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We Reveal the Truth



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CM directs officials to ease Hyderabad traffic



Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Open Frame): Chief Minister Mr. A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to transform Hyderabad into a clean and traffic-free city. He emphasized that no garbage should be visible anywhere in the city and called for continuous monitoring of waste collection processes. The Chief Minister held a review meeting with municipal officials at his Jubilee Hills residence. He instructed them to ensure that door-to-door waste collection takes place daily across the city and stated that strict action must be taken against those who show negligence.

He suggested making special arrangements for the removal of construction and demolition (C&D) waste. Furthermore, he advised officials to coordinate with the Industrial Local Authority to manage waste collection in the various industrial areas falling under the municipal jurisdiction. The Chief Minister directed officials to raise awareness about the effective use of 'green tankers'—an initiative launched to supply treated water from Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) for purposes such as construction activities, park maintenance, landscaping, and gardening. He noted that, currently, potable (drinking) water is being used for construction, greenery maintenance, and park development; by switching to treated water from STPs for these needs, the city's drinking water resources can be conserved.

It was noted that the Water Board, in the first phase, introduced services using 28 'green water' (treated wastewater) tankers, sourced from 19 Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs). It was suggested that the supply of this green water be further expanded to cover areas under the GHMC, CMC, and MMC.

The Chief Minister directed officials to take necessary measures to address traffic issues in the city and transform it into a 'traffic-free' city. He instructed them to prepare plans for the construction of underpasses and elevated corridors wherever required to establish a signal-free traffic system.

Amit Shah calls for ouster of Congress govt in Telangana, targets Rahul Gandhi over SIR



Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Open Frame): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday claimed that three crore 'Bangladeshi infiltrators' are among 'absent' voters sought to be deleted in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) and accused the Congress party of trying to protect them. He declared that the BJP will ensure that every infiltrator is removed from the electoral rolls and driven out of the country. Amit Shah was addressing the 'Save Democracy Remove Anarchy' march organised by the BJP here as part of its nationwide campaign to counter the anti-SIR campaign of the INDIA bloc. Alleging that by stopping SIR, 'Congress and company' was trying to save Bangladesh infiltrators, he termed the rally organised by the INDIA bloc in Delhi on Sunday as a "Save the infiltrators" rally.

"Congress and company are trying to stop SIR because infiltrators are their vote bank. BJP workers stand firmly with SIR. Only citizens of this country will be allowed to vote here," said HM Shah, who led the foot march from Basheerbagh to Moazzam Jahi Market.

Amit Shah said Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi was lying that 13 crore votes were deleted in SIR.

The Home Minister stated that 6.25 crore voters had shifted while about 3 crore voters were dead. He said another one crore voters had double entries. "The Congress party wants to capture elections through bogus voting. If one person has two votes, should one of them be cancelled or not? Now we come to the source of 'Rahul Baba's' stomach ache. Three crore votes are such that the people they belong to do not even exist. These are Bangladeshi infiltrators," he said. He alleged that by opposing the SIR, the Congress party wants to protect Bangladeshi infiltrators in the country's electoral rolls. "But I have come here today to say that Rahul ji and Revanth Reddy ji can put in as much effort as they want. The BJP will ensure that every single infiltrator is removed from the voter list and driven out of the country."

Dismissing the allegation of Rahul Gandhi that the BJP won only because of the SIR, he reminded the Congress leader that there was no SIR when Narendra Modi won in 2014, 2019 and 2024.

"He won because of the voters of India. After 2024, we won in Maharashtra with the biggest majority. We won in Haryana. After 30 years, we won in Delhi. We won in Bihar with the biggest majority. In Bengal too, Didi's entire political standing has been wiped out," he said and exuded confidence that BJP will win Telangana too.

Amit Shah remarked that Rahul Gandhi can never become Prime Minister. "Two days ago, you held a mock Parliament. If you had asked me, I would have suggested that you become Prime Minister at least once in this mock Parliament. Because you will never be able to become Prime Minister in the real Parliament. At least if you become Prime Minister in a mock Parliament, Sonia ji's heart will find some peace," he remarked. The Home Minister said that Rahul Gandhi carries the Constitution in his hand but has no respect for the Constitution. Stating that Constitutional responsibilities are discharged through the country's Parliament, he accused Rahul Gandhi of not allowing Parliament to function.

"I challenge you today from the land of Hyderabad. We are ready to convene a special session of Parliament. Come and participate in a discussion. But he will not participate in the discussion because he knows that only through anarchy and disorder can the Congress party keep itself in the news. If Parliament functions, our Modi ji will completely demolish their arguments," he said.

SP Says Rahul Gandhi or Akhilesh Yadav Could Lead INDIA Bloc



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame): Samajwadi Party MP Awadhesh Prasad on Monday asserted that the INDIA bloc would form the next government at the Centre, saying either Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, of the Congress or his own party's chief Akhilesh Yadav could become Prime Minister, with the final decision to be taken by the Opposition alliance after winning the election. Reacting to Union Minister Pralhad Joshi's remark that the Opposition would continue holding mock Parliament sessions for the next 30 years and that Gandhi would remain a "mock Prime Minister", Prasad said political change was inevitable.

Prasad said: "Look, when the winds of change begin to blow, and change is the law of nature, transformation is inevitable. There will certainly be a change, and the INDIA bloc will have a Prime Minister. Whoever the INDIA bloc chooses as its leader will become the Prime Minister. It could be Rahul Gandhi or our leader Akhilesh Yadav. However, the final decision on this will be taken by the INDIA bloc after winning the election." The veteran leader also rejected suggestions of differences within the Opposition alliance, asserting that its constituents remained united despite the Bharatiya Janata Party's criticism.

Solar Power Saves Government Rs 700 Crore Annually: PM Modi



New Delhi, Nov 2 (UNI): More than 44,000 government buildings across India have been connected to solar energy, generating annual savings of around Rs 700 crore, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday, highlighting the country's progress in renewable energy and its commitment to strengthening energy security through clean power.

Addressing the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit at the Bharat Mandapam here, the Prime Minister said India has made significant strides in the renewable energy sector over the past 12 years, connecting industries, farms and households with solar power.

"Over the last 12 years, we have worked to connect industries and farms with solar power. More than 44,000 government buildings across India are now connected to solar energy, generating annual savings of around Rs 700 crore," he said "Farmers across the country are also benefiting from the PM-KUSUM scheme

. Through this initiative, more than 30 lakh farmers have been provided with solar-powered irrigation facilities. Estimates suggest that each farmer can save around Rs 1 lakh annually by using solar pumps," the Prime Minister added.

PM Modi said the government aims to bring every government building, school, college, hospital and street-lighting system under solar energy to further expand the country's clean energy infrastructure. The Prime Minister also highlighted the progress made under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, launched in February 2024 with the target of installing rooftop solar panels in one crore households.

Kharge, Rahul Meet Manipur, Uttarakhand Leaders



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame):Congress party's general secretary KC Venugopal on Monday said Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi met with AICC in-charges, state party units' presidents and Congress Legislature Party leaders from Manipur and Uttarakhand in the national capital.

In a post on X, Venugopal said the anger witnessed at Ramlila Maidan the previous day was only a glimpse of the sweeping anti-incumbency sentiment prevailing in these BJP-ruled states. He alleged that hatred, loot, land-grab and total misgovernance symbolised the BJP's "trouble engine" model in both states. Referring to Manipur, Venugopal said the state continued to burn in the flames of ethnic conflict lit by the ruling regime.

He noted that the people had already rejected the BJP in both Lok Sabha seats in 2024 and were eager to drive the party out completely.

On Uttarakhand, he alleged that even the temples of Devbhoomi had not been spared from the "Chanda Chori" that the BJP had mastered in Ayodhya and elsewhere.

Nitin Nabin launches NDA campaign in Bihar



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame):BJP National President Nitin Nabin on Monday launched the NDA's nationwide campaign, titled 'Save Democracy, End Anarchy', with a padyatra (foot march) from the historic Lajpat Park in Bihar's Bhagalpur city.

Visiting the Silk City for the first time after assuming charge as BJP National President, Nabin addressed a large public gathering ahead of the march and launched a scathing attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and the opposition alliance. He said Rahul Gandhi was concerned only about the political survival of his family, whereas Prime Minister Narendra Modi considered the country's 1.4 billion people his family and was committed to their development, security and prosperity. Describing PM Modi as the country's 'mukhya sevak' (chief servant) and 'chowkidar' (watchman), Nabin said the Prime Minister had consistently worked to fulfil the trust placed in him by the people.

Recalling the political situation before 2014, he alleged that the Congress-led UPA government had been plagued by corruption, major scams and serious internal and external security challenges.

Delhi Police personnel stage protest over transfers of two officers



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame): Delhi Police personnel assembled outside the police headquarters to protest the transfers of Assistant Commissioner of Police Manasvi Vashistha and Shahdara Station House Officer Inspector Arun Kumar. The transfers followed a scuffle at Shahdara police station on 23 October, in which an advocate reportedly sustained a head injury. The protestors demanded reinstatement of the transferred officers and sought a meeting with the Police Commissioner.According to around 80 personnel gathered outside Gate No. 1 of the Delhi Police Headquarters, refusing requests from senior officers to disperse or move their grievances inside. DCP (New Delhi) Sachin Sharma attempted to persuade ACP Vashistha and the assembled personnel to maintain discipline and not engage in protest-like behaviour, but the group insisted on a direct dialogue with the Commissioner.

The protest was triggered by the transfer orders issued on 28 October, which were a response to demands from district court lawyers following the Shahdara incident. The lawyers had called for action against the officers involved.

, leading to an indefinite strike that was only called off after the transfers were announced.

Messages circulated in Delhi Police WhatsApp groups urged personnel to assemble in support of the transferred officers and seek restoration of their postings as coverage revealed. District DCPs and unit heads were instructed to prevent their staff from joining the protest, but the demonstration proceeded as planned outside the headquarters. Senior officers, including DCP Sachin Sharma, engaged with the protestors, urging them to address their concerns through official channels rather than public demonstration. The personnel, however, remained firm in their demand for a Sampark Sabha (interactive session) with the Police Commissioner as reporting indicated.

The protest followed a previous incident in 2019, when over 2,000 police personnel and their families gathered outside the headquarters after attacks on policemen by lawyers, including a case linked to a parking dispute at Tis Hazari Court.

Supreme Court permits limited sale of certified green crackers ahead of diwali



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame): The Supreme Court has permitted the sale and use of certified green crackers in Delhi-NCR for a limited period ahead of and on Diwali, while issuing a series of directions to regulate their manufacture, storage, sale and bursting, and directing that the complete ban on firecrackers be restored from November 9. A Bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and Prasanna B. Varale allowed the sale of CSIR-NEERI-approved green crackers from November 2 to November 6, subject to stringent safeguards to prevent conventional firecrackers from being sold under their guise. The Justice Sundresh-led Bench permitted the bursting of firecrackers only between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. on November 7 and 8.

The apex court directed that there will be no bursting of fireworks within a 300-metre radius of hospitals, nursing homes, primary and district health centres, old-age homes, educational institutions, and notified silence zones. These areas will be declared 'No-Cracker Zones' and appropriately marked and publicised.

Laying down detailed safeguards for manufacturers and traders, the Supreme Court directed that only manufacturers possessing valid certifications from CSIR-NEERI and PESO would be permitted to manufacture approved green crackers during the specified period. The top court also prohibited the manufacture and sale of firecrackers joined in series, commonly known as 'ladis', and garlands, reiterating that crackers containing barium or those not approved by CSIR-NEERI would not be permitted.

Further, each box must carry a product-specific QR code issued for the particular product and batch, displaying details of the manufacturer, NEERI registration, PESO/DM licence, formulation and test certificate. In a significant relief to traders, the Justice Sundresh-led Bench directed that licences of traders whose licences had been cancelled would be restored temporarily from November 4 to November 6 to facilitate the sale of approved green crackers procured from CSIR-NEERI-certified manufacturers.

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English Daily Hyderabad, Telangana

India targets 75 mn tonnes of maize production in next decade



Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Open Frame): The First International Maize Conference 2026 commenced on Monday at the JD Convention Centre in Hyderabad, bringing together leading scientists, policymakers, agricultural institutions and industry representatives to discuss strategies for advancing maize research, productivity and value-chain development. Held under the theme "Maize for Food, Feed, Fodder and Fuel for Sustainability in a Changing World (M4FS)," the conference highlighted the growing importance of maize in ensuring food, nutritional, feed, fodder and energy security. Discussions focused on developing high-yielding varieties and hybrids, improving nutritional quality, efficient resource utilisation, mechanisation and strengthening seed systems. Addressing the inaugural session, Dr. M. L. Jat, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), and Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), said India's maize productivity had increased significantly over the past decade, with production reaching approximately 55 million tonnes. He appreciated the contributions of maize researchers and called for sustained efforts to further enhance productivity. He set an ambitious target of increasing maize productivity by 1.5 times through technological innovations, improved crop management and efficient resource utilisation, while aiming to raise national production to 75 million tonnes over the next decade. Dr. Jat emphasised the need to expand the traditional 4F approach — Food, Feed, Fodder and Fuel — into a 5F framework by placing Farmers at its centre. He stressed that research and agricultural extension services must translate into higher farm profitability and improved livelihoods. He also advocated a systems-science approach to bridge yield gaps, particularly those arising from crop management practices. Strategic expansion of maize cultivation across different cropping seasons and agro-ecological zones was recommended, ensuring that other important crops, especially oilseeds and pulses, were not adversely affected. He further underlined the need for robust seed systems to ensure the availability of quality seeds, particularly public-sector hybrid seeds, at affordable prices. Dr. D. K. Yadav, Deputy Director General (Crop Science), ICAR, described maize as a critical crop for food, nutritional and energy security. Highlighting research achievements, he noted that 329 maize hybrids had been developed during the past five years. He called for strengthening the All India Coordinated Research Project on Maize (AICRP on Maize) and prioritising the development of high-yielding varieties with improved nutritional quality and greater resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses. He also emphasised efficient input utilisation, mechanisation, capacity building and enhanced public-sector hybrid seed production. Dr. Yadav further highlighted the potential of maize as a feedstock for ethanol production and stressed the importance of stronger collaboration among research institutions, universities and industry to harness emerging opportunities in the sector. Padma Shri Dr. S. Vasal, renowned maize scientist associated with CIMMYT and World Food Prize laureate, called for adopting simpler, cost-effective and result-oriented breeding approaches to accelerate the development of improved varieties and hybrids suited to farmers' requirements. Dr. R. S. Paroda, former Secretary, DARE, former Director General of ICAR and Padma Bhushan awardee, who attended as the Chief Guest, stressed the importance of aligning research priorities with the evolving needs of agriculture and allied sectors. He called for greater adoption of advanced varietal development technologies, systematic conservation and utilisation of genetic resources, and strengthening of maize value chains. He also emphasised effective control of aflatoxin contamination to ensure the safety and quality of maize used for food and feed. The conference is expected to provide an important platform for strengthening scientific collaboration, promoting innovation and developing farmer-oriented strategies to make India's maize sector more productive, sustainable and globally competitive.

TG to Launch AI-Powered Digital Market Yards



Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Open Frame): Telangana is preparing to introduce an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered digital market yard system for the first time in the country, aiming to bring greater transparency to agricultural trade and ensure fair prices for farmers.

State Agriculture, Marketing and Cooperation Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao directed officials to develop a comprehensive digital platform covering every stage of the agricultural marketing process, from a farmer's arrival at the market yard to the sale of produce and final payment.

The Minister made these directions during a review meeting with senior Marketing Department officials at the Secretariat on Monday, along with Minister D. Sridhar Babu. Under the proposed system, farmers' details will be registered digitally, and a unique identification number will be assigned to every produce lot. The platform will integrate crop quality testing (assaying), digital bidding, online auctions, price determination, farmers' approval, weighing, sales billing, market fee calculations and payments.

After the auction or tender process, the final price will be displayed on the system. An OTP will be sent to the farmer through the commission agent to obtain confirmation of the agreed price before proceeding with the sale.

Once the produce is weighed, the sales bill will be generated based on the recorded weight and agreed price. Market charges and payment details will also be recorded digitally. After completion of all formalities, e-receipts and e-permits will be issued through the gate-exit system.

AI Technology to Prevent Irregularities The Minister instructed officials to develop a Management Information System (MIS) to provide real-time information on agricultural arrivals, price trends, traders, commission agents and auction activities. Historical auction and transaction records should also be preserved for future analysis, inspections and verification. All stages of the process must be interconnected to ensure automatic data integration and accountability.

He directed officials to study digital market systems operating in different states and introduce a more advanced model in Telangana. The attendance and biometric records of Marketing Department employees should also be integrated into the platform.

Special measures must be taken for cleanliness and traffic regulation: MLA Sudheer Reddy

MLA Inspects Sulabh Complex Construction Works at Chintalakunta

LB Nagar, Nov 2 (Open Frame): LB Nagar MLA Devireddy Sudheer Reddy inspected the ongoing construction works of a newly established Sulabh Complex near the LPT Market Service Road at Chintalakunta, being developed for the convenience of commuters. He enquired with the officials about the progress of the construction work. Speaking on the occasion, the MLA instructed the officials to complete the construction of the Sulabh Complex at the bus stop being developed for the convenience of long-distance commuters at the earliest. He directed the concerned officials to ensure that the complex is cleaned twice every day, once in the morning and once in the evening, after its completion. He also emphasized the need to maintain proper sanitation and take necessary precautions to prevent foul smells in the surrounding areas so that the public would not face any inconvenience or lodge complaints. In view of the frequent traffic congestion on the Chintalakunta Service Road, the MLA called the local Traffic Inspector and discussed the issue.



He instructed the traffic officials to conduct special traffic drives during peak morning and evening hours to ensure smooth traffic movement and prevent inconvenience to motorists and commuters. Later, representatives of the nearby Sindhoor Enclave Colony met MLA Sudheer Reddy and requested him to provide a separate road for access to their colony. Responding positively to their request, the MLA assured them that he would discuss the issue with the concerned officials and take appropriate steps to resolve the problem.

116 Grievances Received in Prajavani



Ranga Reddy, Nov 2 (Open Frame): A total of 116 grievances were received during the Prajavani public grievance redressal programme held on Monday at the meeting hall of the Integrated District Offices Complex (IDOC) in Ranga Reddy district. Additional Collectors (Local Bodies) Kiranmayi and Chandra Reddy received petitions from the public and listened to their grievances. People from various parts of the district approached the officials and brought several public issues to their attention. Speaking on the occasion, Additional Collector Kiranmayi directed the district-level officials of concerned departments to examine the petitions submitted during Prajavani on priority and take immediate steps to resolve the issues. She instructed the officials to pay special attention to every petition received, ensure that grievances are not kept pending, and regularly review their status to facilitate timely redressal. She also stressed that officials must discharge their responsibilities effectively and ensure the delivery of better public services. Of the total 116 petitions received during Monday's programme, 67 were related to the Revenue Department, while the remaining 49 pertained to other departments. The officials forwarded the petitions to the respective departments and instructed them to take necessary action for their speedy resolution. District Revenue Officer Sharada Devi, district-level officers from various departments, Collectorate superintendents and other concerned officials participated in the programme.

Komatireddy Links IRC Conference to Telangana Investment Drive



Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Open Frame): Telangana Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has directed officials to organise the 85th Indian Roads Congress (IRC) conference as a major global platform to showcase Telangana's development, culture and investment opportunities. The Minister conducted an extensive review meeting with senior Roads and Buildings Department officials at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat on Monday, reviewing departmental development works and preparations for the IRC conference for nearly three-and-a-half hours.

The 85th Indian Roads Congress global conference will be held at HITEX, Hyderabad, from November 19 to 22. Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will jointly inaugurate the event on the morning of November 19. Several Union Ministers, Ministers from different states, senior officials, international delegates and experts from the engineering and infrastructure sectors are expected to attend. Komatireddy said the prestigious conference should not be restricted to technical discussions but should also serve as an international platform to highlight Telangana's infrastructure development and attract investments.

The Minister directed officials to establish a special Telangana Pavilion at the HITEX premises, alongside around 400 exhibition stalls. The pavilion should showcase Telangana's history, culture, traditions, arts, tourism destinations, major infrastructure projects and investment opportunities. He also instructed officials to organise cultural performances by Telangana artists for at least one hour every day during the four-day conference. Special souvenirs reflecting the state's cultural identity should be presented to delegates.

Arrangements should also be made for live streaming of important conference events. In coordination with the Tourism Department, special tour programmes should be organised to enable delegates to visit prominent temples, historical monuments and tourist destinations across Telangana. The Minister called for extensive publicity campaigns in Hyderabad, Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru. He instructed officials to install attractive hoardings and visual advertisements at airports, metro stations, railway stations, bus terminals and other major public transport locations.

He also stressed the effective use of print, electronic, digital and social media platforms to give the conference national and international visibility. Komatireddy said the 85th IRC conference should serve as a pre-summit event for the prestigious 'Invest Telangana Global Summit', scheduled to be organised in December at Bharat Future City under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. He asked officials to prepare a special action plan to introduce Telangana's investment potential, industrial-friendly environment, transport infrastructure and future development projects to Union Ministers, representatives of various states, international delegates, industrialists and investors attending the IRC conference.

The objective should be to attract more investments, industries and employment opportunities to the state through the conference.

During the meeting, the Minister reviewed the progress of various road construction works across Telangana and directed officials to complete all projects within the stipulated deadlines while maintaining quality standards. He instructed officials to accelerate HAM road projects and construction of major hospitals, particularly the Alwal TIMS Hospital and Warangal Super Speciality Hospital, and make them ready for public services within this year.

KTR bats for expanding IT and AI beyond Hyderabad



Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Open Frame): BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) said Artificial Intelligence (AI) would play a crucial role in shaping the future and stressed the need to expand its use across education, agriculture, industry and governance.

Speaking at the launch of the CampusHub AI product at the Sheraton Hotel in Nanakramguda, Hyderabad, KTR expressed happiness over the initiative launched by four young entrepreneurs from rural backgrounds. He described them as role models for society and urged youngsters to think big and achieve greater heights.

KTR said Telangana had given significant importance to the IT sector in the past, but the world was now entering the era of Artificial Intelligence. He stressed that society must adapt to changing technologies, particularly in the education sector. Describing AI as a tool that could benefit humanity rather than something to fear, he said technology should be used wherever necessary and should not be misused.

Recalling earlier initiatives, KTR said efforts had been made to bring AI-based innovations into agriculture. An AI-driven agricultural project was launched in a village in Sircilla district to help farmers gain better knowledge about crop cultivation. He also referred to the initiative titled Artificial Intelligence for Agriculture Innovation.

He pointed out that technology had evolved from landline telephones to smartphones and said AI would have a major role in the coming years, with driverless vehicles already becoming a reality. He added that Hyderabad need not be the only destination for IT companies, as rural areas could also attract technology businesses. He appreciated a young entrepreneur named Rakesh for establishing an IT company in Parkal.

KTR urged the government to encourage AI technology and said Telangana needed to expand the IT sector across the state. He also expressed confidence that the BRS would return to power in two years, adding that once the party forms the government, AI would be integrated into all government departments and given priority across sectors.

Kavitha calls for graduate voter registration extension



Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Open Frame): Telangana Rakshana Sena chief Kalvakuntla Kavitha met Telangana Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) C. Sudarshan Reddy at BRK Bhavan in Hyderabad and requested an extension of the deadline for voter registration for the upcoming Graduate MLC elections. Speaking to the media after the meeting, Kavitha said the voter registration deadline is currently scheduled for November 6 and urged the Election Commission to extend it until the filing of nominations.

She pointed out that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process is scheduled to continue until November 21 and requested that graduate voter registration also be extended accordingly. She said the CEO had responded positively to their request. Kavitha stated that the Graduate MLC elections are being held across the state's six erstwhile districts and that graduates, including members of Generation Z, should take the elections seriously and register as voters. She said graduates would consider the performance of the government and the conduct of opposition parties before casting their votes. She added that the elections provide an opportunity for new political parties like Telangana Rakshana Sena to present their agendas to the public.

Kavitha also raised the issue of Telangana Rakshana Sena's party registration, which is pending in Delhi. She requested the Telangana CEO to submit a report to the concerned authorities in Delhi highlighting the party's activities, organisational committees and efforts to compete with mainstream political parties. She further expressed concern over the requirement for graduates to re-register before every MLC election, stating that the process creates difficulties and increases expenses for candidates. Kavitha also alleged that large educational institutions were influencing the elections through their students, potentially affecting the fairness of the electoral process. She said the issue would be brought to the Election Commission's attention after the elections.

Indian Monsoon Shaped Climate, Ecology, Early Farming

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame): A new study has found that Indian Summer Monsoon fluctuations have, through the years, controlled lake hydrology, sediment transport, vegetation, sedimentary organic matter, microbial activity, and early farming adaptation in the Central Ganga Plain. This could help strengthen climate and agricultural adaptation, guide water security and wetland conservation, enhance disaster risk reduction and advance understanding of human-climate interactions.



Scientists have been trying to address the long-standing question of how past climatic extremes influenced the evolution of human societies in the Indian subcontinent. The rise and decline of the Indus Valley Civilization have been widely linked to changes in the Indian Summer Monsoon. However, much less is known about how later communities in the Central Ganga Plain responded to similar climatic fluctuations. As one of the major centres of agricultural expansion and cultural development after the decline of the Indus Valley Civilization, the Ganga Plain provides an ideal natural laboratory to investigate long-term climate–human interactions, as multiple migrations have been recorded during 4500-1000 cal yr BP in this region.

Scientists from Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences (BSIP), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), reconstructed 4600 years of climate and environmental history by tracing palaeo-environmental conditions using proxies such as stable isotopes, vegetation changes as well as archaeological and sedimentary records from Karela Lake, an oxbow lake in Hulas Khera near Lucknow in the Central Ganga Plain. Sediments of the lake preserve a record of Late Holocene environmental changes. Besides, the lake's proximity to the Hulas Khera archaeological site provided opportunity to investigate how ancient agricultural communities responded to changing climatic conditions.

The study helped restructure records of hydrology, sedimentary processes, vegetation dynamics, and manure-based agricultural practices with herbivore records. Moisture records during the Little Ice Age (LIA) through westerly winds further clarified the imprints of flooding in the region during the colder phase of the LIA.

The researchers also integrated AMS-based radiocarbon chronology, stable isotopes of C and N, grain-size analysis, end-member modelling, and palynology for a more comprehensive and reliable reconstruction of climate, vegetation dynamics, hydrogeological history, and human activities than previously achieved.

Puri Urges Youth to Build World-Class Indian Enterprises

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame):Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, delivered the Valedictory Address at the two day National Conference titled 'Pathways to Viksit Bharat: A Centenary Conclave', organized by Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), University of Delhi, at the Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi today. Addressing distinguished faculty members, economic experts, policymakers and students, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri reflected on the critical interplay between continuity and change in India's developmental journey. Commemorating SRCC's centenary year, the Minister emphasized how the institution founded during colonial rule, now



prepares young Indians to lead global enterprises and shape public policy in a nation of vastly expanded possibilities.

Invoking philosopher Alfred North Whitehead, Shri Puri remarked, "The task of a university is to weld together imagination and experience. An institution that sustains this exchange keeps renewing its intellectual life. That is how knowledge advances and how societies acquire the capacity to change." He urged students to leverage their academic training in commerce and economics to exercise critical judgment, question assumptions and transform practical challenges into productive enterprises.

The Governme t of India has approved the Samudra Manthan Scheme (National Offshore Exploration Scheme) with an outlay of 84,084 crore. This scheme aims to unlock India's vast offshore hydrocarbon potential and strengthen energy security. It focuses on accelerating exploration, deploying modern technology, creating shared infrastructure, and strengthening domestic manufacturing.

Polluting Industries in NCR Must Install PTZ Cameras by November 30

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame): The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) has strengthened the mechanism for remote monitoring of air-polluting industries in the National Capital Region (NCR) by extending the requirement for installation and operationalization of Pan-Tilt-Zoom (PTZ) cameras to all categories of industries covered under Statutory Direction No. 98. This will expand the scope of technology-enabled monitoring of fuel usage, industrial emissions and compliance with prescribed pollution-control measures. The Order supersedes the Commission's earlier Order dated 05.10.2026.



The Commission has directed that all 17 categories of highly polluting industries identified by CPCB, Red Category (Medium and Large) air-polluting industries, Food & Food Processing and Textile industries having boilers/ thermic fluid heaters, and Metal industries having furnaces, operating in NCR, shall ensure compliance with the following requirements:

All industrial units covered under this Order shall ensure installation and operationalization of the requisite PTZ cameras, including arrangements for real-time transmission of video feeds, by 30.11.2026. CPCB, in coordination with the respective SPCBs/ DPCC, shall ensure necessary technical arrangements, including designated portals, servers and associated infrastructure for receiving and accessing real-time video feeds from industries.

Over 2.5 lakh beneficiaries gain livelihood support under PM-AJAY

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame): Under the Adarsh Gram component of Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY) implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, over 47,200 villages benefiting more than 47.79 lakh citizens across the country, have been covered. In addition, a total of 46,944 development works have been completed, while 27,032 Village Development Plans (VDPs) have been prepared, under the PM AJAY.



A Senior Official in the Ministry said as on September 8, 2026, 18,093 villages had been declared Adarsh Grams which reflects continued efforts of the Ministry to improve infrastructure, basic services and the quality of life in Scheduled Caste-majority villages.

He said the Scheduled Caste-dominated villages are being developed as model villages by addressing critical gaps in infrastructure and essential services and an 'Adarsh Gram' is envisioned as a village where people have access to basic services, the minimum needs of all sections of society are met and disparities are reduced to a minimum. The Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY) implemented by the Ministry, is advancing the socio-economic and educational empowerment of Scheduled Caste communities through infrastructure development, livelihood promotion, education and improved access to basic services.

The Official informed that the Scheme has three components including development of Scheduled Caste-dominated villages into 'Adarsh Grams'.

DFS Holds Workshop on Bank Reservation Policy

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame): The Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, Government of India, convened a two-day workshop on the implementation of the Government of India's Reservation Policy in Public Sector Banks (PSBs), Public Sector Insurance Companies (PSICs), Sectoral Regulators and Public Financial Institutions (PFIs) on 15–16 October 2026 at the Punjab National Bank Staff Training College, Panchkula.

The workshop was organised in association with Punjab National Bank with the objective of strengthening institutional capacity to ensure the uniform and effective implementation of reservation policies and promote welfare measures across public financial institutions. The workshop was attended by over 100 participants, including senior Human Resource functionaries and CLOs/LOs from various organisations under DFS, including all Public Sector Banks, Public Sector Insurance Companies and Public Sector Financial Institutions, as well as representatives from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), and Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).

Functional experts on reservation matters addressed the workshop, and the deliberations included practical aspects and issues faced in the implementation of the reservation policy. The workshop concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, allowing participants.

BCCI announces revised schedule for IPL 2027 auction process

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame): The BCCI has given all ten IPL franchises two more days to submit their retention lists, as they moved the deadline to November 17. The 2027 IPL player auction will go ahead as planned on December 16 in Goa. understands that the BCCI informed all ten franchises of the two-day extension in an official communication on Monday. The original retention deadline of November 15 clashed with the fifth and final ODI between India and New Zealand at Bay Oval in Mount Maunganui.



It is understood that the clash with the men's ODI match would have affected the retention announcement and its subsequent coverage, and that prompted the board to move the deadline to November 17. The player registration for the IPL 2027 auction opened on Monday and will end on November 23.

It gives players worldwide three weeks to put their names forward for the auction. The entire process, from the opening of registration to the auction, will run for a little over six weeks. Interestingly, the auction day also clashes with an international fixture – India will host Sri Lanka in the second men's ODI at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. As of now, there's no sign of moving the auction date, or changing the date on which the ODI game in Bengaluru will happen. The remaining steps follow in quick succession – once registration closes, the auction register will be finalised on November 24.

Teams will have time until November 27, to put in requests for additional players, and allow them to ask for names not on the initial register to be added to the pool. Franchises must submit their player auction lists by December 1. The final auction list, along with the sets in which players will go under the hammer, is scheduled to be unveiled on December 3.

That leaves a gap of nearly two weeks between the release of the final player list and the auction itself on December 16 for teams to work out their respective strategies. Two trades have been completed so far ahead of the 2027 IPL mini auction. Delhi Capitals (DC) brought back their former captain, wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant, from Lucknow Super Giants (LSG), with left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav moving to Lucknow. DC also sent left-arm fast bowler T Natarajan back to 2016 winners Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) in exchange for leg-spinner Zeeshan Ansari.

The dates for the 2027 IPL season are yet to be confirmed. When the IPL announced the windows for three seasons in 2024, it earmarked March 14 to May 30 as the time to host the 2027 season. In September, after the BCCI's annual general meeting (AGM), board secretary Devajit Saikia indicated the tournament could get under way around the end of March.

The auction in Goa, which marks the event's return to India after three years, will be the last mini-auction of the current cycle, with a mega auction due before the 2028 season.

That will also coincide with the start of a new media rights cycle, with the BCCI yet to float the tender.

Lakshya Sen Wins Hylo Open Title, Completes Indian Singles Double

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame): Lakshya Sen clinched the men's singles title at the Hylo Open Super 500 badminton tournament after registering a commanding straight-game victory over Indonesia's Jonatan Christie in the final in Saarbrücken, Germany, on Sunday, completing a memorable double for India.

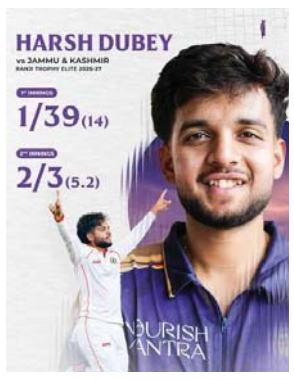


The Indian shuttler, who was the runner-up at the All England Championships earlier this year, beat Christie 21-17, 21-10 in the final to claim the gold and complete the set with compatriot PV Sindhu, who had earlier bagged the women's singles title. Champion at the Commonwealth Games in 2022, Lakshya had lost three of his four previous meetings against Christie but was confident to beat the Indonesian – whom he had beaten at the Paris Olympics – in the main draw.

The Indian came out all guns blazing in the first game, building up an 8-4 lead early on. Christie narrowed the gap to 9-8, but Lakshya took the lead again in the rally by a generous net cord. The Indian soon found his rhythm, with his big smashes and deft strokes winning him the rallies as he led 16-10 and then moved to 18-12. Christie's service error then gave Lakshya three game points, and he took the first as the Indonesian netted. Lakshya maintained the streak in the second game, taking a healthy 6-3 lead and leading all along with a flat exchange to reach the interval, four points clear. Christie increased the ante once the players had changed sides, moving to 16-9 while Christie still looked to make an impression on the tie.

Harsh Dubey Creates Ranji History with Record 9-Wicket Haul

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame): Left-arm spinner Harsh Dubey created history on Monday by claiming a remarkable 9-53 to bowl out Madhya Pradesh for 209 on the opening day of their Ranji Trophy match at the VCA Stadium in Jamtha. Dubey became the first Vidarbha bowler to take nine wickets in a Ranji Trophy innings. The previous best figures for the side were Arun Ogiral's 8-39 in the 1967-68 season, which ironically came against Madhya Pradesh. Dubey is now the 30th bowler overall to claim nine or more wickets in a Ranji Trophy innings.



Vidarbha all-rounder Nachiket Bhute provided the first breakthrough by dismissing opener Yash Dubey. Thereafter, Harsh took charge, opening his account in the 17th over and continuing to chip away at the opposition batting lineup. Madhya Pradesh were reduced to 64/5 in the 29th over. Atharva Mahajan and Saransh Jain offered resistance with a 72-run partnership that lasted nearly 18 overs. However, Dubey returned to break the stand, and the lower order soon folded. The previous nine-wicket haul in the Ranji Trophy came from Gujarat's left-arm spinner Siddharth Desai, who claimed 9-36 against Uttarakhand in the 2024-25 season.

Monday's performance capped an impressive year for Dubey. He made his ODI debut against Afghanistan in June, taking four wickets in two matches. He subsequently toured Sri Lanka with India A, claiming three wickets and scoring 59 runs across two innings. Representing Central Zone in the Duleep Trophy, he took eight wickets and scored 27 and 24 against East Zone. He has continued his impressive form in the 2026-27 Ranji Trophy season, taking 23 wickets in seven innings so far. Elsewhere, Karnataka's Ritesh Bhatkal (5-35) and Shikhar Shetty (5-53) shared 10 wickets to bowl out Assam for 135 inside 49 overs in Guwahati.

Harmanpreet Hat-Trick Powers India to Fourth Straight Asian Champions Trophy Win

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Open Frame): Captain Harmanpreet Singh scored a hat-trick as India defeated Malaysia 4-2, registering their fourth successive win in the Asian Champions Trophy 2026 at the Olympian Surjit Singh Hockey Stadium in Jalandhar on Sunday. The Indian skipper (3 , 33 , 58) scored twice from penalty corners before converting a penalty stroke, while Sukhjeet Singh (43) added the fourth goal. Akhimullah Anuar (25) and Shello Silverius (60) scored for Malaysia. Harmanpreet was named 'Player of the Match' for his match-winning show.



The contest was a repeat of the Asian Games 2026 gold-medal match, where India beat Malaysia 5-1 to successfully defend their title. Both teams had won their first three matches in Jalandhar and came into Sunday's fixture unbeaten.

India started quickly and won a penalty corner in the third minute, with Harmanpreet converting a variation involving Jugraj Singh to put the hosts in the lead. Malaysia responded with attacks of their own, but Aditya Arjun Lalage intercepted a dangerous pass intended for Anuar. Hardik Singh then produced a fine run past Shafiq Hassan, but Mandeep Singh and Sukhjeet could not convert the chance.

Malaysia put India under pressure in the second quarter and won their first penalty corner in the 18th minute after Fitri Saari was fouled by Harmanpreet. Rajinder blocked Azimuddin Kamaruddin's first attempt, while goalkeeper Krishan Bahadur Pathak saved the following shot. India won a penalty corner in the 21st minute after Aditya was brought down, but Aminul Azhar blocked it. Harmanpreet's attempt on the reaward struck the crossbar.

Malaysia then earned a series of penalty corners, with Amit Rohidas making two important blocks as the first rusher before Pathak saved the next attempt. The visitors equalised in the 25th minute when Anuar converted a penalty corner. The teams went into the break level at 1-1. India raised the tempo after the change of ends and regained the lead in the 33rd minute. Harmanpreet once again converted a penalty corner.

OPEN FRAME
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Chiranjeevi Raises Artists' Rights, Deepfake Threat with Amit Shah



Megastar Chiranjeevi, who recently voiced his concerns on X over degrading and morphed videos targeting artists, has taken the issue forward by meeting Honorable Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah Ji today in Hyderabad. Mega Powerstar Ram Charan accompanied Chiranjeevi Garu and also met the union Home minister. Chiranjeevi sought the appointment to personally explain the misuse of artificial intelligence and deepfake technologies, highlighting the serious threat they pose to artists' rights, dignity and creative content. Taking his concerns beyond social media, he sought stronger safeguards and strict action against such misuse on behalf of the film fraternity.

Shri Amit Shah heard the concerns with understanding and assured Chiranjeevi that the Government would examine the matter urgently and work towards stronger safeguards and strict penalties. He advised the submission of a written representation and entrusted Shri G. Kishan Reddy Garu with coordinating the matter.

Expressing gratitude for the Union Home Minister's response, Chiranjeevi described the assurance as an encouraging step for the film fraternity and expressed hope that it would lead to meaningful protections soon. Megastar Chiranjeevi meets Union Home Minister Amit Shah and urges him to curb AI misuse and deepfakes Megastar Chiranjeevi, who recently expressed his concern on the creation of obscene and morphed videos targeting artists, has taken another key step on this issue. Today, he met the Honorable Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah in Hyderabad and explained the issues of AI misuse and deepfakes. Along with Chiranjeevi, Ram Charan also participated in this meeting.

Chiranjeevi requested an appointment for this meeting to personally explain the misuse of artificial intelligence and deepfake technologies. He explained that the misuse of these technologies is becoming a threat to the rights, dignity and creative content of artists. He urged the film industry to implement stronger safeguards and stricter punishments to curb such misuse, rather than limiting this issue to social media platforms.

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, who positively understood Chiranjeevi's concerns, assured that the government would look into this matter urgently and work towards implementing stronger protective measures and stricter punishments. He suggested that a written representation be submitted on this matter and entrusted the responsibility of coordinating this matter to Shri G. Kishan Reddy.

Chiranjeevi thanked the union Home minister for his response and described his assurance as a key step in encouraging the film industry. He expressed hope that this issue will be resolved soon and artists will be provided with adequate protection.

Chiranjeevi's meeting comes amid growing concerns within the film industry over the misuse of AI tools to create misleading, obscene and manipulated content featuring actors and other public figures. Such digitally altered videos can damage reputations, violate personal dignity and raise serious questions about consent, copyright and the protection of an individual's identity. The issue has prompted calls from members of the film fraternity for a stronger legal and regulatory framework to address deepfake content, ensure swift removal of objectionable material and hold those responsible accountable.

Venkatesh's 'Adarsha Kutumbak' Crosses 50 Crore Worldwide in Three Days



Victory Venkatesh and wordsmith Trivikram Srinivas' 'Adarsha Kutumbak' (AK 47) has had a great start at the box office. The film, which hit the screens on October 30, has crossed the Rs 50 crore mark worldwide in its first weekend and has recorded excellent collections. The collections are being recorded heavily due to the positive response from the audience.

According to the details revealed by the leading film collection analysis company SACNILK, the film has collected Rs 50.95 crore gross worldwide in the first three days. Of this, Rs 36.85 crore gross (Rs 31.40 crore net collection) was in India, while Rs 14.10 crore gross collections were received abroad. Theaters in Telugu states are bustling with audiences with positive talk. Produced by S. Radhakrishna under the banner of Haarika and Hassine Creations, the film has music by Thaman. Srinidhi Shetty played the female lead opposite Venkatesh, while Nara Rohit, Nivetha Pethuraj and Satya appeared in key roles. The film has an interesting storyline about how a middle-class family's life takes a turn after winning the Rs. 100 crore lottery. The film's strong opening weekend performance has added to the excitement among fans and trade circles, with its family-oriented storyline, entertaining performances and Venkatesh's screen presence contributing to the positive audience response.

The film's performance marks a strong opening for Venkatesh and Trivikram's collaboration, with audiences responding positively to its blend of family emotions and comedy. Trade observers will be watching its weekday collections to see whether it can maintain the momentum and extend its successful run at the box office.

Delhi Court summons Nora Fatehi again in 200-crore extortion case



A Delhi court has summoned actor Nora Fatehi once again as a witness on November 6 in the Rs 200-crore extortion case involving alleged conman Sukesh Chandrasekhar.

Additional Sessions Judge Gagandeep Singh issued fresh summons to the actor while expressing displeasure over her non-appearance. During the proceedings, Nora Fatehi's counsel requested an exemption from her appearance on Monday. "This cannot be taken lightly... As a witness, you should have appeared in court; your conduct is not proper, don't take the court for granted...," the judge said.

The Delhi Police informed the court that it had no confirmation about Nora Fatehi's appearance. They stated that the notice had been served to her on October 22 via email and WhatsApp, and that phone calls had also been made, but there was no response from her. On October 16, the court said, "Issue summons to Nora Fatehi alias Naura Fatehi (Listed Witness or LW 3 in 3rd Supplementary chargesheet for the said date (of November 2)." Individual witnesses are initially numbered as LWs and become prosecution witnesses (PWs) after appearing in court.

The case against Chandrasekhar is being investigated by the Delhi Police Special Cell. A court had earlier framed charges against Chandrasekhar, his wife Leena Paulose and others under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) Sections 170 (personating a public servant), 384 (punishment for extortion) and 386 (extortion by putting a person in fear of death or grievous hurt). Additionally, charges had also been framed under provisions of MCOCA, or the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act, 1999, a law enacted to combat organised crime syndicates and terrorism.

The Act equips authorities with special powers to track, intercept and penalise gang-related criminal activities that normal penal codes fail to deter. The matter is presently at the stage of the prosecution submitting its evidence. The police chargesheet had earlier mentioned recording the statements of several people, including Bollywood actors Jacqueline Fernandez and Fatehi.

Police allege that Chandrasekhar and his associates reportedly took money from Fortis Healthcare promoter Shivinder Mohan Singh's wife, Aditi Singh, after posing as government officials and promising to secure bail for her husband, who was in jail in a money laundering case. According to police, Chandrasekhar allegedly persuaded Aditi to transfer money by impersonating a central government official over a spoof call while he was lodged in Rohini jail and promised to manage bail for her husband.

Kartik Aaryan Reunites with Vidya Balan, Rajpal Yadav to Celebrate Two Years of 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3'



Celebrating two years of the horror-comedy blockbuster 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3', actor Kartik Aaryan reunited with the original Manjulika, Vidya Balan, and Chota Pandit, Rajpal Yadav, in a fun-filled video shared on social media on Sunday.

Taking to his official Instagram handle, Kartik, who plays Rooh Baba in the franchise, shared a video featuring the trio at a gas station, bringing back memories of the popular film. The clip opens with Kartik, dressed in his Rooh Baba avatar, tapping his feet to a peppy number. Vidya Balan then joins him in her iconic Manjulika look, followed by Rajpal Yadav, who appears in his Chota Pandit avatar after stepping out of a car.

Sharing the video, Kartik wrote, "RoohBaba X Manjulika X Chota-Pandit Reunion at the gas station. 2 years of #BhoolBhulaiyaa3 madness." He also added a humorous comment in the comments section, revealing, "Chota pandit left the AC on." The reunion quickly caught the attention of fans, who flooded the comments section with nostalgic messages and appreciation for the trio.

One user commented, "RoohBaba is not a character, it's an emotion! Two years and the madness is still alive!" Another wrote, "RoohBaba never fails to steal the spotlight!" Several fans also interpreted the reunion as a possible hint about the fourth instalment of the franchise, with one commenting, "This reunion deserves a whole movie of its own! Waiting for BB4." Another fan speculated, "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 4 k shoot k liye meet up hogya guyzzz." Directed by Anees Bazmee and written by Aakash Kaushik, 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3' was jointly produced by T-Series Films and Cine1 Studios. The third instalment features Kartik Aaryan, Vidya Balan, Madhuri Dixit and Triptii Dimri in prominent roles. The film revolves around Ruhaan Randhawa, popularly known as Rooh Baba, a self-proclaimed ghostbuster who finds himself in a haunted palace where a decades-old legend surrounding the spirit of Manjulika resurfaces. The 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa' franchise began with Akshay Kumar's film in 2007, followed by 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2' in 2022, starring Kartik Aaryan. The third instalment was released in 2024.

Athawale, Rane Slam Dia Mirza Over Diwali Campaign



Union Minister Ramdas Athawale and Maharashtra minister Nitesh Rane on Monday hit out at actor Dia Mirza over her video for the BMC's eco-friendly Diwali campaign, alleging that Hindu festivals were being selectively targeted in the name of environmental protection. Mirza's video advocating for pollution-free festivities has sparked controversy after the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) removed her clip from its social media handles following objections from BJP Mumbai chief Ameet Satam. While Mirza's clip was removed on Sunday, campaign videos featuring actors Madhuri Dixit and Nishigandha Wad, as well as cricketer Ajinkya Rahane, have been retained on the BMC's X and Instagram pages. Speaking to reporters, Rane questioned whether celebrations of Hindu festivals of Diwali and Holi alone caused environmental damage, and claimed that similar concerns were not raised during other religious occasions. "No concerns are raised when animals are harmed during Muharram or Eid. During Ramzan, filth is spread everywhere, but nobody says anything. They only find Hindu festivals to lecture us about environmental protection," he remarked. The BJP minister also said he would raise the issue with Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis if the BMC is encouraging people like Mirza to make such suggestions. The civic body took down Mirza's clip hours after Mumbai BJP chief Satam objected to it in a post on X, tagging the BMC's official account.

"We don't need lessons on how to celebrate #Diwali from @deespeak. Our traditions are deeply rooted in our culture," the BJP leader wrote.

The BMC's post accompanying Mirza's video stated that in accordance with the Bombay High Court's directives, bursting firecrackers on public roads, lanes and footpaths was strictly prohibited.

Union Minister Athawale said that Diwali celebrations would lose their significance without firecrackers, while stressing that pollution should also be avoided. "There will be no meaning to Diwali if people do not burst firecrackers. There should not be any pollution. It was inappropriate for Dia Mirza to issue such statements and hurt the sentiments of Hindus," he told reporters. The controversy has triggered a wider debate over the balance between environmental concerns and religious traditions, with political leaders questioning the BMC's decision to remove Mirza's video while retaining other campaign messages.

TV Actor Anuj Thakur Dies at 33 After Suffering Seizure in Sleep



Actor Anuj Thakur, who has featured in television shows such as "Dhoom Machao Dhoom", "Bandhan Saath Janmon Ka" and "Mahisagar", among others, died after suffering a seizure during sleep. Rupesh Sonar, the casting director and his friend shared the news with a post on Instagram handle on Saturday and said the late actor was like his brother. "Still can't believe that you are no longer with us. You were not just a friend but like a little brother to me. We had so many projects planned together, and I still remember witnessing your struggles during your initial days and seeing your journey," read the caption. "Life is truly unpredictable. It is heartbreaking to accept that you are gone so soon. This news feels unreal. You will always be remembered, brother. Rest in peace," he added. The actor died on October 27. He was 33.

Sonar detailed the incident in an interview with The Times of India and said he got to know the actor in 2008. The director said he got the news on Saturday after meeting the actor's mother and brother. Thakur followed a routine and would get up at 4:30 every morning.

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