25 civilians killed in multiple drone strikes in Ethiopia

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

COUNTRY	Max	Min		COUNTRY	Max	Min	
Australia (Canberra)	18	4	SNY	Singapore	30	27	SNY
Indonesia (Bali)	27	21	LC	South Korea (Seoul)	17	7	LR
Italy (Rome)	22	9	LC	Switzerland (Bern)	17	4	SNY
Japan (Tokyo)	23	16	LR	Thailand (Bangkok)	33	25	LR
Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur)	29	24	SNY	Türkiye (Ankara)	16	11	LC
Maldives (Male)	29	29	LR	UAE (Dubai)	33	28	SNY
Mauritius (Port Louis)	29	22	SNY	Vietnam (Hanoi)	32	23	LR

Qatari delegation in Tehran to push for talks

Mediators press with efforts to revive peace talks with US amid fears of conflict resuming after midterm elections

TEHRAN

A Qatari delegation arrived in Tehran on Friday for talks with Iranian officials, state media reported, as mediators press efforts to revive peace talks with the United States.

According to the IRNA state news agency, the delegation, headed by a senior adviser to Qatar's prime minister, came to discuss "bilateral relations... as well as regional developments" with senior Iranian officials.

Senior officials from several countries have flown to Tehran in recent days as fears rise of a return to hostilities in the West Asia war, which started eight months ago. The reported Qatari visit came a day after Iranian media said Iran had received a letter from US Vice President JD Vance addressed to security chief Mohsen Rezaei.

The Wall Street Journal said the letter focused on a possible framework for negotiations rather than specific terms for a peace deal. *The New York Times* reported that Vance "made the outreach in a letter sent last week via Qatari mediators and delivered Sunday to General Mohsen Rezaei".

Qatar and Pakistan have been mediating efforts to revive peace talks following a ceasefire agreement in April. A Qatari delegation was also in Tehran on Sunday, according to a senior Iranian official.

Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian discussed the war on the sidelines of a meeting in Moscow on Tuesday.

Also this week, senior officials from Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Turkey —which signed a defence alliance in Mecca in August — flew to Tehran for talks. The West Asian war began on February 28 with US-Israeli strikes on Iran that killed former supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and senior military commanders in Tehran.

Oman rescues sailors

Oman said on Friday it had rescued 25 sailors from a merchant ship that was targeted and set ablaze, as Iran reported three oil tankers were halted while crossing the Strait of Hormuz

WAR WATCH

Iran retaliated with attacks on Israel and US assets across the region, while stopping ships using the Strait of Hormuz, a waterway that normally carries around one-fifth of global oil consumption. On Wednesday, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said Tehran was discussing a plan with both mediators, Qatar and Pakistan, to end the war and reopen the waterway.

The US has meanwhile imposed a blockade on Iranian ports, further restricting Tehran's ability to export oil and conduct trade. Tehran insists that Washington meet seven conditions for reopening the strait, including a ceasefire across the West Asia and ending the US naval blockade. *Agencies*

Russia claims Ukraine resuming strikes on oil infra

MOSCOW/KYIV

UKRAINE has resumed its attacks on Russian oil refineries after a brief pause, Russia's deputy prime minister said Friday, warning the strikes could reduce Moscow's planned diesel exports.

US President Donald Trump had been pressuring Kyiv for weeks to stop such attacks, blaming them for the rising cost of diesel.

Analysts have linked rising fuel prices to the war the United States and Israel launched against Iran in February.

"There was an attack overnight on Russian oil-processing facilities... specifically, three oil refineries and one gas-chemical complex," Russia's deputy prime minister for energy issues, Alexander Novak, told a reporter from state TV.

"We had a lull that lasted a certain time, but today the attacks on oil refineries resumed," he added. Videos published by Russian Telegram channels purported to show smoke billowing from an oil refinery in Russia's Samara region —located 800 kilometres from the Ukrainian border —following a drone attack overnight.

Regional governor Vyacheslav Fedorishchev said on Telegram that two men had been killed in a Ukrainian drone strike. Kyiv has repeatedly struck Russian oil and gas sites in retaliation for Russian attacks on Ukrainian energy infrastructure since Moscow began its offensive there in February 2022.

Meanwhile, some residents of Oleshky, a Russian-occupied town in southern Ukraine ravaged by food and medicine shortages, left on Friday during a rare ceasefire brokered by the United States.

Captured by Russian forces in 2022 and caught in the so-called "kill zone" near the front line, residents had faced supply shortages for months, with some being forced to hunt and eat pigeons, former residents told AFP.

The fragile ceasefire — announced by American First Lady Melania Trump last week to pave the way for evacuations and humanitarian aid deliveries — is expected to end on Sunday evening.

Ukrainian and Russian officials visited the town together on Friday, delivering aid and marshalling those who wanted to leave.

After hours there, both sides said they had left with convoys of people — some heading to Russia, others on a journey back to Kyiv-controlled parts of Ukraine via Russia and Belarus.

"The Ukrainian delegation, along with the evacuated residents of Oleshky, set off for Anapa," Ukrainian negotiator David Arakhamia said on Friday, referring to a Russian southern city on the Black Sea coast. "From there, they will fly to Belarus and then travel home by bus," Arakhamia said.

Moscow said the operation had been completed "without any incidents". *AFP*

RUSSIA

Newspaper critical of Putin ceases operation

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S flagship independent newspaper Novaya Gazeta announced Friday it was closing, saying it had been "killed" by state pressure after years of repression targeting its journalists whose reporting was critical of Kremlin and its Ukraine war.

The closure of Novaya Gazeta — one of the last outlets to openly criticise Russia's offensive — marks the latest outcome of Moscow's campaign against dissenting voices that gained speed after the Kremlin sent troops into its neighbour in 2022.

Since then, the newspaper, long considered a bastion of independent journalism, has seen its media license revoked, while its journalists and editors have been questioned, detained and had their homes searched.

It was also branded a "foreign agent" — a label reminiscent of Soviet-era repression used to stifle dissent. The paper's Nobel Prize-winning founder, Dmitry Muratov, told AFP the closure was "part of a giant military campaign being waged by the Russian Federation". "We are fierce opponents of war in all its forms. And we are a part that needed to be destroyed," Muratov, the paper's former editor-in-chief, said.

Novaya Gazeta's current editor-in-chief, Sergei Sokolov, said the paper was "ending its existence" in a statement. *AFP*

US scraps G20 picture amid Europe-Russia tensions

WASHINGTON

THE US scrapped plans for a photo of top diplomats of the Group of 20 largest world economies on the opening day of talks Friday as several Europeans objected to being photographed with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and threatened to walk out of the photo session.

The cancellation of the photograph, a traditional opening event at such a diplomatic gathering, underscored the deep rifts in the G20 over global crises that threaten international security and trade.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio decided to cancel the photo after determining that the controversy would be a distraction, according to two US officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the matter. The meeting in Atlanta, which will otherwise go ahead as planned, is meant to set the stage for a G20 leaders' summit hosted by President Donald Trump at his Miami golf club in December.



US Secretary of State Marco Rubio (C) speaks as he chairs the first plenary session during the G20 foreign ministers' meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on Friday | AFP

The cancellation has added to concerns about the poor prospects for the G20 diplomats to reach consensus on many of the most contentious issues they face. Among them are the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the US-Israeli war against Iran, US tariffs and Chinese machinations in the South China Sea. All have contributed to spikes in the global cost of fuel as well as uncertainty about

Before the photo disagreement, some G20 countries had already expressed concern that the US invited Russia during its heightened attacks on Ukraine. That is especially after Trump pushed ties with Ukraine to new lows by waiving fresh sanctions on Moscow and temporarily limiting logistical and intelligence assistance.

Russia's foreign ministry complained of issues securing visas for its delegation that were only resolved at the last minute. Those complications had created the impression that "not everyone in Washington is happy" about Lavrov attending, ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said. *AFP*

Leo is first Pope to vote in a US election

VATICAN

POPE Leo XIV, the Catholic Church's first US-born pontiff, has voted in the United States midterm elections, the first known time a pope has voted in a political election.

The head of the world's 1.4 billion Catholics, who has clashed with US President Donald Trump, submitted his mail-in ballot in Chicago, the Vatican said Friday.

The Chicago-born pontiff "has exercised his right to vote as a United States citizen, whenever he was eligible to do so" and believes in "the right and the duty of citizens to participate in democratic processes," it said.


Pope Leo XIV

A rift earlier this year between US President Donald Trump and the pope sparked global headlines. Leo and Trump repeatedly clashed over papal criticism of the harsh crackdown on immigration in the United States and of the war on Iran, with Trump calling the pontiff "weak" on crime and "terrible" on foreign policy.

In April, after Trump's threat to destroy Iran, Leo called on everyone to do their part for peace, urging them to "contact the authorities — political leaders, congressmen — to ask them, to tell them, to work for peace and to reject war and violence." The crucial US midterm elections are scheduled to be held on November 3.

In September, Leo urged the faithful to shake off "all passivity and indifference" toward current events. *AFP*

EXPRESS READ

One-third of firms use AI in hiring

SINGAPORE: Nearly a third of Singapore's employers use AI in HR process, a new major survey of 1,000 employers has found. As per the survey, the technology is more widely used in the early stages of HR processes, such a hiring and on boarding, according to the Singapore National Employers Federation (SNEF) survey.

Greenland opens new international airport

Ilulissat: Greenland has opened a new international airport, seeking to lure visitors from around the world as the Arctic island looks toward eventual independence from Denmark

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND WATER SUPPLY DEPARTMENT
KANCHEEPURAM CORPORATION
Providing Damaged Road for UGSS and WS at Ward No.43 &44 Zone- IV in Kancheepuram Corporation.
(Roc.2106/2025/E1, Dated:30.10.2026)

1. Bids are invited from eligible and reputed agencies for the Providing Damaged Road for UGSS and WS at Ward No.43 & 44, Zone- IV in Kancheepuram Corporation.
2. The details of the bid shall be obtained from web portal: **https://tntenders.gov.in** and Corporation website: **https://www.tnurbantree.tn.gov.in/kancheepuram/**
3. The tender document shall be downloaded from 02.11.2026 from the portal www.tntenders.gov.in
4. Pre-bid meeting **will be on 20.11.2026 at 11.30 AM** at Kancheepuram City Municipal Corporation.
5. The last date for downloading the tender document and the last date for uploading / submission of filled up tender document is **up to 3.00 P.M. on 20.11.2026.**
6. The received bids will be opened **at 3.30 P.M. on 20.11.2026** at the office of Kancheepuram City Municipal Corporation
7. The value of each project, **Bid Security – (RTGS/e-BG),** and the eligibility criteria for the bidder etc., are given in the bid document.

DIPR/3319/TENDER/2026 **Commissioner, Kancheepuram Corporation.**

Early voting jumps in key US battlegrounds


People line up to caste vote at a polling centre in Houston, Texas | AP

WASHINGTON

EARLY voting is significantly outpacing the last midterm election, with millions more Americans casting ballots in advance and particularly sharp increases in states hosting competitive Senate races, according to an Associated Press analysis of voting data five days before Election Day.

The surge is especially pronounced in Texas, where voters are deciding closely watched Senate, House and governor's races. More than 6.3 million Texans had voted early as of Wednesday, compared with 4.2 million at the same point four years ago, a 50% increase.

Advance voting has also increased more than 30% from the same point four years ago in Maine, Michigan, North Carolina and Kansas, states with competitive Senate races. In South Carolina, where voters are choosing a successor to the late Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, early voting is up 83%. The data, compiled by the AP, offers a glimpse of early voter participation five days before an election that will determine control of Congress and other key contests.

Across the country, more than 43 million Americans had voted early in person or returned mail ballots, nearly 10 million more than in 2022. The figures cover 47 states and Washington, DC, compared with 48 states and the nation's capital four years ago.

In states that provide information on voters' party affiliation, about 6.8 million Democrats and 5.2 million Republicans have cast ballots early. *AP*

HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES — HDB Financial Services Ltd.
Registered Office:- Radhika, 2nd Floor, Law Garden Road, Navrangpura, Ahamedabad-09., Branch Office:- . M/s. HDB Financial Services Ltd. No.36/71, sundar towers, salai road,woraiyur,Trichy-620003.

AUCTION SALE NOTICE TENDER CUM E -Auction

(To the Borrower /Co-Applicant / Public in General) (Under Rule 8(6) R/w with Rule 9 (1) of SARFAESI Act, 2002)

The undersigned Authorized Officer of **HDB Financial Services Ltd.**, has taken over Possession of the following property, under Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, for the below mentioned loan account with a right to sell the same on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS & AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"**

Name and Address of the Applicant & Co-Applicant: 1. Muniyappan Fish Farm, 2/272, 2nd North Street Serankulam Mannargudi Ho- 614001 Tamil Nadu **And Also** Muniyappan Fish Farm Serankulam ,Thiruvarur Serangolam-614016, Tamil Nadu **And Also** Sf. No. 18/2B, 18/2C, 2nd North Street Serankulam Village Mannargudi HO-614001 **2. Muniappan C,** 2/272, 2nd North Street Serankulam Mannargudi HO, Tamil Nadu- 614001 **3. Saranya M,** 2/272, 2nd North Street Serankulam Mannargudi HO, Tamil Nadu-614001 2. **Loan Account No:4127576, 45872110, 67992552 linked by UCIC No. 63050210. 3.Total Outstanding Amount: Los no: 4127576 is Rs.11,44,437.60/-** (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Forty Four Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Seven and Sixty paise only), **Los no: 45872110 is Rs. 32,02,174.1/-** (Rupees Thirty Two Lakhs Two Thousand One Hundred Seventy Two and Ten paise only), **Los no: 67992552 is Rs. 7,12,140/-** (Rupees Seven Lakhs Twelve Thousand One Hundred Fourty only) **linked by UCIC No. 63050210 as of 18.05.2026** with further interest/ incidental expenses /costs till the date of full payment.
Details of Encumbrances, if any, known to the Secured Creditor: --- NIL
Details of Immovable Property: All That Piece And Parcel of property in Thiruvarur District, mannargudi taluk, thiruvarur registration district, mannargudi sub registration district, serangulam village, 2nd north street, survey no 18/2B (Eighteen sub division two B) with extent of 3270 sq ft, 303.80 sq mtr (Old survey no 18/2), survey No 18/2C (Eighteen sub Division Two C) with extent of 5923 sq ft. 550.26 sq mtr (Old Survey no 18/2) Total extent 9193 sq ft, 854.06 sq mtr along with R.C.C. house building E.B. Connection and its Deposit amount and etc having boundaries **North:** Common Pathway, **South:** Rajagopal and Kannan Manai, **East:** Govindraj Manai, **West:** Rajagopal and Kannan Manai.

Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit	Bid Incremental Amount	Auction Date &Time	EMD Last Date&Time
Rs.77,55,400/-	Rs.7,75,540/-	Rs.1,00,000/-	01-12-2026 at 11.00AM to 12 Noon with unlimited extension of 5 minutes	30-11-2026 Up to 06:00 p.m

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE:

1. The auction sale shall be **"online e-auction"** bidding through website https://bankeauctions.com on the dates as mentioned in the table above with Unlimited Extension of 5 Minutes. **2.** The interested bidders shall submit their EMD through Web Portal: **https://bankeauctions.com (the https://bankeauctions.com)** through Login ID & Password. The EMD shall be payable through Order/Demand Draft for an EMD of 10% of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"HDB Financial Service Limited"** above.After Registration (One Time) by the bidder in the Web Portal, the intending bidder/ purchaser is required to get the copies of the following documents uploaded in the Web Portal before the Last Date & Time of submission of the Bid Documents viz. **i)** Copy of the NEFT/RTGS Challan or Demand Draft; **ii)** Copy of PAN Card; **iii)** Proof of Identification/ Address Proof (KYC) viz.self-attested copy of Voter ID Card/ Driving License/ Passport etc.; without which the Bid is liable to be rejected. UPLOADING SCANNED COPY OF ANNEXURE-II & III (can be downloaded from the **Web Portal: https://bankeauctions.com**) AFTER DULY FILLED UP & SIGNING IS ALSO REQUIRED. The interested bidders who require assistance in creating Login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting Bid Documents, Training/ Demonstration on Online Inter-se Bidding etc., **may contact C1 INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED, Plot no-68, 3rd Floor, Sec-44, Gurgaon, Haryana-122003- mail ID : support@bankeauctions.com ,Contact Person name / mail id and contact no:1.Mr. Dharani krishna / andhra@c1india.com,Ph.9948182222. 3.** The intending bidders should be present in person for the Auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself/herself. No Authorized person/s allowed. **4.** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from the Manager, **M/s.HDB Financial Services Limited, 36/71 Sundar towers salai road,woraiyur 620003 trichy.Tamil Nadu. 5.** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the tender form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to the Authorized Officer, HDB Financial Services Limited, together with a Pay Order/Demand Draft for an EMD of 10% of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"HDB Financial Service Limited"** on or **before 6 pm on the 30.11.2026** of Tender-cum-Auction sale hereby notified. **6.** For inspection of the Property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **M/s. HDB Financial Services Ltd. No.36/71, sundar towers, salai road,woraiyur,Trichy-620003 Authorized Officer- J.Kavipriya-7904382718 , Mr.Deepak raja - 8754881799. 7. The Property is sold on "As-is-where-is" and "As-is-what-is" condition basis. 8.** The sealed Tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders by **11am on the 01.12.2026** of Tender-cum-auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the same will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorized Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to Quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of **HDB Financial Services Limited. 9.** The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% (inclusive of EMD paid) of the sale amount immediately on the same day or not later than next working day on completion of sale and the balance amount of 75% within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of Sale, failing which the initial deposit of 25% shall be forfeited. At any cost it shall not be refunded. If the successful bidder, fail to make the payment of 25% of the entire bid amount as mentioned above, the next successful bidder will be considered and entitled to complete the sale. **10.** The sale certificate will be issued by the Authorized Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **11.** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, Registration Fee etc., as applicable under law. **12.** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, Electricity Charges and other Dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government undertaking and Local bodies. **13.** The Authorized Officer has absolute right to accept or reject Tender or Bid any or all the offers and adjourn/postpone/cancel the Auction without assigning any reason thereof and also modify any terms and conditions of the sale without assigning any reason thereof and also to modify any terms and conditions of the sale without any prior notice.

Place: Mannargudi, Date: 30.10.2026 **Sd/- Authorised Officer, M/s. HDB Financial Services Limited**

Biggest wave of student protests in Italy for better facilities at schools

ROME

THOUSANDS of students and workers took to the streets across Italy on Friday, calling for more school funding and relief from the soaring cost of living, in massive protests that remained mostly peaceful.

The protests were the biggest in a recent wave of demonstrations inspired by those in France and Spain, led by students who have set up tent camps and occupied schools to make their demands heard.

A general strike called by Italy's USB trade union drew thousands of workers to Friday's protests, including truck drivers, taxi drivers and farmers who have rallied in recent weeks over the spike in fuel prices and to oppose rising defence spending. The USB union estimated to AFP that between 1-1.5 million people across Italy participated Friday. The authorities did not publish official numbers.

Roman student Sofia Cataldi said conditions in her high school were not safe.

"We don't want windows falling on our heads, and we don't want mice in our schools. We want clean buildings, and I want to live in a better world than this one," the 16-year-old told AFP. University student Beatrice Chilelli said students were "at a breaking point".

Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited
(Wholly owned by Govt. of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)

NOTIFICATION INVITING TENDER (Through KPP Portal)

BESCOM invites tender through KPP Portal from eligible bidders against Tender No: **BESCOM/2026-27/SE0505, Dated: 30.10.2026** for Providing Human resource service (Graduate Engineers and Diploma Engineers) for carrying out DAS operations at both BESCOM Integrated Control Centre's (BICC-1, HSR Layout & BICC-2 Rajajinagar). Availability of Bid document: **On or after 05.11.2026.**

The detailed notification can be obtained from the Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- General Manager (DAS), BICC-1,17th Cross, 24th Main, HSR Layout, 2nd Sector, Bengaluru-560102.

For Electricity related complaints call : 1912
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