

THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES

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NATIONAL DAILY NEWSPAPER



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OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

28-05-2026
Total pilgrims: 74,569
Tonsure: 46,232
Hundi/kanada: 3,80 CR
Laddu sale: 4.15 Lac
Annaprashnam: 2.70 Lac
Medical treatment: 3,592

Bengaluru police ban public celebrations for IPL final

Bengaluru, May 29 : Bengaluru City Police on Friday issued a public advisory ahead of the Tata IPL 2026 final scheduled to be held on May 31, urging citizens and cricket fans to maintain law and order and avoid public celebrations after the match. With Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) reaching the final of the Tata IPL 2026 tournament, the police said strict safety measures and restrictions would be enforced across the city to prevent unforced incidents and ensure public safety. In the advisory, Bengaluru City Police directed the public not to engage in any kind of celebrations in public places after the announcement of the final match result. The police also stated that LED walls facing roads should not be installed without prior permission from the concerned authorities. Existing LED walls must not be used to screen the match publicly. Authorities further prohibited the installation of screens outside malls, pubs, and other commercial establishments, visible to the public, for watching the final match. The advisory also banned the bursting of crackers and the use of dangerous materials during celebrations. Citizens were asked to maintain peace and discipline, especially in crowded areas.

6 labourers buried alive in bridge collapse due to thunderstorm

Hampur (UP), May 29 (UNI) At least 6 labourers were buried alive, and 3 others were critically injured when a portion of an under-construction bridge over the Betwa River collapsed early on Friday. However, unofficial sources claimed that the death toll has touched 8. The incident occurred amid heavy rains and a thunderstorm that lashed the area at around 0300 AM. It also raises questions about the adequacy of safety measures at the construction site. The bridge stretches from Morkandar Parsani in Kurara to Naithi village. All the victims were reportedly sleeping on this section of the bridge at the time of the incident. Police said relief and rescue operations have begun. The bridge, approved through the efforts of Rajya Sabha member Baburam Nishad, was being constructed near his native village, Morkandar Parsani.

CM Revanth calls for Congress mobilisation on voter roll revision

HYDERABAD (TSIT BUREAU):

Chief Minister and Telangana Congress leader A. Revanth Reddy on Friday urged party leaders and cadres to launch an intensive grassroots campaign to safeguard the voting rights of people during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Addressing a meeting at Gandhi Bhavan, Revanth Reddy said the SIR process could create challenges for vulnerable sections such as tribal communities, Lambadas, migrant workers, women, Dalits and minorities if adequate awareness and support were not provided.

He emphasized that Congress leaders must thoroughly understand the voter list revision process and work proactively to ensure that no eligible voter loses their right to vote. "If constituency in-charges function effectively, not a single vote should be deleted," he said. Drawing parallels with



the party's successful digital membership drive, the Chief Minister recalled that Congress enrolled 45 lakh members within 90 days through a strong network of booth enrollers. He suggested utilizing the same experienced cadre for the SIR exercise and strengthening booth-level coordination.

Revanth Reddy proposed appointing dedicated in-charges for all 119 Assembly constituencies and 17 Lok Sabha constituencies to monitor the voter roll revision process. He instructed Assembly in-charges to remain active in their constituencies and maintain

■ Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy urged Congress leaders and cadres to launch an intensive campaign during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls to protect voting rights, especially for vulnerable groups like tribal communities, women, Dalits, minorities, and migrant workers.

■ He instructed appointing dedicated in-charges for all Assembly and Lok Sabha constituencies, strengthening booth-level coordination, involving ministers, MPs, MLAs, and party workers, and conducting awareness programmes to ensure no eligible voter is left out.

continuous engagement with party workers and voters. The Chief Minister also directed ministers, MPs, MLAs, MLCs and corporation chairpersons to actively participate in party programmes and spend more time in the field. He said in-charge ministers should dedicate one full day every ten days exclusively for party activities and grass-

roots outreach. Announcing his own participation in the organisational drive, Revanth Reddy said he would personally meet party workers at regular intervals and allocate three days every month for party affairs. He stressed the need for unity and coordination among Congress leaders and called for taking suggestions from former PCC presidents. He noted that the party now has a strong network of elected local representatives, including sarpanches, municipal chairpersons and councillors, who should be effectively mobilised.

For Hyderabad, the Chief Minister suggested assigning responsibilities to Rajya Sabha MPs and MLCs and conducting constituency-wise meetings on SIR across all 15 Assembly segments. He also asked the Mahila Congress to organise cluster-level awareness programmes to address concerns related to voter registration and verification.

India targets \$120-150 billion semiconductor value chain by 2035: NITI Aayog

NEW DELHI (TSIT):

India should target developing a USD 120-150 billion semiconductor value chain by 2035 by prioritising leadership and purpose over mere participation, according to a report released by NITI Aayog on Friday. The report, Future of India's Semiconductor Industry, recommends that the Centre commit at least one-third of the required investment to de-risk projects and instill long-term investor confidence.

The report emphasises building a distinct and strategically self-reliant pathway rather than chasing the global wafer race. It estimates that cumulative semiconductor investments of USD 135-180 billion over the next decade will be required across design, fabrication, advanced packaging, materials, and



supporting infrastructure. Public funding should prioritise fabs, advanced packaging, compound semiconductors, and critical design infrastructure, complemented by predictable incentives and coordinated execution.

Despite rising domestic demand, 90-95% of India's semiconductor needs are currently met through imports, creating strategic vulnerability and foreign exchange outflows. By 2035, the country's semiconductor market is projected to reach USD

200 billion. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw highlighted that semiconductors form the critical infrastructure of the 21st century, powering AI, defence, electric mobility, and digital public infrastructure. The roadmap focuses on advanced packaging, compound semiconductors, wide-bandgap materials, and AI-native chip design, aiming to position India as a trusted global partner in the semiconductor ecosystem.

India, Canada push stronger trade ties, set year-end CEPA goal

NEW DELHI (TSIT):

India and Canada reaffirmed their shared commitment for strengthening bilateral trade and investment ties to deliver tangible outcomes supporting economic growth and increased commercial opportunities for businesses in both countries, said Canada-India joint statement released here on Friday.

Building on the momentum generated through recent ministerial engagement,

Minister Sidhu underscored opportunities to deepen cooperation across sectors like clean energy, critical minerals, agri-food, advanced manufacturing, digital technologies and skill development. Both sides reiterated their commitment to advancing an ambitious and mutually beneficial Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and affirmed their shared objectives of concluding negotiations by the end of this year.

Top Congress leaders hold talks on Karnataka govt formation

NEW DELHI (TSIT):

Top Congress leaders were engaged in hectic deliberations on Friday over the new government formation in Karnataka on a day Governor Thaaawarchand Gehlot formally accepted the resignation of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and dissolved the cabinet.

The Congress Legislature Party



(CLP) in Karnataka will meet on Saturday at 4 pm in the conference hall in Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru, to elect their new leader

in the state. The meeting will be chaired by Siddaramaiah and D K Shivakumar is set to be elected as the new leader.

A day after resigning from the top post, Siddaramaiah, accompanied by his son Yathindra, met the Congress brass including Rahul Gandhi and party president Mallikarjun Kharge in the national capital.

'Law and Order missing in TN': Udhayanidhi attacks CM Vijay

CHENNAI (TSIT)

The brutal murder of a young woman, believed to be around 25 years old, in Cuddalore has sparked political criticism. Leader of the Opposition Udhayanidhi Stalin on Friday launched a blistering attack on the Tamil Nadu government, headed by Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay over the state's law and order situation.

In a statement issued on Friday, Udhayanidhi described the incident as "deeply shocking" and said the repeated occurrence of murders, robberies, and sexual violence across



Tamil Nadu has left people questioning whether law and order still exists in the state. Targeting the ruling dispensation in the state, he alleged that since the "#SofaModelGovernment" came to power, "hardly a day has passed without incidents of murder, robbery, or sexual violence being reported." The Opposition leader also took a swipe at Chief Minister Vijay, accusing him of failing to deliver on promises made during the election campaign.



Telangana government's Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) has provided employment opportunities to 16 transgenders.....

AP to Launch "AP Cyber Guard" to Curb Cyber Crimes

CM Chandrababu Reviews Cyber Crime Prevention Measures

THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES, VISAKHAPATNAM:

N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to implement a Zero FIR system to effectively tackle cyber crimes in Andhra Pradesh. During a high-level review meeting held at the Secretariat on Thursday, the Chief Minister said complaints related to cyber fraud should be registered immediately through the Cyber War Room so that banks can be alerted within the "golden hour" to prevent money transfers from victims' accounts. The Chief Minister emphasized the need for continuous public awareness campaigns and cyber patrolling on the lines of regular police patrolling. He instructed officials to focus particularly on retired employees and vulnerable sections who are increasingly becoming targets of cyber fraudsters. Stressing strict action against criminals involved in "digital arrest" scams, Chandrababu said those making such fraudulent calls must be tracked and arrested without delay.

During the presentation, Harish Kumar Gupta explained



that the state government is establishing a comprehensive cyber security system named "AP Cyber Guard" based on a six-pillar response framework. The system will include a Cyber War Room, 1930 Helpline Dashboard, Technology & AI integration, Capacity Building, a Three-Tier Cyber Architecture, and Public Awareness initiatives. A state-level Cyber War Room is being set up at Prabhala Tech Park in Mangalagiri and is expected to become operational within 30 days. The facility will house 11 specialized divisions, including emergency response, cyber threat intelligence, cyber security operations, cyber training, legal and policy coordination,

and district coordination units. The DGP said the government plans to strengthen the existing 1930 Cyber Helpline and integrate it with the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP) through a unified dashboard. A mechanism is also being developed to contact banks within 10 minutes of receiving a complaint and freeze suspicious accounts immediately. As part of the initiative, the state will establish cyber units in all 28 districts along with four regional cyber hubs. Around 500 police officers will receive specialized cyber crime training within a year. The government also plans to organize nearly 3,000 awareness programmes across the state to educate the public on cyber fraud prevention.

Trump says Iran deal awaits final decision

WASHINGTON (TSIT):

US President Donald Trump said Friday that he was preparing to make a final decision on a potential agreement with Iran, outlining terms that include a commitment by Tehran never to acquire a nuclear weapon and the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz. In a post on social media, Trump said Iran must accept a permanent ban on nuclear weapons as part of the proposed arrangement. "Iran must agree that they will never have a Nuclear Weapon or



Bomb," he wrote.

Trump said the Strait of Hormuz, a vital shipping route for global energy supplies, should be reopened immedi-

ately. "The Hormuz Strait must be immediately open, no tolls, for unrestricted shipping traffic, in both directions," he said.

The President also claimed that mines in the waterway were being removed and that shipping disrupted by a U.S. naval blockade would soon resume. "Ships caught in the Strait due to our amazing and unprecedented Naval Blockade, which will now be lifted, may start the process of 'heading home!'" Trump wrote. He said US forces had already removed numerous mines and that Iran would complete the removal or detonation of any

remaining devices.

Trump's statement also addressed Iran's nuclear programme. He claimed that enriched nuclear material buried deep underground following a US military strike nearly a year ago would be recovered and destroyed. "The enriched material, sometimes referred to as 'Nuclear Dust,' which is buried deep underground with virtually collapsed mountains, caused by our powerful B2 Bomber attack 11 months ago, sitting on top of it, will be unearthed by the United States," he wrote.

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IIFL FINANCE
 CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
 Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No. B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
 Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
 E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on 30.06.2026 from 10 AM at following district Centre Choutuppal-Hyderabad Road Gl - H.No.5-488, Near Bus Stand, Choutuppal, Yadadri Bhongiri - 508252 (TS). Any change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned hereon the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

Gold Loan A/C No.: GL39065447, GL39333661, GL39352908, GL34552749, GL34599883, GL39093893, GL38982022, GL35824652, GL35803731, GL36891583, GL36542727, GL39822390, GL38762566, GL36501177, GL38956641, GL37079136, GL36227651, GL36212425, GL363539768, GL39206795.

The Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis and IIFL does not make any representation or warranties regarding quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. IIFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove, any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason therefor and to reject any or all the bids or offers without assigning any reason for the same. Details of defaulting borrower(s) pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulter borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 30.05.2026
 Place: BHONGIR

 Sd/-
 AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
 IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

IIFL FINANCE
 CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
 Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No. B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL36734425, GL36430078, GL39428413, GL39417733, GL39503491, GL37468942, GL39473023, GL39442024, GL38934646, GL33342317, GL38774352, GL34347614, GL34663876, GL34651508, GL35804478, GL37420497, GL34899727, GL34922283.

The Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis and IIFL does not make any representation or warranties regarding quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. IIFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove, any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason for the same. Details of defaulting borrower(s) pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulter borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

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Date: 30.05.2026
 Place: PEDDAPALLI

 Sd/-
 AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
 IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

IIFL FINANCE
 CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
 Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No. B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL34188022, GL34175836, GL40316118, GL40034278, GL39368907, GL39392432, GL39544422, GL45007426, GL39556685, GL38243613, GL35027004, GL35043942, GL38134237, GL33957513, GL39430258, GL41202804, GL39409507, GL40145616, GL43495268, GL39544289, GL39556670, GL47233075, GL39469649, GL39461435, GL36611607, GL39272681, GL39280206, GL36898020, GL39681711, GL37783375, GL38270525, GL38826291, GL35365597, GL37694828, GL38558132, GL35380043, GL38880384, GL37064102, GL38880226, GL37693664, GL39341527, GL37729468, GL39339488, GL39223578, GL39356414, GL39495746, GL34379739, GL37327928, GL39546986, GL37482308, GL37318331, GL45654354, GL39260500, GL39281800, GL39228639, GL37823139, GL39500659, GL34882429, GL34889758, GL39235253, GL39492584, GL39515703, GL36853249, GL39377132, GL46072532, GL39390669, GL38225968, GL39004292, GL37267825, GL37247933.

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For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 30.05.2026
 Place: HANUMAKONDA

 Sd/-
 AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
 IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

Mahesh Kumar Goud Calls for Strengthening Congress from Booth to State Level

Hyderabad TSIT BUREAU: Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud on Friday emphasized the need to strengthen the Congress party at every level, from both committees to the state leadership, while addressing the Political Affairs Committee (PAC) meeting held at Gandhi Bhavan. Meeting focused on organisational restructuring, the selection of new District Congress Committee (DCC) presidents under the Sanghathan Srujan Abhiyan, and discussions on the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Mahesh Kumar Goud



alleged that attempts were being made to weaken secular vote banks through the voter list revision process and accused the BJP of trying to gain political advantage by reducing the votes of Congress supporters. Referring to West Bengal, he claimed that a large number of voter deletions had influenced

electional outcomes and cautioned that Telangana could face similar challenges. He said the Congress party was identifying capable and committed leaders for DCC appointments and directed district leaders to coordinate with local party functionaries before submitting their recommendations. Highlighting the achievements of the Telangana Government, Mahesh Kumar Goud said the welfare and development programmes being implemented by the Congress government had become a model for the nation. He noted that the government's initiatives were benefiting people across all sections of society and contributing to the state's progress. Calling for greater unity and coordination among party leaders and workers, he stressed that organisational strengthening at the grassroots level would be crucial for the Congress party's future growth and electoral success in Telangana.

Over 18K Gurukul seats filled in Phase I admissions in Telangana



He reiterated the government's commitment to providing corporate-level quality education to the poor, Dalit, tribal and backward classes students completely free of cost and making Gurukul educational institutions an ideal for the country. The admission notification for the 2026-27 academic year was released on April 5, and online applications were accepted from April 6 to May 25.

A total of 45,357 applications were received from across the state, of which 21,447 were for the MPC (Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry) group, 17,400 for the BIPC (Biology, Physics and Chemistry) group, and 6,510 applications were received for the MEC (Mathematics, Economics and Commerce) CEC (Civics, Economics and Commerce) and HEC (History, Economics and Civics) groups together, Minister Adluri said.

Telangana govt releases Rs 2,000 cr in retirement dues of employees

Hyderabad: The state government has released the dues of retired government employees amounting to Rs 2,000 crore, as per the directions of Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka on Friday, May 29.



Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and Bhatti Vikramarka had announced on May 2 during a meeting with the Employees' Joint Action Committee (JAC) leaders, that the total pending dues of Rs 6,000 crore will be cleared within 100 days. Before that, the Telangana High Court had expressed strong dissatisfaction over the failure of the state government to fully implement its earlier orders directing payment of retirement benefits to employees from various departments. With the funds released by Finance Special Chief Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultanania on Friday, the government has cleared key pending dues related to the retired employees. The General Provident Fund (GPF) dues of the retired employees have been cleared by 100%. Additionally, all commutation dues pending up to May 2025 for the retired employees have also been fully settled. "This has been made possible through advance planning and a clear action strategy."

YOUNG INDIA SKILLS UNIVERSITY STUDENTS SECURE MICROSOFT PLACEMENTS

Hyderabad TSIT: In a significant achievement for Telangana's skill development ecosystem 11 students from Young India Skills University have secured placements at microsoft.com with an annual package of Rs.7 lakh per annum.



Selected students are from the University's DataScienceManagement course. Out of the 14 students who successfully completed the programme, 11 have been placed at Microsoft, reflecting an impressive placement rate and the industry relevance of the University's training model. The achievement highlights the growing success of Young India Skills University in equipping students with industry-ready skills in emerging technologies and data-driven domains. The placements also demonstrate the increasing demand for skilled professionals trained in data science, analytics, and management. University officials stated that the success of these students is a testament to the institution's focus on practical learning, industry partnerships, and employment-oriented training programmes. placements are expected to inspire more youth to pursue skill-based education and career opportunities in high-growth sectors.

U GRO U GRO Capital Limited
 B-17, Fourth Floor, Art Guild House, Phoenix Market City, Kuria (West), Mumbai-400070
POSSESSION NOTICE (APPENDIX IV (See rule 8(i))) (For Immovable Property)
 Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of U GRO Capital Limited, having its registered office at B-17, Fourth Floor, Art Guild House, Phoenix Market City, Kuria (West), Mumbai-400070, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (S4 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice to repay the amount mentioned in the notice together with interest thereon, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, on the day, month and year mentioned below. The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of U GRO Capital Limited for the amount mentioned in the notice together with interest thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Borrower Details	Demand Notice	Possession Date
1) SRI DHURGA POLYBURY FARM 2) RAJENDHAR MUKKERA 3) LATHA MUKKERA Loan Account Number: UGJMS000003756	Demand Notice dated 11/03/2026 for an amount of Rs. 26,15,957.00+ (Rupees Twenty Six Lakh Fifteen Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Seven Only) As on 06/05/2026	28-05-2026

Mortgaged Property - All that part and parcel of immovable property bearing Survey No. 20/1 measuring 491 Sq. Yards or 410.52 Sq.Mtrs. Mogipet Village, Mallapur Mandal, District Jagtial, under the jurisdiction of Sub-District Registration Metpally, Palla Parishah Jagtial, District Registration Karimnagar, bounded by - East : Yadhasa Sanga bhavanam, West : 15 Feet Wide ROAD, North : 18 Feet Wide ROAD, South : Open place of Thandrala Jandarnham.
 Date: 30.05.2026, Place: TELANGANA Authorised Officer, U GRO Capital Limited

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED
 Formerly Manappuram Home Finance Pvt Ltd
 Regd Office: 8/56 A, Padmaprabha Building, Near Sreerama Swami Temple, Cherpu - Thrissur Road, Thrissur, Kerala 686057 | Phone No: 0487-3529504, Website: www.manappuramhomefin.com
POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
 Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of Manappuram Home Finance Ltd ("MANAPPURAM") under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (S4 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the borrowers and co-borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with rule 9 of the said rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Manappuram Home Finance Ltd as mentioned below for each of the respective properties:

Sr.	Name of Borrower and Co-Borrower (If any)	Description of Secured Asset in Respect of Which Demand Notice Issued	Date of Demand Notice Issued	Date of Possession
1	Chippakurthi Keerthana, Chippakurthi Krishna, (MHL019003528)/ Karim Nagar	All That The House Bearing Door No. 1-43 With An Area Measuring 150 Sq Yds, Plinth Area 375 Sq Fts Situated At Nagaram Village of Kamapur Mandal of Peddapally Taluk, District Warangal. (Adm. Regd. No. 505158, East-House Of Aggimala Raja, West-Road, South-House Of Chippakurthi Rajahai, North-Road	15-02-2026 & Rs. 420392/-	27-05-2026
2	Naraboina Mounika, Naraboina Ranjith, Ramakrishna B, (MHL072002742)/ Warangal	M. This Roof House With Open Place Bearing GVMC H. No. 58-5-90 (Part - New) (G.P. No. 5-85) To An Extent Of 48.00 Sq. Yards Or 40.13 Sq. Meters Situated At Kadipondra Village, Kazipet Mandal, Warangal Taluk District, Telangana. Pin: 506003, East-House of Saralah, West-H. No. 58-5-90 Part of Donor Gifted To S. Jaya, South-30 Feet Road, North-House of Korramma	16-02-2026 & Rs. 397376/-	27-05-2026
3	Palapati Gopin, Palapati Saijia, Kithavapuram Krishna, (M/LAP1101262)/ Thirumala Talles	An Extent of 128 Sq. Yards, Site With Structures Therein, Survey Number 204/A/2, Plot No. 08, Brahmnanpalli (A) Village, Wyra Mandal, Khanamand District, Near Police Station, Khanamand, Thirumala Taluk, District Warangal, Pin: 506003, Plot No. 7, West-20 Ft Wide Bazaru, South-Place of Saminani Kasurli Plot No.5, North-Place of Bandurapalli Lesavanu.	18-02-2026 & Rs. 362524/-	27-05-2026

Date: 30th May 2026 | Place: TELANGANA | Sd/- Authorised Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd

INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK
 NANDIPET BRANCH (0460)
 Address: H.No.1-166/C/B, Sy.No.662/EE, Behind Maruti Showroom, Main Road, Nandipet, Nizamabad District, Phone No: 8925950460 & Email: id: job0460@iob.in

NOTICE: BREAK OPEN OF LOCKERS

Notice is hereby given to the persons concerned and public in general that the person named under this notice have availed the facility of safe deposit lockers at the above mentioned branch of Indian Overseas Bank. The respective branch has already addressed notices / reminder letters by registered post with acknowledgement due (AD) to locker hirers at the address available as per our Bank records with a request to remit the arrears of Locker rent. The said letters were returned / unaccepted. Despite of these notices, the locker hirers have not contacted the Branch and have not remitted the locker rent arrears as demanded by the bank. Below named "Locker Hirers/legal heirs are requested to consider this as the BREAK OPEN NOTICE and contact the Branch concerned with necessary documents and remit the locker rent arrears within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which the Bank will break open the locker without any further notice or intimation, at the cost and sole risk of the hirers or their legal representatives / heirs.

Sl. No.	Locker Hirer's Name	Address	Locker Type & Number	Locker Rental Arrears & Late Fee Charges
1	Naidu Satyanarayana	S/o Chinniah Nandipet	A & 010005	Rs. 13285/- + GST & other Applicable charges
2	Venkala Anna Rao	S/o Narsinga Rao, Ummeda, Nandipet-503212	A & 010006	Rs. 13285/- + GST & other Applicable charges
3	Mohammed Yawar Hussain Soofi	S/o Ahmed Hussain, H.No.1-14, Dharamaram(B)-503003	A & 010011	Rs. 6800/- + GST & other Applicable charges
4	Naidu Satyanarayana	S/o Chinniah Nandipet	F & 010014	Rs. 41946/+ GST & other Applicable charges
5	Siddapuram Limbhadi	S/o Chandraiah, Ailapur, Nandipet-503212	A & 010026	Rs. 13285/+ GST & other Applicable charges
6	M Rama Goud and M Uppalamma	S/o Hanma Goud Ailapur, Nandipet-503212	A & 010027	Rs. 13285/+ GST & other Applicable charges
7	M Janakirama Goud and M Natraj Goud	S/o Baja Goud Nandipet-503212	A & 010028	Rs. 11941/+ GST & other Applicable charges
8	N Pedda Devanna	S/o Muthenna Nandipet-503212	A & 010040	Rs. 13285/+ GST & other Applicable charges
9	Faizuddin	S/o Shabuddin Raj Nagar, Nandipet-503212	A & 010044	Rs. 13285/+ GST & other Applicable charges
10	Thota Muthenna	Ummeda Nandipet-503212	A & 010048	Rs. 10538/+ GST & other Applicable charges
11	M Bhoja Goud	S/o Ganga Goud Bazar Kothur, Nandipet-503212	A & 010056	Rs. 13285/+ GST & other Applicable charges
12	Vadlamadi Prasad Rao	Kothapally, Jannepalli-503246	A & 010059	Rs. 13285/+ GST & other Applicable charges
13	Valgot Rajesh	S/o V Muthyam Nandipet-503212	C & 010062	Rs. 21841/+ GST & other Applicable charges

For further details Contact: The Branch Manager, Indian Overseas Bank, Nandipet Branch, Ph: 8925950460.
 Date: 30-05-2026
 Place: Nandipet
 Sd/-
 Indian Overseas Bank

FOR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT: 9948480279, 7330778889

IIFL FINANCE
 CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
 Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No. B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
 Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
 E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on 30.06.2026 from 10 AM at following district Centre Bhupalpal-Park Road Gl - H.No:6-29, 1st Floor, Main Road Bhupalpal, Near Ambedkar Statue, Beside Brundavana Udipi Hotel, Bhupalpal, Jayashankar Bhupalpal - 506169, (TS). Any change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned hereon the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

Gold Loan A/C No.: GL38044341, GL36884144, GL36904544, GL37022869, GL37030037, GL43020358, GL36303562, GL36318387, GL33739285, GL33716226, GL32778435, GL32760168, GL38217514, GL38319948, GL37964606, GL37937551.

The Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis and IIFL does not make any representation or warranties regarding quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. IIFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove, any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason therefor and to reject any or all the bids or offers without assigning any reason for the same. Details of defaulting borrower(s) pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulter borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 30.05.2026
 Place: BHUPALPAL

 Sd/-
 AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
 IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

IIFL FINANCE
 CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
 Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No. B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL37087486, GL37061490, GL41232410, GL39017377, GL44894903, GL39353729, GL39346156, GL37236466, GL36809705, GL36790585, GL39535710, GL39375473, GL3257872, GL35963892, GL35980595, GL37011021, GL40652910, GL41536409, GL33159088, GL32750540, GL37484170, GL36499669, GL43140067, GL39174542, GL39153285, GL38202078, GL36414672, GL36421131, GL38066600, GL42491451, GL39439556, GL39431783, GL38445612, GL48115467, GL33999371, GL40039350, GL42207002.

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www.southindiatimes.com

info.southindiatimes@gmail.com

FOR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT: 9948480279, 7330778889

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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL43063310, GL45863264, GL46914930, GL48433796, GL39211318, GL39187709, GL42623552, GL42242635, GL36805397, GL41700694, GL29381311, GL37492883, GL28048255, GL34190243, GL34168321, GL36519167, GL36748515, GL38375244, GL36732215, GL39280591, GL39257158, GL36798068, GL36611195, GL40878997, GL48388707, GL39585886, GL43131635, GL39365667, GL39328447, GL38335770, GL38254866, GL39416688, GL39435560, GL41871385, GL38411215, GL39430883, GL39423911, GL39692282, GL43376993, GL36556132, GL39693995

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SD/- AUTHORISED SIGNATORY IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL39416713, GL39435215, GL34004065, GL36027141, GL38045454, GL36916781, GL40811621, GL43833109, GL36847531, GL39420037, GL44641105, GL39429509, GL40700281, GL39124653, GL42979029, GL39029497, GL39031987, GL38189498, GL47905303, GL39171238, GL39200453, GL39242617, GL39238092, GL37080134, GL37084667, GL37248173, GL43592825, GL39107332, GL48369060, GL39103176, GL39245434, GL45754730, GL39232375, GL39593087, GL39275731, GL39726040, GL39454704, GL45684473, GL48186237, GL47160224, GL39474507, GL45867650, GL39313655, GL39297599

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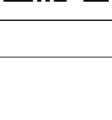
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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL42955531, GL43100831, GL46873615, GL39080035, GL42356192, GL47917355, GL46057534, GL44474200, GL45662889, GL47247887, GL42820989, GL42712759, GL42783722, GL38969515, GL38954081, GL46445141, GL43523297, GL39259147, GL39626128, GL32813196, GL30792245, GL33110802, GL39488354, GL30621447, GL39587578, GL39610143, GL45940259, GL36488929, GL36325212, GL36344579, GL32848468, GL41036994, GL39354635, GL39336044, GL33443673, GL35326127, GL36849131, GL39223710, GL39243965

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PMJ robbery case mastermind Subhodh Singh arrested



Karimnagar, May 29, TSIT: Police Commissioner Goush Alam said Karimnagar police arrested Subhodh Singh, the alleged mastermind behind the sensational PMJ Jewellery robbery case, from Purnia Jail in Bihar on a PT warrant.

The accused is alleged to have been involved in the robbery and shooting incident targeting PMJ Jewellery employees in Karimnagar town on May 3, 2026. The Commissioner stated that Subhodh Singh is also facing multiple cases in various courts.

A special police team brought the accused to Karimnagar on Thursday night and produced him before the magistrate at midnight. The court later remanded him to judicial custody.

Teenmaar Mallanna meets Telangana diaspora in US



Jogulamba Gadwal, May 29, TSIT: As part of his United States tour, Telangana Rajyadhikara Party founder and MLC Teenmaar Mallanna participated in a grand "Meet & Greet" programme organized by the Telugu Telangana Global Association (TTGA) in Harmony District on Thursday.

The event saw a large turnout of Telangana natives and NRI representatives. During the interaction, Mallanna discussed press-

ing issues affecting Telangana, highlighting the political backwardness of Backward Classes and criticizing exploitative policies of dominant upper-caste groups. He elaborated on the objectives of the Telangana Rajyadhikara Party, emphasizing BC political empowerment and social justice.

Deputy Collectors Association Seeks Special Pay for EROs and AEROs Engaged in Electoral Roll Revision

Hyderabad TSIT: Telangana Deputy Collectors Association has urged the State Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) to grant one month's special pay to Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) engaged in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

A delegation led by Association President V. Lachhi Reddy, along with leaders of the Telangana Tahsildars Association (TGTA), met Telangana Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudarshan Reddy on Friday and discussed the special implementation of revised remuneration and honorarium rates for Booth Level Officers (BLOs), Supervisors, EROs, and AEROs as proposed by the Election Commission of India.

yet been released in Telangana. They urged the government to implement the revised rates recommended by the Election Commission, including Rs. 12,000 for BLOs, Rs. 18,000 for BLO Supervisors, Rs. 25,000 for AEROs, and Rs. 30,000 for EROs.

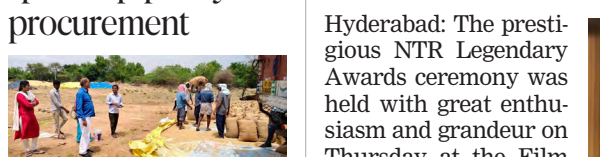
Lachhi Reddy stated that while the Election Commission had enhanced remuneration for BLOs and Supervisors engaged in election-related and electoral roll activities, it had also proposed increased honorariums for EROs and AEROs. He requested the allocation of adequate budgetary support for implementing the revised payments.

Consult Doctors Immediately if You Experience Breathing Difficulties: Dr. Venkat Raman Kola.

Mancherial, May 29, TSIT: People experiencing breathing difficulties should seek immediate medical attention, advised Dr. Venkat Raman Kola, Clinical Director of Critical Care at Yashoda Hospitals.

Speaking to the media in Mancherial on Friday, Dr. Kola said that Yashoda Hospitals has been awarded the prestigious international "Platinum" recognition for excellence in providing advanced life-support treatment to critically ill patients. He stated that the award reflects the hospital's commitment to patient safety, clinical excellence, and adherence to international healthcare standards.

Additional Collector directs officials to speed up paddy procurement



Jogulamba Gadwal, May 29, TSIT: Additional Collector (Revenue) Madhumohan directed officials to expedite the paddy procurement process in the district and ensure timely transportation of grain to rice mills. On Friday, the Additional Collector visited the paddy procurement centre at Bheempuram village in Dharur mandal and reviewed the ongoing operations.

Police Crack Sensational Woman Murder Case in Nagarkurnool

Nagar kurnool (TSIT) Police have solved the sensational murder case of a woman reported from Khanapur village in Bijinapally mandal of Nagarkurnool district. Nagarkurnool DSP Srinivas Yadav and CI Ashok Reddy disclosed the details during a media conference.

According to police, the victim Parvatamma was living with Ramulu, who was also involved in an illicit relationship with another woman named Lakshmi. Frequent disputes between Parvatamma and Ramulu over the affair allegedly led him to plan her murder in advance. On May 26, Ramulu reportedly dropped Lakshmi at Palem village and later went to Parvatamma after consuming liquor.

NTR Legendary Awards Presented in Grand Ceremony at Film Nagar Club



Hyderabad: The prestigious NTR Legendary Awards ceremony was held with great enthusiasm and grandeur on Thursday at the Film Nagar Club. The event honoured the legacy of Vishwa Vikhyatha Natasarvabhooma, late Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao (NTR), the legendary actor and former Chief Minister of united Andhra Pradesh.

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Telangana State Kamma Corporation Chairman Bandi Ramesh attended the event as the chief guest. He personally presented the NTR Legacy Awards to several veteran artists who have made significant contributions to the film industry.

Free Mega Medical Camp on May 31

Khammam (TSIT): A free mega medical camp will be organized on May 31 under the auspices of Kamma Mahajana Sangham to mark the 103rd birth anniversary of former Chief Minister and Telugu icon N. T. Rama Rao, said Sangham president Kollu Raghu Satyanarayana and secretary Chava Ramu. The camp will be held at Swarna Bharathi Kalyana Mandapam in Khammam from 8.30 am to 1 pm.

Govt Committed to Protecting Farmers from Rain Damage: Collector

Nagar Kurnool TSIT: District Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil assured that the government will procure even rain-soaked paddy at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) to protect farmers from losses caused by untimely rains. Addressing a media conference at the Collectorate along with Additional Collector Amarendra on Friday, the Collector said special measures have been taken to support farmers whose crops were damaged during harvesting.

IIFL FINANCE CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797 Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No. B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604

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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL38935483, GL39431413, GL39410658, GL39439327, GL45021607, GL48005958, GL39584180, GL38784677, GL39615224, GL39346349, GL39353841, GL48298462, GL39693968, GL36568118, GL39020510, GL43422877, GL39854901, GL39758291, GL39379300, GL39391756, GL43818721, GL37528621, GL39585540, GL39616101, GL38349049, GL33809514, GL38794657, GL32717963, GL36808173, GL30359003, GL33449110, GL39407833, GL39047480

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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL35576615, GL33599583, GL39234944, GL36807265, GL42052051, GL36306270, GL36599492, GL36187229, GL36194196, GL36392026, GL39423684, GL45771259, GL48734141, GL39471049, GL42630063, GL43992220, GL39603399, GL39612145, GL46481567, GL36764105, GL40856282, GL39705000, GL42510851, GL40214907, GL39975429, GL47826528, GL39408454, GL39249532, GL36855964, GL36839048, GL38109035, GL45136648, GL39225535, GL39244240, GL38499625, GL39834432, GL37129888, GL37064377, GL34252057, GL38954997, GL37191149, GL39512769, GL39499837, GL39556798, GL39544566, GL44695070, GL42812826, GL37162470, GL37192778, GL37205908, GL37221151, GL39941507, GL37073251, GL40839424, GL39184454, GL39386629, GL39370967, GL39090306, GL38935498, GL38852843, GL35783058, GL39287317, GL39082001, GL39302532, GL39310819, GL39448728, GL34835785, GL34817629, GL35248050, GL38742752, GL39289704, GL39069540, GL39500880, GL39513741, GL33963623, GL39393377, GL39828215, GL39516311, GL46897918, GL39482828

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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL37600235, GL37449704, GL37439632, GL36627798, GL37831730, GL38882006, GL38882224, GL38578729, GL39041082, GL37905397, GL38565141, GL38270681, GL37699551, GL38597500, GL38524215, GL38444781, GL38270681, GL39041013, GL39524925, GL39249278, GL39278100, GL39250231, GL46795143, GL39356424, GL39393939, GL42765800, GL44867183, GL43835232, GL41953269, GL47875630, GL37533053, GL38046318, GL41152902, GL34302183, GL41443021, GL37393828, GL44599069, GL39355765, GL37081873, GL37080974, GL39205152, GL39212847, GL37428908, GL39561789, GL39552008, GL37094526, GL40659524, GL44548987, GL38144735, GL38161028, GL38123319, GL39592928, GL39615318, GL43602694, GL39834059, GL35977333, GL37101042, GL36390836, GL40057906, GL37016883, GL36567281, GL36554875, GL35090961, GL35106638, GL39971727, GL39613840, GL39606777, GL35483299, GL35489549, GL38387665, GL39141034, GL37593318

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 CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
 Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No. B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
 Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
 E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS
 It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on **30.06.2026 from 10 AM** at following district Centre **Mahabubabad-Indira Centre GI - D.No 6-3-35/1, 1st Floor, Near MRO Office, Mahabubabad - 506101, (TS)**. Any change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned herein the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

Gold Loan A/C No.: GL393181088, GL39361069, GL39304768, GL35616712, GL37348607, GL37526591, GL39522729, GL37736183, GL38202796, GL39470421, GL48444940, GL39421424, GL37786073, GL39311518, GL39291629, GL36435305, GL39243256, GL39217151, GL33457148, GL33451050, GL39154600, GL36542888, GL32262873, GL38855326, GL38755034, GL38702289, GL38927850, GL38647290, GL37668254, GL38253929, GL39524778, GL38466612, GL39312705, GL39307440, GL47408168.

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For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 30.05.2026
 Place: MAHABUBABAD
 AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
 IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

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 CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL37022129, GL39212016, GL39194043, GL39137799, GL36701979, GL36514936, GL39556601, GL39533501, GL39188744, GL39470769, GL39422634, GL37009973, GL43905705, GL39527980, GL3955457, GL39691882, GL34237137, GL38454535, GL38784345, GL39674517, GL37617942, GL37252315, GL39386881, GL38894394, GL37661417, GL39371327, GL38875474, GL37316257, GL39337524, GL39355339, GL38874433, GL37074370, GL37550681, GL37573588, GL38306686, GL39447155, GL39476069, GL38878675, GL47741519, GL39599422, GL39610499, GL41469896, GL36789671, GL43950792, GL35162419, GL35145286, GL38996011, GL39044998, GL38780222, GL38830333, GL39408799, GL37643573, GL43077415, GL41444262, GL41299056, GL35720913, GL39277843, GL39248726, GL38200912.

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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL41590411, GL39597311, GL39609802, GL35038898, GL35029936, GL39434359, GL39415169, GL39559912, GL47075570, GL39526470, GL39226934, GL39244401, GL42117168, GL39486766, GL39518651, GL39411813, GL39432220, GL36554173, GL37021686, GL38990243, GL43361608, GL46724711, GL37688372, GL39763607, GL38495338, GL34772159, GL37469492, GL37189797, GL39486864, GL39518702, GL39319538, GL39351441, GL36863204, GL39713745, GL38260972, GL39352866, GL39321630, GL37108715, GL37109293, GL37401283, GL37055364, GL39576839, GL39552959, GL39562325, GL36727660, GL39468528, GL34814666, GL34795289, GL36841876, GL39389465, GL39375126, GL37898277, GL36555296, GL38470073, GL37790205.

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Date: 30.05.2026
 Place: KOTHAGUDEM
 AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
 IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

World Emergency Medicine Day celebrated grandly in Ajara Hospitals



WARANGAL, TSIT : World Emergency Medicine Day was celebrated grandly under the aegis of Ajara Hospitals. Doctors from various reputed hospitals in and around Warangal, including specialists in Emergency Medicine, Critical Care, Anaesthesia, Surgery, Pulmonology, and Internal Medicine, along with nursing staff, enthusiastically participated in the programme. On this occasion, special awareness sessions were conducted highlighting the importance of

emergency medical services, the need for rapid treatment, and how timely decision-making can save lives. Experts explained that coordination among medical teams plays a crucial role in patient survival during emergency situations. The programme, conducted under the theme "Real Scenarios - Real Pressure - Real Impact," featured live emergency simulations and clinical challenges in which medical teams from different hospitals demonstrated their expertise in mass casualty management, toxicology response, critical care crisis handling, and rapid decision-making. Doctors participating in the team-based competitions showcased their ability to make quick decisions and work in coordination during emergency situations, making the event highly engaging and informative.

CPI(ML) leaders pay tribute to Kachanapalli martyrs



Mahabubabad, May 29, TSIT: CPI(ML) New Democracy leaders paid tribute to the Kachanapalli martyrs at the Paladugu Krishna Memorial Building in Kothaguda mandal on Friday and called upon people to continue the struggle for the aspirations of the martyrs. Speaking on the occasion, CPI(ML) New Democracy Gudur Division Secretary Suryam said it is the responsibility of everyone to pass on the spirit of struggle of the Kachanapalli martyrs to the younger generation. He stated that the sacrifices made by the martyrs for solving public issues and protecting oppressed communities should not go in vain. He alleged that tribal rights and laws were being neglected under the present system and demanded strict implementation of the 1/70 Act in agency areas. He also sought irrigation facilities for Kothaguda and Gangaram mandals.

Ponnam seeks Mining Engineering course for Husnabad college

Husnabad, May 29, TSIT: Minister Ponnam Prabhakar has written to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy requesting the sanction of a B.Tech course in Mining Engineering at the Satavahana University Engineering College in Husnabad.



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Date: 30.05.2026
 Place: KARIM NAGAR
 AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
 IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

Minister assures farmers wet grain will be procured without hassle

Wanaparthy, May 29, TSIT: State Excise, Tourism and Culture Minister Jupalli Krishnarao assured farmers that wet paddy due to unseasonal rains will be purchased and transported under district supervision, urging them not to be disheartened. On Friday, the minister, accompanied by District Collector Adarsh Surabhi, visited paddy procurement centers in Vipanaganda mandal and Kethapalli suburbs. He inspected drenched paddy sacks and interacted with farmers, who raised concerns over a shortage of trucks. In response, the minister directed that all lorries used for sand and factory transport in the district be



seized and redeployed to move paddy urgently. He instructed officials to ensure wet grain is immediately transported to boiling mills. The visit was attended by Additional Collector Revenue Vinod Kumar, District Library Corporation Chairman Govardhan Sagar, District Civil Supplies Officer Kashi Vishwanath, and other public representatives and officials. This proactive approach aims to safeguard farmers' interests amid unpredictable weather.

MLA morning walk in Dattayapally

Wanaparthy (TSIT): MLA Thudi Meghareddy took a morning walk in Dattayapally village of Wanaparthy mandal on Friday. On this occasion, he toured through the streets of the village and learned about the problems. Starting from the village panchayat, he visited the school, Anganwadi center, pond embankment, sports ground, drinking water plant, CC roads, dirt drains, temple construction site, construction of CC bed for drying crops and also visited Thandals. On this occasion, the villagers said that they have been seeing for many years that no MLA has come to the village so far. Today, as legislators of Wanaparthy, we are very happy that you have come to our village and know the problems. They expressed their sincere gratitude to the MLA. On this occasion, the village sarpanch Venkataiah brought to the notice of the MLA the work to be done in the village. The MLA ordered the morning officials along with him to take steps to immediately expel the problems found in the village. They went to Tandala and spoke to Tandala residents. In the program, Congress Party Vanaparthy Mandal president Ravi Kiran, former, MPPs Kitchareddy, Shankar Naik, Sarpanch Valya Naik, ward members M Venkataiah, Mallesh, Venkatesh, Jayaramulu, Ramakrishna, Nagaseshi, Chennaiah Kurmaiah Dharmiah, K Sudarshan, officials and leaders of the respective branches of the Congress party were present. Others participated.



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Date: 30.05.2026
 Place: NALGONDA
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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL39138387, GL35209804, GL35127210, GL35119918, GL35904574, GL39697482, GL39243565, GL38414684, GL39220992, GL38660342, GL39320473, GL37028918, GL38253580, GL38853931, GL38783129, GL39694047, GL36722718, GL36820009, GL36765976, GL36760546, GL36725766, GL37564697, GL37605645, GL39337030, GL39150172, GL37486155, GL39412079, GL37243902, GL36571565, GL38496422, GL38868218, GL38509628, GL37639964, GL38969536, GL37807319, GL37243926, GL36905287, GL35198309, GL35199406, GL37243938, GL36906037, GL35242499, GL38036098, GL38588785, GL35926300, GL38013583, GL36735856, GL40478251, GL37053130, GL36571135, GL36558251, GL37545659.

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Date: 30.05.2026
 Place: MANCHERLA
 AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
 IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL40114145, GL37060621, GL39151218, GL39451912, GL39472909, GL38493085, GL35200387, GL38883280, GL40245673, GL34381965, GL38434712, GL41454826, GL39560526, GL40208771, GL39527010, GL39162751, GL39919247, GL46581613, GL39206

EDITORIAL

How Looting Became Embedded in Israeli Military Operations

Looting has accompanied wars and violent conflicts throughout human history and was therefore explicitly prohibited under Articles 28 and 47 of the 1907 Hague Regulations concerning the Laws and Customs of War on Land, and under Article 33 of the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (1949).

While looting shares common characteristics across conflicts, every place in which it occurs has its own particular circumstances. Understanding those circumstances is essential if the phenomenon is to be reduced, even if it can never be entirely eradicated.

In the Israeli context, one could argue that looting is rooted in the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians in 1948, the apartheid regime and the settlement project established in the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967. Yet while the phenomenon has always existed within the Israeli military, its scale has fluctuated over the years.

In *The Lions' Gate*, former Israeli Chief of Staff Mordechai Gur's account of the 1967 battle for Jerusalem through the experiences of paratroopers, looting by both soldiers and Israeli civilians is discussed openly. The book describes how Israeli civilians followed behind the advancing paratroopers, looting whatever they could carry from the Palestinian neighbourhoods that had been captured. The looters reportedly risked their lives, transporting stolen property through minefields separating East and West Jerusalem. One conclusion raised in the book is that the looting of 1967 was a direct consequence of the failure to address similar acts in 1948.

Many Palestinian families in the West Bank live in a cash-based economy. It is not uncommon for soldiers conducting searches of Palestinian homes or vehicles at checkpoints to steal cash. If a Palestinian chooses to file a complaint with the Israeli authorities, it is exceedingly difficult to prove the theft unless a soldier confesses.

In one such case, a civil lawsuit I filed on behalf of a Palestinian driver was dismissed. The driver alleged that he saw a commanding officer in an Israeli military unit steal 10,000 shekels from the glove compartment of his car during a search. During questioning, the officer acknowledged that the driver had immediately accused him of theft upon returning to the vehicle, but insisted the accusation was false. Although comprehensive studies have yet to be published – and it will likely be impossible to determine the full extent of looting carried out by Israeli soldiers in Lebanon, Gaza and the West Bank since the outbreak of the war on Oct. 7, 2023, particularly because many homes have been completely destroyed and many of their owners killed – the images soldiers themselves have circulated on social media, together with the steady stream of testimonies reaching journalists, organisations and human rights lawyers, suggest a massive wave of looting unprecedented in recent decades.

Why did this happen? Two central explanations stand out. The Israeli military has no official order authorising looting, but senior commanders have long been aware of the phenomenon. As early as December 2023, then-chief of staff Herzi Halevi circulated a letter to soldiers following the spread of social media footage documenting looting. "We must preserve our humanity," he wrote.

Under Modi, India's Democracy IS A WORK OF FICTION

Truth is immutable. Fictional script can be altered at will. An economic boom can be transformed into an economic nightmare overnight. The prime minister, who painted rosy pictures in election campaigns, all of a sudden screamed exceptional crisis. A sinister delimitation bill is packaged in the lofty ideal of women's empowerment. A trade deal insidious to Indian interest is portrayed as a boom for the nation. Consequences of flawed economic and foreign policies are presented as an unavoidable impact of war. A sinister sectarian agenda is couched in a noble narrative of sabka-saath-sabka-vikas – 'with all, progress for all'. It will not be fallacious to presume that Narendra Modi is fictionalising Indian democracy.

The plot turns on situational logic, with the power of propaganda constructing a convincing pivot for the convenience of hawking the fiction.

While the desperation to control the narrative is the primary force behind this deceptive ploy, Modi also exploits this trick for refurbishing his own fading image. He chairs a routine meeting of the Council of Ministers and twists the messaging to link it to the larger goal of Viksit Bharat. His post on X gives some insight into how he conducted the meeting. The photograph he shared with the public separates him from the rest of the ministerial crowd and elevates him to a position distinct from the other members of the cabinet. It serves as a reminder that he does not hold the position of "first among equals," a term used to describe the role of a prime minister in a parliamentary democracy. He also asks his colleagues to search for sources of alternative energy. Does the optics not undermine the constitutional arrangement of collective responsibility? Do they not transform the cabinet into merely a group of advisers? Is this not a declaration that he alone makes decisions? Institutions continue to exist but without their constitutionally assigned roles.

The much-hyped "Melodi" drama in Rome also presents another dimension of the fictionalisation



of democracy, where common diplomatic gestures are made to appear as unique events intended not only to redeem his image but to divert attention from the true purpose of his visit. The gesture was loud and frivolous. The drama indeed brought a brief pause to the austerity shows in which ministers were travelling by bus and the chief minister was flying economy class.

The manner in which austerity measures were announced also points towards fictionalisation of the real discourse. Amidst striking extravagance as manifested in his craze for self-publicity and ostentatious foreign trips, a purely economic necessity was given a touch of patriotism. Buying costlier petrol, eating less oil and avoiding gold purchase become a response to call of nationalism. That's fiction bearing down facts. His appeal must have touched the core of the Indian ethos, aparigraha or non-possessiveness. The opposition's demand for answers was bound to go in vain. Democracy gets hurt, but without any noise.

The first step towards the fictionalisation of democracy was the mystification of the Israel-US war on Iran. The prime minister likens the crisis to the COVID pandemic, and the war takes on the character of a natural calamity. The mystification effectively

absolves Modi of charges of pursuing a flawed foreign policy, for no human being can be held responsible for a natural calamity. The narrative presents him as an innocent bystander who is ignorant of developments in West Asia and visits Israel without any awareness of escalating tensions. It renders irrelevant debates over Modi succumbing to US pressure and stopping the purchase of oil from Iran and Russia. The mystification also prevents questions from being raised about Modi's recent visit to the pro-Israel UAE when foreign ministers from BRICS countries were in Delhi to discuss the crisis. In an opaque democracy with little or almost no access to information on security, finance, or deteriorating living conditions, there is no avenue for people to know about the manipulations occurring behind the scenes. This makes the task easier for the rulers. However, in this case, some pointed to the corporate connections behind Modi's foreign policy. Speculation appeared suggesting that his tours of the Nordic countries and Italy might have been aligned with the interests of a major Indian corporate group.

We also find elements of fiction in Modi's choice of a public rally to announce austerity measures. He does this to make his communication with the public appear infor-

mal. The tactic forms an essential part of his governance. His Mann ki Baat is the best example of informal yet unilateral communication. In announcing austerity measures, he discards all available channels, including Parliament, state-run television channels, and even party platforms, in order to make the communication appear even more informal than before. He does not discuss the matter in the cabinet either. At a time when institutions are divorced from their constitutional roles, even the small gesture of consulting others might instil some confidence in democratic institutions. However, he deliberately chooses to eliminate such a possibility. He repeats the tactic in The Hague for the same purpose and announces the possible rise in poverty at a community gathering of immigrant Indians. How can the prime minister of a democracy reveal such vital information to an informal gathering outside the country? People may wonder why Modi fictionalises democracy at a time when he is in full command of every major institution and has achieved an unexpected victory in West Bengal. The conquest of West Bengal has demonstrated that little can prevent him from winning elections. The victory has decisively altered the nature of elections by introducing new ele-

ments into the electoral system – the SIR, a category of "logical discrepancies", tribunals to scrutinise voters' eligibility, a large deployment of central forces, counting personnel from the Union government, and so on. However, absolute control hardly guarantees immunity from instability. The narrative of ghuspaithiyas (infiltrators) cannot legitimise control over West Bengal. Discontent arising from disenfranchisement and the suppression of minorities and the opposition may lead to destabilisation. Modi may therefore be looking towards the fictionalisation of democracy as a diversionary tool. However, the project of fictionalisation primarily depends on communal narratives, the time-tested tool of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and the BJP. Analysts failed to pay attention to a recent event at Somnath. Within a week of the conquest of West Bengal, Modi organised an Amrut Mahotsava (75th anniversary) to commemorate the inauguration of the new temple at Somnath. One rarely hears of celebrations marking the inauguration day of a place of worship. Moreover, neither the RSS nor the BJP was associated with the construction of the new temple at Somnath. Sardar Patel conceived the idea, while Congress leaders K. M. Munshi and N. V. Gadgil executed it. Rajendra Prasad, another Congress stalwart, inaugurated it. Prime Minister Nehru wanted the Indian state to maintain distance from the affair, and Prasad did the same by inaugurating the temple in his private capacity. He had reiterated his government's commitment to the ideals of secularism. "It is very necessary that each one of us should realise that the best course is to act with a sense of respect and equality towards every community and creed. In it lies the welfare of our nation and country and of every one of us. This faith and conviction has impelled India to adopt the policy of secularism and to give an assurance that there shall be no discrimination on grounds of religion. Everyone would be provided equal opportunities," he had said.

How Civil Society Reads India-Pakistan Signals Amid the West Asia War

What do civil society peace activists, especially the cross border 'people to people' dialogue enthusiasts say about the growing buzz around a senior political ideologue, and a former army chief signalling the possibility of India's reset in the confrontational face-off in the India-Pakistan bilateral relations? The media discourse has been heavy with mixed reactions of the political class and even some encouragement from realist strategists, but what about the cross border civil society networks – the track two, and particularly the people-to-people track – that supposedly are meant to break the deadlock in the zero-sum paradigm of the two nuclear armed neighbours?

Movements such as the three decades old Pakistan-India People's Forum for Peace and Democracy (PIPPFD) have not simply been idle, or waiting for government approvals or the commendation of fundamentalists. On April 18-19, PIPFPD shook off the constraining burden of anti-national labelling, surveillance and militarised nationalist propaganda, and re-energised the Pakistan-India people-to-people commitment to reject the logic of war, politics of hatred and silencing.

After eight years, the urgency of the political moment – of deepening militarisation, authoritarian megalomania and shrinking democratic spaces – drove the convening of the National Convention of PIPFPD, India chapter in Delhi. The thematic call of Ishq, Siyasat, Awam: Why Peace Matters, returned the enthusiastic inter-genera-



tional assembly once again to a shared historical responsibility as we invoked the memory and spirit of Faiz Ahmed Faiz, Sahir Ludhianvi and Avtar Singh Pash – poets who refused the violence of borders, who spoke against hollow nationalism, and who placed love, dissent, and people at the centre of politics. It was a continuation of the tradition of celebrating voices such as Fahmida Riaz and Amrita Pritam who insisted that the subcontinent's history cannot be reduced to division, nor its future to hostility. For the hundreds who came – voicing the diverse struggles of farmers, fisherfolk, forest dwellers, workers, artists, academics and lawyers, across fault lines in Manipur, securitised and militarised regions of Chhattisgarh and Kashmir, displaced communities and students – peace was not a slogan. It was a political demand rooted in democracy, human rights and justice. Pakistani colleagues disabled from join-

ing by hostile visa regimes, were present in supportive video cameos, excited at the prospect of the return of the multitudinous PIPFPD joint conventions which, since the 1990s, had enabled ordinary Indians and Pakistanis to travel to each other's countries and pull down the walls of otherness that divided them. These multifarious contacts were ruptured by the sterile policy of "terror and talks don't go together" which broke off road, rail and air links, trade and medical tourism, divided families, and stripped diplomatic contacts to bare bones. Toxic propaganda and militarised nationalism triggered escalating military action culminating in Operation Sindoor and the May 2025 India-Pakistan military confrontation, presently 'paused'.

The PIPFPD National Convention preceded this recent signalling of support for India-Pakistan people-to-people contacts. According to

M. Vijayan, general secretary of PIPFPD, "PIPPFD is a people to people membership based Forum and does not look at relations from the statist positions of governments, but rather from the prism of people – of fishers who are jailed; of divided peoples of undivided Jammu & Kashmir who have borne the brunt of the violent conflict and wars, of the traders and common people who would stand to gain by opening of borders for travel and trade". Within weeks of the PIPFPD assembly's affirmation of a vision for the future of South Asia that rests on ordinary and diverse people standing at the centre of peace and democracy, there came a surprising convergent call. In an interview to PTI, Dattaray Hosbale, the RSS General Secretary exhorted the resumption of people to people contacts, trade and commerce, and issuance of visas and thereby the renewal of diplomatic relations.

Despite Growing Revolt In Trinamool, No Sign of Introspection by Mamata Banerjee

The election results were declared on May 4. Today is May 28. That means nearly twenty-four days have already passed since the results came out, almost a full month. Yet during this entire period, one after another, Trinamool Congress leaders have publicly revolted against the party leadership. Many have resigned from party posts openly. Interestingly, most of them do not even directly say that they want to join the BJP. Their rebellion is not necessarily ideological migration; it is more a reflection of anger, frustration, and alienation within the party structure itself. The situation has become so serious that even the BJP's state leadership has publicly stated that, for the next three months, they are not interested in inducting defectors immediately. The BJP leadership has reportedly said that only after things settle down and the distinction between "good Trinamool" and "bad Trinamool" members becomes clearer, will decisions be taken regarding inductions. At the same time, several councillors of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation, former MLAs, and even elected representatives have started openly criticising the Trinamool Congress leadership. The central complaints being raised are becoming increasingly repetitive and consistent. Many leaders allege that the party has become excessively corporatised. Others claim that access to the leadership has become restricted. There are also accusations that Abhishek Banerjee remained



politically unavailable during crucial periods. Alongside this, criticism surrounding the growing influence of I-PAC and professional political management structures has intensified. But beyond all these allegations, the bigger question is this: where is the introspection within the party leadership? In politics, no party wins forever, and no party remains undefeated permanently. Every major political force, after suffering setbacks, usually goes through a phase of internal reflection. History offers many examples. When the CPI(M) transitioned from the Jyoti Basu era to Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee's leadership, serious internal discussions began within the Communist Party as well. Veteran Communist leader Abdullah Rasul, who stayed at the Park Circus party commune, had openly warned the party leadership at the time. He argued that the party leadership was increasingly slipping

into the hands of urban middle-class elites who had gradually become disconnected from workers and peasants, the very social base that once formed the backbone of the Communist movement. Abdullah Rasul was not alone. Similar concerns started emerging from senior Communist leaders across districts. Eventually, the party was compelled to undertake a phase of introspection. Senior CPI(M) leader Shyamal Chakraborty even initiated a programme called Atmashuddhi, meaning self-purification or self-correction. The BJP too has experienced moments of introspection. There was a time when almost everyone believed Atal Bihari Vajpayee would return to power for a second consecutive term. The BJP campaign projected the slogan that Vajpayee represented "magic, not arithmetic". Much of the Indian media also assumed that the NDA would comfort-

ably return to power. But when Manmohan Singh unexpectedly became Prime Minister, the BJP too began questioning itself internally. It started examining where the disconnect had emerged. Over time, BJP leaders themselves acknowledged that while the party was growing quantitatively, questions remained about qualitative growth. The Communist movement had debated something similar long ago. During organisational discussions, debates often emerged around "quantity versus quality". A party could expand numerically while simultaneously becoming hollow internally. The conflict between quantity and quality has emerged from the age of the Bolsheviks and Mensheviks. Within Left circles, there used to be a phrase for such a phenomenon: "anaemic growth". A body may appear swollen externally, but internally it suffers from a lack of blood and strength. Many political observers now feel a similar situation may be developing inside the Trinamool Congress. Yet what is striking is that the party leadership still appears unwilling to publicly acknowledge any mistakes. Neither Mamata Banerjee nor Abhishek Banerjee has openly admitted that strategic or organisational errors may have contributed to the electoral setback. Recently, Arup Chakraborty, a Trinamool spokesperson, resigned from a committee chairmanship and openly stated that these internal issues were among the reasons behind the party's poor performance.

Focus on Infrastructure Development to Boost Industrial Growth: Collector Abhishek Kishore

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam : District Collector M. Abhishek Kishore has directed officials to give top priority to the development of basic infrastructure facilities such as roads, power supply, water supply, and street lighting to accelerate industrial growth in the district. He emphasized the need for coordinated efforts among all departments to create a conducive environment for industries and instructed officials to ensure speedy and transparent clearances through the Single Window Desk system. The Collector was speaking at the District Industries Export Promotion Committee (DIEPC) meeting held at the Collectorate conference hall on Thursday. During the meeting, he reviewed pending industrial approvals,



land allotments, infrastructure development works, and the implementation of various self-employment schemes.

He instructed officials to expedite the clearance of applications received through the Single Window Portal and provide necessary support to industrial entrepreneurs within the stipulated time frame. Reviewing the progress of

applications under schemes such as PMEGP and PM Vishwakarma, the Collector directed officials to speed up loan sanctions and conduct capacity-building and awareness programmes for beneficiaries. The Collector also reviewed infrastructure development works in industrial parks located at Pedagantyada, Auto Nagar, and Nano Park areas. He inquired about the progress

of land allotments, execution of sale deeds, implementation of MoU projects, and investment approval procedures. He stressed that all departments should work in coordination to ensure industrial projects are grounded at the earliest.

Highlighting the welfare of employees working in Auto Nagar and IT Parks, the Collector suggested introducing electric bus services through APSRTC for their convenience. He also instructed the concerned officials to take swift measures to improve water supply facilities in the Auto Nagar Industrial Park. District Industries General Manager Adishesu, APIIC Zonal Manager Simhachalam, officials from various departments, and representatives of industrial associations participated in the meeting.

Error-Free Electoral Rolls the Goal of SIR Process: ECI Secretaries

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam : Election Commission of India (ECI) Secretaries Santosh Kumar Dubey and Naveen Kumar stated that a healthy and error-free electoral roll is crucial for strengthening the democratic system and that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process is being carried out with transparency and meticulous planning to achieve this objective.



A review meeting on the preparedness for the SIR process was held on Friday at the School of Planning and Architecture auditorium in the city. ECI Secretaries Santosh Kumar Dubey and Naveen Kumar, Under Secretary Sheesh Ram, Additional CEO of the State CEO Office A. Venkateswara Rao, NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshminsha, along

with Joint Collectors, EROs, AEROs and other officials from NTR, Krishna, Eluru, Guntur, Palnadu and Bapatla districts attended the meeting. The ECI officials explained the measures and precautions to be taken for the successful implementation of the SIR process. They reviewed preparedness

activities, training for officials and staff, meetings with political parties, generation and printing of Enumeration Forms (EFs), distribution of forms, BLO kits and rationalisation of polling stations. The officials informed that preparatory activities for the SIR process would be conducted from June 5 to June

14, followed by a door-to-door survey by Booth Level Officers (BLOs) from June 15 to July 14. The draft electoral rolls will be published on July 21, while claims and objections will be accepted from July 21 to August 20. After disposal of claims and objections, the final electoral rolls will be published on September 22. Speaking on the occasion, ECI Secretary Santosh Kumar Dubey said the primary objective of the SIR process is to ensure inclusion of all eligible voters while removing ineligible entries, deceased persons, permanently shifted voters and duplicate registrations to prepare a clean and healthy electoral roll. He stressed that transparency would be given top priority throughout the process.

Andhra Pradesh to Be Developed as Major Textile Hub: Giriraj Singh

Visakhapatnam : Union Textiles Minister Giriraj Singh said the Centre is committed to developing Andhra Pradesh into a major textile hub and extending full support to the sector. As part of his two-day visit to the state, the Union Minister visited Spintex India Private Limited at Mallavalli Industrial Park in Krishna district on Friday. State Handlooms and Textiles Minister S. Savitha and Spintex MD Vallabhaneni Sudhakar Chowdary welcomed him.



are underway for another. He also highlighted opportunities in advanced sectors such as glass fibre, carbon fibre and graphene. Giriraj Singh said the Central Government's Rs.10,860 crore PLI scheme for textiles would provide significant opportunities and expressed hope that Andhra Pradesh would secure a major share. Later, the Union Minister planted saplings, inspected native cattle breeds including Punganur cows and Ongole bulls, and visited the textile manufacturing unit to review production activities. Several officials and industrial representatives participated in the programme.

Addressing the media, Giriraj Singh said discussions would be held with Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on strengthening Andhra Pradesh's textile and handloom sectors. He said the state has huge potential in cotton production and technical textiles. The Minister stated that the Centre had already approved one textile cluster for Andhra Pradesh and plans

Dr A. Vishnu Vardhan Assumes Charge as Director of Medical Education

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam : Dr A. Vishnu Vardhan on Friday officially assumed charge as the new Director of Medical Education (DME) of the State Medical Education Department. He took charge at the DME office located in the premises of the Old Hospital in Visakhapatnam. Dr Vishnu Vardhan, who completed his MD in Anaesthesiology, has vast experience in the field of medical education. Prior to his appointment as DME, he served as the Principal of Rangaraya Medical College, Kakinada, where he played a key role in improving academic standards and strengthening medical services. Speaking after assuming office, Dr Vishnu Vardhan said he would strive to further enhance the standards of medical education in line with the goals of the State Government. He stated that priority would be given to providing quality medical education and developing modern infrastructure in government medical colleges. He also assured that the needs of faculty members and students would be addressed through efficient administration. Dr Vishnu Vardhan further said efforts would be made to provide better healthcare services to poor patients in govern-



ment teaching hospitals. He emphasized the importance of strengthening infrastructure facilities in hospitals and promoting medical research activities.

Several dignitaries and medical professionals congratulated Dr Vishnu Vardhan on the occasion. Among them were ISHA President Dr Chakrarao, University Council Member Dr Suresh, SMC Principal Dr A.Y. Rao, psychiatrist Dr Krishnamohan, Dr Thagore, Dr Karnati Sharath, along with several doctors, faculty members and officials who extended their best wishes by presenting bouquets.

Grand Farewell to Additional Director P. Kiran Kumar

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam : P. Kiran Kumar, who is retiring from service after serving as Additional Director (AD) in the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, was accorded a warm farewell by the CR Media Academy on Friday. CR Media Academy Manager M. Bhaskar Narayana and staff members met him at the Directorate office and conveyed their retirement greetings. Speaking on the occasion, the participants praised P. Kiran Kumar for rendering distinguished services in the



strengthening the department was also appreciated. Addressing the gathering, P. Kiran Kumar expressed gratitude to the officers and staff who had supported him throughout his service career. He said that he considered it an honour to serve in the government sector and credited the cooperation of colleagues for helping him discharge his duties effectively. CR Media Academy Junior Assistant Lavaraju, PS Srinivasa Jeevan, staff members Aditya, J. Reddy and others participated in the programme.

Six brutally killed with sharp weapons & fire arms

Vijayapura, May 29 (TSIT) Six persons were brutally killed in a firing incident linked to a long-standing land dispute in Govindapura village of Chadachan taluk in Karnataka's Vijayapura district on Friday, police said.

The victims were identified as Revanasiddappa Nirale, Dundappa Revanasiddappa Nirale, Shivaputra Revanasiddappa Nirale, Chandrashekhara Nirale, Shabbir Nadaf and another person.

Duddilla Sridhar Babu: A visionary leader admired across Telangana



Telangana IT, Industries and Legislative Affairs Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu has emerged as one of the most respected and dynamic leaders in Telangana politics, earning admiration across party lines for his integrity, simplicity and commitment to public welfare.

Born in Dhanwada village of Kataram mandal, Sridhar Babu entered politics in 1999 following the death of his father and former Assembly Speaker Duddilla Sripada Rao. Since then, he has won five times consecutively from Manthani constituency, surpassing the record of former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao.

A law graduate from Delhi University and a postgraduate in Political Science from the University of Hyderabad, Sridhar Babu served in several key ministerial roles and played a historic role during the Telangana statehood movement. As a senior Congress leader and key strategist, he contributed significantly to the party's victory in the 2023 Telangana Assembly elections. Currently serving in Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's Cabinet, he is leading Telangana's global investment outreach and promoting sectors such as Artificial Intelligence, semiconductors and information technology. Known for his close connection with people and focus on development, Sridhar Babu continues to work towards youth employment, industrial growth and welfare-driven governance across Telangana.

Seed Balls Can Help Drive Away Climate Disasters: Eluru DFO

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam : Eluru District Forest Officer P. V. Sandeep Reddy has called upon people to join hands in combating climate change through the preparation of seed balls and to make the vision of Andhra Pradesh Forest Minister Pawan Kalyan a grand success. An awareness programme on seed ball preparation was organized on Friday morning at the Tadikilapudi Central Nursery in Eluru district under the chairmanship of District Forest Officer P. V. Sandeep Reddy and under the leadership of Green Climate Team NGO Founder Secretary J. V. Ratnam.

Addressing the gathering, Sandeep Reddy urged officials and volunteers to take the lead in



achieving the target of producing 2.5 crore seed balls across the state. He explained that each seed ball should be prepared using 70 percent cow dung, 30 percent soil, and three seeds of indigenous wild species to promote the growth of social forests. He stressed that Eluru district should remain at the forefront of the massive seed ball production drive being undertaken by the Forest Department. Comparing the mission to a battlefield effort, he called upon everyone to work

like soldiers in the fight against climate disasters.

Speaking on the occasion, Social Forestry Department DFO C.H. Suryanarayana emphasized the importance of including grass seeds along with tree seeds. He said every seed must be protected and effectively utilized. Expanding forests through seed balls, he noted, would help provide food and shelter for animals and birds in forest areas. Green Climate Team NGO Founder Secretary J.V. Ratnam created awareness among participants on the scientific preparation of seed balls. He said forest officials and environmental activists must work wholeheartedly to address climate change challenges.

SCR Chief Publicity Inspector A. Srinivasulu retires after 40 years of service

Hyderabad, May 29, TSIT:Shri A. Srinivasulu, Chief Publicity Inspector in the Public Relations Department of South Central Railway, retired from service on superannuation after completing 40 years of distinguished service in the Railways.

During his long career, he served in the Medical, Vigilance and Public Relations departments in various capacities, including Chief Pharmacist, Chief Vigilance Inspector and Chief Publicity Inspector. He served as Chief Publicity Inspector for nearly ten years and played a key role in strengthening the image of South Central Railway through effective public relations and media



coordination. Known for his dedication, sincerity and professional commitment, Srinivasulu earned appreciation from colleagues, officials and media personnel alike. He maintained strong relations with the media and contributed

significantly to enhancing public communication and outreach activities of the Railways. Railway officials and staff members appreciated his valuable services and wished him a happy and peaceful retired life.

Coalition Government Steps Up for Price Stabilisation Ahead of Kharif Season

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) : The Andhra Pradesh coalition government has intensified efforts to ensure essential commodities remain available to the public at affordable prices, with continuous monitoring of open market trends and coordinated action between departments ahead of the Kharif 2026 season. At the 8th meeting of the ministerial committee on price stabilisation held at the Secretariat on Friday, Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar said officials had been directed to conduct regular reviews of market prices and take immediate corrective measures whenever necessary. The meeting was attended by Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav and Agriculture Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaidu. Speaking after the review, Manohar said the



government examined the demand and retail-wholesale price trends of essential commodities including pulses, rice, edible oils, tomatoes and onions. He noted that although global war-like conditions had triggered price increases in some sectors, the state government was fully prepared to keep inflation under control. The minister particularly highlighted the rise in edible oil prices across the country and assured that measures would be taken to ensure supplies remain accessible to consumers in Andhra

Pradesh at reasonable rates. The ministers stated that the Agriculture and Civil Supplies departments were jointly preparing advance plans for the upcoming Kharif season. Awareness programmes would be conducted to encourage farmers to cultivate priority paddy varieties that are in greater market demand. They observed that farmers cultivating low-demand paddy varieties often face difficulties during procurement. Varieties such as 1010 and PR-126 reportedly yield a higher percentage of broken rice, making them less suitable for consumption and resulting in financial losses to farmers. The ministers said field-level officials had been instructed to create awareness among farmers regarding suitable crop varieties and market preferences.

AP AIMS TO BECOME GLOBAL HUB FOR GREEN ENERGY AND CYBER SECURITY: CM NAIDU



The South India Times, Visakhapatnam : A delegation from the World Economic Forum met Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and held discussions on the implementation roadmap for the country's first thematic Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (CAIR) established in Andhra Pradesh. The Andhra Pradesh Transmission Corporation (AP Transco) had earlier signed an agreement with the World Economic Forum for the establishment of the CAIR centre. The centre will focus on key sectors such as green energy, energy transition, and cyber resilience. During the meeting, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu emphasized the need to transform Andhra Pradesh into a world-class hub for green energy, digital transformation, and cyber security. He directed officials

to conduct a comprehensive study of various power generation models and develop the most suitable and efficient model for the state. The Chief Minister also suggested integrating the Visakhapatnam Data Center Corridor, green hydrogen investments, and renewable energy capacity expansion with the CAIR action plan. He stressed that the CAIR should function with a strong result-oriented approach. Naidu further instructed officials to ensure that Andhra Pradesh achieves significant progress by the time of the next World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, enabling the state to showcase its advancements on a global platform. Minister Gopipati Ravi Kumar, Chief Secretary Sai Prasad, and senior officials from the power, AP Transco, Genco, and Discom departments participated in the meeting.

114 Institutions Allotted Land in Amaravati: Minister Narayana

NO OBSTACLE TO CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION WORKS



THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES, VISAKHAPATNAM: Amaravati capital development works are progressing rapidly without any hurdles, Andhra Pradesh Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister Narayana said on Friday. Addressing the media at the Secretariat after an online meeting of the Cabinet Subcommittee on land allotments in Amaravati, the Minister stated that land has so far been allotted to 114 institutions covering 1,269 acres. The meeting was attended by Ministers Payyavula Keshav, TG Bharat, Kandula Durgesh, Kollu Ravindra and Sandhya Rani, along with CRDA Commissioner Vijay Rama Raju. Minister Narayana said the allotted institutions include 70 government organisations and 44 private institutions. Among them are 16 banks, 22 educational institutions, 17 Central government organisations, 13 State government organisations, seven medical institutions, 14 hotels, two sports organisations and five other institutions. He said construction works are currently underway in 20 institutions, while nine institutions have already completed their projects. Another 25 institutions are in the agreement

stage, 18 are in the payment stage and 38 are in the design stage. The Minister stated that three organisations — GRT Hotels, Splendor and IRCTC — have withdrawn their allotments for various reasons. He clarified that IRCTC cancelled its allotment following its policy decision not to take up new construction projects.

Narayana further said that 16 more organisations have already applied for land allotments in Amaravati and the government would process them through Expression of Interest (EOI) or Request for Proposal (RFP) procedures. Referring to the ongoing global fuel concerns, the Minister clarified that there is no diesel shortage affecting Amaravati construction works. He said contractors have made adequate arrangements to ensure uninterrupted diesel supply for machinery used at construction sites. The Minister said Amaravati construction works would continue without interruption as the capital city project carries the aspirations of nearly 29,000 farmers who had given their lands under the land pooling scheme.

He added that after remaining stalled for the last five years, capital works are now progressing at a fast pace. Narayana also revealed that some Mumbai-based film personalities, including actor Sanjay Dutt, have shown interest in obtaining land allotments in Amaravati. However, he said the government is carefully examining Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), balance sheets and financial statements before making allotments to ensure that projects are financially viable and do not remain incomplete later.

Power Supply Restored on War Footing

THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES, VISAKHAPATNAM: APSPDCL CMD Immadi Pruthvithaj, stated that the power supply was disrupted in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Eluru, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Konaseema, and Kakinada due to heavy winds and rains that occurred on Thursday night have been fully restored on a war-footing basis. He said that power supply to all affected feeders was completely restored by Friday evening. He added that electricity department officials, engineers, and staff worked continuously throughout the night to repair the damaged infrastructure caused by rains and strong winds. Out of the total, 243 33 kV feeders and 1,230 11 kV feeders were affected across the organization's jurisdiction, and power supply to all feeders has now been restored. Due to falling trees, branches, flex banners, and hoardings on power lines, about 808 electricity poles, 176 DTRs, and 38.46 kilometers of conductors were damaged. Despite this, department officials, engineers, and staff worked round the clock and repaired damaged lines, poles, and other equipment, restoring supply to all affected areas by 5 a.m. on Friday. He stated that advance arrangements of poles, conductors, transformers, vehicles, and machinery in the affected regions helped speed up restoration works. He further informed that, as per preliminary estimates, the power infrastructure suffered a loss of Rs. 2.15 crore due to the winds and rains. The CMD appreciated the officials, engineers, and staff who worked tirelessly day and night to restore normal power supply in the affected areas. He also requested the public to immediately inform the toll-free number 1912 or local electricity officials if broken poles or snapped wires are noticed.



IIM Visakhapatnam Launches One-Year PGDMEx Programme for Executives

The South India Times, VISAKHAPATNAM: The Indian Institute of Management Visakhapatnam (IIMV) inaugurated the first batch of its one-year Post Graduate Diploma in Management for Executives (PGDMEx), a specially designed programme aimed at meeting the evolving demands of the modern business environment. The inaugural batch consists of 77 participants from diverse professional backgrounds. The programme combines theoretical learning with practical exposure through a blended learning format and includes a three-day campus immersion component to encourage peer interaction and institutional engagement. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Dr. Pudi



Hari Prasad, IRAS, Principal Financial Advisor, South Coast Railway, Government of India, as the chief guest. Addressing the participants, he highlighted the importance of self-management, leadership, transformation, and people management in today's professional world. He encouraged executives to responsibly use technology, challenge conventional

approaches, and contribute towards the vision of "Viksit Bharat." Speaking on the occasion, Prof. M. Chandrasekhar, Director of IIM Visakhapatnam, emphasized the growing significance of judgment and decision-making in the era of Artificial Intelligence. He noted that while AI can provide information and solutions, effective management judgment remains the true strength of management education. Shri Manvender Singh, CEO of Accredian, urged participants to develop strategic thinking and identify opportunities through broader perspectives. Prof. Amit Shankar, Programme Chair, advised participants to focus on the "4Ps" — process, patience, persistence, and peer networks — for professional growth. Admissions Chair Prof. Prashant Premkumar Nair stated that the inaugural batch has an average age of 34 years and more than 13 years of work experience, with women constituting 21 percent of the cohort. The event also highlighted IIM Visakhapatnam's commitment to globally benchmarked management education as a BGA-accredited institution and a member of AACSB.

TDP's Historic Decision to Ensure 33% Reservation for Women in Legislatures: A Milestone for Women Empowerment

Visakhapatnam Andhra Pradesh Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha has described the Telugu Desam Party's decision to allocate 33% of party tickets to women in legislative bodies as a historic step towards women's empowerment, taken at the recent Mahanadu. Speaking to the media in Amaravati on Friday, she said the party has been consistently committed to strengthening women's role not just as voters, but as leaders and decision-makers in society. She noted that Indian culture has traditionally placed women in a revered



position, but at one stage regressive thinking confined them largely to household roles. In such a backdrop, former Chief Minister N. T. Rama Rao (NTR)

introduced landmark reforms ensuring equal rights and dignity for women. He was the first leader to grant equal property rights to women within families, she said, adding that Andhra Pradesh later became a model for similar reforms across the country. NTR's initiatives, including promoting women's education and establishing women's universities, reflected his visionary leadership, she added. He also recognized early on that political participation was essential for true empowerment,

leading to reservation for women in local bodies, which enabled thousands of women to become public representatives. Highlighting the role of former Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, the Home Minister said he further strengthened women's economic empowerment through DWCRA self-help groups. These groups, she noted, have transformed rural women into financially independent entrepreneurs, making the system so robust that successive governments have continued it without disruption.

Unlocking lifetime flu protection: Duke's innovative vaccine strategy

Experimental vaccine targets portions of the flu virus that don't change. Duke researchers have opened a new avenue in the attack against influenza viruses by creating a vaccine that encourages the immune system to target a portion of the virus surface that is less variable. Their approach worked well in experiments with mice and ferrets and may lead to more broadly protective influenza vaccines and less reliance on an annual shot tailored to that year's versions of the virus. Even with vaccines, influenza kills about a half-million people each year around the world. This new vaccine approach, described today (May 1) in the journal *Science Translational Medicine*, is part of a 5-year-old effort to develop a longer-lasting universal flu vaccine that would be able to foil all versions of the virus.



Understanding Influenza and Vaccine Challenges
Influenza strains are referred to by a shorthand code, H5N1 for example, that describes which flavors of two particular surface proteins it carries. The H (sometimes HA), is hemagglutinin, a lollipop-shaped protein that binds to a receptor on a human cell, the first step toward getting the virus inside the cell. The N is neuraminidase, a second protein that enables a newly made virus to escape the host cell and go on to infect other cells. "On the virus particle, there's five to 10 times more hemagglutinin than neuraminidase," said Nicholas Heaton, PhD, an associate professor of molecular genetics and microbiology at Duke who led the research. "If we took your blood to see if you are likely to be protected from a strain of flu, we'd be measuring what your antibodies do to hemagglutinin as the best metric of what's likely to happen to you. The strongest correlates of protection have to do with hemagglutinin-directed immunity." Vaccines teach the immune system to react to pieces of the virus that have been specifically tailored to the versions of influenza that are expected to be the most threatening in the coming flu season. The reason we need a new flu shot every fall isn't because the vaccine wears out; it's because the influenza virus is constantly changing the surface proteins that vaccines target. Flu shots — and immune systems — tend to target the bulb-like "head" of hemagglutinin rather than the stalk. But the details of that head region also change constantly, creating an arms race between vaccine design and viruses. The stalk, by comparison, changes much less. A schematic

diagram of the influenza virus, showing the surface proteins hemagglutinin (blue, peanut shaped) and neuraminidase (red, flower-shaped), to which antibodies attach during an immune response. A new vaccine from Duke helps the immune system target the stalk of the hemagglutinin protein, rather than its top. Credit: U.S. Centers for Disease Control.
"A number of groups have gone through and experimentally mutagenized the whole hemagglutinin and asked 'which areas can change and still allow the hemagglutinin to function?'" Heaton explained. "And the answer is, you can't really change the stalk and expect it to continue to function." So the Duke team sought to design proteins that elicit an immune response more focused on the stalk rather than the head. "The virus has evolved to have the immune system recognize these (features on the head region). But these are the shapes the virus can change. That is an insidious strategy," Heaton said. Using gene editing, they created more than 80,000 variations of the hemagglutinin protein with changes in one portion right on the top of the head domain and then tested a vaccine filled with a mixture of these variations on mice and ferrets. Because of the broad variety of head conformations being presented to the immune system and the relative consistency of the stalks, these vaccines produced more antibodies to the stalk

portion of hemagglutinin in response. "The opportunity for the immune system to see that (head portion) over and over and over like it needs to is compromised because there's diversity there," Heaton said.
In lab tests and animals, the experimental vaccine caused the immune system to respond more strongly to stalk regions because they stayed consistent. This boosted the immune response to the vaccine overall, and in some cases, even improved antibody responses to the head region of the protein as well. Potential for Broad and Durable Protection Antibodies against the stalk work differently," Heaton said. "Their mechanism of protection is not necessarily to block the first step of infection. So then our idea was, 'What if we can come up with a vaccine that gives us both? What if we can get good head antibodies and at the same time also get stalk antibodies in case the vaccine selection was wrong, or if there's a pandemic?'" Essentially, the paper says, Yes, we can accomplish that," Heaton said. After a shot of the highly variant vaccine was administered in some experiments, 100 percent of the mice avoided illness or death from what should have been a lethal dose of flu viruses. The next steps of the research will attempt to understand whether the same level of immunity can be achieved by presenting fewer than 80,000 hemagglutinin variants.

NMDC posts record production and revenue in FY26

Hyderabad: State-owned iron ore major NMDC closed FY26 with its strongest operational and financial performance to date, driven by robust production growth and disciplined execution. Iron ore production rose 21% to a record 53.16 million tonnes, while sales increased 13% to



50.24 million tonnes, marking the highest-ever

annual volumes in the company's history. The growth in production and dispatches contributed to NMDC's financial achievements, with turnover surging 33% to Rs. 31,554 crore. EBITDA rose 9% to Rs. 10,737 crore, profit before tax

increased 9% to Rs. 10,155 crore, and net profit climbed 11% to Rs. 7,421 crore. These milestones reflect both resilient domestic steel demand and the expanding capabilities of India's largest iron ore producer, reinforcing NMDC's position as a key contributor to the nation's mining and steel sectors.

Precision from chaos: unexpected strategy behind smarter Robots

New AI algorithm for robots consistently outperforms state-of-the-art systems. Northwestern University engineers have developed a new artificial intelligence (AI) algorithm designed specifically for smart robots. By helping robots rapidly and reliably learn complex skills, the new method could significantly improve the practicality — and safety — of robots for a range of applications, including self-driving cars, delivery drones, household assistants, and automation. Called Maximum Diffusion Reinforcement Learning (MaxDiff RL), the algorithm's success lies in its ability to encourage robots to explore their environments as randomly as possible in order to gain a diverse set of experiences. This "designed randomness" improves the quality of data that robots collect regarding their own surroundings. And, by using higher-quality data, simulated robots demonstrated faster and more efficient learning, improving their overall reliability and performance. Superior Performance of MaxDiff RL
When tested against other AI platforms, simulated robots using Northwestern's new algorithm consistently outperformed state-of-the-art models. The new algorithm works so well, in fact, that robots learned new tasks and then successfully performed them within a single attempt — getting it right the first time. This starkly contrasts current AI models, which enable slower



learning through trial and error. The research will be published today (May 2) in the journal *Nature Machine Intelligence*. "Other AI frameworks can be somewhat unreliable," said Northwestern's Thomas Berrueta, who led the study. "Sometimes they will totally nail a task, but other times, they will fail completely. With our framework, as long as the robot is capable of solving the task at all, every time you turn on your robot you can expect it to do exactly what it's been asked to do. This makes it easier to interpret robot successes and failures, which is crucial in a world increasingly dependent on AI." Berrueta is a Presidential Fellow at Northwestern and a Ph.D. candidate in mechanical engineering at the McCormick School of Engineering. Robotics expert Todd Murphey, a professor of mechanical engineering at McCormick and Berrueta's adviser, is the paper's senior author. Berrueta and Murphey co-authored the paper with Allison Pinosky, also a Ph.D. candidate in Murphey's lab. The Disembodied Disconnect
To train machine-learning algorithms, researchers and developers use large quantities

of big data, which humans carefully filter and curate. AI learns from this training data, using trial and error until it reaches optimal results. While this process works well for disembodied systems, like ChatGPT and Google Gemini (formerly Bard), it does not work for embodied AI systems like robots. Robots, instead, collect data by themselves — without the luxury of human curators. "Traditional algorithms are not compatible with robotics in two distinct ways," Murphey said. "First, disembodied systems can take advantage of a world where physical laws do not apply. Second, individual failures have no consequences. For computer science applications, the only thing that matters is that it succeeds most of the time. In robotics, one failure could be catastrophic." To solve this disconnect, Berrueta, Murphey, and Pinosky aimed to develop a novel algorithm that ensures robots will collect high-quality data on-the-go. At its core, MaxDiff RL commands robots to move more randomly in order to collect thoroughly, diverse data about their environments. By learning through self-curated random experiences, robots acquire necessary skills to accomplish useful tasks. Getting It Right the First Time To test the new algorithm, the researchers compared it against current, state-of-the-art models. Using computer simulations, the researchers asked simulated

Indian-owned companies in UK surge in record investment year: Report

AGENCY

London: The number of Indian-owned companies in the United Kingdom surged by nearly 60 per cent year-on-year to rise to 1,912 with a combined turnover of 105.77 billion pounds (approximately Rs 13.48 crore), according to the 'India Meets Britain Tracker 2026'. The latest edition of the annual Grant Thornton-led analysis of Indian investment and economic impact in the UK was launched by Indian High Commissioner to the UK P Kumaran in London on Thursday, May 28. The 2026 Tracker reflects a significant increase from the 1,197 Indian-owned firms generating around 72.14 billion pounds (approximately Rs 7.67 crore) in 2025, as well as a jump in employee numbers from 126,720 last year to 203,549. "The India-UK relationship today is no longer defined by nostalgia; it is defined by opportunity," said Kumaran, in one of his first addresses as the new High Commissioner. "India brings scale, growth, talent, and ambition, and the United Kingdom brings innovation, expertise, finance, and global leadership across advanced sectors, and together we have the chance to build one of the



defining economic partnerships of the coming decades," he said. 11.7 per cent year-on-year increase in bilateral trade The 2026 Tracker notes that bilateral trade between India and the UK rose to 47.4 billion pounds (approximately Rs 6.03 crore) in 2025, an 11.7 per cent year-on-year increase during the year, which marked the signing of the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). "With CETA now in place, the India-UK corridor is poised for unprecedented growth, creating value for both

economies and cementing a long-term partnership," said Anuj Chande, Grant Thornton Partner and Head of South Asia Business Group. "We are continuing to see that the India-UK corridor is not just a trade relationship; it is a strategic partnership leveraging innovation, resilience, and shared ambitions. "With nearly all Indian mid-market firms planning UK expansion and UK businesses eyeing India for growth, this collaboration is set to thrive in the coming years across technology, clean energy, and advanced

manufacturing," he said. The implementation of CETA is expected to inject further momentum into bilateral trade and investment ties once it takes effect in the coming months. "This year's Tracker comes at a landmark moment in the UK-India relationship. The signing of CETA in 2025 marked a historic reset and businesses in both countries are now looking ahead to the opportunities it will unlock," said Keshav Muruges, CEO of WNS Group and chair of the UK-India Business Forum at the Confederation

of Indian Industry (CII), one of the collaborators on the report. "This partnership is about much more than just economics. It is rooted in shared values and strengthened by the 1.8 million-strong Indian diaspora in the UK, the living bridge that connects our two nations," he said. UK continues to grow as a key destination for Indian investment, says IGF director Will Carne, director of India Global Forum (IGF) - another co-collaborator on the Tracker, said the findings highlight the huge advantages of ever deeper UK engagement with an "outward-facing, globalising India", which must be used as a "launchpad for further growth as CETA comes into effect". "The UK continues to grow as a key destination for Indian investment, crucially, in strategic areas that will determine future growth on both sides of the corridor. As Indian companies shift their focus towards innovation-led investments, regulatory alignment must keep pace to provide further headroom for growth," he said. The 2026 Tracker found that 66 companies reported annual revenue growth of at least 10 per cent and an average growth rate of 61 per cent.

Vedanta Power Meenakshi Energy Ensures Safe Drinking Water Access for Over 1,000 Residents in Nellore, Revives Defunct RO Plants

TSIT DESK
Nellore, Andhra Pradesh | 29 May 2026:

Strengthening its commitment to community well-being and rural infrastructure development, Vedanta Power Meenakshi Energy Limited, a 1000 MW thermal power plant in Andhra Pradesh's Nellore district, has restored and renovated Reverse Osmosis (RO) drinking water plants, benefiting over 1,000 residents across the two villages of Lingavaram and Varagalli. The restored facilities shall ensure access to safe and clean drinking water for nearly 100 households through each RO plant in both villages. The initiative, as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), addresses a critical community need, as both facilities had remained non-operational for more than a year, significantly impacting residents' access to reliable drinking water. Before Meenakshi Energy's intervention, villagers were compelled to depend on distant and inconsistent water sources for their daily needs, causing considerable inconvenience, particularly for women and elderly residents. Recognizing the urgency of the issue, the company undertook extensive refurbishment of the plants to restore their functionality



and improve long-term operational reliability. As part of the renovation effort, Meenakshi Energy Limited carried out extensive refurbishment of the RO plants, including replacement of filters, membranes, and pumps, along with critical civil repairs and installation of automated systems to enhance operational efficiency, reliability, and water quality standards. Following the upgrades, the facilities were formally handed over to the respective Panchayat administrations for continued community use and maintenance. Speaking on the initiative, Rajinder Singh Ahuja, CEO, Vedanta Power said, "Access

to safe drinking water is fundamental to community well-being. Through initiatives such as these, we aim to strengthen essential rural infrastructure and improve quality of life across our operational areas. We remain committed to driving meaningful and sustainable CSR interventions spanning water, health, education, and community development." Panchayat representatives from both villages appreciated the timely intervention by Meenakshi Energy Limited and noted that the restored facilities would significantly reduce the daily challenges faced by residents, particularly in accessing safe and reliable drinking water.

Hyderabad home registrations increase 16% YoY in April 2026: Knight Frank India

TSIT DESK

Hyderabad, May 2026: According to Knight Frank India's latest assessment, residential property registrations in Hyderabad increased by 16% year-on-year (YoY) and 7% month-on-month (MoM) in April 2026, reflecting continued strength in residential market activity. A total of 6,837 residential properties were registered during the month. In value terms, homes worth INR 4,673 crore (cr) were registered, marking a 13% YoY and 1% MoM increase, once again indicating sustained momentum in transaction values. From a market perspective, property registration trends in April suggest that while premium housing continues to anchor overall transaction values, demand is increasingly becoming more broad-based, with stronger participation across affordable, mid, and premium segments supporting greater market stability. The Hyderabad residential market spans four districts namely Hyderabad, Medchal-Malkajgiri, Rangareddy, and

Sangareddy and includes transactions from both the primary and secondary real estate markets. Shishir Bajjal, International Partner, Chairman and Managing Director, Knight Frank India said "April's registration trends suggest that Hyderabad's residential market is entering a more balanced phase of growth, with demand broadening beyond the premium segment. While higher-value homes continue to account for a significant share of transaction, the simultaneous increase in activity across affordable and mid-income categories indicates improving market depth and wider buyer participation. With registrations increasing by 16% YoY to 6,837 units, the data points toward a market supported by multiple demand drivers rather than reliance on a single segment. Backed by a strong employment base, infrastructure expansion, and evolving buyer aspirations, Hyderabad continues to demonstrate resilient housing demand." In April 2026, Hyderabad's residential reg-

istration trends reflected a broad-based improvement in demand across ticket sizes, indicating strengthening market participation beyond the premium segment. Registrations of homes priced above INR 1 cr increased by 11% YoY, extending the sustained momentum in high-value transactions and highlighting continued buyer confidence in premium housing. At the same time, the affordable segment (homes priced below INR 50 lakh) recorded a stronger 18% YoY increase in registrations, pointing to renewed activity at the lower end of the market after a prolonged period of relatively muted demand. Unlike previous months where growth was largely concentrated at the premium end, April witnessed stronger participation across multiple segments. Homes priced above INR 1 cr continued to dominate in value terms, accounting for 49% of the total transaction value during the month, although this moderated slightly from 51% a year ago. In terms of volume, the seg-

ment accounted for 19% of total registrations, marginally lower than the 20% share recorded in April 2025, indicating that growth in the market was more evenly distributed across categories. Meanwhile, the mid-segment (INR 50 lakh-INR 1 cr) also returned to growth, with registrations rising 15% YoY, while maintaining a stable 25% share of total registrations. In value terms, its contribution increased from 24% to 26%, reflecting improving traction in a segment that had previously witnessed demand pressure. The simultaneous growth across affordable, mid, and premium categories suggests a broader strengthening of buyer sentiment and points toward a more balanced demand environment in Hyderabad's residential market. Most registered properties in Hyderabad ranged between 1,000 and 2,000 sq ft, comprising 67% of total registrations. Units above 2,000 sq ft comprised of 16% of the transactions during April 2026.

Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL) Signs MoUs with Indian Army and Paramilitary Forces to Support Personnel and Their Families

TSIT DESK

Hyderabad, May 29, 2026: Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL), India's leading test preparatory services provider, has signed multiple Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with key Indian Army and paramilitary forces including the Border Security Force (BSF), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) to enhance educational access and welfare support for personnel and their families across the country. These collaborations are designed to extend structured scholarships, academic mentoring, career guidance, and nationwide coaching access to serving personnel, veterans, gallantry awardees, disabled members of the forces, and families of martyrs. The purpose of these MoUs (memorandum of understanding) is to remove financial barriers and enhance the academic preparation of students interested in pursuing competitive career paths (such as engineering and medical entrance examinations) by providing academic resources at no cost to those pursuing such careers at a competitive level. According to Mr. Chandra Sekhar Garisa Reddy, Managing Director & CEO, Aakash Educational Services Limited, "Anyone who has committed



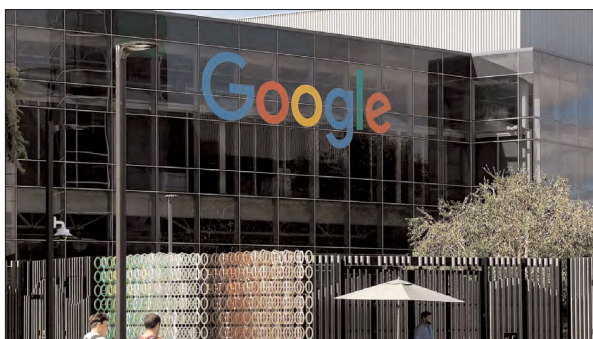
themselves to serving their country should have every available opportunity for their family to grow and develop in a way that they can succeed. Through these partnerships, we hope to expand access to quality academic resources and support our defence families in achieving educational success. This is another step in creating an opportunity for us to give back to our military community." Scholarship Support Across Forces Indian Army Personnel and Families Registration Fee only is payable, 100% waiver on all other fee components for the wards of personnel who died while in harness. 100% tuition fee waiver for the wards of personnel with more than 20% disability and gallantry awardees.

20% tuition fee waiver for the wards of serving and retired personnel, applicable after other scholarships are deducted. **BSF Personnel and Families** Only registration/admission fees payable (100% waiver on tuition and other academic charges) for wards of personnel who lost their lives in service 90% tuition fee waiver for wards of gallantry awardees or personnel with more than 20% disability, subject to required certification 50% waiver on tuition fee for personnel having less than 20% disability 20% tuition fee waiver for wards of serving and retired personnel, applicable on tuition fees after other eligible scholarships

Delhi HC holds Google liable for selling a brand's goodwill it didn't own

AGENCY

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has fined Google Rs 30 lakh for misusing the registered trademark "HINDWARE" as an auctionable advertising keyword, ruling that the tech giant was effectively selling the "commercial pulling power" of a brand it had no right to profit from. The dispute has its roots in 2013, when Hindware, a leading sanitaryware manufacturer, discovered that rival Cera Sanitaryware and its website developer Omkara Inforweb had been periodically purchasing the "HINDWARE" keyword through Google's AdWords programme. The following year, plumbing fixtures manufacturer Grohe was found to be doing the same. The result was that when customers searched for Hindware on Google, Cera and Grohe products appeared prominently at the top of the results. Hindware called this "unfair competition and



trademark dilution," a deliberate diversion of customers who were looking specifically for its brand. Both competitors eventually settled with Hindware out of court. Google, however, contested its own legal liability and proceedings against the company continued. **Does an invisible keyword count as trademark use?** At the heart of the case was a deceptively simple question. Does using a trademarked name as a backend advertising keyword, one that never appears visibly in an ad, constitute "use in advertising" under the

Trade Marks Act? Google argued it did not. Because the keyword trigger remains hidden from consumers, the company contended, it falls outside the statutory definition of trademark use. Justice Mini Pushkarna, ruling on May 22, disagreed. "It is not necessary that the registered trademark physically appears in an advertisement for the same to be used 'in advertising,'" she held. Keyword bidding, she ruled, clearly qualifies as using a mark "in advertising" under Section 29(6) of the Trade Marks Act and therefore constitutes infringement.

Airtel Payments Bank Strengthens Cyber Fraud Vigilance Through Awareness, Action, and Community Outreach in West Godavari

TSIT DESK

India, 2026: Airtel Payments Bank continues to strengthen its ongoing efforts to safeguard customers against the rising threat of cyber fraud, with a sharp focus on awareness, prevention, and last-mile engagement. As India's digital banking revolution has expanded financial access to millions, it has also created new avenues for cybercriminals. With fraud tactics becoming increasingly sophisticated and often targeting first-time and rural banking users, the need for proactive awareness and responsible banking has become more critical than ever. Anchored in customer safety, the Bank continuously evolves its approach to stay ahead of emerging risks in an increasingly digital banking environment. As part of its sustained efforts, Airtel Payments Bank has embedded safety and awareness into every customer touchpoint across digital interfaces to on-



ground engagements. The Bank runs active, multi-platform awareness campaigns across social media, helping users recognise the language of cyber fraud through simple, relatable content. Recognising that a significant share of its customer base communicates and consumes information in their mother tongue, the Bank has started delivering awareness messaging through regional-language

content ensuring that fraud prevention guidance reaches people in the language they understand best. Extending its efforts beyond digital channels, the Bank's financial literacy camps bring safety education directly into communities covering how to identify suspicious activity and the concrete steps people need to take to protect their personal and financial data. Designed as a sustained

grassroots initiative rather than one-off events, these camps aim to build lasting financial awareness at the local level. **G a n a n a r a y a n a n,** Executive Director - Business Operations, Airtel Payments Bank, said "With digital payment volumes crossing 220 lakh crore monthly on UPI, the scale of our responsibility has grown enormously. As digi-

tal adoption accelerates across Bharat, so does our responsibility to ensure that growth is built on a foundation of trust, awareness, and accountability. We are investing continuously in education, agent capability, and system-level safeguards because we believe that educating customers begins long before a fraud occurs. We will continue to work in full coordination with authorities and take uncompromising action against any form of malpractice that threatens the integrity of the financial ecosystem." Central to Airtel Payments Bank's last-mile safety framework is its network of over five lakh Business Correspondents (BCs). The Bank has established a robust onboarding process, supplemented by regular fraud prevention communications shared with BCs to keep them well-informed. This continuous engagement equips them to actively guide customers on secure banking practices.



Netanyahu says he has directed IDF to increase control of Gaza to 70%

AGENCY Tel Aviv: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says that he directed the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) to increase control of Gaza to 70%. Speaking at a conference on Thursday, he said: "We are currently squeezing Hamas; we now control 60% of the territory of the Strip - you know this. We were at 50, we moved to 60. My directive is to move to," he said

before pausing as someone in the crowd said, "100". "Let's go step by step. First of all, 70. Let's start with that. We're pressing them from all sides, we'll deal with the remnants." The expansion in control by Israel would contradict the terms of the Donald Trump-led ceasefire Israel and Hamas agreed to in October 2025. Netanyahu's statement comes as Israel continues strikes on Gaza despite the ceasefire, and as Israel and Hamas remain deadlocked in indirect, US-brokered talks to advance Trump's peace plan. At least

738 Palestinians have been killed since the ceasefire came into effect in October, according to the Hamas-run health ministry, whose figures the UN considers reliable. Netanyahu has

Hamas disarm and Israeli troops withdraw, but indirect talks between Israel and the Palestinian armed group have stalled. On Wednesday, Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz wrote on X that his country had "pledged to eliminate every-one who led the

October 7 massacre" in 2023. "We pledged that Hamas will not rule Gaza civilly or militarily," he said. He also said that what he called the "plan for voluntary emigration from Gaza" would be implemented "at the proper time and in the proper manner". Israel's far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir and far-right Finance Minister Bezalel

Smotrich have previously publicly defended what they describe as the "voluntary migration" of Palestinians from Gaza - which could amount to the forced displacement of civilians, a war crime - and resettling it with Jews. This week has also seen several strikes in Gaza. At least 10 people, including five children, were killed in an Israeli strike on a building in Gaza City late on Wednesday, according to local hospitals. The Israeli military has released a short statement saying it struck "two central Hamas terrorists in the northern Gaza Strip", without disclosing their identities. The target of the attack appeared to have been Hamas battalion commander Imad Asleem, who was killed alongside his teenage daughter Israa. The Gaza City attack came a day after the newly chosen head of the Hamas military wing, Mohammed Odeh, was killed along with his wife and two sons in an Israeli strike.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says that he directed the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) to increase control of Gaza to 70%. Speaking at a conference on Thursday, he said: "We are currently squeezing Hamas; we now control 60% of the territory of the Strip - you know this."

made several public remarks confirming that the IDF controls more than 60% of the Strip, up from the 53% agreed in October. Under the ceasefire agreement, the IDF withdrew to a demarcation line, known as the "yellow line". The next steps in the 20-point peace proposal would see

Italy restores lucky testicles on bull mosaic worn down by tourists



AGENCY Italy: A famous bull mosaic in one of Italy's grand arcades is getting some much-needed care after being worn down by tourists honouring a tradition involving its delicate body parts. As the legend goes, tourists in Milan who grind their heels on the bull's testicles and spin in place three times are guaranteed good fortune and are destined to return. Visitors twirling clockwise for luck have left a small crater on the bull's "lucky spot". "Thousands of people every day have performed the famous

heel-spinning gesture," city councillors said. "The pink tiles that make up its testicles are being worn away." The beige and blue mosaic of a prancing bull surrounded by a coat of arms is located in the city's historic 19th-Century Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II arcade. It is representative of the city of Turin, which was the first capital of Italy. Restoration began this week, with a small construction site erected around the mosaic and a restorer working to return the artwork to its former glory, Milan's city council said in a statement.

US and Iran 'very close' to deal but 'not there yet', Vance says



AGENCY Washington: The US and Iran still need to work out several sticking points before an agreement on the war can be reached, Vice-President JD Vance has said. Asked by the BBC if President Donald Trump was close to signing a deal, Vance said it was too early to say "when or if" the two sides would finalise an agreement. Earlier on Thursday, US officials told the two countries had agreed a framework of a deal - known as a memorandum of understanding - pending the approval of Trump and Iran's leadership. It would reportedly extend the ceasefire for 60 days and launch talks on the future of Iran's nuclear programme. Iran's semi-official Tasnim news agency reported it had not been finalised or confirmed. According to reports, the framework could allow "unrestricted" passage through the Strait of Hormuz and give Iran 30 days to remove mines from the narrow shipping passageway. The US would also lift its blockade, and issue

sanction waivers to allow Iran to resume selling oil. Axios, which first reported a tentative agreement between the US and Iran on Thursday, said Trump had been briefed on the proposal but did not immediately sign off on it and would take a couple of days to consider it. One-fifth of the world's liquefied natural gas and oil normally pass through the Strait of Hormuz, and its closure has impacted global fuel trade. Speaking on Thursday evening, Vance said negotiators were "going back and forth on a couple of language points", which include the "question of enrichment". "We're not there yet, but we're very close and we're going to keep on working at it," he told reporters. The US has long demanded that Iran stop producing highly enriched uranium and dispose of its existing stockpile, which in theory could be used to create nuclear weapons. Iran insists its nuclear programme is entirely peaceful and denies it is seeking to develop nuclear weapons.

PORTUGAL BREAKS HOTTEST MAY DAY RECORD AS EUROPE SWELTERS IN HEATWAVE



AGENCY Portugal: Portugal has recorded a new highest temperature for May of 40.3C as countries in Western Europe grapple with sweltering-hot weather. The temperature recorded in the central town of Mora on Wednesday bests Portugal's previous record of 40C set in May 2001. Ministers in France are meeting to assess the country's preparedness for heat-

waves, while tennis number one Jannik Sinner bowed out of the French Open after suffering from the heat. Meanwhile, Italian authorities issued a red heatwave alert for the capital, Rome, where it topped out at 32C on Thursday. The heatwave is forecast to continue into the weekend, with Germany, Spain and Switzerland having also faced unusually hot conditions.

Nato criticises Russia's 'reckless behaviour' after drone hits Romanian apartments, injuring two

AGENCY Moscow: Away from comments being made by Romania's president, Vladimir Putin is said to be "aware" of the drone incident in Romania, Russian state media reports the president's spokesperson Dmitry Peskov as saying. TASS also reports that Russia's foreign ministry will "respond soon" to Romania's decision to declare the Russian consul "persona non grata" in response to the crash. Romanian President Nicusor Dan says his administration will expel the Russian consul in the south-eastern city of Constanta and shut down the consulate, Reuters reports. According to news agency AFP, the Russian consul has been declared "persona non grata". Romanian President Nicusor Dan is currently making a



statement after meeting with the Supreme Defence Council and summoning Russia's ambassador. BBC Romanian are listening in and we will bring you the latest lines as soon as we can. One Gala?i resident tells the BBC that he continues to feel safe in the city, despite the drone crash. "We are part of Nato and there is, so to say, the necessary infrastructure in place to respond quickly [to such inci-

dent],” Emil Horga, 67, tells the BBC. He nevertheless says Romanian authorities demonstrated “certain hesitations” and could have been quicker to respond. “In a certain way, it’s an internalised feeling regarding these events,” he says. “It is as if someone gets used to this state, living in a border region.” Horga stresses it was “great luck” the drone chiefly struck the elevator shaft of the building. The President of Romania Nicusor Dan has summoned a meeting of the Supreme Defence Council, which is happening now. And the Russian ambassador has been summoned. He's been summoned before. He usually gets a slap on the wrist. I think there is some talk unofficially in Romania this time of needing a much stronger response, perhaps even the expulsion of the Russian ambassador from Bucharest. But I think that's a move that Romania would not take on its own - there have been obviously strong consultations this morning between Romania and Nato and EU allies. The drone crash in the south-east of Romania has left many in the country demanding a stronger response from Nato and the Romanian authorities.

Eight students arrested in Kenya after suspected deadly school arson attack



AGENCY Kenya: Eight students alleged to have been involved in a suspected arson attack at a Kenyan girls' school that killed 16 pupils have been arrested, police say. The fire in the early hours of Thursday morning at the Utumishi Girls Academy in Gilgil, about 120km (77 miles) north-west of capital city Nairobi, tore through the upper floor of a dormitory which had 135 bunk beds. After interviews with students and staff and a forensic review of CCTV footage, eight pupils at the school were identified as "persons of interest in connection with the planning and execution" of the fire, the National Police

Service said in a statement. Investigations are continuing into the exact cause of the blaze. Police said the students were detained for questioning after being traced to their homes and brought back to the school, while others who had remained in the area were also tracked down and

detained. The eight were among 30 students who were initially recalled to the school by detectives investigating the deadly fire. Regarding the aftermath of the fire, Education Minister Julius Ogamba said preliminary findings indicated that there had been multiple breaches of safety measures at the school, including overcrowding in dormitories and a locked exit door. "In particular, there was congestion in the dormitory and one exit door was locked, contrary to the prescribed safety requirements," he said. He dissolved the school's board of management and ordered action against the headteacher. The minister said appropriate disciplinary and legal steps would be taken against anyone found to have failed in their duties. As investigators continue their work, sorrowful scenes unfolded at the school as parents and relatives broke down while waiting for updates about their loved ones.

Man jailed for 15 years over plot to attack Taylor Swift concert in Vienna



AGENCY Cranbera: A 21-year-old Austrian man has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for planning a jihadist attack on a Taylor Swift concert in Vienna during the US singer's Eras tour in August 2024. The man, named only as Beran A in line with Austrian privacy laws, was also found guilty of a string of other terrorism-related offences. He was arrested after a tip-off from the CIA just before the first of three sold-out Taylor Swift concerts was due to take place in Vienna's Ernst Happel stadium. All three Austrian shows were immediately cancelled, to the dismay of almost 200,000 fans and the singer herself. Swift previously described how her record-breaking Eras Tour had narrowly "dodged a massacre situation". A tour documentary revealed the US singer had learned about the bomb plot while travelling to Austria. Prosecutors said Beran A had become radicalised and had sworn allegiance to jihadist group Islamic State (IS). They said he tried but had not succeeded in buy-

ing weapons illegally, including a machine gun and a hand grenade. Court psychiatrist Peter Hoffmann said Beran A showed no signs of mental illness, adding that there was "no psychiatric explanation" for his radicalisation. He was on trial in Wiener Neustadt, a city south of Vienna, with another 21-year-old man named as Arda K from Slovakia, accused of being part of a cell with jihadist group Islamic State (IS). Arda K - who was not involved in the plot against the concert - was sentenced to 12 years in prison. Beran A told the court earlier on Thursday that he was sorry, before the jury retired for several hours to consider its verdicts. Shortly after the foiled attack, Taylor Swift said it had filled her with "a new sense of fear" - and that the cancellations left her with a "tremendous amount of guilt". But the US mega-star added on Instagram: "I was also so grateful to the authorities because thanks to them, we were grieving concerts and not lives."



Blue Origin's rocket exploded during a test in Florida

MOTHER-IN-LAW OF INDIAN BRIDE WHOSE DEATH SET OFF MEDIA FRENZY ARRESTED

AGENCY New Delhi: India's top anti-crime agency has arrested the mother-in-law of an Indian woman whose death has sparked conflicting claims of murder and suicide. Twisha Sharma's parents and siblings have alleged that she was tortured by her lawyer husband, Samarth Singh, and his mother - retired judge Giribala Singh - over dowry demands and that she was murdered, allegations they have denied. The 33-year-old model and actor had been married for just five months when she was found dead in her matrimonial home in Madhya Pradesh state's Bhopal city on 12 May. On Thursday, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) arrested Giribala Singh after questioning her for several



hours. The Madhya Pradesh High Court had earlier cancelled her anticipatory bail, finding that a trial court had ignored key evidence and witness testimony. Following Twisha's death, the police had registered a case of dowry death against the Singhs. Earlier this week, the investigation was taken over by the CBI. Twisha's death has made national headlines and has once again brought the issue of dowry deaths into the spotlight.



Suspense Ends On Lionel Messi As Argentina Announce FIFA World Cup 2026 Squad

AGENCY
Argentina: Lionel Messi will captain Argentina at the World Cup, national coach Lionel Scaloni announced Thursday as he unveiled his 26-man squad. Messi, 38, had not previously confirmed he would play in what will be a record-breaking sixth tournament for the Argentine superstar. But it had been widely assumed the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner would again lead Argentina, four years after lifting the trophy in Qatar. As well as confirming Messi's presence, Thursday's announcement notably excluded Real Madrid's Franco Mastantuono from the Argentina squad. 18-year-old Mastantuono is considered one of the brightest prospects in Argentine football. The largest ever World Cup, co-hosted by the United States, Canada and Mexico, kicks off June 11. Argentina's first match will be five days later against

Algeria in Kansas City. Messi has been at the heart of an injury scare in recent days, with his club side Inter Miami this week saying medical tests diagnosed him with muscle fatigue in his left hamstring. The Major League Soccer club had provided no clear timetable for Messi's return after his abrupt exit from Miami's 6-4 victory over Philadelphia in the 73rd minute on Sunday. But Scaloni had played down the seriousness of the injury this week.

Romero returns
Center-back Cristian Romero, who suffered a knee injury last month and has not played since, was also named in the squad. The Tottenham Hotspur captain was ruled out

for the remainder of the Premier League season after he was shoved into his own goalkeeper by Sunderland striker Brian Brobbey. Argentina's roster retains 17 of the 26 players who won the title in Qatar. Young players who received call-ups include 21-year-olds Nicolas Paz and Valentin Barco. Palmeiras forward Jose Manuel Lopez, who only made his international debut last year, also features. Other notable absentees include Emiliano Buendia - currently in excellent form at Aston Villa - and Roma star Paulo Dybala. The South American giants will journey to the United States for pre-World Cup friendlies against Honduras on June 6 and



Lionel Messi will captain Argentina at the World Cup, national coach Lionel Scaloni announced Thursday as he unveiled his 26-man squad.

Rishabh Pant Resigns As Lucknow Super Giants Skipper After Disappointing IPL 2026 Show

AGENCY
New Delhi: Rishabh Pant stepped down as Lucknow Super Giants captain after the franchise finished last in IPL 2026. The IPL team confirmed on social media that Pant's request to give up the leadership role was accepted by the team management. LSG had a horrible run of form in IPL 2026 as they won just 4 matches and finished last with 8 points from 14 matches. Pant's performance as a batter was also not that impressive as he scored 312 runs in 14 matches at a strike rate of 138.05. He was bought for a record Rs 27 crore in the IPL 2025 auction but since then, LSG have finished seventh and tenth in the last two seasons. "Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) wish to formally announce that Rishabh Pant has requested to be relieved of his captaincy duties with the franchise, and the franchisee has accepted his request with immediate effect," LSG said in a statement on Friday. LSG

Director of Cricket, Tom Moody, described Pant stepping down as 'never easy'. "Rishabh approached the franchise with this request and we have respectfully accepted it. These decisions are never easy," Moody said in a statement released by LSG. "We are grateful for everything Rishabh has brought to this dressing room as captain. Our focus now is on the collective - rebuilding and restructuring to reach the best standards," he added. LSG did not make any announcement regarding who will become the next captain after Pant. "With an eye on making a positive comeback in the upcoming season, the new Lucknow

Super Giants captain will be announced in due course," the official statement from the franchise read.



Korean Golf Players Shine At LIV Golf Korea 2026; Bryson DeChambeau And Charles Howell III Top First Round

AGENCY
Korea: Korean golfers have been putting up a strong fight as their names have slowly begun to make headlines in Korea amidst the presence of global LIV Golf superstars Bryson DeChambeau, Charles Howell III, and Scott Vincent, who ended up tied atop the LIV Golf Korea leaderboard after the opening round. In fact, Korean Golf Club (OKGC) managed to put together one of its best performances of the season at Asiad Country Club in Korea. Korean Golfers Excel in LIV Golf Korea Amidst Bryson DeChambeau-led Leaderboard While the first round of the LIV Golf Korea tournament has showcased many of the best golfers out



there, Korean Golf Club managed to stand out on its own by making a strong play in the competition. Specifically, OKGC member Younghan Song scored a 4-under 68 while Doyeob Mun, playing in his debut match, earned a 4-under 68 as well, resulting in both ending up tied for 11th place overall. Korean fans found it refreshing that the good perform-

ance by their players gave hope amidst a highly stacked field. Among LIV Golf's top stars, who all had matching scores of 5-under 65 after day one to lead the tournament, were Bryson DeChambeau, Charles Howell III, and Scott Vincent, but homegrown golfers made sure there was not all the attention towards world stars. Bryson started brilliantly as he carded six

birdies before bogeying out during the last few holes. Charles Howell got his name on the leaderboard after making an eagle from 108 yards on the par-4 hole's 2nd tee, while Scott Vincent showed the best individual performance by recording a bogey-free round. Strong First Round By OKGC Puts More Pressure On Crushers GC In Team Championship Race With Crushers GC still ahead of OKGC in the team rankings by five shots, the latter team could provide stiff competition as it played exceptionally well on day one. On the other hand, Crushers GC are still strong without their regular member, Paul Casey, who did not join the event due to an injury and was replaced by Travis Smyth.

Gujarat Titans vs Rajasthan Royals Weather Report: Will Rain Play Spoilsport In IPL 2026 Qualifier 2 Clash?

AGENCY
New Delhi: Rajasthan Royals are set to take on Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 2 of IPL 2026 in Mullanpur on Friday. The winner of the game will face Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the summit clash, while the loser will be knocked out. RR have momentum on their side coming into this game. The Riyan Parag-led team has registered four consecutive victories, including its win against Sunrisers Hyderabad in the Eliminator clash. During the game, the focus will be on Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, a 15-year-old wonderkid who has impressed one and all with his terrific batting. Breaking multiple records with his ultra-aggressive style of bat-



ting, Sooryavanshi currently holds the Orange Cap with 680 runs in 15 matches this season. On the other hand, Gujarat Titans will aim to put in an improved show after being outplayed by Royal Challengers Bengaluru in Qualifier 1. Batting first, RCB posted 254

for 5, and the total eventually proved to be too much for the chasing side. GT were bundled out for 162, losing the game by 92 runs. Will rain play spoilsport during GT vs RR IPL 2026 Qualifier 2? As per Google weather forecast, there is a nine per cent chance of precipitation on

matchday. Meanwhile, AccuWeather forecast indicates that rain will not play any role during the game. In case the GT vs RR IPL 2026 Qualifier 2 is washed out due to rain in Mullanpur, Shubman Gill and Co. will advance to the final by virtue of a better finish in the points table. Gujarat Titans finished at the second spot in the table with 18 points to their credit. On the other hand, Rajasthan Royals entered the playoffs with a fourth-place finish, having 16 points to their name. Both RR and GT have won one IPL title each. Rajasthan Royals bagged the glory in the inaugural edition in 2008, while Gujarat Titans won the trophy in 2022, their first season in the tournament.

Suffering was less than my passion for tennis, says Nadal



Rafael Nadal had one of the greatest tennis careers the game has ever seen. He also spent nearly all of it in pain. Between his first French Open win in 2005 and retirement in 2024, the Spaniard won 22 Grand Slam singles titles - the second-highest total of any man. He was part of the 'Big Three' era, where he, Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic carved up the sport's biggest prizes and thrilled fans. But a chronic foot injury meant Nadal had to find different

ways just to get through matches, let alone win them. In a new Netflix series, the 39-year-old opens up about the risks he took with his health in order to achieve greatness. "I've had to make decisions about my health, where you are on the borderline between right or wrong," Nadal said. "But if I hadn't explored all that, I probably would have had 10 fewer Grand Slams. I'm not saying one or two, I'm saying 10 or 12. This is the reality."

Mangalore Set For Surfing Showdown As 7th NMPA Indian Open Of Surfing 2026 Begins

AGENCY
Mumbai: Indian surfing arrives at one of the most significant moments in its domestic history this week as the seventh edition of the NMPA Indian Open of Surfing 2026, a key stop on the national surfing circuit, prepares to bring together many of the country's leading surfers at the Blue Bay Tannirbhavi Eco Beach in Mangalore from May 29 to 31. Set against the backdrop of surfing's impending debut at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games later this year, the championship carries significance extending far beyond the pursuit of domestic titles. Featuring competitions in the Men's Open, Women's Open, Under-18 Boys, Under-18 Girls, Under-14 Boys, and Under-14 Girls categories, the event is expected to attract



over 80 athletes from Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Goa in what could prove to be a defining week for several of India's top surfers. Organised by the Mantra Surf Club and Swami Foundation under the aegis of the Surfing

Federation of India (SFI), the Indian Open has evolved steadily into one of the flagship events on the national calendar. The Karnataka Government continues its support for the competition for

a seventh consecutive year, while New Mangalore Port Authority (NMPA) returns as title sponsor for the third successive edition alongside Gold Sponsors Cycle Pure Agarbatti and Deconstruct Skincare. Asian Games Spotlight Raises Stakes in Mangalore This year's championship is expected to serve as the final major domestic assessment event before India finalises its squad for the Asian Games, placing unusual weight on performances across the three-day competition.



not looking great for

Axar Patel. With KL Rahul not willing to take a leadership role, Hardik Pandya can be the perfect choice for them to reignite the fire in the side. A potential trade could see Hardik and Axar switch places in a move that will benefit both sides massively.

New Captaincy Chance, A Blockbuster Trade Move - What Next For Hardik Pandya?

AGENCY
Mumbai: Mumbai Indians stunned everyone in 2023 as they completed a sensational trade move for Hardik Pandya from Gujarat Titans. While Cameron Green moved to Royal Challengers Bengaluru to make way, it was the perfect homecoming for the star India all-rounder. This was the same franchise where Hardik found superstardom and, after winning the title with Gujarat Titans as captain and finishing runners-up in the next season, it was probably apt that he was going to take over the reins of captaincy from Rohit

Sharma. However, what followed was a bitter episode where fans were not happy with the decisions taken by the team management, and the disappointing show on the field even led to a section of supporters booing Hardik at the Wankhede Stadium. The next two seasons did not improve the situation and, although MI did finish fourth in 2025, the fans were just never convinced. Add the injury problems and off-field chatter around Hardik to an already tense situation, and one had the perfect recipe for disaster. Following a ninth-place fin-

ish in 2026, Mumbai Indians are reportedly going to sack Hardik as captain, and several media outlets reported that the all-rounder will be looking to move to another team after a breakdown in relations with the team management. With the IPL potentially looking at yet another blockbuster trade deal, here's a look at the top destinations for Hardik Pandya in IPL 2027 - Lucknow Super Giants The Rishabh Pant move has not worked for LSG and, if some reports are to be believed, they will most likely have a captaincy vacuum after this

season. Despite commanding a record amount of Rs 27 crore in the auction, Pant has disappointed - both as a batter as well as a captain. In that case, Hardik becomes a lucrative option for the franchise as their new leader. If they decide to release Pant, LSG will have more than enough money in their bank to complete an all-cash move for the all-rounder and, if it comes down to a trade, a combination of Nicholas Pooran and an Indian fast bowler can be considered. Delhi Capitals Another franchise with a captaincy problem, with things

What Happened To QTCinderella? Streamer Threatens DMCA Strikes Against X Clip Accounts For "Hate Farming"



AGENCY
London: Twitch streamer QTCinderella is once again at the center of online discussion after announcing that she plans to issue DMCA strikes against certain clip accounts on X. The streamer, whose real name is Blaire, called out pages that she believes are using her content in a misleading way to push hate and negativity online. The conversation picked up on May 28, 2026, after QTCinderella shared a long message explaining why she had reached her limit. According to her, some accounts were taking harmless clips and turning them into "hate farming" posts designed to create toxic discussions around her. She also revealed that she had been away from the internet recently while grieving the loss of her best friend of 15 years, making the situation even more emotional for her. QTCinderella says she's "done with the abuse" from X clip accounts in her statement, QTCinderella

explained that she no longer wants her content being used by accounts she believes are acting in bad faith. She accused certain pages of intentionally framing innocent moments in ways that encourage harassment and negative comment sections. The streamer said this is the first time she has seriously considered taking legal action through DMCA takedowns. She made it clear that she sees this as setting a personal boundary rather than trying to silence criticism online. QTCinderella also strongly defended herself in the post, saying she would not allow people to profit from content that spreads false narratives about her. She added that she was tired of the kind of online environment these accounts create and claimed many of them exist mainly to stir drama and outrage. The streamer also opened up about grieving a personal loss Part of QTCinderella's message focused on something much more personal.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SANJAY RRAO, HIT & RUN INTENSE FIRST LOOK RELEASED



Suspense and crime thrillers are gaining strong momentum today, and young filmmakers are stepping forward with fresh, daring concepts to keep audiences hooked. Joining this wave is Sanjay R Rao, son of star comedian Brahmaji, who plays the lead in an intriguing new thriller titled Hit & Run. The film is written and directed by Sai Krishna Sagar and produced by Satish Reddy Allam and K. Shekar under the Satish Reddy Allam Entertainment banner, with Natasha Singh as the female lead. Marking Sanjay R Rao's birthday, the makers unveiled the film's first look poster. The design carries a dark, gritty mood dominated by

deep red and black tones. Sanjay's face emerges from heavy shadows, marked by wounds and dried blood, hinting at a character who has endured violence and emotional turmoil. The smoky, textured red background further amplifies the tension, promising a story filled with danger, intensity, and raw emotion. The cast also includes Kireeti, Muralidhar Goud, Lirisha Kunapareddy, Ravi Prakash, and Jabardasth Emmanuel in key roles, with the shoot currently underway. On the technical front, music is composed by Prince Henry. Cinematography is handled by Vijay Bhaskar Saddala and L.

Gangadhar, while editing responsibilities are taken up by D. Venkata Prabhu. The makers will unveil other details later.

Lyca Productions Subaskaran presents Filmmaker Jason Sanjay's Directorial Sundeep Kishen starrer "Sigma" worldwide release on July 31

Lyca Productions Subaskaran's Sigma, marking the directorial debut of Jason Sanjay and starring Sundeep Kishen in the lead role, is officially set to hit screens worldwide on July 31. Ever since its announcement, the film has remained one of the most talked-about projects in Tamil cinema, consistently generating strong buzz among audiences and trade circles alike. The excitement surrounding the film soared further with the teaser receiving an overwhelming response and crossing 20 million-plus views, significantly heightening anticipation for the theatrical release.

Expressing his excitement on the official release date announcement, G. K. M. Tamil Kumaran, Head of Lyca Productions, said, "We are delighted to officially announce July 31 as the release date of Sigma. The film has shaped up exceptionally well, and we strongly believe audiences are in for a refreshing cinematic experience. Jason Sanjay has approached his debut with remarkable clarity, dedication, and conviction. The entire cast and crew have worked passionately towards bringing this vision alive, and we are excited to present Sigma to audiences worldwide."

Sharing his excitement, director Jason Sanjay said, "Sigma has been an incredibly special and enriching journey for me.



I'm deeply grateful to Producer Subaskaran of Lyca Productions for placing their trust in my vision and for constantly supporting me throughout this process. Working with such a committed cast and crew has been truly rewarding, and I sincerely thank every artist and technician who contributed wholeheartedly to this film. We are eagerly looking forward to presenting Sigma to audiences on July 31 and can't wait to share more exciting updates soon."

Produced on a grand scale by Lyca Productions, Sigma features Sundeep Kishen in the lead role, supported by a powerful ensemble cast including Faria Abdullah, Raju Sundaram, Sampath Raj, Shiv Pandit, Anbu Thasan, Yog Japee, and others. The film's technical team includes music composed by Thaman S, cinematography by Krishnan Vasant, editing by Praveen KL, and Hariharasuthan handling VFX supervision.

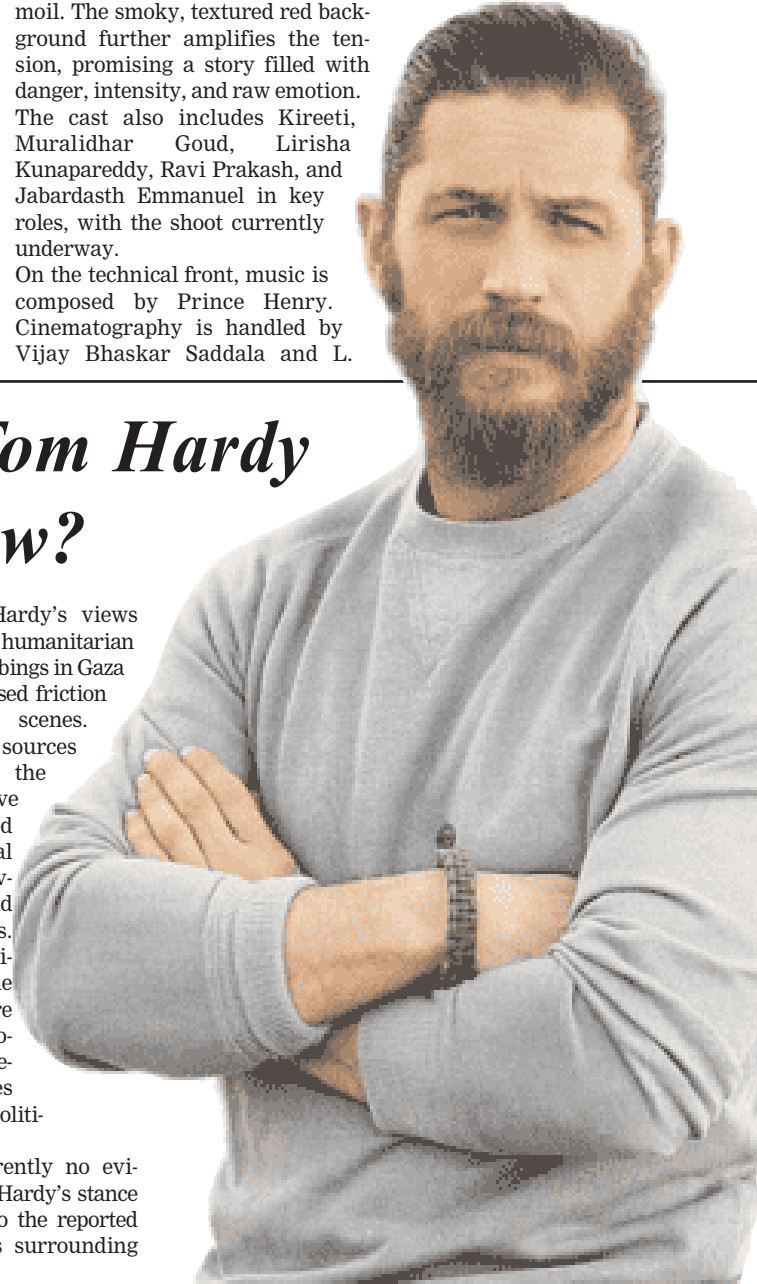
MobLand shocker: Is Tom Hardy really leaving the show?

For days, fans have been asking the same question. Has Tom Hardy been kicked out of MobLand? The rumours exploded online after reports claimed the Hollywood star had clashed with key members of the show's production team. Some fans even linked the controversy to Hardy's public support for humanitarian causes, including his concern over the ongoing conflict and bombings in Gaza, Palestine. Is Tom Hardy Leaving

MobLand Season 3? The answer is no, at least for now. According to fresh reports, Tom Hardy has not been fired from MobLand. Sources close to the production have confirmed that discussions are still ongoing and the door remains open for his return in Season 3. The makers are reportedly working to resolve creative differences and find a way forward.

Why Is Tom Hardy Involved In Controversy? One of the biggest rumours circulating online suggest-

gested that Hardy's views regarding the humanitarian crisis and bombings in Gaza may have caused friction behind the scenes. However, sources familiar with the situation have strongly denied any political fallout involving Hardy and his co-stars. Reports indicate that the tensions were related to production and creative issues rather than political opinions. There is currently no evidence linking Hardy's stance on Palestine to the reported disagreements surrounding the show.



POOJA HEGDE STUNS IN COOL DENIM OUTFIT

Pooja Hegde has faced a tough time at the box office recently with several flops in Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi films. However, her upcoming movie Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai, releasing on June 5th, is giving her and her fans a lot of hope and excitement. The film is already creating massive buzz online. The songs and trailer are trending big time, and audiences are loving what they see. It looks like this movie has all the ingredients to become a big hit and bring Pooja back strongly into the spotlight. Meanwhile,

Highlights

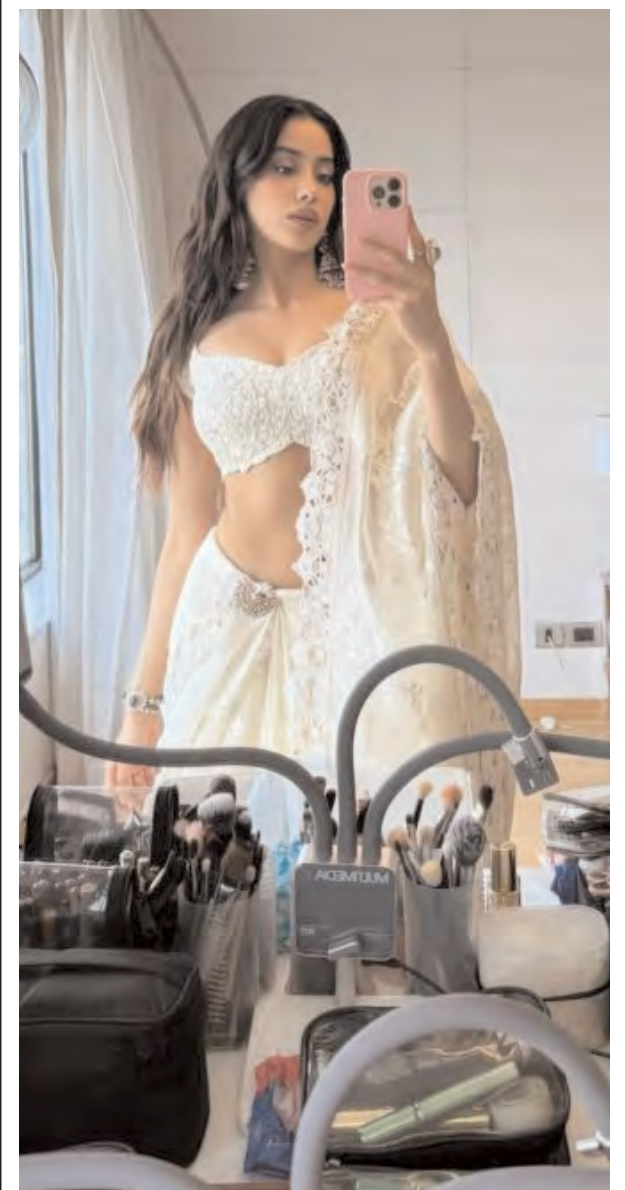
Pooja Hegde has faced a tough time at the box office recently with several flops in Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi films. However, her upcoming movie Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai, releasing on June 5th, is giving her and her fans a lot of hope and excitement.

Pooja is leaving no stone unturned in her promotions. She is stunning everyone with her back-to-back stylish looks. In her latest pictures, she looks absolutely gorgeous in a cool denim outfit, keeping it chic and effortlessly stylish. Fans are rooting hard for her!

SANIA MIRZA PICKS PAKISTANI DESIGNER OUTFIT FOR BAKRID



PEDDI GIRL'S CREAMY TREAT



Janhvi Kapoor is turning heads with her stunning traditional outfits as she promotes her upcoming movie Peddi, set to release on June 4th. The actress has been going all out with her ethnic fashion choices, and fans simply cannot get enough of her gorgeous looks. In her latest pictures, Janhvi looks absolutely breathtaking in a beautiful white embroidered saree. The outfit features intricate lace detailing and a stylish blouse,

paired with heavy traditional earrings and a statement waist piece. She kept her long wavy hair open, completing the elegant look perfectly. Her latest pics from the Peddi Delhi pressmeet. Janhvi has been sharing these pictures on social media, and each one is better than the last. Her back-to-back traditional looks for Peddi promotions are creating a lot of buzz online. Fans and fashion lovers are eagerly waiting for the film's release on June 4th!

"Hai Re Strikes a Chord: Anirudh, Thaman & Aniesh Shine in Itlu Arjuna's First Single"

Natural Star Nani Launched Hai Re: A Fresh Breeze Of Music, Voice & Dance. S Thaman's Enchanting Melody, Anirudh Ravichander's Fascinating Vocals & New Guy In Town Aniesh's Elegant Moves Elevate Itlu Arjuna's First Single. Star director Venky Kudumula turns producer for the first time with Itlu Arjuna under his banner What Next Entertainments. The film introduces New Guy in Town Aniesh as the lead, directed by debutant Mahesh Uppala, with Anaswara Rajan as the female lead. From the beginning, the project grabbed attention- the title glimpse caught the attention, while

posters and the special promo Finding Arjuna added extra curiosity. After building anticipation with an announcement video and promo, the makers have now launched the film's first single, kickstarting the musical promotions. The song launched by Natural Star Nani feels warm, catchy, and full of youthful energy. S Thaman composes a lively, fast-paced rhythm number built on a strong, dance-driven electronic and hip-hop beat. The mix of trendy rhythms, mild classical touches, and bright instrumentation makes the track both modern and soulful. Anirudh Ravichander brings spark and charm with his fascinating vocals. His



singing lifts the entire mood, switching smoothly between soft emotion and high-energy hooks. Carnatic-style notes by Sanjana and a short rap segment by Harsha Vardhan

add interesting layers, making the track richer and more vibrant. Lyricist Kalyan Chakravarty keeps the words simple and heartfelt, capturing the hero's silent

admiration for the girl he follows everywhere but cannot approach. Newcomer Aniesh made a strong impression with his challenging role shown in the promo, and Hai

Re highlights another side of him. This time, he surprises as a dancer. His natural flow, clean moves, and screen presence give the song a fresh visual spark. His hip-hop style and expressive performance make him look like a talent to watch. Anaswara Rajan brings elegance and blends perfectly with the song's mood. With Thaman's energetic composition, Anirudh's magnetic voice, and Aniesh's stylish dance performance, Hai Re becomes an instantly likeable first single- youthful, emotional, and addictive. As Itlu Arjuna gears up for its theatrical release, Hai Re sets the right tone and raises expectations for what's coming next.