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Telangana Cabinet Clears Rs 4,193-Cr Kaleshwaram Restoration Plan

Hyderabad, Nov 5 (GNS): Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to undertake restoration works on the Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla barrages of the Kaleshwaram project strictly in accordance with the recommendations of central government agencies and dam safety experts.



The Chief Minister held a review meeting with ministers and irrigation department officials to discuss the measures required to safely bring the three damaged barrages back into operation. He emphasized that the current government has a responsibility to safeguard the project and ensure that the errors committed by the previous administration are not repeated. He instructed ministers to counter the false propaganda suggesting that water available at Medigadda is not being lifted. Irrigation department engineers clarified to the Chief Minister that, given the current conditions, it is technically unfeasible to lift the water present at that location.

It was explained—via a PowerPoint presentation—that for water lifted from Medigadda to reach Yellampalli, the gates of the Annaram and Sundilla barrages would need to be closed. However, it was noted that the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) has explicitly warned that the gates of the Annaram and Sundilla barrages—which suffer from structural defects—must be kept open.

The Chief Minister stated that, to prevent water in the lower Godavari from going to waste, the government has lifted water through the Devadula and Sitarama lift irrigation schemes on an unprecedented scale. With this, irrigation and drinking water have been provided to the command areas across the undivided districts of Warangal, Nalgonda, and Khammam. It was noted that while an average of 9.57 TMC of water was lifted annually through the Devadula project during the previous administration, an average of 18.13 TMC has been lifted over the last three years—an 89% increase in the utilization of Godavari waters compared to the past.

EAM Jaishankar meets Australian, UK PMs, discusses bilateral cooperation

St. John's (Antigua and Barbuda), Nov 5 (GNS): External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar met the Prime Ministers of Australia and the United Kingdom on the sidelines of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2026 in St. John's, with discussions focused on deepening bilateral cooperation across several sectors.



Sharing a glimpse of his meeting with Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, EAM Jaishankar took to X and posted: "Good to see PM Albanese at CHOGM2026." The meeting comes amid sustained high-level engagements between the two countries aimed at further strengthening bilateral cooperation.

Last week, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held a meeting with Australian Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles on the sidelines of the 13th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) in the Philippines to review defence cooperation, boost military interoperability, and address regional security challenges.

Singh emphasised the importance India places on its Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with Australia for a free, open, and secure Indo-Pacific.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Australia from July 8 to 10 for the Australia-India Annual Leaders' Summit in Melbourne.

During this visit, the Prime Minister and his Australian counterpart, Anthony Albanese, signed 18 key agreements, including a defence pact and a civilian nuclear deal for uranium supply. EAM Jaishankar also held a meeting with British PM Andy Burnham on the sidelines of CHOGM 2026, during which they discussed enhancing bilateral economic cooperation in the context of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and exchanged views on the evolving global situation. "Pleased to meet PM Andy Burnham of the United Kingdom on the sidelines of CHOGM2026.

SC refuses immediate relief to Azam Khan, directs him to Allahabad HC

New Delhi, Nov 5 , Nov 5 (GNS): The Supreme Court on Thursday declined to grant immediate relief to Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Mohammad Azam Khan in his plea challenging his arrest by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in a money laundering case and asked him to approach the Allahabad High Court.



A Bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi directed the apex court registry to transfer all records pertaining to the matter to the Allahabad High Court within two days and requested the High Court to list the petition before an appropriate Division Bench on November 16.

However, the CJI Kant-led Bench clarified that it was not expressing any opinion on the merits of the case. The Supreme Court also granted Khan liberty to amend his petition and place additional material on record.

During the hearing, senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Khan, contended that the ED's action was mala fide and amounted to harassment, claiming that the SP leader was arrested shortly after his release from jail on October 29. Sibal submitted that 28 cases had been registered against Khan, besides an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), and claimed that the latest arrest was intended to ensure he remained behind bars during the forthcoming Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections.

He also told the CJI Kant-led Bench that Khan, who is around 80 years old, could end up spending the rest of his life in prison if the sequence of arrests continued.

Jairam Ramesh questions Aadhaar replacement plan

New Delhi, Nov 5 , Nov 5 (GNS): Congress general secretary in charge of communications Jairam Ramesh on Wednesday questioned whether the Narendra Modi government has formally decided to replace Aadhaar with Voter ID as the means of identifying beneficiaries of social welfare programmes, warning that such a move could lead to large-scale exclusion of people from their entitlements.



Reacting to statements reportedly made twice in recent days by the Union Minister of Panchayati Raj, Ramesh asked whether the proposed change represented the official policy of the Modi government.

"Over the past few days the Union Minister of Panchayati Raj has said not once but twice that Voter ID will replace Aadhaar for identifying beneficiaries for social welfare programmes. Is this now official Modi Govt policy?" he said in a post on social media platform X. Ramesh argued that if the government intended to adopt Voter ID in place of Aadhaar for identifying beneficiaries, it would amount to a departure from the original purpose for which Aadhaar was conceived and introduced. He also raised concerns over the implications of linking access to welfare schemes with electoral rolls, particularly at a time when the Election Commission is undertaking the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

He further cautioned that making the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls the basis for determining eligibility for welfare benefits could result in even greater exclusion, particularly among vulnerable sections dependent on government assistance.

"There have been legitimate concerns that the way Aadhaar has been used, lakhs have been denied access to social welfare and security schemes. Making SIR the basis will end up excluding even more people on a massive scale," Ramesh said.

India Unveils Three Indigenous AI Foundation Models

New Delhi, Nov 5 (GNS): The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has released three indigenous Artificial Intelligence (AI) foundation models under the IndiaAI Mission, marking a significant step towards strengthening India's domestic AI capabilities and technological self-reliance. The models — EKA-1, developed by Soket Labs Technology and Research Private Limited, and Dh r 2B and Dh r 5B, developed by ZenteiQ AiTech Innovations — were unveiled in New Delhi on November 3 in the presence of MeitY Secretary S. Krishnan, senior ministry officials, IndiaAI representatives and the leadership teams of the two companies.



The three models have been developed under the IndiaAI Innovation Centre's Foundation Models pillar, which aims to encourage the creation of indigenous foundation models and large language models suited to India's diverse requirements. The developers received support through subsidised national AI computing infrastructure and assistance for research-related expenses under the mission. Press Information Bureau

It supports all 22 scheduled Indian languages, in addition to English, and is designed to perform a wide range of tasks, including mathematics, coding, reasoning and agentic applications.

SC sends TMC leader to Calcutta HC

New Delhi, Nov 5 (GNS): The Supreme Court on Thursday declined to entertain a plea filed by senior Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Sovandeb Chattopadhyay seeking disqualification of 10 rebel party MLAs, including Leader of Opposition Ritabrata Banerjee, under the anti-defection law, and asked him to approach the Calcutta High Court.

A Bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi observed that the appropriate remedy at this stage would be to approach the Calcutta High Court and granted liberty to the petitioner to file an appropriate petition before it. The apex court also requested the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court to place the matter before a Division Bench for expeditious consideration. During the hearing, counsel appearing for Chattopadhyay submitted that the disqualification petitions had been filed on July 8 and that nearly five months had elapsed without a decision.

The counsel argued that the issue was covered by the Supreme Court's earlier directions and sought an early hearing by a Division Bench of the High Court to avoid further rounds of intra-court appeals.



Ronaldo announces retirement from International Football

New Delhi, Nov 5 (GNS): Cristiano Ronaldo has announced his retirement from international football, bringing the curtain down on an illustrious 23-year career with Portugal, during which he became the highest goalscorer and most-capped player in men's international football. The 41-year-old forward confirmed his decision through an emotional video posted on social media, reflecting on his journey since making his senior debut for Portugal in August 2003.



Ronaldo finished his international career with 146 goals in 234 appearances, setting records that have made him one of the greatest players in the history of the game. In his farewell message, Ronaldo described representing Portugal as the greatest privilege of his career, saying the time had come to hand over the iconic number seven jersey to the next generation.

"To the Portuguese, the day has come to return the number 7 jersey of the national team to all of us. I never felt like it was exclusively mine, but for 23 years I had the privilege and responsibility to wear it, to defend it and to take it with me to the stadiums all over the world. Today the time has come to give it to the future," he said in a video posted on X. Reflecting on his journey, Ronaldo admitted that his career had been filled with unforgettable victories as well as difficult moments, but insisted that his commitment to the national team never wavered.

"There were perfect afternoons and nights; there were victories that I will never forget, and there were defeats that I still have a hard time remembering today. I also failed, I also suffered, there were also times when I was not able to give the Portuguese what they wanted so much. But I never gave up. And above all, I never stopped feeling proud to represent Portugal," he said. He also thanked his teammates, coaches, support staff and family for standing by him throughout his international journey. "To all the coaches, directors, doctors, physiotherapists, dressers, employees, and so many people who have worked with me over the years, thank you. Many of you never appeared in the photos, but without you, none of these photos would have been possible. To my family, thank you for sharing this dream with me," he said. "Thank you for understanding the absences, sacrifices and moments when the national team had to occupy a space that also belonged to you. If I got so far, it was because we were always at hand," he added.

Ronaldo's departure marks the end of an era for Portugal, with the responsibility of carrying forward the national team's legacy now passing to a new generation.

However, Ronaldo made it clear that his association with the country would remain unchanged even after stepping away from international football.

"Today I finish my walk on the pitch with the national team; I leave with my head held high, with pride in the path I took, and with the awareness that I gave everything I had for Portugal. But I will never stop being one of you," he said.

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Trump wants to reshape Iran

Gaddam Dharmendra

TWO contrasting messages were sent on April 1 by the principal protagonists of the ongoing war in West Asia. One was a much-anticipated speech by US President Donald Trump, while the other was a "Letter to American People" by Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian. In a made-for-television address, Trump eventually had nothing new to say as he rehashed his social media posts and media comments. There was no mention of unblocking the Strait of Hormuz, under the chokehold of Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy (IRGC-N), nor of inserting US ground troops, massed in their thousands across the region, into Iran.

The strait, through which one-third of global energy flows, remains under the IRGC's control. Financial and commodity indices, monitored closely by Trump, are steadily trending upwards, while countries from Australia to Egypt are facing fuel shortages and shutdowns. The entire global economy is on edge, with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) predicting a recession. Till date, Trump has been cleverly manipulating markets, aligning his comments to shape them. No longer, it seems. Stock markets are now moving more in line with battlefield developments rather than Trump's comments.

Pezeshkian's letter — penned in English, not Farsi — was circulated widely on social media. Given the country's official stance of hostility towards the US, this is an unusual, perhaps even brave, message. Both sides have previously exchanged letters at the highest levels, but such a public outreach by a sitting Iranian President has no historical precedent. After all, the two countries broke off diplomatic ties in 1979 following the kidnapping of US diplomats stationed in Tehran. Pezeshkian is now seeking to set the record straight on Iran-US relations, that these were "not originally hostile", and goes on to lay the blame for the current conflict entirely on the US and Israel. Pezeshkian's plea is mature and subtly goes beyond a US audience. He addresses the world by saying that attacking Iran's vital infrastructure constitutes a war crime, that these "generate instability, increase human and economic costs, and perpetuate cycles of tension, planting seeds of resentment that will endure for years". Chronologically, it needs to be noted, Iran's strikes on infrastructure in the region, as opposed to military targets, were usually reactive and not proactive. In his address, Trump doubled down on a globally unpopular war. He appeared reasonable while simultaneously renewing his trademark threats, declaring, "We are going to hit them (Iran) extremely hard over the next two to three weeks. We are going to bring them back to the stone ages where they belong. In the meantime, discussions are ongoing… We have all the cards; they have none."

An unfazed Iran, confident that it currently holds the upper hand, taunted US troops to "come closer". One Iranian analyst succinctly noted that an aerial assault from 36,000 feet is vastly different from "manly" combat at six feet.

Trump's address is also replete with contradictions. He claims completion of "core strategic objectives", but elsewhere in the same address, he says that "we will continue until our core objectives are fully achieved". This contradiction is deliberate, not random. It is directed at a target audience of critical importance to him, electorally and financially. The former is an increasingly nervous MAGA base, which he has assuaged by saying "we are winning, bigly". The latter is a band-aid, a placebo, to the six Persian Gulf countries witnessing, in real time, the devastation of the entire foundations on which their economies were built.

The US President's coarse and insulting language towards Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and the Kuwaitis simplifies complex issues to a populist base unconcerned with niceties. Trump is essentially signalling a further escalation, which could last several more weeks. In recent days, the US and Israel have sharply expanded their bombing campaign, going beyond military targets to strike at the very heart of Iran's society and industrial base. They have bombed two of Iran's steel plants, a pharmaceutical factory, civilian installations, gymnasiums and residential areas. The Mobarakeh steel plant in Isfahan is, in fact, the largest in West Asia. As one analyst describes it, "Steel sits at the core of infrastructure, construction and industrial circulation. Damage it, and the effects cascade far beyond one sector". The US President is not merely wreaking havoc but is seeking to shape a post-war Iran, ensuring that its economic recovery and reconstruction will be long and painful. As such, his rhetoric needs to be taken with deadly seriousness. Clearly, "regime change" is no longer on the US-Israel agenda, but wishing to send Iran back to the "Stone Age" is playing itself out before the entire world. This is an assault on a people who just two months ago were, quite ironically, assured by Trump that "help is on its way".

Trump is also casually papering over a military quagmire into which he has drawn the entire US CENTCOM (Central Command), and, for us in India, the US PACOM (Pacific Command), a theatre of vital importance. US military assets are being relocated from East Asia to replenish the losses in West Asia.

Till date, the Iranians have destroyed half a dozen THAAD radar systems, decapitated the US's most complex radar array at the Al-Udaid base in Qatar and with pinpoint precision destroyed E3 Sentry surveillance aircraft, KC 135 air refuelling tankers and other surveillance aircraft.

This is just a small inventory of what the Iranians have managed to destroy, apart from the devastating damage inflicted on US bases. Meanwhile, ongoing mediation talks, being brokered by Pakistan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, don't appear to be making much headway. So also is the Pakistan-China "5-point initiative". The latter is heavy on optics and light on substance, a classic diplomatic feint, which will please none and achieve nothing.

The reality is that the US and Iran are locked in maximalist positions. Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi made this abundantly clear, saying that Iran has neither been consulted nor is it in any way engaged in the mediation. Araghchi also says these are not negotiations but merely an exchange of messages.

He rejected any claims of a ceasefire, saying that Iran seeks a complete and perpetual cessation of all hostilities and compensation for damages. The danger, as always with the Iranians, is their tendency to overplay their hand and not know when to fold their cards.



TRUMP IS ESSENTIALLY SIGNALLING A FURTHER ESCALATION, WHICH COULD LAST SEVERAL MORE WEEKS. IN RECENT DAYS, THE US AND ISRAEL HAVE SHARPLY EXPANDED THEIR BOMBING CAMPAIGN, GOING BEYOND MILITARY TARGETS TO STRIKE AT THE VERY HEART OF IRAN'S SOCIETY AND INDUSTRIAL BASE. THEY HAVE BOMBED TWO OF IRAN'S STEEL PLANTS, A PHARMACEUTICAL FACTORY, CIVILIAN INSTALLATIONS, GYMNASIUMS AND RESIDENTIAL AREAS. THE MOBARAKEH STEEL PLANT IN ISFAHAN IS, IN FACT, THE LARGEST IN WEST ASIA. AS ONE ANALYST DESCRIBES IT, "STEEL SITS AT THE CORE OF INFRASTRUCTURE, CONSTRUCTION AND INDUSTRIAL CIRCULATION. DAMAGE IT, AND THE EFFECTS CASCADE FAR BEYOND ONE SECTOR". THE US PRESIDENT IS NOT MERELY WREAKING HAVOC BUT IS SEEKING TO SHAPE A POST-WAR IRAN, ENSURING THAT ITS ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION WILL BE LONG AND PAINFUL. AS SUCH, HIS RHETORIC NEEDS TO BE TAKEN WITH DEADLY SERIOUSNESS. CLEARLY, "REGIME CHANGE" IS NO LONGER ON THE US-ISRAEL AGENDA, BUT WISHING TO SEND IRAN BACK TO THE "STONE AGE" IS PLAYING ITSELF OUT BEFORE THE ENTIRE WORLD. THIS IS AN ASSAULT ON A PEOPLE WHO JUST TWO MONTHS AGO WERE, QUITE IRONICALLY, ASSURED BY TRUMP THAT "HELP IS ON ITS WAY".

What ails Punjab: Drugs, dunki & deliverance

PUNJAB is at a critical juncture of losing its two most precious resources: soil and youth. The beautiful golden wheat fields tell a great success story of the past, but that story has hit a systemic wall, causing an ecological crisis. The youth are dealing with a triple threat: drug problem, treacherous "dunki" flights for better futures and religious conversions, promising deliverance.

Problems related to human capital, specifically unemployment, hang over the state like the sword of Damocles. The agricultural engine has come to a standstill. The gap between the expectations of the youth and the bleak realities of scarce job opportunities is large. The unfolding crisis can destroy the social fabric of the state. Punjab is at an inflexion point. Imagine a debt-ridden farmer in Moga forced to sell his ancestral land to pay for his son's illegal migration or an elderly mother in Tarn Taran watching her unemployed hepatitis C-infected son injecting himself heroin for a synthetic high. These images represent the reality of 2026.

Youth unemployment rates, as per the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for the period ending December 2025, are at 19.3% (15-29 years), which is far higher than the national average of 14.3%. The absence of meaningful employment options has led to the drug epidemic; the exodus of talent via illegal migration routes; and it put the poor at the risk of religious conversion for material necessity.

The addiction epidemic in Punjab is a symptom of an entrenched socio-economic condition. In 2025, research identified that there is a direct relationship between unemployment and drug abuse. Studies show that approximately 79% of the people who were addicted and under treatment were either unemployed or working on a part-time schedule. Drug abuse for many young Punjabis is not a recreational activity but a maladaptive coping strategy used to deal with the extreme socio-economic pressures of limited opportunities for upward mobility.

The sheer numbers are overwhelming: 6.6 million residents of the state use drugs including tobacco and alcohol and as of April 25, 2025, agencies have confirmed that at least 782 people have died due to overdose since January 1, 2024. Punjab tops the list of state police heroin seizures, with nearly 45% of the national seizures, while it houses less than 2% of India's population. The state is after Mizoram in drug use. As a result of this, it has the highest Hepatitis C prevalence rate. This severely impacts the productivity of the youth and their contribution to nation-building.

An estimated 72% of agrarian families are burdened with debt. They are selling ancestral land to recruit agents at exorbitant prices so that they can fund their youth for illegal migration. The result is the diversion of rural capital into human trafficking rings as opposed to being diverted into local entrepreneurial ventures. The human cost of "dunki" flights is equally devastating. In 2025, approximately 38% of all Indian nationals deported from the US were from Punjab, many of whom returned home in handcuffs. Plus, socio-economic fragility at large levels has provided an environment for religion-based conversions, especially among the impoverished and marginalised communities. Several missionary organisations are employing a 'mixed method' approach to exploit their socio-economic vulnerabilities. These include providing healthcare, presenting the gospel as a means of achieving wealth and offering migration opportunities to individuals who convert. The Christian population in Tarn Taran district has risen by 102% over the past two years.

How do we stop this downward spiral? Traditional vocational training systems in Punjab have failed to close the chasm between academia and industry. Graduates remain unemployed due to a lack of synchronisation between the skills they learned in institutions like the ITI and the high-tech industrial standards that today's recruiters look for.

We need a thoughtful transformation of the education system. We should incorporate vocational training, short-term courses, rural skill-based programmes and apprenticeships into the system in schools. Moreover, Punjab needs to recalibrate its agricultural trajectory. Only through such integration will we begin to restore the social dignity and economic power for a generation drifting in a sea of underemployment. The emergence of the "Knowledge Economy" necessitates a workforce with proficiency in rapidly developing technologies. Therefore, universities must play the role of lead catalysts for this transformation and begin issuing "micro-credentials" - industry-recognised certifications earned in three to six months. The Central University of Punjab is shortly launching six such certification programmes. A wealth of knowledge can be derived from models that have been successfully implemented in other regions. To successfully implement this university-driven model, Punjab will need to aggressively target growth-oriented sectors relevant in 2026 and beyond.

To bring about this economic transformation, Indian universities must become incubators for rapid adaptation. The Union government recently earmarked Rs 4,500 crore for SCL, Mohali. This power move can be leveraged by institutions by connecting to Mohali's growing technology sector. They can offer targeted micro-credentials for training thousands of youth as clean-room technicians, PCB assemblers and IT data analysts. The critical point is that we must take these new technologies and graft them onto our native land. By training a first line of 'RE Commandos' to convert polluting crop stubble into clean energy and by using AI-powered kisan drones to deliver precision agriculture, we are creating a circular, self-reliant economy. Connecting high-end IT and robotics with agrotech, crop diversification and crop-residue start-ups will not only provide the youth with the skills required to succeed in the emerging 2026 knowledge economy.

but it will also build an anti-fragile network of livelihoods that will empower them to develop their own businesses and succeed natively.

To reach the youth most vulnerable to substance abuse and/or migration and conversion, Punjab must develop a "friction-free" funding model for such courses completely free of cost. At present, the cost to complete a six-month vocational course ranges from Rs 10,000 to Rs 50,000. Fully subsidising courses would be a massive investment in human capital, creating an attractive alternative to the over Rs 40 lakh "dunki route" or the prohibitively expensive monthly cost of private de-addiction therapy.

The narrative about Punjab -- the sacred land of Gurus, in 2026 and beyond, cannot continue to be defined by the themes of "Udta Punjab", brain drain of "dunki route" and "deliverance", but as a success story of technological prowess and economic resurgence for "Sarbat da Bhala". By preparing the youth with rural, vocational, digital and technical skills, Punjab can begin to dismantle the structures of despair. The institutions in the state must be positioned as the bridge connecting the rich heritage of the sacred land of the five rivers with its future potential, ensuring every youngster has the chance to learn, work and thrive in fresh air on his home soil.

NASA at 'Crossroads': Mars, the moon, and the forces shaping America's future space policy

Dr. Amal Mudallali

Navigating the difficult terrain of space is NASA's domain, and the storied agency is no stranger to embracing challenges in the final frontier and beyond. But the Earth-bound challenges it faces now are as formidable as the demands of any of its deep space missions.

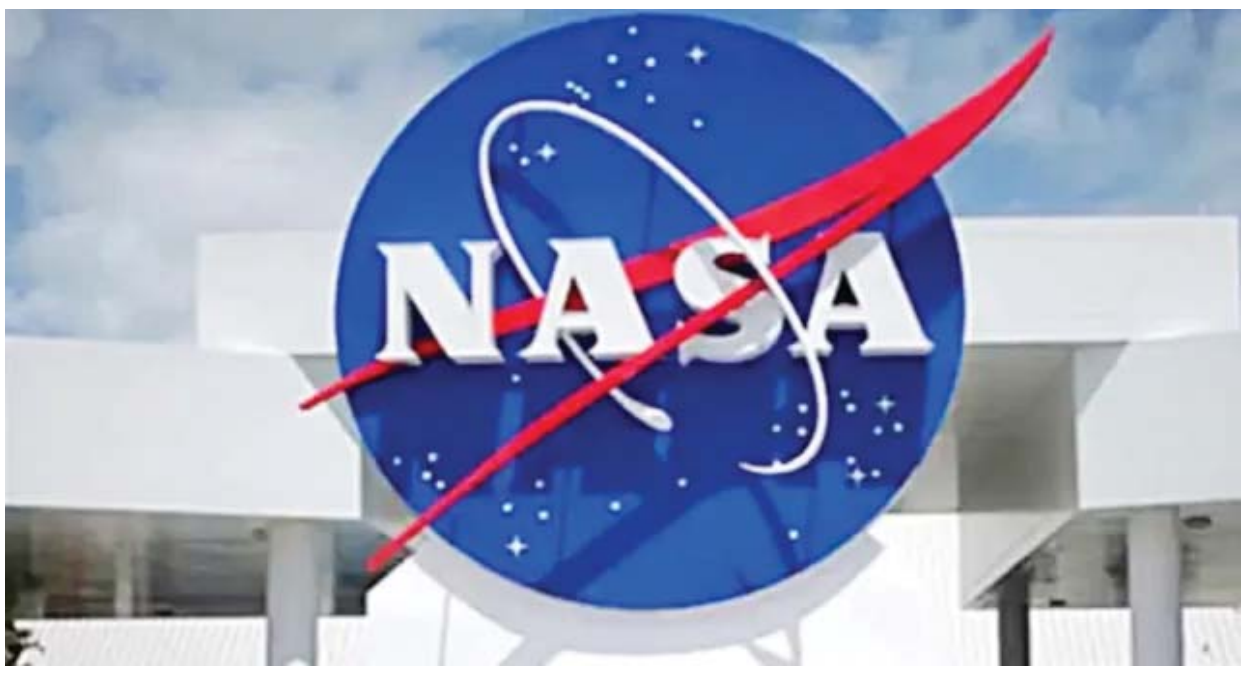
With the White House announcing last week a 50 percent cut to the agency's science budget, Congress putting the Trump administration on notice that it opposes any changes to the "Moon-to-Mars" approach to space exploration, and the increasingly visible influence of SpaceX founder Elon Musk over space policy, NASA is hurtling into an uncertain orbit that shaped as much by politics and great-power competition as it is by propulsion. The divisions over the future of space exploration priorities surfaced last week when the Senate Commerce Committee convened to consider President Donald Trump's nominee to lead NASA, Jared Isaacman, a billionaire entrepreneur, commercial astronaut and close associate of Musk.

The splits were not along party lines but within the Republican Party itself. Republican Sen. Ted Cruz, who chairs the committee, is a supporter of Trump's original vision for space and a key advocate of NASA's Artemis moon-exploration program, introduced in 2017 by the first Trump administration. Cruz made it clear that the current administration must continue this "moon-to-Mars" stepping-stone strategy, which enjoys bipartisan Congressional support and is codified in law. The controversy centers on what should be America's next space milestone in space. Trump, during his first speech to Congress upon returning to power, seemed to adopt Musk's new approach, favored by Musk, when he announced that the US would "plant the American flag on the planet Mars and even far beyond," suggesting a reduced focus on the moon. Isaacman told the committee during his confirmation hearing he would "prioritize sending American astronauts to Mars," echoing Trump. But when Cruz pressed Isaacman on a different commitment he had made to the senator in his office, the prospective head of NASA said he favored balancing both missions, adding: "We don't have to make a binary decision of moon versus Mars."

Lawmakers, Cruz in particular, remained unconvinced about Isaacman's strategy, viewing it as a dangerous one at a time of extreme uncertainty for the "final frontier." The "next space race is already here," Cruz said, citing rising global competition in space, most notably from China. He warned that abandoning plans to return to the Moon would amount to surrendering a vital strategic domain to Beijing. "We must stay the course," Cruz insisted. "An extreme shift in priorities would almost certainly mean a 'red moon,' ceding ground to China for generations to come."

Cruz is concerned about a Chinese challenge not only for the moon but also in low Earth orbit. He disagrees with retiring the International Space Station ahead of schedule, as Musk has called for, without first putting in place "the necessary systems" to "support and command American astronauts continually in low Earth orbit. We cannot surrender low Earth orbit to the Chinese or the Russians." The concern in Congress is that Musk is exerting undue influence over US space policy, and tensions spilled over during the confirmation hearing when Isaacman repeatedly dodged questions about whether Musk, who is believed to be behind the nomination, was present in the room when Isaacman was interviewed for the job by Trump. Democratic Sen. Ed Markey told Isaacman after he refused to answer the question for a sixth time: "I am assuming you don't want to answer directly because Elon Musk was in the room." The moves by the administration so far, including the closure of NASA's Office of the Chief Scientist and the elimination of 20 key science positions, including the agency's senior climate science advisor, are thought to be signs of Musk's shift of focus in NASA's work and missions away from science issues.

Isaacman told the Senate committee that he is "an advocate of science," citing 50 experiments conducted during his space missions and an offer to fund an extension of the Hubble Apace Telescope's operational life. He also promised that "NASA will be a force multiplier for science."



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India Trade Talks Gain Momentum, Next Round



New Delhi, Nov 5 (GNS): Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry of India, and Mr. Maroš Šefovi, European Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security, engaged in a forward-looking and substantive dialogue to address global trade challenges and reaffirm their shared resolve to conclude the India-European Union Free Trade Agreement (FTA) by the end of 2025. This commitment builds on the strategic direction given by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and President of the European Commission, Ms. Ursula von der Leyen during the landmark visit of the EU College of Commissioners to New Delhi in February 2025.

The high-level engagement underscores the strategic importance both partners attach to building a commercially meaningful, mutually beneficial, balanced, and a fair trade partnership that supports economic resilience and inclusive growth. The meeting highlighted the progress made across multiple negotiating tracks and emphasized the importance of maintaining the ongoing momentum through monthly negotiating rounds and continued virtual engagement. Both sides reiterated their aim to address pending issues in a spirit of mutual respect and pragmatism, including at the next round scheduled to be held from 12-16 May 2025 in New Delhi.

India emphasized that meaningful progress in trade negotiations requires equal focus on non-tariff barriers (NTBs) alongside tariff discussions and regulatory frameworks must be inclusive, proportionate, and avoid restricting trade. The India-EU FTA aspires to reflect the evolving realities of global commerce by supporting digital transition, promoting diversified and resilient supply chains. Both sides expressed optimism that the agreement, once concluded, will serve as a transformative pillar of the broader India-EU strategic partnership, enhancing market access, supporting regulatory cooperation, and fostering innovation and competitiveness on both sides. Both sides acknowledged the crucial role of investment flows and people-to-people mobility in sustaining economic vitality.

In the spirit of India's emergence as a "Vishwa Mitra"—a partner to the world—and aligning with its 2047 development goals, the India- EU FTA is seen as an instrument to promote diversified production networks and uphold fair trade principles. As India continues to broaden its footprint through multiple free trade.

deals, this dialogue reflects its broader vision of shaping a future-ready framework aligned with national priorities and global aspirations.

Roundtable Highlights Innovative Green Financing to Boost Investment



New Delhi, Nov 5 (GNS): On the second day of the High-Level Segment of the meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS COPs), Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav participated in the Ministerial Interactive Panel discussion on the theme "Means of Implementation."

During the Ministerial Interactive Panel discussion, Shri Yadav presented a summary of key points emerging from the round table discussions with other countries held on 30th April, 2025. The summary of the round table discussions included emphasis on the importance of predictable international financing mechanisms and the mobilization of domestic resources through tools such as progressive taxation, carbon levies, and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). The roundtable also discussed the need for innovative financing solutions, including green bonds, debt-for-nature swaps, chemical certificates, and green loans, as critical tools to attract private investment—particularly in countries with constrained fiscal capacity or those emerging from crises.

The necessity of coherent and transparent regulatory frameworks that incentivize private sector engagement through supportive policies such as bans on single-use plastics and tax incentives for green technologies was suggested. The importance of cross-sectoral alignment of environmental goals to drive transformative outcomes was also highlighted.

The roundtable discussion highlighted the role of strong institutional mechanisms, with participating ministers emphasizing inter-agency coordination, capacity building, and empowerment of environment ministries to effectively lead the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). The need for robust data infrastructure and transparent monitoring systems was recognized as essential for evidence-based decision-making and building public confidence.

Ministers also agreed on the importance of regional cooperation, including the strengthening of regional centers to enable technical exchange, shared infrastructure, and capacity development. Special attention was drawn to the needs of conflict-affected nations and countries with limited institutional capacities.

Proposals included direct access to international financing, conflict-sensitive programming, and tailored technical partnerships to ensure inclusive and equitable implementation. On the sidelines of the BRS COPs in Geneva, Shri Yadav also engaged in key bilateral meetings: Union Minister Shri Yadav met with Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to discuss issues related to the upcoming

India Renews Energy MoU to Boost Clean Tech Cooperation Toward Net Zero 2070

New Delhi, Nov 5 (GNS): India and Denmark have reinforced their long-standing energy cooperation by signing a renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) today. The MoU was signed by Shri Pankaj Agarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Power, Government of India, and H.E. Mr. Rasmus Abildgaard Kristensen, Ambassador of Denmark to India, in the presence of Shri Manohar Lal, Hon'ble Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs. This agreement reflects both countries' continued commitment to accelerating clean energy transitions.

The renewed MoU supports India's ambitious target of achieving net-zero emissions by 2070. It aims to foster knowledge exchange and technological collaboration between the two countries, particularly in the area of clean and sustainable energy solutions. This agreement follows five years of successful collaboration under the original MoU, signed on June 5, 2020, and initially set to expire on June 5, 2025. The proactive renewal ensures continuity in dialogue and cooperation, allowing for a seamless extension of joint efforts in energy sector development.

The renewed agreement broadens the partnership to cover advanced areas such as power system modeling, integration of variable renewable energy, cross-border electricity trading, and development of EV charging infrastructure. It also emphasizes increased knowledge exchange through expert interactions, joint training sessions, and study tours. Shri Manohar Lal, Hon'ble Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs said that the renewed energy cooperation expresses the mutual commitment of India and Denmark to foster sustainable development.

The renewed partnership is expected to facilitate the adoption of innovative technologies and best practices in India's power sector. Denmark's experience in renewable energy integration and efficient power management could support India's efforts to strengthen its electricity infrastructure and expand the use of clean energy.

The collaboration will also encourage closer engagement between government institutions, industry stakeholders and research organisations in both countries. Through technical exchanges and capacity-building initiatives, the two sides aim to develop practical solutions to emerging challenges in the energy sector. India and Denmark have been strengthening their green strategic partnership through cooperation in renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable development. The renewed MoU is expected to provide a broader framework for joint initiatives and support their shared commitment to a low-carbon future. The agreement is also expected to promote innovation in smart grid technologies, energy storage and the modernisation of power distribution networks. Such cooperation could help improve grid reliability, manage fluctuations in renewable energy generation and ensure a more stable.

Minister Praises DST's Role in Advancing Research & Inclusive Development

New Delhi, Nov 5 (GNS): Marking the 55th Foundation Day of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh outlined India's evolving scientific landscape, emphasizing the need for increased industry involvement to the extent of industry led innovation, changes in approach and long-term innovation to position the country among leading global players.

Addressing a packed audience that included leading innovators, academicians, researchers and former Secretaries, Dr. Jitendra Singh traced the DST's journey since its inception on May 3, 1971, crediting it with catalyzing India's evolution into a science and technology powerhouse. "The founding of DST mirrors the march of post-independence India in the field of science," he said, highlighting how the department has bridged research and governance, turning vision into verifiable outcomes'. The Minister hailed DST's efforts in nurturing a nationwide research ecosystem, particularly through mission-mode programmes such as the National Supercomputing Mission, Cyber-Physical Systems, and the recent National Quantum Mission. Dr. Jitendra Singh emphasized that DST's interventions have not only advanced science but also driven grassroots development, with focused efforts on women, children, and marginalized communities.

The Minister spotlighted India's rising global rankings as a measure of DST's impact — from a dramatic leap in the Global Innovation Index (from 81st in 2015 to 39th in 2024), to securing the 3rd spot globally in start-up numbers, PhDs in science and engineering, and research publications. India is now also ranked 6th worldwide in intellectual property filings. But the core of Dr. Jitendra Singh's message was forward-looking: science must align with market forces. Advocating for "industry-determined innovation research," he argued that sustainable innovation must be both driven and funded by private players. "In India, knowledge partnerships alone don't work industry must have skin in the game," he quipped, underlining that private sector buy-in is essential for enduring scientific success. He also highlighted the role of the newly formed statutory body, ANRF (Anusandhan National Research Foundation), as a transformative force aimed at democratizing research funding and boosting university participation. Two major schemes the 1 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation Fund and the National Geospatial Mission are now housed under DST's leadership.

Calling out a quiet revolution, Dr. Jitendra Singh pointed to the "digitalisation of mind" that has ignited India's scientific temper, reshaped India's socio-scientific fabric. "Even a semi-literate person today prefers WhatsApp over writing down a number that's the extent of behavioural change," he said, stressing that the real transformation lies not only in numbers but in the rise of aspiration and confidence among ordinary Indians. The Minister didn't shy away from calling for a strategic return of talent from abroad, urging scientists to plan their overseas journeys with a return timeline. "India today has everything to offer. It's time we built a reverse pipeline for global talent," he said.

Concluding on a note of optimism, Dr. Jitendra Singh declared, "This is one of the best times for science and research in India — and the best is yet to come." The Foundation Day celebrations saw participation from Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, DST Secretary Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Dr. Sharad Sharma of iSPIRT, and Adil Zainulbhai, Chairman, CBC reflecting a strong convergence of scientific, institutional, and industry leadership.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also stressed the importance of strengthening collaboration between academic institutions, research laboratories and the private sector to accelerate the journey from laboratory discoveries to commercially viable products. He said greater industry participation would help ensure that research outcomes address real-world challenges and contribute directly to economic growth.

He further highlighted the need to encourage young researchers and innovators by providing them with access to modern infrastructure, funding opportunities and mentorship. Expanding research facilities beyond major scientific institutions and strengthening universities would help create a wider talent pool capable of taking up emerging technological challenges.

The Minister said India's growing scientific capabilities must translate into solutions that benefit society and strengthen the country's global competitiveness. He expressed confidence that sustained investment, institutional reforms and stronger industry partnerships would help India emerge as a major centre for cutting-edge research and innovation in the coming years.

Shekhawat Says Infra Boom Positions India as Future MICE Capital

New Delhi, Nov 5 (GNS): With the construction of the state-of-the art exhibition and conference complexes in the country, India is all set to become MICE ((Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) capital of the world. "The new segments of tourism are getting developed, in which MICE tourism is the most important and is the fastest growing segment in the country. The exhibition and conference infrastructure we see across the nation including Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Jaipur and even small cities post G20 meet indicates that India is standing at the threshold of strong possibilities for this sector," said Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union minister of Culture and Tourism, while inaugurating a Two-day Seminar on India: The land of Exponential Growth organised by the Indian Exhibition Industry Association (IEIA) , the apex national body of exhibition industry in the country.

"The government and the private exhibition industry has to work together to make India a centre of MICE tourism. Several events which are happening globally can be calendarized and brought here in India. Besides being a destination India, the country is also becoming a big Exhibition and conference hub with planned expansion in road, aviation and railway sectors along with expansion of the conference and exhibition sector, the country has a great future for economic growth," Shekhawat said.

"After 2014, India has shown a tremendous growth curve in infrastructure given the boom in infrastructure, be it the construction of roads over 1,50,000 km, new railway stations, semi high-speed trains, inland waterways and more than 150 operational airports. All of these have contributed to India's prowess with regards to the MICE events (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions). The confidence also built following India's hosting of G20 nations, the entire world is looking at India in awe and curiosity. In times to come, India will emerge as the MICE capital of the world." Said Mr Shekhawat.

"The IEIA Open Seminar and Exhibition Services Expo is the annual international conclave of the Indian Exhibition Industry attended by the captains of the industry from all regions of the country and overseas. The event acts as one of its kind meaningful platforms for business networking, knowledge exchange, and discussions on the emerging trends shaping our industry's future." Said Mr Sooraj Dhawan, President. Indian Exhibition Industry Association (IEIA).

"The 14th edition, the IEIA Open Seminar is expected to attract over 700 leading industry players at decision maker levels including leading Exhibition/ Event Organisers, heads of various trade bodies, sectoral associations and key govt. bodies. India is the fastest growing exhibition market in the world and has grown at 40% post Covid. The Exhibition Industry's contribution to the Indian economy is Rs. 50,000 crores. Business generated through exhibitions is Rs. 300,000 crores." Said Mr Dhawan.

"The Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE). refers to a specialized segment of the tourism and hospitality industry focused on organizing and hosting business events. We urge the govt to announce October 1 as the National MICE Day as further boosting the morale of the industry." Said Mr Dhawan. MICE is also known as the event industry. Over the past decades, the MICE industry has been recognized.

as a significant market segment and an important contributor to national economies. It not only gives a boost to the economy in the form of income generation, but creates huge employment opportunities in related hospitality services providing sectors like accommodation, food and beverage, convention services, transportation, tourism and entertainment.

Those present on the occasion included Mr Premjeet Lal ED, ITPO, Mr Rakesh Kumar, MD, India Expo mart, Mr Jagdish Patanakar Hon Secretary IEIA, and Mr Ravinder Sethi, vice president, IEIA The Union Minister said the rapid expansion of modern exhibition centres and convention facilities would help India attract major international trade fairs, business summits and corporate gatherings. He noted that world-class infrastructure, combined with improved connectivity, would strengthen the country's ability to compete with established global MICE destinations. He also emphasised the need to develop skilled manpower and improve professional standards in the exhibition and events industry. Training programmes, technology adoption and stronger partnerships between tourism stakeholders and event organisers would play a key role in enhancing the quality of services offered to international visitors.

Industry experts at the seminar highlighted the growing importance of exhibitions in promoting trade, investment and business partnerships. They said exhibitions provide domestic businesses, particularly small and medium enterprises, with opportunities to showcase their products, explore new markets and connect with international buyers.

The participants also discussed the need for a supportive policy framework to encourage international event organisers to choose India as their preferred destination. Simplified approval procedures, improved facilities and coordinated promotional efforts between the Centre, states and industry bodies were identified as important factors for growth.

MSME Credit Access Improves, But 80 Lakh Crore Gap Persists

New Delhi, Nov 5 (GNS): NITI Aayog today released the report on 'Enhancing MSMEs Competitiveness in India', prepared by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the Institute for Competitiveness (IFC). The report presents a detailed blueprint for unlocking the immense potential of India's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through systemic reforms in financing, skilling, innovation and market access.

The report delves into the key challenges affecting the competitiveness of MSMEs in India. Using firm-level data and the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), it provides recommendations to foster sustainable integration and enhance their incorporation into global value chains. It focuses on four important sectors - textiles manufacturing and apparel, chemical products, automotive and food processing while highlighting the sector-specific challenges and opportunities that need to be addressed to unlock the potential of MSMEs in India. The report examines current national and state policies, highlighting gaps in implementation and limited awareness among MSMEs.

One of the important findings of the report is the notable improvement in MSMEs' access to formal credit. Between 2020 and 2024, the share of micro and small enterprises accessing credit through scheduled banks rose from 14% to 20%, while medium enterprises saw an increase from 4% to 9%. Despite these improvements, the report reveals that a substantial credit gap remains. Only 19% of MSME credit demand was met formally by FY21, leaving an estimated 80 lakh crore unmet. The Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) has expanded significantly, but still faces significant limitations. To bridge the credit gap and unlock inclusive, scalable finance for MSMEs, the report calls for a revamped CGTMSE, supported by institutional collaboration and more targeted services.

The report also highlights the pressing issue of skill shortages within the MSME sector. A large portion of the workforce lacks formal vocational or technical training, which hampers productivity and limits the ability of MSMEs to scale effectively. Many MSMEs also fail to invest sufficiently in research and development (R&D), quality improvement, or innovation, making it difficult to stay competitive in national and global markets. The report further points out that MSMEs face barriers in adopting modern technologies due to unreliable electricity supply, weak internet connectivity and high implementation costs. Despite state government schemes designed to support technological advancement in MSMEs, many enterprises are either unaware of them or unable to access them. In its analysis of clusters, the report finds that upgrading outdated technologies and improving marketing and branding capabilities are critical to improving competitiveness.

The report concludes that despite various MSME support policies and the recent boost to MSMEs through Union Budgets, increased effectiveness is hampered.

Telangana climate conclave to focus on El Niño



Hyderabad, Nov 5 (GNS): As part of the 'Invest Telangana Global Summit-2026', a 'Telangana Climate Conclave' will be held on December 8. This event will focus on the challenges posed by the El Niño effect and climate change, addressing both immediate response measures and long-term solutions. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy reviewed the progress of preparations for the 'Invest Telangana Global Summit-2026'—scheduled to take place from December 7 to 9 at the Young India Skills University campus in 'Bharat Future City'—with ministers and senior officials at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat.

Discussions were held comprehensively regarding the summit venue, the various halls, the invitation process for international delegates, and the overall management of the event. During the meeting, the Chief Minister provided several instructions to the ministers and officials. The Chief Minister directed that a dedicated liaison officer be assigned to every delegate attending the Global Summit. He emphasized that all relevant information regarding the summit should be provided to the delegates in advance, ensuring they face no difficulties during their visit.

He suggested extending invitations to the Chief Ministers of other states. Furthermore, he advised appointing a specific officer for each department, along with a dedicated security officer, and ordered that robust security arrangements be put in place for the summit. He also directed that special invitations be extended to representatives of companies interested in establishing industries or entering into investment agreements. Officials have been directed to prepare a comprehensive plan for the summit arrangements by November 15.

Officials stated that the arrangements for this year's summit are being made on a much larger scale compared to last year's 'Telangana Rising Summit.' While there was only one expo hall previously, six exhibition halls are being set up this time.

The summit program has been designed with a focus on investments, industries, modern technology, innovations, and employment opportunities. Key components of the summit include the Raksha Expo, India Joy, a Startup Pavilion, a Pharma and Life Sciences Expo, an exhibition on agriculture and allied sectors, a Telangana Pavilion, an Education Expo, and a Climate Conclave. The Raksha Expo will feature advanced equipment, drones, and robotics related to the defense, aerospace, space, and cybersecurity sectors. Plans are also underway to include aerial displays. So far, 49 organizations have come forward to participate in the Raksha Expo. Special arrangements are being made for 'India Joy 2026,' which will focus on the animation, visual effects, gaming, and comics sectors.

A dedicated pavilion is being set up for startups, with plans to showcase innovations from 136 different startups. As part of the Telangana Innovation Startup Challenge, the government is inviting technological solutions for challenges in sectors such as agriculture, education, healthcare, the protection of government lands, and public infrastructure.

Arrangements are being made to showcase 60 companies from the pharma and life sciences sectors. The pavilion dedicated to agriculture and allied sectors will highlight modern farming techniques, agricultural drones, dairy, fisheries, and the food processing industry. A dedicated 'Telangana Pavilion' is being set up to reflect the state's history, culture, handlooms, the Bathukamma festival, and the architectural legacy of the Kakatiyas, while also showcasing the state's development and future roadmap.

Memorandum Submitted on Five-Point Demands, Reservation for SC Muslims Becomes Main Issue



Alapur , Nov 5 (GNS):A memorandum addressed to the Chief Minister and the Prime Minister on the five-point demands of Muslims of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh was submitted to the Sub-Divisional Officer, Alapur on Monday, under the leadership of India's strong leader and social worker Irfaan Jamiawala and Uttar Pradesh youth leader Noorul Huda Ansari.

On behalf of Rashtriya Ulama Council, State President (Youth) Noorul Huda Ansari, speaking to press representatives, raised the issue of constitutional rights of Muslim Dalits and Pasmanda community and their political participation.

On this occasion, Irfaan Jamiawala said that justice has not been done to Muslims of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh for decades. The Constitution gives equal rights to all, but discrimination on the basis of religion continues even today. He said this fight is not against any religion, but to save the Constitution and to give equality to all.

The delegation said that through the Presidential Order of 10 August 1950, a religious ban was imposed on Scheduled Caste status. Later, Sikh and Buddhist communities were included in it, but Muslim and Christian Dalit communities are still deprived of it.

Noorul Huda Ansari demanded from Prime Minister Narendra Modi to amend the Presidential Order and remove the religious ban. He said concrete steps should be taken to ensure political participation of Pasmanda and Muslim Dalit community.

1. Amend the Presidential Order of 10 August 1950 and give SC status to Muslim and Christian Dalits.

2. Pasmanda Muslims should get participation in education, jobs and politics according to their population.

3. Special development scheme and scholarship should be started for Pasmanda community in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

4. Strict law should be implemented to stop atrocities on Muslim Dalits.

5. Raising questions on Samajwadi Party's PDA concept, he said PDA should not remain just a slogan, Pasmanda should also get share in tickets and posts.

Irfaan Jamiawala, referring to earlier efforts on this issue in Bihar, said that Pasmanda movement is strongest in Bihar and now both Uttar Pradesh and Bihar together will have to take this fight to Delhi. A large number of workers and supporters were present while submitting the memorandum. All said

Uttam Kumar Reddy calls for special focus on groundwater conservation



Hyderabad, Nov 5 (GNS): State Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy has directed officials to give special attention to groundwater conservation and restoration, stressing the need to formulate a comprehensive action plan suited to Telangana's requirements. Chairing a review meeting on drought mitigation and groundwater conservation, the Minister asked officials to study successful initiatives being implemented in other states, particularly Rajasthan and Maharashtra, and adopt suitable measures to strengthen groundwater levels in Telangana. The meeting reviewed the responsibilities and proposed activities of the departments of Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, Groundwater and Irrigation in addressing drought conditions and improving groundwater resources.

Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government would allocate the necessary funds for groundwater conservation and would provide additional financial support beyond existing budgetary allocations, if required. He called for a dedicated review of the functioning of the Groundwater Department and the measures needed to improve its performance.

The Minister directed officials to organise a meeting with Groundwater Department representatives from all districts and undertake a comprehensive assessment of groundwater levels across the state.

Legal cell -TPCC team attends the inauguration of Nyay Vihar law firm



Hyderabad, Nov 5 (GNS): E.Deva, Vice Chairman, Legal Cell-Tpcc, Momin Roshan Zameer, Advocate, State General Secretary and In-Charge of Social Media, Legal Cell (Law, Human Rights and RTI Department), Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC), and Member, Hyderabad Waqf Protection and Co-ordination Committee, Government of Telangana, attended the inauguration ceremony of Nyay Vihar Law Firm.

On this auspicious occasion, E. Deva, Vice Chairman, and Advocate Momin Roshan Zameer participated in the inauguration ceremony of Nyay Vihar Law Firm and extended their heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Srinivas Goud and Shekhar Goud on the establishment of their new law firm. They conveyed their sincere wishes for the firm's success, growth and progress, expressing hope that Nyay Vihar Law Firm would provide dedicated legal services, uphold the principles of justice, and serve the people with commitment and professionalism.

On this occasion, K. Ravinder, Nashra and Farhan also extended their congratulations and best wishes to Srinivas Goud and Shekhar Goud, wishing them great success in their professional journey and a bright future.

The inauguration marked a memorable occasion, celebrating the establishment of the new law firm and the beginning of its journey in the field of legal services.

Govt Forms Committee on Sugarcane Farmers and Sugar Sector



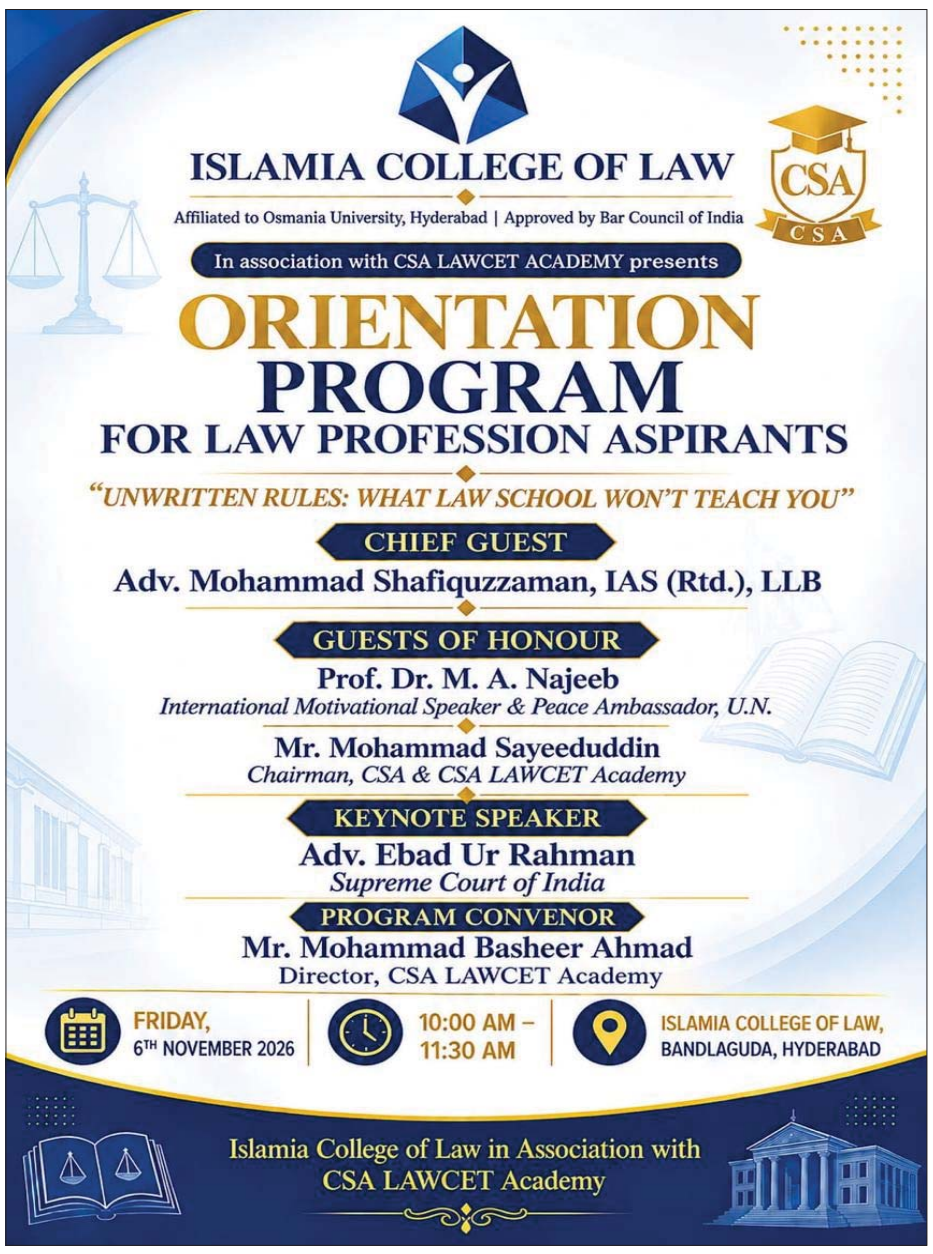
Hyderabad, Nov 5 (GNS): Telangana is making extensive arrangements to organise the Invest Telangana Global Summit–2026 as the country's largest industrial expo, Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju said on Thursday. The three-day event will be held from December 7 to 9 at Bharat Future City in Hyderabad. The Chief Secretary chaired a high-level review meeting at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat to assess preparations and the progress of various activities planned for the summit.

He said leading national and international companies and organisations had been invited, with a large number already expressing their willingness to participate. The response, he noted, had been significantly higher than initially expected. The summit will feature several major exhibitions and thematic events, including the Raksha Expo, Startup Pavilion, Creation Corner, Pharma and Life Sciences Expo, Telangana Pavilion, Industrial Expo, Telangana Climate Conclave, Education Summit, and an Aerobatic and Air Show.

Jaju particularly highlighted the Startup Pavilion and Creation Corner, which will offer young entrepreneurs, especially those from Gen Z, an opportunity to showcase their creativity, innovative ideas and emerging technologies. He said various committees had been constituted to ensure coordination among departments and the smooth conduct of the event. The summit aims to showcase Telangana's investor-friendly ecosystem, industrial opportunities and infrastructure strengths to national and international investors, while encouraging them to partner in the state's Rising Telangana Vision.

Curtain-raiser events had already been organised in Hyderabad and New Delhi to promote the summit and generate interest among investors and industrial leaders. Delegate registrations for participation have also commenced.

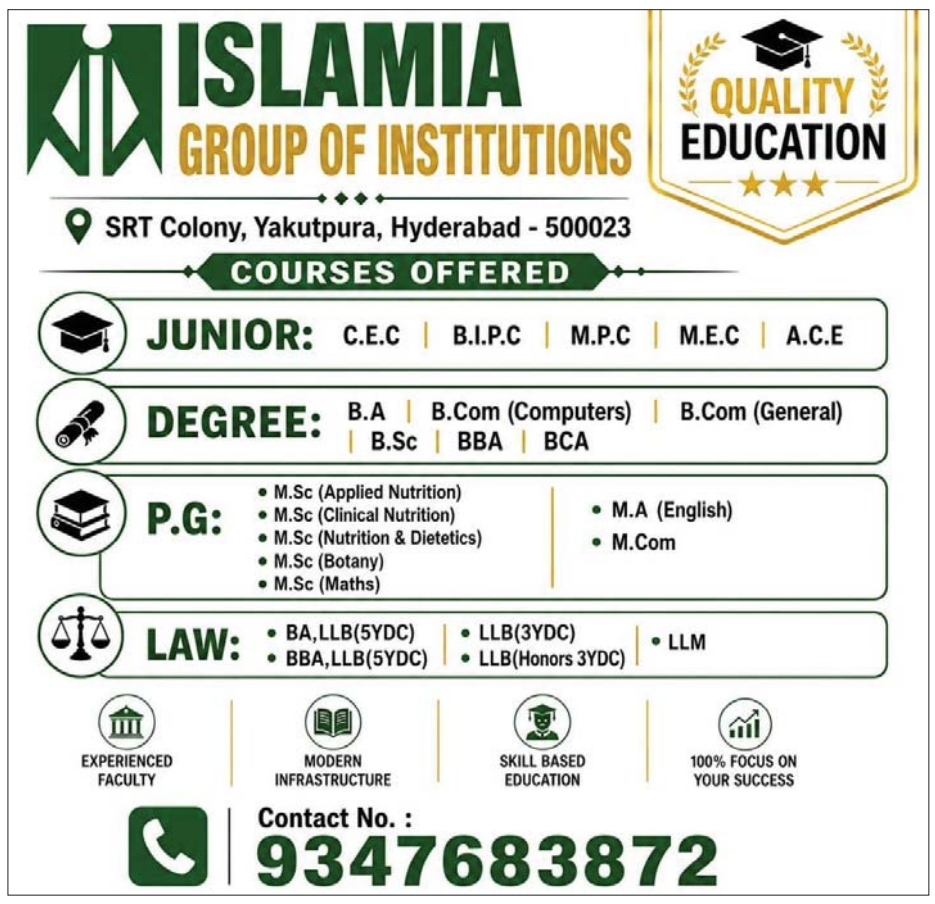
The Chief Secretary directed all concerned departments to work in close coordination and expedite preparations to ensure the successful conduct of the global event. Special Chief Secretary Naveen Mittal, Secretaries Ilambarthi, Harichandana, Gaurav Uppal, Divya Devarajan, Shashanka and Anudeep.



Kishan Reddy Pushes Coal Gasification, Critical Minerals

Hyderabad,Nov 5 (GNS): Union Coal and Mines Minister G. Kishan Reddy on Thursday highlighted the need to accelerate coal gasification for the optimum utilisation of India's abundant coal resources and flagged the strategic importance of critical minerals in the evolving global geopolitical landscape. Addressing the conference of Mining Ministers on reforms in the mines and coal sector, being held in Goa, the minister said coal gasification would unlock the economic value of domestic coal, promote industrial diversification, generate employment, and strengthen the country's long-term energy security.

He urged coal-bearing states to actively facilitate investments, support infrastructure development, and accelerate project implementation to realise the sector's immense potential. Highlighting the strategic importance of critical minerals, the minister stressed the need to strengthen domestic exploration, mining, processing, refining, and recycling capabilities. He emphasised that developing a self-reliant mineral ecosystem is essential to reducing import dependence and strengthening India's strategic and economic resilience. Emphasising the transformative role of technology, Reddy called upon state governments to harness Artificial Intelligence (AI), digitalisation and advanced technological solutions



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