WAR WITH IRAN

'EFFECTIVELY OVER'

Trump after meeting Qatar PM

■ **By Aamer Madhani**
WASHINGTON, Nov 10 (AP)



President Donald Trump speaks in the James Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House on Monday in Washington. (AP/PTI)

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump on Monday told reporters he believes the war in Iran "militarily is effectively over," suggesting that -- at least for now -- he's not prepared to resume the bombardment that caused reverberations across the global economy.

The President made a surprise visit to the White House briefing room after meeting earlier in the day with Qatar's Prime Minister, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani. "Iran militarily is effectively over," Trump said. "We're just keeping it the status quo."

He added that Iran has been "decapitated" but said he is still looking to make sure there's a long-term solution to ensuring that Iran's nuclear programme is defanged. It was some of Trump's most definitive comments about moving away from his threat to resume strikes on Iran after the US midterm elections had passed.

The President's Republican Party lost both chambers of Congress to Democrats in last week's elections. The elections

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No one should be left behind in efforts to tackle climate change: India at COP31 meet

NEW DELHI, Nov 10 (PTI)

AT THE ongoing UN climate conference COP31 in Turkiye's Antalya, India on Tuesday stressed that equity has become particularly urgent to ensure that no one is left behind in the collective effort to address climate change.



Bhooshan

The country has also underscored that just transition and meeting adaptation needs remain significant challenges, particularly for the Global South, where these are closely intertwined with the challenge of development itself. India's opening statement at the conference was made by Narendra Bhooshan, Secretary with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

This year's Conference of the Parties (COP), the world's premier annual climate change summit, opened on Monday and is scheduled to go on till November 20.

In the statement, India spoke about climate finance as well, saying public finance from developed countries remains central to catalysing climate action in developing countries and strengthening adaptation finance flows to address their vulnerabilities.

Moreover, India underscored the fundamental importance of Article 9.1 of the 2015 Paris Agreement, which establishes the developed countries' obligation to provide financial resources to developing countries.

SOARING HEAT: NSG gets 'breathable' uniform for its VIP security commandos

NEW DELHI, Nov 10 (PTI)

INTENSE heat leading to exhaustion has prompted the National Security Guard (NSG) to recommend a new "breathable" uniform for its black cat commandos providing VIP security to some high-risk personalities in the country.

Sources in the security establishment told PTI that the move was prompted by an incident in April when a commando deployed in the close protection security of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu fainted. It was almost 44 degrees that day in Vijayawada when the commando wearing a bullet proof jacket over his black overall uniform, a black beret on his head along with small arms holstered around his waist suffered heatstroke and exhaustion, the officials said.

Videos widely circulated of the incident show Naidu speaking to the press when the flanking commando faints and had to be helped by other security personnel to prevent him from falling.

Commanders of the NSG close protection force (CPF) and experts at NSG headquarters viewed the incident seriously and came to a conclusion that the increasing hot weather and rising temperature were taking a physical toll on the VIP security teams of the force.

The black overalls absorb a lot of heat and the commandos have to top it up with an about 6 kg weighing bullet proof vest apart from black sunglasses and communication equipment on their person while on duty, the sources said.

"It has therefore been decided to provide the commandos with better clothing for their uniforms.



"A breathable material named nyco, comprising nylon and cotton, has been recommended for the black uniforms of NSG VIP security commandos," a source told PTI. Nyco allows air and moisture vapour to pass through freely keeping the person cool, the sources said.

Uniform made of nyco is worn by the CoBRA commandos of the CRPF who specialise in jungle warfare operations, many times under a strong sun and humidity, a security officer involved in the process said.

Trials of the new clothing have been done and the NSG will be procuring the material soon, he said. It is expected that the NSG commandos will be donning the new uniform by the time Assembly elections in five States are declared.

Polls in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur and Goa are expected to be held early next year and a number of NSG protectees will be part of the election campaign.

The force currently guards nine VIPs under the Z-plus category: Naidu, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mayawati, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, veteran BJP leader L K Advani, Union Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, former Chhhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh, former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister and Democratic Progressive Azad Party president Ghulam Nabi Azad and National Conference president Farooq Abdullah.

India, US vow to act against emerging drug threats

NEW DELHI, Nov 10 (PTI)

INDIA and the US agreed to undertake coordinated action to address emerging narcotic threats during a recently concluded high-level meeting here.

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) hosted the 2nd India-United States of America Drug Policy Executive Working Group Meeting on November 2-3, the federal anti-narcotics agency said in a statement on Tuesday.

The Indian delegation was led by NCB Director General (DG) Anurag, while the US side was headed by Debbie Seguin, Acting Deputy Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

Pursuant to the terms of reference of the India-US Drug Policy Framework, the meeting reviewed bilateral cooperation in combatting illicit drug trafficking and identified priority areas for strengthening intelligence sharing, coordinated law enforcement action, precursor control, pharmaceutical supply chain integrity, and drug demand reduction, the statement said.

"The meeting underscored the importance of sustained institutional engagement, timely intelligence exchange, and coordinated action to address emerging narcotics threats and promote demand reduction," it said.

"Both sides agreed to further sharing of best practices in targeted law enforcement topics," according to the statement.

The NCB DG "highlighted" the India's Vision Roadmap 2026-2029, formulated under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the leadership of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

"The Executive Working Group and bilateral cooperation between the United States and India is vital to disrupting transnational drug trafficking networks and preventing the diversion of synthetic drugs and chemical precursors into global markets," ONDCP Director Sara Carter said.

US Ambassador to India Sergio Gor said in the statement, "President Trump has been clear: protecting our people starts with securing our borders and cutting off illicit drug networks at the source."

"India and the United States aren't just talking about cooperation; we are delivering real operational results -choking off illicit precursor chemicals, securing commercial supply chains, and dismantling the cartels that exploit them," Gor said.

He said when the two law enforcement communities coordinate with this level of speed and trust, we protect American and Indian families alike.

India's unemployment rate falls to 5.1% in July-September: Govt

NEW DELHI, Nov 10 (ANI)

INDIA'S unemployment rate declined to 5.1 per cent during July-September 2026 from 5.4 per cent in the previous quarter, mainly due to a fall in unemployment in rural areas, according to government data released on Tuesday.

The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), showed that rural unemployment fell to 4.3 per cent from 4.8 per cent in April–June 2026.

However, unemployment in urban areas increased slightly to 6.8 per cent from 6.7 per cent.

The Ministry stated, "Overall UR for persons of age 15 years and above improved to 5.1% during the current quarter, compared with 5.4% in the previous quarter."



The data also showed that more people were working or looking for jobs during the quarter.

The share of people aged 15 years and above who were either employed or seeking employment increased to 55.5 per cent from 54.6 per cent in the previous quarter.

In rural areas, this share rose to 58.1 per cent from 56.9 per cent, while in urban areas it decreased marginally to 50.4 per cent from 50.2 per cent.

The proportion of people who were actually employed also improved to 52.7 per cent from 51.7 per cent in the previous quarter.

Rural employment participation increased to 55.6 per cent from 54.2 per cent, while the urban figure remained nearly unchanged at 46.9 per cent.

Women's participation in employment also improved. The proportion of women who were working or looking for jobs increased to 34.7 per cent from 33.2 pc.The share of women who were employed rose to 32.8 per cent from 31.3 per cent during the same period.

The survey also showed an increase in the share of rural workers engaged in agriculture, rising to 56.7 per cent from 52.9 per cent in the previous quarter.

India best example of demand, supply growing together in bioeconomy: WEF

NEW DELHI, Nov 10 (PTI)

GOVERNMENTS across the world are investing heavily in bioeconomy development and India provides the clearest example of demand and supply expanding together in this area, the World Economic Forum said on Tuesday.

In its Bioeconomy Policy Index report, prepared in collaboration with Capgemini Invent, the WEF said the range of policy instruments for bioeconomy development in India reflects a strong emphasis on enabling conditions, research and development, and institutional capacity.

The report analysed 935 bioeconomy policy instruments across Japan, the United Kingdom,



Germany, the United States, India, China, and Brazil.

The report also called for policy portfolios that are designed to create demand, address specific commercialisation barriers and generate evidence from the outset.

It also recommended common reporting standards so that outcomes can be compared across instruments, sectors and countries.

About India, it said the country has a rapidly expanding bioeconomy supported by targeted national initiatives, including the Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment (BioE3) Policy.

"India has the most cross-cutting portfolio, with 48 per cent of policy instruments supporting enabling conditions such as research and development (R&D), tax incentives and institutional capacity rather than individual sectors," it added.

Despite different national contexts, most country portfolios rely on a similar set of policy instruments, with India having the highest combined share (76 per cent), followed by the UK (69 per cent) and Brazil (68 per cent), with the US close behind at 67 per cent.

It identified India as having the clearest example of demand and supply expanding together.

The WEF said the Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme was paired with concessional finance for new distillery capacity through the Ethanol Interest Subvention Scheme in the country.

"Production expanded alongside mandated demand, supporting 20 per cent ethanol blending five years ahead of the original 2030 target.

"The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas reports cumulative emissions savings of 95.2 million tonnes of carbon dioxide, although this figure has not been independently evaluated," it added.