

Retail inflation slips to 1.54 pc in September, lowest since June 2017

New Delhi (UNI)
The Year-on-year inflation rate based on the All India Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the month of September is 1.54 per cent (Provisional), an official statement said today.
The statement said that there is a decrease of 53 basis points in headline inflation of September 2025 in comparison to August 2025. It is the lowest year-on-year inflation after June 2017.
The decline in headline inflation is mainly attributed to favorable base effects and to the decline in inflation of Vegetables, Oil and fats, Fruits, Pulses and products,



Cereal and products, Egg, Fuel and light, etc.
Moreover, food inflation for the month of September over the previous year remained at -2.28pc (provisional).
The corresponding inflation rates for rural and urban areas are -2.17pc and -2.47pc, respectively.
On the other hand, Housing inflation and Education Inflation for the current month remained at 3.98 pc (provisional) and 3.44 pc (provisional) respectively.
Health inflation rate for the month of September, 2025 is 4.34pc (Provisional).

EKA Mobility and Kerchanshe Group Announce Strategic Partnership



man of EKA Mobility, and Dr. Israel Dejene, CEO and Chairman of Kerchanshe Trading PLC, signed the partnership in the presence of senior leadership teams from both organizations.
EKA Mobility brings proven expertise in electric buses, small commercial vehicles, and 3-wheelers, backed by advanced R&D capabilities and a rapidly expanding manufacturing base in India. Kerchanshe Trading PLC, Ethiopia's largest coffee exporter and a leader in agriculture, construction, and automotive sectors, is among East Africa's most respected conglomerates, with extensive experience in industrial operations and vehicle assembly.
Through this partnership, EKA and Kerchanshe aim to accelerate the adoption of sustainable transportation solutions across East Africa. The collaboration roadmap includes establishing a local CKD assembly plant for EKA vehicles in Ethiopia, launching distribution and service operations across Ethiopia and neighboring markets, and introducing a comprehensive range of clean, electric mobility products tailored to meet regional requirements.

EKA Mobility, one of India's leading manufacturers of electric buses and commercial vehicles, and Kerchanshe Trading PLC, Ethiopia's largest and most diversified business group, have entered into a landmark agreement to establish distribution, assembly, and after-sales operations for EKA vehicles across East Africa.
The agreement was signed at a ceremony held in Dubai, where Dr. Sudhir Mehta, Founder and Chair-

Revised WPI linking factor will hit equity IRRs of toll roads: CRISIL

New Delhi: The recent amendment to policy guidelines by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) for revising the wholesale price index (WPI) linking factor for toll-based national highway projects are likely to slash equity returns for such projects unless adequately compensated, said a CRISIL statement today.
The Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited (CRISIL) said, "While the change will also affect debt protection metrics, its impact on credit risk profiles will be mitigated by the presence of diversified asset pools. An evaluation of 64 toll roads, with a total investment of Rs 95,000 crore as on March 31, 2025, indicates as much."
Anand Kulkarni, Director of Crisil Ratings, said, "The revision in the WPI linking factor, if implemented, will translate into a reduction of 3-5pc in the base toll rates for national highway concessions. The change in base means that collections of toll road operators, which are a function of toll rate and traffic growth, will take a permanent hit. Toll collections of our projects in our sample may see a 3.0-3.5 pc impact compared with earlier estimates for the balance concession life, resulting in a median reduction in equity returns by 100 bps."

Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja launches the book "Vichar Se Vishwas" (From Thought to Belief)

A grand launch ceremony of the inspiring book "Vichar Se Vishwas", which gives a new direction to the journey of thought, awareness, and belief, was held today at the Civil Services Officers' Institute (CSOI), Suryamukhi Hall, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
The book was formally released by renowned swimmer, academician, and Nari Shakti Puraskar awardee Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja. Her presence and motivating words added deeper meaning and grace to the event.
Dignitaries and intellectuals from various states of India — Haryana, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, Bihar, and Kerala — attended the event, making it a confluence of consciousness, dialogue, and inspiration.
In her address, Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja said:
"This book is not merely a collection of words, but an invitation to a journey of self-discovery and belief. Dr. Anoop Agarwal has presented a powerful formula for transforming thoughts into faith and faith into action." Dr. Anoop



Agarwal, the author, is a researcher, thinker, and consciousness practitioner working on the development of human awareness through the synthesis of science and spirituality. His writings aim to guide individuals and society toward positive transformation.
Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Anoop Agarwal shared that "Vichar Se Vishwas" is the outcome of his years of self-reflection and inner experience. The book inspires readers to transform thoughts into belief through awareness, and belief into action through conviction.

Bridging the gap between thought and faith, it beautifully weaves together the scientific, spiritual, and psychological dimensions of life — serving as a motivating journey toward self-transformation and conscious living.
The event concluded with an inspiring interactive session where participants shared reflections on self-confidence, emotional balance, and conscious living. The gathering stood as a vibrant example of the harmony between science, spirituality, and self-awareness.

A company is recognized by the strength of its people: Malikram

Indore: A company's excellence is measured not only by its work and achievements but also by the progress of its team members. PR 24x7, a leading public relations firm in North India, embraces the philosophy that an organization strengthens when it offers employees opportunities to reach their full potential and achieve new milestones. Reflecting this belief, the company has recently promoted eight employees to new roles with additional responsibilities.
Speaking on this occasion, Atul Malikram, Founder of PR 24x7, said, "The success of a company is intricately linked to the wealth of experience its employees bring, driving its exponential growth. I firmly believe that our current standing is not only due to the blessings of Sachchidananda Shri Sai Baba but also the relentless hard work, passion, and dedication of every team member. It is imperative for us to uphold these foundational pillars that have transformed this company into a close-knit family rather than just



an organization. Today holds special significance for me. When I established this company, my singular vision was to foster a family where each individual could learn, advance, and leave their unique mark through their contributions.
"Promotion signifies more than just a new role; it embodies trust and responsibility as we aim to extend our influence beyond India and establish our presence globally", he adds.

Meena Bisen has been guiding the team with her vision and acumen in accounting and finance for 11 years. Now, her leadership as Chief Financial Officer will take financial stability and strategy to new heights. With 17 years of experience, Ujjain Singh Chauhan, known for his keen eye and diligence in media monitoring, will take on the role of COO, Media Monitoring, bringing new dimensions to the company's vision.

Verkada appoints new leadership in Korea amid growing demand for cloud-based security

New Delhi: US-based Verkada, a leader in AI-powered physical security, today announced the appointment of Edward Kim as the country manager for Korea, an official statement said.
In this role, Kim will lead Verkada's go-to-market strategy, sales operations, and country expansion efforts as the company deepens its commitment to one of Asia's most dynamic enterprise technology markets.
Jonathon Dixon, Vice President and Managing Director of JAPAC, said, "Korea represents a significant growth opportunity for Verkada as organizations across the country seek modern, AI solutions to enhance their physical security infrastructure. Edward's exceptional track record of building high-growth businesses and his deep expertise in the Korean enterprise market make him the ideal leader to accelerate our momentum in the region."

HCLTech joins MIT Media Lab to collaborate on next-gen AI research

New Delhi (UNI)
HCLTech has joined the MIT Media Lab that brings together pioneering research and forward-thinking enterprises, an official statement said today.
Under this partnership, HCLTech will have access to MIT Media Lab's research and networks, which allows it to deepen engagement with faculty, researchers, and innovators in next-gen technologies, particularly Artificial Intelligence (AI), the statement added.
Jessica Rosenworcel, Executive Director of MIT Media Lab, said, "We welcome HCLTech to the MIT Media Lab at the pivotal moment in the evolution of artificial intelligence. Their commitment to exploring applied AI aligns with our mission to design technologies that empower humanity. We look forward to dynamic collaboration that may advance responsible, human-centered innovation in AI and beyond."
This collaboration also reflects



HCLTech's commitment to shaping the future of AI and accelerating breakthroughs in emerging technology areas, such as quantum computing, through collaborative innovation.
"We are thrilled to collaborate with the MIT Media Lab at the forefront of applied AI research. By engaging with MIT Media Lab's world-class faculty and researchers, we aim to explore co-development of AI innovations that create real-world impact," said Vjay Kuntur, Chief Technology Officer and Head of Ecosystems at HCLTech.

State to Honour Sanitation Champions Today

Bhopal: The Urban Development and Housing Department is set to host the 5th State Level Sanitation Honour Ceremony and 'Swachhta Samagra' Workshop at Ravindra Bhavan, Bhopal, on Tuesday, October 14.
Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav will grace the occasion at 1 PM to present the prestigious Sanitation Honours to Urban Local Bodies for their outstanding work. Urban Development and Housing Minister Kailash Vijayvargiya and Minister of State Smt. Pratima Bagri will also be present.
Workshop: A Deep Dive into Urban Cleanliness
Starting at 9 AM, a parallel-session workshop will focus on key aspects of urban sanitation. Urban Administration and Development Commissioner, Sanket Bhondwe, will deliver the initial address on the challenges of Legacy Waste, Air Quality, and Urban Sanitation.
Concurrent sessions will feature discussions on:
* Sanitation and Waste Management in Key Cities: Mayors of Ujjain and Jabalpur, along

with officials from the Tourism Development Corporation, will deliberate on challenges in cities of religious and tourism significance, particularly the Narmada Basin.
* Tackling Legacy Waste: Mayors from Indore, Chhindwara, and Gwalior, alongside Commissioners and the Secretary of the MP Pollution Control Board, will discuss the current status and challenges of legacy waste.
* Urban Action Plans and Development: Mayor of Bhopal, Smt. Malti Rai, and Commissioners from Ujjain, Bhopal, and Sagar, will present on city action plans, beautification efforts, and development prospects in smaller towns.
Dialogue with Sanitation Workers
A dedicated dialogue session will focus on enhancing the skills of sanitation workers (Safai Mitras). This segment will feature Mayors, Commissioners, and subject experts discussing skill development and connecting these crucial workers with various state welfare schemes.

CREDAI property show 2025 highlights Telangana's real estate boom

Hyderabad: The 15th edition of the NAREDCO Telangana Property Show 2025 concluded on a vibrant note, reaffirming Hyderabad's reputation as one of India's fastest-growing and most affordable real estate destinations.
The three-day event showcased the city's rapid urban expansion, robust infrastructure, and the state government's focus on sustainable, tech-driven urban development.
Telangana IT, Electronics & Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu, attended the valedictory session as Chief Guest and commended NAREDCO Telangana for its 15 years of impactful contribution to the state's real estate sector.
Sridhar Babu said the Telangana Government is committed to creating a transparent and future-ready real estate ecosystem through digital innovation and data-driven governance. He highlighted that recent policy reforms are designed to build trust and strengthen investor confidence. "Telangana's real estate and construction sectors contribute nearly Rs 80,000 crore to the state economy. Hyderabad continues to be an affordable global city, with over 70 Global Capability Centres established in the past year. With major infrastructure projects like the Regional Ring Road and Metro Phase 2 underway, the momentum is strong" he said.
Union Minister for Coal and Mines, G Kishan Reddy, lauded the success of the Property Show, describing it as a bridge between homebuyers and builders across all income groups.

VIT Bhopal's 'Sanskriti Samagam' Dazzles



Bhopal: VIT Bhopal University hosted a truly spectacular event, "Sanskriti Samagam 2025," which flawlessly merged India's classical roots with cutting-edge technology. Held at the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, the celebration was a magnificent tribute to the "Cultural Heritage of Madhya Pradesh."
The evening's crowning glory was the Madhya Pradesh Mega Drone Show, a first for the state. Four hundred synchronized drones painted the night sky, soaring 120 feet high and visible for over 4 kilometers. These dazzling aerial formations perfectly complemented live performances of

Fusion of Heritage and Hi-Tech



folk dances and classical music, symbolizing a powerful union of tradition and innovation.
The event drew a distinguished audience, including several Cabinet Ministers, senior bureaucrats, and academic leaders. Highlights included a mesmerizing dance by Padma Vibhushan Dr. Sonal Mansingh, alongside captivating performances by Jassu Khan, Ananya Chakravarty, and Varshini Shankar.
Organized and executed with active participation from VIT Bhopal's faculty and alumni, Sanskriti Samagam left both a harmonious cultural and a spectacular digital footprint, powerfully showcasing the pride of Madhya Pradesh.