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# From 'chhota bhai' to big brother: Amit Shah

## Says Akali Dal will lead Punjab alliance, keep CM post

New Delhi, Nov 24 (Open Frame) The BJP and the Shiromani Akali Dal today announced a pre-poll alliance for the 2027 Punjab Assembly elections, with the Akalis returning to the NDA fold six years after walking out over the farm laws.

Leaders of both parties termed the alliance, announced on the 557th Parkash Purb of Guru Nanak Dev, as "natural and emotional, rather than political". Union Home Minister Amit Shah made a formal announcement of the pact at a joint press conference alongside Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal, BJP chief Nitin Nabin, BJP state president Kewal Dhillon, and former state BJP chiefs Sunil Jakhar and Ashwani Sharma.

Months after publicly stating that the BJP would not play "chhota bhai" (younger partner) to the SAD, Shah today endorsed the Akali Dal as the senior partner in the alliance and said the chief minister's post would go to the Akalis if the NDA formed the government. "The SAD and the BJP will contest all 117 seats together in Punjab. The Akali Dal will be in the role of the elder brother," Shah said, adding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was "overjoyed" when told yesterday that the pact had been sealed and he called up both Sukhbir and Nabin to congratulate them.



Amit Shah, Nitin Nabin, Sukhbir Singh Badal and other leaders announce the revival of the BJP-SAD alliance in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Answering a pointed query from as to who would be the CM face of the alliance, Shah said, "The elder brother is the one who gets the chief minister's post." The Home Minister said that with the return of the oldest ally, the NDA was now complete and the alliance was a move towards "Hindu-Sikh unity". PM Modi, who is set to address the first NDA rally in Moga on December 8 (Parkash Singh Badal's birth anniversary), framed the development as a move to place Punjab first.

"Putting Punjab and the welfare of Punjabis first! I am extremely delighted that the Shiromani Akali Dal returns to the NDA family and that too on the Parkash Purb of Sri Guru Nanak Dev ji. Ours is a natural alliance that will ensure Punjab gets pro-people governance that takes the state to new heights of progress," Modi said. He remembered LK Advani, late Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Parkash Singh Badal who nurtured the BJP-SAD alliance and said this pact had "stood the test of time". "I am confident that our alliance will emerge as the preferred choice of the people of Punjab," the PM said.

***The BJP and Shiromani Akali Dal have announced an alliance for the 2027 Punjab Assembly elections, ending a six-year break. Amit Shah said the parties would contest all 117 seats together, with the SAD as senior partner and its leader likely to become Chief Minister if the alliance wins. Seat-sharing details will be announced later.***

Sukhbir remembered his father who would say the BJP-SAD alliance had a "nau-maas ka rishta (a relationship of nail and flesh)". "My father used to say that every time BJP and Akalis come together, Punjab witnesses peace, harmony and development. This alliance mirrors the sentiments of the people of Punjab and is important to save the state which has collapsed on every front. People want a double-engine government," Sukhbir said, adding that the AAP tally won't touch double digits because of the "hatred people had for it".

# HAL-L&T PSLV to fly in early 2027

New Delhi, Nov 24 (Open Frame): The first Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) to be fully built by Indian industry is expected to be launched in the first quarter of 2027, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman V. Narayanan said on Tuesday.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the India International Space Conclave in the national capital, Narayanan said the PSLV is being manufactured by a consortium of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) and Larsen & Toubro (L&T) under a contract awarded by NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), ISRO's commercial arm. "Earlier it was built only by ISRO through the support of the industry, but now the L&T and HAL consortium has been given five PSLVs and the rocket is getting ready. The first launch is expected next year in the first quarter," he said. The consortium is producing five PSLV rockets under a contract worth Rs 860 crore awarded by NSIL.



The move is part of the government's broader strategy to transfer launch vehicle production to industry and enhance private-sector participation in the space ecosystem. Often referred to as ISRO's "workhorse", the PSLV is an expendable medium-lift launch vehicle weighing around 320 tonnes. Since its first flight in 1993, the rocket has established a strong reliability record and has been used extensively for launching Indian and foreign satellites.

# India warns UN of food crisis from Ukraine war




New Delhi, Nov 24 (Open Frame): India on Tuesday warned that the Russia-Ukraine war could cause food shortage in countries far from the conflict zone, recalling the 1943 Bengal famine that killed over three million people as a reminder of how wars can affect people far beyond the battlefield.

Addressing a UN Security Council briefing, India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish, drew a parallel between the wartime suffering of millions in India during World War 2 and the present disruption of global food, fuel and fertiliser supplies caused by the Russia-Ukraine conflict. "This current situation is not different from the time of the second World War when peoples not responsible for the start of the conflict became their unintended collateral damage." Harish said.

The envoy cautioned that countries which had no role in starting a war often ended up bearing its worst consequences. "The current situation is not different from the time of the Second World War when peoples not responsible for the start of the conflict became their unintended collateral damage," he said.

Referring to the Bengal famine of 1943, he said it was a stark reminder of the human cost of distant conflicts driven by unchecked wartime priorities and calculations. India's intervention came during a high-level briefing on protecting critical energy infrastructure and Black Sea routes that are vital to global food supplies, under the agenda item on maintaining peace and security in Ukraine. Pointing to the importance of the Black Sea region for global food security, Harish said Russia and Ukraine together accounted for nearly a quarter of worldwide wheat, maize and barley exports. The Black Sea region and India, he added, together accounted for almost a fifth of global cereal production.

# Vaibhav Suryavanshi Opens Up on Record-Breaking Double Ton

Doha, Nov 24 (Open Frame): The havoc created by 15-year-old Suryavanshi in the match against the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as part of the ACC Men's Asia Cup Rising Stars 2026 tournament stunned the cricket world. He scored a record-breaking double century in just 52 balls to give India a memorable seven-wicket victory. In the process, the teenager broke several world records. After receiving the Player of the Match award after the match, Vaibhav Suryavanshi spoke. He recalled that despite getting good starts in the previous two matches, he could not convert them into big innings. That is why he said that he wanted to take some time and play consistently in the match against the UAE. He clarified that he showed his natural aggression only after realizing that the bowlers were not getting any support from the pitch.




"In the last two matches, I couldn't score big scores even after getting into the crease. That's why this time I wanted to take some time and play consistently. But after facing one or two balls, I realized that the bowlers were not getting much support from the pitch. With this, I trusted my strength and played shots with natural aggression," explained Vaibhav. He said that he swung the bat freely only when the conditions turned completely in his favor. "I didn't have any complicated thoughts in my mind. I thought that if I got a wicket and helped the bowlers.

# India Shifts From Technology Consumer to Creator: Scindia

New Delhi, Nov 24 (UNI): Union Minister for Communications Jyotiraditya M. Scindia said on Tuesday that over the last decade India has moved from "being a consumer of technology to becoming a creator of technology" with the telecom sector being the most profound example of this achievement.



Addressing the Telecom Startups and MSME Conclave 2026 here, the minister said, "Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, today India has risen as the 4th largest economy and market in the world. From a country that had only a few hundred startups in 2014, India has now gone beyond 2,00,000 startups." "The telecom sector is the most profound example of India becoming a creator of technology due to the volume of testing technology. From a country that only had 25 crore internet connections to now 110 crore internet connections, from 6 crore broadband connections to 104 crore broadband connections. We are the only telecom network market in the world that is growing at double-digit numbers," he added.

The Conclave also featured 11 exhibition stalls set up by startups and MSMEs, providing them an opportunity to showcase their innovative indigenous products, technologies and solutions to policymakers.

# Nikesh Arora Meets PM Modi, Praises His Technology Vision

New Delhi, Nov 24 (Open Frame): Nikesh Arora, Chairman and CEO of US-based cybersecurity company Palo Alto Networks, on Tuesday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying he is amazed by PM Modi's grasp of technology and his clarity of vision on how he sees the optimistic side of it.



In a post on social media platform X, Arora said he "had the pleasure of having a conversation with the Honorable PM Narendra Modi". "I am consistently amazed by his grasp of technology and his clarity of vision on how he sees the optimistic side of it. The boundless possibilities of AI and how it is likely to benefit the masses. Be it education, healthcare or ensuring that friction can be removed for doing business in India," the Indian-origin tech leader mentioned. Arora further stated that PM Modi "was, of course, keen to understand how it can be diffused safely and securely and what dangers it poses in the hands of bad actors. Both Palo Alto Networks and I look forward to contributing positively to his vision". Arora, Chairman and chief executive of Palo Alto Networks since 2018, is a former senior vice president and chief business officer of Google, and a former president and chief operating officer of SoftBank Group. During his tenure of eight years, he has led the company through a major transformation to become the global leader in AI and cybersecurity, and the security partner of choice for enterprise organizations and governments around the world.

His career also includes serving as chief marketing officer for the T-Mobile International Division of Deutsche Telekom AG, and chief executive officer and founder of T-Motion PLC, which merged with T-Mobile International in 2002, according to his company's website. Arora also serves on the board of Uber Technologies, Inc., and as a non-executive director of Compagnie Financiere Richemont S.A., a public Switzerland-based luxury goods holding company.

# Doval, Maldives Defence Minister discuss security cooperation

New Delhi, Nov 24 (Open Frame): National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval on Tuesday met Maldives' Minister of Defence and National Service Hassan Rasheed on the sidelines of the eighth Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) NSA-level meeting and discussed ways to strengthen defence and security cooperation between the two countries, the High Commission of India in the Maldives said. "H.E. Ajit Doval, NSA of India, met H.E. Hassan Rasheed, Minister of Defence and National Service, Maldives, on the sidelines of the 8th Colombo Security Conclave NSA meeting and discussed ways to strengthen defence and security cooperation between the two countries," the High Commission posted on X.



The Maldives' Ministry of Defence and National Security said the meeting reaffirmed both sides' commitment to strengthening their defence partnership.

"The Minister of Defence and National Service, Hon. Hassan Rasheed, received a courtesy call from H.E. Ajit Doval, National Security Advisor of India. The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange views on matters of mutual interest and reaffirm the commitment to further strengthening the longstanding partnership and defence cooperation between the Maldives and India," the ministry posted on X. On September 30, the ninth Deputy NSA-level meeting of the CSC was hosted virtually by India, where the member states reiterated their resolve to further strengthen cooperation on vital matters of security in the Indian Ocean Region.

The officials of the member states reviewed the decisions taken at the seventh NSA-level meeting of the CSC held in New Delhi on November 20, 2025. They also reviewed the Roadmap for Cooperation and Activities (2025-2026) and expressed satisfaction over the substantial progress made by member states in organising training and capacity-building events cutting across the five pillars of cooperation.

# Bangladesh says Sheikh Hasina can return only as prisoner

Dhaka, Nov 24 (UNI): Bangladesh's State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Humaiun Kobir, on Tuesday said that former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina would have to return to the country in handcuffs as a prisoner if she wished to come back on December 16.

Kobir made the remarks while responding to questions from journalists after briefing foreign diplomats at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Dhaka on Tuesday. Hasina, who is currently living in exile in India, reportedly wishes to return to Dhaka aboard a state aircraft on December 16, a day celebrated as Victory Day marking Bangladesh's liberation from Pakistan. "This news may be shown and shown by paying money. But we have to distinguish between reality and desire. The reality is that terrorists will be brought back to the country only to face justice. Some may have a wish, some may have nightmares while lying in their bedroom, that they are coming to the airport, boarding a train. But they are not ordinary passengers. They can only be brought back to the country in handcuffs or to face justice. That is the point," Bangladesh's leading Bengali daily 'Prothom Alo' quoted Kobir as saying while responding to a question about media reports on Hasina's planned return. Bangladesh Prime Minister's Advisor on Information and Broadcasting, Zahed Ur Rahman, also ruled out any direct discussions with Hasina over her return, saying discussions on the matter would be held with India.



"Whether Sheikh Hasina will come or not is not a matter to be discussed with her. The discussion will be with India. A serious criminal is in India along with her associates. She has been convicted. So, whether she will come or not, whether she will travel on Biman Bangladesh Airlines or their aircraft, or come on foot, and how she will be handed over these matters will be discussed with India," Prothom Alo quoted Rahman as saying. Earlier this month, Hasina asserted that the risk of being arrested, imprisoned or killed would not deter her from returning to Bangladesh, saying she would rather die in her homeland than remain away from her people.

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# Revanth Reddy directs officials to speed up urban development works

Hyderabad, Nov 24 (Open Frame): Chief Minister Mr. A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to accelerate various development works currently underway under the Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department. After reviewing the progress of these initiatives, the Chief Minister provided clear instructions to the officials regarding the respective projects. The Chief Minister held a review meeting with senior officials on municipal affairs and urban development at the Bodhi Pavilion, located within the MCRHRD (Marri Channa Reddy Human Resource Development Institute) campus.

The Chief Minister inquired about the progress of the Musi River Rejuvenation project and the development of radial roads. Officials explained that, as part of Phase-1 of the Musi Rejuvenation project, the work has been divided into two zones: Zone-1A, covering a 9.20 km stretch from Himayat Sagar to Gandhi Sarovar, and Zone-1B, covering an 11.8 km stretch from Osman Sagar to Gandhi Sarovar.

Officials stated that preparations are underway to commence Phase-1 works by January 2027, and noted that the tender process for this phase has already been initiated. The Chief Minister also inquired about the progress of the development works at Mir Alam Tank. Officials informed him that the project is targeted for completion by January 2028. The Chief Minister further directed that, alongside the general development of the tank, the long-accumulated silt must be removed. The Chief Minister directed that the construction of radial roads be accelerated. He inquired about the progress of land acquisition for these roads.

He also instructed that the construction of the modern *Goshala* (cow shelter)



at Gandipet be expedited to ensure its completion by March 2027. Officials briefed the Chief Minister on the techno-economic feasibility of Phase-1 of the Personal Rapid Transit System (PRTS) in Hyderabad, as well as the viability of the proposed alignment from Kukatpally through Raidurg to Biodiversity.

Officials presented proposals for an alignment stretching from the Begumpet Metro Station, passing through the Secretariat and Bashirbagh, up to Ranigunj. In this context, the Chief Minister suggested identifying suitable locations for PRTS depots—specifically around Necklace Road, Raidurg, and People's Plaza—and conducting a feasibility study for these sites.

The Chief Minister directed that preliminary plans be prepared to incorporate multi-level parking facilities in the vicinity of the depots. He further instructed that comprehensive plans be finalized only after a thorough study of the routes, depot construction, and other related aspects. The Chief Minister reviewed the designs for a foot-over-bridge at the IIIT junction (within the Cyberabad Commissionerate limits) and offered several suggestions. He specifically emphasized the need to establish a multi-level car parking facility in the vicinity of the foot-over-bridge.

It was emphasized that the pace of development work for the Integrated Fruit Market being constructed in Koheda must be accelerated, and that there should be no compromise on quality. Instructions were given to ensure that the construction of roads—to provide better transport connectivity—is completed in tandem with the market development works.

The HYDRAA Commissioner presented proposals for the installation of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) at necessary locations as part of the restoration of lakes within the HYDRAA jurisdiction. The Chief Minister also directed that appropriate measures be taken for the restoration of stepwells across the city.

The review meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju, officials from the Chief Minister's Office, the Commissioners of HMDA, HYDRAA, GHMC, CMC, MMC, and FCDA, the Managing Directors of HMWSSB, MRDCL, and HGCL, the Ranga Reddy District Collector, and other senior officials.

# Kavya unveils book on social reformer Raghava Rao




Warangal, Nov 24 (Open Frame): Warangal MP Dr. Kadiyam Kavya said that the life and legacy of Pendiyala Raghava Rao, who dedicated his life to the upliftment of marginalised communities, education and social equality, continue to inspire future generations. She was speaking after unveiling The Forgotten Maverick – A Biographical Fiction, authored by Manu Nellutla, at a programme held at Somajiguda Press Club in Hyderabad. Recalling his contributions during the Nizam's rule, she said Raghava Rao fought caste discrimination and worked to provide education and social dignity to Dalits by establishing schools, colleges and community libraries. Despite facing strong opposition from society and his own family, he remained committed to social reform. His election victory after filing his nomination from prison and his membership in the first Lok Sabha reflected his determination and public support, she added.

Dr. Kavya said Raghava Rao believed that social transformation should begin at home and took initiatives to promote women's education by teaching his widowed sister and ensuring that his wife continued her education after marriage. She observed that the opportunities available to women today were the result of the contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and several other social reformers. Appreciating the Pendiyala family for preserving historical documents and sharing them with the author, she praised Manu Nellutla for presenting Raghava Rao as an ordinary human being whose extraordinary efforts brought social change. Sharing her own journey from a poor Dalit family with no land or property to becoming a Member of Parliament, she said the constitutional rights provided by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had made such progress possible. She also acknowledged the influence of her father, Kadiyam Srihari, whose nearly four-decade political journey and commitment to the rights of the poor, weaker sections, women and minorities had inspired her.

Emphasising the importance of lifelong learning, Dr. Kavya said people should never stop reading and acquiring knowledge, as continuous learning and commitment to social welfare make life meaningful. She stressed that several inequalities still existed and that equal opportunities must be ensured for disadvantaged communities. Press Academy Chairman K. Srinivas Reddy, Telugu Academy Chairman Kurapati Venkat Narayana, Kaloji Award recipient Nellutla Ramadevi, attended the programme.

# Invest Telangana Summit to further elevate Telangana's brand image, says Minister



Hyderabad, Nov 24 (Open Frame): Telangana's Minister for Information Technology and Industries, Duddilla Sridhar Babu, said on Tuesday that 'Invest Telangana Global Summit-2026' is being organised to further elevate the state's brand image on an international scale.

The Minister conducted an on-site inspection of the arrangements for the summit which is scheduled to be held from December 7 to 9 at the Young India Skills University campus within the 'Bharat Future City' project.

Following the inspection, he held a high-level review meeting with the concerned officials. Sridhar Babu said it was the state government's firm resolve to attract substantial investments to the state and create large-scale employment opportunities for the local youth.

The state government intends to utilise the Global Summit as a pivotal platform for this purpose, he added.

He directed officials to ensure that the 'Invest Telangana Global Summit-2026' effectively showcases the diverse opportunities available to investors and entrepreneurs in Telangana.

He instructed that national and international delegates be provided with a comprehensive understanding of the state's favourable environment for setting up industries, the progress achieved in the industrial sector, the goals of 'Telangana Rising-2047', and future development plans.

Officials were instructed to make meticulous arrangements to impress the delegates attending the summit.

They were directed to follow a clear action plan to ensure that all pending tasks are completed within the stipulated deadlines.

The Minister asked them to focus on areas such as security, parking, hospitality, connectivity, transport, traffic management, power supply, high-speed internet, and emergency medical services.

It was emphasised that the hospitality provided should reflect the culture and traditions of Telangana, the Minister said. It was also underlined that the expo zones must be designed to international standards, showcasing Telangana's comprehensive industrial ecosystem, talent pool, and skill development capabilities.

# Telangana Plans Rs 10,000-Crore El Niño Preparedness Programme Ahead of Global Summit

Hyderabad, Nov 24 (Open Frame): A five-month El Niño preparedness programme, estimated to cost around Rs 10,000 crore, would be the highlight of the climate conclave at the Global Summit here next month, Telangana Irrigation Minister Uttam Reddy said on Tuesday, November 24.



The three-day Global Summit is scheduled to begin on December 7 at the Bharat Future City. The programme, to be implemented by the Irrigation and Panchayati Raj departments, will include extensive work on restoring tanks, streams and canals, recharging groundwater, conserving rainwater and protecting water resources in rural areas. These works would cost nearly Rs 2,000 crore every month after Sankranti in January, the minister said. Reddy directed officials to use the conclave's presentations to explain the measures the government is taking to ensure drinking water and food security for people even in potential drought conditions. He said farmers were being encouraged to grow alternative crops instead of water-intensive paddy to conserve water in reservoirs until the next monsoon.

The climate conclave will also take up expanding renewable energy generation, reusing treated wastewater in industries and measures to move the state towards net-zero goals. Officials at the review meeting shared that data centres in the state were already required to source at least 51 per cent of their total electricity needs from renewable energy sources. A dedicated investors' platform will be set up to explore opportunities in renewable energy, green credits, ecotourism and the circular economy, including waste recycling. The conclave is expected to advance the government's vision of positioning Telangana as a national model for climate-resilient and sustainable development.

# Telangana HC: Delay cannot deny defendant Right to File Written Statement

Hyderabad, Nov 24 (Open Frame): A defendant cannot be denied the right to file a written statement because a court took years to decide a plea to reject the plaint, the Telangana High Court has ruled. Justice Gadi Praveen Kumar also held that the strict 120-day outer limit for filing a written statement applies only to commercial disputes under the Commercial Courts Act, 2015, and not to ordinary civil suits.



The High Court allowed a civil revision petition filed by C Rajya Lakshmi and set aside a 2025 order of a City Civil Court in Hyderabad, which had rejected her written statement as belated.

Rajya Lakshmi is the defendant in a suit filed by Thoka Venkateswarlu and others seeking declaration of title and a perpetual injunction. They also want a 2018 trial court decree declared null and void. She moved an application under Order VII Rule 11 of the Code of Civil Procedure (CPC) for rejection of the complaint. It remained pending for nearly five years before being dismissed in 2024. She filed her written statement in May 2024, which the trial court accepted. The plaintiffs then sought its rejection, contending that it had come five years late and that no written statement could be taken on record after 120 days. The trial court agreed.

Under the CPC, a defendant has 30 days from the service of summons to file a written statement, extendable to 90 days. In Salem Advocates Bar Association (2005), the Supreme Court held that this limit is directory and that courts can extend it in exceptionally hard cases. In commercial suits, amendments made by the 2015 Act fixed a ceiling of 120 days. The apex court ruled in SCG Contracts (India) Pvt Ltd (2019) that this deadline is mandatory. Justice Kumar said the trial court committed an "apparent error" by applying the SCG Contracts ruling to an ordinary civil suit, while ignoring the Supreme Court's 2016 verdict in RK Roja v US Rayudu.

There, the apex court held that a plea to reject a plaint must be decided before the trial proceeds, and that a defendant can file such a plea before the written statement. If the plea fails, the written statement can follow, the High Court noted. "In the present case, the maintainability of the suit was assailed by the revision petitioner at the threshold itself and the court took almost five years to decide the said application," the judge said, holding that this time could not be counted against her. As the suit challenges a decree affecting valuable property rights, courts must take a liberal view of technicalities and decide the dispute on merits, he said. The court invoked the maxim "actus curiae neminem gravabit," which means an act of the court shall prejudice no one. The trial court was directed to accept the written statement and proceed with the trial.

# Telangana: Two dissenting MLAs meet AICC in-charge

Hyderabad, Nov 24 (Open Frame): Two Congress MLAs in Telangana, who have openly voiced dissent against the state government, met newly-appointed AICC in-charge B. M. Sandeep, last night. Munugode MLA Komatireddy Raj Gopal Reddy and Jadcherla MLA Anirudh Reddy separately met Sandeep, following direction from the party leadership.



Both the MLAs understood to have given a clarification to Sandeep with regard to their recent remarks, criticising the government.

The AICC in-charge has reportedly advised the MLAs to avoid airing their views publicly. He told the MLAs that they can reach out to him if they have any grievances. Sandeep had earlier stated that he would respond to the issues concerning the MLAs after holding discussions with all leaders of the party and understanding the situation in the state. Earlier, the AICC in-charge also discussed the issue with Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) president Mahesh Kumar Goud and TPCC Disciplinary Action Committee (DAC) Chairman Mallu Ravi. Mallu Ravi had stated that the Raj Gopal Reddy went overboard and that AICC will take a decision about him.

A section of party leaders are mounting pressure on the leadership to act against Raj Gopal Reddy, who had been openly criticising Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. Raj Gopal Reddy last week launched a blistering attack on Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy over alleged discrimination in allocating development funds. Anirudh Reddy had raised serious questions over corruption by government officials and alleged that their conduct is tarnishing the image of the Congress government. He alleged that government officials were demanding hefty commissions from contractors to process bills. Addressing a public meeting in Siddipet on November 19, Revanth Reddy had targeted dissenting Congress MLAs with the remark that they seem to have been "bitten by mad dogs". He had also stated that that party workers will take them to a "mental hospital".

Raj Gopal Reddy had hit back at the Chief Minister the next day saying leaders in high positions should speak with dignity. "They must realise that the public will not appreciate it if they act arbitrarily, driven by the arrogance of power," Raja Gopal Reddy said in a post on social media platform X. "It should be remembered that neither the people of Telangana nor history will ever forgive those in power who -- having attained their positions perhaps by a stroke of luck -- indulge in rampant corruption, disregard the needs of the public, and preside over a malicious administration," the MLA added.

"I pray to Lord Ayyappa to grant these key leaders the wisdom and the capacity for self-reflection, so that they may govern with integrity and honesty, and fulfill the promises they have made," he said.

# Trainee IPS officer's brother named as second accused in sexual assault case

Hyderabad, Nov 24 (Open Frame): In a new twist to the sexual assault case against trainee IPS officer Uday Krishna Reddy, Hyderabad police named his brother Pranay Krishna Reddy as the second accused. Uday Krishna Reddy was arrested in a case involving allegations of sexual assault and harassment of a fellow trainee at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (SVPNPA). Police added Pranay as accused number 2 after investigations revealed that he allegedly tampered with the evidence in the case.



Pranay Krishna Reddy had allegedly concealed his brother's mobile phone and tampered with the evidence. Uday Krishna Reddy was arrested on July 28, 2026, following a complaint by a fellow probationary officer at SVPNPA.A 30-year-old married trainee IPS officer from Karnataka, who alleged that Uday Krishna Reddy repeatedly sexually harassed and assaulted her.

Police initially registered a case under Sections 74, 75, 77, 78, 79, 127(2), 115(2) and 351(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), along with Sections 66E and 67A of the Information Technology Act. Following the recording of the woman's statement, additional charges under Sections 64(1) read with 63(b)(iii) and 109 of the BNS were added. The case was initially registered at the Attapur police station before being transferred to the Women's Safety Wing's She Teams for investigation.

According to police, Uday came into contact with the woman through Instagram in mid-2025 after she responded to a post about his journey towards joining the Indian Police Service. They later exchanged contact details and entered into a relationship. Police said the relationship was marked by frequent arguments, possessiveness and volatile behaviour.

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# India to Push for Climate Finance, Equity and Practical Solutions at COP31: Bhupender Yadav

New Delhi, Nov 24 (Open Frame): Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav, outlined India's priorities for COP31 of the UNFCCC, to be held in Antalya, Türkiye, from 9th to 20th November 2026, and highlighted the key outcomes of India's participation in CBD COP17 and UNCCD COP17. Briefing the media in New Delhi today the Minister said India will approach COP31 with a solution-oriented vision, bringing practical solutions for the Global South, with capacity building, knowledge sharing and geography-specific solutions at the core. India will work closely with G-77 and China, LMDC and BASIC, he informed.

The Minister reaffirmed that India stands committed to make positive contributions to global efforts to achieve objectives of climate convention and goals of Paris Agreement. He said Climate finance will be a key priority, with India seeking a COP31 decision to commence the Climate Finance Work Programme. Shri Yadav emphasised that finance is an obligation of developed countries under Article 9.1 and must be predictable, largely public and concessional, and should not add to the debt burden. India will also press for mitigation and the Global Stocktake to remain Party-driven, facilitative and non-punitive, respecting the nationally determined nature of NDCs and ruling out new top-down targets. Further, the Minister informed that Adaptation will remain a priority for India, with Global Goal on Adaptation indicators being voluntary and not conditioning access to finance, alongside scaled-up adaptation finance. India will support continuation of the Just Transition Work Programme through a Party-driven mechanism, viewing just transition through the lens of climate justice, the right to development and affordable energy access. On technology, India will emphasise that technology transfer is an obligation of developed countries and that barriers related to cost, IPR and trade must be addressed. Participation in carbon markets should remain voluntary. India will also underline that voluntary initiatives under the Presidency Action Agenda should remain separate from negotiations and that uniform global targets must respect national circumstances.

India will also highlight the linkage between the need for adaptation in agriculture, food security and the livelihoods of small and marginal farmers. Its engagements at COP31 will include LeadIT 3.0 with Sweden, in addition to high-level side events on coastal resilience, panels on IBCA and forests. Shri Yadav said India will play a constructive, bridge-building role in Antalya, seeking an outcome that moves from commitments to implementation and support.



Yadav informed that during CBD COP17 in Yerevan (Armenia), India's reaffirmed its commitment to the effective and equitable implementation of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), underscoring the importance of national priorities, circumstances and legislative frameworks, community participation, fair and equitable benefit-sharing, and adequate and predictable financial resources, capacity-building and technology transfer. During the negotiations, he stated, India strongly advocated the fulfilment of developed countries' obligations under Article 20(2) of the Convention, opposed any mandatory expansion of the contributor base or shifting of existing financial responsibilities onto developing countries, and called for accessible, adequate and equitable biodiversity finance. On Digital Sequence Information (DSI), Shri Yadav highlighted that India emphasised the need for fair and equitable benefit-sharing through the multilateral mechanism, including the Cali Fund, while underscoring the importance of respecting national access and benefit-sharing (ABS) frameworks and sovereign rights. India also advocated a party-driven, facilitative, non-intrusive and non-punitive approach to the global review of KMGBF implementation, guided by national circumstances and priorities, and emphasised the need for a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to biodiversity conservation and implementation, he added.

Talking about UNCCD COP17 in Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia), the Minister stated that India highlighted land restoration as central to food and water security, biodiversity, livelihoods and rural economies. He informed that India, after being elected Chair of the Asia-Pacific Regional Group, reiterated its commitment to restore over 26 million hectares by 2030 and called for diversified, adequate, predictable and sustained international finance for restoration and drought resilience. Shri Yadav highlighted that India advocated a shift from drought response to drought resilience, supported science-based and community-led restoration of rangelands, and highlighted pastoralists as custodians and partners. India also launched its first Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems of India, underscoring its science-based, landscape-specific approach to restoration, the Minister stated.

## India-EU Free Trade Pact Likely by Year-End: German Leader

New Delhi, Nov 24 (Open Frame): The India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is likely to be concluded by the end of this year and will boost bilateral ties, Lower Saxony Minister-President Olaf Lies has said. Speaking toLies said the proposed India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) would create new opportunities for businesses in both countries and help strengthen commercial ties between Indian companies and businesses in Lower Saxony.

He said the agreement would make it increasingly important to enhance direct contacts between companies in Lower Saxony and India, particularly for investments, free trade and exchange of components. Lies expressed confidence that the India-EU FTA would be concluded by the end of this year, describing it as a positive starting point for further strengthening bilateral relations.

"On the commercial front, I see companies from Germany looking to invest in India, as well as Indian companies interested in investing in Lower Saxony," he said. Highlighting cooperation in renewable energy, Lies said India was already an important partner for Germany in the sector. He added that the proposed trade agreement would open up several new perspectives and create significant opportunities for industries in both India and Germany.

Lies said growing interest among companies from both sides reflected the potential for deeper economic engagement and mutually beneficial investments.

## Goyal Urges Youth to Lead India's Journey Towards Developed Nation by 2047

New Delhi, Nov 24 (Open Frame): Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal called upon young people to be ambitious, embrace transformation and contribute to nation-building while delivering the keynote address at the Young Leaders Discourse Forum at Kirori Mal College, New Delhi, today. He underscored that achieving the goal of a developed India by 2047 was non-negotiable and that today's youth would be the architects of the country's journey towards this milestone. He observed that the students would be in their forties when India celebrates 100 years of independence, and that their choices, aspirations and contributions would define the country's future.



Highlighting India's export performance, Shri Goyal said that the country had recorded its highest-ever exports of USD 863 billion last year. He noted that while the International Monetary Fund (IMF), in its projections in April-May this year, had estimated global trade growth at 1.9 per cent, India had chosen to set an ambitious export target of USD 1 trillion for the current year, representing 16 per cent growth. He said that India could have set an export target of USD 900 billion, representing 5 per cent growth over the previous year's exports, which would itself have been a significant achievement in view of the projected growth in global trade. A target of USD 900 billion would also have represented growth at more than twice the projected global trade growth rate. However, India chose to set a more ambitious target of USD 1 trillion. Shri Goyal expressed confidence that the country would achieve this milestone, noting that exports had already registered 14 per cent growth during the first six months of the financial year (April–September), reaching USD 480 billion. He said that India would need to achieve exports worth USD 520 billion in the remaining six months to meet the annual target and observed that October had also been a good month.

He further noted that the IMF had recently revised its projection for global trade growth to around 3.5 per cent, observing that India's export performance.

## Audi India to Hike Car Prices by Up to 2% From January

Mumbai, Nov 24 (Open Frame): German luxury carmaker Audi India on Tuesday announced a price increase of up to 2 per cent across its model range, citing rising input costs and the need to maintain long-term business sustainability.

The revised prices will come into effect from January 1, 2027, the company said in a statement.

Balbir Singh Dhillon, Brand Director, Audi India said the company had sought to keep the increase as moderate as possible while addressing inflationary pressures affecting the auto industry.

"In response to rising input costs, we will be implementing a price revision of up to 2 per cent. This adjustment is essential to maintaining the long-term sustainability of our business," Dhillon said. He added that the company's focus remains on delivering a premium ownership experience and preserving customer confidence in the brand. The announcement comes amid a recent trend of price increases across the automobile sector as manufacturers grapple with higher input, production and operating costs.

The latest decision places Audi India among a growing list of automakers that have announced price increases as they seek to protect margins while balancing customer demand in a competitive market.

Maruti Suzuki India had announced an increase in prices of select models, effective from November 22 with a volume-weighted average price rise of around 0.31 per cent.

## Gukesh Faces In-Form Sindarov in World Chess Championship Showdown




Mumbai, Nov 24 (Open Frame): The classical World Chess Championship Final Match has a noise of its own, and it is the final match that generates the most noise. The heat is generated mostly by verbal jousts between opponents and their supporters -- before, during and after the final match, conspiracy allegations and related theories, paranoia over underhand tactics, forfeitures, breakaway bodies and heated and protracted negotiations between players and administrators in the early days. The official World Championships, which started in 1886 when Wilhelm Steinitz defeated Johannes Zukertort and have been officially held by FIDE since 1948, have produced 22 World Champions so far, and many of those crownings have been marred by controversies and scandals.

The controversies are caused by anything and everything -- noise caused by cameras (Boris Spassky v Bobby Fisher 1972), colour of yogurt served to one of the players (Anatoly Karpov v Viktor Korchnoi 1978), toilet breaks taken by a player (Veselin Topalov v Vladimir Kramnik 2006), breakway factions, split titles (1993 to 2006) or even quick deliberate draws (Anatoly Karpov v Garry Kasparov 1984).

Whether the 2026 World Chess Championship Final Match between reigning champion Dommaraju Gukesh of India and challenger Javokhir Sindarov of Uzbekistan will end without any controversy is to be seen, but it is a fact that the news related to it has been mostly confined to the back pages of newspapers and not the front.

The reason the 2026 World Chess Championship Final Match has not generated much heat so far is that both Gukesh, who became the youngest undisputed World Champion in history in December 2024 at just 18 years old, and his challenger Sindarov have a lot to prove.

Gukesh became the 22nd World Champion by beating China's GM Ding Liren in Singapore. But he has failed to earn the respect of the entire chess world. Many believe that his victory over Ding Liren, who became the World Champion after Magnus Carlsen withdrew from the WCC cycle in 2022 due to disinterest after winning five titles, did not involve top players. Gukesh, who achieved a top rating of 2750 before turning 19, has not had similar success after becoming the World Champion.

He had his best year in 2024 and was ranked third in FIDE Rankings around 18 months ago. The Chennai native has since lost rating and ranking and is presently placed 26th with a rating of 2710. He has lacked consistency and has not won a solo tournament since his historic World Championship triumph. He endured disappointing results in the Prague International Chess Festival, Norway Chess and Chennai Grandmasters this year, forcing him to opt out of classical legs of the Grand Chess Tour and compete only in rapid and blitz formats. He did impress at the Chess Olympiad despite securing seven wins and one defeat. His opponent and challenger, GM Sindarov, earned his shot at the title with a dominant, unbeaten 10/14 score at the 2026 Candidates Tournament, the best showing in the event's modern history. He is currently ranked fourth in the FIDE Rankings with a rating of 2782

## Vaibhav Smashes Record 53-Ball 204 as India A Enter Semis

Doha, Nov 24 (Open Frame): Teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi produced a sensational display of power-hitting, smashing a record-breaking 53-ball 204 as India A thrashed the United Arab Emirates (UAE) by seven wickets to seal their place in the semifinals of the ACC Men's Asia Cup Rising Stars 2026 in Doha on Tuesday. Chasing a target of 250 runs, India A made light work of the run chase, reaching 254/3 in just 14.2 overs, with Sooryavanshi rewriting the record books with the fastest-ever hundred and double hundred in List A cricket.

The 15-year-old reached his century in just 28 balls, surpassing Australia's Jake Fraser-McGurk, who had scored a 29-ball hundred for South Australia against Tasmania in 2023. Sooryavanshi continued his extraordinary assault to complete 150 in just 40 deliveries before bringing up his maiden double century in any format in only 52 balls.



His innings, which featured 28 sixes and seven fours, also saw him register the most sixes by a batter in a single List A innings. During the 12th over, he smashed four consecutive sixes, with the second taking him to 24 maximums in the innings.

Sooryavanshi eventually departed for 204, but not before putting India A firmly on course for a comprehensive victory. He began the assault alongside Abhishek Sharma, adding 68 runs in just 21 balls for the opening wicket. Abhishek contributed 12 off five deliveries, including two boundaries, before being dismissed. Sooryavanshi then combined with Prabhsimran Singh for a 40-run stand off just 13 deliveries. Prabhsimran managed only three runs off four balls before Rinku Singh joined the teenager in the middle. The pair completely dismantled the UAE bowling attack, adding 137 runs in 43 balls for the third wicket. Rinku remained unbeaten on 27, while Kumar Kushagra finished on one not out as the duo added an unbeaten nine runs for the fourth wicket to complete the chase. Zahid Ali, Ibrar Ahmed and Basil Hameed claimed a wicket each for the UAE. Earlier, after winning the toss and opting to bat, UAE posted 249/8 in their allotted 50 overs, recovering from an early collapse through a century from Harpreet Singh.

UAE were reduced to 20/2 before Harpreet joined Mohammad Shahdad to revive the innings with a 71-run partnership for the third wicket. Shahdad scored 28 before departing. Harpreet continued to anchor the innings, adding 60 runs with Ethan D'Souza for the fourth wicket. Captain Basil Hameed then provided valuable support to Harpreet, with the duo stitching together 66 runs for the sixth wicket to take the team towards a competitive total.

## India, Nepal to Play Five-Match Women's Blind T20 Cricket Series in Gurugram Next Month

Gurugram, Nov 24 (Open Frame ): Gurugram will host the Women's T20 Cricket Series for the Visually Impaired between world champion India and Nepal, a five-match bilateral series scheduled from December 2 to 8, at The Ball Park Cricket Ground. The series, organised by the Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI), in association with Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled and CSR partner IIFL Home Finance Limited, was announced at a press conference in Gurugram on Tuesday.

The event also brought together Deepika T. C, captain of the Indian women's cricket team for the Blind; Dr Mahantesh G. Kivadasannavar, Chairman of CABI; the leadership team from IIFL Home Finance Limited; and the entire Indian women's team.




A key highlight of the press conference was the official launch of the Indian women's team jersey. Dr Mahantesh G. Kivadasannavar, Chairman, Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI), said, "We are proud of our world champion women's team and the example they have set for women with visual impairment across the country. This bilateral series against Nepal will give our players valuable international match experience and help strengthen women's blind cricket in India."

Adding to it, Girish Kousgi, MD & CEO, IIFL Home Finance Limited, said, "India's world champion women's blind cricket team is a true example of what talent, determination and the right opportunities can achieve. We extend our best wishes to both teams for their upcoming match and hope it will be a celebration of sportsmanship, courage and determination. Such initiatives reflect our broader commitment to inclusion and empowerment by creating opportunities through sports, advancing women's participation and leadership, and supporting access to housing, livelihoods and community-led development." The bilateral series will see India and Nepal face off once again following their memorable encounter in the inaugural Women's T20 Blind Cricket World Cup, where India defeated Nepal to lift the historic title.

The upcoming five-match series offers another international platform for the players to showcase their talent, build match experience, and inspire more women with visual impairment to pursue cricket.

The Indian Women's Cricket Team for the Blind began its preparatory coaching camp in Gurugram on November 16, 2026. The camp focuses on cricketing skills, fitness and conditioning, tactical preparation, team combinations, and match readiness ahead of the five-match series. India squad: Simu Das B1 Delhi; Shivani Bhoi B1 Rajasthan; Anu Kumari B1 Bihar, Kalpanaben Chaurya B1 Gujarat; Ranjita Haveri B1 Karnataka; Priya B1 MP; Anekha Devi B2 Delhi; Basanti Hansda B2 Odisha; Sunita Dhondappanavar B2 Karnataka; Simranjeet Kour B2 Rajasthan; Sunita Sarathe B2 MP; Deepika T.C (Captain).

# This is a film that moved me the most: Chiranjeevi



Megastar Chiranjeevi has praised the film 'Akashamlo Okta Tara'. He said that this film moved him a lot. To this extent, Chiranjeevi made a special post on social media praising the film crew. He especially praised director Pawan Sadhineni for directing such an inspiring story with great confidence and in an extraordinary way. Chiranjeevi explained that the second half of the film especially made him very emotional.

Megastar praised Dulquer Salmaan and Satvika Veeravalli, who played the lead roles in the film, for bringing the characters to life with their natural performances. He also said that Shruti Haasan, Ruhani Sharma and all the other actors did full justice to their roles. Referring to the performance of the technicians, he praised the music provided by GV Prakash and the cinematography by Sujith Sarang for making the emotions of the story touch the hearts of the audience more deeply. He said that the performance of every technical department in the film is highly commendable.

Chiranjeevi suggested that all parents should definitely watch this film with their children. He said that he sincerely believes that this story will inspire children. Megastar Chiranjeevi conveyed his heartfelt wishes to Swapna Cinema, Geetha Arts, Light Box Media, and the entire film team who produced this meaningful film.

# Nagarjuna's 'King100' makers end speculation on delay in film's release with special countdown poster

Putting an end to any speculation surrounding its release timeline, the makers of director R A Karthik's 'King 100', featuring Telugu star Nagarjuna in the lead, on Tuesday, released a new countdown poster that reaffirmed the fact that the film would indeed hit screens on December 24 as originally announced. The film has triggered huge expectations as it is actor Nagarjuna Akkineni's 100th film.

The team behind the film has now confirmed that the film is right on schedule, with exactly 30 days left for its theatrical arrival. The makers unveiled a special countdown poster, adding to the excitement surrounding the much-awaited film.



The poster presents Nagarjuna in a stylish avatar against an intense red backdrop. Sporting a dark suit and sunglasses, the actor stands in front of a vintage car, with one hand raised in a distinctive gesture. The striking red-toned visual, the classic car and the dramatic silhouette lend the poster a commanding retro-inspired aesthetic, adding a vintage flavour to the 30-day countdown. Kept largely under wraps through its year-long production, the film had remained out of the spotlight until the time its first glimpse was released recently. The first glimpse delivered a bold, powerful statement of the scale, style, and cinematic ambition of the film's makers.

The over one-and-a-half-minute glimpse introduced Nagarjuna Akkineni in a stylish, larger-than-life avatar, offering audiences their first look at his character and the world of the film. The glimpse opened with Nagarjuna's character sharing his perspective on the world: "There are two types of people in this world. Those who have money and those who don't. When I had no money, they called me a loser. When I had money, they called me a King. But this identity is more powerful than money. To uphold this identity, I have to keep running." The dialogue struck a hard-hitting note. It offered a sharp glimpse into his rise to power, his mindset, and the relentless drive of maintaining his identity as 'The King'.

'King100', which will hit screens on December 24, has been written and directed by R.A. Karthik and produced by Annapurna Studios. The film will have music by Devi Sri Prasad, cinematography by Raja Mahadhevan, production design by Sathees Kumar N, and editing by Navin Nooli.

Costumes for the film have been designed by Poorva, Rajini, Tanya and Bhramma. Action choreography for the film is by Venkat, Prithivi, Nabakanth, Real Sathish and Dinesh Kasi, while publicity design is by Tuney John.

# A huge relief for Bandla Ganesh.. Rs. 95 lakh cheque bounce case has a happy ending!

Tollywood producer and actor Bandla Ganesh's Rs. 95 lakh cheque bounce case controversy has come to a happy end. It is noteworthy that Jetty Venkateswara Rao, the complainant in this case, himself revealed that the dispute between them has been completely resolved. He shared the details by releasing a video message to this effect. Going into te details of the case... Bandla Ganesh had previously taken Rs. 95 lakh from Janakiramaiah of Maddirala-Muppalla in Prakasam district. After Janakiramaiah's death, Bandla Ganesh gave a cheque to his father Jetty Venkateswara Rao in the name of his Parameswara Arts. However, since there



was not enough money in the account and the cheque bounced, Venkateswara Rao approached the Ongole court. The Ongole court, which tried the case, found Bandla Ganesh guilty and sentenced him to one year in simple imprisonment, a fine of Rs. 95 lakh, and ordered him to pay the victim's court costs.

After this verdict, Jetty Venkateswara Rao released a new video and revealed key facts. "Using a minor dispute between them, some people deliberately created misunderstandings and spread false propaganda," he said. He explained that in the past, his son and Bandla Ganesh were very friendly... After his son's death, he explained that due to ego or the involvement of intermediaries, minor differences arose and led to court cases.

Venkateswara Rao clarified that the differences between the two parties have now been resolved and that his friendship and association with Bandla Ganesh will continue as before. With this, the cheque bounce controversy, which has been the subject of intense discussion for the past few days, has come to an end.

# Dimple's response to the viral photo with Sharwanand



Tollywood actress Dimple Hayati has put an end to the speculations about her married life. She clarified that she is not married yet. As the photos of the two together went viral as part of the promotions of the film 'Bhogi' starring Sharwanand, she gave clarity on this issue.

The film team attended the pre-release and trailer launch ceremony of the film 'Bhogi' held in Hyderabad. Photos and videos of Dimple Hayati smiling and resting her head on Sharwanand's shoulder at the event went viral on social media. A netizen who saw these commented that just like Sharwanand got married, Dimple Hayati also got married. Dimple Hayati responded directly to that comment and said... "I am not married yet" and replied with a laughing emoji. During some controversies that took place in the past, a man named Victor David was mentioned as her husband in some news articles. Due to this, many thought that she was married. Dimple herself has recently responded to the rumors and put an end to them.

On the other hand, 'Bhogi', a period action drama directed by Sampath Nandi, stars Sharwanand, Anupama Parameswaran and Dimple Hayathi in the lead roles. The film is set to hit the screens worldwide on November 27.

# Sarathkumar's 177th film titled 'Taxi'

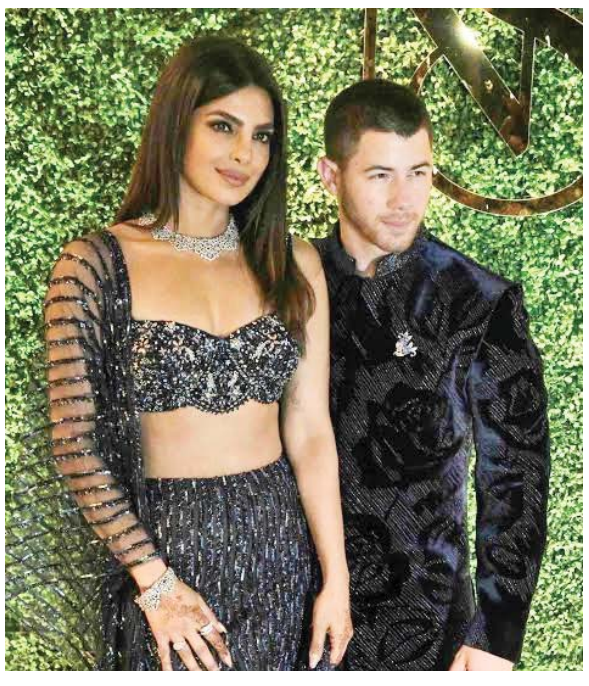
Well known Tamil actor and politician Sarathkumar's upcoming Tamil film, which incidentally will be his 177th project, has been titled 'Taxi', its makers announced on Tuesday. The film, which was launched at a grand event in Chennai on Tuesday, is being produced by Berjaya Group of Companies in association with Radaan Mediaworks India Limited. The film is to be directed by director Dhana, who is best known for having directed the critically acclaimed film 'Vaanam Kottatum', featuring actors Shanthanu Bhagyaraj, Vikram Prabhu, Aishwarya Rajesh, Madonna Sebastian and Sarathkumar in pivotal roles.

Several distinguished personalities and dignitaries from various walks of life graced the launch event. Notable among those present on the occasion was acclaimed filmmaker Mani Ratnam. For the unaware, Dhana was an associate director of Mani Ratnam before turning director. Mani Ratnam, who spoke on the occasion, showered praise on director Dhana and wished the production houses producing the film. Sources say that 'Taxi', which happens to be the 177th film of R. Sarathkumar, an actor whose enduring presence in Indian cinema and sustained stature as an action hero for over three decades stand testament to his remarkable journey, will be an explosive action entertainer.



The film will have a fine technical team backing it. Naveen Kumar I is to handle the film's cinematography, while acclaimed writer B. Jeyamohan has been roped in to pen its story. The music for this film is to be composed by the highly rated Justin Prabhakaran. Action sequences in the film are to be choreogprahed by Silva Master while editing for the film is to be handled by the gifted Sanga Thamizhan. Harshene Ravichandar has been roped in as the costume designer of this project, which will have Uttra Meenakshi Kongara serving as its Executive Producer.

# Priyanka Reveals Nick Jonas' Hilarious Reaction to Hajmola



Global couple Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas are known to have embraced each other's culture beautifully ever since tying the knot back in 2018.

From celebrating Karwa Chauth to doing Diwali puja together, to participating in rituals for PeeCee's brother's wedding, to enjoying Bollywood music, on multiple occasions, Nick is seen justifying the title of 'National Jiju', adorably given to him by movie buffs. Taking a trip down memory lane, as Priyanka had appeared on the season 4 of the popular talk show 'The Great Indian Kapil Show Season', she had revealed how Nick reacted after trying Hajmola for the first time.

During the episode, PeeCee said that Nick had been extremely curious about Hajmola.

The 'Barfi' actress asked the host, Kapil Sharma, to imagine how an American would react if they were given Hajmola to eat. A stunned Kapil asked Priyanka, "Hajmola khilayi hai aapne? Seriously? (You made him eat Hajmola?)"

Priyanka shared that she has a drawer at home, where she keeps all her chatpata things.

Priyanka shared, "So mera ek drawer hai, jiske andar aampapad, Hajmola, sab chatar patar cheeze mere ghar me kaafi thi. Nick puchhte hai iss drawer me hai kya? Toh maine bola ki issey tum durr hi raho thoda; yeh tumhari samajh ki thodisi bahar hai. (I have a drawer, inside which there are aam papad, Hajmola, and a bunch of random stuff. Nick asks, 'What's in this drawer?' So I told him to stay away from it a bit; 'It's a little beyond your understanding'.)"

# Sharad Kelkar reveals his favourite performance of Jackie Shroff

Actor Sharad Kelkar, who is receiving a lot of positive response to his recently released film 'Kaali Kheti', has revealed the favourite performance of his co-actor in the film, Jackie Shroff. The actor spoke with along with Jackie Shroff and director Haris Imtiyaz Khan in the Andheri West area of Mumbai during the promotions of the film. He said that 'Gardish' is his all-time favourite performance of Jackie Shroff.

He told , "'Gardish' my favourite film of all time. Not just films, but the songs and the film, I have not seen a person who did not think 'Gardish' was a great film. It is one of the brilliant films. I think it must be his favourite also, if I am not wrong. It's a cult".

He further mentioned that he longed to work with his childhood icon, and 'Kaali Kheti' gave him the opportunity to work with his idol. He shared, "I have been seeing him, I have been wanting to work with him. Not just being an actor, but as a human what he is. Our natures are quite similar. Our voices are also quite similar to each other. It is an amazing combination which he thought of. So the whole team was very good. When you see on the monitor, sometimes you feel after so many years, we also know, we will do this, we will do that".

"In each frame, I felt that there is no need of grading, no need of color correction, no need of anything. You feel that the film will look like this, and it will look like this. It was a great experience", he added. Meanwhile, written and directed by Haris Imtiyaz Khan and produced by Sana Khan under the banner of BlackCanvas Studio, 'Kaali Kheti' is currently playing in cinemas.



# Kumar Sanu says 90s indie music was born out of 'helplessness'

Legendary playback singer Kumar Sanu, who jointly ruled the Hindi film music of the 90s, feels that the genre of indie pop music was born out of helplessness. The veteran singer spoke with at his house in the Andheri West area of Mumbai during the promotions of his latest song 'Suniyo Zara'. When asked if the system of indie music is making a return courtesy the democratization of music through streaming, he said, "There are two or three reasons for this. One is that this diversion happens in helplessness. I am saying this because when a singer sings well, despite struggling, he does not get work, then what happens in helplessness? Individuals try to make an album".

He told, "People thought, 'I somehow manage to get money. If I get success in that, maybe I can get an offer from Bollywood'. That was the thought process going on between all the singers at the time".

"People who were separated from each other. So this is what you call helplessness in plain language. Diversion was born in this. A single album system was started. So, this is what you call helplessness in plain language. A diversion was born. A single album system was started. Then Hindi film music took over", he added.

Earlier, the playback singer had shared the technique behind his singing, and what is it that makes his songs stand out from others. When he was told that he has sung for practically every superstar, and his voice suits everyone, he said, "It means that I am the hero. When I sing a song, I make myself a hero".



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