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Bihar set for major showdown as Rahul Gandhi gears up for rally to counter Modi's influence



New Delhi: After Congress leader Rahul Gandhi conducted an elaborate yatra in Bihar, raising the issue of “vote chori” and accusing the BJP of having a backdoor understanding with the Election Commission of India, the grand old party is now planning to deploy its ace campaigner once again. Gandhi is expected to hold a major rally after Chhath Puja on Monday to build momentum for the opposition alliance, the Mahagathbandhan, a week before the assembly elections. According to sources, the final date has not been confirmed yet, but the rally is likely to be held on Tuesday (October 28). Political analysts say there is visible churn on the ground; however, the opposition remains wary of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, whose speeches and presence continue to energise voters and consolidate the BJP’s support base.

Bihar Polls 2025: The Secret Line In Bihar Which Decides Who Will Become 'Next CM'

Every election, Bihar votes across 38 districts, yet power has an uncanny pattern. Cross a certain invisible line, and you'll know where the next Chief Minister is more likely to come from. Has geography quietly decided Bihar's politics more than ideology or caste?



Patna: For decades, Bihar’s power map has tilted unevenly across the Ganga. The river, which cuts the state into two distinct halves, also divides its political fate. North Bihar, the

land of the Kosi, the sugar belt, and the migrant worker, has often produced mass movements, but not enduring chief ministers. South Bihar, drier, urban, and better connected, has given the state its longest-serving rulers.

"This Government Doesn't Hide Reports": Delhi Minister To AAP On Yamuna Revival



ening water quality in the Yamuna, just ahead of Chhath Puja, when thousands of devotees are expected to take a holy dip. While the report indicates that the river remains unsafe for bathing across most stretches, Delhi Water Minister Parvesh Verma defended the government, saying the BJP-led administration "doesn't hide reports" and has worked "with full honesty" to clean the river. "The difference between the samples taken on the 9th and those taken today is like night and day. Women visiting the ghats are saying they've never seen the Yamuna this clean. This is the result of seven months of hard work," Verma said. "We never claimed the Yamuna would be cleaned in seven months. It's a three-to-four-year plan. But compared to the last ten years, there is a clear improvement," he added.

New Delhi: Delhi's political temperature soared on Saturday after the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) reported wors-

"His Statement Was Twisted" Siddaramaiah On Son's "Political Life" Remark

Bengaluru: Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday clarified that his son Yathindra Siddaramaiah did not name anyone as his successor. Bringing a storm in the Congress Karnataka unit, party MLC Yathindra on Wednesday said, "He (Siddaramaiah) is at the fag end of his political life. At such a time, a leader is

needed to guide and lead those who have progressive thinking, ideologically." Minister Satish Jarkiholi is a leader with similar progressive ideological thinking, he said at Chikkodi in Belagavi district. His statement was perceived as declaring Siddaramaiah's successor. It came at a time when the power corridor in Karnataka

is abuzz with rumours that Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar would succeed Siddaramaiah in November as per a compromise arrived at in 2023 based on a 'rotational chief minister formula'. Siddaramaiah, who will complete two-and-a-half years as chief minister this November, had asserted in the past that he would complete his five-year tenure.



Be alert against Cyclone 'Montha' - CM Chandrababu's key instructions to officials



From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, Oct., 25 : Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has ordered officials to be on alert as Cyclone 'Montha' is approaching. He made it clear that there should be no loss of life or property anywhere. CM Chandrababu suggested that officials should immediately prepare themselves with precautionary measures. He directed the authorities

ties to work without any hindrance to emergency services. Saturday, Chief Minister Chandrababu held a review meeting with district collectors and SPs through teleconference. To this end, key instructions were issued to the officials regarding the 'Montha' cyclone. CM Chandrababu said that the Meteorological Department has declared a red alert. Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan

Kalyan has directed the authorities to remain vigilant against Cyclone Montha. Pawan Kalyan held a review meeting with officials Saturday through tele and video conferences. Pawan Kalyan issued key instructions to the officials in this meeting. He said that the cyclone is likely to hit the coast in the vicinity of Kakinada. He instructed the people to be alerted by informing them at all times. He directed the farmers of the

Yeleru reservoir to be given advance information. In the wake of the cyclone warnings, Pawan Kalyan issued key instructions to the Kakinada District Collector. Pawan Kalyan said that he would go to Kakinada and review the impact of the cyclone Montha from a close distance. However, the officials asked Pawan not to go to Kakinada in these circumstances.

We will strongly refute their criticisms: Kollu Ravindra

From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, Oct., 25: The meeting of the leaders of the joint Krishna district alliance has ended. The local body elections were the agenda of the meeting. The leaders decided to meet Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu soon on the issues of the constituencies. They decided to strongly refute the criticisms of former ministers Perni Nani and Jogi Ramesh... From now on, they decided to jointly confront the criticisms of the YSRCP leaders with the joint district leaders. The alliance leaders decided to prepare the strategy for the upcoming local body elections from now on. Speaking after the meeting, Minister Kollu Ravindra revealed that the meeting was held to discuss the development activities that the government has been doing for the past year and a half and the upcoming programs. He said that all the irregularities committed by the YSRCP in the past will be brought out. He said that they discussed the issue of what to do for the development of the joint Krishna district. Jagan Mohan Reddy was criticized for talking without knowing what a data center actually means. He accused him of destroying the state for politics. Jagan did not have the right to talk about alcohol. He said that Jagan is the one who sold brands that did not work.

He said that two and a half lakh people have used the AP Suraksha app so far. The minister said that people are not in a position to trust Jagan. Responding to the Thiruvur incident, he said that it is natural for small disputes to occur in a family. However, he said that the Chief Minister is looking into the matter. He said that only the development of the district was talked about today. He said that efforts are being made to provide jobs to 20 lakh people in the state. Minister Kollu Ravindra expressed his grief that the bus accident that took place in Kurnool yesterday was very unfortunate.



Chinna Jeeyar to visit Nellore on Oct 29

From Our Staff Reporter Nellore, Oct., 25 : Endowments Minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy said, Sri Tridandi Srimannarayana Ramanuja Chinna Jeeyar Swamy will lay foundation stone for the reconstruction of Sri Venugopala Swamy temple in Mulapet in the city on October 29 at 11.18 am. On Friday, he inspected the arrangements for the reconstruction of the temple. Anam said, the temple reconstruction was taken up with Rs 16 crore and Nellore MP Vemireddy Prabhakara Reddy, Municipal Administration Minister P Narayana, Rural MLA Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy and public representatives will attend the programme. He urged the people in big numbers to participate in the event.



SPMVV signs MoU with SNDT women's varsity

From Our Staff Reporter Tirupati, Oct., 25 : Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (SPMVV), Tirupati, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SNDT Women's University, Mumbai (both PM Usha Meru Universities) to promote academic and research collaboration between the two premier women's universities in India. The MoU was signed during a two-day International Conference on Multidisciplinary Research in Health Care held on October 23 and 24, 2025, organised by the College of Nursing, SPMVV. The event brought together experts, researchers, academicians, and health professionals from diverse fields to discuss innovations, challenges, and research trends in healthcare. Vice-Chancellor Prof V Uma, Registrar Prof N Rajani along with others took part in the conference which covered a wide range of topics, including public health, nursing, medical sciences, pharmacy, physio-

therapy, allied health sciences, social sciences, and technology. Several research papers were presented during the scientific sessions, offering a dynamic platform for sharing knowledge and building research partnerships.



Eight injured after a lorry and bus collides in Palnadu

From Our Staff Reporter

Palnadu, Oct., 25 : A road accident occurred near Srinagar in the Dachepalli mandal of Palnadu district, resulting in eight people sustaining minor injuries. The incident involved a collision between a lorry and a Telangana RTC bus that was travelling from Miryalaguda to Dachepalli. At the time of the accident, the bus carried 45 passengers. Local police from Dachepalli swiftly arrived at the scene to assist and transported the injured individuals to hospital for treatment. Fortunately, no serious injuries were reported.



EDITORIAL Sleeper Travels.. Danger Bells

Now, the mention of sleeper buses is causing fear. The incident of a fire that broke out in a travel bus going from Hyderabad to Bangalore in the early hours of Friday (24.10.25) and burnt many people alive is once again becoming a topic of discussion as evidence of the maintenance errors of sleeper buses. While nearly 20 people lost their lives in this accident, a similar accident took place in Rajasthan ten days ago and more than 20 people lost their lives. Due to such accidents, the use of sleeper buses has been greatly reduced in some countries. In China, after 13 sleeper bus accidents took place in 2009 and 252 people lost their lives, China stopped their registrations in 2012. Sleeper buses have become very popular in our country. Many passengers like to sleep comfortably in these buses during their long journey. But with frequent accidents, questions are being raised about their safety. States like Telangana and Andhra Pradesh generally do not officially allow registration of sleeper buses. But many operators are ignoring local regulations and getting their buses registered in some places in the northern states and plying in these states. These devious routes are raising doubts as to whether safety standards are really being followed. It is the current duty of government officials to tighten the safety standards of sleeper buses, which are leading to serious accidents. Only buses that are manufactured in factories with safety standards should be allowed on the roads. Operators should be controlled from changing the designs of buses unofficially for maximum profits. Regular inspections should also be carried out on these. Overloading of sleeper buses should not be allowed. No matter how many facilities there are, they should not become a risk to life. When accidents happen in buses, passengers immediately become suffocated and do not see a way out immediately. In the meantime, the damage that should have been done is being done. Instead of first checking the extent of emergency escape arrangements in a sleeper bus in case of any accident, passengers are focusing only on their own facilities. Initially, there were only a few sleeper buses. However, many travel operators have also converted their regular seating buses into sleeper coaches and started extorting the highest fares. It has become common for operators to privately design buses made with safety standards in the factory to change their designs as they wish. The bus windows are often closed. Some passengers say that since the bus has TV screens, mobile phones, laptop connections, etc., the power load increases and short circuits occur, which can lead to fires.

There is only one door open to enter and exit the bus. Since their height is usually 8 to 9 feet, it is difficult to get out of the emergency exits in case of any accident. These buses have 30 to 36 berths. Each berth is 6 feet long and 2.6 feet wide. The real problem is that the galleries connecting these berths are very narrow. These buses run at high speed at night, which is a test for drivers. Even if the drivers are tired or drowsy, they can lead to accidents. A survey conducted in 2019 revealed that 25 percent of people fall asleep while driving at night. Several studies have revealed that drivers are more likely to fall asleep after midnight and before 6 am. Artificial intelligence (AI) technology systems are being used in some cities to curb this trend. In cities like Pune, smart cameras are being used to warn drivers if they are drowsy, distracted, or speeding. It detects how many times the driver blinks and how often the vehicle loses control. It senses how careless the driver is at a red light signal. At such times, warnings come in the form of a squeaking sound and sometimes by vibrating the steering wheel. Such an AI system not only tracks driving hours, but also helps them drive smartly. Now, even though drowsiness alert systems are being installed in new buses, there are still doubts about their effectiveness. It is noteworthy that the central government has implemented an advanced traffic management system with the help of artificial intelligence on the Delhi-Gurugram-Dwarka Expressway on an experimental basis. With this, this road has been recognized as the first digital highway in the country with an AI-based smart traffic system. The Center is planning to implement this process on all national highways across the country.

A Prince, A Teen, Queen's Hush Money: The Sex Scandal Rocking UK's Royal Family

It's all about privilege, how sexual encounters happen in high places and how victims have nowhere to go. Virginia Giuffre's posthumous book, *Nobody's Girl*, officially released on October 21, is the story of a girl who was nobody until she met Jeffrey Epstein and his associate Ghislaine Maxwell, and later Prince Andrew, the younger brother of King Charles of the United Kingdom. What she could not achieve in life she achieves in death: reveal all. An Urdu poet once wrote, "Zabaan-e-tishna khamosh ho sakti hai, magar khoon apna fasaana nahi bhoolta", that is, "the thirsty tongue may fall silent, but blood remembers its story." It is often used to suggest that even in death, truth speaks through memory. Or memoirs. Surely so is the case with Giuffre's *Nobody's Girl*. Even before its official release, it set the British Royal House on fire and marked one of its darkest days in recent history. Much of what she has written was already in the public domain, but she has added exact details, background and context the world was unaware of earlier.

The 367-page book is a memoir of surviving abuse and fighting for justice. But it's also a testimony to the fact that even the most privileged and protected men who indulged in abuses and exploitations cannot escape the ruin brought by a commoner. Giuffre, who allegedly took her own life in April, details her encounters with Epstein and Maxwell. But it is Giuffre's account of her alleged sexual encounters with Prince Andrew that has caused an uproar across the United Kingdom. Prince Andrew, of course, has denied all the allegations. Giuffre writes that she had sex with Prince Andrew three times, including once during an "orgy" on Epstein's private island with eight other girls, many of whom she believed were under 18. She herself was barely 17 on one of the three occasions Prince Andrew slept with her, she alleges in the book. Prince Andrew, the Duke of York, is the second son of the late Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip. He was married to Sarah Ferguson, the Duchess of York, and divorced in 1996. Their two daughters are Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie, both married. In the memoir, Giuffre outlines the pressure she claimed she faced from Prince Andrew's legal teams. She also suggests that some media organisations were afraid to cover her story due to fears of losing access to the Royal Family. The King's brother has since relinquished his Duke of York title. "He was friendly enough," Giuffre writes, "but still entitled - as if he believed having sex with me was his birthright."

The Explosive Revelations
The memoir lays bare Giuffre's tangled and traumatic relationship with Ghislaine Maxwell and Jeffrey Epstein - who died in a US prison in 2019 - and the Prince. It dives deep into the world they built - a world filled with wealth, predation and silent complicity, where a teenage girl's body became currency. She writes that Maxwell told her, "Just like Cinderella, you're going to meet a handsome prince", before introducing her to Andrew for the first time in March 2001. The book says: "It was going to be a special day, she said. Just like Cinderella, I was going to meet a handsome prince. Her old friend Prince Andrew would be dining with us that night and we had lots to do to get me ready." That "handsome prince" turned out to be the man now fighting to salvage what remains of his public reputation. Prince Andrew's image is in tatters. Giuffre claims their first encounter took place at Maxwell's London townhouse, after a night out at Trump nightclub - the evening

immortalised by the now-infamous photograph of her standing beside Andrew, smiling, his arm casually around her waist. "I remember running for my Kodak FunSaver camera to snap the picture," she recalls, "because my mom would never forgive me if I met someone as famous as Prince Andrew and didn't pose for a picture." In the book, she says Andrew guessed her age correctly: seventeen. "My daughters are just a little younger than you," he told her, according to her account. Their subsequent encounters, she writes, took place in Epstein's Manhattan townhouse and later on Little St James - the Caribbean island where Epstein hosted what Giuffre describes as an "orgy" with "approximately eight other young girls". "The other girls all appeared to be under the age of 18," she recalls. "Epstein laughed about how they couldn't really communicate, saying they are the easiest girls to get along with."

Denials, Legal Battle and Compromise
After years of denial, deflection and legal warfare, Giuffre alleges how the Prince's legal team allegedly tried to intimidate her and even hired internet trolls to harass her after their settlement. "We would never get a confession, of course," she writes. "That's what settlements are designed to avoid. But we were trying for the next best thing: a general acknowledgement of what I'd been through." She recalls the night the settlement was finalised. "My lawyer read the duke's agreed statement at 2:30 a.m. Florida time - through tears, both hers and mine." The memoir also recounts her reaction to Prince Andrew's infamous 2019 Newsnight interview - an event she describes as "an injection of jet fuel" for her legal team. In the interview, Andrew

had insisted he had "no recollection" of ever meeting Giuffre and claimed he could not have been with her in March 2001 because he was at a Pizza Express in Woking with his daughter, Beatrice.

The arranged interview was meant to exonerate the Prince. Instead it sealed his downfall. "If we deposed the princesses," Giuffre wrote, "his family members could potentially poke holes in his alibi." Giuffre describes watching the interview in disbelief - a man denying the undeniable, failing to show sympathy for Epstein's victims and clinging to implausible defences. The interview triggered global outrage and led to Andrew's withdrawal from public duties, followed by the eventual loss of his Duke of York title. What stands out about Giuffre's memoir is that it doesn't merely recount the abuse but also exposes the system of silence that protected powerful, privileged men and shamed their victims into isolation. She writes that after Epstein's death in 2019, she felt cheated of justice. "This wasn't how justice was supposed to work out," she says. "He was supposed to face the women he had destroyed." Even after his death, the spectre of Epstein obviously looms large in her narrative - a symbol of impunity. Maxwell, now serving a 20-year sentence for sex trafficking, features prominently in the book as the manipulator and recruiter who first enticed Giuffre. "She looked to be in her late thirties," Giuffre writes. "Her British accent reminded me of Mary Poppins." That genteel mask of refinement, Giuffre suggests, concealed the machinery of exploitation. But amid the horror, there are flashes of determination - a woman's will to reclaim her story. In one of the book's most poignant moments, she



writes of using her settlement not for revenge, but for redemption: "I look forward to disseminating some of the Crown's money to do some good." She never discloses how much she was paid, though reports suggest the amount exceeded GBP 9 million - allegedly covered by the late Queen herself to protect the monarchy's dignity. "That his mother, the Queen of England, had footed the bill," she notes dryly, "was not lost on me."

The Same Old Story
We often wrongly believe that kings and princes, leaders and celebrities are meant to be models of virtue and righteousness. We do not expect them to indulge in soliciting for sex, entrapping young bodies in their grip and exploiting them like predators. Also, the #MeToo movement in India was, in its own way, a naked display of power and privilege by those in positions of authority. I wonder whatever happened to that movement. Ultimately, the stories of the privileged and powerful - the toasts of the charmed circles - are often similar to those of the com-

mon people. Power rules. The vulnerable are exploited. There are always enough 'madams' and 'middlemen' springing up, like Maxwell and Epstein. It's a story that unfolds in any society, any city. I vividly recall, as a young reporter, writing about a 16-year-old girl in Delhi sold to a 'madam' by her greedy uncle and later rescued by police. Looking at her tender age and beauty, she was "served" only to the privileged, powerful customers. There aren't rewards for guessing what kind those privileged and powerful were. Giuffre's voice, often silenced and often doubted, speaks through her pages with unsettling clarity. It is the voice of a woman wronged, scarred and yet unbroken. "In my mind," she writes in her closing passage, "I hold a picture of a girl reaching out for help and easily finding it. I picture a woman, too, who - having come to terms with her childhood pain - feels that it's within her power to take action against those who hurt her. In the end, Virginia Giuffre's tongue was silenced when alive. In her death, her blood and her words remember their story."

Will Trump-Xi Summit In Seoul Lead To A Serious Trade Deal?

The U.S. President Donald Trump is finally meeting the Chinese President Xi Jinping in Seoul by this month end, possibly on October 30, on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit in the South Korean capital scheduled for October 31 and November 1. Both the leaders are attending APEC summit, but Trump, preceding his meeting with Xi, will be attending the ASEAN summit scheduled at Kuala Lumpur on October 26 to 28. Trump will be making a visit to Japan also during this period.

The summit is more crucial from Trump's political perspective compared to President Xi, who has got a mandate from the fourth plenary session of the central committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) for his ambitious 15th five-year plan covering the period 2026-2030. The economic report at the four-day session beginning October 20 indicated that the Chinese economy has been able to absorb the impact of trade tariffs imposed by Trump and the current efforts of diversifying exports are yielding results. There are irritants on the economic path but those are manageable. China can hold on; there is no panicky situation to rush for a trade deal with Trump.

So, President Xi will be attending the Seoul summit with confidence and will be in a better bargaining position with the US president on the con-

tentious trade issues which are under discussion. On the other hand, President Trump will be attending with some discomfort as his image has got a jolt with the continuing problems in implementing his Gaza peace plan and in the total failure of his efforts to stop the Russia-Ukraine war. Rather,



the tensions have heightened with Russia after his latest announcement on imposing fresh sanctions on the two major Russian oil companies in international transactions. Among the western alliance members, Trump is again in collision course with Canada and the trade talks have been suspended by Trump.

Under such circumstances, Trump badly needs a deal with China to show his invincibility as a deal maker as also a messenger of peace. He also needs China in persuading Xi's ally President Putin to cooperate with Trump in implementing his peace plan for ending the Ukraine war. Trump does not want the Europeans to take any front-foot bypassing the US in helping Ukraine. The US administra-

tion does not like the Europe coalition for helping Ukraine. Trump feels that this European move will only prolong the war putting more burden on the USA.

But the most important issue is to conclude a trade deal, the process of which has got set back in the last few days de-

communicated to Trump. Trump has to take the issue as a priority one with President Xi and a solution has to be worked out at this meeting. Before leaving on his five-day tour of Asia, Trump told his accompanying reporters, "I think we are going to end up having a fantastic deal with China, it is going to be fantastic for the entire world". He uses always hyperbole but still it is apparent that Trump will make his best efforts to conclude a trade deal with President Xi at this summit.

Trump may be keen on a total deal but Xi may not agree to that, rather the Chinese president will go for a limited understanding keeping the door open for a summit at a later date for a total trade agreement. Since Trump is very keen to find a solution of the rare earths supply issue, Xi might agree to that after getting some concessions from US side. Will Taiwan be one such condition?

Many experts on latest US policies under Trump 2.0 believe that Trump may let down Taiwan to get big concessions from China which are needed for the development of high-tech industry in US. At the Seoul summit, he may focus on major trade issues, but if Xi wants a firm assurance on one China policy, he may even agree to that seeking some protection for Taiwan for the time being. The White House is divided on China issue. There are China doves and China hawks. Trump is trying to balance both sides while arriving at a composite policy. Taiwan will be anxiously looking at the outcome of the Seoul summit.

Focus on Industrial Cluster Development and Incentives in District — Collector Keerthi Chekuri



Rajamahendravaram, Pen Power, October 25: District Collector Keerthi Chekuri emphasized the need to promote entrepreneurs to set up ancillary industries supporting the main industrial sector. She directed officials from agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, and fisheries departments to encourage the establishment of post-harvest units, dairy and milk product industries, and fish seed and feed production

units. At the District Industries and Export Promotion Committee meeting held at Bommuru on Saturday, the Collector said a furniture cluster is being developed at Vadisaleru village in Rangampeta mandal with an outlay of ₹15 crore under the Cluster Development Scheme. Plans are also underway to set up a ceramic cluster and a crucibles manufacturing unit at Rajanagaram industrial park. Under the PM Em-



ployment Generation Programme (PMEGP), 372 units were grounded with ₹15.67 crore margin money in 2024-25, and 287 units with ₹13.60 crore in 2025-26. The Collector urged banks to clear pending loan applications quickly. A total of ₹16.53 crore in incentives for 16 claims have been approved by the verification committee. Through the Single Desk Portal, 3,246 applications were received from July to

October, of which 3,174 were approved and 71 remain pending. Approval was also granted to the Godavari Rollings Association to set up an aluminum utensils cluster in the Aluminum Workers' Colony. District Industries Officer V. Raman, APEIC Deputy Zonal Manager B. Padmajadevi, DRDA PD N.V.S.S. Murthy, District Panchayat Officer Shanthamani, and other officials attended the meeting.

Priority to Rural Road Development: Minister Kandula Durgesh

Rajamahendravaram, Pen Power, October 25— Tourism, Cultural, and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh, along with Rajamahendravaram Rural MLA Gorantla Buchaiah Chowdary, inaugurated a cement road constructed from Burrilanka Kaluvagattu to Eti Gattu in Kadiyam mandal at a cost of ₹2.05 crore, funded under MGNREGS and Mandal Parishad grants. Minister Durgesh said the new road will greatly benefit local residents and nursery farmers. MLA Buchaiah Chowdary added that development works are



being expedited to make Kadiyam mandal a "No Work Pending Mandal" before the upcoming

Godavari Pushkaralu. He emphasized coordination among departments to complete roads, canals, and

drainage works. Several local representatives, officials, and residents participated in the event.

Be Alert Amid 'Montha' Cyclone Threat: Collector Harendra Prasad

Visakhapatnam, Pen Power, October 25: Visakhapatnam District Collector M.N. Harendra Prasad has directed officials to stay fully alert in view of the "Montha" cyclone forming over the Bay of Bengal. During a teleconference with district, mandal, and zonal officials, he said the next 72 hours are crucial, of heavy rains and strong winds. Officials have been instructed not to leave headquarters and to remain on 24-hour alert. The Collector ordered precautions to prevent loss of life,

livestock, and crops, and advised fishermen not to venture into the sea. He directed evacuation of people from low-lying and coastal villages likely to face flooding, and called for prompt water drainage, tree clearance, and uninterrupted power and drinking water supply. Emergency teams (NDRF, SDRF) are on standby, and control rooms have been set up at the Collectorate. Residents can call 0891-2590102 or 0891-2590100 for emergency assistance.



Job Mela on October 28 at Model Career Centre Employment opportunities for job seekers — District Employment Officer Harish Chandra Prasad

Rajamahendravaram, Pen Power, October 25: A Job Mela will be organized on October 28 (Tuesday) at 10 AM at the Model Career Centre, Rajamahendravaram, under the supervision of the East Godavari District Employment Office, said District Employment Officer K. Harish Chandra Prasad. Recruitments will be held for vacancies in Medplus Warehouse, Navata, and Paytm companies. Candidates

aged 19 to 35 years with qualifications from 10th class to degree, with or without experience, are eligible to attend. Selected candidates will be offered immediate job placements. Interested candidates should register in advance and attend the mela with their resume, Aadhaar card, and photocopies of relevant certificates. For more details, contact 9533221189.



Man Dies After Falling from Train

Ongole, Pen Power, October 25: A man who slipped and fell from the Sampark Kranti Express on Friday night died while undergoing treatment at RIMS Hospital, Ongole.

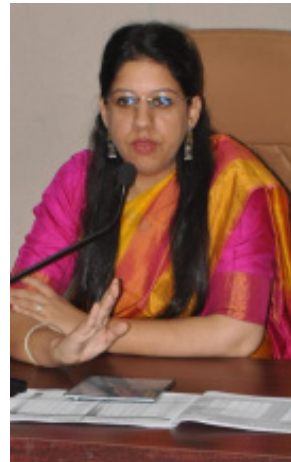
According to GRP officials, the train was traveling from Vijayawada towards Chennai when the incident occurred. The deceased, identified only as Anjaneyulu, was about 45 years old, 5 feet tall, and was wearing a blue shirt and jeans. No identity documents were found on him. Based on a complaint from the station master, Head Constable K.V. Ramana registered an FIR, and an investigation is underway.

Complete the Kaushalam Survey by Monday: District Collector Krutika Shukla

Narasaraopet, Pen Power Correspondent, October 25: District Collector Krutika Shukla has instructed officials to complete the Kaushalam Survey across the district by Monday. She conducted a review meeting at the S.R. Shankaran Video Conference Hall in the Collectorate on various initiatives including Work from Home Survey, PM Awas Yojana, Swachh Andhra Swarna

ndhra, and Citizen e-KYC. The Collector stated that the State Government is exploring opportunities to provide work-from-home employment to the unemployed, and hence the survey and e-KYC processes must be completed immediately. She directed the DWAMA PD to ensure that the construction of Gokulam Sheds sanctioned in the district be completed by December 15. She also instructed officials to finish the renewal of job cards (e-KYC) for employment

workers within three days. Under the Swachh Andhra Swamandhra program, construction of soak pits and beautification works should be completed as per the target. The Collector further emphasized the need to speed up the construction of houses sanctioned under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. DWAMA PD Siddalingamurthy, DPO Nageshwar Naik, DLDOs, and other officials participated in the meeting.



No Scope for Unanimous Elections : DRO Chinna Obulesu



Ongole, Pen Power, October 25: District Revenue Officer (DRO) Chinna Obulesu said that as per

new guidelines of the Election Commission of India, unanimous elections will no longer be allowed even if only

one candidate files a nomination — an election must still be conducted. Voters will also have the option to use the "NOTA" (None of the Above) option if they do not prefer the contesting candidate. He conducted a meeting with representatives of recognized political parties at the Ongole Collectorate. The DRO urged voters with duplicate registrations to retain only one vote at their place of residence and to link their Aadhaar with their voter

ID. He also instructed officials to delete names of deceased persons from the voters' list and asked eligible youth above 18 years to register as voters. Officials including Kanigiri RDO M. Keshavardhan Reddy, Special Deputy Collectors S. Johnson, A. Kumar, S. Varakumar, M. Viswanath Narayana, K. Ravindra Reddy, Election Cell Superintendent Srinivas Rao, and representatives from major political parties attended the meeting.

Follow Rules or Face Action: SP Harshavardhan Raju

Ongole, Pen Power, October 25: District SP V. Harshavardhan Raju warned that strict legal action will be taken against private travel operators violating transport regulations. Police, along with transport department officials, conducted a special drive inspecting around 65 private buses at Mungamuru Road, Adanki Bus Stand, and Tangutur Toll Gate. The inspections focused on passenger safety measures — checking emergency exits, glass breakers, fire hazards, and illegal goods in luggage compartments. Officials also verified vehicle documents, fitness certificates, and driver licenses. SP Raju instructed operators to immediately correct any violations and



warned that non-compliant buses will not be allowed on roads. He emphasized that negligence in passenger

safety will not be tolerated. DSP R. Srinivas Rao, transport officials, and several police officers including CI

Vijay Krishna, CI Hajarathayya, and CI Panduranga Rao participated in the checks.

Awareness on Breast Cancer is Everyone's Responsibility



Visakhapatnam, Oct 25 (Pen Power):

City Police Commissioner Shankar Brata Bagchi em-

phasized that awareness about breast cancer should

not be seen only as a medical concern but as a social responsibility. Speaking at the "The Pink Spirit" awareness program organized by HCG Cancer Centre at UDA Children's Arena on Saturday, he urged women to recognize symptoms at an early stage and face the disease with courage and dignity. He said such initiatives help build an informed society. During the event, HCG Cancer Centre representatives announced a special low-cost cancer screening package for women.

Ministers hold video conference on Wakf-related issues

From Our Staff Reporter

Anantapur, Oct., 25 : A video conference was held to address various issues related to the Wakf properties and minority welfare in Andhra Pradesh. The meeting was organized jointly by the Minority Welfare Department and the Andhra Pradesh Wakf Board, aiming to bring key matters to the attention of the State's Ministerial team. The conference saw participation from several senior ministers including Anagani Satyaprasad, Kolusu Parthasarathy and NMD Farooq. The respective departmental secretaries also joined the discussion from Vijayawada. From Anantapur, Minister for Planning, Finance, and Legislative Affairs Payyavula Keshav attended the session via video conference from the NIC Building in the District Collectorate. During the meeting, the ministers held a detailed discussion on issues concerning the man-



agement of Wakf properties, transparency in administration, and coordination between government departments and the Wakf Board. The conference emphasized the need for effective monitoring, proper record maintenance, and quick resolution of disputes related to Wakf lands and institutions. Minister Payyavula Keshav highlighted the importance of inter-departmental cooperation to ensure that the decisions taken benefit the minority communities and promote social harmony.

"No Woman Should Endure Such Trauma": MPCA Express 'Shock' After Alleged Molestation Of Australia's World Cup Stars



Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association expressed its shock and anguish over the alleged stalking and molestation of two Australia women cricketers, who are here for the ICC Women's World Cup 2025, saying "no one should ever have to endure such trauma". The police have arrested the man involved in the incident that occurred on the Khajrana Road area of the city on Thursday morning. The two cricketers had stepped out of their hotel and were walking towards a café when a man on a motor-cycle started following them. He allegedly touched one of them inappropriately and rode off, according to the Sub-Inspector of the area Nidhi

Raghuvanshi. "MPCA is deeply pained and shocked by the disturbing incident of misconduct and inappropriate behaviour with two players from the Australian Women's Cricket Team in Indore. "No woman should ever have to endure such trauma, and our thoughts and support are with those impacted by this distressing incident. This unfortunate event has deeply affected everyone from MPCA who cherishes the values of respect, safety, and dignity of women," said the MPCA statement. "It is truly inspiring to see the players rise above this painful experience and continue to compete with courage and determination, carrying the

pride of their nation on their shoulders in the match against South Africa on 25.10.2025." The Aussie duo contacted their team security officer, Danny Simmons, who coordinated with local security liaison officers and dispatched a vehicle for assistance. On getting information, Assistant Commissioner of Police Himani Mishra met the two players, recorded their statements and registered a first information report under section 74 (use of criminal force to outrage a woman's modesty) and 78 (stalking) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) at the MIG police station. "Over the years, Indore has earned a proud reputation as a safe venue for the visiting

teams and dignitaries from other fields. It is deeply painful that the disorderly action of one individual has caused such harm and cast a shadow over the city's image," read the statement. "As the host, MPCA extends sincere apologies to the Australian Women's team for this deeply distressing and unfortunate incident while in our city known for safety, grace, and hospitality." MPCA also praised the local police's swift action, saying they were quick in "identifying and apprehending the accused in a short period". "The local police and administration have consistently demonstrated diligence in ensuring player security during all official movements. During this tournament too, teams were provided adequate security for their visits to venues such as the Mahakaal temple and various recreation sites chosen by the teams/players. "Therefore, in this unfortunate incident, it is essential to examine whether the players had sought security cover for the movement outside hotel, or whether the movement occurred in absence of any request for security. "MPCA reiterates its solidarity with the players and assures every possible support in this difficult time, along with our commitment to cooperating with the Australian team, local authorities, and investigating agencies."

Shocker In Indore: Australian Women's World Cup Stars Allegedly Molested, Accused Arrested

As Indore's Holkar Stadium geared up for one of the most anticipated clashes of the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup — Australia vs South Africa — the city woke up to a chilling incident that has shaken its reputation for hospitality and safety. Two members of the Australian women's cricket team were allegedly molested on Thursday morning while walking from Hotel Radisson Blu to a nearby cafe, The Neighborhood, on Khajrana Road. The accused, later identified as Aqeel, reportedly followed the players on a bike before inappropriately touching one of them and fleeing the scene. According to sources, the incident took place around 11 a.m. The terrified players immediately sent an emergency message and live location to their team's security officer, Danny Simmons. "I was reading their message when one of the players called me, crying. She told me what had happened. We immediately dispatched a car and brought them safely to the hotel," Simmons said. A bystander noted the suspect's bike number, which later helped police track him down through CCTV footage. The MIG Police Station filed an FIR based on the complaint from Simmons. In a rare show of urgency, five police stations — Vijay Nagar, MIG, Khajrana, Pardeshipura, and Kanadiya — were roped in for a coordinated manhunt. Within six hours, the



accused Aqeel, a resident of Khajrana with prior criminal records, was arrested from Azad Nagar. Additional DCP (Crime Branch) Rajesh Dandotiya confirmed the arrest and said, "A case was registered on the basis of the complaint received from the Australian team's security officer. The accused was identified through CCTV footage and arrested within hours. He has a prior criminal record. We are examining any lapse in security protocol." The shocking incident has prompted a major overhaul of player security ahead of today's semifinal-deciding clash between Australia and South Africa. Police Commissioner Santosh Singh expressed anger over the lapse and reprimanded the Intelligence Wing. Extra forces have

been deployed along the route from the team hotel to Holkar Stadium. The incident has triggered political outrage. Madhya Pradesh Congress President Jitu Patwari said, "Indore is known for its hospitality, but this raises serious questions about law and order. The fear of police has vanished in Madhya Pradesh. The Chief Minister, who is also the Home Minister, must answer who was responsible and what went wrong." Cabinet Minister Kailash Vijayvargiya called it "a matter of national honor," promising the harshest punishment. BJP MLA Rameshwar Sharma echoed the sentiment and said, "This incident has shamed Indore. Whether the daughter is from Australia or England, her safety is our responsibility. Strict action

Mahaanaryaman Scindia, President of the Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association (MPCA), said in a statement, "We are deeply saddened, shocked, and appalled by this unfortunate incident. No woman should have to endure such behavior. It is extremely painful for the players, for the sports community, and for the people of Indore. One person's act has tarnished the city's image of warmth and respect." As the Australian team, leading the points table with 11 points, prepares to face South Africa for a place in the semifinals, the shadow of this disturbing event looms large. Indore—once celebrated as India's cleanest and most welcoming city—is now under global scrutiny for a crime that has left a stain far deeper than any defeat on the pitch.

"Before People Start Pointing Fingers": R Ashwin's Stunning Remark On Virat Kohli Amid Poor Form



Former Indian cricket team spinner R Ashwin said that people will start 'pointing fin-

gers' if Virat Kohli failed to score big in the third ODI clash against Australia on Sat-

urday. Virat has registered two ducks in the ODI series till now and his dismal run has resulted in chatter over his future. On the other hand, Rohit Sharma regained his form as the former India captain scored a gritty 73. Ashwin said that he hopes Virat will stage a comeback like Rohit and expressed his concern regarding the massive criticism that can follow any disappointing show from Kohli. "I really hope he comes back and gets a score in Sydney. What happened to Rohit today (Thursday), Virat Kohli needs it in

Sydney because, in India, we don't discuss why we lost; more often, we discuss because of whom we lost. Before people start pointing fingers, I hope Virat scores the runs," Ashwin said on his YouTube show. Ashwin also said that he was 'worried' about the manner that Kohli lost his wicket against Australia fast bowler Xavier Bartlett. The ex-India star pointed out that the dismissal was a result of Kohli's inability to read the line of the ball properly and that can be a major concern for the star batter going forward.

Exploiting Chiranjeevi's Name Now A Punishable Offense

The City Civil Court in Hyderabad has issued an ad-interim injunction protecting Megastar Chiranjeevi's personality and publicity rights, curbing unauthorized commercial use of his persona through memes, counterfeit merchandise, and AI-generated content. Legal proceedings have begun against individuals accused of misusing or exploiting Chiranjeevi's name. Several people reportedly targeted the Megastar personally, launching negative campaigns against him on social media platforms. Cases have already been filed against some of them.

As per the court order, using Chiranjeevi's popular monikers such as Megastar, Chiru, or Annayya, or his image in any creative or promotional format without prior consent, constitutes a punishable offense.



While Daler Mehndi was the first Indian celebrity to win a personality rights case, Nagarjuna became the first Telugu actor to achieve such legal recognition. But Chiranjeevi is the first celeb-

rity to win the case from Hyderabad court. Other prominent figures, from Kollywood and Bollywood, have also successfully protected their publicity and personality rights.

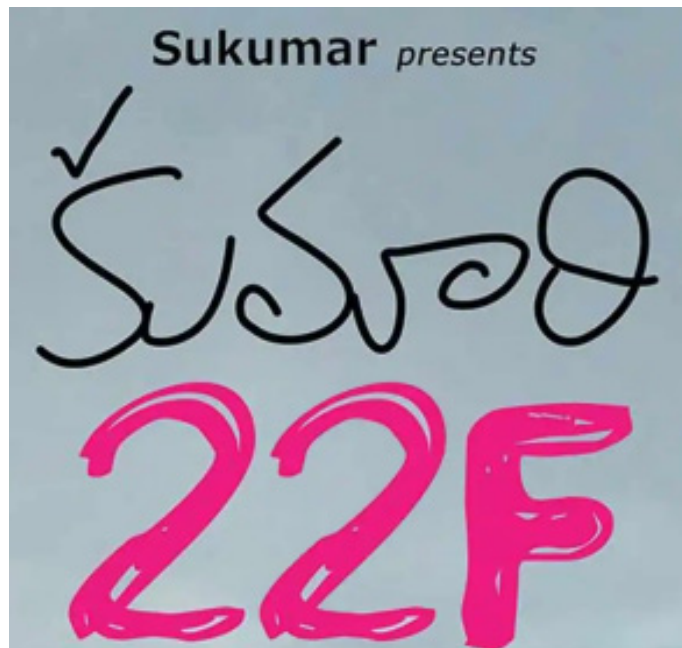
MANASA CHAUDHARY GLOWS BRIGHT IN RAIN-KISSED LOOK



Manasa Chaudhary, who first appeared in Bubblegum back in 2023 and then did a small cameo in Lucky Baskhar, dropped a few new pictures from Golconda Fort. She's seen in a bright yellow kurta, simple denim pants, and sports shoes, a look that somehow feels comfy and fresh at the same time. Her open, wet hair adds that little raw edge, and the old stone backdrop makes it all look kind of poetic. There's no over-styling here, which makes it even better. Just a pair of junkkas, a few bangles, and her natural smile doing all the work. She looks like she didn't plan the shoot too much, just went with the mood, and maybe that's why it feels real. Fans are clearly loving this side of her. The comment sections are full of heart emojis and movie requests. Everyone's waiting to see what she gets next, and honestly, with this charm, she won't have to wait long.

Kumari 22F, Sequel to Kumari 21F, in Works

Sukumar, a prominent Telugu film director, is known for his distinctive storytelling. He has also supported young filmmakers, encouraging his assistant directors to take on independent projects. Directors such as Buchi Babu Sana, Srikanth Odela, Surya Pratap and Karthik Dandu have all worked under him. Sukumar set up a production banner, Sukumar Writings, to back new talent. The banner's first film, Kumari 21F (2015), directed by Palnati Surya Pratap, was noted for its bold storyline. Sukumar Writings later produced Uppena, directed by Buchi Babu Sana, and Virupaksha, directed by Karthik Dandu. A new development from the banner is a spiritual sequel to Kumari 21F, reportedly titled Kumari 22F. The film will be directed by one of Sukumar's associates. It will be produced jointly by Sukumar



Writings and a new production house launched by Sukumar's wife, Thabitha Sukumar. Thabitha Sukumar recently presented Maruti Nagar Subramanyam and has now turned to full-time production with Thabitha Sukumar Films. Kumari 22F is the first project under this banner. Official announcement will be made soon.