காலை 10 மணி முதல் மதியம் 2 மணி வரை - முதல் முறை இந்த நோட்டீசை கொண்டுவருபவர்களுக்கு சிகிச்சை இலவசம்

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From the Margins to Leadership

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 Women engaged in sanitation and waste management are increasingly emerging as entrepreneurs, decision-makers and community leaders, demonstrating how access to institutional support, mechanisation and livelihood opportunities can contribute to their socio-economic empowerment.

The inspiring journey of six women from Telangana and Delhi reflect this transformation, highlighting their determination to move beyond traditional occupational roles and build more secure, independent and dignified futures for themselves and their communities.

In Siricilla, Telangana, five women sanitation workers Anusha Reddy, Kavitha Goud, Swathi Yadav, Srilatha Naidu and Madhavi Kumar (all names changed) had been working as septic tank cleaning helpers under private contractors. Each earned an average monthly income of approximately ₹15,000 while undertaking physically demanding sanitation-related work involving occupational risks and limited opportunities for professional advancement. Despite their experience in sanitation services, financial constraints and limited access to resources made it difficult for them to establish an independent enterprise.



From Financial Barriers to Global Academic Excellence

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 The journey of 24-year-old student, Rahul Dabhade (Name Changed) reflects how access to quality higher education and targeted financial assistance empower talented students from Scheduled Caste communities to overcome economic barriers and pursue their aspirations at prestigious international institutions.

Through the National Overseas Scholarship, the Government of India continues to promote educational empowerment, equal opportunities and inclusive development, enabling deserving students to contribute to the nation's progress through their knowledge, skills and expertise.

Rahul Dabhade, belonging to the Scheduled Caste community from Maharashtra, demonstrated remarkable academic dedication and determination in pursuing his higher education aspirations. Despite financial and social challenges, he remained committed to advancing his academic journey and building a promising professional career.

Aspiring to pursue postgraduate studies in Construction Economics and Management at a globally reputed institution, he faced significant financial constraints due to the high cost of international education, including tuition fees, living expenses, travel and other academic requirements.

Bharat Parv 2026 Showcases India's Rich Cultural Heritage and Diversity at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 Bharat Parv 2026, organised by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, in partnership with Gujarat Tourism and with the support of States and Union Territories, is underway at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat, celebrating India's rich cultural heritage, vibrant traditions and diversity under the unifying theme of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'. The festival was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 30 October 2026, as part of the celebrations of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, and will continue till 15 November 2026.

The festival brings together traditional arts, handicrafts, regional cuisines, folk traditions, music, dance and indigenous craftsmanship from across the country, offering visitors an opportunity to experience India's cultural diversity at one destination.



From Substance Dependence to Self-Reliance

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 The journey of Mukesh (name changed) reflects how accessible de-addiction services, medical care, counselling and sustained rehabilitation support through NAPDDR, helps individuals rebuild their lives and achieve economic self-reliance.

Through National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR), the Government of India continues to strengthen de-addiction and rehabilitation services, supporting the vision of a healthier society and a drug-free India.

Mukesh, a 39-year-old individual belonging to the Scheduled Tribe community from Rajsamand district of Rajasthan faced significant physical and financial challenges due to substance abuse. The prolonged effects of substance use had affected his physical well-being, causing bodily discomfort and pain in his joints and hands.

Coming from a financially vulnerable family, he had received education up to the high school level. His family also faced difficulties in securing adequate housing and meeting basic necessities. Despite these challenges, he aspired to establish himself professionally and improve the living conditions of his family.



India Strengthens Regional Health Partnerships as First BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting Unanimously Adopts

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 India Strengthens Regional Health Partnerships as First BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting Unanimously Adopts Joint Ministerial Statement in Colombo.

In a major step towards strengthening regional health cooperation, the First BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, today unanimously adopted a Joint Ministerial Statement, reaffirming the collective commitment of member countries to advancing accessible, affordable and quality healthcare, strengthening regional health security and building resilient public health systems across the Bay of Bengal region.

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Jagat Prakash Nadda, represented India at the historic meeting, highlighting the country's growing role in advancing regional health cooperation through knowledge-sharing, digital innovation, capacity building and collaborative action on common public health challenges.

The meeting also adopted the Revised BIMSTEC Plan of Action on Public Health (2026–2030), providing a structured roadmap for cooperation in disease surveillance, pandemic preparedness, digital health, traditional medicine, One Health and healthcare workforce development.



Achievements made by Ministry of Women and Child Development under Special Campaign 6.0

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 Ministry of Women and Child Development, including all Autonomous/ Statutory Bodies under its administrative control, had initiated efforts and finalised action plans & targets to implement Special Campaign 6 for improving Swachhata and disposal of pending references from 2 nd October - 31 st October, 2026. The Special Campaign aimed at promoting cleanliness streamlining work, addressing pending grievances across the Ministry and its Autonomous Bodies.

As part of the implementation phase of Special Campaign 6, States and UTs had organised a dedicated special one-day event on 30 th October, 2026 by undertaking the following activities on a large scale with active participation of field-level functionaries and the community:

Cleanliness Drives at Field-Level Institutions

Effective Public Grievance Redressal and organizing Grievance Redressal Chaupal/e-Chaupals for redressal of grievances received under the schemes of the Ministry through POSHAN Tracker, PMMVY & CPGRAMS portal.



Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) dismantles clan lab (clandestine laboratory) of mephedrone (md)

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) dismantles clan lab (clandestine laboratory) of mephedrone (md) in Mau, Uttar Pradesh; Seizes 11.7 kg mephedrone, precursor chemicals and laboratory equipment; arrests two suspects under Operation Vajra 3.0.

The Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) conducted a significant operation against an interstate drug synthetic network and busted a clandestine laboratory manufacturing Mephedrone (MD) in the Tajopur Industrial Area, Mau, Uttar Pradesh under its Operation Vajra 3.0.

Acting on specific intelligence developed by the CBN MP Unit, a joint team of CBN MP Unit and CBN UP Unit conducted a coordinated operation on 08.11.2026 and successfully identified and busted an active clandestine synthetic drug manufacturing facility.

The operation led to the recovery of 11.7 kg mephedrone (MD) at different stages of processing. The team also seized 20.9 kg 2-bromo-4-methylpropiophenone, a key precursor used in the manufacture of Mephedrone, along with 3.5 kg acetic anhydride and approximately 119.9 kg/L of various chemicals, solvents and processing reagents, including dichloromethane, hydrochloric acid, sodium bicarbonate, sodium chloride and organic amines.

Mephedrone seized at different stages of production





DriveX Expands Chennai Presence with New Outlet in Kolathur CHENNAI, November 2026: DriveX Mobility,



CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 DriveX Expands Chennai Presence with New Outlet in Kolathur CHENNAI, November 2026: DriveX Mobility, an organised pre-owned two-wheeler platform, has expanded its retail presence in Chennai with the launch of a new outlet in Kolathur, located at Subramanya Nagar, Vinayakapuram. The new outlet aims to make quality-assured pre-owned two-wheelers more accessible to customers while strengthening DriveX's retail network across South India. Customers can explore a curated range of certified and refurbished two-wheelers, along with integrated services such as financing, warranty support and ownership transfer assistance. Every vehicle undergoes 300+ quality checks to ensure reliability, transparency and customer confidence. Through its organised retail model, DriveX aims to simplify the pre-owned two-wheeler buying experience by addressing concerns around vehicle condition, documentation and post-purchase support. Commenting on the expansion, Devesh Taparia, CEO, DriveX, said, "Chennai is an important market for DriveX. The new Kolathur outlet is another step towards making organised pre-owned mobility more accessible. We aim to provide customers with quality-assured vehicles, transparent processes and comprehensive ownership support, ensuring a simple and reliable buying experience." In addition to its physical outlets, DriveX operates a digital platform that enables customers to buy and sell pre-owned two-wheelers. Its DriveX Direct platform also facilitates customer-to-customer (C2C) transactions with structured processes and transaction support. With the new Kolathur outlet, DriveX continues to strengthen its Chennai presence and its commitment to bringing greater trust, convenience and transparency to the pre-owned two-wheeler market.

Lifebridge Group's seniorshield Bags FICCI Healthcare Excellence Award 2026

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 Lifebridge Group, India's leading senior living and wellness ecosystem, is honoured to announce that seniorshield, its integrated AgeTech platform for senior health, wellness and engagement, has won the 'Technology Transformation Initiative of the Year' award at the 18th FICCI Healthcare Excellence Awards 2026, held recently. The award was received by Arjun R, VP of Product & Technology, Lifebridge Group, from Dr Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament. The award stands out among nearly 200 applications received across various categories.

Commenting on the recognition, Arjun R, VP of Product & Technology, Lifebridge Group, said, "In senior care, the real value of technology is whether it provides practical, everyday support to seniors, caregivers and their families, it becomes makes care better for the person receiving it. Winning this award at the 18th FICCI Healthcare Excellence Awards 2026 is a proud moment for our team. At seniorshield, our focus is on designing around the real needs of seniors and giving caregivers the clarity and support they need. When technology becomes a meaningful part of care."

seniorshield is an integrated health and wellness platform for older adults, built around three hubs: Health, Engagement and Retail. Its features include health monitoring, access to geriatric specialists, fall detection, geo-location tracking, SOS alerts and Health Buddy, which offers emotional support, app guidance and health-status monitoring. The platform also connects seniors with social activities, volunteering opportunities and relevant products and services, advancing Lifebridge Group's commitment to holistic, technology-enabled senior care.



India's First-Ever Grand Incense and Pooja Products Exhibition in Madurai

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 For the first time in India, a grand exhibition bringing together manufacturers, distributors and traders of sambrani and pooja products, TISMA EXPO 2026, is being organised by the Tamil Nadu Instant Sambrani Manufacturers Association (TISMA). The three-day exhibition will be held in Madurai on November 27, 28 and 29.

In this regard, a press conference was held at the Chennai Press Club, where TISMA EXPO 2026 Exhibition Chairman J.K. Muthu, TISMA Association President T.S. Jeeierbabu, Association Secretary C. Senthilkumar, Jithendar Doshi of GT Group of Companies, the Title Sponsor of the exhibition, and Association Treasurer S. RajaSoundaram participated and addressed the media.

We have organised a dedicated national-level exhibition for the first time in India, bringing together instant sambrani and pooja products manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and retailers under one roof, with the aim of creating new business opportunities. Scheduled to be held on November 27, 28 and 29 at the Ida Scudder Auditorium in Madurai, this exhibition will be India's first grand B2B exhibition exclusively dedicated to the incense and pooja products industry.

More than 100 manufacturers of incense and pooja products from across Tamil Nadu will participate in the exhibition, showcasing their products. We expect over 5,000 distributors, traders, wholesalers and businesspeople from various states across India to visit the exhibition. This will provide an opportunity for incense and pooja products manufacturers in Tamil Nadu to market their products across the country, identify new distributors and expand their business networks.

This exhibition will serve as an excellent opportunity for those who wish to enter the distribution business of incense and pooja products. Those interested in starting a new distribution business with a low investment can directly meet manufacturers and explore various business opportunities.

Furthermore, the exhibition will also provide guidance on export opportunities for incense and pooja products to foreign countries, export procedures and potential opportunities in international markets.

The exhibition has not only been organised for the traders but also for the general public. Visitors can explore incense sticks, cups and traditional pooja products from various companies under one roof and purchase the products they require directly. Entry to the exhibition is free for all visitors.

Madurai's Traditional Cuisine – A Special Treat for South Tamil Nadu Tourism!

Special food stalls will also be set up to offer traders and visitors arriving from various parts of India an opportunity to savour Madurai's traditional cuisine, adding to their experience of visiting South Tamil Nadu.

Furthermore, in association with the South Tamil Nadu Travels Association, special spiritual tour packages have been organised to enable visitors to explore the historically significant spiritual destinations of South Tamil Nadu. Visitors who make advance bookings will be offered various benefits and special packages for these spiritual tours.

Through this initiative, TISMA EXPO 2026 will not only contribute to the growth of the incense and pooja products industry but also serve as a platform to showcase Madurai's trade, tourism, traditional cuisine and cultural heritage to people across India.

The long-term objective of this exhibition is to promote Tamil Nadu's incense and pooja products manufacturing industry at the national and international levels and establish strong business connections between manufacturers and distributors.

encouraged to participate in large numbers and benefit from TISMA EXPO 2026, which will be held on November 27, 28 and 29 at the Ida Scudder Auditorium in Madurai.

Those interested in participating in the exhibition can register via WhatsApp at +91 93425 93800. For further details, they can contact +91 99444 26746 or visit tisma.co.in to know more about the exhibition.

To Register through Whatsapp: +919342593800

For More Info: +919944426746



Amazon Pay Announces 'Impossible Travel Deals 2026' with Up to 30% Off Flights and 65% Off Hotels

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 Chennai: Amazon Pay today announced the return of its flagship 'Impossible Travel Deals', a 15-day sale running from November 12 to 26, offering customers discounts of up to 30% on domestic and international flights and up to 65% on hotel bookings.

Customers can enjoy attractive flight fares, including Mumbai–Goa from ₹3,099, Bengaluru–Kochi from ₹4,199 and Mumbai–Delhi from ₹6,099. International fares include Delhi–Bangkok from ₹12,299 and Mumbai–Dubai from ₹13,999. Hotel deals include Dusit Thani Dubai from ₹6,649 and properties in Goa from ₹4,899.

Throughout the sale, customers can avail instant discounts of 15% on flights and up to 45% on hotels. Amazon Pay ICICI Bank Credit Card holders can also earn up to 5% cashback for Prime members and 3% for non-Prime members.

The early-bird offer on November 12–13 includes up to ₹500 cashback on flights and ₹10,000 on hotels. From November 14, these offers will be available exclusively to first-time Amazon Pay travel customers.

With access to over 1,100 airlines and millions of hotel stays worldwide, Amazon Pay also offers 24/7 customer support and flexible booking options.



Cyber Threats Respect No Borders, Neither Should Cooperation

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 Cyber Threats Respect No Borders, Neither Should Cooperation: Union MoS for Communications Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani at ITU PP-26.

Union Minister of State for Communications and Rural Development, Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani, presented India's approach to digital connectivity, emerging technologies and cybersecurity at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-26) in Doha.

Speaking at the High-Level Discussion on Emerging Technologies, he highlighted India's efforts under Prime Minister Narendra Modi to make technology accessible and affordable. With 2.2 billion people across the world still offline, he pointed to India's investment of approximately $15 billion in BharatNet to extend broadband connectivity to rural areas.

He also spoke about Samriddh Gram Centres, a WSIS Prize winner, where villagers can access healthcare, agricultural advice, banking and government certificates. India's work in affordable AI computing, indigenous language AI models, quantum research and 100 5G use-case labs also featured in his address. He called for developing countries to have a greater role in framing global technology standards and spectrum policies.

On the sidelines, Dr. Pemmasani met delegations from Malaysia, Iran and Uzbekistan. Discussions covered cross-border cyber fraud, digital infrastructure security and cooperation in quantum technology.

Sharing India's experience in tackling digital fraud, he said alerts sent to banks had helped prevent suspected financial losses of over ₹5,000 crore.

"Cyber threats do not respect borders, and neither should our cooperation. Learning from each other's best practices makes all of us stronger," he said.



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Kauvery Hospital Alwarpet Strengthens Stroke Rehabilitation with Advanced Robotic and Technology-Assisted Rehabilitation Systems

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 Chennai, 11th November 2026: Recognising that stroke recovery extends well beyond emergency treatment and medical stabilisation, Kauvery Hospital, Alwarpet, is strengthening its rehabilitation services with the introduction of advanced robotic and technology-assisted rehabilitation systems. This initiative aims to provide a structured, comprehensive and patient-centred approach to stroke rehabilitation, helping patients work towards regaining movement, improving functional abilities and achieving greater independence in everyday activities.

Kauvery Hospital has a dedicated 24/7 Stroke Care Unit, supported by a multidisciplinary team of specialists and trained healthcare professionals to manage stroke patients through different stages of care. The team includes stroke medicine specialists, interventional radiologists, neurosurgeons and Rapid Neuro ICU intensivists, working in coordination to provide timely assessment, appropriate treatment and critical care when required. The dedicated stroke unit is supported by trained nursing staff and advanced medical equipment to facilitate comprehensive stroke management. From emergency evaluation and acute intervention to critical care and subsequent rehabilitation, this integrated approach aims to ensure continuity of care throughout the patient's journey. By introducing Stroke Rehabilitation, the hospital will provide care beyond treatment.

Speaking about the importance of rehabilitation in stroke care, Dr. Sivarajan Thandeswaran, Senior Consultant – Stroke Medicine, Kauvery Hospital Alwarpet, said, "Stroke treatment does not end with the initial medical intervention. The recovery phase is equally important, as individuals may have to overcome challenges related to movement, balance, coordination and everyday activities. Rehabilitation requires consistent, repetitive and structured training, guided by a multidisciplinary team. The introduction of advanced robotic rehabilitation systems allows us to incorporate technology-assisted training into individualised rehabilitation programmes, helping them work towards improving their functional abilities and independence. Our focus is to make the recovery journey more structured and meaningful for every individual."

One of the key additions is the Multilimb Isokinetic Robotic Rehabilitation System, a computerised robotic system designed to facilitate upper-limb, lower-limb and functional arm movement training. The system offers more than 20 exercise options for both upper and lower limbs, including exercises designed for major joints. It operates in active, assistive and resistive modes, allowing the level of support or resistance to be adapted to individual rehabilitation requirements.

The system also supports training for Activities of Daily Living (ADL), helping patients practise functional movements relevant to everyday tasks. Its interactive approach enables structured movement practice, with flexibility to address different stages of rehabilitation.

For those experiencing difficulty with hand and finger movements, robotic hand rehabilitation gloves will support guided hand-opening, hand-closing and finger-movement exercises. The system incorporates passive and mirror-therapy modes, along with adjustable training



settings. By facilitating repetitive and assisted hand movements, this technology can be incorporated into individualised hand rehabilitation programmes under professional supervision.

The integration of robotic rehabilitation technologies with conventional physiotherapy and occupational therapy will enable the clinical team to incorporate different forms of assisted, repetitive and resistance-based movement training into individualised rehabilitation programmes. These technologies complement, rather than replace, the expertise and guidance of rehabilitation professionals.

Commenting on the initiative, Dr. Aravindan Selvaraj, Co Founder & Executive Director, Kauvery Group of Hospitals, said, "At Kauvery, we believe that healthcare must extend beyond treating a medical condition to supporting patients throughout their journey towards recovery. Stroke can have a profound impact on an individual's mobility, independence and quality of life, as well as on their families. By bringing advanced robotic rehabilitation and neurostimulation technologies into our rehabilitation services, we are strengthening our commitment to comprehensive stroke care. Our aim is to combine clinical expertise, appropriate technology and compassionate care to support patients at every stage of their recovery journey."

Under Visa regime rationalization, main categories for Visa reduced from 13 to 09

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 Under Visa regime rationalization, main categories for Visa reduced from 13 to 09 and sub categories from 49 to 23 Indian visa regime rationalization to boost foreign tourist arrivals, enhance medical value travel and foreign student arrivals Number of fields to be filled in the application forms for all 23 visa sub-categories reduced by 65%–70%, now application process easier, faster, and more applicant-friendly Changes reduce overlap between visa categories and make framework easier to navigate for visitors, patients, students, researchers, investors and business professionals Rationalization intends to boost legitimate travel, education, healthcare and economic engagement with India through clearer, purpose-based visa options.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and guidance of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah, the Government of India has simplified its visa regime. The step aims at making it more compact, coherent and responsive to the requirements of foreign nationals visiting India. On 27 th August, 2026, the Ministry of Home Affairs reduced the number of main visa categories from 13 to 9 and the number of sub-categories from 49 to 23. This follows the earlier rationalisation undertaken in October, 2025, when the main visa categories were reduced from 22 to 13 and sub-categories from 63 to 49. While considering the simplification of Indian Visa regime, the Government of India studied the Visa system of the developed countries and global standards.

The consolidation of similar purposes of travel is aimed at providing greater clarity and ease in identifying the appropriate visa category while facilitating legitimate foreign arrivals.

Currently e-visa is processed by electronic travel authorization under 13 sub categories. The facility of e-visa is presently available to the nationals of 172 countries.

The erstwhile Tourist Visa has been renamed Visitor Visa, reflecting a broader range of permitted purposes beyond conventional tourism. The category has been organised into two sub-categories, V-1 and V-2, so that applicants may select a visa suited to the nature and duration of their proposed visit.

V-1 Visa: In addition to other eligible visitor activities, it covers short-term activities such as business meetings, medical consultations, wellness retreats, short-duration medical treatment and short-term courses in Indian languages, music, art and craft. It is granted for 30 days with multiple entries.

V-2 Visa: Intended for longer-duration visits, with validity of 1, 5 or 10 years, as specified. It covers the activities permissible under V-1 and mountaineering. For mountaineering, a visa of six months, with multiple entries, will be granted.

By bringing a wider range of short visits under a clearly identified category, the new arrangement makes visa selection simpler for travelers who may combine leisure with business meetings, medical consultations, wellness retreats or cultural learning, short duration yoga programme. The longer-duration V-2 option provides continuity and convenience for eligible repeat visitors, while the specific mountaineering provision addresses the distinct needs of such travel.

CHIEF OF THE ARMY STAFF DELIVERS CAVALRY MEMORIAL ADDRESS AT MECHANISED FORCES SYMPOSIUM 2026

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 General Dhiraj Seth, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), delivered an address on “Vision for Future Warfighting in the Indian Subcontinent” at the Mechanised Forces Symposium 2026, held at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, on 11 November 2026. The two-day symposium, organised by the Cavalry Officers’ Association in collaboration with the Directorate General of Mechanised Forces, brings together senior serving officers, veterans, defence scientists, industry representatives and strategic thinkers to deliberate on the changing character of warfare.

In his address, the COAS highlighted the Indian Army's ongoing transformation to meet emerging operational challenges. He emphasised that transformation goes beyond modern equipment and organisational restructuring, requiring a culture of innovation, technological adaptation and agility, while keeping the Yoddha at its core.

Highlighting jointness and integration as critical enabler of future warfighting, the COAS underscored the need for seamless coordination across Services and domains. He also reiterated the Indian Army's commitment to Aatmanirbharta through indigenous



capability development and stronger partnerships with industry and academia.

PM to visit Karnataka and Gujarat on 13-14 November

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 Prime Minister will visit Karnataka and Gujarat on 13-14 November. At around 10:45 AM, Prime Minister will participate in Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Prashanti Kutiram. He will also address the gathering on the occasion. At around 12:45 PM, Prime Minister will flag off and undertake a metro ride from Tavarekere to IIM Bangalore metro station. At around 1:15 PM, Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone, inaugurate and dedicate to the nation various development projects worth over Rs 15,600 crore in Bengaluru. He will also address the gathering on the occasion

Thereafter, Prime Minister will travel to Mysuru where, at around 3:30 PM, he will participate in a tree plantation programme at Bharat Vann. At around 4, PM, Prime Minister will inaugurate COSMOS-Mysuru Planetarium. He will also address the gathering on the occasion.

On 14th November, Prime Minister will perform Darshan and Pooja at Ambaji temple in Banaskantha, Gujarat. Ambaji Temple is one of the 51 revered Shakti Peethas.

PM in Bengaluru

Prime Minister will participate in the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Prashanti Kutiram, the residential headquarters campus of Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (S-VYASA). On this occasion, he will lay the foundation stone of the Golden Jubilee Administrative Block and launch the S-VYASA Off-Campus at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

Being held from 13 to 23 November 2026 on the theme ‘Towards Viksit Bharat 2047’, the Golden Jubilee celebration marks five decades of institution-building and service. Established in 1975, Prashanti Kutiram was founded with the objective of integrating modern science with India's spiritual wisdom. It is home to S-VYASA, which was declared a Deemed-to-be University in 2002 and is dedicated to education and research in Yoga.

The programme will also commemorate the birth centenary of Hongasandra Venkataramaiah Sheshadri Ji, a distinguished thinker, writer and organiser born in Bengaluru in 1926. He joined the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh in 1946 and served as its Sarkaryavah from 1987 to 2000. He was among the visionaries behind S-VYASA and his inspiration and guidance played an important role in shaping the growth of Prashanti Kutiram and advancing the institution’s mission over the decades.

BUILDING A STRONGER AND MORE PROSPEROUS INDIA REQUIRES EFFECTIVE INSTITUTIONS AND PUBLIC SERVANTS

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 BUILDING A STRONGER AND MORE PROSPEROUS INDIA REQUIRES EFFECTIVE INSTITUTIONS AND PUBLIC SERVANTS: LOK SABHA SPEAKER.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla today emphasised that building a stronger and more prosperous India requires effective institutions and public servants who are responsive to the aspirations and concerns of citizens. He underlined that police officers must maintain constant engagement with the public, communicate with people regularly, and develop a close understanding of their needs and challenges. He said that public trust is the cornerstone of effective policing. He called upon the probationers to earn the confidence of citizens through impartiality, transparency, accessibility and prompt action. He observed that the police must be perceived not merely as an agency responsible for maintaining law and order, but also as a dependable institution that stands with people and safeguards their rights and security.

Birla made these remarks while interacting with a group of probationers at the Parliament House Complex. He called upon them to dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to the service of the people and the nation.

Birla observed that the Indian Police Service offers a unique opportunity to make a meaningful difference in people's lives. He urged the probationers to discharge their responsibilities with a deep sense of commitment, integrity, sensitivity and accountability, keeping public welfare at the centre of their professional conduct.

Highlighting the transformative role of technology in policing, the Lok Sabha Speaker encouraged the young officers to make optimal use of emerging technologies, digital tools, data analytics and modern investigative techniques to prevent and detect crime. He noted that technology-driven policing can enhance operational efficiency, improve responsiveness and strengthen the overall law-and-order framework.

Birla further observed that the challenges facing society are constantly evolving and called upon the probationers to remain open to new ideas, continuously upgrade their professional capabilities, and adopt innovative approaches to policing. He stressed that effective policing must combine technological advancement with human sensitivity and compassion. The Speaker expressed confidence that the young officers, with their professional training, commitment and enthusiasm, would make valuable contributions towards strengthening the country's internal security and building a safe, secure and progressive India.

The interaction provided an opportunity for the probationers to exchange views with the Lok Sabha Speaker and gain insights into the functioning of Parliament and India's democratic institutions.

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Government Strengthens Rural 4G Connectivity Through 4G Saturation Project

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) is making sustained efforts to bridge the digital divide and strengthen telecommunications infrastructure across rural, remote and underserved areas of the country. These efforts have resulted in a significant reduction of nearly 75% in the number of villages without 4G connectivity, from 45,180 in 2022 to 11,372 in 2026, marking substantial progress towards expanding digital connectivity across rural India.

DoT's 4G Saturation Project has played an important role in this expansion. The project was designed to provide 4G connectivity to 24,680 previously unconnected villages, ensuring that people in remote and underserved areas can access reliable mobile communication services and the benefits of digital connectivity. Private telecom service providers have also contributed to expanding rural 4G coverage through their network expansion initiatives.

BSNL's 18,291 sites commissioned under the 24,680-site 4G saturation rollout plan are carrying substantial data traffic in rural areas. In October 2026, these sites served a maximum of 10,21,048 active users in a day, who together used over 1.86 crore GB (18,659,170 GB) of data, an average of 18.3 GB per user in the month. With about 56 active users per site on average, each site is serving dispersed rural communities that were earlier outside serviceable 4G coverage.

The Government has also sanctioned an additional 26,000 mobile network sites for the next phase of expansion to address the remaining connectivity gaps.

Extending connectivity to remote and geographically difficult locations remains a key challenge due to difficult terrain, high infrastructure costs, scattered settlements and the presence of remote tribal habitations. The Department is continuing its efforts to address these challenges through coordinated action with BSNL and other telecom service providers.

Way Forward

Moving forward, the Department of Telecommunications will continue to prioritise the coverage of remaining unconnected villages, particularly in remote, tribal and aspirational regions. The deployment of additional mobile network sites, expansion of network-sharing arrangements and improved utilisation of existing telecom infrastructure will remain important strategies for achieving wider rural connectivity. Greater coordination with telecom service providers and targeted interventions in geographically challenging areas will further accelerate network expansion. These efforts are aimed at ensuring inclusive digital access and enabling rural communities to benefit from digital governance, education, healthcare, financial services and other essential digital platforms.

DGFT prohibits export of Lithium-Ion Battery Black Mass to strengthen domestic recycling

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 DGFT prohibits export of Lithium-Ion Battery Black Mass to strengthen domestic recycling and critical mineral recovery.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Department of Commerce, has prohibited the export of Lithium-Ion Battery Black Mass falling under ITC(HS) Code 85491400. Vide Notification No. 49/2026-27 dated 10 November 2026, the export policy of the item has been amended from 'Free' to 'Prohibited' with immediate effect and until further orders. The transitional arrangements under Para 1.05 of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), 2023, will apply.

ITC(HS) Code 85491400 covers waste and scrap of primary cells, primary batteries and electric accumulators, as well as spent cells, batteries and accumulators, which are unsorted and do not contain lead, cadmium or mercury. The Notification specifically describes the item as Lithium-Ion Battery Black Mass. Black Mass is the powdery material obtained from shredding end-of-life lithium-ion batteries and battery manufacturing waste. It contains recoverable quantities of critical minerals, including lithium, cobalt, nickel and manganese.

Critical minerals are essential inputs for electric mobility, advanced chemistry cell batteries, energy storage, electronics and renewable energy. India depends substantially on imports for several of these minerals. Recycling battery waste is among the quickest and most sustainable ways of developing a domestic supply of these resources. While the country's capacity to recycle battery waste and refine critical minerals from it has grown considerably, it is not being fully utilised due to inadequate feedstock availability. Exports of Black Mass generated in India divert this valuable secondary resource abroad, while domestic recyclers have, in some cases, had to import material to meet their requirements.

The export prohibition is intended to ensure that Black Mass generated in India is recycled and refined within the country. The measure is expected to assure feedstock availability for domestic recycling and refining units, improve their capacity utilisation and encourage further investment and employment in the sector. It will increase domestic recovery of lithium, cobalt, nickel and other critical minerals, thereby reducing import dependence and the associated foreign exchange outgo. It will also strengthen supply chains for battery manufacturing, electric vehicles, energy storage and clean-energy technologies, in line with the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. Further, the measure will advance the circular economy and 'urban mining', reducing reliance on primary mining, while supporting environmentally sound recycling of this hazardous material within the country in accordance with applicable environmental regulations.

Vice-President attends Platinum Jubilee celebrations of his alma mater, V.O. Chidambaram College, Thoothukudi

THOOTHUKUDI – 12 Nov, 2026 Vice-President of India, C. P. Radhakrishnan, today attended the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and Alumni Meet of V.O. Chidambaram College, Thoothukudi, as the Chief Guest. The college is his alma mater, where he studied from 1975 to 1978.

Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan graced the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and Alumni Meet of V.O. Chidambaram College, Thoothukudi, today. It was a special occasion for him to return to his alma mater and reconnect with an institution that holds a cherished place in his life.

He paid floral tributes to the statue of freedom fighter V.O. Chidambaram Pillai on the college campus and inaugurated a commemorative arch marking the institution's 75th anniversary. He also visited his former classroom and interacted with his classmates from the 1975–78 batch, fondly recalling his college days.

At V.O. Chidambaram College, Thoothukudi, Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan paid floral tributes to freedom fighter V.O. Chidambaram Pillai. https://t.co/FvcGp05N84

Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan attended the 1975–78 batch Alumni Meet at his alma mater, V.O. Chidambaram College, Thoothukudi. He revisited his old classroom, interacted warmly with his classmates and fondly relived cherished memories of their college days. https://t.co/NRaxStEALq

Addressing the gathering, the Vice-President recalled how the college, its teachers and the personalities he encountered there shaped his outlook and prepared him for greater responsibilities. He fondly remembered his teachers' lessons, campus life and the values he imbibed during his student years.

Recalling the Emergency, he spoke about his participation in the movement against it while studying at the college. He also recalled mobilising funds to support the families of those who had been imprisoned during the period.

Paying tribute to V.O. Chidambaram Pillai, he highlighted the freedom fighter's immense sacrifices, his commitment to workers' welfare and his enduring contribution to the freedom struggle.

Emphasising national unity, the Vice-President said India's strength as a united nation safeguards the language, culture and identity of its diverse communities, including Tamil culture. He urged students to strengthen national consciousness while taking pride in their mother tongue. He also encouraged them to learn multiple languages and take Tamil to the global stage.

Bureau of Energy Efficiency Organises Webinar and Undertakes Various Awareness Activities

CHENNAI – 12 Nov, 2026 Bureau of Energy Efficiency Organises Webinar and Undertakes Various Awareness Activities During BRICS Sustainable Lifestyle Week 2026.

As part of the observance of BRICS Sustainable Lifestyle Week (BSLW), observed from 1 to 7 November 2026, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Ministry of Power, organised a webinar on the theme "Energy Conservation" on 2 November 2026. The webinar aimed to highlight the pivotal role of energy efficiency in promoting sustainable lifestyles, reducing energy consumption, enhancing energy security and advancing India's commitment towards sustainable development.

The webinar commenced with the inaugural address by Krushna Chandra Panigrahy, Director General, BEE, who highlighted the significance of energy efficiency as a key enabler of sustainable development and emphasised the need for concerted efforts towards promoting energy-efficient practices across various sectors.

The technical sessions were delivered by eminent experts and representatives from reputed institutions and organisations, including TERI, AEEE, IIT, CLASP and SEforALL, covering a wide range of topics relating to energy efficiency. The deliberations encompassed India's progress and initiatives in the field of energy efficiency, measures for enhancing energy efficiency in industries, and the role of technological interventions in reducing energy consumption. The sessions also provided an overview of India's Standards and Labelling Programme for appliances, highlighting its contribution towards promoting energy-efficient products and enabling informed consumer choices.

Further, the discussions focused on market trends and the impact of behavioural changes on electricity consumption, emphasising the importance of sustainable consumption practices and responsible energy use. The role of Demand Side Management (DSM) in transforming energy efficiency into a flexible grid resource was also deliberated upon, particularly in the context of optimising electricity consumption, enhancing grid flexibility and supporting the integration of renewable energy into the power system.

The webinar witnessed participation from representatives of the Ministry of Power, Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs), manufacturers' associations, industry representatives, domain experts and other relevant stakeholders. The participation of stakeholders from diverse sectors facilitated the exchange of knowledge, experiences and perspectives on various aspects of energy efficiency and the adoption of sustainable practices.

Vice President graces the 105th Foundation Day celebrations of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB) in Thoothukudi

THOOTHUKUDI – 12 Nov, 2026 Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan today graced the 105th Foundation Day celebrations of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB) in Thoothukudi, and called upon the bank to aspire to become one of India's leading private sector banks in the coming years.

Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan graced the 105th Foundation Day celebrations of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank in Thoothukudi today. Congratulating the bank on its remarkable 105-year journey, he highlighted its contribution to India's economic growth and called upon banks to strengthen financial inclusion, support entrepreneurs, MSMEs, farmers and women-led enterprises, and contribute to the vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047. Governor of Tamil Nadu Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, TMB Part Time Chairman K. Ramachandran, MD & CEO Salee S. Nair, Executive Director Vincent Menachery, members of the Board and senior officials were present on the occasion.

Congratulating the bank on its remarkable 105-year journey, the Vice President recalled its origins in 1921 as Nadar Bank Limited and commended its contribution to the country's banking sector.He said that, from its humble beginnings, the bank has grown into a major banking institution with 632 branches across 17 States and four Union Territories, serving over 53 lakh customers and recording total business exceeding ₹1.30 lakh crore. Highlighting the vital role of banks in nation-building, he emphasised the importance of responsible lending and extending financial support to MSMEs, farmers, small traders, entrepreneurs, women-led enterprises and corporates. The Vice President noted India's remarkable economic progress and said that the banking sector has a crucial role in realising the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047. He highlighted the transformation brought about by digital banking and UPI, as well as the expansion of financial inclusion, which has enabled more people to access formal banking services. Commending TMB's recent performance and technological progress, he urged the bank to continue strengthening cybersecurity, safeguarding customers' money and personal data, and embracing innovation. He also stressed that the bank should remain rooted in Thoothukudi, its place of origin, even as it expands its national presence.

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