



## RSS Chief Honors Ram Temple Martyrs' Peace Today

### PM Modi Hoists Saffron Flag At Ram Temple Ayodhya

**Ayodhya:** Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat today joined Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in the ceremonial flag hoisting at the newly completed Ram Janmabhoomi Mandir. Addressing the gathering, Bhagwat said that the souls of those who sacrificed their lives for the temple must be in peace today, marking the culmination of decades

of struggle and devotion. The saffron Dharma Dhvaj, measuring 10 feet by 20 feet, was raised atop the temple's spire during the auspicious Vivah Panchami. The flag bears sacred symbols including Om, the Sun, and the Kovidara tree, representing wisdom, divine brilliance, and cultural continuity.

Bhagwat emphasized that the ceremony was not just a ritual but a symbol of sacrifice and perseverance. He



noted that countless individuals contributed to the temple movement, and the installation of the flag represents the fulfillment of a long-cherished dream. Thousands of invited

guests attended the event under tight security, while public access to the temple was restricted for the day. The ceremony is being hailed as a historic milestone in India's cultural and religious landscape, symbolizing unity, devotion, and the realization of a decades-long aspiration.

It is expected to resonate far beyond Ayodhya, shaping narratives of cultural pride, national unity, and religious devotion.

## Kolkata Metro Services Disrupted

**Kolkata:** Train services on the Kolkata Metro's Blue Line were disrupted on Saturday afternoon after a passenger attempted suicide at Mahatma Gandhi Road (MG Road) station. The incident occurred around 3:30 PM when a man reportedly jumped onto the down tracks. Metro authorities immediately cut power to the affected section to carry out rescue operations. As a result, services were suspended between Belgachia and Park Street stations. Trains were run in truncated stretches Dakshineswar to Dum Dum in the north and Maidan to Shahid Khudiram in the south to manage passenger flow.

The man was rescued and taken to a nearby hospital. His condition was not immediately known. Full services resumed at 4:13 PM after the tracks were cleared and power restored. This was the second such incident in three days. On November 20, Metro services were similarly disrupted after another suicide attempt at Netaji station.



## Air India Cancels 11 Flights, Hyderabad-Delhi Service Hit

**New Delhi:** Air India has cancelled a total of 11 flights over the past two days due to safety concerns arising from volcanic ash drifting from Ethiopia's Hayli Gubbi volcano. The cancellations include both international and domestic routes, with the Hyderabad-Delhi service among those affected.



Mumbai-Hyderabad-Mumbai, and Mumbai-Kolkata-Mumbai.

Aviation authorities explained that volcanic ash poses serious risks to aircraft engines and visibility. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has directed airlines to conduct

precautionary inspections of runways and aircraft exposed to ash deposits.

Air India stated that the cancellations were necessary to ensure passenger safety. The airline has deployed ground staff to assist affected travelers with rebooking, accommodations, and updates. Aviation authorities explained that volcanic ash poses serious risks to aircraft engines and visibility. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has directed airlines to conduct precautionary inspections of runways and aircraft exposed to ash deposits.

## Delhi CM Blames Past Govt For Infrastructure Gaps

**New Delhi:** Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has strongly criticized previous administrations, claiming that nearly half of the capital continues to suffer from inadequate civic infrastructure. Speaking at the inauguration of 70 Arogya Ayushman Mandirs, she highlighted that large sections of Delhi still lack proper water and sewer lines, forcing residents to depend on tanker supplies. Gupta remarked that despite decades of governance, successive governments failed to address these fundamental issues. She noted that desilting and repair work on pipelines has only recently begun after 27 years of ne-



glect. The Chief Minister accused both Congress and Aam Aadmi Party governments of mismanagement, alleging that funds were diverted away from essential projects. She emphasized that her administration is now prioritizing corrective measures, including expanding healthcare access through Ayushman Mandirs and launching Jan Aushadhi Kendras to provide medicines at discounted rates.

## Modi, Bhagwat to Lead Flag Hoisting at Ayodhya Temple Today

### Sacred Ceremony Marks Ayodhya's Historic Milestone

**Ayodhya:** In a landmark event marking the completion of the Ram Janmabhoomi Temple, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat will jointly lead the sacred flag-hoisting ceremony at the temple's main spire today. The ritual, known as Dhvajarohan, is scheduled to take place during the auspicious Abhijit Muhurat, between 11:58 AM and 1:00 PM, coinciding with Vivah Panchami, a day symbolizing the divine union of Lord Ram



and Goddess Sita. The saffron flag, measuring 10 feet by 20 feet, is triangular in shape and bears three sacred symbols: Om, the radiant Sun, and the Kovidara tree. These emblems represent spiritual wisdom, divine brilliance, and cultural continuity rooted in the Sanatan tradition. Ac-

ording to a statement from the Prime Minister's Office, the flag embodies the ideals of Ram Rajya, conveying messages of dignity, unity, and national pride. Ahead of the ceremony, Prime Minister Modi visited the Saptamandir complex and offered prayers at several prominent temples in Ayodhya. His arrival was marked by a vibrant roadshow featuring traditional music and dance performances at twelve designated welcome points and seven cultural platforms.

## BJP Workers Exit After Officers Leave

**Kolkata:** Tension flared late Monday night outside the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of West Bengal as BJP activists and protesting booth-level officers (BLOs) came face to face during a sit-in demonstration. The incident unfolded around midnight, prompting police intervention to prevent escalation.

Members of the BLO Adhikar Raksha Committee had been staging a sit-in since Monday afternoon, alleging excessive work pressure and unmanageable workload during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral

rolls. BLOs claimed that the Election Commission's directives had created unreasonable demands, and they sought an audience with the CEO to press their concerns.

Around 11 PM, nearly 50 BJP activists led by Kolkata Municipal Corporation Councillor Sajal Ghosh arrived at the protest site. They raised slogans accusing the Trinamool Congress (TMC) of attempting to obstruct the SIR process by intimidating Election Commission officials. The BJP workers positioned themselves outside the CEO's office, demanding smooth conduct of the revision exercise.



## Meghalaya Lawyer Duped, 90K Lost

**Shillong:** A lawyer in Meghalaya recently lost Rs 90,000 after responding to an AI-generated voice call that mimicked her senior, Justice Hamarsan Singh Thangkhiew, judge in-charge of the Meghalaya State Judicial Academy, revealed on Saturday. Speaking at a training programme for judicial officers on 'Cyber-crime & the Court: Law, Evidence & Practice', organised by the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) at the High Court of Meghalaya, Justice Thangkhiew explained that the fraudulent transaction, authorised through an OTP, was traced across multiple numbers linked to Bihar and Haryana.

This led to the arrest of a man whose SIM card had been misused. "He was merely a pawn and had no idea his number was being exploited," the judge said. He highlighted that cybercrime investigations often require coordination among multiple agencies, particularly when authorities freeze bank accounts to prevent fund movement.

Innocent individuals sometimes face disruptions to their livelihoods when accounts are frozen mistakenly. Justice Thangkhiew noted that modern crimes like these no longer require the physical presence of criminals. Many offences span multiple jurisdictions and lack traditional evidence, such as eyewitness accounts.

## Assam Deputy Speaker defends SIR, slams Rahul Gandhi over voter list allegations

### Momin Says SIR Ensures Genuine Voters Only

**Guwahati:** Assam Legislative Assembly Deputy Speaker Numal Momin on Monday responded to Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi's accusations of voter list manipulation, defending the Centre's electoral reforms and lauding Prime Minister Narendra Modi for taking "a very strong step" toward ensuring transparency in the voting process. Momin highlighted that the Election Commission of India is conducting a thorough Standardisation of Electoral Roll (SIR) exercise for the first time, aimed at identifying genuine voters and removing illegal entries. He accused the Congress of being "habitual beneficiaries" of unlawful vot-



ers in previous elections.

"Congress fears that implementing SIR in the five upcoming poll-bound assemblies may produce results similar to Bihar," Momin said. He criticised Rahul Gandhi for opposing the reforms, adding that

the initiative would strengthen India's democratic system. "Instead of supporting a brighter democratic future, he tries to malign India's image abroad. Naturally, SIR will not favour him," he remarked. On territorial matters, Mo-

min backed Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's recent comments about border issues. He described discussions about border changes as "natural," noting that Pakistan and Bangladesh were once part of undivided India.

Supporting Singh's position, Momin added, "It is high time we reconsider our borders. India should reclaim PoK and certain parts of Bangladesh to protect minority communities facing religious persecution." The SIR exercise is being implemented across five upcoming poll-bound assemblies, and officials say it will serve as a model for future elections nationwide.

## Minister Thakur Prioritises Siaha Development

**Aizawl:** Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Ram Nath Thakur, on Monday said that the development of remote and needy areas remains a top priority for the Centre. Thakur, who is on a three-day tour, visited south Mizoram's Siaha district, which shares a border with Myanmar, on Monday.

Addressing a function after inspecting an exhibition organised by the agriculture department in Siaha, Thakur said his visit aligns with the Prime Minister's vision and assured that the challenges and requirements of the people of Siaha would be conveyed directly to the Prime Minister. He said the Centre is committed to developing remote and underdeveloped areas, which remains its top priority.

## Manipur Congress slams PMGSY Project Delays

**Imphal:** The Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) on Monday accused the state administration under President's Rule of gross negligence in implementing crucial rural infrastructure projects, despite the release of significant central funds. MPCC President K. Meghachandra addressed the media at Congress Bhawan in Imphal, asserting that the administration has failed to execute Phase-III works of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), aimed at improving rural connectivity across Manipur. He said the Central Gov-



ernment had sanctioned Rs 404 crore and Rs 205 crore in 2019 for constructing and upgrading 1.25 lakh kilometres of rural roads under PMGSY Phase-III. "Yet, the project remains completely unimplemented, leaving road infrastructure in a pathetic state across the state," Meghachandra claimed.

## Manipur Police Arrest Creator Over Misleading Social Media Video

### Creator Arrested After Viral Video Misinformation

**Imphal:** Sleuths from the Cyber Crime Unit of the Manipur Police arrested a social media content creator for posting a misleading viral video that could promote conspiracy to commit criminal offenses of intimidation and lawlessness in this sensitive border state. The Manipur Police's morning bulletin, issued on Tuesday, stated that Yumkhaibam Shantikumar (25), a resident of Tangkham Awang Leikai, Haraorou, Pangei Yangdong,

Imphal East district, was apprehended at his residence on Monday. Following an investigation into the spread of false information regarding the viral video, the digital content creator was arrested.

The police reported that in the video, a person was seen interviewing random people and asking suggestive questions that could promote conspiracy to commit criminal offenses of intimidation. The police accused the content cre-

ator of sowing distrust among social groups and spreading false information across the state through various social media platforms.

Police further stated that the arrestee has been booked under Section 505 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) for statements causing fear or public disorder, Section 153A for promoting enmity between groups, and Section 124A (sedition) for content that incites hatred against the government.

## Assam Rifles seize huge cache of illegal arms in Churachandpur district

### Recovered Items Sent, Legal Proceedings Begin

**Imphal:** In a resolute counter-insurgency effort, the Assam Rifles under the Headquarters Inspector General Assam Rifles (South) conducted a swift and professionally executed operation in the Bolneo area of Manipur's Churachandpur District, leading to the recovery of a significant cache of illegal arms on Monday. Acting on credible intelligence gathered through internal sources and verified through a detailed assessment, the operation was launched with precision to en-



sure minimal disruption to the local population in the Bolneo area, about 5 km from Ningthiching village under Henglep police station, Churachandpur

district.

An official statement made on Tuesday confirmed that during the operation, security personnel recovered seven

modified projectile launchers, eleven locally-made Pumpi projectile HE bombs, seven country-made single-barrelled rifles, two country-made pistols, two pistol magazines, three pistol live rounds, two Baofeng handsets, nine BP jackets, six anklets, and nine ammunition pouches.

The operation concluded with the coordinated efforts of the troops, whose disciplined approach and tactical efficiency ensured the mission's success without compromising civilian comfort or security.

## Akhil Gogoi Demands Assam CM Resignation

**Guwahati:** In a dramatic escalation of public anger over the mysterious death of Assamese cultural icon Zubeen Garg, Rajior Dal chief and Sivasagar MLA Akhil Gogoi stormed the grounds of the Assam Legislative Assembly on Tuesday morning, demanding the resignation of Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma. As the winter session of the Assembly commenced under tight security, Gogoi arrived unannounced, dressed in a traditional Assamese dhoti-kurta. He unfurled banners and raised slogans outside the Assembly gates, accusing the Chief Minister of failing to ensure justice in the high-profile case.

His protest drew a small crowd of supporters and journalists. Gogoi declared, "Himanta Biswa Sarma, as home minister, has utterly failed Assam's people. Resign now to allow an impartial probe." His remarks echoed months of statewide agitation following Garg's tragic drowning in Singapore on September 19. Zubeen Garg, one of Assam's most beloved singers, died while swimming in the sea in Singapore. The incident shocked the state and triggered widespread demands for a transparent investigation. A Special Investigation Team (SIT) of the Assam Police is currently probing the circumstances surrounding his death.



## Godrej Industries to lead global dialogue on workplace health 2030

**Guwahati:** Godrej Industries Group, in partnership with The Global Centre for Healthy Workplaces (GCHW) and Arogya World, will host the Global Summit 2025 and the 14th Annual Healthy Workplace Conference on November 20–21 at Godrej One, Mumbai. Themed “Workplace Health 2030: Redefining the Future, From Wellness to Vitality,” the summit aims to shape a health-first future for workplaces by spotlighting holistic well-being, mental health parity, AI-driven predictive health, empathetic leadership, and ESG-linked wellness metrics. Keynote speakers include Dr. Rati Godrej, Banmali Agrawala, Sumit Mitra, and global thought leader Hector Garcia, alongside experts from OECD, National University of Singapore, Pfizer, Allianz, Petrobras, and Wipro. The event will fea-



ture interactive workshops, case studies on personalized wellness programs, and networking sessions to foster cross-sector collaboration. The Summit will also host the Global Healthy Workplace Awards and launch Arogya City Mumbai, a pioneering initiative to promote community health. In Guwahati, local corporate leaders and HR professionals are keenly observing the summit’s outcomes. Businesses in the city are expected to integrate ESG-linked wellness initiatives,

mental health programs, and AI-powered employee health monitoring to boost workforce engagement, productivity, and retention. The event is likely to influence workplace health standards across Assam, aligning regional companies with global best practices. Ajay Bhatt, Group Head, Corporate Services, Godrej Industries, noted, “Embedding health and empathy into organizational culture is no longer optional—it is central to sustainable business growth.”

## AU, Federal, Karnataka Banks Rally

**Mumbai:** Shares of select private sector banks (PSBs) were in demand on Tuesday with Karnataka Bank share price rising 6 per cent, while Federal Bank and AU Small Finance Bank (SFB) shares hitting their respective new highs on the BSE in the intraday trade amid heavy volumes. Among individual stocks, Karnataka Bank shares surged 6 per cent to ₹211.75 on the back of heavy volumes. The stock of the bank was trading higher for a third straight day, soaring 21 per cent during the period. Average trading volume on the counter nearly doubled today, with 1.57 million equity shares changing hands on the BSE till 12:02 PM. Federal Bank share price, meanwhile, gained 3 per cent to ₹254.85 on the BSE in the intraday trade.

## CDSL Launches Student Ideathon To Transform Investor Education

**Guwahati:** Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL), Asia’s first listed depository and custodian of over 16.7 crore demat accounts, has launched its maiden Reimagine Ideathon to boost innovation in investor education and engagement. Announced in Mumbai on November 20 under the 3rd edition of CDSL’s Annual Reimagine Symposium, the initiative seeks student-driven ideas that can reshape how India learns, invests, and participates in markets. With the depository ecosystem securing assets of more than 21 crore investor accounts, CDSL aims to tap young innovators to address persistent barriers that hinder wider securities market participation. The Ideathon aligns with broader national efforts by regulators such as SEBI and RBI to strengthen financial literacy and promote responsible investing at scale. In Guwahati, the initiative is ex-

pected to gain significant traction among students and early investors in the region, where interest in capital markets has grown rapidly in recent years. Educational institutions and emerging fintech communities in Guwahati view investor awareness as a key factor in expanding local participation, making the Ideathon an attractive platform for showcasing Northeast India’s innovation potential. Participants can present solutions using gamification, behavioral nudges, communication tools, design thinking, technology, or community-building—anchored in the principles of empowerment, inclusion, and trust. CDSL MD & CEO Nehal Vora said the challenge celebrates “responsible innovation for building an intuitive and accessible securities market.” The Ideathon carries a prize pool of ₹11.5 lakh, with registrations opening on November 17, 2025.

## Amway India Launches Nutrilite Preventive Nutrition

**Imphal:** Amway India has launched Nutrilite Vitamin D plus Boron, a science-backed supplement designed to address the widespread Vitamin D deficiency affecting 80–90% of Indians. The launch aims to strengthen Amway’s nutrition portfolio by offering products that support bone health, immunity, and holistic wellbeing amid rising demand for preventive nutrition solutions. Rajneesh Chopra, Managing Director, Amway India, said, “Changing lifestyles and limited sun exposure have led to a significant rise in Vitamin D deficiency across the country. Nutrilite Vitamin D plus Boron reflects our commitment to empowering individuals to achieve wellness goals through science-backed nutrition.” The supplement combines Vitamin D3, Boron, Vitamin K2, and a patented Licorice-Quercetin blend, providing a three-tier protection system for optimal calcium absorption, bone strength, and antioxidant support. In Imphal, the launch has generated notable traction among health-conscious consumers. Local Amway Business Owners report strong pre-orders, reflecting growing awareness and demand for preventive health products in the region. Customers in Imphal are increasingly prioritizing



science-backed supplements to bridge dietary gaps, signaling a promising market opportunity for Amway in Northeast India. Each tablet delivers 15 µg Vitamin D3, 3 mg Boron, 20 µg Vitamin K2, and the Licorice-Quercetin blend sourced from NutriCert™ farms. Nutrilite Vitamin D plus Boron is available exclusively through Amway distributors, Business Owners, and online at [www.amway.in](http://www.amway.in). Amway India launches Nutrilite Vitamin D plus Boron, boosting bone health, immunity, wellbeing; strong Imphal demand highlights preventive nutrition growth.

## Axis Mutual Fund launches multi-asset active FoF to tap dynamic investment opportunities

**Guwahati:** Axis Mutual Fund has launched the Axis Multi-Asset Active Fund of Fund (FoF), a hybrid scheme offering investors a single-window solution for diversified exposure across equity, debt, gold, and silver. The New Fund Offer (NFO) opens on November 21 and closes on December 5, 2025, with a minimum application of ₹100 and in multiples of ₹1 thereafter. Managed by Shreyash Devalkar, Devang Shah, Mayank Hyanki, and Aditya Pagaria, the fund uses a disciplined, model-driven allocation strategy to dynamically adjust in-



vestments across asset classes. It aims to deliver long-term capital appreciation while mitigating risk, leveraging insights from market trends, valuations, macroeconomic indicators, and geopolitical developments. The FoF structure enables efficient rebalancing and access to a broader set of

opportunities without additional tax burdens. Speaking on the launch, B Gopkumar, MD & CEO of Axis AMC, highlighted that the fund is ideal for investors seeking diversification without managing multiple products, while Ashish Gupta, CIO, emphasized its ability to capture market op-

portunities across equity, debt, and commodities through active oversight. In Guwahati, experts note growing investor interest in multi-asset products amid equity market volatility and stable debt returns. Local distributors report that the fund is expected to attract both retail and HNI investors seeking balanced returns and risk-adjusted performance in the current market environment. The fund carries a 1% exit load if redeemed within 12 months for investments exceeding 10%, and is positioned for investors with a minimum two-year horizon.

## DSP Mutual Fund unveils four new passive funds to tap midcap–smallcap growth

**Guwahati:** DSP Mutual Fund has launched four new passive schemes—DSP Nifty Midcap 150 Index Fund, DSP Nifty Midcap 150 ETF, DSP Nifty Smallcap 250 Index Fund and DSP Nifty Smallcap 250 ETF—offering investors simple and low-cost access to India’s rapidly expanding midcap and smallcap segments. The launches strengthen DSP’s passive suite by tracking two rules-based indices that represent the country’s most dynamic pool of 400

companies. The Nifty Midcap 150 Index covers India’s 101st to 250th largest companies, while the Nifty Smallcap 250 spans ranks 251 to 500 of the Nifty 500. Historical data shows strong long-term performance: the Nifty Midcap 150 TRI delivered 16.2% average 10-year rolling returns and the Nifty Smallcap 250 TRI posted 13.5%, both outpacing the Nifty 500 TRI’s 12.6%. DSP noted that although these categories may face higher drawdowns, lon-

ger holding periods significantly improve the chances of positive returns. In Guwahati, distributors say demand for passive products has been rising as investors increasingly seek diversified, rule-based exposure. With younger retail investors showing interest in midcap and smallcap themes, DSP’s new offerings are expected to attract strong enquiries across major Guwahati investment hubs. DSP Indices Offer Disciplined, Low-Overlap Exposure.

## RBI Bulletin: Economy Gains

**Mumbai:** Notwithstanding global headwinds, the Indian economy saw further momentum in October on the back of goods and services tax (GST) rate rationalisation and festival spending, as indicated by high-frequency indicators, the Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI’s) monthly State of the Economy report said. “GST collections improved over the previous month, indicating a strong pickup.



## MG Windsor hits 50,000 sales in under 400 days, sets new benchmark in India's EV segment

**Guwahati:** JSW MG Motor India announced that its MG Windsor has crossed the 50,000-unit sales mark in just under 400 days, making it India's first four-wheeler EV to achieve this milestone. Averaging five sales per hour, the Windsor has quickly emerged as a leader in the 4W-EV segment, highlighting growing consumer appetite for sustainable mobility solutions. "Achieving 50,000 sales in record time marks a landmark moment in India's EV journey," said Anurag Mehrotra, Managing Director, JSW MG Motor India. "Our mission was to offer a practical, stylish,



and value-driven mobility solution while accelerating EV adoption, and this milestone energizes us to deepen our commitment to New Energy Vehicles." The MG Windsor, offered at a starting

BaaS price of INR 9.99L + INR 3.9/km, combines sedan comfort and SUV versatility, delivering 136ps of power and 200Nm torque. Its 'Aero-Glide' design, business-class 'Aero Lounge' seats, and

15.6" GRANDVIEW touch display have resonated with modern consumers across both metro and non-metro markets. In Guwahati, the MG Windsor has seen strong demand among young professionals and families. Local dealerships report a surge in bookings and test drives, reflecting the city's growing interest in EVs and MG's reputation for combining style, technology, and value. The launch of the limited-edition MG Windsor Inspire has further boosted excitement in the region, positioning the brand as a key player in Assam's evolving EV market.

## ADB Sanctions \$400M Maha Roads



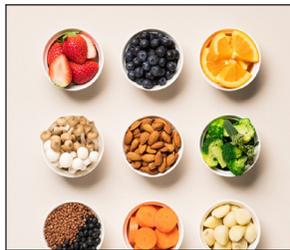
**Mumbai:** The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$400 million loan in a results-based lending program to improve road connectivity in Maharashtra. The loan will be used to improve road connectivity in 34 districts, particularly in the climate-vulnerable and economically lagging Marathwada and Vidarbha regions, linking rural communities to markets, logistics hubs, healthcare, education, and other essential services.

Over 1.7 million people living within walking distance of improved roads will benefit, including residents of at least 80 villages and around 410 rural communities, the multilateral development bank said in a statement. These upgrades cover nearly 350 km of state highways and 2,577 km of rural roads.

"The program seeks to foster balanced and inclusive economic growth in Maharashtra by improving road connectivity to rural villages, post-harvest centers, and essential social services," ADB Country Director for India Mio Oka said. The results-based lending modality allows the implementing agencies to pool resources and align efforts toward shared results.

## Vegan lifestyle gains momentum: Almonds and plant-based nutrition driving demand

**Guwahati:** As more consumers embrace plant-based diets, health experts emphasize that veganism can be nutritionally complete with proper planning. Ritika Samaddar, Regional Head of Dietetics at Max Healthcare, Delhi, advises building a balanced vegan plate with half fruits and vegetables, a quarter whole grains and a quarter plant-based proteins such as legumes, complemented by healthy fats and nuts, particularly California almonds. Almonds, she notes, provide 18.4 grams of protein per 100 grams, along



with dietary fiber, vitamin E, magnesium, and potassium. A daily handful supports muscle repair, maintains blood sugar levels, and enhances satiety. Samaddar recommends leafy greens, orange and red vegetables, and fortified plant-based products like almond milk, soy, and tofu to meet calcium

needs. She also highlights the importance of vitamin B12, vitamin D, and iron through fortified foods or supplements, stressing gradual adaptation and variety for a sustainable vegan lifestyle. The shift is visible in Guwahati, where local markets report rising demand for plant-based staples, including legumes, tofu, fortified almond milk, and imported California almonds. Retailers note that health-conscious consumers are increasingly willing to invest in quality vegan products, signaling strong growth potential for plant-based foods in the region.

## Nissan India drives post-festive sales with nationwide Test Drive Carnival

**Guwahati:** Nissan Motor India has launched its Test Drive Carnival across the country to sustain post-festive showroom momentum and boost bookings for the 5-Star GN-CAP-rated New Nissan Magnite. Riding on strong sales during Navratri, Dussehra, and Diwali, complemented by the government's GST rate reduction, the campaign aims to engage customers through immersive experiences and reinforce Nissan's commitment to safety, innovation, and value. The month-long initiative transforms 24 key city dealerships into experiential hubs with festive décor, interactive games, quizzes, live RJ events, and on-ground activations. Customers are invited to experience the



Magnite's dynamic performance and advanced safety features firsthand, while also enjoying attractive offers including exchange benefits up to ₹60,000, cash incentives up to ₹15,000, early booking benefits, and special finance

options in the South Zone. In Guwahati, the campaign has generated robust footfall at local dealerships, with consumers showing strong interest in test-driving the New Magnite and exploring the KURO Special Edition in Metallic Grey. Dealers report that the festive-themed activities, combined with full GST benefits reducing prices by up to ₹1 lakh, have strengthened customer engagement and significantly boosted booking inquiries in the region. Through this strategic 360-degree campaign spanning digital, radio, TV, and print, Nissan continues to reinforce its brand presence, drive showroom traffic, and ensure the New Magnite remains a top choice among compact SUVs nationwide.

## Midea enters Mizoram, brings full range of smart home appliances



**Aizawl:** Midea, the world's No.1\* smart home appliances brand, has officially expanded its footprint in Mizoram, marking a major step in strengthening its presence across India's North-Eastern region. The company announced on 24 November that consumers in the state will now have access to its complete range of home appliances, including refrigerators, washing machines, microwave ovens and major domestic appliances. The brand said the expansion is aimed at making high-quality, energy-efficient and smart products more accessible by building a strong dealer network along with dedicated after-sales service support. It also reflects Midea's strategy of combining global innovation with local insights to enhance everyday living for Indian families. Speaking about the launch, Siddharth Saxena, Country Head, Midea

India, said, "We are delighted to bring Midea's world-class range of home appliances to Mizoram. This expansion represents our continued commitment to provide smart and energy-efficient solutions to every Indian household. The North-East region offers immense potential, and with our presence in Mizoram, we look forward to delivering superior convenience, performance, and design to our customers." In Aizawl, dealers say the arrival of a global brand like Midea is expected to boost competition and offer consumers more choices in the rapidly growing appliance segment. Retailers anticipate increased demand during winter and year-end shopping cycles. Midea India, a subsidiary of Midea Group, continues to invest in retail and service infrastructure to ensure seamless customer experience across the country.

## Bima Gram API Boosts Rural Insurance Digitally

**Guwahati:** The Insurance Awareness Committee (IAC-Life) has welcomed the launch of Bima Gram API by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI), calling it a milestone for rural insurance expansion. Developed by the National Informatics Centre in collaboration with the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Department of Posts' CEPT, and the Insurance Information Bureau of India, the API maps postal PIN codes to Local Government Directory codes, enabling insurers to instantly verify policyholders' Gram Panchayat (GP) locations. The initiative comes as insurers grapple with the challenge of measuring rural penetration accurately, with most identification documents lacking GP details. By providing real-time digital verification of rural insurance data, Bima Gram API

reduces manual documentation, enhances reporting efficiency, and ensures policies are correctly mapped to rural geographies. Pilot testing with five insurers—including life, general, and health companies—has been completed successfully, with full-scale industry adoption underway. In Guwahati, insurers are optimistic that the API will streamline policy issuance in Assam's rural districts. Local agencies expect faster verification and digital mapping of villages, enabling residents in remote areas to access life, health, and general insurance more efficiently, while improving data-driven planning for rural coverage. A member of IAC-Life said, "Bima Gram API will redefine rural insurance in India, ensuring every household is served and accurately accounted for in the nation's financial safety net."

## Blenders Pride Fashion Tour Unveils Tech-Integrated Couture, Futureverse Economic Curve

**New Delhi:** The Blenders Pride Fashion Tour's launch of its 'Futureverse of Fashion' edition marks a significant economic shift for India's fashion industry, signalling the rise of technology-led value creation. The showcase, developed with designers Falguni Shane

Peacock and the Fashion Design Council of India (FDCI), introduced AI-generated visuals, holographic elements, humanoid robots and interactive digital content—indicating growing capital investment in experiential fashion technologies. Star power from Sha-

hid Kapoor and Tamannaah Bhatia further strengthened market visibility, enhancing brand equity for stakeholders. Economically, Pernod Ricard India's commitment—reinforced through CMO Debasree Dasgupta's remarks—positions the Tour as a strategic

catalyst capable of accelerating India's fashion-tech integration. Designers and FDCI leadership concur that the Futureverse model may set new industry benchmarks in innovation and consumer engagement. The Tour now heads to Jaipur on December 6.

## Data show room exists for rate cut: RBI gov

**Mumbai:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Sanjay Malhotra said on Monday that the current economic indicators suggest there is a scope for repo rate cut, but a decision on it will be made by the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). His statement comes days ahead of the MPC's upcoming meeting scheduled for December 3 to 5. "At the October meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee, it was indicated that there is a scope for a further rate cut in the (monetary) policy. None of the macro indicators, including inflation, released after that (post October MPC meeting), suggest that the scope (for rate cut) has reduced. So, there is definitely a scope (for a rate cut), but MPC will decide on it in the upcoming meeting," Malhotra said in an interview with Zee Business. Headline inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), fell to a record low of 0.25% in October, compared to 1.44% in September. During the current easing



cycle, the MPC has reduced the repo rate by 100 basis points (bps) between February and June 2025. After keeping the repo rate steady at 5.5% in the August and October policy, economists expect the MPC to reduce the repo rate by 25 bps in December. In response to a question on whether there will be aggressive rate cuts going ahead, the governor said, "The primary mandate of RBI is price stability, and the secondary objective is growth. We are neither aggressive, nor defensive. We are like an all-rounder, but an all-rounder who first focuses on bowling or defence, and hits fours and sixes, if required. We do batting and bowling, but bowling, which is equivalent to price stability, is our priority."

## India Mulls Steel Import Tariff

**Mumbai:** India is considering extending an import tariff, locally known as a safeguard duty, on some steel products to counter cheaper imports primarily from China, according to a source with direct knowledge of the matter.

India, the world's second-biggest crude steel producer, had in August recommended a three-year import tariff of 11%-12% on some steel products as part of the final findings of the Directorate General of Trade Remedies that falls under the federal trade ministry. "It (tariff) is under consideration," the source told Reuters, declining to be identified due to the sensitive nature of the matter. India's Ministry of Finance did not immediately respond to a Reuters email seeking comments. The Indian government had in April imposed a 12% temporary tariff for 200 days that lapsed earlier this month. India's finished steel imports during the first seven months of the financial year were down 34.1% year-on-year.

## Household savings up sharply

**New Delhi:** After plunging to a half-century low in FY23 on account of the pandemic-induced income crunch, net financial assets of Indian households recovered smartly in the subsequent two years, data from the Reserve Bank of India showed on Monday. With stronger economic growth and improved incomes, households seemed to have pared their record high indebtedness rather swiftly, while also channelling more monies into the equity market, hoping for high returns. The net financial assets of households went up to Rs 9.9 lakh crore or 6% of GDP in FY25.

## Canara Robeco Launches Assam Nivesh Bus Yatra Awareness

**Jorhat:** Canara Robeco Asset Management Company Limited (AMC), India's second-oldest asset management company, has launched its flagship 'Nivesh Bus Yatra' in Assam to enhance awareness about mutual fund investments. The initiative, aimed at educating investors across the state, will cover key cities including Guwahati, Jorhat, Dibrugarh, and Silchar. The bus began its journey in Guwahati, engaging residents through practical learning sessions, digital tools, and live demonstrations to simplify investing

and address common misconceptions. "An informed investor not only makes better decisions for themselves but also strengthens the broader financial ecosystem. The Nivesh Bus Yatra brings financial education directly to communities," said Rajnish Narula, Managing Director and CEO, Canara Robeco AMC. In Jorhat, the initiative will focus on the city's vibrant market areas, interacting with traders, local investors, and small business owners. The program aims to demonstrate how disciplined mutual fund investments can

support long-term financial planning and wealth creation, while clearing doubts about risk and returns among the retail investor base. Gaurav Goyal, Head - Sales & Marketing, emphasized that the yatra empowers investors by making financial knowledge practical and accessible. The campaign reflects Canara Robeco AMC's commitment to promoting financial literacy, particularly in emerging and underserved regions, encouraging residents across Assam to embrace structured investment practices.

## KKR, PSP Investments Boost Lighthouse Learning

**New Delhi:** Existing investor KKR along with Canada's Public Sector Pension Investment Board (PSP Investments) have injected funds into Lighthouse Learning Group (formerly EuroKids International). The latest round of funding will be used to widen Lighthouse Learning's school network in key cities, strengthen its teaching and technology capabilities, and enhance operational efficiency across its platform. Lighthouse said the demand for quality education has continued to rise, helping fuel its expansion.

KKR, which made an initial investment in the company in 2019, will continue to hold a majority stake and will play a significant role in driving the growth, the company said in a press release. KKR has made the investment predominantly from its Asian Fund IV and other KKR-managed capital. Lighthouse Learning which operates leading preschool and K-12 brands such as EuroKids, Kangaroo Kids, EuroSchool, Billabong High International, Centre Point Group of Schools and Heritage Xperiential.

## Indian economy to surpass \$4 trillion in FY26, says CEA Nageswaran

### India Ranks Fifth, GDP Hits \$3.9 Trillion

**New Delhi:** Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran on Tuesday said the size of Indian economy is expected to cross \$4 trillion in current fiscal. He said with the geopolitics in a "huge state of flux", economic growth is very vital prerequisite to maintain India's standing and leverage in the global scheme of things.

India currently is the fifth largest economy in the world with a GDP of around \$3.9 trillion. Speaking at the IVCA Green Returns Summit 2025,



Nageswaran said the Indian economy is already sort of crossing the \$4 trillion mark, in the course of the current financial year, from \$3.9 trillion at the end of March 2025.

"So, whatever we do with respect to greening the econ-

omy, energy transition, environment, dealing with climate change and climate volatility have to be aligned with our priorities, both in the near term and the medium term," he said. Nageswaran said the country is well aware of the potential consequences of global warming and climate change and more generally for agriculture environment, and coastlines, etc. "That is why we as a country are committed to achieving net zero by 2070," Nageswaran said.

## Sebi proposes easier norms for issuing duplicate securities certificates

**Mumbai:** The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on Tuesday proposed easing the process for issuing duplicate securities certificates to reduce the compliance burden and standardise documentation for investors. Under current rules, investors must file an FIR or police complaint, publish a newspaper advertisement, and submit separate affidavits and indemnity bonds for obtaining duplicate certi-



— except when the value of lost securities is below Rs 5 lakh. Sebi noted that inconsistent practices among registrars and companies were causing inconvenience to investors. To

address this, the regulator has proposed raising the threshold for simplified documentation to Rs 10 lakh, up from Rs 5 lakh, citing the growth in market capitalisation, investor participation, and portfolio values in recent years. For cases below the new limit, investors would only need to submit a single affidavit-cum-indemnity bond, replacing the current requirement of two separate stamped documents.

## ICICI Bank stock at crossroads, may test multi-year supports

**Mumbai:** ICICI Bank stock is seen trapped in a narrow trading range, between its 50-Day Moving Average (50-DMA) and the 20-DMA for the last 9 trading sessions, shows the technical chart. That apart, the stock is seen fluctuating above and below the 200-DMA. The daily chart shows that the 50-DMA at ₹1,377 is seen acting as a near-term hurdle, while the 20-DMA at ₹1,362 has been providing support. Meanwhile, the 200-DMA stands in between



at ₹1,373. The daily chart further shows that the 50-DMA is seen converging towards the 200-DMA. As and when the 50-DMA slips below the 200-DMA, it shall signal the formation of a 'Death Cross' - which in general has bearish implications.

# Sonali Bendre hits back at The Liver Doc for calling her cancer treatment with Naturopathy 'quackery'

After facing backlash from hepatologist Dr. Cyriac Abby Philips for sharing that naturopathy helped in her cancer battle, actress Sonali Bendre on Monday issued a statement, saying that her post about autophagy being a helpful treatment came from her personal experience.

"I have never claimed to be a doctor, but I am certainly not a quack either. I am a cancer survivor, someone who has lived through the fear, pain, uncertainty, and rebuilding that the disease brings," the 50-year-old actress wrote on her Instagram stories. Pointing out that her post was based on her personal experience, Sonali added, "Everything I have ever spoken has been my experience and my learning. As I've repeatedly said, no two cancers are the same, and no treatment

path is identical."

"One of the many protocols I personally explored, after thorough research and medical guidance, was autophagy. It made a difference for me then and continues to do so today, for me," she further explained. Sonali highlighted the need for open discussion and respect towards different perspectives. "What truly matters is open, respectful dialogue. We don't all have to agree, but we should avoid dismissing one another simply because we lean toward different approaches. Each person must choose what feels right, safe, and empowering for them. I will always share my journey with honesty and humility, never as a prescription, but as a lived experience," she signed off. The actress opened up about her naturopath treatment in an Instagram post last

week. "Back in 2018, when I was diagnosed with cancer, my naturopath introduced me to a study called Autophagy. It played a huge role in my recovery. So I read, learned, experimented... and slowly built it into my routine. And I've continued to follow it ever since," she wrote. However, it prompted a strong reaction from hepatologist Dr. Cyriac Abby Philips, who questioned the promotion of naturopathy in the context of cancer recovery.

Responding on X, Philips, known by his handle The Liver Doc, said, "Dear Ms. Bendre... I expected better from you." He called celebrity cancer survivors an "important asset" for patients and families, adding, "You are not helping here, by promoting quackery." The Liver Doc has engaged in



a similar public debate with actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu earlier this year. In July, he called her "health and science

illiterate" for recommending hydrogen peroxide nebulisation, arguing that it is "dangerous for health." Samantha, in

turn, defended her post, saying she shared the treatment "with good intention," and criticised the tone of his comments.

## 10-man Everton beats Man United 1-0 despite Gueye's red card for striking a teammate



Manchester: Everton beat Manchester United 1-0 on Monday to slow the home team's recent revival in a Premier League game that will be remembered for an early red card shown to Everton's Idrissa Gueye for striking teammate Michael Keane. Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall scored with a superb strike in the 29th minute, after which Everton was forced to defend its lead. United dominated the visiting 10 men in a one-sided second half but couldn't find a way past England goalkeeper Jordan Pickford. "They were the better team, with 11 players or 10," United coach Ruben Amorim said. "I felt from the first minute that we were not there with the same intensity so they deserve the win. If they have 10, let's push the opponent to the final third. We need to be near on the transition. We needed to be focused. We need to do more." It was United's first defeat since losing 3-1 at Brentford almost two months ago and the first time in 47 Premier League games that a visit-

ing team has won at Old Trafford with 10 men. However, the night's unforgettable talking point came after 13 minutes. Gueye was furious at what appeared to be Keane's failure to pick up his pass inside the Everton penalty box. Bruno Fernandes stepped in and fired wide but an angry Gueye confronted Keane. Keane shoved Gueye, who responded with a slap to Keane's face. Referee Tony Harrington displayed the red card for "violent conduct." "The referee's call of red card to Gueye for violent conduct was checked and confirmed by VAR — with the action deemed to be a clear strike to the face of Keane," the league said in a social media post.

The Senegalese was the first player to be sent off in the Premier League for fighting with a teammate since Stoke City's Ricardo Fuller saw red after clashing with Andy Griffin in 2008. Dewsbury-Hall later called it "the situation" but downplayed the incident and said what mattered was Everton's reaction. "I think it was just a

moment of madness," the goalscorer said. "It was avoidable but Idrissa has apologized to us all at full-time and said his piece. We move on from it. The reaction from the lads after that is unbelievable. We could easily have crumbled and lost the game comfortably and if anything it made us grow as a team." Gueye apologized to Keane and to "my teammates, the staff, the fans and the club." He said he takes "full responsibility for my reaction." "What happened does not reflect who I am or the values I stand for," Gueye wrote on his Instagram account. "Emotions can run high, but nothing justifies such behavior. I'll make sure it never happens again." David Moyes' team silenced the home crowd by taking the lead 16 minutes after Gueye was dismissed. Dewsbury-Hall's stunning 18-meter strike was a memorable one for the Everton stalwart, but it was an exceptional moment for the Toffees.

After the goal it was all United. The home side had 25 shots on Pickford's goal, compared to Everton's three at the other end. "I will sleep well tonight," Dewsbury-Hall said. "I am so thankful we got the three points." Another happy man was Moyes, who recorded his first win as a visiting coach to Old Trafford in the Premier League after 18 unsuccessful attempts. "I'm incredibly proud of the players and the fans," said the Scot. "We got over the line with 10 men. We started the ball brilliantly well, got the sending off, the game changed. But we showed resilience. Manchester United are in pretty good form at the moment, so it was never going to be an easy game. Good goalkeeping when we needed it. The boys were brave."

## 'Nothing short of a father figure': Shah Rukh Khan remembers Bollywood's Padma Bhushan awardee Dharmendra

Actor Shah Rukh Khan Monday remembered Bollywood veteran Dharmendra as a "father figure" following the actor's death at the age of 89 on Monday.

The Padma Bhushan awardee breathed his last in Mumbai on Monday, just days before his 90th birthday. Sharing an unseen photo with the late actor on Instagram, Shah Rukh wrote, "Rest in Peace Dharam ji. You were nothing short of a father figure to me...thank u for showering me with blessings and love the way you did. An inconsolable and irreplaceable loss to not just his family, but to cinema and film lovers world over."

The photo shows Dharmendra tenderly placing his hand on Shah Rukh's face as the two pose together at an event. Thanking Dharmendra for showering him with blessings and love, Shah Rukh added, "You are immortal... and your soul will live through your films and your beautiful family forever. Love you always." Earlier this month, the

actor was admitted to Mumbai's Breach Candy Hospital following complaints of breathlessness. He was then taken home by family members for further treatment.

False reports claiming that the 89-year-old actor was dead circulated online during his hospitalisation, prompting repeated requests of privacy from the family. At Dharmendra's last rites, held at the Pawan Hans Crematorium in Mumbai, Shah Rukh was among other celebrities who arrived to pay their final respects. The veteran actor shared screen space with Shah Rukh in a cameo in the 2007 film Om Shanti Om, joining the latter in the song Deewangi Deewangi.



Dharmendra is survived by his wife Hema Malini, sons Bobby Deol and Sunny Deol and daughters Esha Deol, Ahana Deol and Vijeta Deol.

