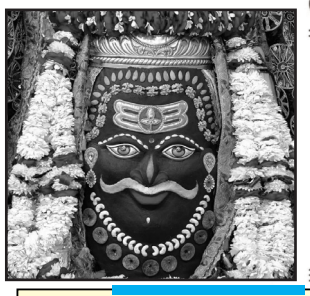
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'He has a habit of making such remarks': Athawale targets Kharge over 'Modi ka baap' remarks

New Delhi . (Agency).

Union Minister Ramdas Athawale on Monday criticised Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge for his remarks against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, describing them as inappropriate and unacceptable.Speaking to reporters in Nagpur, Athawale stated that Kharge heads a major political party that remained in power for 60 years and that it was not appropriate for the president of such a party to insult the Prime Minister."Mallikarjun Kharge is the president of a major party—a party that remained in power for 60 years. It is not appropriate for the president of such a party to insult the Prime Minister. It seems that he has a habit of making such remarks, which is not right at all. Making such comments is completely unacceptable; it constitutes a grave insult to the Prime Minister...", he said.BJP MP Manoj Tiwari criticised Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge over his remarks concerning Prime Minister Narendra Modi's late father, calling them unacceptable, and accused Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi of acting at the behest of foreign powers.

BJP launches 'Save Democracy, Remove Anarchy' campaign amid Opposition protests

New Delhi (Agency).

Amid ongoing Congress-led Opposition protests across the country, particularly in Delhi, the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) on Sunday launched a nationwide youth outreach campaign, 'Arajakta Hatao, Loktantra Bachao' (Remove Anarchy, Save Democracy), which will continue until November 30.The campaign aims to engage young citizens in meaningful discussions on democracy, counter misinformation and encourage informed participation in nation-building. The BJP said the initiative would also seek to counter what it described as the Opposition's false narratives on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and other issues.

To mark the launch, BJYM state units organised the 'Mann Ki Baat Yuvaon ke Saath' programme, inviting young professionals to listen to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio broadcast, Mann Ki Baat, followed by discussions on national development and youth participation.

"These interactive sessions were held across more than 600 locations nationwide, with over 50,000 young professionals participating in the programme. across all the states and districts of the Nation. The session involved discussion on the role of professionals in achieving the the vision of Viksit Bharat and discussion on the opportunities created by the Modi government across various fields was also held", the BJP said in a statement issued late on Sunday evening.

Rahul Gandhi acquitted by UP court in 2018 Amit Shah defamation case

Rahul Gandhi was acquitted by a Sultanpur court in a 2018 defamation case over remarks about Amit Shah. The case, filed by BJP leader Vijay Mishra, saw several hearings, witness statements and legal challenges over a voice sample.

Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh(Agency).

A special MP/MLA court in Uttar Pradesh's Sultanpur on Monday acquitted Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in a 2018 criminal defamation case over remarks against Union Home Minister Amit Shah, citing a lack of evidence.Gandhi appeared before the court for the pronouncement of the verdict. His supporters welcomed the decision and expressed happiness and gratitude.

The case was filed by BJP leader Vijay Mishra, a resident of Hanumanganj under the Kotwali Dehat police station limits in Sultanpur and a former chairman of the Sultanpur District Cooperative Bank.Mishra filed the complaint on August 4, 2018, over remarks Gandhi made about Shah during a campaign rally in Bengaluru ahead of the 2018 Karnataka Assembly elections.

WHAT DID BOTH SIDES ARGUE?

During the final hearings, Gandhi's lawyer acknowledged that the Congress leader had made the remarks but argued that they were made in good faith and without any intention to insult anyone. The defence also contended that the remarks had been distorted and presented out of context.The complainant's lawyer, meanwhile, urged the court to convict Gandhi, arguing that his admission to making the remarks was grounds for holding him guilty.After hearing arguments from both sides, the court reserved its decision. Special Magistrate Shubham Verma acquitted Gandhi on Monday, giving the Congress leader relief in the long-running case.



CASE PROCEEDED FOR 8 YEARS

The case proceeded through several stages over the years. Gandhi surrendered before the court in February 2024 and was granted bail. His statement was recorded in July 2024, while the court also examined the complainant and other witnesses during the proceedings.Arguments in the case began on October 6, 2026, and concluded on October 12. The court had scheduled the verdict for October 26.Additional Civil Judge Shubham Verma had initially scheduled the verdict for October 13 before fixing October 26 as the date for its pronouncement.The case relates to remarks Rahul Gandhi made about then-BJP president Amit Shah at a campaign rally in Bengaluru during the 2018 Karnataka Assembly elections. BJP leader Vijay Mishra, a former chairman of the Sultanpur District Cooperative Bank, filed a defamation complaint against Gandhi on August 4, 2018.Gandhi surrendered before the court on February 20, 2024, and was granted bail. His statement was recorded on July 26, 2024, followed by the examination.

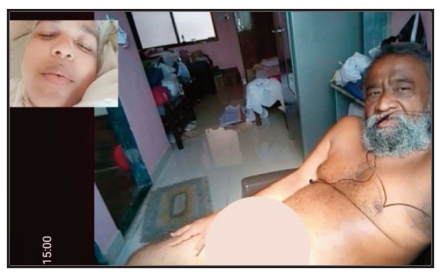
Ujjain Jain Monk Controversy: Serious Video Call Misconduct Allegations Spark Outrage, Jain Community Demands Answers and Fair Investigation

Mahanagar Metro Desk

UJJAIN: Serious allegations involving Jain monk Sagar Chandra Sagar have reportedly sparked anger and concern among members of the Jain community. Allegations of inappropriate behaviour during video calls with Jain nuns have raised questions about religious accountability, the protection of women and the responsibility of religious institutions to address complaints against their members.According to claims circulating within the community, screenshots and other digital material allegedly connected to the video calls have been preserved as potential evidence. The allegations have prompted demands for a transparent investigation and appropriate action if the claims are substantiated.The matter has also raised wider questions concerning the use of religious authority, the management of donations and the accountability of individuals who receive public trust in the name of religion. However, the allegations require independent verification, and any conclusions must be based on authentic evidence and a fair investigation.Alleged Inappropriate Video Calls Raise Serious ConcernsAccording to information cited by individuals raising concerns within the Jain community, Sagar Chandra Sagar has been accused of engaging in inappropriate and obscene conduct during video calls with Jain nuns.The allegations have caused considerable concern among community members, particularly because religious figures are often entrusted with significant moral authority



and access to vulner able individuals.It has been claimed that screenshots of the alleged video calls were retained as digital evidence. The authenticity, context and origin of this material would need to be independently examined by the appropriate



authorities before any definitive conclusions can be drawn.The allegations also raise an important question: are there additional individuals who may have experienced similar conduct but have not yet come forward?Any person who believes they have been subjected to inappropriate behaviour should have access to a safe and confidential reporting process. Complaints should be handled sensitively, with due regard for privacy, dignity and the rights of all parties involved.

BJP To Launch Nationwide Protests Against Mallikarjun Kharge Over Remarks On PM Modi

New Delhi (Agency).

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has announced nationwide protests on Monday against what it described as "insulting, indecent and offensive" remarks made by the Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge regarding Prime Minister Narendra Modi's late father. According to a statement from the party, the BJP will stage demonstrations at all its state headquarters across the country on Monday.The party said the protests are being organised in response to the remarks made by the Congress President in Patna, which it termed highly objectionable and an attack on the dignity of the Prime Minister's family.BJP leaders said the comments made by the Congress President crossed all limits of political discourse and amounted to a personal attack rather than a critique of governance or policy.They added that targeting the family members of political leaders, especially those who are no longer alive, reflects a new low in public debate.The BJP has directed its state units to organise peaceful but firm protests at state party offices.Party workers and leaders are expected to gather in large numbers to express their strong resentment.BJP spokespersons said the demonstrations would send a clear message that such remarks would not be



tolerated.Senior BJP leaders have also demanded an unconditional apology from the Congress President, saying that political differences should not lead to personal insults.They said that public life in a democracy must adhere to basic standards of decency and mutual respect.

PM congratulates Brazil's Lula on election win, vows to deepen India-Brazil ties

New Delhi(Agency).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on winning an unprecedented fourth presidential term, after the 80-year-old leader defeated Senator Flavio Bolsonaro in a closely contested election that defied opinion polls.Calling Lula his "dear friend", PM Modi said he looked forward to working with the Brazilian leader to deepen the India-Brazil Strategic Partnership."I look forward to working closely with him to further deepen and expand the multifaceted India-Brazil Strategic Partnership," he added.

PM Modi said the two countries would continue to strengthen cooperation across diverse sectors, advance the shared priorities of the Global South and work towards a more inclusive, equitable and sustainable world.



LULA DEFEATS BOLSONARO IN A CLOSE CONTEST

Lula secured another term after defeating Flavio Bolsonaro, the eldest son of former Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro, in Sunday's presidential runoff. The result marked a remarkable comeback for the veteran left-wing leader and went against a broader rightward shift in Latin American politics.Flvio Bolsonaro had finished ahead of Lula in the first round of voting and sought to revive his father's far-right political movement. However, Lula's better-than-expected performance in the runoff helped him secure victory despite concerns over rising prices, corruption scandals and dissatisfaction.

In a message posted on social media platform X, PM Modi described Lula as his "dear friend" and congratulated him on what he called a "remarkable re-election victory."

AMC Food Department Wakes Up Only During Festivals! Where Is It the Rest of the Year?

Mahanagar Metro Desk

Ahmedabad: As the festival of Diwali approaches, the Food Department of the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) has suddenly intensified its inspection activities across the city. Teams of officials are visiting sweet shops and farsan outlets, collecting samples of sweets, mawa and other food products, and using rapid testing kits to examine food quality. The corporation has also reportedly deployed four separate zonal teams to carry out inspections and send samples to laboratories for further testing.While monitoring food quality during the festive season is important, the sudden increase in activity raises a broader question about the department's performance throughout the year. Why does the Food Department appear particularly active when major festivals approach? Are regular inspections, surprise checks and enforcement operations being conducted with the same seriousness during ordinary days?These questions have become increasingly important because food adulteration is not a problem limited to Diwali. It can affect consumers throughout the year, and any delay in identifying unsafe products can expose citizens to unnecessary health risks.Where Is the Food Department Throughout the Year?During Diwali, the demand for sweets, mawa-based products, kaju katli, ghari and various farsan items rises significantly. Thousands of families purchase these products for household consumption, religious offerings and distribution among relatives and friends. This makes effective food safety monitoring especially important during the festive period.However, food safety cannot depend exclusively on seasonal inspection cam



paigns. If regular monitoring is not sufficiently effective, businesses violating food safety standards may continue their activities until the next major inspection drive. This raises concerns about whether the existing enforcement system is adequately protecting consumers.

truck crushes Eeco under its wheels in Nuh

Gurgaon.(Agency)

A construction dust-laden truck rammed into a Maruti Eeco and climbed onto it on Delhi-Alwar road in Nuh's Firozpur Jhirka late on Saturday, crushing the car under its weight and killing three occupants. Police and local residents battled for nearly three hours to pull the four men out of the mangled vehicle, eventually bringing in an excavator to free the car.

The men, all from Gurgaon, were returning from a relative's engagement ceremony when the truck, coming from Alwar side, hit their car near Housing Board colony around 10.30pm. The impact pushed the Eeco's front portion under the heavy vehicle, leaving all four occupants trapped inside.

"A large crowd gathered at the spot as local residents and police personnel tried to rescue the occupants. Initial efforts to pull out the car proved unsuccessful, prompting us to call in an excavator," a police officer said.The car was eventually pulled free, and the four men were extricated and rushed to a govt hospital in Mandikheda.

Cab driver found dead with neck injuries inside car in Sector 77, cops suspect murder

Gurgaon.(Agency)

A 40-year-old cab driver was found dead in the seat of his car near KLJ Society in Sector 77 on Sunday morning. Police have found injury marks on his neck and suspect it might be a case of murder.

An officer said police received information around 7.45am that a man was lying dead inside a car parked near the society. A team from BPTP police station reached the spot and identified the deceased as Prakash Kumar, a resident of Sector 77 who originally hailed from Rajasthan. The car's window was broken, and bloodstains were found inside the vehicle. The officer said it is not immediately clear what had caused the injury marks on the man's neck and it will be determined after a post-mortem examination and forensic analysis.

Investigators are checking CCTV footage from nearby areas to establish when the car arrived at the spot and whether anyone was seen approaching or leaving it.

Raised RCCs, clogged drains leave Shalimar Garden pockets flooded

Noida.(Agency)

Residents of ward number 78 in Shalimar Garden Extension-1 have demanded immediate intervention from the urban development department following persistent waterlogging issues in the area. Himsagar Enclave and Radha Krishna Park are among the worst-affected locations.

Residents attribute the ongoing waterlogging challenges to inadequate drainage systems and improperly constructed RCC (reinforced cement concrete) roads that have been raised too high to allow efficient water runoff.

Areas that have seen recent road construction lack proper drainage, while existing streets suffer from a "reverse slope" issue, causing rainwater to flow back toward homes instead of being drained away. "The absence of adequate outlets for rainwater has led to frequent waterlogging after every rain," stated Pradeep Gupta, a senior citizen and social activist from the area.Another contributing factor to the ongoing problems in Himsagar Enclave is the lack of routine maintenance for the large drain that runs through Shalimar Garden.

Update real-time medicine stock info on online portal, govt hospitals across Haryana told

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Haryana's health department has directed civil surgeons across the state to ensure regular updates of medicine procurement, availability and consumption records on the online drug management portal, warning that discrepancies between recorded and physical stocks will invite accountability.The directions require govt hospitals and other healthcare institutions to enter details of medicines procured locally into the portal and update records of purchases, availability and consumption promptly. The Essential Drug List (EDL) will be used to monitor medicine availability, with officials asked to ensure that online records match the physical stock.Responsibility will be fixed for discrepancies between portal entries and actual stocks, and officials and



employees found responsible for lapses could face action. Healthcare institutions have also been directed to regularly verify medicine stocks and monitor their consumption.The department has stressed the need to ensure that medicines available through the govt supply system are prescribed to patients. Doctors will be encouraged to prescribe available govt-supplied medicines to help patients avoid unnecessary inconvenience.Separately, the Haryana Medical Services Corporation Limited (HMSCL) has directed measures to prevent unauthorised access to staff cabins and areas where sensitive files and procurement-related documents are kept.HMSCL managing director Dr Manoj Kumar issued instructions for installing biometric access control gates in staff areas to regulate entry. Outsiders will not be allowed to enter staff cabins without authorisation.Biometric attendance has been made mandatory for officers and employees, who will be required to record their attendance through the system.

Gurgaon records 4 fatal accidents in 3 days, guard among 6 dead

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Four road accidents across the city claimed six lives between Thursday and Saturday.On Saturday, a security guard died after a car allegedly hit him at an under-construction flyover on an NHAI road near Pahadi village around 7.30pm. The victim, Ram Kishan, was on duty at the site when the accident occurred, his son Yogesh told police. A police officer said the victim was found lying by the roadside, while the Hyundai Grand i10 Nios involved in the accident was found at the spot.Police said the driver, Gaurav Yadav, a resident of Rewari district, was arrested on Sunday and medically examined. A case was registered under sections 281 (rash driving) and 106 (causing death by negligence) of BNS at Pataudi police station on Oct 25.In a separate accident on Oct 23, two men died after an unidentified vehicle hit their motorcycle near a facility of Ecom company on Taoru Road. According to a complaint filed by Sanjay Kumar, his nephew Mohit and Mohit's friend Pankaj were returning home from work when they stopped to meet their friend Mukul, who was standing on the road.An officer privy to the investigation said a vehicle approaching from the Taoru side hit the motorcycle, throwing the two men and their vehicle away from the spot. Mukul also sustained injuries and was taken to Global Hospital in Taoru, while Mohit and Pankaj were taken to a govt hospital in Gurgaon, where they were declared dead.The driver fled with the vehicle. A case was registered under sections 281 and 106 of BNS at Bilaspur police station. "We are analysing CCTV footage to ascertain the sequence of events. The bodies were sent for autopsy and later handed over to the families," the officer said.In another accident late on Oct 23, Pawan Dev Pandey, 35, a labourer from Uttar Pradesh, died after sustaining head injuries near Farrukhnagar bus stand.

Signals, markings not ready, Vyapar Kendra road in Gurgaon chokes as motorists shift to two-way traffic

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Motorists have started using Vyapar Kendra road in both directions despite the stretch not being officially opened to two-way traffic, leading to confusion and congestion over the past few days. Median bollards are still being installed and traffic signals are being modified to accommodate the proposed change.

GMDA said the road was still meant to operate as a one-way stretch and that two-way movement would begin only after the remaining infrastructure work was completed and traffic police formally implemented the change."The median installation and other finishing work are underway. The traffic signals were originally installed according to the one-way arrangement and are now being modified to regulate traffic in both directions. Once the infrastructure is ready, we will inform the traffic police, who will implement the revised two-way movement. Until then, the existing one-way system is supposed to remain in force," a GMDA official said.The remaining work includes installing flexible spring bollards along the median, thermoplastic road markings and other road safety features, the official added.However, motorists have already begun travelling in both directions, creating conflict points particularly near the market and adjoining residential areas. Residents said a journey of less than 2km was taking up to 30 minutes, compared with two to three minutes earlier. They added that the absence of traffic personnel had worsened the confusion."The situation has become particularly difficult over the past few days. There is no traffic police personnel on the ground to monitor the situation or manage the movement of vehicles. Commuters are left to figure out which side to take, and this is leading to confusion and congestion," said Veenu Pasricha, a resident of Sushant Lok-1.Pasricha said the dividers had narrowed the carriageway at the beginning of the stretch, forcing vehicles into two lanes and creating a bottleneck. Vehicles entering or exiting Vyapar Kendra market and those travelling towards Sushant Lok also have to navigate the same stretch, increasing the risk of traffic conflicts.

Witnesses hostile, 2 held in murder case acquitted after 14 years

Noida.(Agency)

A fast-track court has acquitted two men accused in a murder case dating back nearly 14 years after witnesses turned hostile and the complainant refused to support a key part of the prosecution's account.

The two men, who worked as a guard and a gunman for Ahuja company, were accused of opening fire on two persons to teach them a lesson for allegedly defecating in an open area on the company's premises. One of the two victims died at the spot in 2012. The survivor went to the police station and lodged an FIR naming the accused.Additional sessions judge Satyendra Singh said the survivor, Amit Kumar Mishra, clarified in his cross-examination that Mahesh Pachori did not fire at Atar Singh's behest, nor did he know the accused, nor did he see the accused at the scene of the incident, and that he reached the scene after Brijesh Pandey's death."The witness did not support the prosecution's story. Other witnesses clearly stated that when they arrived at the scene, the deceased's body was lying there. Thus, the incident did not occur in their presence either. None of the witnesses of fact supported the incident. Investigating Officer Piyush Dixit also committed numerous errors in the investigation, admitting these errors before the court and denying the evidence presented on the record. Thus, the charges against the accused — Atar Singh and Mahesh Pachori under Section 302/34 of the IPC have not been proved beyond doubt," the judge said.

Since the murder was not proved, the charges under section 25/30 of the Arms Act for illegal use of a licensed weapon also remained unsubstantiated, the judge added.

The case was transferred seven times and was heard on 143 dates during the last 13 years and 10 months before being disposed of on Saturday.The matter is linked to an FIR registered by Surajpur police on Dec 24, 2012, on the basis of a written complaint filed by Amit Mishra. Mishra alleged that he, along with his friend Brijesh Pandey, had gone to attend to nature's call in an open area when the guard of Ahuja company, Atar Singh, screamed at them for defecating in the open and asked his gunman Mahesh Pachori to teach them a lesson, following which he opened fire in which Pandey was hit and he collapsed immediately. Mishra told police that several other people arrived at the spot after hearing the gunshot and that his body was lying there when he came to file the complaint.Police registered a case u/s 302/34 IPC against Singh and Pachori and filed another case under section 25/30 of the Arms Act against Pachori the next day. After investigation, police filed two separate charge sheets, taking cognisance of which the sessions court framed charges against the duo in both the cases on Aug 19, 2013.The accused both denied the charges and said that they were not present at the crime scene and were falsely implicated, and chose to stand trial.

The prosecution presented 10 witnesses, including the complainant.The complainant, however, refused to corroborate the contents of the FIR and said that he was not with the deceased at the time he was shot at. Other witnesses presented by the prosecution also refused to acknowledge that firing had occurred in front of their eyes or whether they saw the accused running away from the crime scene.

Motherson gets YEIDA's nod to set up automative parts factory in Noida

Noida.(Agency)

Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) has issued a letter of intent (LoI) to Samvardhana Motherson International Ltd (SAMIL) to set up an automotive components manufacturing facility across 150 acres in sectors 6 and 7. The company plans to invest Rs 3,491 crore in the facility, which is expected to generate around 20,000 jobs over the next five years.YEIDA CEO RK Singh said that the formal allotment letter is expected to be issued by the state govt in the coming days.SAMIL, part of the Motherson Group, is a global manufacturer and supplier of automotive components, providing design, engineering, manufacturing, assembly and logistics solutions.

The proposed facility will manufacture a wide range of automotive components, including wiring harnesses, PVC-insulated wires, outer rear-view mirrors, interior and exterior mirror systems, automotive lighting systems and exhaust systems. It will also undertake the manufacturing of cutting tools, aerospace components, injection-moulded products and advanced tooling solutions.

Officials said the facility will be developed as an integrated manufacturing complex, bringing together various stages of production under one roof. It will have infrastructure for design support, precision tooling, component manufacturing, sub-assembly, final assembly and product testing. It is expected to streamline manufacturing operations, improve production efficiency and strengthen the automotive component supply chain in the region.Since commercial operations began at Noida International Airport in June this year, the Yamuna Expressway region has witnessed growing investor interest and industrial activity. The airport's operationalisation has strengthened the region's appeal as an investment destination, with several companies proposing to establish manufacturing units, logistics facilities and other industrial projects along the Yamuna Expressway, officials said.

Last month, the Authority reviewed the progress of industrial plots measuring more than 4,000 sqm. Of the 295 such plots, lease deeds have been executed for 181, possession has been given for 152 and construction has started on 69. Production has commenced at 13 units.

In Sector 28's Medical Device Park, 123 of the 203 plots have been allotted, while possession has been given for 75 plots and construction has started on 28.

In neighbouring Sector 29, 159 plots have been allotted in the Apparel Park, while 503 plots have been allotted in the MSME Park and 188 in the Handicraft Park.

Two killed in separate wild elephant attacks in Kovai, Nilgiris in two days

COIMBATORE/NILGIRIS. (Agency)

Two persons, including an unidentified woman aged between 55 and 60, were killed in separate wild elephant attacks in Coimbatore and the Nilgiris districts over the weekend.According to forest sources, in the first incident, Pollachi Forest Range staff found the body of an unidentified woman in Kovilkadu area near Sarkarpathi on Sunday. Based on the condition, she is suspected to have been trampled to death by a wild elephant.

"We suspect that the incident could have occurred in the early hours of Sunday, as locals heard the woman screaming. We received information from fire and rescue services personnel and subsequently alerted the police, who shifted her body to the Vettaikaranpudur Government Hospital. As the woman was reportedly roaming alone and was suspected to have been mentally ill, we are investigating to establish her identity," said a forest official from Pollachi Forest Range.In the second incident, a 59-year-old tea estate worker died after being attacked by a wild elephant at Kotagiri in the Nilgiris district.

The deceased was identified as M Duraisamy (59), a resident of Pathimattam in Konavakorai village, who worked at a private tea estate.A wild elephant grazing in a thicket attacked Duraisamy when he was heading to the tea factory for night duty around 8.15 pm.

Telangana: Plans afoot to divert Godavari water to Singur

HYDERABAD.(Agency)

With storage levels in the Singur and Manjeera reservoirs declining, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) has taken up pipeline interconnection works at Velimela to divert Godavari water to areas dependent on the two sources and prevent possible drinking water shortages.The precautionary measures are being taken on the instructions of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy in view of anticipated El Nino conditions. The alternative supply arrangements are being implemented under the supervision of Water Board Managing Director K Ashok Reddy.

As part of the works, the Board is connecting the 3,000-mm-diameter Godavari Ring Main with the 1,200-mm-diameter Manjeera Phase III and IV gravity main pipelines at Velimela village, near the Outer Ring Road (ORR).

Water Board Technical Director Prabhu and Chief General Manager Rajasekhar inspected the progress of the works on Sunday.

Pulicat tribal women hook success with ornamental fish harvest

CHENNAI.(Agency)

Twenty-five Irula tribal women from Pulicat in Tiruvallur district are finding a new source of livelihood through ornamental fish rearing, with the first group of 10 women earning a collective Rs 1 lakh from the sale of more than 500 clownfish and other ornamental varieties.The women, from Chengi Amman Nagar, sold six varieties of ornamental fish to Sunshine Aquaria in Kolathur, Chennai, on October 15, during the Women Farmers Day celebration. The sale marks a milestone in an initiative to promote financial independence through captive breeding of high-value ornamental fish.For 43-year-old Abhirami, who collected crabs from Pulicat waters alongside her husband, the initiative has opened a new avenue of income. Despite working long hours, she struggled to support her family of six. Through fish rearing, she earned Rs 10,000 in two months."The harvest was sold for Rs 1 lakh, and each of the 10 women received Rs 10,000," said T T Ajith Kumar, principal scientist at ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR).The Chengi Amman Ornamental Fish Rearing Group sold five clownfish varieties and a designer hybrid.

2 dead after multiple gunshots fired in Punjab's Moga, 2 injured

The Moga police said, prima facie, the assailants arrived in a black Scorpio and opened fire at the members of an extended family who were sitting outside their homes.

Ludhiana.(Agency)



Two persons died, and two others were injured after multiple gunshots were fired in the Mohalla Angadpura of Punjab's Moga town late on Sunday, police said. The Moga police said, prima facie, the assailants arrived in a black Scorpio and opened fire at the members of an extended family who were sitting outside their homes.

Inspector Varun Kumar, the SHO, Moga City South police station, told The Indian Express: "The injured were rushed to hospital. Two cousins identified as Gagan Jindal and Sahil Jindal have died. Two others are undergoing treatment. Prima facie, it is a case of personal enmity and the family has named some suspects. A probe has been started. We are registering an FIR after recording the statement of a family member." While police said the number of rounds fired remains unclear, eyewitnesses said the assailants fired at least 15-20 rounds.

Moga SSP Sartaj Singh Chahal said: "We have initiated an investigation. Our teams rushed to the spot immediately. Prima facie, five to six people were sitting outside their homes when a black Scorpio arrived, and assailants inside opened fire. We have recovered three shells from the spot. A forensic team was also called to the spot. We are checking nearby CCTV cameras."

'Senior cop' interfering in Gandhinagar land deal, allege Congress leaders

Days after former state Congress chief Jagdish Thakor was named in an FIR alleging a man's abduction over a land deal dispute in Gandhinagar district, Thakor and Vadgam MLA Jignesh Mevani demanded an investigation into the "illegal intervention" of a senior police officer in the said transaction. At a press conference, which was also attended [...]

Ahmedabad.(Agency)

Days after former state Congress chief Jagdish Thakor was named in an FIR alleging a man's abduction over a land deal dispute in Gandhinagar district, Thakor and Vadgam MLA Jignesh Mevani demanded an investigation into the "illegal intervention" of a senior police officer in the said transaction.

At a press conference, which was also attended by advocate Anand Yagnik and two families who claimed to co-own the plot of land valued by them at approximately Rs 150 crore, Mevani said a "senior police officer" in Gandhinagar was trying to interfere in the sale, which was why he had been booked in two FIRs and Thakor, a former Congress MP, was mentioned in one.



On October 11, Mevani was booked in two FIRs, based on complaints by police officers in Gandhinagar, which charged him with rioting, obstruction of public servants, inciting communal disaffection, and violating campaign silence rules under the Representation of the People Act. Advocate Yagnik said at the media interaction: "There is a piece of land (survey number 232) measuring 2.5 hectares near Adani Shantigram in Khoraj village of Gandhinagar. Three to four families of the Thakor community jointly own the plot, and two groups are trying to buy it. One of them is Ravi Thakor, who is named as an accused in and FIR, and the other are two from Kadi-Kalol. Ravi Thakor has the power of attorney." The problem, said Yagnik, was that the police, including a senior officer, were intervening in the sale process, claiming that "when such things are litigated in police stations, it must be understood that the police have the expectation of receiving something from it."

Yagnik referred to the FIR filed at Adalaj police station on October 21, wherein Ravi Thakor is accused of abducting Popatji Cheharji Thakor, the husband of Kajal Thakor. Kajal was also present at the press conference. Kajal alleged that she had been coerced to sign the police complaint and that her husband was in hiding, and was not actually abducted. During the press conference, Yagnik also made a video call to a man who claimed to be Popatji Chehrahi Thakor, who said that he was hiding of his own accord. Mevani mentioned a purported video made in the advocate's office where Ravi Thakor had allegedly said that on August 10, 2026, the senior police officer called him to his office "to talk about the Khoraj land" and that the officer demanded Rs11 crore to let the sale go ahead.

Babu and Sharda Thakor, co-owners of the land, were also present at the press conference with their son, who claimed that he and his father were taken to the local crime branch office of Gandhinagar police on October 23. Their phones were taken away, and the two were released after several hours.

Jagdish Thakor said that he had spoken to several legislators and BJP party leaders on the issue as well as tried to seek an audience with CM Bhupendra Patel, but had not been given an appointment till date. Advocate Yagnik demanded that the Gujarat CM take cognizance of the issue and initiate a legal investigation, failing which, he would approach the Gujarat High Court.

Covid-era struggle to USD 3-million AI start-up: Sudeepa and Srijan's journey to Intellivisa

Chandigarh.(Agency)

Sudeepa Singh from Chandigarh and co-founder Srijan Magon are building Intellivisa, an AI-powered travel clearance platform designed to help passengers meet international entry requirements before reaching the airport. For Sudeepa and Srijan, the idea behind Intellivisa came from their struggle during the Covid-19 pandemic, as both were trying to get their families to visit them, but travel restrictions, uncertain rules, and unpredictable application processes made the planning difficult. "We saw the problem first-hand. Not as founders, but as family, waiting for the people we love," said Singh, who brought expertise in artificial



intelligence and machine learning. Magon had experience of running a visa services business. Together, they saw an opportunity to use technology to simplify a process that often depended on manual work and specialised knowledge.

USD 3 million pre-seed funding

In October 2026, Intellivisa announced $3 million in pre-seed funding from funds and operators across the travel and AI sectors, including United Airlines Ventures. The company is now working towards integrating travel clearance into the booking process, with the aim of helping passengers establish whether they have the necessary documentation before they reach the airport. Singh, an MTech from IIT-Kanpur, has centred her career on using data and artificial intelligence to solve complex problems where accuracy matters. She has worked on machine learning products for cancer image analysis, led data initiatives at a global photography platform and headed a team developing data solutions for a 50,000-vehicle fleet deployment for one of the world's largest retailers.

Hit by El-nino, Gujarat ready to trade electricity or money for water: Union Minister CR Patil

Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel will meet his MP, Maharashtra and Rajasthan counterparts in Delhi, probably on Tuesday, says Union Water resources minister

Ahmedabad.(Agency)

Union Jal Shakti Minister C R Patil on Sunday said that the Gujarat government has proposed to provide electricity generated from water or monetary compensation in exchange for water to fulfill the water needs of the state, especially for the upcoming Rabi season.

He was addressing a public event, which was also attended by Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Agriculture Minister Jitu Vaghani, among others, to inaugurate or lay foundation stones of various developmental projects in Surat city and district. Gujarat has witnessed below-normal rainfall in the monsoon this year, with districts such as Devbhumi Dwarka and Porbandar recording over 50 per cent deficit. According to the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC), till October 25, Gujarat received 89.19 per cent of its average monsoon rainfall this year, amounting to 810.68 mm. The rainfall remained uneven in Saurashtra, Kutch and parts of north Gujarat. Devbhumi Dwarka received only 6.41 per cent of its average rainfall, while Porbandar recorded 19.12 per cent, Jamnagar 28.88 per cent and Kutch 29.29 per cent, as per data tabled by the government in the state assembly last month. Opposition Congress has been demanding to declare water scarcity in the state with measures to deal with it.

Speaking about Gujarat's planning and preparedness to meet water needs, Patil said that CM Patel is having a meeting in Delhi — probably on Tuesday — with the Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan over water requirements of the state. Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan are partner states of the Narmada Yojana. "I assure you in advance that Gujarat will definitely get the amount of water it urgently needs," the Union Minister said.

Patil said that CM Patel and Vaghani had been exerting a lot of pressure on him to ensure that Gujarat gets water from other states.



"The kind of foresight they have shown… They have said, 'Give us the water, and whatever power is generated from it, we will give you that power back, or give you money, but provide (us) the water'. Today, water is not available, and for that they have proposed this condition," Patil said.

Indicating that CM Patel has written him a letter in this regard, Patil said that he has discussed the issue with Madhya Pradesh CM Mohan Yadav during a recent telephonic conversation.

Telangana: MMC recycles 7,000 tonnes of flower waste

Flowers collected during festivals dried and converted into powder to make incense sticks

HYDERABAD.(Agency)

Around 7,000 metric tonnes of flower waste generated during Ganesh Chaturthi and Bathukamma celebrations have been collected by the Malkajgiri Municipal Corporation (MMC) and sent for recycling to manufacture incense sticks and dhoop sticks.

The initiative, undertaken in collaboration with Pakka Organics, involved the separate collection of flowers offered during religious ceremonies and those brought along with Ganesh idols for immersion. Instead of allowing the flowers to mix with regular garbage, the civic body collected them at designated centres for processing into useful organic products.MMC Commissioner Vinay Krishna Reddy said the scientific collection and recycling of flower waste had helped protect the environment while reducing the burden on municipal waste management. The initiative aims to turn waste generated during religious events and festivals into valuable resources through reuse and recycling.Sanitation Additional Commissioner Raghu Prasad said the corporation had collected approximately 7,000 metric tonnes of flower waste under the programme. Of this, more than 6,400 metric tonnes were generated during Ganesh immersion celebrations, while around 400 metric tonnes were collected during Bathukamma.

To facilitate collection, MMC, in partnership with Pakka Organics, established special kiosks at major immersion points, including Safilguda Lake and other prominent locations. Flowers offered during religious ceremonies and those accompanying Ganesh idols were collected separately at



these centres for further processing.The collected flowers were dried and converted into powder by Pakka Organics.

The powder was then mixed with herbs, natural resins, wood powders and plant-based binders to manufacture incense sticks and dhoop sticks.The corporation said the initiative also emphasised waste segregation, resource recovery and public participation in sustainable waste management.

A stranger in Srinagar

Nostalgia chains you to the past and can crush you under the burden of sentiments that stifle the perspective of the present. This truth hit me hard the moment I arrived in Srinagar. It was supposed to be a homecoming, but it felt more like being a stranger confronting surroundings he had never seen before.Kashmir, the home to my impressionable years, was rooted in my sensibility. Its soil was something I could always smell and feel. It connected me to a past whose ethereal quality gave it a meaning that words could never explain.As we landed in Srinagar, ostensibly to watch the Irani Cup cricket match between Jammu and Kashmir and the Rest of India, missing was the crisp autumn air of the Valley. Missing also was that earthy flavour reminiscent of a childhood spent in creating a fantasy world that never existed.Before boarding the plane in Delhi, I was a mute spectator to a young Kashmiri woman leaving her purse behind at the check-in counter in her haste to join whom I presume was her mother, sitting in a wheelchair at a distance. I tried to call out to them in Kashmiri. To my horror, the words simply refused to come. Not having spoken Kashmiri in years, I couldn't find the right words. I failed to reach out. I was a stranger to my mother tongue.The air journey over the snowbound Himalayan ranges did not stir the dormant, excited emotions that once shaped my response to the anticipation of coming home.The drive from the airport to the Sher-I-Kashmir Stadium, where the cricket match was being played, took us through familiar terrain, yet something was amiss. Ajaz, the taxi driver, expressed his delight at welcoming a Kashmiri Pandit and regretted our forced exit from the Valley more than three decades ago.Ajaz was born many years after insurgency had swept the Valley in 1989. He nevertheless felt sorry for what had happened and was convinced that the present generation would not have allowed us, the Kashmiri Pandits, to leave. His words appeared sincere; my response, surprisingly, was indifferent.

The Srinagar of my childhood of the early Sixties, of tongas and bicycles, seemed to have evaporated through the many years in which it had been repeatedly imagined and reimagined in my mind. Despite having revisited the Valley a few times, it seemed I was in a different place and time now. The city was bustling, its roads firm and smooth, and it had an air of saturation that conveyed prosperity.

An unruly traffic-infested road separated the cricket ground from the school I had attended as a child. It is no fun realising how distances shrink with time, and how what appeared too far to a child's eye is now within touching distance. As we navigated our way into the stadium, it was hard to say what was more conspicuous: the dense traffic, the tall, sturdy trees or the gun-toting security forces.

Within this layered world of physical reality and mental perception, we entered the stadium to witness a cricket match. Though a few hundred spectators were present, they were generally silent witnesses to a duel that would have befitted a sombre ceremony.Unlike the breathless sprint that defines a T20 game, a five-day match is more like a snail searching for a grove in which to rest. If I had to find a larger meaning in the crowd's response to the match, I had to scratch the surface of civility that shrouded the stadium. A quarter of the stadium was occupied by invitees, while a smaller section was filled with spectators whose voices seemed stifled by an environment that demanded restraint. The 'chosen' ones watched the home team's defeat like a disciplined force afraid to raise its voice. The 'Big Brother' was watching.

Daughter's film promotion, and meeting Bachchanji

I wanted to tell Bachchanji that behind our journey lay the long shadow of a father who, by taking his children to watch films every Friday, had unknowingly planted a love for cinema that would endure for generations

Some meetings happen unexpectedly, yet behind them lies a story spanning decades. My recent visit to the sets of 'Kaun Banega Crorepati (KBC)' was something like that.



On September 12, we went to our village in Punjab from Chandigarh to rebuild our ancestral house. We wanted to retain its original structure and layout because this was the house our parents had built. We were born and brought up there. It was within those walls that our love for films first took root — a love that has travelled through the generations.Papa was very fond of watching films. He would bring slippers and shoes from Jalandhar and travel from village to village selling them. Every Friday, he had to go to Jalandhar, and the day held another special meaning for us: new films. There was the 6 pm to 9 pm show, followed by the 9 pm to midnight show. Sometimes he took me along, sometimes my younger brother, and at times my sisters. In time, watching films together became a family tradition.

He could never have imagined that one day his children would become part of the film industry.

My first visit to Bombay was in 1990. In those days, Bombay was spoken of in much the same way as Lahore once had been: if you had not seen Amitabh Bachchan's house and Juhu Beach, it was almost as though you had never visited the city at all.During the past few years, whenever we travelled to Mumbai to visit our children, Wamiqa and Puran, we would drive towards Juhu Beach in the morning. On the way, we would stop the car outside Bachchanji's house and I would often say to myself, "One day I will surely meet you."Sometimes, I would jokingly tell Wamiqa, "Until you do a film with Amitabh Bachchan, I will not consider you a complete actor." That film has not happened yet. However, she has a film coming up with his wife, the renowned actress Jaya Bachchan.Last month, we were busy with the work at our village house when Wamiqa messaged: "The whole family, come to Mumbai." I was surprised. I soon learnt that she was going to 'KBC' to promote her film, 'Prahaar', and that we were expected to join her.

My wife Raj Kumari, younger sister-in-law Shakha Rani and I prepared to leave. Our son was to join us in Mumbai. The next day, we took a flight from Adampur. On September 19, we found ourselves sitting at Famous Studios in Goregaon. The day began with rehearsals at 9 am. We were told where to sit, when to stand and when to clap. Microphones were fitted, the lights were ready, and we were asked to deposit our phones and watches. Then came the moment we had all been waiting for.

Bachchanji was standing before us.When he introduced the guests — "Sitting before me are actor Rajkummar Rao, actress Wamiqa Gabbi and renowned lawyer Ujjwal Nikam" — something inside me gave way. I cannot say whether they were tears of happiness, pride or some unspoken memory accumulated over the past 60 years. Perhaps they were a mixture of all three.During the conversation, Wamiqa mentioned about the role I had played in her becoming an actor. I wanted to tell Bachchanji that behind our journey lay the long shadow of a father who, by taking his children to watch films every Friday, had unknowingly planted a love for cinema that would endure for generations.At one point, Wamiqa said, "Amitji, you should invite my father and my family for a meal." He laughed and laid down a condition: "First answer 10 questions." That brought another round of laughter.After the recording, we took photographs with Bachchanji. I told him that like his father, Harivansh Rai Bachchan, I too am a writer and gave him two of my books, which he accepted with pleasure.In terms of age, Bachchanji belongs to my father's generation. Sitting before him, I felt that I was also catching a glimpse of him. Perhaps that was why this was not merely an encounter with a great film star. It was a meeting with my childhood, with those Fridays when Papa travelled to Jalandhar. It was a meeting with the cinema tickets he bought for us and with those darkened halls where a hero would appear and we would watch him in wonder.Today, that very world of cinema has embraced our children. We, too, have become a part of it.

Perhaps, at soe future meeting, I will have the opportunity to tell Bachchanji who first set us on this path, and how a journey that began in a village house travelled so far.

Save health of Keralam spas with thorough law

Cases of alleged sexual exploitation do not augur well for the state's broader wellness tourism

In a state known for Ayurvedic healing and reputed wellness retreats, spas in Keralam are in the news for unhealthy reasons. Back-to-back allegations of sexual exploitation at spas have put the sector under scanner. The first case is of a gangrape alleged at a spa in Kochi. The victim, who was offered a manager's job, was sexually assaulted. The other incident involved an underage girl from Andhra Pradesh who was allegedly "sold" to a wellness facility in the state capital. The incident came to the police's attention when the girl managed to escape with the help of other staff members after suffering months of abuse. It must be noted that the home department acted quickly in launching a wider probe into the state's spas. The operation has revealed that many establishments were operating without the necessary approvals. Over 500 spas have been raided and a few people arrested for violations.Although Keralam has only 821 spas officially registered, there are more than 2,000 such establishments estimated to be operating across the state without licences that are required to be obtained from



local bodies. But there is no comprehensive set of rules governing this growing sector. At present, they are not mandatorily required to have police verification of employees, prescribed qualifications for therapists or periodic medical examinations. Only a few spas are registered with Kerala Tourism despite the fact that the state's wellness centres are a major draw for both international and Indian tourists. Serious players intent upon investing in the sector face big risks associated with regulatory chaos.Amid all this, cases of alleged sexual exploitation do not augur well for the state's broader wellness tourism. The incident will certainly cast a shadow over even spas functioning legitimately in the state. Patrons may view the whole sector with suspicion if such violations and malpractices exist and the ones reported not speedily taken to their judicial conclusions. While taking stringent action against exploitation, the state must also ensure that legitimate establishments in the sector are not placed under suspicion. For that, the government must bring in a comprehensive legal framework involving all the concerned departments, so that uniform standards are enforced across the sector. A dedicated licensing and monitoring system for spas is the need of the hour.

Sacred circle of care & art of tapasya

Just as an effort is required to not spoil children, much effort is required to nurture elderly parents too

Just as the umbilical cord is a symbol of the maternal bond, the finger of a father guiding his child is a profound metaphor for the paternal relationship. These bonds form the bedrock of our lives, drawing a circle that inevitably loops back to where it began.The most defining moment in the life of a parent arrives when the child flies from the nest. In that quiet instant, an entire lifetime of memories collides in the mind: the first smile, the tears, the angry times, the hardships and the lessons learned. Each parent carries a unique, irreplaceable set of these snapshots. As the nest empties, poignant dilemmas follow: Was our care enough? Were the right skills imparted? These questions echo until the young one is soaring in the huge sky — and often, long afterwards.Parents enjoy pampering children, no doubt. Often, much later in life, the behaviour of a child magnifies each moment of pampering and the realisation dawns that giving children everything they want is a disservice. Growth requires drawing them out of their comfort zones. Neurologically, this triggers development in the anterior cingulate cortex — the area of the brain that grows stronger when we do things we do not want or like to do.By leaning into discomfort, children build emotional stability, deeper insight and inner strength. While caring for ageing parents, stepping out of the comfort zone again demands that one does things that are not entirely yearned for. The analogy is tough to accept, but true: just as an effort is required to desist from spoiling children, much effort is also required to nurture elderly parents.Caring for your ageing parents is not a casual choice; it is a duty that falls into your lap, whether you like it or not. In this landscape, no two days are ever the same. Just when you think everything is going fine, along comes a new challenge. While doctors are there to manage the clinical details, they cannot make the heavy decisions that are ultimately your destiny. Many times, you will find yourself completely alone when the ultimate question arises: "Should medical intervention be stopped?"It is at this exact threshold, when you reach the brink of your physical stamina, that you realise the tremendous spiritual reservoir within. An infinite supply of courage, resilience and energy kickstarts to help you shoulder the responsibility of those who once nurtured you. This forced endurance is a form of modern tapasya — a spiritual practice that burns away the superfluous and leads to a profound state of equanimity.The final defining moment of this journey arrives when the departure comes around. The timeline flashes by: the beginning of dependence, the hours spent in cold hospital corridors and the quiet hand-holding during moments of intense suffering. Every caregiver walks a different path and owns a unique set of experiences.The moment of absolute closure — the last goodbye — is the pause we must all watch out for. In that heart-wrenching minute, any lingering guilt or perceived oversight comes back magnified many times over. The concept of karma takes on a fresh, immediate dimension.When others look from the outside and appreciate the care you lavished on the elderly, the sheer angst of that final instant becomes your clear, guiding lighthouse. It reminds you that you loved fully, stayed until the end and fulfilled a sacred duty of human existence.



All you need to know about fringe Benefits

Fringe benefits not only help the employees in terms of long–term growth, they are also equally important for the organisations for various reasons.



The corporate drone operates at every level across sectors in the industry. Fringe benefits are a new buzz doing the rounds of corporate halls. It is generally combined or part of the total rewards system. Fringe benefits broadly include health, security and retirement benefits offered to all full-time employees. They are offered in addition to the defined compensation structure. Recent explosion of the digital platform industry led to an epiphany among the top executives and leadership teams at large, on talent management. To increase the level of attraction for young and exceptionally skilled talent, the focus on leading edge practices has become critical. Thus, an innovative bucket of fringe benefits is introduced in the market. Some of these are voluntary and taxable in nature, but aid the employee in different aspects of hisher life. Some of the popular ones are education assistance, adoption assistance, Employee Assistance Programme (EAP), bonus allocated, meals offered by the organisation, flexible hours, transport facility provided, etc. Elango R, president HP Business Unit and chief human resources officer, Mphasis shares his views on the fringe benefit that people appreciate the most. He suggests,""It is anything that includes employees' family , that has high social and peer recognition. We should encourage giving a compensation that benefits their whole family. For instance, where an employee gets promoted or recognised for their work, without telling it to them, we can send a letter to their parents or spouse informing about the same. This gives them surprise and happiness. Second, at senior levels, people still like exclusive club memberships and offers which are difficult for them to get individually. This has a huge impact on them. The third is giving people enough opportunities to get together and socialise as peers either through conferences or similar learning exercises. Many people cut it calling it an expense, but it is really a fringe benefit because others like to travel with their peers and their group and they look forward to these events. It is just another way to renew their relationships with their colleagues.

The distinction in company size relates more prominently to the extent to which initiatives are implemented and the processes relating to how they are implemented. But acting as an outlier to this industry trend, these benefits are more popular among the start-ups who aspire to operate at a global level with employee-friendly policies and compensation structure. This aspect offered as an additional perk is often used as a bargaining chip with the prospective employees.

The emphasis on the subject has increased to such an extent that some universities have actually started designing dedicated courses around the same. It can help manoeuvre the employee value proposition to the external and internal population and benefit the organisational repute. While the benefits offered are enjoyed by the employees and employer bears the expense, it's a mutually-beneficial programme for both involved parties. Healthy and secure employees will have better productivity , attendance, and vigour to take on new challenges. This will help the organisation perform better.

Generally , the scale of operations also determines the benefits offered as volume or headcount helps to spread the cost and gain discounts or workout better deals through collective bargaining for higher employee base. Also, these benefits are subject to Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) which takes away time, energy and requires the expertise or knowledge to be there in the taxaudit team. In the ultimate user experience, fringe benefits can be viewed as a distributed consensus system that allows management and employees at different levels to come on the same page and concur to achieve common organisational goals while contributing in their capacity. Industry experts advocate further growth and penetration of fringe benefits in the industry at large in the long range.While certain deficits are overlooked by the fact that an increase in the percentage of fringe benefits in the compensation structure will reduce the cash pay, an ideal scenario would be where benefits and cash components both increase at a similar pace, but that is too idealistic in a crunch economy like ours.

How to strike work-life balance

Managing work-life balance

It is essential to put everything in slots. The most important relationships in your life are those with your immediate family members. These could be with your parents, spouse or children. All other relationships are for a season or a reason. As long as you can keep this universal truth in mind, it is not difficult to strike a balance. Sometimes in life, you have to take a hard-stop. This hard-stop is that point when you need to stop everything else and focus on what is more precious and important to you. You often tend to focus a lot on external relationships and tend to take personal relationships for granted. But you may have noticed that if you redirect some energy to personal relationships, you will be extremely fulfilled. My wife and I believe in spending quality time with our son, over a quiet meal at home instead of braving the traffic and going to a place in a high decibel environment, to eat a high-calorie and expensive meal.



Key to staying fit

I believe in eating less. There is more than enough on the planet for all of us, three times over as long as we all learn to monitor our consumption habits. Eat to sustain your body, in terms of a daily calorie intake and you should be fine. I also believe in natural cures, thus something like garlic is an excellent panacea for keeping your cholesterol and blood pressure in check.

Energy and happiness high

The greatest joy is to be able to use my position of privilege in life and make a difference to the life of a person who might be struggling and in need of help. I would always stop my car and allow a pedestrian to cross the road. Once, when I stopped the car for a cyclist, the entire traffic behind me got clogged. The cyclist himself was so amazed that he kept looking back and almost had an accident as he was in awe that someone had actually stopped the car for him.

My spiritual diet

While I do go to a temple once a week, at the behest of my mother, I believe that the divine power is omniscient and omni-present. I feel that you should focus more on being a good human being than rituals and ceremonies. I try to do my job to the best of my ability, as it is a responsibility given to me. I also attempt to do my best for everyone else depending on my relationships with them. The basis for my spirituality is to be able to create a positive outcome of all that I do.

Handling success and failure

I believe that there is no failure, there is only feedback. The latter helps you evaluate and correct yourself. Success is a relative term and we all need to find our own personal definition of it. In my case, success is measured by the purity of my thoughts. The rest is all a matter of choice as long as our material needs are met and we have health. I find solace in a minimalistic life and believe that success is really how you live your life in all aspects.

My crisis management theory

Over the years, I have learnt to deal with all situations with measured calm. A crisis is a learning period and not something that can keep recurring. That is the nature of any crisis; it is short-lived and has to pass. Every day is the new situation and a new learning. I have also learnt to deal with work a little dispassionately, as that gives me a clear mind to take decisions. At times, as a leader you have to take hard decisions and be ruthless as well. You cannot afford to be over-attached to anything.

Icons who have inspired me to achieve work-life balance.

Should you follow your boss to his new Workplace?

While you may have the best rapport with your boss, moving with him to the new workplace may bring unexpected consequences. Choose wisely.

The manager of your team has been the best mentor you ever had in your professional life. He has guided you through all the ups and downs that you faced in this organisation and has been a strong pillar of strength for you during your present stint.You have prospered well and feel totally in control of things at work.But now, he has decided to move on to explore better avenues and things have suddenly become not so clear for you. As you prepare yourself to deal with situations without having him around, you get an offer to join him at his new workplace. Now, the big question haunts you as to whether or not to join him in his new venture.

Although, the most obvious and natural progression in this situation would be to instantly grab the offer and move along, there might be certain pros and cons that need to be weighed before one takes the plunge.Working with the same boss would definitely mean the same old level of comfort and understanding. Sandeep Budhiraja, CEO of DOOR Training & Consulting India Pvt Ltd, puts it into perspective as he says, "Change brings uncertainty and the manager who has moved to a new role may be driven by his or her own need to establish himselfherself quickly.Therefore, he would also be interested in bringing the trusted team members along. Also, it is well understood in HR circles that when people move together to a new organisation, they are taking the same risk as the organisation they are coming from.Unless the company is desperate for that kind of talent, it is highly avoidable for them. Groups come with their own cultural and political issues.So, the new company that the employee has followed his manager to, will already start discounting the capabilities and trustworthiness of the employee, which does not bode well in the long run."

Any change will always have uncertainties associated with it. Nonetheless, it cannot be ruled out that moving out with your boss may bring in some good results for you as the rapport you share with him will also help you settle down better in the new role.With him already working to create a credibility for himself, chances are high that you will benefit alongside. However, in such work relationships, the employee often loses his own ability to take the best decision for himself.Moving to a new role would definitely mean risking the growth opportunities that might have come your way in your present assignment. At the same time, it would also mean losing on the remaining support systems that one might have in the present organisation.

Shalini Pillay, head-people, performance and culture, KPMG India, says, "If you understand and believe in the growth platform that your present organisation provides, it is not difficult to see the wider landscape of opportunities that present themselves in such a context too.What might seem like an easy path of going with the flow, might actually quite often be walking away from the imminent opportunity besides having to establish oneself in an entirely new organisational ecosystem. Similarly, the rapport that an individual builds with his manager and the trust he has in his ability to support individual growth is an outcome of a larger ecosystem.This ecosystem is a result of the culture and values that the organisation believes in. It may not be realistic to believe that similar culture-value systems exist in all organisations."

The same is reckoned by Geetika Joshi, a senior HR professional. "Not only will such a move bring uncertainty along, it will affect most other relationships that you might have fostered over time, and your relationship with your boss may even affect the relationships you make at your new workplace.Therefore, it is extremely essential to choose wisely and think deep before taking this plunge."

While an opportunity to work with your existing boss may sound extremely good at the first time, it is extremely crucial to weigh the pros and cons and then take an informed decision about the same.



Ways to stay motivated at

Work when you hit a Career low



"It is okay to feel the slump at work sometimes," says relationship counsellor Varkha Chakraborty. "What you need to do is boost your motivation every now and then so that you don't lose hope at work," he adds.

According to Alesia Khanna, a 36-year-old banker, seeing her colleagues getting fired has made her feel insecure about her job. She says, "I have been working in my company for the past three years and in just one year, I have seen a few of my colleagues being fired for almost no reason. This has made me feel that I might undergo the same at some point of time and has affected my work."



Be positive

No matter what the job atmosphere is, you need to remember that staying positive will make a huge impact and will keep you motivated. If you lose hope, no one will be able to help you. Negativity will drain you and will sap you of your energies, thereby making you feel low at work.

Sorround yourself with happy, optimistic colleagues

At times, the reason to feel demotivated at work is that you have too many negative people working with you. This is exactly when you should be with people who are optimistic and encourage themselves as well as you from time to time.

Talk it out with your boss

If you think the reason for feeling demotivated is your superiors, trying talking it out with your immediate superior. Once you vent out, not only will you feel relieved, but you will also be able to understand the perspective of your boss. This in turn will encourage you to perform better at your tasks.

Don't worry too much

If you think that your colleague losing out on his/her job is something that is constantly worrying you or people finding it difficult to cope at work is something that affects you indirectly, don't let it affect you much. This is all a part and parcel of the professional environment and working hard and responsibly will surely reap benefits.

Look out for another job, if you aren't happy

Says clinical psychologist Dr Seema Hingorrany, "Staying in a negative work atmosphere surely pulls you into further negativity. Thus, if you are not happy with your present job, don't think you have amiable people in your work atmosphere, it is better to move out of such a scenario and look out for a job which suits you."

Take some time out to search

You don't have to be in a hurry to look out for another job. Often one tends to regret the decisions that they take in haste. This is exactly why you should wait for the right moment and the opportunity when you are looking out for a job. Get yourself registered with various job portals and be up-to-date with the openings that are available in your industry.

Seek professional help

Says Shobita Raina, a 27-year-old IT professional, "I was jobless for almost eight months and I started losing hope. I would keep applying to various companies but none had any vacancies. That is when a friend suggested that I approach an outsourced HR agency and send my resume to them. Within two weeks, they approached me with a job opening and I was happy taking up the work."

How bad is Your boss?



Bad bosses who play a significant role in increasing stress for employees, may be of two types -- 'dark' who have destructive behaviours or 'dysfunctional' who are not very good at their job, researchers have found.



"Dysfunctional bosses don't want to hurt you. Through lack of skill, or other personality defects, they're just not very good at their job. Largely, that's what we would call 'dysfunctional'," said Seth M. Spain from Binghamton University in New York, US.

Dark bosses, on the other hand, have destructive behaviours and hurt others to elevate themselves, Spain said.

These bosses are looked at through the three characteristics called the "Dark Triad", which includes Machiavellianism, narcissism and psychopathy.

"Dark bosses are people who enjoy the pain and suffering of others -- they're going to be mean, abusive and harassing in daily life," Spain added.

Team leaders can act as a lens through which people tend to view their work experience. Thus such bosses -- dysfunctional or dark -- can cause a great deal of stress to employees, the study observed.

The study, which looks to establish a taxonomy for identifying bad bosses and their distinct behaviours, can help fixing them and ultimately reduce stress in the workplace.

"We believe that these characteristics are extremely important for understanding employee development and career advancement," Spain noted.

The study was published in the journal Research in Occupational Stress and Well-Being.

Working from home?

Six rules to stay clear from messing up

Work from home is a dream situation especially if you have to be with your kid or because you want to avoid traffic mayhem. But those who have experienced this, believe that it is not such a win-win situation afterall.

Many complain that it becomes difficult to stay focused and few others feel that it eventually ends up becoming 'working FOR home and office both' rather 'working FROM' home. Even though working in your pyjamas sounds lucrative, there are few rules, you must follow to derive maximum out of your comfy, work from home job.

Find a perfect nook

When you are home, you are bound to be tempted to laziness and might keep changing your work station. But this will not just waste your time, but will also not be great for your posture. Working for hours lying on the bed or sitting on a couch many not be a healthy proposition. Decide on a proper chair and table and stick to that place.

Get dressed

How many times have you started working from home without even brushing your teeth? Snuggling in your blanket and working will not only affect your physical health but will also have an impact on your mental well-being. You tend to become sluggish and lose your concentration. The reason behind a certain dress code for office is that what you wear has an impact on how you feel. And thus one should dress up to feel charged up and stay focused.

If you work with headphones on

Pick that perfect playlist to pep up your mood. Choose a list of songs that increase your concentration levels. Or the best idea is to avoid them as for some they might interfere with the concentration.

Step away from washing and cleaning

If you are working from home, chances are that you will be tempted to work on few quick jobs. DON'T do that! Remember, you are 'working FROM home' and not 'FOR home'.

Take a proper lunch break

Most of us get casual when we are working from home and tend to grab quick or easy bites than a proper lunch. Many of us also keep working while having lunch. Avoid this! Take a proper lunch break just like you would have while in office. Also, try to take a walk and bring some life back in your limbs.

Stay away from munching

Nibbling on quick snacks is the most unhealthy thing we do while working from home. Hide all those tempting biscuits and munchies. Instead take coffee or tea breaks – take a stroll in your balcony or prepare yourself a healthy fruit salad.



New Delhi Municipal Council plans to develop tulip garden inside Nehru Park

Delhi.(Agency)

The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) is planning to develop a larger tulip garden inside Nehru Park, with dedicated parking and recreational activities, to allow visitors to spend more time enjoying the seasonal blooms, its chairman Manoj Kumar Dwivedi said on Sunday.The civic body has identified a site for the proposed garden and started preparations, Dwivedi said in a post on X, adding that the new facility would supplement the existing tulip displays along Shanti Path. The tulip blooms along Shanti Path attract visitors every year, but the lack of parking facilities often leads to traffic congestion and roadside parking, making it difficult for people to spend extended periods at the site, he said. "The proposed garden at Nehru Park will have dedicated parking and activities such as music and drone photography, allowing families to enjoy the flowers and spend more time at the venue without traffic-related hassles," Dwivedi said.The NDMC will continue to plant tulips along Shanti Path, with the larger garden being an additional attraction, he added. Tulips typically bloom for around 20 to 25 days. The civic body plans to develop the Nehru Park site into a year-round floral attraction, featuring seasonal flowers throughout the year, Dwivedi said.

Jamia Millia Islamia agrees to student union polls, revokes suspensions with riders

Delhi.(Agency)

Delhi's Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) university Monday agreed to hold students' union elections once the union's constitution receives official approval, ending a two-week student protest. This decision follows a meeting Sunday night between JMI officials and protesting students seeking the reinstatement of the union."The Jamia Millia Islamia Student's Union Election will be held after 15 days, from the date of approval of the constitution of the student's union of Jamia Millia Islamia," the order issued by the registrar's office states. However, the order does not set a fixed timeline for forming the constitution.The order also gives students two other assurances: suspension and showcause notices issued to them during the protest period will be revoked. It also says that a committee will be constituted to inquire into the actions of security staff during the protest.The university's written response follows a letter submitted by the hunger strikers and their delegates, titled 'Demand of Hunger Strike Students'. In their submission, the students made it clear that they needed a written commitment to end their demonstration."We will call off the hunger strike and sit-in protest only upon receiving a written agreement from the university administration accepting them," the letter stated.The primary demand of the hunger strike was a fixed timeline for restoring the Jamia Millia Islamia Students' Union, which has remained dissolved since 2006. The protesters also demanded the revocation of disciplinary actions initiated against participating students and an official inquiry into the conduct of university security personnel.

Conditional requirements

The administration's order includes conditional requirements for the protesting students. First, it records an undertaking by the students to issue a public apology at a press conference for any "defamatory statements/actions/posts" made against the administration during the protest. It directs that all such social media posts be taken down immediately, noting that compliance will be actively monitored.

Delhi Waqf Board remains headless three years after elected body's tenure ended

The crisis began on August 26, 2023, when the tenure of the board chaired by AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan ended. Khan had led the board since November 2020, following earlier stints as chairperson.

Delhi.(Agency)



More than three years after the tenure of the elected Delhi Waqf Board ended in August 2023, the statutory body responsible for protecting and managing Waqf properties in the national capital remains without a duly constituted board. What was initially a temporary administrative arrangement has turned into a prolonged vacuum, marked by changing administrators, disruptions in day-to-day functioning and continuing legal battles.The recent intervention came in September 2026, when the Delhi High Court sought responses from the Centre and the Delhi government on a petition seeking the constitution of a fresh board. Justice Anish Dayal, in an order dated September 8, granted the authorities four weeks to file their replies. The matter is listed for further hearing on December 10. The petition argued that the continued absence of a board violates the statutory obligation to constitute one under the Waqf Act, as amended in 2025. The crisis began on August 26, 2023, when the tenure of the board chaired by AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan ended. Khan had led the board since November 2020, following earlier stints as chairperson. No new elected body was constituted after the expiry of its tenure. On January 10, 2024, the Delhi government appointed senior IAS officer Ashwani Kumar, then Principal Secretary (Home), as administrator until the board was reconstituted. However, the arrangement continued without a new board being constituted. The absence of a functioning governing body also affected administrative operations. In July 2024, the HC dealt with a petition filed by the board's employees' association seeking the release of outstanding salaries and timely payment of wages. The dispute highlighted the difficulties confronting employees and other beneficiaries dependent on the institution.The situation became more complicated in January 2025, when then Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena approved the appointment of Azimul Haque as chief executive officer in additional charge. The post had reportedly remained vacant since November 28, 2024, with the delay affecting routine operations, including payments to imams and mutawallis, or custodians of Waqf properties.

Leadership crisis

Delhi HC seeks Centre, govt replies on fresh boardCourt grants four weeks to file replies; hearing Dec 10AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan chaired the board until Aug '23Ashwani Kumar was appointed administrator on Jan 10, 2024 Employees sought outstanding salaries and timely paymentAzimul Haque appointed CEO in additional charge in Jan 2025Waqf land disputes involve Shahi Idgah, Bhure Shah DargahVacant CEO post reportedly affected payments to imams and mutawallis

Fire reported at Delhi's North Block housing Home, Finance ministries

- A fire broke out in an old plastic water tank on the roof of the North Block, but labourers managed to douse the flames. No casualties were reported in the immediate aftermath of the incident.

Delhi.(Agency)

A fire was reported at New Delhi's North Block, which houses the Union Ministries of Home Affairs and Finance, after thick smoke was spotted rising from the iconic British-era administrative building.The situation was eventually brought under control. According to the police, renovation work was underway on the rooftop of the building, where



labourers were present.

A fire broke out in an old plastic water tank on the terrace, but the labourers managed to douse the flames. Six fire tenders were rushed to the spot after Delhi Fire Services received information about the smoke at 11.10 am, according to an official cited by news agency PTI.

Despite government measures, Delhi continues to grapple with deteriorating air quality

Government initiatives offer hope, but sustained action and accountability must take precedence over announcements to find a permanent solution, writes city team.

Delhi.(Agency)

For years, winters in the capital have been synonymous with air pollution. Despite multiple government measures, awareness campaigns, and court orders, citizens continue to grapple with deteriorating air quality as temperatures fall and atmospheric conditions trap pollutants close to the ground.This year, the situation is no different. As the winds cool down, the question looms again that Delhi, ironically one of the greenest capitals, is ready to tackle the problem. The query also assumes importance because the Supreme Court of India has recently allowed partial use of fireworks this festive season.

Multiple sources of the problem

Delhi's winter pollution cannot be explained by a single source, said experts. While smoke from stubble burning is one of the major causes, local emissions from vehicles, industries, construction activities, road dust and open waste burning also contribute to the problem. "Stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana can send smoke towards the capital, but vehicle exhaust, road dust, construction work, industrial emissions and waste burning also contribute to the problem," said Alash Vashistha, environmentalist and NGT lawyer.A Noida-based environmental activist, Manoj Kumar, opined that weather conditions play an important role as well. "During October and November, lower wind speeds and changes in temperature can trap pollutants close to the ground, making the air more harmful to breathe. Firecrackers during festivals can add to the pollution load. The exact contribution of each source varies with the season and weather," he said.Experts called for a strategy that combines regional coordination with local enforcement, addressing both the pollutants entering from outside and those generated within the capital.Some even



asked if the odd-even mechanism for vehicles could be reintroduced to tackle the problem better. The question assumes significance since vehicles were the single largest contributor to Delhi's PM2.5 pollution Saturday, accounting for 25%, according to data generated by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology's (IITM) newly inaugurated Integrated Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosol Toxicity Analysis Laboratory (AATAL).Secondary organic aerosols contributed 18.4%, followed by secondary inorganic aerosols (16.5%), road dust (10.9%) and waste burning (5%).

The laboratory, which was inaugurated in New Rajendra Nagar by Union Minister of State Jitendra Singh, provides real-time source-apportionment data. The data generated over the past five days show that vehicles, secondary organic aerosols and secondary inorganic aerosols have consistently been the top contributors to Delhi's PM2.5 levels.The data shows that on Friday, when AQI was in the poor category, secondary organic aerosols, which form when volatile organic compounds (VOCs) released by vehicles.

Flight trip from Delhi to Thailand turns awry for 98 people as cash worth nearly Rs 3 lakh stolen

Delhi.(Agency)

A company-organised trip to Thailand for 98 high-performing dealers ended in a theft, with nearly Rs 3 lakh in cash allegedly stolen from their checked-in bags during their onward and return journeys. The dealers, who are based in Rajasthan, have filed multiple e-FIRs at the Delhi airport police station.The thefts took place during the trip between October 9 and 12 but came to light only after the dealers returned home.Lakshya Sethi, a dealer from Kota who lost Rs 1.5 lakh, said the group flew to Thailand



on Thai Airways flight TG 32 on October 9. "After reaching Thailand, my friend Praveen found out that Rs 25,000 was stolen from the bag he had given for check-in. This really upset him. Our group returned to Delhi on October 12 by another Thai Airways flight TG 315. It was only reaching my house in Kota that I realised my money was missing when I unpacked my bag."

Sethi then informed fellow travellers through their common WhatsApp group. "I received shocking feedback. I recall atleast eight of them responding saying that they had lost money in the bags they had given for check-in. Each one had assumed they had missed it somewhere. We then understood that it was a planned theft which had taken place," the dealer said.He added that the locks on the bags had been broken and replaced, while number locks had also been tampered with.The victims have individually filed e-FIRs. Sethi said, "This is a matter of serious concern. I have travelled to many countries with much higher amounts of cash in the check-in baggage. My money has never been stolen like this in the past. I am shaken by this incident."

On Sunday (October 25), Sethi posted on X seeking help from Delhi and Thailand airports to recover the stolen money.Responding to his complaint, Delhi airport said, "As per a recent directive of the Director General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, passengers are requested to file an e-FIR with Delhi police in case of any theft or pilferage from the baggage." The airport also shared a link to the website for filing an e-FIR.

Jamia announces union polls, but protesters flag ambiguity in order

The protest unfolded amid repeated restrictions, clashes, detentions and an unprecedented show of solidarity from students, former students and supporters beyond the campus.

Delhi.(Agency)

After 14 days of hunger strike, protests, detentions and mounting pressure from across university campuses, Jamia Millia Islamia on Monday finally announced that its students' union elections would be held 15 days after the approval of the union's constitution.The order, issued by the university's Office of the Registrar on October 26, came just as the agitation was heading into its 15th day, following a night of marches, heightened security and growing concern over the health of students on hunger strike.What began with one student, Jasim Khan, a master's student who went on hunger strike demanding the restoration of student union elections, gradually grew into a collective agitation involving five students, including a woman student. The protest unfolded amid repeated restrictions, clashes, detentions and an unprecedented show of solidarity from students, former students and supporters beyond the campus.The university, meanwhile, had shut parts of the campus, closed libraries and shifted classes online as tensions escalated. With police and Rapid Action Force personnel deployed in large numbers, the campus increasingly resembled a fortress, with security personnel at several points appearing to outnumber the protesting students.

The agitation took another turn when women students joined the protest in significant numbers, including amid concerns over restrictions and directions asking some hostel residents to vacate. On the 14th night, Jasim's health



deteriorated, and he was taken to hospital, intensifying concerns among protesters.Sunday midnight, however, saw students continue their juloos marches at Gulistan-e-Ghalib. Protesters also alleged that food and water were being prevented from entering the campus. When Jasim returned from hospital at around 3.30 am, the administration's decision was understood to have been conveyed to the protesting students as celebrations had begun on the campus.

Sensex falls 500 points, Nifty below 22,400 as IT stocks slide

New Delhi.(Agency)

Stock markets opened lower on Monday, extending last week's sell-off as elevated crude oil prices, concerns over inflation and losses in IT stocks weighed on investor sentiment. Investors are also watching for the US Federal Reserve's policy decision later this week, with uncertainty over interest rates adding to caution.The BSE Sensex was trading at 72,584.94, down 538.89 points, or 0.74%, as of 9.24 am. The index opened at 72,990.04 and slipped to an intraday low of 72,549.76.The NSE Nifty 50 fell 211.80 points, or 0.94%, to 22,388.20. The index opened at 22,524.40 and touched a low of 22,387.45.

CRUDE OIL REMAINS A KEY CONCERN

Elevated crude oil prices continued to weigh on sentiment, even as prices eased from their recent highs. Brent crude futures fell 2.07% to $114.30 per barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate crude declined 2.25% to $100.95.

Rupee falls 5 paise to 94.98 against US dollar in early trade

MUMBAI.(Agency)

The rupee traded in a narrow range and fell 5 paise to 94.98 against the US dollar in early trade on Monday, weighed down by elevated crude oil prices and geopolitical tensions in the Middle East.

Forex traders said the rupee opened on a negative note on risk aversion in global markets amid escalation of tensions in the Middle East. However, softness in the US Dollar and US treasury yields cushioned the downside.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 94.92, then lost ground to touch 94.98, lower by 5 paise over its previous close.

On Friday, the rupee depreciated for the second consecutive day and fell 12 paise to close at 94.93 against the US dollar.

The Indian rupee opened slightly lower on elevated crude oil prices and geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. However, softness in the US Dollar and US treasury yields cushioned the downside," said Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst, Mirae Asset Sharekhan.

"We expect the rupee to trade with a slight negative bias on risk aversion in global markets amid escalation of tensions in the Middle East. Elevated crude oil prices and selling pressure by FIIs may also pressurise the rupee. However, weak US Dollar and any fresh intervention by the RBI may support the rupee at lower levels," Choudhary said.

E100 cars get regulatory green light ahead of planned launches

NEW DELHI.(Ajency)

Government on Monday notified a change in Central Motor Vehicles Rules, allowing flex-fuel vehicles that can run on upto 100% ethanol blended petrol. This comes barely months before some of the car manufacturers are set to launch their E100 models.

An official said the amendments update the emission provisions by including E100 alongside E85. Officials said E85 and E100 are "intended only for vehicles specially designed and certified to use it and will not be applicable for other vehicles. Vehicles that use E20 or normal fuel can't use E85 or E100 fuel. This notification doesn't require owners of existing vehicles to switch to E85 or modify their vehicles either at present or in future."Officials said Flex Fuel technology is used in countries such as Brazil and the US. These vehicles are specially designed to operate on a range of ethanol and petrol blends using a single tank fuel.

Tesla entered India with big plans. Do its latest results show profit

BERLIN.(Agency)

Tesla India Motors and Energy reported a net profit of Rs 5.16 crore in FY26, its first financial year in which vehicle sales contributed to revenue, as Elon Musk's electric carmaker scaled up operations in India after entering the market in 2025.

The company reported revenue of Rs 247.31 crore in FY26, with vehicle sales accounting for nearly 87% of the total. While the numbers mark an increase in business activity, Tesla's India operations are still at an early stage, with vehicle registrations remaining modest compared with the scale of the global electric vehicle maker.According to regulatory filings reviewed by Moneycontrol, Tesla India's revenue from operations rose nearly 12-fold from Rs 20.83 crore in FY25. Its net profit also increased from Rs 55.49 lakh in the previous financial year to Rs 5.16 crore in FY26.The company began selling its Model Y in India after opening its first showroom in Mumbai in July 2025. FY25 revenue had come entirely from services, making FY26 the first financial year in which vehicle sales contributed to its reported turnover.



MODEL Y DRIVES MOST OF TESLA INDIA'S REVENUE

Vehicle sales generated Rs 214.69 crore in FY26, while services contributed Rs 32.40 crore. The Model Y was central to the company's early sales performance as it began building its presence in the Indian market.Tesla recorded 346 vehicle registrations between September 2025 and March 2026, according to Vahan data. Registrations rose to 650 in April-September FY27, exceeding the previous period's tally within six months.Average monthly registrations increased from around 49 to 108. While this indicates a pickup in sales activity, the increase comes from a small initial base.Tesla currently offers the Model Y and Model Y L in India. The five-seat Model Y starts at Rs 50.89 lakh, ex-showroom, and offers a claimed range of up to 500 km. The three-row, six-seat Model Y L starts at Rs 61.99 lakh and offers a claimed range of up to 681 km.

TESLA INVESTS IN INDIA AS COSTS RISE

Tesla also infused Rs 86 crore into its Indian entity during FY26, largely through a contribution of Rs 85.91 crore from Tesla International BV.Cash expenditure on property, plant and equipment and capital work-in-progress increased to Rs 62.54 crore in FY26, compared with Rs 1.16 crore a year earlier. Cash and cash equivalents stood at Rs 87.82 crore at the end of March, up from Rs 10.28 crore.

The expansion also brought higher operating costs. Employee benefit expenses more than tripled to Rs 43.67 crore from Rs 13.46 crore, including Rs 11.99 crore in share-based compensation. Rent expenses rose to Rs 30.32 crore from Rs 2.64 crore, while advertising and promotion expenditure stood at Rs 2.16 crore.Total expenses were reported at Rs 240 crore.

HAS TESLA'S INDIA BET PAID OFF?

Tesla's FY26 results show that its Indian entity has reported a profit while beginning vehicle sales, rather than relying entirely on services revenue. However, one profitable financial year does not establish whether the company can sustain profits as it expands its operations.

Gold prices hold near Rs 1.43 lakh: Should festive buyers wait or buy now

New Delhi.(Agency)

Gold prices have been holding near Rs 1.43 lakh per 10 grams, offering some relief to buyers preparing for Karwa Chauth, Diwali and the upcoming wedding season. With the festive rush picking up, many households are wondering whether to buy gold now or wait for prices to fall further.The yellow metal, however, faces a crucial week. Rising crude oil prices and the US Federal Reserve's upcoming policy decision could influence its next move. Persistent inflation concerns may limit the scope for interest rate cuts, keeping bond yields and the US dollar firm. This could put pressure on gold, which does not offer regular interest income.At the time of writing, MCX gold was trading at Rs 1,42,674, up 0.46%. While the recent price levels may offer some comfort to jewellery buyers, the outlook remains uncertain.



WHY GOLD PRICES ARE IN FOCUS THIS WEEK

Investors are watching developments in the oil market and signals from the US Federal Reserve to understand where gold prices could head next.Higher crude oil prices can push up inflation expectations. If inflation remains stubborn, the US Federal Reserve may have less room to cut interest rates. Higher interest rates and bond yields tend to make interest-bearing assets more attractive than gold, potentially limiting gains in the precious metal.

However, gold also draws support from central-bank purchases, investment demand and concerns about government finances. These factors can help prices remain firm even when the broader economic outlook is uncertain.Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, said, "MCX Gold opened with a small gap up near 142,300 and is trading near 142,440, up 0.29%, holding between its support and resistance bands after last week's slide."

His assessment suggests that gold is currently attempting to stabilise after its recent decline, although the market is yet to establish a clear direction.

WILL RISING CRUDE OIL PRICES HURT GOLD?

The relationship between crude oil and gold is not straightforward. Both can rise during periods of geopolitical uncertainty, as investors look for protection against risks and disruptions to supplies. However, their paths can diverge when higher oil prices begin to fuel inflation concerns.Manav Modi, Commodities Analyst at Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd., said, "Gold continues to hold around $4,000 despite easing geopolitical tensions, supported by strong investment and central-bank demand, fiscal concerns and some moderation in Treasury yields."He explained that sustained high crude oil prices could raise inflation expectations, push bond yields higher and strengthen expectations of tighter US monetary policy. Such a combination could weigh on gold.On the other hand, a decline in crude oil prices could ease inflation concerns and reduce expectations of tighter monetary policy. This could help bond yields soften and provide support to bullion, even if geopolitical tensions ease.Modi said gold's relationship with crude oil largely works through inflation, interest rates, real yields and the US dollar rather than through a consistent direct correlation.

For Indian buyers, the direction of international gold prices is important, but domestic prices can also be influenced by the rupee-dollar exchange rate, import costs and local market conditions.

WHAT SHOULD BUYERS EXPECT BEFORE DIWALI?

The timing is important for households planning jewellery purchases for Karwa Chauth, Diwali or weddings. A period of relative stability can make budgeting easier, but it does not necessarily mean that gold has become cheap or that prices will remain at current levels.Gold is also sensitive to market sentiment ahead of major events. Modi noted that the psychological $4,000 level, exchange-traded fund (ETF).

Saudi Arabia plans crude oil storage in Singapore from 2027

MUMBA.(Agency)

Saudi Arabia plans to store crude oil in Singapore's Jurong Rock Caverns from the second half of 2027, in a move aimed at strengthening its oil supply chain in Southeast Asia and supporting Singapore's energy security, reported news agency Reuters.

Singapore's Minister for Energy, Trade and Industry Tan See Leng announced the joint intention at the Singapore International Energy Week conference on Monday, October 26."Saudi Arabia and Singapore are announcing our joint intent to establish an arrangement for Saudi crude oil to be stored at the Jurong Rock Caverns from the second half of 2027," Tan said as per the report.The arrangement is expected to make Saudi Arabia's crude oil supply chain in Southeast Asia more resilient and help Singapore manage potential supply disruptions.This arrangement enhances the resilience of the Saudi crude oil supply chain in Southeast Asia,



as well as contributes to Singapore's energy security and resilience in the event of supply disruptions," Tan said.

AGREEMENT WITH SAUDI ARAMCO

Saudi Aramco is expected to sign a memorandum of understanding with Singapore's Energy Market Authority and JTC Corporation on Monday, Tan said. Negotiations on the arrangement are expected to be concluded within a few months, he added.

Jio IPO allotment explained: How much can you make from 12, 36 or 60 shares

Mumbai . (Agency)

Investors who secure an allotment in the Jio Platforms IPO could make a listing gain of nearly Rs 3,000 on a single lot if the shares list at the price indicated by the latest grey market premium (GMP).The GMP stood at Rs 247 on October 26, according to the latest data provided. With the IPO's upper price band at Rs 1,119 per share, this points to an estimated listing price of Rs 1,366, implying a potential gain of around 22.07%.1 exchanges has deepened market volatility.The Jio Platforms IPO was subscribed 21.36 times by the close of bidding on October 23, reflecting strong demand across investor categories. The allotment is expected to be finalised on October 26, while the shares are scheduled to list on the BSE and NSE on October 28.



But how much could an investor make if they receive one lot, two lots, three lots or more? Here is a breakdown based on the latest GMP.JIO PLATFORMS IPO: POTENTIAL PROFIT FROM 1, 2, 3, 5 OR 10 LOTS

At the upper price band of Rs 1,119 per share, an investor would pay Rs 1,119 for each share allotted. Based on the latest GMP of Rs 247, the estimated listing price is Rs 1,366 per share, which translates into a potential profit of Rs 247 per share.Since one lot consists of 12 shares, an investor who receives one lot would have invested Rs 13,428. If the stock lists at Rs 1,366, the value of those shares would rise to Rs 16,392, resulting in an estimated profit of Rs 2,964.Similarly, an investor allotted two lots, or 24 shares, would invest Rs 26,856 and could make a profit of Rs 5,928, taking the estimated value of the shares to Rs 32,784. For three lots, comprising 36 shares, the investment would be Rs 40,284 and the potential profit would be Rs 8,892, with the shares valued at Rs 49,176.An investor who receives five lots, or 60 shares, would invest Rs 67,140. At the estimated listing price, these shares would be worth Rs 81,960, translating into a potential gain of Rs 14,820. For 10 lots, or 120 shares, the investment would be Rs 1,34,280, while the estimated value at listing would be Rs 1,63,920, resulting in a potential profit of Rs 29,640.These calculations are based on the latest GMP of Rs 247 and an estimated listing price of Rs 1,366. The GMP is unofficial and can change before listing, so the actual profit or loss may differ. The figures also exclude brokerage, taxes and other applicable charges.

RBI injects 1 lakh cr in banks; know why the need of funds before the festive season

Kolkata.(Ajency)

With the onset of the festive season, pressure regarding the availability of funds within the country's banking system has intensified. In response, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has provided ₹1 lakh crore in liquidity to offer relief to banks. The RBI injected these funds into the system through a 7-day Variable Rate Repo (VRR) operation. This marks the RBI's first major liquidity infusion since July. There will be heightened demand for credit ahead of the festive season. Consumer spending, business activity, and cash withdrawals typically accelerate during the festival period, raising banks' need for immediate liquidity. The injection of liquidity will help meet this demand.

Why the sudden need for funds?

Over the past few weeks, RBI had been absorbing excess liquidity from the banking system. The system had previously seen an accumulation of surplus liquidity following significant inflows related to foreign exchange operations. Furthermore, factors such as tax payments, Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) requirements, and an increased demand for credit during the festive season have heightened funding pressures on banks.

This has also impacted the overnight borrowing rate, known as the Weighted Average Call Rate (WACR). This rate reached 5.67%, while the RBI's policy repo rate stands at 5.50%. In other words, the cost for banks to borrow funds for short-term periods had increased.

How will banks get relief?

Through the Variable Rate Repo (VRR) mechanism, the RBI provides funds to banks for a short duration. In exchange, banks pledge government securities as collateral. This makes more funds available to banks for immediate use. In this auction of ₹1 lakh crore, the RBI received bids totaling approximately ₹1.50 lakh crore from banks. This indicates a strong demand for funds within the banking system.

What will be the impact on customers?

Increased liquidity can provide relief to banks from immediate funding pressures. This may help curb a sharp rise in short-term interest rates. However, this does not mean that interest rates on home loans or personal loans will decrease immediately.

The RBI's monetary policy stance remains focused on controlling inflation. Amid rising demand for credit during the festive season, this move by the RBI is considered significant for maintaining a steady flow of funds within the banking system.

19-year-old gets married in Pune using fake documents showing his age as 21, FIR lodged

Pune.(Agency)

An case has been registered against a 19-year-old boy, who allegedly submitted a fake Aadhaar card and school leaving certificate showing his age as 21 years for getting married to his friend at Alandi in Pune district.

The father of the girl lodged the first information report (FIR) at the Alandi police station of the Pimpri Chinchwad police on Saturday.

Police said the accused hails from Solapur district in Maharashtra. He was in a relationship with a girl from another village in his taluka, who was his classmate. In June, the accused and the girl got married at a private wedding hall in Alandi.

After learning about the marriage, the girl's father filed a complaint application against her husband at the Alandi police station.

Investigation officer, Police Sub Inspector Kumar Girigosavi said, "We checked the original documents of the accused, which confirmed his actual age as 19 years and five months. But he allegedly procured a fake Aadhaar card and school leaving certificate with a different birthdate, showing his age was more than 21 years. He submitted these forged documents at the wedding hall in Alandi and got married illegally."

Bengaluru IED blast: Painter from UP becomes unintended victim

BENGALURU.(Agency)

A parcel allegedly intended to kill Allauddin took a horrific turn when a 28-year-old painter, who was asked to help open it because he understood Hindi, was severely injured in the improvised explosive device (IED) explosion in Pulikeshnagar on October 20.

Suraj Kumar, a native of Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh, lost vision in one eye and had fingers severed in the blast. Glass shards and metal fragments pierced his body, and he also suffered burn injuries. He is undergoing treatment, and doctors have found no damage to his vital organs, police said.

He was working as a painter and staying with his younger brother in an under-construction building where the explosion occurred. Sources said that the accused allegedly left the parcel near a petty shop on October 19 and called Allauddin, 53, asking him to collect it. The caller spoke in Hindi, and Allauddin, who did not understand the language, collected the parcel after hearing the words "parcel" and "shop" over the phone. He later asked the building owner and other workers whether the parcel belonged to them, but they denied any knowledge of it. He subsequently kept it inside the building.

Backlash puts brakes on GBA'S parking policy

BENGALURU.(Agency)

BENGALURU: With ministers, MLAs, former mayors and corporators raising concern over annual parking fees against house owners parking their vehicles outside their homes under the proposed Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Parking Rules 2026 and possible resentment from the public, sources in the Urban Development Department (UDD) hinted that the decision is likely to be reviewed and withdrawn soon.

The proposed draft policy states that owners have to pay Rs 25,000 to Rs 40,000 based on their site measurement. A UDD official said the clause that makes provision to collect parking fees from residents is under scrutiny by senior officers, following numerous objections by citizens. It is likely that the specific clause will be rolled back in the final rules. BTM Layout MLA and Minister Ramalinga Reddy was the first to ask the government to relook into the policy. "I had objected as it will cause inconvenience to the public," he told . Former Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) mayor Sampath Raj too said the government will not take any step that will discomfort Bengalureans. "In future, sites measuring 30x40 sqft and 40x60 sqft and above will all have to show the parking area in their construction plan," he added.

Wrong gym form? This IIT Gandhinagar patch alerts your busy trainer

IIT Gandhinagar team develops wearable sensor to monitor body performance of a person during strength training or playing tennis, and swimming

Ahmedabad.(Agency)

Researchers at the Smart Materials Laboratory, Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IITGN), have developed a small wearable sensor that will help monitor body performance of a person during strength training or playing tennis, and swimming. The flexible patches are now being tested on gym-goers and athletes in real training sessions and the team is seeking industry and government partners to develop it further by comparing movement signals with reference patterns from experienced athletes and trainers. The prototype is at Technology Readiness Level 5 with a patent filing in progress, and is being tested for strength training, tennis and swimming. "Without regular supervision, beginners may not recognise when their form changes or a movement is being performed incorrectly. An experienced coach can often spot such differences quickly. But in a crowded gym or training centre, watching movement by every person is difficult. We wondered whether a wearable sensor could provide an additional way to examine movement, even when a coach cannot observe every repetition?" said Biswajit Saha, Associate Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering, IITGN.



How it works

Placed on selected parts of the body, the patches record electrical changes associated with movement. The underlying principle is called 'piezoresistive sensing'. In these sensors, mechanical deformation changes the electrical resistance. When the body moves, the patch deforms along with the skin and surrounding tissue. That deformation changes the sensor's electrical response, producing a measurable signal, researchers said.

"The signal travels through a small electronic system, where it is sampled and transmitted to a mobile device using bluetooth. A machine-learning model then examines patterns in those signals and compares them with reference data collected from experienced practitioners, including coaches, trainers, and sportspersons competing at the state and national levels," Prof Saha explained.

"By comparing these patterns with those recorded from experienced practitioners, we aim to provide trainers with additional information to assess exercise and sports performance," said Kosha Navnit Vaishnav, a PhD scholar in IITGN's Department of Chemical Engineering, who is part of the research team developing the wearable sensor. Even the same person may move differently when tired. Thus, a difference between two signals is not necessarily evidence of a mistake. The challenge for the team is to establish which differences matter and what they reveal about the movement being studied. "Our framework is intended to complement conventional coaching by providing quantitative information about movement patterns that may be difficult to assess consistently through observation alone," said Ravi Prakash Verma, a postdoctoral fellow at IITGN's Department of Chemical Engineering, who is part of the research team.

Staggered timings for offices, schools: How Pune traffic police plan to tackle gridlock

Additional Commissioner of Police Manoj Patil said a data-driven study mapping the frequency and duration of traffic jams in Pune will be used to formulate local measures.

Pune.(Agency)

As road infrastructure projects and traffic solutions compete for limited resources, the Pune traffic police use Google traffic data to analyse where congestion occurs most often, how long vehicles take to clear affected points, and how long traffic jams persist to help prioritise interventions across the city.

While major infrastructure changes like flyovers and underpasses are under consideration, Manoj Patil, Additional Commissioner of Police, highlighted the critical role of managing travel demand. He noted that smaller administrative measures, specifically staggered timings for various institutions, can play a vital role in redistributing traffic loads across different hours of the day.

"Among smaller measures, we can stagger the timings of, say, businesses, companies, schools and colleges," Patil told The Indian Express, noting that such measures help distribute travel demand rather than relying solely on continuous road construction.

Staggered timings and travel demand management

On the core causes of traffic gridlock, Patil said that congestion often results from demand exceeding the road network's carrying capacity. Managing this demand through administrative strategies, such as staggering operating hours, is an important but often overlooked part of traffic planning.

Patil said that public transport, walking, and cycling must form part of the long-term approach alongside smaller administrative adjustments. "But while these can seem obvious changes, what we are not doing in these measures is travel demand management for the roads," he said. By staggering the schedules of businesses, corporate offices, schools, and colleges, authorities can prevent heavy traffic volumes from concentrating within the same peak hours, mitigating the burden on existing road capacity.

Analysing nature of congestions

The data-driven study examines the frequency, intensity, and duration of congestion at different locations, providing the police with actionable data to identify where infrastructure improvements and local traffic-management measures are needed, Patil said. "Pune traffic police have done a one-of-a-kind study using quality Google data, in which we studied the anatomy of the traffic congestion in Pune." Patil explained the specific parameters examined in the study. "For this, we studied the number of traffic congestions taking place across the city, intensity of each congestion, how long it takes one vehicle to clear that congestion point, and how long this entire jam remains. These data points help us with our infrastructure changes, local measures and also help us understand what to change."



Interventions over standalone projects

The findings are expected to help authorities make more informed decisions on where to undertake improvements, particularly when considering major infrastructure interventions such as flyovers, underpasses, and grade separators. Patil said that prioritising locations is essential, rather than approaching congestion through isolated construction projects. "When we think of changes like flyovers, underpasses or implementing corridor improvements such as grade separators, we have to prioritise where to do it first," he said.

Patil added that the pace of urban expansion underscored the need for such an assessment, placing additional pressure on roads not designed to handle the resulting traffic volumes. "If you look at the many reasons why traffic jams occur, the most important and obvious one is when the road carries traffic more than its carrying capacity.

As cities expand, regular studies must be done to see how this expansion will add to the traffic load on particular roads. If the road is capable of handling that additional load or not," Patil said.

2 more held over attack on Pune businessman

Pune.(Agency)

PUNE RURAL police, who are probing the alleged attack on shipping businessman, Rana Suryavanshi near Baramati airport arrested two more persons in the case, taking the total number arrests in the case to four and one minor under detention. Pune Rural police have earlier said that the alleged attack was a Rs 2-lakh contract hit, with a 50-year-old Pune resident paying two teenagers to carry out the assault.

The Pune Rural Police had earlier arrested two accused including the man who allegedly paid the supari and had detained a minor in connection with the case. According to Baramati taluka police, the incident took place around 7.30 pm on October 18, when two unidentified persons allegedly attacked Suryavanshi, proprietor of Rana Shipping Company, near the Baramati airport. Police are, however, still investigating whether shots were actually fired during the attack. A firearm has been recovered from the spot, but the empty cartridge was not recovered.



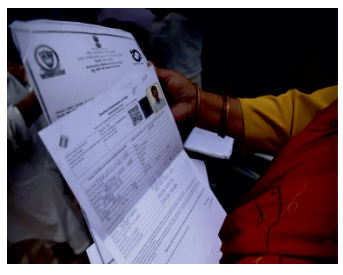
Although the police have invoked relevant provisions of the Arms Act in the case pertaining to use of firearms, the circumstances surrounding the alleged firing are yet to be conclusively established. Suryavanshi did not sustain a bullet injury but had suffered an injury inflicted by a sharp weapon. He was admitted to a hospital for treatment and is now reported to be out of danger. Police have detained a 17 year old minor and have arrested Parth Vasudev Awathale, 19, originally from Pimpri Gavari in Khamgaon and currently residing in Pune.

The two are suspected to be the assailants. Both were initially apprehended by Pune city police and subsequently handed over to the Pune Rural Police. The two allegedly disclosed that they had been paid Rs 2 lakh by 50-year-old Dnyandev Mahadev Shinde, a native of Vit village in Karmala taluka of Solapur district and currently residing in Bhigwan, Indapur taluka.

SIR exercise: After Pilibhit, Azamgarh roll 'errors', UP CEO orders scrutiny of all Forms 6, 7, 8 filled by computer assistants

Lucknow.(Agency)

In the wake of discrepancies found in voter rolls of Pilibhit and Azamgarh Assembly constituencies, triggering scrutiny of the electoral registration process, Uttar Pradesh Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Navdeep Rinwa on Sunday directed officials to scrutinise all Forms 6, 7 and 8 entered by computer assistants since the conclusion of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) on April 10 this year. He also warned of strict action against officials responsible for any recurrence of irregularities. Both in Pilibhit and Azamgarh districts, the CEO had removed the computer assistants after discrepancies in the electoral roll emerged. While Form 6 is used for inclusion of a person's name in the electoral roll, Form 7 is used to object to the proposed inclusion of a name or to request deletion of an existing entry from the electoral roll. Form 8 is the official, multipurpose application used by voters to update, correct, or replace their voter details and Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC).



After a virtual session with Divisional Commissioners, District Election Officers (DEOs), Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) and computer assistants recently, the CEO's office issued a series of directions ahead of the Special Summary Revision (SSR) of electoral rolls.

UP medical college student found dead in hostel park

Lucknow.(Agency)

The body of a 27-year-old MBBS student was found in a park below his hostel at a government medical college in Pratapgarh district on Sunday.



Police said no suicide note had been recovered and the cause of death would be clear after postmortem examination. The student, Mithlesh Kumar, was found lying in the park by fellow hostel residents. A security guard alerted the college authorities, who informed the police and Kumar's family in Ballia. He was taken to hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival. "The picture will become clear once the postmortem report is received," said Pratapgarh Circle Officer Ashutosh Mishra. Kumar was a student of the 2024 batch at Dr Sone Lal Patel Medical College and was in his first year after failing his examinations twice, police said. His room was on the first floor of the seven-storey hostel building, which he shared with two other students. Police searched the room but found nothing suspicious. Police are examining CCTV footage near the hostel and questioning students, including Kumar's roommates. They also recovered his cellphone and spectacles from the hostel rooftop, officers said.

In Mumbai, 'unhealthy' is also 'satisfactory': Why is city breathing two kinds of air?

Chandigarh.(Agency)

Mumbai air pollution: On October 15, IQAir, a Swiss company that sells air purifiers and runs a widely quoted air-quality monitoring platform, placed Mumbai fifth among 122 of the world's most polluted cities and first in India, one place above Delhi. On the same day, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the government's pollution watchdog, classified Mumbai's air as 'satisfactory'. The two readings have been at odds all month.

Mumbai's air began deteriorating in the first week of October, after the monsoon withdrew early. Between October 1 and 23, the CPCB dashboard put the city's air in the 'unhealthy' category on 11 days. But IQAir put it there on all 23. The disparity is also evident in the peak readings recorded by the two platforms. IQAir's peak reading of AQI was 188, on October 17. The CPCB's was 127 on October 18. The gap is not a case of one agency getting it right and the other getting it wrong. Government agencies and private platforms use different monitoring networks and different AQI scales, and in Mumbai, the weather and the city's geography complicate both. Mumbai is a peninsula, with the Arabian Sea on three sides and hills and ridges that shape how wind moves through it and how pollutants disperse. Dense population, heavy traffic and concentrated construction mean pollution varies sharply from one part of the city to another. Where you put a sensor matters more here than in most cities. How Mumbai's air is measured



The Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) monitors Mumbai's air through 26 Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations or CAAQMS. Each is a weatherproof cabin on an open plot, with sampling inlets and weather sensors mounted on it. The station draws in outdoor air and measures six pollutants: PM2.5, fine particles that penetrate deep into the lungs; PM10, larger particles from road dust and construction; nitrogen dioxide, from vehicle exhaust; sulphur dioxide, from fuel and industry; ozone, which forms in sunlight; and carbon monoxide, from incomplete combustion.

Ranji Trophy: Ravindra Jadeja fan Arjun Sharma is in no hurry to stop dreaming

New Delhi.(Agency)

On a slow surface at the Palam Airforce Ground in Delhi, Arjun Sharma kept coming back for another spell. Across Services' two home matches this season, the left-arm spinner bowled tirelessly, working away without much fuss as he looked to prise out wickets. There was little of the attention that often follows a bowler who is enjoying the kind of run he has had over the past year. For Arjun, though, the job was straightforward: keep bowling, keep finding ways to take wickets and give his team a chance.The 30-year-old has



become increasingly difficult to ignore on the field. He finished the 2025-26 Ranji Trophy season with 34 wickets, having taken 28 the previous year. He began the current Ranji Trophy campaign with four wickets in the first innings against Maharashtra before claiming five more in the second. Against Bengal, he followed up with three wickets in the first innings and two in the second.

Mourinho finds peace of mind as Madrid beat Barcelona with Mbappe's brace



New Delhi.(Agency)

Jose Mourinho said Real Madrid's 2-1 victory over Barcelona at Camp Nou gave his side "peace of mind" after Kylian Mbappe's brace helped them end the league leaders' unbeaten start to the LaLiga season on Sunday. The win also brought Madrid to within three points of Barcelona at the top of the table, giving Mourinho's side a significant boost in the title race."It gives us peace of mind, and it's well deserved," Mourinho said after Madrid secured their first victory over Barcelona in LaLiga this season. Returning to El Clasico 13 years after his first spell at Real Madrid ended, the Portuguese manager saw his team withstand Barcelona's second-half response before Mbappe struck late to settle a nervy contest.Mourinho was pleased with the way Madrid handled Barcelona's aggressive pressing and maintained their composure when the hosts threatened to take control of the game.

"It was a high-level game. I'm sure football fans around the world stopped to watch it and weren't disappointed," he said.As far as we're concerned, the boys put in an extraordinary performance. They showed a lot of courage in playing out from the back against an opponent who presses very aggressively. We created some good chances to score."Mourinho acknowledged that Barcelona responded strongly after the break but praised his players for refusing to lose their shape or composure under pressure."Obviously, Barcelona reacted strongly in the second half, but we stayed calm and organised. We never lost our composure. For me, it was a great victory for the boys," he added.

WHO MADE THE DIFFERENCE FOR REAL MADRID?

Madrid's greater conviction in attack was evident in the opening exchanges.

Michael Carrick leaves a hero but fans boo Man United players in stunning video

Manchester United supporters sang for Michael Carrick before booing his players after Bournemouth's 3-0 win. The contrasting reaction showed that anger over United's slump extends beyond the manager.

New Delhi.(Agency)

Manchester United fans made their feelings clear after the club's humiliating 3-0 defeat to Bournemouth at Old Trafford on Sunday, with a viral video capturing a striking contrast in the reception for Michael Carrick and his players. While supporters sang for Carrick as he walked off the pitch, the chants quickly turned into loud boos as the Manchester United players followed their manager towards the tunnel.es from different stages of his career.The moment offered a glimpse into where the frustration at Old Trafford is currently directed. Despite United's dismal run of results, the supporters appeared to reserve their sympathy for Carrick, who helped revive the team's fortunes last season, while making their anger towards the players unmistakable.As Carrick approached the tunnel, he tapped a hand to his heart in acknowledgement of the fans who had stayed behind to sing his name. Once he disappeared from view, however, the atmosphere changed. The players walking off behind him were greeted with a chorus of boos after another performance that left United supporters with little to cheer. The defeat has put Carrick under renewed pressure, with United languishing in 16th place in the Premier League table on seven points from eight matches. They are just one point above the relegation zone and have not won a league game since beating Ipswich Town on August 30.Yet the scenes at Old Trafford suggested that, for at least some of the supporters, the manager is not the only one who should be answering for the club's



struggles.

WHY DID FANS BOO THE PLAYERS?

The contrasting reactions came after a miserable afternoon for United, who were beaten by Bournemouth following a 4-1 Champions League thrashing at Como in midweek. The latest defeat intensified the scrutiny on Carrick, but the supporters' response suggested that the players were also firmly in their crosshairs.

The home crowd had already made its frustrations known before half-time, unfurling a giant banner reading "Standards" featuring club icons Eric Cantona, Roy Keane and Bryan Robson. Bournemouth fans, meanwhile, taunted Carrick with chants of "You're getting sacked in the morning".United's own supporters took a different approach. Late in the game, they sang "It's Carrick you know!" in a show of support for the manager. But that backing did little to soften their reaction to the players once the final whistle arrived.Thousands of fans began leaving before the match had ended, particularly after Evanilson scored Bournemouth's third. The final whistle was met with loud boos, and the anger continued as the players made their way off the pitch.

On comeback, Bhuvneshwar Kumar told not to chase anything, block expectations

New Delhi.(Agency)

Bowling coach Morne Morkel has offered Bhuvneshwar Kumar a reassuring message as the veteran pacer returns to international cricket after four years. Speaking to the press on the eve of the third T20I against New Zealand in Wellington, Morkel said he empathised with the senior fast bowler, who is looking to find his feet in international cricket again.Bhuvneshwar, 36, made his return to India's T20I squad for the fifth match against the West Indies in Bengaluru on October 17, but did not get an opportunity to bowl as rain interrupted the contest. His first two outings against New Zealand, however, have been challenging. He conceded 49 runs without taking a wicket in the series opener in Christchurch before giving away 50 runs in the second T20I, in which he picked up a wicket in the powerplay."Look, I've got a lot of sympathy for his return," Morkel said.

"The reason why I say that is, one, there will be expectation after four years to come out. He's done exceptionally well in the IPL. He's bowled really well. One is to block the expectation factor out."Bhuvneshwar earned his recall on the back of two productive IPL seasons, in which he stood out despite playing on flat pitches that offered limited assistance to bowlers. The medium-pacer took 17 wickets in the 2025 season before returning with 28 in 2026, playing a key role in Royal Challengers Bengaluru's back-to-back title triumphs.

The 36-year-old had not played competitive cricket for four months before his return to the national set-up. He was called up for the West



Indies series while preparing for India's New Zealand tour at the Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru, leaving him with little time to make the transition from training to international match conditions.Morkel acknowledged the lack of match practice, pointing out that preparing for a return to international cricket is different from simply training with the team.

"Two, leading into his selection, I mean, there was a month of cricket where, yes, he trained, but this is a different beast coming and playing international cricket where the margins are small. So he had to come in with limited training because of the schedule to get himself ready," Morkel said.

'ALLOW HIM TO FIND HIS FEET'

Despite Bhuvneshwar's experience, Morkel believes the expectations surrounding his comeback could make the transition difficult.

Uttarakhand to host 100 miles Himalayan Endurance Ultra Run from Mana Pass to Auli next May: CM Dhami

New Delhi.(Agency)

Uttarakhand is stepping up efforts to establish itself as one of India's leading adventure tourism destinations. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami participated in the Adi Kailash Parikrama Run 2.0 in Gunji, a remote border region of Pithoragarh district, on Sunday and announced that the '100 Miles Himalayan Endurance Ultra Run' will be organised during the first week of May next year.The proposed race will begin at Mana Pass, located at an altitude of approximately 5,600 metres, and pass through Badrinath and Joshimath before concluding at Auli.The Chief Minister felicitated the winners of the 70-km and 42-km races and encouraged runners who had arrived from different states across the country. He said that participating in such competitions in the high Himalayas, amid challenging terrain, extreme weather conditions and low oxygen levels, reflects exceptional courage, discipline and determination.

Taking Uttarakhand's Border Regions

The Chief Minister said that the Adi Kailash Parikrama Run is much more than a sporting event. It is an important platform to showcase the natural beauty, cultural heritage and tourism potential of Uttarakhand's border regions at the national and international levels.

More than 700 runners participated in the inaugural edition of the event in 2025, giving fresh recognition to the adventure tourism potential of the Adi Kailash region.to the Global Adventure Tourism MapDhami noted that the number of Inner Line Permits issued for the Adi Kailash region has increased significantly compared with the previous year, reflecting the growing interest of tourists and pilgrims in the region. 100 Miles Ultra Run to Connect Mana Pass, Badrinath, Joshimath and Auli

The proposed 100 Miles Himalayan Endurance Ultra Run is expected to give a new dimension to long-distance endurance running in Uttarakhand's high-altitude Himalayan terrain. The planned route will start at Mana Pass and



proceed through Badrinath and Joshimath before reaching Auli.

The Chief Minister said the event would provide runners from India and abroad an opportunity to experience the Himalayas' distinctive geography and Uttarakhand's spectacular natural landscapes. It is also expected to encourage tourism in border areas and create new employment and self-employment opportunities for local youth.

India have bulletproof plan for bowlers' workload management on NZ Tour: Morkel

India have a 'bulletproof' workload management plan for their packed New Zealand tour, bowling coach Morne Morkel said. Arshdeep Singh is among the options being considered as India prepare to rotate their bowlers across formats.

Wellington.(Agency)

India have a "bulletproof" plan to manage their bowlers through a packed tour of New Zealand, bowling coach Morne Morkel said, with Arshdeep Singh also in contention for a potential Test debut.India are scheduled to play five T20Is, five ODIs and two Tests on the tour. With the first Test starting on November 19, just four days after the ODI series ends, the team plans to rotate its bowlers to keep them fresh for the red-ball leg.Morkel said the strategy had been mapped out well in advance, with players clear about their expected workloads and the role they would play across formats."We've mapped out this tour once before. Every bowler is clear in terms of what's expected of them in terms of workloads, in terms of bowling," Morkel said on the eve of the third T20I.India will also draw on players preparing for red-ball cricket with the India A side, while the ODI series will offer others valuable match practice ahead of the Tests.

"There are a couple of guys on the A side getting ready for red-ball cricket. In the 50-over series, we will also rotate and give guys the game time they need to get ready for the Test matches," Morkel said.The tight turnaround leaves little room for recovery, but Morkel believes India have enough backup options to deal with changes along the way. He acknowledged, however, that even the best-laid plans can be disrupted during a tour."Touch wood, it's a bulletproof plan



at the moment in terms of how we've mapped everything out, but unfortunately, not everything goes according to plan," he said."The backup we've got, the combinations are all in place in terms of rotation and making sure we get ready for the red-ball Tests and the 50-over series. Everybody's ready, including Bumrah," Morkel added.

ARSHDEEP IN CONTENTION

Arshdeep could be among the options India turn to for additional pace cover during the Test series. The left-arm pacer has yet to make his Test debut, but his ability to swing the ball both ways has kept him in the conversation.

India are considering retaining a group of bowlers in New Zealand as cover, with the final make-up of the attack to be decided once the team has a clearer understanding of the conditions.

"We are planning a group of bowlers that we would like to potentially stay behind as cover because of the schedule. Closer to the time, once we get a better understanding of the conditions at this time of the year, we'll get a clear picture regarding the make-up of our bowling unit," Morkel said.

The bowling coach backed Arshdeep's ability to adapt to the longer format, pointing to his work ethic and skill set.On paper and in the back of our minds, there is a nice group of bowlers that can suit all conditions, and Arshdeep is definitely in that conversation. He's a guy that always works hard and ticks all the boxes, so if needed with the red ball, I'm pretty sure he'll be fine," Morkel said.

India will finalise their Test bowling combination closer to the series, once conditions become clearer. For Arshdeep, the tour could offer an opportunity to move beyond his established role in white-ball cricket and enter the red-ball reckoning.

Injured Ishan Kishan ruled out of 3rd T20I as India eye series win vs New Zealand



New Delhi.(Agency)

India wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan has been ruled out of the third T20I against New Zealand as he continues to recover from a right adductor strain. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) confirmed on Monday that Kishan is recovering well but is yet to regain match fitness ahead of the match in Wellington on October 27.Kishan sustained the low-grade strain during the opening T20I of the five-match series last week. He missed the second match as well, with teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi coming into the playing XI in his absence."The BCCI Medical Team is monitoring Ishan's progress," the board said in a statement, adding that uncapped wicketkeeper-batter Kumar Kushagra would continue to be part of the squad for the third T20I.Kishan's absence means India will have to wait for the left-handed batter to return to full fitness, with the team management opting against rushing him back into action. A right adductor strain affects the muscles on the inner side of the thigh and can hamper a player's movement and running between the wickets.

HOW HAS ISHAN KISHAN BEEN RECOVERING?

India's bowling coach Morne Morkel said Kishan would miss the third T20I as a precautionary measure. The BCCI's update also indicated that the wicketkeeper-batter was making progress, although he had not yet reached the level of fitness required for a match.

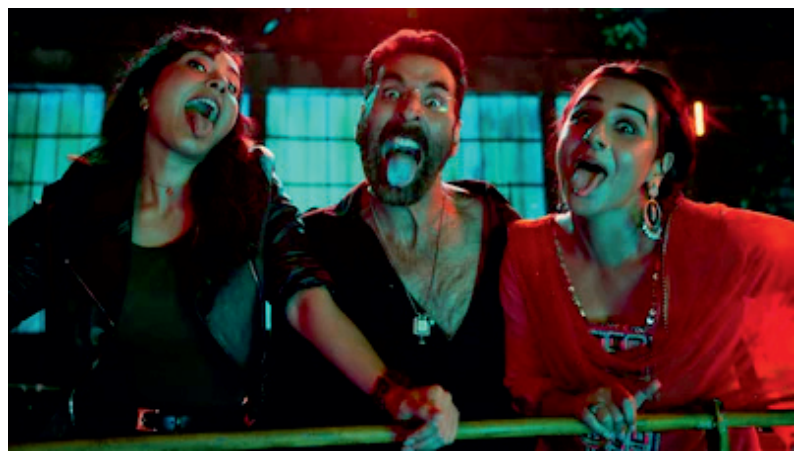


Raashii Khanna

Wraps Shooting 'Mauja Hi Mauja', Says It Felt 'More Like A Vacation'

Akshay Kumar, Vidya Balan and Raashii Khanna starrer Mauja Hi Mauja has inched one step closer to its release date as the formidable cast has called it a wrap on the Anees Bazmee directorial. Khanna, who will be seen sharing the screen space with Akshay Kumar and Vidya Balan for the first time, took to her social media handle to share a series of exciting behind-the-scenes glimpses from the sets, featuring her co-stars and the director enjoying every moment of filming the family entertainer.

"Every film has a story on screen, but sometimes the real fun happens when the cameras aren't rolling! ❤ #maujahimauja was one of those shoots that felt more like a vacation than work," she says. Recalling moments off-camera, Khanna shares, "From the unstoppable laughter to the Ludo games, dumb charades, carrom matches and all the madness in between, there was never a dull moment. And clearly, not every memory is



meant to be a dignified one! "She also expresses gratitude towards Anees Bazmee, Akshay Kumar and Vidya Balan, stating, "Akshay sir, Vidya ma'am and Anees sir, thank you for making this journey so much fun. The film may be wrapped, but I have a feeling the stories from this set will keep us laughing for a long time! ❤ " Check out her post here:

Mauja Hi Mauja is produced by Dil Raju (Sri Venkateswara Creations) in association with Cape of Good Films. It was recently reported that the film has secured a ₹60 crore all-India distribution deal with PVR INOX Pictures. The film's release date has not been announced as of now.In addition to Mauja Hi Mauja, Raashii Khanna is also gearing up for Dharman with the legendary Rajinikanth, and Farzi Season 2 with Shahid Kapoor and Vijay Sethupathi.

Aishwarya Rai

Celebrates Nephew's Birthday With Aaradhya, SIL Shrima Rai; Abhishek Bachchan Gives It A Miss?

Global icon Aishwarya Rai Bachchan celebrated her nephew Shivansh Rai's birthday with her daughter Aaradhya Bachchan and the Rai family. Her sister-in-law Shrima Rai shared glimpses of the intimate celebration on her social media account.Shrima shared pictures from the birthday celebration, featuring Aishwarya, Aaradhya, her husband Aditya Rai, her mother-in-law Vrinda Rai and their children. The pictures capture the family gathering around the birthday boy, with a cake and a bouquet placed on the table.

In one picture, Shrima is seen feeding a piece of cake to the birthday boy as the family gathers around him. Aaradhya and her cousins are also seen posing together along with Aishwarya. Sharing the pictures, Shrima wrote, "Happy Birthday to my cutie pie @shivansh_rai23. Here's to more pranks, more time with nature, more laughter and blessings. So proud of you!"

The pictures also offer a glimpse into the family picture wall with framed photographs. The family-photo display includes portraits from different stages of their lives, featuring Aishwarya's parents, family members and younger generations.Aishwarya has often shared her close bond with her mother, Vrinda Rai, and her brother, Aditya Rai. The latest pictures come amid past social media speculation about things going on between Aishwarya and her SIL a few months ago.

In November 2024, Shrima made headlines after sharing a photograph of flowers sent to her by Shweta Bachchan Nanda and her husband, Nikhil Nanda, on her birthday. The gesture attracted online attention amid rumours about Aishwarya and Abhishek Bachchan's marriage.

Shrima had clarified that her birthday was on November 21 and that the flowers were sent as a customary birthday gesture.

She also addressed comments questioning her professional identity without Aishwarya Rai's existence, stating that she had built her career as a content creator independently and had never tried to open a business using anyone else's name.



Diljit Dosanjh Takes Playful Dig At Debate Around His Delhi Concert: 'Ban Gayi Reels, Ban Gaye Tweets?'



Singer Diljit Dosanjh's October 30 concert at Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium will take place as planned after Delhi Police reconsidered its earlier decision and granted permission following discussions with event organiser BookMyShow Live. The clearance came after police initially withheld approval, citing security concerns and law-and-order commitments during the festive season. Soon after the development, Diljit shared a video on social media, humorously reacting to the buzz surrounding his Delhi concert. In his signature playful style, the singer urged fans to put the speculation and online debates behind them and meet him at the show on October 30.

Diljit Dosanjh takes a playful dig at debate around his Delhi concert

In the Instagram video, Diljit Dosanjh appeared to take a playful dig at the ongoing speculation and television debates surrounding his Delhi concert. He wondered whether the discussions had finally ended before assuring fans that he would see them in the capital on October 30. He said, "Main ye bol raha tha ki ban gayi reels, ban gaye tweets, ho gayi aapki newsroom ki debates. Ab milte hain 30 tareekh ko Delhi mein. Pehle news pata kar liya karo, kacha dhuan maare jaa rahe ho. Kacha dhuan maarne se achha hai pehle baat pata kar liya karein (I was saying that reels have been made, tweets have been posted, and newsroom debates have already begun. Now, see you in Delhi on the 30th. Find out the facts first before jumping to conclusions. You're making a lot of noise without knowing the full story. It's better to get your facts straight before).

"He also called out the tendency to jump into debates without getting the full picture, suggesting that many were quicker to weigh in on the controversy than to understand the facts behind it.

The singer continued, "Aivai debate par debate kare jaa rahe hain, tweet par tweet kare jaa rahe hain. Bahut badhiya din hai, toh socha live aa jaayein. Baat bhi karni thi bahut saari. Reels ho rahi thi, tweets ho rahe the, newsroom ki debates chal rahi thi (They keep having one debate after another and posting tweet after tweet.

Kajol Shares Glimpses Of Durga Puja With Nysa, Yug, Orry, Tanuja; Hugs Jaya Bachchan In Sweet Moment



Bollywood star Kajol offered a glimpse into her family-filled Durga Puja celebrations on Friday night.Sharing a montage of videos and photographs she captured moments of devotion, laughter, togetherness and festivity at Mumbai's North Bombay Sarbojanin Durga Puja pandal.Sharing the compilation on her social media account, Kajol reflected on the emotions that she felt during Durga Puja."Every single year, these few days just fly by in a blur of love, family chaos, and bhog! Seeing everyone come together, laugh till our stomachs hurt, and bow before Maa… there's no feeling like it in the world #DuggaDugga," she wrote.The montage captures Kajol participating in the puja rituals, interacting with family members and sharing lighthearted moments with relatives and friends.Many clips show her children, Nysa Devgn and Yug Devgn, joining the festivities and slap serve bhog to the devotees.

Kajol is seen dressed in an elegant red saree in some of the moments, while Nysa opts for a light-coloured traditional outfit and Yug is seen in a red kurta.

The compilation also features veteran actor and Kajol's mother, Tanuja, as well as her sister, Tanishaa Mukerji.One of the highlights of the celebrations is Kajol's fun camaraderie with veteran actor Jaya Bachchan. In a picture shared from the festivities, the two are seen hugging each other tightly.

For the uninitiated, Kajol has maintained a longstanding association with the North Bombay Sarbojanin Durga Puja.The association has been closely linked to her extended family for generations. The celebrations regularly see members of the Mukerji family come together to welcome devotees and participate in the festivities.

Former Japan PM Yasuo Fukuda dies at 90

TOKYO.(Agency)

Former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda, known for trying to build stable ties with China, has died at the age of 90, a ruling party official said Monday.Fukuda passed away on October 22, the official from the Liberal Democratic Party told AFP.He led Japan for a year from September 2007 after replacing the late premier Shinzo Abe, who's first term ended after just 12 months.

During his stint in power, he sought to improve relations with China and invited then Chinese president Hu Jintao to visit Japan.Hu's trip in May 2008 made him the first Chinese head of state to visit the country in a decade.The two leaders issued a joint statement committing to a "mutually beneficial relationship based on common strategic interests".Fukuda resigned in September 2008 as his approval ratings dropped. He retired as a politician in 2012.But as Tokyo's ties with Beijing worsened over a disputed island chain and other historical issues, Fukuda visited China in 2014 to hold talks with President Xi Jinping, paving the way for a summit between Xi and Abe during his second term in power.

Netanyahu might be finished but his policies toward the Palestinians will largely endure

JALUD, West Bank.(Agency)

Israel's elections Tuesday could mark the end of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's decades-long political career.

But his legacy in the Israeli-occupied West Bank — of massive settlement expansion, the displacement of tens of thousands of Palestinians and the empowerment of armed settler extremists — will likely endure, even if his opponents seek to rein it in.Israelis are deeply divided over Netanyahu's leadership and moral character, but they largely support settlement expansion and are opposed to a Palestinian state. So while Netanyahu's opponents have vowed to crack down on settler violence and remove the most contentious outposts, they are mostly against a two-state solution, seen internationally as the only realistic way to resolve the conflict.“There shouldn’t be any illusions,” said Mairav Zonszein, senior Israel analyst at the International Crisis Group.

“At best, (a new government) would be able to slow down the extremely crazy acceleration that we’ve seen in the last four years of every aspect of Israel’s aggression in the occupied territories and inside Israel itself.”

Ukraine drone attack on Russia's Voronezh kills two, wounds 17

MOSCOW.(Agency)

A Ukrainian drone attack on Russia's Voronezh killed two people and wounded 17, with many of the injured passengers on a commuter train hit by falling debris, regional governor Alexander Gusev said Monday.

"Following a terrorist attack in Voronezh, two people have unfortunately been killed... and 17 have been injured," he posted on Telegram, adding that "more than 70 drones" were shot down over the city between late Sunday and early Monday.

"A significant number of the injured, including two seriously wounded, were on a train that was moving in the left-bank suburb of Voronezh when debris from a UAV fell on it," Gusev said.He did not specify where the two people were killed.

The attack also caused fires at "a number of industrial businesses (without significant damage), a business center in the central part of the city, and a residential building," the governor said.

Serbia's student movement ousts longtime leader in parliament poll

The victory in the snap vote comes after nearly two years of anti-government protests sparked by the 2024 collapse of a canopy at Novi Sad railway station that killed 16 people.

BELGRADE.(Agency)

Serbia's student-led movement declared victory in parliamentary elections Sunday, ending 14 years in power for Aleksandar Vucic's right-wing populist party.The victory in the snap vote comes after nearly two years of anti-government protests sparked by the 2024 collapse of a canopy at Novi Sad railway station that killed 16 people.The disaster has been widely blamed on corruption and triggered some of Serbia's largest protests since the fall of strongman Slobodan Milosevic in 2000.

"Preliminary results show that students are convincingly leading in almost all polling stations," Radomir Saicic, a candidate for the Students' List, said in a speech at the movement's election HQ."Students won and with them also a hope that Serbia can be a country of justice, freedom and dignity."Voters cast ballots in huge numbers on Sunday, with the country recording its highest parliamentary election turnout in more than three decades.Vucic conceded defeat less than two hours after polls closed, triggering raucous scenes in the capital as supporters of the movement celebrated the defeat of a government they blamed for deep-rooted corruption."I feel incredible," student Mila Martic told AFP from the List's headquarters. "I feel as though I am finally living in a free country."Thousands poured into the capital's streets to celebrate the victory, with passing cars honking, crowds chanting, and fireworks lighting up the skyline.According to the country's election officials, nearly 65 percent of its 6.4 million registered voters had cast their ballots by 6:00



pm (1700 GMT), two hours before polls closed.The figure surpassed the 1993 parliamentary election, when just over 61 percent voted.Dream has come true'During his speech to supporters, Vucic said preliminary figures suggested the student movement could win between 135 and 140 seats, handing it an outright majority in the 250-seat parliament.The 56-year-old statesman, who has maintained close ties with Russia throughout his tenure, blamed foreign powers for the result."I want people to know, this was the validation of a revolution carried out with the direct support of various European countries and the US deep state, the one that is also against President Trump," he said.For nearly two years, students have staged rallies and marched across the Balkan nation to reach voters directly and counter the media machine of Vucic's Serbian Progressive Party.Their protests have drawn huge crowds, a final pre-election rally in Belgrade on Thursday attracting around 150,000 people, according to an independent protest monitor.EU chief Ursula von der Leyen and Hungarian Prime Minister Peter Magyar congratulated the Students' List on their victory."We stand ready to support reforms on the rule of law, media freedom, the fight against corruption and strong democratic institutions.

Trump says Canada trade deal coming 'soon'

WASHINGTON.(Agency)

A trade agreement between the United States and Canada would be reached "pretty soon," President Donald Trump told a campaign rally on Sunday, nine days ahead of crucial US midterm elections.Tensions between the North American neighbors have been high since trade talks broke down in August, with Trump imposing a slew of new tariffs in response."We'll have that settled pretty soon. They're willing to give us anything at this moment," the president said of an agreement during the rally in Port Huron, a Michigan town on the US-Canada border hit hard by his tariff war.Trump once again defended his levies on Canada and accused it of "ripping off the United States for years."

The tariffs enforced after the August



talks broke down impacted around USD 20 billion worth of goods, ranging from hockey sticks to cement.In response, Canada imposed tolls on an equivalent amount of American products, leading Trump to retaliate with another round of levies of as much as 50 percent on certain goods.The White House removed some of them on Friday, in response to a request from Senator Susan Collins who represents the border state of Maine, which has been disproportionately impacted by the trade war.Democrats are targeting Collins's seat in their attempt to win control of the Senate from the Republicans in next Tuesday's midterms.Since the start of his second term, Trump has upended the global trade order by imposing wide-ranging tariffs on friend and foe, saying they had been taking advantage of the United States.

Jordan arrests three over church attack

AMMAN.(Agency)

Jordanian security forces arrested three people over the unprecedented attack on a Greek Orthodox church that killed nine people and wounded 25 others, state TV reported on Monday.Following a joint security operation, specialised investigation and raid teams apprehended the three terrorists responsible for the cowardly terrorist attack," the broadcaster said on X, adding that all three were wounded during an armed clash.Gunmen stormed the compound of St George's Church in the village of Hammoud in Karak governorate during a funeral procession on Friday and opened fire, Jordanian authorities said.Karak is home to a significant Christian community in the Muslim-majority kingdom, where Christians make up between two and three percent of the population."We



have apprehended the killers, we are examining all the circumstances that lead young people toward extremism, and we will hold accountable everyone found to have been involved," Jordan's Interior Minister Mazen Al-Faraya said.

Conservatives sweep Surrey as record 15 Punjab-origin candidates win in British Columbia

CHANDIGARH.(Agency)

A record 15 Indian-origin candidates hailing from Punjab have been elected to the British Columbia legislature as the Conservative Party won the provincial election and defeated the New Democratic Party (NDP) on October 24. Of these, 11 are Conservatives and four are from the NDP.According to the 2021 census, South Asians account for 9.6 per cent of British Columbia’s population.The 15 Indian-origin Canadians who won their ridings (constituencies) crossed the previous historic high of 14, set in 2024. Of the 15, 11 are Conservatives, and four are from the NDP.

Seven among them were re-elected. They include Deputy Premier Niki Sharma, who retained her Vancouver-Hastings riding, and Speaker Raj Chauhan, who won again from Burnaby-New Westminster.

Mandeep Dhaliwal retained Surrey North, a seat he won in 2024 by defeating NDP minister Rachna Singh. Garry Purewal won Surrey-Fleetwood by defeating NDP incumbent Jagrup Brar, who was born in Bathinda district and had held the seat since 2004. Harj Dhaliwal won Surrey-Newton by defeating NDP incumbent Jessie Sunner.Garry Thind won Surrey-Guildford, defeating NDP incumbent Garry Begg, a week after also winning a school trustee seat in Surrey's civic election. Zeeshan Wahla took Surrey City Centre from the NDP's Amna Shah in a close contest, and Jessy Sahota won Surrey-Serpentine River.

The other Conservative victors include Monica Mohan (Delta North), Pavneet Singh (Kelowna-Lake Country-Coldstream), Harman Bhangu (Langley-Abbotsford), Jody Toor (Langley-Willowbrook), Steve Kooner (Richmond-Queensborough), and Deep Sandhu (Vancouver-Fraserview).The other NDP winners are Ravi Parmar, a minister in the government, from Langford-Highlands, and Rohini Arora from Burnaby East.

The wins came on the back of a Conservative sweep of Surrey, which has one of the largest Punjabi communities outside India.

Bolsonaro calls for Brazil election results to be 'annulled' after loss to Lula

RIO DE JANEIRO.(Agency)

Brazil's President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, a vocal critic of President Donald Trump, was reelected Sunday in a result that provides relief to critics of widening US influence in Latin America.With 100 per cent of the vote counted, Brazil's electoral court announced that the soon to be 81-year-old Lula had a lead of nearly 4.4 million votes -- 51.8 per cent of the total vote -- over opponent Flávio Bolsonaro. The



announcement capped an evening of chaos at polling places across Brazil, following a last-minute decision to extend voting by two hours.

Late Sunday, Bolsonaro refused to concede defeat, calling the move to extend voting hours unprecedented -- though both he and Lula made the request -- and asked for the election results to be annulled, saying they were impossible to accept.Lula's triumph bucks a trend in Latin America where increasing numbers of right-of-centre presidential candidates allied with Trump have been winning. Lula's victory leaves Mexico and Brazil, Latin America's two most populous nations, with left-of-centre leaders. It also positions Latin America's largest economy, with a GDP of USD 2.6 trillion per year, to remain independent of the US, despite the pressure of increased tariffs imposed by Trump.Lula's win confirmed by electoral court

A video published by Lula's campaign shows the veteran leader celebrating with First Lady Rosângela da Silva and allies after his runoff victory was confirmed by Brazil's electoral court.Wearing star-shaped red glasses, he kissed his wife. Hundreds of his supporters began gathering on São Paulo's main artery to celebrate the victory.In Rio de Janeiro, cars beeped their horns and a woman dressed in red — the colour of Lula supporters — shouted “You lost! Cry harder!” to four men in yellow and green sipping beers, Bolsonaro's signature colors. A huge roar echoed in the street as the result was confirmed.Rodrigo Valentim, a 51-year-old businessman and supporter of Bolsonaro, said that another Lula government would harm the economy. He pointed to financial markets' positive reaction to the result of the first round, when Bolsonaro bested Lula.“I don't understand how people can vote for Lula,” he said. “The country is collapsing.”

Bolsonaro had yet to respond to Lula's apparent victory, which, if confirmed by electoral authorities, will give him his non-consecutive fourth term as president. The next term begins on Jan. 5, 2027.

Saudi coalition says intercepted missile after Houthis hit Riyadh airport

world.(Agency)

The Saudi-led military coalition said Monday it intercepted a ballistic missile fired by Yemen's Houthis, after the Iran-backed group claimed a new attack on the international airport in Riyadh.The operation came a day after explosions rattled the Saudi capital and authorities sent text messages to residents warning them of a "hostile aerial threat" targeting the city.The Houthis have carried out waves of strikes on the King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, including an attack this month that killed 13 people and wounded more than 300, the deadliest in the kingdom in more than a decade.Coalition spokesman Turki Al-Malki said on Monday that air defences "intercepted and destroyed a ballistic missile" fired by the Houthis toward Riyadh, and destroyed two ballistic missile launchers in Yemen's capital Sanaa."We continue the process of dismantling the ballistic missile network of the terrorist Houthi militia," Al-Malki wrote on X.Houthi military spokesman Yahya Saree said Monday the group "successfully targeted" the airport with a ballistic missile, and struck oil pumping stations with drones."The Yemeni Armed Forces carried out two qualitative military operations targeting the Saudi enemy troop concentrations and weapons depots" in the Aden and Lahj governorates in Yemen, which caused "dozens of casualties", Saree added.

On Sunday, the Houthis said they had launched an attack on the airport in Riyadh, after the kingdomThe airport closure was a major blow for Saudi Arabia, forcing the postponement of the kingdom's flagship investment conference until 2027 and disrupting travel plans for thousands of passengers.

The Dakar Rally also joined a growing list of events that were cancelled, postponed or relocated amid the fallout from the war.Saree had earlier warned that Riyadh airport was still "unsafe" and a "military target", and urged airlines and travellers to avoid it. announced that flights had resumedThe Saudi regime shall bear the consequences of any operations at the airport," the spokesman said.Saudi Arabia and the government it backs in Yemen have come under sustained attack in recent weeks from the Houthis as a years-long truce broke down in the summer, shifting the focus of the wider US-Iran war that erupted in February..Everything is shaking'As operations resumed at Riyadh airport, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis met Saudi de facto ruler Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.During the meeting, Mitsotakis "responded favourably to the kingdom's request to keep the Patriot system in Saudi Arabia, given the current challenging circumstances", his office said.