ESTD. 2015

PRGI Reg No.TELENG/2015/65354

THE FREEDOM PRESS

MONDAY
2 NOVEMBER 2026
VOL: 11 I ISSUE: 299
PAGES 12
PRICE: ₹6
HYDERABAD

Simultaneously Published from HYDERABAD & NEW DELHI | ENGLISH DAILY | Honest Journalism...



G20 AGREES ON PROBLEMS, SPLITS ON SOLUTIONS

PAGE 8



F1: HAMILTON CLINCHES FIRST POLE WITH FERRARI AT MEXICAN GP

PAGE 11

CYCLONE ARNAB: NAVY AIRLIFTS RELIEF TO FLOOD-HIT VILLAGES IN ODISHA

PAGE 5



21 JUMADA AL-AWWAL 1448H

NAMAZ TIME

FAJAR	05:20 AM
ZOHAR	01:30 PM
ASAR	05:00 PM
MAGHRIB	06:15 PM
ISHA	08:15 PM

SUNRISE/SUNSET

13 HRS 10 MINS
RISE 05:42 AM
SET 06:52 PM

MOONRISE/MOONSET

13 HRS 52 MINS
RISE 05:31 AM
SET 07:23 PM

ARAB WORLD ▶ P9



ISRAELI STRIKES IN GAZA KILL 8

RAMLILA MAIDAN SHOWDOWN

CEC Gyanesh will go to 'jail' over 'vote chori': Rahul Gandhi

TFP I PRASHANT SHARMA
NEW DELHI, NOV 1

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday headlined the INDIA bloc's rally here to demand the removal of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar, vowing to save democracy and the Constitution by ensuring that the poll panel Chief faces trial and goes to jail for "vote chori".

Addressing the bloc's 'Dilli Chalo' rally, Rahul Gandhi said the "theft" by Gyanesh Kumar is not a normal theft.

"The vote chori carried out by him (CEC Gyanesh Kumar) is of the 'rarest of rare' category in legal terms," he added.

Accusing the CEC of executing vote theft using EVMs and removal of 13.5 crore names from electoral rolls, Rahul Gandhi said, "What Gyanesh Kumar has done for PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah tantamounts to treason and theft of the voice of every citizen."



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi at INDIA bloc's 'Dilli Chalo' rally.



He added that apart from the CEC, PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah will also have to face consequences for attacking the Constitution and democracy. "While Home Minister Shah announces that PM Modi is not going anywhere, we want to tell them that we will not let them)PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah) go anywhere till they face the consequences of their acts," Rahul Gandhi said while making insinuations about rigging in 2024 Lok Sabha and several Assembly polls.

He said the large gathering at Ramlila Maidan represents the voice of youth, farmers and workers who have sent a strong message to those doing "Vote chori" that they will fight and defeat them.

"The people who have gathered here are sending the message that no matter who you are or how powerful and wealthy you are, you are not bigger than the Constitution.

P4 ▶ INDIA Bloc turns Ramlila Maidan into battlefield for 'Vote Bachao' campaign

AP: Chainsaw attack accused shot in police firing



ANANTAPUR, NOV 1

The youth who attacked a 10th Class girl student with an electric chainsaw in her classroom at Raptadu village of the district on Saturday, was critically injured in a police encounter on Sunday.

Police said that they got a tip off that Hemanth, who attacked 14-year-old girl student Muduga Gopika in her classroom at ZP High School, was moving suspiciously in a forest area. The accused Hemant had allegedly been harassing the girl for the last few months forcing her to love him.

A police team went there and tried to arrest him. However, he attacked the police team with a knife in which Inspector Venkateswralu suffered injuries. In self defence, the police fired six rounds at Hemanth in which he was critically wounded. He was admitted to the Government General Hospital here. He was undergoing treatment and the doctors were yet to reveal his condition. SP Jagadish and other officials visited the hospital.

Azam Khan sent to 14 days of judicial custody in money laundering case

GHAZIABAD, NOV 1

Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Mohammad Azam Khan was on Sunday sent to 14 days of judicial custody a day after being arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in connection with a Jauhar University-linked money laundering case.



The order was passed by the Ghaziabad MP-MLA Court, which directed that Khan will remain in judicial custody until November 13.

Speaking to reporters, the SP leaders' lawyer, Danish Ali, said: "Today, Azam Khan has been remanded to judicial custody. We argued that since this is a 2019 case, the authorities could have taken action through a B-Warrant when he was already in custody. There has also been a violation of Section 19."

"The ED has sought his custody to further interrogate him," he added.

The Samajwadi Party leader's arrest by the ED on Saturday came close to the provisional attachment of land and buildings belonging to Mohammad Ali Jauhar University in Uttar Pradesh's Rampur district, valued at Rs 426.46 crore, in connection with the money laundering probe involving the Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar Trust, Azam Khan, and others.

The fresh trouble for Azam Khan came in the backdrop of a short-lived relief offered to him and his son Abdullah Khan by the Allahabad High Court, which suspended their sentence in the dual PAN card case and also granted them bail on Thursday.

In the money laundering case, the ED attached assets of the University that have a current estimated market value of around Rs 1,170 crore.

The university campus, located at Jauhar Nagar in Rampur's Singhankhera village, is owned by the Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar Trust, which was founded and is controlled by Azam Khan, who also serves as the institution's honorary Chancellor, said the ED. (IANS/UNI)



CARTOON CAROUSEL



Commercial LPG prices up by Rs 10; ATF rates hiked by Rs 1.37 per litre

NEW DELHI, NOV 1

The price of a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder has been increased by Rs 10 to Rs 2,820 from Sunday. Aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices have also been raised by Rs 1.37 per litre.

This is the second consecutive monthly hike, following a Rs 62.50 increase per 19-kg cylinder on October 1. Rates had also risen by Rs 9.50 on September 1.

The latest increases follow two consecutive monthly reductions of Rs 183.50 in July and Rs 192 in August.

Commercial LPG prices went up by Rs 1,373 per cylinder between February and June, rising from Rs 1,740.50 to a record Rs 3,113.50, before declining in the following two months.

According to the revised rate list, a 5-kg Free Trade LPG (FTL) cylinder for a new connection is priced at Rs 1,903, while a refill costs Rs 782.



Meanwhile, prices of domestic LPG, used by households, remained unchanged at Rs 942 per 14.2-kg cylinder.

Petrol and diesel prices, which were increased by around Rs 7.50 per litre each in May, also remained unchanged.

Meanwhile, aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices have also been raised by Rs 1.37 per litre to Rs 138.50 per litre from Rs 137.12 from November 1, according to state-owned oil companies.

This marks the fourth consecutive monthly increase in jet fuel prices, driven by firming international benchmarks. Jet fuel accounts for up to 40 per cent of airlines' operating costs. (IANS)

TG Oilfed records 44.6% growth in oil palm fruit processing

HYDERABAD, NOV 1



The Telangana Cooperative Oil Seeds Growers Federation (TG Oilfed) has registered an impressive 44.60 per cent year-on-year growth in Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) processing during 2025–26, marking significant progress in operational efficiency, infrastructure development, technology adoption and farmer support services.

The federation processed 4,73,997 metric tonnes of FFBs during 2025–26, compared to 3,27,803 metric tonnes in 2024–25, registering an increase of 1,46,194 metric tonnes over the previous year.

A major highlight of the year's performance was the processing of approximately 1.50 lakh metric tonnes of FFBs harvested from young oil palm plantations in Apparaopeta and Narmetta. Despite the relatively young age of these plantations, the federation achieved a commendable Oil Extraction Ratio (OER) of 19.62 per cent.

Another significant achievement was the successful operation of the newly commissioned oil palm processing factory at Narmetta at its full capacity. This milestone is expected to further strengthen Telangana's oil palm processing infrastructure and support the state's long-term objectives of expanding oil palm cultivation and improving farmers' income. (NSS)

Mahabubnagar MP backs NHM employees' strike

Urges TG govt to fulfil demands

TFP I G. RAGHU
NARAYANPET, NOV 1



Mahabubnagar MP DK Aruna has urged the Telangana government to immediately resolve the demands of National Health Mission (NHM) contractual employees, expressing solidarity with those who have been staging an indefinite strike at the district headquarters for the past 20 days.

Addressing the protesting employees, she announced that the BJP would extend full support to the agitation being spearheaded by the NHM Joint Action Committee (JAC). Criticising the Congress government, Aruna said regularisation of NHM employees was promised in its election manifesto but the assurance remained unfulfilled. She pointed out that contractual employees had been regularised in seven states and urged Telangana to follow suit.

Highlighting the contribution of NHM employees to public healthcare, she said their services had helped reduce maternal and infant mortality rates, increase institutional deliveries and strengthen the implementation of programmes such as TB-Mukt Bharat. She also termed the denial of maternity leave and delays in salary payments unjust, demanding that the government address the employees' legitimate grievances without further delay.

BJP State Executive Committee members Ratang Pandu Reddy and Pagadakula Srinivas, District President Satya Yadav, Bhaskar and others were present.

AWS awards $2,000 to VJIT student for outstanding talent

TFP I CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT 31

AWS Student Community Day 2026 was organised by the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Vidya Jyothi Institute of Technology (VJIT) in association with Amazon Web Services, attracting over 200 students from various colleges.

Fifteen industry experts delivered sessions on cloud computing, artificial intelligence, data storage, web development and emerging technologies, with technical talks, panel discussions, hands-on sessions and a project expo forming part of the programme.

The inaugural session featured Sitaram Tadepalli, Senior Vice President, DBS Bank; Narne Gundapathula, Director – People Operations, Storable India; Pavan Kumar Allu, Technology Head, TCS; and Rithish Venkat Jogi, AI Manager, Blend360 and Leader, Microsoft AI Inventors Hub.

Addressing students, Dr Palla Rajeshwar Reddy, Secretary of the institution, urged them to continuously upgrade their skills and keep pace with emerging technologies. He highlighted the growing opportunities in India's Global Capability Centres (GCCs), stating that multinational companies are increasingly establishing operations in the country.

Ms S Neelima, Joint Secretary; Dr A Srujana, Principal; Dr A Padmaja, Dean – Accreditations and Rankings; Ms G Srilatha, Director Academics; and R Venkatachalam, Senior Administrative Officer and Director – Placements, also addressed the gathering. Dr D Aruna Kumari, Head of CSE and Convenor, coordinated the event.

Rotary's Rs. 33-lakh initiative reaches 3,207 students across eight schools in TG

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
HYDERABAD, NOV 1



The Rotary Club of Hyderabad Mavericks' year-long PEP-UP mental well-being project has reported encouraging results, with 503 of the 574 students identified as requiring additional support moving into the Green Zone following counselling and intervention. The remaining 71 students continue to receive care and support.

Implemented at eight government and private educational institutions in Hyderabad with an investment of 33 lakh, the initiative reached 3,207 students through awareness programmes and screened 2,686 students. The project was supported by the Rotary Club of Livermore as international sponsor, with Manojagrithi and Sudisha Counselling Centre providing implementation and counselling support.

Speaking at the concluding ceremony held at G. Narayanamma Institute of Technology and Science, Shaikpet, Rotary District Governor Uday Pilani stressed that peace within oneself is the foundation of mental well-being. He also observed that genuine spiritual leaders often serve as mental well-being guides and coaches. Guest of Honour Rashida Adenwala highlighted the impact of academic pressure, social media, loneliness and excessive screen time on students' mental health.

Rotary Club of Hyderabad Mavericks President Ajay Kumar Kambhampati said the project was implemented under Rotary Global Grant GG2573626, focusing on awareness, screening, counselling and early intervention. Dr. Geetha Challa, Child and Adolescent Psychologist and Founder-Director of Manojagrithi, emphasised the importance of early identification of emotional and psychological concerns.

At the event, Uday Pilani and Rashida Adenwala unveiled the Mindpot mental well-being app and a Well-being Toolkit for students. The project's annual report was also released.

The initiative covered Sri Sahithi High School, ZPHS Kothaguda, New Bloom High School, ZPHS Kondapur, Samskruthi High School, Government Junior College, G. Narayanamma Institute of Technology and Science and ZPHS Peddamangalaram. Students received group and individual counselling on stress management, examination anxiety, emotional awareness and digital well-being.

Speeding car overturns in Chevella, 1 dead

TFP I FAROOQ KHAN
RANGAREDDY, NOV 1

One person was killed and three others injured after a speeding car overturned near Pamen Gate in Chevella mandal in Rangareddy district. The car reportedly lost control due to high speed and overturned onto the opposite road.

The deceased was identified as Rajkumar Goud. The other occupants were identified as Murali Goud, Oggu Venkaiah and Karla Shivakumar, all residents of Pothgal village in Shabad mandal. Two of the injured were shifted by 108 ambulance personnel to Bhaskara Hospital in Moinabad for initial treatment and were later moved to Continental Hospital in Hyd for better medical care. Further details of the accident are awaited.

Kavitha urges CM Revanth to convene special Assembly session on OBC census

TFP I ANIL YADAV
NALGONDA, OCT 31

Nalgonda District Collector B. Chandrasekhar, IAS has directed officials to create widespread awareness among farmers about the AgriStack digital platform and ensure its effective implementation to improve access to government schemes, agricultural services and credit facilities.



K. Kavitha

Addressing a review meeting with Agriculture and allied department officials at his camp office on Saturday, the Collector stressed the importance of technology-driven farming and said AgriStack would help farmers access services through Farmer IDs, digital land records and crop surveys.

He directed officials to include tenant farmers in the Farmers Registry and Digital Crop Survey and ensure that farmers update their crop details after sowing. He said the platform would help improve crop planning, financial access, fertilizer distribution and market awareness through e-NAM. He also stressed the need to provide assistance to farmers without smartphones and encourage the use of local-language voice-based services.

The Collector said linking Farmer Producer Organisations with storage, processing and cold-chain facilities would help farmers secure better returns. He also highlighted the importance of digital records in improving access to bank credit and preventing multiple borrowing.

District Agriculture Officer Vinod Kumar, Horticulture Officer Shekar, NABARD DGM Vinay Kumar, CPO Srinivas Naik, DCO Mamata, Marketing AD Chayadevi, Survey and Land Records AD Devaraj, Civil Supplies Officer Venkatesham, Animal Husbandry AD Narasimha Reddy, EDM Durgarao, NIC representative Prem Kumar and other officials attended the meeting.

Komaram Bheem's fight for tribal rights inspires: Mancherial Collector

TFP I ANJANEYULU
MANCHERIAL, NOV 1



Mancherial District Collector Kumar Deepak, IAS said the struggle and sacrifices of tribal leader Komaram Bheem for tribal rights and self-respect continue to inspire generations. He stressed that the government and district administration were committed to protecting tribal rights and promoting development through coordinated efforts.

The Collector, along with ITDA Utnoor Project Officer Manda Makarandu, DCP A. Bhaskar, Mancherial MLA Kokkirala Prem Sagar Rao and In-charge District Tribal Development Officer Suresh, unveiled the statue of Komaram Bheem at Dandepalli mandal headquarters on Sunday.

Speaking on the occasion, Kumar Deepak recalled Komaram Bheem's historic struggle in 1940 under the slogan 'Jal, Jangal, Zameen' for the rights of tribal communities over water, forests and land. He highlighted government initiatives to improve tribal education, healthcare, agriculture, irrigation and basic infrastructure. He also assured that eligible tribals would receive forest rights titles under the Forest Rights Act, 2006, and clarified that there would be no forced relocation of forest-dwelling communities.

MLA Kokkirala Prem Sagar Rao said the government was committed to the welfare and socio-economic development of tribal communities.

Heavy rain alert for TG

TFP I RAOOF KHAN
HYDERABAD, NOV 1

The depression over the Southeast Bay of Bengal moved west-northwestwards at a speed of 23 kmph during the past six hours and intensified into a deep depression, lying centred over the Southeast and adjoining Southwest Bay of Bengal at 0530 hrs on Sunday, the Meteorological Centre said.

The system was located near latitude 11.5 degrees N and longitude 86.4 degrees E, about 700 km east-southeast of Chennai, 770 km south-southeast of Visakhapatnam.

Ushannapalli School students visit cottage industries & solar power plant

TFP I MAHENDAR
PEDDAPALLI, NOV 1



Students and teachers of the Government Primary School in Ushannapalli village of Kalshekaram mandal, Peddapalli district, participated in an educational field trip on Sunday.

As part of the visit, the students explored cottage industries, government institutions and religious places in Kalshekaram and Pedarathpalli. They visited a handloom centre to learn about traditional and machine-based textile production. At the local police station, ASI Neelima explained police duties and the maintenance of law and order.

The students also visited the market yard, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV), double-bedroom houses and a 1 MW solar power plant at Pandavula Gutta, where they learned about solar electricity generation. They also visited the Jagat Muneeshwara Swamy temple and a pottery unit at Pedarathpalli to observe the making of clay pots.

TWJF Balanagar announces new Executive Committee

TFP I RAVI KUMAR
MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI, NOV 1



The Telangana Working Journalists Federation (TWJF) has announced its new executive committee for Balanagar Mandal in Medchal-Malkajgiri district.

Senior journalist Banagiri Govardhan Reddy of Nava Telangana has been elected as the Chief Advisor, while Chintha Narsing Rao has been appointed Convener. Other senior journalists from the mandal have also been inducted as executive members.

The appointments were announced through a joint statement by TWJF State Secretary Tanniru Srinivas, Medchal-Malkajgiri District Secretary Gaddamidi Ashok and Kukatpally Constituency President Erra Yakaiah.

Speaking on the occasion, Tanniru Srinivas said the new committee would focus on protecting journalists' rights, promoting their welfare and addressing challenges faced by working journalists at the grassroots level.

CAUTION: Readers are advised to exercise due diligence before responding to advertisements published in this newspaper. **THE FREEDOM PRESS** does not endorse or verify the claims made by advertisers. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and Owner of **THE FREEDOM PRESS** shall not be held responsible/liable for any consequences arising from false or misleading claims - **THE FREEDOM PRESS ENGLISH DAILY.**

CM Revanth calls for treated water use in industries amid El Niño threat

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
HYDERABAD, NOV 1



Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has appealed to government departments, industries, construction agencies and commercial establishments to make extensive use of treated wastewater for landscaping, construction and industrial purposes to conserve potable drinking water amid the El Niño threat.

In a message marking the 37th Foundation Day of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB), the Chief Minister called upon people and all stakeholders to make water conservation a collective responsibility.

He appreciated the Board for providing drinking water and maintaining sewerage services in Hyderabad over the past 37 years, contributing significantly to the city's development and public health.

In view of Hyderabad's rapid expansion and the prevailing El Niño conditions, Revanth Reddy stressed the need for proactive measures to ensure water security and sustainable management of water resources.

He said the launch of the 'Dial Green Tanker - Green Tanker Operations' initiative was a timely step towards promoting the use of treated wastewater and reducing the consumption of potable water for non-domestic purposes.

The Chief Minister expressed confidence that HMWSSB would achieve further milestones in serving the people of the Core Urban Region (CURE).

Hyderabad real estate sector must expand to tier-II cities: Kishan Reddy

RATNA CHOTRANI
HYDERABAD, NOV 1



Union Minister G Kishan Reddy addresses 16th edition of NAREDCO Telangana Property Show 2026 at HITEX Exhibition Centre.

Union Minister for Coal and Mines G Kishan Reddy on Sunday called upon the real estate sector to expand its activities beyond Hyderabad to emerging cities such as Warangal, Mahabubnagar, Nalgonda, Nizamabad and Karimnagar to promote balanced development across Telangana.

Addressing the closing ceremony of the three-day 16th edition of NAREDCO Telangana Property Show 2026 at HITEX Exhibition Centre here, he said real estate was a major pillar of economic growth, employment generation and the aspirations of millions of families.

He said Hyderabad had emerged as a leading destination for real estate investments, attracting investors from across the country due to its infrastructure, technology ecosystem, healthcare facilities and cosmopolitan culture.

Kishan Reddy urged developers to focus on planned urban expansion, better connectivity, adequate drinking water, drainage, wider roads and rainwater management while developing new residential areas.

He cautioned against unplanned construction and traffic congestion, stressing the need for sustainable and well-connected communities.

He also called upon NAREDCO to address issues relating to land disputes, land grabbing and the alleged influence of land mafias, which were affecting the confidence of builders and investors.

Referring to infrastructure development, he said projects such as the Outer Ring Road, the second phase of Hyderabad Metro and the proposed Regional Ring Road would open up new opportunities for real estate growth.

He expressed confidence that the Regional Ring Road project would be taken forward soon after resolving certain issues.

The union minister also urged developers to adopt modern construction technologies, artificial intelligence and environmentally sustainable practices, including green buildings and rainwater harvesting, while ensuring timely project completion.

He said the real estate sector should focus on providing affordable and quality housing while contributing to the vision of a developed India by 2047.

Fake currency worth Rs.60 Lakh seized

TFP I CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV 1

The Government Railway Police (GRP), Secunderabad, in coordination with the Railway Protection Force (RPF), arrested a 19-year-old man for allegedly transporting counterfeit Indian currency notes with a face value of Rs.60 lakh from Jaipur to Mumbai via Hyderabad on the Mumbai LTT Express. The accused, Shivratan Mahiya, a resident of Bikaner district in Rajasthan, reportedly came into contact with Om Prakash (25), also from Bikaner, a few months ago. Police said Prakash allegedly offered him Rs.20,000 to transport the counterfeit currency to Mumbai.

On October 28, Prakash handed over a backpack containing the fake notes to Mahiya at Jaipur railway station and instructed him to travel first to Kachegu-da and then proceed to Mumbai. According to DSP Government Railway Police, Secunderabad, S.N. Jaweed, Mahiya reached Kacheguda on Friday evening and stayed overnight at a lodge before proceeding to Secunderabad the next morning.

Army recruitment rally from Nov 13 to 24

TFP I MANVEER SINGH
HYDERABAD, NOV 1

The Indian Army will organise a recruitment rally from November 13 to 24 at the GMC Balayogi Athletic Stadium in Gachibowli, Rangareddy district, to recruit Agniveers from all 33 districts of Telangana.

The rally will screen candidates for various categories, including Agniveer General Duty, Agniveer Technical, Agniveer Tradesman (10th Pass) and Agniveer Tradesman (8th Pass).

Candidates who have received admit cards for the rally have been advised to report to the venue with all required documents in original, as specified in the recruitment notification for the 2027 recruiting year. The notification and other details are available on the official website, www.joinindianarmy.nic.in.

The Army authorities stated that the recruitment process is fully automated, fair and transparent. Candidates have been cautioned against touts and fraudsters who claim to guarantee selection or enrolment, clarifying that agents or agencies have no role in the recruitment process.

Krishnaiah urges CM to allocate 500 acres in Miyapur for housing, student hostels

TFP I CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, NOV 1



R. Krishnaiah

Rajya Sabha MP and National BC Welfare Association President R. Krishnaiah has urged Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy not to auction 500 acres of government land in Miyapur and instead utilise it for housing the homeless poor and constructing permanent buildings for student hostels and residential schools.

In a letter to the Chief Minister, Krishnaiah suggested allocating 200 acres for housing homeless and landless families, pointing out that around six lakh families in Greater Hyderabad do not own even a square yard of land and are living in rented accommodation.

Of the remaining 300 acres, he proposed allotting 100 acres for government college hostels for BC, SC and ST students and 200 acres for permanent buildings for residential schools (gurukulas).

He pointed out that around 100 BC college hostels in Greater Hyderabad and 70 BC residential schools were functioning in rented buildings, resulting in huge annual expenditure on rent.

Krishnaiah said funds could be mobilised from the Central Government, corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives and corporate organisations to construct permanent facilities.

He maintained that providing dedicated buildings would improve educational facilities and living conditions for students while reducing the government's recurring expenditure on rented premises.

Welcoming the Supreme Court's decision establishing the land as government property, he said it should be utilised for public welfare rather than auctioned.

TG govt to hold mega FTA outreach programme today

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
HYDERABAD, NOV 1

The Telangana government, in association with the Union Ministry of Commerce, will organise a state-level mega outreach programme on Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) at T-Hub Phase 2 in Hyderabad on Monday.

The programme aims to familiarise exporters, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and entrepreneurs with opportunities offered by India's trade agreements to expand their access to international markets for products manufactured in Telangana.

IT and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu will deliver the keynote address and release a series of videos highlighting the benefits and business opportunities arising from FTAs.

The programme will focus on identifying sectors and products with significant export potential in the State. Agriculture Secretary Surendra Mohan will present Telangana's existing and emerging potential in agricultural exports, while Industries Special Secretary Krishna Aditya will outline opportunities for expanding industrial exports.

The National Turmeric Board will highlight export opportunities for turmeric, one of Telangana's key agricultural products. Discussions will also focus on developing districts into export hubs under the Export Promotion Mission. Local exporters will share their experiences and explain how they have benefited from existing FTAs.

Water supply to be hit in several areas on Nov 3 & 4

HYDERABAD, NOV 1

Drinking water supply will be disrupted in several parts of Hyderabad for 36 hours from 6 am on November 3 to 6 pm on November 4 as the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) undertakes repair works on the Gandipet Conduit.

The repairs are aimed at preventing major leakages in the conduit at Sabja Colony in Tolichowki and Manikonda areas.

According to the Water Board, the affected areas include Red Hills, Nampally, Mallepally, Seetarambagh, Godeki Khabar, Hindinagar, Assembly, Secretariat, New MLA Quarters, Adarshnagar, Nampally South Central Railway area and parts of Goshamahal and Karwan circles.

In the Golconda zone, Chintal Basti, Vijayanagar Colony, Old Mallepally, Asifnagar and Ahmednagar will face disruption in water supply.

Domalaguda and other areas under Kavadiguda and Gandhinagar wards in Kavadiguda Circle (Division 17), as well as areas under Banjara Hills Ward in Jubilee Hills Circle (Division 15), will also be affected.

The Water Board has appealed to residents of the affected areas to use water judiciously and make necessary arrangements in advance. (NSS)

"Beyond The Divide" Expo concludes successfully; draws overwhelming response

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
HYDERABAD, NOV 2



Speakers stress the need to counter hatred, dispel misconceptions and promote communal harmony; Muslim contributions to India's history and the humanistic teachings of Islam highlighted

Emphasising the urgent need to counter hatred, dispel misconceptions and strengthen communal harmony, the three-day exhibition and seminar titled "Beyond The Divide – Countering Hate, Building Harmony", organised by Jamaat-e-Islami Hind, Greater Hyderabad, concluded successfully at the Nampally Exhibition Grounds on Sunday. The exhibition witnessed an overwhelming response, with thousands of visitors from diverse religious, social and cultural backgrounds participating and exploring the historical and educational displays.

The initiative aimed to address historical misconceptions, challenge stereotypes about Islam and highlight the significant contributions of Muslims to India's cultural, intellectual, literary, scientific and architectural heritage. Women, students and young people, particularly members of Generation Z, showed keen interest in the exhibition.

Moving beyond conventional historical displays, the expo featured historical documents, informative panels, interactive models and advanced 3D holographic presentations to communicate its message effectively. Various galleries highlighted the contributions of Muslim rulers, scholars, intellectuals and artists in the fields of administration, architecture, education, literature, arts and science, placing historical developments in their proper political and social context. The exhibition emphasised that India's shared civilisational heritage evolved through the collective contributions, interactions and cooperation of different communities over centuries.

Another major section addressed misconceptions surrounding Islam, Jihad, terrorism, women's rights and religious harmony. Through informative presentations, the exhibition highlighted Islam's emphasis on compassion, justice, equality, service to humanity and human dignity. Issues surrounding terms such as 'Love Jihad' and 'Population Jihad' were also presented through interactive displays, encouraging visitors to examine claims, raise questions and form opinions based on facts. Three stories presented through 3D holographic technology attracted particular attention, conveying messages of humanity, mutual cooperation and brotherhood beyond religious boundaries.

The exhibition also encouraged visitors, especially young people, to question preconceived notions, examine historical evidence and develop an informed understanding rather than relying on stereotypes or one-sided narratives.



INDIA Bloc turns Ramlila Maidan into battlefield for 'Vote Bachao' campaign, warns of legal action against Modi, Shah

'Vote Chor, Gaddi Chhor' slogan echoes across Ramlila Maidan as a sea of protesters joins opposition rally

SHAHID K ABBAS
NEW DELHI, NOV 1







- Mamata Banerjee vows to resist alleged voter disenfranchisement in Bengal
- Akhilesh Yadav likens Ramlila Maidan rally to Battle of Haldighati
- Tejashwi accuses BJP, EC leadership of organised vote theft
- Opposition alleges 13.2 crore voter deletions or affected entries, seeks transparent electoral roll revision

The Opposition INDIA bloc on Sunday transformed Delhi's historic Ramlila Maidan into a formidable political battleground, launching an intensified nationwide campaign against alleged 'vote chori' and accusing the Narendra Modi government and the Election Commission of undermining the foundations of Indian democracy through large-scale manipulation of electoral rolls.

At the massive 'Vote Bachao, Desh Bachao' Maha Rally, attended by the alliance's top leadership and thousands of supporters from across the country, the Opposition vowed to pursue legal action against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, demand an immediate suspension of the controversial Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and intensify its campaign for sweeping electoral reforms, including a return to paper ballots.

The rally marked a significant escalation in the INDIA bloc's confrontation with the Election Commission, with Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi declaring that the battle would not end with the demand for the removal of the Chief Election Commissioner. He warned that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and union Home Minister Amit Shah could also face legal proceedings over what he described as an attempt to manipulate the people's mandate once the electoral oversight system was freed from government influence.

"The Modi government is not bigger than the Constitution" was the central political message of the mobilisation, as the Opposition sought to turn the controversy over electoral rolls into a nationwide movement for democratic accountability.

Addressing the gathering, Rahul Gandhi described the alleged theft of votes as an assault on the collective voice of the people and not merely an electoral irregularity. He maintained that the right to vote was the very foundation of democracy and that any attempt to undermine it amounted to an attack on the country's constitutional framework.

"If you ask me my religion, I will say that the voice of the people," Rahul declared, adding that the Opposition's struggle was directed against the alleged subversion of democratic institutions and not against ordinary BJP or RSS supporters.

The Congress leader asserted that the Opposition possessed evidence concerning the conduct of the Chief Election Commissioner and would pursue the matter through legal channels. Describing electoral manipulation as an exceptionally serious offence, he warned that those responsible would ultimately be held accountable.

His warning that the legal battle could extend to the Prime Minister and the Home Minister gave the mobilisation a sharper political dimension, signalling that the INDIA bloc intended to move beyond street protests and parliamentary demonstrations.

Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee delivered one of the most forceful speeches of the rally, accusing the BJP and the Election Commission of creating circumstances in which genuine voters in West Bengal faced the threat of disenfranchisement through the SIR exercise.

"We will not leave them. We will fight. They looted Bengal, but we will not allow them to loot it from Delhi. We will fight, not surrender," she declared, demanding the resignation of Gyanesh Kumar.

Her intervention reflected the growing political significance of the electoral revision controversy in West Bengal, where the Trinamool Congress has repeatedly questioned the exercise and its possible implications for the state's electorate.

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav compared the Ramlila Maidan gathering to the historic Battle of Haldighati, portraying it as a decisive confrontation for the survival of democracy. He alleged that the SIR exercise, coupled with administrative pressure, was being used to influence the electoral process.

Yadav said his party had submitted affidavits to the Election Commission highlighting discrepancies in electoral rolls but had received no satisfactory response. The slogans of "Inquilab Zindabad", he said, represented the people's demand for political change and accountability.

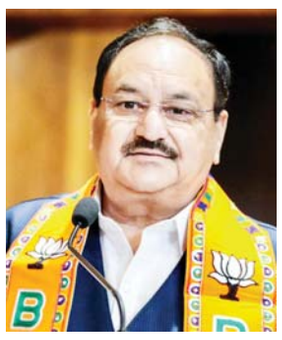
Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav accused the BJP and the Election Commission leadership of orchestrating an organised exercise in vote theft, allegedly targeting women, young voters and Dalits. Invoking the Mahabharata, he portrayed the Chief Election Commissioner as a puppet of the ruling establishment.

Congress president and Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, who has been coordinating the Opposition's campaign, joined other alliance leaders in condemning what they described as manipulation of voter registries. Senior Congress leader and advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi described the mobilisation as a collective expression of public anger against the erosion of constitutional values.

The rally witnessed an unusually broad gathering of Opposition leadership, including Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Mallikarjun Kharge, Mamata Banerjee, Akhilesh Yadav, Abhishek Banerjee, Farooq Abdullah, Mehbooba Mufti, CPI general secretary D Raja, CPI(M) general secretary M A Baby and CPI(ML) Liberation general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya, among others.

'Chalo Dilli' march will prove to be final nail in coffin of Cong's political decline: JP Nadda

NEW DELHI, NOV 1



Union Minister J.P. Nadda on Sunday lashed out at Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, over the INDIA bloc's 'Chalo Dilli' march, calling it a "calculated conspiracy to sow chaos" in the country, while claiming that the rally will prove to be the "final nail in the coffin of the Congress' political decline".

Calling the Opposition's rally a "well-orchestrated political drama" staged by those "repeatedly rejected by the public, Nadda, the former BJP chief, said that the people will "no longer fall for their deceptions".

This came as the INDIA bloc launched its 'Chalo Dilli' march on Sunday to protest against the Election Commission of India (ECI) and Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar over the alleged voter irregularities.

Addressing a press conference here, Nadda said: "What is unfolding today at Ramlila Maidan is not an act of respect for democracy; rather, it is a calculated conspiracy to sow chaos -- to plunge the nation into anarchy under the guise of democratic principles. It is nothing more than a foolish, well-orchestrated political drama staged by those who have been defeated and repeatedly rejected by the people. The public understands this perfectly well."

"I wish to reveal Rahul Gandhi's model of politics to the nation today. Its first phase involves spreading lies and creating an uproar. The second phase entails inciting chaos and disorder on the streets. The third phase involves damaging the nation's economy. And the fourth phase is an attempt to destabilise an elected government at the behest of foreign powers," he alleged.

Calling the rally a "drama by Rahul Gandhi", Nadda said the march has four objectives -- "First, to rub salt into the wounds of our Sikh brethren. Second, to orchestrate riots and chaos in Delhi in a deliberate attempt to destabilise a democratically elected government. Third, to rob the shopkeepers and traders of Delhi of their earnings during the festive season. And fourth, to bring disrepute to the nation."

Nadda said that November 1 stands as the "most infamous and darkest chapter" in India's democratic history. (IANS)



Members of civil society joined the INDIA bloc "Vote Bachao, Desh Bachao" march at Ramlila Maidan in New Delhi. IMCR Chairman & Former MP Mohammad Adeeb, Actor Prakash Raj, AISA President Neha Bora, and Congress Leader Shahed Siddiqui are also seen.

AAP suffers major jolt as two MLAs resign ahead of 2027 Punjab polls

CHANDIGARH, NOV 1



Chetan Singh Jouramajra & Harmeet Singh Pathanmajra

In a major setback for Punjab's ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Punjab, two of its MLAs, Harmeet Singh Pathanmajra and Chetan Singh Jouramajra, resigned from the party's primary membership and the Assembly on Sunday.

Pathanmajra, who represents the Sanour Assembly constituency in Patiala district, sent his resignation letter to AAP national convenor Arvind Kejriwal, announcing his decision to quit the party with immediate effect.

"I hereby submit my resignation from primary membership of Aam Aadmi Party with immediate effect," he wrote in his letter.

Pathanmajra has been at the centre of several controversies in the past. A rape case was registered against him, following which he travelled to Australia. He was subsequently arrested by the police after returning to India to join the investigation into the case.

The Punjab Police had registered a case against the first-time legislator from Sanaur on September 1, 2025, on charges of rape, cheating and criminal intimidation. The 50-year-old MLA had allegedly fled from his relative's house in Dabri village of Karnal on September 2, 2025. (IANS)

Andhra Pradesh: EX-CM Jagan Reddy demands repolling for Pulivendula municipal council

KADAPA, NOV 1



YSR Congress Party President YS Jagan Mohan Reddy addresses media in Pulivendula.

YSR Congress Party President and former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on Sunday demanded repolling for Pulivendula municipal council, alleging TDP workers occupied polling booths, drove out YSRCP agents and resorted to widespread rigging with police support.

However, there was no independent confirmation regarding his charges. A response from the state election commission was awaited.

Speaking to the media after arriving in Pulivendula to cast his vote, Jagan Reddy said there were 80 polling booths in the municipality, but YSRCP agents were driven out of 70 booths and permitted only in 10, alleging that the TDP workers occupied polling booths from as early as 4 AM, intimidated voters and prevented YSRCP agents from entering polling stations.

Jagan Reddy stated that journalists and cameramen from India Today and NTV, who were recording electoral irregularities, were attacked.

while cameras and mobile phones were damaged. Even voters staging protests after being denied their right to vote were ignored. Similar conditions were prevailing in Kadapa, Jammalamadugu, Chittoor, Macherla, Chilakaluripet, Tadipatri, Madanapalle, Chimakurthy and Kuppam, he claimed.

Jagan Reddy questioned Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, the State Election Commission, the Collectors and SPs over the dangerous precedent being created. If the ruling party itself destroys the election process today, another party could use the same methods tomorrow, eventually making genuine elections impossible, he warned. (IANS)

Cyclone Arnab: Navy airlifts relief to flood-hit villages in Odisha

NEW DELHI, NOV 1
As Odisha continues to face severe difficulties due to flooding triggered by Cyclone 'Arnab', the Indian Navy has been carrying out sustained relief operations to assist affected communities, particularly in areas where road connectivity has been disrupted, and villages remain submerged.



The Eastern Naval Command conducted aerial relief missions in Odisha's Ganjam district

For the second consecutive day, the Eastern Naval Command conducted aerial relief missions in Odisha's Ganjam district. During the operation, Navy Sea King and Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) aircraft carried out multiple sorties, delivering around 1,800 kg of relief supplies to the flood-stricken village of Sara Bhimpur. The consignment included approximately 1,400 kg of food items and 400 litres of drinking water.

"Sustaining HADR operations in the aftermath of #CycloneArnab, the #EasternNavalCommand, continued aerial relief efforts for the second consecutive day in Cyclone affected Ganjam district, Odisha," Eastern Naval Command posted on X.

With extensive waterlogging and damaged road links cutting off access to the village, the delivery of essential supplies had become a major challenge. Navy helicopters overcame these obstacles by transporting relief material by air, providing crucial support to residents stranded by the floods.

Working in close coordination with the local administration, the Indian Navy has continued its relief efforts to ensure that food and safe drinking water reach affected people as quickly as possible. The operation highlights the Navy's rapid response capabilities and its commitment to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief during natural calamities.

Meanwhile, the Indian Coast Guard has also been engaged in rescue operations amid the impact of Cyclone Arnab. As part of these efforts, six people, including two women, two children and an elderly person, were rescued from a flood-hit health centre and airlifted to safety.

The rescue mission was carried out on October 29 in Ganjam district after authorities alerted the Coast Guard about the emergency. Following the distress call, an Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH Mk-III) was immediately deployed from the Coast Guard Air Enclave in Bhubaneswar, along with rescue personnel. (IANS)

7 fishermen apprehended by Sri Lankan Navy



RAMESWARAM, NOV1
Seven fishermen from Tamil Nadu's Rameswaram and Thangachimadam were taken into custody by the Sri Lankan Navy early on Sunday, adding to a series of detentions that have prompted repeated demands for government intervention and a lasting solution to the fishing dispute. Tamil Nadu Fisheries Department officials said naval personnel intercepted the fishermen's trawler around 1 a.m. while they were fishing between Katchatheevu islet and North Mannar. The fishermen, detained on allegations of poaching, were taken with their vessel to a Sri Lankan naval port.

Officials identified them as Placius, 41; Alagu Pandi, 22; Antony Pitchai, 33; Rabin, 21; Nelson, 58; Arulananda Xavier, 65; and Sahaya Anand, 34. All seven belong to fishing communities in Ramanathapuram district. The Fisheries Department had issued 398 tokens on Saturday for fishing operations. Those who ventured out were scheduled to return on Sunday evening, but the seven men were detained before completing their trip. (IANS)

Union Minister Mandaviya launches EPFO services through WhatsApp

NEW DELHI, NOV 1
Union Labour & Employment Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Sunday launched EPFO's WhatsApp service to enable EPF subscribers to access their PF balance, latest five transactions, and passbook information.



Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya launched EPFO's WhatsApp service in New Delhi.

Besides, they will also receive personalised guidance and assistance in completing PMVBRY-related requirements.

Addressing the 74th Foundation Day celebration of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) here, the minister said the WhatsApp service will make routine services accessible through a familiar mobile platform and reduce the need to visit EPFO offices.

Besides, subscribers with Aadhaar-verified inoperative EPF accounts with balances up to Rs 1,000 will not be required to file individual claims, and the EPFO will initiate settlement automatically after prescribed identity and bank-account verification, facilitating transfer of eligible dues to rightful beneficiaries. Approximately one lakh accounts involving Rs 5 crore are expected to benefit.

Mandaviya highlighted that over its 74-year journey, EPFO has emerged as a trusted institution for the workforce of the country. He noted that the trust reposed in the Organisation is reflected in the Rs 32 lakh crore corpus accumulated through contributions from more than 8 crore members, made possible by the dedication, hard work and commitment of the EPFO workforce.

Commending the relentless efforts behind technological transformations like CITES 2.01, the minister called upon every official to focus on the welfare of the worker at the last mile.

He urged officials to focus on worker-centric innovations across domains in the run-up to EPFO's 75th year, adapting, building resilience, and evolving processes in tandem with changing times.

The impact of EPFO's technological transformation through CITES 2.01 was also showcased on the occasion. A significant improvement in claim settlement was highlighted, with the average settlement time declining to 2.57 days in October 2026. The improvement reflects the Organisation's continuing efforts to make access to provident fund savings faster and more convenient for members.

Seven publications were also released on the occasion, reflecting the EPFO's commitment to knowledge creation, institutional learning, legal awareness and compassionate governance.

Secretary, Labour & Employment, Chandra Bhushan Kumar emphasised that social protection and labour reforms must reach not just the organised sector, but unorganised sector workers at the last mile, noting that EPFO sets an example of how to achieve this through institutionalised processes.

In his address, the Central Provident Fund Commissioner highlighted the need to make EPFO more accessible, reliable and humane, as he emphasised that institutional trust is built through every claim settled, every pension delivered, and every family supported during difficult times. (IANS)

India and Myanmar hold Army Staff Talks

Discuss enhancing military cooperation

NAYPYIDAW, NOV 1
India and Myanmar held the eighth Army-to-Army Staff Talks at Naypyidaw, with discussions focused on enhancing bilateral military cooperation through joint training, exercises, capacity building, and professional exchanges.



During the visit, the Indian delegation handed over training simulators to the Myanmar Army, reaffirming New Delhi's commitment to Naypyidaw.

In a post on X, the Indian Army's Additional Directorate General of Public Information said: "The 8th India-Myanmar Army-to-Army Staff Talks, held at Nay Pyi Taw, focused on enhancing bilateral militaryW cooperation through joint training, exercises, capacity building and professional exchanges."

"The Indian Army delegation also interacted with the Chief of Armed Forces Training, Myanmar Army, to strengthen ongoing collaboration and explore new avenues of engagement. Reaffirming India's commitment to capacity building, training simulators were handed over to the Myanmar Army, further reinforcing bilateral military ties and mutual trust," it added. (IANS)

Girl injured in chainsaw attack remains critical

AMARAVATI (AP), NOV 1
The condition of a Class 10 girl student injured in the chainsaw attack by her relative at a school in Andhra Pradesh's Anantapur district on Saturday remained critical, doctors said.



According to doctors, the next 48 hours will be crucial for the victim undergoing treatment at a hospital in Bengaluru.

Andhra Pradesh Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh on Sunday visited Bengaluru and spoke with doctors at Manipal Hospital to review the health condition of the girl and ongoing treatment.

The girl was injured in the attack at Zilla Parishad High School in Rapthadu in Anantapur district.

The accused, who was later identified as Hemanth, is a close relative of the victim. He is reported to be still at large. (IANS)

Woman gang-raped, husband thrashed in Bengal's Subhasgram

KOLKATA, NOV 1
One person was arrested on Sunday morning in an alleged gangrape of a woman at Subhashgram in South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal.

However, four other accused persons in the case are still absconding, an insider from the state police said.

It is learnt that the woman, a housewife, was not a local resident. She had come to the area with her husband to visit her relative at Subhasgram, which comes under Ward No. 21 of Rajpur-Sonarpur Municipality in South 24 Parganas district.

Although the incident took place on the intervening night of October 30 and October 31, the police complaint was filed at the local Sonarpur Police Station on October 31, based on which the police registered an FIR and began an investigation.

Finally, one of the accused persons was arrested, while the other four against whom the complaint had been filed were absconding.

As per the police complaint filed by the victim, she went to a relative's house in Subhasgram with her husband on October 30. On the intervening night of October 30 and October 31, at around 1:30 a.m., she and her husband were heading to another person's house in the same locality.

Allegedly, at that time, five young men started following them and subsequently blocked their path. After that, as per the police complaint, the husband was severely beaten up by the five accused persons.

After the incident, the victim and her husband took shelter for the night at another local house. On Saturday, they went to the local Sonarpur Police Station and filed a formal police complaint. (IANS/UNI)

42 injured as KSRTC bus overturns

SHIVAMOGGA, NOV 1
Forty-two people, including the driver, sustained minor injuries after a Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) bus overturned after colliding with a roadside parapet near Basavanahole Dam in Sagar taluk of Shivamogga district on Sunday morning, police said. The accident occurred at around 4.30 am on the National Highway when the bus, travelling from Bengaluru towards Sagar, hit the roadside parapet and overturned.

All 42 people on board, including the driver, sustained minor injuries. There was no loss of life, police said. (IANS/UNI)

Manipur: Bodies of 2 missing Kuki youths found after 4-day search

IMPHAL, NOV 1
The bodies of two Kuki youths, who went missing on October 28, were recovered on Sunday following multiple search operations conducted by joint teams of the Manipur Police, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Assam Rifles, officials said.



A Manipur Police official said that following the disappearance of the two persons from Taphou Kuki village in Kangpokpi district on October 28, multiple search operations were launched by joint teams comprising the Manipur Police, CRPF, CoBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action), Rapid Action Force (RAF) and Assam Rifles.

As part of the ongoing operations, an extensive joint search operation was conducted on Sunday by teams of the Manipur Police and central security forces in the general area east of Imphal-Dimapur National Highway (NH-2), along SP Road.

During the extensive search operation, the joint teams recovered two bodies from the area, the official said. The police are carrying out the necessary legal formalities and other procedures following the recovery of the bodies.

Meanwhile, extensive search and combing operations will continue in the area with the objective of identifying and apprehending those responsible for the incident, officials said.

A 48-hour shutdown called by the Committee on Tribal Unity (COTU) in Kangpokpi district to protest against the reported abduction of the two youths disrupted vehicular movement along the Imphal-Dimapur National Highway (NH-2) until Saturday evening. The shutdown began at 5 p.m. on Thursday, with shops, markets and other business establishments remaining closed during the protest. (IANS)

Drugs worth Rs 46.25 crore seized in Assam, Mizoram

SILCHAR/AIZAWL, NOV 1
In major crackdowns on drug trafficking, the Assam Rifles have seized narcotics worth around Rs 46.25 crore in two separate operations in southern Assam and Mizoram and arrested five drug peddlers, officials said on Sunday.



A total of 27.813 kg of methamphetamine tablets, commonly known as Yaba or party tablets, was seized in the two operations. Yaba tablets contain a mixture of methamphetamine and caffeine and are also popularly referred to as the 'crazy drug'. These highly addictive synthetic drugs, banned in India, continue to be among the major narcotics smuggled from Myanmar into the Northeast.

A defence spokesman said that in a significant breakthrough against narcotics trafficking, the Assam Rifles, in a joint operation with the Silchar-based Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) in southern Assam, seized a massive consignment of 20 kg of crystal methamphetamine, valued at approximately Rs 40 crore, at Dholai Bazar in Cachar district. The recovery is considered one of the biggest seizures of crystal methamphetamine in the region and has dealt a major blow to organised synthetic drug trafficking networks.

Acting on specific intelligence inputs, a joint team of the Assam Rifles and DRI, Silchar, launched an operation during which they intercepted a suspected narcotics consignment and apprehended three drug peddlers allegedly involved in its transportation. A thorough search led to the recovery of 20 packets of crystal methamphetamine weighing approximately 20 kg, with an estimated international market value of Rs 40 crore. The team also seized three mobile phones and two vehicles.

A preliminary assessment indicated that the consignment had originated in neighbouring Mizoram and was being transported through southern Assam's Silchar, which was allegedly being used as a transit hub for its onward movement towards mainland India. (IANS)

THE FREEDOM PRESS

MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2026

Reforms to boost renewable energy finance

India's renewable energy sector has made significant progress over the past decade, supported by policy initiatives, falling technology costs and growing private investment. The country has successfully mobilised substantial capital for large-scale solar and wind projects, strengthening its position in the global clean energy transition. However, financing costs and delays in raising capital remain challenges. A recent International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) report has also highlighted the need to improve access to affordable finance to sustain the pace of expansion.

A key area requiring attention is the risk-weight framework applied to renewable energy projects. Currently, commissioned renewable energy projects are generally assigned credit risk weights of 80-100 per cent, irrespective of the promoter's financial strength or the presence of long-term power purchase agreements (PPAs) with financially sound distribution companies. Higher risk weights increase capital requirements for lenders, often resulting in higher borrowing costs for developers. A more differentiated approach could help reduce financing costs and improve project viability.

The Reserve Bank of India's existing scale-based guidelines assign a 50 per cent risk weight to commissioned Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects under specified conditions. A similar risk-based approach could be considered for commissioned renewable energy projects with firm government-backed offtake agreements. Assessing the financial strength of developers, promoters and power purchasers would allow lenders to determine more appropriate risk weights. Such reforms could encourage banks and Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) to expand lending while maintaining financial discipline. The growing importance of hybrid renewable energy projects also calls for a differentiated financing framework. Unlike standalone solar and wind installations, hybrid projects combine multiple generation sources, battery storage and round-the-clock power supply. Their technology, dispatch and merchant risks vary considerably. Therefore, a uniform reduction in risk weights across all renewable projects may not be appropriate. Instead, lending decisions should consider contracted revenues, counterparty strength, technology maturity and the performance records of developers to ensure that credit is directed towards financially sustainable projects.

Land acquisition is another factor influencing the pace of renewable energy development. Lenders generally prefer developers to acquire more than 80 per cent of the required land before releasing substantial project finance. However, land aggregation, particularly for wind projects involving scattered and non-contiguous parcels, often takes place in stages. Strict land-acquisition requirements can delay financial closure and project execution, even when viable PPAs have already been signed.

A proportionate financing mechanism linked to land acquisition and project progress could address this difficulty. After conducting adequate due diligence, lenders could consider phased, performance-based disbursements based on the land secured, project execution capacity and the developer's track record. This would help align financial support with actual project requirements, improve capital utilisation and reduce delays in commissioning. Such an approach could also strengthen investor confidence in India's renewable energy sector.

Access to priority sector lending (PSL) is another important consideration. Renewable energy projects currently face a lending limit of Rs.35 crore per borrower, considerably lower than the limits applicable to agricultural infrastructure at Rs.100 crore and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises at Rs.125 crore. Raising the renewable energy PSL limit to Rs.100 crore per borrower, with appropriate safeguards, could improve access to institutional and concessional finance. It would also encourage greater participation by banks in projects that contribute to India's national energy and development priorities. The procedures for obtaining grid connectivity also offer scope for improvement. At present, the Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL) primarily accepts bank guarantees as security for granting connectivity. While bank guarantees provide an unconditional and regulated financial commitment, developers often obtain Letters of Undertaking (LoUs), Letters of Comfort (LoCs) from NBFCs or Insurance Surety Bonds (ISBs) before securing bank guarantees.

How India is making its stock market an expensive place to invest

ADITYA SINHA



In the thirteenth century, the lords whose castles lined the Rhine discovered a business model. Each stretched a chain across the river and tolled every passing barge. No single toll was ruinous. Together, they strangled the river. Merchants rerouted their cargo, and in 1254, the Rhenish cities formed a league and pulled the toll castles down. The lords had assumed the river had nowhere else to flow. The merchants knew better.

Global equity capital is the modern river. Unfortunately, India operates the only toll booth on its route. The Finance (No. 2) Act, 2024, taxes long-term capital gains (LTCG) on listed equity at 12.5% and short-term gains at 20%, plus surcharge and cess, plus a securities transaction tax (STT) on every trade. The Ministry of Finance confirmed, in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 166 on 20 July 2026, that foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) pay the same 12.5% as residents. No competing jurisdiction does this. The United States treats a non-resident's gains on listed stocks as foreign-source income and levies nothing. Singapore, Hong Kong, and the United Arab Emirates have no capital gains tax. China exempted foreign investors from tax on A-share gains through Circulars 79 and 81 of 14 November 2014, three days before Stock Connect opened, and has extended the exemption through 31 December 2027. The adjective 'temporary' has survived twelve years.

This has quantifiable implications. The Nifty has compounded at about 10.5% a year in rupees over two decades. Weighting the 20% short-term and 12.5% long-term rates by typical holding patterns gives a blended tax drag near 15% of returns, taking 10.5 to about 8.9. Average annual rupee depreciation of 4%, running at nearly 7% in 2026, takes 8.9 to roughly 6% in dollars. The S&P 500's century-long annualised return is near 10. Of the 4-point gap, about two points is tax design. Capitalise the wedge. If foreign investors demand 2 points more to hold Indian equity, the equilibrium price of every Indian stock falls until expected returns gross up, which is a permanent increase in the cost of equity for every issuer in a country that saves less than it needs to invest.

The flow data record the adjustment. FPIs sold Rs 1.66 lakh crore of Indian equities in 2025 and a record Rs 3.08 lakh crore in 2026 through October 12. Foreign ownership of the Indian market is at a 15-year low. India's weight in the MSCI Emerging Markets index has roughly halved from its September 2024 level, and allocators have begun asking whether India merits a dedicated country allocation at all. A market that loses asset-class status receives only pooled emerging-market money, which is benchmark-driven and momentum-chasing by construction. The toll is paid not by the barge but by the towns along the river.

The government's case is not frivolous. The revenue is real. Equity LTCG tax yielded Rs 72,249 crore in 2023-24 and Rs 1,29,158 crore in 2024-25. The horizontal equity argument is real. Arun Jaitley, reintroducing the tax in 2018, cited Rs 3.67 lakh crore of exempted gains in returns for the assessment year 2017-18, and asked why the economy's most buoyant income should escape tax when a schoolteacher's mutual fund gains do not.

The zero-tax years were the treaty-shopping years, until the Mauritius treaty was renegotiated in 2016. The evidence cuts the government's way too. FPIs absorbed the 2024 rate hikes and ended that year with a net inflow. And domestic institutions have bought for 38 consecutive months, absorbing everything foreigners sold.

Each point is true. None survives decomposition. The Rs 1.29 lakh crore is a headline, not an FPI figure. No FPI-wise split is published, and net sellers book fewer taxable gains than compounders, so the foreign share is likely a small fraction of a levy mostly paid by residents. Horizontal equity misreads elasticities. The schoolteacher's capital is immobile and bears the tax. The fund's capital is perfectly elastic in supply, so the incidence shifts entirely to the immobile party, the Indian issuer. Textbook Ramsey logic says tax the inelastic base, which India does anyway through STT. And the decisive witness is the government itself. The Income-tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026,

The Income-tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026, exempted FPI interest and capital gains on government securities from April 1 this year, expressly to align with comparable jurisdictions and attract pension and sovereign wealth capital. The capital gains element of the revenue cost was an estimated Rs 500 to Rs 1,000 crore. Every word of that justification applies to equities. The principle was conceded precisely where the exchequer borrows and suspended where firms raise capital.

A stand, therefore. Keep the tax for residents. Jaitley's logic holds where capital cannot leave. For non-resident portfolio investors in listed equity, restore the 2004 bargain, under which STT was introduced as the explicit price of exempting long-term gains, a bargain the 2018 Act honoured in the collection and abandoned in the exemption. STT yielded Rs 57,522 crore in 2025-26, collected at source, evasion-proof, paid by resident and foreigner alike. Let that be the toll. At a minimum, allow FPIs to compute gains in the currency of investment, taxing income rather than rupee depreciation, a proposal the ministry is reportedly examining with the Securities and Exchange Board of India. The Finance Minister said on October 13 that she would seek inputs on LTCG. There is no record of the Rhine lords ever cutting a toll voluntarily. There is a clear record of what the river did. The Rhenish league is remembered. The toll castles are ruins, photographed by tourists who pay nothing to pass.

(Author was with the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister)

China is fighting over names in Ladakh. India should notice who else is watching Beijing

ABHIGYA LANGEH



Mountain pass has no army, no missiles and no vote at the United Nations. Yet last week, Beijing treated a list of 28 Himalayan place names as an affront serious enough to deny the legal existence of an Indian Union Territory. China's foreign affairs ministry said it has never recognised the "so-called Union Territory of Ladakh", called it unilaterally and illegally established, and declared India's publication of standard names illegal and void. A government that is secure in its claim does not need to shout at a map.

The trigger was modest. On 2 October, India's home ministry announced that 28 locations in Ladakh had been identified by standard names on the Survey of India map, after consultation with the local administration. The list includes Gogra and Hot Springs, which became major friction points during the military standoff in 2020.

In response to China's position, the external affairs ministry stated that Ladakh is an integral and inalienable part of India and that no Chinese denial can alter that. The matter should have ended there. It will not, because the dispute is not about the names. It is about who gets to write the history of the frontier, and how long India can afford to treat that question as a technicality.

China's language has been consistent for seven years. It has refused to accept Ladakh's status since the reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir in 2019, and said at the time that the move placed Chinese territory under Indian administration. The rhetoric has been backed by action. India has lodged a "solemn protest" over China's creation of two new counties in Hotan Prefecture, parts of which lie within Ladakh. China has also issued successive lists of names for places in Arunachal Pradesh, which it calls "Zangnan", defending them under its domestic rules on geographical names.

Put together, these steps form a method. Rename the place, administer it on paper, and wait for repetition to turn a claim into a habit. The word "illegal" completes the sequence. It recasts India's long-standing administration as a violation, and it does so at no cost, since nothing has to move on the ground. India's answer, naming 27 locations in Arunachal Pradesh in August and 28 in Ladakh in October this year, is the right instinct. These places matter for Indian patrolling along the Line of Actual Control. A frontier that is named, mapped, and administered by Delhi's own hand is harder to erase.

But matching China's cartography is only half a response. The other half is understanding why Beijing believes the strategy works.

On 14 October, the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile said what Indian officials rarely speak aloud. It called China's refusal to recognise Ladakh as a Union Territory baseless, and argued that the unresolved Tibet issue remains central to India-China border tensions. Speaker Dolma Tsering tied the two theatres together: China's renaming of places inside Tibet and its construction of villages along border areas, she said, are developments India should take seriously. She added that territorial claims cannot rest on assertions of ownership alone and must be supported by historical evidence. MP Gonpo Dhondup went further, calling Beijing's claims over Ladakh and Arunachal baseless and urging India to repeal its One China Policy.

It would be a mistake for Indian officialdom to treat these statements as the pleadings of a community with its own agenda. The Tibetan argument is also a strategic argument, and a strong one. For centuries, Tibet lay between the subcontinent and the Chinese heartland. That space is gone, and the militarised frontier India now manages is the direct result. Tibetans have been the first to see that the tools China uses on Ladakh today—from renaming to settlement to administrative redesignation—are the same ones it used in Tibet decades ago. They are describing a method they have lived through. India would be foolish not to study it.

There is a historical case too, and it deserves a hearing even though Beijing rejects it. In 2014, then-Sikyong Lobsang Sangay noted that at the 1914 Simla Convention, China and British India accepted that Tibet could enter into treaties, and that a sovereign Tibet ceded territory to British India through the McMahon Line. If that reading holds, the boundary India defends is an India-Tibet boundary, and China's claim to override it rests on the very assertion that Tibetans dispute. Successive Chinese governments have never recognised the McMahon Line. The legal question is contested, and honest commentary must say so. But a contested question is exactly where a country should be leaning in, not backing away.

The Tibetan MP's call to scrap the One China Policy is rhetorically powerful, but the policy's meaning in practice is already narrower than many assume. One Indian commentator notes that the "One China" label properly belongs to Taiwan, not Tibet, and that India recognised Tibet as part of China only on the condition of full autonomy, which Beijing has not honoured. Another observes that India has not repeated the line that the Tibet Autonomous Region is part of China since 2010. The policy is already drifting. The question is whether that drift is a conscious strategy or an accident.

I argue it should be a conscious strategy in three parts. First, India should stop treating Tibet as a taboo in its own diplomacy. Officials should say plainly, and regularly, that the border dispute cannot be fully understood without Tibet's history. Second, India should give Tibetan institutions on its soil the same respect it gives any other community that has sheltered here for six decades, including serious attention when they speak on matters of national security. Third, it should heed Tsering's warning that trade and business engagement must not take precedence over border security, and that the two have to be addressed together. A relationship in which Indian markets stay open while Chinese counties are drawn across Ladakh is not a balanced one.

These measures aren't risk-free. Beijing has branded the Tibetan government in exile a separatist political organisation and reacts sharply to any perceived shift on Tibet. A careless move would cost India the diplomatic calm it has rebuilt since the disengagement that began in 2022. But risk runs in both directions. A country that never contests the narrative will eventually find the narrative decided without it. China has chosen to argue about names. India should take that argument seriously and widen it to history, law, and the people who have been living with Beijing's methods the longest. The 28 names on the Survey of India map are a beginning. The real answer to China's "illegal" charge is a frontier that India can explain, document, and defend, with the full weight of its own history behind it.

(Abhigya Langeh is the Head of Chinese and Tibetan Studies at the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies, HQ IDS, Ministry of Defence)

Disclaimer: Views expressed by writers in this section are there own do not nessarily reflect The Freedom Press' point-of-view.

Fake currency rackets go local, security agencies face fresh challenge

VICKY NANJAPPA
NEW DELHI, OCT 30



A new challenge has emerged for Indian security agencies, which have been grappling with the menace of fake Indian currency notes.

While international networks continue to operate, the growing presence of smaller, indigenous, and individual counterfeit currency networks within the country has emerged as a fresh concern for the agencies.

Investigating agencies, including the National Investigation Agency (NIA), have long been tracking the fake currency mafia. The racket has traditionally been linked to Pakistan, with the Dawood Ibrahim syndicate believed to be playing a major role in its operations.

The counterfeit notes are not smuggled into India directly from Pakistan. Instead, they are routed through Bangladesh before being brought into the country. Over the years, these networks have established a strong presence in the border districts of West Bengal.

Recent investigations have identified Malda as the principal hub from where the counterfeit currency trade is being operated.

The fresh challenge the agencies face is the mushrooming of smaller networks in India and also solo operations being run by individuals. These networks are relatively harder to track as they are not associated with any major syndicate.

An official said there is material that is easily procurable online.

"The solo operatives procure materials online and print the notes. While both solo operatives and smaller networks deploy similar tactics, the only thing that varies is the scale of operation and the manner in which they function," the official said.

In the last few months, the agencies have managed to nab solo operatives while also shutting down the smaller networks. Three solo networks were recently busted in Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Mumbai. These individuals had procured a domestic printing unit and also accumulated digital printers and paper-cutting tools.

Sibion, a native of Kallelivayal in Vadi, Kerala, had planned on printing fake currency to the tune of Rs 2.5 crore before he was nabbed.

In Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, the police arrested one Vivek Yadav and recovered 23 counterfeit notes of the Rs 500 denomination.

In Mumbai, one Omkar Bhoir was arrested after he was nabbed with 240 notes of the Rs 500 denomination.

Earlier this month, Maharashtra Police busted a counterfeit currency operation in Nagpur, seizing fake notes worth Rs 85 lakh from a rented room. The accused, Pushpak Krishna Bhandarkar alias Bendane, was allegedly printing counterfeit notes at a rented house. During the raid, the police recovered fake currency worth Rs 37 lakh.

In addition to the mushrooming of the solo actors, there is also a steady rise in smaller networks in the country. These are not associated with major syndicates and operate independently. These networks operate in groups of 3-4 persons, and this ensures that the operations remain covert with no major trail leading up to them.

Another official said these persons buy high-resolution digital printers, scanners, and laminators from local shops or e-commerce platforms. Since these are standard items, the chance of a red flag being triggered is minimal.

The challenge for these networks is the paper and the embedded security features. These cannot be manufactured using regular commercial tools. (IANS)

90% of stolen assets now covered after security breach: Binance

NEW DELHI, OCT 31



Cryptocurrency exchange Binance on Saturday said it has covered about 90 per cent of the losses stemming from a security breach that the company earlier estimated at around $6.3 billion, while reiterating that users will not bear any financial impact from the incident.

In an update posted on social media platform X, the world's largest crypto exchange said it had previously set aside more than $6.34 billion in company funds to address losses linked to the breach and has now increased coverage from roughly 80 per cent to 90 per cent of the affected assets.

The company said major digital assets, including Bitcoin (BTC) are currently backed on a one-to-one basis.

It added that it will continue acquiring the remaining affected assets through both open-market and over-the-counter transactions until losses are fully covered.

According to the exchange, replenishment efforts have involved a partial deployment of its Secure Asset Fund for Users (SAFU), a portion of its futures insurance fund and contributions from its corporate treasury. Binance said the outstanding 10 per cent relates primarily to less-liquid tokens that may take longer to source in sufficient quantities.

The update comes a day after Binance disclosed a major security incident and temporarily suspended deposits and withdrawals while conducting security reviews. (IANS/UNI)

India-Belgium diamond partnership key to global value chain

NEW DELHI, NOV 1



India and Belgium share deep-rooted linkages in the global diamond value chain, Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said on Sunday during an interaction with representatives of the diamond industry in Brussels, while discussing evolving market trends and the outlook for the international diamond trade.

During the meeting, Agrawal discussed the current state of the international diamond market with industry stakeholders and sought feedback on opportunities and challenges facing the trade.

"Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal, had an informal interaction with representatives of the diamond industry at the Embassy of India Brussels on 30 Oct 2026," the Department of Commerce said.

The Commerce Secretary also highlighted the long-standing partnership between India and Belgium in the diamond value chain. He noted that the two countries have maintained strong commercial ties in the sector over the years, with India playing a key role in diamond cutting and polishing, while Belgium remains an important global trading hub for precious stones.

The interaction focused on strengthening industry engagement and understanding market dynamics amid changing global demand patterns. Industry representatives shared their perspectives on trade trends, business prospects and developments in key markets. (IANS)

Govt reviews watershed projects in Pune

NEW DELHI, NOV 1



Department of Land Resources (DoLR) Secretary Dilip Kumar reviewed watershed development works under the Watershed Development Component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana 2.0 (WDC-PMKSY 2.0) in villages of Maharashtra's Pune district, an official statement said on Saturday.

Kumar urged villagers to take collective responsibility for regular maintenance and repair of the water harvesting structures created under Watershed Development Scheme, to keep these assets functional for the next 20 years.

He also called for sustained efforts to transform villages under the Khed Project into water-secure and self-reliant communities, on the lines of Hiware Bazar.

The review was done in Varude, Gulani and Wafgaon villages of Pune district, on October 30, 2026.

Villagers said that watershed development works across 11 villages under the Khed Project had improved groundwater levels, enabling farmers to cultivate two to three crops annually thereby increasing agricultural income and rural livelihoods.

Despite the drought-like conditions this year, water stored in farm ponds and improved water levels in wells associated with cement nala bunds and CCT structures have helped irrigate standing crops, according to villagers.

The key objectives of watershed development under the scheme include soil and water conservation measures, enhancing agricultural productivity, and promoting sustainable rural development.

"Water is the foundation of our future. Every drop of rain must be conserved to make villages water-secure and self-reliant," Kumar told villagers. (IANS/UNI)

NVS-03 Mission is bolstering India's navigation capabilities

NEW DELHI, NOV 1



The Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) successful launch of the Navigation Satellite NVS-03 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota is a major step forward in enhancing India's satellite-based navigation capabilities.

The GSLV-F18 launch vehicle injected the Navigation Satellite NVS-03 into a precise Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO). After the first orbit manoeuvre was completed on October 31, further manoeuvres are planned to place it in its designated geosynchronous orbital slot at 111.75 degrees East.

The satellite is the third in India's series of five next-generation navigation satellites and is designed to strengthen the Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC), enhancing India's capabilities in satellite-based navigation. These satellites are designed to strengthen the coverage, accuracy and reliability of India's regional navigation system.

A Satellite Navigation System is a network of satellites that provides positioning, navigation and timing information. These satellites continuously transmit signals containing their location and precise timing information. Receivers, such as smartphones, vehicles and navigation devices, use signals from multiple satellites to determine their precise location, speed and direction.

These systems support several applications, including route navigation, aircraft and ship tracking, precision agriculture, disaster management and telecommunications. Examples include the Global Positioning System (GPS) of the United States and NavIC of India.

NavIC covers the Indian landmass and a region extending approximately 1,500 km beyond India's geopolitical boundary. It provides two types of navigation services catering to civilian and authorised strategic users. The open navigation service is available to civilian users. NavIC SPS signals are interoperable with other global navigation satellite system (GNSS) signals like GPS (USA), Glonass (Russia), Galileo (EU) and BeiDou (China). It also has an encrypted navigation service available exclusively to strategic users.

The five-satellite NVS series is being developed to augment the NavIC constellation and ensure continuity of indigenous navigation services. To date, NVS-01, NVS-02, and NVS-03 have been launched, while NVS-04 and NVS-05 are in the pipeline. ISRO is working to boost the coverage, reliability and availability of NavIC services. (IANS)

Mumbai property registrations rise 9% to 12,690 units

MUMBAI, NOV 1



Mumbai's residential property market maintained its growth momentum in October, with registrations rising 9 per cent year-on-year (YoY) to 12,690 units, despite festive and seasonal disruptions, a report said on Sunday.

Stamp duty collections during the month increased 12 per cent to Rs 1,173 crore, according to data analysed by Knight Frank India.

The growth came despite the overlap of the Shraddh period and Navratri, which reduced the effective number of registration days compared with October last year. Traditionally considered a subdued period for property transactions, Shraddh coincided with October this year, while Navratri also offered fewer operational days for registrations.

According to Knight Frank India, Mumbai recorded 132,040 property registrations between January and October 2026, registering a 7 per cent increase over the corresponding period last year. Stamp duty collections during these 10 months rose 5 per cent to Rs 11,756 crore, compared with Rs 11,186 crore in the same period of 2025.

Shishir Baijal, International Partner, Chairman and Managing Director of Knight Frank India, said Mumbai's residential market had demonstrated exceptional resilience and depth, with October's performance particularly encouraging given the seasonal factors.

"Mumbai's residential market continues to demonstrate exceptional resilience and depth. October's performance is encouraging because it was achieved despite the overlap of Shraddh and a shorter effective registration period during Navratri," Baijal noted.

The Shraddh period, which extended from September 26 to October 10 this year, saw 3,419 property registrations, marking a 2 per cent increase over the corresponding period last year. Average daily registrations during the period also improved to 311 from 306 a year earlier.

During the nine-day Navratri period, Mumbai recorded 4,680 property registrations. While the number was lower than the exceptionally strong levels seen in 2025, the comparison was influenced by fewer effective registration days during the festival period this year. Daily registration activity, however, remained broadly stable. (IANS)

Serbia holds repeat parliamentary voting at 53 polling stations

BELGRADE, NOV 1



Repeat voting in Serbia's October 25 snap parliamentary elections began on Sunday at 53 polling stations, according to the Serbian Republic Electoral Commission (RIK).

Voting started at 7 am local time (0600 GMT) and is scheduled to end at 8 pm, with 24,438 registered voters eligible to cast ballots.

The RIK ordered repeat voting at 31 polling stations where results could not be determined and another 22 where voting had been annulled, Xinhua News Agency reported.

According to preliminary results released by the RIK on Monday, based on data from 8,187 of the country's 8,392 polling stations, the student-backed list "Student List - Students Are Winning" received 52.71 per cent of the vote. The "Aleksandar Vucic - United Serbia" list, led by the Serbian Progressive Party, got 39.17 per cent.

Serbia held early parliamentary elections on October 25, with 18 electoral lists featuring 2,418 candidates competing for the 250 seats in the National Assembly. About 6.45 million voters were registered for the election, with 8,392 polling stations set up across the country. The preliminary results covered 8,187 polling stations.

Under the Serbian constitution, the election of a new National Assembly will initiate the process of forming a new government. After lawmakers elect a new parliamentary speaker, the speaker, who is currently serving as acting president, will nominate a candidate for prime minister. The nominee must present a government program and a proposed list of cabinet members and secure the support of a majority of National Assembly deputies to form a new government.

On September 5, Vucic, then president, accepted the nomination by the SNS to lead its parliamentary election list and run as its candidate for prime minister. He signed a decree dissolving parliament on September 9 and called early parliamentary elections for October 25.

Vucic resigned as president on September 27, after which National Assembly Speaker Ana Brnabic assumed the duties of acting president.

Under Serbian law, a presidential election must be held by the end of December. (IANS)

Bulgaria's presidential runoff kicks off

SOFIA, NOV 1



Bulgarians go to the polls on Sunday to vote in the second round of the country's elections for president and vice president.

Nearly 6.6 million voters are eligible to choose between incumbent President Iliana Iotova, running with Kiril Valchev as her vice-presidential candidate, and Andrey Gurov, who is seeking the presidency with Georgi Kandev as his running mate.

The Iotova-Valchev ticket, backed by the ruling Progressive Bulgaria party and the Bulgarian Socialist Party, among others, came on top in the first round on October 25 with 34.76 per cent of the votes, Xinhua News Agency reported.

The Gurov-Kandev ticket, supported by the parties We Continue the Change and Democratic Bulgaria, came second among the 27 candidate pairs with 31.95 per cent.

The first exit polls are expected to be released at 8:00 pm (1800 GMT), immediately after the close of the polls. Official results are due no later than Wednesday.

The Bulgarian president and vice president are elected directly by voters for a five-year term. Iotova's term is set to expire at the end of January 2027.

Iotova, 62, was elected vice president twice, in 2016 and 2021, serving alongside President Rumen Radev. In accordance with the country's Constitution, she succeeded Radev as head of state after he resigned in January this year. Before that, she served on the National Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party from 2000 to 2016, as well as in the Bulgarian National Assembly and the European Parliament.

Valchev is director general of the Bulgarian News Agency.

Gurov, an adjunct professor of finance at the American University in Bulgaria, has less political experience than Iotova. He served as Bulgaria's caretaker prime minister for 78 days in the first half of this year and chaired the parliamentary group of We Continue the Change in two legislatures from December 2021 to February 2023.

Kandev is a former career police officer who served as acting secretary general at the Ministry of Interior for several months this year. (IANS)

G20 agrees on problems, splits on solutions

ATLANTA, OCT 31



G20 countries agree that threats to shipping, food supplies and critical minerals demand attention, but remain divided over their causes and solutions, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said at the close of the Foreign Ministers' meeting in Atlanta.

Rubio described recognition of the problems as a necessary first step.

He stopped short of claiming that the gathering had produced a common approach to resolving them.

"Well, the first obstacle in any is to identify what the problems are. If you can't even agree on what the problems are, you can't make progress."

The discussions centred on energy, technology, supply chains and freedom of navigation.

Rubio said President Donald Trump had directed the US G20 Presidency to bring the forum back to its core economic purpose.

But wars and regional tensions complicated that effort.

Rubio pointed to the Russia-Ukraine war, conflict in the Middle East and fighting involving Sudan, Congo and Rwanda as challenges affecting the wider agenda.

Countries recognised the importance of secure supply chains and food supplies, he said.

Their differences emerged when they discussed what was causing the disruptions and how governments should respond.

Rubio said some participating countries were already working together on supply chains and critical minerals.

He did not present those efforts as a universally accepted solution.

Maritime security featured prominently in his account of the meeting.

Rubio accused Iran of targeting commercial vessels and said US forces were regularly defending shipping against drones and missiles.

He also cited coercion in Asian waterways as a threat to economic activity.

Disruption at sea, he said, could prevent energy, fertiliser and agricultural products from reaching their destinations, with consequences for food security.

On the Black Sea, Rubio identified India and Turkey as countries contributing ideas to help shipments move.

He welcomed international interest but cautioned against treating it as evidence that an agreement was close. (IANS/UNI)

As economic frustrations mount, protests spread across Germany and France

PARIS, NOV 1



Protests over the rising cost of living, education funding and other social concerns spread to Germany, with tens of thousands of demonstrators taking to the streets, while hundreds of thousands joined another round of demonstrations in France, where sporadic violence and looting were reported.

The latest demonstrations come ahead of a nationwide strike and mobilisation scheduled for November 5, called by an inter-union coalition over rising living costs.

In Germany, the youth-led movement "Gen Z regelt" organised demonstrations in major cities, including Berlin, Frankfurt, Cologne and Munich, highlighting concerns over living costs, underfunded schools and universities, environmental issues and a possible reintroduction of compulsory military service.

Organisers said around 120,000 people participated in demonstrations across the country, which were largely peaceful during the day but were followed by violent incidents in several cities in the evening, as per local media reports.

Frankfurt witnessed some of the worst disturbances, with masked groups smashing shop windows and looting stores in the city centre. An arms shop was also attacked, prompting police to cordon off parts of the Zeil, the city's main shopping street.

Police said a group of around 100 people were detained for identity checks, while more than 30 people were provisionally arrested. Officers seized two weapons from the attacked arms store. The extent of the damage is yet to be assessed. (IANS)

Russia says drone hit near Moscow

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
MOSCOW, NOV 1

Russia said Sunday that a drone had struck an "industrial enterprise" east of Moscow overnight, after Ukraine claimed it had hit a major oil refinery.

Gleb Nikitin, governor of Nizhny Novgorod region, reported a "massive drone attack" during the night, during which an "industrial enterprise in the Kstovo district sustained significant damage."

"More than 100 drones destroyed," and "according to preliminary information, there are no casualties," he added in a statement, without specifying the plant's activities.

Afghan forces dismantle eight heroin labs

KABUL, NOV 1

Afghan security forces have dismantled eight clandestine heroin processing laboratories and arrested 17 suspected drug traffickers in western Ghor province, a local police official announced on Sunday.

Acting on intelligence and a tip-off, counter-narcotics units conducted a targeted raid on the outskirts of Chaharsada district, destroying the facilities and seizing substantial quantities of precursor chemicals and illicit narcotics used in heroin production, provincial police spokesman Mawlawi Abdul Rahman Badri said.

The suspects have been taken into custody and transferred to judicial authorities, with case files submitted for further legal proceedings, Badri added, Xinhua News Agency reported.

The operation is part of an intensified nationwide campaign against the narcotics trade, targeting traffickers, cultivators and production networks in a concerted effort to dismantle Afghanistan's illicit drug economy.

On October 18, police burned nearly one tonne of illegal drugs in the western Afghan province of Farah, provincial police spokesman Kalimullah Nangyal said.

The narcotics, including 955 kg of opium-type drugs, hashish and 36 kg of methamphetamine, were seized during a series of operations recently and publicly burned on Sunday, the official said.

Police also arrested a suspected drug smuggler, who would be handed over to the judiciary after the completion of a preliminary investigation, the official added.

On October 16, the provincial Directorate of Information and Culture said that counter-narcotics police seized 136 kg of opium-type drugs and detained three suspected smugglers in Afghanistan's southern Helmand province. (IANS)

Bolivia declares state of emergency over El Nino



LIMA, NOV 1

Bolivian President Rodrigo Paz has signed a decree declaring a national state of emergency to address the impacts of El Nino.

Paz said he signed the decree to tackle drought affecting several regions of the country and prepare for potential flooding in the coming months.

The President said the measure aims to mobilise financial and human resources, strengthen coordination among government agencies and seek international cooperation to assist affected families and mitigate the impact of climate-related disasters on people's lives and economic activities, Xinhua News Agency reported.

Paz said 63 communities in Bolivia have already been affected by drought, while the livestock sector is also struggling with shortages of animal feed.

Bolivia's Vice Ministry of Civil Defence said Wednesday that nearly 80,000 families across six of the country's nine departments had been affected by water shortages, with drought killing more than 75,000 head of livestock.

El Nino is a climate phenomenon characterised by unusually warm surface waters in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, often causing abnormal weather patterns in many parts of the world.

Meanwhile, Myanmar's Yangon region has prepared more than 600 heat relief shelters with a combined capacity of over 150,000 people to help residents cope with extreme heat amid forecasts of a strong El Nino event, local media reported. The shelters have been arranged across 14 districts in the region, Myanmar Radio and Television said.

The regional government has also made arrangements to ensure the continued provision of healthcare services during periods of extreme heat, including at hospitals, clinics and rural health facilities, with medical personnel ready to provide assistance, according to the report.

Myanmar's Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) said a very strong El Nino event could peak in November and December 2026, based on assessments by the World Meteorological Organisation and international climate centres. (IANS)

Portuguese police clash with housing protesters, arrest 13

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
LISBON, NOV 1



Riot police with dogs stormed protest camps in Lisbon and Porto early Sunday, charging demonstrators with batons, arresting 13 people and leaving dozens injured in the latest confrontation over Portugal's housing crisis.

Clashes quickly broke out as dozens of officers moved in on an encampment in Lisbon's Rossio Square and a smaller camp in Porto's Dom Joao I Square at around 4:30 am.

Protesters shouted "smells like a dictatorship," while police said some hurled bottles and paint at officers as they tried to take down the tents.

Police said in a statement that six people were arrested in Lisbon and seven in Porto for refusing orders to disperse. It said 13 police were injured in the process, with eight taken to hospital.

In Porto, police said three plain-clothes officers monitoring the protesters were assaulted after being spotted by a group.

An unspecified number of civilians were also injured during the operation, which was carried out "with rigour, balance and respect for citizens' rights," the statement read.

Activist group Acampada Lisboa said more than 30 protesters were injured, including 10 who required hospital treatment, and called a fresh rally in the capital on Sunday afternoon.

The camps had been set up late Saturday after peaceful marches through the two cities against soaring housing costs.

Officers have repeatedly dismantled encampments that have sprung up across Lisbon and Porto in recent weeks.

Protesters want the minority center-right government to abandon plans to ease evictions and remove rent caps on new leases, warning the measures would push up housing costs and leave tenants more vulnerable.

Portuguese protesters have taken inspiration from a similar movement in neighboring Spain, where tents have been set up in central Madrid and other cities for weeks.

Israeli strikes in Gaza kill 8

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
GAZA CITY, NOV 1

Israeli strikes in the Gaza Strip killed eight people including a child on Sunday, according to emergency services and local hospitals.

Five people were killed in Khan Younis and three in Gaza City, said a statement from the territory's civil defense service, which operates under the authority of the Islamist movement Hamas that runs Gaza.

In a separate attack, a medical source at al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City said three Palestinians, including a father and his four-year-old son, were killed in an Israeli airstrike on al-Thawra Street. The source added that six other Palestinians, including a wife and her child, sustained injuries of varying severity.



Above, displaced Palestinians in a tent camp in Gaza City.

Local sources said that an Israeli drone targeted a gathering of civilians on al-Thawra Street.

In another attack, a Palestinian was shot in the thigh by Israeli forces in central Khan Younis, according to the medical source.

A two-year-old girl was also shot in the head by Israeli forces in Khan Younis. Her condition was described as moderate.

In another attack, several Palestinians were wounded by Israeli gunfire in Halawa camp, which shelters displaced people east of Jabalia refugee camp in northern Gaza, the same source said.

Syria offers Gulf security cooperation, condemns Israeli strikes and sovereignty violations

MANAMA, NOV 1

Syria considers the security and stability of Gulf countries an integral part of its own national security and will not remain a bystander in the event of aggression against its neighbours, Foreign Minister Asaad Hassan Al-Shaibani said.



Al-Shaibani said Damascus has been holding high-level discussions with Gulf countries on political, economic, security and military cooperation, describing post-Assad Syria as a reliable regional partner. rain,

"We will not stand by as a spectator in the face of any aggression against the Gulf states," Asharq News quoted him as saying during the 22nd IISS Manama Dialogue in Bahrain, adding that stability in Syria was essential to wider regional security.

The minister said Syria is discussing the possibility of joining a regional security and defence framework with Gulf partners, including consultations on the proposed Makkah Pact or similar collective security arrangements.

He said Damascus stood with Gulf states and Jordan against aggression and condemned missile and drone attacks, stressing that Syria's regional policy is based on international law, respect for sovereignty and cooperation with neighbouring countries.

"Geography is destiny, and integration is a choice," Al-Shaibani said, describing Syria as a potential bridge for regional prosperity and economic cooperation rather than a source of threats to its neighbours.

The Manama Dialogue, organised by the International Institute for Strategic Studies from October 30 to November 1, has brought together delegations from more than 50 countries, including over 40 ministers and senior military commanders, as well as leaders of international organisations.

Al-Shaibani said intensive communications with Jordanian officials has helped contain tensions following recent Israeli strikes in the Daraa countryside.

Dubai introduces world's first city-led tourism membership programme

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
DUBAI, NOV 1

Dubai will allow visitors to apply for tourist visas through its official tourism website, Visit Dubai, from November 2026, as part of two new initiatives announced by Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, and Chairman of The Executive Council of Dubai.

The changes will also include the launch of Dubai Access Club, an invitation-only membership programme offering exclusive benefits and experiences to repeat visitors.



Under the new visa service, travellers will be able to apply for single-entry and multiple-entry tourist visas through Visit Dubai. Further visa categories are planned for the future.

The General Directorate of Identity and Foreigners Affairs – Dubai (GDRFA Dubai) will continue to assess applications and issue visas. Further details of the service are expected to be announced later.

The two initiatives are being developed by GDRFA Dubai, the Dubai Department of Economy and Tourism (DET) and Digital Dubai under the Shared Digital Channels Initiative, which brings government services together through unified digital platforms.

The Dubai Access Club will be open to invited members and offer exclusive experiences, services and benefits designed to encourage repeat visits.

The programme aims to make returning to Dubai easier for frequent visitors while giving them access to offers and experiences through a membership platform.

The new visa application option forms part of a wider effort to integrate government services into Visit Dubai.

The website already provides information and tools for visitors planning their trips, including attractions, experiences, ticket bookings, events and itineraries. The integration will allow travellers to access these services and apply for visas through one platform rather than navigating multiple websites and applications.

Qatari gas tanker struck in Gulf



FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
DOHA, NOV 1

A Qatari tanker has been attacked with "unidentified objects" while transiting Gulf waters, the country's state news agency reported Sunday.

The attack on Friday evening struck a liquefied natural gas carrier, Al Mayeda, which belongs to the Qatar Gas Transport Company, Qatar News Agency said.

Since the Middle East war broke out in February,

Iran has been targeting vessels in the Strait of Hormuz and wider Gulf in an effort to assert control over shipping.

It says ships must obtain its permission to transit.

In response, the US has been blockading Iranian ports.

None of the crew members onboard the vessel struck on Friday were injured and there was no environmental impact from the attack, the report said.

The ship was in a "safe condition" and operational, the Qatari company was cited as saying.

Qatar, a mediator in the war, has stepped up diplomatic efforts in recent days in an attempt to revive negotiations between the United States and Iran.

Nakilat is a Qatari public shareholding company with public and private sector ownership and plays a key role in transporting LNG as part of Qatar's energy supply chain.

The incident comes amid persistent security risks to commercial navigation in the Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz, with commercial vessels and oil and gas tankers facing repeated attacks and security incidents in recent months.

October saw a series of attacks on commercial tankers in the Gulf, the Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman, some of which caused fires and damage to vessels, according to maritime security reports.

Concerns over shipping security have intensified amid continuing tensions between the US and Iran, particularly over the Strait of Hormuz, a strategic passage for global oil and gas exports.

Saudi Arabia enforces worker housing rules

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
RIYADH, NOV 1

The National Program for Developing Group Housing for Individuals has stressed the importance of establishments with fewer than 250 targeted employees regularizing their worker accommodation and meeting all regulatory requirements ahead of the final phase of mandatory implementation, which begins on February 1, 2027.

The program, chaired by the Ministry of Municipalities and Housing, regulates worker accommodations across Saudi Arabia to ensure health, safety, and quality-of-life standards.

The measure includes complying with the applicable regulations and providing licensed group housing, as part of efforts to regulate worker accommodation and improve the quality of the residential environment in the cities across Saudi Arabia.

The program clarified that the remaining period before the requirement takes effect constitutes a grace period, allowing establishments sufficient time to complete the necessary procedures. The program reaffirmed its commitment to supporting establishments and helping them regularize their status through approved regulatory channels, ensuring compliance and readiness for implementation.



It explained that establishments can regularize their worker accommodation through one of two approved options. The first is to obtain a shared accommodation license for the establishment's building through approved licensing platforms, after meeting the prescribed health, technical, and safety requirements. The second is to enter into contracts with pre-licensed shared accommodation units, enabling establishments to provide regulated housing for their employees without having to operate their own residential facilities.

The program underscored the importance of completing licensing procedures or contracting with licensed accommodation providers without delay and within the grace period. It noted that compliance with the approved options would help regulate worker accommodation, strengthen adherence to health, technical, and safety standards, and curb the unauthorized use of residential buildings.

The program explained that regulating shared accommodation aims to provide suitable living conditions that meet health and safety standards, enhance quality of life, and improve the urban landscape, while striking a balance between enabling establishments to carry out their activities and ensuring compliance with the regulations governing worker accommodation.

The program urged eligible establishments to make full use of the grace period by completing the required procedures through approved platforms or selecting licensed accommodation units to avoid potential legal consequences for non-compliance, in accordance with the approved regulations and guidelines.

It is worthy to note that several ministries and government agencies have membership in the National Program for Developing Group Housing for Individuals, headed by the Ministry of Municipalities and Housing.

Hamoud Named Jordanian City of Culture for 2027

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
HAMOUD, NOV 1

Minister of Culture Mustafa Al-Rawashdeh announced on Sunday that the town of Hamoud in Karak Governorate has been selected as the Jordanian City of Culture for 2027.



The announcement came during the launch of the 20th edition of the Jordanian Family Library Project – Reading for All Festival, held at the Hamoud Charitable Society under the theme "A Library for Every Home." The event carried a national and cultural message centered on honoring the town's martyrs and expressing solidarity with its residents.

Speaking at the ceremony, attended by residents of Hamoud, Karak and other governorates, as well as government and cultural figures, Al-Rawashdeh said the selection of Hamoud recognizes its place in Jordan's national memory, its educational and cultural history, and the contributions of its people to Jordanian society.

He said the decision also reflects the belief that culture is a key pillar in raising national awareness and strengthening the values of citizenship, tolerance and pluralism.

Al-Rawashdeh added that the Ministry of Culture will implement a comprehensive cultural program in Hamoud next year.

Kuwait tightens customs checks as counterfeit goods, smuggling risks evolve

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
KUWAIT CITY, NOV 1

Kuwait's rising customs seizures reflect improved inspection efficiency and stronger oversight rather than an increase in smuggling operations, Saleh Al-Omar, Vice President of Customs Ports Affairs, Research and Investigation at the General Administration of Customs, has said.



Al-Omar said customs authorities were working to strike a balance between protecting the country and society from prohibited and dangerous goods and facilitating the movement of shipments and travelers through land, sea and air ports.

He noted that counterfeit products had expanded beyond clothing, leather goods and branded items to include medical supplies and cosmetics, posing potential risks to consumer health and safety. Detecting such goods involves checking shipment documents, country of origin and declared value, alongside inspections, investigations, risk assessment and information-sharing with local and international authorities, including Interpol.

Al-Omar stressed that travelers carrying cash or negotiable financial instruments worth 3,000 dinars or more when entering or leaving Kuwait must declare them through the Sahel application or website. Declaration is mandatory, and travelers should retain supporting documents, such as bank withdrawal receipts or currency exchange records, to establish the source and ownership of the funds. Customs offices are also available at the airport to assist travelers with the procedure.

He urged travelers to check declaration requirements before departure and use the red customs channel whenever applicable rather than the green channel, warning that unfamiliarity with regulations does not remove the risk of violations.

Al-Omar attributed the increase in reported seizures to inspectors' vigilance, improved operational readiness and coordination with the Ministry of Interior and other security agencies. He said initial suspicions identified during routine inspections could lead to wider investigations and the discovery of additional violations and networks.

Maruti Suzuki sets new monthly sales record

Hyundai India, M&M also hit fresh highs

NEW DELHI, NOV 1

India's passenger vehicle makers on Sunday reported robust sales growth in October, buoyed by strong festive-season demand, with Maruti Suzuki posting its highest-ever monthly sales and other leading automakers including Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra and Hyundai Motor India also registering record or double-digit growth.

Maruti Suzuki India logged its highest-ever monthly sales, with total dispatches rising 25 per cent year-on-year to 2.76 lakh units in October.



The company said domestic passenger vehicle dispatches increased more than 20 per cent to 2.12 lakh units during the month.

Total domestic dispatches, including sales of the Super Carry light commercial vehicle and supplies to other original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), rose around 19 per cent to 2.26 lakh units.

Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Limited also posted strong growth, reporting a 23 per cent rise in total sales across domestic and international markets to 75,426 units in October, compared with 61,295 units in the year-ago period.

Domestic passenger vehicle sales rose 21 per cent to 73,894 units, while international business sales jumped to 1,532 units from 161 units a year earlier.

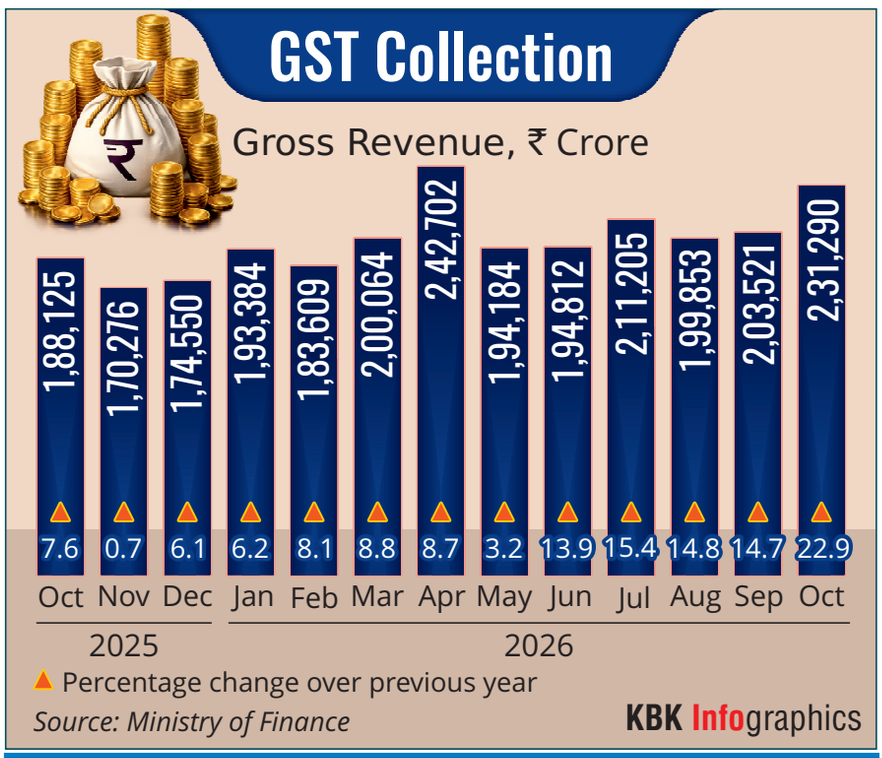
Mahindra & Mahindra reported its highest-ever monthly vehicle sales, with total volumes increasing 9 per cent year-on-year to 1,31,109 units in October. Exports surged 77 per cent to 7,102 units during the month.

Hyundai Motor India Limited reported its highest-ever monthly sales, including exports, with total volumes rising 17.7 per cent year-on-year to 82,299 units in October.

The automaker's domestic sales increased 16.7 per cent to a record 62,799 units, while exports grew 21.1 per cent to 19,500 units.

Meanwhile, JSW MG Motor India reported a 19 per cent year-on-year increase in wholesale dispatches to dealers at 8,013 units in October.

The company said newly launched models, including the MG Hector Tomahawk EV and Windsor Indulge Edition, were receiving a strong response from customers, with deliveries gathering pace across the country. (IANS/UNI)



US yields may settle at 4.75%: SBI

NEW DELHI, NOV 1

US Treasury yields could settle at broadly around 4.75 per cent level for some time, but a short term blow up to 5.25-5.35 per cent is not ruled out amid the mid-term elections, a report showed on Sunday.

US Treasury yields have moderated from their recent highs and are currently hovering around 4.9 per cent, the underlying dynamics suggest such yields could remain elevated for some time now from its historical levels, said the SBI Ecowrap report.

There is a growing mismatch between the supply of government securities and the absorption capacity of investors.

"Our demand-supply assessment suggests a $304 billion excess supply of US treasury consistent with US fiscal deficit at 6.15 per cent of GDP," the report mentioned.

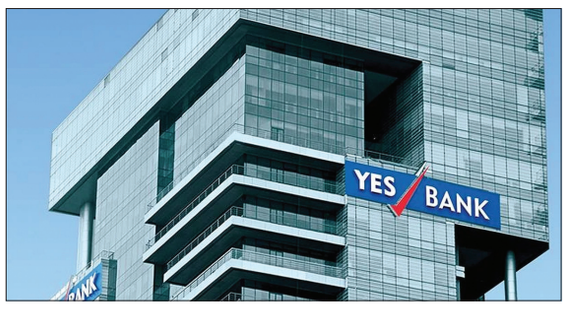
Interestingly, the corresponding mismatch was significantly lower, at around $140 billion in 2015, when the US fiscal deficit stood at just 2.5 per cent of GDP. This widening gap highlights the growing pressure on the bond market to absorb additional government borrowing.

The maturity-wise assessment further indicates that the excess supply is concentrated in longer-duration securities, with papers above 10 years accounting for approximately $108 billion of the mismatch, followed by the 1–5-year segment at around $96 billion, clearly reflecting the demand for hyperscalers. (IANS/UNI)

YES Bank responds over Rs.8,415 crore bonds

NEW DELHI, NOV 1

Yes Bank has rejected allegations of wilful disobedience levelled by Axis Trustee Services over the delay in reinstating Additional Tier-1 (AT-1) bonds worth Rs 8,415 crore, following the Supreme Court's order setting aside their write-off.



The lender, however, faces the prospect of contempt proceedings, with Axis Trustee Services warning that it would initiate legal action if the bonds were not restored within three days of its communication to the bank. In a stock exchange filing, Yes Bank said it had responded to the trustee's letter of October 28, which sought reinstatement of the bonds and completion of all necessary corporate actions within three days.

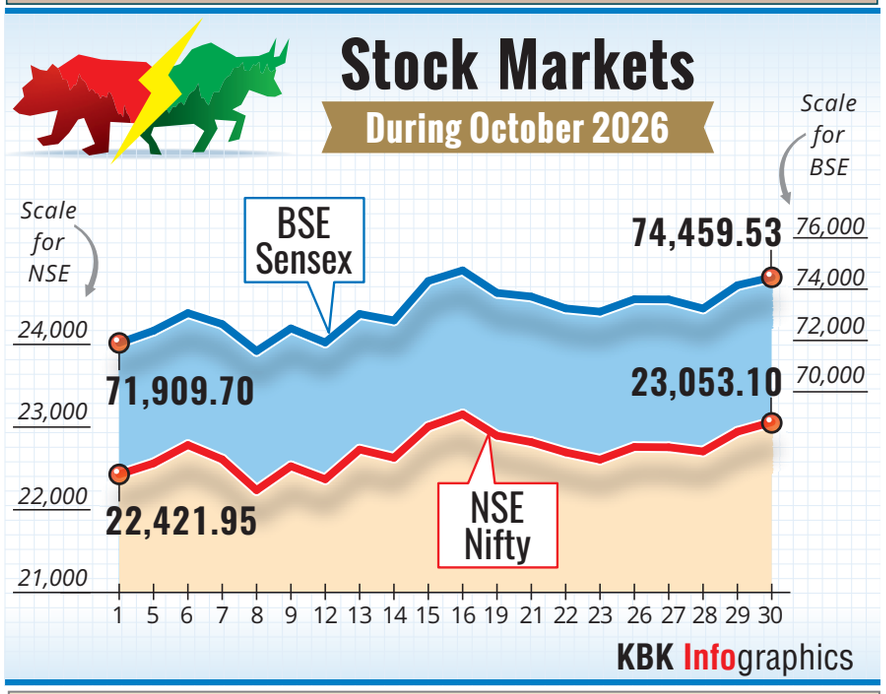
In its response, the bank said it did not accept the trustee's characterisation of its conduct as wilful disobedience, adding that its examination of the matter and assessment of the consequences were aimed at ensuring compliance with the SC Judgment," Yes Bank said in its communication to Axis Trustee Services.

The dispute centres on the write-off of Rs 8,415 crore worth of AT-1 bonds in March 2020, when the bank's administrator took the decision as part of Yes Bank's reconstruction process.

Axis Trustee Services subsequently challenged the write-off before the Bombay High Court, which quashed the decision in January 2023. Yes Bank, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Union government later challenged the High Court's order before the Supreme Court.

On October 15, 2026, the Supreme Court dismissed the appeals and upheld the Bombay High Court's judgment, effectively setting aside the write-off of the bonds.

Following the verdict, Axis Trustee Services approached Yes Bank on October 28, seeking restoration of the bonds within three days and warning of contempt proceedings over alleged non-compliance with the apex court's directions. (IANS/UNI)



UPI transactions surge 16% to Rs 31.53 lakh crore

NEW DELHI, NOV 1

The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transaction volumes went up 23 per cent (year-on-year) to 25.47 billion in the month of October, while UPI transaction value surged 16 per cent to Rs 31.53 lakh crore last month, according to data released by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) on Sunday.



On an average basis, UPI processed around 822 million transactions daily in October, with average daily transaction value standing at about Rs 1,01,707 crore.

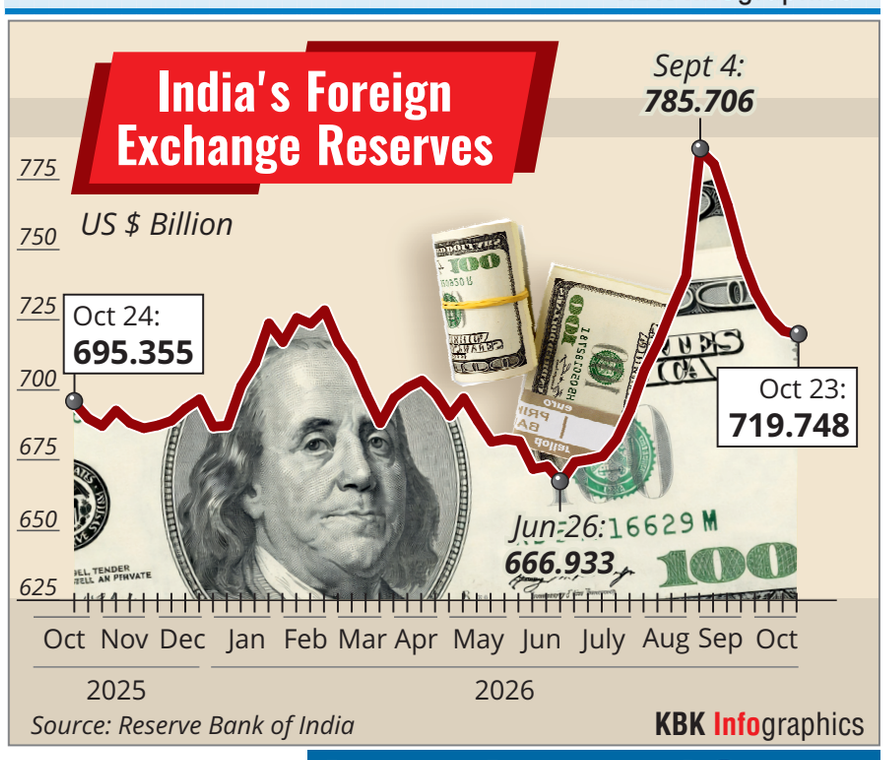
In September, the UPI transaction volumes went up 23 per cent (year-on-year) to 24.07 billion, while UPI transaction value rose 18 per cent to Rs 29.37 lakh crore.

Moreover, the IMPS instant fund transfer amount stood at Rs 7.63 lakh crore in October, up 19 per cent year-on-year. Average daily IMPS transaction counts were 12.10 million last month, with Rs 24,601 crore average daily transaction amount, the NPCI data showed.

The NPCI last month deferred the implementation of Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) on select UPI merchant transactions until after Diwali, providing temporary relief to merchants and consumers during the festive season. The NPCI said that its UPI and Services Steering Committee had decided to postpone the rollout, keeping the festive season in mind. The MDR framework was originally scheduled to come into effect from October 15.

The payments body added that the revised implementation date will be communicated separately.

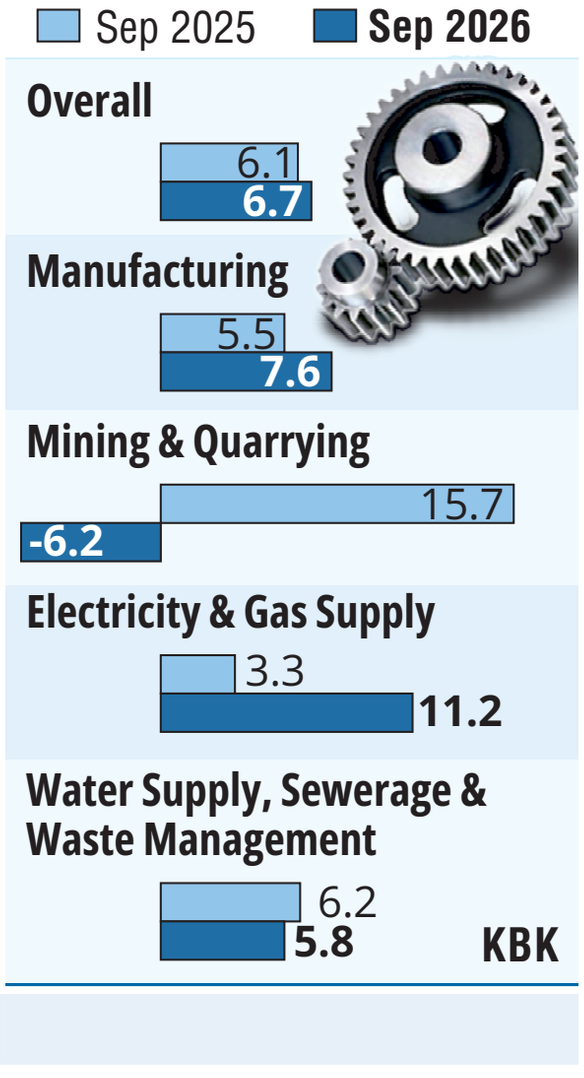
Under the proposed MDR framework, select merchant categories including railways, telecom services, insurance and fuel purchases would attract a flat MDR of Rs 5 on UPI transactions exceeding Rs 2,000. For payments made to large merchants above the same threshold, a charge of 0.4 per cent would be levied, subject to a maximum cap of Rs 300 per transaction. (IANS)



TVS Motor registers 29% sales growth

CHENNAI, NOV 1

Two and three-wheeler makers TVS Motor Company, part of TVS Venu, registered 29% increase in sales with 700,134 units in October 2026 as against 543,557 units in October 2025. Total two-wheelers registered a growth of 28% with sales of 670,679 units in October 2026 as against 525,150 units.



From mutual fund investments to pensions: Major rule changes kick in

NEW DELHI, OCT 31

A number of financial and regulatory changes are set to come into effect from November 1, impacting mutual fund investors, pensioners, telecom subscribers and businesses covered under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) framework.



One of the key changes relates to mutual fund investments, as all asset management companies (AMCs) will be required to make direct plans the default option on their digital investment platforms starting November 1.

Investors opting for regular plans will have to be informed about the higher expense ratios associated with such schemes, a move aimed at enhancing transparency and helping investors make informed choices.

Meanwhile, for pensioners, the next month will mark the annual life certificate submission period.

Pensioners below 80 years of age can submit their annual life certificates between November 1 and November 30. Those aged 80 years and above have already been allowed to begin the process from October 1. (IANS/UNI)

Coal imports decline 5.83% to 104.57 MT

NEW DELHI, NOV 1

India's coal imports declined 5.83 per cent year-on-year to 104.57 million tonnes (MT) in August 2026, compared to 111.05 MT in the corresponding month last year, amid efforts to boost domestic production and reduce dependence on overseas supplies, the Ministry of Coal said on Sunday.



The country's coal imports fell by 6.48 MT during the month, reflecting improved domestic coal availability and measures to strengthen the supply chain.

Imports by power plants declined 6.39 per cent to 21.32 MT in August 2026, against 22.77 MT in the same month last year. The reduction was in line with efforts to improve domestic coal supplies and lower the dependence on imported coal for blending at domestic coal-based power plants. Coal imports for blending at domestic coal-based power plants witnessed a sharper decline of 35.23 per cent to 3 MT from 4.64 MT in August 2025.

However, imports by imported coal-based (ICB) power plants registered a marginal increase of 0.98 per cent to 18.31 MT during the month, compared to 18.13 MT a year earlier. These plants are primarily designed to operate on imported coal.

F1: Hamilton clinches first pole with Ferrari at Mexican GP

MEXICO CITY, NOV 1



Lewis Hamilton has ended a three-year pole position drought in qualifying at the Mexico City Grand Prix with the Briton beating Mercedes' George Russell by the smallest of margins.

A close battle for the top spot culminated in Hamilton's spectacular final effort of 1m 16.514s, taking him to new heights as he claimed the 105th pole of his F1 career.

Russell missed out by just 0.009s as he led Charles Leclerc, Max Verstappen – who locked up on his last lap – and championship leader Kimi Antonelli, the top five separated by less than two-tenths.

McLaren's immense pace from FP3 faded as Lando Norris wound up in P6, leading a frustrated Isack Hadjar who made an error that he struggled to bounce back from on his first effort in Q3. (IANS)

MotoGP: Marquez wins Malaysian GP

SEPANG, NOV 1



Marc Marquez marched to a seventh win of 2026 with his third Malaysian Grand Prix title, taking a giant step towards the MotoGP title here at the Sepang circuit.

Marquez, in the absence of injured rival Jorge Martin (Aprilia Racing), inflicted maximum championship damage to take a giant stride towards the title. He is staring down the barrel of a first-match point at the Lusail International Circuit next weekend.

The seven-time MotoGP King Marquez now has a healthy 44-point lead over Martin ahead of the Qatar Grand Prix and a 67-point advantage over the teammate Marco Bezzecchi after the Italian finished P6 in Malaysia, MotoGP reports.

Joining the reigning World Champion on the Sepang rostrum was second-place Pedro Acosta (Red Bull KTM Factory Racing), the KTM star completing a brilliant weekend at the office, and polesitter Alex Marquez (BK8 Gresini Racing MotoGP) on third.

For the second year in a row, Acosta took home a second place from Malaysia. Polesitter Alex did hold onto that final podium spot, as Ai Ogura (SuperFile Trackhouse MotoGP Team) after forcing his way through on Bezzecchi, collected a double P4.

Enea Bastianini was placed fifth. A last-lap Turn 14 error from Bezzecchi allowed his compatriot to come through to pinch crucial points away from the Aprilia star, which now leaves Bezzecchi 67 points off Marquez.

Closing out the top 10 positions were Luca Marini (Honda HRC Castrol) in seventh, Fabio Di Giannantonio (Pertamina Enduro VR46 Racing Team) in eighth as just 0.066s splits the Italians at the flag, Brad Binder (Red Bull KTM Factory Racing) in ninth, and Franco Morbidelli (Pertamina Enduro VR46 Racing Team) in P10.

The rest of the points in Malaysia went to Fabio Quartararo (Monster Energy Yamaha MotoGP), the Frenchman's teammate Alex Rins, a disappointed Francesco Bagnaia (Ducati Lenovo Team), Maverick Viñales (Red Bull KTM Tech3), and Fermin Aldeguer's BK8 Gresini Racing MotoGP stand-in Iker Lecuona. (IANS/UNI)

Hyderabad entrepreneur takes Indian ventures global

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
HYDERABAD, NOV 1



Hyderabad-born entrepreneur Anil Raj, currently based in Japan, has emerged as a business leader promoting economic, educational and cultural cooperation between India and Japan through his diversified Rajgroup of Companies, spanning hospitality, IT, education, skill development and advertising.

His other ventures include Nehan Technologies K.K., Star Kids International Kindergarten, Vivekananda Institute of Foreign Languages, Verycom and international business consultancy. He has also facilitated opportunities for Indian workers in Japan through a government-supported skill-development programme introduced in 2019.

La Liga: Raphinha, Yamal score brace as Barac beat Alaves to remain on top

BARCELONA, NOV 1



Raphinha struck twice, Lamine Yamal added another double, and Fermin Lopez and Anthony Gordon also got on the scoresheet as FC Barcelona swept Deportivo Alaves aside 6-1 at Camp Nou.

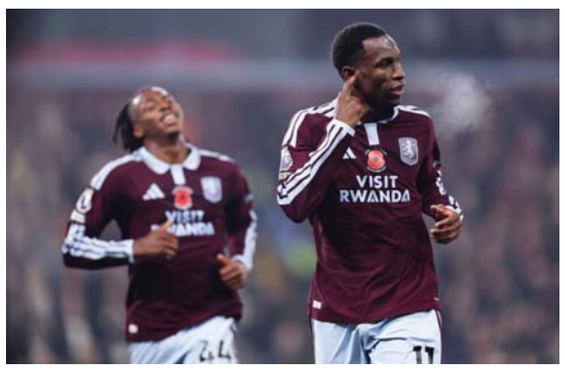
After consecutive defeats to Paris Saint-Germain and Real Madrid, FC Barcelona returned to winning ways in spectacular fashion to remain top of the La Liga.

Raphinha's double took him to 15 league goals in just 11 games, equalling a Barca benchmark previously reached by Cesar Rodríguez and Leo Messi. Lamine Yamal, meanwhile, continued to rewrite the record books with another two goals before his 20th birthday.

The home side took control from the outset and needed just eight minutes to open the scoring. A superb outside-of-the-boot pass from Pedri released Fermin down the left, and the midfielder squared for Raphinha to finish a wonderful team move involving 15 passes and nine players. (IANS)

Fulham hold Villa to 1-1 draw

BIRMINGHAM, NOV 1



John McGinn missed a penalty, and Zion Suzuki scored an own goal as Aston Villa were held to a 1-1 draw by Fulham.

Nicolas Jackson's eighth goal of the season had put Unai Emery's men ahead at the halfway stage, after John McGinn's early penalty miss.

But an improved second-half showing from the visitors saw them deservedly draw level when Zion Suzuki spilled Alex Iwobi's corner over the line before they repelled Villa's late advances in search of a winner to ensure the spoils were shared.

Jackson continued his fine form in the Premier League, finishing off a well-worked move involving Johan Manzambi to give his side a 39th-minute lead at Villa Park, as Unai Emery's side searched for a third consecutive league win.

That came after Fulham's Sander Berge was penalised for a handball early on, but Villa captain McGinn's spot-kick towards the top-left corner struck the woodwork. (IANS)

ENTERTAINMENT



M.A.SALAM
Film Journalist

RGV defends cinematic violence



Filmmaker Ram Gopal Varma, who is known for his bold statements, has reacted to the criticism of films which allegedly normalise and promote violence.

On Sunday, the filmmaker took to his X, formerly Twitter, and said that the anger towards films with violent content is often misdirected.

He wrote, "Blaming films for rise in violence is like blaming Ramayana for rise in kidnappings".

For context, a recent shocking chainsaw attack sent shockwaves inside a school in Raptadu, Anantapur district, Andhra Pradesh. A 21-year-old man, identified as Hemanth, allegedly entered a Class 10 classroom and attacked a 15-year-old girl with a chainsaw.

Another student, Lakshmi, sustained injuries while attempting to protect her classmate. Preliminary police investigations have suggested that the accused, reportedly a relative of the victim, had stalked her and attacked her after she rejected his advances. The primary victim is undergoing treatment at Manipal Hospital in Bengaluru and was reported stable.

Following the attack, several social media users criticised filmmaker Sandeep Reddy Vanga, and the scene from his directorial 'Animal' starring Ranbir Kapoor, in which the actor walks into a school classroom carrying a loaded gun. The scene is now being discussed again in the context of the shocking attack at the school.

Ram Charan gives Muhurat clap for 'RC17'



Ram Charan and director Sukumar embarked on their next cinematic journey on Sunday as their film tentatively titled 'RC17' went on floors with a grand pooja ceremony in Hyderabad.

The makers, Mythri Movie Makers, dropped a video from the mahurat ceremony on their official social media handles. The clip opened with Ram Charan arriving at the venue and greeting the members of the team. Next, the 'RRR' actor lit the ceremonial lamp.

"Mega Power Star @AlwaysRamCharan arrives at the #RC17 Pooja Ceremony (sic)," read the caption on the post.

In another post, Megastar Chiranjeevi was seen giving the mahurat clap, along with performing the auspicious coconut-breaking ritual during the pooja ceremony.

We could also see Ram Charan touching his father's feet, after which the father and son duo shared a warm hug.

Sharing the precious moment with the netizens, the makers wrote, "The journey of #RC17 begins with the MEGA CLAP... Megastar @chiranjeevikonidela garu sounded the clapboard and blessed the entire team of #RC17 (sic)"

The Mahurat for 'RC15' was attended by many big names from the Telugu film industry, such as Ravi Shankar, Naveen Yerneni, Naga Vamsi, Rahul Sankrityan, Gopichand Malineni, Maruthi, Buchi Babu Sana, Vamsi Nandipati and Harish Shankar, along with others.

Presented by Bhushan Kumar under T-Series Films, the technical crew of the drama also includes Ratnavelu as the cinematographer, whereas Anirudh Ravichander has been roped in to score the tunes. The remaining cast and crew for this yet-untitled drama have been kept under wraps for now.

Refreshing your memory, Ram Charan announced 'RC17' in March 2024. The 'Peddi' actor had uploaded a picture with Sukumar.

This will be Ram Charan's second professional collaboration with the filmmaker after their 2018 blockbuster 'Rangasthalam', which also featured Samantha Ruth Prabhu as the female lead.

Priyanka celebrates Halloween as 'King Kylie'



Global star Priyanka Chopra Jonas celebrated Halloween with her husband Nick Jonas and daughter Malti Marie.

Taking to social media, the desi girl gave a glimpse of their family outing dressed in quirky avatars. Priyanka shared pictures from their Halloween celebrations, revealing their respective looks for the occasion. While Nick dressed up as a cowboy, their daughter Malti appeared as a ghost princess, with Priyanka embracing the look of 'King Kylie'.

Sharing the picture, Priyanka called their costumes an "unlikely alliance" and wished everyone celebrating the festive occasion. "Quite an unlikely alliance.. A Cowboy, a Ghost princess and King Kylie went trick or treating.. Happy Halloween to everyone celebrating #diwaloween season is here," she wrote.

The family was seen striking various poses together. Little Malti looked adorable in her ghost princess avatar. Priyanka's post also brought together the Halloween celebrations and the festive spirit of Diwali, which she referred to as the 'Diwaloween' season.

The actress frequently shares glimpses of her personal life and special moments with Nick and Malti on social media, giving a peek into their family celebrations.

Priyanka Chopra had earlier given a glimpse of her Los Angeles home's balcony, beautifully decorated for the festive season.

Britney Spears pours love for 'Practical Magic'



Pop icon Britney Spears has shared that Hollywood actresses Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman are her girl crushes for the week.

The singer-songwriter recently took to her Instagram, and shared a clip from 'Practical Magic', in which Nicole Kidman tells Sandra Bullock, 'What is wrong with you?' in a hushed tone, and the latter saying, 'I don't know'.

The singer also penned a long note in the caption, as she wrote, " GOOOD FUCKING GOD - this movie literally... Can you imagine sitting with one them at a table. I would run away LOL...OMG how many f****** heartbreaks have I've had and gone straight to this movie".

"Literall, these women instantly wake my heart up every darn time and have given me hope through hard times in my life...literally my girl crushes for this week...as well (sic)", she added.

'Practical Magic' was directed by Griffin Dunne, and is based on Alice Hoffman's eponymous novel. The film follows sisters Sally and Gillian Owens, who belong to a family of witches. The sisters grow up learning magic while dealing with a family curse that condemns the men they fall in love with to untimely deaths. As adults, the contrasting sisters find themselves confronting the consequences of their inherited magic, complicated relationships and a supernatural threat.

Ambedkar ensured voting rights for all sections, says CM Revanth Reddy

TFP I SAUD SIDDIQUI
NEW DELHI, NOV 1

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Sunday said Dr B R Ambedkar had ensured voting rights for Dalits, Adivasis, women and youth, strengthening the foundations of Indian democracy.

Speaking to the media before proceeding to Ramlila Maidan from Telangana Bhavan along with ministers and Congress leaders to participate in the 'Vote Bachao, Desh Bachao' rally, he said there were earlier attempts to restrict voting rights to the wealthy and upper classes, but Ambedkar ensured equal voting rights for all eligible citizens. Revanth Reddy alleged that the BJP was attempting to weaken the Constitution and reservations, and deprive Dalits, Adivasis and women of their voting rights.



Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, accompanied by TG Govt Advisor Mohammed Ali Shabbir and Congress leaders, joined "Chalo Dilli" mega protest and "Vote Bachao, Desh Bachao" march at Ramlila Maidan in New Delhi.

Referring to the BJP's earlier slogan of securing 400 seats, he alleged that there was a larger conspiracy to undermine constitutional safeguards.

Targeting the Election Commission and Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, the Chief Minister alleged that 13.5 crore votes had already been deleted and claimed that there were attempts to remove another seven crore votes.

He further accused the BJP of seeking to influence electoral outcomes by deleting 15 to 20 per cent of votes across the country.

He also alleged that votes had been deleted to facilitate the formation of governments in Maharashtra, Bihar and West Bengal, and claimed that similar attempts were being made to remove the votes of poor people to retain power at the Centre.

Calling upon people from all parts of the country to join the protest at Ramlila Maidan, Revanth Reddy questioned attempts to disrupt train services to prevent Congress workers from Telangana from reaching Delhi.

Unity in diversity is India's greatest strength: Governor Shukla

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
HYDERABAD, NOV 1

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla has said that India's linguistic, cultural and regional diversity form the foundation of its national unity and strength, adding that celebrating the Formation Days of different States and Union Territories on a common platform reflects the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'.



Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla at Formation Day celebrations of 8 States and 5 Union Territories at Lok Bhavan in Hyderabad.

The Governor was speaking at the Formation Day celebrations of eight States and five Union Territories organised at Sanskriti Community Hall, Lok Bhavan, Hyderabad, on Sunday. The celebrations covered Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Tamil Nadu, along with Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry.

Describing Hyderabad as a 'Mini India', he said Telangana had always welcomed people from different parts of the country and promoted mutual respect, harmony and inclusive development.

Recalling Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's contribution to national integration, the Governor said the celebrations following Rashtriya Ekta Diwas reaffirmed India's collective identity. He called upon people to contribute to the vision of Viksit Bharat through self-reliance, inclusive development, women's empowerment, environmental protection and good governance.

Expressing concern over inadequate rainfall in Hyderabad and other parts of Telangana, Shukla urged citizens to make water conservation and protection of natural resources a collective responsibility.

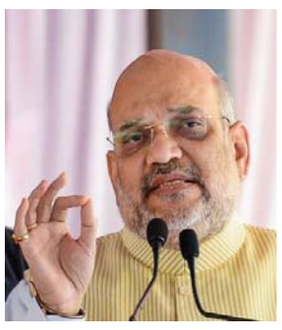
Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju also called upon people from different States and Union Territories to work together for national development and enhance India's global standing.

Cultural performances showcasing the traditions and artistic heritage of the participating States and Union Territories were a major attraction at the celebrations. The Governor's spouse, Janaki Shukla, and several senior officials and representatives of different States and Union Territories attended the programme.

Amit Shah to participate in BJP's Maha Paadayatra in Hyderabad today

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
HYDERABAD, NOV 1

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will participate in a Maha Paadayatra organised by the Telangana BJP on November 2 under the slogan 'Save Democracy, Remove Anarchy'.



Amit Shah

The march will begin at 1500 hrs from the Babu Jagjivan Ram statue opposite Nizam College, proceed via Abids, and culminate at Mozamjahi Market around 1800 hours.

Union Minister for Coal and Mines G Kishan Reddy, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Telangana BJP president N Ramchander Rao, along with BJP MPs, MLAs, MLCs, party workers and members of the public, are expected to participate in the programme, party sources said on Sunday.

Lawyers, doctors, intellectuals and thousands of party workers and people would participate in the foot march, he said.

CS inspects industrial units, radial road works in Rangareddy

FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
HYDERABAD, NOV 1

Telangana Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju, IAS on Sunday stressed that robust infrastructure and improved road connectivity were crucial for promoting industrial development, attracting investments and expanding economic activities in the State.



During a field visit to Haithabad village in Shabad mandal of Rangareddy district, he inspected the industrial units of CTRLS and Welspun and reviewed their operations, infrastructure requirements and future expansion needs with company representatives.

He also inspected the ongoing construction works of Radial Road No. 2 near Haithabad at Chainage 20.50 km and enquired about the progress and technical aspects of the project with engineering officials.

Jaju emphasised that better transportation facilities and road connectivity to industrial areas would facilitate business operations and contribute to regional economic development.

FCDA Commissioner Shashanka, Rangareddy District Collector C. Narayana Reddy, RDO Partha Simha Reddy, engineering officials, the Tahsildar and company representatives accompanied him during the visit.

KTR demands release of pending Rythu Bandhu dues

Seeks Rs 60,000 per acre for farmers



TFP I SHAIK RIAZUDDIN
ADILABAD, NOV 1

BRS Working President K T Rama Rao (KTR) on Sunday demanded that the Congress government release all pending Rythu Bandhu dues and pay farmers Rs 60,000 per acre, covering three withheld installments and the investment assistance due for the current Yasangi season.

Addressing a Rythu Garjana public meeting in Adilabad, KTR blamed the Revanth Reddy government for the drought-like conditions in Telangana, alleging that the situation was caused by administrative failures rather than nature.

He said the government could not evade responsibility by citing El Niño and urged it to fulfil its promises to tenant farmers and agricultural labourers.

He questioned the government's failure to implement the Rs 2 lakh crop loan waiver, Rythu Bharosa and other poll promises.

He also alleged that nearly one lakh cusecs of Godavari water was flowing downstream from the Kannepalli pump house without being utilised and criticised the government for neglecting irrigation projects.

KTR accused both the Congress state government and the BJP-led Centre of neglecting Telangana, citing the closure of the CCI factory in Adilabad and the lack of major educational and medical institutions in the district.

He assured farmers that the BRS would continue to fight for their rights.

Earlier, KTR extended financial assistance of lakh each to the families of five children who died in the recent fire accident at Adilabad's RIMS hospital, on behalf of the BRS.



Cyber fraud losses decline 20.2%



FREEDOM PRESS BUREAU
HYDERABAD, NOV 1

The Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB) has concluded its month-long Cyber Security Awareness campaign with statewide Night Flash Walks on October 30 and 31, highlighting the importance of public vigilance and timely reporting of cybercrimes.

The campaign, launched on October 1 at Necklace Road in Hyderabad, covered educational institutions, public spaces and community gatherings across the State. A total of 24,886 awareness programmes were conducted across Telangana up to October 31, 2026, reaching 15,48,905 people.

During October alone, 4,248 programmes were organised, engaging 2,78,428 participants.

Meanwhile, reported financial losses due to cybercrime declined by 20.2 per cent to Rs 881.72 crore during January-September 2026, compared with Rs 1,104.42 crore in the corresponding period last year. The amount placed under lien in fraudsters' bank accounts increased by 42.2 per cent to Rs 260.30 crore from Rs 183.11 crore.



PRGI Reg. No. TELENG/2015/65354. Printed and Owned by **MOHAMMED ABDULLAH KHAN** and Published by **MOHAMMED ABDUL RAHMAN KHAN**. Printed at **THE FREEDOM PRESS**, Wajid Mansion, M.C.H. No. 23-2-135 to 138, Moghalpura, Hyderabad, Telangana - 500002 and Published at #5-9-233, 234, 235, Shop No. 23 & 24, 2nd Floor, Sanali Mall, Abids, Hyderabad, Telangana -500001.
Editor: **MOHAMMED ABDULLAH KHAN. Postal Reg. No. D/RNP/HCD-2001/2025-27.** Phone: +91 9440140120. Email:freedompress15@gmail.com