

THE INDIAN MAIL

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High-level meeting on textiles industry stresses on integrated value chain to spur growth

The Development Council for Textile Industry (DCTI), at its first meeting held here, on Wednesday, underlined the need...

07



Pune Grand Tour upgraded to UCI 2.1 ahead of 2027 edition

The Pune Grand Tour has been upgraded from UCI 2.2 to UCI 2.1. The upgrade comes shortly after Pune was awarded the 2032 UCI Road World...

12



Public awareness on cybercrime across the district

District SP Akhil Mahajan IPS said that in the wake of the month of October being observed as National Cyber Security Awareness Month across the country, special programs...

03



Govt has no plans to privatise power utilities : Bhatti

Hyderabad, Oct 7 : Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Wednesday rejected reports that the State government was planning to privatise DISCOMs, TRANSCO and GENCO or convert the power utilities into listed companies. Bhatti Vikramarka said the Congress government had complete faith in public sector undertakings and was committed to strengthening them. He said the government followed the Nehruvian economic approach of a mixed economy with a strong public sector. "There is absolutely no thought or discussion of selling the power sector. We strongly believe in strengthening public sector undertakings. It is not appropriate for people to imagine things on their own and

criticise the government based on those assumptions," he said. Speaking to the media at Praja Bhavan, the Deputy Chief Minister said Telangana had recorded its highest-ever power demand, with consumption touching 19,892 MW. He said the State was meeting even a demand of around 20,000 MW without imposing power cuts and accused some political leaders of spreading misinformation and creating confusion among the people.

People's trust my greatest strength : PM Modi

New Delhi, Oct 7 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said that the trust of the countrymen and their hard work have always been his "greatest strength", while adding that every citizen of the country has the "greatest right" over him. He expressed gratitude to the people of the country for choosing him as their leader for 25 consecutive years

and said that his responsibility towards the country is the greatest, as the public has placed their trust in him. As PM Modi arrived to attend the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Sabha', people welcomed him by showering flowers, holding BJP flags and chanting 'Bharat Mata ki Jai', 'Swagat hai, bhai swagat hai;

Modi ji ka swagat hai' slogans. People were also seen taking out their phones to capture the moment. Addressing the massive gathering, PM Modi said, "When I took oath as the Chief Minister of Gujarat on October 7, 2001, I never thought that I would reach this milestone one day.



Telangana BJP leaders take Viksit Bharat pledge

Hyderabad, Oct 7 : BJP leaders in Telangana reaffirmed their collective commitment to realise the goal of Viksit Bharat by taking a pledge on Wednesday to mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi's completion of 25 years of uninterrupted public service as head of a government. Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy, Telangana BJP President N. Ramchander Rao and other leaders participated in the 'Seva Jyoti Yatra' and 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Sabha' here.



Cops detain INDIA bloc leaders heading to Jantar Mantar

New Delhi, Oct 7 : INDIA bloc leaders, including Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, were on Wednesday detained by the police while they were heading to the Jantar Mantar to stage an agitation for the second consecutive

day, demanding the dismissal of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar. The police were seen pushing Rahul Gandhi, along with several leaders and workers, into waiting buses.

Bandi Sanjay: Cong has 'Patent Rights' for vote theft



Karimnagar, Oct 7 : Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Wednesday accused the Congress of having 'patent rights' over vote and seat theft, alleging that the party had a history of manipulating political outcomes. Speaking at a BJP programme in Karimnagar to mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 25 years of public service, Sanjay said Congress had denied Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel the Prime Minister's post in 1946 despite PCCs backing him.



AP Cabinet passes resolution congratulating PM Modi on his 25-year journey

Amaravati, Oct 7 : A cabinet meeting chaired by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu was held on Wednesday at the Secre-

tariat. Several key decisions were approved during the meeting, with the Council of Ministers clearing 12 agenda items. Once the formal cabinet agenda was concluded,

CM Chandrababu held discussions with the ministers on other matters. The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet moved a resolution congratulating Prime Minister Narendra Modi on completing 25 years in office. The Chief Minister and ministers spoke, praising Modi's administration. Chief Minister Chandrababu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, and other ministers praised Modi's administration. Minister Nara Lokesh read out a two-page resolution commending him. CM Chandrababu heaped praise on Modi, noting that serving as Chief Minister and Prime Minister for a combined 25 years and winning the people's approval is no ordinary feat; he remarked that even they had not managed to remain in power for 25 consecu-

tive years. Some people served as Chief Minister for 25 years but failed to bring about reforms. However, the Chief Minister noted that Modi won the people's approval not only through his governance but also by implementing reforms. Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy stated that the Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has passed a special resolution congratulating Prime Minister Modi on completing 25 years as a head of government. He added that Chief Minister Chandrababu advised the ministers to strive for the development of their respective districts by drawing inspiration from Prime Minister Modi's administrative reforms and dedication. Meanwhile, Minister Narayana met with CM Chandrababu following the cabinet meeting. He discussed the issue of Category-4 and Endowment lands in the capital region with the Chief Minister. The CM advised him to bring the matter to his attention again after the legal aspects had been examined.



Key turn in Supreme Court regarding local body elections; AP government files caveat

New Delhi, Oct 7 : The Andhra Pradesh government has requested the Supreme Court to consider its arguments regarding the petition filed by the YCP seeking a halt to the local body elections. In this context, the alliance government has filed a caveat in the Supreme Court. The YCP's petition stated that the government was preparing for local elections without completing the 'SUR' process in AP. The party alleged that the government relied on data from January for both rural and urban local bodies.

Farmers' participation is crucial for building a Green Andhra Pradesh: Nagababu

Rajamahendravaram, Oct 7 : Nagababu, Chairman of the AP Green Executive Committee, made significant remarks regarding 'Haritha Andhra Pradesh' (Green Andhra Pradesh). He stated that the participation of nursery farmers

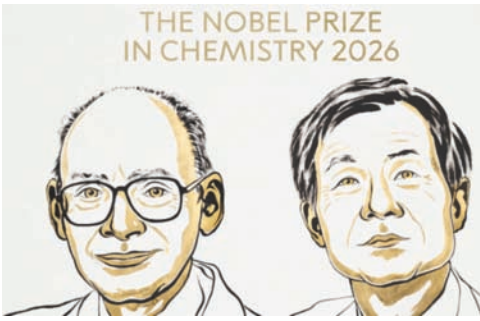
from Kadiyam is crucial for building a green Andhra Pradesh. A meeting of farmers belonging to the Sir Arthur Cotton Nursery Farmers' Association was held on Wednesday at Kadiyam, Rajamahendravaram, and Nagababu participated in the event. Extremely rare Andaman Padauk saplings, along with Rudraksha saplings, were planted



at the Pushkara Urban Forest in Rajamahendravaram. The Kadiyam nurseries were also inspected.

Nobel Prize in Chemistry for Kagan and Soai

New Delhi, Oct 7 : The 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded to Henri B. Kagan of France and Kenso Soai of Japan. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences selected them for their pivotal research on non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis.



Smart Cities Mission initiated by PM Modi transforming urban development across India: Arunachal CM Khandu

Itanagar, Oct 7 : Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu has said that the Smart Cities Mission, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2015, was aimed at taking urban development across the country to a new level by creating modern, sustainable and citizen-centric cities.

The Chief Minister on Wednesday dedicated to the people several major infrastructure projects completed under the Pasighat Smart City Mission, describing the transformation of the state's oldest town as an important example of the development taking place across Arunachal Pradesh. He said Pasighat was accorded Smart City status in June 2017 fol-

lowing sustained efforts by the state government. The Chief Minister noted that Arunachal Pradesh is the only state in the Northeast to have two Smart Cities, Pasighat and Itanagar, and expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister, the Union government and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for supporting the state's proposal.



TN cooperatives to sell seeds, fertilisers for cash at prices within MRP

Chennai, Oct 7 : Farmers across Tamil Nadu can purchase seeds, fertilisers and other agricultural inputs against cash payments through primary agricultural cooperative credit societies, with prices capped at the maximum retail price, the Cooperation Department said. The department said arrangements had been made through all such societies in the state to help farmers obtain the inputs required for crop cultivation. The provision is intended to extend the benefit of the cooperative supply network to all farmers. Primary agricultural cooperative credit societies provide short-term crop loans to farmers. Alongside this lending, they supply and distribute inputs, including seeds and chemical fertilisers, as part of the crop loan assistance available through the cooperative system.



Assam Rifles seize drugs valued at Rs 15.4 crore, smuggler held

Imphal/Aizawl, Oct 7 : In a major blow to the drug cartel and the perpetrators of drug business, the Assam Rifles troops apprehended a drug peddler and seized heroin valued Rs 15.4 crore in Manipur, officials said on Wednesday. A defence spokesman said that acting on secret information, the Assam Rifles jawans intercepted a white Mahindra bolero vehicle at Thingkangphai Village under Churachandpur district on Monday late night and arrested Thangsuanman (44), a resident of M Tanglian Village. The paramilitary personnel recovered and seized the heroin valued at Rs 15.4 crore.

The drugs were concealed in 132 soap cases. The apprehended individual, vehicle and seized drugs were handed over to Churachandpur Police station for further investigations and taking legal actions under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act 1985. Churachandpur district shares an inter-state border with Mizoram, which has a Mizoram 510 km and 318 km unfenced border with Myanmar and Bangladesh respectively.

MP govt to sign agreement with Maha on Tapti Basin project : CM Yadav

Bhopal, Oct 7 : Chief Minister Mohan Yadav on Wednesday said that the Madhya Pradesh government is progressing towards an agreement with Maharashtra regarding the Tapti Basin Mega Recharge project. The Chief Minister said that discussions with the Maharashtra government are in progress and all hurdles have been resolved through multiple rounds of meetings between senior officials from both the neighboring states. The Chief Minister made this statement during an interaction with the farmers who came to meet from Burhanpur under the leadership of former Minister and MLA Burhanpur Archana Chitnis at the Chief Minister's Office on Tuesday.



Western states agree on real-time intelligence sharing, joint ops at Indore police meet

Indore, Oct 7 : Police chiefs of seven western states and J&K on Wednesday agreed to institutionalise real-time intelligence sharing, appoint nodal officers and launch joint operations against cybercrime, organised crime and narco networks, in a major push to strengthen interstate policing and coordinated law enforcement. The consensus was reached at the 13th Western Re-

gional Police Coordination Committee meeting held in Indore under the chairmanship of Madhya Pradesh Director General of Police (DGP) Kailash Makwana. Police chiefs and senior officers from Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa and J&K attended the meeting.

High-level meeting held on expanding city gas network in Chandigarh

Chandigarh, Oct 7 : A delegation from the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB), led by its Chairperson, Anil Kumar Jain and including Director, Monitoring, Lt. Col. Kumar Abhishek, Director (Monitoring), held a meeting with the Punjab Governor and Union Territory Administrator, Gulab Chand Kataria, on Wednesday on expanding the City Gas Distribution network for a cleaner and more sustainable Chandigarh.

The high-level meeting focused on reviewing the expansion of the City Gas Distribution network and addressing key operational bottlenecks to accelerate the adoption of clean and convenient natural gas across the region. Following the meeting, the Governor formally inaugurated Piped Natural Gas (PNG) supply at Raj Bhavan, marking a significant milestone in Chandigarh's transition towards cleaner energy and setting an example for sustainable energy adoption across the Union Territory.

The government has been expanding PNG connections in other cities as well to reduce dependence on LPG amid the West Asia crisis. Close to 5 lakh new PNG connections have been gasified as consumers have switched from LPG to natural gas for cooking, and over 5.1 lakh additional customers have registered for new connections since March this year. Citizens have been encouraged to use alternative fuels such as PNG and electric or induction cooktops. All citizens are urged to conserve energy in their daily use during the

current situation. The PNGRB has proposed a new tariff policy for long-distance pipelines to provide for charging lower rates to city gas entities that sell CNG for vehicles and piped cooking gas to households. The PNGRB regulates the transmission tariffs for natural gas pipelines, and these are fixed to provide a 12 per cent return on capital employed. These tariffs, traditionally, were apportioned along the length of the pipeline and increased as one travelled further from the gas



source. This resulted in higher tariffs for consumers located at a longer distance from the source. To resolve the distance-related dislocation in the pricing of natural gas, a unified tariff for all consumers connected to the natural gas grid was proposed in November 2020 and implemented from April 1, 2023.



87 investors signed MoUs to invest Rs 3,700 crore in Tripura: CM Saha

Agartala, Oct 7 : Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha on Wednesday said that 87 investors from different parts of the country signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) promising to invest Rs 3,700 crore across different sectors, during the recent investors' summit in Agartala. After inaugurating and laying the foundation stones of 34 projects in Unakoti districts, the Chief Minister said that such investment proposals were never witnessed in Tripura earlier. Noting that in terms of GSDP, Tripura is now in the second position in the northeast region, Saha said that per-capita income has also increased substantially. He further mentioned that many investors are coming to Tripura due to the transparent governance and peaceful environment in the state.

The state government has been focusing on industrial growth through MSMEs, the Chief Minister said, adding that during his

recent meeting with Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, he assured that work on railway infrastructure would continue and confirmed that another railway track from Dharmanagar to Kailashahar would be developed soon. "People have trusted us and given us (BJP) power for the second time. They have faith in us. Our government is working to solve problems, whereas the previous government used to create them," he said. The Chief Minister said that the state's tallest 14-storey building, housing directorates of all departments under one roof, would come up at Gurkhabasti, on the outskirts of Agartala. He informed that Rs 134 crore has been allocated for the high-rise buildings, a first of its kind in the northeastern region. "I want to remind them that when Prime Minister Narendra Modi conducted the surgical strike (in Pakistan), the opposition also asked for proof.

Mizoram Guv calls for integrated governance approach?

New Delhi/Aizawl, Oct 7 : Mizoram Governor General Vijay Kumar Singh (Retd) emphasised that national security goes beyond the strength of individual institutions, highlighting the critical need for effective coordination among them. Addressing participants of the Advanced Professional Programme in Public Administration during his visit to the Indian Institute of Public Administration in New Delhi, the Governor reiterated that national security cannot rely solely on institutional capacity but must be supported by cohesive and well-coordinated efforts. He underscored that the 'Whole-of-Government' approach begins with a fundamental shift in mindset, moving away from siloed functioning towards an integrated governance model. According to him, all levels of government,

from central ministries to district administrations, must operate as parts of a unified and interconnected system. Citing the example of PM Gati Shakti, General Singh pointed out that coordinated efforts among multiple ministries, state governments, and local bodies have already delivered tangible improvements in infrastructure planning. He noted that this model clearly demonstrates how aligning policies, resources, and implementation strategies can produce more efficient outcomes while reducing wastage. The Governor further stressed that breaking down institutional silos and fostering a culture of collaboration is essential for effective governance. He observed that meaningful coordination should extend beyond high-level meetings and must include active engagement at the district level.



Gujarat ACB nets Ahmedabad Chief Fire Officer, middleman in bribery case

Ahmedabad, Oct 7 : The Gujarat Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Wednesday trapped a private intermediary while allegedly accepting a Rs 36,000 bribe for the approval of fire no-objection certificates (NOCs) for six buildings in Ahmedabad, and subsequently initiated legal action against the city's Chief Fire Officer after investigators found prima facie evidence linking him to the alleged demand. According to the ACB, the complainant, described as a "vigilant citizen", works as a Fire Safety Officer (FSO) and provides fire safety-related services to buildings across Ahmedabad. The complainant had submitted applications through the state government's online portal seeking approval of fire NOCs for six buildings. The ACB alleged that the second accused, Bhavsinh Zala, 31, a private individual, demanded Rs 6,000 for each NOC.

RTI Act: 2005, law enacted by Parliament to empower citizens for information- Prof. Satya Prakash

Tadepalligudem, Oct 7 : The Right To Information (RTI) Act- 2005, a law enacted by Parliament of India to empower citizens for providing access to information under the control of Public Authorities, promoting transparency, and curbing corruption; it replaces earlier culture of official se-

crecy, with openness, ensuring accountability in Government Bodies and Public Spending; highlighted Prof. K. V. Satya Prakash, who was the Key- Note Speaker today afternoon, in Tadepalligudem AP State Government Grade- I Library organizing various activities, during the RTI Awareness Week from 5th to 12

th October 2026, as per Government Directives Prof. Satya Prakash gave details, with examples, about the designated Public Information Officers (PIOs) and the timelines set for providing information sought under RTI Act- 2005, i.e. 30 days of receiving the request, and/or if the request concerns a person's life or



liberty within only 48 hours or 2 days maximum Retired School Head Master Praththi Veera Swamy; Social Worker Vardhanapu John Babu; Senior Citizen V. A. K. Bajupi Reddy; and Former Entrepreneur K. Rajasekhara, expressed their views. Incharge Librarian Y. V. Saibabu presided.. Over 100 Library Readers and Competitive Exams- preparing youth participated.

Public awareness on cybercrime across the district

Adilabad, Oct 7 : (TIM Bureau) : District SP Akhil Mahajan IPS said that in the wake of the month of October being observed as National Cyber Security Awareness Month across the country, special programs are being organized across the district under the auspices of the Adilabad District Police to create awareness among the people about

cyber crimes as per the instructions of the Telangana Cyber Security Bureau. On this occasion, District SP Akhil Mahajan, along with AR DSP Kamatham Indra Vardhan, DAC ASI Suresh and staff Shiva, unveiled an awareness poster on the prevention of cybercrime at the district police headquarters. Speaking on the occasion, the district SP said that cyber criminals are deceiving people by exploiting factors like greed, emergencies, high profits with low investment, instant loans, part-time jobs, and online investments. He advised that if you see attractive offers like “low investment.. high profit”, “loan in minutes”, and “instant job”, you should think first and not make any pay-



ments in a hurry. He said people should be alert to phone calls, messages, suspicious links, loan apps, and online offers from unknown individuals. He advised people not to share their bank account details, OTP, ATM PIN, UPI PIN, passwords, and personal information with others under any circumstances. He advised victims of cybercrime to immediately call the 1930 Cybercrime Helpline without delay and to file a complaint through www.cybercrime.gov.in.

Ensure availability and provide quality medical care : District Collector Garima Agrawal

Surprise inspection at Hanumajipet Primary Health Centre



Rajanna Sircilla (Vemulawada), October 7: District Collector Garima Agrawal directed doctors and staff to remain available and provide quality medical services. The District Collector conducted a surprise inspection of the Hanumajipet Primary Health Centre (PHC) in Vemulawada Mandal on Wednesday. She inquired with the medical staff about the daily Outpatient (OP) attendance. She inspected the OP register, laboratory, immunization room, inpatient wards, other facilities, the pharmacy, and the hospital premises. Speaking on the occasion, District Collector Garima Agrawal interacted with the ANMs

(Auxiliary Nurse Midwives) and advised them to remain vigilant in the field. She urged them to focus on ANC (Antenatal Care) registrations and the health of pregnant women, striving to increase the number of deliveries at the government hospital. She also emphasized the need to focus on NCD (Non-Communicable Disease) screening, noting that this enables early detection of symptoms and facilitates timely treatment. She reiterated that doctors and staff must be available at all times to provide quality medical care and instructed them to raise awareness regarding seasonal diseases and environmental hygiene. Inquiries were made regarding the number of deliveries.

SHIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
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Registered Office: Sri. Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032
Administrative office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghanoli, Navi Mumbai-400710, AuthorizedOfficerAddress:Md.mampasha , Regional Manager, Shiriram Finance Limited, Wyra Road, SBI Building, Khammam- 507001

DEMAND NOTICE
Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from Shiriram Finance Limited, (Formerly know as Shiriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiriram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shiriram Finance Limited, by it's Incorporation dt.30-11-2022). We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/ guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/ guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of **SHIRAM FINANCE LTD.** under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers / guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices. The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

NAME OF THE BORROWER(S)/	Co-Borrower(S)/Guarantors		
1) Avireni Janaki Ramaiah, S/O Roshaiha, Age:41yrs, R/O:H.No.2-202, Kasna Thanda, Tangampadu, Khammam. (Borrower No.1) 2) Dabbeti Venkanna, S/O Pullaiah, Age:47yrs, Occu:Civil Contractor, R/O:H.No.6-1-298/1, VDO's Colony, Khanapuram Haveli, Khammam. (Borrower/ Guarantor No.2)			
NPA DATE	DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT	LOAN AMOUNT
08.10.2017	08.06.2026	Rs. 1,70,58,130/-	Rs. 30,00,000/-

PROPERTY ADDRESS OF SECURED ASSETS: KHMMAF1610290001- Description Of The Immovable Property Property Holder Name: Avireni Janaki Ramaiah With Document No: 8735/2016 Open Plot Bearing Nos.22, 24 And 26 Admeasuring To An Extent Of 799.99 Sq.Yards Or 668.85 Sq.Mtrs In And Out Of SY/Nos. 89/A And 90 Situated At Gorrekunta GP And Village Geesugunda Mandal Of Warangal District Is Bounded By: North: 30 Feet Width Proposed Road And Plots Nos.23 And 25, South: Plot No.21 And 27, East: 25 Ft Width Road, West: 25 Ft Width Road.
In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under. Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Date: 06-10-2026, Sd/- Authorised Officer, Place: Khammam. Shiriram Finance Limited

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Administrative office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghanoli, Navi Mumbai-400710, AuthorizedOfficerAddress:Md.mampasha , Regional Manager, Shiriram Finance Limited, Wyra Road, SBI Building, Khammam- 507001

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NAME OF THE BORROWER(S)/	Co-Borrower(S)/Guarantors		
1) Burla Vishnu, S/O: Rama Rao, Age: 36 Yrs, R/O:H.No: 5-5-165/1, Sambhani Nagar , Khammam (Urban), Khammam (D), Pin Code: 507001. (Borrower No.1) 2) Burla Padmavathi, W/O: Rama Rao, Age: 62 Yrs, R/O:H.No: 5-5-165/1, Sambhani Nagar , Khammam (Urban), Khammam (D), Pin Code: 507001. (Borrower/Guarantor No.2) 3) Mohamad Thahir Ali, S/O: Ameer Ali, Age: 38 Yrs, R/O: H.No: 8-6-94, Thumalla Gadda, Khammam Municipality, Khammam (D), Pin Code: 507001. (Borrower/Guarantor No.3)			
NPA DATE	DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT	LOAN AMOUNT
09.03.2026	23.09.2026	Rs. 26,29,818/-	Rs. 25,00,000/-

PROPERTY ADDRESS OF SECURED ASSETS: KHMMAF2403040005-Description Of The Immovable Property Property Holder Name: Burla Padmavathi With Document No: 926/2024 All That The Piece And Parcel Of The Land Admeasuring To An Extent Of 544.50 Sq Yards Or 455.25 Sq. Meters, Out Of SY. No.614/A Situated At Jeella Cheruvu Revenue Village , Kusumanchi Mandal Khammam District, With In The Limits Of SRO, Kusumanchi Is Bounded By: North: From Khammam To Suryapet R&B Road, South: Check Dam Road, East: Land Of Dantaha Rama Laxmana, West: Land Of Volati Rama Rao
In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under. Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

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NAME OF THE BORROWER(S)/	Co-Borrower(S)/Guarantors		
1) Ananthi Venkateswarlu, S/O Krishnaiah, Age: 55yrs, R/O H.No: 6-24, Thallampadu, Khammam Dist, Pin: 507170. (Borrower No.1) 2) Ananthi Satyavathi, W/O Venkateswarlu, Age: 52yrs, R/O H.No: 6-24, Thallampadu, Khammam Dist, Pin: 507170. (Borrower/Guarantor No.2) 3) Govada Ram Mohan, S/O Govada Smaba Siva Rao, Age: 60yrs, R/O H.No: 12-468, FF-1, Adithi Enclave, NH-5, Tadepalle, Guntur, Pin: 522501. (Borrower/Guarantor No.3)			
NPA DATE	DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT	LOAN AMOUNT
08.12.2023	23.09.2026	Rs. 38,28,109/-	Rs. 18,00,000/-

PROPERTY ADDRESS OF SECURED ASSETS: KHMMAF2304260005- Description Of The Immovable Property Property Holder Name: Ananthi Venkateswarlu With Document No: 1759/ 2023 All That The House With Open Bearing No.6-24, (Assessment No.803), Admeasuring To An Extent Of 246.69 Sq.Yards Or 206.25 Sq.Mtrs, With Construction RCC Roof Construction Area 673.64 Sq.Feet, Construction Area RCC Roof House 351.55 Sq.Feet And Construction Area Of RCC Roof Toilet 39.95 Sq.Feet, And All Fittings Such As Electricity And Fixtures etc., Situated At Thallampadu Revenue Village And GP, Khammam Rural Mandal, Khammam District And SRO Khammam Rural Bounded By:North: House Of Velpula Ramakrishna, South: G.P.Road, East: G.P. Road, West: Open Place Of Ananthi Nagaswara Rao
In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under. Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Date: 06-10-2026, Place: Khammam. Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shiriram Finance Limited

SHIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
(Formerly Known as Shiriram Transport Finance Company Limited)
Registered Office: Sri. Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032
Administrative office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghanoli, Navi Mumbai-400710, AuthorizedOfficerAddress:Md.mampasha , Regional Manager, Shiriram Finance Limited, Wyra Road, SBI Building, Khammam- 507001

DEMAND NOTICE
Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from Shiriram Finance Limited, (Formerly know as Shiriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiriram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shiriram Finance Limited, by it's Incorporation dt.30-11-2022). We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/ guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/ guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of **SHIRAM FINANCE LTD.** under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers / guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices. The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

NAME OF THE BORROWER(S)/	Co-Borrower(S)/Guarantors		
1) Anantha Laxmi Mandhadapu W/O Stalin, Age:36 Yrs, Occu: Sai Ram Stores At Main Road, Thallada, R/O H.No: 6-3-85/105, Flat No: 105, Bank Colony, Opp TDP Office Line, Khammam. (Borrower No.1) 2) Mandhadapu Stalin S/O Chandra Sekhar, Age: 40 Yrs, Occu: Business R/O H.No: 6-3-85/105, Flat No: 105, Bank Colony, Opp T D P Office Line, Khanapuram Haveli, Khammam. (Borrower/Guarantor No.2) 3) Kadiyala Purma Chandra Rao S/O Tirumalaiah, Age: 40 Yrs, Occu: Civil Contractor Works In Khammam, R/O H.No: 7-1-34/1, Venkatagiri Gate Road, Prabath Talkies Road, Khammam. (Borrower/Guarantor No.3)			
NPA DATE	DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT	LOAN AMOUNT
31.08.2016	24.09.2026	Rs. 61,09,397/-	Rs. 15,00,000/-

PROPERTY ADDRESS OF SECURED ASSETS: Schedule Of Immovable Property (Property Holder Name is Mandhadapu Anantha Laxmi Mortgage Deed Dated 31.07.2015 Registered As Document No. 4852/2015 on the File Of The Office Of Sub-Registrar At Sub Register Office Kodad YLNDUTF1507290011- Description Of The Immovable Property Property Holder Name: Mandhadapu Anantha Laxmi With Document No: 4852/2015 The Vacant Site Of Plot Bearing Nos.66 And 67 Measuring To An Extent Of 300.00 Sq. Yards Equivalent To 250.08 Sq Mtrs In And Out Of SY.No.366/A Situated At Thammara Banda Palem Village GP Kodad Mandal , Nalgonda District With In Th Following Boundaries: North: Site Of Plot No.68, South: Part Of Plot No.66 Sold In Favour Of Applicate By Vendor, East: Vacant Site Of Vendor, West: 24 Feet Width Gp Bazar
In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under. Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Date: 06-10-2026, Place: Khammam. Sd/- Authorised Officer, Shiriram Finance Limited

SHIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
(Formerly Known as Shiriram Transport Finance Company Limited)
Registered Office: Sri. Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032
Administrative office: 6th Floor(level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurum Q parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghanoli, Navi Mumbai-400710, AuthorizedOfficerAddress:Md.mampasha , Regional Manager, Shiriram Finance Limited, Wyra Road, SBI Building, Khammam- 507001

DEMAND NOTICE
Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from Shiriram Finance Limited, (Formerly know as Shiriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shiriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shiriram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shiriram Finance Limited, by it's Incorporation dt.30-11-2022). We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/ guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/ guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of **SHIRAM FINANCE LTD.** under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers / guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices. The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

NAME OF THE BORROWER(S)/	Co-Borrower(S)/Guarantors		
1) Ganesh Dharavath, S/O Bhadrar, Age: 28yrs, R/O H.No: 10-32, Hanuma Thanda, Kalluru, Khammam Dist, Pin: 507209. (Borrower No.1) 2) Dharavath Bhadrar, S/O Ramulu, Age: 46yrs, R/O H.No: 10-32, Hanuma Thanda, Kalluru, Khammam Dist, Pin: 507209. (Borrower/Guarantor No.2) 3) Bhukya Madan Singh, S/O Bhukya Amru, Age: 53yrs, R/O H.No: 2-111/A, Seethampeta Banzar, Seethampeta Panchayathi, Khammam Dist, Pin: 507120. (Borrower/Guarantor No.3)			
NPA DATE	DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT	LOAN AMOUNT
08.07.2024	11.08.2026	Rs. 20,81,943/-	Rs. 15,00,000/-

PROPERTY ADDRESS OF SECURED ASSETS: STPLTF2307310011- Description Of The Immovable Property Property Holder Name: Dharavath Ganesh With Document No: 1467/ 2023 All That The House With Open Place Bearing H.No.1-46(New), (Old H.No.10-46), Assessment No.46, Admeasuring To An Extent Of 200.00 Sq.Yards Or 167.2 Sq.Meters, Including RCC Roof House Construction Plinth Area Of 128 Sq.Feet, Situated At Hanumathanda Grampanchayat & Village, Kalluru Mandal, Khammam District And SRO Kalluru Bounded By: North: House Of Dharavath Bhadrar, South: House Of Dharavath Ravi, East: Grampanchayat Road, West: My Remaining Own Place
In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under. Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Date: 06-10-2026, Sd/- Authorised Officer, Place: Khammam. Shiriram Finance Limited

Opinion Mail



PM Modi's 25 years in leadership reflect India's transformation, rising ambitions: CM Naidu

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday highlighted how Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 25 years in leadership reflect India's transformation and its rising national ambitions. Prime Minister Narendra Modi marks 25 years of uninterrupted leadership as head of government, beginning with his oath as Gujarat Chief Minister on October 7, 2001, and continuing through three terms as Prime Minister of India.

In an opinion article in The Hindu, Naidu said, "In my 48 years in public life, I have seen governments change, economies transform, technologies disrupt the world, and leaders rise and fall. One lesson has only become clearer with time: leadership matters."

As Prime Minister Modi completes 25 uninterrupted years in executive office, the Andhra Chief Minister said, "I reflect on what makes his journey exceptional - clarity of vision, integrity, discipline, attention to detail and, above all, the ability to execute."

He said that whether through a pandemic, wars, geopolitical uncertainty, or rapid technological change, "India has remained steady at the wheel". "We have expanded infrastructure at an unprecedented pace, strengthened welfare delivery, embraced technology, encouraged enterprise and emerged with greater confidence on the world stage," Naidu posted on X.

"Few leaders get the opportunity to shape a generation. Rarer still are those who help shape the destiny of a nation," he added.

In the article, Naidu mentioned, "As a Chief Minister first and then a Prime Minister, Mr Modi has a strong belief in 'Team India'. He knows that India cannot be transformed from Delhi alone." During PM Modi's tenure, the Andhra CM said India's stature abroad has also changed profoundly.

"Today, India's voice is heard with greater respect on global platforms. India protects its national interest while engaging with different centres of global power, preserves strategic autonomy while building deeper partnerships, and projects its civilisational confidence as a modern, technology-driven nation," he added.

"Mr Modi's 25 years in executive leadership have demonstrated the qualities such a moment demands. Twenty-five years have established his record. The next 20 years can establish India's place in history," Naidu said.

EDITORIAL
the indian mail

Taiwan President cancels Africa trip, says China's 'coercive actions' undermining status quo

Taipei, Oct 7 : Taiwan's President, Lai Ching-te's visit to the African nation of Eswatini has been cancelled as overflight clearances were revoked for his flight by multiple nations. Presidential Office Secretary-General Pan Men-an said Wednesday that Seychelles, Mauritius, and Madagascar "unexpectedly and without justification rescinded overflight permission" for the chartered plane that Lai, his national security team and the press corps were scheduled to take, reported Central News Agency's Focus Taiwan.

Pan further called the move "unprecedented" and cited China's "economic coercion" for the cancellation. "China's coercive actions undermine the status quo, once again exposing the risks authoritarian regimes pose to the international order. Ahead of my visit to Eswatini, several countries along our flight route abruptly revoked overflight clearance under pressure from China," Taiwan President Lai Ching-te posted on X.

The chairperson of the Democratic Progressive Party stated that "no amount of threats or coercion" will shake Taiwan's resolve to engage with the world or diminish its contributions to the global community.



Mecca Joint Defence Agreement: A new security bloc and India's strategic questions

New Delhi, Oct 7 : The newly signed Mecca Joint Defence Agreement between Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey marks a significant development in regional security cooperation, as, according to Pakistan's Foreign Ministry, it states that an armed attack against any one of the three countries would be regarded as an attack against them all, while also expanding defence cooperation across multiple domains. Security analysts believe the agreement is largely a consequence of the changing strategic dynamics in West Asia following the US-Israeli military action against Iran, Tehran's retaliation against American bases, and growing



concerns over the vulnerability of Gulf energy and water infrastructure. In this view, the pact is primarily designed to strengthen collective deterrence in an increasingly volatile region, say experts. However, the agreement also raises important questions for India. "One key issue is how the mutual defence clause would be interpreted if India were compelled to conduct military action against terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan following a

major cross-border terrorist attack," an analyst noted. India has consistently maintained that counter-terrorism operations conducted in self-defence are fundamentally different from acts of aggression against a sovereign state, say analysts. Whether such a scenario would legally or politically trigger the defence clause remains uncertain.



'If we remain silent, future generations won't forgive us': Cong MP Imran Masood on CEC protests

New Delhi, Oct 7 : Congress MP Imran Masood on Wednesday reacted to the detention and subsequent release of opposition leaders during protests against Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar, alleging that the central government was weakening democratic institutions. He said that if people remained silent today, future generations would not forgive them. Speaking to IANS, Masood said, "I also fell ill last night, and we returned at 10 p.m. In a democracy, arrests and protests are not unusual; they are a natural part of democratic life. But the work being done to destroy democracy is intolerable. If we remain silent today, future generations will not forgive us, because they have created a spectacle." Masood demanded the resignation of CEC Gyanesh Kumar, alleging that the Election Commission's credibility has been severely damaged. He claimed that public trust and confidence in the institution has been eroded and alleged that those responsible have no moral right to remain in office. On the Opposition's protests over alleged 'vote theft' and its criticism of Gyanesh Kumar, Masood said that the awareness generated by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has grown into a mass movement. "The awareness ignited by Rahul Gandhi has now become a storm and a hurricane. Everyone will

be blown away like leaves in this storm. This uproar will spread to every street, and people across the country will be seen raising their voices against it," he said. Countering the BJP's claim that 13 crore names were only marked in the draft voter list and had not been removed, the Congress MP alleged that millions of people had effectively been deprived of their right to vote. "You did not remove the names, but listed them as ineligible to vote. You deprived them of their right to vote.

That is how you won. You formed the government with fewer votes than the number of people you deprived of their right to vote. In this case, your entire government is illegitimate," he alleged. Taking aim at the BJP's nationwide 'Seva Jyoti Yatra' marking Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 25 years in public life, Masood alleged that the country had lost more than it had gained during the tenure of the current government.



Meghalaya govt intensifies anti-tobacco campaign in schools and villages

Shillong, Oct 7 : The Meghalaya government on Wednesday intensified its campaign towards a "Tobacco-Free Meghalaya", highlighting significant progress in tobacco control through schools, colleges and village institutions while calling for greater youth participation to curb tobacco use. A state-level sensitisation program themed "Tobacco: Business of Death" was organised by the National Tobacco Control Program (NTCP).

Private sector firms must invest more in R&D to spur growth: Top official

New Delhi, Oct 7 : Private sector investment is witnessing steady and sustained growth, driven by the government's continued push on capital expenditure, but these companies need to invest more in R&D, Economic Affairs Secretary Anuradha Thakur said on Wednesday.

Addressing the National Council of Applied Economic Research's India Policy Forum 2026 event here, she said that the government's capital expenditure has increased more than five-fold over the last

decade from Rs 2 lakh crore in 2014-15 to Rs 10.7 lakh crore in 2025-26 as public investment continues to play a catalytic role by crowding in private investment. Thakur said that a CII survey shows that private sector investment is moving upwards at a steady and stable pace. However, she noted that private enterprise today accounts for 41 per cent of gross R&D in India, which falls short of the corresponding figure for advanced economies in which they account for nearly 75 to 79 per cent of gross R&D. "India's corporate

ecosystem holds immense headroom to lead national innovation. Industrial dynamism ultimately will depend on the willingness of private enterprises to invest, innovate, and scale," she pointed out. "Economic growth is increasingly driven by knowledge and technology rather than just the accumulation of labour and capital alone," she said. The next stage of development requires stronger investment in research and development, greater collaboration between universities and industries, which should be the focus going ahead, the Secretary said.



"Our long-term growth story will be determined not only by the amount of capital we mobilise, but also by how effectively that capital is deployed to create productive assets, globally competitive industries, quality jobs, and

transformative innovations. We are on that path," she further stated. India's long-term growth will be determined by how effectively public and private capital is deployed to create productive assets, globally com-

petitive industries, quality jobs and transformative innovations, she pointed out. "Equally important is improving access to finance, particularly for micro, small and medium enterprises, which remain the backbone for manufacturing," Thakur said. She also highlighted that despite a very challenging global environment, India continued to keep up its strong growth with stability. The Indian economy has clocked an average growth rate of 7 per cent over the last three years, amid geopolitical tensions, energy market volatility, and fragmented trade patterns, on the back of strong domestic demand, she added.

Time to strengthen US-India energy cooperation amid global tensions: McMaster

Washington, Oct 7 : Former US National Security Advisor (NSA) H.R. McMaster has underscored the urgency of strengthening US-India energy cooperation, saying that current global tensions highlight India's need for long-term energy security. McMaster, who served as the national security advisor to President Donald Trump in his first term, said the energy crisis in the aftermath of the Iran war situation mirrors earlier disruptions during the Ukraine war. "This is very similar to the energy crisis associated with Russia's massive invasion of Ukraine," he told IANS in an exclusive interview.



Indian Envoy meets Malta foreign minister, deepens cooperation

Valletta, Oct 7 : Rachita Bhandari, High Commissioner of India to Malta, called on Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta Chris Fearne, deepening cooperation between the two countries, the Indian High Commission in Malta stated on Wednesday. "High Commissioner Rachita Bhandari called on the Hon'ble Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta, Chris Fearne, recently. The meeting pro-



vided an opportunity for strengthening and deepening cooperation between India and Malta across various domains," the High Commission wrote on X. The High Commissioner said the occasion set new horizons for India and Malta and thanked the Minister. She noted on X that it was "an absolute honour and a pleasure to call on Chris Fearne, Hon'ble Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Malta.



Free trade agreement era may be over: Rubio

Washington, Oct 7 : US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has said the era of free trade agreements is unlikely to return "for the foreseeable future", signalling that Washington sees bilateral and reciprocal trade arrangements as a more viable path for expanding economic ties. Rubio made the remarks in Reykjavik when asked whether the United States was willing to explore a free trade agreement with Iceland. "As far as free trade agreements are concerned, look, I think the era of free trade agree-

ments for the foreseeable future is probably not going to be there," Rubio said during a joint media availability with Icelandic Foreign Minister Thorgerdur Katrin Gunnarsdottir. He made clear that his assessment was not specifically directed at Iceland. "I mean, not with Iceland, but just in general writ large," he said. Rubio instead pointed to bilateral arrangements based on reciprocal trade as an area where Washington sees opportunities. "Where I do think we have real opportunities is a bilateral trade agreement, bilateral trade, a recip-

rocal trade understanding between our countries," he said. Rubio said meetings aimed at pursuing such an arrangement between the United States and Iceland were already being organised before his visit. "And it's my understanding that meetings to try to pursue and further that are being organized as already pre-existing to my visit, and hopefully those will be very positive," he said. The comments offered a broader indication of the administration's approach to international trade as Rubio discussed opportunities to deepen economic relations with Iceland.



Ecuador declares emergency in 10 provinces, 3 municipalities amid violence

Quito, Oct 7 : Ecuadorian President Daniel Noboa declared a new 60-day state of emergency in 10 provinces and three municipalities, citing serious internal unrest caused by rising criminal violence, according to an executive decree. The measure suspends protections against searches of homes and correspondence in the coastal provinces of Guayas, Manabi, Santa Elena, Los Rios, El Oro and Esmeraldas, Xinhua news agency reported. It also applies to Pichincha, the north-central province that includes the capital, Quito; Santo Domingo de los Tsachilas; the northern Amazon province of Sucumbios; and the southern province of Azuay. The municipalities of La Mana in Cotopaxi province, Las Naves in Bolivar province, and La Troncal in Canar province are also included in the decree. Security forces are allowed to carry out immediate searches when there are indications that members of organised armed

groups or criminal organizations are hiding inside a property, the decree said, as well as when the presence of weapons, ammunition, explosives or controlled substances is suspected. The decree allows authorities to identify, analyse and gather information considered necessary to prevent or neutralise threats. It also authorises the temporary requisition of illicit goods and services deemed strictly necessary to maintain security operations. According to the decree, Ecuador recently recorded a significant increase in violent incidents, armed attacks and criminal activity attributed to organised armed groups and criminal organizations. The decree said killings, extortion, kidnappings, robberies and drug trafficking continued to fuel social unrest and disrupt normal economic activity. It said the intervention of the armed forces through exceptional measures was necessary to help reduce public fear.

Zambia vaccinates 672,100 people in cholera hotspots

Lusaka, Oct 7 : Zambian health authorities announced that 672,100 people in three districts battling a cholera outbreak have received oral cholera vaccines. Minister of Health Elijah Muchima said that the vaccination exercise was conducted in the districts of Chililabombwe and Kitwe in Copperbelt Province as well as Nakonde in the northern part of the country. "Vaccination has been another key pillar to our effective intervention, contributing to the reduction in cases being reported in these communities and reducing the se-

verity of cholera cases being reported," he said during a press briefing. According to him, a total of 133,525 doses of oral cholera vaccine have been administered in Chililabombwe, 200,878 doses in Nakonde, and 337,697 in Kitwe, and the remaining 1,262,303 doses would be deployed to any identified hotspots. He said the government, devoted and resolute to the health and well-being of its people, is actively addressing the current cholera outbreak and other public health threats in the country. The cumulative number of cholera cases in Zambia has reached 301 following three new cases reported from February 26 to March



2, with two cases recorded in Lusaka and one in Chililabombwe, the Health Minister said. He added that three patients were discharged during the same period, bringing the total discharges to 289, while the death toll stands at nine, Xinhua news agency reported. According to the World

Health Organisation, cholera is an acute diarrhoeal infection caused by consuming food or water contaminated with the bacterium Vibrio Cholerae. It is a global public health threat and indicates inequity and lack of social and economic development.



Mexico to continue 'mirror' operations with US to avoid border incidents: Prez Sheinbaum

Mexico City, Oct 7 : Mexico will continue coordinated "mirror" operations with the United States along their shared border in Tamaulipas state to avoid incidents following a reported shooting involving US Coast Guard personnel in the area, Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum said. The President on Tuesday said that Mexico maintains communication with the US Northern Command and the Coast Guard, stressing that bilateral security cooperation must adhere to the principles of "sovereignty, territorial integrity, mutual trust, and

coordination without subordination." "We decided to undertake the mirror operations, which is something that had previously been agreed on. One has already taken place and another is taking place to avoid any situation of misinterpretation," Sheinbaum said at her daily press conference at the National Palace, Xinhua news agency reported. Mexico seeks to maintain "a good relationship with the United States ... particularly in security ... in accordance with our Constitution and our laws," she said. US Ambassador to Mexico

Ronald Johnson said Sunday on X that US Coast Guard personnel had come under fire along the border with Tamaulipas. "The U.S. Embassy in Mexico is helping coordinate with Mexican forces deploying to the border area where U.S. Coast Guardsmen were fired upon. Mexican military commanders will communicate directly with deployed U.S. forces. Together, we intend to patrol both sides of our shared border, protect our communities, and make it more difficult for criminal and terrorist organizations to operate.



'India-France bilateral relationship striving and growing'

Evian (France), Oct 7 : The French Foreign Ministry on Wednesday said that the bilateral relationship between India and France is striving and growing. Pascal Confavreux, Spokesperson for the French Foreign Ministry, spoke with IANS on the sidelines of the ongoing G7 Summit in Evian, noting that the participation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the Summit is 'extremely important' and the visit of PM Modi to France, which started on Sunday, shows the development of the relationship between the two nations. "It's extremely important that Prime Minister Modi is taking part in this G7. You have a bilateral relation which is striving and growing. This visit shows it because it started as early as Sunday with a whole day spent together between President Macron and Prime Minister Modi in the south of France, in Nice.

Severe storms batter US South, causing damages

Houston, Oct 7 : From Texas to Tennessee, a number of severe storms have battered large parts of the US South with winds, hail, plumes of dust and tornadoes, leaving hundreds of thousands of people without power. More than 400,000 homes, businesses and other utility customers across five states -- Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Tennessee -- are without power, according to PowerOutage.us. The National



Delhi Labour Minister Kapil Mishra hails new Labour Codes

New Delhi, Oct 7 : Delhi Labour Minister Kapil Mishra on Wednesday hailed the rollout of the four new Labour Codes as a historic step that will ensure that workers enjoy their rights without hurdles.

Writing an article on the Labour Codes, Mishra said, "In one stroke, that old system has been replaced with a modern, unified, pro-worker, pro-industry framework designed for ambition, mobility and dignity. As the Prime Minister often says, 'Naye Bharat ka shramik majboor nahi, majboot hai' (New Bharat's labourer is strong, not helpless)."

The Delhi Minister wrote, "The new Labour Codes are more than an administrative reform. They are a shift in national character. For workers, they mean rights without hurdles. For the industry, compliance without harassment. For India, they mean productivity, formality and growth."

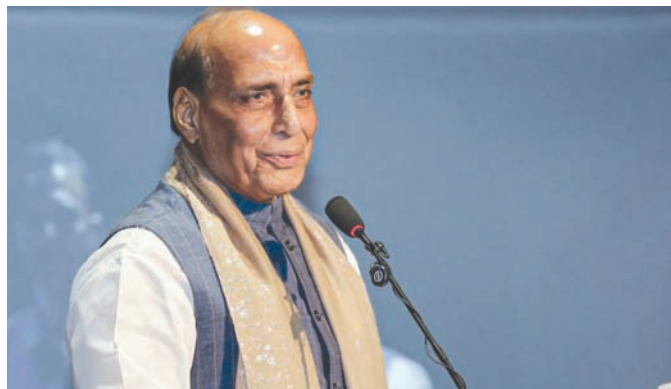


BJP leaders hail PM Modi's 25 years in public service, call milestone historic

New Delhi, Oct 7 : As Prime Minister Narendra Modi completes 25 years as head of government, marking a political journey that began with his appointment as Gujarat Chief Minister on October 7, 2001, and continued with three consecutive terms as PM since 2014, BJP leaders on Wednesday hailed the milestone, terming it a matter of pride for every Indian. Speaking to IANS, BJP Bihar President Sanjay Saraogi said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has served Gujarat and the country for 25 years, working with the goal of serving all sections of society. Therefore, the Union Cabinet yesterday felicitated and welcomed him on completing 25 years in public service. He is the only mass leader in the country to have fulfilled his constitutional responsibilities."

'Politics means nation building to him': Rajnath Singh on PM Modi's 25 years in public service

Ghaziabad, Oct 7 : Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 25 years in public service, stating that for PM Modi, politics is not about forming the government but rather about "nation building". The Defence Minister made the remarks while addressing the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Sabha' in Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad. "For PM Modi, the meaning of politics was that politics should not be pursued merely to form a government. Rather, politics should be pursued to build the nation and to build society," he said. He added, "Before Modi ji came to power, the word politics had lost its meaning and essence. Over the last 12 years, the way PM Modi has given it all to serve the people, he has proven that politics is not just a medium to form the government, rather it is a medium to build the nation." Rajnath Singh further said: "You will not find any Prime Minister in the world who has not taken a few days off within a year or two or has not gone on a picnic with his family...I have known Prime Minister Modi for the last



25 years, and I can say with confidence that during these years, whether as Chief Minister or Prime Minister, he has not taken a single day off or stopped working for even a single day. This is his greatest quality."

"I believe that the country needs this kind of a leader today because we intend to transform India into a developed nation, 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047," he asserted. Singh underlined that India has undergone a massive economic growth in the past 12 years. "Earlier, India used to be at 11th or 12th position in the world. But under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, India today stands among the top five economies of the world," he said.

Congress facing growing dissent not only from within but also among its allies: BJP amid Aiyar row

Pune, Oct 7 : The BJP on Wednesday launched a sharp attack on the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi and the Congress and said that the party is facing growing dissent not only from within but also among its allies. The BJP's remarks come amid renewed political churn in the Congress after veteran leader Mani Shankar Aiyar publicly distanced himself from Rahul Gandhi, stating, "I am not a Rahulian." Aiyar also made comments predicting a third consecutive term for Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and criticised leaders within his own party, triggering a fresh round of debate over the Congress leadership and internal unity. Reacting to the developments, BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla told IANS that the Congress is facing growing dissent not only from within but also among its allies.



Odisha: CEO launches 3-day drive to enrol left-out eligible voters

Bhubaneswar, Oct 7 : The office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Odisha, on Wednesday announced the launch of a three-day special campaign to facilitate the inclusion of eligible voters left out of the electoral roll during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR)-2026 due to various reasons, as well as newly eligible young voters. The statewide campaign will be held on October 7, 8 and 9 to make the electoral roll more accurate, transparent and updated, the CEO's office said. It also stated that eligible young men and women who have attained the age of 18 years as on October 1, 2026, can

apply for inclusion of their names in the electoral roll through Form 6 with their respective Booth Level Officers (BLOs). Similarly, eligible voters whose names could not be included in the final electoral roll during the SIR-2026 process for any reason can also apply for inclusion during the special campaign. As part of the exercise, lists of deceased, shifted, absent and duplicate voters identified during the SIR process will be made available on the websites of the concerned districts and the CEO, Odisha. The lists will also be provided to representatives of all recognised political parties for verification.

TN: Courtallam waterfalls closed for public as repair work resumes



Tenkasi, Oct 7 : Tourists have been barred from entering the Main Falls at Courtallam in Tamil Nadu's Tenkasi district after authorities resumed repair work that remained unfinished when the previous tourist season began. The reduced water flow has

enabled workers to restart construction at the popular bathing spot. Officials said the work was aimed at strengthening the bathing area and protecting it against damage during floods. Large stones are being installed at the base of the waterfall, where repairs had been interrupted to accommodate visitors during the season. Renovation began last year, when the old arch at the Main Falls was removed. A new, larger arch was subsequently built a short distance away, while stone-laying work was also undertaken on the lower level of the bathing area. However, the arrival of the Courtallam season before the work could be completed prompted authorities to allow tourists to bathe at the falls.

Let them file thousands of FIRs, who's bothered about it : K.C. Venugopal

New Delhi, Oct 7 : Congress MP K.C. Venugopal on Thursday dismissed the FIRs registered against Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, and Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi over protest, saying the party was not afraid of such cases and would continue its fight to protect democracy. "Let them file thousands of FIRs. Who is bothered about it? Let them do it. We are very much proud that we are fighting to retain the democracy of this country," Venugopal told reporters as INDIA bloc MPs gathered for a lunch hosted by Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, a day after the Opposition's protest against the Election Commission. His remarks came after the Gandhi siblings were booked on trespassing charges for allegedly entering Akashwani Bhawan in Central Delhi during Tuesday's protest march against Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar.

Congress MP Pawan Khara also dismissed concerns over the FIRs, saying they were a

"badge of honour" for the party. "Are we afraid of FIRs? FIRs are a badge of honour. We have to sign something, and we will sign it because the Election Commission wants everyone's signatures," Khara said.

"We are here for signing something. The ECI wants signatures from all the people. We will then send the letter," he added.

Congress MP Deepender Singh Hooda said the Opposition's fight to protect democracy and the Constitution would continue.

"Look, we have come for lunch now, and we will have lunch. Our fight is continuing to save democracy and the Constitution. I have been informed that an FIR has been registered, in which our name has also been mentioned."

We are not people who are afraid of FIRs. They should have understood this by now," he said.

Rajya Sabha member Kapil Sibal also criticised the Chief Election Commissioner, alleging that the Election Commission had not shown the courage to meet the Opposition leaders.

"You have seen the conduct of this Chief Election Commissioner when he gave time also... They have no courage to meet," Sibal said. Kharge has invited INDIA bloc MPs for lunch at Sagar Ratna on Janpath. The MPs are also expected to sign a letter seeking a meeting with CEC Gyanesh Kumar.



Invest Telangana Governing Council holds first meeting

Hyderabad, Oct 7 : The newly constituted Invest Telangana Governing Council held its maiden meeting at the Secretariat on Wednesday to outline strategies for accelerating industrial development, attracting major investments, and positioning the State as a premier national investment destination. Chaired by Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju, the high-level meeting brought together senior officials from key government departments to review measures for strengthening Telangana's investor-friendly ecosystem, streamlining speedy statutory clearances, and enhancing industrial infrastructure. Directing officials to aggressively promote Telangana's industrial potential across domestic and international markets, Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju emphasised the need for sustained engagement with existing investors. He instructed line departments to expedite the scrutiny of investment proposals and ensure fast-tracked project execution within committed timelines.

"Invest Telangana must serve as the primary engine to position the State as a leader in industrial growth, investment influx, and job creation, in alignment with the 'Telangana Rising' vision," Sanjay Jaju stated.



Odisha Cabinet approves 8 proposals; pushes gas infra, data governance reforms

Bhubaneswar, Oct 7 : The Odisha Cabinet on Wednesday approved eight key proposals, including the Odisha City Gas Distribution (CGD) Policy, aimed at boosting Piped Natural Gas (PNG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) infrastructure across the state in line with the broader push for clean and sustainable energy. The proposals, spanning eight departments, received Cabinet approval at a meeting held at Lok Seva Bhawan under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Wednesday. Briefing mediapersons after the meeting, Chief Secretary Anu Garg said, "As you all know, following the developments in West Asia, stress is being laid on the use of Piped Natural Gas (PNG)."

CHANGE OF NAME

I. MAILABATHULA PRASAD S/o Chittibabu Resident of Door no - 3-117, Gondi Village, Sakshinipalli Mandal, Dr.B.R Ambedkar konaseema District, A.P. Have changed my name from MYLABATHULA PRASAD (Old name) to MAILABATHULA PRASAD (New name). Hence after all my documents (passport...etc) and correspondence will continue with my new name MAILABATHULA PRASAD.

CHANGE OF NAME

I. RAVI TATAJI S/o Venkata Ratnam, Resident of Door no - 3-38, Ravi Vari Group, Antharvedi village, Sakshinipalli Mandal, Dr .B.R Ambedkar konaseema District, A.P. Have changed my name from TADI CHITTI BABU (Old name) to RAVI TATAJI (New name). Hence after all my documents (passport...etc) and correspondence will continue with my new name RAVI TATAJI.

CHANGE OF NAME

I. MAILABATHULA CHITTIBABU S/o Sambamurthy Resident of Door no - 3-117, Gondi Village, Sakshinipalli Mandal, Dr .B.R Ambedkar konaseema District, A.P. Have changed my name from MYLABATHULA CHITTIBABU (Old name) to MAILABATHULA CHITTIBABU (New name). Hence after all my documents (passport...etc) and correspondence will continue with my new name MAILABATHULA CHITTIBABU.

DPIIT, Mercedes join hands to boost startups, innovators

New Delhi, Oct 7 : The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and Mercedes-Benz India Private Limited on Wednesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to advance India's manufacturing ecosystem, road safety, and

environmental sustainability. The partnership aims to support startups, innovators, and entrepreneurs in achieving technological excellence and fostering societal development, according to an official statement. The collaboration will focus on creating structured programs that

provide startups with infrastructure, mentorship, funding opportunities, and market linkages. The initiative will also facilitate international collaborations.



Structural reforms, e-commerce among key focus areas at GST Council meet

New Delhi, Oct 7 : The GST Council is scheduled to meet on October 8 to take up the next phase of reforms in the indirect tax regime, which include proposals to speed up refunds, make it easier to register companies, and introduce a trust-based administration by taking a large number of offences out of the criminal provisions of the taxation law, according to sources. The proposals focus on five key areas, which include process reforms, structural reforms, ease of doing business, e-commerce and ex-



ports of services. As part of the process reforms in the GST system, refunds are proposed to be acknowledged within 10 days, with 90 per cent released on a risk check after necessary details are

drawn from customs and banking systems in an automated mode in order to further facilitate the ease of doing business.

Time to enhance gender diversity in \$380 billion logistics sector: DPIIT

New Delhi, Oct 7 : A new study by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on Wednesday recommended policy measures to enhance gender diversity in the rapidly growing logistics industry, which is projected to reach \$380 billion by 2026.



NSE stock falls below IPO price, wiping out Rs 41,000 crore in investor wealth

Mumbai, Oct 7 : Less than two weeks after its stock market debut, shares of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) have slipped below their initial public offering (IPO) price, wiping out all listing-day gains and reducing the exchange's market value by nearly Rs 41,000 crore from its peak. NSE shares were listed on the BSE at Rs 1,800 apiece on September 24, a modest premium of less than 1 per cent over the IPO price of Rs 1,785. The stock initially witnessed strong buying interest, rising more than 5 per cent to hit an intra-day high of Rs 1,878 within the first hour of trading. At that level, NSE's market capitalisation touched around Rs 4.64 lakh crore. However, the momentum proved short-lived. The stock has since come under selling pressure, fall-

ing to Rs 1,712 apiece on Monday, its lowest level since listing. The decline leaves the stock nearly 9 per cent below its listing-day high and about 4 per cent below its IPO price. The correction has also impacted NSE's standing among India's most valuable listed companies. With its market capitalisation dropping to around Rs 4.27 lakh crore, the exchange has slipped out of the top 10 most valued firms and now ranks 12th. It trails companies including Reliance Industries, Bharti Airtel, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, TCS, Bajaj Finance, Larsen & Toubro, LIC, Hindustan Unilever and Sun Pharma.



US Appeals Court upholds \$194 million damages against TCS in DXC case

New Delhi, Oct 7 : Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has said that the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit has issued an adverse judgment in a long-standing legal dispute with DXC Technology Company, upholding a previous order that imposed damages on the Indian IT major.

BEL kicks off FY27 with defence orders worth Rs 569 crore

Bengaluru, Oct 7 : Navratna defence public sector undertaking Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has secured orders worth Rs 569 crore, commencing the order acquisition for the current financial year 2026-27. Major orders re-

ceived include avionics, EW systems, high-energy lasers, communication equipment, tank sub-systems, laser-based fuzes, test equipment, upgrades, spares and services, according to a company statement issued on Wednesday. BEL has established a strong position in the defence sector with a total order book of around Rs 74,000 crore as of April 1, 2026. During FY26, BEL secured orders worth roughly Rs 30,000 crore, contributing to a robust revenue increase and a record turnover of

Rs 26,750 crore. The company has also expanded its global footprint, with an export order book of \$495 million and a 33.65 per cent growth in export sales in FY26. BEL is capitalising on emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, advanced electronic warfare, and autonomous platforms. The surge is driven by strong government emphasis on indigenisation (Make in India), reducing import dependence, and enhancing domestic production

capability. BEL on Wednesday signed an MoU with Bit Mapper Integration Technologies Pvt Ltd (BMIT), a global provider of Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) solutions, to collaborate on the design, development and manufacturing of advanced electronic modules, sub-systems, and systems for defence electronics and aerospace, specifically targeting critical technology domains such as electronic warfare (EW), naval radars, and drones. This strategic partnership



aims to strengthen efforts towards fostering indigenous design and production capabilities in advanced technology domains critical to national defence. BEL, a Navratna PSU under the Ministry of Defence, is a leader in India's defence and strategic electronics sector. BEL is a multi-product, multi-technology, multi-unit enterprise with a portfolio of over 600 products.

India expands financial footprint in Africa with new \$100 mn loan: Report

New Delhi, Oct 7 : India is expanding its financial footprint in Africa through strategic lending and trade partnerships and its Export-Import Bank lent Africa Finance Corporation (AFC) a \$100 million five-year loan, a new report has said. The report from Business Insider Africa said the loan underlined India's expanding financial footprint in Africa, where New Delhi has been increasing trade, investment and export-credit support competing with China, Europe, Gulf states and the United States for influence and commercial ties. The loan to AFC will provide fresh medium-term liquidity to support infrastructure and industrial projects across the continent amid higher borrowing costs for Africa due to tighter global capital markets. "The facility, signed during AFC's Investor Day in London, adds medium-term liquidity to the Lagos-based institution as many African borrowers continue to face el-

evated interest rates, weaker currencies and cautious international investors," the report said. The loan followed a similar \$100 million arrangement from EXIM bank in 2021 and is intended to help close Africa's large infrastructure financing gap. The deal also highlighted India's growing financial and commercial interest in Africa, where demand for roads, ports, power plants, rail lines, digital networks and industrial facilities continues to outpace available capital, according to the report. "This facility is an important milestone in our long-standing partnership with India Exim Bank and reflects our shared commitment to advancing infrastructure develop-

ment across Africa," Banji Fehintola, AFC executive board member and head of financial services was quoted as saying. Indian companies are already active across Africa in pharmaceuticals, agriculture, technology, manufacturing, mining and energy sectors with African economies rely on India as an alternative pool of capital and expertise to fuel faster industrial growth. The African Development Bank has previously estimated the continent requires \$130 billion to \$170 billion worth of funds annually for infrastructure, with a financing shortfall of up to \$108 billion each year.



High-level meeting on textiles industry stresses on integrated value chain to spur growth

New Delhi, Oct 7 : The Development Council for Textile Industry (DCTI), at its first meeting held here, on Wednesday, underlined the need for a coordinated, whole-of-value-chain approach towards production, innovation, and global market access for India's textile sector. Textiles Secretary Neelam Shami Rao, as the Chairperson of the meeting, highlighted that the textiles and apparel sector continues to be among the largest employment generators and export earners for the country. The deliberations at the meeting focused on capacity addition, modernisation, scale, and cost competitiveness across the fibre,

yarn, fabric, processing, and apparel segments, with emphasis on addressing gaps across the value chain in the textiles industry. Strengthening industry-research linkages, fostering innovation in new-age fibres and technical textiles, and facilitating faster commercialisation of R&D through Research associations and institutions was also taken up for discussion. Besides, the meeting emphasised diversification of products and markets, leveraging trade agreements, and addressing quality, compliance and logistics-related constraints faced by exporters. Ensuring stable and competitive availability of cotton, man-made

fibres, yarn, dyes and chemicals, supported by effective market intelligence and promoting ease of doing business, strengthening support for MSMEs, workforce skilling, and adoption of sustainable and circular practices were other areas that were taken up for discussion. Members shared sector-specific suggestions on these themes and welcomed the institutionalised industry-government interface provided by the Council. The Council agreed to constitute working groups on priority themes and to meet at regular intervals to review progress. Its recommendations will inform the Ministry's policy and programme interventions and are aimed at higher domestic production, improved productivity and a more integrated, scale-oriented value chain.

From India to Global South: Gujarat’s water governance model offers lessons for world

New Delhi, Oct 7 : A new case study, “From Gujarat to India: Water Lessons for the World”, tracing 25 years of India’s water governance journey, is in the spotlight for its resounding success in water conservation and management as the world stares at a looming crisis over the limited supply of safe and fresh potable water. The case study documents the evolution of water governance in Gujarat and India between 2001 and 2026, and also the scale of reforms undertaken, first at the local level and then scaled up nationally, in the past 25 years, under the stewardship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The study draws four lessons for the Global South: strong governance, integrated water-resource management, community ownership and ambitious implementation backed by political will and financing. The case study “From Gujarat to India: Water Lessons for the World” has been authored by Daniel W. Smith of George Mason University, a key academic partner in the study, along with Nitin Bassi and Parameswaran Iyer. In the past decade, India has seen



the launch of some of the world’s largest and finest programs for improvement in water governance, rejuvenating rivers, increasing access to water and sanitation, and enabling community-driven water conservation. The foundation for this began in 2001 after the then Gujarat CM Narendra Modi initiated big-ticket water governance reforms in coordination with George Mason University, a globally renowned research institution. Programs like Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Jal Shakti Abhiyan, Namami Gange, Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABY), and Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) were launched, which later got replicated nationally after 2014, shaping India’s broader water-governance framework. The case study was launched at IIM Bangalore on Tuesday, tracking the 25-year journey that began under Chief Minister Modi in Gujarat in 2001, when the state stared at recurrent droughts and water scarcity. It documents the transition from a ‘water-scarce to water-abundant’ state on the back of several reforms, including groundwater recharge, improved water-use efficiency, institutional reform, and community participation.

Sambhar Lake has potential similar to Gujarat’s Rann of Kutch: Rajasthan CM

Jaipur, Oct 7 : Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma on Wednesday said that Sambhar Lake, located near Jaipur, has the potential to become a major tourist attraction similar to Gujarat’s Rann of Kutch. Given the significant participation of domestic and international tourists in the Sambhar Festival, he instructed officials to develop more facilities and increase its promotion. Chief Minister Sharma also reaffirmed the state government’s commitment to preserving Rajasthan’s cultural, religious, and historical heritage while ensuring its development. He emphasised that Rajasthan holds immense potential for religious and cultural tourism, which, along with con-

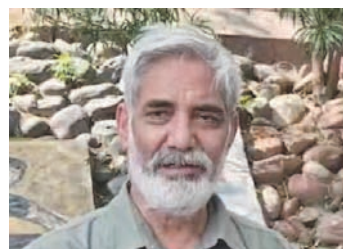
servaion efforts, will boost the tourism sector and generate employment opportunities. He was chairing a review meeting on Tuesday at the Chief Minister’s residence, Sharma stated, “Conserving our heritage while advancing development is our primary goal. We are dedicated to restoring temples and promoting religious tourism in the state.” He also stressed the importance of familiarising the younger generation with Rajasthan’s rich historical and religious legacy and sug-



gested that school students be taken on regular tours of iconic monuments and sites. The Chief Minister said that in the Sankalp Patra, it was announced to develop Braj Chaurasi Circuit as devotional tourism.

Twisha’s father alleges initial probe was influenced, expresses faith in CBI probe

Bhopal, Oct 7 : Twisha Sharma’s family on Wednesday reiterated their allegations of institutional bias and procedural lapses in the initial investigation into the former model and actor’s death, while expressing confidence in the ongoing Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe. Speaking to IANS after attending proceedings in a Bhopal court, Twisha’s father, Navnidhi Sharma, said the family had consistently maintained that the investigation was affected by the influence of retired district judge Giribala Singh, one of the accused in the case. “Our stand from day one has been that there was institutional bias and procedural irregularity in the investigation due to Giribala Singh’s influence. These concerns were not raised recently; we have been saying this from the beginning,” Sharma told IANS. Navnidhi Sharma and Twisha’s brother, Major Harshit Sharma, travelled from Delhi to Bhopal to attend the hearing, during which the court reviewed the status of the ongoing investigation. Despite the family’s concerns regarding the earlier stages of the probe, Sharma said they were satisfied with the manner in which the CBI was now conducting the investigation. “We are sat-



isfied with the CBI investigation and hope that Twisha will get justice. The agency is carrying out its work, and we are confident that the facts will emerge through the legal process,” he said. Sharma also emphasised that the family was exercising restraint in its public comments regarding the case. “We are strictly adhering to the Supreme Court’s guidelines and refraining from making statements that could influence the proceedings. We respect the judicial process and want the investigation to continue without any external pressure,” he told IANS.



TN CM inaugurates Aavin laboratory annex building in Chennai

Chennai, Oct 7: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Joseph Vijay inaugurated an additional building for Aavin’s Central Laboratory, constructed at a cost of Rs 2.23 crore, at the Madhavaram dairy complex in Chennai on Wednesday. The Chief Minister also inspected the operations of the Aavin Central Dairy and reviewed various activities being carried out at the facility, including milk procurement, processing and distribution. During the visit, Vijay sought detailed information from officials on the arrangements for supplying packaged milk to different parts of Chennai.



BJP’s 20-year rule drove MP into debt trap, alleges Kamal Nath; claims revenue dip

Bhopal, Oct 7 : Senior Congress leader and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath on Wednesday criticised the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party, alleging that the state’s economic condition has worsened under its governance. He claimed that the BJP’s administrative approach over the past two decades has pushed Madhya Pradesh into a huge debt trap and that the government has failed to generate adequate revenue from its own sources. Referring to recent assessments on the state’s share of central taxes, Kamal Nath expressed concern that receipts could steadily decline over the next five years.

Bengal fake doctor held at Delhi Airport in child death case

Kolkata, Oct 7 : A man accused of posing as a doctor and allegedly causing the death of a four-year-old child following a surgical procedure in West Bengal’s East Burdwan district has been arrested at Delhi airport, Bengal police said on Wednesday. It is alleged that the accused, identified as Sheikh Saidul Haque, operated on a four-year-old child in a hospital in the Nawabhat area of East Burdwan district a few days ago.



Ahmedabad Crime Branch returns 410 lost mobile phones worth Rs 63.15 lakh to owners

Ahmedabad, Oct 7 : The Ahmedabad Crime Branch on Wednesday traced and returned 410 lost mobile phones worth more than Rs 63 lakh to their rightful owners as part of the ‘Tera Tujh Ko Arpan’ programme, a property restitution initiative aimed at reuniting citizens with recovered belongings. Police said mobile phone thefts, snatchings and cases of misplaced devices continue to be re-

ported across different parts of Ahmedabad. In response to the large number of complaints relating to lost mobile phones, the Crime Branch launched a dedicated drive to trace missing devices and return them to their owners. During the campaign, investigators used data available



through the Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR).

Coriander prices crash to Rs 1/kg in Multai; farmers destroy standing crop

Bhopal, Oct 7 : Farmers in the Multai region of Betul district in Madhya Pradesh are facing severe distress after coriander prices plummeted to as low as Rs 1 per kg, forcing many to destroy their ready crop instead of harvesting it. Unable to recover even the basic input cost of production, cultivators in villages including Duni, Sipawa, Barkheda and Mohi have started running cultivators over standing coriander fields. Hundreds of acres of mature crop are being destroyed in this manner. Farmers say selling at the current market rate does not cover the expenses of harvesting,

labour, packing and transportation. Farmers from the affected villages told IANS that mandi prices have crashed to Rs 1 per kg. At this rate, they cannot recover the cost of cultivation, packaging, handling or transport. “What is the point of spending money on labour and transport when the crop will not even fetch the cost of harvesting?” asked one farmer. Photographs and videos circulating on social media show cultivators flattening green fields of coriander, underscoring the scale of the crisis. The sharp fall in prices has left growers in deep financial trouble. Many had invested significant

amounts in seeds, fertilisers, irrigation and labour, only to find the market offering rates far below production costs. With no remunerative return in sight, destroying the crop has become a desperate last resort for several families. Speaking to IANS, District Collector Saurabh Sanjay Sonwane said the matter had not yet come to his notice, but assured that possible support would be extended if the situation is confirmed. Farmers are demanding that the government announce a minimum support price (MSP) mechanism for coriander to protect them from such extreme price volatility. They argue that without assured procurement or price stabilisation

measures, spice crops like coriander remain highly vulnerable to market fluctuations. The destruction of standing crops represents not only a direct loss to farmers but also raises concerns about wastage of agricultural produce. Multai is not a major coriander-producing area. Guna and Neemuch are considered the principal production centres in Madhya Pradesh, with Guna known for its ‘Kumbhraj’ variety, which is also exported to certain countries, according to the Economic Survey of Madhya Pradesh (2025-26). Total coriander production of Madhya Pradesh stood at 4,84,787.87 tonnes from an acre-



age of 1,17,498.65 hectares according to the first estimate of 2024-25, as noted in the Economic Survey 2025-26. The Economic Survey notes that the total area under spices rose from 9.07 lakh hectares in 2023-24 to 9.42 lakh

hectares in 2024-25, while production increased from 55.38 lakh metric tonnes to 57.43 lakh metric tonnes. The major spices produced in the state are red chilli, garlic, coriander and ginger.

Taiwan Foreign Ministry slams China for blocking participation in Kenya conference

Taipei, Oct 7 : Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) on Wednesday slammed China for pressuring Kenya to block Taiwan's participation in 11th 'Our Ocean Conference', local media reported. The ministry stated that Taiwanese academics travelled to Mombasa on Sunday at the in-

itation of the Kenyan government to attend a preconference academic exchange and present research. According to the ministry, the organisers did not issue entry badges to the academics at the venue, saying that Taiwanese passports are not recognised, Taiwan-based Taipei Times reported. The ministry said that the mobiles



North Korean, Russian public security chiefs discuss closer cooperation

Seoul, Oct 7 : North Korea's public security minister and Russia's interior minister have held talks on boosting exchanges and cooperation on law enforcement, the North's state media said Wednesday, amid deepening bilateral ties between the two nations. Russian Internal Affairs Minister Vladimir Kolokoltsev and North Korea's Public Security Minister Pang Tu-sop shared their countries' experiences and accomplishments on law enforcement during their talks in Pyongyang the previous day, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said. Also discussed was the expansion of exchanges and cooperation between



the two ministries, the KCNA reported. In a separate message on Telegram, Irina Volk, spokesperson for the Russian ministry, quoted Kolokoltsev as noting the seriousness of drug trafficking during the meeting. He called for the two

countries to share information on cases or individuals involved in drug smuggling. Kolokoltsev also invited Pang to visit Moscow and, after the meeting, observed a shooting training session by agents of the North Korean ministry, according to the Telegram channel.



Indian Ambassador to US hosts COAS Gen Dwivedi ahead of upcoming engagements in Washington DC

New Delhi, Oct 7 : Indian Ambassador to the US, Vinay Mohan Kwatra, on Wednesday hosted Chief of Army Staff, General Upendra Dwivedi, at India House ahead of his upcoming engagements in Washington DC.

Pakistan : Police arrests 35 Afghan migrants during raids in Peshawar

Islamabad, Oct 7 : Police in Pakistan arrested 35 Afghan migrants during inspection raids carried out in Peshawar over the past week, local media reported on Wednesday. As per the details, police conducted 41 search and inspection operations in different parts of Peshawar during the past week. During the operations, 35 undocumented Afghan nationals in Pakistan were deported, Pakistan's Samaa TV reported. Police also detained 233 suspected individuals and legal proceedings were initiated against them. During the operations, police lodged 148 cases against criminal elements and recovered illegal weapons, the channel reported. Last week, local media reported that police has intensified its crackdown on undocumented foreigners in Pakistan, with 5,439 illegal Afghan nationals detained in a holding centre in Rawalpindi. Furthermore, 19 individuals have been reported missing from the centre since the government's deadline of March 31 last year to leave Pakistan voluntarily expired.



US open to expanding security role in Iceland

Washington, Oct 7 : The United States is open to expanding security cooperation with Iceland as Washington sharpens its focus on the Arctic amid threats to undersea cables, shipping lanes and the wider High North, Secretary of State Marco Rubio said. Rubio said Iceland's geographic position makes the country critical to the defence of both Europe and the United States. He said Washington would consider additional cooperation if it made sense for both countries. "We would be open to having

those conversations to see what more we can do together," Rubio said during a joint media availability with Icelandic Foreign Minister Thorgerdur Katrin Gunnarsdottir in Reykjavik. "I know there's interest in doing more together. And obviously, if there's opportunities that make sense for both countries, it's something we would pursue." Rubio was responding to a question about whether the United States planned to increase its military presence, surveillance or other security operations in Ice-

land following an agreement involving the US, Greenland and Denmark. He stressed that Washington would act in cooperation with Iceland. "We would never do anything without cooperating with officials here about what's available," Rubio said. He said Iceland could contribute infrastructure, technology, surveillance capabilities and domain awareness to wider security efforts. The US maintained an enduring presence in Iceland until 2006, when forces were shifted to other regions. Rubio said the interna-

tional security environment had changed significantly since then. "The reality of it is the world has changed over the last 20 years," he said. "There's a lot of focus on the Arctic. I think Iceland plays a very critical role in the defense of NATO writ large." Rubio said Iceland's location was important not only to European security but also to protecting the United States. "I think Iceland and its location plays a critical role in the defense both of Europe, but also of the homeland of the United States



because of geography," he said. Rubio also broadened his warning beyond conventional military challenges, pointing to vulnerabilities across the Arctic. "We're all concerned about what's

happening in the high North and in the Arctic region, both from irregular measures, covert measures that are happening, but also threats to undersea cables, threats to shipping lanes," he said.



Turkey summons Iranian envoy amid diplomatic tension

Ankara, Oct 7 : The Turkish Foreign Ministry has summoned Iran's charge d'affaires in Ankara in response to Tehran's criticism of Turkish foreign policy, Ministry spokesperson Oncu Keceli said on Wednesday. The move came a day after Iran's Foreign Ministry summoned Turkey's ambassador following Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan's warning to Tehran against actions that could undermine Syria's stability. Keceli told reporters that during the talks with Iran's envoy, bilateral issues were discussed, including "some Iranian officials' accusations against Turkey". He said, "We believe that critical messages between countries should be conveyed directly to the relevant parties, which is the approach we followed today,"

slamming "certain" Iranian officials' "frequent criticism" of Turkey in public recently. Despite the diplomatic tension, Keceli reaffirmed the importance Turkey has placed on its relations with Iran, saying, "Strengthening ties with Iran remains a priority for us." The tension between the two countries has brewed after Fidan, in an interview with Al Jazeera Arabic on Wednesday, criticised Iran's regional policies, particularly its reliance on militias in Syria and Iraq, urging Iran to reconsider its strategy. In response, Iran's Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmail Baghaei on Monday described Fidan's comments as "unconstructive," calling on Turkish authorities to think more about the outcomes and impacts of their policies.

US senator targets H-1B green card pathway

Washington, Oct 7 : A Republican US senator sought tougher recruitment rules for employers sponsoring foreign workers for permanent residency, proposing changes that could carry significant consequences for Indian technology professionals. Indians accounted for 70 per cent of all approved H-1B petitions in fiscal 2025, according to the latest US Citizenship and Immigration Services report. Many follow a pathway from student visas and Optional Practical Training to H-1B employment and employer-sponsored permanent residency. Senator Eric Schmitt of Missouri asked Acting Labor Secretary Keith Sonderling to modernise the Program Electronic Review Management, or PERM, process. Employers generally use PERM as the first stage of sponsoring a foreign employee for an employment-based green card. "Abuse of the PERM and H-1B programs allow corporations to replace American workers with cheaper foreign labor," Schmitt wrote. "The Department should end that abuse and restore the regulations' supposed purpose.



Blast inside mine kills two in Afghanistan's Badakhshan

Kabul, Oct 7 : Two miners were killed and two others sustained injuries due to a blast inside a mine in the northern Afghanistan's Badakhshan province, provincial police spokesman Ehsanullah Kamgar said Wednesday. The accident occurred in Ragistan district on Wednesday afternoon, leaving two dead on the spot and injuring two others, the official added without furnishing more details, Xinhua News Agency reported. It was the second accident of its kind in Afghanistan over the past week. In the previous accident, one miner lost his life and another was injured as the tunnel of a mine collapsed. In post-war Afghanistan, the miners often extract the underground treasures with old-fashioned traditional instruments and a lack of safety measures, which sometimes leads to disaster and fatalities. On February 10, one person was killed and another injured in a mine collapse in Nangarhar province of Afghanistan, local media reported citing local police officials. In a statement on Feb-

ruary 11, the provincial police headquarters stated that the incident took place at a sapphire mine in the Mamand Tor Nawo area of Spin Ghar district, Pajhwok Afghan News reported. According to the statement, one person was killed while another was injured after they were buried under debris and rocks. Security forces took the injured person to the nearby health care facility for medical treatment. On January 9, at least four miners died from carbon monoxide poisoning in a precious and semi-precious stones mine in Khash district of Badakhshan, provincial police spokesman Ehsanullah Kamgar told Xinhua News Agency.





Arunachal govt launches deregulation drive to boost investment

Itanagar, Oct 7 : The Arunachal Pradesh government has undertaken one of the most extensive deregulation exercises in its history, introducing reforms aimed at reducing compliance burdens, attracting investments and improving the ease of doing business in the northeastern State, officials said on Wednesday.

NFR reviews monsoon preparedness, strengthens safety measures along rail sections

Guwahati, Oct 7 : The North-east Frontier Railway (NFR) has undertaken a comprehensive review of its ongoing safety drive and infrastructural preparedness, particularly in anticipation of the four-month-long monsoon season from June to September, officials said on Wednesday. NFR Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) Kapinjal Kishore Sharma stated that NFR General Manager Chetan Kumar Shrivastava conducted an extensive inspection of the Bairabi (along the Assam-

Mizoram border)—Badarpur and Badarpur—Patharkhola sections under the Lumding Division. He noted that the inspection was part of a broader initiative to assess safety measures and evaluate infrastructural readiness ahead of the monsoon season. During the visit, a detailed window-trailing inspection of railway tracks was carried out to examine track fitness and the structural integrity of these sections, Sharma added. According to the NFR Chief Public Relations Officer, this exercise plays a crucial role in identifying potential vulner-

abilities and ensuring the resilience of railway infrastructure against monsoon-related challenges such as waterlogging, soil erosion, and track instability. The General Manager also reviewed key safety parameters and directed officials to ensure stringent monitoring and timely maintenance interventions.



Assam, Arunachal to intensify talks on border issues: Atul Bora

Guwahati, Oct 7 : Assam Minister and Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) President Atul Bora on Wednesday said Assam and Arunachal Pradesh would continue discussions to resolve the remaining issues along their inter-state boundary, noting that significant progress has already been achieved in recent years. Speaking to reporters, Bora said both States have made headway in settling several disputed areas and expressed optimism that unresolved issues could also be addressed through dialogue and cooperation. “Our objective is to discuss the pending matters and move forward together. Several contentious points have already been resolved, but some issues remain, and these will have to be discussed further,” he said. He noted that Assam and Arunachal Pradesh have already begun work in several areas where disputes have been defused, adding that both governments are committed to carrying forward the process positively.

Cyber Cell busts key links in Rs 2.35 crore online investment scam

New Delhi, Oct 7 : In a significant strike against cyber-enabled financial crime, the Cyber Cell of the Crime Branch, Delhi Police, has arrested two alleged facilitators of a sprawling Rs 2.35 crore online investment scam that operated under the name "Stock Market", the Delhi Police said on Wednesday. The arrested accused have been identified as Sajjad Ahmad (35) and Uttam Mandal (40). The arrests follow months of technical tracking, financial analysis and cross-state coordination in a case registered under FIR No. 50/2025 at Special Cell, Delhi. "The accused acted as professional account providers, and facilitators.



Bengal allots Rs 197 crore honorarium for staff engaged in Census-2027

Kolkata, Oct 7 : The West Bengal government has sanctioned around Rs 197.20 crore as honorarium for state government employees who will be engaged in the second phase of the Census 2027 exercise, officials said. According to sources at the state secretariat, Nabanna, the funds have been allocated to 22 districts and seven municipal corporations across the state. The amount will be electronically transferred to the bank accounts of the respective Chief Census Officers for further disbursement. “Instructions have been issued by the Census Cell of the state Home & Hill Affairs Department. The amount will be deposited electronically in the respective bank accounts of the 'Chief Census Officers' of the districts and municipal corporations,” the state government official said. Officials said the allocation covers honorarium payments for personnel involved in the Census exercise, including state government employees and teachers of state-

run schools who will carry out census duties alongside their regular responsibilities. The honorarium will be credited directly to their bank accounts. The Census process in West Bengal is being conducted in two phases. While the first phase, comprising house listing and housing census, has already been completed, the second phase involving population enumeration and caste-based enumeration is scheduled to begin in February 2027. “In the second phase, population enumeration and caste-based enumeration will be conducted, which will start in February 2027. The government employees and teachers in different state-run schools are engaged in this process. They will have to conduct this Census work side-by-side with their regular duties. Therefore, this money will be given directly to their bank accounts,” the state government official said.

Every citizen should play role of 'Vasundhara Rakshak' for environmental conservation : Maha minister

Mumbai, Oct 7 : Amid increasing pollution, changing climate, and rapid urbanisation, Maharashtra Environment and Climate Change Minister Pankaja Munde on Wednesday appealed that every citizen should come forward as a 'Vasundhara Rakshak' (Protector of the Earth or Guardian of the Land) for environmental conservation. She expressed her resolve to make the concept of

'Vasundhara Rakshak' not just an initiative but a mass movement. On the occasion of World Earth Day, Minister Munde launched the 'Vasundhara Rakshak Abhiyan 2026'.



J&K L-G inaugurates Rs 200 crore Eveready unit in Samba

Jammu, Oct 7 : J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday inaugurated Eveready Industries India Limited's new industrial unit in Samba. The plant, established with an investment of Rs 200 crore, will create local jobs, boost ancillary units, suppliers, and service providers, promote skill development, generate opportunities for women, and make a significant contribution to the economic development of Jammu and Kashmir. The J&K L-G said that

the inauguration of Eveready's plant, along with the changed atmosphere in the Union Territory, reflects the sustained efforts of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, under whose leadership a new destiny has been written for Jammu and Kashmir. He added that the Prime Minister's vision has turned the dream of a prosperous Jammu and Kashmir into reality. He observed that across Samba, Kathua, Jammu, and many parts of Kashmir, the industrial revolution underway today is a living symbol of a new era for Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that in the past five years, the scale of industrial development has moved beyond mere economic figures and has become the most powerful medium of transformation across Jammu and Kashmir. He said that establishing this esteemed company's plant is a landmark moment for the entire Jammu and Kashmir. He added that it signals readiness to embrace opportunity, serve the nation, and light the way to the future, and also reflects strong confidence in the immense potential of Jammu and Kashmir. Addressing a gathering after the inauguration ceremony, the



J&K L-G shared key figures to highlight the industrial transformation of Jammu and Kashmir since the launch of the New Industrial Policy in 2021. He said that in the financial year 2025-26 alone, Jammu and Kashmir attracted investment of Rs 5,824 crore, more than 13 times the average investment recorded before 2021.

Rajasthan Police team attacked in Sawai Madhopur by sand mafia

Jaipur, Oct 7 : A series of attacks on teams taking action against illegal sand and gravel mining in Rajasthan show no signs of abating, as a few days after the alleged killing of a forest ranger in Pratapgarh, another incident has been reported from Sawai Madhopur, where a tractor-trolley allegedly carrying illegally mined gravel struck a police constable attempting to stop it. A police constable was seriously injured after being struck by a tractor-trolley allegedly carrying illegally mined gravel in Rajasthan's Sawai Madhopur district. An elderly woman was also injured in the incident, which took place in the Chauth Ka Barwara police station area. According to police, Constable Surendra Singh and other personnel from the Chauth Ka Barwara police station were returning from a routine patrol on Tuesday morning. At around 9 a.m., while the team was on Bhedola Road, they noticed a suspicious tractor-trolley approaching at high speed from the direction of Chauth Ka Barwara. Surendra Singh signalled the driver to stop. Instead of slowing down, the driver allegedly accelerated and struck the constable. Singh fell onto the road, after which the vehicle's wheel ran over his leg, leaving him seriously injured. An approximately 85-year-old woman, identified as Jumi, was also struck as she was walking along the roadside carrying fodder for livestock. The driver fled the spot with the tractor-trolley following the incident. With the help of



local residents and police personnel, both injured persons were taken to a nearby Community Health Centre (CHC). After receiving first aid, the critically injured constable was referred to the district hospital and later shifted to Jaipur for further treatment. Ajit Kumar, Station House Officer of Chauth Ka Barwara police station, said a case has been registered in connection with the incident, including the alleged attempt to run over the constable and the illegal mining and transportation of gravel. Police teams are conducting raids in the surrounding areas to locate the absconding driver. The incident comes amid heightened judicial scrutiny of illegal gravel mining in the Chambal river region. The Supreme Court recently granted Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh two weeks to comply with directions concerning the ban on illegal mining in the Chambal region and to submit compliance reports. A bench comprising Justice Vikram Nath, Justice Augustine George Masih and Justice Sandeep Mehta is hearing the matter. During the proceedings, the Rajasthan government also submitted a report detailing action taken following the death of Forest Ranger Pratap Singh Chundawat, who was allegedly run over by a dumper truck while attempting to stop illegal mining in Pratapgarh on the night of September 21.



Kerala: NIA arrests three more in Malappuram explosives case

Malappuram, Oct 7 : The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday arrested three more accused in connection with the seizure of a huge quantity of illegal explosives in Malappuram district of Kerala, taking the total number of arrests in the case to 11. The accused arrested today have been identified as Mantagoud Biradar, Bagagoud Bheeramaya Choudri and Prakash Gauda Biradar. All three, natives of Vijayapura district in Karnataka, were arrested from Vijayapura. The case relates to the seizure of 89,600 explosive sticks and 10,500 NONEL shock tubes by the Kerala Police on February 7, 2026. The explosives were found loaded in a lorry bearing registration number KL 10 BF 8395, parked in the compound of Farha Hollow Bricks Company, opposite the Indian Oil petrol pump on the Chemmad-Thalappara Road in Malappuram district. The explosive consignment comprised 89,600 sticks packed in 448 boxes and 10,500 shock tubes (NONEL).

Qatar says negotiations, message exchanges ongoing to end regional conflict

Doha, Oct 7: Qatar said Tuesday that negotiations and exchanges of messages among parties to the regional conflict are continuing through Doha and its regional partners. Ibrahim bin Sultan Al-Hashmi, director of the media and communications department at Qatar's Foreign Ministry, said at a weekly media briefing that Doha could not disclose details of the ongoing diplomatic exchanges but confirmed that talks were continuing. Xinhua News Agency reported. "The scale of this conflict and the magnitude of

the price that the whole world is paying require us to put our best efforts to end this immediately through a negotiable solution on the negotiation table," Al-Hashmi said. He added that negotiations had taken into consideration the concerns of the various parties, without specifying details. The remarks came as the conflict between the United States and Iran has dragged on for more than seven months, with no breakthrough in sight. US President Donald Trump has warned that Iran would "suffer greatly" if it was behind threats that prompted Washington to

move military assets from Britain, even as he said he remained open to direct talks with Tehran. Trump, speaking to reporters before departing aboard Marine One, addressed Iran several times as he fielded questions about the movement of US bombers, tensions in the Middle East, energy supplies and an attack involving Flydubai. Asked whether a specific threat had prompted the United States to pull bombers back from Britain, Trump confirmed there had been threats.



Italy vows not to ease temporary restrictions on third-country nationals from Spain

Rome, Oct 7 : Italy will not reverse its decision to temporarily suspend the application of the Schengen Agreement for third-country nationals arriving from Spain until at least August 15 amid national security and border control concerns, the Italian government said on Wednesday. The government said Italy "does not accept ultimatums or external pressure" on matters concerning national security and border management. The temporary measure will remain in place until authorities are certain that there are no security or terrorism risks to Italy, no new large-scale migration waves toward Europe, and no irregular migrants heading to Italian territory via Spain, the government said. Italian authorities noted that Spanish officials have warned of a possible new wave of migrant arrivals in the Spanish enclave of Ceuta around August 15, adding that the situation will be reassessed only after related security risks have been ruled out, Xinhua News Agency reported. The government stressed that the measure is not directed against Spain, describing it as "a friendly country." It added that Italy had adopted similar tem-



porary border measures in the past, including with Slovenia, while other European countries had also imposed comparable controls on Italy and Spain. Italy said it remains ready to maintain constructive dialogue with the Spanish government once the current security concerns subside. The government also said the temporary controls do not apply to Spanish or other European Union citizens travelling by air or sea, and that Italian border authorities will seek to minimise disruptions to legitimate cross-border travel. The dispute came after Italy announced recently that it would temporarily reintroduce border controls for third-country nationals entering from Spain under the Schengen framework, citing concerns over irregular migration and potential security risks linked to migration flows through Spain. The move prompted objections from Madrid, as it argued that the measure was disproportionate and inconsistent with the Schengen area's principle of free movement.

India hands over military equipment to Sri Lanka, strengthening partnerships



Colombo, Oct 7 : The High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka on Wednesday handed over military equipment to the Sri Lankan Army for their United Nations deployment under a grant of 5.5 million USD. "Strengthening India-Sri Lanka defence bonds and enhancing operational readiness. Happy to hand over military stores from the Indian Army to the Sri Lankan Army for their UN deployment under a grant of 5.5 million USD," Santosh Jha, the High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka, wrote on X.

"On Sri Lanka's request, India immediately mobilised these equipment for Sri Lanka's UN deployment- a testament to the confidence and trust in our defence relations," he added. In April, India handed over two Personal Watercrafts (PWCs) and safety gear to the Sri Lanka Coast Guard. The Indian government is assisting in enhancing the Sri Lanka Coast Guard's capability in near-shore Search and Rescue (SAR), the High Commission of India in Colombo said on its X handle. The Defence Advisor of the High Commission handed over the equipment to the Director of Operations in a ceremony held at the Sri Lanka Coast Guard Headquarters in Mirissa. As part of its continuous humanitarian outreach, India, on April 24, presented two BHISM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita and Maitri) cubes to the Sri Lankan authorities under India's 'Aarogya Maitri' initiative.

Global climate cooperation holds firm despite turbulent geopolitics: UN climate chief

Belem (Brazil), Oct 7 : Global climate cooperation remains active and resilient despite an adverse political environment, UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Simon Stiell has said. "We knew this COP would take place in stormy political waters. Denial, division and geopolitics have dealt international cooperation heavy blows this year," Stiell said in a statement assessing the results of the 30th UN Climate Change Conference.



Romanian parliament rejects no-confidence motion against PM Ciolacu

Bucharest, Oct 7 : The Romanian Parliament rejected a motion of no confidence against Prime Minister Marcel Ciolacu's government on Wednesday. The motion, initiated Wednesday by opposition parties Alliance for the Union of Romanians (AUR), S.O.S. Romania, and the Party of Young People (POT), received 147 votes in favour and one against, falling short of the 233 votes needed for adoption. Lawmakers from

the ruling Social Democratic Party (PSD), the National Liberal Party (PNL), the Union Save Romania (USR), the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (UDMR), and minority groups abstained from voting. Under Romania's Constitution, lawmakers who supported the failed motion cannot initiate another in the same parliamentary session unless the government assumes responsibility under Article 114. The motion argued that the government imposed by former President Klaus Iohannis, who had resigned in early February after being in power for only two months, has no legitimacy and is marked by abuses and failures, Xinhua news agency reported. The motion also links Prime Minister Ciolacu and his cabinet to the Nordis scandal, alleging a massive fraud affecting nearly 1,000 Ro-

manians. Entitled "Prime Minister NORDIS must go, Romanians are tired of humiliation," the motion was backed by non-affiliated MPs, and one representative from ethnic minorities, according to AUR leader George Simion. "We no longer want corruption, we no longer want Iliescu's successors in power," Simion had said earlier this week, urging broader support from minority lawmakers. The motion came amid escalating political tensions, with opposition leaders accusing the government of undermining democracy. Prime Minister Ciolacu's coalition government was sworn in on December 23, 2024, after securing a parliamentary vote of confidence.

Iraqi militia umbrella group says 'postpones' retaliation against US forces

Baghdad, Oct 7 : The Islamic Resistance in Iraq, an umbrella group for Iraq's pro-Iranian militias, has said it had postponed a planned retaliation against US and Saudi forces. A statement by the group said the decision was in response to calls from Shiite political leaders. The group had demanded the Iraqi government take firm diplomatic or security action regarding joint US-Saudi airstrikes on July 29, which targeted sites of Iraq's Popular Mobilization Forces, a coalition of primarily Shiite militias, leaving 20 dead. The group had previously threatened to launch retaliatory attacks if the government failed to adopt an official stance against the strikes. A deadline it set expired on Wednesday, reports Xinhua news agency. Saudi Arabia said on July 27 that it intercepted drones launched from Iraq that attempted to target its oil facilities. Saudi Arabia responded by launching the airstrikes along with the United States, which has long sought to curb pro-Iranian militias in Iraq.



Unmanned Navy push gains urgency in US

Washington, Oct 7 : US lawmakers have urged the Navy to speed up the deployment of unmanned surface vessels, warning that delays could leave the United States trailing adversaries adopting autonomous systems at a pace. Opening a Senate Seapower subcommittee hearing on Wednesday, Senator Rick Scott said the Navy "must move decisively to integrate unmanned systems into the fight" and warned it "appears... late to the game already," pointing to lessons from the war in Ukraine. Scott said unmanned vessels can "extend our reach, reduce risks to American sailors and Marines... and give us the edge we need."



Pakistan: BYC leaders stage sit-in inside Quetta jail over 'faceless trial'

Quetta, Oct 7 : Human rights body Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC) leaders staged a sit-in inside Huda jail in Balochistan's capital Quetta, protesting against what they described as a "faceless trial," calling the proceedings "unconstitutional, illegal," and in violation of the basic principles of transparent justice. In a statement shared on its social media platform X, the BYC said that the protest entered its third consecutive day on Wednesday.

146 riders from 21 countries register for ISRL season 3

New Delhi, Oct 7 : The Indian Supercross Racing League (ISRL) has received registrations from 146 riders representing 21 countries for its third season, with a strong international field set to compete alongside India's leading Supercross talent. The franchise-based Supercross league has seen participation from riders across four categories, including the newly introduced 250cc Indian Futures category, which is aimed at providing a dedicated pathway for domestic riders. India has recorded 30 registra-

tions across the newly introduced 250cc – Group 'A' Foreign Bikes only - Indian Futures category as well as the 250cc India Asia Mix category. France leads the international participation with 32 registrations, followed by Australia with 20 and the United States with 18. Riders from Indonesia, Thailand, Germany, Spain, Switzerland, Italy, Japan, Canada, South Africa, the Czech Republic, Sweden, Zimbabwe, Sri Lanka and Mongolia have also registered. The field includes 40 riders in the 450cc International category, 54 in the 250cc International category and 26 in the 250cc India Asia Mix category. The 450cc International category features several established names, including Season 2 champion Matt Moss, Jordi Tixier, John Short,



Anthony Bourdon, Gregory Aranda, Ryan Breece, Luke Clout and Anthony Rodriguez. The 250cc International category will feature Reid Taylor, Calvin Fonvieille, Justin Rodbell and Nico Koch, while the India Asia Mix category includes Witsarut Salangam, Thanarat Penjan, Athison Ruadreo, Nakami Vidi Makarim, Ben Hallgren and Muhammad Athar Alghifari. India's challenge will include accomplished riders such as Rugved Barguje, Prajwal Vishwanath, Shlok Ghorpade and Ikshan Shanbhag.



Pune Grand Tour upgraded to UCI 2.1 ahead of 2027 edition

Pune, Oct 7 : The Pune Grand Tour has been upgraded from UCI 2.2 to UCI 2.1. The upgrade comes shortly after Pune was awarded the 2032 UCI Road World Championships at the UCI Congress in Montreal, Canada, where the city was confirmed as the first Indian host of cycling's premier road championships. The second edition of the Pune Grand Tour will take place from January 26–31, 2027, featuring

six stages across Pune and the wider district, with the higher UCI classification expected to bring a stronger international field and a higher level of competition to the city. Moving from UCI 2.2 to 2.1 means the race moves from Class 2 to Class 1 on the UCI international road racing calendar. For riders and teams, the higher classification means more UCI ranking points are at stake and creates an opportunity for stronger international participation. The upgrade followed the successful inaugural edition of the Pune Grand Tour in January 2026, which brought together 29 teams and 171 riders from 35 countries. The race also drew an estimated 2.5 million spectators along its routes. The 2027 edition will take riders across some of Pune and Maharashtra's most distinctive landscapes.



Don't play against Bangladesh that often, but they've got some great spinners : Nicola Carey

Brisbane, Oct 7: Australia will not be taking Bangladesh lightly despite missing several key frontline options, seam-bowling all-rounder Nicola Carey said on Wednesday, while pointing to the visitors formidable spin bowling attack ahead of the three-match ODI series starting here on Friday. For the ODIs against Bangladesh, Australia will be without injured captain Sophie Molineux alongside fast bowlers Lucy Hamilton and Darcie Brown.

'I don't mind playing second fiddle': Ishan lauds Iyer's approach in maiden T20I ton



New Delhi, Oct 7 : India wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan credited skipper Shreyas Iyer's attacking approach and praised debutant Naman Dhir's fearless bowling after India opened their five-match T20I series against the West Indies with an eight-wicket victory at the Ekana Cricket Stadium on Tuesday. While Iyer's unbeaten 102 powered a successful chase of 172, Dhir's three-wicket haul helped India restrict the visitors to 171. Kishan remained unbeaten on 37 from

27 deliveries and shared an unbroken 137-run stand with Iyer for the third wicket. With India losing both openers inside the first four overs, the partnership became the defining passage of the chase, with Iyer taking charge and Kishan providing the support required to keep the innings moving. Rather than viewing his supporting role as a compromise, Kishan said it was the sensible approach once he recognised that his captain was seeing the ball exceptionally well. "As a batter, when I'm not looking in that great of a touch and the batter at the other end is looking in great form and is connecting the ball well, in this case Shreyas Iyer, then I don't mind playing second fiddle at all. He was scoring the bulk of the runs in our partnership, and when he's batting beautifully, it's my job to let him punish the opposition bowlers. "He did that job remarkably, and, in the end, we executed the run chase successfully.

'Maa sent Choorma and Kheer for me': Sujeet savours desi taste after Asian Games success

New Delhi, Oct 7 : With the Asian Games gold medal around his neck and the weight-cut diet officially over, Indian wrestler Sujeet Kalkal savoured the authentic Haryanwi desi taste. The 65 kg freestyle Asian champion revealed that after returning from Japan, he had eaten "mom's made choorma and kheer" the most. Sujeet handed India their first wrestling gold medal at the



Asian Games since Bajrang Punia (65 kg) and Vinesh Phogat topped the podium at Jakarta 2018. He made a dramatic comeback from 2-9 down to beat Tajikistan's Abdulmazhid Kudiev 10-9 in the gold medal bout.

Arctic Open: Sindhu makes winning return as Indian women's singles campaign takes a hit

Vantaa, Oct 7 : PV Sindhu began her Arctic Open 2026 campaign with a routine straight-game victory over Canada's Wen Yu Zhang on Tuesday, but the Indian contingent in women's singles suffered several setbacks in the opening round of the BWF Super 500 tournament in Vantaa, Finland. The sixth-seeded Sindhu needed only 28 minutes to dispatch Canada's Wen Yu Zhang 21-8, 21-11 and book her place in the second round. The two-

time Olympic medallist, who reached the quarterfinals at the Asian Games 2026, will next take on Japan's Riko Gunji. Sindhu was in control from the outset against Zhang, who had entered the main draw through qualifying. The Indian quickly established a substantial lead in the opening game and never allowed her Canadian opponent to settle into the contest. While Sindhu progressed without much trouble, the same could not be said of several of her compa-

triot. Unnati Hooda came within two points of completing a comeback against China's Han Qianxi. After dropping the opening game 21-16, Hooda responded strongly to take the second 21-15. The decider went down to the wire, but Han held her nerve to prevail 24-22 after 68 minutes. Ashmita Chaliha also pushed her higher-ranked opponent all the way. The Indian recovered from a 21-7 opening-game loss against seventh seed Line Christophersen, forcing a decider by taking the

second game 21-14. Christophersen eventually survived the contest 26-24 in the third. Malvika Bansod's progress also ended in the opening round. After making her way through qualifying with a win over Chinese Taipei's Sung Shuo-yun, Bansod was beaten 21-18, 21-13 by Scotland's Kirsty Gilmour. Isharani Baruah faced the toughest possible challenge in the form of top seed Ratchanok Intanon. The former world champion from



Thailand controlled the contest and secured a 21-10, 21-15 victory. Tanvi Sharma, however, ensured India had another winner in the women's singles draw, defeating Chinese Taipei's Chiu Pin-Chian 21-15, 21-17.

India's mixed doubles campaign also suffered an early blow, with Ishan Bhatnagar and Shruti Mishra losing heavily to Thailand's Pakkapon Teeraratsakul and Sapsiree Taerattanachai, 21-3, 21-6.

Pramod Bhagat, Bhavina Patel named flag bearers for Aichi-Nagoya Asian Para Games



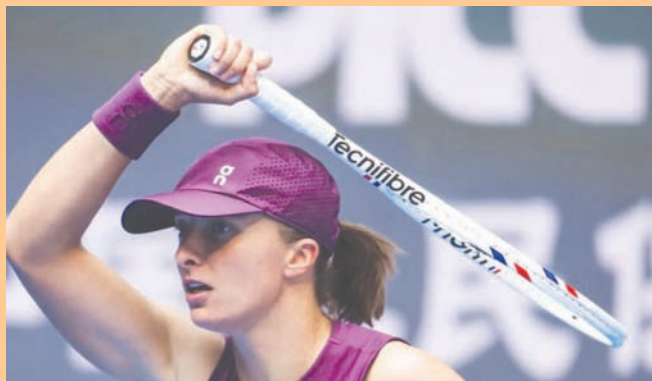
New Delhi, Oct 7: Paralympic champions Pramod Bhagat and Bhavina Patel will lead the Indian contingent as flag bearers at the opening ceremony of the Aichi-Nagoya 2026 Asian Para Games on October 18 in Nagoya, Japan. Pramod, one of

India's most decorated para badminton players, has won six Asian Para Games medals between 2014 and 2023, including two golds and four bronze. Bhavina, one of India's leading para table tennis players, has won two Asian Para Games medals between 2018 and 2023 including one silver.

China Open: Swiatek brushes aside Jovic to reach QF

Beijing, Oct 7 : Six-time Grand Slam champion Iga Swiatek produced a commanding performance against American teenager Iva Jovic to reach the quarterfinals of the China Open, defeating the 18-year-old 6-1, 6-3 in their first career meeting on Wednesday. Swiatek needed just one hour and 36 minutes to complete the victory, overcoming a brief fightback from Jovic in the second set to maintain her control of the contest. The Polish star established her authority almost immediately, racing through the opening five games. Jovic finally got on the board in the sixth game after saving two set points, but Swiatek remained composed and eventually closed out the set on her fifth opportunity. Jovic, who has climbed to a career-best No. 13 in the

world, responded with greater aggression at the beginning of the second set. Swiatek broke in the opening game and moved 2-0 ahead, but the teenager began finding greater depth on her groundstrokes and quickly restored parity. The momentum briefly shifted towards Jovic when she saved two break points in the following game to move 3-2 ahead. However, Swiatek regained control at a crucial stage, breaking the American twice in succession to put the match beyond reach. The result ended Jovic's latest winning run at six matches. The American had arrived in Beijing with considerable momentum after claiming the Guadalajara title last month. For Swiatek, the victory extends her progress at one of the season's major hard-court events



and sets up another high-profile test in the last eight. The former world No. 1 will next meet either third seed Coco Gauff or 13th seed Elise Mertens. Swiatek has enjoyed the better head-to-head record against both potential opponents, holding an 11-5 advantage over Gauff and a 2-0 record against Mertens. However, a potential meeting with Gauff would carry an added storyline. While Swiatek has won 11 of their 16 previous encounters, Gauff has taken their last four meetings.