



ANSEC - HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES LTD.

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### **INDIA UPDATE**

## Highlights of this week

#### Andhra Pradesh

- The Tirumala temple recently drew heightened political attention, with leaders YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, Pawan Kalyan, and Nara Chandrababu Naidu visiting amid the laddughee adulteration controversy. The issue had sparked a political clash, starting with Jagan's visit on September 27-28.
- The SIT began its investigation in Tirumala following Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's allegations of adulterated ghee in Tirupati laddu during the YSRCP regime. This triggered a major political clash between the NDA alliance and YSRCP.

#### Delhi

- The Delhi government's firecracker ban, announced by Environment Minister Gopal Rai, is pending notification due to a lack of approval from the Lieutenant Governor's office. This ban, which includes all firecrackers until January 1, 2025, cannot be enforced without the official notification, leaving violators unpenalized for now.
- Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai announced a 14-point guideline for construction sites to curb dust pollution during the upcoming winter season, part of a month-long antidust campaign starting October 7. The BJP criticized the AAP government for repeatedly announcing pollution control measures without delivering substantial results.

### Goa

• The India Meteorological Department (IMD) in Panaji forecasts light to moderate rainfall on Monday, marking a quiet end to an exceptionally wet season. The total seasonal rainfall has reached 4,400.7 mm, significantly surpassing the normal of 2,999.4 mm by 46.7%.

### Gujarat

- At the Laghu Udyog Bharati convention in Vadodara, Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel stated that MSMEs are vital to Gujarat's industry and serve as a development model for the nation. He highlighted the sector's growth due to state support through strong infrastructure and progressive policies.
- For the first time, the Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI)
  established a Textile Task Force (TTF) to unify various segments of the textile industry
  and address sector-related issues. This decision, made during a meeting on Wednesday,
  includes representatives from all areas, such as fibre, garment, machinery, and
  infrastructure developers, along with spinners, processors, weavers, and exporters.

# Harvana

In a tragic incident on Saturday 28 September, two women and a child were killed, and
nine others injured due to a blast at an illegal firecracker unit in Ridhau village, Sonepat
district, Haryana. The blast occurred while workers and their family members were
present, and the cause is under investigation, with initial reports suggesting a chemical fire
in the unit.

# **Himachal Pradesh**

- The Union government has deployed the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) to secure the Beas Satluj Link (BSL) project in Mandi district, Himachal Pradesh, with around 235 personnel overseeing the site. The project is critical for managing regional water resources, enhancing power generation, and supporting irrigation, flood control, and drinking water supply to millions.
- A cloudburst in Himachal Pradesh's Sirmaur district resulted in one death and the closure
  of 26 roads, including a national highway, due to heavy rainfall. The deceased, identified
  as Rangi, was buried under debris after a water mill collapsed, leading to significant
  infrastructure damage.

# Karnataka

Reported incidents of child sexual abuse in Kalaburagi district are escalating, with 81 cases filed under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act in 2022-23, rising to 90 in 2023-24. As of August 2024, 60 cases have already been registered, prompting local law enforcement to initiate awareness programs in schools and colleges to educate students and mitigate further incidents

## **Upcoming News/Events**

#### **Andhra Pradesh**

- Preparations for the Sirimanotsavam of Goddess Pyditalli in Vizianagaram are underway, with officials planning for around five lakh devotees on October 15. Key events include the 'Pandirata' on September 20, followed by the Tolella Utsavam on October 14 and the Sirimanotsavam on October 15.
- Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu, announced that Bhogapuram Greenfield International Airport will be operational six months ahead of its original December 2026 deadline. He emphasized that the airport would rank among the best in both India and the world.

#### Delhi

- Chief Minister Atishi announced a new road assessment and repair plan on Sunday 29
  September, assigning ministers to identify poorly maintained roads within a week. The
  Public Works Department (PWD) will then take up the repairs, marking another instance
  of large-scale road repair initiatives by the government.
- The Sarita Vihar flyover will undergo repairs starting from October 1 to October 30, 2024.
   During this period, half of the carriageway from Ashram to Badarpur will be closed, while the other half will remain open for traffic, as per a traffic police advisory.

#### Goa

 Mormugao Port Authority in Goa plans to expand its green ship incentives to trucks for cargo transport, aiming to reduce its annual carbon emissions of 32,000 tonnes. The port will offer discounts for trucks using green fuels, following the successful implementation of similar incentives for ships that emit no nitrogen or sulfur oxides.

### Gujarat

- Amul Dairy plans to invest ₹1,000 crore in new plants at Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh,
  Pune, and Punjab, marking a significant expansion. The Chittoor plant will be Amul's first
  facility dedicated to serving the five southern states of India.
- The 11th Chintan Shibir under BJP rule in Gujarat is scheduled for November 21-23 in Somnath, with participation from Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, state ministers, IAS officers, and the DGP. Preparations for accommodation and logistics are already underway by the General Administration Department and the Chief Minister's Office, following last year's event in Kevadia.

# Haryana

 Delhi Police are ramping up security measures throughout October in anticipation of assembly elections in Haryana and upcoming festivals. Their priorities include assessing temple security and managing crowds, while also closely monitoring Haryana-based criminals, incarcerated gangsters, and members of terror modules operating in both Delhi and Haryana

# **Himachal Pradesh**

- The Congress government in Himachal Pradesh, led by Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, announced that state employees will receive their September salaries on October 1, while pensioners will receive theirs on October 9. This decision follows a review of the state's cash flow, as the cash-strapped government had previously delayed salary and pension disbursements.
- Himachal Pradesh Urban Development Minister Vikramaditya Singh announced plans to
  form an all-party committee to address designated vending zones in the state, aligning with
  Supreme Court and High Court directives. His comments follow a recent controversy
  regarding the mandatory display of street vendors' identities, emphasizing a balance
  between local concerns and welcoming people from all regions

# Karnataka

 The Airport Authority of India (AAI) has requested an additional 56 acres from the Karnataka government to facilitate the expansion of Belagavi Airport due to rising flight traffic and passenger numbers. This demand, ongoing for the past two years, was initiated by former MP Mangala Angadi, who engaged in discussions with officials since 2022 regarding the necessary land for the project.







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### **INDIA UPDATE**

### Highlights of this week

#### Madhya Pradesh

• Nine people, including a two-year-old child, were killed, and 20 others injured when a bus traveling from Prayagraj to Nagpur collided with a stationary truck in Maihar district, Madhya Pradesh. The bus, carrying 45 passengers, struck the truck parked near an eatery, which had its parking lights off, leading to the severe crash; rescuers had to use machinery to extricate trapped passengers.

# Mumbai

- The India Meteorological Department issued a red alert for Mumbai due to heavy rainfall, leading to the closure of all schools and colleges for safety. Residents were advised to limit their outings, and several flights were diverted as a result of the severe weather conditions.
- Security has been heightened in Mumbai following terror threats received by police from central agencies, leading to increased measures at religious and crowded places, including Siddhivinayak temple. Temple officials have been instructed to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity, with a mock drill conducted to enhance preparedness amid concerns of potential disturbances from anti-social elements

#### Duna

- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari launched several infrastructure projects in Pune worth Rs 899 crore, including the four-laning of the Dive Ghat to Hadapsar stretch and major bridge constructions on the Mula and Mutha Rivers. The projects aim to enhance connectivity, particularly for devotees traveling to Pandharpur, by improving the Palkhi Marg and ensuring safer journeys for pilgrims.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Pune was canceled due to heavy rain, leading the
  local administration to close schools and colleges. He was scheduled to inaugurate
  multiple projects, including the launch of a Metro train service and a memorial for
  Savitribai Phule's first girls' school, with total investments exceeding ₹22,600 crore

### Punjab

• A massive fire broke out at a textile factory in Amritsar early Thursday (26 September) morning, with firefighting teams alerted around 3:45 AM. Approximately 12 fire tenders were dispatched to tackle the blaze, and efforts to control the fire were ongoing.

# Rajasthan

Rajasthan's energy department is facing controversy for combining solar and thermal
power projects into a single tender, which stakeholders allege favors specific companies.
This move has drawn parallels to a similar situation in Maharashtra, where a single
tender for both types of power was criticized for potentially benefiting Adani Power Ltd.,
with Congress accusing the BJP government of manipulating the bidding process to favor
one company.

# Tamil Nadu

- The developer has confirmed that all necessary government approvals for the Chittoor-Thachur expressway project are in place, with no additional environmental clearances needed, citing a Supreme Court order. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) awarded the project in December 2021, and a public notice inviting objections for soil extraction received no responses.
- In a recent cabinet reshuffle, three DMK MLAs were sworn in as ministers, with Udhayanidhi Stalin, the son of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin, promoted to Deputy Chief Minister.

# Telangana

The Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) launched a fleet of 35 super luxury electric buses on the Karimnagar-Hyderabad route, marking a significant step towards eco-friendly public transport. Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar flagged off the buses at Ambedkar Stadium in Karimnagar, with TGSRTC MD V.C. Sajjanar and other officials in attendance.

# Uttar Pradesh

- The Moradabad administration launched 'Mission E-Pathshala' at Government Girls
   Inter College to address the educator shortage in UP's government schools. This initiative
   aims to deliver high-quality online education across 38 secondary schools in the district.
- Officials from the Uttar Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation (UPSTDC)
  are experiencing a surge in inquiries and bookings for accommodations, including villas
  and deluxe cottages, at the Maha Kumbh 2025 tent city.

### **Upcoming News/Events**

### Madhya Pradesh

• Madhya Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (MPTDC) is planning to enhance the Gambhir Dam area in Ujjain by introducing water activities and adventure sports, aiming to establish it as a popular weekend getaway. The project will involve setting up a boat club and a variety of water-related attractions to attract tourists and promote local tourism.

### Mumbai

- The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has approved ₹8,498 crore for slum rehabilitation in Ghatkopar East, relocating 17,000 residents to 1BHK homes. This initiative aims to improve local infrastructure and comes just ahead of the Maharashtra Assembly Elections in November.
- Mumbai's first underground Metro, known as the Aqua Line, will significantly reduce travel time between Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) and Aarey to just 30 minutes, with fares ranging from Rs 10 to Rs 50 based on distance. Prime Minister Modi is expected to inaugurate Metro Line 3 in early October, which will facilitate 96 daily trips and serve approximately 1.3 million passengers daily along its 33.5 km route

#### Pune

- The Maharashtra government has approved the renaming of Pune International Airport to 'Jagadguru Sant Tukaram Maharaj Pune International Airport.' The proposal has been submitted to the central government for final approval, as announced by Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol on social media.
- The Maharashtra government has announced the construction and expansion of two national highways worth Rs 899 crore, improving connectivity between Pune, Satara, and Solapur. One project will upgrade the Dive Ghat to Hadapsar section to four lanes, facilitating easier travel for devotees heading to the Lord Vitthal temple

### Punjab

• Ahead of the paddy procurement season, the Centre assured Punjab that it would move 40 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of food grains to create space for the upcoming harvest. This assurance came in response to concerns raised by Punjab about rice millers' reluctance to lift and store paddy, which could potentially lead to law and order issues if the movement of food grain stocks were delayed

# Rajasthan

• The first interstate meeting to establish a designated 'cheetah corridor' between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh is scheduled with senior forest officials from both states participating. This meeting follows the recent Project Cheetah report, which identified seven districts in Rajasthan as key areas for the cheetah conservation complex.

# Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin informed External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar about the arrest of 17 fishermen and seizure of their boats by the Sri Lankan navy. He urged for immediate diplomatic action to ensure their release, citing the distress caused to coastal communities.
- The Tamil Nadu government is exploring a 50% concession in toll fees for locally registered vehicles on the Chennai Outer Ring Road, designed to ease traffic congestion. This 60-km road, constructed at a cost of ₹2,056 crore, features new toll booths at several key locations.

# Telangana

• Hyderabad Airport Metro Limited (HAML) is planning to extend the metro rail from Shamshabad International Airport to the proposed Fourth City via Mansanpally road, with an estimated cost of ₹8,000 crore. The entire Phase II project, covering 116.2 km, is projected to cost approximately ₹32,237 crore and will be implemented as a joint venture between the Telangana and Central governments.

# **Uttar Pradesh**

- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has ordered the Uttar Pradesh government to remove water hyacinth from the Dhanauri wetlands, following a petition advocating for Ramsar status and adherence to environmental norms for the Noida International Airport.
- Ahead of Navratri, the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (UPSTDC) launched a 'Satvik Thali' priced at Rs 299 at the Illawart Hotel in Sangam city.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has instructed district officials to expedite relief efforts following heavy rainfall, emphasizing crop damage assessment and immediate financial aid for affected families. He also called for effective drainage measures and continuous monitoring of river levels to manage flooding issues.





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#### **GLOBAL UPDATE**

### **Highlights of this week**

#### Africa

- Six people were killed and 10 others injured in bomb explosions in Mogadishu and Jowhar, Somalia, on Saturday. One attack involved a car bomb near Mogadishu's National Theatre, while the other took place at a livestock market in Jowhar, with authorities suspecting Islamist militant group al Shabaab.
- Sudan's army launched a major artillery and airstrike offensive in Khartoum on Thursday 26
  September, marking its largest effort to reclaim territory from the Rapid Support Forces (RSF)
  since the conflict began 17 months ago. The operation came just before Sudanese army commander
  General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan addressed the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

### America

Residents in southwestern Mexico evacuated their homes on Saturday, 28 September, due to severe
floods and landslides caused by the remnants of Hurricane John, which ravaged the Pacific coast.
The disaster left 22 people dead, including 18 in Guerrero, Mexico's hardest-hit state, and additional
casualties in Oaxaca and Michoacán.

# China

- China has expressed opposition to any violations of Lebanon's sovereignty following the Israeli
  airstrike in Beirut that killed Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah. The Chinese Foreign Ministry
  emphasized the need for all parties, particularly Israel, to de-escalate tensions and prevent further
  conflict from spiraling out of control.
- Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi condemned the U.S. deployment of intermediate-range missiles
  in the Philippines, stating it undermines regional peace and stability. He also called for avoiding
  conflict on the Korean Peninsula while emphasizing the need for cooperation between China and
  South Korea.

### Europe

• The far-right Freedom Party of Austria (FPO) has won the recent elections, aligning with a rising trend of right-wing parties in Europe, including those in the Netherlands, France, and Germany. The FPO is known for its critical views on Islam and a commitment to stricter asylum regulations.

# Middle East

Iran's Supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has been relocated to a secure location in Iran due
to heightened security concerns following the Israeli airstrike that killed Hezbollah leader Hassan
Nasrallah. This move highlights the Iranian authorities' anxiety as Israel intensifies its military
actions against Hezbollah, which has deep ties to Iran.

# Pakistan

- Pakistan has obtained substantial financing assurances from China, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE as
  part of a new IMF program, which includes a rollover of \$12 billion in loans. The IMF recently
  approved a \$7 billion, 37-month loan agreement for Pakistan, focusing on policies to enhance
  macroeconomic stability.
- At least six people died when a charter helicopter crashed shortly after takeoff in North Waziristan,
  Pakistan, on Saturday 28 September. The helicopter, chartered by a private company, had around
  14 passengers on board, including Russian pilots, and eight others were injured and hospitalized.

# **United Kingdom**

- The British government has purchased a struggling semiconductor factory from Coherent Inc. for £20 million (\$27 million) to secure domestic production of gallium arsenide semiconductors vital for military technology. This acquisition, located in Newton Aycliffe, will help maintain 100 skilled jobs at the only secure domestic manufacturer of these semiconductors.
- The four candidates competing to lead the UK Conservative Party have begun articulating their visions for the country, with a significant focus on immigration policy following a recent election defeat. This discussion is pivotal as the party seeks to redefine its direction and regain public support.

# **United States**

- The U.S. has decided not to pursue a U.N. Security Council plan to convert a security mission in Haiti into a formal peacekeeping operation, a move some view as appeasing Russia and China. This decision comes as the Security Council prepares to vote on extending the mandate of the existing Multinational Security Support mission until October 2025.
- Hurricane Helene left millions without power and caused severe flooding across the Southeastern
  U.S., with cleanup efforts now underway. The storm has resulted in at least 89 fatalities, with
  concerns that the death toll may rise as recovery continues.

### **Upcoming News/Events**

#### Africa

- The World Bank has implemented measures to ensure its Uganda projects are non-discriminatory
  following the enactment of the Anti-Homosexuality Act. This includes independent monitoring, as
  the Bank suspended new loans to Uganda due to the law's conflict with its values.
- At least five African countries are planning the world's first joint "debt-for-nature" swap to raise over \$2 billion to protect the Indian Ocean's coral-rich ecosystem. While specific countries were not named, the initiative supports the broader "Great Blue Wall" conservation plan, which includes nations like Kenya, Madagascar, and Seychelles.

#### America

The United States dropped its effort to turn a U.N. security mission in Haiti into a formal
peacekeeping operation, reportedly to accommodate Russia and China. However, U.S. officials
clarified the change supports Haiti's request for peacekeeping, aligning with the transition council's
call

#### China

- Taiwan's Defence Ministry has raised its alert level after observing "multiple waves" of missile launches in inland China. This heightened vigilance follows China's announcement of a successful intercontinental ballistic missile test launch, increasing concerns about regional security tensions.
- China's government has announced its commitment to addressing unresolved economic challenges
  and aims to achieve its annual economic and social development targets. This focus was highlighted
  during a recent cabinet meeting, as state media reported on the government's strategic priorities
  moving forward.

#### Europe

• French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot is set to visit Lebanon to engage with local authorities and offer humanitarian support amid ongoing Israeli airstrikes in the region. His trip comes as tensions escalate, highlighting France's commitment to assist Lebanon during this crisis.

### Middle East

- Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin is scheduled to visit Iran on Monday 30 September, to
  meet with President Masoud Pezeshkian. Their discussions will focus on advancing large-scale joint
  projects across various sectors, including transport, energy, industry, and agriculture.
- Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant is currently assessing the operational situation regarding the
  potential expansion of military activities by the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) on the northern front.
  This discussion comes amid ongoing tensions and military actions in the region.

# Pakistan

- Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif welcomed the IMF's approval of a \$7 billion funding
  agreement, emphasizing the country's commitment to meeting strict conditions set by the fund. The
  new program will support economic stability, with an immediate disbursement of around \$1 billion
  and significant backing from China and Saudi Arabia.
- Pakistan's military announced that it has signed a contract to sell JF-17 Block III fighter jets to
  Azerbaijan, although the details regarding the cost and quantity were not disclosed. This sale is part
  of Pakistan's strategy to strengthen defense ties with allied countries and enhance Azerbaijan's air
  power capabilities, amidst growing military cooperation between Pakistan and China.

# **United Kingdom**

- British Foreign Secretary David Lammy spoke with Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati, emphasizing the need for an immediate ceasefire following an Israeli airstrike in Beirut that killed Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah. Lammy reiterated that a diplomatic solution is essential for restoring stability, while the UK's foreign ministry has advised its nationals to leave Lebanon promptly.
- Australia and Britain plan to negotiate a bilateral treaty under the AUKUS partnership to produce a
  new class of nuclear-powered submarines. Australia will acquire U.S. Virginia-class submarines over
  the next decade, with collaborative construction of the new AUKUS submarines occurring in Barrowin-Furness, UK, and South Australia.

# **United States**

- The U.S. military is increasing air support in the Middle East and heightening troop readiness amid tensions with Iran, following the killing of Hezbollah's leader. Pentagon officials assert that they are prepared to protect American personnel and interests from potential Iranian retaliation.
- The U.S. is contemplating imposing new sanctions on individuals in Venezuela and possibly revoking oil company licenses following a disputed presidential election, according to U.S. diplomat Brian Nichols. He emphasized that these measures are under careful consideration amid ongoing concerns about the country's political situation and its impact on oil production.

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