

**FAROOQ ABDULLAH
URGES PM MODI TO
FULFIL PROMISE ON J&K
STATEHOOD RESTORATION**

NATION PAGE

**TRUMP SAYS
US WILL HIT IRAN 'VERY
HARD' TONIGHT, AFTER US
ATTACKS THIRD TANKER
NEAR OMAN**

WORLD | NEWS

**YASH RAJ FILMS
UNVEILS THE ORIGIN STORY OF AN
ASSASSIN PLAYED BY ALIA BHATT
IN ALPHA TEASER, THEATRICAL
RELEASE DATE FIXED FOR
JULY 3RD WORLDWIDE!**

CINEMA | PAGE

SCAN FOR
E-PAPER**OM NAMO
VENKATESAYA**

10-06-2026

Approx. Darshan Time for Sarvadarshanam
(with out SSD Token) - 18 H**World Bank lifts India
growth outlook
despite Gulf war**

WASHINGTON (TSIT) :

India will remain the world's fastest-growing major economy despite the economic shock from the conflict in the Middle East, with the World Bank on Thursday raised its growth forecast for the country even as it cut projections for much of the global economy. In its latest Global Economic Prospects report, the World Bank upgraded India's growth forecast for 2026 to 6.6 per cent from its January estimate of 6.5 per cent and raised its 2027 projection to 7.2 per cent from 6.6 per cent, citing stronger-than-expected domestic demand and economic resilience. "India remains the fastest growing large economy in the world," World Bank Deputy Chief Economist Ayhan Kose said during a media briefing on the Bank's latest Global Economic Prospects report. Responding to a question from IANS on India's economic performance and the impact of the Gulf crisis, Kose said the upgraded forecast reflected "stronger than expected growth momentum in domestic demand, which so far, more than offsets the adverse impact of the conflict in the Middle East." The World Bank's latest report projects South Asia to remain the fastest-growing region in the world in 2026, although regional growth is expected to slow to 6.3 per cent from 7 per cent in 2025 because of higher energy prices and broader fallout from the conflict.

**Education, healthcare key to
Viksit Bharat: CM Revanth****Revanth meets PM Modi, seeks Centre's support for key infra projects**

NEW DELHI, TSIT:

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy emphasized that education and healthcare are the strongest pillars of nation-building and called for greater investment in human development to achieve the goal of a developed India by 2047.

Addressing the Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog chaired by Narendra Modi in New Delhi, Revanth Reddy showcased Telangana's development model focused on quality education, skill development and world-class infrastructure. He said findings from the State's Social, Economic, Educational, Employment, Political and Caste Survey revealed that lack of education remains a major cause of social backwardness. Ensuring quality education for every



child, he noted, is essential for inclusive growth and national progress.

Highlighting education reforms, the Chief Minister said Telangana is strengthening public

schools through English-medium instruction, digital classrooms, nutritious meals, transportation facilities and improved infrastructure. He also spoke about the Young

India Integrated Residential Schools being established in every Assembly constituency to promote equality and social integration.

Revanth Reddy stressed the importance of skill development in the age of Artificial Intelligence and said Telangana is creating future-ready employment opportunities through investments in infrastructure, green energy and industrial growth. He noted that the Young India Skills University has been established to provide industry-oriented training with support from leading industrialists.

The Chief Minister also informed the meeting that Telangana is modernizing Industrial Training Institutes across the State with an investment of Rs.2,100 crore to enhance employability and workforce skills.

Empowering India's youth remains a priority: PM Modi

NEW DELHI, (TSIT)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said that empowering India's youth remains a priority as they will be the "driving force" in the country's journey towards Viksit Bharat. Chairing the NITI Aayog Governing Council meeting here, PM Modi said: "India's demographic dividend is a historic opportunity that we cannot afford to lose. Creating the right ecosystem for our youth through quality education,

demand-driven skilling, and employment opportunities must remain a priority. Empowered youth will be the driving force behind our journey towards Viksit Bharat." He also highlighted that India has signed Free Trade Agreements with many countries to create new opportunities for growth and exports.

"These agreements also present a significant opportunity for our MSMEs, enabling them to prepare for global markets by adhering to internation-

al standards and enhancing competitiveness," PM Modi pointed out. The Prime Minister emphasised that the Centre and states were working together to accelerate the country's growth momentum to achieve the goal of a developed India by 2047.

"Guided by the spirit of cooperative federalism, we are working together to accelerate India's development journey. The collective efforts of the Centre and States will play a pivotal role in realising our shared vision of Viksit Bharat," he observed.

The theme of this year's NITI Aayog Governing Council meeting is 'Inclusive Human Development for Viksit Bharat @2047, focusing on the well-being and development of every Indian, regardless of age, region, gender, or socio-economic background, according to an official statement.

**K'taka CM Urges PM Modi to Act
on 15 Long-Pending Projects**

BENGALURU (TSIT).

Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has written to Prime Minister Modi, demanding urgent central intervention on 15 stalled projects critical for the state's water, infrastructure, and regional development. Shivakumar warned that delays—especially on funds already promised—are hurting farmers, rural local bodies, and the state's economic growth.

KEY DEMANDS INCLUDE:

- Fast-track clearance for the Mekedatu drinking water project.
- Release Rs.5,300 crore for the drought-hit Upper Bhadra project.
- Approve Rs.26,000 crore for Bengaluru's infrastructure and Rs.25,000 crore annually for Kalyana Karnataka under Article 371(J).
- Greenlight the Mumbai-Bengaluru high-speed rail, Bangalore suburban rail, and Satellite Town Ring Road.
- Establish AIIMS Raichur and allocate 40-45 TMC of river water to Karnataka under inter-linking schemes.

**Iran targets US defence facilities,
announces closing Strait of Hormuz**

Tehran, June 11 : The Iranian army said it launched drone attacks against the US Fifth Fleet in Bahrain on Thursday morning, adding that communications and radar facilities linked to the fleet's Patriot air-defence system were among the targets.

The US Central Command said its forces conducted additional strikes against multiple Iranian targets earlier Thursday, describing the action as a response to Iran's "unwarranted and continued aggression."

Amid the escalating confrontation, Iran's Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters announced the closure of the Strait of Hormuz to all vessels, including oil tankers and commercial ships. Iranian authorities said the measure was necessary due to



security risks posed by ongoing military tensions in the region, Xinhua news agency reported. Iranian military officials warned that vessels attempting to transit the strategic waterway could be targeted. The latest exchange of attacks came despite reports that Tehran and Washington had recently explored possible peace proposals through Pakistani mediation in an effort to end the conflict.

Iran also rejected US President Donald Trump's claim of having held a phone conversation with Iranian officials, calling it a "cover" to escape war.

**3 Indian sailors, initially missing, confirmed
dead in US attack on vessel off Oman**

New Delhi, June 11 :

Three Indian sailors, who were reportedly missing after the US forces attacked a vessel off the coast of Oman earlier this week, have been confirmed dead in the deadly attacks.

The killing of Indian seafarers was confirmed by Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal, who called it a "profound loss for India's maritime community".

The minister said that the bodies of all three missing sailors have been recovered. He also informed that steps are being taken to repatriate the bodies of fallen seafarers for their last rites.

"It is deeply unfortunate to learn of the tragic incident aboard the Palau-flagged MT Settebello. Sadly, three Indian seafarers initially reported missing are now confirmed dead after bodies have been located and identified," Sonowal said in a post on X.

Preliminary inputs,



after the attack on the oil vessel, said that 21 Indian sailors were rescued from the ship while three seafarers were reported missing.

The Union Minister described the tragic incident aboard the Palau-flagged MT Settebello as "deeply unfortunate" and said that the government was standing by the bereaved families in this difficult hour. "Modi government stands firmly with the bereaved during this difficult hour and is fully committed to sup-

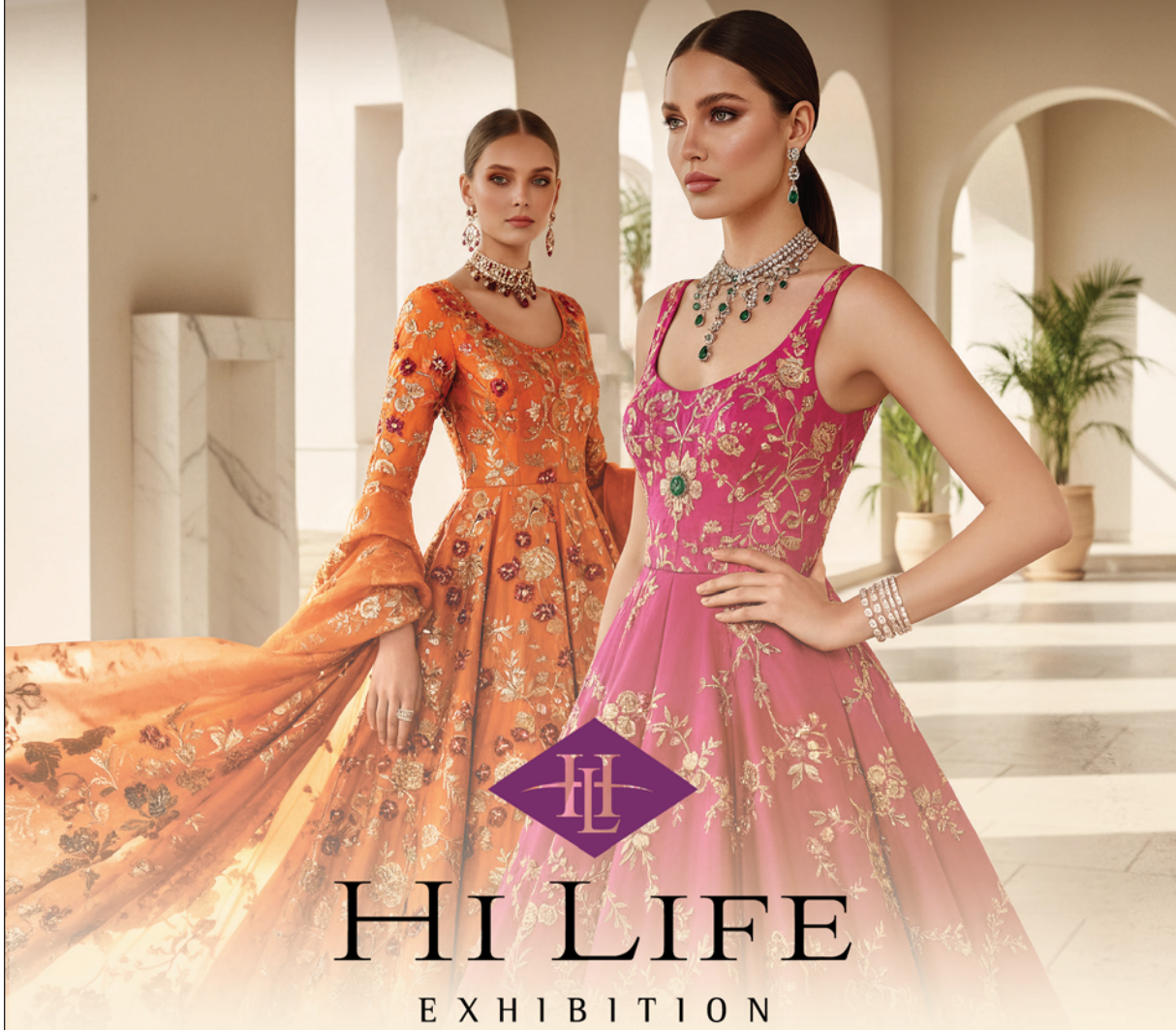
porting the next of kin. I have directed officials to ensure immediate repatriation of the rescued crew members and swift return of the mortal remains of the deceased for their final rites," he said in the post on X.

The oil tanker had a total crew of 28 members, including 24 Indian nationals and four foreign nationals—two Pakistanis, one Ukrainian, and one Russian—when it came under a US military attack in the Gulf of Oman.

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CM Revanth Reddy Meets Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar in Delhi

New Delhi: Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy met Union Minister for Power, Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal Khattar in New Delhi on Thursday.

During the meeting Chief Minister discussed various issues related to Telangana's power sector, urban development, housing projects, and infrastructure needs. Revanth Reddy is understood to have sought the Centre's support for key development initiatives and projects being undertaken by the Telangana Government. Meeting assumes significance as Telangana continues to pursue major investments in urban infrastructure, housing, power generation, and transmission projects to meet the growing needs of the State. Senior officials accompanying the Chief Minister briefed the Union Minister on several proposals requiring Central assis-



tance and approvals. The discussions focused on strengthening cooperation between the Centre and the State for the implementation of development and welfare programmes. Chief

Minister is currently in the national capital to attend official meetings and hold consultations with Union Ministers on issues concerning Telangana's development priorities.

MAHABUBABAD PROMOTES CROP DIVERSIFICATION THROUGH SHGS

Mahabubabad, June 11: The Horticulture and Sericulture Department, in coordination with self-help groups and farmer producer companies, has launched a major crop diversification initiative across Mahabubabad district to encourage cultivation of vegetables, fruits, flowers, oil palm intercrops, groundnut, mulberry, honey production and mushroom farming. As per the directions of District Collector Sneha Shabarish, self-help groups in Kuravi, Dornakal, Bayyaram, Kesamudram, Nellikuduru and Thorur mandals have taken up crop rotation and diversified farming activities over 50 acres. Awareness programmes were conducted through women farmer producer companies to encourage cultivation of market-driven crops such as tomato, brinjal, green chilli, cucumber, gourds, okra and leafy vegetables.

Modi a strength to the nation: Dattatreya

Sangareddy, June 12 (TSIT): Former Haryana Governor and senior BJP leader Bandaru Dattatreya said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has emerged as a great strength for the nation and has led India on the path of rapid development. Addressing a meeting organized at the BJP office to mark 12 years of the Modi government, Dattatreya said India has enhanced its global reputation under Modi's leadership and has become a model for



many countries. He alleged that opposition parties criticize the Prime Minister because they are unable to withstand his growing popularity and influence. Highlighting the Centre's achievements, Dattatreya said the government has been working with the vision of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" and has implemented major development initiatives, including the Bullet Train proj-

ect, Vande Bharat services, expansion of transport infrastructure, airport development, industrial growth and national highway expansion.

He also pointed to improvements in India's defence capabilities and solar energy production, stating that the pace of infrastructure development has accelerated significantly since 2014. Dattatreya expressed confidence that Telangana would witness a major political shift in the coming years

Komatireddy sets July 31 deadline for AMRP canal works



Hyderabad TSIT: State Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy on Thursday expressed satisfaction over the progress of the AMRP High-Level Canal lining works and directed Irrigation Department officials to expedite execution and complete the maximum possible stretch by July 31.

Minister inspected the ongoing canal lining works at Nursing Batla, Kudavanpur and Gundlupally villages in Nalgonda mandal. During the review, he emphasized the need to accelerate the project to ensure uninterrupted irrigation water supply to tail-end ayacut areas during the current agricultural season.

Speaking on the occasion, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy said farmers' welfare remains the foremost priority of the State Government. He stated that under the leadership of A. Revanth Reddy, several long-pending irrigation and infrastructure projects are being revived and brought back on track. Minister noted that the State Government had sanc-

tioned 442 crore for the AMRP High-Level Canal lining project after the matter was taken up with the Chief Minister. He said the canal lining works are being undertaken along a 136-kilometre stretch from Angadipeta to Musi. Highlighting the significance of the project, Komatireddy recalled that while canal excavation works were completed during 1985-86, the lining works are being executed nearly four decades later following the initiative of the present government.

According to Irrigation Department officials, the project is expected to significantly improve water conveyance efficiency and provide irrigation benefits to nearly 2.20 lakh acres. The canal lining will help reduce seepage losses, ensure faster water flow and facilitate timely water supply to farmers in tail-end regions.

Chief Engineer Srinivas Reddy, Superintending Engineer Bhadrar, Executive Engineer Nehru Naik and other Irrigation Department officials accompanied the Minister during the inspection.

Actions will be taken if there is delay in performance of duty : Warangal Police Commissioner Sanpreet Singh

WARANGAL, June 11, TSIT : Warangal Police Commissioner has informed the officers that if they are lax in not performing their duties, action will be taken. The monthly crime review meeting was held at Kits College conference hall on Thursday. In this meeting, the police commissioner asked the concerned station officials online about the pending cases under the jurisdiction of the police commissioner, the arrests of the accused and the measures



taken by the relevant police officers for crime control through the CCTNS application 2.0.

Later, directing the officers, the police commissioner said that the station officers should personally

go and check the rowdy sheets in each police station. Under any circumstances should not sale of Tobacco products take place within 100 meters of educational institutions and take appropriate action.

Keeping in mind the safety of the students who will not attend the upcoming academic year, the local police officers should personally go and check the condition of the school buses that transport the students to schools.

Nagarkurnool Veterinary Team Gives New Life to Injured Cow

The South India Times // NagarkurnoolA team of veterinary doctors in Nagarkurnool Mandal showed remarkable dedication by saving the life of a cow that met with a road accident in Pedda Muddunur village. The cow belonging to farmer Kaukuntla Kashanna Goud was hit by a car and collapsed on the spot due to severe injuries. The farmer immediately informed Mandal Veterinary Doctor Dr. Kalpana over the phone. Responding quickly, Dr. Kalpana along with her staff members Madhya, Niranjan, Linguswamy, and Balakrishna reached the spot and performed surgery on the injured cow. After nearly four hours of continuous efforts, the veterinary team successfully saved the cow's life.

The villagers of Pedda Muddunur appreciated and congratulated Dr. Kalpana and her team for their dedicated service and timely treatment.

Readers Must Be Provided Adequate Facilities in Libraries: MP Vamshi Krishna.



Mancherla, June 11, TSIT: Peddapalli Member of Parliament Gaddam Vamshi Krishna has directed officials to ensure adequate facilities are provided for readers in public libraries across the district. The MP visited the Central Library in Mancherla on Thursday along with District Collector Kumar Deepak and Mancherla Municipal Corporation Commissioner Anvesh. During the visit, he inspected the ongoing construction of toilet facilities within the library premises. Speaking on the occasion, Vamshi Krishna stressed the importance of making libraries more reader-friendly by ensuring the availability of books and study materials required by students and candidates preparing for competitive examinations. He also instructed officials to provide essential amenities such as safe drinking water, uninterrupted electricity supply, sanitation facilities and other basic infrastructure for library users. Earlier, the MP, along with the District Collector and Municipal Commissioner, inspected the ongoing development works on Station Road in Mancherla town. He directed officials to closely monitor the works, ensure timely completion and coordinate effectively with contractors so that the projects can be brought into public use at the earliest.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, JAMEELUNNISA BEGUM (New Name) alias Jabeen Unisa Begum, W/o. MOHSIN ALI MOHAMMAD, R/o. Agamothkur, Vemulapally, Nalgonda District, Telangana, Pin: 508374, have changed my name from JAMEEN UNISA BEGUM to JAMEELUNNISA BEGUM, W/o. MOHSIN ALI MOHAMMAD for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the general public that my client, Sri. Gulam Mustafa S/o. late Gulam Rasool who is absolute owner of the below mentioned scheduled property, propose to create mortgage over the scheduled property and wants to avail loan from Banks/Financial Institutions, if any person/s has any objections/claim/interest/dispute over the said property, the same may be intimated to the undersigned within 7 days from the date of this publication, failing which no further claims/objections will be entertained and my client will proceed with the mortgage of the scheduled property in favour of Banks/Financial Institutions and will complete the transaction.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY
All that the Portion of House bearing Municipal No. 19-4-418/1/15, admeasuring 150 Sq. yards out of 300 Sq. Yards, situated at Bahadurpura, Kishan Bagh, Hyderabad and Bounded by: North: H. No. 19-4-418/1/15, South: Portion of H. No. 19-4-418/1/15 as assigned to 1st party, East: Sub Road, West: House No. 19-4-418/9/A. All that the Portion of House bearing Municipal No. 19-4-418/1/15, admeasuring 150 Sq. yards out of 300 Sq. Yards, situated at Bahadurpura, Kishan Bagh, Hyderabad and Bounded by: North: Portion of H. No. 19-4-418/1/15 of Donee, South: Sub Road, East: Sub Road, West: House No. 19-4-418/9/A
P. Santosh Kumar, Advocate
#1-8-506/2/A/1, Adnan Chambers, Prakashnagar, Begumpet, Secunderabad - 500016.
Mobile : 09440067560

BRANCH SHIFTING

For the better convenience of our valued customers, we are shifting
H.No. 1-3-155/14/1/2,
Above Union Bank of India, Mancherla Road,
Shastri Nagar, Nirmal - 504106
branch to our new premises with effect from **12-09-2026**

The new address is as mentioned below:
IKF Home Finance Limited
1-3-131/11/a/2, First Floor, Above White House, Near by Rajarajeswara Garden, Shastri Nagar, Nirmal-504106

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SUNDARAM MUTUAL

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Zonal Head - AP & TL & Head - Distribution E

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Day: Saturday, 13 June 2026 | Time: 6:00 PM

RSVP: Mr. Kumar Utsav Singh - 9888262788

For more information please contact:
Sundaram Asset Management Company Ltd
(Investment Manager to Sundaram Mutual Fund)
CIN: U93090TN1996PLC034615
Corporate Office:
1st and 2nd Floor, Sundaratn Towers,
46, Whites Road, Royapettah, Chennai-14,
Toll 1860 425 7237 (India) 044 40831500 (NRI)
www.sundarammutual.com
Regd. Office: No. 21, Patullos Road, Chennai 600002.

Mutual fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

NIWAS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
(Formerly, Niwas Housing Finance Private Limited)
Regd. Office: Unit No. 305, 3rd Floor, Wing 2/E, Corporate Avenue, Andheri- Ghatkopar Link Road, Chakala, Andheri (East), Mumbai – 400093

POSSESSION NOTICE
[Rule 8 (1) and (2)]

Whereas, The Authorized Officer of the Secured Creditor mentioned herein, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Act), 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with (Rule 3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the borrower(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower(s) and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of NHFL has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 6 of the Security Interest Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned against each property. 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.

The borrower(s) 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 NHFL for the amount mentioned below and interest and other charges thereon.

Loan Account Number	Borrower(s) & Property Details	Amount & Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Possession Status
LNWGLAP-07240045855	1.BANDARI RAJU (BORROWER) 2.BANDARI KAVITHA (CO-BORROWER)	Rs. 7,23,721/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Twenty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty One Only) DATE: 13-Mar-2026	10-Jun-2026	SYMBOLIC POSSESSION

PROPERTY BEARING : ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE PROPERTY BEARING HOUSE WITH OPEN PLACE BEARING 16-9-801, TO AN EXTENT OF 74.00 SQ.YDS. OR 61.87 SQ.MTS. SITUATED AT A.C. REDDY NAGAR, SHIVANAGAR, WARANGAL CITY DISTRICT WITHIN THE LIMITS OF WARANGAL, WITHIN THE REGISTRATION JURISDICTION OF DISTRICT REGISTRAR WARANGAL, AND SUB REGISTRAR (WARANGAL (FORT)) BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: NORTH : H NO. 16-9-802 OF KOMURIAH, SOUTH 16-0" WIDE ROAD, EAST: FUNCTIONAL HALL PREMISES, WEST: 18-0" WIDE ROAD

Date: 12-06-2026
Place: Warangal

Sd/- Authorized Officer
NIWAS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032
Administrative Office: 6th Floor (Level 2), Building No.Q2, Aurnum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghanoli, Navi Mumbai-400710. Branch At # 11-25-79 & 80, 1St, Pochammaidhan, Warangal -506002

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer M/s. Shriram Finance Limited, (Shriram City Union Finance Limited, amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance Company Limited, subsequently Shriram Transport Company Limited name Changed as Shriram Finance Limited, by it's Incorporation Certificate dt.30-11-2022) a corporate body registered and incorporated as a company under the Indian companies Act 1956, is doing Non-Banking financial activities, having its Registered Office: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai – 600 032 and having its administrative office at 6th Floor (level 2), Building No. Q2, Aurnum Q Parc, Gen 4/1, TTC, Thane Belapur Road, Ghanoli, Navi Mumbai-400710 and branch office at Warangal I (hereinafter referred as Company/ Lender), under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices. 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 Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 6 of the said Rules, on the 11th day of June, 2026.

Borrower Name and Address	Amount due as per Demand Notice
1) Prabhakar Bachu, S/O Komuriah, Age: 38 Years, Occ: Prabhakar Poultry Farm, R/O H.No.02-067, Velikatte, Thorur, Warangal (Dist)-506163, Cell: 9010859917.2) Komuriah Bochu, S/O Lachaiha, Age: 56 Years, Occ: Agriculture, R/O H.No. 02-067, Velikatte, Thorur, Warangal (Dist)-506163, Cell:9010859917. And Also At Komuriah Bochu, S/O Lachaiha, Age: 56 Years, Occ: Agriculture, # Open Plot 484.00 Sq. Yards, 404.62, Sy.No.16/A1, Velikatte Village, And Grampanchayath, Thorur Mandal, Warangal District. 3) Krishna Gandhasiri, S/O Narayana, Age: 41 Years, Occ: Little Flower School, R/O H.No.C-051, Aneuparam, Maripeda, Warangal (Dist)-506315, Cell: 9985423685.	Rs.2453566/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Six Only)

WARANT#1706240002-DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:(Property holder Name is KOMURIAH BOCHU Mortgage deed dated 29.06.2017Registered as Document No.3397/2017 on the file of the office of Sub-Registrar at MAHABUBABAD):Constructed House bearing H.No.2-67, Open place admeasuring to an extent of 484.00 Sq. Yards or 404.62 out of Sy.No.16/A1 situated at Velikatte village, and Grampanchayath, Thorur Mandal of Warangal District, within the Registration District, Warangal and Sub-Registrar, Mahabubabad, is located within the following boundaries:EAST : Open place of Abothu Padma, WEST : Open place of Nakka Komuriah,NORTH : Road leads Warangal to Khammam PWD Road,SOUTH : Open place of Bochu Prabhakar.

This notice is also hereby to caution the general public at large that the authorized officer of SFL is in the lawful Possession of the immovable property mentioned herein above and the Borrowers or any person shall not accept receipt of this notice transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise deal with/ alienate any of the above mentioned secured assets referred to in this notice, without prior written consent of SFL.

Place:Thorur
Date : 11-06-2026

Sd/-Authorised officer,
Shriram Finance Ltd.

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL LIMITED
Registered Office : Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat-362266.
Corporate Office : 8-Tech Park, 12th Floor, Nirfon Complex, off Western Expressway, Goregaon East -Mumbai - 400063.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

On Days E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (54 of 2002).
30 account of the amalgamation between Aditya Birla Finance Ltd. and Aditya Birla Capital Ltd, vide the Scheme of Amalgamation dated 11.03.2024 duly recorded in the Order passed by the National Company Law Tribunal - Ahmedabad on 24.03.2025, all SARFAESI actions initiated by Aditya Birla Finance Ltd. in relation to the mortgaged property mentioned below, stands transferred to Aditya Birla Capital Ltd., the amalgamated company.
Accordingly the Authorized Officer of Aditya Birla Capital Limited / Secured Creditor had taken possession of the following secured assets pursuant to notice issued under Sec. 13(2) of Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI) for recovery of the secured debts of the secured creditor, for the dues as mentioned herein below with further charges and cost thereon from the following Borrowers and Co-Borrowers. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers and Co-Borrowers that e-auction of the following property for realization of the debts due to the Aditya Birla Capital Limited will be held on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis

Sr No	Name of the Borrower(s) & Co-Borrowers)	Description of Properties /Secured Assets	Reserve Price (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (In Rs.) / Incremental Value (In Rs.)	Demand Notice Date & Total Amt (In Rs.)
1	M/ S SRI RAJA RAJESHWARI TAILORING MATERIAL THROUGH ITS PROPRIETOR GADILA UDAY SINGH 2. MR. GADILA UDAY SINGH 3. MRS. ANJANI BAI Loan A/c no. ABHYDST000000629905	ALL THE PART AND PARCEL OF THE PLOT NO. 14/PART, LAND ADMEASURING 293 SQ.YDS OR 244.94 SQMITS IN SURVEY NO. 1054, SITUATED AT VILLAGE AND GRAM PANCHAYAT BLOCK NO.4, MEDICAL VILLAGE AND MANDAL, RANGA REDDY DISTRICT., AND BOUNDED BY: - EAST: NEIGHBOUR'S LAND, SOUTH : PLOT NO. 13, WEST : ROAD, NORTH : PLOT NO. 14/PART, ALONG WITH EXISTING BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION IF ANY	RS. 1,50,71,014/- (RUPEES ONE FIFTY LAKH SEVENTY ONE THOUSAND ONE THOUSAND FORTY FOUR ONLY)	RS. 15,07,101/- (RUPEES FIFTEEN Lakh SEVEN Thousand ONE HUNDRED AND ONE ONLY) Rs. 25,000/- (Rupees twenty five thousand only)	30-12-2025 & RS. 20,20,694.8/- (RUPEES TWENTY LAKH TWENTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED NINETY FOUR RUPEES AND EIGHTY PAISA ONLY) as on 25-11-2025
2	M/ S. S R LOGISTICS THROUGH ITS PROPRIETOR MR. PATTABI SATYANARAYANA, 2. MR. PATTABI SATYANARAYANA, 3. MRS. MADHAVI PATTABI Loan A/c no. ABHYDST000000529373, ABHYDST00000065036	ALL THAT THE WESTERN PORTION OF THE RESIDENTIAL HOUSE BEARING NO. 10-199 ON PART OF PLOT NO.1 IN SURVEY NOS. 708, 709 AND 710 LAND ADMEASURING 178.44 SQ.YARDS OR 149.17 SQ.MTRS, INCLUDING THE LAND ADMEASURING 24 SQ. YARDS OF PART OF COMMON PASSAGE, OUT OF THE TOTAL LAND ADMEASURING 314.44 SQ. YARDS WITH A PLINTH AREA OF 100 SQ. FEET AS ROOF OF BRICK WALL, SITUATED AT VASANTHAPURI COLONY MALKAJGIRI UNDER MALKAJGIRI MUNICIPALITY AND MANDAL RANGAREDDY DISTRICT AND BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: ON THE NORTH NEIGHBOURS BUILDING, ON THE SOUTH PLOT NO.2, ON THE EAST : PLOT NO.1, ON THE WEST : NEIGHBOURS COMPOUND WALL	RS. 1,16,00,000/- (RUPEES ONE CRORE SIXTEEN LAKH ONLY)	RS. 11,60,000/- (RUPEES ELEVEN Lakh SIXTY Thousand ONLY) Rs. 25,000/- (Rupees twenty five thousand only)	06-02-2026 & RS. 76,90,056.80/- (RUPEES SEVENTY SIX LAKH NINETY THOUSAND FIFTY SIX RUPEES AND EIGHTY PAISA ONLY) as on 06-Feb-2026

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditor's website i.e. <https://abfi.adityabirlacapital.com/Pages/IndividualProperties-for-Auction-under-SARFAESI-Act.aspx> or <https://BidDeal.in>. Contact Details : Aditya Birla Capital Limited. Authorized Officer - Apoorva Danthi (9930909725), Komal Patil (9867895795), Jahirul Laskar (9706003075), Hareesh Kumar (9176547103), LingaSwamy Battinhi (9000004111) and Raghuvheera Neerukonda (9642298989)
Date : 12.06.2026, Place : Telangana

Authorised Officer, Aditya Birla Capital Limited

Jagan demands CBI probe into irregularities in DSC exam, recruitment

Amaravati, June 11 : Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and YSR Congress Party President Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy alleged large-scale irregularities in the Mega District Selection Committee (DSC) exam and recruitment process and demanded a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Addressing a press conference on Thursday, he said that all the facts coming to light regarding the Mega DSC for recruitment of teachers are extremely shocking.

He alleged that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's government has betrayed the trust of lakhs of candidates through scams, severely damaging the lives of talented aspirants. The former CM claimed that such a disastrous recruitment process was never witnessed anywhere. Stating that DSC represents the



hopes and future of lakhs of youth, he said resorting to corruption and irregularities even in such a recruitment process was highly deplorable. "If lies, deceit, betrayal, backstabbing, and scams were dressed in a shirt and pants, that would be Chandrababu Naidu," he remarked.

Jagan Mohan Reddy reminded Chandrababu Naidu that Gen Z is watching all the irregularities.

"Remember Chandrababu, this is Gen Z.

Gen Alpha is also coming. If you cause trouble instead of admitting your mistakes, cockroaches will rise," he said. "We are also cockroaches in the state of Andhra Pradesh," he remarked when asked about the Janata Cockroach Party launched through an online movement after the leak of the NEET paper.

The former CM said if youth are hurt, they will take up such an approach.

YS Jagan said the issue of DSC irregularities should be

highlighted in the June 12 protest 'Vennupotuku Rendellu' (two years of betrayal) planned to mark two years of TDP-led coalition government. The YSRCP chief gave details of alleged irregularities from the question paper to recruitment and said Chandrababu Naidu's governance was laden with leaks and corruption since 1995.

"Lakhs of aspirants had worked hard for the 16,000 posts, but the process is filled with irregularities. Videos have surfaced that the posts were for sale," he said. He claimed that the flaw began with the Chandrababu Naidu government sidelining the DSC Convener and entrusting both question paper preparation and examination management to the SCERT Director, concentrating key responsibilities in a single authority and allegedly undermining transparency in the recruitment process.

Over 160 join Yogandhra training in Srisaillam



Srisaillam: Yoga training programmes being conducted by the Devasthanam under the Yogandhra initiative are receiving an encouraging response, with more than 160 yoga enthusiasts participating in the latest session.

Devasthanam Executive Officer M. Srinivas Rao said the training programmes are being organized for the benefit of local residents and devotees and will continue until June 20. The sessions are being held at Ganesh Food Court in Srisaillam.

During the training programme held on Thursday, over 160 participants received yoga instruction. Devasthanam employees, local residents and Shivasevakulu also took part in the event.

Addressing the gathering, the Executive Officer urged devotees and local residents to actively participate in the programme and create greater awareness about the benefits of yoga. Yoga instructors explained the importance of yoga and highlighted its role in maintaining physical and mental well-being. Participants were guided through Surya Namaskaras, Pranayama and various Sukshma Vyayamas (subtle exercises). The session concluded with training in different Yogasanas, helping participants improve flexibility, concentration and overall health. Officials said the programme is aimed at encouraging a healthy lifestyle and promoting yoga among people of all age groups.

Lord Venugopala Swamy Appears as Sri Rama on Hanumantha Vahanam



As part of the annual Brahmotsavams at Sri Venugopala Swamy Temple, Karvetinagaram, Lord Venugopala Swamy, adorned as Sri Rama, blessed devotees atop Hanumantha Vahanam on Thursday morning. Devotees offered Harathis and chanted Govinda Nama throughout the procession, creating a spiritually vibrant atmosphere. Cultural per-

formances and traditional music added grandeur to the event. TTD officials, temple priests and a large number of devotees participated in the Vahanam Seva. As part of the festivities, the Lord will bless devotees on Gaja Vahanam on Thursday night. On Friday, Surya Prabha Vahanam and Chandra Prabha Vahanam processions will be held in the morning and night respectively.

CMR Textiles & Jewellers Condemns False Social Media Campaign

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) : CMR Textiles & Jewellers (P) Limited has strongly condemned a false and malicious post that has been circulating widely on social media platforms. The viral image purportedly shows a hoarding carrying a message offering discounts ranging from 10 to 50 percent to Muslim men accompanying Hindu women. Clarifying the issue, the company stated that CMR Group has never erected such a hoarding nor issued any such advertisement. The management emphasized that the organization, which has been conducting business with a strong reputation for more than four decades across Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Odisha and other

parts of India, has never promoted and will never promote any message that could create religious discord or disturb social harmony. The company said it strongly condemns the false propaganda and has lodged complaints with the Cyber Crime Police Station as well as various district police stations seeking criminal action against those responsible for creating and spreading the fabricated content. CMR Group appealed to the public not to share or circulate such misleading posts if they come across them on social media. The management further warned that those who continue to propagate the fake content despite the public warning may face appropriate legal action.

Andhra Pradesh Presents Swarna Andhra @2047 Vision at NITI Aayog Meeting

Visakhapatnam : The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh N. Chandrababu Naidu presented the State's long-term development vision "Swarna Andhra @2047" at the 11th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog in New Delhi. Aligned with the national goal of Viksit Bharat @2047, the Chief Minister outlined a roadmap to transform Andhra Pradesh into a prosperous, inclusive, and globally competitive economy driven by human capital development.

He highlighted key priorities such as zero pov-



erty, large-scale employment generation, skill-building, and growth in sectors like agri-tech, logistics, and deep-tech. He also showcased the State's technology-driven governance model

using RTGS, AI-based analytics, and predictive governance tools. The Chief Minister noted that Andhra Pradesh has attracted over 23 lakh crore in investments in the last

two years, strengthening its growth and employment prospects, and reaffirmed the State's commitment to cooperative federalism and inclusive development.

Quantum Biology to Play Key Role in Future Medical Systems: NTRUHS VC

"INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR HELD ON "QUANTUM BIOLOGY: FROM MOLECULES TO MEDICINE"

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam : Quantum Biology is set to play a crucial role in future medical education, research, and treatment systems, said Vice Chancellor of Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences, Dr. Pulala Chandrasekhar. An international webinar titled "Quantum Biology: From Molecules to Medicine" was conducted by the university through Webex. Chief Minister's Special Secretary P.S. Pradyumna delivered the inaugural address online and highlighted the importance of quantum technologies in strengthening healthcare systems. Dr. Chandrasekhar stated that proposals are being prepared to introduce diploma and certificate courses in Quantum Biology. He also



said that the university would submit recommendations to the National Medical Commission to include the subject in medical curricula across the

country. Director of IIT Tirupati, Prof. K.N. Satyanarayana, explained the relevance of quantum physics in modern healthcare systems. Resource per-

son Prof. Arat Kalra from AIIMS Delhi delivered an in-depth lecture on "Quantum Biology: From Molecules to Medicine." Faculty members, princi-

pals of affiliated colleges, and academic experts participated actively in the webinar. Registrar Dr. T. Sai Sudhir and other officials were also present.

Significant Improvement in FCV Tobacco Procurement



Visakhapatnam (TSIT) Agriculture Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaidu stated that FCV (Flue-Cured Virginia) tobacco procurement in the state has shown significant improvement over the past ten days. He made these remarks during a teleconference held on Thursday with fellow ministers G. Gottipati Ravikumar, Anam Ramanarayana Reddy, Dola Sree Bala Veeranjaneeya Swamy, as well as public representatives from tobacco-growing districts, on the status of tobacco procurement. The Minister informed that a total of 15.65 million kilograms of FCV tobacco has been marketed

through auction platforms under the Tobacco Board as of June 11. He noted that with around 8,000 bales of tobacco arriving daily at the 16 auction centres in the state, the procurement process is continuing smoothly. He added that increased participation from buyers and improved market liquidity are positive developments. Atchannaidu stated that rejection rates and "No Bid" levels, which earlier ranged between 30 to 37 percent, have now come down to around 20 percent. This, he said, indicates a better demand for tobacco in the market. He further explained that the Tobacco Board is continuously engaging with all stakeholders, including traders, exporters, buyers, and farmer representatives. Meetings were recently held to discuss issues and suggestions, and it was observed that balanced supply of all grades of tobacco to auctions could further enhance procurement. The Minister reiterated that both the state government and the Tobacco Board are fully committed to protecting the interests of tobacco farmers. He expressed confidence that with increased participation from procurement agencies and continued coordination among all stakeholders, market liquidity would further improve in the coming weeks, leading to faster procurement and marketing activities.

Jagan's allegations on Mega DSC baseless: Palla Srinivasa Rao

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) TDP State President and Gajuwaka MLA Palla Srinivasa Rao alleged that YSRCP chief Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy was making baseless allegations against the Mega DSC recruitment process despite the coalition government filling 16,347 teacher posts within 148 days. He said that while Jagan had promised 2.30 lakh jobs and 23,000 teacher posts before coming to power, his government failed to fulfil those assurances and issued a DSC notification for only 6,100 posts before the elections. Palla also alleged that several court



cases were filed to obstruct the Mega DSC process, but the judiciary upheld the government's decisions.

According to him, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu approved the Mega DSC soon after assuming office, while Education

Minister Nara Lokesh completed the recruitment process in a transparent manner within a record time. He stated that the examinations were conducted through the TCS iON platform with strict security measures to prevent leakages. Palla further said that reservations for various categories, including women, persons with disabilities, sportspersons and ex-servicemen, were implemented transparently. He maintained that the coalition government was committed to providing employment opportunities to youth and strengthening the education system in the state.

AU PG SPECIAL DRIVE EXAMINATIONS FROM JUNE 15

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) : Andhra University will conduct the Special Drive Examinations for postgraduate and professional courses from June 15, according to a statement issued by In-charge Controller of Examinations J. Ratnam on Thursday. Candidates who have applied for the examinations can download their hall tickets from June 12 onwards. The examinations will be held at the Examination Building of the AU College of Engineering. The Special Drive Examinations will be conducted for various

courses including B. Arch, B.Tech, M. Tech, M.Planning, M.Pharmacy, M.A. (all groups), M.Com, MHRM, various MBA programmes, B. Pharmacy, Pharm.D, M.Sc. (all subjects), MCA, LL.B. (three-year and five-year courses), LL.M, B.Ed, M.Ed, Special B.Ed, D.P.Ed, B.P.Ed, M.P.Ed, M.Sc. Computer Science, M.Sc. Information Systems and other programmes. Candidates have been advised to visit the Andhra University examinations website for subject-wise examination schedules and other details, J. Ratnam added.

Important Guidelines Issued to Devasthanam Panchagrama Residents

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) The Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam has issued important guidelines to residents of the Panchagramas who have been residing for several years in houses built on Devasthanam lands. Executive Officer Jallepalli Venkata Rao stated that permissions would be granted only for minor repairs to existing houses. He clarified that no approvals would be given for modifications that alter the structure of the house, extensions, additional rooms, new floors, or fresh constructions. Residents intending to undertake minor repairs must submit



applications at the Land Grievance Cell functioning at the TTD Satram premises between 10.30 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. The application should be accompanied by a duly filled application form, an undertaking provided by the Devasthanam, photographs showing

the present condition of the house, house tax receipts, electricity bills, and a copy of the Aadhaar card. After receiving the applications, technical and non-technical teams of the Devasthanam, along with members of a special committee, will conduct field inspections within seven to ten days. Permission or rejection will be decided only after verifying the details furnished in the application and assessing the actual condition on the ground. The Devasthanam warned that any construction undertaken in violation of the granted permissions would invite legal action.

Farooq Abdullah urges PM Modi to fulfil promise on J&K Statehood restoration

Srinagar, Jun 10: National Conference president and former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday reiterated his appeal to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to honour his commitment regarding the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing party workers in Srinagar, Farooq Abdullah said that Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has repeatedly taken up the issue with the Prime Minister and has been given assurances that statehood would be restored.

He emphasized that the demand for reinstating statehood remains a core concern for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. According to him, the assurance made by the country's leadership had raised expectations that the long-pending demand would eventually be fulfilled. Farooq Abdullah stated that the issue had been directly discussed between Omar Abdullah



and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on multiple occasions, with assurances reportedly given regarding its restoration. He added that the promise had been

made publicly before the nation and the international community.

He further said that the people of the Union Territory continue to await the return of full

statehood and expressed hope that the process would not face further delays.

In parallel, National Conference legislators have decided to stage a

protest at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi during the first day of the upcoming Monsoon Session of Parliament, demanding the restoration of statehood along with constitutional safeguards for Jammu and Kashmir.

Omar Abdullah has also reached out to opposition parties, including the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), the Congress, and other like-minded groups, urging them to join the demonstration.

Meanwhile, estranged National Conference leader and Member of Parliament Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi has indicated that he will participate in the protest but maintained that the restoration of Article 370 should remain the central demand of the party.

The renewed political push comes amid continuing debate over the constitutional and administrative future of Jammu and Kashmir, with regional leaders pressing for clarity and timelines on statehood restoration.

Jhansi Reddy's Continuous Engagement Strengthens Congress Cadre

Hyderabad TSIT: TPCC Vice President and Palakurthy Congress constituency in-charge, Hanumandla Jhansi Reddy, has emerged as a leader known for her constant interaction with party workers and grassroots activists across the constituency. Through regular meetings, village visits, review sessions and direct communication, she has been maintaining close contact with Congress cadres and addressing their concerns on a priority basis.

Party workers say Jhansi Reddy remains accessible to leaders and activists from every mandal and village, encouraging them to actively participate in government welfare programmes and organizational activities. Her efforts have helped strengthen coordination between the party leadership and grassroots workers, ensuring that local issues are promptly brought to the attention of the government and party leadership.



Over the past several months, she has conducted a series of interactions with Congress workers, women's groups, youth leaders and local representatives to review developmental needs and discuss strategies for expanding the party's presence in the constituency. She has consistently emphasized the importance of unity, discipline and public service among party cadres.

Congress activists in Palakurthy credit Jhansi Reddy's leadership style for creating enthusiasm among workers and strengthening the party organization at the booth

level. Her practice of personally listening to workers' grievances and recognizing their contributions has earned her goodwill among party ranks.

Apart from organizational activities, Jhansi Reddy has also been encouraging youth empowerment initiatives, employment awareness programmes and community outreach activities. Local leaders believe that her active involvement and continuous engagement with karyakartas have played a key role in keeping the Congress party connected with the people of Palakurthy.

HMDA reschedules Hakeempet land e-auction

Hyderabad: The Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) has revised the schedule for the e-auction of a prime land parcel at Hakeempet in Hyderabad due to administrative reasons.

The e-auction pertains to the sale of a land parcel measuring

Ac. 8.24 guntas situated in Survey No. 102/1, T.S. Nos. 1/P and 3/P of Hakeempet Village, Shaikpet Mandal, Hyderabad District.

According to HMDA, the pre-bid meeting and e-auction, which were earlier scheduled for June 12, 2026 and June 19, 2026, respectively, have been rescheduled.

The pre-bid meeting

will now be held on June 19, 2026, while the e-auction is scheduled for July 2, 2026. HMDA has requested all prospective bidders, delegates, and stakeholders to take note of the revised dates and make necessary arrangements accordingly. The authority stated that the schedule revision was made due to administrative reasons.

Dr Raghu Ram achieves third Guinness World Records title in 15 months

Hyderabad, 11 June 2026: In a landmark convergence of healthcare, artificial intelligence and immersive technology, Dr P. Raghu Ram, the Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation and the KIMS-USHALAKSHMI Centre for Breast Diseases today jointly secured a Guinness World Records title for hosting the "Largest Audience at an Interactive AI-Enabled Holographic Health Awareness Lecture". The achievement marks Dr Raghu Ram's third Guinness World Records title in 15 months, and underscores his continuing commitment to advancing public health education through innovation. The event featured the AI-generated holographic educator of Dr P. Raghu Ram, delivering a 30-minute breast health awareness lecture followed by a 30-minute multilingual interactive question-and-answer session. The AI-enabled holographic educator provided evidence-based information on both benign breast conditions and breast cancer and responded to audience questions in English, Hindi Telugu and Tamil. The Guinness World Records title was awarded under a newly created category recognising innovation in AI-enabled holographic health education. Designed to improve breast health literacy, reduce fear and stigma, encourage timely medical consultation and make reliable health information more accessible, the initiative demonstrated the transformative potential of artificial intelligence and immer-



sive communication technologies in advancing public health awareness. The occasion also marked the launch of NARI (National Awareness & Resource Initiative for Breast Health). An AI-enabled digital breast health educator (Avatar) of Dr Raghu Ram has been designed and programmed to provide round-the-clock access through a dedicated link to reliable, evidence-based information in multiple languages on breast health, breast cancer, breast screening and early detection. Developed with robust clinical and ethical guardrails, NARI has been created to ensure safe, responsible and compassionate

educational interactions while expanding access to credible breast health information across urban and rural communities alike. The platform enables users to ask questions and receive educational guidance in multiple Indian languages, helping bridge important gaps in breast health awareness and access to information. The event was graced by Dr Abhijat Sheth, Chairman, National Medical Commission, as Chief Guest. Addressing the gathering he said "I congratulate Dr Raghu Ram on this remarkable Guinness World Records achievement. What is particularly noteworthy is that this is not

merely a record, but a public health innovation with the potential to benefit countless individuals. I understand that this is the third Guinness World Records title secured by Dr Raghu Ram within a span of just 15 months. That is an extraordinary achievement by any standard, with each achievement being driven by a larger purpose—to advance healthcare education, awareness and public engagement.

The launch of NARI represents an important step towards making reliable breast health information accessible to people across India through the responsible use of technology and artificial intelligence. Initiatives such as these have the potential to significantly strengthen health literacy and empower individuals to make informed healthcare decisions." Highlighting salient aspects about today's initiative, Dr P. Raghu Ram, Founder & Chairman, Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation and Founding Director, KIMS-USHALAKSHMI Centre for Breast Diseases said "I dedicate this recognition to my late mother, Dr Ushalakshmi, a distinguished gynaecologist and breast cancer 'conqueror' whose strength, compassion and dedication to women's health inspired the creation of the Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation. Her journey taught us that awareness, early detection and hope can save lives. This recognition is a tribute to her enduring legacy and to every woman whose life

has been touched by breast cancer. Our objective is simple—to democratise access to credible breast health information, reduce fear and stigma, encourage early detection and empower women through knowledge and awareness. The Guinness World Records achievement is not an end in itself. Rather, it serves as a platform to draw attention to an important public health message and to the potential of technology in making reliable health information accessible to people regardless of geography, language or socioeconomic background."

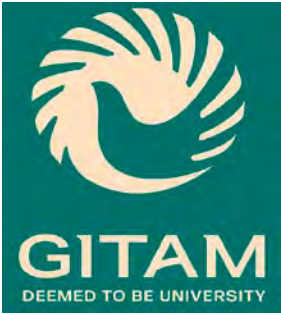
Expressing his profound happiness about this remarkable achievement, Dr Bhaskar Rao Chairman, KIMS group of Hospitals said "Our Institute is proud to support pioneering initiatives that combine innovation, technology and healthcare for meaningful social impact. For nearly two decades, Dr Raghu Ram has championed several transformative breast health awareness initiatives aimed at improving early detection and public education in India. This latest endeavour demonstrates how artificial intelligence can be leveraged responsibly to improve health education and public engagement at scale. When Raghu Ram undertakes something, he does it with complete commitment and dedication, and this achievement is yet another example that visibly demonstrates his passion for using innovation to improve people's lives."

GITAM launches research mentoring initiative

Hyderabad: GITAM Deemed to be University has launched the Research Excellence Through Mentoring initiative to strengthen research capabilities and promote academic excellence across its campuses.

According to a press release issued by Dr. Manjula Rao, Director – Strategic Initiatives, the programme aims to enhance research skills through expert mentorship and knowledge-sharing sessions.

The inaugural online lecture under the initiative will be held on June 18, 2026, at 6:00 PM IST on the theme "Medical Technology and Interdisciplinary Healthcare Innovation." The session will be delivered by Dr. Hyndavi Balla



from the Department of Oral Pathology and Microbiology, GITAM, and moderated by Dr. Dhruva Chowdhury.

The lecture will focus on the integration of medicine, dentistry, biomedical engineering, artificial intelligence, and digital health technologies. It will also cover key aspects of conducting clinically relevant research, including ethical approvals, clinical validation, regulatory

pathways, documentation, and compliance requirements.

GITAM has invited research faculty, postdoctoral scholars, Ph.D. scholars, and aspiring researchers to participate and benefit from the expertise shared during the session.

The initiative was conceptualized earlier this year under the guidance of Professor Sunita Ho of the University of California, San Francisco. During her visit to GITAM in May, she conducted a Research and Mentoring Retreat that laid the foundation for the mentorship-driven programme.

The university expects the initiative to encourage collaborative, interdisciplinary, and impactful research across all its campuses.

Graduation Cum Farewell Day 2026 Celebrated at Sir MVIT and SMVSA

Bengaluru : Sir M. Visvesvaraya Institute of Technology (Sir MVIT) and Sir M. V. School of Architecture (SMVSA), under the aegis of Sri Krishnadevaraya Educational Trust (Sri KET), celebrated the Graduation Cum Farewell Day 2026 at the Sir MVIT Campus, Bengaluru.

Welcoming the gathering, Dr. M. N. Thippeswamy highlighted the achievements of the graduating batch. Following the Graduation Oath, degrees were conferred upon 1,036 graduates, comprising 865 undergraduate students, 4 Bachelor of Architecture students, 13 M.Tech students, 79 MBA students, and 75 MCA students. The institution also recognized academic



excellence by honouring 26 University Rank Holders at the undergraduate level and 11 at the postgraduate level.

Delivering the Graduation Day Address, Dr. K. N. Satyanarayana emphasized the importance of lifelong learning in an era of rapid technological advancement. He challenged the graduates to assess their readiness for the opportunities and

challenges that lie beyond the classroom. Stressing the importance of skill development, he cited the semiconductor industry's experience during the COVID-19 pandemic and highlighted how India had to recruit engineers from Taiwan due to a shortage of specialized talent. He urged graduates to continuously upgrade their technical competencies,

strengthen their communication skills, and prepare for emerging interdisciplinary career opportunities. He encouraged them to make the future both bright and meaningful through innovation, adaptability, and commitment to excellence. In his presidential remarks, V. Srinivasa Raju encouraged graduates to dream big and work together to transform aspirations into reality. A special segment of the programme featured reminiscences by graduating students, making the occasion both memorable and inspiring. The ceremony concluded on a note of pride and optimism, celebrating the accomplishments of the graduates as they embarked on their professional journeys.

Three-day "Mega Food Expo 2026" kicks off at BIEC

SMART KITCHEN TECHNOLOGY, DIGITAL SERVICES SHOWCASE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOSPITALITY SECTOR:

Bengaluru : The three-day "Mega Food Expo 2026" covering five major sectors including food, hospitality, poultry, dairy farming began today at the city's International Exhibition Centre [BIEC], with over 90 companies participating. It acts as a bridge between farmers, entrepreneurs, investors, researchers and consumers. The fair is special in that it covers the entire value chain from food production to processing, packaging, storage, transportation and marketing.

Bangalore Hotel Management Board Honorary President P.C. Rao inaugurated the fair and said that special stalls have been opened on spices, fruit and vege-



table processing technologies and export opportunities. Domestic and international companies are showcasing their cutting-edge products. This fair is complementary to the growth of the food industry. The exhibition of cooking equipment, refrigeration systems, smart kitchen technologies and digital services

required by the hotel, catering and tourism sector is opening up new business opportunities for the hospitality sector, he said.

Mohammad Mudassar, Manager of Media Day Marketing, said that the three-day exhibition will feature trade meetings, buyer-seller interactions, investor conferences and

technical workshops. This will provide new market and partnership opportunities for small and medium industries. He said that Karnataka, which has a leading position in agriculture and food processing, will benefit from new investment, job creation and export growth.

Peenya Industrial Association President Danappa, Karnataka Progressive Dairy Farmers Association President B.J. Prithvi Gowda, Ferry President Ramesh Shivanna, K.R., Secretary A.C. Easwar, Auto Dealers Association President V.K. Venkatesh, Kreshma Secretary A.C. Easwar and others were present.

EDITORIAL

Why India Appointed A Non-Muslim Ambassador To Saudi Arabia, For First Time Ever

The appointment of Mr Vipul as the new Indian ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a historic shift in India's diplomatic strategy. It breaks the established convention since 1948 of sending a Muslim ambassador to the country. In this regard, Vipul is the first non-Muslim Indian diplomat in Saudi Arabia. His appointment is significant not just from a geopolitical lens but also for the underlying signalling.

Geopolitically, Saudi Arabia matters to India for reasons that extend far beyond the traditional lens of oil and expatriate labour. Riyadh today occupies one of the most important positions in India's diplomatic landscape. It is a critical energy partner, a leading political actor in the Gulf, the custodian of Islam's two holiest sites, and an increasingly influential economic hub. Under its Vision 2030 transformation agenda, Saudi Arabia has emerged as a centre where investment, technology, infrastructure, culture, and geopolitics intersect, creating new opportunities and strategic considerations for countries such as India. In this backdrop, the appointment of Mr Vipul is a wise choice. A career diplomat from the 1998 batch of the Indian Foreign Service, he brings extensive experience in the Gulf and the wider region, having served in Cairo, Colombo, Geneva, and Dubai, and most recently as India's ambassador to Qatar. His appointment reflects expertise, seniority, and familiarity with a strategically vital region rather than any departure from diplomatic meritocracy.

However, more than his professional credentials, it's the fact that he's the first non-Muslim diplomat to head the mission in Riyadh since diplomatic relations between the two countries were established that has gained more attention. In a highly polarised environment, the risk lies less in the appointment itself than in the narratives that may be constructed around it. Since the late 1940s, New Delhi had exclusively selected senior Muslim diplomats for the ambassadorial role in Riyadh and the consul general position in Jeddah. This practice was primarily rooted in logistics; the Indian mission in Saudi Arabia plays a massive role in coordinating the annual Hajj pilgrimage, which sees hundreds of thousands of Indian Muslims travel to Islam's holiest sites. India sends the second-largest Hajj contingent to Saudi Arabia after Indonesia - 1,75,000 is the official Hajj quota. With such a huge number of Indians coming in for Hajj, the role of the consul general in Jeddah and the ambassador in Riyadh becomes crucial in terms of coordination with Saudi authorities. According to senior diplomats posted earlier in the region, the coordination and management of Hajj often requires the ambassador's presence in Mecca and Medina, Jamarat for coordination, as the Saudi management also shifts to these areas. Since a non-Muslim is not allowed in the area where the Hajj pilgrimage is performed, the management of the pilgrimage may be adversely affected if the ambassador cannot be in the area. An example is the fire tragedy in the tent city of Mina in 1997, in which hundreds of Indians died, and the then ambassador, Hamid Ansari, rushed to the site of the tragedy for coordination with higher Saudi authorities.

America Has Never, Ever Looked This Humiliated: The Story Of A Superpower's Fall

Iran on Tuesday shot down a US Apache helicopter near the Strait of Hormuz, prompting Trump to say that America must, out of necessity, respond to the attack. His statement on Truth Social suggests caution rather than a boast about America's power and dominance, which he is more accustomed to. He had shown similar caution last weekend after Iran fired missiles at Israel, threatening both the precarious ceasefire and the deal Washington and Tehran have been negotiating to end the war. Trump pleaded with the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, not to strike back at Iran. But the latter simply ignored him. This is the new reality 100 days after Trump joined Netanyahu's war against Iran. The leader of the so-called free world looks weak and humbled, and the power of the United States appears to have reached its limits, at least in West Asia.

Before the war, it was inconceivable that Iran would threaten Israel over its actions in Lebanon and then carry out that threat without fear of a US response. Iran's policy had been what it called "strategic patience". But its new leadership seems to believe that restraint is a sign of weakness. The cautious Ayatollah Khamenei, under whose leadership the policy of restraint was last seen during the 12-day war in 2025, is no longer alive. His son, Mojtaba, the new leader, has given full backing to the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) for an uncompromising, tough approach. A week ago, Tehran warned Israel of missile strikes if it continued bombing Lebanon, particularly if the southern outskirts of the capital, Beirut, were attacked. These areas are the stronghold of Iran's proxy group, Hezbollah. That came after Netanyahu ordered these areas to be bombed. An angry Trump called Netanyahu, shouting, "What the f-- are you doing?" "You're f--ing crazy," Netanyahu paused the attacks, but only for a week. On Sunday, when Israel bombed the Beirut suburbs, Iran responded as it had promised. Defying Trump's pleas, Israel not only struck Iran in retaliation but also targeted one of its petrochemical complexes, threatening further escalation. Later, both called off further strikes at each other.



Sabotaged By A Friend?

Trump is desperate to end the war, which has become deeply unpopular in the United States. But he is worried that Netanyahu's actions could jeopardise ongoing negotiations with Iran. The Israeli leader, on the other hand, wants to resume the war. Netanyahu fears that Trump might be conceding too much to Tehran. Iran's use of the Strait of Hormuz as a chokepoint has shifted the focus from the nuclear programme to the reopening of the narrow waterways, alarming Israelis.

There is supposed to be a ceasefire in Lebanon, but Israel has not halted strikes on Hezbollah targets. The militant group has also been launching missiles at Israel. The Israeli military has killed more than 3,600 people, mostly Shia Muslims, since the war began in March and has displaced one-fifth of the population. Israel has advanced much deeper into Lebanon, occupying large parts of its territory. This has enraged Iran, hardening its stance in negotiations with the United States. As Tehran's latest military action in Lebanon shows, it is committed to backing its ally Hezbollah. Israel is well aware of that. Its military operations in Lebanon appear to be trying to sabotage a deal with Iran, despite Trump's repeated calls to Netanyahu for restraint.

Why Can't Trump Rein in Netanyahu?

Iran views Israel's behaviour in Lebanon as a test of Trump's power and his willingness to use it. Apart from angry telephone calls, Trump has not really used the leverage the US has over Israel to contain Netanyahu. Israel receives the largest amount of aid from the United States; no country is even close. In addition to \$3.8 billion annually, Israel has received billions more from the US in recent years. After the Hamas attack on Israel in 2023, the US Congress passed a law to provide \$10.6 billion in direct military aid to the Jewish state. Soon after he started his second term, Trump proposed an \$8 billion aid package for Israel, and this January, his government announced \$6.5 billion in weapons aid. Without this help, Israel can't carry out its military operations. Thus, Trump has options - if he is willing to use them. The aid has continued despite declining support for Israel among the US population. In April, the Pew Research Center reported that 60% of Americans now hold a negative view of Israel, an increase of nearly 20 percentage points from two years ago.

However, the Israeli lobby remains highly influential in the US. The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) directly con-

tributes to US politicians' election funds. Netanyahu personally lobbies the American media and US lawmakers, especially those from Trump's Republican Party. Therefore, it's not easy for any American politician to rein in the Israeli leader. Even Trump finds it difficult to curb Netanyahu's actions.

All The Wrong Choices

Trump may feel betrayed by Netanyahu, but he is also responsible for the situation. His actions in favour of Israel and Netanyahu over the years have made him and the US deeply unpopular in West Asia and have damaged America's credibility. During his first term, he moved the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, a city claimed by both Israelis and Palestinians. He allowed Netanyahu to expand Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, an illegal and unpopular move internationally. Trump has worked hard to make Israel acceptable to Arab governments through the Abraham Accords, though people in these countries remain opposed to the decision. In February, US Ambassador to Israel, Mike Huckabee, a Trump appointee, angered the Arab world by suggesting that Israel has a right to much of the Middle East.

Trump was the first and only US president in four decades whom the

Israelis, under Netanyahu, have managed to persuade to join the war against Iran. He is also the one at whose behest Trump pulled America out of the 2015 Iran nuclear deal and started the 12-day war with Iran last year, while the US was negotiating a new agreement with the country, and again this year. It was Netanyahu who ordered the targeted killing of Ayatollah Khamenei and most of Iran's other leaders early in the war, many of whom would have shown more flexibility on a deal, perhaps on US terms. These actions explain why Iranians don't trust the US with a new agreement.

It was also Netanyahu who prolonged the Gaza war, which has killed more than 72,000 people. Trump backed Netanyahu even after the World Court issued arrest warrants for him over war crimes in Gaza. Last year, Israel attacked a meeting of Hamas negotiators in Qatar, a close US ally, during Gaza negotiations, embarrassing the president. With Qatar's help, Trump negotiated a deal to end the Gaza war, but Israel has not stopped its military action against Palestinians there, creating mistrust not only of Israel but also of America. Since the Gaza accord was signed, nearly 900 people have been killed in the Palestinian territory. Trump's decision to join Israel in the war against Iran has weakened the US the most. While Iran is now more powerful than ever, support for America in West Asia is now at a level not seen since the Arab-Israeli war in 1973. Trump is widely seen as a leader who cares only about Israel. A survey by the Arab Barometer, a research group in West Asia, conducted after the 12-day war in 2025, found that people in the region had lost nearly all confidence in a US-led regional order. Instead, they now regard China, Iran, and Russia more favourably than the United States. Making America Weak Again

America's position was not this weak until recently; in fact, it was rising high. The fall of the Bashar al-Assad regime in December 2024 was a major setback for Russia and Iran. Moscow was struggling in Ukraine, and China was concerned about the US's motives in the Indo-Pacific. In January, the removal of Venezuela's president, Nicholas Maduro, an ally of Beijing and Moscow.

(LATE CHILDBEARING, EARLY WORRIES?)

THE FUTURE OF PARENTS AND CHILDREN AFTER FIFTY

— Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

Science has provided human life with numerous conveniences and possibilities. Advances in medical science have opened the way to parenthood for couples who, for whatever reason, were unable to conceive naturally. Technologies like IVF (in vitro fertilization) have blessed thousands of families with the joy of having children. This is undoubtedly a major achievement of modern medicine. But every achievement comes with certain questions and responsibilities. Today, when some couples, at the age of 50-52 or even older, sometimes by taking on debt, decide to become parents through IVF, it becomes necessary to seriously consider this issue. The desire for children is one of the most natural and deepest human emotions. Every person wants a family, a home filled with the laughter of children, and a new direction in life. This desire drives many couples to undergo years of treatment and endure financial and mental struggles. Their feelings should be respected. But parenthood isn't limited to the birth of a child. The real responsibility begins after that. Giving birth to a child is relatively easy, but raising them to be responsible, educated, and self-reliant citizens is a long and challenging process. When a couple becomes parents in their 50s, it's natural that by the time a child reaches 12th grade, the parents will be between 68 and 70 years old. This is the stage of

life when most people expect a comfortable life after retirement. Many changes occur in the body with aging. High blood pressure, diabetes, thyroid, heart disease, arthritis, and other health problems become common. In such circumstances, it's difficult to maintain the same level of activeness as before to support a child's academic, career, and emotional needs. Adolescence and young adulthood are the most crucial times in a child's life. During this period, they need the most guidance, confidence, and emotional support. Preparing for competitive exams, choosing higher education, career planning, and many other life-related decisions are made during this age. If parents themselves are struggling with health issues at this time, it can put additional pressure on both the child and the family. Often, children must juggle their studies and future plans, as well as the responsibility of caring for their parents. There's also a social aspect to this topic. Children are surrounded by friends and classmates at school and at social events. Sometimes, having older parents can lead to unwanted comments or jokes. While this reflects social immaturity, it can still have an impact on a child's psyche. Children often want to feel comfortable and accepted among their peers. Such situations can sometimes impact their self-confidence. Delaying parenthood also presents numerous financial challenges. IVF treatments can cost lakhs of rupees. Many families

exhaust their savings or take out loans to fund them. This is followed by ongoing expenses for the child's upbringing, education, health, and other needs. Today, obtaining a quality education is more expensive than ever before. If parents are already under financial pressure and nearing retirement, it may be difficult to secure adequate resources for their child's higher education and career development. This topic becomes even more important in the context of women. Nature has set a biological time limit for reproduction. Menopause signals that the body has reached the end of its reproductive lifespan. Modern medical technologies can extend this limit somewhat, but they cannot eliminate all the challenges associated with aging. Older women carry increased health risks during pregnancy and childbirth, which cannot be ignored. However, it's important to maintain balance when discussing this topic. It's unfair to assume that everyone who becomes a parent at an older age will become a problem for their children. Many people are perfectly healthy, active, and financially capable even at age 60. At the same time, many young parents are unable to devote adequate time and resources to their children. Therefore, a decision shouldn't be evaluated solely on the basis of age. However, considering average circumstances, age is certainly an important factor that cannot be ignored. In this context, adoption is also a worthwhile option. There are

thousands of children in our country who, for whatever reason, are deprived of parental love and protection. If capable families adopt them, not only can their futures be secured, but families can also experience the joy of having children. Unfortunately, even today, society places greater importance on biological children, which is why many people don't seriously consider a positive option like adoption. In reality, becoming a parent isn't just about fulfilling one's own desires. It means actively participating in a child's life for the next twenty to twenty-five years, supporting their dreams and standing by them through every circumstance. Therefore, when deciding to have children, one should consider not only present happiness but also future responsibilities. Emotions are important, but foresight is equally essential. Ultimately, the question isn't about IVF or medical science. The question is whether we're adequately considering the long-term consequences of our decisions. Having children is one of life's greatest joys, but it's also a huge responsibility. Therefore, before deciding to delay parenthood, it's essential to consider health, financial status, social circumstances, and, above all, the child's future. The best interests of a child should be the basis for every decision. This is the hallmark of mature parenthood. — Dr. Priyanka Saurabh (Dr. Priyanka Saurabh, PhD (Political Science), is a poet and social thinker.)

Punjab And Its Discontents: How The Akali Factions Are Faring

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) is one of India's oldest regional parties, founded in 1920 and almost as old as the RSS. For over a century, it has been deeply connected with Punjab's political, religious and social history. In contrast to many regional parties that emerged around personalities or electoral issues, SAD was born out of a mass movement and built its legitimacy through struggle and sacrifice. The party played a historic role in the Gurudwara Reform Movement, participated in the freedom struggle, led the Punjabi Suba agitation, and emerged as the principal political voice of Sikh aspirations. During the Emergency, Akali leaders were among the strongest defenders of democratic rights. For decades, SAD positioned itself as the champion of Punjab's federal rights, Sikh interests, and farmers' concerns, giving it a stature far beyond electoral politics. Electorally, SAD has been one of Punjab's most successful parties, forming governments multiple times and producing towering leaders such as Parkash Singh Badal, Gurcharan Singh Tohra, etc. Its long alliance with the BJP has often been cited as a successful model of Hindu-Sikh camaraderie and social harmony after the turmoil of the 80s. Together, the alliance dominated Punjab politics for nearly two decades. However, since 2015, the party has witnessed a dramatic decline. A number of reasons were behind this decline. Akali Dal's electoral success was based upon pragmatism and ruthless use of money and power, which led to a number of mafias - land, sand, transport, drugs, cable - dominating the party. Ideology and the old Jathedar base of the party was jettisoned for family, "Halqa incharges", and new "moneybags". Controversies like Beadabi, farm laws and Article 370 ensured that the Akalis alienated their core votebank of Sikhs and peasants. Meanwhile, new ascendant social forces - youth, NRIs, unemployed, influencers; new social movements - farmers and Panthic and new political outfits - PPP, AAP, using new digital technologies, prospered at the



expense of Akalis, painting them as the real villains of Punjab and holding them responsible for all its ills. At the same time, demographic changes - such as outmigration of the core Akali vote bank of Jatt Sikhs - also hurt the Akali Dal the most. All this ensured the dramatic decline of the Akali Dal as an electoral force. Its votebank has crashed from 35% to 13%, and its seat share in the state assembly has declined from 58 to three since 2012. It reached a nadir in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, when it lost deposits on 10 of 13 seats and secured just 13.42% votes. Along with electoral decline, Akali Dal has to face a prolonged period of ideological confusion as it veered from one extreme - battling Bandi Singh and Rajoana in elections to another, like supporting Article 370 move and farm reforms. Electoral defeats were also accompanied by a challenge to Sukhbir's leadership from disgruntled Akalis - Dhindsa, Chandumajara, Jagir Kaur and from Jathedars along with resentment among the religious over the "Beadabi" issue. One of the most significant results of the decline of the Shiromani Akali Dal over the last decade has been the fragmentation of Punjab's Panthic political space. What was once largely monopolised by a single party is today contested by four

distinct formations-Akali Dal (Badal), Waris Punjab De, Akali Dal (Mann), and the various rebel Akali factions often described as Akali Dal Punar Surjit. Each seeks to position itself as the authentic voice of Panth and Punjab, but each carries its own strengths and limitations. Despite its dramatic decline, the Akali Dal under Sukhbir Badal remains the largest and most organised Panthic force. Its greatest strengths are its century-old legacy, extensive organisational network, Sukhbir Badal's leadership, financial resources, and deep roots in rural Punjab. It remains the only Panthic outfit with a proven record of governance and state-wide presence. Moreover, the party has shown signs of revival by its improved showings in bypolls and local elections in the last year. The party has held a series of rallies recently to bolster its support. It remains strong in the rural Malwa heartland and parts of Majha. However, its weaknesses are equally apparent. Akali Dal continues to suffer from a severe credibility deficit arising from the Beadabi, drug charges, alleged mafia links and pressure from "neo panthics". The ruling AAP continues to poach Akali leaders. Youngsters remain suspicious of its intentions and unconvinced by its attempts at reinvention.

Large numbers of leaders Protest demanding CM post to MLA Mahadevappa and threatened that Blood revolution if Dalits ignored



Bengaluru : Condemning the sidelining of Dalit leaders in the Congress-led state government, thousands of people, led by Dalit organizations across Karnataka, protested at Freedom Park here on Thursday and demanded that Former Minister and MLA H C Mahadevappa be made Chief Minister of Karnataka. The state-wide protest titled --Struggle for self-respect of the exploited--, led by Karnataka State Dalit Organisations Federation (R), witnessed participants from various districts across Mysuru, Mandya and Chamarajanagar culminating at capital city Bengaluru, and demanded

their leader Mr Mahadevappa be made the Chief Minister. They displayed portraits of Mr Mahadevappa and shouted slogans in his support, stating that Dalit stalwarts who have worked for the constitution, upholding democratic values and the progress of society are being sidelined in today's politics. Protesters said that Dalit community has been casting their votes to Congress but the party chose to betray the community and its leaders. They said that there is a conspiracy to politically finish off the influential Dalit leaders by giving false promises to them that they would be given high posts.

S Manohar demands legal action against defamatory posts against Congress leaders on social media



Bengaluru: MEI President and KPCC General Secretary S Manohar has demanded legal action against the propaganda, false information and defamatory posts being made against Congress leaders and freedom fighters on social media. Speaking after submitting a petition to Home Minister Priyank Kharge in this regard, he said that for the past few years, some individuals who identify themselves as BJP and its supporters have been continuously spreading false information, propaganda, derogatory and defamatory posts on social media against Congress party leaders, freedom fighters and dig-

nitaries who have made significant contributions to the country's construction. Complaints have been filed against such posts at police stations many times. But in many cases, the answer has been that action can be taken only if the person against whom the post was made comes directly and complains. He said that ordinary workers and citizens are helpless due to this. Although trends like hatred, lies, information and identity theft are increasing in the society, effective action is not being taken. 'This matter had been brought to the attention of the concerned authorities in the past as well.

Rahul Dravid Unveils Glittering Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 for Season 5



Bengaluru : Indian cricket legend and Karnataka icon Rahul Dravid unveiled the trophy for this year's Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 in Bengaluru on Thursday, marking another milestone in the build-up to the fifth edition of Karnataka's premier franchise-based T20 tournament. The trophy unveiling ceremony was attended by KSCA President Venkatesh Prasad, KSCA Honorary Secretary Santosh Menon, Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 Governing Council Chairman M.S. Keshava, KSCA Official Spokesperson Vinay Mruthyunjaya, franchise owners, office bearers and other distinguished guests of the KSCA. Speaking at the event, Rahul Dravid highlighted the role of the Maharaja

Trophy KSCA T20 in creating opportunities for emerging cricketers and praised KSCA's efforts in strengthening the state's cricketing pathway. The Maharaja Trophy is a very important tournament. Having myself been involved in the IPL for many years, I know for a fact that it is a tournament that is followed by a lot of IPL teams. There will be scouts who come to the games live, but many of them watch it on television as well. The scores, statistics and data from these matches are watched very closely and it really helps a lot of these players get into the IPL." KSCA President Venkatesh Prasad reflected on the significance of the tournament and its continued contribution to

Dodmansa Power Packed Trailer Release



Bengaluru: The trailer of "Dodmansa", directed by Sharath Krishna and starring Sharath Krishna and Reshma and Shilpa in the lead roles, has been released under the banner of Vedic Cosmos. This trailer has shown that it is a definitely action-packed movie. The hero's mass avatar and fight scenes have caught the attention of the mass audience in the trailer itself. Another innocent love has also been unveiled. This trailer has raised a good hope for the movie. Actor-director Sharath Krishna spoke, Dodmansa, where did you start and where are you standing? Earlier, you used to say, "Build a house and get married." Now, there are enough banks to give loans. But when you decided to act, you experienced how much struggle you had to go through. My family has supported me. Another friend has stood as my back bone. I am indebted to him. I am going on with the strength that Baba has given me. Dodmansa will move forward by making a mark. He said that he has worked like a one-man army.

Salesforce Celebrates a Decade of Innovation in India, Commits to Skilling 1 Million Learners by 2030

Bangalore : Salesforce, the #1 AI CRM, announced a commitment to equip one million learners across India with AI-focused skills by 2030. The announcement comes as Salesforce India's Centre of Excellence (CoE) celebrates 10 years of innovation and growth. At its core, the commitment to skill one million learners goes beyond digital literacy — preparing India's workforce for jobs of the future. Leveraging Trailhead, the free digital learning ecosystem from Salesforce, this commitment is brought to life through a bold set of integrated strategic programs — uniting academic institutions, industry leaders, and government agencies delivering unique training experiences in a shared mission to build an AI-ready workforce for India's future. Government-backed AI



skilling programs in collaboration with bodies such as IndiaAI, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of India (MeitY) targets emerging talent to equip India's next generation with AI-ready skills. Virtual Internship Program with AICTE empowers students with hands-on project experience, helping students across India's towns and cities build job-ready Salesforce and AI skills. Salesforce academic Centers of Excellence with institutions such as Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) delivers a purposeful, multi-layered strategy to democratize access with hands-on experience to Salesforce and AI skills. Salesforce partner network — including Accenture, Deloitte, Grant Thornton Bharat, Infosys, PwC and TCS — continues to bring these programs to life through structured

training curricula, mentorship-led learning, on-the-job project exposure creating direct pathways to employment within the Salesforce ecosystem. A r u n d h a t i Bhattacharya, President and CEO, Salesforce - South Asia, said "India has earned its place at the center of the global technology story — not by following trends, but by shaping them. As we mark ten years of our Centre of Excellence, I am reminded that our greatest achievements have been the people we have empowered along the way. Our commitment to skill 1 million learners by 2030 reflects a firm belief that India's workforce is not just ready for the AI economy — it is ready to lead it. At Salesforce, we are committed to ensuring that potential does not go unrealised, and that the next generation of technology leaders emerges from right here."

Pakka Entertainment 'Golmaal Gang' Teaser Release

Bengaluru: Cinema is all about entertainment. People are waiting for that entertainment. A movie is being prepared that will make you laugh and cool your mind. Its name is Golmaal Gang. Now a good teaser has been released, which has given hope for the movie. It has been produced by Satish Chandra under the banner of Shantvu Universal Pictures. Speaking, director Shivakumar said that the producers have helped a lot for this movie. They are the backbone of everything, the ones who corrected when mistakes were made. There are 16 artists in this movie. All those characters have life. We have worked hard, we cannot do anything without artists. Karthik always treated me like a brother. There are more characters who can do Golmaal. That



is why he gave that title. Producer K Satish Chandra Elekere said, "Even while working on the shooting set, everyone used to discuss together. We came here to win the film. We have been supplying labor to the industry for 26-27 years. We did not come to the film industry thinking that we should do something. We started a banner and started to provide work." Lead actor Karthik said, "I was introduced to the producers by director Shivu sir. He has the spirit

of young children. When I said hero, some heroines did not agree. Most of them said, 'Don't do a short film with him.' But the producers said, 'No heroine, don't change Karthik.' That statement made me very emotional. I did not consider myself my hero. But our director had called me hero so many times. The film will work when the audience comes forward. Lead actress Aradhana Bhatt said, "If anyone asked me, I would have wanted to become a heroine. Today, through the film Golmaal Gang, I have become that because of our producers. Thanks to director Shivu sir too. There are about a gang here. The twist is which gang will I join. I was scared when I heard that Mandya Ramesh sir is playing your father. But he has taught me all that neatly."

Bioenergy units to be set up in all Gram Panchayats: Eshwar Khandre



Bengaluru: Karnataka Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Eshwar Khandre has emphasized the establishment of bioenergy production units in all Gram Panchayats through a decentralized system to promote rural energy sustainability. During a review meeting of the Karnataka State Bioenergy Development Board and the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Rural Energy and Development (MGIRED), Board Chairman S. E. Sudheendra briefed the Minister on ongoing projects and the proposed new bioenergy policy.

Commissioner K. N. Ramesh Directs Infrastructure Development at Uttarahalli Corporation PU College

Bengaluru (TSIT): The Commissioner of Bengaluru South City Corporation, K. N. Ramesh, personally visited the Corporation Pre-University College in Uttarahalli today to inspect the academic progress and the college's infrastructure. 73% RESULT. COMMENDATION FROM THE COMMISSIONER. The Assistant Director of the Education Department, Shri Venkata Krishnappa, informed the Commissioner that Uttarahalli Pre-University (PU) College recorded an excellent result of 73.88% in the second PU annual examination of the academic year 2025-26. In this regard, the Commissioner praised the achievements of the students and the efforts of the teaching staff. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT. TOPS - 99 STUDENTS PASS: Out of a total of 134 students who appeared for the exam in the previous academic year, 99 have passed successfully. In the stream-wise results, the Commerce stream led the way with an achievement of 87.14%, while the Arts stream recorded 63.41% and the Science stream recorded 52.17%. The Principal informed the Commissioner that among the passed students, 6



achieved distinction and became the toppers of the college. Admission Progress for the New Academic Year: The admission process for the current new academic year 2026-27 is also going on in full swing. A total of 221 students have already taken admission in the Arts, Commerce, and Science streams of first and second PU. Out of these, 126 students are enrolled in first PU and 95 students in second PU, the college Principal explained to the Commissioner. COMMISSIONER'S INSTRUCTION TO ENHANCE STUDENTS' LEARNING CAPABILITY. The Commissioner directed that weekly debate and elocution competitions, along with moti-

vational/encouragement classes by expert teachers, be organized to involve students in learning and various other fields. Instruction to Focus on College Infrastructure In the wake of the commencement of the new academic year, the Commissioner directed the concerned officials to submit a proposal regarding the necessary desks and other furniture for students, repairing the flooring, fixing window glasses, arranging a house-keeping system for the cleanliness of classrooms and toilets, cleaning the playground, and other basic infrastructure. On this occasion, the Corporation's Education Officer Shri Venkatakrishnanappa, the college Principal, lecturers, and others were present.

Include Bengaluru-Shivamogga Route in UDAN Scheme: M. B. Patil Writes to Centre

B e n g a l u r u : Infrastructure Development Minister M. B. Patil has urged the Centre to include the Bengaluru-Shivamogga air route in the upcoming UDAN bidding process so that the service, which has been suspended owing to financial losses, can be restored. He said the resumption of flights is crucial for the economic and social development of the Malnad region and parts of Central Karnataka. In this regard, he has written to Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu seeking his intervention. Shivamogga Airport commenced operations in February 2023, following which IndiGo operated flights between Shivamogga and Bengaluru. However, the service has remained suspended for the past few months, causing inconvenience to passengers. In his letter, Patil pointed out that air connectivity between the two cities is vital for supporting the economic, agricultural, tourism and industrial

growth of districts such as Shivamogga, Chikmagalur, Uttara Kannada, Davanagere, Chitradurga and Haveri. The absence of a direct flight between Shivamogga and Bengaluru has also affected travellers seeking connectivity to other parts of the country and international destinations. Patil has therefore requested the Union Minister to facilitate the inclusion of the B e n g a l u r u - Shivamogga route in the proposed UDAN bidding process with support under the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) mechanism. Patil further noted that work on providing night-landing facilities at Shivamogga Airport is progressing rapidly. He added that all other essential infrastructure and facilities are already in place at the airport. Urging the Union Government to consider the request favourably, he called for early steps to restore the air service for the benefit of the region.

Group Pharmaceuticals Launches 'Abledent' - India's First Inclusive Oral Care Ecosystem Designed for Real-World Needs

Bangalore : Group Pharmaceuticals, a trusted name in the oral healthcare industry with over 45 years of expertise, recently announced the launch of Abledent in Bangalore. The launch event brought together healthcare professionals, caregivers, and industry stakeholders, underscoring the urgent need for more inclusive and patient-centric oral care solutions in India. In India, the need for assisted daily care, including oral hygiene, is rapidly growing across age groups. While 1 in every 20 elderly individuals live with some form of disability and nearly 40% of those aged 60+ face functional or health-related limitations, children and adults with disabilities, neurodivergent individuals, and those with special healthcare needs along with the caregivers who support them continue to face significant barriers to safe and accessible oral care. Despite this growing need, access to specialised and user-friendly oral care solutions tailored for assisted care remains limited in the country. Abledent has been developed with a clear purpose: to make daily oral hygiene safer, simpler, and more accessible for children and adults with disabilities, neurodivergent individuals, the elderly, hospitalised patients, individuals with temporary or permanent mobility challenges, and those



dependent on caregivers. Developed through extensive clinical insight and real-world research by Group Pharmaceuticals, Abledent offers safe if swallowed, non-foaming toothpastes for those unable to rinse or spit; fluoride-free and remineralising formulations for sensitive and medically vulnerable users; mouthwashes for enhanced enamel protection; and no-rinse oral care wipes for hospitalised and dependent care settings. The range also features inclusive packaging such as easy-open caps and braille and is built to overcome practical challenges including gag reflex, sensory sensitivities, mobility limitations, and caregiver-assisted routines - gaps long ignored by conventional oral care. Speaking about the launch, Nikhil Kaushik,

CEO- Group Pharmaceuticals said, "Healthy smiles are a birthright—not a privilege. With Abledent, we are addressing a critical gap in oral care by creating solutions that are not only clinically relevant but also empathetic to the real-world challenges faced by individuals with disabilities, children with special needs, patients and caregivers. For far too long, people with special oral care needs have had to adapt to products that were never designed for them. Abledent changes that by putting their dignity, comfort, and independence at the center of innovation." India's oral care market has long overlooked the needs of dependent and special-care populations.

TVK’s Singappen era shields MLA in sex case: EPS



CHENNAI: AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami on Thursday criticised the State government over allegations of sexual assault involving ruling party functionaries in Srivaikuntam, Thoothukudi district.

In a social media post, Palaniswami described the allegations as shocking and claimed that a woman had been sexually assaulted by two ruling party functionaries in the district.

He further alleged that the accused committed the offence with the support of Srivaikuntam MLA Saravanan. According to Palaniswami, the MLA

allegedly attempted to settle the issue by approaching the woman and assuring her that he would speak to a minister and help her secure employment. Is this the Singappen action you were referring to, EPS mocked CM Vijay.

Palaniswami said the allegations had raised questions about whether the ruling party would take strict action against those involved and whether the MLA would face consequences for allegedly attempting to mediate in the matter.

He also questioned reports that party members had referred to a minister and the party high command while discussing the issue, and sought clarity on who was responsible for decisions related to the case.

Referring to the government’s recently launched women’s safety initiative, Singappen Strike Force, Palaniswami questioned whether action would be taken against ruling party members if they were found to be involved.

He urged the government to ensure a fair investigation without political interference and demanded strict legal action against all those found guilty.

PMK president Anbumani raps Chennai Corporation over delayed pay for health workers



CHENNAI: PMK president Anbumani Ramadoss has urged the Greater Chennai Corporation to immediately release the pending May salaries of contract doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers employed at urban primary health centres, stating that withholding wages for more than 10 days is unacceptable and has adversely affected services.

Expressing concern over the delay in salary disbursement, Anbumani said contract doctors, nurses, and other medical person-

nel working in urban primary health centres under the Greater Chennai Corporation staged a protest by laying siege to the Ripon Building, the civic body’s headquarters, demanding the release of their May salaries.

He noted that despite rendering their services, the healthcare workers had not received their wages even after more than 10 days, describing the situation as condemnable.

Anbumani pointed out that the protest had disrupted medical services at

urban primary health centres across Chennai, affecting patients who depend on these facilities for primary healthcare. He said the public should not be made to suffer due to administrative lapses by the Corporation. Referring to reports that technical issues in a software application and other administrative reasons were behind the delay, the PMK leader said no justification could be accepted for withholding salaries of employees who had already completed their work. Denying or delaying wages, he said, was unfair and against basic human rights. He urged the Greater Chennai Corporation to take immediate steps to release the pending May salary to all healthcare workers and also address their other demands, including job security, in coordination with the State government.

Tamil Nadu/South



Honble Minister for Environment and Climate Change chaired a meeting on the 2026–2027 budget plans...

Mettur only 79 ft full, won’t open for Kuruvai cultivation



CHENNAI: Water will not be released from the Mettur dam on the customary date of June 12 for Kuruvai cultivation this year due to inadequate storage levels in the reservoir, officials from the Water Resources Department said.

Water from the dam is traditionally released on June 12 every year for Kuruvai cultivation in the Cauvery delta region. Officials said the water level in the Mettur reservoir remains below 79 feet,

far short of the 90-foot necessary for opening the dam in June, causing concern among delta farmers.

Officials expressed their hope that increased inflows from the Cauvery basin following the intensification of the southwest monsoon in Kerala and Karnataka could improve the reservoir’s storage in the coming weeks. While Kuruvai cultivation is likely to be affected, adequate inflows may still help support Samba and Thaladi cultivation later in the year.

The development comes a year after Mettur dam made history by reaching its full reservoir level of 120 feet seven times, aided by strong southwest and northeast monsoons. It was the first time in the dam’s 92-year history that it had filled to capacity seven times in a single year. The reservoir, built in 1934, serves as a crucial source of irrigation and drinking water for 13 delta districts, including Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Mayiladuthurai.

Manickam Tagore emerges top contender for Tamil Nadu Congress Committee chief

CHENNAI: As the race for the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee (TNCC) presidency gathers momentum, Virudhunagar MP Manickam Tagore has emerged as the leading contender, according to party sources familiar with high command discussions.

The All India Congress Committee (AICC) is reportedly planning structural changes across several state units, with leadership reorganisation talks already under way. Sources indicate that Tagore’s name tops the shortlist for the state unit chief’s post.

Reports suggest that incumbent TNCC president K Selvaperunthagai may be replaced within the next month. Selvaperunthagai had earlier indicated his willingness to step down after the Assembly elections. Party sources now reveal that a final decision on the guard change is likely after his daughter’s wedding, scheduled for June 18. Amid these developments,

lobbying for the top post has intensified in New Delhi. While Karur MP S Jothimani remains a strong contender, Tagore is widely viewed as the frontrunner. Political observers point to heightened activity and strategic messaging from both leaders on social media as clear indicators of the ongoing contest.

According to party sources, sections of the high command, including Rahul Gandhi, are dissatisfied with the TNCC’s strategic choices during the recently concluded Assembly election. Some leaders believe that an alternative alliance arrangement with the Vijay-led TVK could have delivered better electoral dividends for the Congress. Sources further claim that the Congress is reassessing its future political alignment in Tamil Nadu, particularly looking ahead to a scenario where the DMK moves out of the INDIA bloc. In such a scenario, the next state chief will have to play a pivotal role in steering,

Schools... or Prisons?

- INSTRUCTION TAKES PLACE IN CRAMPED ROOMS; PLAY- GROUND ARE NOWHERE TO BE FOUND!
- PRIVATE AND CORPORATE INSTITUTIONS FLOUT REGULATIONS
- 'RIGHT TO EDUCATION ACT' IGNORED; LACK OF OFFICIAL OVERSIGHT
- RAMPANT RULE VIOLATIONS IN HUSNABAD; PARENTS CONCERNED



The South India Times Husnabad : It ought to be a sanctuary of learning—a temple of Goddess Saraswati—yet, at first glance, it resembles a cramped prison cell. Childhood, which should unfold amidst lush greenery, spacious playgrounds, and a pleasant atmosphere, is instead being stifled within four walls. The business of education is booming in the town of Husnabad, Siddipet district. Private and corporate schools, springing up without basic amenities and in violation of regulations, are gambling with both the futures and the lives of students. As the new academic year begins in June, *The South India Times* presents a special report on the unchecked practices of these private schools.

Regulations confined to paper!

More than a dozen private and corporate schools operate in the town of Husnabad. Under the Right to Education Act,

every school is required to meet specific standards; however, none of these are evident in the local schools. Regulations mandate that a school must have its own playground. However, many schools in the town operate out of multi-storied buildings or are located in narrow lanes without even a compound wall. Deprived of sports and play activities, children are losing out on mental well-being and are suffering from severe stress. Schools housed in multi-storied buildings lack basic fire safety clearances. Notably, there are no emergency exits to allow students to escape in the event of an accident.

WHAT ABOUT BUS FITNESS? STUDENTS AT RISK OF ACCIDENTS!

The condition of transport vehicles operated by private schools is even more alarming. Students are crammed into buses far beyond capacity, packed together like a herd of sheep. Despite the academic year having commenced, many buses

lack fitness certificates. Managements show little concern regarding whether drivers possess valid licenses or adequate experience. Parents are deeply anxious, wondering who would be held accountable should an accident occur.

What does the Right to Education (RTE) Act say? Under RTE regulations, every private school is required to reserve 25 percent of its seats for children from poor and disadvantaged sections, free of cost. Only the authorities know the extent to which this rule is being implemented in Husnabad. Furthermore, teachers are required to possess minimum educational qualifications. However, schools are appointing unqualified individuals simply because they accept lower salaries, thereby completely disregarding quality standards. The Right to Information (RTI) Act applies to private schools as well. Although regulations require details regarding school facilities and fees to be displayed on

notice boards, this is not being implemented anywhere.

EDUCATION CAUGHT IN A POLITICAL WEB... OFFICIAL APATHY!

There are strong allegations that District and Mandal Education officials—who are supposed to take action against schools violating regulations—are displaying complete apathy. It appears that officials hesitate to conduct inspections because local politicians are often backing many of these private schools. Criticism is mounting that officials are merely conducting token inspections while remaining complacent, allegedly swayed by bribes from private school managements.

WILL THEY WAKE UP NOW? It is imperative for higher authorities to take action, especially now that the new academic year has begun. Immediate inspections must be conducted at all private schools in Husnabad. The recognition of schools lacking fire safety measures or playgrounds should be revoked. The fitness of school buses must be strictly verified. Residents of Husnabad, student unions, and parents are strongly demanding that criminal cases be registered against managements that fail to comply with regulations, thereby ensuring the safety and a bright future for the students.

Govt lands that should have been given to poor people are being stolen...? People are angry at the negligence of the authorities

Mancherial District Correspondent (June 11): Locals are accusing Pastor Solomon of encroaching on government land in the Kothagudem area of Bhimaram Mandal and Bhimaram Gram Panchayat and constructing commercial shutters and a church. Villagers are expressing deep concern over the lack of response from the concerned authorities despite illegal constructions being carried out on government lands that should be distributed to the poor. According to the locals, despite several complaints from the locals to the Panchayat Secretary, Mandal Panchayat Officer and Revenue Officers, no action has been taken so far. People are criticizing the authorities for failing to protect government lands and that encroachers are acting more boldly due to the negligence of the authorities.



Villagers say that while government lands should be used for housing plots and public needs for the poor in the future, they are being used for personal gain, which is a cause for serious concern. People are also demanding that the responsibility of the Panchayat Secretary, Mandal Panchayat Officer and other concerned officials who acted negligently without responding to the complaints be ascertained. Villagers are demanding that the District Collector immediately appoint a special inquiry committee on this matter, examine the records of government lands and uncover the facts. If the encroachments are found to be true, the illegal constructions should be removed and legal action should be taken against the culprits under the POT ACT. They are also demanding that departmental action be taken against the officials who have shown negligence in their duties. The villagers are appealing to protect government lands and protect the rights of the poor.

MLA Revuri calls for strong plan to make Parakala Dairy a success

Warangal, June 11 (TSIT): Parakala MLA Revuri Prakash Reddy directed officials to implement a comprehensive strategy to ensure the success of the Parakala Mahila Dairy and make it a model dairy initiative. A coordination meeting attended by the District Collectors of Warangal and Hanumakonda was held at the Hanumakonda Collectorate on Thursday to discuss milk production, marketing strategies and farmer welfare.



Addressing the meeting, Revuri Prakash Reddy said milk collection, production, quality and marketing

are the four pillars of a successful dairy. He stressed that the dairy should become a strong platform for women’s economic empowerment and provide a stable source of income for rural women. The MLA directed officials to ensure timely payments to milk suppliers, preferably within a week to ten days. He also suggested implementing welfare measures such as bonuses, group insurance and cattle insurance for farmers.

Centre waives excise duty on petrol with up to 30 pc ethanol

New Delhi: The Union government has exempted petrol blended with higher levels of ethanol from excise duty, including fuel variants containing 22 per cent, 25 per cent, 27 per cent and 30 per cent ethanol, according to a notification issued by the Ministry of Finance on Thursday, June 11. As per the notification, excise duty has been set at nil for ethanol-blended motor spirit conforming to Bureau of Indian Standards specifications, covering blends where ethanol content ranges from 22 per cent to 30 per cent by volume. The exemption has been granted under Section 5A of the Central Excise Act, 1944, it said. The revised structure includes E22, E25, E27 and E30 petrol, defined as mixtures of motor spirit (petrol) and ethanol in specified proportions, with applicable central, state, Union Territory or integrated taxes on ethanol and duty-paid petrol components. The amendment follows India's push to expand ethanol blending in petrol as part of its broader biofuel policy aimed at reducing crude oil imports and pro-



moting domestic renewable fuel usage. The government has steadily increased ethanol blending levels in petrol in recent years, supported by policy changes under the National Policy on Biofuels and corresponding targets advanced to 2025-26. Share of ethanol in petrol rises to 10 per cent: Union minister In a separate development, the government recently launched E85 fuel for compatible flex-fuel vehicles. Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has highlighted India's progress in ethanol blend-

ing, noting that the share of ethanol in petrol has risen from 1.5 per cent in 2014 to 10 per cent in June 2022, with the 20 per cent blending target achieved ahead of schedule. "From 2014 until now, we have increased ethanol blending from 1.5 per cent to 10 per cent, which was achieved in November 2022. Our target was to achieve 20 per cent blending by 2030, but we completed it in 2024 itself," Puri said. • E25: 25 per cent ethanol and 75 per cent petrol • E27: 27 per cent ethanol and 73 per cent petrol • E30: 30 per cent ethanol

and 70 per cent petrol All four fuel grades will attract a nil rate of excise duty, provided they meet Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) specification IS 19850 and the applicable taxes on both petrol and ethanol have already been paid. Bharati Balaji, deputy director general at All India Distillers Association, said: "...For the distilling industry, this is a powerful demand-side signal, it creates a clear commercial pathway to deploy our surplus ethanol production capacity, which currently stands well above E20 programme requirements." Balaji further said that the move will reduce India's crude oil import bill and reinforce the country's energy security at a time when global fuel markets remain deeply volatile. "We urge state governments to complement this measure with aligned tax structures so that the full benefit reaches both industry and consumers at the pump," she added. **How much ethanol does India produce?** India's ethanol production capacity has grown signifi-

cantly in recent years, driven by government support measures such as interest subsidy programmes and higher blending targets. According to information shared by the government in the Rajya Sabha in October 2024, the country's installed ethanol production capacity is estimated at about 20-21 billion litres per year. In comparison, ethanol demand for the current E20 blending programme is around 10-12 billion litres annually. India's ethanol-blending drive has progressed through a series of policy milestones. In 2022, the government revised the National Policy on Biofuels, 2018, bringing forward the goal of achieving 20 per cent ethanol blending in petrol to the Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2025-26 from the earlier target of 2030. The programme has advanced faster than planned, with state-run oil marketing companies reaching 10 per cent blending in June 2022 - about five months ahead of the ESY 2021-22 target, according to information shared by the petroleum ministry in Parliament in March 2025.

Stock markets drop in early trade on escalating US-Iran tensions

Mumbai: Stock market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty declined in early deals on Thursday, June 11, tracking weak trends in global equities and rising crude oil prices amid escalating tensions between the US and Iran. Unabated foreign fund outflows and a spike in US inflation also dented markets' sentiment, according to market analysts. The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 358.54 points to 73,624.64 in early trade. The 50-share NSE Nifty dropped 117 points to 23,098.30. From the 30-Sensex firms, HCL Tech, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, Tata Consultancy Services, Eternal and Trent were among the laggards. Power Grid, ICICI Bank, Bharti Airtel and InterGlobe Aviation were among the winners. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, traded 1.70 per cent higher at USD 94.68 per barrel. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 2,124.98 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data. "Fresh military action by the United States against Iranian targets has reignited concerns over the stability of the Middle East, raising fears that recent diplomatic efforts may be losing momentum and increasing the risk of a broader region-



al conflict," Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth-tech firm, said. Adding to the cautious mood, the latest US inflation data, while broadly in line with market expectations, showed consumer prices rising to their highest level in three years, he added. In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi, Japan's Nikkei 225 index, Shanghai's SSE Composite index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index quoted lower. US markets ended significantly lower on Wednesday. "Wall Street witnessed a sharp correction overnight, with the Dow Jones falling over 950 points. The weakness was broad-based as investors moved away from risk

assets amid fears that escalating geopolitical tensions could disrupt energy markets and keep inflationary pressures elevated," Hariprasad K, Research Analyst and Founder, Livelong Wealth, said. Asian markets are reflecting a similar sentiment this morning, he said. "For Indian markets, the biggest concern remains crude oil. Rising oil prices not only threaten India's inflation trajectory but also add pressure on the fiscal balance, corporate margins and the rupee," Hariprasad added. On Wednesday, the Sensex trimmed most of its intraday gains during the fag-end of trading and settled 64.42 points, or 0.09 per cent, higher at 73,983.18.

HYDRAA protects 15 acre govt land worth 3,000 cr after HC verdict

Hyderabad: The Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) has completed fencing around 15 acre government land valued at Rs 3,000 crore in Khanamet village of Serilingampally mandal of Rangareddy district on Wednesday, June 10. As per the request of the Revenue Department acting on the Telangana High Court's orders to secure the land, HYDRAA fenced the land and put up boards stating that the land was under the protection of HYDRAA. Ittina Properties Private Limited, a Bengaluru based real estate firm has been claiming that the land falling under Survey Numbers 41/12, 13 and 14 in Khanamet village belonged to it, despite the Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Limited (TGIIC) had sent a notice to the company to vacate the government land. Questioning the notice, Ittina Properties approached the High Court in 2016. Justice Nagesh



Bhimapaka, who recently delivered the verdict in favour of the state government. The revenue officials debunked Ittina Properties' claim that the said land was allotted under the ex-servicemen quota in 1963, and proved with evidence that the title deeds (patta) submitted by the petitioner were fake and fabricated. The petitioner had submitted the revenue documents from Rajendranagar Mandal Revenue Officer

(MRO) office from 1972 and 1973, while the revenue officials proved with evidence that the office was established there only years later in 1978. As per the Record of Rights (ROR) Act, the proceedings for such a revenue transaction would have to be given by a MRO, but Ittina Properties submitted that they were issued under the name of P Narasimha Rao, Record Officer of Serilingampally mandal. The revenue officials were

able to prove that no such person was employed in the department when the fake proceedings were issued. On ascertaining the facts related to the case, the High Court ordered protection of the government land. Ittina Properties Private Limited, had submitted fake revenue documents to the Telangana High Court, claiming that the land in Survey Numbers 41/12, 13 and 14 in Khanamet village belonged to it.

WHO CAN BUY SHARES IN ELON MUSK'S SPACEX?

On Friday for the first time investors will be able to buy and sell shares in Elon Musk's Texas-based SpaceX, a company that is planning to colonise Mars and put artificial intelligence (AI) data centres in space. It is set to be the biggest ever public sale of shares and will make SpaceX one of the US's top 10 largest listed firms. A higher-than-usual proportion of those shares is being made available to individual investors, but its sheer size means many investment funds will end up with a stake in SpaceX too. So for those who invest, what exactly will they be buying and what are the risks? What is happening with SpaceX exactly? SpaceX is currently owned by Musk and other private investors, but they are launching what is known as an initial public offering, or IPO. On Friday, millions of new shares in the company will start trading on the stock market. The IPO aims to raise a vast amount of money - at least \$75bn - and gives



investors the chance to buy into a business whose activities range from space exploration and satellite communication to the social media site X and the controversial AI platform Grok. SpaceX is separate from Musk's most well-known company, the electric car maker Tesla, although it is thought the two may end up merging next year. Musk plans to use the extra money he is raising to expand SpaceX's current activities but also to fund new future ventures: mining asteroids, colonising Mars and putting AI data centres in space. The sci-fi style sales

prospectus says humans must avoid "the same fate as dinosaurs" and plan for an "age of abundance" based in space because the "light of consciousness" will not be tied to a single planet. There is plenty of scepticism about the feasibility of some of these ambitions. But Musk's backers say he has beaten the doubters before. And if the share sale goes ahead as outlined, it could make him a trillionaire. Can anyone buy shares? SpaceX shares will be traded on the New York technology-focused Nasdaq market, and some of the big global investment institutions are

likely to buy shares. But individuals, including in the UK, will also get a chance to apply to buy shares via certain investment platforms and brokers. The shares are allocated according to demand before trading starts. There are more than 550 million shares available, which SpaceX has announced it hopes to sell at \$135 (£100) each. Investors must decide if they think the shares are worth that much. And once they start trading their value could quickly rise or fall depending on whether the wider market thinks that initial price was too low or too high. Even if you do not invest in SpaceX shares directly you may find you have an indirect financial interest if your pension or savings fund manager buys shares as part of their investment strategy, or if you have an index-tracking fund that automatically buys into the biggest firms. That means millions of people will find their money is affected, at least in some small way.

Mike Ashley's Frasers offers £1.73bn to buy all of Hugo Boss

Businessman Mike Ashley's Frasers Group has made a takeover offer for German fashion brand Hugo Boss. The retail group already owns just over a quarter of Hugo Boss, having steadily built up the stake since 2020, but said on Wednesday it wanted to buy the rest of it for 1.98bn (£1.73bn). Hugo Boss said it would "thoroughly examine the offer and issue a reasoned statement". Frasers, formerly known as Sports Direct, owns House of Fraser, Game, Jack Wills, Evans Cycles and many other brands. It is also the largest shareholder in Boohoo but has had a frosty relationship with the firm. Frasers has built a reputation for swooping in to buy retail brands which have fallen into administration, but its gradual increase in ownership of profit-making Hugo Boss over several years is a different approach. Because it has grown its shareholding so much, Frasers is now close to the 30% ownership level that German law requires it to make an offer for the whole



company. The deal would value Hugo Boss at 38 a share, higher than the 36.5 it closed at on Wednesday. Frasers said that it expected the takeover to be completed by the end of this year, providing it passes all the legal checks. Hugo Boss said the "unsolicited" offer had "not been coordinated with the company", adding that it would "inform its shareholders and the public about further developments and next steps". Frasers said on Wednesday that it had "a strong track record in making strategic investments". It said it was "a long-term investor" in Hugo

Boss and that it "remains supportive" of its chair and chief executive. Boohoo for Debenhams It has not had as friendly a relationship with Debenhams, which is still formally named Boohoo. Boohoo bought the Debenhams brand out of administration after Frasers decided against buying it. Last year, Boohoo tried to formally rename itself as Debenhams, but Frasers used its shareholding votes to block the name change. Chief executive Dan Finley told the BBC earlier this week it would "operate to all intents and purposes as Debenhams Group".

KOREA FINES E-COMMERCE GIANT \$400M OVER DATA BREACH AFFECTING MILLIONS

South Korea has hit online retail giant Coupang with a record fine of more than \$400m (£299m) over a massive data breach that exposed the data of more than 30 million customers last year. The fine is the largest ever issued by Seoul's Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC) for a data breach. The leak exposed the names, contact and delivery details and order histories of some customers of Coupang, South Korea's largest e-commerce platform often described as its equivalent of Amazon. Coupang told the BBC it "deeply regrets the concern caused" and that it will strengthen its security measures, but added that it planned to challenge the PIPC decision. The number of accounts affected by the incident represents more than half of South Korea's population of around 50 million people. The PIPC on Wednesday announced a 423.6bn won fine over the



personal data breach, and an additional 201bn won for the non-consensual collection of information. The commission found that a lack of safeguards, including poor management of authentication signing keys and access controls, had resulted in the personal data of around 37.5 million users being exposed. Coupang said that its explanations and measures to prevent further harm from

the data breach "were not sufficiently reflected" in the commission's decision. "Upon receiving the official resolution from the PIPC, we expect that the facts will be clearly established through legal procedures," said Coupang. The decision follows a months-long probe into Coupang after allegations of the data leak surfaced in November. The company is based in the US, but the majority of its rev-

enue comes from South Korea. Coupang told the BBC at the time that it was alerted to a breach involving 4,500 customer accounts in November and immediately reported it to the author-

South Korea has hit online retail giant Coupang with a record fine of more than \$400m (£299m) over a massive data breach that exposed the data of more than 30 million customers last year.

ities. But the company said that later checks found that nearly 34 million customer accounts - all in South Korea - were likely exposed. It added that the breach is believed to have begun as early as June through a server based abroad. Following the breach, Coupang's boss Park Dae-jun resigned from his role, apologising for the incident. The platform's chief administrative officer Harold Rogers was appointed interim CEO. South Korean firms faced a series of high-profile cyber-security incidents last year despite the country's reputation for tight data privacy standards. Its largest mobile operator SK Telecom was fined nearly \$100m over a data breach involving more than 20 million subscribers.

Trump says US will hit Iran 'very hard' tonight, after US attacks third tanker near Oman

Any damage caused by Iran against US allies will be paid for by funds "extracted from Iranian accounts", US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent says. In a post on X, Bessent says any tolls paid to the Persian Gulf Strait Authority - a new body set up by Iran to control the Strait of Hormuz - "will be offset by [Iranian] funds". He continues: "Every attack Iran launches will only deepen the economic and financial consequences it faces." Earlier today, Iran launched a series of attacks against US assets in Jordan, Bahrain and Kuwait. This came after a series of US strikes in southern Iran. If the US does decide to invade Kharg Island then it would most likely be a temporary measure intended to put pressure on Iran by cutting off its fuel exports until it relinquished its chokehold on the Strait of Hormuz - one of the world's busiest oil shipping lanes - and conceded to Washington's demands. Given the resilience and defiance of



the Iranian regime it is highly questionable whether this would work. Iran is believed to have reinforced its defences on the island, including with surface-to-air missile batteries. In theory, US paratroopers could make an airborne assault, probably at night, to seize key positions on this small island, which measures just 20 sq km (7.7 sq miles).

The US Marines would deploy from ships equipped with Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft and Landing Craft Air Cushioned (LCAC) for making amphibious landings. But first those ships would have to run the gauntlet of getting through the Iranian-controlled Strait of Hormuz and then sailing all the way up the Gulf past any number of hidden Iranian

drone and missile launch sites. Any landing, by air or sea, would expect to be met with anti-personnel mines and swarms of drones. Such is the awesome fighting power of these Marine Expeditionary Units (MEUs) that the US force would almost certainly prevail, but it could come at the expense of a severe number of casualties.

The US then has the problem of holding the ground, for an indeterminate period, while subject to bombardment from the Iranian mainland. A negotiating team from Qatar held meetings in the Iranian capital Tehran into the early hours of this morning, according to reports. A Qatari official tells the BBC's US news partner CBS News that the negotiating team has since returned to Doha as diplomatic efforts continue. Qatar has condemned Iranian attacks on Jordan, Bahrain and Kuwait, which came after US strikes in Iran. It has served as a mediator between the US and Iran, and called for work towards de-escalation. A spokesman for Pakistan's foreign ministry also told reporters earlier today that the country's interior minister had held "important meetings" with senior leaders in Iran this week. Trump's vow to "take" Kharg Island will reignite the fevered speculation during the war itself that a US ground operation could

be imminent. It will also spark furious denunciations in Tehran. As ever with Trump, it's impossible to know if it's a genuine plan or bluster aimed at bullying his adversaries into capitulation. We do know that the US 82nd Airborne Division remains in the region because US Central Command referenced their involvement in this week's rescue of an Apache helicopter crew. Such an airborne elite infantry unit could be an essential component to any land-based operation. But within a few minutes of his social media post, Trump appeared on Fox News seeming to contradict the more definitive tone of his earlier statement. He said, instead, that his "preference" had always been "to take Kharg Island" which he said could make a "fortune" for the US (meaning in oil revenues), but that he doubted the American people had "the stomach for it" - whilst also saying he "does not want to have to put boots on the ground".

DEADLY SUDAN DRONE STRIKE TARGETS FUNERAL PROCESSION



A drone strike on a funeral procession at a cemetery in the Sudanese city of el-Obeid has killed at least four people and injured several others, two rights groups, Sudan Doctors Network and Emergency Lawyers, have said. Both groups blame the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) for the attack. Emergency Lawyers said it was part of a series of drone strikes that started on Wednesday evening in which at least 23 people have died in all. The RSF has not commented. El-Obeid, currently in the hands of the army, is a key battleground in Sudan's three-year civil war which

began after the leaders of the army and RSF fell out over the future direction of the country. The fighting has created the world's worst humanitarian crisis with more than 11 million people forced from their homes and 28 million facing acute hunger. There are no reliable figures for the death toll, but it is thought to be at least 50,000. In addition to the attack on the cemetery, Emergency Lawyers said that drones struck homes in a residential neighbourhood, the airport district and areas surrounding an army base. Thirteen civilians were killed, the group said, as civilians gathered near destroyed houses.

VANCE SAYS ISRAELI PM NETANYAHU 'HAS GOT SOME THINGS WRONG'



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has "certainly gotten some things wrong", US Vice-President JD Vance has said, as ties between the two partners in the war against Iran appear to have become strained in recent weeks. While Vance would not provide examples, he told CBS News, the BBC's US partner, that Netanyahu "aggressively asserts the interests of his country" but that they were not always aligned with those of the US. His comments mark a further public admission that relations between the two allies have come under pressure of late. Recently, US President Donald Trump reportedly clashed with the Israeli leader over military action in Lebanon that brought renewed strikes and threatened peace talks with Tehran. The US and Iran exchanged strikes for a second consecutive day overnight, straining a ceasefire between the two nations that has remained in place since April. It came after Trump said Tehran had taken "too long to make a deal" to end the war, though the renewed hostilities were triggered by events in Lebanon, where Israel has continued an operation aimed at the Iranian-backed

armed group Hezbollah. Last week, Trump told an Axios journalist that he had called Netanyahu "effing crazy" in a phone conversation, saying he had been "a little bit perturbed at his constantly fighting with Lebanon". In an interview due to air on Sunday, Vance said: "Prime Minister Netanyahu, look, he governs a country that has obviously been a very close partner of the United States. "But, even when we've been close partners, sometimes we have interests that are perfectly aligned and sometimes we have interests that are misaligned. "And what I've seen with the prime minister is that he aggressively asserts the interests of his country - sometimes that means we're on the same page, sometimes it means we're not." The US vice-president went on to say that it was the job of the Trump administration to focus on what was in America's best interests, "and where that diverges, we - unfortunately for the Israelis - have to choose the side of the American people". Asked for examples of instances in which Netanyahu had got things wrong, Vance said "those conversations sometimes are better left in private".

FOUR DAYS OF EXTREME RAIN KILLED 7% OF WORLD'S RAREST ORANGUTANS, STUDY SAYS



Four days of extreme rain and landslides in the Indonesian island of Sumatra have pushed the world's most endangered great apes even closer to extinction, says a study. Research suggests that 58 of less than 800 critically endangered Tapanuli orangutans, or around 7% of the total species, were killed as a result of the extreme weather event last November. Those are conservative figures, and

do not take into account rain-induced canopy damage or reduced food availability, said the authors of the study published on Wednesday. Cyclone Senyar ravaged Sumatra in late November, killing more than 1,000 people in Southeast Asia's deadliest natural disaster for 2025. The study's findings, said the authors, show that extreme rainfall events can directly threaten the survival of great ape populations.

PENTAGON FLOORS ON LOCKDOWN AFTER 'HAZARDOUS MATERIALS' INCIDENT

Several floors in the Pentagon building have been placed on lockdown following the detection of an "air quality issue", prompting hazardous material (hazmat) response teams to the scene. The building's systems detected an "air quality issue necessitating precautionary measures until we determine its significance," said Pentagon spokesperson Sean Parnell in a statement. "The Department is executing standard protection protocols, including a shelter-in-place order for the affected area," Parnell said. The Pentagon is being assisted by Arlington Fire & EMS, who posted on social media that they are responding to a hazardous materials incident. Police in the building are wearing gas masks and full chemical protective gear, US media reported. The Pentagon serves as the



US Defence Department's headquarters, with more than 20,000 government employees working in the building. A message sent by the Pentagon's security team said an "air quality issue" had been detected and additional testing is needed. "This additional testing could take one to two hours. Response teams are in place and ready to sup-

port building occupants if necessary. You may observe response personnel from multiple agencies and precautionary measures taking place in the center courtyard. Please do not interpret these activities," the message said. The Pentagon Force Protection Agency's hazardous materials response team responded to the incident with the assis-

tance of the Arlington County Fire Department, according to the department spokesperson Capt. Jamie Jill. A post on social media from the Arlington Fire & EMS said Arlington County Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team were operating at the Pentagon "during a hazardous materials incident."

EL NIÑO UNDER WAY AND THREATENS WEATHER EXTREMES, SCIENTISTS SAY

El Niño - the natural Pacific weather pattern that pushes up global temperatures - has officially begun, US scientists say. The US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has declared that El Niño conditions are now under way in the tropical Pacific, with sea surface temperatures having risen sharply in recent months. Many forecasts suggest this could end up as a so-called "super" El Niño, and even be among the strongest ever recorded. Coming on top of decades of human-caused warming, it could bring another record-hot year - most likely in 2027 - with disruption to weather, food supplies and economies running well into



that year. This announcement by NOAA is not a surprise as forecasters have expected this warming phase, after the cooler "sister" pattern, La Niña, ended earlier this year. Sea surface temperatures in the central and tropical Pacific have now passed the 0.5C-above-average threshold that

US scientists use to define an El Niño event. "El Niño conditions developed over the past month, as shown by above-average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) across the central to eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean," the agency said. NOAA has also seen the winds above the equatorial

Pacific begin to shift - a sign that the atmosphere is now responding to the warmer ocean, not just the ocean warming on its own. What has surprised the researchers is how confident the computer models already are about its strength. El Niño's intensity is measured by how far sea surface temperatures rise above average in a key zone of the Pacific. A strong event is defined as more than 1.5C above average; a very strong one above 2C. According to NOAA's June outlook, "there is a 63% chance of a very strong El Niño during November-January, that would rank among the largest El Niño events in the historical record going back to 1950.

Pope Leo visits Canary Islands to highlight perilous journeys of migrants



Bakary Jaiju was 19 when he climbed into a wooden boat in the Gambia and set out for Europe. He would be at sea for seven frightening days as his supplies of food and water gradually ran out. "You can't even sleep in case you fall in," he recalled, now in Tenerife after finally reaching the Canary Islands late last year in search of a "better life". "I decided to go, whether I survive or I die, because I want my family to be in a good condition," said Jaiju, explaining why he left his wife and baby behind and risked the treacherous waters of the Atlantic. In the few months since he reached this southernmost tip of Europe, hundreds of others have died trying. It is their plight, and the dramatic stories of those who do make it, that Pope Leo will highlight during his visit to the Spanish islands which began in Gran Canaria on Thursday. The Pope's focus is a clear counterpoint to talk elsewhere of a migration "crisis" and an "ideological invasion". Data from the UNHCR show the number of migrant arrivals by sea to Spain has fallen significantly this year,

partly due to increased interceptions off the West African coast funded by the EU. But many are still trying - and dying. So Pope Leo will stress the need for alternative "safe and legal pathways" to Europe but also appeal for a humane approach and "respectful welcome" for those who pay smugglers and are then packed into the most basic of boats. In Gran Canaria, he will drop flowers into the waves in memory of the migrants who never made it, including entire boatloads that disappeared without trace. Bakary Jaiju sees himself as one of the lucky ones. First, his boat with around 160 people on board, including women and children, managed to evade the extra naval patrols off Mauritania and Senegal. Days later, they ran out of fuel only to be spotted and rescued off the tiny Spanish island of El Hierro. He then spent three "very cold, very difficult" months in a migrant camp in Tenerife until he joined a project helping him to learn Spanish and find a way to stay on the island legally.



Thai court sentences two men to death over Bangkok shrine bombing

Olivia Rodrigo sings about heartbreak but she's already chosen her wedding song

Olivia Rodrigo should be here any second. We're supposed to be filming an interview in Hampstead Heath - one of her favourite places - but the heavens have burst. It's not just raining cats and dogs, but otters, dolphins and multiple other water-dwelling mammals. As the monsoon monsoons, our lights and cameras are hastily scooped up and moved into the beautiful Victorian kitchen of nearby Kenwood House. It's a scramble, but everything's in place (just) when Rodrigo arrives - not a hair out of place, after a short but windy walk from her car to the set. Although it's an early start, the 23-year-old has already been working. On the journey over, she made final tweaks to a



new song called Maggots For Brains, just 10 days before its release. "I love that song musically, and there's a lot going on - a lot of harmonies - and literally in the car, I was like, turn that backing vocal up just one decibel," she says. "I was getting kind of weird about it. Nobody else will notice."



Mir, Shah knocks help Afghanistan A get four-run win over India A via DLS method

Dambulla, June 11 : India A’s imposing 349 proved to be insufficient as Afghanistan A sealed a dramatic four-run victory via DLS method in a rain-hit 50-over match in the ‘A’ Teams Tri-series on Thursday, thanks to a blistering opening stand and composed knocks from skipper Imran Mir and Bahir Shah.

India A, sent in to bat first on a surface expected to aid seamers, made an assertive start through Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, who smashed 44 off 22 balls. His opening burst set the tone before Prabhsimran Singh kept the tempo high with a fluent effort at the top to top-score with 84.

Despite Priyansh Arya’s early exit, India remained well placed as captain Tilak Varma (66) and vice-captain Ruturaj Gaikwad (66) consolidated with a steady 78-run stand, while keeping the Afghanistan bowlers at bay.

India accelerated again in the final overs through Suryansh Shedge, whose 40 off 27 balls injected urgency into the innings. Handy contributions from Anukul Roy and Vipraj Nigam pushed India to 349/9 in a revised 49 overs. Afghanistan A’s Abdullah Ahmadzai was the standout bowler, claiming five wickets and stopping India A from crossing 360.

Chasing a revised target of 294 from 38 overs after multiple rain interruptions, Afghanistan began aggressively. Hassan Eisakhil’s 34 and his 63-run opening stand with Imran Mir ensured the chase began on a bright note.

Though Arshad Khan and Anukul Roy removed Eisakhil and Khalid Taniwal, India A struggled to apply sustained pressure. Mir anchored the reply with a composed 75 not out off 69 balls, while Shah counterattacked to hit 51 not out. Their 108-run century stand for the third wicket pushed Afghanistan A ahead

of the DLS par score. With rain returning, Afghanistan A reached 173 for two in 25.5 overs, and persistent showers forced the abandonment, handing Afghanistan A victory under the DLS method.

Brief scores:
India A 349/9 in 49 overs (Prabhsimran Singh 84, Ruturaj Gaikwad 66, Tilak Varma 66; Abdullah Ahmadzai 5-68) lost to Afghanistan A 177/2 in 25.5 overs (Imran Mir 75 not out, Bahir Shah 51 not out; Anukul Roy 1-24, Arshad Khan 1-38) by four runs (via DLS method).

'200,000 tickets sold; excited for the world to fall in love with women's cricket': Barrett-Wild

New Delhi, June 11 : Beth Barrett-Wild, tournament director of the 2026 Women’s T20 World Cup, said she is excited for a nation “to fall in love with women’s cricket” as ticket sales for the 12-team mega event have touched the 200,000 mark. Billed as the biggest-ever Women’s T20 World Cup, the tenth edition of the tournament will see 33 games being played around seven venues. The competition will start on June 12 in Edgbaston and end on July 5 at Lord’s.

“We have been building towards this moment probably for at least 12 months, but between 12 to 18 months now. We have set out with really big ambitions for this tournament. Our vision is to bring women’s cricket into the mainstream. “That is all about scale and status and real perception shifts around the women’s game. We really want a nation in the world to really fall in love with women’s cricket this summer and to recognise the world-class quality that it epitomises now,” Beth told IANS in an exclusive con-

versation ahead of the competition on Thursday. England are hosting a Women’s T20 World Cup for the first time since 2009. “We have been building over the last year, 12 months and there’s a very detailed operational plan that has gone into that from a kind of event delivery perspective. That’s all of the stuff you’d expect around venue operations.

“One of our key objectives for this tournament actually is around player satisfaction. So we wanna make sure the players have the best possible experience and sort of our KPIs are around that player experience point. That’s everything from their travel and accommodation through to the facilities that they’re gonna be playing and training at through the tournament. “There’s been a lot of attention to detail on that, but also a lot of work going in



behind the scenes and off-field around and really growing the audience for the women’s game, especially across England and Wales,” she added.

The tournament has an ambition to sell 270,000 tickets, and surpass the box office sales done during the iconic 2020 edition in Australia, which famously concluded with a sold-out final at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Beth, who played hockey and cricket before joining the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) in 2013, said that benchmark itself was a reflection of how far the women’s game had progressed.

“We’ve got big ticketing ambitions and actually just broke through 200,000 tickets for this event. So we’re actually going after around 270,000 attendances in total, which would be double the previous highest attended Women’s T20 World Cup, which was the iconic one in Australia back in 2020 with the amazing scenes at the MCG back then.

“But we wanna double the total attendance

and that just shows how much the women’s game has grown now and actually the really solid foundations that we’re coming into this tournament from having had that kind of global exposure, but then also at a local level recently through things like The Hundred and the growth of the women’s team,” she said.

On the insights ticket sales have shown so far, Beth revealed that 36 percent of ticket purchases for this tournament had been made by women. “We’ve had to look really carefully at this – like the female toilets, because a lot of our venues, the way that they’re set up from a historic fan and audience perspective for cricket, it is a traditionally very male-dominated audience. “For men’s cricket, that is still absolutely the case. So we know, for example, for an England men’s fixture, roughly 80 percent of ticket purchases will be male.



DELHI-BORN NIKHIL CHAUDHARY ADDED TO AUSTRALIA SQUAD FOR BANGLADESH T20I

Sydney, June 11 : Australia have added Delhi-born uncapped spinner Nikhil Chaudhary to their squad for their upcoming T20I series against Bangladesh. The 30-year-old drafted into the squad following Travis Head’s withdrawal on personal leave. Chaudhary could become the only Indian born player to play for Australia in more than 60 years after the Hobart Hurricanes all-rounder was called up for the T20I series against Bangladesh. Chaudhary, currently playing for JB Bruges in the EUT20 competition in Belgium after a stint with Delhi Capitals in the IPL, is set to join the Australian squad in Dhaka on Friday. Born in Delhi before moving Down Under at the start of the decade, the leg-spin all-rounder will compete for a middle-order berth with the likes of Joel Davies and Aaron Hardie, who are also in the T20I squad only. Australia selector Tony Dodemaide is confident the bowling all-rounder can perform well should he win selection. “Nikhil has been a player of national interest for some time. He was a standby player for this tour, joining the squad at pre-season camps in Brisbane and comes in as a replacement for Travis Head,” Dodemaide said. “The panel has been impressed by his BBL form, particularly last season, leading to his addition to the squad. He has also been part of the Delhi Capitals setup in this year’s IPL. “Nikhil will gain invaluable experience in Bangladesh and will be in contention to play his first game for Australia when we sit down to pick a team for the opening T20 fixture here next week,” he added. Born in Delhi, Chaudhary played 14 limited-overs games for the state side Punjab alongside the likes of Harbhajan Singh, Shubman Gill and Abhishek Sharma, and trialled with the IPL side Mumbai Indians. He was visiting an uncle in Queensland when the pandemic shut international borders, seeing him pivot to furthering his cricket ambitions in Australia. The three-match T20I series will be played entirely in Chattogram, with the first match scheduled for June 17. The second T20I will take place on June 19, while the third and final match of the series is set to be played on June 21.

'One Last Dance': Five icons set for their FIFA World Cup swansong

New Delhi, June 11 : As the FIFA World Cup 2026 approaches, fans around the world are preparing for a month of unforgettable moments and dramatic finishes, but beyond the race for football’s biggest prize, the tournament is also expected to mark the end of an era.

For several of the game’s most celebrated names, this World Cup could be the final chapter of careers that have inspired millions and defined a generation of football. Some have already lifted the trophy, others are still chasing the one achievement, but all will step onto the field knowing this could be their last appearance on the sport’s grandest stage.

Here are five football legends who are likely playing their final FIFA World Cup.

1. Lionel Messi (Argentina) After completing football’s ultimate dream by leading Argentina to World Cup glory in 2022, Lionel Messi returns for what is expected to be his final appearance at the tournament.

The eight-time Ballon d’Or winner ended decades of debate by lifting the trophy in Qatar and now has a chance to achieve another historic feat, helping Argentina become the first nation since Brazil in 1962 to successfully defend the World Cup title. Regardless of how far

football’s ultimate challenge. At 41, he enters the tournament knowing every match could be his last on the World Cup stage.

3. Luka Modric (Croatia) Luka Modric has been the symbol of Croatia’s rise as a football powerhouse. From guiding his nation to the 2018 final to another podium finish in 2022, the midfield maestro has consistently delivered on the biggest occasions. Now 40, Modric remains Croatia’s leader and creative force. A strong run in 2026 would provide a fitting farewell to one of the finest midfielders the game has ever seen.

4. Thomas Muller (Germany) A World Cup winner in 2014 and one of Germany’s greatest tournament performers, Thomas Müller has built a reputation for thriving under pressure. His intelligence, movement and knack for producing decisive moments have made him a fan favourite for more than a decade. As Germany look to reclaim their place among football’s elite, the 36-year-old will hope to sign off with one final memorable campaign.

5. Neymar (Brazil) Brazil forward Neymar has already indicated the FIFA World Cup 2026 will be the last of his career. The 34-year-old made the statement in response to a social media post from FIFA showing images of Neymar’s



Argentina go, Messi’s legacy as one of football’s greatest players is already secure.

2. Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal) Few athletes have redefined longevity quite like Cristiano Ronaldo. The Portuguese superstar has enjoyed a remarkable international career spanning more than two decades and remains his country’s biggest inspiration. The World Cup is the only major trophy missing from Ronaldo’s collection, making 2026 one final opportunity to complete

career along with the words, “We’ve watched him grow up.” “The last dance,” the Santos attacker replied in the comments section. Neymar, Brazil’s all-time leading scorer with 79 goals in 128 international matches, has not played for Brazil since suffering a ruptured anterior cruciate ligament in October 2023. However, he has been included in the squad and would look to turn things around for Brazil, who are searching for their sixth FIFA World Cup trophy in 24 years.

Yashbardhan Chauhan to lead India U19 squads for Sri Lanka tour

New Delhi, June 11 : Yashbardhan Singh Chauhan will be leading India men’s U-19 team for the upcoming tour of Sri Lanka, which comprises three One-Day matches and two Multi-Day fixtures, scheduled to begin next month. Lakshya Raichandani will serve as Chauhan’s deputy as the BCCI named squads for both one-day and multi-day fixtures.

The white-ball leg of the tour kicks off on July 4 in Hambantota, which will host all three one-day matches. Following the limited-overs series, the team will transition to red-ball cricket for two multi-day

Sagar Virk, Lakshya Raichandani (VC), Yashbardhan Singh Chauhan (C), Vineeth V K, Arjun Rajput, Kushagra Ojha, Rajat Baghel (WK), Anvay Dravid (WK), Annoljeet Singh, Vutkuri Yashveer Goud, Rohit Anil Yadav, Shavin V, Kavya Paresch Patel, Mohit Ulva, Ishan Sood

India Men’s U19 multi-day squad: Sagar Virk, Lakshya Raichandani (VC), Yashbardhan Singh Chauhan (C), Patel Kush, Manal Chauhan, Kushagra Ojha, Manav Krishna (WK), Aryan Sandesh Sakpal (WK), Hemchudeshan J, BK Kishore, Rohit Anil Yadav, Kavya Paresch



matches. The first multi-day game is slated to be played in Galle from July 13 to 16, while the final fixture of the tour will take place in Colombo from July 20 to 23.

Rajat Baghel and Anvay Dravid have been handed the gloves for the One-Day squad, whereas Manav Krishna and Aryan Sandesh Sakpal will take over wicketkeeping duties for the multi-day games. India Men’s U19 One-Day squad:

Patel, Priyanshu Singh, Pranav Raghvendra, Chigurupati Venkata

Earlier, the Women’s Selection Committee picked the Women’s U19 squads for the Sri Lanka Women’s U19 Tour of India, which will comprise three T20 matches and three One-Day matches, from June 20 to July 6. The three T20s will be played in Chennai while Puducherry will host One-day games.

“‘KOTHA MALUPU’ IS TRULY A NEW TURNING POINT IN MY LIFE” – ACTRESS BHAIRAVI ARDHYA DEKA

A Special Media Interaction with Bhairavi Ardhya Deka As Kotha Malupu, starring Akash (son of popular singer Sunitha) and Bhairavi Ardhya Deka in the lead roles, gears up for its theatrical release on June 12, actress Bhairavi Ardhya Deka interacted with media representatives and shared interesting insights about her journey, the film, and her future aspirations. Directed by Shiva Varaprasad and produced by Thati Balakrishna, the film marks Bhairavi's Telugu debut. Having come all the way from Assam and learned Telugu to portray a Konaseema village girl on screen, Bhairavi spoke candidly about her experiences and challenges.

Q: Tell us about your background. How did your journey from Assam to Tollywood begin?

Bhairavi Ardhya Deka: I am from Assam, and my parents and younger sister still live there. Since childhood, I have always been fascinated by films and acting. I grew up watching movies, including Telugu films, and gradually developed a dream of becoming an actress. I decided to pursue that dream with determination and worked hard to make it a reality.

Q: How did you get the opportunity to be a part of Kotha Malupu?

Bhairavi: While continuing my studies, I started attending auditions. At that time, I didn't know Telugu at all. But I never gave up. For nearly two to three years, I kept attending auditions and made a conscious effort to learn the language. I practiced speaking Telugu with people around me and gradually improved. This film is the result of that persistence and hard work.

Q: Tell us about your character in the film. Bhairavi: My character's name is Varalakshmi. She is an innocent and free-spirited village girl from Konaseema. She lives life on her own terms and follows her heart. It is a very natural and relatable character, and as an actress, it gave me a



wonderful opportunity to showcase my performance.

Q: How was your experience portraying a girl from Konaseema?

Bhairavi: The beauty of Konaseema fascinated me. The coconut groves, local culture, and food were all completely new experiences for me. I especially loved the seafood. The lifestyle in Assam is very different from that of Konaseema, so before the shoot began, I stayed there for nearly a month to observe the local culture, dressing style, body language, and dialect. That preparation helped me a lot. In fact, many people now tell me that they never felt I was from Assam and believe I look and behave like a native Telugu girl.

Q: What were the biggest challenges you faced while working on this film?

Bhairavi: Language was definitely the biggest challenge. Even after learning Telugu, adapting to the Godavari-region dialect was not easy. We also shot during the monsoon season, so the weather conditions were sometimes difficult. However, with the support of the entire team, I was able to overcome those challenges.

“Deewana” is a Beautiful Love Story That Will Touch Your Heart – Prominent Producer Allu Aravind at the Trailer Launch Event



You Can Sense the Honesty with Which ‘Deewana’ Was Made Just from the Trailer” – Mass Ka Das Vishwak Sen After delivering a successful film with Subham, young and talented actor Harshith Reddy is now starring in the upcoming film Deevana. Produced by Vasudev Koppineni and Sridevi Karyampudi under the Arha Media and V

Studios banners, this beautiful love story also marks the debut of actress Smeha Manimegalai and director Srikanth Sangishetty. Distributed by Geetha Film Distributors, Deevana is set for a grand worldwide theatrical release on June 19th. The trailer launch event was held in Hyderabad today and was attended by renowned producer Allu Aravind, actor Vishwak Sen, and producer Dheeraj



Yash Raj Films unveils the origin story of an assassin played by Alia Bhatt in Alpha teaser, theatrical release date fixed for July 3rd worldwide!

Aditya Chopra's Yash Raj Films has launched the teaser of Alpha, headlined by Alia Bhatt. The asset unveils the first origin story of a young assassin, who is raised and built to kill, within the YRF Spy Universe! In the first teaser, YRF has set up the story of a killer (Alia) raised by Bobby Deol. YRF will reveal the character of other leading lady, Sharvari, soon as every character is built out for the audience through its marketing campaign.

Alpha is a true blue popcorn entertainer that is intended to be a celebration of the Alpha attitude of two girls in a never been done before action film fronted by women in cinema! Alpha is meant to feel like a ride - thrilling, emotional, funny, unpredictable and unapologetically entertaining. Directed by Shiv



Rawail, Alpha is set to release worldwide, only in cinemas, on July 3, 2026. It also stars Bobby Deol and Anil Kapoor in pivotal roles!

Vishal Stuns In Three Distinct & Powerful Avatars In Action-packed Makutam Teaser

After the blockbuster success of Mark Antony and Madha Gaja Raja, Puratchi Thalopathy Vishal is gearing up for his most ambitious project yet, Makutam, which is steadily progressing towards completion. The film marks Vishal's directorial debut and is being mounted on a grand scale by Super Good Films. Significantly, it is the prestigious banner's 99th production under legendary producer RB Choudary. The project carries immense emotional value for Vishal

and the entire team, as it became even more special following the recent demise of RB Choudary in a tragic road accident. Written by Ravi Arasu, the film has already generated considerable curiosity through its posters and promotional content. Today, the makers unveiled the much-awaited teaser. The teaser offers a glimpse into a fascinating and unconventional world, with Vishal appearing in three distinct avatars. It opens with a striking sequence featuring an aged

gangster, played by Vishal, calmly lighting a cigarette after setting a man ablaze. As the teaser progresses, it introduces two more versions of the actor, while also presenting several key characters who inhabit this action-packed narrative. From the very first frame, the teaser impresses with its visual style and scale. One of its biggest attractions is Vishal's remarkable transformation across the three roles. Each character carries a unique appearance, body language, and attitude.

Prime Video Sets July 2 as Global Premiere for Isakapatnam— A Gritty, Revenge-fueled Telugu Action Thriller

Prime Video, India's most loved entertainment destination, today announced July 2 as the worldwide premiere date for its much-anticipated Telugu Prime Original series Isakapatnam. Directed by Garry BH, written by Prashant Ragathi, and with dialogues by Tajuddin Syed, this revenge-fueled action thriller is produced by Rahul Tamada and Saideep Reddy Borra under the banner of Tamada Media Productions. Set in a fictional port town, this gritty, power-packed drama revolves around power struggles, family feuds, gangster warfare, and political drama. Starring Samuthirakani and Aishwarya Rajesh in lead roles, alongside Sunil, Naresh Agastya, Merin Philip, Sudhakar Komakula, Rajeev Kanakala, Mime Gopi, Rohini, Banerjee, Jwala Koti, Ravi Varma, and Raja Chembolu playing pivotal roles, the series will premiere exclusively on Prime Video in Telugu with dubs in Tamil



and Hindi and subtitles in 15 languages, including English, across India and over 240 countries and territories worldwide on July 2. “We have an incredibly rich library of Originals across our South slate, with stories spanning languages, genres, and themes that resonate with diverse audiences not only in India but also around the world. We're further expanding this slate with Isakapatnam, a gritty, revenge-fueled crime saga

that blends a compelling narrative with layered, relatable characters, promising to keep the audience hooked with unpredictable twists and turns,” said Nikhil Madhok, director & head of Originals, Prime Video India. “The series brings this raw and immersive world to life on screen with remarkable detail, led by stellar performances from Samuthirakani and Aishwarya, alongside a talented ensemble cast under Garry's expert direction.

Tamada has been an excellent collaborator with whom we have created such a cinematic and authentic production that we truly believe audiences worldwide will enjoy when it premieres exclusively on Prime Video.” Rahul Tamada and Saideep Reddy Borra at Tamada Media Productions shared*, “While Isakapatnam has the intensity and grit of a revenge thriller, at its heart it is a story about personal loss, loyalty, family feuds, and political conflict, themes that we believe are intriguing and entertaining for a global audience. At its core, the series is rooted in authenticity, with every detail—from the recreation of a port town to the characters and narrative—contributing to a rich and immersive storytelling experience. We are delighted to collaborate with Prime Video to bring this powerful, emotionally charged story to audiences across India and around the world when it premieres on July 2.”

‘THANK YOU SUBBARAO’ TEASER RAISES CURIOSITY WITH ITS INTRIGUING NARRATIVE

Director Chendu Muddu, who earned acclaim with films such as O Pitta Katha, Annapurna Photo Studio, and Repu Udayam Padhi Gantalaku, is set to entertain audiences with his latest venture, ‘Thank You Subbarao’. The film is being presented by K. Raghavendra Reddy and produced by Dinesh Kurra under the Kurra Productions banner. The makers recently unveiled the film's first-look poster and teaser, generating considerable excitement among movie lovers. The teaser suggests that Thank You Subbarao is a unique entertainer that seamlessly blends comedy,



action, romance, suspense, and thrilling moments. With its engaging narra-

tive setup and intriguing visuals, the teaser offers a pleasant cinematic experi-

ence while leaving audiences curious about the story. The humorous dialogues delivered by Muralidhar Goud add a fun element, while the chemistry between the lead pair brings a refreshing romantic touch. A mysterious girl on a train and several suspense-filled sequences further enhance the intrigue, making the film an exciting prospect for audiences seeking something different. With its distinctive concept and appealing content, Thank You Subbarao has all the ingredients to connect with viewers and create anticipation ahead of its release. The makers are expected to unveil more exciting updates in the coming days.

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