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Ye Dosti Hum Nahi Todenge..!!

23rd India-Russia annual summit

Russian President Vladimir Putin conducted a high-profile **State visit to India in December**, for the **23rd India-Russia Annual Summit**. This was his first visit to the country since the start of the Ukraine conflict in 2022.

Key Highlights & Personal Gestures

Protocol Break: In a rare diplomatic gesture, Prime Minister Narendra Modi personally received President Putin at the Palam Air Force Station airport, and the two leaders traveled together in the same car.

Private Engagements: PM Modi hosted a private dinner for Putin at his official residence (7, Lok Kalyan Marg) where he presented Putin with a Russian translation of the *Gita*.

Ceremonial Events: Putin received a ceremonial reception at Rashtrapati Bhavan, visited Rajghat to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, and held formal summit talks.

Major Outcomes and Agreements

The summit focused heavily on economic resilience and long-term strategic goals rather than immediate major defense contracts.

Trade Target: Both leaders reaffirmed their goal to reach **\$100 billion in bilateral trade by 2030**.

Energy Security: Putin pledged "uninterrupted" fuel shipments (oil, gas, coal) to India despite Western sanctions.

New Visa Policy: PM Modi announced a **free 30-day e-tourist visa** and group tourist visa for Russian citizens to boost people-to-people ties.

Labor and Industry: A "Labor Mobility Agreement" was signed to facilitate Indian skilled workers moving to Russia. MoUs were also signed for building a urea plant in Russia and enhancing maritime cooperation.

Financial Mechanisms: They agreed to continue working on settling bilateral trade in national currencies (Rupee-Ruble) to bypass Western financial pressures.

Strategic Context

The visit was widely seen as a balancing act for India, maintaining its "Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership" with Russia while managing relations with the U.S. and Europe. It coincided with ongoing peace efforts regarding the Ukraine war involving the U.S. administration.

Explore news coverage of President Putin's 2025 India visit, highlighting significant diplomatic exchanges and economic agreements like the \$100 billion trade target.

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Appointments

*Health Secretary: Nivedita Shukla Verma (IAS) extended her additional charge for Health & Family Welfare until Dec 28, 2025, covering Punya Salila Srivastava's leave.

*Railway Board: Aparna Garg (IRAS) took charge as Member (Finance) on Dec 1, 2025, bringing extensive experience.

*LIC: Ramakrishnan Chander was appointed Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) from December 1, 2025.

*Garima Yadav (IAS: 2014: UP) has been appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances for a period of four years i.e. up to 30.04.2030.

*Pinky Sawariya (ISS: 2012) has been appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Central Information Commission for a period of four years. Thereafter, she will be appointed as Joint Secretary (Director level) in the same department w.e.f. 01.01.2026 for a period of five years.

*Additional charge of post of Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare to Nivedita Shukla Verma (IAS: 1991: UP), Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, has been extended beyond 21.12.2025 and up to 28.12.2025 during the period of absence on leave of Punya Salila Srivastava (IAS: 1993: AGMUT).

Nachiketa Jha, IPS Appointed As Jt. Secretary at National Security Council Secretariat

Nachiketa Jha, a 2003-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre, has been appointed as the Joint Secretary at the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS), Government of India, effective December 19, 2025. This role places him at the heart of India's internal and external security policymaking, working closely with the National Security Advisor (NSA).

Distinguished Career in Uttar Pradesh Police

Before this central deputation, IPS Jha served as the Home Secretary of Uttar Pradesh from December 2024. He has also held senior posts as Inspector General (IG) in key regions, including Meerut Range (March 2023–December 2024) and Agra Range. During his tenure in Meerut, he earned a reputation for handling sensitive cases with efficiency and integrity.

Earlier in his career, Jha was deputed to the central government, serving as Deputy Director in the Intelligence Bureau (IB). His extensive experience in intelligence and law enforcement adds significant value to his new position at the NSCS, where he will contribute to shaping national security strategies.

Priya Ranjan, IFS got Extension



The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the proposal of the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare for extension of entrustment of additional charge for the post of Managing Director, National Horticulture Board (NHB) to Shri Priya Ranjan, IFS (RJ: 1998), Joint Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare for a period of 09 months with effect from 23.09.2025 to 22.06.2026 or till appointment of regular incumbent for the post or until further orders.

Richa Verma, IAS Post Re-designated



The Competent Authority has approved the proposal for re-designation of the post of Deputy Secretary in the Department of Higher Education presently held by Ms. Richa Verma IAS (HP:2012), as Director, in the Department of Higher Education as a measure personal to her with effect from 01.01.2026 or the date of assumption of charge of the re-designated post, whichever is later and for a period up to 24.11.2030 i.e. total admissible tenure of five years under the Central Staffing Scheme.

Prashant Kumar, Retired IPS Officer appointed chairman of UPESSC



A former Director General of Police (DGP) and retired Indian Police Service officer of the 1990-batch, Shri Prashant Kumar has been appointed as the Chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Education Service Selection Commission (UPESSC), Prayagraj, according to an official statement.

Kumar has been appointed as the acting Director General of Police of Uttar Pradesh in January 2024 and retired on May 31, 2025. The respective post was vacant after the first chairman of UPESSC Professor Kirti Pandey resigned on September 22. The tenure of Shri Kumar as the Chairperson of UPESSC is for three years from the date of appointment or until he attains the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. The UP government has issued a circular inviting applications for appointment to the post of UPESSC chairman after the resignation of former Chairperson. The last date for receipt of application was October 21. The Uttar Pradesh higher education department again invited applications for the post in November and set a deadline of December 10.

Sairam assumes charge as CMD, Coal India Limited



B. Sairam has been appointed as Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Coal India Limited (CIL).

Prior to this, he was CMD, Northern Coalfields Limited a wholly owned subsidiary of CIL. Sairam brings a vast reservoir of knowledge and experience spanning over more than 3 decades of dedicated service in the coal sector.

A graduate mining engineer from NIT Raipur, Sairam has traversed various domains within the coal industry, including mine operations, project planning, logistics, and regulatory affairs. He pursued MBA in Energy Management from NTPC School of Business Delhi. Before appointment as CMD of NCL, he was serving as Director (Technical) in Ranchi based Central Coalfields Limited where he played pivotal roles in development of coal logistics, First Mile Connectivity projects, Forest & Environment Clearances, and projectising greenfield and brownfield mines. Sairam has been instrumental in community development initiatives during his stint as Executive Director at CIL. In NCL, his leadership and technical acumen led to projectisation, structuring of project financing, and developing a compensation and R&R framework for shifting of urban township- considered as the largest mining rehabilitation & resettlement programme for Jayant expansion project.

Sanjay Garg, IAS assumes charge as DG, BIS



Sanjay Garg, a senior civil servant of IAS-1994 batch from the Kerala cadre, has assumed charge as the Director General of the Bureau of Indian Standards, the National Standards Body of India.

Garg brings vast and diverse administrative experience spanning over three decades with expertise in strategic planning, policy formulation and implementation across various sectors including agriculture, food logistics, defence industry sector, industrial promotion, finance and various social sectors at State and National levels.

Prior to joining BIS as DG, he served as Additional Secretary, DARE (Department of Agriculture, Research and Education) and Secretary, Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR). In DARE and ICAR, he spearheaded the digital transformation through application of IT in Research Management and Administration. He also played a pivotal role in scaling up and expansion of Kisan Sarathi portal which connects farmers directly to agricultural scientists.

His experience includes management and administration of World Bank Projects in India, promotion and the deregulation of defence industry sector, other industrial promotions initiatives including promotion of leather industry sector.

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Shilpa Shinde assumes charge as CMD, WAPCOS



Shilpa Shinde assumes charge as Chairman and Managing Director of WAPCOS. She is an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the 2006 batch from the AGMUT (UT) cadre.

She holds a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science and Engineering from Gulbarga University, Gulbarga, Karnataka

India. During her distinguished career, she has held several key positions of responsibility, including: Commissioner Labour, Government of NCT of Delhi; ' Commissioner & Secretary, Development Department; ' Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Jal Board (DJB), Government of NCT of Delhi; ' Managing Director, Delhi Transport Corporation; ' Addl Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD); ' Special Commissioner (T&T); ' Director WCD & Social Welfare Department, Government of Delhi.

With rich experience in the fields of Urban Development, Water Resources, Social Welfare she has contributed significantly to governance and service delivery in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Arun Kumar Singh, ONGC Chairman gets one-year extension



Arun Kumar Singh has been granted a one-year extension as the Chairman & CEO of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), the country's top oil and gas exploration company. The decision was made by the government as part of an ongoing effort to ensure stable leadership at the helm of the public sector giant.

Singh commands a distinguished career spanning over 37 years in the Oil & Gas industry, both within India and on the global stage. Known for his push for corporate reforms, his astute professional business management skills have brought significant value to every enterprise he has led. Prior to this, he was the CMD of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), an esteemed 'Maharatna' enterprise and Fortune Global 500 Company.

Atul Gupta as CMD, Engineers India Limited



Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) has recommended Atul Gupta for the position of Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Engineers India Limited (EIL).

Gupta is currently serving as Director (Commercial) in the Company. He is a Mechanical Engineer from GBUAT Pantnagar and joined EIL as Management Trainee in

1992. In a career spanning 30 years, has been associated in a wide array of domain and steered the successful implementation of various mega projects in India and abroad involving various modes of execution. During project implementation, led the multidisciplinary team of Technical and Commercial domain involving Process, Engineering, Contracts & Procurement, Manufacturing, Construction and Commissioning in both green field and brown field projects.

Raj Kumar Goyal takes oath as Chief Information Commissioner

Raj Kumar Goyal has taken oath as the Chief Information Commissioner. The oath was administered by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Mr. Goyal's name has been recommended as CIC by three-member panel headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He is a 1990-batch (retired) Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram-Union Territories (AGMUT) cadre and was retired on 31 August as Secretary, Department of Justice under the Ministry of Law and Justice.

Mr. Goyal has also served as a Secretary (Border Management) in the Ministry of Home Affairs and held several key posts both at Centre and in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

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Corridors of Power

Proud Moment ! Telangana Wins National Energy Conservation Award



Proud moment ! The Government of Telangana has been conferred the Second Prize in the State Performance Award Category under the prestigious National Energy Conservation Awards (NECA) – 2025, instituted by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Ministry of Power, Government of India. The award was received for Telangana's outstanding performance in the field of Energy Conservation and Energy Efficiency, spearheaded by the Telangana State Renewable Energy Development Corporation (TGREDCO), functioning as the State Designated Agency (SDA).

The NECA-2025 Award Ceremony was held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, in the august presence of the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu. Telangana represented by senior officers Navin Mittal IAS, Principal Secretary to Govt. Energy Department, Govt of Telangana and Smt. V. Anila, Vice Chairman & Managing Director, TGREDCO have received the award from President of India.

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Another Achievement

In a major setback to the banned CPI (Maoist) organisation, 41 underground cadres, including six senior functionaries at the Company Platoon Committee and Divisional Committee levels, surrendered to Telangana police.

The cadres formally renounced violence and joined the mainstream of society, Telangana Director General of Police

B.Shivadhar Reddy said. The surrendered ultras handed over 24 firearms, including one INSAS LMG, three AK-47 rifles, and five SLR rifles, along with 733 live rounds of ammunition of various calibres, to the police. In 2025 alone, 509 underground CPI (Maoist) cadres—including two Central Committee members, 11 State Committee members, and three Divisional Committee secretaries—have surrendered to Telangana police, underscoring the steady decline of the organization. In the picture Mahesh Bhagwat, Addl.DGP (L&O) can also be seen.



CS Mulakaat With Arvind Subramanian

Telangana Chief Secretary, K.Ramakrishna Rao welcomed Arvind Subramanian, an Indian Economist and the former Chief Economic Advisor to Govt of India in his office. Later duo had a meeting on GST Compliance and EoDB with the concerned officials. News is, the Centre has also approved the extension of Mr.Rao tenure by seven months, until March 2026. Rao, who assumed charge on April 30, was originally scheduled to retire on August 30. Who is the net CS, it's a mystery !!



A New Era of Smart & Proactive Policing

Interesting and innovative policing is being witnessed in Hyderabad! The Hyderabad City Police Chief, VC Sajjanar, has launched "Operation Kavach"—a powerful new initiative aimed at enhancing public safety, deterring crime, and strengthening night-time vigilance across the city.

Just imagine this: 5,000 police personnel conducting rigorous checks across 150 strategic locations—a massive, well-coordinated safety shield for the people of Hyderabad. The powerful tagline says it all: #YourSafety – #OurResponsibility But that's not all. Mr. Sajjanar is also one of the most proactive officers in creating public awareness against cybercrime and fraud.

From warnings about ghost pairing, digital arrest scams, fake traffic challans, and fraudulent RBI and Udyam links, to urging citizens to say no to betting, his social media presence is a continuous stream of vital public-interest information. It reflects his deep commitment to keeping citizens informed, alert, and safe.

In the picture, Mr. Sajjanar is seen meeting the Chief Election Commissioner of India, Shri Gyanesh Kumar, during his visit to Hyderabad—another example of his active engagement at the highest levels of public service.



Krishna Bhaskar takes charge as CMD of Singareni

2012-batch IAS officer Krishna Bhaskar has taken charge as Chairman and Managing Director of Singareni Collieries Company Limited in Hyderabad. He succeeds N. Balram, who returned to his

parent department after holding additional charge as CMD since January 2024. The State government appointed Krishna Bhaskar as the new CMD of SCCL as the incumbent, N Balram, returned to his parent department. An Indian Revenue Service officer, Balram was shifted to Singareni on deputation in the cadre of Director (Finance) seven years ago. In January 2024, he was given full additional charge as CMD after former CMD N Sridhar completed his tenure.



Prez stressed the importance of integrity, honesty, & competence in civil servants

H.E , The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, inaugurated the National Conference for the Chairpersons of Public Service Commissions, organised by the Telangana Public Service Commission, in Hyderabad. Speaking on the occasion, President Murmu emphasised the critical role of Public Service Commissions in the governance framework of India. "The Public Service Commissions should not only be guided by the ideal of equality of opportunity but should also try to achieve the goal of equality of outcomes. The Commissions are change-agents which promote equality and equity," she stated.

President Murmu stressed the importance of integrity, honesty, and competence in civil servants selected through the Commissions. "Public Service Commissions should give highest priority to the aspect of honesty and integrity of the candidates they recruit. Honesty and integrity are paramount as well as non-negotiable." She added. On stage Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Verma and Telangana Public Service Commission, Chairman is Burra Venkatesham, IAS can also be seen in the picture.



Importance Of Compact & Trust

Laura Williams, US Consul General in Hyderabad visited Andhra Pradesh. In her post Laura said "Great to meet business leaders in Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam and highlight the importance of the COMPACT and TRUST framework in strengthening cooperation and business ties between the U.S. and India." "Strengthening these commercial ties will accelerate innovation and create new opportunities for both sides." She added.



Click Of The Month

UK Dy.High Commissioner Gareth Wynn Owen picture is endorsed as click of the month. He participated in Telangana Rising, Global Summit. In his post he mentioned "Fun stop at the TWorksHyd stall at the #GlobalSummitTG tried my hand at their flight simulator. Amazing to see the spirit of innovation that is being powered through platforms like T-works #THubHyd & #WeHubHyderabad.



New Beginnings

Turkey Consul General in Hyderabad Orhan Yalman Okan attended "Telangana Rising Global Summit" along with Commercial Attaché Tugçe Gül. New beginnings and new collaborations ! Global leaders, industry heads, and experts attended Telangana Rising Global Summit , sessions took place on key sectors like energy, IT, healthcare and startups



Dr.Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan Invited For Telangana Connects USA Summit

After Dubai , Dr.Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Hyderabad Telangana and Andhra Pradesh visited United States. "I had the honour of attending the Telangana Connects USA Summit held in Atlanta, Georgia, USA as the Guest of Honor, alongside the Honourable Consul General of India in Atlanta and Congressman Jonathan L. Jackson of Chicago. The summit offered a thoughtful space to engage with leaders and friends committed to strengthening ties between Telangana, India, and the United States."

"I was deeply humbled to receive the United States Congressional Proclamation at Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C., presented by Congressman Jonathan L. Jackson, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from the 1st Congressional District of Illinois and a distinguished member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the House Committee on Agriculture." He added.



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Mr.Ranganath – The Protector of Govt. Land

“Over 10,000 Crore Worth of Land Protected”

While the khaki uniform’s first duty is to protect human lives, Hyderabad’s HYDRAA Commissioner Mr. A.V. Ranganath has taken that responsibility a step further — by fearlessly protecting public lands, lakes, and government property from illegal encroachments.

For the past few years, Mr. Ranganath has remained relentlessly on the ground, despite facing numerous hurdles, resistance, and negative campaigns. Today, people across the state recognize one truth: HYDRAA has emerged as the most effective platform for justice and protection of public property.

Massive Land Reclaimed in Major Drive : In a landmark operation, HYDRAA has successfully reclaimed hundreds of acres of encroached government land, delivering a major blow to land grabbers. 23.16 acres recovered in Nekkampur and 20 acres reclaimed in the Nizamabad / Old City area. Around 923 acres retrieved in a single massive drive across lakes, parks, and public plots

The reclaimed land is estimated to be worth tens of thousands of crores, marking one of the largest anti-encroachment actions in recent years. This is not just an operation — it is a historic achievement that restores public resources to the people and protects Hyderabad’s environmental and civic future. Compliments and accolades to Mr. A.V. Ranganath. A true guardian of public interest. Kudos!



GHMC will now serve 1.34 Cr population

As Hyderabad scales new heights as a metropolitan city, urban governance is evolving to stay closer to citizens and stronger on the ground. In this direction, the Government has undertaken a landmark reorganisation of GHMC, reinforcing people-centric administration. With the merger of 27 Urban Local Bodies, GHMC’s jurisdiction has expanded from 650 sq. km to 2,053 sq. km , now serving a population of over 1.34 crore—positioning it among the largest municipal corporations in the country. To effectively manage this expanded scale, GHMC has been restructured from 6 Zones and 30 Circles to 12 Zones and 60 Circles , reinforcing decentralised governance, enhancing field-level supervision, and bringing civic services closer to citizens across the city. In this context, as part of the move towards a unified administrative framework for the TCUR, the GHMC Commissioner RV.Karnan

conducted an initial coordination meeting with all newly appointed Zonal Commissioners, focusing on smooth transition , unified priorities, and coordinated action for faster service delivery and balanced urban growth.

Young Alumni Achievers Award for Anudeep



BITS Pilani celebrating the changemakers of tomorrow, to day ! Young Alumni Achievers Award (YAAA) 2026 a recognition reserved for exceptional BITSians under 40 who are creating impact, inspiring change, and shaping the future with their work. Prof. Hari Prakash Veluswamy, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee Mr. Anudeep Durishetty, District Collector - Khammam, Telangana Ms. Divya Nawale, Policy Specialist, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Mr. Debajyoti Datta, Co-Founder, Hippocratic AI Founding Team, Dhruva Space Mr. Abhay Egoor, Mr. Chaitanya Dora Surapureddy, and Mr. Krishna

Teja Penamakuru From pioneering technology and impactful policymaking to transformative entrepreneurship and public service, these outstanding young BITSians embody the highest ideals of excellence, innovation, and leadership. They are not just reaching milestones they are redefining them. Join us in celebrating their inspiring journeys, their commitment, and their remarkable achievements.

“Adilabad Under Tight Watch: SP Leads War on Crime and Encroachments”

In a decisive move to strengthen law and order across the district, Adilabad Superintendent of Police Akhil Mahajan, IPS, has intensified policing with inspections, crackdowns on illegal activities and strict enforcement measures.

As part of the district-wide crime control drive, the SP inspected Jainath and Talamadugu Police Stations, directing officers to maintain zero tolerance toward anti-social elements, drug peddlers, ganja and illicit liquor (gudumba) sellers. He also ordered strict drink-and-drive checks, enhanced night patrolling, and the use of technology-based investigations to improve crime detection. Special emphasis was placed on victim-friendly policing and strengthening the Village Police Officer (VPO) system.

The SP also reviewed policing in sensitive border and tribal regions by inspecting Gadiguda and Narnoor Police Stations. Officers were instructed to keep strict vigil on illegal cross-border trafficking, step up village-level surveillance, and create awareness among the public about Dial 100, She Teams, and Cyber Crime reporting mechanisms.

Reiterating his commitment to public safety, SP Akhil Mahajan stated that crime, land encroachment and illegal trade would not be tolerated in Adilabad district. He called for discipline, professionalism and proactive policing to ensure a safe and secure environment for all citizens.



PIVOTAL ROLE : Jayesh Ranjan is new chief of MAUD

The Telangana government has transferred 20 senior IAS officers, with Jayesh Ranjan taking on a pivotal role in the urban development department. The orders, issued late Thursday, come at a crucial time as the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) expands its jurisdiction and finalizes its ward delimitation. Jayesh Ranjan to Lead Metropolitan Development

The most significant move in this reshuffle is the appointment of Jayesh Ranjan, IAS (1992), as the Special Chief Secretary to the Government, Metropolitan Area & Urban Development (HMUDA Limits). New Responsibility: He takes over the role from Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao, who was holding it as a Full Additional Charge (FAC). Retained Portfolios: Ranjan will continue to serve as the Special Chief Secretary for Youth Advancement, Tourism, and Culture (YAT&C), Sports, and as the Director of Archaeology. Strategic Shift: In return, Chief Secretary K Ramakrishna Rao will now hold the Full Additional Charge of the Industry & Investment Cell in the CMO and the SPEED (Smart Proactive Efficient and Effective Delivery) initiative.

IAS & IPS Officers Promoted In Telangana



Several senior and junior IAS and IPS officers have been promoted in the state. Principal Secretary to Energy Department Naveen Mittal and Principal Secretary to Labour and Employment Dana Kishore have been promoted as Special Chief Secretaries. Two senior IPS officers, 2001 batch Officer Akun Sabharwal, who was on central deputation, and Rachkonda Police Commissioner G Sudheer Babu were promoted as Additional Director General of police.

The IPS officers N Swetha, R Bhaskaran, G Chandana Deepthi, Kalmeshwar Shingenavar, Rohini Priyadarshini and S.M. Vijay Kumar promoted as DIG Rank.

2017 batch 14 IAS officers were also given Junior Administrative Grade scale level of officers. Rizwanbasha Shaik, (Collector of Jangaon), Mikkilineni Manu Choudary (Collector, Medchal-Malkajgiri), Muzammil Khan (on leave), Venkatesh Dhotre (Collector, Kumurambheem-Asifabad), Santhosh (Collector Jogulamba-Gadwal), Rajarshi Shah (Collector Adilabad), Prateek (Collector, Vikarabad), Ila Tripathi (Collector, Nalgonda), Sneha Shabarish (Collector, Hanamkonda) Rahul Sharma (Collector Jayashankar Bhupalpalli,) Divakara TS (Collector Mulugu), Kota Sreevatsa (Joint Metropolitan Commissioner (General), HMUDA), P Katyayani Devi, (Additional CEO, SERP) and EV Narsimha Reddy (Additional CEO, Industry & Investment Cell & SPEED) have retained in the same post after promotions.

New Zonal Comm. for GHMC

Following the expansion of GHMC to 300 wards and 12 zones, the government has notified new Zonal Commissioners to streamline urban administration: Serlingampally - B Hemant Sahadeorao (IAS - 2018) ,Kukatpally - Apurv Chauhan (IAS - 2020), Quthbullapur - Sandeep Kumar Jha (IAS 2014), Charminar - Srinivas Reddy, Golconda - G Mukund Reddy, Khairatabad - Priyanka Ala

THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL!

Tasty Plum Cake



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Public Sector

NLC India Limited Wins National Awards for Excellence



NLC India Limited received three National Awards from the Public Relations Society of India (PRSI) during the 47th All India Public Relations Conference in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

The awards recognized excellence in several categories: 1st Place for "Best e-Newsletter," 1st Place for "Best PSU Implementing RTI," and 2nd Place for "Best Annual Report."

These accolades were presented by prominent officials, including the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Pushkar Singh Dhama. Previously, on November 28, 2025, at a state-level PRSI ceremony in Chennai, NLC's Corporate Communication Department garnered three awards, including Gold for "Digital Video," Silver for "Television Advertisement Video," and Bronze for "House Journal in Tamil." The Chairman and Managing Director of NLC, Prasanna Kumar Motupalli, expressed pride in the achievements and emphasized the significance of winning the national award for RTI implementation for 12 consecutive years, highlighting the company's dedication to transparency and social responsibility.

Ravi Ranjan Takes Charge as SBI MD



Ravi Ranjan has been appointed as the Managing Director of the State Bank of India (SBI), effective , as announced by the Finance Ministry's Department of Financial Services.

He will serve until his retirement on September 30, 2028. Previously, Ranjan was the Deputy Managing Director, leading SBI's Global Markets and overseeing the Corporate Accounts Group.

SBI recently reported a 6.4% increase in consolidated net profit for Q2 FY26, totaling Rs 21,504.49 crore, bolstered by loan growth and improved asset quality, though its domestic net interest margin declined to 3.09%.

POWERGRID, Africa50 Ink PPP Agreement for Power Transmission Projects in Kenya



Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), in collaboration with Africa50, has entered into a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Project Agreement to develop crucial transmission infrastructure in Kenya, specifically the 400 kV Lessos-Loosuk and 220 kV Kisumu-Kakamega-Musaga systems, with a 30-year concession period.

The signing involved key figures from POWERGRID and senior Kenyan officials and represents Africa's first Independent Transmission Project (ITP) along with POWERGRID's initial international project-finance venture in Africa. The initiative aims to enhance Kenya's national grid, improve system reliability, and support the transport of power from renewable energy sources to significant load centres.

This PPP framework underscores confidence in private sector involvement in Africa's power transmission and highlights Africa50's regional expertise combined with POWERGRID's extensive technical capabilities. POWERGRID, operational in over 25 countries, has proven successful in delivering power transmission solutions, and its partnership with Africa50 showcases its role as a reliable global partner. As of December 15, 2025, POWERGRID operates 287 substations and over 181,894 circuit kilometers of transmission lines, maintaining a high transmission system availability of over 99.84% through advanced technological tools and automation.

BHEL Declares and Pays ₹ 109.98 Crore Final Dividend to Go!



Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has paid a final dividend of Rs. 109.98 Crore for the year 2024-25 to the Govt. of India.

To this effect, a cheque towards the final dividend on the equity (63.17%) held by the Government of India, was presented to H. D. Kumaraswamy, Union Minister of Heavy Industries and Steel by K. Sadashiv Murthy, Chairman and Managing Director, BHEL, in the presence of Kamran Rizvi, Secretary (HI).

Directors on the board of BHEL and senior officials of the Ministry of Heavy Industries were also present on this occasion.

Significantly, the total dividend paid to the company's shareholders for FY 2024-25 amounts to Rs. 174.10 Crore.

NTPC Bongaigaon wins Apex India Awards 2025



NTPC Bongaigaon has received the Apex India Safety, Quality & HR Awards 2025, recognizing its high standards in safety, quality management, and employee development.

The awards were presented at the Apex India National Summit, where distinguished guests discussed leadership and safety culture. The summit focused on sustainable OHS and quality practices, with over 180 companies, including ONGC and GAIL, acknowledged for their achievements. Arnab Maitra commended the Safety and HR Department for their efforts in improving workplace safety and quality, emphasizing NTPC Bongaigaon's commitment to operational excellence and sustainable operations.

NTPC Strengthens Renewable Portfolio as Capacity Crosses 85.5 GW

NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation), a government-owned power company, has increased its commercial capacity by 359.58 MW through solar projects in Gujarat and Rajasthan, surpassing a total capacity of 85.5 GW.

The additional capacity includes 243.66 MW from the Khavda -1 Solar PV project, 78 MW from the Nokh Sokar PV project, and 37.925 MW from the Khavda Solar Energy Project. Currently, NTPC's total installed capacity stands at 85,541 MW, providing one-fourth of India's power needs, with further additions of 30.90 GW underway, including renewable projects.

The company aims for 60 GW of renewable energy by 2032 to support India's Net Zero targets. NTPC is diversifying into areas such as e-mobility, battery storage, and waste-to-energy while continuing to focus on reliable and sustainable electricity generation.

Furthermore, the company recently held its 18th lenders' meet to discuss financial performance and future growth, attended by top executives and representatives from various financial institutions.

NIRL, PTC India Ltd Team Up to Launch Green Energy Joint Venture



NLC India Renewables Limited (NIRL) and PTC India Limited signed a Joint Venture Agreement (JVA) on December 12, 2025, in Neyveli.

This follows a prior Memorandum of Understanding dated September 8, 2025. The JVC will focus on establishing and maintaining renewable energy projects, including solar, wind, hydro, and other technologies, aiming for a total capacity of 2000 MW, with the first phase targeting 500 MW. This collaboration will leverage the strengths of both organizations in project development, power trading, and integrated green energy solutions, following the provisions of the Electricity Act for sales to DISCOMs and other consumers.

HUDCO raises ₹ 1,905 crore at 6.98% amid volatile market and rising yields



In a week of volatility in the debt markets, Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) raised ₹ 1,905 crore through a bond issuance at a competitive coupon of 6.98%. This success occurred despite a backdrop of rising corporate bond yields and two PSU issuers canceling their planned issuances due to unmet expectations. HUDCO's ability to secure funding below secondary market levels highlights its

strong credit profile and investor confidence. Chairman Sanjay Kulshrestha emphasized HUDCO's commitment to optimizing costs for sustainable infrastructure development, supporting the Government of India's vision for Viksit Bharat by 2047.

REC Limited Achieves No. 1 ESG Ranking in Financial Sector by NSE ESG Ratings



REC Limited, a leading NBFC and Maharatna CPSE under the Ministry of Power, has secured a leadership position in the latest ESG Ratings of Companies released by NSE ESG Ratings, earning an impressive ESG score of 80. This top-tier ranking underscores REC's sustained commitment to integrating Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles into its operations over the past three years.

The company credits this achievement to a series of strategic, systematic and governance-led initiatives guided by its Board of Directors, beginning with the formulation of REC's first ESG Policy three years ago.

Jitendra Srivastava, CMD, REC, commented, "This milestone affirms our strategic direction—from the inception of our policies and Net-Zero planning to the enhancement of our disclosures within the GRI framework. This achievement significantly underscores our steadfast dedication to advancing the Government of India's ambitious Panchamrit goals, demonstrating that responsible business practices are integral to our success."



Eating more ultra-processed foods linked to higher Crohn's disease risk



In 2019, about 4.9 million people around the world were living with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

Previous studies show that eating a diet high in ultra-processed foods can be problematic for people with IBD.

A new study provides more information on how eating ultra-

processed foods physically impacts the gastrointestinal system, leading to IBD-related issues.

In 2019, about 4.9 million people around the world were living with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) — an umbrella term for two conditions called Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

There is currently no cure for IBD. Symptoms are managed through medications, surgery, and lifestyle changes such as managing stress, not smoking, getting enough exercise, and eating an IBD-friendly diet.

Previous studies show that eating a diet high in ultra-processed foods can be problematic for people with IBD.

Now, a new study recently published in the journal *Nutrients* provides more information on how eating ultra-processed foods physically impacts the gastrointestinal system, leading to IBD-related issues.

Ultra-processed foods increase Crohn's disease risk

For this study, researchers analyzed findings from previously published studies from January 2010 to March 2025 in the databases PubMed/MEDLINE, Embase and Scopus.

Scientists focused on data that corresponded with one of the three themes of this study: epidemiology or causes and risk factors mechanisms or how it works therapeutics or treatments

At the study's conclusion, researchers found that a higher consumption of ultra-processed foods was consistently associated with a greater risk of Crohn's disease.

"There is something in the industrial world, in developed countries, that predisposes people to Crohn's disease," Ashkan Farhadi, MD, a board certified gastroenterologist at MemorialCare Orange Coast Medical Center in Fountain Valley, CA — who was not involved in this study — told *Medical News Today*.

"And we have observed a lot of studies in the past that showed that with the rate of progress and development in the economy of a country, the rate of Crohn's increases. So it was tied to Western culture, Western society, and something in Western-type of living, and one of those obviously is processed foods and ultra-processed foods."

However, scientists reported that the association between a greater intake of ultra-processed foods and the risk of ulcerative colitis was weaker or non-existent.

Processed food ingredients' impact on gut

Researchers also reported findings on the mechanistic pathway, or how ultra-processed foods affect the body, which may contribute to the development of Crohn's disease.

For instance, scientists found certain ingredients commonly found in ultra-processed foods, such as emulsifiers, carrageenan, and maltodextrin, can negatively impact the integrity of the epithelial barrier in the gastrointestinal system, alter the gut microbiome, and lead to inflammation. "These findings build on a growing body of evidence linking higher intake of ultra-processed foods with gut dysbiosis — that is, a less diverse and more inflammation-promoting microbiome — an imbalance — and disruptions to the gut barrier that can trigger immune activation and inflammation," Monique Richard, MS, RDN, LDN, a registered dietitian nutritionist and owner of Nutrition-In-Sight — who was not involved in this study — told *MNT*.

"Studies show ultra-processed food consumption is associated with reduced beneficial microbes, impaired gut lining integrity, and increased signals that contribute to inflammation, all symptoms and pathways observed in IBD and Crohn's disease," she added.

"From a clinical perspective, I also observe those consuming diets higher in ultra-processed foods see an exacerbation in current symptoms or have increased risk of developing IBD, Crohn's, or a variety of other gastrointestinal conditions," Richard continued.

What new research says

Farhadi commented that studies like this are helping to provide more evidence on how ultra-processed foods may impact IBD risk, which can help doctors better guide their patients. "Most patients, when they walk in, that's their first question — what should we eat?" he explained. "If you look at the internet, it's full of information regarding diet [but] most of them are not based on substantive scientific data. Now it's a little bit more coherent, and we are having a lot of studies coming in regards to [the] benefit of a plant-based food, particularly in disease, to put it into remission and reduce the flare."

"And now with this study, less use of ultra-processed food could also be very helpful in [reducing] the rate of development of the disease, and at the same time have the disease put under control," Farhadi added.

However, Farhadi did point out that this study is correlational and there are factors that could be easily missed or biased. For example, Farhadi said that people who eat more ultra-processed foods tend to lead a very busy work-centered life, which may lead them to have more stress and not exercise.

"So basically we are [saying] those who are eating ultra-processed food get more Crohn's," he explained. "But in fact, those who have a very busy and stressful life and do less exercise are the ones who get Crohn's, [and] it happens that these people also use more ultra-processed food."

Sleep is more important for longevity than diet, exercise, social ties, study says



If you struggle getting a good night's sleep, you're not alone. Researchers estimate that about 16% of the world's population lives with insomnia, while a recent survey conducted by the National Sleep Foundation found that six out of every 10 adult Americans report they don't get enough sleep.

Past studies have linked inadequate sleep to several health conditions that can negatively impact a person's quality of life and life expectancy, including cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, obesity, depression, anxiety, gastrointestinal issues, and dementia.

"Sleep plays a vital role in nearly every biological process within our body, yet it is still one behavior that I think we commonly take for granted," associate professor and director of the Sleep, Chronobiology, and Health Laboratory in the School of Nursing at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), told *Medical News Today*.

"It is something that is easy to put off until the weekend or deprioritize based on work or social events, but getting shorter sleep truly has ramifications for our health and wellbeing," McHill added.

He is the senior author of a new study recently published in the journal *Sleep Advances*, which found that insufficient sleep had a more significant impact on decreased life expectancy than other lifestyle factors, such as diet, physical activity, and social isolation.

Insufficient sleep affects health outcomes

For this study, researchers analyzed data from the 2019-2025 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System surveys to look for a link between insufficient sleep and life expectancy.

"While sitting in on a research advocacy meeting with government officials, someone mentioned that if you want your research to truly make an impact, you need to look at how it affects people in your local community and state," McHill recalled. "It got me to thinking, 'how do people in Oregon sleep?' and it set me and my team off on an adventure."

"We first examined the relationship between insufficient sleep and [the] number of health outcomes in Oregon, to which there were robust relationships, particularly with life expectancy, which was somewhat surprising that the relationship was so strong," he continued.

Inadequate sleep one of the most powerful drivers of lower life expectancy

At the study's conclusion, McHill and his team discovered that when compared to common behaviors associated with life expectancy — such as diet, physical activity, and social connection — inadequate sleep was a more powerful driver of lower life expectancy than any other factor other than smoking.

"These findings really highlight the importance of sleep among all other behaviors that we commonly think of being essential for health — the food we eat, the air we breathe, or how much we exercise," McHill said.

Additionally, researchers found that not getting enough sleep was significantly negatively linked with life expectancy in most U.S. states from 2019-2025.

"These findings really deliver the message that regardless of where you live, whether it be rural, urban, north, south, east, or west, sleep plays a vital role on our health and wellbeing," McHill emphasized.

"Moreover, because we had multiple years of data, these findings also highlight that even when faced with extreme circumstances (i.e., COVID pandemic), sleep still plays a key role in our health," he added.

"We are hoping to really dive into the specific reasons as to why sleep is associated with shorter life expectancy," McHill continued.

"We are currently doing this through tightly-controlled in-laboratory studies funded by the National Institutes of Health, but we are also hoping to get into the local community and different pockets across America to identify specific mechanisms by which sleep impairs health."

'Sleep is not a luxury, it is a biological necessity'

MNT had the opportunity to speak with Pakkay Ngai, MD, medical director for the Sleep-Wake Center at Palisades Medical Center in New Jersey, about this study.

"As a doctor who regularly treats patients struggling with sleep, my first reaction to this study is one of profound validation, yet also surprise at the sheer magnitude of the findings," Ngai, who was not involved in this research, commented.

"In the medical community, we have long understood that sleep is a critical pillar of health, affecting everything from mood and cognitive function to the immune system and cardiovascular health," he told us.



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CGCON - 2nd World Congress of Cosmetic Gynaecology 'On Screen'

CGCON – 2nd World Congress of Cosmetic Gynaecology held at city concluded with many interactive sessions and live-operating demonstrations followed by accomplishments and endorsements. During the Congress, Padmashree Awardee Dr.Manjula Anagani, Clinical Director and HOD, Women and Child centre, Care Hospitals - Banjara presented an interactive live-operating demonstration of the 'Anagani Technique of Neovagina', which was an truly enriching academic experience. Dr.Anagani thanked Dr. Deepa Ganesh for the visionary brain behind CGCON and providing such wonderful platform. During the event , the launch of the Cosmetic Gynaecology Society of India was truly the icing on the cake, an important milestone.



Hyderabad Kids Fair 2025 Attracts Young Minds

The 18th edition of the Hyderabad Kids Fair (HKF 2025), two-day extravaganza Hyderabad, December 2025: kicked off at at Hall No 1, HITEX Exhibition Centre. The fair features over 50 exhibitors presenting a wide range of offerings across nutrition, education, lifestyle, toys, books, hobbies and creative pursuits. A major highlight of this year's edition is the second edition of the Kids Business Carnival, a young entrepreneurship initiative that will feature 60+ budding child entrepreneurs showcasing their ideas and products. HKF 2025 hosts a diverse array of attractions and interactive zones, including Kids Run by Giggle Mug with a Jungle Theme, Construction Activities Zone by Playground Construction, Non-Digital Games at the Gamology Zone, Robotics Workshops by LEAP Robots, Children Book of Records certification activity, and a Climbing Wall by Crag Studio. Adventure lovers can enjoy activities such as zipline, archery and dart shooting at the Adventure Zone by Cliff Inn, while the Space Planetarium offerd free entry.



Village Themed Event Organised

The Glam Squard Ladies Club led by Shazia Bakal planned a very unique theme for the members. A get together at a village themed restaurant, where all the lady members have gathered in traditional dresses. Can say one of the very beautiful theme, the members had traditional/village food and made the event success and memorable.



Samanvay's BIZ Connect

'Samanvay', Hyderabad has come up with the very unique initiative called 'BIZ Connect', an encouraging initiative that supports entrepreneurial ideas through exposure, learning, and meaningful engagement. The lady members have set-up the stalls and learned a lot. It was a attractive event filled with good humor and new experiences.



SPS High School Celebrates it's Silver Jubilee at "SANKALP 2025"

SPS High School, Kompally, celebrated its Silver Jubilee at Annual Day "SANKALP 2025", transforming the campus into a vibrant arena of sportsmanship, discipline, and youthful enthusiasm. The event highlighted the institution's commitment to fostering holistic development among students. The celebrations began with an impressive march-past by the four houses, followed by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp. The SPS High School headed by Dr. Sailesh Sampathy (Vice President & Dy. Chief Executive), Mrs. Deepika (Associate Vice President), and Mrs. Y. Sarada (Head Mistress) graced the occasion. They addressed the gathering and applauded the school's dedication to nurturing young minds. With the vibrant and successful completion of SANKALP 2025, SPS High School reaffirmed its vision of creating a learning environment where academics and extracurricular activities flourish together, shaping future champions and responsible citizens. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from SSGI Group Heads, faculty, students, and parents, making it a memorable celebration



Cure SMA India Announces the Soft Launch of e-Swayam

On the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) 2025, Cure SMA Foundation of India, a national parent-led nonprofit working for individuals with Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), unveiled the Preview and Soft Launch of "e-Swayam" — Digital Accessibility Map was held at Hyderabad. Designed as a community-powered, technology-enabled public platform, e-Swayam aims to transform accessibility across India by providing reliable, real-time, lived-experience-based data about the accessibility of physical infrastructure. The initiative begins with mobility accessibility in 2025 and will expand to include all disabilities by 2027. Graced by Y Sayapa Reddy, Chief Engineer, Hyderabad Metro rail Limited (HMRL), Alagappan, Development Goals Specialist – Sustainable Transport & Mobility, UNDP, Archana Suresh, Former Director, T-SIG and CEO, Sunlit Path Consulting, Dr. Vidya Sagar, Paediatric Orthopaedician, Rainbow hospital, Praveen Prakash Ambashta, Deputy Chief Commissioner, Dept. of PwD, Govt. of India (Virtua). Speakers emphasized the urgent need for universally accessible environments and the critical role of digital tools in bridging policy-practice gaps.

Drumming Benefits !

DJEMBE Circle has planned a very unique event ! What can drumming do for your body and mind , in what way it will be benefited. The Drum Master has gave the wonderful presentation about drumming benefits. As Circle aim is to learn new skills and meet new people. To reduce the stress with various events. Good one !



Mithali Raj Releases Midnight Reporter's Nov Edition

Midnight Reporter celebrates the Women Cricket World Cup 2025 win with former Indian cricketer, former captain, Khel Ratna , Arjuna Awardee and Padma Shri Awardee Mithali Raj with the launch of the November edition.

Click the link for epaper : https://midnightreporter.com/November_2025.pdf



Annual Event

Utkarsh Annual Event -2025 is on screen. The lady members had enjoyed the event. Various games and other entertainment activities were planned.



Presenting The best interiors of 2025

Continuing our Review of 2025, the Dezeen editorial team has selected the buildings with the most interesting, thoughtful and intriguing interiors of the year, including a casino, a waffle house and a train.

“Novu Waffle in Riyadh by Masquespacio has a never-before-seen quality, and shows sheer audacity by creating a space that looks like a waffle across almost all the surfaces.

“The combination of finishes, monochrome palette and soft edges gives the space an almost claymation appearance too, which is frankly, fascinating. It’s fun, it’s kooky, it’s well done, and it looks like a breakfast cafe from The Fifth Element.”

“What is it about glass bricks that makes my brain immediately flood with dopamine upon sight?

“Working with Aunt Studio to design its office space in LA, Mouthwash Studio wisely retained the glass-block partitions from the space’s previous life as a menswear store.

“They are combined with liberal usage of two more weaknesses of mine: serene gauzy curtains and richly coloured wood. Traditional-looking vintage lamps and artworks are a fun and unexpected addition.”

“There’s so much to celebrate in Home from Home, the livable installation where London designer Charlotte Taylor slept, ate and exhibited pieces during this summer’s 3 Days of Design in Copenhagen.

“Taylor savvily rented an Airbnb for the project and filled it with beautifully eclectic objects, from horned aluminium lamps to a two-tone timber dining table fitted with its own flat-packed chess set.

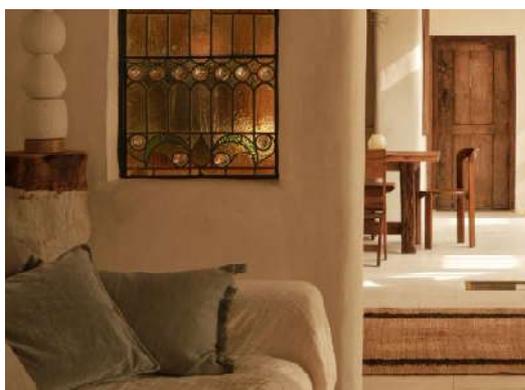
“The designer made sure to maintain ‘something very lived-in with a touch of tacky’ when curating the home, which I was delighted to see included a tiny Campari bottle fridge magnet and a heart-shaped portrait of her cats, Dante and Wolfgang.”

“This project in Mexico City showcases the vibrancy in the local scene through an adept use of subtle tones, light wells, and materials to create an ambience that is both playful and severe, depending on how you look. The skylight/staircase element makes a bold yet precise statement piece.

“What’s more, the project is a renovation of a derelict structure. AMASA Estudio, which undertook other worthwhile public architecture and restaurant projects this year, also left room on the ground floor to keep the ground-floor commercial space common to the Roma neighbourhood amidst its ongoing gentrification.”

“Artist Jobe Burns’ revival of this historic farmhouse in southwest England involved reorganising its dark and cramped interior into a series of more functional spaces with a relaxing feel.

“Looking to celebrate the original building’s character and rural identity, Burns’ material approach saw oak doors, floors and beams retained and paired with lime-washed walls, stained-glass windows and exposed stone details.”



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एच-1बी वीजा पर बड़ा संकट! भारत में फंसे हजारों एनआरआई, अपॉइंटमेंट अचानक रद्द, बढ़ीं मुश्किलें



अमेरिका की नई वीजा नीति और दूतावासों द्वारा अचानक अपॉइंटमेंट रद्द किए जाने से हजारों भारतीय सॉफ्टवेयर इंजीनियर और पेशेवर मुश्किल में फंसे गए हैं। दिसंबर के महीने में जो लोग छुट्टियां मनाने या अपने वीजा स्टैंपिंग (नवीनीकरण) के लिए भारत आए थे उन्हें अब अमेरिकी दूतावास ने कई महीनों बाद की तारीखें दी हैं। इस अनिश्चितता को देखते हुए दुनिया की दिग्गज टेक कंपनी गूगल ने अपने कर्मचारियों के लिए एडवायजरी जारी कर उन्हें अंतरराष्ट्रीय यात्रा न करने की सलाह दी है।

क्या है पूरा मामला?

रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 15 से 26 दिसंबर 2025 के बीच जिन लोगों के वीजा अपॉइंटमेंट तय थे उन्हें बिना किसी पूर्व सूचना के रद्द कर दिया गया। अनुमान है कि सैकड़ों से लेकर हजारों भारतीय इस फैसले से प्रभावित हुए हैं। रद्द किए गए अपॉइंटमेंट की नई तारीखें कई महीनों बाद की मिल रही हैं जिससे लोगों की नौकरियां दांव पर लग गई हैं। गूगल हर साल लगभग 1,000 एच-1बी कर्मचारियों की नियुक्ति करता है। कंपनी ने अपने मेमो में कहा है कि अमेरिका से बाहर फंसने का जोखिम बहुत ज्यादा है इसलिए कर्मचारी फिलहाल यात्रा टाल दें।

सोशल मीडिया चेक ने बढ़ाई देरी-

बताया जा रहा है कि इन अपॉइंटमेंट के रद्द होने के पीछे अमेरिका की नई सख्त वीजा-जांच नीति है। अब अमेरिकी अधिकारी आवेदकों की सोशल मीडिया गतिविधियों और उनकी ऑनलाइन पोस्ट की गहन समीक्षा कर रहे हैं। अधिकारियों का तर्क है कि यह प्रक्रिया राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए अपनाई जा रही है ताकि किसी भी संदिग्ध व्यक्ति की पहचान की जा सके।

ट्रंप प्रशासन की सख्त नीतियां-

यह संकट अमेरिका की व्यापक एंटी-इमिग्रेशन (आप्रवासन विरोधी) नीति का हिस्सा माना जा रहा है।

70 प्रतिशत भारतीय: एच-1बी वीजा पाने वालों में 70 प्रतिशत से अधिक भारतीय होते हैं इसलिए इस नीति का सबसे बड़ा असर भारत पर पड़ा है।

भारी फीस : राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप के प्रशासन ने हाल ही में नए एच-1बी आवेदनों पर 1 लाख डॉलर का भारी शुल्क भी लगाया है।

सबसे बड़ी अव्यवस्था: इमिग्रेशन वकीलों का कहना है कि यह अब तक की सबसे खराब स्थिति है। बिना बताए अपॉइंटमेंट रद्द होने से न केवल कर्मचारी बल्कि अमेरिकी टेक कंपनियों भी भारी दबाव में हैं।

ऑस्ट्रेलिया बॉन्डी बीच के हमलावर आतंकी निकले पिता-पुत्र, पाकिस्तान और आईएसआईएस से कनेक्शन



ऑस्ट्रेलिया के सिडनी शहर स्थित प्रसिद्ध बॉन्डी बीच पर हनुक्का उत्सव के दौरान हुई अंधाधुंध गोलीबारी ने देश को झकझोर कर रख दिया। ऑस्ट्रेलियाई अधिकारियों के अनुसार, इस हमले में एक बच्चे सहित 15 लोगों की मौत हो गई, जबकि 40 से अधिक लोग घायल हुए हैं, जिनमें कई की हालत

गंभीर बताई जा रही है। अधिकारियों ने बताया कि गोलीबारी करने वाले पिता और पुत्र पाकिस्तानी थे। न्यू साउथ वेल्स पुलिस के अनुसार, 50 वर्षीय हमलावर को मौके पर ही मार गिराया गया, जबकि उसका 24 वर्षीय बेटा गंभीर रूप से घायल हुआ और अस्पताल में उसका इलाज चल रहा है। हैरानी की बात यह है कि हमले के अपराधियों में से एक, नाविद अकरम को हमले से एक दिन पहले, 13 दिसंबर को तेल अवीव में गूगल पर सर्च किया गया था।

इस बीच, हमले के आरोपी नवीद को लेकर सोशल मीडिया पर नए और गंभीर दावे सामने आए हैं। कुछ पोस्ट्स और वायरल मेसेजों में दावा किया जा रहा है कि नवीद पाकिस्तानी मूल का था और उसने इस्लामाबाद स्थित हमदर्द यूनिवर्सिटी से पढ़ाई की थी। इन पोस्ट्स में उसे आतंकी करार देते हुए कहा जा रहा है कि उसने यहूदियों और आम ऑस्ट्रेलियाई नागरिकों को निशाना बनाया। शूटर्स की कार में आईएसआईएस का झंडा मिला। नावेद और साजिद अकरम, बाप-बेटे की जोड़ी जो पहले से निगरानी में थी, ने यहूदी विरोधी हमले से सिडनी को बुरी तरह हिला दिया है।

पुलिस आयुक्त माल लैनन ने कहा कि एक हमलावर सुरक्षा एजेंसियों के लिए पहले से जाना-पहचाना था, हालांकि किसी पूर्व नियोजित हमले के स्पष्ट संकेत नहीं मिले हैं। न्यू साउथ वेल्स के प्रीमियर क्रिस मिस ने बताया कि मृतकों की उम्र 10 से 87 वर्ष के बीच है। सोमवार सुबह तक कम से कम 42 लोग अस्पताल में भर्ती थे। पुलिस ने घटनास्थल से दो देसी बम भी बरामद किए, जिन्हें निष्क्रिय कर दिया गया है। प्रधानमंत्री एंथनी अल्बनीज ने इस हमले को पूरी तरह यहूदी-विरोधी आतंकवाद करार देते हुए कहा, बॉन्डी बीच खुशी, परिवार और उत्सव का प्रतीक रहा है। इस हमले ने उस स्थान को हमेशा के लिए कलंकित कर दिया है। यह हमला ऐसे समय हुआ जब बॉन्डी बीच पर हजारों लोग मौजूद थे। सैकड़ों लोग आठ दिन तक चलने वाले हनुक्का उत्सव की शुरुआत के अवसर पर आयोजित 'चानुका बाय द सी' कार्यक्रम में शामिल हुए थे।

ताइवान के चारों ओर युद्ध का साया ! चीन के 40 फाइटर जेट्स व 8 जंगी जहाज तैनात



ताइवान और चीन के बीच सैन्य तनाव एक बार फिर बढ़ गया है। ताइवान के रक्षा मंत्रालय ने गुरुवार सुबह 6 बजे तक चीन के 40 सैन्य विमानों और 8 नौसैनिक जहाजों की ताइवान के आसपास मौजूदगी दर्ज की है। ताइवान के अनुसार, इन 40 उड़ानों में से 26 चीनी

विमान ताइवान जलडमरूमध्य की मध्य रेखा पार कर ताइवान के उत्तरी, मध्य, दक्षिण-पश्चिमी और पूर्वी वायु रक्षा पहचान क्षेत्र में घुसे।

रक्षा मंत्रालय ने सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म पर बताया कि पीपुल्स लिबरेशन आर्मी के लड़ाकू विमान और पीपुल्स लिबरेशन आर्मी नेवी के जहाज लगातार गतिविधियां कर रहे हैं। ताइवान की हालात पर कड़ी निगरानी रखी और आवश्यक जवाबी कदम उठाए। इससे एक दिन पहले भी 23 चीनी विमानों की पहचान हुई थी, जिनमें से 14 ने मध्य रेखा पार की थी। इसके अलावा PLA के Fujian एयरक्राफ्ट कैरियर के ताइवान जलडमरूमध्य से गुजरने की भी पुष्टि हुई है।

इधर, अमेरिका में ताइवान को लेकर बड़ा घटनाक्रम सामने आया है। अमेरिकी सीनेट ने 'Porcupine Act' पारित कर दिया है, जिससे ताइवान को हथियारों की बिक्री और सहयोग तेज हो सकेगा। अब यह विधेयक हाउस ऑफ रिप्रेजेंटेटिव्स में जाएगा। कानून बनने पर अमेरिका-ताइवान सैन्य सहयोग और मजबूत होगा, जिससे चीन की चिंता और बढ़ना तय माना जा रहा है।

दिल्ली में जहरीली हवा का खौफ: 40 प्रतिशत निवासी छोड़ना चाहते हैं शहर



इलनेस टू वेलनेस फाउंडेशन की ताजा रिपोर्ट में चेतावनी दी गई है कि दिल्ली का वायु प्रदूषण इतना गंभीर हो गया है कि शहर के 40 प्रतिशत निवासी यहां से पलायन करने पर विचार कर रहे हैं। रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, जहरीली हवा जीवन प्रत्याशा को आठ साल तक घटा रही है और स्ट्रोक व श्वसन संबंधी बीमारियों के जोखिम को बढ़ा रही है।

रिपोर्ट के विमोचन के अवसर पर डॉ. दलजीत सिंह ने बताया कि वैश्विक स्तर पर स्ट्रोक के लगभग 17 प्रतिशत मामले वायु प्रदूषण से जुड़े हैं। इसके अलावा, मनोभ्रंश जैसी स्थितियों के साथ इसके संबंध को लेकर भी चिंता बढ़ रही है। उनका कहना था कि दिल्ली के गंभीर वायु गुणवत्ता संकट से निपटने के लिए तत्काल कार्रवाई की आवश्यकता है।

64,250 करोड़ रुपये का भारी आर्थिक नुकसान

रिपोर्ट में यह भी सामने आया कि प्रदूषण के कारण दिल्ली को हर साल 64,250 करोड़ रुपये का भारी आर्थिक नुकसान होता है, जो शहर की जीडीपी का लगभग 6 प्रतिशत है। यह केवल स्वास्थ्य का मामला नहीं है। खराब हवा के कारण लोग शहर में खरीदारी और यात्रा कम करते हैं, वहीं स्कूलों के बार-बार बंद होने से छात्रों की पढ़ाई प्रभावित होती है।

प्रदूषण के प्रमुख कारण-

रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि दिल्ली में प्रदूषण के प्रमुख कारणों में वाहन, निर्माण कार्य से निकलने वाली धूल और औद्योगिक उत्सर्जन शामिल हैं। पूर्व स्वास्थ्य सचिव राजेश भूषण ने कहा कि सरकार और नागरिकों को मिलकर स्वच्छ हवा और बेहतर भविष्य के लिए वास्तविक सुधारों पर काम करना होगा।

यूई समिट में भारत की धाक, यूरोप-यूके-मिस्र के विदेश मंत्रियों से मिले जयशंकर



विदेश मंत्री एस. जयशंकर ने संयुक्त अरब अमीरात में उच्च-स्तरीय अंतरराष्ट्रीय शिखर सम्मेलन से इतर यूरोप, ब्रिटेन और मिस्र के अपने समकक्षों से मुलाकात की। कई महत्वपूर्ण भूराजनीतिक और सुरक्षा संबंधी चुनौतियों पर चर्चा के लिए विश्व के नेता और नीति निर्माता यूई

में एकजुट हुए हैं। जयशंकर ने शनिवार को सोशल मीडिया पर एक पोस्ट में कहा कि लक्जमबर्ग के उप प्रधानमंत्री और विदेश मंत्री जेविंजर बेटेल, पोलैंड के उप प्रधानमंत्री और विदेश मंत्री रादोस्लाव सिकोरस्की और लातविया की विदेश मंत्री बैसा ब्रेज के साथ मिलकर "बहुत अच्छा लगा"।

मंत्री संयुक्त अरब अमीरात की राजधानी अबू धाबी में तीन दिवसीय 'सर बानी यास फोरम 2025' में भाग लेने पहुंचे थे। सम्मेलन रविवार को समाप्त हुआ। जयशंकर ने शिखर सम्मेलन के दौरान ब्रिटेन के उप प्रधानमंत्री डेविड लैमी से भी मुलाकात की। उन्होंने एक अन्य सोशल मीडिया पोस्ट में कहा, "ब्रिटेन के उप प्रधानमंत्री डेविड लैमी को सर बानी यास फोरम 2025 के दौरान देखकर अच्छा लगा।" विदेश मंत्री ने एक अन्य बैठक को लेकर कहा कि मिस्र के विदेश मंत्री डॉ. बदर अब्देलही से मुलाकात करके "अच्छा लगा"। सर बानी यास फोरम एक वार्षिक मंच है जो क्षेत्रीय और अंतरराष्ट्रीय मुद्दों पर विचार-विमर्श करने के लिए वैश्विक नेताओं, मंत्रियों और विशेषज्ञों को एक साथ लाता है।

Tourism



Phuket continues to attract a mix of local and International tourists

39th Tourism Season Opening Festival Boosts Confidence

Patong Beach is abuzz with colors, sounds, and sea of people as the 39th Phuket Tourism Season Opening Festival is ongoing today, December 21, indicating the commencement of the third and final day of the activities targeting the promotion of Phuket as a tourist destination worldwide. The beach is full of people and activities such as performances, with the events poised to strengthen Phuket's standing as a crucial destination in the rising tourist sector in Thailand.

Boosting Tourism Confidence and Strengthening Community Ties

The festival not only celebrates Phuket's rich cultural heritage but also plays a significant role in strengthening community ties and boosting tourism confidence. For a region recovering from past challenges, events like this are crucial in promoting Phuket as a safe, vibrant, and welcoming destination for travelers from around the world. The festival highlights the island's dedication to creating an inclusive, sustainable tourism model that brings both economic and cultural benefits to the local community.

As Phuket continues to attract a mix of local and international tourists, the festival underscores the island's importance as a cultural hub in Southeast Asia and positions Phuket for continued growth in the tourism market in the years ahead.

Cultural and Economic Impact: A Step Towards Sustainable Tourism Growth

One of the key elements of the festival is its emphasis on sustainable tourism, encouraging both visitors and local businesses to embrace eco-friendly practices. As Phuket works to expand its tourism infrastructure, sustainability will be at the forefront, ensuring that tourism growth does not come at the cost of natural resources or local culture. By offering an authentic cultural experience while promoting sustainability, Phuket is setting the stage for a future-proof tourism model. The festival also provides a platform for local businesses to showcase their offerings to a global audience, from luxury resorts to traditional crafts. As Phuket's tourism sector grows, these businesses will be able to benefit from the increased interest and investment in the region, contributing to long-term economic sustainability and creating more job opportunities for local residents.

Vietnam's Dak Lak Leads The Way In Combining Cultural Preservation & Tourism Development



Vietnam's Dak Lak is setting the standard for sustainable tourism by seamlessly blending cultural preservation with tourism development. The region is making significant strides in promoting its rich heritage while enhancing infrastructure to accommodate and attract travelers. This approach not only preserves Dak Lak's unique traditions but also fosters economic growth, positioning it as a model for other destinations looking to balance cultural integrity with tourism success.

The central province of Dak Lak, located in the heart of Vietnam's Central Highlands, has gradually recognized and tapped into its substantial tourism potential by focusing on the distinctive traditional cultures of its ethnic minority communities. Through careful planning and investment, the province has effectively transformed its rich cultural heritage into a thriving tourism sector that provides both economic and social benefits to its rural areas.

Dak Lak is home to numerous ethnic minority groups, each with its own traditions, languages, customs, and unique cultural practices. These communities have long been the keepers of valuable cultural knowledge and practices, from traditional dance and music to distinctive craftwork and cuisine. By preserving and promoting these indigenous cultural identities, Dak Lak is not only safeguarding its heritage but is also opening up new avenues for sustainable socio-economic development, particularly in remote villages that have historically faced challenges in terms of infrastructure and economic opportunities.

Foreign Tourism to Jeju Island Soars with More than 17% Increase in Visitors



There has been a substantial rise in international tourist traffic in Jeju Island, with an increase of 17.5% in foreign visitor numbers compared to the previous year. The principal reason behind this rise in tourist numbers can be attributed to the popularity of a Netflix K-drama series that was shot in the region, as there has been an increasing inclination towards discovering travel spots other than the ones located in South Korea's metros. The Netflix series, 'When Life Gives You Tangerines' that captures the day-to-day life in the fishing villages of Jeju, has been a significant contributor to the rise in tourist numbers in the region as it stands at the top of the list of the non-English television series in the Netflix rankings.

Impact of the Netflix Series on Jeju Island's Tourism

Following the release of the four-part series in March 2025, Jeju recorded consistent monthly increases in foreign visitor numbers from April onwards. The series, set against the backdrop of Jeju's iconic landscapes, has piqued international interest in the island's culture and natural beauty, drawing a new wave of travelers eager to experience the fishing villages and traditions highlighted in the show.

As of November, Jeju Haenyeo Museum, dedicated to the female divers of Jeju featured in the series, saw a 58.9% year-on-year increase in foreign visitors, attracting nearly 50,000 tourists. This underscores the growing global fascination with Jeju's heritage, with travelers eager to connect with the stories portrayed in the series.

Growing Share of Foreign Visitors to Jeju Island

According to data from the Korea Culture and Tourism Institute, the share of foreign tourists visiting Jeju among all international visitors to South Korea has been steadily increasing for three consecutive quarters in 2025. In the third quarter, the figure rose to 10.5%, a 0.6 percentage point increase from the same period in 2024. This surge in foreign visitors reflects the increasing appeal of Jeju Island as a tourism destination that offers unique, off-the-beaten-path experiences beyond the well-known urban centers of Seoul and Busan.

Rome Takes Control Of Overtourism Crisis By Introducing Bold Entry Fees



Rome is taking bold action against overtourism by introducing entrance fees for the Trevi Fountain and five other iconic landmarks, aiming to manage the overwhelming influx of visitors and protect its cultural heritage. Starting February 1, tourists will need to pay a €2 fee to get closer to the Trevi Fountain, while Rome residents will still have free access. This initiative is part of a broader effort by the city to regulate visitor numbers at its most famous attractions and ensure that these historic sites are preserved for future generations.

By implementing these fees, Rome hopes to strike a balance between welcoming tourists and safeguarding its rich history.

Rome has made a significant move to manage the rising number of tourists by introducing an entrance fee for the Trevi Fountain and five other major sites. The new policy, announced by the city's officials, will take effect starting on February 1. While residents of Rome will continue to enjoy free access, tourists will have to pay a fee to get closer to these iconic landmarks, which are often crowded with visitors. This is part of a broader effort by the city to control overtourism and preserve its rich cultural heritage.

The Trevi Fountain, one of the most famous monuments in Rome, will still be visible from a distance without any charge. However, to get a closer look and to access certain areas, tourists will need to purchase a €2 (\$2.35) ticket. The fee aims to reduce the number of people in the immediate vicinity of the fountain, ensuring a more manageable flow of visitors while preserving the monument's integrity.

This move comes as a direct response to the overwhelming crowds that the Trevi Fountain attracts. Historically, the fountain has been a popular destination for tourists, with many visitors participating in the tradition of tossing a coin into its waters while making a wish. With an average of 30,000 people visiting the fountain each day, the location has become a hotspot for mass tourism, contributing to crowding and potential damage to the site. In fact, from January 1 to December 8 this year, around nine million tourists visited the fountain, underscoring the need for sustainable tourism practices.

Adani Group's \$15 Billion Hospitality Revolution !



Adani Group's \$15 billion hospitality revolution is set to reshape India's tourism landscape in ways that will benefit not only international tourists but also major airlines like Air India, Emirates, and Qatar Airways. With the group's ambitious plan to build over 60 luxury hotels across the country, its strategic focus on integrating these hotels with major airports is positioned to elevate India's appeal as a global tourism hub. As Adani continues to expand its presence in the hospitality industry, the ripple effects are expected to be felt across airlines, tourism, and travel services, driving increased international and domestic passenger traffic.

The development of world-class accommodations and improved airport infrastructure will undoubtedly enhance the travel experience, offering tourists seamless connections, top-tier amenities, and greater convenience, while simultaneously opening new opportunities for airlines to meet the rising demand for flights to India. India's hospitality industry is undergoing a transformation, with the Adani Group at the forefront. As part of its ambitious \$15 billion investment plan, the Adani Group is set to revolutionize the country's tourism and travel sectors, which will have a profound impact on both the hospitality and airline industries. From world-class hotels to state-of-the-art airports, Adani's expansion plans will not only elevate India's position in global tourism but will also enhance the travel experience for tourists. This article explores how Adani Group's hotel empire will affect Air India, Emirates, Qatar Airways, and travelers alike.

Adani Group's \$15 Billion Hospitality Revolution: What Air India, Emirates, and Qatar Airways Can Expect-

Adani Group, best known for its dominance in infrastructure and energy sectors, is making a bold entry into the hospitality industry. With an investment of \$15 billion, the group plans to develop over 60 luxury hotels across India. This is a significant move that could reshape India's hospitality landscape, attracting international tourists and boosting the domestic tourism economy. As a result, major airlines like Air India, Emirates, and Qatar Airways are poised to benefit from increased traffic, as Adani's hotels will enhance the tourism appeal of India's key destinations.