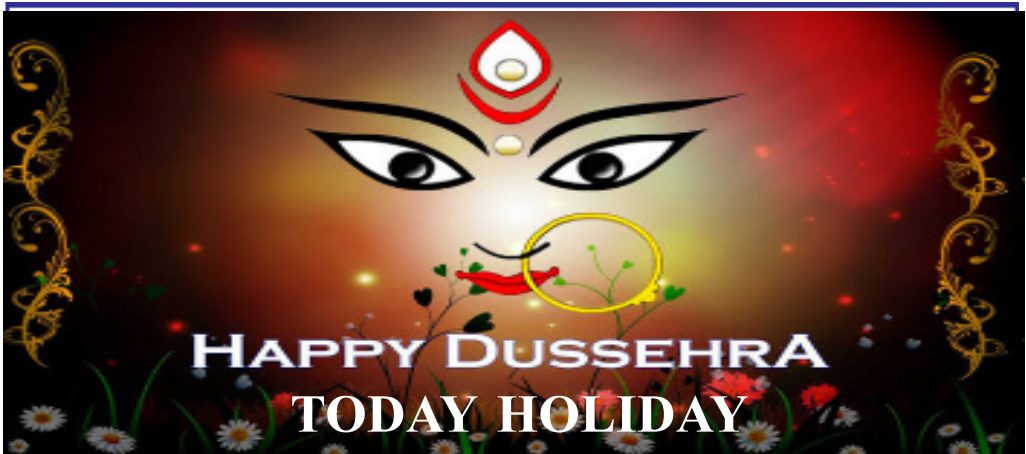




Is Gen Z Being Drawn Into a Power Struggle in Andhra Pradesh?

The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, N. Chandrababu Naidu, while greeting the people of the state on the occasion of Dussehra, reminded them of the need to remain alert and ensure that, in real life too, they defeat evil forces that seek to foment violence and use Gen-Z as pawns for their political ends. At a press conference, he alleged that the opposition YSRCP was “willing to do anything and commit any crime to secure political power.” He said the party’s modus operandi was to create disturbances and blame him. It had followed the same pattern in the case of the



killing of the uncle of Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, he alleged, adding that the party continued to follow this approach. Follow Politics Naidu also criticised Jagan for his remarks on Sunday calling for the restoration of the earlier system of appointing the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) through a panel

that included the Chief Justice of India, arguing that this would restore public confidence. Naidu said that, previously, the government decided who would become the CEC, while the President of India formally made the appointment. Naidu recalled how the YSRCP had allegedly manipulated local body elections to secure large-scale unopposed victories when it was in power. He also alleged that the party had harassed the then State Election Commissioner, Nimmagadda Ramesh, who was eventually forced to seek protection from

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Pawan Kalyan orders non-bailable case against YSRCP leader for damaging road

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, Pawan Kalyan, on Monday ordered that a non-bailable case be filed against a YSRCP leader and others who allegedly destroyed a road built under ‘Palle Panduga’. The Chief Minister took a serious view of the destruction of a road constructed between the villages of Ananthasamudram and Papakkagaripalle in the Pullampeta mandal of Tirupati district. He directed engineering officials to take stringent legal action against Subba Reddy,



a leader of the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), allegedly responsible for the destruction of government property. He asked officials to invoke the Revenue Recovery Act against the individuals who destroyed the road, ensuring that the costs for the damages incurred are recov-

ered from them. According to an official release, Pawan Kalyan on Monday reviewed the incident and the subsequent course of action with senior engineering officials from the Department of Panchayat Raj and Rural Development. FIR has been registered based on in-

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YSRCP demands fresh nomination process in 22 urban local bodies



Vijayawada: YSR Congress Party has urged the State Election Commission to order fresh nominations or postponement of elections in 22 urban local bodies, where its candidates were allegedly prevented from filing nominations. A delegation of YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) leaders met State Election Commissioner Anil Chandra Punetha and submitted video evidence of attacks, intimidation and destroyed nomination papers. MLC and State General Secretary Lella Appi Reddy, accompanied by former MLA T. J. R. Sudhakar

Babu, Narayana Murthy and other leaders, handed over evidence in a pen drive and three representations. Later, addressing the media, Appi Reddy said TDP workers tore nomination papers of the opposition out of fear of defeat, while police supported them and, in some places, police themselves snatched papers. The party’s submission showed YSRCP candidates filed nominations in only 321 of 809 wards and divisions across the 22 local bodies, leaving 488 without nominations. Nominations for eight

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ULB nominations conclude peacefully

Vijayawada: The nomination process for Urban Local Body (ULB) elections in NTR and Krishna districts concluded peacefully on Sunday, the final day for filing papers, with candidates from major political parties and independents submitting nominations for mayoral, municipal chairperson, corporator and ward member posts. Authorities made elaborate security arrangements across the two districts in view of reports of election-related incidents in Rayalaseema. Police personnel were deployed at nomination centres to regulate the movement of supporters, maintain law and order and prevent



Amaravati: YSRCP president YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on Sunday took the municipal election nomination controversy to Governor S Abdul Nazeer and State Election Commissioner Anil Chandra Punetha, alleging that the TDP-led coalition was using police and official machinery to prevent opposition candidates from entering electoral contest. He sought Central forces and comprehensive CCTV surveillance, arguing

that the election process had been compromised before polling could even begin. After meeting the Governor at Lok Bhavan and the SEC, Jagan said he had submitted evidence of candidates being obstructed, nomination papers snatched and supporters attacked. He claimed Punetha had assured him that anyone seeking to file a nomination would be given an opportunity. Addressing the media in Vijayawada, Jagan accused Chief Minister N

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clashes between rival political groups. The process concluded without any untoward incidents in the two districts. Vijayawada witnessed consid-

erable political activity as the three principal contenders for Mayor’s post — NDA-backed Jana Sena Party candidate and former MLA

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Restrictions on media and candidate entry questioned in Nandyal

Nandyal: Allegations of selective police enforcement during the local body election nomination process have sparked intense political controversy in Nandyal, with opposition leaders and journalists questioning the impartiality of the law enforcement administration. Under State Election Commission guidelines, only two individuals are permitted to accompany a candidate into the designated nomination center. Furthermore, tight restrictions have been im-

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The harvest of apathy: How many more lives before we banish the man-made disaster of stampedes?

Once again, a festivity has ended in a nightmare of crushed bodies, suffocated screams, and shattered families. The horrifying tragedy at Kolkata’s historic Chorbagan Sarbojanin Durga Puja pandal—claiming 19 innocent lives and injuring dozens—is not an unavoidable twist of fate. It is a stark, damning monument to administrative failure, systemic neglect, and gross human apathy. The sequence of events was sickeningly familiar. As sudden rain hit the city, thousands rushed toward the iconic pandal seeking shelter. What should have been a well-managed flow of revellers quickly collapsed into a bottleneck of horror. Narrow en try routes, inadequate emergency exits, bloc ked pathways, and chaotic crowd-control mechanisms turned a sanctuary of celebration into a death trap. As always, the heaviest toll was borne by the most vulnerable—women, children, and the elderly—crushed under the sheer weight of a panicked surge. A 95-year legacy undone by modern mismanagement What makes this disaster uniquely infuriating is the historical weight of the venue. For nearly a century, traditional community pujas in Kolkata have managed millions of visitors with organic discipline and neighbourhood coordination. Yet today, in the frantic race for visual spectacle, “Serar-Sera” award titles, and massive commercial sponsorships, basic crowd safety has been relegated to an afterthought. Organisers construct sprawling, labyrinthine theme pandals with narrow ingress and egress corridors designed to maximize footfall counts rather than facilitate safe movement. Simultaneously, security personnel and civil authorities routinely prioritize VIP arrangements, diverting precious space, exit corridors, and police personnel to escort dignitaries while the public is funneled like cattle into claustrophobic spaces. When a sudden disturbance—be it rain, a rumour, or an unexpected rush—occurs, the lack of spatial planning guarantees catastrophe. The predictable cycle of post-tragedy rituals: Predictably, the aftermath has followed our well-worn national ritual: Ex-gratia solatium: Authorities promptly announce lakhs in compensation for the deceased and injured. Cash announcements are tossed to the bereaved as if monetary relief can substitute for basic governance. High-level committees: High-powered inquiry panels and SIT probes are declared with fanfare to “fix accountability”.Pandal organizers and security guards are detained for questioning. Collective amnesia: Within weeks, headlines fade, inquiry reports gather dust on bureaucratic shelves, and everyone returns to business as usual—until the next festival, match, or religious gathering triggers another deadly stampede. Why are we incapable of being proactive? Why must India’s safety protocols be written entirely in the blood of innocent citizens? Learn Hindi Stampedes in India are treated as acts of God, but they are entirely man-made engineering and crowd-management failures. We possess modern telemetry, AI-driven video analytics, drone surveillance, and mathematical models of fluid crowd dynamics. Yet, time and again, elementary rules of public safety are ignored: Strict capacity controls: Pandal authorisations must depend strictly on dynamic load capacity rather than raw footfall targets.

Is Gen Z Being Drawn Into a Power Struggle in Andhra Pradesh?

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the Centre. Ramesh was harassed for reporting large-scale irregularities in the local body elections, Naidu added. He said that during the previous YSRCP government, 24 per cent of MPTC seats and 19 per cent of ZPTC seats were won unopposed. These victories were allegedly secured through the misuse of official power, Naidu said. Naidu further alleged that the previous government had introduced legislation aimed at disqualifying Opposition candidates. He also claimed that liquor bottles were planted in the homes of Opposition candidates to implicate them and that Opposition parties were prevented from filing nominations. “Candidates were not even allowed to file nominations in Pulivendula, Jagan Mohan Reddy’s constituency. In contrast, candidates from various parties, including the YSRCP, have filed nominations in Kuppam, Pithapuram and Pulivendula in the current elections,” he added. The Chief Minister said that, unlike during the YSRCP regime, a large number of nominations had been filed this time. He said the coalition would also take on the party politically and expose its actions. The previous government had misused official power, while its leaders were now resorting to attacks and intimidation, he alleged. Learn Hindi “Violence has no place in my life. But I will not run away from criminals and rowdies. Those who take action against rowdies and goons may become targets of retaliation, but I will not be intimidated by the threats of those sitting in Bengaluru and engaging in acts of lawlessness,” the TDP national president said.

YS Jagan meets Guv, seeks Central forces for municipal polls

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Chandrababu Naidu of resorting to intimidation despite being in power. He alleged that attacks, false cases, kidnappi ngs and arson were taking place under police watch, and warned that those responsible would face consequences. The allegations covered multiple centres. Jagan cited Kadapa, Punganur and Tirupati, where he claimed candidates were prevented from filing papers, nominations were refused or snatched, vehicles attacked and supporters assaulted. At Pulive ndula, he alleged, police pelted stones and fired into the air to intimidate candidates. He said YSRCP nominees had also been prevented from filing papers in Kamalapuram, Rayachoti, Darsi, Gurazala, Dachepalli, Piduguralla, Badvel and Rajampet. Jagan questioned how the elections could be considered fair when, according to him, ruling party supporters were allowed to assemble in groups while opposition candidates faced restrictions at nomination centres. He demanded Central security personnel and CCTV coverage across polling stations and counting centres, seeking safeguards beyond the nomination stage. He widened his attack to the preparation of the elections, questioning why the schedule was announced just a day after reservations were declared.

Pawan Kalyan orders non-bailable case against YSRCP leader for damaging road

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formation provided by villagers, stating that an individual named Subba Reddy -- with the assistance of another person, Venkatasubba Reddy -- had used a tractor to plow up a 100-metre stretch of the road. The road was constructed just a week ago under the 'Palle Panduga 3.0' initiative at a cost of Rs 4.75 crore. ‘Palle Panduga 3.0’, launched recently, is the third edition of the series of rural development-oriented programmes of the state government. The officials stated that the accused would be arrested and produced before a magistrate by this evening. In this regard, Pawan Kalyan provided clear directives to the officials on the actions to be taken against those responsible. Stating that destroying government assets intended for public convenience is an unforgivable crime, he ordered that non-bailable charges be filed against the individual responsible for destroying the road. Describing the destruction of a road built using public funds as a malicious act, he emphasised that the leaders involved, as well as those backing them, must be brought to justice. It was also decided that the identities of those who damaged infrastructure provided by the government for the public benefit must be revealed to everyone.

Restrictions on media and candidate entry questioned in Nandyal

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posed on media representatives, preventing reporters and photojournalists from entering nomination centers to cover candidate filings. Local journalists expressed deep concern over these curbs, stating that media restrictions hinder their ability to discharge professional duties and keep the public informed. However, opposition parties raised sharp objections over alleged preferential treatment accorded to ruling party figures. They pointed out that Minister NMD Farooq’s son was permitted to process to the nomination center accompanied by hundreds of

ULB nominations conclude peacefully

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Vangaveeti Radhakrishna, YSRCP candidate and former Mayor Rayana Bhagya Lakshmi, and independent candidate and retired IPS officer AB Venkateswara Rao — filed their nominations. Vijayawada Mayor post. Vangaveeti Radhakrishna took out a rally after paying tributes to his father, former MLA Vangaveeti Mohana Ranga Rao. His mother and former MLA Ratnakumari, wife Pushpavalli, TDP NTR district president and former ZP chairperson Gadde Anuradha, Jana Sena NTR district president Samineni Udayabhanu, former MLC Buddha Venkanna and other leaders accompanied him. He submitted three sets of nomination papers. Speaking on the occasion, Radhakrishna said he would strive to develop Vijayawada with the support of the State and Central governments. Get Local Permits He thanked Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister K Pawan Kalyan and BJP State president PVN Madhav for giving him an opportunity to contest for the Mayor’s post. Rayana Bhagya Lakshmi filed her nomination in the presence of MLC Ruhullah, former MP Alla Ayodhya Rami Reddy, former MLAs Malladi Vishnu and Velampalli Srinivas, and other YSRCP leaders. She said Vijayawada had received several national and State-level awards during her five-year tenure as Mayor and asserted that the party had a record of development to present before voters.AB Venkateswara Rao entered mayoral contest as an independent candidate with the support of CPI, CPM, and Congress backing. He reached Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) headquarters in a rally along with Left and Congress leaders, including CPM State secretary V Srinivasa Rao, APCC vice-president Kolanukonda Shivaji, CPI City Secretary G Koteswara Rao, former Minister Vadde Sobhandriswara Rao and others, before filing his nomination. Addressing the gathering, Venkateswara Rao alleged that corruption and bribery had become major concerns for residents, particularly small vendors, and criticised the condition of the Bandar canal and the city’s sanitation. He also questioned whether a Mayor from the ruling party would be able to hold the government accountable over civic issues and the use of municipal funds. In Machilipatnam, TDP and YSRCP candidates also filed nomina

YSRCP demands fresh nomination process in 22 urban local bodies

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municipal chairpersons were also prevented. Citing the case of Mydukur, where elections were postponed by the State Election Commission after 19 nomination papers were destroyed, Appi Reddy demanded that the same remedy be applied in 22 other urban local bodies. He brought attacks on MPs Mithun Reddy, Gurumoorthy and Avinash Reddy to the Commission’s attention. The SEC was told that violence continued during scrutiny, with nomination papers torn inside centres in Atmakur and Kanigiri. YSRCP workers were attacked in Proddatur and Kuppam. Kuppam chairperson candidate Vijay Kumar was abducted, and his whereabouts remained unknown. He also sought immediate rescue of abducted candidates and protection for their families. Appi Reddy demanded compliance with High Court directions on CCTV cameras, police protection and transparent elections. Surveillance and webcasting arrangements remained absent in several centres despite repeated requests, he said. He demanded that recordings be preserved, TDP leaders responsible for violence be prosecuted, and complicit officials be removed from election duties. Also Read Pawan Kalyan orders non-bailable case against YSRCP leader for damaging road He urged the SEC to examine Tirupati mayoral candidate Vasu Yadav’s BC certificates and decide his nomination strictly under the rules, without political pressure. Affected candidates must receive a fresh opportunity before any uncontested declaration. Meanwhile, YSRCP has condemned what it called statewide attacks, abductions and destruction of nomination papers during scrutiny of nominations for municipal elections. It claimed that in Kuppam, chairperson candidate Vijay Kumar was abducted, MLC Bharath’s residence attacked, and candidates Jayashankar and Jayanth hospitalised with serious head injuries. In Tadipatri, Kotla Shafi’s house and furniture were damaged, candidate Mohammed Jaffar was abducted, and intimidation prevented nominations in five wards. In Proddatur, Poreddy Narasimha Reddy’s papers were snatched and torn. Police blocked candidates and lathi-charged workers, seriously injuring Rajasekhar’s eye.

supporters in a massive rally, seemingly violating rule limits without encountering police opposition. Opposition representatives questioned whether senior police officials were aware of these blatant code violations while strictly enforcing restrictions on ordinary candidates and media personnel. Follow Politics Demanding immediate corrective action, opposition leaders urged the district police administration to maintain absolute neutrality and enforce election regulations uniformly without showing favoritism toward ruling party candidates.

SAIDABAD POLICE ARREST 23-YEAR-OLD IN HONEY TRAP CASE; Rs 25.16 LAKH EXTORTED AND CHEATED



AMEER HUSSAIN CRIME BEURO CHIEF:Saidabad Police have arrested a 23-year-old man in connection with an alleged honey-trap and extortion racket in which he reportedly extorted and cheated victims of a total of ₹25.16 lakh by creating fake social media profiles using women’s identities. The accused, identified as Kondabhattula Pavan Kumar, a resident of Kukatpally, allegedly operated fake Facebook and Instagram accounts posing as women. According to police, he befriended people online, engaged them in intimate conversations and persuaded them to share private photographs and videos. Police said the accused allegedly stored the material on multiple mobile phones and social media accounts before threatening victims with exposure. He reportedly posed as the woman’s brother and threatened to have complaints filed against the victims unless they paid money. Investigators stated that the accused primarily used photographs of a woman from Kolkata under the name “Chandana”. Police have reportedly alerted the woman through her workplace and the local police in Kolkata.

Rs25.16 LAKH IN EXTORTION AND CHEATING: According to the press note, the accused allegedly extorted ₹18 lakh from victims and cheated others of ₹7.16 lakh through separate activities, taking the total amount involved to ₹25.16 lakh. One of the reported victims was a friend from his diploma course, from whom the accused allegedly extorted ₹4 lakh. He is also accused of cheating a software employee of approximately ₹7 lakh by promising investment returns. Police further stated that the accused allegedly obtained a salary advance of ₹16,000 while working at a private company in Basheerbagh and left without informing the management. Two additional victims reportedly lost ₹6.8 lakh and ₹7

lakh, respectively, and further cases may be registered.

OVER 1,000 PEOPLE CONTACTED ONLINE: The investigation revealed that the accused allegedly chatted with more than 1,000 people and that 82 victims had shared private photographs or videos. Police identified 24 victims from other Indian states, including Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Punjab, and nine victims from other countries, including Dubai, Turkey, Pakistan and Canada. “The alleged victims included doctors, businessmen, lecturers, private-sector employees, delivery personnel and gig workers.

13 FAKE INSTAGRAM AND 14 FACEBOOK ACCOUNTS: Police said the accused allegedly operated 13 Instagram accounts and 14 Facebook accounts using different identities. He also reportedly used two WhatsApp accounts and three mobile numbers to communicate with victims and carry out the alleged extortion. During the operation, police seized three mobile phones, including Redmi, Vivo Y29 and Samsung Galaxy devices, along with an HP laptop and a 16 GB pen drive. The case has been registered at Saidabad Police Station under Crime No. 358/2026 under Sections 308(7) and 351(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), along with Sections 66C, 66D, 66E and 67A of the Information Technology Act. The investigation was conducted under the supervision of Charminar Zone DCP Khare Kiran Prabhakar, Additional DCP Md. Majeed and Saidabad Division ACP Soma Venkat Reddy. Saidabad SHO B. Chandra Mohan is the investigating officer. Police said further investigation is underway and additional cases may be registered in connection with the alleged racket. Further details awaited.

YSRCP candidate files nomination for mayor post

Tirupati: High political drama unfolded in Tirupati as YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) mayoral nominee Vasu Yadav successfully submitted his nomination papers for the Tirupati Municipal Corporation on Sunday morning, following two days of severe obstruction. Following Politics Speaking to reporters, YSRCP senior leader and former MLA Bhumana Karunakar Reddy stated that Vasu Yadav was repeatedly prevented from submitting his papers on Saturday due to alleged blockades by ruling alliance workers and police inaction. Bhumana alleged that nomination papers were forcibly snatched from a Member of Parliament who was attempting to submit them on Vasu Yadav’s behalf. Despite filing formal written complaints with the State Election Commission (SEC), District Collector, and Superintendent of Police, no immediate official relief was provided, prompting Vasu Yadav and his mother to stage a midnight protest outside the municipal office. Determined to exercise his electoral rights on the final day, Vasu Yadav arrived at the municipal office at 6:00 AM on Sunday. To overcome surrounding



blockades, he reportedly scaled the rear perimeter wall of the municipal building and waited inside until returning officers opened the nomination desk to officially accept his candidate papers. Characterizing the incident as a grave threat to democratic norms, Bhumana Karunakar Reddy asserted that contesting elections remains a fundamental constitutional right. He commended Vasu Yadav’s resilience as a crucial step in safeguarding democratic principles, while demanding an impartial SEC investigation into the incident, strict action against perpetrators, and adequate police protection for all candidate filings across Tirupati.

"Mega Carnival" festival is going to be held on Eluru Road as part of the closing of Dasara Devi SharannavaratriThe "Mega Carnival" programme as part of the closing celebrations of Dasara Devi Sharannavaratri



20.10.2026: is being held on Eluru Road from "SRR College via Chuttugunta Signal Junction to Indira Gandhi Stadium on Visalandhra Road". As Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and leaders and people will participate in large numbers in this programme, the following traffic diversions have been made to avoid inconvenience to various vehicles travelling in Vijayawada city. RTC City Bus Diversions: Partially from 09.00 AM and completely diverted from 2 PM till 09.00 PM. RTC Buses coming from Ramavarappadu Ring on Eluru Road: Ramavarappadu Ring Padavalarevu Junction BRTS Road -> Seetannapeta Gate Left Turn Eluru Locks Narayana Swamy Hotel Old Kesineni Travels Swarna Palace Right Turn PCR Jn. PNBS. RTC Buses to go from PNBS Bus Stand into Eluru Road: (i) PNBS -> PCR Jn. Swarna Palace Left Turn -> Old Kesineni Travels Narayana Swamy Hotel Eluru Locks Seetannapeta Gate Right



Turn BRTS Road Padavalarevu Junction Ramavarappadu Ring. “(Or)“(ii) PNBS -> PCR Junction -> RTC Y Junction -> MG Road -> Benz Circle -> Mahanadu Junction -> Ramavarappadu Ring. Car / Two Wheelers other vehicles diversions in Vijayawada city: Will be completely diverted from 2 PM to 9 PM. On the occasion of Mega Carnival programme from 2 PM to 9 PM from Deepti Junction to Padavalarevu Junction on Eluru Road, no vehicles will be allowed on Eluru Road from Deepti Junction to Padavalarevu Junction and from Padavalarevu Junction towards Deepti Junction. Therefore, on Dt: 20.10.2026 on the occasion of "Dasara Mega Carnival" programme, all the city people are requested to go their vehicles in other alternative routes and cooperate with the Police Department to avoid traffic disruptions and inconvenience to the public. Dy. Commissioner of Police, “Traffic, NTR Police Commissionerate, “Vijayawada city.

Revanth Reddy Garu Inaugurates Future City Police Commissionerate



AMEER HUSSAIN CRIME BEURO CHIEF :The Commissionerate was established by the Telangana government on December 29, 2025 through G.O. Ms. No. 141 of the Home department Update: 2026-10-19 12:22 GMT“Revanth Reddy Inaugurates Future City Police Commissionerate“Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Monday inaugurating the Future City Police Commissionerate at Ibrahimpatnam Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Monday inaugurated the Future City Police Commissionerate at Ibrahimpatnam here. He later made the Future City Police Commissioner Tarun Joshi to sit on a chair amid vedic chants. He presented a bouquet and wished him well. Director-General of Police CV Anand and other senior officials were present. The Commissionerate was established by the Telangana government on December 29, 2025 through G.O. Ms. No. 141 of the Home department. It represents a strategic evolution in law enforcement, specifically designed to secure the State Government’s most ambitious urban development initiative, the Future City Project. Carved out from the existing jurisdictions of the Hyderabad, Cyberabad, and Rachakonda Commissionerates, the Commissionerate stands as a pioneer in modern Indian policing. It is one of the first major Commissionerates in the country established under the framework of new laws, ensuring that our operations are built on the most current and citizen-cen-



tric legal standards. To match the rapid transformation of the region, the Commissionerate oversees a vast and diverse territory exercising its jurisdiction over a total area of 4,337.19 sq. km, spanning across half a dozen Assembly Constituencies and two Parliamentary Constituencies. “““The force protects a community that has seen a 48.16 per cent growth rate since 2001, with an estimated population of 25-30 lakhs by 2030. “““The command is divided into three law and order zones - Maheshwaram, Shadnagar, and Chevella - comprising 22 law and order police stations and four traffic police stations. As the security bedrock for the 19,333-acres TGIIC Development area, the Future City police is committed to world-class safety. With the available strength of the progressive police force, and specialized units for Cyber Crime and Women Safety, the Commissionerate is dedicated to ensuring that as the city grows into a global hub, and citizens remain safe, secure, and empowered.

Jagannmata Darshan as Sri Rajarajeswari Devi on Vijayadashami

Grand closing celebrations

Darshan of Goddess for devotees from 2:30 AM tomorrow - Plan prepared by Devasthanam



Maha Purnahuti of Dasara festivities at 10:30 AMState Governor Sri S. Abdul Nazeer to have darshan of Sri Ammavaru between 1:00 to 2:00 PMMesmerizing Hamsavahana Teppotsa2vam in Krishna River in the evening - Afterwards procession to One Town Police StationDetails revealed by Chairman Borra Radhakrishna (Gandhi), EO V.K. Seena Naik in media conferenceIndrakeeladri (Vijayawada), 19 October 2026:“Temple Board Chairman Borra Radhakrishna (Gandhi), Chief Festival Officer V. Trinatharao, Executive Officer V.K. Seena Naik, Temple Sthanacharya Vishnubhatla Sivaprasad Sharma spoke to media on Monday evening about arrangements for Vijayadashami festival, the closing day of Dasara Sharannavaratri Mahotsavams being held in a most glorious manner at Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam.On the occasion of Vijayadashami festival, Jagannmata Sri Kanakadurga Ammavaru will give darshan to devotees in the divine decoration of Sri Rajarajeswari Devi, the sovereign of all worlds. EO Seena Naik said that a foolproof plan has been prepared to open the temple earlier than every day, and the divine darshan of Ammavaru will be provided to devotees from 2:30 to 3:00 AM.The Homa rituals being conducted in a scriptural manner in the Yagasala on the occasion of Navratri will conclude with "Maha Purnahuti" to be held at 10:30 AM on Vijayadashami. Afterwards Mahanivedana will be offered to Ammavaru as usual in the afternoon.Tomorrow between



1:00 to 2:00 PM Andhra Pradesh State Governor Hon'ble Sri S. Abdul Nazeer will visit Indrakeeladri and have darshan of Sri Ammavaru and perform special pujas.At 3:45 PM the Nagarotsava procession of Adidampatulu will start from Sri Malleswara Swamy Temple and reach Krishna bank. Between 5:30 to 6:30 PM in the evening, the eye-pleasing "Divya Teppotsavam" of Swamy and Ammavaru on an electrically illuminated Hamsavahana in the holy Krishna River waters will be conducted in a most glorious manner.Temple Chairman Borra Radhakrishna (Gandhi) said that in the evening Pancha Harathis will be conducted on Indrakeeladri as per tradition. He revealed that after the Teppotsavam in Krishna River is completed gloriously, following ancient tradition, the Utsava idols will be taken in procession amidst mangala vadyams to One Town Police Station, where after receiving special pujas they will return to the hill.He requested all devotees to witness these closing celebrations peacefully, with devotion and receive the blessings of Ammavaru.

Durga temple earns Rs 2.1 cr income during Dasara

Vijayawada: The Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam atop Indrakeeladri here has earned approximately Rs 2.10 crore in revenue during the first eight days of the Dasara Sarannavaratri festivities, from October 11 to 18. Around 10 lakh devotees visited the hill shrine and had darshan of Goddess Kanaka Durga during the period. The Dasara Sarannavaratri celebrations are being held from October 11 to 20, with an estimated 25 lakh devotees, including Bhavani devotees, expected to visit the temple during the festivities. The temple authorities expect the rush to increase on the ninth and tenth days of the festivities and during the three days following the celebrations, particularly with the arrival of Bhavani devotees. With the overall footfall expected to rise, the temple has planned to prepare an additional 30 lakh laddus to meet the anticipated demand. The income generated during the first eight days came from various sources, includ-

ing darshan, prasadam, pujas, publications, photographs, calendars and keshha khandanam (tonsuring). On Sunday (October 18), the temple recorded its highest daily revenue during the period at Rs 35.15 lakh. It earned Rs 31.21 lakh on October 16, Rs 29.83 lakh on October 15, Rs 26.01 lakh on October 17, Rs 17.13 lakh on October 14, Rs 16.29 lakh on October 13, Rs 25.41 lakh on October 12 and Rs 29.01 lakh on October 11. Meanwhile, the temple sold 16,13,393 laddus during the first eight days of the festivities. Daily sales stood at 1,45,186 on the first day, 1,20,783 on the second, 1,48,119 on the third, 1,67,711 on the fourth, 2,17,730 on the fifth, 3,15,342 on the sixth, 3,02,522 on the seventh and 2,02,000 on the eighth day. Shop Holiday Decor To ensure the smooth distribution of prasadam, the temple has made 19 laddu counters available at different locations. These include 11 main counters, comprising nine regular and two online

Goal is to conduct local body elections in peaceful atmosphere, transparently, impartially

Strong security measures should be taken from beginning to end of election process
All officials should perform duties responsibly with coordination
District Election Officer and Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha



Vijayawada: October 19,2026.NTR District Election Officer and District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha directed officials to take foolproof advance arrangements with the goal of conducting the 2nd General Elections-2026 for rural, urban local bodies in a peaceful atmosphere, with complete transparency, impartially. He suggested giving priority to protection of law and order without scope for any untoward incidents in election process, giving utmost priority to safety of people, voters.Andhra Pradesh State Election Commissioner Anil Chandra Punetha conducted a high-level review meeting on Monday through video conference with District Collectors, Police Commissioners, SPs, Election General Observers, Expenditure Observers, Municipal Commissioners, ZP CEOs, DPOs on conduct of 2nd General Elections-2026 for rural, urban local bodies, election arrangements. In this meeting, arrangements to be taken for conduct of elections, responsibilities to be performed by official machinery, protection of law and order, implementation of election code, election expenditure monitoring, redressal of complaints etc were reviewed. He suggested that officials of concerned departments work with mutual coordination and implement Election Commission guidelines, rules strictly.After the review meeting District Collector and District Election Officer Dr. G. Lakshmisha said, ordered official machinery to take stringent advance measures so that there is no disruption to law and order from beginning till completion of election process. He said necessary security arrangements should be made so that no untoward incidents take place during elections, situation at field

level should be continuously monitored. He clarified that a strong security plan should be implemented so that common people, voters exercise their voting right freely without any fear. District Collector suggested every officer performing duties in election management should act responsibly. He said transparency should be maintained in election process, duties should be performed without scope for any partiality.“He called for all department officials to work in coordination besides strictly implementing guidelines prescribed by Election Commission and make election conduct successful. He said without scope for negligence in election duties, assigned responsibilities should be completed timely efficiently. District Collector said concerned officials should continue constant monitoring on implementation of election code of conduct, observance of election expenditure limits, other election related matters. He suggested to keep system alert to examine complaints received regarding violation of election rules as per rules, and take appropriate action. He said people, representatives of political parties can directly contact Election General Observers, Expenditure Observers by phone or e-mail regarding complaints on violations of election code of conduct, election expenditure limits, other election related complaints.General Observers Naga Lakshmi. S, IAS., Cell No. 7680980032, mdapgenco2025@gmail.com,Expenditure Observers M. Siva Prasad, IFS Cell No. 9866238885, ssluckysiva@gmail.com can be contacted he said. Also said office of Election Expenditure Observers is set up at Vijayawada District Parishad office.He directed officials to bring to notice of District Election Officer immediately without delay if any problems, difficulties arise either in performance of election duties or during election arrangements at field level. He suggested to take measures for smooth conduct of election process by identifying problems timely and resolving with coordination of concerned departments. He said every aspect encountered in election management should be resolved responsibly and proceed as per Election Commission guidelines. People's cooperation is needed for democratic elections“District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha requested officials, political parties, people to cooperate collectively to conduct local body elections in accordance with democratic values protecting sanctity of elections. He called upon everyone to perform their share of responsibility giving priority to transparency in election process, impartial approach, protection of law and order to conduct elections successfully.In this high-level review meeting Election General Observers S. Nagalakshmi, Expenditure Observers M. Sivaprasad, NTR District Election Officer and District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha, Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Commissioner H.M. Dhyanchand, and other district officials participated.



counters, one ATM laddu counter, three counters at the railway station, two at the bus stand and one VIP counter uphill. Four additional emergency or other distribution points have also been arranged. The temple authorities have taken advance measures to ensure an uninterrupted supply of laddus in view of the expected increase in demand. Laddus are being supplied in six-laddu and three-laddu boxes, as well as individually, according to devotees' requirements.

Rashmika Mandanna gets closer to Vijay Deverakonda's roots during Puttaparthi visit

Mumbai: Actress Rashmika Mandanna recently visited the school in Puttaparthi where actor Vijay Deverakonda spent his school years. She described the experience as peaceful, beautiful and divine. Taking to Instagram, the 'Animal' actress shared a heartfelt note about her visit, saying she had heard numerous stories about Vijay's childhood, school days and friends over the years. However, visiting the place herself had remained a missing piece. Sharing a series of photos, Rashmika wrote, "Guyssss, I just want to share a little experience with you all All these years, I've heard so many stories about where Vijay grew up, where he studied, his school days.. cz all his friends are from school and they studied in Puttaparthi.. so I've always been calling them parthi boys and girl and along the way, they've become my best friends too And I always felt like it was a missing puzzle cz that was one place that I hadn't seen or been to.. but I'd heard so much about.. Finally, I got the beautiful opportunity to visit Puttaparthi, see the school where they studied, their classrooms, their dorms and meet so many lovely people there and meet HM aunty and she's the SWEETEST person ever.. I really cannot explain how peaceful I felt being there.. there was something about that place that made my heart feel so calm.. everything felt so soo beautiful and divine," she added.Mandanna went on to state, "I've always wondered how Vijay, Anand and all the Puttaparthi boys and girls share so many similar values.. and



rest of the family as well.. The way they are, the way they treat people, the way they believe in love and kindness and when I visited their school, I think I finally understood where so much of it comes from.. As children, the places we grow up in, the people we spend time with, and the lessons our parents and teachers teach us become such a big part of who we are. And watching those little children sing vedas and bhajans with so much devotion, knowing their shlokas and chanting with all their heart just moved me so much."

"The teaching of 'Love All, Serve All' has always felt so close to my heart.. its how I have always been.. and this little experience left me feeling so much love, gratitude and peace."The 'Pushpa' actress concluded by saying, "And there's one little thought I keep coming back to... maybe Swami wanted me to visit Puttaparthi at this point in my life.. cz the time felt right. Some places teach you things without you even realising it and sometimes you understand a little more about the people you love by understanding where they come from.."Meanwhile, Rashmika Mandanna and Vijay Deverakonda are set to appear together on the ninth season of "Koffee With Karan."

Lawrence Bishnoi gang claims responsibility for attack on Tiger Shroff

Mumbai: The Lawrence Bishnoi group has claimed responsibility for the attack on Tiger Shroff in Juhu on Sunday evening. Anil Pandit, a representative of the group shared a post saying that they tried to warn Tiger, but he did not listen and hence, they had to resort to such drastic actions. Anil Pandit warned that they will not spare anyone working in close proximity with Bollywood actor Salman Khan. They shared, "Jai Mahakal... Jai Shri Ram... Greetings to all the brothers. We, Anil Pandit and Harman Sandhu, take responsibility for what happened in the Tiger Shroff incident today. We had called and warned him, but he did not understand. Therefore, today we made him understand in a stronger way. Anyone in the Mumbai film industry who does not listen to us or works with Salman Khan will be next. Wait and watch. (sic)"

"Note: Those from other groups who think they can gain fame by using our name will soon be killed, and we will make them famous that way," the post further read. In an audio shared by the Mumbai crime branch, Anil Pandit asked Salman to apologise to Lawrence Bishnoi and the Bishnoi community. "Listen to me



carefully Salman Khan. If you don't apologize to my elder brother, Lawrence Bishnoi, or to the Bishnoi community, then we won't even leave a dog in your house. We will destroy your entire family. Keep this in mind. Don't think that you are in security and nothing will happen to you." he said.

Three motorcycle-borne men opened fire at Tiger Shroff's car in the Juhu area of Mumbai on Sunday evening. While he escaped unharmed, the actor's driver has reportedly been injured.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has directed the Police Commissioner to immediately investigate the matter and take strict action against those responsible. Refreshing your memory, on 14 April 2024, two men on a motorcycle fired shots outside Salman's Galaxy Apartments residence in Bandra.

"Young and Talented Hero Thiruveer's "Bhagavanthudu" Second Single 'O Yellamma' Released"

Hyderabad cinema : Bhagavanthudu" is the upcoming film starring young and talented actor Thiruveer and young and talented actress Faria Abdullah. Kannada actor Rishi will be seen in a pivotal role in the film. Produced by Ravi Kumar Panasa under the banner of Ravi Panasa Film Corporation (Panasa Media India Private Limited) as Production No. 1, the film has Vidya Sri Panasa as its co-producer. G.G. Vihari is making his directorial debut with this film. "Bhagavanthudu" is being made as a romantic period political action drama and will soon arrive in theatres worldwide with a grand release. "Today, the makers released the film's second single, 'O Yellamma'. Composed by S. Krishna Prasad with a divine musical touch, the song is sung by Addula Jangireddy. Interestingly, the lyrics have been penned by the film's director, G.G. Vihari. "O Yellamma" beautifully fills the heart with devotion through its powerful lyrics. The song describes the divine significance of Goddess Renukamma, with lines portraying her as the daughter of the Suryavamsha royal family, an embodiment of Adi Shakti blessed by Goddess Durga, and a divine mother born without a womb. It also highlights her life as the wife of Jamadagni, her extraordinary spiritual power, and her renunciation of royal comforts to embrace a life of exile. The song celebrates the glory and divinity of Goddess Renukamma, creating a deeply devotional experience for listeners.

Cast: Thiruveer, Faria Abdullah, Rishi, Vinay Varma, Ravinder Vijay, Shelley Kishore, Kalakeya Prabhakar, Chirag Jani, Adhire Abhi, Balagam Sanjay, Harshini,



Ra vinder Reddy, Mime Madhu, and others.

Technical Crew: Audio Label: Madhura
Costume Designer: Ayesha Mariam
Action Choreography: Ram Kishan, Robin Subbu
Lyricists: Chandrabose, Dr. Gorati Venkanna, Kasarla Shyam, G.G. Vihari
Choreography: Eshwar Penti
Cinematography: Raj Thota
Music: K.P.
Production Designer: Gandhi Nadikudikar
Editor: Prawin Pudi
Line Producer: Gautham Udugula
PRO: Suresh (SK Media)"Story, Screenplay, Dialogues and Direction: G.G. Vihari
Banner: Ravi Panasa Film Corporation (Panasa Media India Private Limited)
Producer: Ravi Kumar Panasa"Co-Producer: Vidya Sri Panasa

RGV calls Tiger Shroff firing a 'never-before-seen phenomenon'



Mumbai: Filmmaker Ram Gopal Varma has reacted to the firing incident involving actor Tiger Shroff, suggesting that the attack appeared to be driven by "vanity and pride" rather than motives typically associated with criminal violence. Taking to social media, Varma described the incident as a "never-before-seen phenomenon" and offered his perspective on what could have prompted the attack. He wrote on his X handle: "What happened with @iTIGERSHROFF is a never-before-seen phenomenon. Instead of killings relating to extortion, contract murders, settlements, etc., for the first time ever, they seem to be wanting to kill for vanity and pride." The incident occurred on October 19 outside a football club near Pushpa Narsee Park in Juhu, Mumbai. Tiger Shroff was unharmed, but his driver and an autorickshaw driver were injured in the firing. According to reports, three people suspected of involvement in the incident were later apprehended in Kota, Rajasthan. The incident has drawn reactions from several members of the film industry, who have voiced concerns about safety and called for prompt ac-

tion against those responsible. Actor Urvashi Rautela told IANS: "It's very deeply disturbing. My heartfelt strength and prayers to Tiger and his family. And I really hope that the authorities take swift action. Like, really fast." Filmmaker Ashoke Pandit said: "I, on behalf of the film industry, on behalf of the National Institute of Industry and Employees, on behalf of the Directors' Association and, in part, the producers' group, condemn this attack on one of the major celebrities of our industry. And I thank God that nothing fatal happened and he is safe. One really feels quite shocked and quite pained. And we all stand by Jackie Shroff and the entire family in this hour of crisis."

"One can understand the trauma that Jackie and the entire family must be undergoing now. They must have never expected that this would happen to their son. An atmosphere of insecurity has crept into the industry. This was the second attack on our industry in recent times. A few months ago, Rohit Shetty's house was attacked, and bullets were fired at it," he added.

South Korea’s automobile exports fall 5.5pc in September amid Middle East tensions

Seoul: South Korea’s automobile exports fell 5.5 per cent in September from a year earlier due to persistent tensions in the Middle East and a decline in used-car shipments, government data showed on Monday. The value of automobile exports fell to US\$6.05 billion last month from \$6.4 billion a year earlier, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources said in a press release. “Escalating tensions in the Middle East and a decline in used-car shipments due to tighter regulations in major export markets weighed on exports,” the ministry said, reports Yonhap news agency. By region, exports to North America and the European Union increased 9.2 percent and 15.3 percent, respectively, to \$3.07 billion and \$1.11 billion. Shipments to Asia and the Middle

East on the other hand plunged 60 percent and 7.1 percent, respectively, to \$330 million and \$350 million. Exports of eco-friendly vehicles, including battery electric and gasoline hybrid models, meanwhile, rose 5.9 percent to \$2.89 billion. Domestic vehicle sales fell 14.3 percent to 135,000 units last month due to fewer working days driven by the Chuseok holiday. The number of locally produced vehicles rose 3.7 percent to 347,000 as productivity improved at major automakers following wage agreements with labor unions. The government will support the automobile industry’s sustainable growth through close engagement with the industry as competition from Chinese automakers intensifies, the ministry said. Meanwhile, Seoul shares nar-



rowed their losses late Monday morning helped by institutional buying after a technology-led sell-off on Wall Street raised speculation over heavy spending in artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure. After opening a sharp 3.17 percent lower, the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI) was down 14.8 points, or 0.26 percent, from the previous session to 5,653.25 as of 11:20 am.

Rupee falls 3 paise to 94.92 against US dollar, ends six-session rally

Mumbai: The rupee pared its initial gains and settled 3 paise lower at 94.92 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday, weighed down by a sharp fall in domestic equity markets and a recovery in crude oil prices. The rupee snapped its six-session winning streak and ended in negative territory amid continued pressure from foreign institutional investor (FII) outflows and elevated crude oil prices. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 94.90 against the US dollar. During intraday trade, it touched a high of 94.75 and a low of 94.97 against the American currency. The rupee settled at 94.92 (provisional) against the greenback, registering a loss of 3 paise from its previous close. On Friday, the rupee extended its upward momentum for the sixth consecutive session, settling 10 paise higher at 94.89 against the US dollar, supported by the Reserve Bank of India’s measures to curb spot dollar demand. During the week ended October 16, the Indian rupee appreciated by approximately 2 per cent, supported by the RBI’s measures to manage dollar demand. “RBI measures may help stabilise short-term currency movements, but a sustainable recovery will depend on lower oil prices, improved foreign capital flows and easing external pressures,” said Gaurav Garg, head of research at Lemonn. Garg further noted that while the rupee’s recovery was encouraging, its sustainability would depend on whether global and domestic fundamentals improved alongside RBI



support. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback’s strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.09 per cent higher at 101.93. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading 1.17 per cent lower at USD 108.58 per barrel in futures trade. “We expect the rupee to trade with a positive bias amid overall weakness in the dollar and softening US Treasury yields. However, elevated crude oil prices and FII outflows may cap sharp gains,” said Anuj Choudhary, research analyst at Mirae Asset Sharekhan. On the domestic equity market front, the Sensex tumbled 876.37 points to settle at 73,852.90, while the Nifty dropped 257.20 points to 22,888.95. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) turned net buyers, purchasing equities worth Rs 1,165.92 crore on Friday, according to exchange data. Meanwhile, according to RBI data released on Friday, India’s foreign exchange reserves fell by USD 8.578 billion to USD 726.027 billion during the week ended October 9. In the previous reporting week, the reserves had declined by USD 12.952 billion to USD 734.606 billion.

Gold, silver futures rise as global cues improve and Fed rate hike concerns ease

New Delhi: Gold and silver futures traded higher on Monday in early trade, tracking firm global cues and easing Fed rate hike concerns. On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold futures (December) were trading at Rs 1,48,379 per 10 grams, up Rs 461 or 0.31 per cent from the previous close of Rs 1,47,918. The yellow metal jumped as much as 0.4 per cent or Rs 581 to hit an intraday high of Rs 1,48,499. It recorded an intraday low of Rs 1,48,120 so far, up 0.13 per cent or Rs 200. Similarly, silver futures (December) were trading at Rs 2,12,013 per kg, up Rs 826 or 0.39 per cent from the previous close of Rs 2,11,187. The white metal hit an intraday high of Rs 2,12,750, surging 0.74 per cent or Rs 1,563. It touched an intraday low of Rs 2,11,634. Earlier in the day, gold and silver contracts opened at Rs 1,48,397 and Rs 2,12,319, respectively. According to commodity market experts, Friday’s session eased immediate rate-hike concerns with remarks by Fed Chair Kevin Warsh in Bangkok reducing implied probability of October rate increase to below 20 per cent. However, hotter inflation readings including sharpest monthly rise in producer prices in four and half years keep December move in play. October 27-28



FOMC meeting will be next key test. For MCX gold, immediate resistance at Rs 148,600, followed by Rs 150,000-Rs 150,700. Downside support at Rs 148,000, followed by Rs 145,300-Rs 146,000 and then Rs 143,000-Rs 143,700. In addition, COMEX gold opened steady near \$4,185 and moved toward \$4,200, up 0.50 per cent and edging back above that level. COMEX silver opened near \$57.15 and moved toward \$57.80, up 0.89 per cent, outperforming gold. Firmer rupee reducing benefit of recovery in international prices, experts said. For MCX Silver, immediate resistance at Rs 214,000-Rs 215,000 which capped gains Friday, followed by Rs 219,000-Rs 220,000. “Immediate support at Rs 207,000-Rs 208,000, with next support at Rs 200,000-Rs 202,000,” they added.

Sensex, Nifty open flat as mixed global cues keep investors cautious



New Delhi: Domestic equity benchmarks opened on a flat note on Monday tracking mixed global cues and momentum from last week’s gains. Sensex opened at 74,849.30, up 120.03 points or 0.16 per cent, while Nifty began trading at 23,150.85, up 4.70 points or 0.02 per cent. Sectorally, Nifty PSU Bank led gains and rose over 1 per cent, followed by Nifty Oil & Gas which surged 0.6 per cent. In contrast, Nifty Private Bank, Nifty IT and Nifty Chemicals dropped up to 1 per cent. Market experts said momentum from Nifty’s 2.8 per cent surge last week and good results from banking majors after better-than-expected IT earnings could keep the market resilient. “However, escalation of tensions in Hormuz and consequent surge in Brent crude to \$109 will

act as a strong headwind,” according to them. They further said that attractive large-cap valuations and rupee appreciation turned FII stance slightly positive, though unlikely to sustain at high crude prices. Large-caps outperforming mid and small-caps is likely to continue, with stock-specific action on Q2 results. For Nifty, immediate support is placed at 22,950–23,000, while resistance is seen at 23,250–23,300, the experts said and added that RSI strengthened to 52.81 above its average of 34.70, while PCR stood at 1.08. In the previous session on October 16, FIIs turned net buyers after 15 straight sessions of selling, buying equities worth about Rs 1,166 crore, while DIIs ended their 45-session buying streak with net sales of around Rs 3,661 crore. On commodities, Brent crude traded nearly 2 per cent lower at around \$107.76 per barrel, while US WTI declined about 1 per cent to \$100.43. In Asia, markets were mixed. Japan’s Nikkei traded 0.84 per cent lower, while Hong Kong’s Hang Seng and South Korea’s KOSPI rose up to 0.83 per cent. Indonesia’s Jakarta Composite fell over 5 per cent.

Elon Musk announces plan to distribute SpaceX shares to American children

New Delhi: Billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk on Monday said he plans to give one SpaceX share to every child in the United States next year. In a post on the social media platform X, the SpaceX chief executive officer described the move as the first of many such initiatives. “Next year, I will give one of my SpaceX shares to every kid in America. This will be the first of many,” Musk wrote. The announcement comes as Musk remains the largest shareholder in the private aerospace and satellite company. According to a recent regulatory filing, Musk held a 48.4 per cent stake in SpaceX as of June 30. The filing showed that Musk owned approximately 6.42 billion shares in SpaceX. His holdings included 849.5 million Class A shares and 3.92 billion Class B shares held through trusts for which he serves as trustee. In addition, Musk directly owned about 1.30 billion restricted Class B shares and had rights tied to stock options covering another 350 million Class B shares. Musk did not provide details on how the proposed share distribution would be implemented, including the eligibility criteria, timing, regulatory ap-



provals or whether the shares would be transferred directly to recipients or through a trust structure. SpaceX is one of the world’s most valuable private companies, with operations spanning commercial launch services, satellite internet through Starlink and human spaceflight missions. Meanwhile, last week, Musk unveiled a new version of the Roadster sports car, showcasing a prototype that briefly lifted off the ground during a demonstration at a SpaceX facility in Texas. A social media post shared by Musk on X highlighted the demonstration, in which the vehicle navigated an elevated, curved track before becoming airborne for a short distance and landing safely.

Asian Para Games: Mona tops women’s 10m air rifle qualification with Asian record, Avani finishes second

Nagoya: India’s Mona Agarwal and Avani Lekhara delivered a commanding performance in the women’s 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1 qualification at the 2026 Asian Para Games in Nagoya on Monday, securing the top two positions and strengthening the country’s medal prospects ahead of the final. Agarwal led the field with 629.1 points after six series, setting a new Asian Para Games qualification record and surpassing the previous mark held by China’s Zhang Cuiping. The Indian shooter came agonisingly close to the world record of 629.4, jointly held by compatriot Lekhara and Slovakia’s Veronika Vadovicova. Lekhara, meanwhile, accumulated 626.4 points to finish second in the qualification standings, ensuring a one-two finish for India heading into the medal-deciding round. With both shooters finding their rhythm in the preliminary stage, India will look to convert its strong start into a double podium finish. Notably, Avani and Mona are the gold and bronze medallists of the Paris Paralympics 2024. India also secured two finalists in the men’s 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1 event, with Rakesh Nidagundi finishing seventh on 619.3 points and Swaroop Unhalkar placing eighth with 617.4. However, Anandha Krishnan could not make the cut, ending the qualification round in 13th place with 605.2 points. The shooting success followed an impressive start



to India’s para-archery campaign, with Sheetal Devi producing a world record-equalling performance in the women’s compound qualification round. The 19-year-old scored 704 out of a possible 720 points, matching the world record while rewriting the Asian record by six points. Sheetal’s tally eclipsed the previous continental benchmark of 698, establishing her as one of the standout performers of the competition so far. The reigning world champion and Paris Paralympics bronze medallist will now aim to carry her exceptional form into the elimination rounds. Fellow Indian archer Payal Nag also made a strong impression, scoring 675 points to finish joint fifth in the women’s compound qualification standings. Her performance further strengthened India’s position in the event as the country looks to add to its medal tally in Aichi-Nagoya. With record-setting performances across shooting and archery, India has made an encouraging start to Monday’s proceedings at the Asian Para Games.

Madhesh Kumar retains lead in National Sub-junior chess championship



Hyderabad: S Madhesh Kumar of Puducherry managed to retain his half-point lead with nine points after settling for a draw with Niladri Banerjee of West Bengal in the penultimate round of the 51st National Sub-junior Chess Championship at Subham Convention Centre here on Monday. Second-seeded Madhvendra Pratap Sharma of Madhya Pradesh, Divith Reddy Adulla of Telangana, Badole Shaunak of Maharashtra and Niladri Banerjee of West Bengal have secured 8.5 points each, keeping themselves in contention for the title.

Among the girls, Prishita Gupta of Delhi is poised to win the title, widening her lead by a full point. She defeated Sunetra Dey of West Bengal in the 10th round. Saranya Devi Narahari of Andhra Pradesh and VC Nivedita of Tamil Nadu remain in contention, with eight points each.

Important results:
10th round:

Open: S Madhesh Kumar drew with Niladri Banerjee; Christy George lost to

Madhvendra Pratap Sharma; B Shaunak beat Advik Amit Agrwal; Parambrata Sarkar lost to A Divith Reddy; Aadik Theophane Lenin beat Vivaan Vijay Saraogi; Rahul Ramakrishnan drew with Jval Saurin Patel; Aarit Kapil beat Laddad Aadhavan Atish; Aahil Patra drew with Adhiraj Mitra; Amartya Saumitra Gupta drew with Advait Ashokumar; Samarth Sreeni Warriar beat Anagani Sasank; Malvin Joshua drew with K Sai Abhinav. Girls: Prishita Gupta beat Sunetra Dey; M Sravyasree drew with Maitreyi Mondal; Gorli Nyna lost to Saranya Devi; Sai Vijaysinh Patil lost to VC Nivedita; Aahna Gulati drew with Aaradhya Das; M Pal Vedita beat G Shivamshika; M Hanya Shah lost to Shanmathi Sree; M Aadhya Jain beat Dishita Dey; M Aadya Gowda lost to Mysha Perwez; RV Pavithra drew with Archita Agrawal; M Siddhi Rao beat Bhumika Waghle; AR Ameya drew with Aishani Pathak; S Srinika lost to Pooja Shree; V Tripurambika beat Yati Agarwal.

Manav Suthar’s Test omission surprises former India spinner Murali Kartik

New Delhi: Former India left-arm spinner Murali Kartik said he was “shocked” by Manav Suthar’s exclusion from the Test squad for the tour of New Zealand, adding that the young left-arm spin-bowling all-rounder had been the side’s best bowler in the longer format in recent times. Suthar made a dream start to his Test career by taking 23 wickets in three matches, 16 of them in India’s 1-0 series win over Sri Lanka in August. However, he was left out of the squad for the two-match Test series that forms part of India’s multi-format tour of New Zealand, beginning on October 22. India have instead opted for three spin options, with Kuldeep Yadav retaining his place as the only specialist spinner alongside all-rounders Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar. Of the three, only Jadeja has previously bowled in a Test match in New Zealand. “Look, it’s a tough one for me, to be very honest, because when I saw the squads, I was shocked myself. Because, as you rightly said, Manav Suthar has been the find of the season, especially post Ashwin. We have been searching for a Test-match bowler, and the most important thing is the rationale used for not picking Kuldeep sometimes: that he is not as good a batter as others.

“But Manav Suthar fits that bill too. More importantly, take the batting away. I don’t even look at somebody as a batter. Yes, you do want to contribute handy runs, especially in the modern version of the game, because you don’t want any guys who cannot bat. But the most important thing is, Manav Suthar has been the best bowler on view in the Test matches that we have had of late,” Kartik told IANS during a virtual interaction facilitated by Sony Sports Network on Monday. Suthar will instead travel to New Zealand



with the India A squad for three red-ball matches, where he will have to find ways to be effective in windy conditions and on pitches that may not offer much assistance to spinners. He also claimed 27 wickets in six County Championship matches for Warwickshire this year, further sharpening his tactical understanding of bowling in overseas conditions. Kartik added that Suthar, along with Kuldeep, offered India a genuine wicket-taking option in Tests. “I was massively surprised that he has not been picked. So, I don’t know the logic. It’s not as if you cannot take one extra player. Also, most importantly, he is your wicket-taking bowler. All the others have been — and Kuldeep Yadav is a wicket-taking bowler. But again, Kuldeep Yadav is a very different story. Think of the tour to Sri Lanka. He played the first Test match and, in the second Test, he didn’t play. “Even in the first Test match, when you look at his numbers, he has a very good record across formats. There is a lot of stop-start to his games. He is not able to string together games, or he is not being given a run of games. So, he was not picked in the second game. It was Manav Suthar who excelled, and I am a bit surprised because he is your genuine wicket-taking option alongside Kuldeep Yadav,” he

Soham wins gold at CISCE National Taekwondo Championship 2026



Hyderabad: Soham of St George’s Grammar School, Abids, won the gold medal in the U-17 (59–63kg) category at the Seventh CISCE National Taekwondo Championship 2026, held in Hyderabad recently. With this victory, Soham qualified for the 70th National School Games Federation of India (SGFI) competition, scheduled to be held in Srinagar from October 22 to 26. Soham has consistently performed well at the district, state and

national levels. The school management and staff, including Rev. K. Reuben Mark (Moderator, CSI Bishop in Medak Diocese and chairman of St George’s Institutions), Principal Priscilla Karunanidhi Aska and taekwondo coach Gade Veerabasavaiah, congratulated Soham on his achievement and expressed hope that he would bring more laurels to the State and the country.

Aman Dev and Mausam Suhag advance at World Boxing U-19 Championships

Hyderabad: Aman Dev and Mausam Suhag registered comfortable victories to advance to the next round in their respective weight categories at the 2026 World Boxing U-19 Championships in Budva, Montenegro, on Sunday. Aman dominated all three rounds to secure a unanimous 5-0 verdict against Hungary’s Laszlo Papai in the men’s 50kg category, while Mausam recorded an identical victory over Latvia’s Romans Iljins in the men’s 65kg category. Later in



the day, Aditya was scheduled to face Christian Paez of the USA in the men’s 55kg category, while Tridev was set to take on Poland’s Kajetan Bajzert in the men’s 85kg category.

Become partners in conduct of free elections

Legal action if local body election rules violated: District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha

Vijayawada: October 19, 2026. District Collector and District Election Officer Dr. G. Lakshmisha clarified that as election code of conduct is in force, political parties, candidates should strictly follow rules. He held a meeting with representatives of various political parties on Monday in AVS Reddy meeting hall in District Collectorate. On this occasion he comprehensively explained local body election code of conduct, election expenditure limits, recording of accounts, rules for expenditure through publicity media. He said strict legal action will be there against those who violate election rules. He said district machinery has taken all advance measures to complete election process in peaceful, transparent atmosphere. He said political parties, public representatives, voters should cooperate fully with election machinery for conduct of free elections. He said asking for votes on basis of caste, religion, language or region will be considered a serious offence. He clarified that remarks inciting hatred between classes or religions should not be

made. He said should not indulge in false allegations, abuses on personal lives of rival candidates. He said cases will be registered if flexis, banners, cutouts are set up without prior permission of officials. He said written permission letter of owner is mandatory for setting up publicity material in private buildings, places, and prior information should be given to election officials about this. He said publicity material set up in violation of rules will be removed immediately besides cases will be registered against those responsible. He said complete ban will be in force on use of government vehicles, funds for election campaign. He said government or aided educational institution buildings, premises should not be used for election campaigns. He said prior permission from election officials is mandatory to conduct public meetings, timings of loudspeakers, public meetings, protest demonstrations, rallies, processions. He said permitted loudspeakers should be used only between 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM. Use of mikes after 10:00 PM is prohibited he said. He said strict legal action



will be taken if indulging in distribution of cash, liquor, gifts or other items to influence voters. He said vigilance teams will conduct continuous checks across district to prevent inducements. Election Expenditure Limits - Recording of Accounts Collector ordered that candidates should record daily campaign expenditure records strictly, and spend only within limit decided by Election Commission. Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Mayor candidate expenditure limit Rs. 25 lakhs, Ward Member expenditure limit Rs.10 lakhs, Municipalities Chairperson expenditure limit: Rs. 20 lakhs, Ward Member expendi-

ture limit Rs.7.50 lakhs, Nagar Panchayats Chairperson expenditure limit Rs.10 lakhs, Ward Member expenditure limit Rs.5 lakhs should not be exceeded. In this meeting INC representative Borra Kiran, AAP representative P. Hari Krishna, CPI(M) representative N.C.H. Srinivas, YSRCP representatives P. Rajasekhar, V. Yashodhar, TDP representative Yadupati Ramaiah, District Revenue Officer M. Lakshmi Narasimham, Zilla Parishad CEO P. Susheela, District Panchayat Officer Sita Mahalakshmi, Vijayawada Corporation Deputy Commissioner A. Ravindra Rao, concerned officials participated.

YS Jagan admits mistake in backing 2023 law, demands neutral selection panel

Amaravati: YSR Congress Party president and former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has admitted that his party made a mistake by supporting 2023 law governing the appointment of Election Commissioners and demanded sweeping changes to insulate electoral institutions from the influence of the ruling establishment. Speaking to the media after meeting the State Election Commissioner (SEC), Jagan expressed regret over YSRCP's support for the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023. He called on the Centre to amend the law and restore a three-member selection committee comprising the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and Chief Justice of India (CJI). "Unfortunately, there needs to be a change in this system. Appointments must be made neutrally," Jagan said, acknowledging that YSRCP had supported the appointment framework in Parliament but had subsequently realised its implications. He said the party regretted having backed the legislation. Also Read Is Gen Z Being Drawn Into a Power Struggle in Andhra Pradesh? Advertisement Jagan questioned the logic of allowing the ruling establishment to dominate appointments to institutions responsible for conducting elections. Under the earlier arrangement he cited, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and the CJI participated in the selection process. Under the present framework, the Prime Minister and a Union Minister nominated by him have two votes, while the Leader of the Opposition has one, with the CJI excluded from the committee. Describing this as a structural flaw, Jagan argued that the appointment process itself must be impartial and must be seen to be impartial. "An examiner cannot be appointed by the student," he said, explaining that even an honest election official could face questions about neutrality if appointed through a process dominated by the government in power.



He extended the argument to the appointment of the State Election Commissioner, contending that the Chief Minister or the ruling government should not have unilateral control over the selection. A neutral mechanism, he said, was necessary to ensure that electoral authorities could function independently and command public confidence.

NDA eyes unanimous wins as nominations close for ULBs

Amaravati: The nomination process for elections to 100 urban local bodies (ULBs) in Andhra Pradesh ended on Sunday amid clashes, allegations of intimidation, and a major setback for the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) in several of its strongholds. Thousands of candidates filed nominations on the final day, with the NDA alliance likely to secure unopposed victories in areas where the opposition party failed to field nominees. Elections will be held for 13 municipal corporations, 77 municipalities, and 10 nagar panchayats. Nominations will be scrutinised on Monday, withdrawal closes on October 21, polling is scheduled for October 28 and counting on October 30. The YSRCP's difficulties were particularly evident in Kadapa district. It failed to file nominations in 16 of Pulivendula municipality's 40 wards, 19 wards in Proddatur, and 54 wards in the Kadapa Municipal Corporation. Its candidates could not file nominations for chairperson and councillor posts in Yerraguntla and Kamalapuram. In Rajampet and Badvel, chairperson candidates filed papers, but no nominations were submitted for ward councillor seats. Also Read

Is Gen Z Being Drawn Into a Power Struggle in Andhra Pradesh? Advertisement Discover more Access Services political politics YSRCP leaders alleged that house arrests and police restrictions prevented candidates from reaching nomination centres before the 3:00 pm deadline. Police were deployed near the residence of Kadapa MP Y S Avinash Reddy and around party premises in Pulivendula. The setback extended to other districts as well. In Punganur, Chittoor district, former minister Peddireddi Ramachandra Reddy announced the YSRCP's withdrawal, accusing the TDP of intimidation and unlawful actions. In Palnadu district, the party filed no nominations for chairperson or councillor posts in Gurajala and Piduguralla. In Dachehalli, only one chairperson nomination was filed. In Darsi, Prakasam district, the YSRCP failed to field candidates for the chairperson's post. It also alleged that TDP leaders prevented nominations in four wards in Tadipatri. Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy said NDA candidates had won unopposed in Rayachoti. Further uncontested victories



erate rainfall at isolated places. The disaster management authority has advised people to remain alert and take necessary precautions during thunderstorms. People should avoid standing under trees or near electric poles during lightning and seek shelter in safe buildings. The authority urged the public to follow weather updates and safety advisories to minimise risks from lightning and rain.



for the TDP, Jana Sena, and BJP are possible where the YSRCP failed to nominate candidates. Violence marred the process. Police registered cases naming 562 YSRCP workers over Saturday's clashes in Pulivendula, where security remained tight. In Darsi, sub-inspector Yedukondalu sustained a serious head injury after allegedly being struck with a flagpole during a confrontation with YSRCP workers. Buy Maps Meanwhile, prominent mayoral candidates filed nominations amid rallies. In Vijayawada, NDA candidate Vangaveeti Radhakrishna and YSRCP nominee Rayana Bhagyalakshmi entered the contest. Abdul Aabeda filed for the alliance in Machilipatnam, Mukka Sravani in Visakhapatnam, Kovelamudi Lakshmi Aparna for the TDP in Guntur and Matti Suvarna for the alliance in Kadapa.