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DELHI EDITION

PM Modi Launches 15,600 Crore Development Projects in Bengaluru

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today inaugurated, dedicated to the nation, laid the foundation stone, and flagged off various development projects worth over ?15,600 crore in Bengaluru, Karnataka. Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the Prime Minister extended his greetings in Kannada and bowed in reverence to the city's presiding deity Goddess Annamma Tai and Nadaprabhu Kempegowda, noting that today marks a day to give new momentum to the development journey of Bengaluru and Karnataka through projects spanning connectivity and energy security. "From projects connected with metro and rail to works of energy security, all these projects are going to give new strength to the infrastructure of Karnataka," asserted Shri Modi.

Emphasizing that infrastructure and improved connectivity generate new avenues for progress, employment, and industry that reach every section of society and strengthen the fight against poverty, as reflected in nearly 50 crore citizens escaping extreme poverty in recent years, the Prime Minister extended his best wishes to the people of Karnataka for the newly launched projects. "They will give new momentum to the building of a Viksit Bharat through a Viksit Karnataka, and at the same time further strengthen the identity of Bengaluru as a Tech City," affirmed PM Modi. Highlighting the dedication of the Bengaluru Metro's new Pink Line a short while earlier, the Prime Minister noted that the corridor will significantly improve connectivity to IIM Bengaluru, numerous educational institutions, and major business, technology, and commercial hubs across the city. "Lakhs of people of Bengaluru will not only have convenience in commuting, rather they will also be able to save their money and time," observed Shri Modi.

Recalling that yesterday marked the Punya Tithi of the late Ananth Kumar, who shared a deep bond with the region, the Prime Minister paid heartfelt tributes to the departed leader. "Seeing this metro line today, his soul too must have been delighted," remarked PM Modi.

Describing Bengaluru as the Silicon Valley of India that contributes over one-third of the nation's IT exports and serves as a major engine of innovation and economic growth, the Prime Minister stated that the Central Government has prioritized the rapid development of the Bengaluru region and expanded Namma Metro from just 17 kilometers in 2014 to over 100 kilometers today, making Bengaluru the third Indian city after Delhi-NCR and the Mumbai Metropolitan Region to cross the 100-kilometer metro milestone. "

Science, spirituality go hand-in-hand in India, says PM as he inaugurates planetarium in Mysuru

MYSURU. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said that science and spirituality go hand in hand in India, as he noted that Indian youths are making great strides in the fields of astrophysics, science and technology. Modi also lauded the efforts of the Mysuru Royal family in promoting science in the country by setting up Mysuru University and donating land for the Indian Institute of Science (IISc). He was addressing a gathering after inaugurating the state-of-the-art planetarium in Mysuru, which is the first LED Dome planetarium in India on the Mysuru University campus in the foothills of Chamundi Hills. The prime minister said, "Spirituality and science go hand in hand in India. Despite lacking modern equipment, our ancestors studied the cosmos and the movement of planets very closely. Our ancient astronomers accomplished complex.

CM Saini addresses a massive rally in Dasuya, Punjab

Congress and AAP Made False Promises to Punjab's People; Public Got Drugs and Unemployment : CM Saini

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH



At that time, many people were concerned about how Haryana would establish its identity with limited resources. However, over the past 60 years, Haryana has established a distinct identity in the country and across the world.

Haryana Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that Haryana came into existence as a new state after being carved out of Punjab on November 1, 1966. At that time, many people were concerned about how Haryana would establish its identity with limited resources. However, over the past 60 years, Haryana has established a distinct identity in the country and across the world. On the occasion of its Diamond Jubilee, Haryana has taken new resolutions for development, prosperity and public welfare. Recently, President Smt. Droupadi Murmu also participated in the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, honouring the state's glorious journey.

The Chief Minister was addressing a massive public rally organised in Dasuya, Hoshiarpur, Punjab, on Friday. He said that every tenth soldier guarding the country's borders belongs to Haryana. Haryana's sportspersons have also brought laurels to the country at international competitions, including the Olympics, Paralympics and Asian Games. Athletes from the state have played a significant role in winning medals for the country. Haryana has also emerged as a major destination for industry and investment. Whenever a global company looks to invest in India, Haryana features among its preferred destinations.

Targeting the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party, the Chief Minister said that these parties make tall promises to the people during elections, but after coming to power, they focus more on publicity and advertisements instead of fulfilling those commitments. The problem of drug abuse has become alarming, while promises of providing employment to the youth have also remained unfulfilled. He said that these parties must answer to the people of Punjab for the problems they have faced during the tenures of the Congress and Aam Aadmi Party governments. He said that the BJP government in Haryana has fulfilled 74 of the 217 commitments made to the people, while work on the remaining 143 commitments is progressing rapidly.

IYC suspends 68 UP East office-bearers, including 5 from Prayagraj, over absence from Delhi rally

LUCKNOW. (AGENCY)



Cracking the whip on indiscipline, the Indian Youth Congress (IYC) has suspended 68 office-bearers of its Uttar Pradesh (East) unit, including five from Prayagraj, with immediate effect for failing to attend a party rally in New Delhi, according to an official order, according to an official suspension order. The action, initiated by the IYC National President over indiscipline, was formalised through an order dated November 12 and signed by Uttar Pradesh East Youth Congress President Vishal Singh and State Co-Incharge Narasimha Yadav Peddagolla. "Taking serious note of your absence from the Delhi event, the IYC Leadership has decided to suspend the following office bearers with immediate effect until further notice," the order stated.

As per the three-page list issued by the Youth Congress, the suspended office-bearers include three state vice-presidents, 33 state general secretaries, 18 state secretaries, one joint secretary, 12 District Youth Congress (DYC) presidents, and one social media coordinator. The three suspended state vice-presidents are Jitesh Kr Mishra, Vijay Laxmi Chaubey, and Ajeet Khairwar. Joint Secretary Lalit Nishad and Social Media Coordinator Satyam Pandey are also among those suspended. The 12 District Youth Congress presidents facing action are Yash Mishra Banti (Ballia), Sudhir Yadav (Basti), Madhvendra Murti Ojha (Chandauli), Ankur Shukla (Kaushambi), Sharvendra Kr Kharwar (Kushinagar), Afsar Ahmed (Mau), Anshu Kr Pandey (Mirzapur), Saurabh Pandey (Prayagraj), Sharawan Kumar (Sant Kabir Nagar), Pankaj Chaturvedi (Siddharthnagar), Vikas Singh (Varanasi), and Shubam Shukla (Maharajganj).

Shah to chair 28th meeting of Eastern Zonal Council in Odisha

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is likely to chair the 28th meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council in Odisha on November 29, covering a wide range of issues of national importance such as implementation of Fast Track Special Courts for speedy trial and speedy disposal of rape cases against women and children, among others. Issues like brick-and-mortar banking facilities within the designated radius of each village, implementation of Emergency Response Support System (ERSS-112) and various issues of common interest at the regional level, including nutrition, education, health, power, urban planning and strengthening of cooperative systems, are also learnt to be discussed in the day-long meeting.

All-round development of villages, poor, farmers, labourers, and youth is our top priority : CM

RAIPUR. OPEN SEARCH



The picture of Mungeli district will change with the expansion of road, irrigation, drinking water, education and health facilities.

Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Dev Sai today presented the residents of Mungeli district with a significant gift of 77 development works worth over ?465.40 crore (US$1.2 billion) at a grand event held in Kanteli village.

The Chief Minister inaugurated 24 completed development works worth over ?68 crore (US$1.2 billion) and performed the groundbreaking ceremony and foundation stone laying ceremony for 53 development works worth over ?397 crore (US$1.2 billion). These works will significantly expand road, irrigation, drinking water, education, health, and other basic amenities in the district.

The Chief Minister stated that the state government's primary focus is on ensuring the prosperity of villages, the prosperity of farmers, and positive change in the lives of every citizen. The government is committed to ensuring that the benefits of development reach the last person in society.

All-round development of villages, poor, farmers, labourers, mothers, sisters and youth is our top priority. Chief Minister Shri Sai said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the country is moving rapidly towards building a developed India. In line with this resolve, the Chhattisgarh government is also working tirelessly to build a developed Chhattisgarh. He said that true development in any region is possible only when its villages are strengthened, farmers have access to better resources, education and employment opportunities expand for the youth, and basic amenities are easily available to the common citizen. The development projects unveiled today in Mungeli district are important steps towards realizing this vision. All-round development of villages, poor, farmers, labourers, mothers, sisters and youth is our top priority.

The expansion of road, irrigation and drinking water facilities will give a new impetus to development. Chief Minister Shri Sai stated that infrastructure development is being given special priority in Mungeli district.

23 killed in bus-truck collision in Assam's Kaziranga; 20 others injured

KAZIRANGA : (AGENCY)



At least 23 people died and 20 others were injured in a head-on collision between a minibus and a container truck near Kaziranga National Park in Assam on Friday, officials said. Out of the deceased, two were women, and many were college students who were returning from their classes, a police officer said. The accident occurred at Rangajan near Hathikuli Tea Estate in Kohora range on National Highway-715 when the passenger vehicle collided with the truck, a senior officer said. "The death toll is rising very fast. As per the latest information, doctors have confirmed that 23 people have died in the accident. The identities of the dead are being ascertained now," an Executive Magistrate of Golaghat district told reporters here. "Already nine ambulances have been operating to ferry the injured people. Doctors here have referred 20 people to Jorhat for advanced treatment," the official said. The minibus was going from Golaghat to Nagaon, while the container truck was going towards Upper Assam, police said. Earlier, Golaghat Senior Superintendent of Police Swapnaneel Deka that all senior civil and police officials have rushed to the spot to help rescue the people. He said that the exact number of people travelling in the bus is not immediately known.

Goa Ready to Welcome Global Cinema Community for 57th IFFI : Chief Minister Pramod Sawant

RAJESH D'SILVA
OPEN SEARCH



The International Film Festival has grown over the years. The theme aims to bring people from different countries together.

PANJIM : The Chief Minister of Goa , Dr. Pramod Sawant inaugurated the Curtain Raiser Press Conference of the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2026, held at Panjim, Goa on Friday. Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, unveiled the festival's expansive programme celebrating Indian and international cinema.

"As the Chief Minister of Goa it gives me great pleasure to welcome all delegates and the film industry for the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI). Great stories bring the world together. Goa is proud to host IFFI. It's a matter of pride for Goa. The State creates a memorable experience," said CM Sawant. "We are hosting the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa and for that I am thankful to the Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his support. We have an approximate cost of Rs 30cr expenditure for this Gala event being hosted by Goa," informed Chief Minister Pramod Sawant.

"The International Film Festival has grown over the years. The theme aims to bring people from different countries together. The International Film Festival features the best OTT series and growing digital platforms. Spain as Country of Honour and Russia as partner this IFFI adds new dimensions. Screening of films in 4 cities of Goa, Margao, Panjim, Porvorim and Ponda is to give all a novel experience," informed CM Sawant. "We want to showcase Goan hospitality through the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2026. The 20th Waves Film Bazar has been getting a good response. The workshops will help highlight the key areas in the film industry. We want all delegates, film makers and audience to get a wonderful opportunity," said Chief Minister Pramod Sawant. Expressing pride in Goa's association with IFFI, he described the festival as an integral part of the state's cultural identity and calendar. He also highlighted the state government's preparations to welcome the global film fraternity, with arrangements for screening venues, transport, hospitality and public facilities.

The Curtain Raiser Press event was also attended by Delilah Lobo, Vice Chairperson, Entertainment Society of Goa, Chanchal Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Krishna Kumar, Chairperson, NFDC, and Ashutosh Gowariker, Festival Director, IFFI 2026, Prabhat, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; Madhur Bhandarkar, Chairperson, Feature Film Jury; Himanshu Shekhar Khatua, Chairperson, Non-Feature Film Jury; Deepak Mandekar, CEO, Entertainment Society of Goa; and Dheeraj Singh, Managing Director, NFDC, & Smita Vats Sharma, DG West Zone PIB. Chanchal Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, highlighted IFFI's evolution as a major platform for Indian and international cinema, promoting cinematic excellence, cultural exchange and engagement with diverse voices. He recalled Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's observation that "The stories may have an address, but emotions have no borders." Elaborating on this thought, he emphasised this year's theme, 'Stories Without Borders', and the ability of cinema to transcend geographical, linguistic and cultural barriers. He also highlighted India's rich storytelling traditions across languages, cultures and communities, and expressed confidence that the 57th IFFI would further strengthen the festival's standing on the international cinematic stage.

Punjab Will Elect PM Modi's Development-Oriented Govt, Not 'Chutkulon Ki Sarkar': CM

AAP Promised Jobs to 25 Lakh Youth in Punjab, but CM Mann Now Proudly Claims to Have Provided Just 60,000 Jobs, says CM

VIJAY KUMAR.OPEN SEARCH





CHANDIGARH : Haryana Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini on Friday asserted that once the BJP forms the government in Punjab after the Assembly elections scheduled for February, those involved in the drug trade would have only two options i.e either abandon their illegal activities or leave the state. He said drug traffickers would not be allowed to operate in Punjab or Haryana. Addressing a public rally in Jalandhar, Punjab, the Chief Minister said the people of Punjab had made up their minds to elect a development-oriented government under the leadership of Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi instead of the present 'Chutkulon Ki Sarkar'

Taking a dig at the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government, Sh.Nayab Singh Saini said the party had promised to eliminate the drug menace within six months of coming to power. However, he said drug abuse had continued to spread, pushing more young people into addiction, while the government lacked both the policy and the political will to tackle the problem.

He said Union Home Minister Sh. Amit Shah had resolved to eradicate the drug menace from the country by 2029, and a comprehensive national-level policy was being formulated to achieve this objective. Such major commitments, he asserted, could only be fulfilled by a BJP government, while the AAP and Congress relied on false promises to secure votes.

Referring to employment, the Chief Minister said the AAP had promised jobs to 25 lakh youth ahead of the previous Assembly elections. However, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann now proudly claims on television that his government has provided only 60,000 jobs during its tenure. Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said even these jobs had been secured by children of influential people through corrupt practices, depriving hardworking and economically disadvantaged youth of opportunities and crushing their aspirations.

CM Questions AAP Government Over Healthcare and Welfare Promises

The Chief Minister challenged his Punjab counterpart to disclose how many Mohalla Clinics had been opened in the state, how many people had received free treatment at these facilities and what services were being provided to the public.

Highlighting Haryana's healthcare initiatives, he said Ayushman cards had been issued to 1.5 crore people out of the state's population of three crore, entitling them to free medical treatment of up to Rs 5 lakh annually. He said 40 lakh people had so far availed themselves of free treatment under the scheme, with the Central and State Governments together spending Rs 6,000 crore.Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said the BJP had promised financial assistance of Rs 2,100 per month to women in Haryana before the Assembly elections. After forming the government, it fulfilled this commitment by introducing the Deen Dayal Lado Lakshmi Yojana. He said the government allocated Rs 5,000 crore for the scheme in its first budget and Rs 6,500 crore in the second. So far, more than 10 lakh women have received financial assistance amounting to Rs 2,500 crore under the scheme. In contrast, he said, the AAP had promised Rs 1,000 to women in Punjab five years ago but implemented the promise only when elections were approaching, with the intention of securing votes.

Punjab Needs Development, Not a Govt of Jokes, says CM

Sh. Nayab Singh said the present administration had been reduced to what he described as mere a 'Chutkulon Ki Sarkar'. He remarked that people were beginning to realise that jokes might entertain audiences in cinema halls, but they could not run a government. The Chief Minister said the people of Punjab must now collectively decide to teach those who had misled them a lesson through the power of their votes and bring a double-engine government under Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi's leadership to put the state back on the path of development. Questioning the Mann government's handling of law and order, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said peace and stability would be restored in Punjab once the BJP formed the government. uding procurement of all 24 crops at Minimum Support Price (MSP) and merit-based government recruitment without Parchi-Kharchi. He said more than two lakh hard-working and deserving youth had been provided government jobs in

The Bharatiya Janata Party is fully prepared in Punjab, and the BJP will win the election in Punjab too : Vij

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH



Haryana's Energy, Transport and Labour Minister, Sh. Anil Vij commented on discussions of an alliance between the Bhim Army and AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi ahead of the upcoming Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections. He said that the BJP is going to form the government again in Uttar Pradesh, and that no matter who holds meetings, it will make no difference to the BJP. While speaking to media persons today, Energy Minister Anil Vij said that the BJP is going to form the government once again in Uttar Pradesh, and that people have already decided to vote for the Bharatiya Janata Party. "Now, whoever keeps holding meetings, it will make no difference to the Bharatiya Janata Party."

On Congress leader Rahul Gandhi challenging the Prime Minister to a debate, Energy Minister Anil Vij said, "The Lok Sabha is a platform for elected representatives to hold debates. These people either create a ruckus there or walk out. Who is stopping them from putting forward their views there?"

On the Aam Aadmi Party releasing its list of candidates for the Punjab election, Energy Minister Anil Vij said, "That is their internal matter, and we have nothing to do with it. The Bharatiya Janata Party is fully prepared in Punjab, and the BJP will win the election in Punjab as well."Responding to Digvijay Chautala's remarks about CM visiting Punjab, Energy Minister Anil Vij said.

Haryana to Honour Govt Employees for Excellence in Good Governance, Cash Awards of Up to Rs 51,000

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH

The Haryana Government has notified the Haryana Good Governance Awards Scheme, 2026, to recognise government officers and employees who have demonstrated exceptional performance and introduced innovative practices in public administration. The initiative aims to promote transparency, innovation and administrative efficiency in govt functioning. Sharing more details, an official spokesperson said outstanding officers and employees would be honoured with cash awards, trophies and certificates of appreciation under the scheme. The last date for submitting applications is November 25, 2026. The spokesperson said awards at the state level would be presented in two categories State Flagship Awards and State Awards. A maximum of five awards may be conferred in each category. The scheme covers eligible employees working in Haryana Govt departments, boards, corporations, statutory authorities, missions, societies, institutions, universities and public sector undertakings owned and controlled by the State Government.

Government Schools Witness Remarkable Transformation in 30 Years : Mahipal Dhanda

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH



Haryana Education Minister Sh. Mahipal Dhanda said that the perception regarding the standard of education in government schools is now changing. In 2013-14, the examination results of government schools ranged between 32 and 38 per cent, which have now improved to 90–94 percent. After nearly 30 years, people's perception of government schools has begun to change. The Minister was addressing the Annual Educational Fest as the Chief Guest at Government Model Sanskriti Senior Secondary School in Ganaur, Sonipat, on Friday. He said that the quality of education in government schools is continuously improving. The long-held perception that government schools do not provide quality education is now changing.

which have now improved to 90–94 percent. After nearly 30 years, people's perception of government schools has begun to change

He said that the revolutionary transformation taking place in the education system of the country and the state is largely attributable to the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi. He added that the National Education Policy has transformed the centuries-old traditional and rote-learning-based education system into one that nurtures and brings out the inherent capabilities of students. He further said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Sh. Modi initiatives such as 'Skill India' and 'Digital India' have inspired the country's youth to move from being job seekers to job creators. Today, young people are becoming technologically proficient and advancing towards modern science while remaining connected to India's rich knowledge tradition.

The Minister said that the Haryana Government is working with complete commitment towards improving education and empowering the youth. The youth are the driving force behind the state's development. During the event, the Education Minister appreciated the students for the way they asked questions, their confidence and their understanding of political and social issues. He said that such activities help develop leadership qualities, logical thinking and an understanding of the democratic system among children.

Briefs News

Haryana Government takes initiative to provide farmers with healthy vegetable seedlings to enhance their income

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH The Haryana Government has taken an important step towards increasing farmers' income by providing them with improved and healthy seedlings. A spokesperson for the Horticulture Department, Haryana, said that the Vegetable Centre of Excellence, Gharaunda, under the department, has started preparing seedlings of Rabi-season vegetables, including watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber, capsicum and other cucurbit vegetables. Under this initiative, farmers can bring seeds of the vegetables they intend to grow in their fields and contact the centre to get healthy seedlings prepared. The centre will provide the seedlings to farmers within the stipulated timeframe. Upon completion of the process, the subsidy amount, as per departmental norms, will be transferred directly to the farmers' bank accounts through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). The spokesperson further informed that the High-Tech Greenhouse at the centre has a total area of 1,792 square metres. Keeping the available space in view, bookings for seedlings will be accepted on a 'First Come, First Served' basis. The documents required for booking vegetable seedlings include Aadhaar Card, PAN Card, a copy of the bank passbook or cheque, Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP), Meri Fasal Mera Byora registration and a passport-size photograph.

Haryana extends registration, verification deadlines for contractual employees seeking job security

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH The Haryana Government has extended the deadlines for registration and verification of contractual employees under the Haryana Contractual Employees (Security of Service) Act, 2024, giving eligible workers additional time to complete the mandatory process for securing benefits under the legislation. According to an order issued by Chief Secretary Sh. Anurag Rastogi on Friday, eligible contractual employees can now register on the designated government portal until November 30, 2026. The deadline for verification of applications by Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) has been extended to December 15, while Heads of Departments (HoDs) have been given until December 31 to complete the final verification of applications received from DDOs. The revised schedule has been introduced following the government's earlier communication dated October 7, 2026, which prescribed timelines for verifying the service records of eligible contractual employees under the Act and the Haryana Contractual Employees (Security of Service) Rules, 2025.

Farmers to Gain Several Important and Practical Benefits Through Training Programmes

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH



The Haryana Government regularly organises training programmes to provide farmers with important knowledge and practical benefits. In this direction, the Centre of Excellence for Floriculture and Seed Production Technology, Munimpur (Jhajjar), functioning under the Horticulture Department, is organising a special five-day training programme for farmers. The programme will be held from November 23 to 27, 2026, on the theme 'Training on Floriculture through Advanced Techniques'.

Sharing this information, a government spokesperson said that a total of 10 farmers would be enrolled in the five-day training programme. Farmers interested in participating must register online through the official website of the Horticulture Department, Haryana, at http://kaushal.hortharyana.gov.in. Priority will be given to the first 10 farmers who complete their online registration. The last date for submitting applications is November 20, 2026, up to 3:00 PM. The names of the selected farmers will be uploaded on the website on the same day, November 20, 2026, at 3:30 PM.

Five-day training programme on 'Floriculture through Advanced Techniques' to be held at Munimpur from November 23

The spokesperson clarified that applicants must be permanent residents of Haryana and should be between 18 and 60 years of age. Further, only one member from a single Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP) can apply. Selected farmers will be required to bring photocopies of their Aadhaar Card and Parivar Pehchan Patra during the training.

He further informed that meals would be arranged for the farmers by the department during the training period. However, no overnight accommodation facility would be available at the centre. Farmers can gain several important and practical benefits from such training programmes, which can significantly transform their farming practices and income.

The spokesperson said that compared to traditional farming, the use of modern techniques such as polyhouses.

Officials in Districts Directed to Remain Extra Vigilant to Prevent Stubble Burning Incidents

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH

To effectively prevent incidents of stubble burning in the state, concerned officials at the state level have been directed to remain particularly vigilant over the next few days and ensure that field officials work in alert mode. Strict instructions have been issued that no laxity or negligence will be tolerated in this regard. A spokesperson for the Commission for Air Quality Management said that all officials in the districts have been directed to ensure that no incidents of stubble burning take place in their respective districts. For this purpose, officials of the district administration, police and Agriculture Department must jointly engage with farmers to effectively curb stubble burning incidents and ensure that air quality in the state remains clean and within prescribed limits.

He said that officials of the State Commission for Air Quality Management are visiting districts and holding meetings with senior district officials on crop residue management and air quality, while issuing necessary directions. So far, meetings have been held with the Deputy Commissioners, Superintendents of Police and Agriculture Department officials of Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Jind, Hisar, Rohtak.

Haryana Pavilion at International Trade Fair Showcases the Colours of Development and Heritage

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH



The Haryana Pavilion will be a major attraction at the India International Trade Fair (IITF)-2026, being held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, from November 14 to 27. Designed around the theme of 'Development and Heritage', the pavilion will showcase a unique blend of Haryana's rich cultural heritage and its remarkable development journey.

The pavilion will offer visitors a glimpse of Haryana's vibrant culture as well as the rapid development taking place across the state. An exhibition area has been developed around a large open courtyard inside the pavilion. One of its key attractions is a traditional Haryanvi Chaupal, designed in a rural setting to recreate the ambience of a village. It reflects Haryana's traditions of social interaction, collective participation and mutual brotherhood, while offering visitors an insight into the state's rural lifestyle and cultural values.

Visitors to get a glimpse of the state's rich cultural heritage and rapid development

Senior Manager of the Trade Fair Authority of Haryana, Anil Kumar Chaudhary, said that technology has been made an integral part of the pavilion's presentation. Digital scrollers and LED walls are being used to showcase the state's achievements and progress across various sectors. The Kinetic Information Wall presents Haryana's development story through dynamic visual displays.

AI-based and AR-based selfie booths have also been installed for visitors, enabling them to interact with digital environments and make their experience memorable. In addition, interactive digital quizzes will allow visitors to gain interesting insights into Haryana's history, culture, achievements and development. Senior Manager Anil Kumar Chaudhary said that the pavilion will present an impressive glimpse of the country's first hydrogen train and the rapid development taking place in Haryana. It will also highlight Haryana's image as a powerhouse of sports.

Haryana Day will be celebrated at the trade fair on November 22, which will be attended by Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini. The celebrations will feature Haryanvi folk dances and other cultural performances. He appealed to the general public to visit the fair in large numbers and make sure to explore the Haryana Pavilion set up in Hall No. 5.

Inter-State Kapal Mochan Mela-2026 to be Held from November 20 to 24

CHANDIGARH : OPEN SEARCH



The Inter-State Shri Kapal Mochan Mela-2026, a symbol of religious faith and historical traditions, will be organised at Bilaspur in Yamunanagar district of Haryana from November 20 to 24. A government spokesperson, while sharing this information, said that the Shri Kapal Mochan region holds immense religious and historical significance dating back to ancient times. To familiarise the younger generation with the glorious history of this region, its religious beliefs and facts associated with the Saraswati River, a grand museum is planned to be established here. The museum will provide young people and devotees with detailed information about the history of this sacred pilgrimage site, its ancient civilisation and religious traditions. He further stated that a book published in 1887 by India's first archaeologist also mentions Kapal Mochan as an important sacred pilgrimage site, where devotees from different parts of the country used to visit for holy baths and darshan. He said that religious scriptures and historical beliefs mention that the Saraswati River used to flow onward after filling all three sacred ponds at Kapal Mochan. Several sages, seers and saints are believed to have meditated along the banks of the Saraswati River in this region. The entire area is associated with the ancient course of the Saraswati River. On the lines of Brahma Sarovar in Kurukshetra and the Ganga Ghats, an aarti will also be introduced at Kapal Mochan.

He further stated that a large number of devotees from five states visit the Inter-State Shri Kapal Mochan–Shri Adi Badri Mela and take a holy dip in all three sacred ponds in succession to seek spiritual blessings.

Delhi may extend SIR deadline by 2 weeks, giving 47.6 lakh excluded voters another chance

NEW DELHI. (AGENCY)



Nearly 15,000 Booth Level Officers likely to revisit registered addresses to distribute fresh enumeration forms; final electoral rolls now scheduled for December 22

With nearly 47.6 lakh voters missing from Delhi's draft electoral rolls, the Election Commission is considering extending the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise by around two weeks to give them another opportunity to establish their eligibility and get their names included in the final list.

Officials said the existing schedule was likely to be extended to facilitate the re-verification of voters categorised as absent, shifted, dead and duplicate (ASDD) during the enumeration exercise. The revised timeline, however, is yet to be approved and will be discussed at the next meeting.

The move follows an announcement by the Delhi Chief Electoral Officer's (CEO) office last week that voters placed in the ASDD category would be given another opportunity to submit their enumeration forms. These voters had failed to submit the forms during the house-to-house enumeration conducted between June 30 and August 17, resulting in their exclusion from the draft rolls published on August 31.

Under the proposed arrangement, nearly 15,000 Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are expected to visit the registered addresses of these voters and distribute fresh enumeration forms. The voters will have to submit the forms along with prescribed declarations and supporting documents to establish their eligibility.

"The issue will be taken up for discussion in the next meeting and finalised," an official said, indicating that the extension could be around two weeks to complete the re-verification exercise.

Officials clarified that voters who have already applied for fresh enrolment through Form 6 during the SIR exercise would not need to submit enumeration forms again. Their applications would be processed by the respective Electoral Registration Officers (EROs). Those submitting fresh enumeration forms would also not be required to file a separate application for inclusion in the final rolls. The development comes ahead of the November 25 deadline for filing claims and objections. Through this window, deleted but eligible voters and first-time applicants can seek inclusion in the electoral rolls.

According to figures available with the CEO's office, Delhi received more than three lakh Form 6 applications till November 11, following the publication of the draft rolls.

West district topped the list with 37,140 applications, followed by North East (29,470), South East (29,407) and North West (29,175). New Delhi recorded the lowest number at 5,487. The applications include those filed by ASDD voters as well as first-time applicants. The draft rolls contain around 97.5 lakh electors, compared with nearly 1.45 crore voters registered as on June 30, when the SIR exercise began.

ED questions SP leader Azam Khan in Delhi office

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)



ED has registered a money laundering case against Khan and others, taking cognisance of 58 FIRs registered by the UP Police against him and his 'associates'

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday began questioning arrested Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Azam Khan at its Delhi headquarters in connection with a money laundering case, officials said.

Khan, a former Uttar Pradesh minister, was remanded to ED custody for four days by a special Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) court in Ghaziabad on Thursday. The central agency arrested him outside the Rampur jail in UP on October 31, and he was lodged in the Dasna jail in Ghaziabad, UP. Officials said the questioning and recording of the 78-year-old Khan's statement was being conducted by its Lucknow zone investigating team at the ED headquarters in Delhi.

They said he was not taken to its Lucknow office, where the ED case is registered, due to his old age and related medical issues.

The ED has registered a money laundering case against Khan and others, taking cognisance of 58 FIRs registered by the Uttar Pradesh Police against him and his alleged associates. The agency alleged that government funds meant for public works were diverted to construct the Mohammad Ali Jauhar University in Rampur, which the SP politician promoted. The agency accused Khan of using his influence as the state's cabinet minister for urban development and the UP Jal Nigam to facilitate the alleged irregularities. The Rampur Development Authority had ordered the demolition of 38 buildings on the university campus in July, following which the university filed an appeal. SP chief and former UP chief minister Akhilesh Yadav accused the BJP government of pursuing a political vendetta against his former cabinet colleague, alleging that false cases had been lodged against him. The ED conducted raids in the case in August and also questioned Khan.

JEE-Advanced 2027 to be held on May 23; IIT Delhi to organise exam

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)



The Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Advanced 2027 will be conducted on May 23, 2027 (Sunday), with IIT Delhi launching the official website for the examination to provide aspiring candidates with essential information, including eligibility criteria and examination-related updates. The official website, https://jeeadv.ac.in/, has been launched, and candidates can access the eligibility criteria for appearing in the examination. IIT Delhi has advised aspirants to visit the portal regularly for important announcements and updates related to the examination.

According to the information released by IIT Delhi, the website will serve as a central source of information for candidates preparing to appear in JEE (Advanced) 2027. It will provide relevant details to help aspirants stay informed about the examination process and other requirements. A key feature for the 2027 examination is the provision of an on-screen basic, non-scientific calculator. Candidates will be allowed to use a calculator with a 10–12 digit display during the examination. The examination, scheduled for May 23, will be an important step for engineering aspirants seeking admission to the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). Candidates have been encouraged to keep checking the official website frequently to avoid missing any updates or important instructions.

Delhi Metro survey : Commuters flag dirty surroundings, overcrowding as major concerns

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

The feedback was recorded across seven broad categories, with Availability and Accessibility receiving the highest number of responses at 1,080



Dirty surroundings outside metro stations, concerns over toilet facilities and overcrowded trains during peak hours have emerged as key issues flagged by commuters in the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation's (DMRC) Customer Satisfaction Survey 2026. According to an RTI reply, cleanliness outside stations received 483 responses seeking improvement, while 362 respondents flagged the need to improve toilets.

The survey was conducted over a month this year and received 1,328 responses. The feedback was recorded across seven broad categories, with Availability and Accessibility receiving the highest number of responses at 1,080. Of these, 759, or around 70 per cent, rated the services as excellent, very good or good, while 169 sought improvement.

Facilities offered to passengers received 1,028 responses, of which 709 gave positive ratings, while 165 sought improvement. Information services received 998 responses, with 739 rating them excellent, very good or good, while 100 respondents said improvement was needed.

As per the reply, quality of services received 971 responses, including 696 positive ratings and 128 seeking improvement. Customer service received 957 responses, with 671 positive ratings and 125 seeking improvement. Security, safety and comfort recorded 941 responses, of which 632 were positive and 141 sought improvement. Feedback on areas outside metro stations was less favourable. Of the 947 responses in this category, 457, or nearly 48 per cent, said improvement was needed. Only 320 respondents rated the services as excellent, very good or good, while 168 gave a satisfactory rating, the reply revealed. Detailed responses on individual facilities showed that 483 commuters wanted better cleanliness outside stations. For toilets, 83 respondents gave an excellent rating, 136 very good and 180 good, while 192 found them satisfactory. Another 127 said they were not aware of the facilities. The RTI revealed that train frequency was another concern, with 288 respondents seeking improvement. Train timings received better feedback, with 757 respondents rating them excellent, very good or good, while 212 wanted improvement. Four respondents were not aware of the frequency of services.

5,000 cops to be deployed for Chhath celebrations in Delhi November 15,16

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)



Security will be beefed up in Delhi for Chhath celebrations on November 15 and 16, with the deployment of more than 5,000 police personnel, police said. Security arrangements will be particularly strengthened around the Yamuna ghats, ponds, and locations where large gatherings are expected. Special attention will be given to areas in the East, Northeast and Shahdara districts, where a large number of devotees are expected to assemble to perform religious rituals.

All district deputy commissioners of police have held meetings with Chhath Puja organisers and members of local committees to discuss security arrangements and crowd management, a senior officer said. Patrols will be carried out on foot, in PCR cars and on motorbikes across the national capital. Special emphasis will be laid on maintaining law and order during the evening prayers on November 15 and the morning rituals on November 16, when a large number of devotees are expected to visit the ghats. "The deployment will cover major ghats, ponds, markets and roads leading to the celebration venues," the officer said. Organisers have been briefed about maintaining unobstructed entry and exit points at the celebration venues. Meanwhile, the Delhi Traffic Police issued an advisory for the two days, announcing traffic restrictions and diversions on several roads in the East, Northeast, and Shahdara districts. Commuters have been advised to avoid Pushta Road from Shastri Park to Khajuri Chowk and vice versa, Nanaksar T-Point to Sonia Vihar Toll Tax, and the stretch from Shanti Van to Shamshan Ghat, as far as possible. Commuters travelling towards North Delhi, Central Delhi, East Delhi, and New Delhi can use the Delhi-Dehradun Expressway and GT Road. "Those travelling from Nanaksar T-Point towards Sonia Vihar can take the route via Khajuri Chowk, RTC Pusta Road, Sabhapur village and Sonia Vihar Chauhan Patti. Local residents can also use Road No-66," read the advisory. Motorists were also advised to take a diversion via the SDM Office U-turn and proceed towards the Delhi-Dehradun Expressway. To prevent congestion, the traffic police have identified 13 parking locations for devotees. These spots include Yamuna Khadar near DND, an open DDA ground, an open ground at West Vinod Nagar in IP Extension, the area beside Khajuri Metro Station, and vacant Yamuna land beside the 2nd, 3.5, and 4.5 Pushta for residents of Sonia Vihar. Other designated parking facilities include Nanaksar Gurudwara parking.

Delhi Traffic Police to step up vehicle restriction efforts under GRAP

NEW DELHI. (AGENCY)



The Delhi Traffic Police has decided to intensify checks at the city's borders and alternative entry routes to prevent vehicles violating the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) restrictions from entering the national capital, officials said on Friday. The decision was taken at an inter-state coordination meeting held on November 12, chaired by Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Sachin Kumar Singhal, with officials from Haryana's Jhajjar, Sonipat and Bahadurgarh districts participating. The meeting focused on ensuring strict implementation of the directions issued by the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) and strengthening enforcement of vehicle-related restrictions under GRAP. An earlier coordination meeting on the issue was held on October 28, police said. During the meeting, officers were asked to ensure adequate police deployment at border entry points, alternative routes and entry loops to identify, intercept and divert vehicles that do not comply with the prescribed restrictions. The traffic police will also intensify checks for valid Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificates and take strict action against vehicles violating applicable restrictions on 10-year-old diesel and 15-year-old petrol vehicles, in accordance with the Supreme Court and National Green Tribunal orders.

Dirty surroundings, poor toilet facilities top Delhi Metro commuters' concerns

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)



An RTI reply reveals that 457 of 947 respondents sought improvements in areas outside metro stations, while 997 commuters reported overcrowding during peak hours

Dirty surroundings outside metro stations, concerns over toilet facilities and overcrowded trains during peak hours have emerged as key issues flagged by commuters in the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation's (DMRC) Customer Satisfaction Survey 2026. According to an RTI reply, cleanliness outside stations received 483 responses seeking improvement, while 362 respondents flagged the need to improve toilets.

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A total of 142 respondents rated the services of Ticket Office Machine (TOM) operators excellent, 212 very good and 217 good, while 151 sought improvement. Another 99 respondents said they were not aware of the services provided by the operators, the reply said. Security personnel of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) received 314 excellent, 259 very good and 173 good ratings for baggage scanning and security checks, it said. However, 110 respondents.

Briefs News

Gangster Rohit Godara 'demands' Rs 5 crore from Delhi bizman, threatens to kill him

NEW DELHI. (AGENCY) A Delhi-based businessman on Friday alleged that gangster Rohit Godara had issued a fresh extortion demand of Rs 5 crore and threatened to kill him, prompting him to approach the Delhi Police seeking immediate protection and an investigation. Sahil Luthra, founder and managing director of Vijayan Trishul Defence Solutions Pvt. Ltd., submitted a complaint to the SHO of Chanakyapuri police station on November 12, alleging that he had received the latest threat on November 11 at around 8.03 pm. In his complaint, Luthra claimed that he had been facing repeated extortion attempts and threats since 2024. He also raised concerns over suspected surveillance and the alleged leakage of confidential information, seeking a detailed investigation into these aspects.India travel guide The complaint also refers to an earlier FIR registered at the Chanakyapuri police station on October 17, 2025, in connection with the alleged threats and extortion attempts. Luthra has urged the police to take immediate action, ensure his safety and investigate the alleged involvement of Godara and other persons in the matter.

Delhi overtakes Lahore as world's most polluted city as air quality drops

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY) Delhi overtook Lahore in Pakistan to become the world's most polluted city on Friday, with air quality reaching hazardous levels and visibility dropping as smog blanketed the city of 20 million people. Air quality index (AQI) in Delhi was "hazardous" at 334, making it the most polluted global major city, according to Swiss group IQAir, which measures air quality levels based on the concentration of toxins. An AQI reading up to 50 is considered good with little or no health risk. India's official Central Pollution Control Board pegged the AQI higher at 403 and rated it "severe". The Swiss and Indian readings vary due to the different AQI scales and methodologies used to calculate and classify air pollution levels. Cars and motorcycles emerged from dense smog, which also appeared to obscure street lights on the city's main roads, videos from news agency ANI showed.Breaking news alert Pollution is a seasonal problem in many parts of northern India and neighbouring Pakistan, as the cold, heavy air of winter traps vehicle emissions, construction dust and smoke from stubble burning.

DU cancels PhD registration of scholar accused of assaulting professor, bars him from campus for 3 years

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY) The University of Delhi (DU) has cancelled the PhD registration of research scholar Shubham Singh and barred him from entering the university campus for three years following disciplinary proceedings over his alleged assault on a senior professor of the Faculty of Law. The disciplinary action relates to an incident on August 17, 2026, when Singh allegedly assaulted and misbehaved with Prof Anupam Jha, Senior Professor at Law Centre-II, near the entrance gate of Umang Bhawan at around 10.30 am. According to an office order issued by DU Proctor Prof Manoj Kumar Singh on November 13, Prof Jha had reported the incident to the Vice-Chancellor on the same day, alleging that he had been thrashed and beaten by the research scholar. Taking cognisance of the complaint and examining CCTV footage, the university suspended Singh from his PhD programme with immediate effect on August 17 under Ordinance XV-B. His entry into the university premises was also prohibited, and an independent inquiry committee was constituted to investigate the allegations. The committee examined CCTV footage, documentary records, the complaint submitted by Prof Jha, a medico legal case report and the written statement furnished by the Dean of the Faculty of Law. It also attempted to obtain Singh's version of events through emails sent on August 31 and September 1. Instead, the committee said, he used "abusive and derogatory language" in an email dated September 2. He also did not respond to multiple telephone calls. In its report submitted on September 9, the committee noted that the incident needed to be viewed in the context of Singh's previous disciplinary record, rather than as an isolated occurrence. It also observed that Prof Jha had no direct academic supervisory relationship with Singh and found no apparent background that could justify the alleged misconduct.

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EDITORIAL

A Changing World Through Science and Technology

We are living in an age of science and technology. Today, there is hardly any sphere of human life where the influence of science and technology cannot be seen. Scientific advancements in education, healthcare, agriculture, industry, communication, transportation, defence and space research have transformed the world. Tasks that once took several days or even months can now be completed within minutes with the help of modern technology. Science has not only made human life easier and more convenient but has also opened new avenues for growth and development. India has also achieved remarkable milestones in the field of science and technology. The success of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has attracted worldwide attention. The historic success of Chandrayaan-3 made India the first country to achieve a successful soft landing in the southern polar region of the Moon. Through the Aditya-L1 mission, India is advancing its efforts to study the Sun. Preparations for the Gaganyaan mission reflect the country's scientific capabilities and growing self-reliance. These achievements demonstrate that India is no longer merely a user of technology but is also emerging as a nation capable of developing advanced technologies of its own.

The digital revolution has brought significant changes to the lives of ordinary citizens. The internet, mobile banking, digital payments, Aadhaar and online government services have made administrative systems simpler and more transparent. Today, even people living in villages can access banking, education, healthcare and government welfare schemes through their mobile phones. Modern technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), robotics, machine learning and the Internet of Things are rapidly transforming industries and businesses.

Their impact on employment, production and economic growth is expected to become even more significant in the coming years. Science has brought new hope to the healthcare sector. Modern medical equipment, robotic surgery, telemedicine and the development of new medicines are helping in the treatment of serious diseases. Patients living in remote areas can also consult specialist doctors through online medical services. Similarly, technologies such as drones, modern irrigation systems, weather forecasting and improved seeds are benefiting the agricultural sector. Scientific research has expanded the possibilities of increasing agricultural production at lower costs while ensuring better utilisation of natural resources.

However, the development of science and technology has also brought several challenges. Cybercrime, online fraud, theft of personal information, the spread of misinformation and excessive dependence on technology have emerged as serious concerns. The growing use of artificial intelligence has also raised concerns about changes in traditional employment patterns. Moreover, unequal access to technological facilities can widen the digital divide.

Time to revisit philanthropy in India

PETER RONALD DESOUZA

Gandhi's trusteeship and Gates' monitoring model are among the pathways to choose from



PHILANTHROPY is both an old and a new idea in India. We get a glimpse of the old idea, which has its basis in caste, religion and trade practices, in Pushpa Sundar's 2017 book Giving with a Thousand Hands: The Changing Face of Indian Philanthropy. The Parsis, for example, have a reputation for being an active philanthropic community. Perhaps their worldview of Manashni (good thoughts), Gavashni (good words) and Kunashni (good deeds) has something to do with it. Similarly, the Lalbhais of Ahmedabad, drawing on Jain and Vaishnav philosophies and the institution of the Nagarsheth that they occupied, acquired a reputation as philanthropists; they established the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM-A) and the Ahmedabad Educational Society.

In contrast to this old-world philanthropy, the new idea that has caught the imagination of India looks at philanthropy in the US. Bain & Company, the global consultancy firm that publishes the annual India Philanthropy Report, notes a growing trend towards philanthropy by individuals, families and corporates in India. Unsurprisingly, from the Bain perspective, capitalism and philanthropy go together.

Beyond these two positions, however, there are at least three reasons for us to revisit philanthropy in India. The first is the current imbroglio concerning the governance of Tata Trusts. Established in 1892, it was deliberately given a majority stake (66%) in the principal holding company of the Tata Group, Tata Sons. They would thereby have a steady source of income for philanthropy. Why then is there a governance controversy today? What is it telling us about ourselves? What will be its implications for the philanthropy of Tata Trusts? The second curious factor is the extremely small number of Indian billionaires, just five, who have signed the "Giving Pledge" that voluntarily commits individuals to giving 50% of their wealth during their lifetime. According to the Forbes Billionaire List (2026), India has 229 billionaires and is ranked third after the US and China. So, why have so few made this pledge? It's another hard question to which we need answers. The third reason is Mahatma Gandhi's concept of trusteeship. It is an ethical idea superior to philanthropy and yet, despite his campaigning for it, there were no takers. According to Gandhi, only Jamnalal Bajaj came close to embodying this concept. Rather than retrace the Indian discussion, which to me is "same old, same old", let me present ideas/practices that have a bearing on Indian philanthropy. I will begin with Gandhi's idea of trusteeship and then move on to the contrasting perspectives of Bill Gates, MacKenzie Scott and Elon Musk. The core of Gandhi's idea is to convert an "owner" into a "trustee". This requires a change of heart: even though capitalists retain control of their wealth, they hold most of it in trust "for God", by which Gandhi meant "the people". Only a small "portion" is available for personal use. Trusteeship recognises capitalists' special skills at wealth creation but does not see this as providing moral grounds for them to use, and alienate, as they so desire. No private zoo for them — they are merely its trustees, not owners. They have to always keep the public good in mind. When asked how much of this wealth should be for the capitalist's personal use, Gandhi suggested 1%, a figure similar to the proportion of his net assets that Warren Buffett considered enough for him to fulfil all his desires. Trusteeship, for Gandhi, was opposed to capitalism, which he believed was rooted in violence. However, giving up ownership of one's wealth and becoming a trustee puts too great an ethical burden on capitalists, who prefer to remain owners. Despite trusteeship's roots in the Bhagavad Gita's concept of aparigraha (non-attachment), capitalists here, as elsewhere, want to enjoy social and political power. Control of wealth gives it to them. In contrast to trusteeship was the idea of philanthropy propounded by Andrew Carnegie in his slim book The Gospel of Wealth. The philanthropy he practised was about controlling both the giving of his wealth and its destination. Philanthropy was, for him, an opportunity to make available to the subaltern classes institutions for their uplift, such as parks, concert halls, museums and libraries — which he built. Carnegie also sponsored research, especially in the medical field, in universities. Philanthropy was the way to provide facilities for the less well-off to improve themselves. He, however, remained a profit-maximising capitalist. This conundrum of hard capitalism with soft philanthropy is at the heart of philanthropic work in America. Bill Gates endorses Carnegie's philosophy. He uses management tools to monitor the flow of money. To his credit, his work has had a significant impact on global public health. Unlike a trustee, Gates seeks to both decide the cause to which he will give money and the process by which it will be disbursed. For Gates, capitalism and philanthropy need each other.

Although MacKenzie Scott is a capitalist by default, having acquired her wealth because of her divorce from Jeff Bezos, she has adopted a light-touch approach to giving. She chooses not to monitor how her funds are deployed once she has identified a recipient. She makes the grant and allows the grantee to decide how and where it should be spent. Most of her awardees work with underserved communities. She cedes spending decisions to them, a strategy applauded by Melinda French Gates and Jack Dorsey, who now seek to emulate it. MacKenzie Scott's strategy of giving (nearly $26 billion and counting) has been described by Musk as "making the world a worse place". For him, the way forward to address the problems of the world is not philanthropy but capitalism. In his view, more for-profit companies like his that are mission-driven are more effective in achieving good than philanthropy. He considers the successful capitalist better than the large-hearted philanthropist.

Powerful idea

YAMINI AIYAR

The Democratic landslide in the mid-term elections in the United States of America has brought the idea of 'affordability' to the centre of the economic and political lexicon. Affordability is not simply about containing prices. It is about what an economy must deliver — a life of dignity in which essential goods and services, such as healthcare, housing, energy, childcare and transport, are within everyone's reach. By embracing the idea of affordability, Democratic candidates shifted the debate on the economy to bread-and-butter concerns that mattered to ordinary, working-class people. It provided a framework that could connect macroeconomic choices, corporate consolidation and political corruption to the everyday concerns of ordinary people. Democratic candidates across the US gave this idea local expression, campaigning on issues ranging from Medicare for All and price caps on essential medicines to public schooling, public transport, affordable housing and the regulation of Artificial Intelligence data centres. The specifics varied, but the ideas were bound together by a common principle: an economy must deliver on the essentials that people need to live a life of dignity.

The differences between the Indian and the US economies are self-evident. Yet the central principle underpinning the affordability debate in the US has considerable relevance for India. At a minimum, it offers an opportunity to ask better questions of our economy: what are the economic conditions necessary to ensure a life of dignity that offers opportunity and prosperity? The principle of affordability shifts the discourse away from aggregate GDP growth and freebies (the two poles that dominate policy discourse on the economy in India) to focus attention on what the economy delivers for the people. This is not an argument against GDP growth but one in favour of concentrating on the drivers of growth and their ability to expand opportunities for the majority. Dignified employment, rising wages, decent working conditions, and public investment in education, healthcare, transport and housing: these are the things that shape how people relate to the economy. The language of affordability gives these concerns a much-needed political and economic vocabulary.

Just as the US was doubling down on affordability, India found itself relitigating a long-standing argument over how we measure poverty. The terms of this debate offer a useful illustration of how powerful the affordability framework can be to reframe our debates and focus policymaking on the real economy. The poverty debate was triggered by the release of the World Bank's latest Poverty and Equity Brief, which reported a dramatic decline in extreme poverty — measured at $3 per person per day — from 27.1% in 2011-12 to 2.6% in 2023-24, describing it as "one of the fastest poverty declines in the world". The World Bank's estimates, however, are clouded by statistical uncertainty. After junking the 2017-18 Household Consumption Expenditure Survey, the National Statistical Office changed its survey methodology, item classification and sampling before releasing the 2022-23 survey. These changes make comparisons with the 2011-12 survey fraught with statistical uncertainty. Predictably, the public debate that followed the World Bank's estimates zeroed in on this contested question of measurement.

History is Repeating Itself in Rawalkot, and India Should Be Worried

TARA KARTHA

Anger against the military has grown, and rather unusually, even against the United States; protesters condemned Washington for blindly supporting the Pakistani army.



As Delhi and much of north India exploded into a frenzy of fireworks for Diwali, an entirely different type of firing was going on just across the border. Reports showed visuals of houses burnt to the ground in Rawalkot, as security forces fired upon protesters, even as crowds came out in protest as bodies of those killed were brought out. Anger against the military has grown, and rather unusually, even against the United States; protesters condemned Washington for blindly supporting the Pakistani army. It is all rather boiling up unexpectedly, marking yet another periphery of chaos. This is troublesome even for India. It could so easily spill over in unexpected ways. The seriousness of the situation was underlined when former "Prime Minister" of the ironically named "Azad Kashmir', Raja Muhammad Farooq Haider Khan, called for immediate intervention by the authorities to prevent further bloodshed amid reports of fresh violence. Considering he is a prominent leader of the ruling Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz), one would assume that people listened to him.

A clutch of political leaders met with the 'President' Dr Najeeb Naqi, heir to a solid political legacy, with solid army backgrounds, and from the Sudhonoti area of the state, which is the core area of unrest. With strong connections to Punjab through his marriage into a prominent Gujranwala political family, he has served several times as an MNA and federal minister. In other words, he is from the elite, with his sons educated in the UK. Incidentally, the UK motif remains very strong in this entire area, given the prominence of Poonch families in that country. And it is this 'son of the soil' who is expected to deal with the unrest in his hometown where the proud and martial race of the Sudhan tribe live. But then, that is why he was chosen as President.

The reasons for the clashes are not new, and they follow serious friction in August that was put down brutally by an irate Rawalpindi. That was led by the entirely non-political and civil rights movement of the Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC) rights group. The backbone of the JAAC leadership are activists, lawyers or those from local merchant associations. For example, Chairman Shaukat Nawaz Mir spent decades as a prominent trade union leader, serving as the head of the Central Anjuman Tajran Muzaffarabad (the central traders' association). Similarly, Sardar Umar Nazir Kashmiri has strong roots in the local business community and trade unionism in Rawalakot. Others are full-time grassroots organisers, human rights defenders, and environmental activists who originally mobilised communities around public utility costs, resource exploitation, and student rights. The spark for the unrest this year was high electricity bills - that too when much of the area had no power at all in the height of winter. The region with its massive water resources generates roughly 3,000 megawatts of cheap, clean hydroelectric power through major installations like the Mangla Dam, providing a significant portion of Pakistan's total power. Then there was the severe inflation, particularly in terms of flour prices; but what probably brought multiple groups into an alliance, was a strong resentment toward government spending and the "elite culture". That meant mostly Pakistani bureaucracy sprinkled with a bunch of local elites with their luxury official vehicles, pensions, and free utility perks. While the government predictably banned the JAAC and jailed most of its leaders, the unrest did not die down for the simple reasons that the violence that killed more than a dozen worsened tensions, an end result which for some reason the Pakistan army refuses to recognise. The whole situation ended up in an 'occupy' mode, with protesters taking over the bus terminal, an important node for a town with poor public infrastructure to begin with. Meanwhile, as tensions spiralled, the government, on the orders of the President, directed all weapon licence holders residing in the region to register their licences at the nearest police stations within 10 days, warning that unregistered licences would be treated as cancelled. Clearly, trigger-happy security forces - not the local police - did not enjoy being fired back at. As of the time of writing, security forces managed to clear the five month old 'occupation' but at considerable cost to themselves and others, in terms of an unknown number of casualties on both sides. Meanwhile, reporting from Pakistan is virtually unavailable, though it is highly likely that the protests have spread into Muzaffarabad, Kotli and other districts as it did last time, despite the lack of homogeneity on ethnic lines or even geographic connectivity. In simple words, it is the commonality of issues that is forcing the protest, not the usual spread that is seen in troubled areas. Irony of ironies, the Pakistan government is busy 'celebrating' the oddly called 'Jammu Martyrs Day', paying tribute to a reported 2,50,000 Muslims, who, according to unnamed documents, lost their lives in Jammu and its adjoining areas in 1947 while seeking to migrate to Pakistan. Pakistani urban legend attributes this massacre to the then Maharaja Hari Singh's forces, but more mischievously to a host of Hindu and Sikh groups.

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Stock markets snap 3-day rally on rate hike fears; Sensex drops 318 points

MUMBAI (AGENCY)



Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty ended lower on Friday, snapping a three-day rally amid expectations of an RBI policy rate hike next month after retail inflation surged to 6.09 per cent in October. The 30-share BSE Sensex dropped 318.56 points, or 0.39 per cent, to settle at 81,592.45. During the day, it tumbled 622.26 points, or 0.75 per cent, to 81,288.75. The 50-share NSE Nifty closed 155.05 points, or 0.61 per cent, lower at 25,144.30. This is the first major decline for both the benchmark indices this month.

Among the Sensex firms, Mahindra & Mahindra, UltraTech Cement, Bharat Electronics, NTPC, Trent and HDFC Bank were among the major laggards. Hindustan Unilever, Asian Paints, Bharti Airtel and Reliance Industries were among the winners. Retail inflation surged to 6.09 per cent in October, breaching the Reserve Bank of India's upper tolerance limit for the first time in two years and prompting economists to anticipate a policy rate hike by the central bank next month. The consumer price index (CPI) based retail inflation rose to 5.54 per cent in September, as a sustained uptick in food and beverages (F&B), restaurant services and transport inflation played a key role in pushing up the October headline number. Data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation showed that food inflation spiked to 8.94 per cent in October from 7.74 per cent in the previous month. "The current correction suggests that markets are increasingly uncomfortable with the combination of elevated inflation, currency depreciation and rising crude prices. While global uncertainties are adding to the cautious sentiment, the bigger concern is the potential second-order impact of higher energy prices on corporate margins, consumption and India's current account deficit," Vikram Kasat, Chief Business Officer – Advisory and Dealing at PL Capital, said. With inflation moving beyond the RBI's comfort band, expectations of monetary easing could also be pushed further out, limiting the scope for a sustained market recovery, he added. "Indian equity markets closed lower on Friday, snapping their three-day winning streak as investors resorted to profit-booking following the recent extended rally. Sentiment was dented by October retail inflation surging to 6.09 per cent, breaching the RBI's upper tolerance limit and raising concerns over a potential repo rate hike in December," said Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm. On the macro front, crude oil and rising US bond yields continued to weigh on domestic.

Financial pressure mounts on SpiceJet, airline turns to fresh fundraising

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)



Financially troubled SpiceJet is looking to raise fresh capital as the airline continues to grapple with mounting dues, delayed payments to suppliers and other financial liabilities. The airline has called a board meeting on November 18 to consider raising funds through equity shares, debt securities and other financial instruments. The move comes amid concerns over the airline's ability to meet its payment obligations. Between April and September, SpiceJet missed the statutory 45-day payment deadline on more than 85 per cent of invoices from small suppliers, with Rs 63.03 crore remaining unpaid beyond the stipulated period. SpiceJet's active fleet has also shrunk to just 12 aircraft, leading to severe operational disruptions and daily flight cancellations. In a regulatory filing to the BSE on Friday, SpiceJet said its Board of Directors would meet on Wednesday to consider and approve a proposal for raising fresh capital through the issuance of equity shares, preference shares, debt securities or other permissible instruments. The airline said the funds could be raised through a preferential issue, qualified institutions placement (QIP) or any other mode considered appropriate by the board. However, SpiceJet has not disclosed how much money it plans to raise or how the proposed funds would be utilised. The proposal will be subject to necessary approvals from shareholders and regulatory authorities, wherever required. Under the payment rules applicable to micro and small enterprises, dues must be cleared within the prescribed period, which cannot exceed 45 days where a written agreement exists. SpiceJet's disclosure also comes amid its efforts to secure additional funds to meet financial requirements and support its operations. The airline said the trading window for dealing in its securities would remain closed until further notice in accordance with the Securities and Exchange Board.

Six out of 10 Indian consumers trust online health information, prefer instant AI answers: BCG Study

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)



Around six in 10 Indian consumers consider online health information as reliable as advice from healthcare professionals, while a similar proportion prefer instant answers through artificial intelligence (AI) or online platforms rather than waiting for professional guidance, highlighting the growing influence of digital technology on healthcare decisions, according to a report by Boston Consulting Group (BCG).

The report found that 60 per cent of Indian consumers trust online health information, which is 19 percentage points above the global average. It said "India ranks second on the index with a score of 66, scoring above the global average on all six measures and standing out for trust in AI and online health Information" Meanwhile, 61 per cent prefer instant AI or online answers over waiting for advice from a healthcare professional, 18 percentage points higher than the global average. India ranks second only to China on both these measures, indicating the growing willingness among Indian consumers to use digital sources while making healthcare-related decisions. The findings are based on a global survey of nearly 10,000 consumers across 10 markets, including Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Japan, Switzerland, the UAE, the UK and the US. In India, 976 consumers were surveyed. The report also highlighted a significant generational difference in the way people seek healthcare information. Millennials are the most likely to prefer immediate AI or online answers over waiting for advice from healthcare professionals, with 52 per cent of respondents globally expressing this preference. This compares with 47 per cent among Generation Z and 25 per cent among baby boomers. In India, the trend is more pronounced among younger consumers, with 68 per cent of millennials preferring an immediate online answer, compared with 52 per cent of Gen Z respondents. Beyond digital information, Indian consumers are also seeking greater control over their healthcare decisions and spending.

The report found that 78 per cent of Indian respondents want more control over their treatment choices, while 73 per cent want greater control over healthcare costs and payment options. Additionally, 68 per cent expect healthcare providers to offer the same level of convenience and customer service that they receive from retail businesses.

WazirX on Crypto's Inflation, ETF and Nvidia Headwinds

MUMBAI : (AGENCY)

Crypto markets weakened over the week as inflation concerns, rising bond yields and sustained ETF withdrawals outweighed early support from recovering equities and lower energy prices. In the supplied weekly snapshot, Bitcoin fell approximately 5.5%, from USD 74,979 to USD 70,880, while Ethereum declined around 5.4%, from USD 2,124 to USD 2,010. Both approached important support regions, with stretched selling momentum creating scope for temporary rebounds but offering no confirmation of a sustained recovery. The macro environment remains restrictive. US inflation rose 0.4% month-on-month, while firm employment reinforced expectations that interest rates could remain elevated or rise further.

The supplied figures showed the US 10-year Treasury yield moving from approximately 4.88% to above 5.1%. Nvidia and US technology stocks add another source of volatility Nvidia added to market uncertainty following Jensen Huang's resignation and the appointment of Chief Financial Officer Colette Kress as interim CEO. Its shares fell approximately 11% over the week through Thursday, 12 November, leaving them more than 30% below their October peak.

8x More International Card Fraud Stopped: Early Results from Razorpay's Vulcan AI Payments Model

BENGALURU. (AGENCY)

Since announcing Vulcan, its transformer-based foundation model for payments, Razorpay is sharing what the model has delivered on live transactions. Vulcan was trained on about 3 trillion data points across 4 billion payments and built with NVIDIA and AWS. Components of the model have been running on Razorpay's network, informing routing, fraud, and risk decisions in real time. Businesses using them, including Blinkit, Bachatt and redBus, have reported: By analysing payment patterns across merchants, payment methods, issuers and gateways, Vulcan can draw on a wider set of transaction signals to make more informed routing and fraud detection decisions. This allows the model to identify patterns that may not be visible when individual payment decisions are assessed in isolation. India's payments landscape is unlike any other: a single purchase can be processed via UPI, cards, net banking, wallets or Cash on Delivery across hundreds of banks and gateways. Take Meera, buying running shoes for ?2,400 at 9 pm: she taps "Pay" and sees "Payment unsuccessful. Please try again." Her card, bank and money.

Japan Sui Collection Kyoto presents Mastery Of Touch, Mystery Of Time Rs 7-8 November 2026

KYOTO. (AGENCY)



The Cabinet Office, Government of Japan, hosted Mastery of Touch, Mystery of Time, an invitation-only exhibition of Japanese artistry from JAPAN SUI COLLECTION, at the Kyoto State Guest House on 7–8 November 2026. More than 160 guests, including international collectors, business leaders, curators and cultural enthusiasts, attended over the two days.

Presented under the overarching theme Japanese Waza: Residing in Hands and Time, the exhibition featured approximately 40 works from across Japan, including lacquerware, woodcarving, metalwork, ceramics, textiles and Japanese swords. The word Sui reflects the aesthetic sensibilities and cultural narratives woven into Japanese traditions. Ten thematic perspectives explored the skills behind the objects, from carving and hammering.

Global oil market to return to surplus in Q4 2026, larger supply build expected in 2027: IEA

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)



The global oil market is expected to return to a surplus in the fourth quarter of 2026, with a larger surplus anticipated in 2027 as production recovers faster than demand, according to the International Energy Agency's (IEA) November Oil Market Report. The report highlighted that global oil supplies have surpassed demand for the first time since the outbreak of the war in Iran, signalling a gradual rebalancing of international oil markets. "Our November supply and demand balances suggest that the global oil market will return to a surplus in 4Q26, with a more substantial build in 2027," the IEA stated. According to the report, global oil demand is projected to decline by 2.7 million barrels per day (mb/d) in 2026 to 102.3 mb/d before rebounding by 2 mb/d in 2027.

The agency noted that the pace of demand contraction is expected to moderate to 2.7 mb/d year-on-year in the fourth quarter of 2026, compared with declines of 5 mb/d in the second quarter and 3.8 mb/d in the third quarter. Global oil demand is expected to return to growth around March 2027 as supply chains normalise and disruptions to petroleum product exports from the Gulf gradually ease. The report stated that liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), ethane and naphtha would account for nearly 80 per cent of the projected demand increase in 2027, while transport fuels would register modest growth. On the supply side, global oil production increased by 2.3 mb/d in October to 105.4 mb/d, following a rise of 3 mb/d in September, supported by recovering oil exports from the Gulf. Gulf oil exports, excluding Oman, reached 18.4 mb/d in October, although they remained 26 per cent below pre-war levels. Crude oil shipments increased.

Guangdong and Singapore: 2,700 kilometers apart, yet 'zero distance'

GUANGZHOU : (AGENCY)

Guangdong and Singapore are nearly 2,700 kilometers apart, but the two places have long been intertwined. "Guangdong has been Singapore's top provincial trading partner for 36 years for a reason," says Mr. Ong Ye Kung, Singapore Minister for Health and Coordinating Minister for Social Policies, as well as Co-Chair of the Singapore-Guangdong Collaboration Council. This year, the partnership takes on added significance as Shenzhen prepares to host the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting. This serves as a timely reminder that bilateral ties are part of a wider regional vision. The vision is already taking shape on the ground. In Singapore's Punggol district, autonomous robotaxis developed by WeRide, a Guangzhou-based company, are ferrying residents along three routes that connect shopping malls, housing estates and a polyclinic. "We are complementing the public transport service to improve connectivity and provide better transportation alternatives for local residents.

CAPITAL FINVEST LIMITED

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UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

Pursuant to Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirement) Regulations, 2015.

The Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter ended September 30, 2026 ("Financial Results") have been reviewed by the Audited Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at their respective meetings held on Friday, 13 November, 2026.

The said Financial Results alongwith the Auditors Report have been posted on the Company's webpage at **https://www.capfin.in** and on the website of the Stock Exchange **www.msei.in** and can be accessed by scanning the QR Code provided below.

Date: 13-11-2026
Place: New Delhi

For Capital Finvest Limited
Sd/-
RATTAN SINGHANIA
WHOLETIME DIRECTOR
DIN : 00147685

ALPS INDUSTRIES LIMITED

Registered & Corp. Office : A-115, SECTOR-136, Maharishi Nagar, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India - 201304
CIN: L51109UP1972PLC003544, Website.: www.alpsindustries.com
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EXTRACT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND HALF YEAR ENDED ON 3OTH SEPTEMBER, 2026

(Rs. in Lacs)

Sl. No.	Particulars	3 months ended	3 months ended	Preceding 3 months ended in current year	Preceding 3 months ended in current year	Corresponding 3 months ended in the previous year	Corresponding 3 months ended in the previous year	Year to date figure of Current Year ended	Year to date figure of Current Year ended	Year to date figure of Previous Year ended	Year to date figure of Previous Year ended	Financial Year ended	Financial Year ended
		30.09.2026	30.09.2026	30.06.2026	30.06.2026	30.09.2025	30.09.2025	30.09.2026	30.09.2026	30.09.2025	30.09.2025	31.03.2026	31.03.2026
		(Standalone)	(Consolidated)	(Standalone)	(Consolidated)	(Standalone)	(Consolidated)	(Standalone)	(Consolidated)	(Standalone)	(Consolidated)	(Standalone)	(Consolidated)
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited	Audited
1	Total Income from Operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(14.87)	(14.87)	(19.20)	(19.22)	(1,709.71)	(1,709.81)	(34.07)	(34.09)	(3,403.08)	(3,403.25)	(5,137.54)	(5,140.71)
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(14.87)	(14.87)	(19.20)	(19.22)	(1,709.71)	(1,709.81)	(34.07)	(34.09)	(3,403.08)	(3,403.25)	2,599.61	2,596.44
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(14.87)	(14.87)	(19.20)	(19.22)	(1,709.71)	(1,709.81)	(34.07)	(34.09)	(3,403.08)	(3,403.25)	2,599.61	2,596.44
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(14.87)	(14.87)	(19.20)	(19.22)	(1,709.71)	(1,709.81)	(34.07)	(34.09)	(3,403.08)	(3,403.25)	2,678.11	2,674.94
6	Paid up equity share capital-face value of Rs. 1/- each (Rs. 10/- each upto 18-Dec, 2025)	769.13	769.13	769.13	769.13	3,911.41	3,911.41	769.13	769.13	3,911.41	3,911.41	769.13	769.13
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance sheet for the Financial Year ended on March, 2026.											(1,566.19)	(1,536.17)
8	Earnings per share Basic and Diluted:	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(4.37)	(4.03)	(0.04)	(0.04)	(8.70)	(8.70)	5.38	5.37

Notes:

The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter and period ended on September 30, 2026 filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The detailed format of the Financial Results of the company is available on the website of Bombay Stock Exchange Limited (BSE) (www.bseindia.com), National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) (www.nseindia.com) and the Company (www.alpsindustries.com).

DATE : NOVEMBER 13, 2026
PLACE : NOIDA

FOR ALPS INDUSTRIES LIMITED
(NISHANT SHRMA)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DIN: 00079281

57th IFFI 2026 set to transform Goa into a vibrant cinematic destination : Delilah Lobo Vice chairperson ESG

PANJIM : OPEN SEARCH

Delilah Lobo, Vice Chairperson, Entertainment Society of Goa, urged all movie lovers, Goan film makers and students of Mass Communication to attend the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) which is set to transform Goa into a vibrant cinematic destination, with nine days of film screenings across 13 indoor screens at four locations.

From the bustling festival hub of Panjim, with seven screens across INOX, Maquinez, Samrat and Ashoka, to the INOX screens at Porvorim, and the iconic Ravindra Bhavan in Margao and Magic Movie in Ponda, the festival promises an immersive cinematic experience for film enthusiasts. With diverse screening spaces and a combined seating capacity of over 4,000, IFFI will bring the magic of world cinema closer to audiences across Goa.

Now you can enjoy movies with your family at the beach. The screening is in the open air and free. I encourage all to experience the best of the cinema world has to offer," said Delilah Lobo.

"We have also made arrangements to transport the physically challenged to friendly venues to enjoy movies in a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere. I urge students interested in filmmaking to avail of the opportunity and learn from the Masterclasses," said Delilah Lobo, Vice Chairperson, Entertainment Society of Goa.

IFFI 2026 will host 14 sessions at Kala Academy from 21 to 27 November 2026, featuring masterclasses, workshops, panel discussions, retrospectives, in-conversation and interview sessions.

The sessions will bring together filmmakers, artists and industry professionals to explore subjects ranging from documentary cinema and filmmaking across borders to women shaping world cinema, storytelling, casting, subtitling and emerging cinematic practices.

Festival Director Ashutosh Gowariker explained the theme 'Stories Without Borders', highlighting cinema's power to transcend geographical, linguistic and cultural boundaries and connect audiences through universal human emotions and storytelling.

"The language and country don't matter as long as you identify and love the film at the IFFI. The subtitles are there to read in languages understood by all. This IFFI we bring a first for all to witness," informed Ashutosh.

The opening film, Fatherland, directed by Pawel Pawlikowski, follows Nobel laureate Thomas Mann and his daughter Erika as they travel through post-war, divided Germany in 1949, exploring the political and personal divisions of the time. The film received the Best Director Award at the 2026 Cannes Film Festival and was also nominated for the Sydney



Film Prize 2026. The 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2026 will showcase I Matter, directed by Alina ?erban, as its Mid-Fest Film. A 101-minute film co-produced by Romania, Germany and Belgium, it features dialogues in Romanian and Romani, bringing a diverse European cinematic perspective to the festival.

"The Gala Premieres segment will feature 14 screenings, with participation from 87 countries showcasing a curated selection of films and providing audiences an opportunity to experience diverse cinematic stories and acclaimed filmmaking," informed Festival Director Ashutosh Gowariker.

The 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2026 has introduced two new segments this year to broaden its cinematic offerings and celebrate diverse forms of storytelling. The first segment, Animation, will feature five outstanding films, showcasing creativity and innovation in animated cinema. The second segment, Films About Films, will also present five films and has been introduced in response to suggestions from renowned filmmakers, with the objective of bringing the art and craft of filmmaking to the forefront.

Another key highlight of the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2026 will be its special focus on BRICS cinema. India's Ramayana will be the opening film of the BRICS segment, which will showcase films from all 11 member countries, along with contributions from partner countries, offering audiences an opportunity to explore diverse cinematic traditions and storytelling from across the BRICS nations.

"Total 76 films are being showcased under Indian Cinema section in 18 different languages, reflecting the country's diverse storytelling traditions and creative excellence. The selection process received 404 feature film submissions& the non-feature category received 358 submissions. The Best Web Series (OTT) category received 46 eligible entries," informed Ashutosh Gowariker .

The Indian Panorama section of the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2026 will open with Dhurandhar, a Hindi feature film, and Becoming, a Ladakhi-language non-feature film. Bringing together films from two distinct linguistic and cinematic backgrounds, the opening selection reflects IFFI's vision of celebrating India's diverse storytelling traditions and showcasing cinema without borders.The 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) presents the Best Debut Feature Films Competition, featuring seven films from different countries, celebrating emerging filmmakers and fresh cinematic perspectives from across the world. The competition includes Fading Man from Germany, The Sledge from India, Paris from Belgium, The Black Sea from Egypt, L'Âge d'Or (The Golden Age) from France and Italy, Birds on Ice from India, and Atlantic from China. The competition provides an international platform for first-time feature film directors to showcase their talent, gain wider recognition and connect with global audiences, while highlighting IFFI's commitment to encouraging new voices and nurturing the next generation of filmmakers.

Celebrating fresh perspectives and diverse storytelling, the 57th IFFI will bring together 52 women filmmakers and 62 debut filmmakers, reflecting the expanding creative landscape of Indian and international cinema. The competitive sections will further spotlight 10 women filmmakers and 12 debut filmmakers, underscoring the festival's commitment to amplifying women's voices, nurturing new talent and providing a global platform for the next generation of cinematic storytellers.

The sixth edition of Creative Minds of Tomorrow will bring together 100 selected participants across 13 filmmaking crafts.

The programme will feature specially curated masterclasses, workshops, in-conversation sessions, a 48-hour filmmaking challenge and the CMOT Talent Camp. Participants will engage with leading filmmakers and industry professionals, pitch creative concepts and explore opportunities across the media and entertainment industry.

WAVES Film Bazaar will bring together filmmakers, producers, buyers, distributors and industry stakeholders to facilitate collaboration, co-production and business opportunities.

The Bazaar will welcome 150 invited guests, including buyers and production houses. Its key initiatives will include the Screenwriters' Lab, Co-production Market, Viewing Room and Work-in-Progress Lab.

Netflix, the Knowledge Series partner at WAVES Bazaar, will support industry capacity-building and showcase its collaboration with the Government to strengthen India's VFX capabilities and nurture a future-ready talent pipeline. Its participation will also feature the Gala Premiere of Pushpak Viman, an international screening of Ray Gunn and engagement in pitching sessions to support emerging creative talent and foster industry opportunities.

IFFI 2026 will celebrate the birth centenaries of eminent personalities of Indian cinema, paying tribute to legendary filmmakers Shakti Samanta and Raj Khosla, actors Uttam Kumar, Suryakant Mandhare, Prem Nazir and Raj Kumar, and renowned music composers O. P. Nayyar and Ravi. The festival will honour their exceptional contributions to Indian cinema and their enduring legacy in shaping the country's cinematic and musical heritage.

The closing film of the 57th IFFI, We Are All Strangers, directed by Anthony Chen, represents Singapore and has a runtime of 157 minutes. Presented in Mandarin and English, the film brings the festival to a close with a distinctive cinematic offering from contemporary Singaporean cinema.

Navy holds coastal security awareness drive at Thoppumpady Harbour under Sea Vigil-26

KOCHI : (AGENCY)

The Indian Navy on Friday held a security awareness campaign at Thoppumpady Harbour in Kochi as part of the ongoing Coastal Defence Exercise Sea Vigil-26, a spokesperson said. The campaign sought to sensitise fishermen, boat operators and other maritime stakeholders to their role in coastal security, the spokesperson said in a statement. Participants were asked to remain vigilant, follow established security procedures and promptly report suspicious activity or unusual movements in coastal waters.



The statement said coastal security was a shared responsibility that required close coordination between maritime security agencies and coastal communities. The 2008 Mumbai terror attacks underscored the need for a robust coastal security framework and better coordination among the Navy, the Coast Guard and state agencies, the spokesperson said. Since then, efforts have strengthened surveillance, information sharing, and response mechanisms along the coast, he added. The campaign was part of the Coastal Security and Defence Readiness Evaluation phase of Sea Vigil-26 and aimed to reinforce the role of coastal communities as the "eyes and ears" of security agencies, the statement said.

Goa gears up for Census 2027, Self-Enumeration begins on November 16

Cheshta Yadav Director of Census Operations, Goa, urges people to participate and provide accurate information

PANAJI : OPEN SEARCH

The Directorate of Census Operations, Goa, organised a press conference at Secretariat, Porvorim, Goa on today 13 Nov to create awareness about the second phase of Census 2027 – Population Enumeration (PE) and encourage people to actively participate in the Census process.

Addressing the media, Ms. Cheshta Yadav, Director of Census Operations, Goa, explained the schedule and various arrangements for conducting the Census in the State. The press conference was organised in collaboration with the Department of Planning, Statistics and Evaluation (DPSE), the State Nodal Department, Press Information Bureau and DIP, Goa. During the press conference Deputy Director of Census operations Sweta Nandwana was present. Ms. Yadav informed that Self-Enumeration (SE) will be conducted from November 16 to November 30, 2026, while the Population Enumeration (PE) will take place from December 1, 2026, to January 4, 2027. A revisional round will follow from January 5 to January 9, 2027. The reference date for Census 2027 in Goa will be 00:00 hours of January 5, 2027. The Census data for Goa, whenever released, will be based on this reference date. Explaining the Self-Enumeration facility, Ms. Yadav said that people can submit their household information online through the official website http://se.census.gov.in during the 15-day period from November 16 to 30. The facility will allow residents to provide their family details conveniently from anywhere, before the commencement of the house-to-house enumeration. During Population Enumeration, Census Enumerators will visit households and collect information through a mobile application. The process will cover 40 questions relating to demographic, socio-economic, educational, language, migration, fertility and other details. People who complete Self-Enumeration will receive a Self-Enumeration ID (SE ID), which they can share with the Census Enumerator during the household visit. If the entire family is away on vacation during the enumeration period, the SE ID may be written on a piece of paper and displayed on the front door of the house. Those who have not completed Self-Enumeration will have to provide the required information directly to the Enumerator. The Director Yadav also explained the roles of Enumerators and Supervisors and stressed the need for people to provide correct and complete information. She highlighted that all information collected during the Census will remain confidential under the Census Act, 1948. She also reminded the public that providing information for the Census is mandatory under the Act. Appealing to the people of Goa to cooperate with Census officials, aslos Ms. Yadav urged the media persons to spread awareness about the Census schedule and Self-Enumeration facility through newspapers.

Kangana Ranaut faces police complaint over Sonia Gandhi remarks on her memoir; Congress hits out at BJP

SHIMLA : (AGENCY)

A complaint has been filed with the Himachal Pradesh Police against Mandi MP Kangana Ranaut over her alleged derogatory and misleading remarks about former AICC president Sonia Gandhi on social media. In a complaint submitted to Director General of Police (DGP) Ashok Tewari, Capt Atul Sharma has sought registration of an FIR against Ranaut, alleging that her posts promote hatred, question constitutional loyalty and spread false information.

Ranaut had recently targeted Gandhi over her memoir, questioning how she could remain unaware of the circumstances surrounding the killings of members of the Gandhi family, which took place years after Sonia Gandhi



joined the family. The remarks were made in the context of Ranaut's experience while researching and making her film Emergency. Taking exception to the remarks, Sharma approached the DGP, seeking legal action against the BJP MP.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister's Media Advisor and Congress leader Naresh Chauhan strongly criticised Ranaut over her remarks about Sonia Gandhi, calling them unfortunate and reflective of her mindset. Chauhan said the BJP should explain.

Alarming levels of mercury found in 'Made in Pakistan' beauty creams seized in Maharashtra's Nanded

NANDED : (AGENCY)

A government laboratory report has shown dangerously high levels of toxic heavy metals, including mercury and arsenic, in beauty products labelled 'Made in Pakistan' that were seized by the Nanded police about four months ago, an official said on Friday. The products, valued at nearly Rs 39.69 lakh, had been confiscated during a raid at Afrah Collection (Afrah Tours and Travels) in the Makkah Galli area of Nanded on July 9. According to police, the laboratory analysis of samples collected during the raid found dangerously high concentrations of mercury in two beauty creams, far exceeding the permissible limits prescribed under cosmetic regulations. The 'PARLEY 24K Gold Gleam Beauty Cream' was found to contain 48,453.44 parts per million (PPM) of mercury against the permissible limit of 1 PPM. Similarly, the



'GOREE Beauty Cream with Lycopene' contained 6,924.94 PPM of mercury. Police said the raid was conducted by a team from Itwara police station along with officials from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The shop operator, Mohammad Ziauddin Mohammad Wajid, was found in possession of beauty products carrying labels in Urdu and English claiming Pakistani origin. Officials said the findings raised serious concerns over the potential health hazards posed by the counterfeit products. Prolonged exposure to excessive mercury and arsenic through cosmetics could lead to serious skin disorders, kidney damage and neurological complications, they said. A case has been registered under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act. police said. Police have urged citizens to report the sale of counterfeit, unlicensed or suspicious imported products.

Akali Dal's Battle to Reclaim Panthic Strongholds

After a decade of anti-incumbency, SAD's vote share dropped nearly 9.5 percentage points, and its seats collapsed from 56 to 15.

CHANDIGARH : (AGENCY)

Shiromani Akali Dal is trying to recover the Panthic strongholds it once dominated by reversing the dynastic style that drove senior leaders out. After years of Badal centralisation pushed nine senior party leaders out of which three have died. The prominent leaders who had left the party include figures such as Balwinder Singh Bains and Simarjeet Singh Bains left in 2016 to form the Lok Insaaf Party. In December 2018, Ranjit Singh Brahmpura, Rattan Singh Ajnala and Sewa Singh Sekhwan co-founded the Shiromani Akali Dal (Taksali). In 2020, Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa and his son Parminder Singh Dhindsa revived the Shiromani Akali Dal (Democratic); the following year they merged it with Brahmpura's faction to create the Shiromani Akali Dal (Sanyukt). Bibi Jagir Kaur was expelled in 2022 after contesting the SGPC presidential election against the official candidate and later aligned with rebel reform



groups. In August 2025, former Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Harpreet Singh became president of the rebel Shiromani Akali Dal (Punar Surjit). Of these nine, three have since died: Ranjit Singh Brahmpura, Sewa Singh Sekhwan and Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa.Only one of the nine is described as ready to return. Bibi Jagir Kaur announced in November 2026 that she would rejoin the Badal-led SAD. The remaining living leaders are still associated with the breakaway groups they helped create or now lead.

Akali Dal was now trying to bring back the same leaders back and reactivating the SGPC network. Their return is meant to rebuild local organisation and restore trust before 2027. What remains to be seen is whether the voters will treat the move as real change or a late cosmetic fix. For more than a century, the party treated Sikh religious politics as its own ground. It spoke for the Panth, ran the SGPC network, and turned rural Punjab into a reliable electoral base. That claim no longer holds. The party is fighting an open battle for relevance. The numbers show how far the ground has shifted under it. Between 2007 and 2012, the SAD-BJP alliance formed back-to-back governments. SAD's own vote share slipped by roughly 2.3 percentage points across those two elections, yet its seats rose from 48 to 56. The alliance held. In 2017, the fall began in earnest. After a decade of anti-incumbency, SAD's vote share dropped nearly 9.5 percentage points, and its seats collapsed from 56 to 15. It finished behind both Congress and the new Aam Aadmi Party. By 2022, having left the NDA over the farm laws and contested with the BSP, its vote share fell another 6.86 points to 18.38 per cent. The party won only three seats. In the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

4 Killed after Suspected Militants Open Fire on Vehicles on Manipur

MANIPUR : (AGENCY)

Ethnic violence in Manipur resumed on Friday, with suspected militants killing four people in an ambush at New Haven along the Imphal-Ukhrul road. All the victims were travelling towards Imphal in two vehicles. Those who died were identified as Kapangkhui RS and Haoleila RS, residents of Shangshak village, and August Ngalung and Khanmila, residents of Tashar village. The two victims from Shangshak were siblings, while the two from Tashar were a mother and her son. Two of the victims were travelling in a Maruti Swift, while the other two were in a Bolero when the ambush took place. Reacting to the incident, Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader K Meghachandra attacked the state and central governments for not being able to stem the violence.

Rohit, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer fall for ducks as Matt Henry blows apart India's top order

MOUNT MAUNGANUI : (AGENCY)



The Indian top order gave a nightmarish throwback to the 2019 ICC Cricket World Cup semifinal against New Zealand, as for the first time ever, the Men in Blue lost three wickets in an ODI match without any runs on the board. Stalwarts Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli departed for ducks.

Chasing 334 runs, India had a nightmare start as Rohit was packed on the first ball, his second duck of the series. On the fifth ball of the first over, Virat was cleaned up by a perfect nip-backer from Henry while stand-in skipper Shreyas Iyer was dismissed leg-before-wicket to end the over. During the 2019 WC semifinal, for reference, Henry took two of three wickets, which left India struggling at 5/3 while chasing 241 at Manchester, with Rohit, KL Rahul and Virat dismissed for one run each. India lost the match by 18 runs and made a heartbreaking exit in the final four stage. This is India's first time that they have lost three wickets in an ODI without putting runs on the board and only the fifth instance in ODI history, with Pakistan having done it twice, Bangladesh and Australia having done it once. This is the second time that both Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli registered ducks in an ODI. The previous instance had come against Sri Lanka in Dambulla in 2010. This also marks the first time Rohit Sharma has been dismissed on the first ball of an innings, with Saurav Ganguly and Virender Sehwag holding this unfortunate record with three such dismissals each. Rohit and Virat already hold poor records against Matt Henry, with Rohit scoring just 57 off 71 balls against the pacer, dismissed thrice. He averages only 19 and strikes at 80.28. Virat has scored 59 in 60 balls against Henry, dismissed thrice and striking at 98.33 against him. With the loss of Ruturaj Gaikwad for just five runs in 13 balls, India sank to 9/4. This is the second time that India have lost their first four wickets for under 10 runs in an ODI. They were reduced to an identical 9/4 in the famous 1983 World Cup game against Zimbabwe at Tunbridge Wells, where captain Kapil Dev produced a hard-hitting 175*, which took India to a total of 266/8, which proved to be match-winning. A fiery century from Will Young and a half-century from Tim Seifert were standouts as New Zealand posted 333 in their 50 overs in the fourth ODI against India at Bay Oval on Friday. After India put NZ to bat first, Young put on an 85-run stand with Seifert (58 in 48 balls, with six fours and three sixes). After a brief slump which saw the Kiwis reduce to 125/3.

This is the second time that both Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli registered ducks in an ODI. The previous instance had come against Sri Lanka in Dambulla in 2010.

Gautam Gambhir concerned about India's batting c ollapses ahead of World Cup

MOUNT MAUNGANUI : (AGENCY)



India getting bowled out for 89 against New Zealand in the fourth ODI here has left head coach Gautam Gambhir concerned as the collapse is not one off and happened in conditions that are similar to what the team will encounter during next year's World Cup in South Africa. After India suffered a crushing 244-run loss to New Zealand here on Friday, Gambhir admitted that the manner and speed of the batting collapse, rather than the low total, was a worry ahead of the global event. "You're always concerned when you get bundled out for 90-odd. Why won't I be concerned? These are conditions which are going to be closest to what we might get during the World Cup," Gambhir said at the post-match press conference. "The bigger concern is not the runs. It's how quickly we got bundled out, around 26 or 27 overs. That is something which is always a concern," he added. Batting first, New Zealand were all out for 333 in 50 overs before Matt Henry's six-wicket haul helped the hosts dismiss the visitors in just 26.4 overs. India had also struggled in the previous match, slipping to 111 for seven while chasing 135 in a rain-curtailed match, prompting Gambhir to underline the need for both technical and mental preparedness against the moving ball. He said the first 10 overs in New Zealand are particularly challenging, unlike in India where the initial phase is generally the easiest period for batting. "If you get 35 or 40 in the first 10 overs without losing a wicket, that is also good enough. Here, it's probably the most difficult time," he said. Gambhir also said that India needed to be more decisive against the lengths employed by New Zealand pacers Matt Henry and Kyle Jamieson.

Briefs News

Appoint Rinku as captain : Aakash's advice for KKR ahead of IPL 2027

MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA) (AGENCY) Former Indian cricketer Aakash Chopra said that if Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) fail to get an overseas player on board for captaincy during the auction, they should consider giving batter Rinku Singh the armband. Aakash was speaking on JioStar's 'Game Plan' ahead of IPL 2027 auction on December 16 this year. Ajinkya Rahane, under whose captaincy the three-time champions finished at seventh this season, has retired. They also face concerns over availability of big buys Cameron Green, who could get busy with the 50-over World Cup and The Ashes next year and Sri Lankan pacer Matheesha Pathirana, who has not featured in any game since May due to injuries. Speaking on JioStar's Game Plan, JioStar expert Aakash said that KKR should look at releasing Green and Pathirana to have a massive surplus of Rs 43 crores in their purse. "I am looking to leave out Cameron Green at Rs 25.2 crores. It is a World Cup year, and it is an Ashes year, so I am not sure about his availability or how many matches he will play. If you release him, even if you feel like buying him back, you can easily get him for 50 per cent cheaper. Secondly, Matheesha Pathirana is also not playing, so that's another Rs 18 crore buy. KKR are likely to walk into this auction with the most amount of money, so that will be the big story," he said. "We also do not know what is going to happen with Mustafizur Rahman. If he is available and can play, you would want to retain him, but can he play? We don't know about that.

Marco Jansen, Deepti Sharma named ICC Men's, Women's Players of the Month for October

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

South Africa all-rounder Marco Jansen and India all-rounder Deepti Sharma have been named the ICC Men's and Women's Players of the Month for October following outstanding performances in international cricket. Jansen's decisive contributions with bat and ball against Australia helped him reach the top of two ICC Men's Test Player Rankings categories, while Sharma delivered a series of impactful performances in India's white-ball sweep of Zimbabwe to secure her second women's award, having previously won in December 2023, according to ICC Media release. Jansen accumulated 198 runs and claimed 13 wickets with his left-arm pace bowling during the period. His standout performance came in the second of the three-match ICC World Test Championship series against Australia, where he scored a crucial 85 and returned match figures of five for 33 and one for 34 in Gqeberha. Those efforts propelled the 26-year-old to the top of both the ICC Test Bowling and All-rounder Rankings. He became the first South African bowler to occupy the number one position since Kagiso Rabada in 2024, and the first player from the country to top the all-rounders' list since Vernon Philander in August 2014. Jansen won the award ahead of Pakistan's Arafat Minhas and West Indies captain Shai Hope, who were also shortlisted following impressive performances during October. Jansen said: "Winning the ICC Men's Player of the Month award is a great honour for me, particularly after such a competitive series against Australia. It was one of the most memorable series of my career, and being able to contribute to the team's success made it even more special.

Bruno Fernandes rejects second Manchester United contract offer : Report

MANCHESTER : (AGENCY) Manchester United captain Bruno Fernandes has rejected a second contract offer from the club, with his current deal set to expire at the end of the season, according to Sky Sports.

The club's first proposal was made in the summer when discussions over a new contract began, but the Portuguese midfielder turned it down. United, however, hold an option to extend the 32-year-old's stay at Old Trafford by a further year, which would also prevent him from speaking to foreign clubs in January over a potential free transfer. Fernandes attracted interest from Saudi Arabian club Al Hilal last season. Talks between Fernandes and Manchester United are expected to continue, with the club making it clear that they want their captain to remain at Old Trafford.

Fernandes was named PFA Player of the Year in August after registering 21 assists last season, breaking the Premier League record. Earlier, Manchester United have parted ways with head coach Michael Carrick following a disappointing start to the 2026-27 season.

Retired IAS officer Devesh Chaturvedi to head NSB; Former TOPS CEO named member

NEW DELHI : (AGENCY)

Retired IAS officer Devesh Chaturvedi has been appointed chairman of the eagerly-awaited National Sports Board, which will have overriding powers to grant or suspend recognition of all National Sports Federations (NSFs) and even "collaborate" with the international bodies. The 60-year-old Chaturvedi is from the 1989 batch of the Uttar Pradesh cadre and served as Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare, from August 2024 to February this year. He holds a B.Tech. in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Kanpur, an M.Tech. in Industrial Engineering from IIT Delhi, besides a PG Diploma in Public Policy from IIM Bangalore. ormer Target Olympic Podium CEO P K Garg has been named as the other member of the Board, as per a government order. The appointments were approved by the union cabinet's appointments committee and the duo would remain in office for three years. The NSB has been empowered by the National Sports Governance Act to de-recognise a national body that fails.

Virat Kohli gifts Matt Henry Indian jersey after pacer's six-fer at Bay Oval

MOUNT MAUNGANUI : (AGENCY)



In a show of sportsmanship and mutual respect, Indian batting superstar Virat Kohli gifted Kiwi pacer Matt Henry an Indian jersey after his match-winning six-fer in the fourth ODI on Friday. Henry produced a career-best figures of 6/27, wiping out India's batting elite as they skittled out for just 89 while chasing 334 set by Kiwis on the back of a masterful ton from Will Young. Dismissing Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and stand-in skipper Shreyas Iyer in the first over for ducks, Henry sent shockwaves among Indian fans. After the match, the official Instagram handle of Blackcaps posted a video of Virat and Matt talking to each other and the 38-year-old batting icon gifting him a jersey. Virat has scored 59 in 60 balls against Henry in ODIs, dismissed thrice and striking at 98.33 against him. Matt has four instances of four-plus wickets against India in ODIs, in just 12 innings, the joint-most by a bowler. He has levelled with Shane Bond for third most five-fers in ODIs by a Kiwi, with Richard Hadlee (5) and Trent Boult (6) above him. The Indian top order gave a nightmarish throwback to the 2019 ICC Cricket World Cup semifinal against New Zealand, as for the first time ever, the Men in Blue lost three wickets in an ODI match without any runs on the board. Ishan Kishan (27), Axar Patel (21) and Naman Dhir (21) were the only ones to touch double figures as India was bundled out for 89 in 26.4 overs. After India put NZ to bat first, Young put on an 85-run stand with Seifert (58 in 48 balls, with six fours and three sixes). After a brief slump which saw the Kiwis reduce to 125/3, Young put on another 90-run stand with Finn Allen (41 in 30 balls, with five fours and two sixes).

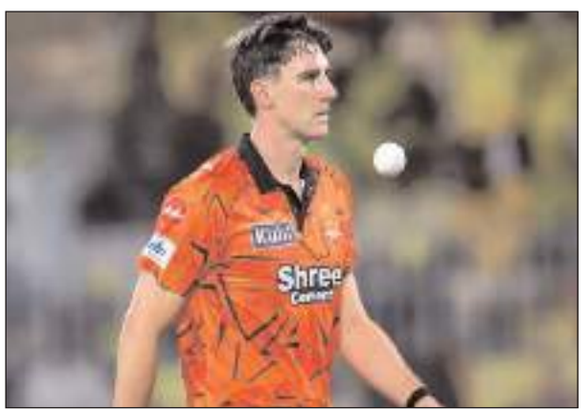
Wrestling is at its peak day by day : WFI chief Sanjay Singh

NEW DELHI. (AGENCY)



Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) President Sanjay Singh on Friday hailed the growing stature of Indian wrestling, crediting the support of the government for the sport's progress, while World Championship medallist Manisha Bhanwala said her historic gold medal had helped change people's perception of wrestling and inspired a shift in the mindset of young athletes. the sidelines of the 2026 Senior Commonwealth Women's Wrestling Championships selection trials in New Delhi, Sanjay Singh said Indian wrestling was progressing steadily, pointing to the country's achievements at the Asian Games and World Championships. See, wrestling is at its peak day by day—I mean, it is on the rise. In the Asian Games as well, wrestling broke records; after 1964, a medal came in Greco-Roman. And in the World Championship too, you all saw that Sushil's medal came in 2010, and after that, gold has come now—India's second overall, and the first among women. For this, I congratulate all of you as well, because as you showcase the finer nuances of wrestling, it brings enthusiasm among the athletes, enthusiasm among the parents, and our wrestling is moving forward," Singh Asked about the support extended by the Ministry and the Sports Authority of India (SAI), the WFI chief said the government was providing full assistance and ensuring that the requirements of athletes were met. "Full support. We are getting full support from the Government of India. So much so that they do not cut even a single budget item from our ACTC. Whatever is requested for the young athletes, whatever is requested for the players, they make it available immediately. It is the result of that that wrestling has reached this level," he added. Meanwhile, Manisha Bhanwala, who won gold at the World Championships, said the medal had brought greater recognition to wrestling and helped people understand the technical and strategic aspects of the sport. Manisha said her daily routine as an athlete remained unchanged, but the recognition following her World Championship achievement had brought significant changes in how people viewed her and the sport. "Athlete's routine stays the same, of course, but a lot of changes have come because very few people know wrestling as a sport—how smart a game it is and how much of a mind game it is. For instance, I had a gold in the Asian Championship and I have been playing for India at the senior level since 2022, yet nobody knew who Manisha was or that she played. But once the World medal came, many people started knowing about wrestling and what kind of sport it is She further said that many people were previously unaware.

Australia cricket captain describes Khawaja's Sandpapergate claim as 'utter nonsense'



SYDNEY : (AGENCY)

"Complete and utter nonsense." That's how Australia captain Pat Cummins responded to Usman Khawaja's claim that the entire team was in on the ball-tampering plot that became known as "Sandpapergate" and rocked cricket in 2018. Cummins staged an extraordinary news conference Friday at the Sydney Cricket Ground, hours ahead Australia's home-season opening one-day international against England in Perth, to address the allegations published this week in his longtime teammate's autobiography. He opened the packed news conference by saying he was prepared to stay and answer questions all day if needed, because he wanted to draw a line under the sorry saga. Based on a subsequent response from David Warner, that's unlikely. n the immediate aftermath of a Cricket Australia investigation into the cheating attempt three players received unprecedented bans - Steve Smith and Warner, then captain and vice-captain, for 12 months; Cameron Bancroft, who was caught on camera using sandpaper on the ball, for nine months. The episode has remained so divisive that even eight years later the innuendo and acrimony will mean Cummins' comments in a 70-minute live stand-up will not end questions over who knew what and when.

Cummins, who was part of the bowling attack in that test at Cape Town against South Africa, accused Khawaja of being "casual" and "flippant" by suggesting everyone in the locker room was aware of the sandpaper plot. "When he says we all knew, if by that he means that we knew sandpaper was going out in the field, he's 100% wrong," Cummins said. "I've said that consistently for the last eight years. I did not know that was happening. "But I think Usman actually says things that are actually far more serious than that. He says that I and others were architects of a scheme to ball tamper with sandpaper. That's complete and utter nonsense." Khawaja said he published his account of the episode in a bid to support the three players who he believed had been made scapegoats for the team.

He's had public support from Warner, who responded on social media that the Cricket Australia investigation at the time was rushed and botched. Warner and Smith resumed their international careers in 2019 and remained key players for Australia. Warner retired in 2024, and Smith is still in the squad. In a live preview on a TV commentary panel for Kayo Cricket ahead of the Australia-England ODI, Warner said he felt like Cummins "threw Uzzy under the bus and I'm very disappointed by that." Warner said the players who were in the team in 2018 will have different opinions.



57th IFFI to celebrate global cinema under the theme St ories Without Borders

Goa prepares to welcome filmmakers and cinema enthusiasts from across the world; the festival to feature over 150 international films and 76 Indian films

ROXANNE DSILV A
OPEN SEARCH





PANAJI : Goa is all set to host the 57th edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), scheduled to be held from November 20 to 28, 2026, with the theme S tories Without Borders. The curtain-raiser press conference, held at Dona paula, Panjim on Friday, offered a glimpse into the festivals extensive programme, international participation and key attractions, setting the stage for nine days of cinematic celebrations. The festival aims to bring together filmmakers, actors, industry professionals and cinema enthusiasts from across the globe, celebrating the ability of films to transcend geographical, cultural and linguistic boundaries. The theme highlights cinemas po wer to connect people through shared human experiences and diverse storytelling.

The 2026 edition promises an impressive lineup, with over 150 international films representing 86 countries, alongside 76 Indian films across 18 languages. The programme will also feature 14 Gala premieres. Goa Chief Minister Dr Pramod Sawant, inaugurated the curtain raiser. He reiterated the States commitment to hosting the international film fraternity and strengthening Goas posit ion as an important destination for cinema and cultural exchange. The event was attended by senior officials from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), the Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG) and members of the film fraternity. Festival Director Ashutosh Gowariker highlighted the significance of the theme S tories Without Borders, explaining how cinema creates emotional connections between audiences irrespective of language or nationality. The festival will open with Fatherland by Polish filmmaker Pawel Pawlikowski, while I Matter by Alina ?erban will be presented as the mid-festival film. The closing film will be We Are All Strangers by Anthony Chen. Spain will be the Country of Honour, while Russia will be the Partner Country. A special BRICS film package from its 11 member countries will further add to the international flavour of the festival. Among the new attractions this year are dedicated sections on Animation and F ilms About Films, each f eaturing five titles. The festival will also host retrospectives, restored classics, special screenings and tributes to celebrated personalities from Indian and international cinema.

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The festival will also pay special attention to emerging talent and industry networking. The sixth edition of Creative Minds of Tomorrow, organised in association with the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, will bring together 100 selected participants across 13 disciplines. They will work in teams to create films over two to three days at locations across Goa. The 20th edition of WAVES Film Bazaar will be another major highlight, providing a platform for filmmakers, producers, investors and distributors to explore collaborations and business opportunities. Its programme will include a Screenwriters Lab, Co-Production Market, viewing rooms and a technology showcase. Goa will host screenings across 13 indoor venues in Panaji, Porvorim, Margao and Ponda, in addition to open-air screenings at three locations, including Miramar beach. More than 7,000 delegates have registered for the festival so far. The organisers have also planned seven family-friendly films for open-air screenings, making the festival accessible to a wider audience.

Emphasising the importance of accessibility and exclusive participation, Delilah Lobo,Vice Chairperson of the Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG), said, We ha ve made provisions for the physically challenged persons with special transport facilities and ramps made so that they can access venues for movies without hassle. With it s extensive international film selection, special screenings, Master Classes, industry interactions and opportunities for emerging filmmakers, IFFI 2026 is expected to offer an enriching experience to both cinema professionals and the general public. As Goa prepares to welcome the global film fraternity once again, the 57th edition promises to celebrate the diversity of storytelling while strengthening the States cul tural and creative identity on the international stage.

Tom Holland says 'The Odyssey' gave him newfound confidence to explore new roles



Tom Holland says starring in Christopher Nolan's The Odyssey has had a positive impact on his confidence and career ambitions. Released in theatres on July 17, The Odyssey features Holland as Telemachus, the son of Matt Damon's Odysseus. According to Variety, Holland was asked at a London screening of the film on Thursday what he took away from the experience of playing Telemachus. He said, "I'd probably say it's confidence and an ambition to see what else is out there for me." "I've been an admirer of Chris since I can remember, and to have the opportunity to work with him and to have his approval, and to sit in his house and watch his movie and to get a pat on the back, for me, just was like the perfect way for me to start whatever it is that I'm doing next," Holland further said. "He's given me a level of confidence as an actor that I don't know if I had before and I'm very grateful that that is something that I can take away from this," he added. The ensemble cast also includes Anne Hathaway, Robert Pattinson, Lupita Nyong'o, Zendaya, Charlize Theron, Jon Bernthal, Elliot Page, Benny Safdie, Mia Goth and John Leguizamo. Holland said the experience of working with his co-stars, including wife Zendaya, and the crew had taught him a lot. He added that he would take this sense of achievement and newfound confidence in his abilities into his next project. "That is what Chris and Emma (Thomas, producer-wife of Nolan) do so well, is they really champion their actors," he said. **(AGENCY)**

Hindu outfit backs Kareena Kapoor after legal notice over vintage pendant with Quranic verse

Hindu outfits have come out in support of Kareena Kapoor Khan after Madhya Pradesh Congress spokesperson Abbas Hafeez served the actress with a legal notice over social media photos of her wearing a large vintage emerald pendant inscribed with a Quranic verse. Hafeez demanded that the actress delete the photos and issue a public apology, clarifying that while he didn't object to her wearing the piece, he took issue with how the religious verse was displayed online, arguing it hurt the sentiments of the Muslim community. Hafeez's advocate, Mohammad Zafar, pointed out that the pendant featured a sacred Quranic verse, noting that Islamic traditions require ritual purity before touching or reciting holy texts.

Hafeez added that the pendant is tied to the legacy of the Begums of Bhopal and was worn as a genuine expression of faith rather than just a fashion statement.



Hafeez clarified that the move was entirely his own initiative and should not be linked to the Congress party, its ideology, or its political stance.

Originally belonging to the Begum of Bhopal, the heirloom pendant was passed down to Kareena following her marriage to Saif Ali Khan.

The legal notice was also served to celebrity stylist Rhea Kapoor, who had styled Kareena and publicly described the pendant as a treasured heirloom of the erstwhile Bhopal royal family. Hindu Utsav Samiti president Chandra Shekhar Tiwari backed the actor, stating that she is under no obligation to apologise to anyone. "A pendant is meant to be worn around the neck, close to the heart. If it bears Quranic verses, she would not have worn it at any place considered disrespectful. She does not need to apologise to anyone," Tiwari said. Tiwari also argued that as the daughter-in-law of the erstwhile Bhopal royal family, Kareena has every right to wear jewellery belonging to her mother-in-law's heritage. Both the Hindu Utsav Samiti and Sanskriti Bachao Manch have thrown their weight behind the actress, while Kareena Kapoor and her team have yet to issue a public response to the legal notice. **(AGENCY)**

Ryan Reynolds and Hugh Jackman named in 'Avengers: Doomsday' writing credits



Ryan Reynolds and Hugh Jackman may have contributed to Avengers: Doomsday beyond their on-screen roles, after fans spotted their names in the Writers Guild of America's screenwriting credits directory for the film. Marvel fans noticed that Reynolds and Jackman feature among the 10 writers listed for Avengers: Doomsday in the Writers Guild of America's directory. While Reynolds has previously co-written Deadpool 2 and Deadpool & Wolverine, the film marks Jackman's first writing credit. Marvel veteran Stephen McFeely, Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness writer, and Michael Waldron, Loki writer, are credited as the main writers for Doomsday alongside Michael Waldron. The two actors' names are among the many writers listed in the film's additional literary material credits. This has led many fans to speculate whether Deadpool and Wolverine will cross over into the broader MCU universe, though there is no official confirmation. **(AGENCY)**

Diljit Dosanjh becomes first Indian artiste to perform at Latin Grammys, taking the stage with Daddy Yankee

Punjabi star Diljit Dosanjh made history as the first Indian artiste to perform live at the Latin Grammy Awards, taking the Las Vegas stage alongside Puerto Rican icon Daddy Yankee at the 27th annual ceremony. Held at the MGM Grand Garden Arena on November 12, the awards show featured the duo performing their fresh collaboration Pokito, blending Punjabi and Latin rhythms on stage. Diljit shared a video of the performance on his Instagram with the caption, "Panjabi aa gaye @latingrammys OYE. Dunia Di Har Stage Te PANJABI Boli Jau Gi.. Baba Sukh Rakhe. Shoutout to Big Brother @daddyyankee. Thank you for Bringing Two Cultures Together On One Stage. Shoutout to @latingrammys For Having Us." The star-studded ceremony also featured performances by an international lineup including Baby Ranks, Bad Gyal, Divino, DJ Premier, Grupo Niche, Jay Wheeler, Lil Supa, Luis Enrique, Nathy Peluso, and Angel 'Cucco' Peña. A backstage video capturing Diljit meeting Daddy Yankee's mother, Rosa Rodriguez, has also been making waves online, showing the Punjabi star warmly bending down to touch her feet as a mark of respect while Daddy Yankee looks on. The Latin Grammy appearance adds to Diljit's growing international presence as the singer is also set to return to the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in 2027, marking his second appearance there. Diljit made history in April 2023 when he became the first Punjabi artiste to perform at Coachella. The festival's line-up, announced earlier this week, features Diljit on April 9 and April 16, alongside headliner Dua Lipa. **(AGENCY)**



Jaya Prada shares 1997 'Lav Kush' throwback as Sita, fans say 'No one more fitting'



Amid the ongoing conversation around Sai Pallavi's portrayal of Sita in Nitesh Tiwari's Ramayana, veteran actress Jaya Prada has shared a throwback photograph of herself in the same role from the 1997 mythological film Lav Kush. Directed by V. Madhusudhana Rao and backed by Dilip Kanikaria's Devyank Arts, Lav Kush, released on July 25, 1997, starred Jeetendra as Lord Ram, Jaya Prada as Sita, Arun Govil as Lakshman, Dara Singh as Hanuman and Pran as Valmiki.

Prada posted the archival picture on Instagram, recalling her role in Lav Kush. "Throw back pic luv Kush," reads the caption.

Reacting to the photo, a user in the comments section wrote, "Stunning Sita! No one more fitting." Another user commented, "If there is a definition for beauty it is our jayaprada. No one can replace you. Even im a 90's kid my favourite actress jayaprada garu."

In a recent interview with Variety India, Arun Govil recalled being hesitant to take on the role of Lakshman after playing Lord Ram in Ramanand Sagar's television epic.

"In the film Lav Kush, where Jeetendra played Ram, they wanted me as Lakshman. I had told the producer it's not right; don't make me play the character of Lakshman, but they did not listen. They wanted me. I said, 'Okay, let's do it.' But then, look what happened. The film didn't even run for one day. Nobody knows about that film."

Meanwhile, Tiwari's Ramayana has achieved a major box-office milestone, earning over Rs 1,000 crore worldwide in its first eight days.

The film, which released in theatres on November 5, has grossed Rs 1,033.55 crore globally, while its domestic nett collection has crossed Rs 500 crore, according to industry tracker Sacnilk. Produced by Namit Malhotra and Yash, Ramayana: Part One features Ranbir Kapoor as Lord Rama, Yash as Ravana, Sai Pallavi as Sita and Ravi Dubey as Lakshman.

The ensemble cast also includes Arun Govil, Lara Dutta, Sheeba Chaddha, Shobana, Rakul Preet Singh, Kajal Aggarwal, Vivek Oberoi, Kunal Kapoor, Anupam Kher and Sunny Deol. Oscar winners Hans Zimmer and A.R. Rahman have composed the music for the film. **(AGENCY)**

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