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Modi, Trump Put Quad Partnership in Spotlight

Leaders of India, US, Japan and Australia meet in Manila as rare earths, artificial intelligence and Indo-Pacific security dominate discussions



Manila: Prime Minister Narendra Modi joined US President Donald Trump, Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese at the Quad Leaders' Summit in Manila on Tuesday, placing strategic cooperation and economic security at the centre of India's diplomatic engagement.

The meeting, held on the sidelines of the ASEAN and East Asia summits, marked the first in-person gathering of Quad leaders since 2024.

The discussions focused on strengthening cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, with particular attention to critical minerals, artificial intelligence, supply chains and private-sector partnerships.

Trump praised Modi's leadership and described him as a tough negotiator, drawing attention to the personal relationship between the two leaders. Modi characterised the Quad as a constructive and trusted partnership, highlighting the importance of practical cooperation among the four democracies.

The grouping has increasingly focused on reducing vulnerabilities in critical supply chains and strengthening technological cooperation.

Access to rare earth minerals has become especially important because these materials are essential for advanced electronics, electric vehicles and defence technologies.

The summit also provided an opportunity to discuss regional security and maritime cooperation.

The leaders' engagement is significant as countries across the Indo-Pacific respond to changing geopolitical and economic conditions. Further details of any agreed initiatives will depend on the official outcomes of the summit.

Congress Sets Up Poll Panels for Five States



New Delhi: The Congress has constituted screening committees for five states scheduled to hold Assembly elections in early 2027, marking an important step in the party's preparations for a major electoral contest.

The committees will examine potential candidates in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur before recommendations are considered through the party's established selection process.

The announcement comes as Congress seeks to strengthen its organisational machinery and improve its electoral prospects in states with different political conditions.

Uttar Pradesh remains particularly significant because of its size and influence on national politics.

Punjab is also a major political battleground, with the Congress seeking to improve its position against the ruling Aam Aadmi Party and other competitors.

In Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur, the party faces separate challenges involving local leadership, alliances and voter expectations.

Screening committees play an important role in evaluating candidates' political experience, organisational support and prospects of winning elections.

Party begins candidate selection exercise ahead of crucial Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur

However, the formation of these committees does not mean that the party has finalised its candidates.

The selection process will involve further consultations and decisions by the authorised leadership.

The development follows renewed criticism by Rahul Gandhi and other Congress leaders of the BJP-led Government over electoral practices and democratic institutions.

The announcement signals the beginning of a more intensive phase of election preparations across the five states.

Crop Insurance Scam Alarm: 227 of 300 Farmers Report Inadequate Claims

Government evaluation flags questionable crop-loss surveys, misleading photographs and payment delays; Agriculture Commissioner cautions against statewide conclusions

Jaipur: Serious questions have emerged over the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Rajasthan after a government evaluation highlighted alleged irregularities in crop-loss assessments, insurance payments and the handling of farmers' claims.

The evaluation covered 300 insured farmers across 10 districts, including Churu, Barmer, Hanumangarh, Jodhpur, Sikar, Dausa, Sirohi, Rajsamand, Karauli and Dholpur. According to the reported findings, 227 respondents did not receive compensation corresponding to their reported losses.

The review also recorded complaints that some survey personnel underestimated crop damage or used photographs of healthy crops from other locations.



Farmers reported delays in claim settlements, difficulties correcting application errors and inadequate explanations when claims were rejected.

The findings have raised concerns about transparency in a scheme intended to protect agricultural households against financial losses caused by adverse weather.

However, Agriculture Commissioner Naresh Kumar Goyal cautioned against drawing conclusions about approximately 40 lakh insured farmers from a sample of 300. He said farmers had paid around ₹8,000 crore in premiums over 10 years, while approximately ₹35,600 crore had been disbursed in claims. The government will need to examine individual complaints and identify systemic weaknesses. The report has intensified demands for transparent crop surveys, timely compensation and stronger accountability in agricultural insurance administration.

Dotasra Targets Bhajan Lal, Predicts Political Exit After Panchayat Polls





Jaipur: Rajasthan Congress president Govind Singh Dotasra has launched a sharp political attack on Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, claiming that the Chief Minister could lose his position following the Panchayati Raj elections.

Dotasra used the administrative expression 'Awaiting Posting Orders', commonly known as APO, to ridicule the Chief Minister's political standing.

The Congress leader suggested that Sharma could find himself without a political assignment after the rural election results. The remarks come as Rajasthan prepares for the counting of Zila Parishad and Panchayat Samiti votes on November 20. Both the BJP and Congress have invested considerable political effort in the elections, which will determine the composition of important rural local bodies. The results are expected to influence subsequent contests for Zila Pramukh and Pradhan positions.

Dotasra's statement reflects the opposition's attempt to increase pressure on the government and portray the elections as a test of public confidence. However, Panchayati Raj election results do not automatically determine whether a Chief Minister remains in office. The continuation or replacement of a Chief Minister depends on the applicable constitutional and political processes, including the ruling party's decisions and legislative majority. Dotasra's remarks should therefore be understood as political rhetoric rather than an announcement of any official administrative action. The exchange signals a further escalation in the confrontation between Rajasthan's two principal political parties.

Panchayat Poll Violence Rocks Rajasthan; Official Vehicles Torched, Former Sarpanch Dies



Jaipur: Violence surrounding Rajasthan's final phase of Sarpanch elections has triggered serious concerns about law and order after an official vehicle was set ablaze in Banswara and a former Sarpanch died following a confrontation in Jhunjhunu.

In Banswara's Chhoti Sarwa area, a dispute erupted at the Bawdi Ninama polling centre after candidate Lalit Kumar reportedly lost the Sarpanch election by 32 votes.

Police reports said supporters of the defeated candidate allegedly attacked polling personnel and threw stones.

A vehicle belonging to the zonal magistrate was set on fire, while additional vehicles were reportedly damaged.

Police and administrative officers reached the location and brought the situation under control.

In Jhunjhunu's Vijaynagar Gram Panchayat, former Sarpanch Laxmi Narayan Saini, 55, suffered serious injuries during a confrontation between rival groups.

He died while being taken to Jaipur for treatment.

His daughter-in-law, Suman Saini, subsequently won the Sarpanch election by 158 votes.

Other disturbances were reported from Dholpur and Tonk, including stone-pelting and a complaint concerning smoke from a ballot box.

The causes and responsibility for individual incidents remain under investigation.

The violence has raised questions about security arrangements and the protection of election personnel.

Authorities now face pressure to identify those responsible and ensure accountability for attacks connected with the electoral process.

BJP Claims Rajasthan Power Firms Return to Profit as Renewable Capacity Surges

Jaipur: Rajasthan BJP president Madan Rathore has claimed that the state's electricity sector has undergone a major financial turnaround under the Bhajan Lal Sharma government, with the Jaipur and Ajmer power distribution companies returning to profitability.

Rathore said Ajmer Discom recorded a profit of ₹1,875.82 crore, while Jaipur Discom reported a profit of ₹931 crore.

He also claimed that the cumulative losses of electricity distribution companies had declined by approximately ₹8,725 crore.

The BJP leader attributed the improvement to reforms undertaken during the present government's tenure.

Rathore said Rajasthan had added 29 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity over the past 34 months, compared with 5.9 gigawatts during a comparable period under the previous Congress administration.



The figures form part of the ruling party's assessment of its performance in the energy sector.

Rajasthan has substantial solar and wind energy resources, making electricity generation and distribution central to its industrial and agricultural development.

However, the profitability figures and comparative renewable energy claims were presented by the BJP and should be examined alongside audited financial statements and official capacity records. The distinction is important because financial results can be influenced by subsidies, accounting adjustments and other factors. The claims are expected to sharpen the political debate over electricity-sector performance and the government's development record.

Kashmir Security Tightened After CRPF Attack

Srinagar: Security forces have intensified their search for suspected Lashkar-e-Taiba commander Lateef Bhat after CCTV footage emerged showing movements linked to the recent attack on a Central Reserve Police Force checkpoint in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district.

The footage reportedly shows Bhat and an associate, Umar Nisar Dar, before the attack that injured three CRPF personnel.

The development provides investigators with additional material as they attempt to reconstruct the movements of those suspected of involvement. The CRPF has also introduced tighter security measures following a review by its senior leadership.

The revised arrangements reportedly include restrictions on mobile phone use and additional protective equipment at vulnerable positions. The measures are intended to reduce operational risks and strengthen the readiness of personnel deployed at security installations. The latest developments follow several days of heightened counterterrorism activity in south Kashmir.

However, the appearance of individuals in surveillance footage does not by itself establish every aspect of their alleged involvement.

Investigators will need to examine the recordings alongside other evidence. Security agencies are also seeking to determine whether the suspected attackers received logistical assistance. The case highlights the continuing importance of surveillance, intelligence coordination and physical protection at checkpoints.



The investigation remains active as authorities attempt to identify and apprehend those responsible for the attack.

Cyclone Akvan Puts Andhra Coast on High Alert

New Delhi: Cyclone Akvan is expected to intensify into a very severe cyclonic storm before approaching the Andhra Pradesh coast on November 20, prompting serious concerns about heavy rainfall, strong winds and possible coastal damage.

According to the India Meteorological Department's forecast on Tuesday, the storm could make landfall between Nellore and Tuni around midday on November 20.

The weather system is expected to strengthen considerably over the Bay of Bengal, with sustained winds potentially reaching 120–130 kilometres per hour and gusts of up to 145 kilometres per hour near landfall. The forecast has increased the urgency of preparedness measures in vulnerable coastal districts.

Extremely heavy rainfall could cause flooding, damage roads and disrupt transport, electricity and communication services.

Fishing communities face particular risks because strong winds and rough seas can make maritime operations dangerous.

Authorities will need to ensure that emergency shelters, evacuation arrangements and rescue teams are ready if conditions deteriorate.

However, cyclone tracks and intensity forecasts can change as new meteorological information becomes available.

Road Accident Victims to Get Wider Cashless Treatment

Medical regulator directs government medical colleges to join PM-RAHAT scheme offering emergency care up to ₹1.5 lakh

New Delhi: The National Medical Commission has directed government medical colleges and their attached hospitals across India to join the Centre's PM-RAHAT scheme, expanding efforts to provide cashless emergency treatment to road accident victims.

The scheme offers eligible victims cashless hospital treatment of up to ₹1.5 lakh for a maximum of seven days following an accident. The Commission has asked deans, directors, principals and medical superintendents to give priority to completing the necessary arrangements. The directive follows a request from the Union Health Ministry to widen the network of hospitals participating in the programme. Under the framework, designated hospitals can provide stabilisation, trauma and polytrauma treatment.

A separate category of participating hospitals can provide initial stabilisation before referring patients to more advanced facilities.

Hospitals already empanelled under Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY are considered eligible for designation, while other hospitals must meet prescribed infrastructure and clinical requirements. These include emergency services, intensive care facilities, diagnostic equipment and ambulance arrangements.

The initiative is especially important because timely medical attention can significantly improve outcomes for seriously injured accident victims. The scheme was launched earlier this year, but Tuesday's development concerns the expansion of hospital participation. The Commission's direction is intended to reduce financial barriers to emergency care and improve access to treatment near accident-prone roads and highways.



Briefs

Sports Tournament Marks Saint's Anniversary

Jashma: Thousands of community members gathered at a revered spiritual site to celebrate the birth anniversary of a historical saint with vibrant cultural processions, religious rituals, and an energetic rural sports tournament. Devotees and participants arrived in large festive rallies accompanied by traditional mounts, decorated carriages, and devotional music from neighboring villages to pay their respects at the sacred memorial grounds. As part of the multi-day anniversary events, a highly competitive one-day kabaddi tournament was organized, featuring numerous youth teams from various blocks demonstrating remarkable agility, strength, and sportsmanship. The day-long athletic matches witnessed fierce competition among young players across different age categories, drawing enthusiastic crowds who cheered for their respective village teams. Prominent community leaders, local representatives, and event sponsors presided over the closing ceremony, commending all participating athletes for their discipline and team spirit. Winners and runners-up teams were honored with gleaming trophies, commemorative portraits of the revered saint, and generous cash awards sponsored by local patrons to encourage rural sporting talent. Organizers also arranged community meals for all attendees, successfully concluding a grand festival that reinforced cultural unity and traditional heritage among the participants.

Academy Students Shine in Rugby

Fatehnagar: Young athletes from a prominent local higher secondary school delivered an impressive performance at the tenth sub-junior state rugby championship held recently in the capital city. Organized by the state sports association in mid-November, the tournament featured both boys and girls categories from across various districts. Having undergone rigorous training under expert coaches, the local boys and girls displayed remarkable agility, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the competition. The school management, coaches, and teaching staff praised the dedication and hard work shown by the players on the state platform. Local residents and school authorities also celebrated this sporting achievement, extending their heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the young athletes for a successful future in sports.

Devotion Marks Local Gopashtami Festivities

Udaipur: The sacred festival of Gopashtami was celebrated with great religious fervor, enthusiasm, and devotion at the Shiv Shankar Gaushala located in Kaldwas. According to tradition shared by organizers, Lord Krishna began grazing cows on this auspicious day, making it a highly significant occasion for traditional cowherds and devotees. On this special day, cows were beautifully decorated, and temple priests performed elaborate worship rituals accompanied by Vedic chanting. Devotees offered prayers, performed sacred aartis, and distributed prasad among all attendees. Several prominent members, including office bearers and local families, remained present throughout the celebrations to seek blessings and take part in the service activities dedicated to the protection and welfare of cows.

Boosting Tourism and Cultural Growth in Mewar Region

Udaipur: Union minister for tourism and culture received a warm and enthusiastic welcome upon arriving at the local airport facility, where prominent civic leaders, district party officials, and administrative representatives greeted him cordially. During this important interaction, detailed discussions were held regarding the immense potential for tourism development across the entire Mewar and Wagad region, focusing on ways to increase visitor footfall and establish a stronger identity for the area on both national and international tourism maps.



Leaders emphasized the need to implement innovative strategies and build robust infrastructure so that domestic and international travelers choose to stay longer in the region, thereby experiencing its rich historical heritage, traditional arts, local culture, and scenic natural beauty.

A major proposal was presented to establish a grand and modern convention center in the city through public participation initiatives. This facility would host international delegations, academic seminars, cultural gatherings, and large trade exhibitions, transforming the city into a prominent destination for meetings and business conferences. Discussions also covered the possibility of central ministry collaboration for this ambitious project. Furthermore, leaders suggested launching a joint mega project involving central and state efforts to preserve and promote the rich folk culture, traditional arts, handicrafts, and indigenous cuisine of the tribal zones. This initiative would feature dedicated tribal cultural centers, folk art villages, and traditional artisan markets to attract visitors from across the globe. The comprehensive discussion also explored several other key dimensions of regional growth, including heritage circuit tourism connecting multiple adjoining districts, religious and spiritual tourism corridors linking major historical temples, and eco-tourism projects around local lakes and natural landscapes. Officials also emphasized developing adventure sports, wellness programs, improved parking, clean restrooms, trained guides, and better transport networks.

By integrating local communities, artisans, youth, and women into the tourism ecosystem, these planned efforts aim to generate extensive local employment and economic prosperity while preserving the unique heritage of the region.

Brilliant Daughter of Bhupalsagar Earns Doctorate in Chemistry with Global Research Recognition

Bhupalsagar: Bringing immense pride and glory to her hometown and the entire district, Sunita Teli, daughter of Madanlal Teli, has successfully earned her Doctor of Philosophy degree in the field of chemistry. She completed her extensive doctoral research from the department of chemistry at Mohanlal Sukhadia University situated in Udaipur, working under the expert guidance and mentorship of her supervisor. Her thesis explored the development of eco-friendly synthesis methodologies for various nitrogen and oxygen containing heterocyclic compounds, focusing heavily on modern concepts of green chemistry and environmental protection. During the course of her research journey, multiple high quality research papers authored by her were published in prestigious international academic journals, including reputed global scientific publishers. Altogether, she



has more than twenty five international research papers published to her credit so far, reflecting her exceptional scientific talent, relentless hard work, and deep dedication toward academic research. The significance of her scientific work lies in reducing hazardous chemical waste and promoting sustainable practices within modern chemical industries. By focusing on green synthesis methods, her research contributes valuable insights that can help make future pharmaceutical and industrial chemical manufacturing safer for the environment. Academic experts and fellow researchers at the university have praised the practical utility and depth of her innovative findings during the final evaluation of her doctoral work. Following the official announcement of her degree, celebrations erupted among her well-wishers, who hailed her success as an inspiring milestone for young women pursuing higher education in science. Local social organizations and educational institutions noted that her dedication proves how determination and hard work can lead to global recognition even from regional towns. She dedicated this remarkable achievement to the constant support, encouragement, and blessings of her parents, husband, family members, and friends.

The entire regional community, teachers, and relatives have expressed immense joy and extended their heartfelt congratulations, wishing her a very bright and successful future ahead.

Violence and Arson Erupts at Panchayat Counting Center Over Election Results

Kushalgarh: Tensions flared up unexpectedly during the late-night hours in a rural village setting during local panchayat election vote counting procedures, turning the designated community polling facility into a scene of widespread chaos and destruction. What initially began as a minor verbal disagreement between opposing factions quickly escalated into a violent confrontation as an agitated crowd turned hostile. Aggressive protesters began hurling heavy stones at the counting center building, shattering windows and causing widespread panic among the election staff, security personnel, and local residents present at the site. As the situation deteriorated rapidly, the unruly mob forced its way around the premises, completely



vandalizing the outdoor seating arrangements and setting fire to the election tents. The rampaging crowd targeted multiple parked vehicles, setting ablaze three cars including an official vehicle assigned to a senior administrative magistrate. Fearing for their personal safety, the trapped polling officers and election workers locked themselves inside secure rooms within the building to protect themselves from the flying debris and violent mobs. The flames quickly engulfed the targeted vehicles and temporary structures, sending thick plumes of smoke into the night air and creating an atmosphere of absolute terror throughout the locality. Upon receiving urgent distress calls regarding the deteriorating law and order situation, senior district administration officials, including the district collector and superintendent of police, rushed to the spot along with heavy police reinforcements from nearby police stations. Firefighting units were immediately deployed to battle the raging flames, managing to bring the fire under control after intensive efforts. According to preliminary reports, the violence erupted after supporters of a particular mayoral candidate reacted angrily to election defeat rumors. Security forces detained several suspected individuals involved in the arson and stone-pelting incidents. By Tuesday morning, heavy police patrolling restored complete calm to the area, enabling the subsequent election for the deputy village head position to be conducted smoothly and peacefully under tight security surveillance.

Driver Killed in Bijolia Highway Crash

Bhilwara: A tragic accident occurred early in the morning on the Chittorgarh-Kota National Highway-27 near the Salawatia overbridge in the Bijolia area, where an overspeeding car lost control and smashed violently into a highway divider. The impact was so severe that the vehicle was completely mangled, trapping the 52-year-old driver inside. By the time police reached the scene, extricated him, and rushed him to the Bijolia hospital, it was too late, and medical professionals pronounced him dead upon examination.

The incident took place around four in the morning when the swift-moving vehicle veered off course. Local police faced initial hurdles in identifying the victim because his mobile phone was locked, but they eventually managed to trace his family and identify him as Rameshwar Lal Yadav, a



resident of Ramjipura in the Renwal region, who was the son of Pura Ram. He worked at a stone-cutting factory located in the Dabi area of Bundi district and had recently visited his hometown to attend a family function before heading back to his workplace. Following the necessary legal procedures and post-mortem examination, law enforcement authorities handed over the body to the grieving relatives.

This fatal crash has once again highlighted serious concerns regarding reckless driving and road safety on National Highway-27, as locals express deep frustration over recurring accidents and call for urgent preventive measures to save lives.

13-Year-Old Boy Narrowly Escapes Knife Attack Outside Temple in Bhilwara

Bhilwara: A 13-year-old boy narrowly escaped a brutal knife attack outside the Charbhuja Temple on the night of November 15, 2026, raising serious concerns over child safety in the city. According to the complaint filed at the Kotwali police station, the minor, grandson of Shivajinagar resident Mangilal Sharma, was waiting for his friends around half past eight when two youths, Kishan Gurjar and Ritik Bhambi, arrived on a motorcycle. They allegedly ran the bike over his legs, knocked him down, and began beating him. Moments later, accomplices Sameer, Vishal Luhar, and two others joined the assault and tried to stab the child. Fortunately, the



knife slipped during the scuffle, allowing the boy to break free and run inside the temple. The attackers allegedly chased him inside with the weapon and continued issuing death threats until his relatives arrived following a distress call. Based on the written report from the boy's grandfather, police registered a case under sections 115(2), 126(2), and 351(3) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Assistant Sub-Inspector Kailashchand is investigating the motive and the roles of all suspects involved.

Retired Teacher Honored for Generous Contributions to Education and Cow Welfare

Amet: A touching felicitation ceremony was organized by the regional education association to honor a dedicated retired teacher for her remarkable philanthropic contributions toward institutional development and animal welfare.

The educator, who recently retired from service at a government higher secondary school in Panotia, earned widespread appreciation by making generous financial donations from her retirement funds. She contributed a substantial amount toward the repair and installation of new pipeline systems at her former school's water source, ensuring a reliable water supply for students and staff. In addition, she made a significant monetary contribution to a local cow shelter organization to



support the daily care, feeding, and fodder requirements of cattle. Leading figures and regional coordinators of the educational federation felicitated the retired teacher with traditional turbans, ceremonial scarves, and sacred tokens of respect during a well-attended public gathering. Speakers praised her lifelong dedication to the teaching profession and her extraordinary gesture of giving back to society upon retirement, noting that such noble acts inspire the entire academic community and foster social welfare values among the younger generation. Fellow educators, institutional heads, and community members gathered in large numbers to extend their warm wishes, praying for her good health, long life, and continued community service in the years ahead.

Authorities Halt Two Child Marriages

Bhilwara: Local administrative and police officials took prompt action to stop two child marriages scheduled to take place in the Raipur sub-division area. The timely intervention began after an alert villager contacted a child rights support organization, reporting that two separate families were preparing to marry off their underage children. Following the tip-off, the organization quickly alerted the local sub-divisional magistrate and the station house officer. Acting on official instructions, a joint team of revenue inspectors and police personnel immediately visited both households to investigate the matter. Upon examining school certificates and birth records, officials confirmed that both the boy and the girl were only sixteen years old, well below the legal age for marriage. Despite their young age, the families had finalized the wedding dates for the eighteenth and twenty-first of November. After verifying the documents, the joint team counseled the parents extensively regarding the health hazards and strict legal punishments tied to child marriage. Authorities obtained formal written undertakings and legal affidavits from both families, binding them not to arrange any wedding ceremonies until the children reach legal adulthood. Officials also warned that violating these orders would lead to severe action under child marriage prohibition laws. Those leading the regional child protection efforts praised the villager's alertness and the administration's quick response, noting that such vigilance helps protect minors and promotes awareness across the district.

Youngest Panchayat Sarpanch of District Takes Charge Amid Grand Celebrations

Kherwada: The newly elected young sarpanch officially assumed her administrative responsibilities at a grand public ceremony organized at the local village panchayat headquarters on Tuesday. Marking her official takeover as the youngest village head in the entire district, a grand victory procession was organized starting from a revered local Hanuman temple. Accompanied by traditional band music, celebratory fireworks, and cheering supporters, the young leader, along with the newly elected deputy sarpanch and ward members, journeyed through the village streets to reach the panchayat office. Senior political leaders, local party officials, and community elders graced the grand ceremony as honored guests, welcoming the new leadership



team with traditional turbans and ceremonial garments. Addressing the large gathering of villagers and supporters, the chief guest emphasized that rapid development in rural infrastructure, education, electricity, and healthcare facilities would remain the top priority for the local administration. Speakers highlighted that the ruling state government is fully committed to the comprehensive welfare and upliftment of rural communities, poor families, farmers, and tribal regions. Former village heads, religious leaders, educational experts, and regional coordinators also addressed the audience, expressing their full support for the new local administration and offering valuable suggestions for community progress. Speaking on the occasion, the newly appointed sarpanch expressed heartfelt gratitude to the voters for placing their trust in young leadership and promised transparent, accountable, and inclusive governance. She assured the residents that every government welfare scheme would reach eligible beneficiaries without delay and pledged to work tirelessly alongside all ward members to address daily civic issues such as clean drinking water, proper drainage, and well-maintained village roads. The event proceedings were managed efficiently by local representatives, concluding with a formal vote of thanks extended to all attendees, guests, and villagers who gathered to celebrate the historic milestone for the local governing body.

Youth Festival Hosts Speech Competition

Fatehnagar: A vibrant speech competition was successfully organized on the seventeenth day of November as part of the ongoing youth heritage festival celebrations. The cultural and educational event took place following instructions from the state youth organization, coinciding with the birth anniversaries of notable national leaders and former prime ministers to inspire the younger generation. The entire program was conducted successfully under the active guidance and leadership of local youth organization coordinators in the rural district region. More than forty enthusiastic participants took part in the speech contest, presenting their thoughts and perspectives eloquently on various national and historical themes.

This event followed a successful essay writing competition held a day earlier, which had witnessed an impressive turnout of more than sixty students showcasing their writing skills and creative expression. All students who participated in these competitive events were honored with official certificates of appreciation and special awards to encourage their academic and extracurricular involvement. Several local community leaders, civic representatives, institutional heads, and organization members graced the occasion with their presence, motivating the students and appreciating their active participation.

Organizers highlighted that the primary objective of hosting such diverse competitions was to foster creativity, improve public speaking and expression skills among students, and raise awareness regarding the valuable contributions and ideals of historical figures and national icons.

Briefs :

Jaipur Public Hearing Scheduled for November 19 Postponed

Jaipur : The district-level public hearing and the monthly meeting of the District Public Grievances and Vigilance Committee, Jaipur, scheduled for November 19, 2026 (third Thursday), at the District Collectorate auditorium have been postponed.

The block-level and gram panchayat-level public hearings scheduled for the same day have also been deferred.

District Collector Sandesh Nayak said the decision was taken in view of the Model Code of Conduct currently in force in the state due to the Panchayati Raj elections.

Keeping the election-related restrictions in mind, the administration has postponed the public hearing scheduled for November 19.

North Western Railway Celebrates Tribal Pride Day at Headquarters

Jaipur: Tribal Pride Day was observed at the North Western Railway headquarters on Monday, November 16, 2026, to mark the birth anniversary of Dharti Aaba Bhagwan Birsa Munda. Since November 15 was a holiday, the commemorative programme was organised a day later. Additional General Manager Alok Mishra inaugurated the event by lighting a ceremonial lamp and offering a floral tribute to the portrait of Bhagwan Birsa Munda. Chief Public Relations Officer Amit Sudarshan said the programme was held in the conference hall of the headquarters. Addressing the gathering, Mishra recalled that Bhagwan Birsa Munda, despite facing extremely difficult circumstances, united people and led the struggle against British rule at the young age of just 25. Rising above social challenges and prevailing hardships, he courageously championed India's freedom and the rights of tribal communities.

Mishra said the primary purpose of commemorating great personalities is to remember their sacrifices, dedication and outstanding contributions.

Police Rescue 16 Children Begging at Pushkar Fair

Jaipur : In a major operation against child begging at the Pushkar Fair, a joint team of the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit of Ajmer Police and Child Helpline rescued 16 minor children, including six boys and 10 girls, aged between two and 13 years.

The action was carried out under the ongoing Umang VIII campaign, under the direction of Superintendent of Police Harshvardhan Agrawala and supervision of Additional Superintendent of Police Priyanka Kumawat. The joint team was led by Naveen Gaur, in-charge of the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit.

The children were found begging from visitors on roads, near religious places and in crowded areas of the fair. Following the rescue, all 16 children were produced before the Child Welfare Committee. As directed by the committee, they were safely shifted to a children's home and a girls' home.

Congress Using Foreign Forces to Tarnish India's Image, Says Madan Rathore



Jaipur: BJP Rajasthan president Madan Rathore on Tuesday accused the Congress of pursuing an anti-India agenda in collaboration with foreign forces, alleging that the party was attempting to undermine India's international image and create instability within the country. Reacting to the Hyderabad Summit organised by the Congress, Rathore described the event as a platform for promoting views opposed to India's national interests.

Rathore alleged that in the name of an international conference, the Congress had invited foreign delegates whose past positions and activities were linked to opposition to India's national interests, policies and democratic institutions. He claimed that the event was an attempt to encourage foreign interference in India's internal affairs and damage the country's democratic image before the international community. Although the conference was named the 'India Summit', he alleged, it provided a platform for anti-India views. He also termed the slogans raised against Prime Minister Narendra Modi by foreign delegates and Congress leaders in India unfortunate.

The BJP state president said it was ironic that the principal opposition party of a country recognised as the world's largest democracy was allegedly joining hands with foreign representatives to tarnish its image. He maintained that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, India was setting new benchmarks in development, good governance, economic progress and global standing, but the Congress was unable to accept these achievements.

Rathore specifically referred to the participation of former Netherlands Foreign Minister Bert Koenders, former Ecuadorian Foreign Minister Guillaume Long, former Indonesian minister Anies Baswedan, former Malaysian MP Nurul Izzah Anwar, former Portuguese minister Maria João Rodrigues and American diplomat Patrick Gaspard. He said questions had been raised about their previous statements, international activities and positions concerning India, making their participation alongside Congress leaders a matter of concern.

Ramganj Police Crack House Burglary Within an Hour, Arrest Two

Ajmer : Ramganj police have solved a burglary at an unoccupied house in the Islam Nagar area within an hour of the incident and arrested two accused.

The police also recovered stolen household goods worth lakhs of rupees from their possession.

The operation was conducted on the directions of Superintendent of Police Harshvardhan Agrawala, under the leadership of Additional Superintendent of Police (City and Headquarters) Himanshu Jangid and Deputy Superintendent of Police, South Circle, Manish Badguzar.

The action was carried out under the supervision of Ramganj Station House Officer Haripal Singh.

According to the police, unidentified thieves targeted a vacant house near the Oil Depot in Islam Nagar on Monday night, November 16.

Following a complaint lodged by Moin Ali, a resident of Islam Nagar, a case was registered at Ramganj police station.

The complainant reported that a camera, electrical appliances, a watch, water taps, a geyser, nuts and bolts, artificial jewellery, a mobile phone and other household items had been stolen.

As soon as the incident was reported, two separate police teams reached the spot under the leadership of night-duty officer Assistant Sub-Inspector Girdhari Singh.

The teams conducted raids at suspected locations across Islam Nagar and questioned suspicious individuals.

Poets Enthrall Audience at Jaipur's 299th Foundation Day Celebrations

Jaipur : A grand poetry recital was organised at Birla Auditorium on Tuesday as part of the celebrations marking the 299th Foundation Day of the Pink City. Renowned poets and a poetess from different parts of the country captivated the audience with outstanding performances featuring humour, satire, patriotic fervour and (heroic poetry). Their compositions alternately sparked laughter and stirred feelings of patriotism and valour, filling the auditorium with applause.

Before the programme, Jaipur Mayor Sunil Kothari and Deputy Mayor Saroj Kanwar, accompanied by municipal councillors, offered an invitation to Lord Ganesh at the Moti Dungri Ganesh Temple. Councillors Pratibha Sharma, Jayshree Garg, Kavita Sharma, Giriraj Sharma and Subhash Sanghi, along with other elected representatives and members of the public, were present.The poetry gathering featured renowned poet Hari Om Panwar from Meerut, popular humour and satire poet Ehsan Qureshi from Mumbai, Dinesh Raghuvanshi from Faridabad, Suresh Albela from Kota, Priyanshu Gajendra from Barabanki, Rao Ajatshatru from Udaipur and poetess Dipika Mahi from Chittorgarh. Their impressive performances kept the audience thoroughly engaged. The programme was coordinated by Ekesh Parth.

The event was inaugurated by Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Bagde. Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani, MLA Kalicharan Sharma, MLA Gopal Sharma, State Finance Commission Chairman Arun Chaturvedi, along with other dignitaries and public representatives, attended the occasion.

Through their compositions, the poets highlighted social concerns, patriotism, human values, contemporary issues and various dimensions of human emotions. Humorous and satirical verses drew hearty laughter from the audience, while patriotic and heroic compositions generated enthusiasm and a strong sense of national pride. The outstanding performances made the poetry evening a memorable part of the city's Foundation Day celebrations.

Rajasthan Central University Organises Six-Day Programme on Multidisciplinary Education



Ajmer : The UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre of Central University of Rajasthan, Ajmer, is organising a six-day short-term training programme on "Holistic and Multidisciplinary Education" from November 16 to 21, 2026. The programme aims to explore various dimensions of multidisciplinary education and its role in strengthening the Indian higher education system.The programme is being conducted under the visionary leadership of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Anand Bhalerao. Presiding over the inaugural session, Prof. Bhalerao highlighted the importance of adopting a holistic and multidisciplinary approach in India's higher education system.The chief guest, Prof. C. C. Tripathi, Director of the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Bhopal, delivered the keynote address. He elaborated on various aspects of curriculum development in accordance with the principles of holistic and multidisciplinary education. He also shared valuable insights into the six years of experience in implementing the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, highlighting its progress, achievements and associated challenges. During the second technical session, Prof. Mohan Lal, former Vice-Chancellor of Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University, Ajmer, and Atal Bihari Vajpayee University, Bhopal, discussed the transformative role of investment in education in national development. He emphasised that investment in education generates multidimensional benefits by promoting economic growth, social progress and the overall development of the nation.Various lectures organised as part of the programme covered different aspects of holistic and multidisciplinary education. Particular emphasis was placed on making the teaching-learning process more effective and transformative, besides strengthening the higher education system in line with the vision of NEP 2020.

Gopashtami Celebrated with Devotion at Amrapur Sthan; Speaker Performs Gau Puja



Jaipur : Gopashtami was celebrated with great religious fervour and devotion at Shri Amrapur Sthan, a prominent spiritual centre in Jaipur, under the divine presence of Hazara Hazoor Satguru Swami Bhagat Prakash Ji Maharaj. Addressing devotees on the occasion, Swami Bhagat Prakash Ji Maharaj said that the highest purpose of human life is to remember and chant the name of God rather than waste the precious human birth in worldly pleasures and indulgences.

The celebrations began with Mangala Darshan, followed by a morning procession featuring Harinam Sankirtan from 6 am to 7 am. This was followed by daily prayers from 7 am to 8 am, devotional singing and kirtan by saints and spiritual leaders, and a satsang by Satguru Swami Bhagat Prakash Ji Maharaj.

In his spiritual discourse, Maharaj emphasised that human life is extremely precious and that attaining another human birth after losing the present opportunity may remain impossible for thousands or even millions of years. On the auspicious occasion of Gopashtami, devotional compositions from the Bhajanavali of the Shri Prem Prakash Granth were also sung.Explaining the religious significance of the cow in Sanatan Dharma, Maharaj said that the cow is revered as a mother and holds a special place alongside the Gita and the Ganga. He stated that worshipping Gau Mata brings the four fundamental pursuits of life—Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha. According to Hindu belief, 33 crore deities reside in the cow, and serving her with complete devotion is considered equivalent to worshipping all these deities. He also recalled that on Gopashtami, Lord Krishna began serving and tending to cows after seeking permission from his mother Yashoda.

Following the satsang, Satguru Swami Bhagat Prakash Ji Maharaj, members of the Sant Mandal and a large number of devotees collectively performed Gau Puja and participated in Gau Daan.

A major Gopashtami celebration was also organised at Satguru Teunram Gaushala, located in Mangyawas, Mansarovar, and operated by Shri Amrapur Sthan. Pujya Sant Shri Mohan Prakash Ji Maharaj said that the programme included religious discourses, satsang, Gau Puja and a large community feast.

More than 5,000 devotees gathered at the gaushala and worshipped Gau Mata and performed her aarti in the presence of saints and spiritual leaders.

Rs 25.47-Crore Plan to Address Drinking Water Crisis in Sumerpur

Sumerpur (Pali) : Preparations are underway to provide a permanent solution to the drinking water shortage faced by people and livestock in the Sumerpur Assembly constituency during the summer months. Acting on the directions of Rajasthan Cabinet Minister for Animal Husbandry, Cow Husbandry, Dairy and Devasthan, Joraram Kumawat, the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) has prepared 115 proposals worth Rs 25.47 crore under the Summer Contingency Plan 2025-26 for Sumerpur block.

The proposals have been prepared by the Falna Rural Division of the PHED and involve an estimated expenditure of Rs 2,547.66 lakh. Across Pali district, development works worth Rs 56.78 crore are proposed under the plan. Minister Kumawat has instructed officials to ensure that rural residents, cows and other livestock do not face any shortage of drinking water during summer. Accordingly, the department has drawn up a plan to strengthen local water sources in villages.

The proposed works primarily include the construction and commissioning of new tube wells, desilting and deepening of existing open wells, horizontal boring, repairs to pump houses, replacement of damaged rising pipelines and connecting local water sources with Overhead Service Reservoirs (OHSRs).A total of 38 villages are expected to benefit directly from the proposed works. These include Devtada, Gudiya Balana, Khivandi, Sindru, Birami, Bangri, Jawai Bandh, Paldi Jod, Dujana and Koliwara in Sumerpur subdivision. The plan also covers the regional water supply scheme for five villages situated along the Jawai riverbank—Pomawa, Purada, Kanpura, Salodariya and Fatapura.

Other villages included in the proposals are Bankli, Galthani-Sonpura, Jakhoda, Balwana, Venpura-Devtara, Sanderav, Netra, Basant, Gogara, Hingola, Koselav, Pawa and Rajpura. Villages in Takhatgarh subdivision, including Annopura, Babagaon, Badgaonwara, Badli, Dhana, Kenpura, Lapod, Navaguda and Sali, have also been incorporated into the broader water-supply plan.

According to departmental officials, the Finance Department has approved the proposals, which have now been forwarded to the higher authorities for administrative sanction. Work will commence as soon as the required approvals are received, with the target of completing the projects before the next summer season to provide relief to villagers and livestock owners.

Taxi Driver Arrested for Stealing Licensed Pistol and 20 Cartridges from Hotel Parking

Udaipur: Surajpol police have arrested a taxi driver for stealing a licensed pistol, two magazines and 20 live cartridges from the car of a tourist visiting Udaipur from Haryana. The accused allegedly took the car keys on the pretext of moving the vehicle in a hotel parking area and stole the firearm and ammunition kept in its dashboard. After examining footage from more than 100 CCTV cameras, police traced and arrested him in the Balicha area and recovered the stolen items.

The operation was carried out under the direction of Udaipur Superintendent of Police Dr Amrita Duhan as part of a campaign to ensure tourist safety and apprehend criminals.

The action was conducted under the supervision of Additional Superintendent of Police (City) Umesh Ojha and Circle Officer (City East) Chhavi Sharma, with a police team led by Surajpol SHO Kamalendra Singh.

According to the case details, Omprakash Chaudhary, son of Bhim Singh Chaudhary and a resident of Sonipat, Haryana, had visited Udaipur as a tourist and was staying at Hotel Manor in Bhatiyani Chohatta.

His car was parked in the hotel's parking area when an unidentified person allegedly stole a licensed pistol, two magazines and 20 live cartridges kept in its dashboard.

A case was registered at Surajpol police station on November 13, 2026, and an investigation was initiated.

Considering the seriousness of the incident, police formed a special team that examined footage from more than 100 CCTV cameras installed at and around the crime scene.

The team also questioned tourist guides, hotel employees and taxi drivers to gather information about the incident.

Based on technical evidence and inputs from informers, police conducted a raid in the Balicha area on Tuesday, November 17, and arrested the accused, Jaypratap Singh.

The stolen licensed pistol, both magazines and all 20 live cartridges were recovered from his possession. In addition to the theft case, action has also been initiated against him under the Arms Act.

During preliminary interrogation, police found that the accused worked as a taxi driver and had arrived in Udaipur from Surat, Gujarat, with tourists on November 12, 2026. During his stay, he allegedly took the keys of the complainant's car in Hotel Manor's parking area on the pretext of moving it aside and stole the licensed pistol, two magazines and 20 cartridges from the dashboard. He subsequently fled from Udaipur.

The arrested accused has been identified as Jaypratap Singh, son of Manoj Singh, a resident of Dhanpur village under Fatanpur police station in Pratapgarh district of Uttar Pradesh.

Grand Cattle Feast Organised for First Time on Gopashtami in Jaipur

Jaipur : A grand national-level Gau Puja and Shri Kal Bhairav worship ceremony was organised on Tuesday at the Sunrise Organic Park and Vedic Medicinal Plants Centre, located within the Shri Pinjrapole Gaushala premises in Jaipur, on the auspicious occasion of Gopashtami. A special cattle feast, organised for the first time, was the major highlight of the event. Cows were offered 11 varieties of wheat, nutritious green fodder and assorted dry fruits as part of the traditional worship. The ceremony was conducted amid Vedic chants, spreading the message of cow service, cattle conservation and preservation of Sanatan culture. The programme was organised under the aegis of the Akhil Bharatiya Gaushala Sahyog Parishad. Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Bagde was invited as the chief guest, while Pawan Arora, chairman of the Sach Bedhadak Media Group, was invited as the guest of honour.Dr Atul Gupta, international coordinator of the Akhil Bharatiya Gaushala Sahyog Parishad, emphasised the need to integrate cattle conservation with natural farming and the rural economy.

Jaipur Panchayat Election Counting: 243 Tables Arranged Across 27 Counting Rooms

Jaipur : The Jaipur district administration has finalised the arrangements for counting votes for the Zila Parishad and all 22 Panchayat Samitis under the Panchayati Raj general elections. Counting will begin at 8 am on Friday, November 20, 2026, at Shri Bhawani Niketan College of Pharmacy on Sikar Road, Jaipur.District Election Officer (Panchayat) Sandesh Nayak said that separate rooms and tables had been allocated for counting votes for Zila Parishad and Panchayat Samiti members. Five rooms with a total of 98 tables have been earmarked for counting votes in all 57 Zila Parishad wards.Room No. 65 will have 18 tables for counting votes in 10 wards, from Ward 1 to Ward 10. Room No. 48 will have 19 tables for 12 wards, from Ward 15 to Ward 26. Room No. 48A will have 21 tables for 11 wards, from Ward 27 to Ward 37, while Room No. 44 will have 20 tables for 13 wards, from Ward 38 to Ward 50. Similarly, Room No. 28 will have 20 tables for 11 wards, covering Wards 11 to 14 and 51 to 57.Separate counting arrangements have also been made for the 22 Panchayat Samitis, with 145 tables allocated across 22 rooms.For Govindgarh Panchayat Samiti, Room No. 2A will have seven tables; Chomu, Room No. 2, eight tables; Kishangarh Renwal, Room No. 62, eight tables; Jobner, Room No. 59, seven tables; and Jhotwara, Room No. 46, five tables.Sambhar Lake Panchayat Samiti has been allotted seven tables in Room No. 52, Dudu six tables in Room No. 53, Mauzamabad eight tables in Room No. 60, Amer six tables in Room No. MM20 and Jalsu six tables in Room No. 21.

Editorial

Amit Shah's conch shelling!

Union Home Minister Amit Shah known in national politics for his aggressive leadership, firm grip on the party organization, and uncompromising political stance has sparked fresh debate within the country's political circles following his visit to Pune. The visit showcased various facets: a sharp critique of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, the promotion of ambitious projects within the cooperative sector, and a poignant moment reflecting on memories of the late Ajit Pawar. Given his pivotal political and administrative role within the central government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Shah's public statements cannot be dismissed merely as partisan rhetoric. From Pune, Shah issued a political challenge to the opposition, outlined an economic agenda centered on the cooperative movement, and touched upon the shifting political equations in the country. However, it must be remembered that the criteria for evaluating aggressive political oratory differ significantly from those used to assess actual administrative outcomes.

In recent times, national politics has been marked by controversies surrounding the credibility of the electoral process, the intensive revision of electoral rolls, irregularities in the education sector, and the autonomy of government institutions. Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, has consistently criticized the central government on these issues. The political conflict has intensified, particularly due to his allegations regarding alleged irregularities in electoral rolls and the integrity of the election process. That said, it would be premature to conclude either that all the opposition's allegations have been proven or that the government has provided satisfactory answers to every concern. In a democracy, impartial investigations into allegations and institutional transparency are of paramount importance.

At the 'Bharat Summit' held in Hyderabad on November 14, Rahul Gandhi launched a scathing attack on the Modi government. Claiming that the nation's democratic institutions are weakening, he asserted that the political struggle of the opposition has gained a new sense of direction. He raised several issues, ranging from the electoral process to the concentration of economic power. The very next day, in Pune, Amit Shah responded to Rahul Gandhi. He alleged that the Congress would not attain power by tarnishing India's image before foreign audiences. He further advised Rahul Gandhi to work in the villages of India rather than focusing on foreign tours.

This statement by Shah was not merely a critique of an opposition leader; it was an attempt to challenge the very political stance of the Congress. However, a fundamental question arises here: does criticizing the government on an international platform equate to defaming the nation? The government and the country are two distinct concepts.

The opposition has the right to question the policies of an elected government. Conversely, those in power have the right to examine the veracity of the opposition's allegations and provide a political response. Therefore, both sides must ensure that in invoking the issue of national prestige, the space for democratic dissent is not constricted.

Amit Shah questioned Rahul Gandhi's leadership by pointing to the Congress party's electoral defeats. He articulated his own party's position by citing the development initiatives of the Modi government. Yet, an electoral victory is not proof of the correctness of every government decision, nor does a defeat render all questions raised by the opposition invalid. The true test of political leadership lies in how credibly one addresses the issues presented to the public. While Amit Shah's oratorical style may be aggressive, substantive responses must still be provided independently and clearly to concerns such as controversies surrounding electoral rolls, employment, and the credibility of public institutions.

Another important aspect of the Pune tour is the cooperative sector. The new project is planned to manufacture essential equipment for sugar, dairy, ethanol, bio-CNG and power sectors. This effort to connect Maharashtra's co-operative sector with modern industrial capacity can be significant.

The co-operative movement in Maharashtra has contributed greatly to the rural economy. Sugar mills, milk unions, cooperative banks and credit unions created economic opportunities in rural areas. But many organizations suffered from financial mismanagement, political interference and technological backwardness. So, although the revival of the defunct project is a welcome initiative, its success will not depend on Bhoomi Puja. When the actual production will start, how many jobs will be created, how transparent the organization's financial management will be and how much benefit the cooperative members will get, the answers to these questions will be important.

Bharat Taxi Service was launched in Pune during this tour. The initiative aims to provide a cooperative alternative to the commission system of private digital transport companies. The government has proposed that the drivers will get a full share of their earnings and become partners in their own transport business. The idea is fascinating. However, the future of this experiment will depend on passenger safety, insurance, grievance redressal, technology costs and the actual income of the drivers. There should be a substantial improvement in the drivers' income rather than just setting up a new platform in the name of cooperation.

On the second day of the tour, a bust of late Ajit Pawar was unveiled at the Pune Zilla Parishad area. In this program, Shah recalled Ajit Dad's work style and contribution in the field of cooperation. He said that the death of Ajit Pawar is a great loss for Maharashtra and personally. Shah mentioned that the state government got stability due to Ajit Pawar's decision to join the Grand Alliance. This statement highlighted the importance of Ajit Dada in the leading politics of Maharashtra. However, it will not be appropriate to draw definite conclusions about future party equations from it. Amit Shah's visit to Pune combined political aggression with cooperative programmes.

Criticism of Rahul Gandhi re-ignites conflict between incumbents and opposition; But with the revival of cooperative industries, the claims of development will have to face the test of real results. The promise of giving new strength to co-operatives in Maharashtra should be proven through direct employment, production and transparent management. A tribute to Ajit Dada will be meaningful through the act of taking his development work forward. The visit to Pune conveyed several political messages; Now the real question is whether those messages translate into public interest outcomes. Because in a democracy, it is not the strength of the leader's voice, but the impact of his decisions on the life of the common man that is most important.

Union Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurates 45th India International Trade Fair 2026

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal today inaugurated the 45th India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, calling upon Indian businesses, manufacturers, exporters, artisans and entrepreneurs to leverage the opportunities created by India's Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and expand their presence in international markets. He emphasised that with markets across the developed world opening up for Indian goods and services, businesses must seize these opportunities and contribute to India's journey towards becoming a developed nation by 2047.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Goyal highlighted that India had recorded an all-time high in exports of nearly $90 billion in October 2026, comprising approximately $50 billion in merchandise exports and $40 billion in services exports. Describing this as a historic milestone, he said that India was well on track to achieve its $1 trillion export target in the current year. Exports during the first seven months up to October had reached $570 billion, an unprecedented achievement.

The Minister expressed confidence that India's international trade would grow by 15-16 per cent during the current year, despite two ongoing wars, global volatility and uncertainty, and subdued international trade growth, which is expected to remain around 3.5 per cent. He said India's performance reflected the strength of its economy, the confidence of its exporters and the country's ability to face global challenges with determination and self-respect.

Shri Goyal said that the 45th edition of IITF reflected five dimensions of Bharat: its economy, exports, infrastructure growth, the demand generated by 1.4 billion Indians and the country's rich diversity. He observed that the fair had evolved beyond an event focused largely on Delhi and had emerged as a platform bringing together India's states, businesses, products and capabilities.

Highlighting the new initiatives introduced at this year's fair, the Minister said that more than 30 States and Union Territories were showcasing their strengths, with over 3,500 exhibitors and participation from 11 countries. The One District, One Product Pavilion initiative, would showcase products from different parts of the country, highlighting India's strengths in arts, handicrafts, handloom and food products.

Another major attraction, the Hall of Inspiration, will showcase 600 startups and their innovations. The IITF mobile application will provide visitors with information about the entire fair, enabling them to navigate the exhibition and identify exhibitors of interest. Shri Goyal noted that visitors would need to set aside two to three days to explore the entire exhibition, given its extensive spread across Bharat Mandapam.

The Minister also announced that the Government would soon launch the next phase of expansion of Bharat Mandapam, which would almost double the available exhibition space for exhibitors. He said that the success of recent exhibitions, including IITF, had demonstrated that even the significantly expanded facilities available today were no longer adequate to meet growing deman

Shri Goyal said that IITF would now be taken across the world, with the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) planning several international fairs, both sector-specific and multi-dimensional. These fairs would provide Indian goods, services and startups opportunities to showcase their capabilities and engage with markets in developed countries and other international markets, particularly those with which India has entered into Free Trade Agreements. He called upon businesses and exhibitors to actively participate in these initiatives and contribute to India's global engagement.

Emphasising the importance of quality and sustainability, the Minister said that India's focus must remain on two key elements: quality and sustainability. Adopting



the principle of Zero Defect, Zero Effect would help ensure equitable and inclusive growth across the country. He said every Made-in-India product must reflect high quality and reinforce India's reputation in international markets.

He further stressed the need to adopt high-quality standards in manufacturing and services while embracing sustainable practices, promoting a circular economy, using natural products and giving greater importance to biodegradable products.

He said that ensuring economic growth without damaging the environment would position India as a global winner in the race to capture international markets and improve the prosperity of its people.

Highlighting the growing strength of India's domestic economy, Shri Goyal referred to the strong business activity witnessed during the recent festive season, including Diwali, Govardhan Puja and Bhai Dooj, as well as Navratri, Dussehra and Dhanteras. He said that stores across the country had witnessed significant consumer demand and business activity had been considerably higher. The October GST collections had already registered an all-time high for the month, and he expressed confidence that November would also witness record collections.

The Minister said that these developments reflected the strength of India's growth story, with every section of the economy contributing to the country's progress. Farmers, fishermen, workers, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), manufacturers, service providers, artists, artisans and handloom and handicraft producers were all demonstrating growth and confidence. From neighbourhood kirana stores and e-commerce businesses to artisans and major brands, every segment was looking to benefit from the expanding economic opportunities.

He observed that India's young entrepreneurs and businesses were increasingly reaching out to global markets, expanding production and looking towards a brighter future. Citing examples of emerging export opportunities, he referred to the export of Kiwi from Arunachal Pradesh, where exports had earlier been negligible, and Sindhuri pomegranates from Kullu reaching Dubai. He urged exhibitors and businesses at IITF to identify products with export potential and take advantage of the opportunities available through India's FTAs, emphasising that international markets were now open and Indian businesses must take the initiative to access them.

Shri Goyal said that India's growth was being powered by a young population aspiring for a better quality of life, improved education and healthcare, and greater opportunities to develop skills and talent. He noted that India had, in a span of 12 years, brought nearly 50 crore people, or 500 million people, out of extreme poverty. This had created a sense of achievement as well as aspirations for a brighter future among people across the country.

He said India was confidently facing global adversities, remaining focused on commerce, economic growth and the well-being of its people, irrespective of conflicts and uncertainties around the world. He attributed this confidence to decisive leadership and the country's growing economic strength.

Referring to India's long-term economic ambitions, the Minister said that the country's current four trillion dollar economy aspired to become a $30 trillion economy by 2047, when India would celebrate 100 years of Independence. He said that the country's young population, expanding businesses and growing export capabilities would play an important role in achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat.

The Minister also underlined the importance of preserving India's heritage and traditions while pursuing development. He said that the theme of this year's IITF aptly reflected the India story, as development remained incomplete without respect for heritage. Referring to the experience of developed nations, he observed that countries which had achieved prosperity had also protected, encouraged and promoted their traditions, heritage and culture.

The Minister also referred to the recently approved establishment of the world's largest museum, the Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum, in the North Block and South Block complex. He said that Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi recognised the importance of presenting India's diversity, long history, contributions to the world over several thousand years, rich cultural heritage and traditions to the global community. Referring to the fact that India had once contributed more than 30 per cent to the global economy, Shri Goyal said that understanding and recognising the country's past was essential to reclaiming its rightful position in the comity of nations and realising the vision of a developed India.

He expressed confidence that the Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum, being developed at the North Block and South Block complex, would showcase India's history, traditions and contributions to the world and serve as a source of inspiration for future generations, particularly the country's youth.

Shri Goyal said that the 45th IITF had moved beyond incremental improvements and taken a significant leap towards the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. He expressed confidence that the fair would become a trendsetter and mark the beginning of a new era in how India presented itself to the world and engaged with international markets to promote Indian goods, services, arts and culture.

He said that initiatives led by ITPO and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, in coordination with State Governments and other Central Government Ministries through a whole-of-government approach, would create greater opportunities for Indian businesses and entrepreneurs across the world.

Concluding his address, Shri Goyal declared the 45th India International Trade Fair 2026 open and called upon all stakeholders to actively contribute to India's journey of economic progress and global engagement.

Coordination between Industrial Development and Environmental Protection is the Foundation for Building a Developed India

Union Minister of Textiles Giriraj Singh visited the state-of-the-art manufacturing complex of Welspun World at Anjar in Gujarat's Kutch district, where he reviewed the company's production facilities and appreciated its integrated manufacturing operations and focus on environmental sustainability. During the visit, the minister observed various stages of textile production, from spinning to the manufacturing of finished products such as towels and bedsheets.

The visit provided the Union Minister an opportunity to understand the complete production process followed at the facility. He inspected the manufacturing operations and observed how different stages of production are carried out within a single campus. The complex has developed an integrated value chain, bringing several important activities under one roof and supporting the production of finished textile products.

Singh expressed satisfaction with the scale of integration and the modern technology used at the facility. He appreciated the manufacturing infrastructure and said that the production facilities were aligned with global quality standards. The minister's observations highlighted the importance of modern technology, efficient production systems and quality-focused manufacturing in strengthening India's textile sector.

The Union Minister also appreciated Welspun's efforts towards green manufacturing and the responsible use of natural resources. He took note of the company's focus on water recycling and environmental conservation, particularly in an arid region such as Kutch. Water management is an important consideration for industrial operations in areas where natural water resources are limited, making recycling and efficient use of water particularly relevant.

Describing the facility as an example of industrial development combined with environmental responsibility, Singh said the complex brings the concept of 'A Manufacturing Facility in a Garden' to life. He observed that the industrial campus, developed amidst greenery, demonstrates how manufacturing activities and environmental protection can be pursued together.The minister's remarks underlined the importance of ensuring that industrial expansion does not take place at the cost of natural resources. He appreciated the efforts made to incorporate greenery and sustainable practices into the industrial premises. According to him, such initiatives demonstrate that modern manufacturing facilities can focus on production and economic growth while also giving importance to environmental protection. During the visit, Singh also planted a sapling on the premises. Through the plantation activity, he conveyed a message about protecting the environment, conserving natural resources and working towards a greener future.

Department of Telecommunications Organises First All India Conference on Official Language 2026 in New Delhi

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) organised its first All India Conference on Official Language 2026 at the Dr Ambedkar International Centre on Janpath in New Delhi, with the objective of encouraging the progressive use of Hindi in official functioning, administrative work and governance. The conference brought together senior officials, officers, experts and other participants to discuss ways to strengthen the implementation and use of Hindi in government communication.The event was held under the guidance of Shri Manish Sinha, Member (Finance), Department of Telecommunications, who attended as the chief guest. The inaugural session began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the chief guest along with other dignitaries present on the dais. The ceremony marked the formal commencement of the conference and its discussions on the promotion of Hindi as the Official Language. During the inaugural session, Member (Finance), Advisor (T), Advisor (O), Deputy Director General (C&A), Joint Secretary (Administration) and CGCA addressed the gathering. The speakers highlighted the importance of encouraging the use of Hindi in official work and strengthening its role in government functioning.

They emphasised the need to create greater awareness about the Official Language and promote its progressive use in administrative communication.The inaugural session was followed by the



welcome of the distinguished speakers. The conference was organised to provide a common platform for discussing different aspects of Official Language implementation, including the practical use of Hindi in government offices and the importance of making official communication more accessible.

The first technical session featured deliberations by Shri Kumar Pal Sharma, Dr Om Nishchal and Shri Rajesh Srivastav. The speakers shared their views on various aspects of the use, promotion and enrichment of Official Language Hindi. Their discussions covered the importance of strengthening Hindi in official communication and encouraging its wider use in administrative activities. The session also provided an opportunity for participants to exchange views on the development and enrichment of Hindi as an official language. The discussions highlighted the importance of promoting the language while ensuring that officials are familiar with the relevant provisions and practices governing its use in government offices.The second session focused on the policies, provisions and tools related to Rajbhasha Hindi. Smt. Kiran Bharadwaj and Shri Saurabh Arya shared their insights during this session. The discussions provided information on the framework for implementing Official Language policies and the tools available to support the use of Hindi in official work.The conference witnessed active participation from senior dignitaries, officers and officials of the Department of Telecommunications. Representatives from its attached, subordinate and autonomous offices also took part, along with non-government members. Their participation provided an opportunity to share experiences and discuss practical approaches to improving the implementation of Official Language policies across different offices.The discussions focused on strengthening the progressive use of Hindi in official communication and administrative work. Participants exchanged ideas on how government departments can encourage the use of Hindi in their day-to-day functioning and improve awareness of the relevant rules and provisions.The conference concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Shri Kamal Swaroop, Deputy Director (Official Language).

Shri Hemant Kumar, Assistant Director (Official Language), and other officials of the Department of Telecommunications played an active role in organising the event and ensuring its successful conduct.The Department of Official Language under the Ministry of Home Affairs regularly organises All India and Regional Official Language Conferences to encourage the progressive use of Hindi in accordance with constitutional provisions and the spirit of Article 351 of the Constitution of India.

India Reaches 80% of Girls in Cancer Vaccine Drive!

New Delhi : India's nationwide cervical cancer vaccination campaign has reached approximately 80 per cent of its target population of 1.15 crore girls aged 14, marking a significant milestone in the country's efforts to prevent cervical cancer. The latest figures, reported on Tuesday, indicate considerable progress in expanding access to vaccination against the (HPV), which is responsible for most cases of cervical cancer. However, differences in coverage across states and districts have emerged as an important challenge for the nationwide programme.The vaccination campaign aims to protect adolescent girls against HPV infection before they are exposed to the virus. Certain types of HPV are responsible for the majority of cervical cancer cases, making vaccination an important preventive health measure. By focusing on girls aged 14, the programme seeks to provide protection at an early stage and reduce the



risk of HPV-related diseases in the future.Reaching approximately 80 per cent of the identified target population represents substantial progress in the implementation of the campaign. The achievement reflects the efforts made to expand vaccination access and encourage eligible girls and their families to participate. However, the national figure does not reflect an equal level of progress across the country. Significant differences have been reported between states, Union Territories and individual districts. These variations indicate that the success of a nationwide health programme depends not only on the overall number of vaccinations but also on how effectively services reach communities at the local level.Maharashtra's performance provides an example of these regional differences. According to the reported figures, the state has vaccinated 86,855 girls and ranks 32nd among the 36 states and Union Territories. Despite its substantial population and healthcare infrastructure, Maharashtra's position in the national ranking points to the need for greater efforts to improve coverage and ensure that eligible girls are reached across the state. The situation within Maharashtra also varies considerably from one district to another.

Supreme Court Warns Sanjay Raut Over Language!

New Delhi : The Supreme Court on Tuesday cautioned Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut over the language used in his public statements, observing that an experienced politician should understand the importance of restraint.

The court's remarks have attracted attention because they concern the standards expected from elected representatives and prominent political figures.

Raut, a senior political leader and parliamentarian, is known for his outspoken criticism of political opponents.

The Supreme Court's observations highlight the distinction between robust political disagreement and language that may create legal or public controversy.



Freedom of expression is an essential part of democratic politics, allowing leaders to criticise governments, institutions and competing political parties.

However, public statements can also raise questions concerning personal reputation, dignity and legal responsibility.

The court's remarks should be understood in the context of the proceedings in which they were made.

A judicial warning about language does not automatically establish that a criminal offence has been committed.

Nor does it mean that politicians are prohibited from expressing strong criticism.

The development is significant because political discourse in India frequently involves sharp personal exchanges between rival leaders.

The Supreme Court's intervention places renewed emphasis on responsible public communication.

The remarks may influence wider debate about the standards of conduct expected from politicians, particularly when addressing sensitive legal or institutional matters.

Over 25,000 Bengal Voters Caught in Electoral Limbo!

Kolkata : More than 25,000 people in West Bengal are reportedly facing uncertainty over their electoral status following the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter lists, bringing attention to concerns over voter registration, access to appeals and the protection of voting rights. The affected individuals are spread across several constituencies in Murshidabad, Malda, Nadia and Howrah districts, according to information reported on Tuesday. The development has raised questions about how people whose names or registration details are affected by the revision can establish their eligibility and seek necessary corrections.

The reported figure of more than 25,000 has drawn attention because the individuals concerned may face difficulties in exercising their voting rights. Depending on their individual circumstances and the status of their electoral records, some could face uncertainty over whether they will be able to participate in upcoming elections. Questions have also emerged about whether they can pursue an effective appeal if their registration status remains unresolved.

The Special Intensive Revision is a process undertaken to examine and update electoral rolls. Such exercises are intended to improve the accuracy of voter lists by checking existing entries, identifying discrepancies and ensuring that eligible citizens are correctly registered. Maintaining accurate electoral records is important for the smooth conduct of elections and for preventing duplicate or ineligible entries from remaining on the rolls.However, the revision process also requires careful attention to the circumstances of individual voters. Errors in records, incomplete documentation or difficulties in establishing registration details can create problems for people who are otherwise eligible to vote. Ensuring that such cases are properly examined is essential to preventing eligible citizens from losing access to their democratic rights because of administrative difficulties.The affected individuals are reportedly located across constituencies in Murshidabad, Malda, Nadia and Howrah. The spread of the cases across four districts indicates that the issue is not limited to a single constituency. However, the precise distribution of affected voters and the reasons behind their uncertain status will need to be established through an examination of individual electoral records.Election officials have acknowledged uncertainty about the exact number of people involved. As a result, the figure of more than 25,000 should be treated as an estimate rather than a final official count. A clearer assessment will require verification of the relevant records and examination of the circumstances of each affected individual.The uncertainty over the numbers also highlights the importance of transparent communication during the revision process. Citizens need clear information about the status of their electoral registration, the reasons for any discrepancy and the steps required to resolve it. Without accessible information, people may find it difficult to understand whether their names have been removed, placed under scrutiny or affected by another administrative issue.

Six Policemen Suspended After Custodial Death!

Haryana Family Seeks CBI Probe into Police Misconduct

Chandigarh : c Six police personnel have been suspended in Haryana following allegations surrounding the death of a man in custody, while his family has demanded an investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The action was reported on Tuesday amid growing questions about the circumstances in which the man was detained and the events that led to his death. The controversy has brought renewed attention to allegations of illegal detention and police misconduct, with the family seeking an independent investigation to establish the facts.

According to the allegations raised by the family, the man was illegally detained by police personnel and subsequently died while in their custody. Family members have questioned the circumstances surrounding his detention and death and have demanded accountability from those responsible. They have argued that the matter requires a detailed and impartial investigation to determine what happened and whether established procedures were followed.

The suspension of six police personnel marks an administrative response to the allegations. The action has come amid demands for a transparent examination of the incident. However, suspension is not the same as a finding of criminal guilt. The allegations will have to be examined through a proper investigation, and responsibility can be determined only after the available evidence has been assessed.

The family's demand for a CBI investigation has become a central issue in the case. They have sought an agency outside the local police establishment to investigate the circumstances surrounding the death. Their demand reflects concerns about whether an investigation involving allegations against police personnel can be conducted with sufficient independence and public confidence by the local authorities.Deaths in police custody are particularly serious because individuals detained by law-enforcement agencies remain under the control and responsibility of the authorities. Police personnel are required to follow the law and protect the safety and dignity of people in custody. Any allegation that a person was unlawfully detained, mistreated or subjected to misconduct therefore requires careful and impartial examination.

Investigators will need to establish the complete sequence of events, beginning with the circumstances in which the man was taken into custody. They will also have to examine how long he remained detained, what happened during that period and the circumstances immediately preceding his death. Establishing a clear timeline will be important in determining whether any legal or procedural violations occurred.

Medical evidence will also be an important part of the investigation. The findings of medical examinations and other relevant records can help establish the cause and circumstances of death. Investigators may also need to examine official documentation, custody records and statements from people who could provide information about the incident.

Tribal Pride Day Celebrated in Ahmedabad Division on Bhagwan Birsa Munda Jayanti

Aryan Age Correspondent

Ahmedabad: Tribal Pride Day was celebrated on Tuesday, November 17, 2026, across the Ahmedabad Division of Western Railway to mark the birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda. The commemorative event was held at the Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Office under the chairmanship of Divisional Railway Manager Shri Ved Prakash. The programme commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and the garlanding of Bhagwan Birsa Munda's portrait, in the presence of all branch officers of the Ahmedabad Division.



Addressing the assembled officers and staff, DRM Shri Ved Prakash shed detailed light on the inspiring life, indomitable courage, struggle, sacrifice, and unparalleled contributions of Bhagwan Birsa Munda—affectionately known as 'Dharti Aba'—toward the social, cultural, and political upliftment of the tribal community. He noted that the life of Bhagwan Birsa Munda stands as an exemplary symbol of resistance against injustice and exploitation, social consciousness, self-respect, and the preservation of tribal identity, having organized the community during his brief lifetime to fight historically for their rights and dignity.

Shri Ved Prakash urged all railway personnel to draw inspiration from Bhagwan Birsa Munda's ideals, fighting spirit, dedication to the nation, and commitment to societal upliftment, incorporating these values into their personal and professional lives.

Highlighting the significance of Tribal Pride Day, he underscored the importance of fostering awareness and deep respect for the glorious history, rich cultural heritage, and pivotal role of the tribal community in nation-building. The programme concluded with tributes offered to Bhagwan Birsa Munda's ideals, his sacrifices, and his unforgettable contributions to society and the nation.

Rajnath Demands Zero-Defect Defence Production!

New Delhi : Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has emphasised that defect-free manufacturing must remain a central priority for India's defence industry, underlining the importance of quality and reliability in equipment supplied to the armed forces.

Speaking on Tuesday, Singh said the success of military missions depends on the dependable performance of weapons, platforms and other defence systems.

His remarks come as India continues expanding domestic defence production and seeking greater technological self-reliance.

Modern military equipment often involves complex engineering, electronics, software and precision components.

Even a relatively small manufacturing defect can affect the performance of an important system during demanding operational conditions.



The Defence Minister's emphasis on quality therefore extends beyond industrial efficiency to the safety of military personnel and the effectiveness of national defence.

India has been encouraging domestic companies to participate in defence manufacturing alongside established public-sector organisations.

However, expanding production capacity must be accompanied by rigorous testing, quality assurance and compliance with technical standards.

The Minister's remarks highlight the importance of building a defence industrial base capable of meeting operational requirements consistently.The development is also relevant to India's ambitions to increase defence exports.

1.74-Crore Fake Books Scam Exposed!

Chennai : Police have arrested a publisher in connection with an alleged scam involving the supply of books under fictitious titles and author names to public libraries in Tamil Nadu.

The accused, identified as R. Mohan, is associated with Agalvilakku Publishers and Phoenix Publications.

According to details reported on Tuesday, the publishing firms had received approximately ₹1.74 crore for supplying books to public libraries across the state.

Investigators suspect that books listed under certain titles and names were not genuine publications as represented in the relevant records.The case has raised questions about the verification procedures used before public money was released for library purchases.

Public libraries depend on transparent procurement systems to ensure that funds are spent on useful educational and reading materials.

If publishers submit false information concerning books, authors or supply records, the integrity of the procurement process can be compromised.

However, the allegations remain subject to investigation and judicial scrutiny.

The arrest does not establish that every transaction involving the firms was fraudulent.

Investigators will need to examine purchase orders, payment records, publication details and the actual books supplied.

The case has wider implications for accountability in public procurement, particularly where officials rely on catalogues and documentation submitted by vendors.

Authorities may also need to review existing procedures for verifying publishers and titles.

Patient Dies After Alleged Assault by Bihar Doctor!

Patna : A man in Bihar has died from injuries allegedly sustained during an assault by a doctor and several other individuals after he questioned the treatment being provided to a pregnant woman at a hospital. The victim, identified as Sikandar Khan, reportedly intervened when the woman was being referred to another medical facility. What began as a disagreement over the handling of a patient allegedly turned violent, resulting in an attack that ultimately claimed Khan's life.

According to the allegations, Khan objected to the decision to refer the pregnant woman to another hospital. His intervention reportedly led to a confrontation with the doctor, who was also associated with the ownership of the hospital. The doctor and other individuals allegedly attacked Khan during the dispute. The incident has raised serious questions about the circumstances surrounding the confrontation and the conduct of those involved.

The alleged assault was reportedly carried out using hockey sticks and iron rods. Khan sustained serious injuries in the attack and later succumbed to them. His death has transformed the incident into a serious criminal matter, with investigators expected to establish the sequence of events and determine the responsibility of those allegedly involved.

The case has attracted attention because the violence reportedly followed a disagreement over the treatment and referral of a pregnant woman who had approached the hospital for medical assistance. The incident has brought renewed focus to the responsibilities of healthcare providers and the need for patients and their families to have access to clear information about medical decisions.

Hospitals and medical professionals are expected to provide treatment in accordance with applicable medical standards and procedures.

When a patient requires specialised care or facilities that are not available at a particular hospital, referral to another medical institution may be necessary.

The Udhna Turnaround: Western Railway's Permanent Blueprint for Seamless Festive Crowd Management

Aryan Age Correspondent

Mumbai: For the countless workers and families residing in Surat, Udhna railway station serves as a vital gateway connecting them to their hometowns across Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and other states. However, peak travel periods like Diwali and Chhath Puja historically triggered severe overcrowding, placing immense strain on platforms, waiting zones, and station approaches. Recognizing that operating additional trains alone was insufficient without structured pre-boarding management, Western Railway has transformed Udhna with permanent infrastructure, giving rise to the celebrated "Udhna Model."





At the heart of this transformation is the newly inaugurated Udhna Yatri Suvidha Kendra, opened on October 31, 2026, after overcoming challenging monsoon and soil conditions in just five months. Spanning over 10,224 square meters—and complemented by an existing 2,550-square-meter zone—India's largest passenger holding facility of its kind can comfortably accommodate up to 15,000 commuters simultaneously. The centre adopts a streamlined approach featuring dedicated pre-ticketing, ticketing, and post-ticketing zones. Equipped with 10 ticket counters, covered seating with special provisions for senior citizens and Divyangjans, separate restrooms, a baby-feeding room, and RO-filtered drinking water, the facility ensures a dignified and orderly pre-boarding experience.

To maintain passenger comfort and safety on an unprecedented scale, the complex integrates advanced amenities, including 32 High Volume Low Speed (HVLS) fans, electronic display boards, clear signage, and a public announcement system with 146 speakers. Furthermore, surveillance and crowd control are managed via 55 AI-enabled CCTV cameras backed by video analytics and a dedicated war room for real-time coordination. The effectiveness of this model was rigorously tested during the recent Diwali–Chhath festive rush between November 1 and November 15, 2026, when Udhna successfully handled approximately 7 lakh passengers through 136 regular trains and 62 special trains (predominantly unreserved). Commuters lauded the cleanliness, functional amenities, and the courteous, helpful conduct of the deployed railway personnel. By successfully integrating permanent holding architecture, advanced surveillance, and coordinated operations, Western Railway has established a robust, scalable benchmark for managing massive passenger surges at high-density stations nationwide.

Salman Khan Encourages Choreographer Abhishree Sen's Acting Debut

Aryan Age Correspondent



Mumbai :Choreographer and performer Abhishree Sen is set to begin a new phase of her career with her acting debut in Salman Khan's upcoming war drama, 'Maatrubhumi: May War Rest in Peace'. The debutante will appear alongside an established cast in the film and has credited Salman for encouraging her to explore acting and supporting her professional journey over the years.

In an interview published on Tuesday, Abhishree spoke about her association with Salman and explained how her professional relationship with the superstar gradually opened new opportunities for her. She revealed that her journey began with stage performances and choreography before she became involved in other aspects of film production.

Abhishree has worked with Salman on several projects, including the actor's Da-Bangg tour.

Her association with the superstar gave her an opportunity to understand the entertainment industry more closely and gain experience in different areas of filmmaking.

Over time, she became interested in exploring opportunities beyond choreography and stage performances.

IFFI To Screen Over 230 Films In Goa From November 20

Aryan Age Correspondent



Mumbai :The 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is set to bring together more than 230 films from India and across the world during a nine-day celebration of cinema in Goa. The festival will begin on November 20 and continue until November 28, with filmmakers, actors, producers, technicians and cinema enthusiasts expected to participate in the international event.

This year's edition will be organised under the theme 'Stories Without Borders', highlighting the power of cinema to connect people, cultures and communities beyond geographical boundaries. Spain has been designated as the Country of Honour, while Russia will participate as the Partner Country. Their participation is expected to bring greater international attention to the festival and provide opportunities for cultural and creative exchanges.The announcement has placed the spotlight on IFFI as one of India's most important international film events. The festival provides a platform for Indian and international filmmakers to present their work, interact with audiences and explore opportunities for collaboration. It also offers cinema lovers an opportunity to watch films representing different languages, cultures and filmmaking traditions.More than 150 international films representing 86 countries will form part of this year's programme. The selection is expected to offer audiences a wide range of cinematic experiences, including different storytelling styles, genres and perspectives. The international line-up will also provide an opportunity for Indian viewers to discover films that may not otherwise receive a wide theatrical release in the country. Screenings will be organised across six venues, featuring a total of 13 screens. Together, these venues will have a combined seating capacity of more than 4,000 delegates. The arrangement is intended to accommodate the large number of screenings and participants expected during the nine-day festival.One of the major attractions of IFFI 2026 will be the Indian Panorama section, which will showcase 25 feature films and 20 non-feature films. The section is designed to highlight the diversity and creative strength of contemporary Indian cinema, bringing together films that reflect the country's varied languages, cultures, subjects and storytelling traditions.

Lara Dutta Says Kaikeyi Was Not A Villain In Ramayana

Aryan Age Correspondent



Mumbai :Actor Lara Dutta has offered a fresh perspective on Kaikeyi, the character she portrays in filmmaker Nitesh Tiwari's ambitious film 'Ramayana'. Challenging the traditional image of the queen as the villain responsible for Lord Rama's exile, Lara believes that Kaikeyi's actions should be understood in the context of the promises made to her and her desire to protect her son's future.

In an interaction published on Tuesday, the actor explained that Kaikeyi's decisions were influenced by several personal and royal commitments. According to Lara, the character was not simply an ambitious stepmother who wanted to remove Rama from the path of the throne. Instead, her motivations were connected to promises made by King Dasharath and her understanding of her son's rightful position in the royal family.Lara said that Kaikeyi's character had several layers that are sometimes overlooked in conventional interpretations of the epic. She believes that understanding her background and the circumstances surrounding her marriage to Dasharath is important to understanding why she eventually demanded Rama's exile.The actor recalled an important incident from Kaikeyi's life in which she saved King Dasharath during a battlefield emergency. Her courage and presence of mind helped the king during a difficult situation. In return for her service, Dasharath promised to grant her two wishes whenever she decided to ask for them.

According to Lara's interpretation, this promise became a significant part of Kaikeyi's later decisions. The queen eventually used the two wishes to demand that her son Bharata be made the king of Ayodhya and that Rama be sent into exile for 14 years. These demands changed the course of the royal family's life and became a turning point in the epic.Lara also referred to another important commitment made by Dasharath before his marriage to Kaikeyi. She explained that the king had reportedly promised Kaikeyi's father that her son would inherit the throne of Ayodhya, irrespective of his position in the royal family. This earlier assurance, according to the actor, provides additional context for Kaikeyi's expectations.

The actor believes that these promises are essential to understanding the queen's actions. Rather than viewing her decisions only through the traditional idea of jealousy or ambition, Lara wants audiences to consider the circumstances that shaped Kaikeyi's thinking. Her interpretation presents the character as a woman acting in accordance with commitments she believed had been made to her and her family.

Ananya Panday Proud Of Her Family Background, Acknowledges Privilege

Aryan Age Correspondent



Mumbai :Actor Ananya Panday has spoken candidly about the ongoing nepotism debate in Bollywood, saying she is proud of being actor Chunky Panday's daughter and does not feel the need to distance herself from her family background. The actress acknowledged that being born into a film family had given her certain advantages but maintained that she remained grateful for the opportunities she had received.

Ananya shared her views during the 24th Hindustan Times Leadership Summit in New Delhi, where she discussed her career, the challenges faced by young actors and the criticism frequently directed at star children. Her comments once again brought the long-running debate over nepotism and equal opportunities in the Hindi film industry into focus.

During the interaction, Ananya made it clear that she did not consider her association with her father something she needed to hide or feel embarrassed about. She said she was proud of her family background and appreciated the opportunities that had allowed her to pursue acting.

According to the actress, she had always dreamed of becoming an actor, and she felt fortunate to be living that dream. The actress also acknowledged that her connections within the film industry and her upbringing had provided her with certain advantages.

Ramayana Crosses Rs 800 Crore Mark In India

Aryan Age Correspondent

Mumbai :Ranbir Kapoor and Yash-starrer Ramayana: Part 1 has crossed the Rs 800-crore mark in domestic net collections, adding another major achievement to its impressive theatrical run. The Nitesh Tiwari-directed mythological epic reached an estimated Rs 809.36 crore in India by Tuesday evening, November 17, according to live trade estimates. The latest figures include approximately Rs 16.76 crore earned during the film's 13th day in theatres, although the day's collection remains provisional and could change after final reporting. The film had collected Rs 32 crore net on Monday, its 12th day, following a strong second weekend. Its domestic net total stood at Rs 792.60 crore at the end of that day, while the India gross collection had reached Rs 947.25 crore.

Overseas earnings of Rs 490 crore had taken its worldwide gross to Rs 1,437.25 crore. The film has also moved into fifth position among the highest-grossing Indian films worldwide, overtaking the earlier global total of Ranveer Singh's Dhurandhar. The Hindi version continues to contribute the largest share of domestic business, while dubbed versions in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam have expanded its reach. Ranbir plays Lord Rama, Sai Pallavi portrays Sita and Yash appears as Ravana.

Golmaal 5: Rohit Shetty plans two-song shoot with entire ensemble in December

Aryan Age Correspondent

Mumbai :Director Rohit Shetty is bringing the familiar faces of the Golmaal franchise together once again, this time for two musical sequences in the upcoming fifth instalment.

With Golmaal 5 scheduled to release in theatres on January 8, 2027, the filmmaker is reportedly planning a reunion of the film's primary cast for a special song shoot in Mumbai. According to a report by Mid-Day, the film's lead ensemble, including Ajay Devgn, Akshay Kumar, Arshad Warsi, Shreyas Talpade, Kunal Kemmu, Tusshar Kapoor and Sharman Joshi, will come together to shoot two songs before the film's release.

Sources have revealed that all the actors have already allotted their dates for the schedule, which is expected to take place in the first week of December.

A source close to the development told the publication, "The shoot will take place in the first week of December. The whole ensemble will shoot for the songs, which are supposed to be big, fun tracks. Every installment of Golmaal has had celebratory songs, and Golmaal 5 will be no different."

Bringing together a large ensemble for a song sequence can often become a scheduling challenge, particularly when several established actors are involved.

However, the same reportedly has not been an issue for the Golmaal 5 team. The actors are said to share a strong professional bond and mutual respect, which has helped the makers coordinate their availability.

Speaking about the scheduling process, an insider added, "There's much respect for each other and especially Rohit, in the Golmaal team. So, blocking dates wasn't an issue. Rohit also values their time and hence wants to shoot the songs back-to-back so that the actors get free for their other commitments."

Shraddha Kapoor Unveils First Song From Eetha

Aryan Age Correspondent



Mumbai :Actress Shraddha Kapoor has unveiled the first song, 'Ji Ji Re Ji', from her upcoming film 'Eetha', giving audiences an early glimpse of her transformation into legendary Maharashtra folk performer Vithabai Bhau Mang Narayangaonkar. Released on Tuesday, the song presents Shraddha in a vibrant Lavani performance and offers a glimpse into the traditional Tamasha culture of Maharashtra. The actress appears in a traditional Nauvari saree, bringing the energy, colour and distinctive style of the state's folk performance tradition to the screen.The song introduces the film's central character through a lively dance sequence that reflects the spirit of Lavani. Shraddha's appearance, traditional costume and expressive movements are designed to recreate the atmosphere of Maharashtra's folk theatre. The performance also highlights the importance of music and dance in Vithabai's life, as she became one of the most recognised figures associated with Lavani and Tamasha.'Ji Ji Re Ji' has been sung by celebrated playback singer Shreya Ghoshal, whose voice adds to the traditional flavour of the composition. The music has been created by the well-known composer duo Ajay-Atul, while the lyrics have been written by Amitabh Bhattacharya. The collaboration brings together some of the prominent names in the Indian music industry for a song rooted in Maharashtra's cultural traditions.Choreographer Vaibhavi Merchant has designed the elaborate dance sequence. The choreography focuses on the expressive movements, rhythm and stage presence associated with Lavani performances. Shraddha's energetic presentation is an important part of the song, as she attempts to portray a performer whose identity was closely connected with her command over the stage and her dedication to folk art.

The song is not limited to presenting a colourful dance performance. It also introduces an important episode from Vithabai's extraordinary life, highlighting her determination to continue performing despite difficult personal circumstances.

Dhurandhar 2 Misses Grammy Nominations Despite Eight Entries

Aryan Age Correspondent

Mumbai :Ranveer Singh-starrer 'Dhurandhar: The Revenge' has failed to secure a nomination at the 2027 Grammy Awards despite submitting eight entries for consideration across various musical categories. The announcement of the nominations on November 16 brought an end to hopes that the popular Hindi film soundtrack would receive recognition at one of the world's most prestigious music awards. Although the film's music had generated considerable interest among Indian listeners, none of its submissions managed to find a place on the final nomination list.The soundtrack, composed by Shashwat Sachdev, had attracted attention for its range of musical styles and songs. Several tracks gained popularity following the film's release, helping the album build a strong following among audiences. The music team had hoped that the response in India would translate into wider international recognition through the Grammy Awards.

The film's music team had submitted eight entries across different categories, reflecting its attempt to gain recognition in several areas of the awards. The submissions included categories such as Best Compilation Soundtrack for Visual Media, Best Song Written for Visual Media, Best Global Music Performance and Best Asian Pop Music Performance. These categories offered an opportunity for the soundtrack to compete with musical works from different parts of the world.

Among the songs submitted for consideration were 'Phir Se', 'Jaan Se Guzarte Hain', 'Kanhaiyya' and 'Aari Aari'. The other entries included 'Vaari Jaavan', 'Jaiye Sajana', 'Destiny-Mann Atkeya' and 'Hum Pyaar Karne Wale'. Together, these eight submissions represented the film's effort to showcase its music to an international audience and gain a place among the year's recognised musical releases.However, the final nominations did not include any of the eight entries. The absence of 'Dhurandhar: The Revenge' from the list means that the soundtrack will not compete for a Grammy award in the 2027 edition. The outcome is a setback for the film's music team, which had hoped to build on the soundtrack's popularity in India and secure recognition on a major international platform.

The disappointment is particularly significant because the film's music had received considerable attention from listeners. Its songs had become familiar to audiences after the movie's release, generating interest in the composition and musical arrangements. The Grammy submissions were seen as an opportunity to take this popularity beyond the domestic market and introduce the soundtrack to a wider international music community.Composer Shashwat Sachdev had been at the centre of the film's musical identity. The eight submissions covered different aspects of the soundtrack, from individual songs to the compilation as a whole. By entering multiple categories, the team had attempted to increase the project's chances of receiving consideration. However, the nomination results showed that none of the selected entries had secured a place in the final competition.Despite the setback for the Hindi film, India received encouraging representation in the 2027 Grammy nominations through Tamil music. The track 'Varuvaaiy', associated with Devan Ekambaram and Susha, secured a nomination in the Best Global Music Performance category. Its inclusion brought attention to the growing presence of Indian regional-language music in international award competitions.

Gill Confirms Four-Pacer Strategy For New Zealand Test

New Delhi :India captain Shubman Gill has confirmed that the team intends to field four specialist fast bowlers in the opening Test against New Zealand, beginning November 19 in Wellington. The announcement provides a clear indication of India's bowling strategy for the two-match series, although the final selection remains undecided because several pacers are competing for places. Jasprit Bumrah's return strengthens the attack, while Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, Akash Deep, Anshul Kamboj and Gurnoor Brar are also among the available options. Gill described the selection challenge as a positive problem, pointing to the impressive performances of India's fast



bowlers in recent matches. The captain said the team wanted an attack capable of maintaining pressure through pace, accuracy and consistency, particularly because the Wellington surface could become flatter as the match progresses. India are also considering the batting contributions of their fast-bowling options while balancing the need for sufficient depth in the top seven. Wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant is expected to return after recovering from a side strain. Gill expressed confidence in Pant's experience and ability to perform in overseas conditions, dismissing concerns about his limited recent match practice. The series carries considerable importance for India's World Test Championship campaign. India currently occupy fourth position in the 2025-27 standings, while New Zealand are at the top.

Dhoni Ends IPL Career, Takes Up CSK Mentor Role

New Delhi : Mahendra Singh Dhoni has brought the curtain down on his Indian Premier League playing career, ending an extraordinary association with Chennai Super Kings that began with the tournament's inaugural season in 2008. The 45-year-old will continue with the franchise in a new capacity as team mentor from the 2027 season, marking a major transition for one of the most influential figures in Indian cricket. Chennai Super Kings confirmed the development on Tuesday, the final day for IPL franchises to submit their player retention lists ahead of the 2027 auction. Dhoni had reportedly indicated to the franchise during retention discussions that he was considering stepping away from playing and had asked to be released. Fitness



concerns, including a knee problem, had restricted his involvement in recent campaigns. He did not play a match during the 2026 season. Dhoni finishes his IPL career with 5,439 runs from 278 matches, at an average of 38.30 and a strike rate of 137.45. His record includes 24 half-centuries, 264 sixes and 375 fours. As captain, he guided CSK to five IPL championships in 2010, 2011, 2018, 2021 and 2023, besides winning two Champions League T20 titles. He also led the franchise to 10 IPL finals. His retirement marks the end of a defining chapter in the tournament's history. The mentor position will allow him to remain closely involved in team planning, player development and the franchise's future direction.

Pakistan Pacers Rout Sri Lanka For Just 98 In Rawalpindi

New Delhi :Pakistan's fast bowlers produced a devastating performance to dismiss Sri Lanka for just 98 runs on the opening day of the second Test at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Tuesday. The hosts took firm control of the series-deciding match with a disciplined and aggressive bowling display that left the visitors struggling throughout their first innings.

Pakistan elected to bowl first after winning the toss, making the most of conditions that offered considerable assistance to the fast bowlers. The decision proved highly effective as the Pakistani pace attack exploited the movement available from the surface and put immediate pressure on Sri Lanka's batting line-up.

Sri Lanka found it extremely difficult to deal with Pakistan's pace, accuracy and movement. The visitors lost wickets at regular intervals and failed to establish a strong partnership during the early stages of their innings. Their top order struggled to build resistance against the sustained pressure from the home team's bowlers.



The situation became particularly difficult for Sri Lanka when they slipped to five wickets for just 36 runs. The early collapse left the visitors in danger of being dismissed for a very low total and gave Pakistan complete control of the contest. The Sri Lankan batters were unable to settle at the crease as Pakistan continued to attack.

Mohammad Abbas led the bowling effort with an impressive spell, finishing with figures of three wickets for 14 runs from 14 overs. His performance included six maiden overs, underlining his control and ability to maintain pressure on the opposition. Abbas consistently troubled the Sri Lankan batters with his accuracy and disciplined line and length.

Razaullah also delivered an effective performance, claiming three wickets for 21 runs. He played an important role in preventing Sri Lanka from recovering after the early setbacks. His contribution ensured that Pakistan continued to make regular breakthroughs and kept the visitors from building a substantial total.

Aamer Jamal completed the impressive performance by taking three wickets for 24 runs. His pace and ability to exploit the conditions added further pressure on the Sri Lankan batting order. Saqib Khan claimed the remaining wicket, ensuring that all four members of Pakistan's bowling attack contributed to the dismissal of the visitors.

India Target Historic Hat-Trick Against Pakistan In SAFF Final



New Delhi :India will look to create history by winning their third consecutive SAFF Championship title when they take on Pakistan in the final at the National Stadium in Dhaka on Tuesday evening. The defending champions are aiming for their 10th overall title, which would further strengthen their position as the most successful team in the history of the regional football competition.

The final is scheduled to begin at 7.30 pm Indian time and is expected to attract considerable attention from football supporters across South Asia. The contest carries special importance for both teams, as India are chasing another milestone while Pakistan are seeking their first-ever championship crown.India have dominated the SAFF Championship over the years and have established themselves as the leading team in the competition. The Indian side has won the tournament nine times, with previous titles coming in 1993, 1997, 1999, 2005, 2009, 2011, 2015, 2021 and 2023.

Despite their impressive record, India have never managed to win three consecutive editions of the tournament. Their victory in the 2021 and 2023 championships has given them an opportunity to achieve that milestone in Dhaka. A win against Pakistan would allow the team to become the first Indian side to complete a hat-trick of consecutive SAFF titles.

The Indian players will also be aware of the significance of securing a 10th championship. Such a victory would extend their record as the competition's most successful team and provide another important achievement for Indian football. The team will aim to combine its experience and attacking ability to complete the campaign with the trophy.

Pakistan, meanwhile, have reached the SAFF Championship final for the first time in their history. Their qualification represents a major achievement for the country's national football programme and provides an opportunity to compete for a regional title that has so far remained beyond their reach.

Pakistan booked their place in the final after defeating hosts Bangladesh 1-0 in the semi-final. The match remained closely contested, with both teams looking for a decisive breakthrough. Abdul Samad eventually scored the winning goal in the 86th minute, securing Pakistan's place in the championship match.

The late goal against Bangladesh demonstrated Pakistan's ability to remain competitive in a closely fought knockout encounter. The victory also gave the team confidence ahead of its biggest match of the tournament. Reaching the final for the first time has already marked an important moment for Pakistani football.

Vinicius Hat-Trick Powers Brazil to Stunning 7-0 Victory

New Delhi :Brazil delivered a commanding performance to defeat Singapore 7-0 in an international friendly on Tuesday, with star forward Vinicius Junior scoring a brilliant first-half hat-trick to lead the five-time world champions to a convincing victory. The emphatic result provided an encouraging response from the Brazilian team following their disappointing 3-2 defeat against Japan in their previous international appearance. Brazil dominated the contest with attacking football, clinical finishing and impressive contributions from several young players, giving manager Carlo Ancelotti positive signs ahead of the team's upcoming international assignments.

Vinicius was the standout performer of the match, scoring all three of his goals within the opening 21 minutes. The Real Madrid forward immediately made his presence felt, putting Singapore's defence under pressure with his pace, movement and attacking ability. His early goals gave Brazil complete control of the contest and effectively put the opposition on the back foot during the opening stages.

The Brazilian forward opened his account after midfielder Bruno Guimaraes delivered an excellent pass to pick him out inside the penalty area. Vinicius made no mistake in converting the opportunity, giving Brazil an early advantage. The goal reflected the quality of Brazil's attacking combination and highlighted the understanding between the team's midfield and forward players.

Vinicius quickly doubled his tally as Brazil continued to exploit spaces in Singapore's defensive formation.

His movement and ability to find openings created considerable problems for the opposition defenders. The forward then completed his hat-trick following an excellent pass from young attacking talent Estevao Willian, bringing his personal goal tally to three within just 21 minutes of the match.

The hat-trick was particularly important for Vinicius, who has been looking to regain his best form after experiencing a difficult beginning to the current season at Real Madrid. His latest international performance demonstrated his attacking quality and provided a timely confidence boost. The forward's ability to deliver at the international level also reinforced his importance to Brazil's ambitions in upcoming competitions.

With a commanding lead established in the first half, Brazil continued to attack and maintained their dominance throughout the match. The team's attacking approach allowed several young players to make valuable contributions. Rather than slowing down after taking an early advantage, Brazil continued to create scoring opportunities and put pressure on Singapore's defence.

Young forward Endrick was among the players who found the net, adding another goal to Brazil's impressive performance. His contribution further highlighted the depth of attacking talent available to Ancelotti.

Germany Thrash Netherlands 5-0 to Enter Nations League Quarter-Finals

New Delhi :Germany produced a spectacular performance to register a commanding 5-0 victory over the Netherlands in their UEFA Nations League encounter in Berlin. The emphatic win helped Germany finish at the top of Group A2 and confirmed their qualification for the quarter-finals. The hosts delivered an impressive display of attacking football, scoring five goals against one of Europe's strongest national teams.

The result marked another significant achievement for Germany as they continued their progress under head coach Jurgen Klopp. The team displayed confidence, attacking quality and excellent coordination throughout the contest, particularly during the second half. The victory also provided a major boost to the players and supporters ahead of the knockout stage.

Despite suffering a heavy defeat, the Netherlands also secured a place in the quarter-finals. Both Germany and the Netherlands finished the group stage with 11 points, alongside Greece. However, Germany and the



Netherlands progressed because of their superior head-to-head records in the group standings.The opening stages of the match were closely contested, with both teams looking to establish control. The Netherlands attempted to challenge Germany's defence, while the hosts focused on building attacks through their midfield and using their attacking players to create scoring opportunities. Neither side managed to find an early breakthrough.

Germany gradually increased their attacking pressure as the first half progressed. The home side moved the ball with greater purpose and began creating opportunities around the Netherlands penalty area. Their persistence finally produced a goal shortly before the half-time whistle.

Derry Scherhant opened the scoring in the 41st minute, giving Germany a valuable 1-0 lead. His goal provided the hosts with an important advantage and allowed them to enter the dressing room with greater confidence. The Netherlands, meanwhile, faced the challenge of finding a response after conceding just before the interval.Germany returned for the second half with renewed energy and continued to put pressure on the Dutch defence.

Tony Mowbray Steps Down as Blackburn Coach Due to Illness

New Delhi :Blackburn Rovers head coach Tony Mowbray has stepped down from his position with immediate effect because of illness, bringing an unexpected change to the English Championship club's management during the ongoing season. The club confirmed the development on Tuesday and said that assistant coaching staff would take responsibility for first-team duties following his departure.

Mowbray, who returned to Blackburn earlier this year, had previously managed the club between 2017 and 2022.

His return had been expected to provide continuity and experience as Blackburn attempted to improve its position in the competitive second division of English football.

However, his latest departure has forced the club to make an immediate adjustment to its coaching arrangements. Blackburn chief executive Steve Curwood expressed support for the manager and highlighted his professionalism, commitment and personal qualities.

The club said its immediate priority was to ensure that Mowbray received the necessary care and support during his recovery. Damien Johnson and Mike Dodds will take charge of first-team responsibilities following the announcement. Blackburn are currently 13th in the Championship table, three points away from the play-off positions.



The club will now have to maintain its competitive momentum while dealing with the management change. Mowbray's departure is particularly significant because he had only returned to the club this year and was expected to play an important role in its longer-term plans.

The announcement has also prompted messages of support from the football community, with attention focused on his health and recovery. Blackburn have not indicated when a permanent replacement will be appointed.

Alcaraz and Medvedev Begin ATP Finals Campaign With Convincing Wins

New Delhi :Carlos Alcaraz and Daniil Medvedev made impressive starts to their campaigns at the 2026 ATP Finals, registering convincing victories in their opening round-robin matches in Turin, Italy. Spain's Alcaraz defeated American Frances Tiafoe in straight sets, while Russia's Medvedev overcame Italian fifth seed Flavio Cobolli to begin his tournament on a winning note. The opening victories provided both players with valuable points and strengthened their early positions in the race to qualify for the knockout stage of the prestigious season-ending championship.Second seed Alcaraz produced a commanding performance to defeat Tiafoe 6-2, 6-2 in just 69 minutes. The Spanish star dominated proceedings from the beginning, displaying excellent control from the baseline and maintaining consistent pressure on his opponent's service games. His powerful groundstrokes, court movement and ability to dictate rallies made it difficult for Tiafoe to establish any rhythm throughout the contest.Alcaraz demonstrated his superiority by breaking Tiafoe's serve four times during the match. He also showed considerable composure under pressure, saving all three break points he faced. His ability to maintain control during crucial moments ensured that the American was unable to make a comeback. The comfortable victory highlighted Alcaraz's growing confidence and his determination to challenge for the prestigious ATP Finals trophy.The Spanish player entered the competition with considerable expectations following an impressive run of performances in recent tournaments. He is aiming to win his first ATP Finals title after finishing runner-up to Italy's Jannik Sinner in last year's championship match. The experience of reaching the final in the previous edition is expected to provide him with additional motivation as he attempts to go one step further this season.Alcaraz's preparations for the season-ending championship were particularly important because he had returned to competitive tennis following a wrist injury that kept him away from competition for several months earlier in the season. The injury had interrupted his campaign and raised questions about his match fitness and consistency. However, his performances in recent weeks have demonstrated that he has regained much of his confidence and competitive sharpness.Before arriving in Turin, Alcaraz strengthened his credentials by winning titles in Vienna and Paris.



Real Madrid Fan Gets Jail Sentence for Racial Abuse of Mbappe

New Delhi :A supporter of Spanish football club Real Oviedo has been convicted of a hate crime for racially abusing Real Madrid forward Kylian Mbappe during a LaLiga match in August 2025. A Spanish court has sentenced the individual to 11 months in prison, suspended the jail term subject to legal conditions, imposed a financial penalty and banned the supporter from entering sporting stadiums for two years. The development was confirmed by Real Madrid on Tuesday and marks another significant step in the continuing fight against racism and discriminatory behaviour in Spanish football.

The incident took place during Real Madrid's 3-0 victory over Real Oviedo in August last year. During the match, the supporter was found to have directed racist abuse towards Mbappe, one of the most prominent players in world football. The court examined the incident and subsequently found the individual guilty of committing a hate crime. The conviction highlights the legal consequences that individuals can face for engaging in racist behaviour during professional sporting events.

Under the sentence, the convicted supporter has received an 11-month prison term, which has been suspended subject to compliance with the conditions imposed by the court. The individual will not be required to serve the sentence in prison unless the relevant conditions are violated. The two-year stadium ban forms an important part of the punishment and prevents the supporter from attending sporting events at stadiums during the specified period.

Spanish law generally allows prison sentences of less than one year to be suspended for first-time offenders, subject to applicable legal requirements. Such provisions are intended to provide an alternative to immediate imprisonment in eligible cases while ensuring that convicted individuals remain subject to legal restrictions. However, failure to comply with the conditions of a suspended sentence can result in further legal consequences, including the possibility of serving the prison term.Real Madrid welcomed the development and highlighted the importance of legal action in addressing racist behaviour directed at footballers. The club has repeatedly taken a strong public position against racism and has supported efforts to identify and prosecute individuals involved in discriminatory incidents. Its latest statement underlined the importance of ensuring that racist abuse does not go unpunished and that victims receive institutional and legal support.

According to Real Madrid, the latest conviction represents the 12th hate-crime ruling connected with LaLiga matches since June 2024. The number reflects the growing use of legal proceedings to address racist incidents at Spanish football grounds. It also demonstrates the increasing cooperation between football clubs, league authorities and judicial institutions in identifying offenders and pursuing appropriate action against them.Racism has remained a major concern in Spanish football, with several high-profile players reporting discriminatory abuse during domestic league matches and other competitions.

BSE Sensex		Nifty 50		Nifty 500		Nifty Next 50		Nifty 100		Nifty Bank		Nifty Midcap 100	
Close	Percent chenge	Close	Percent chenge	Close	Percent chenge	Close	Percent chenge	Close	Percent chenge	Close	Percent chenge	Close	Percent chenge
82,532.19	0.52%	25,387.40	0.38%	23,822.30	0.29%	72,693.00	0.28%	26,278.25	0.36%	62,273.25	1.13%	61.730.00	0.25%
Previous close	Open	Previous close	Open	Previous close	Open	Previous close	Open	Previous close	Open	Previous close	Open	Previous close	Open
82,104.79	82,150.62	25,291.10	25,277.30	23,752.40	23,732.55	72,490.25	72,382.60	26,183.30	26,164.60	61,575.90	61,559.95	61,576.40	61,481.50
High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
82,897.49	82,091.90	25,501.35	25,267.30	23,930.90	23,712.35	72,960.60	72,960.60	26,389.20	26,150.70	62,442.20	61,488.00	62,023.95	61,373.70

Top Gainers

Company	Current	% Gain
Eicher Motors	7,828.00	3.01
Adani Enterpris	2,745.10	3.24
Max Healthcare	1,030.90	2.08
Asian Paints	2,625.00	2.02
Axis Bank	1,369.00	1.98

Top Losers

Company	Current	%Loss
HCL Tech	1,355.70	-2.09
Power Grid Corp	258.00	-1.60
HDFC Life	595.05	-1.56
ONGC	223.52	-1.53
Coal India	391.55	-1.50

Commodities

Commodity	Price	Change (%)
Gold Dec 04	134,049.00	-490.00 -0.36
Silver Dec 04	169,180.00	1,317.00 0.78
Crudeoil Nov 19	8,049.00	-30.00 -0.37
Naturalgas Nov 24	292.40	-2.00 -0.68

Mahanadi Coalfields Sets ₹8,981-Crore IPO Price Band

New Delhi : Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL), a major subsidiary of Coal India Limited, has fixed the price band for its much-awaited initial public offering (IPO) at ₹129 to ₹136 per equity share. The proposed public issue, valued at approximately ₹8,981 crore, will open for subscription on November 19 and close on November 23. The offering represents another significant development in the government's ongoing efforts to expand public participation in state-owned enterprises and unlock value through the capital markets.

The IPO is expected to attract considerable attention from institutional investors, retail participants and market analysts, given Mahanadi Coalfields' important position in India's coal production network.

As one of the key subsidiaries of Coal India, the company plays a significant role in meeting the country's energy requirements by supplying coal to power generation companies and various industrial consumers. Its operations are particularly important at a time when India continues to depend heavily on domestic coal production to support electricity generation and industrial activity.

According to the proposed issue structure, approximately 66.18 crore equity shares will be offered to investors through an offer for sale (OFS). The entire issue will consist of shares being sold by existing shareholders, with no fresh issue component. This means that Mahanadi Coalfields Limited will not receive any funds directly from the IPO, as the proceeds generated through the share sale will go to the existing shareholders participating in the transaction.

The offer-for-sale structure is an important feature of the proposed public offering. Unlike a fresh issue, where a company raises additional funds for business expansion, capital expenditure, debt repayment or other corporate requirements, an OFS allows existing shareholders to sell a portion of their holdings to public investors. Consequently, the listing will provide an opportunity for investors to participate in the company's equity while allowing existing shareholders to monetise part of their investment.

Sensex And Nifty Close At Highest Levels Since February

Aryan Age Correspondent



Mumbai : Indian equity markets continued their upward momentum on Tuesday, with benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty closing at their highest levels since February, supported by strong foreign investment inflows, declining international crude oil prices and encouraging corporate earnings. Despite mixed trends across global markets and selling pressure in technology stocks, domestic equities maintained their positive momentum, reflecting improved investor confidence and sustained buying interest across several key sectors. The market's performance also indicated the relative resilience of Indian equities amid continuing uncertainty in the global economic environment.The BSE Sensex advanced 427.40 points, or approximately 0.52 per cent, to settle at 82,532.19. Similarly, the NSE Nifty 50 gained 96.30 points, or 0.38 per cent, to close at 25,387.40. Both benchmark indices registered their strongest closing levels since February, extending the recent recovery in domestic equities. The gains reflected broad-based buying interest, particularly in banking, financial services and selected consumer-oriented stocks.

Market experts attributed the positive performance primarily to the return of foreign portfolio investors (FPIs), who have significantly increased their exposure to Indian equities during November. The renewed foreign investment interest has provided an important source of liquidity and strengthened market sentiment. After periods of cautious investment activity, overseas investors have once again started allocating substantial funds to domestic shares, reflecting improving confidence in India's economic and corporate growth prospects.Foreign portfolio investment during November reached a record $9.53 billion, marking a significant development for the Indian stock market. The substantial inflows have helped support benchmark indices and encouraged domestic investors to maintain their participation in equities. The strong foreign buying also suggests that international investors are increasingly looking at Indian markets as an attractive investment destination amid changing global financial conditions.Another important factor supporting the market was the decline in international crude oil prices. Brent crude was trading near $93 per barrel after witnessing a sharp decline during the month. The moderation in oil prices has improved sentiment in India, which remains heavily dependent on imported petroleum to meet its energy requirements.

Sigma Advanced Systems Joins Spanish Firm For Defence Manufacturing

New Delhi :Hyderabad-based Sigma Advanced Systems Limited has entered into a strategic joint venture with Spain's Escribano Mechanical & Engineering Group to strengthen indigenous defence manufacturing capabilities in India. The partnership, announced on November 17, brings together the Spanish company's defence technologies and engineering expertise with Sigma's Indian manufacturing infrastructure, precision engineering capabilities and experience in executing industrial programmes. The joint venture is headquartered in India and has already commenced operations. The partnership intends to develop capabilities across the defence manufacturing value chain, including precision production, systems integration, engineering and technology development. Both companies will also explore opportunities to establish joint research and development capabilities, allowing existing technologies to be adapted to Indian operational requirements.

The arrangement is expected to support India's efforts to increase domestic manufacturing of advanced defence equipment and reduce dependence on imported systems.

Sigma will contribute its existing manufacturing, engineering and testing facilities, while EM&E will provide technology, product knowledge and specialised engineering expertise. The companies also intend to explore opportunities in international markets as their cooperation develops.

Sigma Advanced Systems Chief Executive Sunil Kalidindi said the partnership would create a platform for developing indigenous capabilities while combining the strengths of both organisations. The venture comes at a time when India is expanding domestic defence production through partnerships between Indian manufacturers and international technology providers. The government's emphasis on defence indigenisation, technology transfer and private-sector participation has created opportunities for companies capable of combining international expertise with domestic manufacturing capacity. The partnership could therefore strengthen Sigma's position in the defence supply chain while providing EM&E with a larger manufacturing and operational presence in India.

Senco Gold Records Festive Sales Of ₹2,426 Crore

New Delhi :Senco Gold Limited has reported its highest-ever festive retail sales, recording net sales of more than ₹2,426 crore during the 41-day period from October 1 to November 11. The jewellery retailer registered an impressive 26 per cent year-on-year growth, demonstrating strong consumer demand during the festive shopping season despite significant fluctuations in gold prices and challenging market conditions. The company's latest performance highlights the resilience of India's organised jewellery retail sector and the continued willingness of consumers to spend on gold and jewellery during important cultural and traditional occasions.

The strong sales performance came during one of the most important periods for India's jewellery industry, covering the Dhanteras and Diwali celebrations. These occasions traditionally witness increased purchases of gold ornaments, diamond jewellery and other precious metal products, as consumers consider jewellery an important part of festive traditions, weddings and long-term savings. Senco Gold's record sales indicate that demand remained robust throughout the festive period, even as rising gold prices increased the overall cost of purchasing jewellery.

According to the company, net sales during the 41-day festive period crossed ₹2,426 crore, representing a substantial increase compared with the corresponding period last year. The 26 per cent growth reflects the company's ability to attract customers through its extensive product range, established market presence and customer-focused retail strategy. The performance



also suggests that consumers continued to prioritise jewellery purchases despite uncertainty surrounding precious metal prices and household expenditure.

Another important development was the company's revenue performance during the first half of the financial year 2026-27. Senco Gold reported that its revenue crossed ₹5,000 crore during the April-September period, indicating sustained business momentum beyond the festive shopping season. The performance provides an encouraging indication of the company's growth trajectory and its ability to maintain demand across different periods of the financial year.

The jewellery industry has been operating in a challenging environment due to elevated gold prices and fluctuations in international bullion markets. Higher gold prices have increased the purchase value of jewellery, forcing consumers to adjust their budgets and, in some cases, opt for lighter designs or smaller quantities. However, the latest sales figures suggest that demand for jewellery remained strong during the festive period, with consumers continuing to make purchases for traditional celebrations, weddings and other important occasions.

Dhanteras and Diwali are particularly significant for jewellery retailers because gold purchases during these occasions are traditionally associated with prosperity, wealth and good fortune. Many households consider buying gold an important annual tradition, while others use the festive period to purchase jewellery for weddings and family celebrations. This seasonal demand provides a major business opportunity for organised jewellery companies, which generally introduce special collections, promotional schemes and customer engagement initiatives to attract buyers.

Global Markets Slide As Investors Reassess AI Valuations

New Delhi : Global financial markets came under pressure on Tuesday as investors continued to reassess valuations of technology companies and remained cautious ahead of Nvidia's quarterly financial results. Major Asian equity markets declined, with South Korea's Kospi falling 2.6 per cent to a six-month low and Japan's Nikkei dropping around 1.3 per cent. Markets in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Australia and Taiwan also traded lower.

The weakness followed a sharp sell-off on Wall Street, where the S&P 500 declined 1.9 per cent and the Nasdaq Composite lost 2.5 per cent in the previous session. Technology stocks remained under pressure amid concerns about the sustainability of artificial intelligence-related investment valuations, rising infrastructure costs and restrictions affecting advanced chip shipments to China.

Nvidia remained a major focus of investor attention ahead of its earnings announcement, with market participants looking for indications about demand for artificial intelligence processors and future data-centre spending. The uncertainty surrounding the global technology sector also affected investor sentiment towards companies associated with semiconductor manufacturing and artificial intelligence infrastructure. However, Indian markets showed relative resilience, with the Sensex advancing during Tuesday's session despite weakness across several Asian exchanges. Lower crude oil prices and renewed foreign investment interest provided support to domestic equities. International investors are also monitoring developments in global trade, geopolitical tensions and central bank policies.

The latest market movements highlight the difference between India's domestic investment sentiment and the uncertainty affecting several technology-heavy international markets.

Investors are expected to closely examine Nvidia's financial performance and management outlook for signals about the next direction of the global technology rally.

Aegis Logistics Raises ₹3,500 Crore Through Institutional Placement

New Delhi : Aegis Logistics Limited has successfully completed a (QIP) worth ₹3,500 crore, strengthening its financial position and expanding its access to institutional capital. The company has allotted approximately 2.89 crore equity shares to qualified institutional investors at an issue price of ₹1,210 per share. The issue price includes a premium of ₹1,209 over the face value of each equity share. The successful completion of the fundraising marks an important development in the company's financial strategy and provides additional resources to support its business and expansion requirements.The allotment was approved by the company's fundraising committee following the closure of the qualified institutional placement on November 16. The transaction attracted participation from 33 eligible qualified institutional buyers (QIBs), indicating institutional interest in the company's business operations, financial prospects and position in India's energy logistics industry. The successful response also reflects the availability of institutional capital for established companies seeking to strengthen their balance sheets and finance future business requirements.A substantial portion of the shares issued through the placement was allocated to four major investment institutions, including Smallica P World Fund, Quant Mutual Fund, New World Fund and Nomura India. The participation of these institutional investors highlights the interest of domestic and international investment institutions in companies operating in strategically important sectors such as energy infrastructure, petroleum logistics and gas distribution.The QIP has resulted in an increase in Aegis Logistics' paid-up equity share capital. Following the allotment, the company's total number of outstanding equity shares will rise from approximately 35.10 crore to 37.99 crore. The additional shares represent fresh equity issuance and will expand the company's shareholder base while providing it with substantial financial resources for its future requirements.

India Inc Posts Strongest Profit Growth In Four Years

New Delhi : Corporate India has delivered its strongest quarterly profit growth in more than four years, signalling a significant improvement in the country's corporate earnings environment and providing fresh encouragement to investors. Companies forming part of the benchmark Nifty 50 index reported an estimated 19 to 27 per cent increase in net profits during the September quarter of the financial year 2026-27, according to market estimates. The strong performance reflects improving business activity across several major industries, supported by healthy revenue growth, better demand conditions and stronger contributions from key sectors of the economy.

The latest earnings performance is particularly significant because Indian companies have been navigating a challenging business environment marked by elevated operating expenses, fluctuations in commodity prices and uncertainty in international markets. Despite these pressures, several major companies managed to improve their profitability during the quarter. The recovery in corporate earnings has strengthened expectations that India's business sector may be entering a more favourable growth phase after experiencing pressure on margins and profitability in previous quarters.Revenue growth among Nifty 50 companies was also encouraging, with market estimates indicating an increase of approximately 22 per cent during the September quarter. Excluding financial companies, revenue growth was estimated at around 24.6 per cent, highlighting the strength of business activity across manufacturing, infrastructure, automobiles, metals and other industrial segments. The improvement in revenue indicates that the earnings recovery was supported by higher business activity and sales rather than being driven solely by cost reductions.Banking and financial services emerged as important contributors to the overall improvement in corporate earnings. The sector continued to benefit from credit demand, lending activity and the expansion of financial services across the economy. Banks and financial institutions have remained central to India's economic growth by supporting household consumption, infrastructure investment and business expansion. Their contribution to quarterly profits also reflects the growing importance of the financial sector in the country's broader corporate earnings landscape.



The metals sector was another major contributor to profit growth during the quarter. Companies operating in steel and other industrial metals benefited from improved business conditions and stronger operating performance. The performance of major steel producers attracted particular attention, as companies managed to deliver results that exceeded market expectations. Metals remain closely connected with infrastructure development, construction, manufacturing and industrial investment, making the sector an important indicator of broader economic activity.

SML Mahindra Approves ₹1,450-Crore Rights Issue

New Delhi : SML Mahindra has approved a rights issue of up to ₹1,450 crore to finance its proposed acquisition of Mahindra Truck and Bus Division and support the company's future growth plans. The board has fixed the issue price at ₹3,506 per fully paid-up equity share, with eligible shareholders entitled to receive two rights shares for every seven shares held. November 20 has been fixed as the record date for determining shareholder eligibility. The fundraising represents an important step in the company's proposed expansion of its commercial vehicle business and its integration with Mahindra's wider automotive operations. The proceeds are intended to support the acquisition of Mahindra Truck and Bus Division, providing SML Mahindra with an opportunity to strengthen its presence in India's commercial vehicle market. The transaction is expected to expand the company's business scale and improve its ability to participate in segments covering trucks and buses. Commercial vehicle demand is closely linked to infrastructure spending, industrial activity, freight movement and economic growth. The proposed acquisition could therefore provide SML Mahindra with additional opportunities as transportation and logistics requirements increase across the country. The rights issue will allow existing shareholders to participate in the company's capital-raising exercise in proportion to their shareholding, subject to the specified entitlement. Mahindra & Mahindra is expected to participate in the issue at the announced price. The success of the fundraising and the integration of the acquired business will be important in determining the company's future performance.

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