed a strong start after the break, and Akash Deep provided it. Shubman Gill's decision to move him from the Port Hill End to the Botanical Garden End worked immediately. Akash got one to straighten off a good length, drawing an edge from Latham, who departed for 59 off 128 balls. Rishabh Pant made no mistake behind the stumps. Rachin Ravindra lasted only a few more deliveries. Akash found another edge, and Pant was again in the right place. New Zealand had suddenly lost two wickets, and India were back in the game.

Anshul Kamboj then got the wicket of Henry Nicholls. Having struggled in the morning, the pacer stuck with his short-ball plan. A delivery around waist height tempted Nicholls into a pull, but Gill had placed Akash at deep fine leg for that very shot. The catch was taken, and New Zealand were 110 for 4, having lost three wickets without adding a run.

Akash finished with 2 for 23 from 13 overs and was comfortably India's best bowler. For a while, it looked as though India might run through the middle order. But Tom Blundell and Daryl Mitchell had other ideas.

The pair added 74 for the fifth wicket, with Blundell doing much of the hard work. Playing his 50th Test, the wicketkeeper-batter took a blow on the chest and wore a few more, but stuck to his task.

Was Siraj crying after 2nd Test snub? Ex-India spinner wonders on live TV



New Delhi.(Agency)

Former India spinner Murali Kartik wondered if Mohammed Siraj was in tears after the pacer was left out of India's playing XI for the second Test against New Zealand in Christchurch on Friday. Siraj, one of India's leading wicket-takers in the ongoing World Test Championship (WTC) cycle, has now missed out in two successive Tests, with Kartik questioning the decision to leave him out again.

Siraj was dropped for the first Test in Wellington last week, with India opting for Jasprit Bumrah, Akash Deep, Anshul Kamboj and Prasidh Krishna in their pace attack. The match ended in a draw after India's bowlers failed to take all 20 New Zealand wickets.

There was no place for Siraj in Christchurch either. Captain Shubman Gill handed Gurnoor Brar his Test debut in place of Krishna, leaving the Hyderabad pacer out for a second straight match. It is the first time in six years since his Test debut that Siraj has failed to play a match in a Test series.

During the broadcast after the toss, Siraj was seen walking around in sunglasses. The visuals caught Kartik's attention, with the former spinner wondering if the 32-year-old was finding it difficult to deal with another snub.

Amid looming tariffs, USTR claims India's PLI scheme has fuelled excess capacity in key sectors

The USTR report claimed that India diverted economic resources towards expanding manufacturing capacity and production while directly or indirectly suppressing domestic demand and consumption.

HONG KONG: (Agency)

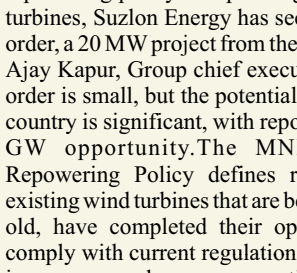
The US Trade Representative (USTR) has raised concerns over India's Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, alleging that financial incentives linked to incremental sales have encouraged companies to establish large-scale manufacturing facilities, contributing to structural excess capacity in several sectors.The USTR remark comes after the US proposed 25 per cent tariffs on imports from India on Wednesday, with a provision to cap them at 17 per cent if the two countries conclude a bilateral trade deal, giving India a slight edge over its Asian competitors.In its Section 301 investigation report into India's acts, policies and practices relating to structural excess capacity and production in manufacturing sectors, the USTR said India had engaged in a range of practices that create, maintain or contribute to structural excess capacity and production by promoting manufacturing and exports, while failing to effectively address global structural excess capacity and production."India engages in a range of acts, policies, and practices that create, maintain, or contribute to the structural excess capacity and production evident in the indicia described above. Key among these are the umbrella efforts of Make in India, PLI, Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India), and IBEF, with a particular emphasis on efforts related to or under these efforts in the steel, solar, health, and ICT sectors," the US Trade Representative (USTR) said.The PLI scheme is a government initiative launched in 2020 with the primary aim of strengthening India's manufacturing capabilities by offering financial incentives to eligible companies based on their incremental sales, it added.The report was released on November 25.

Initially targeting three sectors, the scheme has since expanded to cover 14 sectors, ranging from electronics and textiles to automobiles and food processing, the report said.The incentives, it added, are directly linked to production capacity and incremental turnover, encouraging investors to establish large-scale manufacturing facilities.Citing government and Invest India assessments, the report acknowledged significant growth in several sectors following the introduction of the scheme.In large-scale electronics manufacturing, India has transitioned from being an importer of mobile phones to a net exporter. Domestic production increased from 5.8 crore units in 2014-15 to 33 crore units in 2023-24, while imports declined from 21 crore units to 0.3 crore units during the same period.The pharmaceutical sector has also recorded gains, with India emerging as the world's third-largest player in drugs and pharmaceuticals by volume.The report further cited a 60 per cent reduction in imports in the telecom and networking products segment, with global technology companies setting upmanufacturing facilities in India and the country emerging as an exporter of 4G and 5G telecom equipment.**Trade Surplus**The report flagged concerns over India's growing trade surplus with the US. According to the report, India had an overall global trade deficit of about USD 309 billion in 2025, up from USD 241 billion in 2023 and USD 266 billion in 2022.

Mahindra EV arm to double production capacity

CHENNAI(Agency)

Mahindra Last Mile Mobility Ltd (MLMML) aims to double its capacity for producing electric vehicles from its current capacity of 20,000 per month as it is scouting for a greenfield site to construct a new plant. The EV arm of Mahindra & Mahindra is advanced stage discussion with various government, and it will decide the location within next two months, said its top executive.Suman Mishra, MD& CEO at MLMML, said, "We are scouting for a greenfield plant in Zaheerabad, Nagpur and somewhere in the north closer to Haridwar. We have plants in Bengaluru, Zaheerabad, and Haridwar, producing nearly 20,000 units of electric vehicles in all these plants and looking at growth opportunity, we will double our capacity. We will zero-in on the location in the next two-three months."The company has also won £1 million Earthshot prize money in clean air category in 2026. "This prize money will be used to train women drivers, women service technicians and solving issues related to last mile connectivity," she said. Mishra said that we need to find solutions for parking of vehicles and charging facilities. The Earthshot prize money will be used to set up parking and charging infrastructure in some big cities.



Suzlon bags India's first major wind repowering order

PUNE: (Agency)

The country's first wind repowering project appears to be finally taking off. Three years after the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) announced its wind repowering policy to replace ageing, low-capacity wind turbines, Suzlon Energy has secured its first repowering order, a 20 MW project from the Tata Group.According to Ajay Kapur, Group chief executive fficer of Suzlon, the order is small, but the potential for the company and the country is significant, with repowering representing a 25 GW opportunity.The MNRE's National Wind Repowering Policy defines repowering as replacing existing wind turbines that are below 2 MW, over 15 years old, have completed their operational life or do not comply with current regulations. The new turbines must increase annual power generation by at least 1.5 times. Giving a further boost to repowering, the Central Electricity Authority recently issued a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for repowering legacy wind projects. GirishTanti, Vice Chairman and Co-Founder of Suzlon Group, said repowering is gaining momentum in the country. Suzlon will work on repowering projects in Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra, with one project each in Gujarat and Karnataka scheduled for this year**Three options on table**Suzlon is offering three repowering options. These include installing a power booster to extend a turbine's life by five years; retaining the foundation and tower while replacing the nacelle and rotor to increase power generation by 50%; and completely dismantling the existing structure and installing a larger towerMNRE's National Wind Repowering Policy defines wind repowering as replacing existing wind turbines that are below 2 MW, more than 15 years old, have completed their operational life or do not comply with current regulations.

Food companies back tighter FSSAI scrutiny, flag regulatory ambiguities

MUMBAI: (Agency)

Food and beverage companies have welcomed the enhanced scrutiny by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on food and beverage products being sold in the country but are also seeking clarity from the regulator, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), around ingredients, specifications and labelling of products."The scrutiny is well placed, but sometimes the products are being seized even for mislabelling, and then that leads to the impression that it is unsafe, which is inaccurate," Angshu Mallick, Executive Deputy Chairman, AWL Agri Business, told The Financial Standard.

According to Mallick, unless the products are found to have harmful ingredients, the findings should not be made public as they lead to damage to the brand.AWL Agri Business, formerly Adani Wilmar, sells staples, edible oil and ready-to-cook products under its brand Fortune. The company was penalised in August by FSSAI for selling fortified sunflower oil that had Vitamin D and Vitamin A levels below the prescribed range."We follow all the international protocols for safety, but sometimes even if there is a human error and the levels are minut ly below the prescribed standards, the penalty is imposed," said Mallick.

Another company in the segment, Ceramica Food Industries, which sells products such as sauces, condiments, spreads, syrups, and snacks under its brand Cremica, indicated that there is a need for better clarity from the regulator."The recent steps benefit the consumer, and they are welcome; however, we need more clarity on ingredients that can be used in certain packaged food products,"said Akshay Bector, MD at Cremica Foods Industries. Bector shared examples oftomato ketchup and mayonnaise as products that do not have specified ingredients

Sebi bars Le Lavoir chairman, 13 others over suspected stock manipulation, fund diversion

MUMBAI:(Agency)

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has barred Le Lavoir Ltd chairman Ashok Dilipkumar Jain and 13 other persons and entities from dealing in the company's shares, citing suspected price manipulation, questionable funding of preferential warrants and alleged diversion of funds raised through the issue.In an ex-parte interim order dated November 26, Sebi said its examination had found prima facie evidence of a coordinated arrangement involving trading activity in Le Lavoir shares, the allotment of preferential warrants to Jain and connected persons, and the subsequent transfer of a substantial portion of the proceeds to other entities.The regulator also flagged the company's failure to disclose the discontinuation or termination of certain business arrangements to stock exchanges.The order comes just days before the reported expiry of the lock-in period on November 29 for shares and warrants held by Jain and connected entities. Sebi said it apprehended that they could sell their holdings once the restriction ended, potentially benefiting from the price movement in the stock before the regulator completed its examination.Sebi has restrained Jain from accessing the securities market and prohibited him from buying, selling or otherwise dealing in securities, directly or indirectly. Le Lavoir has been prohibited from raising further capital. The other 13 noticees have been barred from buying, selling or dealing in Le Lavoir shares, either directly or indirectly.The directions will remain in force until further orders. Sebi has given the noticees 21 days from receipt of the order to submit their replies and indicate whether they want a personal hearing.The regulator has clarified that its observations are preliminary and do not amount to final findings of violations. The role, knowledge and intention of each noticee will have to be assessed after considering their explanations and the complete material on record.



SEBI FLAGS SHARE PRICE MOVEMENT

The examination covered trading activity in Le Lavoir between January 1, 2023 and December 12, 2025. Sebi said it began looking into the company after coming across material during an investigation into Sunshine Capital Ltd.

The regulator examined the stock's price and volume movement in different phases. Its analysis showed that Le Lavoir's closing share price rose from Rs 30.65 at the end of December 2022 to Rs 120 during the first phase of the examination. In the second phase, the price increased from Rs 86.74 on March 14, 2024 to Rs 428.60 .

Asian stocks mostly rise as markets calm after tech rout

HONG KONG:(Agency)

Asian stocks mostly rose Friday, with technology firms building on the previous day's gains and enjoying a much-needed period of calm following the ructions at the start of the week.With Wall Street closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, traders had no new business-driving catalysts heading into the weekend, though they remain on edge over concerns about the AI boom.They were also keeping an eye on possible retaliation to Donald Trump's proposed tariffs of up to 20 percent on some of the United States' biggest trading partners, including China, the European Union, India, Japan and South Korea.Seoul and Tokyo were the standouts on a generally quiet day on trading floors, with chipmakers SK hynix, Samsung and Kioxia enjoying healthy buying -- having been among the most brutally sold during a rout earlier in the week.Taipei, which also saw huge swings, was marginally higher.Still, analysts warned that there would likely be more volatility to come as investors assess the outlook for the AI trade with questions over the vast sums pumped into the sector and profitability.Also in view is the Federal Reserve's next interest rate decision next month, with speculation swirling that it could opt for a hefty 50-basis-point hike instead of the usual 25 points.Stocks in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Sydney, Jakarta, Singapore and Manila also rose.Wellington edged down as New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon's right-wing coalition lost its parliamentary majority, plunging the country into political uncertainty with an insurgent centrist party set to play kingmaker."In the absence of any new information the backdrop does remain fragile but for now investors have returned to equities with technology shares leading," wrote Skye Masters at National Australia Bank."The test will be whether this improved sentiment can be sustained through to the end of the week as the US returns from Thanksgiving holiday."Oil prices extended Thursday's gains of more than one percent amid fresh concerns over an escalation of hostilities in the Middle East after Tehran-backed Houthis struck a Saudi refinery, temporarily halting some operations. That came after an attack on another hub in the Gulf earlier in the week.In company news, Japan Tobacco rallied more than four percent following a report that it was considering joining up with US giant Altria for a takeover of Britain's Imperial Brands. Imperial jumped 13 percent in London on Thursday.Japan Tobacco is dealing with a $8.9 billion hit after the Russian government seized all seven of its local subsidiaries, as relations with Tokyo worsen following.



Sensex gains for second day in a row on foreign fund inflows, IT stocks

MUMBAI: (Agency)

Indian equity markets rallied for the second day on Thursday amid investors' optimism over increased foreign fund inflows and intense buying in IT stocks. The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 390.31 points, or 0.46 per cent, to settle at 84,328.59.During the day, the Sensex peaked 613. 46 points, or 0.73 per cent, to 84,551.74. The 50-share NSE Nifty rose 65.25 points, or 0.25 per cent, to end at 25,884.50.From the Sensex pack, HCL Tech jumped 6.28 per cent followed by Tata Consultancy Services 4.97 per cent, Infosys 4.70 per cent, Tech Mahindra 3.33 per cent, HDFC Bank 2.70 per cent, and Tata Steel 2.67 per cent.Asian Paints, Bajaj Finance, Bajaj Finserv and Trent were among the laggards. The BSE SmallCap Select index climbed 0.78 per cent and MidCap Select index was up 0.65 per cent.Among BSE sectoral indices, IT jumped 3.41 per cent, Realty 3.33 per cent, Focused IT 3 per cent, Metal 1.15 per cent, Power 0.71 per cent and Commodities 0.73 per cent. While, Consumer Discretionary, FMCG, Telecommunication, Auto, PSU Bank, Consumer Durables and MidSmall Private Banks ended lower.Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 4,479.08 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, declined 0.79 per cent to USD 93.86 per barrel.The BSE Sensex has jumped 9,869.06 points, or 13.25 per cent in November so far, and the Nifty has rallied 2,831.4 points, or 12.28 per cent."Indian equities recovered from early losses in a volatile session, as sustained foreign inflows and selective buying outweighed firm crude and the proposed US tariffs.IT led the gains, tracking a rebound in Asian tech stocks after weeks of selling," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Ltd, said.In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi, Japan's Nikkei 225, Shanghai's SSE Composite index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index rebounded after Wednesday's sharp decline. The Markets in Europe were trading significantly higher."Indian equities ended slightly higher on Thursday after a volatile session, with early gains tapering as uncertainty over the India-US trade agreement and firm US inflation data tempered risk appetite.The benchmarks oscillated between gains and losses through.

Life certificate deadline nears: Will your pension stop if you miss November 30?

MUMBAI: (Agency)

For millions of pensioners, November comes with an important annual task: submitting their Life Certificate to keep their pension payments running smoothly. With the November 30 deadline just three days away, those who have not completed the process need to act soon.But what happens if you miss the deadline? Will your pension stop permanently, or will you still receive the money later? The good news is that missing the deadline does not mean losing your pension. However, it could delay your monthly payments.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU MISS THE NOVEMBER 30 DEADLINE?

The annual Life Certificate is proof that a pensioner is alive and eligible to receive pension benefits. Pensioners must submit it every year to ensure that their pension disbursing agencies, such as banks and post offices, can continue processing their payments.Adhil Shetty, CEO of BankBazaar, said missing the November 30 deadline would lead to a temporary pause in pension payments, not the loss of pension entitlement."Missing the 30 November deadline will result in a pause in the pension; it doesn't take it away. Payments stop from December and restart once the certificate reaches the bank's pension processing centre, with arrears paid," he said.In other words, pensioners who miss the deadline can still submit their certificates later. Once the bank receives and processes the certificate, pension payments can resume, including the pending amounts.

However, delaying submission could cause unnecessary financial inconvenience, particularly for pensioners who depend on their monthly pension for everyday expenses.

WHO NEEDS TO SUBMIT THE LIFE CERTIFICATE?

The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW), under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, is conducting the fifth nationwide Digital Life Certificate (DLC) Campaign, also known as Campaign 5.0, from November 1 to November 30.The exercise covers 2,000 cities and districts across the country.Pensioners aged 80 years and above were allowed to submit their annual Life Certificates from October 1, while those below 80 could begin the process from November 1.



WHAT IS A DIGITAL LIFE CERTIFICATE?

Jeevan Pramaan is an Aadhaar-based, biometric-enabled Digital Life Certificate that allows pensioners to complete their annual verification without visiting a bank or pension office.Once generated successfully, the certificate is sent electronically to the pension disbursing agency. This means pensioners do not have to submit a separate physical copy to their bank or post office.The digital facility is particularly useful for elderly pensioners and those who find it difficult to travel

.HOW CAN YOU SUBMIT YOUR LIFE CERTIFICATE?

Pensioners can complete the process through several channels, including smartphone applications, doorstep banking and Common Service Centres.One convenient option is face authentication through the Jeevan Pramaan app. Pensioners with an Android smartphone running version 9.0 or above can complete the process from home without needing .



Twinkle Khanna

Blasts Akshay Kumar For Disturbing Her Sleep, Asks, 'Who Plays Bhajans At 6 AM?'

Author and television host Twinkle Khanna is known for not mincing her words. As her husband and popular Bollywood actor, Akshay Kumar, appeared on the latest episode of 'Koffee With Karan Season 9', the 'Airlift' actor made a call to his better half.

Twinkle, being her witty self, ended up roasting Akshay Kumar for coming on 'Koffee with Karan' for free.As Akshay Kumar spoke to Twinkle on speaker during the episode, Twinkle scolded Akshay for disturbing her sleep by singing bhajans in a loud voice early in the morning. She also asked the 'Welcome' actor to ensure that the bathroom door is shut properly.The 'Mela' actress said, "I barely slept last night. Then you woke me up early in the morning. Who plays bhajans at 6 am? And then on top of that, you're singing even louder like you're some Anup Janota. How many times have I told you? At least shut the bathroom door properly."



As Twinkle asked Akshay where he was, he told her that he was at 'Koffee With Karan'. To this, she informed him that she spoke to Karan recently, and the filmmaker asked her to come and judge the rapid-fire section of the episode.Twinkle also expressed her shock that Akshay is doing the show for free."But I didn't know you're doing it today. Oh. You're doing it for free. I'm shocked," she said.Busting Twinkle, Kjo said, "Oh, are you? So you want money for everything? You want money for everything?".Meanwhile, during the fun episode, fellow guest Ravi Kishan was also seen teaching his viral hook step to Akshay, which includes a swag-walk move.In another candid moment, Akshay was asked to choose between going a year without sex or a year without working out during the Rapid Fire Round. Answering the question, the 'Housefull' actor responded, "Isn't sex the best workout?"Akshay's latest appearance on the show with Ravi Kishan was full of such fun revelations and highlights.

Salman Khan Reached Maatrubhumi Song Shoot At 10 AM, Rehearsed For 2 Days: Choreographer



Salman Khan has given fans plenty of memorable dance numbers over the years, and his songs often come with their own signature moves. Now, as fans get ready to see him in Maatrubhumi: May War Rest in Peace, choreographer Mudassar Khan has shared some fun stories from the making of his latest song, Madirapan. And it seems Salman was quite involved in making sure everything went just right.In a chat with Variety India, Mudassar spoke about working with Salman and revealed that the actor was present on set throughout the song's shoot. In fact, his arrival left the crew pleasantly surprised. Salman reported for work at 10 am, just like everyone else, and remained involved during the four to five days of filming.Recalling the experience, Mudassar said, "He supported us tremendously throughout the shoot. He literally surprised everyone by arriving on set at 10 am. We were walking in at 10, and he was walking in at the same time. He was extremely dedicated throughout the four to five days of shooting. He kept checking how things were progressing and making sure everything was in place. I was impressed by how hard-working he is, as always, but with this song, he was especially hands-on."

But there was something else about this song that made it different from Salman's usual dance shoots. Mudassar revealed that the actor actually spent time rehearsing for Madirapan. Usually, Salman prefers to learn his steps on the spot and get straight to shooting. This time, however, he practised for a day or two.

Sharing more details, the choreographer said, "Usually, he comes straight to the shoot, learns the steps and performs them. But for Madirapan, he rehearsed for a day or two. It wasn't just about getting the hook step right; he also made sure everything else was on track, including the other actors' performances, the dancers' costumes and their overall look. For this song, we also used a Bolt, an action-camera rig that moves extremely fast from left to right and up and down in a fraction of a second. It hasn't been used extensively in his songs before. Using it adds tremendous energy to the visuals, and he was very supportive of the idea."

Atif Aslam, Yo Yo Honey Singh's Dance Video From Dubai Wedding Goes Viral Amid Pakistani Shows Ban Row



Yo Yo Honey Singh and Atif Aslam shared the dance floor at a wedding celebration in Dubai, where the two singers were seen grooving to tracks by Pakistani singer Abrar-ul-Haq. Pictures and videos from the event were shared by its host, Sadiq Saleem, who also used the occasion to take a dig at the growing opposition to Pakistani entertainment content in India. Referring to the calls to stop Netflix's upcoming series Jo Bachay Hain Sang Samait Lo from streaming in the country, he drew a contrast between the controversy and the celebrations in Dubai.

Atif Aslam and Honey Singh's dance video from Dubai goes viral

Sadiq Saleem posted a video of Honey Singh and Atif Aslam dancing to tracks by Pakistani singer Abrar-ul-Haq. In the clip, the two singers can be seen cheering for the newlyweds while enjoying the music together. Sadiq also gave fans a glimpse of their off-stage camaraderie by sharing a picture of Honey and Atif posing together at the event. He wrote, "Atif and Honey dancing the night away at a friend's wedding! And what a lovely sight it was to see them dancing to Abrar-ul-Haq's songs too. Honey walked in looking every inch like an icon that he is. Full of love and warmth and style on point. And then came Atif. Calm, composed and unassuming as ever. He kept his promise and showed up straight from rehearsals for his concert."He further added, "I had the pleasure of hosting the evening as the emcee. This was also one of the commitments that meant I couldn't fly down to Karachi for #JBHSSL. Some promises are meant to be kept! And while a complaint is being filed to stop a Pakistani Netflix series from airing, here we are celebrating music, friendship and good times. Can happen only in Dubai!"Following the release of the show's trailer, the All Indian Cine Workers Association (AICWA) approached Prime Minister Narendra Modi, urging him to intervene and prevent Jo Bachay Hain Sang Samait Lo from streaming on Netflix India.



Aishwarya Rai's

Bhabhi Shrima Rai Shares Unseen Picture From Aaradhya's 15th Birthday Celebration

Aishwarya Rai's bhabhi, Shrima Rai, has shared a series of pictures from her birthday celebration, and it looks like she has also offered an inside glimpse into Aaradhya Bachchan's 15th birthday. Aaradhya turned a year older on November 16, and while her parents, Aishwarya and Abhishek, didn't give fans a peek into their baby girl's intimate birthday party, it looks like her mami has just shared an unseen picture.In the photo, believed to be from Aaradhya's birthday on November 16, Aishwarya's baby girl looked like a princess as she wore a stunning long white gown, styled her hair in a new style and put a crown on her head. The actress's daughter completed the look with a chic locket.Aishwarya, meanwhile, looked stylish in a comfy sweatshirt and jeans. The picture also has Aaradhya's granny, Brindya, Shrima's son, Shivansh, and Shrima.Sharing the pictures, Shrima captioned her post, "Birth-day in my camera roll… Gratitude, flowers, a surprise media post, some indulgence, more flowers and late evening with kids and mil (sic)."



Amitabh Bachchan's Wish For Aaradhya

On Aaradhya's birthday, Big B penned a special note for her on his blog, wishing her happiness and good fortune. He also thanked fans and well-wishers for their love and blessings. He wrote, "Ghar ki poti ka janm divas sunahara aur bhagyashali rahe, Ishwar se yahi prarthana…Aur jo sneh Ravivar se mila woh ati smaraniya raha, aap sabki prarthanaon ka abhinandan (May the birthday of the beloved granddaughter of the family be golden and blessed with good fortune. This is my heartfelt prayer to the Almighty. The love and affection showered upon us since Sunday have been truly unforgettable. My sincere gratitude and warm regards to everyone for your prayers and blessings.)"

Who Is Aaradhya Bachchan?

Aaradhya Bachchan is the daughter of Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and Abhishek Bachchan. She is the youngest grandchild of Amitabh Bachchan and Jaya Bachchan. Her elder cousins are Navya Naveli Nanda and Agastya Nanda. The 15-year-old is currently in school and takes part in drama and other extracurricular activities, including stage plays.

Kerala

A vacation inparadise

Kerala is magical. Every corner and every turn of this magnetic state has a visual wonder tucked away. So pack your bags and get ready; a travel across paradise awaits you

A vacation to the south of India ensures more than just a magnificent visual treat and the skipping of a heartbeat. Kerala's breathtaking views and natural splendors pull aside their green curtains to greet every traveller. The friendly locals are helpful and join their hands together to welcome all avid travelers with platters of appam and puttu and a shy namaskaram. Away from all strains and burdens of a city life, this year, do take the time to visit the surreal state of Kerala.

Kerala is a place resplendent with natural beauty. Named as one of the 'ten paradises of the world' by the National Geographic Traveler, Kerala is famous especially for its ecotourism initiatives. The states name, in fact, originates from two words- 'kera' and 'alam', where 'kera' means coconut and 'alam' means land or location. Apart from the food, pristine rain forests, beguiling beaches, the one feature that's exclusive to Kerala are the backwaters. These waters are marked by a unique ecosystem wherein lagoons, lakes, canals, estuaries and deltas of several rivers meet the Arabian Sea. If you are looking for a quiet, rejuvenating and peaceful getaway, then look around no more. The quaint and peaceful backwaters prove to be the perfect dose for your restless soul. Here's a look at some of the prime spots where one can visit the backwaters.

Kumarakom

The village of Kumarakom is situated 16 km away from Kottayam town, Central Kerala. One can reach this place either by the train - 16 kms from Kottayam; or by air - 76 kms from Cochin International Airport. As one enters Kumarakom, the environment seems almost freshly-laundered and the serenity of the place takes one by surprise. The chirping of wild birds peeking from an unknown distance helps break the mysteriously silent ambience of the backwaters. A bed of clay sand and a slippery inlet leads one towards a colony of the most exquisite and extremely beautiful houseboats. Some houseboats have an open wide front, designed for some lazy bachelors who want to lounge around with a small TV, food and drinks and watch the calm water. Some house boats have the capacity to carry almost 5 families. The land on both sides is dotted with gangling palm trees. As one looks ahead, one sees a vast stretch of nothingness; only the silent water.

Thiruvallam

The friendly, popular and crowded Thiruvallam is 10 kms from Thiruvananthapuram. One can reach this place by road or rail. This specific location is famous for its canoe rides, kayaking and cruises in kettuvalloms (house boats). The Boat Club here organises tours to the nearby islands of Pozhikara and Edayar as well as visits to coir manufacturing units. While sailing, hear the peaceful chorus of the rippling water alongside your houseboat cruise as you float on the breathtaking Kerala backwaters with palm fringed golden beaches on both sides.

What is also truly magical about a houseboat ride is the breathtaking view of the untouched and inaccessible rural Kerala while you float! Seeing bobbing heads of locals swimming alongside your boat isn't uncommon. Nor is it rare to see small thatch-roofed huts on the banks of the waters with locals watching you sail by.

Ashkkumar

Located in Kollam district of Kerala in southern India, Ashtamudi is one of the major centres of backwater tourism. One can reach this place by rail; Kollam being the nearest rail head. One can also reach this place by bus. Both luxury as well as semi deluxe buses are available from Kollam to Ashtamundi. Ashtamudi means 'eight coned'. This name is indicative of the lake's topography. Thevally lake, Kandachira lake, Kureepuzha lake, Kallada lake, Perumon lake, Kumbalath lake, Kanjirottu lake and Thekkumbhagam lake form the eight branchs of Ashtamudi lake.

Apart from enjoying a peaceful backwater ride, one can also truly witness the culture and traditions of Kerala here. One can participate in the festivals at the Sreekrishna Swamy Temple, Asramam, Thrikkadavoor Mahadeva Temple and Kottamkulangara temple.

The various islands that make a semi-circular cover around the backwaters are converted into the most breath-taking and luxurious resorts. Long, comfortable benches are spread along the banks of these islands where happy and relaxed bones find peace and tranquility. At night, the backwaters light up and look like a picture post card. Emerald green hills and mists slip over the hills in the aqueous light, passing through the ululating hills.

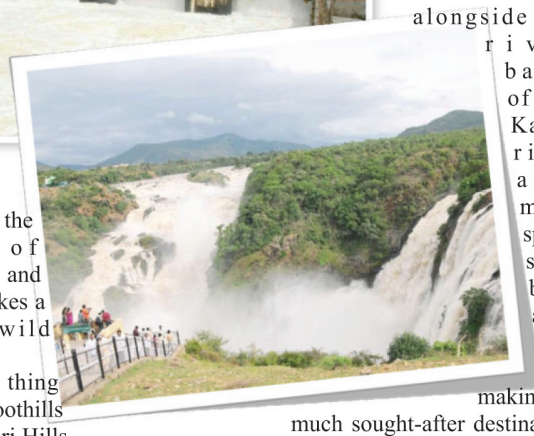
So get ready, pack your bags, and look up ahead. A fulfilling vacation and a soulful journey is waiting for you along the cost of the Arabian Sea. Do take the time to visit this paradise - one that is God's calls His Own.



Kabini

Wild, peaceful and all in between





Kabini, on the border of Karnataka and Kerala, makes a perfect wild getaway

The best thing about the foothills of the Nilgiri Hills and Western Ghats is the abundance of wildlife that one gets to spot. It needn't always be about spotting that elusive tiger. The joy for the wildlife lover is to spot many other rare species here, which include leopards, wild dogs and many different reptiles.

Kabini too is one such delight, where one can go to check out some rare sightings of animals at the Nagarhole National Park. Found alongside the river banks of the Kabini river are many species of birds and animals, making it a much sought-after destination, especially for the wildlife photographers. The best attractions would have to be the land and water safari. While on land safari, one gets to spot bisons, elephants and peacocks along with some other rare sightings, the river safari is a delight for the ornithologists, with many winged-wonders resting alongside the river. A little known fact is that wild spots around Kabini used to be a private hunting lodge of the Mysore Maharaja as it used to boast of a lot of wild cats. Today, Kabini has many resorts and camps as options for people to stay. The area also boasts of a dam as the other tourist destination. For the culture vultures, there are some interesting tribes that reside in these forests, who have fascinating tales to tell. Their handicrafts are also worth a buy. A 10-hour drive from Chennai is how one would reach this place. Alternately, one could either opt to take a train or fly to Bangalore and Mysore, to reduce the time spent travelling on the road. Getting to Kabini from Coimbatore is also another option, if one wants to make a travel holiday out of it, traversing through Mudumalai and Bandipur National Parks. Kabini is also closely connected to the Wayanad district in Kerala.



India's best honeymoon Destinations

From picturesque beaches to tranquil mountain hideaways—India has an abundance of post-wedding getaways. Here are some of the most popular honeymoon destinations that you and your significant other can reminisce about in the years to come.

Lakshadweep

Exotic and sun-kissed beaches, verdant landscapes and turquoise-hued waters—what more could you ask of a tropical honeymoon? The real attraction of the Lakshadweep islands, however, rests underwater: the pristine lagoons, unspoiled coral reefs and warm waters are a magnet for honeymooners.

Goa

Goa has always been a natural choice amongst honeymooners—home to miles and miles of scenic beaches, swaying coconut palms, old colonial Portuguese buildings, delicious cuisine and an easy-going, laid back atmosphere. In Goa, there's a sense of revelry, merriment and abandon in the air that is totally contagious.

The Andamans

Jet-setting couples favour Andaman and Nicobar Islands for the near-deserted beaches, incredible corals and marine life, and an intriguing colonial past. Newlyweds can enjoy everything from scuba diving and snorkelling to spending time soaking in spectacular views of deep forests and magnificent hills. Plus, the resorts here know only one standard of luxury—extravagant.

Coorg (Kodagu)

Spread out across the Western Ghats, the misty valley of Coorg makes for the perfect honeymoon destination. Fondly referred to as the 'Scotland of India' due to its verdant beauty and pleasant climes, Coorg has a special place among all hill stations in India. Elite resorts nestled into the landscape offer couples an unparalleled window into the Coorg's lush flora and fauna



Udaipur

Fantastical palaces, temples, havelis and countless narrow, crooked streets add to the charm of this Rajasthan destination. Even if you are just wandering around the city taking in the majestic sights or cruising the calm lakes on multiple boat rides—the city is bound to sweep you off your feet.

Nainital

An erstwhile summer retreat of the British, Nainital is a small town settled amidst Uttrakhand's Kumaon range. The cool waters of the the Naini Lake, the busy town bazaar and a web of walking tracks around the forested hillsides make for the perfect honeymoon backdrop.

Kerala

The rich vegetation, biological diversity and gentle pace of village life in the backwaters beckon all kinds of honeymooners to Kerala. Spend an evening lounging on a serene beach or a day exploring the splendid backwaters, and you have your perfect getaway.