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Rahul Gandhi vows action against CEC at INDIA Bloc Rally, Alleges Vote Theft

New Delhi, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday headlined the INDIA bloc's rally here to demand the removal of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar, vowing to save democracy and the Constitution by ensuring that the poll panel Chief faces trial and goes to jail for "vote chori".

Addressing the bloc's 'Dilli Chalo' rally, Rahul Gandhi said the "theft" by Gyanesh Kumar is not a normal theft. "The vote chori carried out by him (CEC Gyanesh Kumar) is of the 'rarest of rare' category in legal terms," he added. Accusing the CEC of executing vote theft using EVMs and removal of 13.5 crore names from electoral rolls, Rahul Gandhi said, "What Gyanesh Kumar has done for PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah tantamounts to treason and theft of the voice of every citizen."

He added that apart from the CEC, PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah will also have to face consequences for attacking the Constitution and democracy. "While Home Minister Shah announces that PM Modi is not going anywhere, we want to tell them that we will not let them)PM



Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah) go anywhere till they face the consequences of their acts," Rahul Gandhi said while making insinuations about rigging in 2024 Lok Sabha and several Assembly polls. He said the large gathering at Ramlila Maidan represents the voice of youth, farmers and workers who have sent a strong message to those doing "Vote chori" that they will fight and defeat them. "The people who have gathered here are sending the message that no matter who you are or how powerful and wealthy you are, you are not bigger than the Constitution.

The Constitution is supreme," Rahul Gandhi said, describing the gathering as a collective show of strength to save democracy. The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha said that CEC Gyanesh Kumar, PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah are experiencing sleepless nights due to their collective sin of "vote chori" and the imminent consequences that they will face.

Mallikarjun Kharge Kharge Says INDIA Bloc Won't Stop Until CEC Resigns



Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday launched a scathing attack on Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, saying that the citizens will "find" him even if he "tries to hide underground". Kharge made the remarks while speaking at the INDIA bloc's 'Dilli Chalo' rally, held to demand the resignation of the CEC over alleged electoral irregularities, at the Ramlila Maidan here. He accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah of "attempting to snatch" the votes of the youth, women, and minorities.

"We have gathered here to ensure the resignation of Gyanesh Kumar. We won't settle down until he resigns and will keep on fighting," he said while accusing the Prime Minister and Home Minister of "attempting to protect" the CEC. "Even if he tries to hide underground, we will bring him out from there. Our youth and women possess that strength," the Congress chief remarked.

Directly addressing PM Modi, Kharge said: "Don't be under the assumption that all work is done by your police. We are not going to be afraid of ED, CBI and other government agencies used by you; instead, all of us at INDIA bloc will keep on fighting."

He further alleged: "Prime Minister Modi is attempting to create divisions among the public and snatch their votes. He himself chooses who will vote for him rather than being elected by the people.' "Whether it is the Central government or governments of Maharashtra, Bihar or UP, all these came to power by vote theft, and we will drive out these thieves," he remarked. "The democracy will be saved only after PM Modi is removed from power. So, I will only say 'Modi ko hatao, Loktantra Bachao'," Kharge added.

Earlier on Sunday, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor said the INDIA bloc's protest was about safeguarding the constitutional rights of citizens and not about any political party, as Opposition leaders gathered at the Ramlila Maidan to protest against the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Akhilesh targets BJP over alleged vote theft



New Delhi, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Samajwadi Party (SP) President Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday took a jibe at Union Home Minister Amit Shah's 'Angad's leg' remark, saying that there is "no ground left beneath your feet, so where will you place Angad's leg?" In his address at the INDIA bloc's 'Dilli Chalo' rally at Ramlila Maidan, organised to demand the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over alleged electoral irregularities, Akhilesh Yadav said: "Those who once came from UP will be driven out of UP itself. The people of the state know how to welcome and even know it better how to bid farewell. In 2027, their farewell will be of such a kind that the Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies will not be able to return again."

"The massive public support and slogans of revolution are proof that change can happen at any moment." Targeting the BJP-led government, he said: "Lord Ram won't forgive those who have committed sin, those who have stolen donations made at the Ram Temple. They will definitely be punished." Referring to HM Shah's warning that the BJP government in Uttar Pradesh is "Angad's leg", referring to the mythological figure from Ramayan, which the opposition parties cannot shake, Akhilesh Yadav hit back, saying.

'Cong Sponsored 1984 Sikh Massacre, Rahul Now Rubbing Salt Into Their Wounds': HM Shah

Chandigarh, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday alleged that the Congress' "politics" had led to the "brutal killing" of Sikhs in 1984 and that the Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi was now "rubbing salt into the victims' wounds" by holding a major rally in Delhi on the same date. Union Minister Shah made the remarks while referring to the INDIA bloc's 'Dilli Chalo' rally at the national capital's Ramlila Maidan.



Addressing a public gathering at Tiranga Park in Chandigarh, the Union Home Minister recalled that on November 1, 1984, thousands of Sikhs were burned alive, many were forced to flee their homes, countless children were orphaned, women lost their husbands, and thousands of families were devastated, in riots "instigated" by the Congress in Delhi.

Referring to then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's controversial remark "when a big tree falls, the earth shakes", Amit Shah said: "People still remember his (Rajiv Gandhi's) statement, only Congress leaders could have the audacity to describe the massacre of thousands of Sikhs in such a manner."

He highlighted that after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government came to power, riot-related cases were reopened, victims were provided financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh each, and prominent Congress leaders implicated in the riots were sent to jail.

"The country had never before witnessed riots sponsored by a political party on such a scale," Union Minister Shah alleged.

Questioning the INDIA bloc's rally in Delhi, Amit Shah said: "I had initially believed Rahul Gandhi was too young at the time of the riots and perhaps had not studied history, and therefore might not know the significance of the dates."

He noted that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had appealed through a press conference that Congress should avoid holding the rally on November 1, 2, or 3, as these were the dates when the 1984 anti-Sikh riots took place and such an event would hurt the sentiments of the Sikh community, including mothers, sisters, and children.

"Despite this, Congress did not change its plans," he added. The Union Home Minister also alleged that the decision to hold the rally on the same day when thousands of Sikhs were burned alive "was taken following instructions from abroad", asserting that India and Punjab would never forget the tragedy.

Azam Khan Sent to 14-Day Judicial Custody

Ghaziabad, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Mohammad Azam Khan was on Sunday sent to 14 days of judicial custody a day after being arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in connection with a Jauhar University-linked money laundering case.

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

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

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

The fresh trouble for Azam Khan came in the backdrop of a short-lived relief offered to him and his son Abdullah Khan by the Allahabad High Court, which suspended their sentence in the dual PAN card case and also granted them bail on Thursday. In the money laundering case, the ED attached assets of the University that have a current estimated market value of around Rs 1,170 crore.

Tejashwi accuses CEC of undermining democracy



New Delhi, Nov 1 (Open Frame): With Opposition parties putting up a united front at Delhi's Ramlila Maidan on Sunday to protest against the 'illegal' Special Intensive Revision (SIR) and CEC Gyanesh Kumar, RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav invoked Mahabharata and the battle of Kurukshetra to hit out at the Centre while the Left parties slammed the government for the thrashing and imprisonment of the "fighters of democracy".

Addressing the INDIA Bloc rally, RJD Working President Tejashwi Yadav drew a parallel between the protest and the 'Mahabharata' and invoked characters from the Hindu epic, including Shakuni, to state that the Opposition was compelled to fight this battle.

He said that the Ramlila Maidan has been traditionally known for Ramlila, but today the opposition has organised a 'Mahabharata' for those who steal votes. "You all know Mahabharata started from gambling and not from the battlefield. Now that Shakuni is playing his game, we are forced to turn this into Kurukshetra. Whenever Shakuni rolled his dice, it would land exactly as Shakuni dictated – meaning there was dishonesty.

Iran Warns Any New War With US Could Last Longer

TEHRAN, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Iran warned on Sunday that any new war with the United States could last longer than the previous conflict and that US President Donald Trump would not be the one to determine its duration. "A potential future war could last longer than previous conflict, and the American president would not be in a position to dictate the timing or the conditions of its conclusion," said army spokesman Mohammad Akraminia, according to Iranian state television.



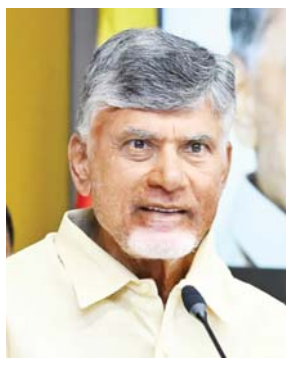
He was referring to the most intense phase of the fighting in the war that began on February 28 with US-Israeli strikes on Iran, killing the Islamic republic's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Iran responded by launching missiles and drones across the region, while the militant groups it backs also entered the fray in Lebanon and Yemen.

Iran's Defense Minister Mehrdad Akhlaghi on Sunday warned of a "proportionate, decisive, and impactful response" to any attack on the country, according to state TV. "Those who pose threats will not dictate the scope, timing, or consequences of Iran's defensive response," he added.

Also on Sunday, Hossein Mohebbi, the spokesperson of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, the ideological arm of Iran's military, echoed the remarks made by the country's new supreme leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei in a written message the day before. "In a conflict with America, there are no geographical limitations; a vast theater has been defined for inflicting damage upon the enemy," Mohebbi said, according to state TV. Meanwhile, Iranian negotiators were in Doha on Sunday for a third consecutive day of talks with Qatari mediators aimed at pushing for a deal to end the US-Israeli war on Iran, an official briefed on the discussions told Reuters. The talks come amid concerns that the conflict could escalate again after the November 3 US midterm elections.

Chandrababu Cancels Delhi Visit, Reviews Cyclone Preparedness

Amaravati, Nov 1 (Open Frame): With the threat of another cyclone looming over Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu on Sunday reviewed its potential impact. At a meeting with senior officials, the Chief Minister reviewed the expected impact of the cyclone on the state, including rainfall and wind forecasts, as well as the status of water reservoirs.



According to an official release, in view of the looming cyclone threat, the Chief Minister cancelled his Delhi visit scheduled for Monday. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Sunday issued a cyclone alert for Andhra Pradesh and adjoining north Tamil Nadu coasts as the deep depression in the Bay of Bengal has intensified into a cyclonic storm. The cyclone, which has been given the name 'Murasu', is likely to intensify into a severe cyclone and cross the Andhra Pradesh coast on November 2-3. The cyclone is likely to intensify further into a severe cyclonic storm over west-central Bay of Bengal on November 2 morning.

It is likely to cross the south Andhra Pradesh coast as a severe cyclonic storm with wind speed of 100 to 110 kmph, gusting to 120kmph, between Nellore and Narsapur during midnight of November 2 and early morning of November 3. The Chief Minister reviewed the precautionary measures to be taken in the regions likely to be impacted.

On November 2, moderate to heavy rainfall -- with isolated instances of very heavy rainfall -- is expected across the southern and central coastal districts.

Heavy to very heavy rainfall is expected in several locations on November 3 and 4 Officials said out of the 20 mandals where extremely heavy rainfall is anticipated, 9 are in Eluru district.

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Hyderabad to Host First International Maize Conference

- Over 500 delegates from India and abroad to participate
- focus on food security, sustainability and technological innovations



Hyderabad, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Hyderabad is all set to host the first International Maize Conference 2026 (IMC-2026) from November 2 to 4 at the JD Convention Centre, Shamshabad. The three-day international conference will bring together leading scientists, policymakers, agricultural experts, industry representatives and farmers from India and several other countries to deliberate on the future of the global maize sector. The conference will be held under the theme "Maize Revolution for Food, Feed, Fodder, Fuel and Sustainability in the Changing World (M4FS)." More than 500 delegates are expected to participate in the event. Speaking to the media at the curtain-raiser programme held at ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (ICAR-NAARM), Hyderabad, on Sunday, Dr. M.L. Jat, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), highlighted the growing importance of maize in ensuring food and nutritional security, meeting livestock feed requirements, supporting industrial applications and promoting renewable energy. Dr. Jat emphasized the need to strengthen agricultural research, encourage technological innovations and enhance collaboration among national and international institutions to unlock the full potential of maize. He said India's maize production had increased significantly from less than 2 million tonnes in 1950-51 to over 55 million tonnes in 2025-26, reflecting the remarkable progress achieved by the country's agricultural sector. The conference will focus on climate-resilient maize varieties, advanced breeding technologies, biotechnology, artificial intelligence, farm mechanization, smart farming, sustainable production systems and value addition. The scientific programme will include plenary lectures, technical sessions, panel discussions, poster presentations, industry interactions and policy dialogues. An International Maize Innovation and Industry Exhibition will also be organized to showcase the latest developments in agricultural machinery, seed technologies, digital agriculture, bioenergy and value-added maize products. Dr. Jat highlighted the participation of Dr. S.K. Vasal, World Food Prize Laureate, whose pioneering contributions to maize breeding have had a significant impact on global agricultural development. Landmark publications documenting India's maize development journey and the contributions of eminent scientists will also be released during the conference. The international conference is jointly organized by the Maize Technologists Association of India (MTAI), Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University (PJTAU), ICAR, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), and ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research (ICAR-IIMR). Dr. Nachiket Kotwaliwale, Director, ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research, Ludhiana; Dr. H.S. Jat, Organizing Chairman of IMC-2026 and Director, ICAR-Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur; and Dr. Balram Marathi, Director of Research, PJTAU, Hyderabad, participated in the curtain-raiser programme. The conference is also expected to strengthen linkages between research institutions, policymakers and the private sector, helping translate scientific advancements into practical solutions for farmers. Discussions will explore ways to improve maize productivity, reduce production costs and expand its role in emerging sectors such as biofuels and other value-added industries, while ensuring environmental sustainability. The conference is expected to provide a significant international platform for strengthening research partnerships, promoting innovation and developing a roadmap for a productive, climate-resilient and sustainable maize sector.

A War-Free Society Is the Path to World Peace

Speakers Call for Global Peace at All India Peace and Solidarity Association Meeting



Ranga Reddy District Bureau, November 1 (Open Frame): At a time when the world is witnessing growing tensions, the threat of wars and an atmosphere of uncertainty, speakers at the Ranga Reddy District Conference of the All India Peace and Solidarity Association called upon people to work collectively towards building a society free from wars. The speakers stressed the need for people to unite in the cause of world peace, protection of human rights, respect for the sovereignty of nations, and safeguarding democratic and secular values. The district conference was held on Sunday at the TNGO Bhavan under the chairmanship of Tipparti Mahesh and Palle Vinay. Addressing the gathering, K.V.L., State Coordination General Secretary of the association, who inaugurated the conference, said that people in several countries across the world were living under the shadow of war. He expressed concern over the uncertainty and fear surrounding the possibility of conflicts that could severely affect nations and human society. He stated that building a society free from wars was the primary objective of the All India Peace and Solidarity Association. He recalled that thousands of people across European countries were organising demonstrations against war-mongering and imperialist policies, raising their voices in support of global peace. He further stated that public welfare and national development could be achieved only by protecting democracy, the Constitution and secular values. He called upon leaders and activists to create awareness among people and work towards building a peaceful society. Addressing the conference, Bommagani Prabhakar, a member of the association's Presidium, said history had demonstrated that authoritarian and war-mongering forces could not withstand the collective consciousness of people. He stated that peace activists across the world were fighting for the protection of human rights, respect for the sovereignty of all nations and implementation of the principles of the United Nations. He urged people to become part of the movement for achieving peace, welfare and development across the world. On the occasion, Presidium member Tipparti Yadaiah unveiled the conference agenda. Speaking later, he said that people might have different political affiliations and opinions on various issues, but they should remain united when it came to maintaining peace. He alleged that ruling forces sometimes attempted to create divisions, unrest and insecurity in society to prevent people from questioning their anti-people policies. He called upon everyone to understand these developments and unite in the struggle for justice, peace and development. Dr. Samatha, Telangana State Vice-President of the association, said that several people were working towards building a society free from caste and religious discrimination and opposing divisive policies. She urged people to remain vigilant against forces that attempt to create divisions in the name of caste and religion. She emphasised the need to strengthen humanitarian values and promote a society where people think beyond caste and religious differences. She also appreciated the growing humanitarian practice of donating bodies to hospitals for medical education and research, beyond caste and religious customs. Several state-level leaders and representatives attended the conference, including Palle Vinay, Tipparti Mahesh, Polagani Ravikishore, Praja Natya Mandali leader Palle Narasimha, V. Ganesh, Agricultural Workers' Union leader Kalakonda Kanthaiah, Telangana State Workers' Party President Rayabanti Pandurangachari, and organisers Irugu Sridhar, Venkanna, Chitram Saidulu, Srisailam Goud, Jeenukuntla Lingaiah, Anjaneyulu, Paramesh, Nageshappa, Narasimha, Kranthi, Srinivas, Arun Goud and Manikumar, among others.

HMWSSB launches Green Water Tankers for construction, gardening



Hyderabad, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Commemorating its 37th Foundation Day, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) flagged off the Green Water Tanker Programme at the Secretariat on Sunday, November 1.

Under the initiative, water treated through sewage treatment plants (STPs) will be supplied via green water tankers for construction work, landscaping, gardening, park maintenance, greenery development and other non-potable needs. Government departments, parks and greenery needs will be given priority.

Water Board Managing Director Ashok Reddy said the reuse of treated water is being widely promoted in the wake of the El Niño conditions to reduce the pressure on drinking water resources.

In the first phase, arrangements have been made to start services through 28 green water tankers from 17 STPs in the city and will later be extended to all divisions across the city.

So far, about 100 private tankers, including Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) and private operators, have registered with the Water Board to participate in the programme.

KTR Demands 60,000 Per Acre for Telangana Farmers

Adilabad, Nov 1 (Open Frame): BRS Working President KTR demanded that the Congress government immediately release all pending Rythu Bandhu dues, taking responsibility for the drought-like conditions prevailing across Telangana. He demanded that every farmer be paid 60,000 per acre, comprising the three installments of Rythu Bandhu withheld by the Congress government and the investment assistance due for the current Yasangi season. He also demanded that the government fulfil its promises to tenant farmers and agricultural labourers.

Addressing the Rythu Garjana public meeting in Adilabad, KTR said, "This is not a drought caused by nature; this is a drought created by Congress." Despite having adequate irrigation resources, Telangana farmers were facing severe distress due to the failures of the Revanth Reddy government, he alleged. Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, despite experiencing nearly twice the rainfall deficit compared to Telangana, were not facing similar drought conditions, he pointed out. The Congress government could not escape responsibility by citing El Nino, he said. KTR recalled that while the BRS government provided 10,000 per acre annually under Rythu Bandhu, Revanth Reddy promised to increase the assistance to 15,000. However, after coming to power, Congress failed to honour its commitment.

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



Hyderabad, Nov 1 (Open Frame): The Hon'ble Governor of Telangana, Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla, has said that India's linguistic, cultural and regional diversity constitutes the very foundation of its national unity and strength. He observed that celebrating the Formation Days of several States and Union Territories on a common platform exemplifies the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat' and reflects the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to strengthen the bonds of national integration.

The Formation Day celebrations of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Tamil Nadu, along with the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry, were held with great enthusiasm at the Sanskriti Community Hall, Lok Bhavan, Hyderabad, on Sunday evening.

The Hon'ble Governor, Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla, accompanied by his spouse, Smt. Janaki Shukla, inaugurated the celebrations by lighting the ceremonial lamp. Addressing the gathering, the Governor described Hyderabad as a 'Mini India', reflecting the country's rich cultural diversity and inclusive ethos. He said Telangana had always welcomed people from every corner of the country with warmth and openness, while fostering an environment of mutual respect, harmony and inclusive development. Recalling the contribution of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel to the unity and integrity of the nation, the Governor said that the observance of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas on October 31, followed by the Formation Day celebrations of various States and Union Territories, offered a meaningful reaffirmation of India's collective identity.

He noted that although States were reorganised on linguistic lines, they remained deeply interconnected through shared cultural values, traditions and a common national spirit. The unique histories, languages and cultural traditions of different States, he said, enrich the nation's collective heritage. Highlighting the spirit of cultural integration, the Governor observed that people who migrate from one State to another continue to cherish their own traditions while embracing the cultural practices of their adHyderabad, Nov 1 (Open Frame): opted home. He cited the example of people from Rajasthan who have settled in Hyderabad, celebrating their traditional festivals while also participating in Telangana's cultural festivities such as Bathukamma.

39th Hyd Book Fair set for Dec 18-28, venues named

Hyderabad, Nov 1 (Open Frame): The 39th Hyderabad Book Fair Advisory Committee unveiled its logo and announced the venue on Sunday, November 1. Following annual tradition, key sections of the exhibition space will carry the names of distinguished literary icons, cultural leaders, and social reformers.

The book fair will be organised in collaboration with the Department of Language and Culture of the Government of Telangana from December 18 to 28 at NTR Stadium near Indira Park. The fair premises are named after late Jeelani Bano, who was a renowned Urdu writer and novelist of Urdu literature. Having started her writing journey at an early age, Jeelani Bano went on to author a collection of novels and short stories. A dedicated advocate for women's and children's rights, her literary works mirror her firm belief in literature as an instrument for social change.

Her works have been translated into Telugu by the noted writer Mehak Hyderabadi. She has received several prestigious awards, including the Padma Shri, the Andhra Pradesh Sahitya Akademi Award, the Soviet Land Nehru Award and the Qaumi Hali Award. The literary stage will take on the name of Mukthavaram Parthasarathi, who was a prominent writer and translator. He wrote his first short story at the age of 15 and has authored nine novels and numerous short stories. His translations include Jack London's 'The Iron Heel', Shakespeare's works, 'Jonathan Livingston Seagull', as well as Chinese and African folk tales. He introduced Nobel Prize-winning writers to Telugu readers, with nearly 70 of his authored and translated books being published.

DK Aruna Demands Immediate Resolution of NHM Contract Employees' Issues



Narayanpet, Nov 1 (Open Frame): BJP MP DK Aruna has demanded that the Telangana government immediately address the legitimate demands of National Health Mission (NHM) contract employees, who have been staging an indefinite strike across the state for the past 20 days. DK Aruna visited the ongoing indefinite strike camp organised by the NHM Joint Action Committee (JAC) at the Narayanpet district headquarters and expressed solidarity with the protesting employees. She announced the Bharatiya Janata Party's full support for their agitation.

Speaking on the occasion, she criticised the Congress government for failing to fulfil its election manifesto promise of regularising NHM contract employees, despite being in power for nearly three years. She urged the Chief Minister to respond positively and regularise their services without further delay. She also pointed out that NHM contract employees had already been regularised in seven states.

The BJP MP highlighted the crucial role played by NHM employees in safeguarding public health, stating that they continue to provide essential medical services despite facing several challenges. She said their efforts had contributed to reducing the maternal mortality rate from 25 per cent to 19 per cent and the neonatal mortality rate from 15 per cent to 5 per cent. Their services had also played a significant role in increasing institutional deliveries to 70 per cent, she added. DK Aruna appreciated the efforts of NHM employees in creating public awareness and preventing tuberculosis under the TB Mukt Bharat programme. Expressing concern over the lack of basic employment rights for these workers, she said it was unfortunate that employees providing such essential services were being denied their legitimate benefits. She specifically demanded that the government address issues such as the denial of maternity leave to NHM contract employees and delays in salary payments.

Telangana Raises Judicial Officers' Retirement Age to 62 Years

Hyderabad, Nov 1 (Open Frame) The Telangana government on Saturday, October 31, issued an ordinance amending the Telangana Public Employment (Regulation of Age of Superannuation) Act, 1984, and raised the retirement age for state judicial officers from 61 to 62 years, effective retrospectively from March 31, 2026.

The move was prompted by Supreme Court directives and High Court recommendations to retain experienced legal minds. It allows judicial officers who retired this March to rejoin service with full continuity, pay, and seniority, subject to certain conditions.

The benefit of enhancement of the age of superannuation will extend to members of the Telangana State Higher Judicial Service and the Telangana State Judicial Service who superannuated on or after March 31, 2026, but before the date of publication of the ordinance in the Telangana Gazette.

The officers will be given an option to rejoin the judicial office if they have not obtained subsequent employment or been appointed to any other office of profit under the Union Government or any state government.

An officer who rejoins judicial office will have to surrender post-retirement benefits, if any, already received.

The ordinance is expected to help address vacancies in the subordinate judiciary and ensure continuity in the disposal of pending cases. Retaining experienced judicial officers is also expected to strengthen the functioning of courts and ease the workload on serving judges.

Gold, Silver prices fall amid fed rate hike concerns



New Delhi, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Gold and silver traded up to 2 per cent lower on Friday amid rising expectations of a further rate hike by the US Federal Reserve. On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), precious metals fell sharply with the white metal losing over Rs 4,000 per kg during the session. Gold futures (December) fell as much as 0.63 per cent or Rs 911 to hit an intraday low of Rs 1,41,685 per 10 grams. At around 12:20 pm, the yellow metal was trading at Rs 1,41,800, down Rs 796 or 0.56 per cent from its previous close.

Meanwhile, silver witnessed steeper losses, dropping Rs 4,282 or 2.26 per cent to touch an intraday low of Rs 1,85,171 per kg. At last count, the white metal was at Rs 1,85,500, down Rs 3,953 or about 2 per cent.

The sharp correction comes at a time when consumers are gearing up for Dhanteras and Diwali purchases, offering some relief to festive buyers.

In the international market, spot gold slipped 0.7 per cent to around $3,991 per ounce, while spot silver declined 1.6 per cent to $51.27 per ounce. According to market experts, precious metals remain under pressure following a hawkish pause by the Federal Reserve. The US central bank kept interest rates unchanged at 3.75-4 per cent in a 10-2 vote, with policymakers continuing to express concerns over elevated inflation. Fed Chair Kevin Warsh indicated inflation remains stubbornly high, while two policymakers reportedly dissented in favour of a rate hike.

Since the announcement, a series of strong economic indicators have reinforced expectations that borrowing costs could remain higher for longer. "Gold is currently approaching a crucial support zone between Rs 1.40 lakh and Rs 1.41 lakh per 10 grams. A decisive break below this range could drag prices towards Rs 1.37-1.38 lakh," commodity experts said. For silver, the next major support is seen in the Rs 1.83-1.85 lakh per kg range. Silver has now corrected significantly from its historic peak, they added.

Despite the ongoing weakness, analysts believe current levels may be attractive for long-term investors and festive buyers. However, they cautioned that the near-term direction will depend largely on the Fed's policy outlook, the US dollar index, Treasury yields and crude oil prices.

Crude oil prices are also in focus amid rising geopolitical tensions in West Asia, developments involving Iran and concerns over potential supply disruptions.

Centre extends tax relief on cotton imports to boost textile industry



New Delhi, Nov 1 (Open Frame): In a bid to augment the availability of cotton for the domestic textile sector, the government on Saturday extended the existing customs duty exemption on cotton imports till December 31, 2026.

Through the amendment, the existing exemption, which was available until October 31, 2026, has now been extended by two months. The aim is to address specialised cotton requirements and support value addition across the textile and apparel value chain, the Ministry of Textiles said in a statement.

"The measure is expected to provide greater flexibility to textile and apparel manufacturers in meeting their raw material requirements, help ease input cost pressures, support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), and strengthen the competitiveness of Indian textiles in domestic and international markets," the statement said. According to the government, this move is expected to facilitate uninterrupted availability of raw materials, improve operational flexibility for the textile industry, and promote greater value addition across the cotton-based textile and apparel sector. Meanwhile, India's textile sector recorded strong export growth in August 2026, with total exports up 16.1 per cent year-on-year to Rs 29,776 crore. The cumulative textile exports during April–August 2026 reached Rs 1.43 lakh crore, registering growth of 10.3 per cent over the corresponding period of the previous year.

NGMA Hosts Sculpture Exhibition Featuring 250 Artworks



New Delhi, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Union Minister of Culture and Tourism Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat inaugurated TAKSHANAM, a major exhibition featuring over 250 sculptures by 150 participating artists representing diverse generations, artistic backgrounds and approaches to sculptural expression, at the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi. Shri Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, was also present on the occasion. Conceived as a shared platform for artistic encounter and exchange, the exhibition explores the continuities, transitions and new possibilities shaping the evolving landscape of Indian sculpture.

Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, said, "Art is an important expression of India's cultural identity and creative spirit. Initiatives such as TAKSHANAM bring artists and audiences closer while encouraging greater appreciation of our artistic traditions and contemporary expressions. By creating space for both established and emerging talent, the exhibition reinforces the importance of nurturing creativity and expanding public engagement with art."

Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, said, "The Ministry of Culture remains committed to encouraging artistic excellence and creating meaningful opportunities for artists across the country. TAKSHANAM brings together diverse artistic voices and provides a platform for their work to reach wider audiences. The initiative to offer artworks for sale is also a noteworthy step towards strengthening engagement between artists, collectors and art enthusiasts." Speaking about the exhibition, Dr. Sanjeev Kishor Goutam, Director General, National Gallery of Modern Art, highlighted India's long-standing sculptural tradition and the need to recognise and support contemporary practitioners. He said, "India has an extraordinary sculptural heritage that reflects its history, cultural achievements and artistic vision.

From the Harappan and Mohenjo-daro civilisations, with their terracotta and metal objects and iconic works such as the Dancing Girl and the Priest-King sculpture, to the magnificent sculptural traditions associated with temple architecture and sites such as Ajanta, Ellora and Khajuraho, sculpture has played a significant role in expressing India's cultural identity.

This legacy continues in contemporary practice, with Indian artists such as Anish Kapoor and Subodh Gupta achieving international recognition for their work.

SEBI Chief Highlights Investor Growth and Market Reforms in West Bengal



New Delhi, Nov 1 (Open Frame):The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Chairman, Tuhin Kanta Pandey, said on Saturday that the capital markets regulator continuously works towards making India's capital markets more accessible, efficient and resilient, focusing on facilitating capital formation, improving ease of doing business and strengthening investor protection.

Speaking at the 'Bharat Chamber of Commerce Investors Forum' in Kolkata, Pandey noted strong expansion of market capitalisation in India over the past decade, with companies raising on average more than Rs 10 lakh crore annually through equity and debt issuances.

"While we continue to strengthen markets for businesses, an equally important priority is investor protection. World-class markets must be not only efficient during normal times, but also resilient during periods of stress," Pandey said. He said that the market capitalisation has grown strongly over the past decade, with companies raising on average more than Rs 10 lakh crore annually through equity and debt issuances. "While we continue to strengthen markets for businesses, an equally important priority is investor protection. World-class markets must be not only efficient during normal times, but also resilient during periods of stress," he added. Highlighting West Bengal's growing participation in capital markets, Pandey said the number of investors in the securities market rose from around 12 lakh in the FY15 to over 90 lakh, approximately 36 per cent of whom are young investors below 30 years of age. Further, 379 listed companies have registered offices in West Bengal, and over 40 MSMEs from the state have accessed capital markets to raise over Rs 1,400 crore through SME IPOs. Pandey said that SEBI has taken several steps to make fundraising simpler and more cost-effective to reduce unnecessary compliance burdens and improve operational efficiency.

These include streamlining IPO processes, shortening timelines for rights issues, rationalising listing requirements for large issuers, permitting certain employee stock options after listing under prescribed conditions and reducing listing timelines for public issues.

5th T20I: Seifert, Record-Breaking Phillips Help NZ Beat India In Hamilton



Hamilton, Nov 1 (Open Frame): A strong batting show from Tim Seifert and Glenn Phillips guided New Zealand to an impressive seven-wicket win over India in the fifth and final T20I of the series at Seddon Park here on Sunday. Phillips (65*) created the record for scoring the most runs by a batter in a single bilateral series as the Kiwi star capped off a brilliant series with another half-century, while Seifert (93) registered his first noteworthy knock of the series as the duo led the Kiwis to chase down 192, their new highest T20I chase against India with seven wickets in hand and 12 balls to spare.

The Indian bowlers were found wanting in discipline, and the New Zealand batters were too strong for them on the day. Phillips made an unbeaten 65 as he scored his fourth fifty of the series. He also broke Phil Salt's record for most runs in a single bilateral series, as the Kiwi star now has 341 runs in the five-match series, while Salt had scored 331 against West Indies in a five-match series in 2023.

While Seifert and Phillips starred for New Zealand, Arshdeep Singh, Varun Chakravarthy and Nitish Kumar Reddy picked up the only wickets for India.

New Zealand were jolted at the start of their chase as they lost Finn Allen early when Arshdeep Singh got the Kiwi opener caught at deep mid-wicket in the second over.

Seifert was handed a lifeline on 13 in the fourth over by Naman Dhir as Arshdeep missed his man. Daryl Mitchell and Seifert kept going and took the hosts to 59/1 at the end of the powerplay as Bhuvneshwar Kumar was hit for 20 runs in the sixth one. Varun Chakaravarthy came in and sent some jitters to the Kiwis with some LBW appeals, and he got Mitchell in the ninth over, but that did not deter the hosts.

In-form Phillips joined Seifert and the two put up 86 runs from 42 balls for the third wicket. Their strong scoring rate took the game away from India.

India tried Abhishek Sharma after New Zealand were 96/2 after 10 overs, but he could not inspire a comeback. Shreyas brought back Arshdeep for the next over before Varun was taken for 18 runs in the 13th over as the Kiwis raced to 138/2. With 29 needed off 30 balls, Nitish got Seifert for 93 as the Kiwi opener played on, but Phillips was there, and he got to his fourth fifty of the series in the 17th over. He then helped the team cross the finishing line in the 18th over as he hit Bhuvi for a couple of fours as New Zealand completed their highest T20I chase against India.

Earlier, India managed to score 191/8 after Ishan Kishan and Shreyas Iyer scored half centuries. Kishan (61) and Shreyas (50) put up a 93-run partnership for the third wicket and helped the visitors recover from the early hiccup they suffered after losing openers Abhishek Sharma (1) and Sanju Samson (4) cheaply.

Later, Naman Dhir (33) and Nitish Kumar Reddy (22) came up with mini cameos to lead the Men in Blue but they would feel that India were a little short at the end of the innings as they kept losing wickets.

Brief Scores: India 191/8 in 20 overs (Ishan Kishan 61, Shreyas Iyer 50; Adam Milne 4-19, Nathan Smith 2-28) lose to New Zealand (Tim Seifert 93, Glenn Phillips 65; Nitish Kumar Reddy 1-19, Arshdeep Singh 1-40) by seven wickets.*

Manisha Bhanwala Wins Historic Wrestling Gold

New Delhi, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Indian wrestler Manisha Bhanwala revealed that years of practising for difficult match situations with her coaches helped her overcome a 0-6 deficit in the final of the Senior World Wrestling Championships and script a historic comeback to win a gold medal in the women's 59kg category in Astana, Kazakhstan.

Manisha, who became the first Indian woman to win a gold medal at the Senior World Wrestling Championships, said she did not experience any mental pressure despite trailing Abigail Neto 0-6 in the gold-medal bout, as she had regularly trained for such challenging situations. Manisha said her preparation for such situations, particularly the ability to score points in the final seconds, helped her turn the bout around and secure the historic triumph. "When we practice, our coaches give us situations where we have to take points in 30 seconds or not. So, we practise on that. I had been working for a long time for that. I had to handle such situations. So, I practised, and it helped. There was no mental pressure there," Manisha said in a media interaction facilitated by SAI Media on Sunday. The 23-year-old also reflected on her disappointment at the Asian Games, where she failed to win a medal in the women's 57kg category, but said she quickly shifted her focus to the World Championships, which were scheduled just 10 days later.

PV Sindhu Wins Hylo Open, Claims Second Title of Season



New Delhi, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu clinched her second title of the season after defeating Denmark's Line Hojmark Kjærsfeldt in straight games to win the Hylo Open Super 500 badminton tournament in Saarbrücken, Germany, on Sunday. The former world champion, who had won the Japan Open in July and finished runner-up at the French Open last week, produced a commanding performance to register a 21-12, 21-14 victory over the eighth-seeded Dane in the 39-minute summit clash of the USD 500,000 tournament. The second-seeded Indian, currently ranked world No. 8, dominated proceedings with her sharp stroke-play, deceptive shots and effective net game to secure the title against her world No. 25 opponent.

With the victory, Sindhu collected 9,200 ranking points, strengthening her bid to qualify for the season-ending BWF World Tour Finals. Sindhu entered the final with a dominant 6-1 head-to-head record against Kjærsfeldt, whose only victory over the Indian had come at the 2025 Sudirman Cup Finals.

The Indian made a confident start, opening the contest with a cross-court winner, though a couple of unforced errors allowed the Dane to stay in contention at 3-3. Sindhu subsequently took control of the rallies with her deception and sharp net play to move ahead 8-5.

She maintained her advantage through the opening game, using a combination of well-placed shots and attacking strokes to put pressure on her opponent. A superb backhand winner helped her move to 17-12 before she converted her first game point to take the opening game 21-12.

Karan Singh, Atharva Sharma Win ITF Doubles Title in Egypt

Chandigarh, Nov 1 (Open Frame): Indian youngsters Karan Singh and Atharva Sharma added a prestigious international trophy to their cabinet, capturing the men's doubles title at the ITF Men's World Tennis Tour M15 tournament in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, on Sunday. Karnan Singh and Atharva Sharma, the top-seeded duo, delivered a masterclass in tactical discipline, sharp net play, and mental fortitude throughout the tournament, which ran from October 26 to November 1.

This victory fetched Karan, a Roundglass Tennis Academy (RGTA) athlete, his 5th title of the year, and underscored his incredible recent momentum, standing as his third title win and fifth final appearance in the last two months. At Sharm El Sheikh, Karan and Atharva navigated a demanding international draw with remarkable composure. In the quarterfinals, the top seeds demonstrated their clinical edge by defeating the international pairing of Switzerland's Lars Aregger and Austria's Niklas Waldner in straight sets, winning 6-3, 7-6. Carrying their momentum deep into the tournament, the Indian pair faced a tough test in the semifinals against the third-seeded Turkish duo of Melih Anavatan and S. Mert Ozdemir, holding their nerve in a tightly contested battle to prevail 7-6, 6-3 and book their spot in the title clash.

In the championship match, Karan and Atharva delivered their finest performance of the week against the second-seeded pair of Nikita Ianin and Egypt's Karim Ibrahim.

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Ram Charan-Sukumar's 'RC17' Begins With Grand Pooja Ceremony

Ram Charan and director Sukumar embarked on their next cinematic journey on Sunday as their film tentatively titled 'RC17' went on floors with a grand pooja ceremony in Hyderabad. The makers, Mythri Movie Makers, dropped a video from the mahurat ceremony on their official social media handles.

The clip opened with Ram Charan arriving at the venue and greeting the members of the team. Next, the 'RRR' actor lit the ceremonial lamp. "Mega Power Star @AlwaysRamCharan arrives at the #RC17 Pooja Ceremony (sic)," read the caption on the post. In another post, Megastar Chiranjeevi was seen giving the mahurat clap, along with performing the auspicious coconut-breaking ritual during the pooja ceremony. We could also see Ram Charan touching his father's feet, after which the father and son duo shared a warm hug. Sharing the precious moment with the netizens, the makers wrote, "The journey of #RC17 begins with the MEGA CLAP...Megastar @chiranjeevikonidela garu sounded the clapboard and blessed the entire team of #RC17 (sic)" The Mahurat for 'RC15' was attended by many big names from the Telugu film industry, such as Ravi Shankar, Naveen Yerneni, Naga Vamsi, Rahul Sankrityan, Gopichand Malineni, Maruthi, Buchi Babu Sana, Vamsi Nandipati and Harish Shankar, along with others. Presented by Bhushan Kumar under T-Series Films, the technical crew of the drama also includes Ratnavelu as the cinematographer, whereas Anirudh Ravichander has been roped in to score the tunes. The remaining cast and crew for this yet-untitled drama have been kept under wraps for now. Refreshing your memory, Ram Charan announced 'RC17' in March 2024. The 'Peddi' actor had uploaded a picture with Sukumar. This will be Ram Charan's second professional collaboration with the filmmaker after their 2018 blockbuster 'Rangasthalam', which also featured Samantha Ruth Prabhu as the female lead. Given that 'Rangasthalam' performed exceedingly well at the ticket counters, the expectations from 'RC17' remain sky-high.

Rashmika Mandanna Launches Project Annapurna, Supports 400 Families

Actor Rashmika Mandanna has launched Project Annapurna, a charitable initiative aimed at providing essential food supplies and grocery support to families across South India, announcing that she has adopted 400 families as part of the effort.

The actor revealed details of the initiative in a video shared on social media, explaining that her aim was to ease the burden of household grocery expenses for a fixed period, enabling families to save money and plan their futures better.

In her post, Rashmika reflected on how the characters she portrays influence her own life, drawing a connection between herself and Jayamma, her character in the upcoming film Ranabaali. She said, "There is something in the characters you play that influences you.. A lot of you keep asking whether there are any similarities between Jayamma and me, and my answer is yes - and this is one of them. This has always been me, and this is also her... and I would always keep doing things like this for all the love that you give me... but I always kept it under wraps because I thought if I knew and just my team knew and just a bunch of us knew.. it was enough... but now I am opening up about this because I am thinking.. if this could influence you lovelies out there to do anything like this.. I would be happy." Explaining the thinking behind Project Annapurna, Rashmika said she wanted to begin by supporting a manageable number of families at a time, allowing them to redirect the money they would otherwise spend on groceries towards savings and future planning.

"So hence I thought, why not start now... with this! I've adopted 400 families today... and I want to just help 400 families at a time for 3 months each and continue this for the next year and hope that they can save that money on groceries and use it to save and plan their futures better," she said. The actor also spoke about the emotional significance of the initiative, saying that the happiness it brings makes the difficulties she has faced throughout her working years worthwhile. "Even a small act of kindness can change a person's life, and it doesn't have to be big. Let's all start with something small! And trust me, all these smiles are worth every sleepless night, the injuries, the struggles, the pain, the tears, and everything that I've gone through over the last working years.. This is priceless!!," the actor said. Rashmika's reference to Jayamma comes ahead of the release of Ranabaali, which stars Vijay Deverakonda in the titular role. The film marks the actors' return to the screen together following their marriage. Set in 1870s South India, Ranabaali draws inspiration from the Great Madras Famine of 1876–78, one of the darkest chapters in India's history.



According to IMDb, the film follows "a rebellious warrior in 1870s South India during the Great Famine who confronts a British commissioner while protecting his region and people."

Vijay plays Ranabaali, while Rashmika portrays Jayamma, his wife and companion in the struggle against colonial oppression. Through Project Annapurna, Rashmika hopes to turn a gesture of support into an opportunity for families to build greater financial security, while encouraging others to recognise that even modest acts of kindness can have a lasting impact. Rashmika's initiative has also drawn attention to the importance of food security and community support, particularly for families managing rising household expenses. By extending assistance in batches of 400 families for three months at a time, she hopes to make the programme sustainable and reach more households over the coming year. The initiative reflects her belief that meaningful social change can begin with simple, consistent efforts. The actor also encouraged her fans and followers to contribute to society in whatever way they can, stressing that financial capacity should not be a barrier to helping others. Through Project Annapurna, she hopes to inspire more people from the film industry and beyond to participate in charitable activities and extend a helping hand to families in need.

Keerthy Suresh shines in an imperfect entertainer

Some shows impress with their storytelling, while others keep you watching because of the world they create. Akka falls somewhere in the second category. It is ambitious, visually appealing and populated by actors who command attention. While its writing does not always match those strengths, there is enough here to make it an entertaining watch. Go in expecting a flawless drama and you may come away disappointed. Go in looking for something different, with compelling women at its centre, and Akka has plenty to offer.

The idea of a world ruled by women is easily Akka's biggest draw. Watching women occupy positions of authority and dominate spaces usually reserved for men gives the series an interesting perspective. The reversal can feel surprisingly unfamiliar, which is part of what makes the concept work.

However, an intriguing premise can only take a series so far. The trailer reveals more than it should, leaving the actual story with fewer surprises. Several developments are predictable, and some characters slip into caricature when they could have benefited from more depth.

The screenplay needed another round of polishing. The dialogue, in particular, does not consistently carry the weight that the setting and its characters demand. For a YRF production with such evident attention to its visual presentation, the uneven writing feels like a missed opportunity. A stronger script could have made this world far more absorbing. What keeps Akka engaging is its casting. There is something satisfying about watching a series filled with performers who have both screen presence and the ability to hold a scene. Keerthy Suresh is a particular delight. She makes a strong impression and remains one of the biggest reasons to stay invested, even when the material feels less assured. The presentation of its women deserves appreciation too. Different body types, skin tones and visible skin textures give the series a welcome sense of authenticity. Its women are allowed to look like people who belong to this world, and that makes the casting and styling feel all the more effective. Akka's costumes are among its strongest assets. The distinctive nose rings assigned to different groups are a lovely detail, giving their identities a visual expression. These choices make the styling feel considered rather than merely decorative. The cinematography is equally appealing. The homes, locations and attention to South Indian detail give the series a distinct atmosphere.



Kriti Sanon reveals why female led films struggle in Bollywood

What would a film like Pathaan or Dhurandhar look like with a woman leading the action? Kriti Sanon believes filmmakers should be willing to explore that possibility and back it with an equally big budget.

The actress has called for greater investment in female led films, stressing that women deserve opportunities to headline projects mounted on the same scale as those featuring male stars. In a quote shared by the Instagram page Bollywood, Kriti referred to Pathaan and Dhurandhar while making a case for bigger budgets for women centric cinema. "If you make a Dhurandhar or a Pathaan with a female actor put in the same amount of money, it will do well. We should take that risk," she said. Her statement puts the focus on the resources filmmakers are willing to commit to female led projects. Kriti's argument is that giving the same financial backing could help deliver equally strong results. Being a woman yond casting actress's remarks call for producers to show confidence in such films through their investment. By drawing a comparison with Pathaan and Dhurandhar, Kriti made her point clear: she wants the industry to take a chance on women headlining films of that scale, with budgets to match.



Regina Cassandra Quits NGO Democratic Sangha

Popular actress Regina Cassandra has taken an unexpected decision. She has announced that she is completely leaving the NGO 'Democratic Sangha', of which she was a co-founder. To this extent, she released an official statement on social media. She clarified that she is leaving the organization as a co-founder and a member. It is understood that Regina started this NGO with Deepti Alapati at the center of Banjara Hills, Hyderabad. However, she did not reveal the exact reason why she is leaving the organization.

"After much thought and introspection, I have decided to withdraw completely from the 'Democratic Sangha'. I am stepping down from my responsibilities as a founder and member of this organization, and from all the programs associated with it. 'Democratic Sangha' has been a meaningful part of my life's journey. I will forever cherish the experiences, friendships, and fond memories associated with this organization. I consider it a special privilege to be a part of its founding journey. I am proud to have contributed to the organization's goals and programs. As I move forward in life, I believe this is the right time for me to choose a different path and focus on other priorities. I will move forward with immense respect, gratitude, and warm memories of everyone who has been a part of this journey. I express my heartfelt gratitude to all my colleagues, friends, and well-wishers who have supported and encouraged me on this journey. I will forever cherish your friendship. "I will never forget. I will always be grateful for this journey, the experiences I have had, and the great people I have met. I sincerely wish the 'Democratic Society' and everyone associated with it all the best in the future. I express my heartfelt respect for the paths we have shared together," Regina said in her statement.



Regina's announcement has drawn attention among her fans, particularly because she was involved in establishing the organisation and shaping its activities. However, she has not indicated any disagreement or specific circumstances behind her decision, choosing instead to describe it as a personal move towards new priorities. Her exit marks a new chapter in her journey beyond the film industry, where she has also been associated with social initiatives. She expressed gratitude to those who supported the organisation and wished Democratic Sangha continued success in its future activities.

T-Series Secures Exclusive Global Music Rights for 'King' for 50 Years

T-Series has secured the exclusive global commercial music rights for upcoming film King for a period of 50 years. The agreement, announced through details shared by the music company, has been facilitated by Red Chillies Entertainment through Zee Music Company. The development comes amid recent industry speculation about the possibility of a shorter licensing arrangement for the film's music.

According to the announcement, the deal gives T-Series exclusive commercial exploitation rights over the film's musical assets worldwide for the next five decades. This includes its songs, music videos and associated publishing interests. The arrangement is positioned as a long-term acquisition rather than a temporary or short-duration licensing agreement.

A T-Series spokesperson clarified the nature of the deal, stating, "There is no transient licensing structure or short-term handover at play. T-Series has locked in an absolute 50-year commercial monopoly over the audio and music video rights for King. Every song, video, and publishing interest rests squarely under the T-Series banner for the long haul." The soundtrack is expected to be among the key attractions of King, with compositions by Sachin-Jigar and background music by Anirudh Ravichander. The film is also expected to feature a musical collaboration between Ed Sheeran and Arijit Singh, which has already generated curiosity around its soundtrack.



Directed by Siddharth Anand, King stars Shah Rukh Khan alongside Deepika Padukone, Suhana Khan and Abhishek Bachchan. The project marks the first time Shah Rukh and Suhana will share screen space as a father-daughter duo, adding to the anticipation surrounding the film. The action spectacle is scheduled for a Christmas theatrical release. With T-Series acquiring the music rights for an extended period, the agreement places the label in charge of the film's global music exploitation well beyond its theatrical run. The arrangement also sets the stage for the soundtrack to be monetised across platforms and formats over the coming decades.

The acquisition strengthens T-Series' position in the Indian music industry, particularly in securing high-profile film soundtracks with long-term commercial potential. Shah Rukh Khan's films have traditionally attracted significant interest in the music market, making the agreement an important addition to the company's catalogue. The 50-year deal also highlights the growing value of music rights in the film business, where revenues can continue through streaming services, digital platforms, television broadcasts and other distribution channels long after a movie completes its theatrical run. With a star-studded cast, a prominent director and an anticipated musical lineup, King is expected to draw considerable attention from audiences. The partnership with T-Series adds another major commercial dimension to the project ahead of its planned Christmas release.

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