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PM MODI
CONFERRED WITH HONORARY
'GUARDIAN OF THE BLUE HORIZON'
TITLE BY SEYCHELLES

NATION PAGE

IN CARACAS, THIS FEELS
LIKE THE HARDEST
MOMENT IN VENEZUELA'S
MODERN HISTORY

WORLD | NEWS



SHRADDHA
KAPOOR'S HYPED FILM
LANDS IN TITLE TROUBLE

CINEMA | PAGE

SCAN FOR
E-PAPEROM NAMO
VENKATESAYA

27-06-2026
Total pilgrims : 85,582
Tonsures : 44,155
Hundi kankalav : 3,76 CR
Laddu sale : 4,66 Lac
Annasradams : 3,43 Lac
Medical treatment : 3,583
Waiting Consultants : Out side line
at Bala Gangamma Temple

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam
(with out SSD Tokens) : 30 H.

14 killed in Aramco helicopter crash

Riyadh (TSIT)

Fourteen people on board were killed when a helicopter operated by Saudi oil giant Aramco crashed in the eastern Saudi city of Ras Tanura on Sunday, according to state news agency SPA.



The victims were all Saudi nationals, SPA said, citing an official source from the Saudi Energy Ministry. The helicopter went down in Ras Tanura, a major oil refining and export hub on Saudi Arabia's Gulf coast. Authorities did not immediately disclose details about the flight or the circumstances leading to the crash.

CM Revanth challenges BRS, BJP to assembly debate, Unveils Rupees 13,000 crore road projects

Hyderabad TSIT BUREAU:

Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy on Sunday launched a scathing attack on the BRS while highlighting the Congress government's welfare and development initiatives during a massive public meeting in Nalgonda. He also laid the foundation stone for 6,300 km of Roads & Buildings (R&B) works worth Rs.13,000 crore.

Paying tribute to Telangana movement stalwarts, Revanth Reddy said leaders like Konda Laxman Babuji and Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy made genuine sacrifices for the statehood movement. He contrasted their contributions with what he described as "politically motivated resignations" by BRS leaders.

Chief Minister accused the previous BRS government of leaving Telangana with a debt burden of Rs.8.11 lakh crore and alleged that it neglected the welfare of the poor while focusing on the interests of a single family. He asserted that the people of Telangana had already rejected the BRS and would not allow it to return to power.

Throwing an open challenge to both the BRS and the BJP, Revanth Reddy proposed a special session of the Assembly



and Legislative Council to debate the performance of the 10-year BRS rule, the 12-year BJP-led Central Government, and the Congress government's two-and-a-half-year tenure in Telangana. He urged the Opposition to write to the Speaker and Council Chairman to facilitate the discussion.

Highlighting the Congress government's welfare measures Chief Minister said lakhs of new ration cards had been issued and that 3.28 crore beneficiaries were

receiving 6 kg of fine rice each under a Rs.16,000-crore programme. He also said the government had sanctioned 4.5 lakh Indiramma houses and was providing 200 units of free electricity to eligible beneficiaries.

Revanth Reddy said the government had spent Rs.1.56 lakh crore on farmers through Rythu Bharosa, farm loan waivers, bonuses and other agriculture-focused schemes. He claimed Telangana had created a record by procuring 80 lakh metric tonnes of paddy, despite challenges, and criticised the previous government's handling of the Kaleshwaram project. Chief Minister also highlighted reforms in education, including plans to introduce school

ing from Nursery to Class XII in government institutions and modernise schools for underprivileged students. He said the government had resolved the long-pending issue of SC categorisation and provided 70,000 government jobs in the last 30 months.

Reaffirming his commitment to completing the SLBC project and the Musi River rejuvenation, Revanth Reddy said both initiatives were aimed at securing Telangana's agricultural future and improving public health. Expressing confidence in the Congress government's performance, he declared that the people would continue to support the party and predicted that Congress would remain in power in Telangana from 2024 to 2034.

Around 500 farmers under house arrest ahead of protest: Abhijeet Dipke

New Delhi (TSIT)

Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke on Sunday alleged that around 500 farmers from Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh had been placed under house arrest to prevent them from joining the ongoing protest at Delhi's Jantar Mantar demanding the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan over alleged examination irregularities.

Speaking exclusively to The Tribune, Dipke claimed that the action was aimed at restricting their participation in the agitation, which entered its ninth day with climate activist Sonam Wangchuk beginning an indefinite hunger strike.

"We have information that around 500 farmers have been put under house arrest because they were willing to join us," Dipke told.

Dipke had also made the same allegation in a post on X, claiming that several farmer leaders from Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab had been placed under house arrest to stop them from reaching the protest site. Despite the alleged



Several farmer leaders and members of khap panchayats attend the protest at Jantar Mantar on Sunday

restrictions, several farmer leaders and members of khap panchayats attended the protest at Jantar Mantar on Sunday. Sarv Khap convener Om Prakash Dhankhar also warned of a larger farmer mobilisation from Monday, saying he remained in constant touch with

farmer leaders, including Rakesh Tikait.

Sources said Tikait and Gurnam Charuni can join the agitation in the coming week. A CJP supporter who had also contributed in the farmers' protest said, "Tikait has been observing the situation closely and feels the demands are justified. He is also in touch with other farmer unions and, along with Charuni, might join the protest in the next few days." CJP has been staging a sit-in at Delhi's Jantar Mantar since June 20, demanding Pradhan's resignation over alleged irregularities in examinations and paper leaks.

Get all children under 5 vaccinated against polio: Shivakumar

Bengaluru (TSIT):

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar appealed to get polio vaccine administered to all their children within the age of five years. "The government has launched the Pulse Polio vaccination drive, and parents in all parts of the state should get children under

Target to administer the polio vaccine to 60,84,911 children



five vaccinated. A healthy state and nation can be built from a healthy family," he said after launching the Pulse Polio vaccination programme at his

ly," he said after launching the Pulse Polio vaccination programme at his

Sadashivanagar residence.

"Health Minister U T Khader is very smart. My granddaughter is one month old, so he chose my house. Khader decided to launch this programme at my home itself, so that this campaign would begin from the Chief Minister's house," he said.

"In this programme, a total of 1,14,213 vaccination workers are at work, including across 36,686 vaccination centres, 988 mobile centres and 2,125 transit points. Many NGOs have joined hands in the campaign.

I wholeheartedly extend my best wishes to everyone who has cooperated in this programme of service to the nation," he said. "Our government has decided to administer the polio vaccine to 60,84,911 children. In 1972, Indira Gandhi started a polio vaccination programme so that the country's children would stay healthy. During Rajiv Gandhi's time, it was launched as a campaign.

Over 26 lakh children receive polio drops in Telangana

Hyderabad (TSIT)

Over 26 lakh of the estimated 41 lakh children in Telangana received polio drops by Sunday afternoon as part of the pulse polio campaign. State Health Minister C Damodar Rajanarasimha and other ministers launched the programme at Urban Primary Health Centre (UPHC) at Borabanda here on Sunday



morning. The state Health department expects to achieve 85-90 per cent coverage by the end of the day. The department said in a release that health teams will conduct door-to-door visits over the next two days to ensure that every child who missed the campaign on Sunday receives the life-saving polio drops.

CM Naidu calls for revival of Indian joint family system

Amaravati (TSIT) :

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday called for the revival of the traditional Indian joint family system. Stating that the joint family system is one of the greatest strengths of India, he said grandparents and other family members helped shape children with values and emotional support. The Chief Minister was speaking after



administering polio drops to children as part of the Pulse Polio Immunisation Programme at his official res-

idence here. He interacted with children and their parents and enquired about their health, vaccination status and

upbringing.

He urged parents to ensure that children receive all government-recommended vaccinations on time to safeguard their health. Officials of the Health and Family Welfare Department informed the Chief Minister that the State aims to administer polio drops to approximately 4.92 million children below the age of five during the three-day Pulse Polio campaign beginning Sunday.

Police raid premises of all 8 accused in Ram Temple embezzlement case

Ayodhya (TSIT):

Police on Sunday conducted searches at the residences of all the eight accused, arrested in connection with alleged misappropriation of donations and offerings at the Ram Mandir.

This comes after the eight individuals were sent to three-day judicial custody on Friday. They will stay in jail till June 29 and will be produced before the city court again on Monday. Krishna Nand Tiwari, a



neighbour of accused Anukalp Mishra, said: "Action is being taken, brother (Mishra) or whoever is involved in this, whoever has committed theft or wrongdoing, they should be given the strictest punishment.

CM Vijay launches TN-wide pulse polio campaign

CHENNAI (TSIT):

Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay on Sunday (June 28) launched the National Pulse Polio immunisation campaign in Tamil Nadu by administering oral polio vaccine to children at the Adi Dravidar Welfare Higher Secondary School in Palavakkam here.

The State-wide campaign targeted 52.91 lakh children below the age of five through 43,051 vaccination centres. Oral polio vaccine was administered at government primary health centres, government hospitals, anganwadi centres, schools and other designated public locations from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Launching the campaign, the Chief Minister urged parents to ensure that every child below five years received the polio drops, irrespective of their routine immunisation status. Public Works and Sports Development



Minister Aadhav Arjuna inaugurated the campaign at the Rajamangalam Government Primary Health Centre in Villivakkam constituency and later launched it at the Ayanavaram Government Maternity and Child Hospital.

The Health Department had established transit vaccination booths at bus stands, railway stations, toll plazas, check-posts and airports to cover children travelling with their families. The transit booths will continue to function on June 29 and June 30.

Congress says states oppose Centre's new rural jobs scheme

New Delhi (TSIT)

The Congress on Sunday claimed that several states, including those governed by the BJP, have expressed serious reservations over the Centre's proposed rural employment programme, alleging that it would place a significant financial burden on state governments while weakening the rights-based employment guarantee

framework established under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh, in a post on social media platform X, accused the Narendra Modi government of repealing MGNREGA without adequate consultation with key stakeholders.

He alleged that concerns

The Modi Government, vengeful and petty as ever, bulldozed the repeal of MGNREGA through Parliament without any thorough consultation with the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development, State Governments, or other relevant stakeholders," Ramesh said.



had surfaced from several states over the Centre's proposed replacement programme, VB G RAM G, which is scheduled to come into effect from July 1, 2026. According to Ramesh, BJP-ruled states including Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttarakhand have objected to the "huge additional expenditure burden" the new scheme would impose

on state governments. He further claimed that four other states had opposed the proposed blackout period during the peak agricultural season, while at least five states had sought higher wages for rural workers. "The Rural Development Minister's own home state is voicing concerns around the Modi Government's new pet project," Ramesh said.

Pulse Polio drive launched in Jagityala

Jagityala, June 28, TSIT : Jagityala, June 28: Jagityala MLA Dr. Sanjay Kumar said that the government's aim is to create a polio-free society by providing polio drops to every child under five years of age.

MLA Dr. Sanjay Kumar and District Collector B Sathyaprasad jointly inaugurated the programme organized as part of National Pulse Polio Programme at Mothewada Primary Health Center in Jagityala town on Sunday. MLA Dr. Sanjay Kumar spoke on this occasion that although

the country has achieved historic success in eradicating polio, it is everyone's responsibility to sustain that success forever. The Collector said that necessary arrangements have been completed in all polio centers in the district. Officials said that special measures have been taken to successfully continue the polio programme in all mandals of the district. The programme was attended by District Medical Health Officer Dr Sujatha, doctors and health department officials.

CPM seeks double-bedroom houses for eligible poor



RANGAREDDY : CPM Town Secretary Srinu Naik on Sunday demanded that the government allot double-bedroom houses only to genuinely eligible poor families after inspecting a housing colony along with party leaders.

He alleged that several beneficiaries who already own houses had received double-bedroom units, while many homeless families were excluded. He urged the government and the local MLA to conduct a thorough verification and ensure fair allotment to deserving beneficiaries.

Srinu Naik also highlighted the lack of basic amenities such as drinking water, electricity, drainage, sanitation and CC roads, besides raising concerns over increasing thefts in the colony. He warned that the CPM would launch phased protests if the municipal authorities failed to resolve the issues. The inspection was attended by CPM leaders P. Lakshmi, Parijatha Raju, Anjaneyulu Goud, Mohammed Babu, Niranjan Goud and others.

BJP National President Nitin Nabin welcomed by Nelli Srivardhan Reddy

RANGAREDDY (TSIT) BJP National President Nitin Nabin was accorded a warm welcome by BJP leader Nelli Srivardhan Reddy during his visit to the newly inaugurated



Union Ministers G. Kishan Reddy, Bandi Sanjay Kumar and Eatala Rajender, BJP Telangana President N. Ramchander Rao, senior party leaders, public representatives and party workers.

Speaking on the occasion, Nelli Srivardhan Reddy said Nitin Nabin's visit would strengthen the BJP's organisational structure in Telangana, energise party workers and accelerate the party's expansion across the State. During the event, Nitin Nabin also virtually inaugurated eight more BJP district party offices across Telangana from the Ranga Reddy district office.

Collector launches Pulse Polio drive in Mahabubabad



Mahabubabad, June 28 (TSIT): District Collector Sneh Shabarish inaugurated the Pulse Polio programme at the Government General

Hospital on Sunday and administered polio drops to children below five years of age. Appealing to parents to ensure every eligi-

Historic Irrigation Push to Transform Nalgonda Uttam Kumar Reddy

Hyderabad TSIT: Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N.Uttam Kumar Reddy on Sunday declared that the Congress Government is ushering in a new era of agricultural prosperity in Telangana through a historic expansion of irrigation infrastructure, with special focus on drought-prone and fluoride-affected Nalgonda district.

Addressing a massive public meeting in Nalgonda in the presence of Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhathi Vikramarka, Roads & Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, and other ministers and public representatives, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government was committed to delivering results rather than making empty promises.

He said the Congress Government had placed the long-pending Alimineti Madhava Reddy-Srisaillam Left Bank Canal (AMR-SLBC)



tunnel project on top priority and vowed to complete it during the current term. The project will utilise 30 TMC of Krishna river water to irrigate nearly four lakh acres while providing safe drinking water to 516 fluoride-affected villages in the erstwhile Nalgonda district.

Minister said the government revived the stalled project by resolving technical issues, commissioning advanced helicopter-based electromagnetic surveys through the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), and engaging leading experts to ensure

its successful completion.

Highlighting the Dindi Lift Irrigation Scheme, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government had removed long-pending hurdles and expedited statutory clearances soon after assuming office. Once completed, the project will provide irrigation to 3.61 lakh acres across Nalgonda and Mahabubnagar districts besides supplying safe drinking water to fluoride-affected habitations. He assured that land acquisition and rehabilitation would be carried out transparently while protecting the interests of affected families. Looking beyond the ongoing projects, the Minister announced that the government would undertake comprehensive modernisation of the Nagarjuna Sagar Project (NSP) and the NSP Left Canal after completing the flagship irrigation works. He said the modernisation would improve irrigation efficiency, reduce water losses and ensure dependable water supply to nearly 6.4 lakh acres of ayacut.

Rs.13,006 crore HAM road project to transform Telangana: Komatireddy



Hyderabad, June 28: Roads & Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy said the State government's Rs.13,006.27-crore Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM) road project will significantly improve connectivity and infrastructure across Telangana.

Speaking after the launch of 441 HAM road projects covering 6,092 km in Nalgonda district, the minister said the initiative would connect mandal

headquarters with district headquarters through double-lane roads, boosting industrial growth, employment and safer travel. He added that road projects worth nearly Rs.78,000 crore are under various stages of execution across the state.

The minister also highlighted the government's welfare initiatives, including the Mahalakshmi Scheme, Indiramma Housing and Aarogyasri expansion, and said major infrastructure projects such as the Hyderabad-Vijayawada six-lane highway, a proposed bullet train corridor and the SLBC irrigation project would accelerate Telangana's development.

Government Advisor Harkara Venugopal Rao Pays Tribute to P.V. Narasimha Rao on 105th Birth Anniversary

Hyderabad, June 28: Telangana Government Advisor for Protocol and Public Relations paid rich tributes to former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna on the occasion of his 105th birth anniversary. Joining TPCC President Harkara Venugopal Rao garlanded the portrait of P.V. Narasimha Rao and remembered his immense contribution to the nation. Tribute programmes were held across the country to commemorate the birth anniversary of the distinguished statesman. Speaking on the occasion, Harkara Venugopal Rao described P.V. Narasimha Rao as the



visionary leader who ushered in India's economic reforms and transformed the country's development trajectory. He said Rao's extraordinary intellect, multilingual scholarship and farsighted leadership earned him a permanent place in India's history. He further said that P.V. Narasimha Rao, a proud son of Telangana, continues to inspire future generations through his exemplary service to the nation, and stressed that it is the responsibility of every citizen to uphold and carry forward his ideals.

CM Revanth Pays Floral Tributes to P.V. Narasimha Rao on Birth Anniversary



Hyderabad, TSIT: Chief Minister paid floral tributes to former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna on the occasion of his birth anniversary.

Chief Minister offered flowers to the portrait of the legendary statesman and remembered his immense contribution to the nation. Joining him in paying homage were

Ministers and . The leaders paid their respects to P.V. Narasimha Rao, recalling his visionary leadership, pioneering economic reforms and enduring contribution to India's progress. They described him as one of the country's greatest statesmen whose legacy continues to inspire future generations.

Congress Leaders Pay Floral Tributes to P.V. Narasimha Rao on 105th Birth Anniversary

Hyderabad, TSIT: Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President Mahesh Kumar Goud led Congress leaders in paying rich tributes to former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao on his 105th birth anniversary at PV Ghat in Hyderabad on Sunday. State Ministers Ponnann Prabhakar and Adluri Laxman Kumar, MP Anil Kumar Yadav, Government Advisor Harkara Venugopal Rao, AICC Secretary Rudra Raju and other Congress leaders offered floral tributes at the memorial. Addressing the gathering, Mahesh Kumar Goud



hailed P.V. Narasimha Rao as a visionary leader who ushered in India's economic reforms and laid the foundation for the country's modern economic growth. He said Rao's administrative excellence, intellectual brilliance and far-reaching vision made him one of India's most respected statesmen.

Kishan Reddy Calls for Grassroots Mobilisation Targets Congress and BRS at BJP Booth Presidents' Meet

Hyderabad, TSIT: Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy on Sunday urged BJP workers to intensify grassroots mobilisation and prepare for the upcoming municipal corporation and Assembly elections, asserting that the Bharatiya Janata Party is the only viable alternative to the Congress and BRS in Telangana. Addressing the BJP Booth Presidents' Convention at Nampally Exhibition Grounds, Kishan Reddy said the



BJP's recent electoral successes in three states and its improved performance in West Bengal reflected the growing acceptance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership across the country.

Distribution of offer letters to selected youths in Mega Job Mela on 29th June

Palakurthy, June 28, TSIT : Through the Mega Job Mela organized by Hanumandla Jhansi Rajender Reddy Family Charitable Trust at Sri Someswara Swamy Kalyana Mandapam in Palakurthy Mandal Center in May'26 month.

Trust sources revealed that offer letters will be handed over to unemployed youth selected in various companies on today (29-06-2026) at 9:30 am at MLA camp office in Palakurthy mandal center.

MLA Yashaswini Reddy, Family Charitable Trust Founder and Chairman, TPCC Vice



President Hanumandla Jhansi Rajender Reddy will handover offer letters to the selected youth. Around 2,500 unem-

ployed youth participated in the Mega Job Mela held last month, while 38 prominent companies conducted interviews and screened the talent of the candidates.

On that occasion, some companies handed over offer letters to selected candidates on the spot, and many of them have already joined their jobs.

After completion of verification of certificates of some more candidates, offer letters will be handed over to those selected in various companies today.

On this occasion, Trust Founder and Chairman Hanumandla Jhansi Rajender Reddy said that

it is very gratifying that many youths got job opportunities through the Mega Job Mela, which was undertaken with the aim of providing employment opportunities to the unemployed youth of the rural areas.

She said that such programmes will be continued in the future to support the future of the youth.

The representatives of the trust asked the candidates selected through the Mega Job Mela to attend the Palakurthy MLA camp office with the necessary certificates on time and receive their offer letters.

Telangana Rakshana Sena seeks recognition for movement activists



Husnabad, June 28: Telangana Rakshana Sena leaders on Sunday demanded immediate recognition for activists of the second phase of the Telangana statehood movement and implementation of welfare promises, including the allotment of 250-square-yard house plots. Addressing a press conference in Husnabad, State spokesperson Enugula

Malla Reddy urged activists, youth and intellectuals to participate in the "Mana Bhumi - Mana Hakku" programme to be held on July 2 at Uppal Bhagayat. Constituency in-charge Purella Shrawan Kumar Goud also demanded the distribution of government land to movement activists and alleged that successive governments had neglected their welfare.

AIDWA seeks 33% reservation for women



Mahabubabad, June 28: AIDWA District President Kandunuru Kavitha demanded 33% reservation for women in legislative bodies and called for stronger efforts to ensure women's equality and safety. Addressing a meeting of AIDWA activists in Manukota town, she urged women to unite against violence and sexual

harassment and criticised governments for failing to adequately address issues affecting women. She also called for greater participation of women in all fields. Kavitha announced plans to establish women's committees in all 36 wards of the town to create awareness and strengthen women's participation in social issues.

BJP National President Nitin Nabin Visits Hyderabad Ahead of Key Elections

Hyderabad, June 28, 2026: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National President Shri Nitin Nabin arrived in Hyderabad today on the first day of his three-day organisational visit to Telangana, aimed at strengthening the party's preparations for upcoming elections. Nabin, who landed at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Shamshabad, was accorded a warm welcome by party leaders and workers. The visit holds significant importance for the BJP in Telangana as the party ramps up its efforts for municipal and other upcoming polls.

According to party sources, the national president will hold extensive meetings with senior BJP leaders, review the party's organisational structure, and inter-



act with a large number of karyakartas (party workers). He is also expected to participate in the State-level Intellectuals' and Influencers' Review (SIR) meeting and engage with people from various sections of society. In a notable gesture, Dr. Senapathi Ajit Kumar, senior BJP leader

from Serilingampally and a prominent figure in the Rangareddy district unit, extended a hearty welcome to Shri Nitin Nabin upon his arrival in Hyderabad. Dr. Ajit Kumar, known for his active role in constituency-level activities, joined other leaders in greeting the national president.

The South India Times // Nagarkurnool : Newly constructed Indiramma houses in Ward No. 11 of Nagarkurnool Municipality were inaugurated by Nagarkurnool MLA Dr. Kuchukulla Rajesh Reddy. Speaking on the occasion, the MLA congratulated the beneficiaries and said that fulfilling the dream of every poor family to own a house is the primary objective of the state government. He stated that the government is committed to providing quality housing under the Indiramma Housing Scheme to all eligible families and improving their living standards. Municipal Chairman Teegala Sunendra Kumar, Vice Chairman Badam Ramesh, beneficiaries, and local residents participated in the programme.

Wanaparthi (TSIT): District Collector Adarsh Surabhi called upon everyone to contribute to building a polio-free society in the district and make the program successful by giving polio drops to all the children. District Collector Adarsh Surabhi started the pulse polio program at (Mata Shishu Arogya Kendra) on Sunday. On this occasion, the collector himself administered polio drops to some children. On this occasion, the district collector said that every child between 0 to 5 years of age in the district will be given pulse polio drops. A total of 46 thousand children in the district will be given polio drops through 343 polio booths. He revealed that for any reason. Children who could



not be vaccinated at the booths were identified and the health workers went door to door to administer polio drops, he said. The district collector asked the parents to ensure that not a single child under the age of 5 years misses the polio shots. Those who are unable to get the polio shots should contact the Asha worker in their area

and ask the children to get the polio shots immediately. He called upon everyone to contribute to building a polio-free society in the district. District Medical Health Officer Dr. Sainath Reddy, District Welfare Officer Sudharani, other medical and health officials, children, parents and others participated in the program.

The South India Times // Nagarkurnool : District Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil said that building a polio-free society remains the government's goal. He formally launched the National Pulse Polio Programme at the District Headquarters Hospital on Sunday by administering polio drops to children along with Municipal Chairman Teegala Sunendra and District Medical and Health Officer Dr. Krishna. Officials stated that 1,00,624 children below five years of age have been identified in the district. To cover all beneficiaries, 1,17,500 doses of polio vaccine



have been prepared and 631 Pulse Polio centres have been established across the district. The Collector appealed to par-

ents to ensure that every child below five years receives polio drops without fail. He also informed that children who miss vaccination on the first day will be covered through door-to-door visits in the following days.



Madhira (TSIT): Preparations are in full swing for the Rhythum Ashirvada Sabha to be addressed by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at Jagannathapuram village in Chinthamani mandal of Khannam district on June 30. State Revenue, Housing and Information Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Sunday reviewed the arrangements along with public representatives and senior officials.

The minister inspected the meeting venue, helipad and parking areas and directed officials to ensure all facilities are in place, including German hangars, to safeguard the event against possible heavy rain. Speaking to mediapersons, Ponguleti said the government has remained committed to farmers' welfare by implementing its promises and ensuring timely support. He said the government had procured rain-soaked paddy and credited payments to farmers' bank accounts within a week.

Expressing confidence over the success of the event, he said the meeting would be held on a grand scale despite forecasts of heavy rain. He criticised the opposition for what he described as politically motivated criticism, alleging that parties which had ignored farmers in the past were now attempting to project themselves as champions of farmers. The minister also highlighted the government's welfare initiatives, including employment generation, housing under the Indiramma scheme, irrigation projects and infrastructure development. He said the government remained focused on fulfilling its commitments to farmers and other sections of society.

MLAs Koram Kanakaiah, Payam Venkateswarlu, Tellam Venkata Rao, Jare Adinarayana, Matta Ragamayi Dayanand and Ramdas Naik, among others, were present during the inspection.



Mancherial, June 28:
Additional Collector
(Local Bodies) P. Chandrayya on Sunday reviewed the Animal Birth Control programme, Pulse Polio campaign and various civic development works across Mancherial district.

During inspections at the Animal Birth Control Centre and municipal dumping yard, he directed officials to ensure scientific waste management, proper care of stray animals and hygienic maintenance.

nance. He also launched the Pulse Polio programme in Kasipet mandal and instructed health officials to ensure that every child below five years receives polio drops.

The Additional Collector also inspected gram panchayat infrastructure works, village nurseries, healthcare services and the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls, directing officials to complete all works on time while maintaining quality and transparency.

Yadadri Bhuvanagiri (TSIT) The Pulse Polio immunisation programme was conducted across Bhongir on Sunday, with Municipal Chairperson Tangallapalli Srivani Ravikumar administering polio drops to children below five years of age at vaccination centres in several wards. Speaking on the occasion, the Chairperson said the goal is to make Bhongir completely polio-free and urged parents to ensure every eligible child receives polio drops. She called for the cooperation of officials, public representatives and the public to ensure no child is left out of the vaccination drive. PCC Delegate Tangallapalli Ravikumar, councillors, ANMs, ASHA workers, municipal staff and local leaders participated in the programme.



Sangareddy, June 28 (TSIT)
TCHQ Chairman, Nimmala

TTGIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy urged every family to participate in the Pulse Polio immunization campaign to safeguard the health of young children. She made these remarks after inaugurating the Pulse Polio programme by administering polio drops to children at the Indiranagar Primary Health Centre (PHC) in Sangareddy town on Sunday. Speaking on the occasion, she said the district administration had made comprehensive arrangements to ensure that every child aged 0 to 5 years receives the mandatory Pulse Polio vaccine. She stated that the government has launched a special campaign through Pulse Polio booths, mobile teams, and door-to-door survey teams to ensure that no child is left out. Nirmala Jaggareddy said that 1,137 Pulse Polio booths have been set up across the district and will function from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. She added that on June 29 and 30, health teams will conduct house-to-house visits to administer polio drops to children who missed



the vaccination on the first day. She said the district has set a target of immunizing 1,80,405 children in the 0-5 years age group. The campaign is being carried out with the support of 1,583 ANMs, 904 ASHA workers, 1,505 Anganwadi workers, 625 volunteers, and six programme officers. She further stated that special attention is being given to children of migrant workers, those living in brick kiln areas, construction sites, urban slums, new colonies, and tribal habitations to ensure that every eligible child receives the vaccine. Appealing to parents, Nirmala Jaggareddy emphasized that every child below five years of age must be given two drops of the Pulse Polio vaccine, even if they had received polio drops earlier.

Khammam town (TSIT): The Vishwakarma Employees Welfare Association (VEWA) on Sunday honoured meritorious SSC and Intermediate students with the Vishwaspurthi and Vishwakirti Awards at Vyapara Sangham Hall in Gandhi Chowk, Khammam.

Nancharla Veda Vyas, who secured 98.16 per cent in the first-year Intermediate MPC stream, was felicitated along with his parents, Nancharla Janardhana Chary and Nagalakshmi. He was presented with a shawl, a cita-



tion and a memento in recognition of his academic excellence. More than 70 students who excelled in the SSC and Intermediate

examinations received the awards. VEWA state and district leaders, students and their parents attended the programme.



musical offering received the Lord's blessings, while the Kalyana Mandapam was filled with an atmosphere of deep devotion (Bhakti Rasa) created by the enchanting sounds of the Veena. On this occasion, Manepalli Murali Krishna, the Founder-Chairman of the Swarnagiri Temple, honored the musicians by presenting them with shawls and distributed the Lord's Prasadam.

Mahabubnagar, 28 June : The Pulse Polio Immunization Programme for children below five years of age was inaugurated on Sunday at the Government Bus Stand premises under the jurisdiction of the Mahabubnagar Municipal Corporation.

The programme was formally launched by Mayor Mrs. Gummala Mamatha Srinivas, Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Madhusudan Naik, and District Medical & Health Officer Dr. A. Srinivasulu, who administered polio drops to children.

Speaking on the occasion, the Mayor emphasized that every parent has a responsibility to ensure their children receive polio drops for a healthy and secure future. She said, "Two drops of life are



a shield of protection for every child," and urged parents to bring all children below five years of age to the nearest Pulse Polio booth. She appealed to the public to actively participate in the campaign and contribute towards building a Polio-Free India.

Yadadri Bhongir TSIT : Bolagani Satyanarayana, the District Honorary President of AITUC, has demanded the immediate repeal of the four labor codes introduced by the Central Government, which undermine workers' rights in favor of corporate interests. Addressing the AITUC District Council meeting held in Bhongir town on Sunday—presided over by Samala Shobhan Babu—he expressed deep concern that the Central Government is weakening the rights workers had secured through decades of struggle. He stated that replacing various post-independence labor welfare laws with these four labor codes would diminish the legal protections available to workers. He warned of severe adverse effects on crucial aspects



such as the eight-hour workday, minimum wages, job security, trade union rights, and social security. He further criticized the Central Government for privatizing public sector undertakings and extensively implementing contract and outsourcing systems, noting that these actions are reducing permanent

jobs and harming employment opportunities for the youth. It was stated that public sector undertakings are the backbone of the nation's development and that handing them over to private entities is contrary to the public interest. Speaking on the occasion, AITUC District General Secretary MD Imran demanded that the govern-

ment immediately address the issues faced by construction workers, manual laborers (hamalis), agricultural workers, auto-rickshaw and transport workers, gig workers, and those in the unorganized sector. He further demanded that all unorganized sector workers be guaranteed rights such as social security, pensions, health insurance, accident insurance, maternity benefits, and minimum wages.

AITUC District General Secretary MD Imran, District Assistant Secretary Ganaboyina Venkatesh, and District Committee members—including Dubbaka Sanjeeva, Muntaz Begum, Anneminaa Venkatesh, Lakshmaiah, Buchamma, Andalu, Bujamma, Karunakar, Venkatesh, Mallesham, and Narasimha—participated in the event.



CanFin Homes Ltd.

Hy.No.15-12/14 (New), Old No. 6-2-14, Ground Floor, Plot No.19 And 11,
 Sy.No.264 And 265, Sri Krishna Nagar, Khanapuram Havelli, Beside Mithal
 Potluri Street, Khammam-507002, Ph: 8743-268695, Cell No. 74507213
 e-mail:khammam@canfinhomes.com, web:www.canfinhomes.com
 CIN No. L5110KA1987PLC008699

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation 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

NOTICE is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **physical possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd., Khammam Branch, will be sold by holding e-auction on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **05-08-2026**, for recovery of **Rs. 25,74,651/- (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs Seventy Four Thousand Six Hundred Fifty one Only)** due to Can Fin Homes Ltd. From **CHINTADA DURGHA PRASAD S/o. CHINTADA HARI BABU (Applicant) and CHINTADA PAVANI, W/o. CHINTADA DURGHA PRASAD (Co-Applliant)**, as on **28-06-2026**, together with further interest and other charges thereon.

The reserve price will be **Rs. 43,20,000/- (Rupees Forty Three Lakhs Twenty Thousand Only)** and the earnest money deposit will be **Rs.4,32,000/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand Only)**

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of RCC roof building house No. 3-7-182/74/3, of Sy.no.143, 144 & 147 of with an extent of 101-11 Sq yds equals to 84-54 sq meters, situated at pumping well road, sundariaha nagar, khammam dist and bounded by East: House and wall of Bhaskar on plot no.38, West: 20 ft wide road, North: plot no.36 part, South: House of V.ramana on plot no.35 part.

Known Encumbrance: NIL

NOTICE is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **physical possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd., Khammam Branch, will be sold by holding e-auction on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **05-08-2026**, for recovery of **Rs.19,13,625/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Thirteen Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Five Only)** due to Can Fin Homes Ltd. From **PERIYALA GEETHA VANI, W/o. PERIYALA TIRUMALA KUMAR (late) (co-applicant) Late PERIYALA TIRUMALA KUMAR, S/o. VENKATACHARYULU (Applicant)**, and all legal heirs, as on **28-06-2026**, together with further interest and other charges thereon.

The reserve price will be **Rs.13,50,000/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Fifty Thousand Only)** and the earnest money deposit will be **Rs.1,35,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Only)**

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of sy.no.156/A, residential Flat No.204 in first floor, including common area along with 39-00 Sq. yds, with 798 sq. fts, under premises of Godavari block in **GRR SRINIVASAM** velumagatala revenue village, near Ennadu office, Puttakota GP, within the limits of khammam municipal corporation and within registration distirct khammam and joint sub-registrar khammam, and bounded by: **Boundaries of Flat: East:** corridor and open to sky, **West:** flat no.205, **North:** corridor, **South:** open to sky. **Boundaries of plot: East:** Land of sy.no.156/A, **West:** Land of azaruddin in Sy.No.157, **North:** 40 ft DTCP approved road **South:** Land of mahamaram venture.

Known Encumbrance: NIL

The detailed terms and conditions of the sale are provided in the official website of Can Fin Homes Ltd., (<https://www.canfinhomes.com/SearchAuction.aspx>). Link for participating in e-auction : www.bankeauctionwired.com

Date: 28-06-2026	Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place : Khammam	Can Fin Homes Limited

AP: Govt. releases Rs. 2,711 crore for disbursement of social security pensions

Vijayawada (TSIT): The Andhra Pradesh government has released Rs. 2,711.79 crore to ensure distribution of NTR Bharosa social security pensions to 62,19,648 beneficiaries across the state for the month of July, Minister Kondapalli Srinivas said today.

“The pension payments will commence from the morning of July 1 and will be credited to the beneficiaries’ bank or postal accounts through district authorities and the designated disbursing agencies,” he said. The minister explained that the gov-

ernment has additionally released Rs. 3.12 crore to cover pensions for 7,792 newly approved spouse (widow/widower) beneficiaries. Since the coalition government took office, total expenditure on pension disbursements, including the funds released this month, has reached Rs. 68,598.44 crore, he said.

Kondapalli Srinivas assured that the coalition government’s primary aim is the welfare of the poor and that the NTR Bharosa pension funds are being made available to the beneficiaries on the first day of each month without fail, he added.

Aadvitha Foundation donates Rs.60,000 worth of equipment to MPPS Gajularamaram

In its continued commitment to empowering education, Aadvitha Foundation donated essential educational and sports equipment worth approximately Rs.60,000 to MPPS, Gajularamaram. The donated items include: Storage Almirah, Smart TV, Laptop, Printer, Sports Equipment. These resources are aimed at enhancing students’ learning experience through digital classrooms, supporting sports activities, and strengthening the school’s educational infrastructure.



Speaking on the occasion, School Headmaster Mr. Suresh expressed his sincere gratitude to Aadvitha Foundation. He stated that the donated equipment would significantly improve digital learning opportunities for students, encourage participation in sports,

and provide valuable educational resources for both students and teachers. The items were formally handed over to the school staff during the donation ceremony. Addressing the gathering, Mrs. Mahalakshmi Gangadhar, Chairperson of Aadvitha Foundation,

emphasized the foundation’s mission: “Our purpose is to empower our nation through Education and Healthcare. Poverty may limit financial resources, but it should never limit education, dreams, or ambitions. Every child deserves the opportunity to learn, grow, and achieve success.” She further inspired the students by citing the example of Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, who rose from humble beginnings to become one of India’s most respected scientists and the President of India, proving that determination, education, and hard work can overcome financial challenges.

Chinta Prabhakar urges parents to ensure polio drops for every child under five



test their children’s health by ensuring they receive the vaccine. He emphasized that no eligible child should be left out of the immunization drive and described the campaign as a collective social responsibility. The MLA directed Health Department officials to take special measures to ensure complete coverage in every village. He instructed health workers to conduct door-to-door visits, identify all eligible children, and administer polio drops to those who had not yet been vaccinated. The programme was attended by BRS Town Mandal President Cheela Mallanna, Gollagudem Sarpanch Munge Sujatha Naveen Kumar, Deputy Sarpanch Kolkuri Ashok Kumar, ward members, BRS leaders, Medical and Health Department officials, ASHA workers, ANMs, Anganwadi staff, public representatives, village elders, parents, and local residents.

Sangareddy (TSIT): Stressing that a healthy society is the responsibility of everyone, Chinta Prabhakar urged parents to ensure that every child below the age of five receives Pulse Polio drops without fail.

The MLA participated in the Pulse Polio Immunization Programme held at the Old Government Hospital in Sadasivpet town and at a school in Gollagudem village on Sunday. Speaking on the occasion, he called upon the public to work together to achieve a polio-free society and said Pulse Polio vaccination is vital for the complete eradication of the disease.

Chinta Prabhakar appealed to parents to pro-

Sri Prasanna Venkateswara Swamy Blesses Devotees on Kalpavriksha Vahanam



As part of the annual Brahmotsavams at Appalayagunta, Sri Prasanna Venkateswara Swamy blessed devotees on Kalpavriksha Vahanam

in Rajamannar Alankaram on Sunday morning. The Vahana Seva commenced at 8 am amid chants of “Govinda.” Devotees offered Karpura

Harathi and had the divine darshan of the Lord. Snapana Tirumanjanam was performed from 9.30 am to 11 am.

The Arjita Kalyanotsavam will be held from 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm after the Lord’s ceremonial procession to the Kalyana Mandapam. In the evening at 7 pm, Sri Swamy will bless devotees on Sarvabhoopala Vahanam. Deputy EO Sri Harindranath, AEO Sri Devarajulu, Superintendent Smt. Srivani, Temple Inspector Sri Venugopal, priests, officials, and Srivari Sevaks participated in the Vahana Seva.

Annual Jyesthabhishekam Concludes on a Grand Spiritual Note

Tirumala: The three-day annual Jyesthabhishekam of Sri Malayappa Swamy concluded with great religious fervour and grandeur at the Tirumala temple on Sunday.

On the concluding day, Sri Malayappa Swamy, flanked by Sridevi and Bhudevi, blessed thousands of devotees in the resplendent Golden Kavacham (Swarna Kavacham). The processional deities will continue to adorn this sacred golden armour throughout the year until the next Jyesthabhishekam. As part of the final day’s rituals, the Utsava deities were ceremoniously taken to the Sampangi Prakaram, where temple priests and Vedic scholars performed the Maha Shanthi Homam in accordance with



Agama traditions. This was followed by the sacred Snapana Tirumanjanam to the deities. Special rituals and worship were also offered to the Golden Kavachams before they were ceremonially adorned on the deities. In the evening, the Lord and His divine consorts, radiant in the Golden Kavacham, captivated devotees during the Sahasra Deepalankara Seva. Later, the celestial procession through the four Mada Streets

offered devotees an opportunity to receive the divine blessings of the Lord. Among those who participated in the utsavam HH Sri Pedda Jeeyar Swamy, HH Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamy, Additional EO Sri C.H. Venkaiah Chowdary, Board Members Sri Sadasiva Rao, Smt. Janaki Devi and Smt. Suchitra Ella, Temple Deputy EO Sri Lokanatham, temple priests, officials and a large gathering of devotees.



The nationwide Pulse Polio Immunization Programme was ceremonially launched at Tirumala on Sunday, June 28, by TTD Additional Executive Officer Sri C.H. Venkaiah Chowdary, who administered polio drops to children near Sri Venkateswara Temple.

Massive Loot in the Name of Amaravati, Jungle Rule Prevails in the State: Botsa Satyanarayana

Demands CBI Probe into Attack on YSRCP Leaders



The South India Times, Visakhapatnam : Leader of the Opposition in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council and former Minister Botsa Satyanarayana alleged that a “massive loot” is taking place in the name of Amaravati and that law and order has completely deteriorated under the coalition government, undermining democratic values.

Addressing a press conference at his camp office in Visakhapatnam on Sunday, Botsa strongly condemned the alleged attack by TDP supporters on YSRCP MLCs, former ministers, and party representatives during their visit to Amaravati. He questioned why the opposition’s visit had to be obstructed if genuine development had taken place in the capital region. According to him, the attacks were intended to prevent the exposure of alleged irregularities and misuse of public funds in Amaravati. He further alleged that, instead of taking action against the attackers, the government had filed SC/ST Atrocities Act cases against the victims themselves. He said political differences should be

addressed through democratic means and not through violence.

Botsa also accused the state government of failing to ensure Minimum Support Price (MSP) for farmers, stating that growers of mangoes, sorghum, red gram, and other crops are facing severe financial distress due to poor market prices. He further alleged that, in the name of wealth creation, the government is encouraging the establishment of bars on beaches, thereby damaging the state’s cultural values, while valuable land in Visakhapatnam is being allotted indiscriminately. Commenting on the recent visit of the President of India to Visakhapatnam, Botsa said that accommodating the President in a private guest house despite the availability of government guest houses had brought disrepute to the country.

He demanded an impartial CBI inquiry into both the Amaravati attack incident and the alleged custodial death in Vijayawada. YSRCP district president K.K. Raju and other party leaders were also present at the press conference.

LVPEI Launches School Vision Screening Initiative for Early Detection of Eye Problems Among Children

- Awareness Programs for Parents and Teachers to Promote Better Eye Health

Visakhapatnam : Recognizing that good vision is essential for a child’s learning, brain development, and overall well-being, the L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI), through its Kode Venkatadri Chowdary (KVC) Campus in Vijayawada, has been conducting school vision screening programmes across Vijayawada and nearby towns and villages to identify and address eye problems among children at an early stage. According to current evidence, nearly two out of every ten school-going children in India are affected by myopia (short-sightedness). Experts warn that if the current trend continues, one in every two chil-

dren could develop myopia by 2050. Increased screen exposure, reduced outdoor activities, and prolonged near-work are among the major factors contributing to the rapid rise of myopia in children. If left unmanaged, high myopia can significantly increase the risk of serious eye diseases later in life.

As part of the initiative, trained eye care professionals screen school children for common eye disorders, including refractive errors, myopia, amblyopia (lazy eye), squint, and other ocular conditions. Children identified with vision problems are referred for comprehensive eye examinations, including cycloplegic



refraction wherever required. Those needing spectacles are provided with appropriate prescriptions, helping them improve their classroom performance and learning outcomes. Children diagnosed with eye conditions other than refractive errors are referred to ophthalmologists for further evaluation and treatment.

The institute said that early detection and timely intervention play a crucial role in preventing avoidable vision loss and ensuring the healthy development of children. Alongside the screening programme, LVPEI also conducts awareness sessions for teachers and parents, encouraging outdoor activities, reducing unnecessary recreational screen time, and ensuring timely comprehensive eye examinations whenever children experience difficulty in seeing.

Speaking about the initiative, Mr. Soubhik Chel, Consultant Ophthalmist, Myopia Specialist, and Head of the School Vision Screening Programme at LVPEI, Vijayawada,

said many children remain unaware that they have vision problems. Poor vision often results in difficulty reading the blackboard, frequent headaches, and poor academic performance simply because they cannot see clearly. He emphasized that school vision screening plays a vital role in identifying such children early, enabling timely treatment and preventing avoidable vision loss. The School Vision Screening Programme is being organized by L V Prasad Eye Institute with the objective of ensuring early detection of childhood eye disorders, providing timely treatment, and creating awareness about children’s eye health among parents and teachers across Andhra Pradesh.

PV Birth and Death Anniversaries Should Be Officially Observed

PV’s 105th Birth Anniversary Celebrations Held Under GVL’s Chairmanship – MP M. Sribharat Attends as Chief Guest

Visakhapatnam (TSIT): The 105th birth anniversary celebrations of former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna P.V. Narasimha Rao were held grandly in Visakhapatnam on Sunday under the aegis of the P.V. Narasimha Rao Birth Anniversary Committee. The programme was presided over by former Rajya Sabha Member GVL Narasimha Rao, while Visakhapatnam Member of Parliament M. Sribharat attended as the Chief Guest. Visakha South MLA Vamsi Krishna Srinivas, NTR Vaidya Seva Chairman Seethamraju Sudhakar, BJP leader Suhasini Anand, YSR Congress leaders Botsa Jhansi and Dronamraju Srivatsav, former Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to P.V. Narasimha Rao Prasad, and several others participated in the event.

Speaking on the occasion, GVL Narasimha Rao urged the Central and State Governments to officially observe the birth

and death anniversaries of former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao. He described PV as the only Telugu leader to have served as the Prime Minister of India, Chief Minister of the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh, and President of the Indian National Congress. He lauded him as a visionary statesman who transformed the nation’s course through path-breaking economic reforms.

Chief Guest MP M. Sribharat said that the economic reforms initiated by P.V. Narasimha Rao laid a strong foundation for India to emerge as a global economic power. He appealed to Indian intellectuals and professionals who had migrated abroad to return to the country and contribute to its development. He stated that the life of PV, who rose from a humble farming family to become the architect of globally acclaimed economic reforms, should serve as an inspiration to the younger generation.



Former Officer on Special Duty to PV, Prasad, who worked with him for six years, spoke about the late

leader’s simplicity, foresight, and political maturity, recalling how he maintained cordial rela-

tions even with opposition leaders. He also remembered PV as a noble leader who voluntarily donated

his own 80 acres of land to the government.

Addressing the gathering, Vamsi Krishna Srinivas, Seethamraju Sudhakar, Suhasini Anand, Botsa Jhansi, Dronamraju Srivatsav, and others paid rich tributes to P.V. Narasimha Rao for his invaluable services to the nation. They urged the youth to draw inspiration from his life and work towards the development of the country. Earlier, floral tributes were paid to the statue of P.V. Narasimha Rao at the Circuit House Junction in Siripuram by MP M. Sribharat, former MP GVL Narasimha Rao, Gajuwaka MLA Palla Srinivasa Rao, Visakha East MLA V el a g a p u d i Ramakrishna, and others. Representatives of various Brahmin associations, priests, youth organizations, media personnel, and admirers of P.V. Narasimha Rao from across Visakhapatnam participated in large numbers.

PM MODI CONFERRED WITH HONORARY ‘GUARDIAN OF THE BLUE HORIZON’ TITLE BY SEYCHELLES

VICTORIA (SEYCHELLES): (Jun 28) , Jun 28 (PTI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday was conferred with the honorary ‘Guardian of the Blue Horizon’ title by Seychelles for his steadfast commitment to environmental conservation and advancing the aspirations of the Small Island Developing States. President Patrick Herminie presented Modi with the title here, the first such honour bestowed by Seychelles.

PM Modi thanked Seychelles for the honour and dedicated it to the nations which are fighting the challenges of climate change. “Grateful to the people and Government of Seychelles as well as President Herminie for conferring upon me the ‘Guardian of the Blue Horizon’,” PM Modi posted on social media after receiving the honour.

“I humbly accept this honour and dedicate it to all those countries that are fighting the challenge of climate change and consider environmental protection their responsibility towards future generations. This is a pressing challenge which we have to overcome together,” Modi said. PM Modi said India is ready to do whatever is required to make the planet ‘greener and sustainable.”

“This is reflected in our various domestic policies, emphasis on Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) and global efforts like the International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and more,” he said. The prime minister also thanked President



Herminie and the people of Seychelles for the honour in his address to the National Assembly.

"It will encourage all those who are making sustained efforts for environment conservation. I bring with me the warm greetings and best wishes of 1.4 billion people of India," he said. "It stands as a symbol of our nation's deepest respect and recognition for those whose leadership and partnership embodied the spirit of the guardian of our blue horizon," President Herminie said on the occasion.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said that the honour reflects PM Modi's "leadership role in advancing climate action and sustainable development, while also underscoring the growing strength of part-

nership."

"The Presidential Distinction recognises PM's leadership and steadfast commitment to environmental conservation, sustainable development, climate resilience, blue economy and advancing the aspirations of the Small Island Developing States," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) posted on X.

MEA said Mission LiFE, Ek Ped Ma Ke Naam, International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and the International Big Cat Alliance are some of the initiatives taken by PM Modi in this direction.

The recognition is the latest in a series of such honours conferred on PM Modi for promoting sustainable development.

Chandrayaan-3 showcased future of space engineering through resilient design: Expert

Thiruvananthapuram, June 28 (UNI) The successful soft landing of India's lunar mission, Chandrayaan-3 lunar landing, has offered a powerful engineering lesson to the global space community by demonstrating that future spacecraft must be designed not only for reliability but also for resilience, according to engineering physicist and electronics engineer K.S. Manoj. In an article titled “Chandrayaan-3's Greatest Lesson: Engineering for Failure,” Manoj said the mission marked a fundamental shift in engineering philosophy by proving that complex space systems can be designed to withstand failures and still accomplish their primary objectives.He said the approach adopted by the mission has important implications for future lunar, Martian and deep-space exploration programmes.

The author recalled that shortly before the launch of Chandrayaan-3, former S. Somanath, then Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation, had expressed confidence that the Vikram lander had been engineered to tolerate certain failures while still achieving a safe lunar landing. According to Manoj, that assurance reflected a broader evolution in engineering thinking rather than confidence in a single mission.

He noted that Chandrayaan-3 incorporated several improvements over its predecessor, including greater fault tolerance, enhanced guidance and navigation algorithms,



wider operational margins, improved contingency logic and increased capability to function under off-nominal conditions.

Together, these enhancements shifted the design philosophy from merely preventing failures to ensuring systems remain functional even when unexpected events occur.

The article explained that conventional engineering focuses on reliability by attempting to eliminate failures, whereas resilient engineering accepts that failures cannot always be avoided and therefore seeks to ensure that systems continue performing their essential functions safely.

A central principle of this approach, Manoj said, is “graceful degradation”—the ability of a system to continue operating with

reduced capability instead of progressing abruptly to catastrophic failure.

He argued that this philosophy extends far beyond India's lunar programme. As spacecraft become increasingly autonomous, software-driven and technologically complex, complete elimination of failures is neither practical nor economically feasible. Instead, future missions should be designed so that localized anomalies remain isolated and do not escalate into mission-ending failures.

Referring to recent anomalies in international space missions, Manoj said that, without drawing conclusions about individual investigations, several incidents have illustrated how sensor failures, propulsion problems, software faults or communication

disruptions can rapidly result in the loss of entire missions.

These experiences underline the growing importance of graceful degradation, adaptive fault management, operational continuity and effective fault isolation in spacecraft design.While acknowledging that every mission has unique technical circumstances and that no single engineering factor can explain individual failures, he said the broader trend is becoming increasingly evident.

As the complexity and autonomy of modern spacecraft continue to increase, resilience must become a fundamental engineering requirement rather than merely a desirable feature.

The author further observed that the lessons from Chandrayaan-3 are

equally relevant to several critical infrastructure sectors, including electric power grids, aviation, industrial automation, healthcare technologies and autonomous transportation systems.

These sectors face similar challenges arising from digitalisation, increasing complexity and cyber-physical risks, making resilient engineering essential for preventing localized failures from escalating into catastrophic consequences.

Manoj concluded that Chandrayaan-3 may ultimately be remembered not only as the mission that achieved India's first successful soft landing on the Moon, but also as a landmark demonstration of resilient engineering.

The emphasis placed on fault tolerance and graceful degradation under the leadership of S. Somanath, he said, offers an important model for future space programmes around the world.

As humanity prepares for more ambitious lunar missions, human exploration of Mars, reusable launch systems and deep-space exploration, resilience should stand alongside safety, reliability and performance as one of the fundamental principles of engineering design. The future of space exploration, he argued, will belong not merely to spacecraft that perform flawlessly under ideal conditions, but to those capable of adapting, surviving and successfully completing their missions when conditions are far from ideal.

Padma Shri Dr. Vijayananda Reddy felicitated in Mahabubnagar



Mahabubnagar, June 28 (TSIT): Palamuru Reddy Seva Samithi felicitated Padma Shri awardee and renowned oncologist

Dr. Palakonda Vijayananda Reddy at a grand function held in Mahabubnagar on Sunday. Government Whip

and MLA Yennam Srinivas Reddy honoured Dr. Vijayananda Reddy and said the Padma Shri recognition for

his outstanding service to cancer patients was a matter of pride for Mahabubnagar and the Telugu community. He praised the doctor's lifelong dedication to saving lives and inspiring hope among cancer patients.

Expressing gratitude, Dr. Vijayananda Reddy said the affection shown by the people of Mahabubnagar was as meaningful as receiving the national honour. He reaffirmed his commitment to providing quality treatment, guidance and support to cancer patients, especially those from the district.

P.V. Narasimha Rao's 105th birth anniversary observed



Hyderabad, June 28: The 105th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna P.V. Narasimha Rao was observed with solemnity at P.V. Ghat, Necklace Road, on Sunday, with family members, political leaders, journalists, social activists and admirers paying floral tributes.

P.V. Prabhakar Rao, son of the late leader, said the continued respect for P.V. Narasimha Rao reflects his enduring legacy of integrity, national unity

and visionary leadership. He urged the youth to draw inspiration from his contributions to nation-building.

Telangana Youth Journalists Federation (TYJF) President Dr. Jithender Rao Thanugula and several dignitaries also paid homage. Speakers recalled P.V. Narasimha Rao's landmark role in economic liberalisation, governance, education and foreign policy, describing him as one of India's most transformative leaders.

PM Modi urges people to choose clay idols for Ganesh Utsav, support local artisans

New Delhi, June 28 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday urged people across the country to purchase clay Ganesh idols made by Indian artisans ahead of the upcoming Ganesh Utsav, saying the practice would not only help protect the environment but also strengthen the government's ‘Vocal for Local’ initiative by supporting traditional potters and craftsmen.

Addressing the nation during the 135th episode of his monthly radio programme, ‘Mann Ki Baat’, the Prime Minister said many people had written to him requesting that he speak about Ganesh Utsav, even though the festival is still some time away.

“Many people have writ-



ten to me suggesting that I speak about a special topic. This topic relates to ‘Ganesh Utsav’. Although there is still quite some time left for ‘Ganesh Utsav’, people have urged that this subject be discussed right now,” PM Modi said. He noted that preparations for the festival begin several months in advance, particularly for artisans engaged in making Ganesh idols, making it an appropriate time to encourage environmentally friendly practices and support for local craftsmanship.

'You should look at your own history': CM Yogi hits out at Akhilesh Yadav over Ayodhya remarks

Lucknow, June 28 : Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday launched a sharp attack on Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav over his recent remarks on Ayodhya, accusing the opposition leader and his party of having a history of opposing Hindu religious traditions and questioning their commitment to the development of the temple town.

The Chief Minister's comments came a day after Akhilesh Yadav pledged that, if voted to power, his party would develop Ayodhya into a “peerless and inimitable sacred city.”

In a post on X on Saturday, the SP president had said, "With devotion and integrity, we take this pledge that, by forming a new government, we shall develop 'Ayodhya' into a peerless and inimitable sacred city, where devotees from across the world will experience



the unparalleled essence of true spirituality." Responding to the statement while addressing a public gathering in Hathras during the inauguration and foundation stone-laying ceremony of 143 development projects worth Rs 548 crore, CM Yogi questioned the Samajwadi Party's record when it was in power and asserted that Ayodhya has

regained global prominence under the BJP government.

"I am surprised; I was reading a statement by Samajwadi Party President Shri Akhilesh Yadav ji yesterday. He was saying that when his government comes to power, it will make Ayodhya a religious city. What religious city will you make? You should look at your own history. Your own

people fired bullets at Ram devotees. The Samajwadi Party government ordered firing on them," the Chief Minister said.

Referring to the transformation of Ayodhya in recent years, he credited the efforts of Ram devotees and the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for restoring the city's religious and cultural identity. "Today, when Ayodhya, through the hard work and efforts of Ram devotees and under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi ji, is now reminding us of the ‘Treta Yuga’, you are also tempted by the idea,” he said.Continuing his criticism, CM Yogi alleged that the previous Samajwadi Party government had taken steps that were against Hindu religious practices. He claimed that celebrations of Krishna Janmashtami had been stopped in police stations and jails during the SP regime and also accused

the party of imposing restrictions on the Kanwar Yatra.Highlighting the BJP government's initiatives in the field of religious infrastructure, the Chief Minister referred to the renovation of temples in Hathras and contrasted it with the policies of the previous government.

“Today, when our representatives were saying that more than 22 temples were beautified in Hathras, was this possible during the time of the Samajwadi Party? It was not possible during their time because, at that time, this money used to go towards the boundary walls of graveyards, and that is what we have diverted towards temples,” he said. The Chief Minister maintained that Ayodhya's religious character had been further strengthened under the current government and urged opposition leaders to witness the changes for themselves.

BJP workers should work carefully, if they make mistakes, the party will get a bad name - MLA S. Suresh Kumar

Bengaluru: MLA S. Suresh Kumar said that, BJP workers should work carefully. If workers make mistakes, the party will get a bad name. Workers should speak well and do good work. BJP workers should work like servants. As Prime Minister said.

Speaking on the occasion of the 517th anniversary of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda , Dayanandanagar Ward and Bandireddy Circle Ward, he launched a public-friendly website for redressing public grievances,

No Prime Minister in the world speaks to the people of the country every month like Prime Minister Narendra Modi, so he has called has world leader.

For the first time in Bengaluru, a website has been launched for public



issues, and the common people of Dayanandanagar and Bandireddy Circle Wards can raise their problems through mobile phones.

The entire country's voter list is being revised. The opposition parties are spreading misinformation. One should have one vote, one should not have one name in the voter list in many places. BJP workers should perform their duties like soldiers protecting the country, he

said. Central District BJP District President Saptagirigowda said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi responds to the problems of the common man. BJP workers who have taken responsibility, has increased on your shoulders. The work and projects done by the Prime Minister should be delivered by visiting houses. He said that the party can come to power through workers.

EDITORIAL

The Invisible Import In Every Indian Thali

In 2025-26, India spent over US\$ 19 billion on edible oil imports to meet 60% of its demand, making it vulnerable to global price shocks and supply disruption while straining the nation's exchequer of its forex reserves for what it could grow at home.

Austerity reached Indian kitchens, when Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged its citizens to reduce edible oil consumption. The per capita consumption of edible oil stood over glaring 17 kg/year in 2024-25 (marketing year). With a large share of this demand unmet domestically, India's dependence on edible oil imports is nothing less than alarming. The domestic production is mainly concentrated in rapeseed, mustard, and soybean, while the consumption is majorly dominated by palm oil, followed by soybean oil. Since, highly water-intensive palm oil production is not feasible in the short-run, soybean, already produced by Indian farmers across the country should be the focus to bridge this demand-supply gap.India remains the fifth largest producer of soybean oil and the largest importer of soybean oil across the globe. The production of soybean has increased from 85.7 Lakh Tonnes (LT) in 2015-16 to 152.7 LT in 2024-25. While this growth is encouraging, it is not enough for the rapidly expanding consumption demand. India currently imports soybean oil more than 2.5 times of its production, as the existing production only meets around 30% of the domestic consumption. In 2025-26, India witnessed a marked surge in soybean oil imports alongside a decline in domestic production. India primarily imports crude soybean oil from Argentina and Brazil and in just 2025-26 itself, imports increased by 8% and 32%, respectively. Additionally, enabled by duty-free access to Nepal under the SAFTA, India's soybean oil imports from Nepal increased by staggering 147% alone in 2025-26. Further, the domestic outlook is concerning, the second advance estimates released by Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) estimated soybean production to have moderated by 16% to 127.2 LT in 2025-26. Profitability is the primary driver of declining soybean production in India. The Government guarantees minimum prices for soybean, and the Cabinet has approved Minimum Support Price (MSP) for soybean for 2026-27 well in advance, in May, with an increase of ?380 over the previous year and 123% over 2013-14 levels. Thus, pricing per se is not the issue. Rather, the concern lies in the relative uncertainty surrounding the procurement process. The domestic market is frequently flooded with duty-free imports of soybean oil, leading to a decline in market prices below the MSP, thereby preventing farmers from realising an effective price for their produce. Further, the intrinsic characteristic of soybean crop is a cause for concern. Its low productivity due lack of quality seeds remains a persistent challenge. According to ICAR's National Soybean Research Institute, India's average yields is stagnant at around 1,100-1,200 kg per hectare, significantly below the global average of over 2,700 kg per hectare, with considerable regional disparities. Additionally, the crop offers limited resilience, as its photoperiod sensitivity makes it vulnerable to unseasonal weather conditions, which are becoming more frequent due to climate change.

Edit

Ram Mandir Trust Confirms Key Officials' Offer to Resign, Says Won't Let Scandal Repeat

In its first official statement on the Ram Mandir embezzlement case, the temple's trust on Saturday (June 27) confirmed that general secretary Champat Rai and trustee Anil Mishra have tendered their resignations, and said it will "ensure that such unfortunate situations do not arise" again. Rai and Mishra's resignations will be considered at the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust's next meeting, treasurer Govind Dev Giri said, a day after the Uttar Pradesh police arrested eight people in connection with the donations embezzlement case lodged on Thursday, in turn well over two weeks after the allegations first became public. Giri, who said the trust is "shocked, hurt and deeply saddened" by the "events" of the last few weeks, wrote that devotees' gifts such as silver bricks and jewellery are secure and accounted for. "We assure everyone that we will ensure that such unfortunate situations do not arise in the future. We will insist that the perpetrators receive the harshest punishments, as appropriate by law," said Giri, adding that the trust will not let "attempts by anti-social, irreligious and selfish elements to tarnish Sanatan Dharma". A long-time associate of the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP), and of the movement that demolished the Babri Masjid in 1992 and constructed the Ram Mandir in its place, Rai and Mishra had reportedly resigned on Friday but a spokesperson for the VHP called such reports "lies". Neither Rai nor Mishra are named in the FIR in the case, although the former is said to have been involved in overseeing day-to-day affairs at the temple and was reportedly questioned by the special investigation team (SIT) formed on June 13 amid public pressure on the government. A judicial magistrate in Ayodhya said on Friday that the



authorities recovered Rs 79,85,493 from seven of the eight accused, who were all allegedly associated with the process of counting cash and valuables. The SIT found in its interim report – on the basis of which the trust filed a complaint and the police subsequently lodged an FIR – that standard operating procedures relating to pocketless clothes for counting staff, regular frisking and the deployment of security guards that were signed off by Mishra were not followed, PTI reported on Saturday citing a person familiar with the matter. When the allegations broke out earlier this month, Rai had said on behalf of the trust that "nothing noteworthy has come to anyone's attention" in the periodic audits of the trust's work. The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust on Saturday confirmed that it had

received the resignation letters of its General Secretary, Champat Rai, and trustee Anil Mishra amid an ongoing probe into alleged irregularities involving temple donations. The Trust also sought to reassure devotees, saying that all donated silver bricks, ornaments and other offerings made to the Ram Mandir were safe and properly documented. In a press release posted by the Trust, the temple body said it was "shocked, hurt, and deeply saddened by the incidents that have come to light in Shri Ram Temple (Ayodhya) over the past few days". It added that, as "representatives of all devotees of Lord Ram and the volunteers serving here", it was "committed to ensuring a fair investigation and reassuring the devotees." Also Read | Ram Mandir donation row deepens: 8 arrested, ?80 lakh seized, trust members quit

Trust confirms resignation of Champat Rai, Anil Mishra The Trust confirmed that it had received the resignation letter of General Secretary Champat Rai and trustee Anil Mishra. "The Trust has received a resignation letter from Shri Champat Rai, General Secretary of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra (Trust), and from Trustee Shri Anil Mishra. The Trust will consider the matter in its upcoming meeting." Devotees assured by the Trust Assuring devotees about offerings made to the temple, the Trust said, "The Trust assures those devotees who personally handed over silver bricks, ornaments, and other items to the Trust officials as offerings in the service of Lord Shri Ram that these items are safely available along with proper records." On the alleged irregularities involving tem

ple donations, it said, "Regarding the incident related to funds received through the temple donation boxes, based on the interim report submitted by the SIT constituted by the Uttar Pradesh administration at the request of the Trust, the Trust has lodged an FIR and legal proceedings are underway." The Trust also said, "We assure everyone that steps will be taken to ensure that such unfortunate situations do not arise in the future. The guilty will receive strict punishment in accordance with the law and serve as a deterrent." It further asserted that "anti-social, irreligious, and self-serving elements will not be allowed to succeed in their attempts to tarnish Sanatan Dharma" and urged people to protect themselves from "misleading and baseless rumours being spread." "These clouds will pass, the

darkness will recede, the light of truth will prevail, and the powerful stream of devotion to Lord Ram will continue to flow uninterrupted," it concluded. Kejriwal's remarks on resignations AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal reacted to the resignations of Champat Rai and Anil Mishra, alleging that the move was an attempt to shield them amid the ongoing probe into alleged irregularities involving temple donations "Under the guise of resignations, Champat Rai and Anil Mishra are being protected. Resignations alone won't suffice. Hang the donation thieves," Kejriwal said. He also questioned why the accused who were arrested were not taken into police remand for interrogation. "Yesterday, the people who were arrested—their police remand wasn't even taken. No police questioning of them was done.

URBAN BUILDINGS TURNING INTO FIRE TRAPS

— Dr. Satyawan Saurabh

India is today among the world's fastest-growing urbanizing countries. Economic growth, industrialization, the expansion of the service sector, and the continued migration from rural areas to cities have rapidly transformed the face of Indian cities. From metropolises to smaller towns, multi-story buildings, commercial complexes, coaching institutes, hotels, hospitals, and mixed-use buildings have emerged as new symbols of development. But behind this growth lies a serious reality—negligence in urban planning, neglect of safety standards, and administrative laxity. As a result, many urban buildings, while being centers of economic progress, are also becoming potential "fire traps." Fire accidents in various parts of the country in recent years have exposed the magnitude of this crisis. Fires in coaching institutes in Delhi, coaching centers in Surat, hotels in Kolkata, commercial buildings in Hyderabad, hospitals in Mumbai, and numerous markets have plunged hundreds of families into untimely grief. Most incidents revealed similar deficiencies—unauthorized use of buildings, lack of fire safety equipment, blocked or obstructed emergency exits, narrow roads, illegal parking, and gross negligence in enforcing regulations. This clearly indicates that the problem is not limited to a single building, a single city, or a single department, but to our entire urban development model. The number of mixed-use buildings is steadily increasing in

India. It is now common for a single building to have shops on the ground floor, offices on the ground floor, coaching institutes on the upper floor, and residential accommodation on the upper floor. This arrangement may seem economically beneficial, but it poses a significant safety risk. The presence of flammable materials, electrical equipment, gas cylinders, large numbers of people, and limited escape routes in such buildings make a fire devastating. If a building was originally constructed for residential purposes and later converted to commercial activities without structural modifications, the risk increases manifold. Unplanned urbanization is the root cause of this problem. Most Indian cities have expanded without a long-term master plan. Populations have grown, but roads haven't; buildings have grown taller, but fire service capacity hasn't evolved in the same proportion. Fire engines can't even enter many old markets and densely populated areas. In many places, a network of electrical wires, illegal parking, and encroachments make fire control even more difficult. Under such circumstances, even small fires can escalate into major tragedies within minutes. Another important reason for this crisis is policy contradiction. While the government is simplifying the permitting process to promote business through "Ease of Doing Business," it is simultaneously not placing sufficient emphasis on compliance with safety standards. In many states, buildings up to a certain height are exempt from the mandatory Fire No

Objection Certificate (NOC). As a result, thousands of such buildings continue to operate without regular fire safety inspections. Often, building construction permissions are granted for one purpose, but over time, their intended use changes completely. Unfortunately, no robust system has been developed to effectively monitor this change. Lack of administrative coordination also complicates the situation. Building permits are granted by the Municipal Corporation, land use changes are handled by the Development Authority, business licenses are issued by another department, and fire safety is the responsibility of the Fire Department. Lack of proper information sharing between these departments prevents effective compliance with regulations. Often, all formalities are completed at the time of building construction, but subsequent illegal alterations remain unnoticed for years. Corruption and lack of accountability are also significant aspects of this problem. If inspections are limited to paperwork and certificates are issued without actual inspection, regulations become mere formalities. After several accidents, it was revealed that fire extinguishers were installed in buildings, but they were not regularly inspected. In many places, sprinkler systems were not working or emergency exits were locked. This is not just a technical failure, but also an administrative and moral failure. Lack of citizen awareness also contributes to this crisis. Most people do not inspect fire safety systems when buying or

renting a building. Businesses neglect safety equipment to reduce costs. Regular mock drills, disaster management training, and emergency evacuation drills are considered unnecessary. In developed countries, fire safety culture is promoted from the school level. India's disaster management system has strengthened significantly over the past two decades, but prevention of urban disasters like fires still hasn't received the necessary attention. Our agencies perform remarkable work in post-disaster relief and rescue operations, but if equally serious investment is made in prevention and risk reduction, many tragedies can be averted. The fundamental principle of disaster management is that every rupee spent on prevention saves many times the amount spent on relief and rehabilitation. What's needed now is not just punitive action, but comprehensive structural reforms. First, urban planning must be scientific and forward-looking. Land use, population density, road widths, water sources, fire station locations, and emergency access routes should be re-evaluated in each city. Separate safety standards should be set for mixed-use areas, and building approvals should be made in accordance with these standards. Second, the National Building Code and fire safety standards should be enforced with uniform, rigorous compliance across the country. Safety standards should be based on the number of occupants, the nature of the activity, and the fire risk, rather than the height of the building.

Are Prime Minister Modi's Foreign Visits Economically Beneficial for India?

Saurabh Varshney

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's foreign visits have not merely been formal diplomatic engagements; rather, they have served to elevate India's global identity, economic interests, and strategic influence to new heights. Since assuming office in 2014 and up to June 2026, Prime Minister Modi has undertaken approximately 100 foreign trips, visiting 78 countries. This figure itself stands as a testament to the fact that India has established an active presence on the global stage over the past decade. For the last ten years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's foreign visits have remained central to Indian politics and diplomacy. While supporters view these trips as symbols of India's rising global stature, critics often regard them as exercises in high-profile publicity and costly diplomacy. In this context, it is natural to ask: has India truly derived tangible benefits from these visits? India's foreign policy today is no longer confined to border security; it has evolved into a vehicle for advancing trade, investment, energy security, technology, defense cooperation, and global influence. During his tenure, Prime Minister Modi has endeavored to steer relations with the US, Europe, Gulf nations, Africa, and countries in the Indian Ocean region in a new direction. His recent visit to Seychelles—a beautiful island nation in the Indian Ocean—is also considered significant for strengthening maritime security, the 'Blue Economy,' and India's strategic role in the region. The

most substantial benefits of these visits are evident in the economic sphere. Increased engagement with global companies has attracted investment into India, opening up new opportunities in sectors such as the digital economy, semiconductors, artificial intelligence, and manufacturing. In recent years, numerous global companies have announced major investments in India, which is expected to boost employment and industrial growth. From a strategic perspective, too, India's position has strengthened compared to the past. India is reinforcing its presence in the Indian Ocean region and enhancing defense and maritime cooperation with small island nations. The handing over of an Indian-made patrol vessel to Seychelles is part of this policy. India's acceptance on international platforms has also grown. Many nations have supported India's global role, and it is increasingly viewed as an emerging superpower. India's bid for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council is also garnering support from various countries. However, the success of foreign visits cannot be measured solely by the number of welcome ceremonies and agreements signed. It is equally important to assess how many agreements are actually implemented on the ground, the volume of investment that truly materializes, and the extent to which the common citizen benefits. In some instances, India continues to face trade disputes, global tensions, and geopolitical challenges. In the modern world order, active diploma-

cy is essential for any emerging power. Prime Minister Modi's foreign visits have strengthened India's international standing, forged new partnerships, and sought to secure a more influential position for the country in global decision-making processes. Yet, the true yardstick for the success of these visits will be the extent to which they bring about positive, transformative changes in the nation's economy, employment, security, and the lives of ordinary citizens. The ultimate objective of foreign policy should be the fulfillment of national interests. If foreign visits yield benefits for India in terms of investment, technology, energy security, and strategic strength, they should be viewed not merely through a political lens but as part of a broader strategy for national development. India's expanding global role will hinge on this kind of balanced and result-oriented diplomacy. In Focus Visit to Seychelles: A New Direction for Cooperation and Strategic Partnership in the Indian Ocean Relations between India and Seychelles are not limited to diplomatic formalities; rather, they are rooted in shared maritime interests, security cooperation, and common aspirations for development. The visit to Seychelles will not only elevate bilateral ties to new heights but also reinforce the shared goal of peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indian Ocean region. Today, the Indian Ocean has emerged as a pivotal hub for global trade, energy supplies, and strategic competition. A significant portion of global trade trav-

erses these maritime routes; consequently, the security and stability of this region are vital not only for the littoral states but for the entire global economy. Despite being a small island nation geographically, Seychelles holds a position of immense importance in the Indian Ocean's maritime security architecture. India has consistently prioritized cooperation, trust, and shared development in the Indian Ocean region through its 'SAGAR' policy—Security and Growth for All in the Region. Under this policy, India has steadily cultivated partnerships with Seychelles in areas such as defense, maritime surveillance, coast guard cooperation, capacity building, and disaster management. Cooperation between the two nations has also proven crucial in combating piracy, illegal fishing, smuggling, and other maritime crimes. The visit to Seychelles signifies that India views its relations with neighboring and friendly nations not merely through a strategic lens but also recognizes them as trusted partners in development. There is immense potential for cooperation in sectors such as health, education, digital connectivity, renewable energy, and the 'Blue Economy.' Particularly in the realm of the Blue Economy, both nations can play a significant role in promoting the sustainable use of marine resources and environmental conservation. At a time when the activity of global powers is intensifying in the Indian Ocean region, the strengthening ties between India and Seychelles are essential for regional balance and collective security.

Our aim is to solve Bengaluru's traffic congestion: CM D K Shivakumar

CM LAYS THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE TOLL-FREE HEBBAL TWIN THREE-LANE TUNNEL ROAD

Bengaluru : Expressing satisfaction that the new infrastructure efforts have succeeded in reducing traffic congestion at Hebbal, Chief Minister D K Shivakumar said his aim was to solve Bengaluru's traffic congestion in the city. "Hebbal has become like a hebbagilu (grand gateway) to Bengaluru. We have provided some relief to the traffic congestion in the Hebbal area. Our aim is to solve Bengaluru's traffic congestion in the coming days," the CM said after laying the foundation stone for the construction of a tunnel road from Mekhri Circle to Hebbal junction.

"This is a 2.5-kilometre-long cut-and-cover tunnel. It will be toll-free. Bangalore Development Authority has itself taken up this project using its own resources and funds. We are working with great enthusiasm to bring change to people's lives. We are drawing up plans for the next 50 years," he said.

When you get the opportunity, you must do work for the people
"When you get the opportunity, you must do work for the people. None of us can remain forever. Kempegowda is no more,



but his works remain. A ten-lane road has been inaugurated in the name of S.M. Krishna," he said.

People's time must be saved
"A proposal has been submitted for a 17-km-long tunnel project from Hebbal to the Silk Institute. The project will be completed in three to four years. Those who want to pay and travel on the tunnel road will do so. This will save people's time. Saving people's time is important. People should be able to finish work by 5-6 in the

evening and reach home. We are doing whatever needs to be done to help with this," he said.
The more they criticise, the more careful we must be
"The moment I became Chief Minister, the Leader of the Opposition alleged that I had taken 10 thousand crore in bribes. The tender hasn't even been called yet, no decision has been made on anything. The machinery may cost 4000 to 5000 crore, but they criticised it as 10 thousand crore. To store 10 thousand

crore, you'd probably need 20 large sheds," the Chief Minister quipped.
It won't work if they criticise me the way they criticise others
"Those now in the Opposition didn't do a single piece of work. They are criticising D K Shivakumar and the Congress government the way they would criticise someone else. None of this will work. Let them protest, let them do whatever they want—and if they offer guidance along with it, I will listen," he said.
They did not do work when they had an opportunity
"They didn't do work when they had the opportunity. Now the people have given us 136 seats. With the opportunity we have been given, we are serving the people of this state and of Bengaluru. We have drawn up a 1.50 lakh crore plan for Bengaluru's development. Under the leadership of Krishna Byre Gowda, work is being done effectively to protect people's records and properties. Property records will be given to 30-40 lakh families under his leadership," he said.
"Some people criticise, but our works will endure. When the 19th gate of the

Tungabhadra dam broke away, there was plenty of criticism. I went there that very night and we took immediate action. Afterwards, a decision was made to replace all the gates," he said.
"Indira Gandhi had brought together the Chief Ministers of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to make an agreement on the Cauvery water issue. Similarly, regarding our share of 33 TMC of Tungabhadra water, the Chief Ministers of three states have decided, under the leadership of the Union Jal Shakti Minister, to come together and frame a model programme to declare the Tungabhadra and Godavari-Cauvery river-linking project as a national project. Whatever criticisms the opposition has made have died out," he said.
"On Saturday we celebrated Kempegowda Jayanti. Through the Green Bengaluru programme, we planted 15 lakh saplings and worked to save the environment. This has turned into a Guinness record. This is not my achievement alone. It is the achievement of all the ministers of the government, the public, students, and associations and institutions. My salutations to everyone," he said.

Love 2 Lassi Motion Poster and Song Release

Bengaluru (TSIT) The song and motion poster of Love 2 Lassi, produced by RKB Films' Bharathi Srinivas Raj and directed by Haripran, have been released.
Director Haripran has experience of working in about 18 movies. It has been shot in Puttur and Sullia. Jeevitha and Aryan are seen in the lead roles. Jagan, Tara, Vaishnavi and many others are in the star cast.

After releasing the song, Orat Sri spoke and said, "A new team. We

guages. The title of this movie is very good. I wish that new talents should come to the industry.
Director Haripran said, this movie is a true love story. You have made a movie with a Puttur girl and a Bangalore boy. This is not a cafe story. We have made this real love story with the permission of the girl. It is an incident that happened in 2006-7. It is a tragic love story. I really like writing songs and stories, he said.

Music director Vinu



too have faced all that. The director's first movie is like SSLC. Good luck to all the technicians."
Saptagiri Gowda spoke and said, "This is my first experience. Love to Lassi has been given a good title by adding two sweet words." I have watched many lan-

Manasu said, there are four songs in the movie. The whole movie is good. You all should listen and enjoy it, he said.
The heroine of the movie, Jeevitha, said, the story of the movie was very good while shooting. Now when I watch the songs, it looks amazing.

TRAILER RELEASE OF THE MOVIE 'APARADHI NAANALLA'.
RELEASE ON JULY 3



Bengaluru (TSIT) Three prisoners are in jail. How do they get out? The trailer of the movie has been released now, and some exciting ideas revolve around a murder. Ajith Chauta is producing the movie under the banner of Anugraha Films under the banner of SLV Colors and directed by Yashant Kalladka. Vikram Devadiga and Sandeep Shetty are the executive producers.

Director Yashant Kalladka, you have made a good movie. Why is the title Kannavi Naanalla? There are so many people in jail. But so many people are not criminals. We have taken a true incident and added some spice to it. I have been in this field for 20 years. Now this is my first movie under my direction. Actor Arjun Dev said, I am not a criminal. If I talk too much about the movie, Yashant will become a criminal. May Yashant Kalladka get success through this movie. May everyone's blessings be on the movie. Heroine Amrutha Murthy said, I am not a criminal, the movie was made by newcomers. The happy thing is about Arjun Kapikad. When I worked with him, I didn't know anything about him.

Bangalore Development Authority Creates Guinness World Record with Historic Plantation of 15 Lakh Native Saplings in a Single Day

Bengaluru : In a landmark achievement for environmental conservation and sustainable urban development, the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), under the Government of Karnataka, has created a Guinness World Record by planting 15 lakh native saplings in a single day, making it one of the largest coordinated urban green initiatives ever undertaken. The historic and landmark achievement was done for most plants planted by a team in 12 hours (Multiple Venues).
The award was received by D K Shivakumar, Chief Minister and N A Haris, Chairman, Bangalore Development Authority and MLA, Shanthi Nagar Assembly Constituency from Rishi Nath, Adjudicator, Guinness Book of Records, in the presence of Krishna Byre Gowda, Minister for Bengaluru Development and MLA, Byatarayanapura Assembly Constituency, K J George, Minister for Tourism and Energy, Government of Karnataka and MLA, Sarvagna Nagar Assembly Constituency.

Held on the occasion of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Jayanti, the unprecedented green mission witnessed overwhelming participation from citizens, government departments, educational institutions, resident welfare associations, corporates,

NGOs, environmental groups and thousands of volunteers who came together with a shared commitment to restoring Bengaluru's green legacy.
The plantation drive covered major BDA-developed areas including Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout, Banashankari 6th Stage, Shivarama Karanth Layout, Oxygen Tree Parks, Miyawaki forest zones and other identified green spaces, with scientifically selected native species planted to strengthen the city's ecological resilience.
The initiative forms part of the Bengaluru Urban Ecological Restoration Mission 2026-30, reflecting BDA's long-term commitment to expanding urban green cover, enhancing biodiversity, improving air quality and building climate-resilient neighbourhoods. Speaking on the occasion, N. A. Haris, Chairman, Bangalore Development Authority, said, "This Guinness World Record belongs to every citizen of Bengaluru who believed that environmental stewardship begins with collective action. Planting 15 lakh native saplings in a single day is not merely a record—it is a commitment to future generations. BDA remains dedicated to creating a greener, healthier and more sustainable Bengaluru where development and nature grow together."

If any pan masala or contain the slightest intoxicating substance, we will ban them: Chief Minister D K Shivakumar's issues stern warning

Bengaluru : Chief Minister D K Shivakumar issued a stern warning that the state government would ban sale of pan masala and gutka if they contain any banned intoxicating substances. Speaking at the 31st Foundation Day celebration of the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) and 'Drug-Free India Conclave' held at Kanteerava Stadium, the CM said, "It has come to my attention that intoxicating substances are being mixed into pan masala, gutka, areca nut and other such products before being sold, engineered to give a drug-like 'high'. If this is indeed true and is not stopped immediately, the sale of all types of pan masala, gutka and chewing tobacco products will be banned in Karnataka," he warned.
Drug menace needs border-level action
The CM used a "tap and bucket" analogy to under-



line that local enforcement alone not be enough to stop drug menace. He noted that while Karnataka established a dedicated Anti-Narcotic Task Force (ANTF) in 2025 to hunt down trafficking networks, such efforts cannot

emphasizing that a drug-free Bharat is impossible without impenetrable border security.
Our goal is to build a drug-free Karnataka
"Building a drug-free Karnataka is our goal. We are organizing programmes for this purpose. I welcome the fact that all of you have come together today to hold this Drug-Free India gathering. You are all ambassadors of this cause. Preventing drug addiction is a major challenge, and let us all unite to ensure that the younger generation does not fall into the trap of this addiction. This is everyone's duty. You have chosen a profession of saving lives, and I congratulate you for it," he said.
A blunt warning to medical students: one conviction can end a career
The Chief Minister also delivered a blunt reality check to the medical and paramedical students of

RGUHS, which he proudly described as the country's largest health sciences university. He warned that a single drug conviction under the NDPS Act would instantly end a medical career before it even begins. "A drug conviction under the NDPS Act can mean arrest, a permanent criminal record, and the end of a medical or professional career before it begins. No license, no registration, no practice," he said, reminding students that a dream built over a decade can collapse in a single moment of recklessness.
Urging the youth to handle the crisis with an iron fist, Shivakumar called on the students to master the power of the "first refusal" when facing peer pressure, advising them to decide their answer before the moment arrives. "Drugs take you to hell, disguised as heaven. Be careful of momentary joy," he said.

Saanvi Lalwani Set to Enthrall Audiences with Bharatanatyam Arangetram Nruthyasammohana'

Bengaluru (TSIT): Natanam Institute of Dance is proud to present "Nruthyasammohana", the Bharatanatyam Arangetram of Kum. Saanvi Lalwani, daughter of Smt. Pratibha Lalwani and Sheetal Lalwani, on Saturday, 4 July 2026, at Bangalore Gayana Samaja, near Makkala Koota, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru.
A dedicated disciple of Guru Acharya Dr. Raksha Karthik, Director of Natanam Institute of Dance, Saanvi's Arangetram marks a significant milestone in her artistic journey. Her debut performance is the culmination of years of rigorous training, unwavering discipline, and deep commitment to the rich traditions of Bharatanatyam.
A Grade II student at National Public School, Saanvi will present a thoughtfully curated repertoire that highlights the grace, depth, and expressive power of Bharatanatyam. The recital will feature traditional compositions set to a variety of ragas and talas,



including works by revered composers such as Saint Thyagaraja, Purandara Dasa, Sri Andal, Muthiah Bhagavathar, Oothukadu Venkata Kavi, and others.
Through this special presentation, Saanvi will showcase the technical finesse, rhythmic precision, and emotive storytelling that are hallmarks of one of India's most celebrated classical dance traditions. The Arangetram signifies not only her readiness as a solo performer, but also her passion, perseverance, and devotion to the performing arts. The evening will be graced by eminent personalities, including Prof. S. Sadagopan, Founder Director, IIIT Bangalore, and Chairman, Higher Education Vision Group, Government of Karnataka, as the Chief Guest. Guests of Honour include Dr. M.R.V. Prasad, President, Bangalore Gayana Samaja; Mrs. Jyotsna Nair, Principal, NPS Koramangala; and Mr. Vimal Kumar, CEO, Juspay.

Trust, Transparency, and Sustainability: The Three Pillars Shaping Modern Land Investments

Bengaluru: For many Indian families, buying land is more than a financial decision. It is often tied to aspirations of security, legacy and long-term wealth creation. Yet, in rapidly expanding urban markets like Bengaluru, the excitement around land ownership is frequently accompanied by uncertainty around legal clarity, project credibility and execution timelines. Having spent over 18 years in Bengaluru's real estate ecosystem, from working closely with buyers as a channel partner to contributing to the delivery of more than 400 residential units, I have seen firsthand how trust continues to remain one of the biggest deciding factors in land investments. Today, as buyer awareness evolves, the criteria for a prime investment have undergone a fundamental shift. While location remains a classic mantra, a new triad has emerged as the true driver of long-term value: Trust, Transparency and Sustainability.
Trust Begins Long Before a Project Launches
In real estate, credibility is established much before development activity begins on-site.



It starts with land identification, legal due diligence, title verification and regulatory approvals.
However, the industry has long been driven by a launch first and approve later approach, where projects are marketed aggressively even before critical approvals are secured. While this may accelerate short-term sales, it often transfers uncertainty and risk to the buyer. Modern land investments require a different mindset, one where compliance is treated as the foundation of development rather than an afterthought.
A compliance-first approach ensures that legal verification, ownership clarity, and statutory approvals are completed before customer engagement begins. When buyers know that

a project is backed by clear documentation and regulatory discipline, confidence naturally replaces hesitation.
In today's market, trust is no longer built through marketing claims alone. It is built through process, patience, and accountability.
Transparency Is Defined by Execution
Transparency in land development goes beyond brochures and promises. Buyers today are looking for visible execution and infrastructure readiness.
The shift is gradually moving away from speculative launches towards developments that are already equipped with core infrastructure such as asphalted roads, underground electrical systems, drainage networks, and digital connectivity. This evolution is important because infrastructure readiness reflects a developer's seriousness towards timely execution and long-term planning. Construction-ready developments also create greater clarity for buyers. Instead of waiting indefinitely for basic groundwork, plot owners can begin planning and building

with greater confidence and predictability. For developers, transparency is ultimately demonstrated not through words, but through preparedness.
Sustainability Is Becoming a Core Investment Metric
Another major shift shaping modern land investments is the growing importance of sustainability. For years, sustainability was often treated as an optional feature or marketing addition. Today, it is becoming central to how buyers evaluate long-term livability and asset quality. As cities expand outward and urban density increases, low-density developments with integrated green planning are becoming significantly more valuable. Open spaces, native landscaping, water-sensitive planning, and ecological balance are no longer niche considerations, they are emerging as essential components of responsible development. Thoughtful land planning now includes integrated rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge systems, efficient waste management practices and plantation strategies aligned with local climatic conditions.

TVK govt blaming DMK for every issue, says Udhayanidhi; alleges decline in Assembly standards

CHENNAI (TSIT): Leader of the Opposition Udhayanidhi Stalin on Sunday accused the ruling TVK government of lowering the standards of the State Assembly and deflecting criticism by attributing every issue to the DMK, while alleging that the State was facing multiple governance challenges.

Speaking at the wedding ceremony of a DMK functionary's family in Orathanadu in Thanjavur district, Udhayanidhi said the government's public image had weakened within weeks of assuming office as people were beginning to question its performance. He alleged that young people had started raising questions over the government's decisions and claimed that DMK cadre and others criticising the administration were being arrested.

"The government came to power claiming to represent clean governance. Within minutes, it resorted to horse-trading to secure power," he alleged.



Referring to the situation in the agriculture sector, Udhayanidhi claimed that recurring power outages had affected farmers across the State. He said farmers had staged protests, contending that the government's special package for the Kuruvai cultivation season was inadequate. When the issue was raised in the Assembly, he said, the Chief Minister attributed the protests to the DMK instead of addressing the concerns. The Opposition leader also alleged that law and order had deteriorated and said the government had failed to respond to issues raised by the Opposition in the

Assembly. "People who watched the proceedings on television were left wondering whether it was the Legislative Assembly, a cinema hall or a film shooting spot," he said, accusing the ruling party of reducing the dignity of the House.

Claiming that the government had a 'ready answer' of blaming the DMK for every issue, Udhayanidhi said the State was passing through a difficult phase. He urged party workers to remain united and work together to restore Tamil Nadu and strengthen the party's outreach among the public in the coming months.

DMDK: Karnataka producer as Delhi rep risky for TN

CHENNAI: DMDK general secretary Premallatha Vijayakant on Saturday questioned the CM Vijay-led government's rationale behind appointing a Karnataka-based film producer, who also produced the TVK chief's latest flick Jana Nayagan, as Tamil Nadu's representative in Delhi, at a time when the State continues to wage battle against the neighbouring state from building a dam at Mekedatu.

She urged the State government to withdraw the appointment, taking into consideration the interests of Tamil Nadu. The appointment's threat is bigger at a time when Karnataka has reiterated its resolve to proceed with the Mekedatu project despite Tamil Nadu's opposition, she said in a statement. She referred to remarks by Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and the state's Water Resources Minister that the dam would be built within Karnataka's territory and could not be prevented at any cost.



"The appointment has raised several questions among the people," she added. When there are many qualified persons from Tamil Nadu, the government should explain how a person with a Karnataka link and the CM's film production was chosen, she asked.

Premallatha underscored the seriousness of the long-standing Cauvery water dispute between the two states and noted that Tamil Nadu has taken all legal and administrative measures to protect its share of the river water, hinting at the risk of losing the gains made so far. She pointed out that the Supreme Court and insti-

tutions established to oversee the implementation of the Cauvery water-sharing mechanism have already issued directions on the issue, pressing for the protection of the gains.

The Vriddhachalam MLA said the government should nominate a representative who can effectively safeguard Tamil Nadu's interests in matters related to the Cauvery water dispute and the proposed Mekedatu dam project, rather than appointing someone associated with his film production. She also called on the government to act in a manner that would reinforce the State's stand on protecting its rights over the Cauvery waters.

Nagapattinam international port to get duty free shops as India-Sri Lanka ferry traffic booms

CHENNAI (TSIT):

The international passenger terminal at Nagapattinam Port, which anchors the passenger ferry service between India and Sri Lanka, is set to undergo a major upgrade. In a first for the port, the Tamil Nadu government has decided to establish duty-free retail shops to bring the terminal on par with standard international maritime and aviation hubs worldwide.

The terminal, developed by the Tamil Nadu Maritime Board (TNMB) to boost maritime connectivity, facilitates ferry services between Nagapattinam and Kankesanthurai near Jaffna in Sri Lanka's northern province.

Since its launch in August 2024, the route has emerged as a vital transit link for tourists, pilgrims, business travelers, and members of the Indian and Sri Lankan diaspora. Supported by dedicated Customs, Immigration, Port Health, and Security facilities, the ferry service currently operates on a



regular schedule with a capacity of 150 passengers per voyage.

According to a senior official, the route has witnessed encouraging patronage, already carrying more than 25,000 passengers since its inception. "The steady growth in passenger traffic reflects the increasing acceptance and importance of maritime connectivity between India and Sri Lanka," the official said, adding, "this indicates significant potential for passenger-oriented commercial services within the international terminal."

As traffic continues to scale, authorities emphasised the need to enhance the overall travel experience by introducing premium passenger amenities, retail options, and value-added services.

AIADMK chief demands probe into assistant professor exam results, cites mass irregularities



CHENNAI: AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami on Sunday (June 28) urged the state government to launch an independent and thorough investigation into the recently

announced assistant professor recruitment examination results, alleging widespread irregularities and arbitrary evaluation in the descriptive paper.

The Teachers Recruitment Board (TRB) has released the written exam results on June 25, 2026 for filling 2,708 assistant professor vacancies in government arts and science colleges, a recruitment drive held last December after a gap of nearly 25 years.

CM Vijay to decide on action over DMK regime after review, says TN Minister Marie Wilson

CHENNAI: State Minister for Finance N Marie Wilson on Sunday said the State government was taking steps to plug revenue leakages as part of its efforts to improve the State's finances, and that Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay would decide on action over alleged corruption and irregularities during the previous DMK regime after completing a review.

Talking to reporters in Kumbakonam, Marie Wilson said revenue had witnessed a decline due to



leakages and the government was working to address them. "If these leakages are plugged, the financial position will improve. The Chief Minister is reviewing the alleged corruption and irregularities that took place during the previous DMK regime.

Based on that review, he will decide on the action to be taken. Details will be made known soon," he said. On the conduct of the Mahamaham festival in 2028, Wilson said Agriculture Minister Vinoth would place the proposal before the Chief Minister, who would take a decision on the request. Earlier, Wilson and Vinoth visited the Basilica of Our Lady of Lourdes in Kumbakonam, where they offered prayers and lit candles. They later visited the Adi Kumbeswarar Temple and offered prayers.

CM within rights on policy decision: KAS

ERODE: Revenue and Disaster Management Minister KA Sengottaiyan on Saturday defended the appointment of K Venkata Narayana as the State government's special representative in New Delhi, saying there was nothing wrong with the decision. TVK govt blaming DMK for every issue, says Udhayanidhi; alleges decline in Assembly standards Speaking to reporters in Gobichettipalayam, Sengottaiyan said that appointing government representatives was a policy decision. "Everyone in



India has an equal right to that. Therefore, there is nothing wrong with the

appointment," he added. He said all those named by the CM will work for TN.

Osteoarthritis increasingly affecting people in their 30s, says study

Osteoarthritis (OA), traditionally regarded as an age-related wear-and-tear condition, is increasingly being diagnosed among younger adults, with cases now being reported in people as young as 30 years, according to a review published in the journal International Orthopaedics.

The review, published on May 15, challenges the conventional understanding of osteoarthritis, describing it as a heterogeneous syndrome driven by a combination of biological, biomechanical, metabolic, genetic and molecular factors rather than a single disease. Researchers said the findings underscore why the traditional "one-size-fits-all" treatment approach often falls short, as patients may have different underlying disease mechanisms.

Globally, more than 500 million people are living with osteoarthritis, representing 7.6 per cent of the world's population. According to Global Burden of Disease estimates, the prevalence of the condition has increased by 132 per cent over the past three decades and is expected to rise by a further 60 per cent by 2050. Women, people with obesity and individuals with joint injuries remain among the most vulnerable groups.

"Osteoarthritis is no longer confined to the elderly. We are now seeing patients as young as 30, often driven by obesity and sedentary lifestyles," said Dr Raju Vaishya, Senior Consultant Orthopaedic and Joint Replacement Surgeon at



"Osteoarthritis is no longer confined to the elderly. We are now seeing patients as young as 30, often driven by obesity and sedentary lifestyles," said Dr Raju Vaishya, Senior Consultant Orthopaedic and Joint Replacement Surgeon at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals.

Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals.

He added that recognising specific disease phenotypes in individual patients could pave the way for more personalised and effective treatment strategies.

The review identified six distinct osteoarthritis subtypes, including inflammatory, metabolic and pain-sensitisation variants, and recommended the use of MRI-based diagnostic tools and biomarker panels to guide treatment decisions.

Researchers cited a case involving a 33-year-old IT professional suffering from persistent knee pain. Investigations revealed vitamin D deficiency, elevated

body mass index and early joint degeneration. After being diagnosed with metabolic osteoarthritis, the patient reportedly showed significant improvement through weight management, vitamin supplementation and structured exercise. In another example, a 60-year-old woman with severe burning knee pain and sleep disturbances experienced little relief from conventional medication. Further evaluation identified a pain-sensitisation phenotype, and treatment with neuromodulators targeting nerve pain pathways led to substantial improvement.

The review also highlighted several MRI-based structural phenotypes, including inflammatory, meniscus-cartilage, subchondral bone, atrophic and hypertrophic forms, along with molecular endotypes linked to tissue turnover, structural damage and systemic inflammation.

According to the researchers, combining these imaging techniques with biomarkers such as COMP, CTX-II and hsCRP could help clinicians make more accurate and personalised treatment decisions. The study further noted that emerging technologies, including AI-assisted MRI analysis and PET-MRI imaging using 18F-NaF, are showing promise in detecting osteoarthritis at earlier stages. However, broader clinical adoption will require standardised protocols, validation across different joints and large-scale clinical trials, the authors said.

Study links bipolar disorder to early death more than smoking

Having bipolar disorder -- a serious mental illness that can cause both manic and depressed moods -- increases the risk of dying early, more than smoking. Researchers from the University of Michigan in the US analysed how large the risk of death among people with bipolar disorder -- who smoked and those who had never smoked. The results, published in the journal Psychiatry Research, showed that people with bipolar disorder were four to six times more likely as people without the condition to die prematurely, the study finds. By contrast, people who smoked were about twice as likely to die prematurely than those who had never smoked -- whether or not they had bipolar disorder. The stark difference in mortality, and the differences in health and lifestyle that likely contributed to it, should prompt more efforts at preventing early deaths, the researchers said. Bipolar disorder has long been seen as a risk factor for mortality, but always through a lens of other common causes of death," said lead author Anastasia Yocum, from the varsity. We wanted to look at it by itself in comparison with conditions and lifestyle behaviours that are also linked to higher rates of premature death. "The team started by looking at deaths and related factors among 1,128 people with and without bipolar disorder. They found that all but 2 of the 56 deaths since the study began in 2006 were from the group of 847 people in the study who had bipolar disorder. The researchers then turned to another source of data to see if they could find the same effect. They analysed anonymous patient records from more than 18,000 people. Among these, people with bipolar disorder were four times as likely to die than those with no record of bipolar disorder. The team also studied records from more than 10,700 people with bipolar disorder and a comparison group of just over 7,800 people without any psychiatric disorder. The only factor associated with an even higher chance of dying during the study period in this pool of people was high blood pressure. Those who had hypertension were five times more likely to die than those with normal blood pressure, no matter whether they had bipolar disorder or not. By contrast, smokers were twice as likely to die as never-smokers in this sample, and those over age 60 were three times as likely to die, both regardless of bipolar status. To our major surprise, in both samples we found that having bipolar disorder is far more of a risk for premature death than smoking," said McInnis, a professor of psychiatry at the varsity's Medical School. He hopes the findings will spur more action in the medical and public health communities to address the many factors that contribute to this extra-high risk of death in people with bipolar disorder.

Nifty Bulls Eye 24,200 Breakout To Maintain Positive Momentum

The equity benchmarks have had a rather choppy ride in the last week, even as Nifty ended the previous session with gains. Going ahead, analysts expect the short-term trend to remain positive, though some consolidation might happen. "The near-term trend of Nifty remains positive amidst broader range movement. Having failed to surpass the crucial overhead resistance of 24200, one may expect further consolidation or minor dip by next week," said Nagaraj Shetti, Senior Technical research analyst at HDFC Securities. Accordingly, immediate resistance for the index is steady at 24,200, whereas on the flipside, immediate support is placed at 23,800. "A sustainable move above 24,200 could open more upside in the near term," Shetti underlined. Technically, the market has formed a range-bound pattern, as per Amol



Athawale, vice president of technical research at Kotak Securities, who added that a successful breakout of 24,200 could push the market towards 24,400. The Nifty seems to have sideways to bullish overall bias with support at 23,900-23,800 levels on the downside, as per Hitesh Tailor, research analyst at Choice Broking. "A breakdown below the 23,800 zone may invite renewed selling pressure and weaken the

current technical structure." Tailor recommended to traders to adopt a cautious stock-specific approach going into Monday's trade. "Considering the prevailing setup, traders are advised to maintain a stock-specific approach while following strict risk management amid continued market consolidation," the analyst said. Nifty Bank The Bank Nifty index is also expected to continue

its upmove as the broader trend remains constructive after the index recently gave a consolidation breakout and continues to trade above its key short and long-term moving averages, as per Sudeep Shah, head of technical and derivatives research at SBI Securities. Therefore, support zones are at 57,800 and 57,500. Above these levels, the rally could continue towards 58,700-59,000. Conversely, below 57,500, the uptrend would become vulnerable. Market Recap The benchmarks posted their third straight weekly gain, the longest such streak since the first week of December and in nearly seven months. The NSE Nifty 50 and the BSE Sensex gained 0.1 and 0.4% respectively during the week. On Thursday, Nifty 50 ended 34.35 points, or 0.14%, higher at 24,056, while the Sensex gained 109.25 points, or 0.14%, to close at 77,100.47.

MCAP OF 6 OF TOP-10 MOST VALUED FIRMS CLIMBS RS 88,678 CR

New Delhi: The combined market valuation of 6 of the top-10 most valued companies went up by Rs 88,678.1 crore in a holiday-shortened last week, with ICICI Bank emerging as the biggest winner. Last week, the BSE benchmark Sensex climbed 297.57 points, or 0.38 per cent, and the NSE Nifty went up by 42.9 points, or 0.17 per cent. "Markets ended the holiday-shortened week with modest gains, advancing in three of the four trading sessions. Sentiment remained constructive, supported by easing crude oil prices, improving geopolitical developments in West Asia, and selective buying by foreign institutional investors (FIIs)," Ajit Mishra, SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said. While Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, Bajaj Finance and Larsen &



Toubr were the gainers, Bharti Airtel, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and Hindustan Unilever faced erosion from their valuation. The market valuation of ICICI Bank jumped Rs 29,588.75 crore to reach Rs 9,95,610.74 crore, the most among the top-10 firms. HDFC Bank added Rs 24,718.3 crore, taking its valuation to Rs 12,25,981.44 crore. The valuation of Reliance Industries surged Rs

12,043.96 crore to Rs 17,83,926.92 crore and that of Bajaj Finance climbed Rs 11,580.28 crore to Rs 6,10,081.53 crore. The market capitalisation (mcap) of State Bank of India rallied Rs 9,322.93 crore to Rs 9,64,738 crore, and that of Larsen & Toubr edged higher by Rs 1,423.88 crore to Rs 5,80,550.83 crore. However, the mcap of Bharti Airtel tumbled Rs 35,615.21 crore to Rs 11,27,348.09 crore. The valuation of LIC eroded by Rs 21,188.74 crore to Rs

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5,35,537.56 crore, and that of TCS declined by Rs 11,143.71 crore to Rs 7,58,206.42 crore. The mcap of Hindustan Unilever dipped by Rs 5,321.83 crore to Rs 5,10,624.92 crore. In the ranking of the top-10 most valued firms, Reliance Industries retained the number one rank, followed by HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, TCS, Bajaj Finance, Larsen & Toubr, LIC and Hindustan Unilever.

Gold, Silver Likely To Stay Under Pressure This Week As Dollar Strength, Iran Crisis Weigh: Analysts

Bullion prices are expected to remain weak in the coming week as markets continue to weigh the fallout from renewed US-Iran hostilities, crude oil price swings and a heavy lineup of global economic data. Investors will be tracking manufacturing and services PMI readings from major economies, Eurozone inflation numbers, and the US nonfarm payrolls and unemployment data this week for signals on where the Federal Reserve's policy stance is headed, news agency PTI reported. Geopolitical concerns are likely to stay in the spotlight too, with talks between Washington and Tehran having stalled after the conflict escalated sharply. "For gold and silver prices, the momentum still remains down and corrective," said Pranav Mer, vice president, EBG - commodity & currency research at JM Financial Services Ltd., said. As per the report, on the Multi Commodity Exchange, gold futures for the August contract dropped Rs 3,041, or 2.06%, over the week to close at Rs 1.44 lakh per 10 grams, while silver for September delivery fell sharply by Rs 15,269, or 6.4%, ending the week at Rs 2.23 lakh per kilogram. Gold, Silver Likely To Stay



Under Pressure This Week As Dollar Strength, Iran Crisis Weigh: AnalystsGeopolitical concerns are likely to stay in the spotlight too, with talks between Washington and Tehran having stalled after the conflict escalated sharply. Gold, Silver Likely To Stay Under Pressure This Week As Dollar Strength, Iran Crisis Weigh: Analysts Analysts added that bullion's direction this week will largely depend on incoming US data. Photo by Zlaky.cz on Unsplash Bullion prices are expected to remain weak in the coming week as markets continue to weigh the fallout from renewed US-Iran hostilities,

crude oil price swings and a heavy lineup of global economic data. Investors will be tracking manufacturing and services PMI readings from major economies, Eurozone inflation numbers, and the US nonfarm payrolls and unemployment data this week for signals on where the Federal Reserve's policy stance is headed, news agency PTI reported. Geopolitical concerns are likely to stay in the spotlight too, with talks between Washington and Tehran having stalled after the conflict escalated sharply. "For gold and silver prices, the momentum still remains down and corrective," said Pranav Mer, vice president, EBG - com-

modity & currency research at JM Financial Services Ltd., said. As per the report, on the Multi Commodity Exchange, gold futures for the August contract dropped Rs 3,041, or 2.06%, over the week to close at Rs 1.44 lakh per 10 grams, while silver for September delivery fell sharply by Rs 15,269, or 6.4%, ending the week at Rs 2.23 lakh per kilogram. "Gold remained under significant selling pressure last week, ending lower by 2%, extending its week-on-week decline as persistent US dollar strength continued to weigh on precious metals," PTI quoted Jateen Trivedi, research analyst, commodity and currency at LKP

Securities, as saying. He added that crude oil prices corrected sharply by nearly 10%, which eased inflation concerns, reducing gold's appeal as an inflation hedge, and investors continued to favour the US dollar over bullion. Globally, Comex gold futures slid \$149.6, or 3.5%, last week to settle at \$4,096.3 per ounce, while silver tumbled \$7.13, or 10.7%, to \$59.67 per ounce in New York, according to the report. Mer noted that gold staged a mild rebound on Friday on bargain buying, after the latest US Personal Consumption Expenditures data showed inflation had eased more than in the previous reading. Sustained gold buying by China's central bank, fresh US-Iran strikes, and US President Donald Trump's threat of 100% tariffs on the European Union also helped support prices, the news agency reported. However, rising US Treasury yields kept a lid on gains, while silver stayed weak amid soft industrial-metal demand, dollar strength and subdued buying interest, Mer said. Analysts added that bullion's direction this week will largely depend on incoming US data, Fed commentary and the dollar's trajectory, PTI reported.

MUZIGAL MALKAJGIRI ACADEMY CELEBRATES ANNUAL DAY – "SWARITHAM 2026



Hyderabad, June 28, 2026: Muzigal Malkajgiri Academy successfully celebrated its Annual Day, "SWARITHAM 2026," at *Amogham Banquets CCPL, Malkajgiri, bringing together students, parents, teachers, and music lovers for a memorable evening of music and celebration. The event was graced by *Chief Guests* Dr. Lakshminarayana Yeluri, Founder & MD, IMPEL Group - Muzigal EduTech Pvt. Ltd., and renowned playback singer Venu Srirangam. The Guests of Honour included Janardhan Reddy Vyza, Director, Muzigal EduTech Pvt. Ltd., Aryan Shekar, Music Composer & Singer, Sharat Pasumanthy,

Global Media Head, TV Host & International Singer, and S. Madhusudhan, President, TRSMA. The event was also attended by Special Guests *Sri Pandit M. Janaki Ramulu, renowned Hindustani Classical Clarinet Artist, Lingampalli Sreedhar, Correspondent & Secretary of Shirdi Sai Baba High School, Lion Lingampalli Ashok Kumar, and Kamesh Mantha, Playback Singer. The evening featured outstanding vocal and instrumental performances by Muzigal students, who impressed the audience with their confidence, musical skills, and stage presence. Muzigal teachers also presented special performances, adding to

the grandeur of the celebration. As part of the Annual Day celebrations, students were felicitated with certificates in recognition of their dedication, consistent learning, and musical achievements. The certificates were presented by the Chief Guests and other dignitaries, who congratulated the students and appreciated the efforts of the teachers and parents. The event concluded with a vote of thanks, celebrating the success of *SWARITHAM 2026* and reaffirming Muzigal Malkajgiri Academy's commitment to nurturing young musical talent and providing students with opportunities to perform on professional platforms.

Centre Eyes Subsidy To Ease EU Carbon Border Tax Burden On MSME Exporters: Report

The Centre is working on a scheme to cover 90% of the compliance costs that micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) will incur under the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), aimed at cushioning the impact of the EU's carbon tax on smaller exporters, according to a report. The move comes after India's efforts to secure a concession for small industries during trade negotiations with developed countries did not succeed, The Indian Express reported, citing people aware of the development. Steep Compliance Burden for MSMEs Under CBAM, Indian exporters are required to submit certificates corresponding to the embedded emissions in their goods. The report said this has become a significant hurdle for MSMEs, since the EU mandates "default values" for emissions data when actual figures cannot be provided, and these default values, along with associated mark-ups, are set to



rise sharply, by 10% in 2026, 20% in 2027 and 30% from 2028, according to the regulation. "For MSMEs, the principal challenge under CBAM is not necessarily the carbon levy itself, but the cost of compliance. Unlike large corporates, MSMEs often lack the technical expertise, systems and financial resources to measure, verify and report embedded emissions in accordance with CBAM requirements," the report quoted Ayush Mehrotra, partner at Khaitan & Co, as saying.

"They may have to incur significant upfront expenditure on carbon accounting, third-party verification, digital reporting systems and capacity building," "These are largely fixed compliance costs, which means they do not reduce in proportion to the size of the business or export volumes," he added. "As a result, MSMEs bear a disproportionately higher compliance burden than larger exporters, potentially eroding their price competitiveness in the EU mar-

ket. If these costs are not addressed through targeted policy support, smaller exporters may find continued access to the EU market commercially unviable despite having competitive products," Mehrotra said, as per the report. Meeting the requirement under the carbon tax alone could cost an MSME unit between Rs 15 lakh and Rs 20 lakh, and that they do not have the wherewithal to report the number of data points sought under the regulation by the EU, the report stated, The report cited an Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) working paper, released this month, which found that imports from India would decline for all CBAM commodities, and the impact of the CBAM is likely to be felt the most by the iron and steel (I&S) sector, where the extent of decline in imports by the EU could be about 24%, and the fertilisers and aluminium products, followed by metal products, are next in line.

CORPORATE ACTIONS THIS WEEK:

Bajaj Finance, Biocon, Bharat Forge, M&M To Trade Ex-Dividend

Several listed companies, including Bajaj Finance Ltd., Biocon Ltd., Bharat Forge Ltd., Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., Tech Mahindra Ltd. and Welspun Enterprises Ltd., are set to trigger key corporate actions in the coming week, with ex-dates scheduled between June 15 and June 19, 2026. These include dividend payouts, bonus share issues, stock splits and a share buy-back. Dividends Jyothy Labs Ltd will go ex-dividend on Monday, June 29 for a final dividend of Rs 3.5 per share. Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd will go ex-dividend on Monday, June 29 for a final dividend of Rs 2.5 per share. Kalpataru Projects International Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Monday, June 29 for a final dividend of Rs 11 per share. Raymond Lifestyle Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Monday, June 29 for a final dividend of Rs 1 per share. Bajaj Finserv Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Tuesday, June 30 for a final dividend of Rs 1.5 per share. Bajaj Holdings & Investment Ltd. will go ex-div-



idend on Tuesday, June 30 for a final dividend of Rs 50 per share. Bajaj Holdings & Investment Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Tuesday, June 30 for a special dividend of Rs 50 per share. Bajaj Finance Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Tuesday, June 30 for a special dividend of Rs 6 per share. Maharashtra Scooters Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Tuesday, June 30 for a special dividend of Rs 60 per share. Welspun Corp. Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Tuesday, June 30 for a special dividend of Rs 5 per share. DCM Shriram Fine

Chemicals Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Wednesday, July 1 for a special dividend of Rs 0.4 per share. Grovy India Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Wednesday, July 1 for a special dividend of Rs 0.1 per share. Chembond Material Technologies Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Wednesday, July 1 for a special dividend of Rs 2 per share. Lloyds Enterprises Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Thursday, July 2 for a final dividend of Rs 0.05 per share. Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Friday, July 3

for a final dividend of Rs 1 per share. Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Friday, July 3 for a special dividend. Alufluoride Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Friday, July 3 for a final dividend of Rs 4 per share. Balaji Amines Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Friday, July 3 for a final dividend of Rs 11 per share. BF Investment Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Friday, July 3 for a final dividend of Rs 10 per share. Bharat Forge Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Thursday, July 3 for a final dividend of Rs 6.50 per share. Biocon Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Thursday, July 3 for a final dividend of Rs 0.50 per share. Can Fin Homes Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Thursday, July 3 for a final dividend of Rs 8 per share. Dalmia Bharat Sugar and Industries Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Thursday, July 3 for a final dividend of Rs 1.50 per share. DCM Shriram Industries Ltd. will go ex-dividend on Thursday, July 3 for a dividend of Rs 0.40 per share.

TWO BOYS RESCUED FROM VENEZUELA EARTH-QUAKE RUBBLE AFTER DAYS OF BEING TRAPPED



Two 11-year-old boys have separately been rescued from the rubble of collapsed buildings within hours of each other, after powerful earthquakes struck Venezuela. Video footage of the first boy, named as Moises, showed him being pulled from the twisted debris - his eyes covered to protect them from the sun - to the applause of rescuers. Hours later, interim President Delcy Rodríguez announced another 11-year-old boy had been rescued, and posted a video of him on X, being carried down a huge mound of wreckage on a stretcher. Since the magnitude 7.2 and 7.5 quakes on Wednesday, officials have confirmed at least 1,430 deaths. Tens of thousands of people are still missing. It has now been more than 85 hours since the first quake, but rescuers are not giving up hope, saying people could still be alive, especially if they have access to food and water under the rubble. The two earthquakes, which struck within 39 seconds, caused hundreds of buildings to collapse and many people remain trapped inside. Desperate families have

been digging through the debris by hand, trying to find their loved ones. Some have told the BBC that they can hear people under the rubble, but cannot move the heavy slabs of concrete, and are waiting anxiously for heavy machinery to arrive. Columbia's National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD) said Moises was buried under about 3m (9.8ft) of debris, and the rescue team spent six hours conducting "high-precision work" on Saturday to reach him. Reuters reported that a rescuer was overheard on a walkie-talkie saying the young boy was found near his sister and mother, who had both died. Hours later, Delcy Rodríguez posted a video on X, purportedly showing the rescue of the second 11-year-old boy in the town of Caraballeda. "In these hours, every life is hope for Venezuela," she wrote. Officials said the coastal region of La Guaira, where Caraballeda is located, has been hit the hardest. Rescuers' efforts have been hampered by aftershocks, which are in turn terrifying residents. "To be honest, it makes you feel kind of nervous.



■ US and Iran exchange strikes and accuse each other of violating ceasefire

In Caracas, this feels like the hardest moment in Venezuela's modern history

Each morning that Venezuelans wake to the aftermath of the dual earthquakes, it is a little darker, a little grimmer. It means another night in which prayers for the miraculous recovery of missing loved ones went unanswered, in which the fitful sleep of the survivors is interrupted by nightmares of collapsed buildings and moments of sheer panic. For ex-police-man Jan Carlos Roa Garcia and his family, it was another night sleeping rough. Their building in Caracas wasn't brought down but is too dangerous to return to. Tears rolling down his cheeks, he says he's not sure he even knows how to rebuild his family's life again. "If I was 30 and not 50, then maybe. But I don't



know where to begin. And so far, no-one in authority has contacted us." As a loyal public servant, Jan Carlos was careful not to over-criticise the government's response, exhausted and angry though he is. Musician Zaira Castro had no such reservations. "We're all pretty frustrated because the government is not showing what it should

– a serious display of help," she says in a plaza just a block away from two collapsed buildings. "It's actually us, the Venezuelans, who are helping each other. We live in a society that has grown into helping each other. We don't depend on the government – that doesn't exist for us anymore." In the same part of town, called Chacao, the Interim

President, Delcy Rodríguez, took a tour with the mayor and was on the receiving end of residents' ire. "You're campaigning in the middle of a tragedy! The government isn't doing anything for the people," yelled one resident. On a personal level, I know these streets well. I lived in the affected neighbourhood of Los Palos Grandes in Chacao for several years when I was the BBC's Venezuela Correspondent. My old apartment block was just metres from the collapsed Petunia building, where rescue crews are working around the clock to reach trapped residents. A friend recently posted on social media that her mother was among the missing under the building's rubble.

Israel strikes southern Lebanon as Hezbollah condemns new deal



Israeli air strikes in Lebanon have killed one person, the country's health ministry said, a day after the two countries signed a deal aimed at paving the way to a lasting peace. Lebanon's state news agency said an Israeli drone hit the southern town of Nabatieh al-Fawqa, and later reported further strikes in the area, with at least two more people wounded. The Israeli military said it carried out the drone strike on an individual who posed a threat 'to its forces, without providing details. The leader of Lebanon's Hezbollah militant group - which was not involved in negotiating Friday's US-brokered agreement - rejected it and accused the Beirut government of undermining Lebanon's sovereignty. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the agreement reached in Washington "historic" and "a blow to Iran and Hezbollah". Under the four-point framework, Israel will withdraw its forces from the South Litani area, with the Lebanese army taking exclusive control of the vacated territory. But Israeli forces are permitted to remain in an expanded security area in southern Lebanon. On Saturday Hezbollah leader Naim Qassem accused the Lebanese government of making damaging concessions. "The framework agreement in Washington is humiliating, shameful, and a surrender of sovereignty. This agreement is null and void," he said. Qassem criticised provisions linking

Israel's withdrawal to the group's disarmament, saying 'they crossed "all red lines". He accused Lebanese authorities of committing a "grave blunder" which "may even lead to the annexation of these lands", and vowed that Hezbollah would continue its armed resistance. Later on Saturday Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz said Israeli forces had been ordered to "prepare for an extended stay in the security zone" - referring to an area up to 10km (six miles) inside Lebanese territory. Lebanon was pulled into the conflict on 2 March, when Iran-backed Hezbollah launched missiles into Israel in retaliation to an Israeli strike that killed Iran's supreme leader. Israel responded with an air campaign across Lebanon and a ground invasion in the south. Israeli attacks in Lebanon have killed at least 4,192 people since the current round of hostilities began, according to the Lebanese health ministry. More than 11,600 have been injured, and more than 1.2 million people have been displaced, Lebanon says. Israel say 36 of its soldiers and four civilians have been killed on both sides of the border. A US-brokered ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon on 16 April failed to stop the fighting. Israel and Lebanon agreed in June to renew their fragile ceasefire, and the US said it would help guide the creation of "pilot zones in which the Lebanese Armed Forces will take exclusive control of the territory to the exclusion of all non-state actors".

WHY KIM JONG UN NEVER TALKS ABOUT HIS MOTHER - OR HER CONTROVERSIAL BLOODLINE

Among the many mysteries shrouding North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, the secrecy around his mother stands out. In his 15 years of rule, he has never once publicly mentioned her by name. The legitimacy of Kim's dictatorship rests heavily on his "Mount Paektu" bloodline - a lineage tied to the mythical founder of the Korean people. And in a country that prides itself on this hereditary purity, the identity of Kim's mother is not just a secret - but a threat to the regime itself. A mythological birthplace The story of the Koreans, according to popular belief, begins on Mount Paektu - a mountain located on the China-North Korea border that is said to be the birthplace of Dangun, the mythical founder of what became Korea's first kingdom. Thousands of years later, Kim Il Sung - the founder of North Korea - reportedly used the mountain as a hideout when fighting against the Japanese. His son, Kim Jong Il, was said to be born on those same sacred slopes - despite reports indi-



cating he was in fact most likely born in Russia - and for decades since the mountain has been used to legitimise the Kim dynasty. "Kim Jong Un became heir in his 20s despite having no achievements, solely because of the Paektu bloodline," Ryu Hyun-woo, an exiled North Korea diplomat, wrote in his book, Kim Jong Un's Secret Vault. But the reality of Kim's maternal lineage paints a different picture. Hundreds of miles away from Mount Paektu lies

the city of Osaka: Japan's historical capital, and the place where Kim's mother, Ko Yong Hui, was said to be born. From what biographers have pieced together, Ko was born in Osaka in 1952 to parents originally from Jeju Island, which sits off the southern coast of what is now South Korea. As residents of Japan, Ko's family were "Zainichi Koreans": immigrants during Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of the peninsula. But when she was about 10 years old,

Ko's family emigrated to North Korea. They were among the estimated 93,000 Koreans who moved to North Korea between 1959 and 1984, lured by a resettlement scheme that promised an idyllic life of free healthcare, education and jobs. Migrants to the North were first viewed with envy as they brought cash, clothes and home appliances from the country's capitalist neighbour to the south. But they were also labelled "jjaepo", a disparaging term

for a group considered to be contaminated by foreign, dangerous ideologies. North Korean society is deeply hierarchical, with some analysts comparing it to a caste system. And in this strict social classification - known as songbun - the jjaepo belong to the "wavering class", somewhere between the core and hostile classes. They are subjected to heavy state surveillance and often denied admission to good universities or promising jobs. It is a stark contrast to the Paektu narrative that Kim's family has long promoted. "The [regime's] Paektu bloodline is seen as sacred," says Kim Hyung-su of the Northern Research Association. "So the idea of the leader being a jjaepo's son is unimaginable." Intelligence shows he was already wedded to Kim Young Sook, the daughter of a high-ranking military official, in a marriage hand-picked by his father. He was also known to have two other mistresses. Despite this, Ko - a member of the elite Mansudae Art Troupe - was

said to have caught Kim's attention due to her "natural beauty and dancing skills", says Yoji Gomi, a Japanese reporter who published a book on Ko in 2025. Reports suggest that Kim fell passionately in love with Ko, and went on to have three children with her. But children born out of wedlock face severe stigma in North Korea. And so, while Kim's official wife resided in the capital Pyongyang, Ko and her children were tucked 210km (130 mi) away in the coastal town of Wonsan. Though she never married the supreme leader, and their union was not acknowledged by the regime, Ko managed to live what Gomi calls a "Cinderella-like life". Yet it remained a fact that Ko was "never recognised as a daughter-in-law by Kim Il Sung", wrote Ryu - and nor was he ever publicly seen with her children. Had Ko won Kim Il Sung's approval, photos of him and his grandchildren would have been circulated far and wide, says Dr Cheong Seong-chang of the Sejong Institute.



Eleven killed after plane carrying skydivers crashes in eastern France

Heatwave breaks records in Germany, Denmark and Czech Republic

Europe has experienced another day of extreme heat with temperature records being broken across the continent again on Saturday. Germany set a new all-time high for the second day in a row, as temperatures reached 41.5C, according to provisional data. On Saturday, records also fell in Denmark and the Czech Republic as the unprecedented early summer heatwave moved further north and east affecting more people. An estimated 150 million people in Europe are now experiencing temperatures of over 35C. The World Meteorological Organization has warned the heatwave would have "major impacts" to health and ecosystems. The heatwave - which began in the Iberian peninsula -



has been linked to the deaths of hundreds of people over the past week. Germany's preliminary record of 41.5C was set in Möckern-Drewitz in the eastern state of Saxony-Anhalt, Germany's Meteorological Service said. That surpassed a record of 41.3C set just a day earlier in Saarbrücken near the French border. "This heat isn't pleasant summer

weather. It's a health crisis," Katrin Goering-Eckardt, a German politician and former leader of the Green Party, said on X. The Czech Republic recorded its highest-ever temperature on Saturday, with a reading of 40.8C at a weather station in Doksan north of Prague, the national meteorological service (CHMI) said. And forecasters in Denmark said

a provisional temperature of 37C was recorded in Odum, near Aarhus. This exceeded the previous all-time record of 36.4C set in 1976. Switzerland broke the record for its hottest-ever June day for the third day in a row on Saturday, with the mercury rising to 39C in the northern city of Basel. "This exceptional heatwave has been caused by a slow-moving persistent area of high pressure, a so-called 'heat dome'", according to the BBC's lead weather presenter Ben Rich. "Underneath the high pressure system sinking air compressed and warmed, lifting temperatures day by day. 'The skies have remained largely cloud-free, allowing strong sunshine to heat things up even more", he added.

NBA TRADE RUMORS:

New Proposal Reunites LeBron James With Miami Heat In Bold Move

The Miami Heat may have already made a huge offseason move by reportedly acquiring Giannis Antetokounmpo, but another big idea is now doing the rounds. A new trade proposal suggests LeBron James could return to Miami after becoming eligible for unrestricted free agency by exercising his player option with the Los Angeles Lakers. The idea comes from Sports Illustrated's Austin Dobbins, who believes a reunion between James and the Heat is no longer unrealistic. Instead of viewing it as a sentimental move, Dobbins sees it as a basketball fit that could strengthen Miami's championship hopes. Could LeBron James return to the Miami Heat? Dobbins proposed a sign-and-trade that would send Andrewiggins and Nikola Jovic to the Lakers, while LeBron James and Bronny James would head to Miami. Explaining why the move makes sense, Dobbins wrote, "LeBron could come to Miami. LeBron and Giannis are both fully

capable of playing on or off the ball, and LeBron wouldn't have as much pressure on him with the defensive prowess of Bam and Giannis. The idea isn't a crazy fairytale anymore, this is a full possibility, in a place that he has been before, in a place with a basketball fit, and a place that would be willing to bring along Bronny." James first joined Miami through free agency in 2010, beginning one of the most successful stretches of his career. A return would reunite him with the franchise where he last won NBA championships and could also give Bronny James a fresh opportunity. How a Lakers-Heat trade could work According to the proposal, Miami could build a sign-and-trade package around Andrew Wiggins, who owns a \$30.17 million player option for the 2026-27 season, along with Nikola Jovic. Wiggins could opt out, sign a smaller contract and become part of the deal. The Heat currently have only the non-taxpayer mid-level exception, worth

rough \$15 because financial commitments Antetokounm Bam Adebayo. A sign-and-trade would allow the team to offer James a larger short-term contract. What it means for LeBron James and the Lakers James will turn 42 in December, but he continues to produce at a high level. Last season he averaged 20.9 points, 6.1 rebounds and 7.2 assists while helping the Lakers advance past the first round despite injuries affecting the roster. Miami is not the only team linked to James. Reports have also connected him with a possible return to the Cleveland Cavaliers. Dobbins believes both destinations make sense. "The Miami Heat are going to explore the LeBron James option, there is no animosity, and there are two locations that make plenty of



t o
 watch.



RUSSELL HOLDS NERVE TO SEAL VICTORY IN AUSTRIA

Mercedes' George Russell held on to win a tense battle with Red Bull's Max Verstappen for victory at the Austrian Grand Prix. The final laps of the race saw Russell in the lead being slowly caught by Verstappen while the Briton's team-mate Kimi Antonelli chased the Dutchman. Russell took his first win since the opening race of the season in Australia to reclaim second place in the championship and cut the gap to Antonelli to 40 points. Antonelli caught Verstappen on the last lap but the four-time world champion held on to take his best result of the year so far. Verstappen's impressive second place underlined a step forward in form after Red Bull introduced a major upgrade to their car for their home race. McLaren's Oscar Piastri took a solid fourth while Lewis Hamilton, who battled with Verstappen for second in the first third of the race, dropped back to fifth on the back of a confusing strategy from Ferrari. The



key stories of an involving grand prix were: Russell's overdue return to the top step of the podium after an impressive weekend's work Red Bull's revival despite Verstappen's crash in qualifying Ferrari fading after showing early promise Russell, so impressive in a number of different ways as he took pole position on Saturday, held on to the lead at the start and initially appeared to be in control of the race as he built an advantage over Hamilton. The seven-time champion spent the first part of the race trying to hold back Verstappen, and after a fran-

tic wheel to wheel battle through Turns Four, Five, Six and Seven on lap 11, Hamilton blinked first and stopped for fresh tyres on the following lap. It was early - and it sealed Hamilton's fate as a contender at the start of the race. Russell and Verstappen stayed out and stopped within a lap of each other six and seven laps after Hamilton. Antonelli, meanwhile, had briefly dropped to fifth at the start of the race after a hectic scrap with Hamilton, Verstappen and Ferrari's Charles Leclerc through Turns Three and Four on lap two.

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi Misses Out, India Hand Debut To This Youngster In 2nd T20I Against Ireland

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi missed out once again, but two players made their debuts for India in the second T20I against Ireland on Sunday. Prince Yadav and Suryansh Shedge were handed their maiden T20I caps after the team management decided against including the 15-year-old prodigy in the playing XI. There had been plenty of chatter around Sooryavanshi since his inclusion in the squad for the Ireland tour, but he finishes the series without game time. As for the match itself, Indian skipper Shreyas Iyer won the toss and opted to field first. India currently trail 0-1 in the two-match series after losing the opening fixture by 34 runs. "We're going to bowl first considering the weather con-



dition. It can pour any time, so we want to maximize the advantage of it. [On what he wants his side to do differently after Friday's defeat while chasing] I think the trend is it's just important to adapt to the conditions as quickly as possible. And they were pretty smart in terms of making bowling changes and also scoring off the back foot and front foot.

clearing right in the front. So it's important that we play smart cricket rather than having a set pattern and see to it that we back our instincts as well at the same time." "[On the challenge of returning from the IPL to international cricket and adapting to different conditions] Yes, it was a bit different, but coming back to the international, it was my first

game after a very long time. And, you know, we've got many experienced players in the team who have played a considerable amount of matches. So it was just a day off for us and looking forward to have a good one today." ("On the changes to the playing XI) Yeah, we've got two changes. Suryanash Shedge and Prince Yadav come in. Both are making the debut. So these are the two changes we've made. [On debutant Shedge] He's a powerful, destructive batter. Yes, he's a sensational youngster who has been scoring runs in the domestic cricket and also in the IPL. He's got tremendous amount of experience in the youth cricket. So definitely he's performed in the A tours. So he's getting, he's reaping the benefits."

FIFA WORLD CUP ROAD TO FINAL:

ARGENTINA GET EASIEST ROUTE; PORTUGAL, SPAIN, GERMANY MAY EXIT EARLY

The top 32 teams at the FIFA World Cup 2026 have been decided after a gruelling and drama-filled group stage, which culminated on Saturday. Defending champions Argentina maintained their perfect run in the group stage, winning all three matches, with Lionel Messi averaging two goals per game. France, who won the World Cup in 2018, also won all three games, with Kylian Mbappe and Ousmane Dembele leading the scoring charts for Les Bleus. Mexico, one of the hosts for this World Cup, was the only other side to win all three of its group stage games. Germany, the 2014 champions, will be disappointed to have lost their final



group stage game against Ecuador, especially after starting the tournament with a 7-1 win over Curacao. Brazil, Portugal, England, and even European champions Spain will not be completely happy with how the group stage of the World Cup concluded for them. It was



also a heartbreak for millions of football fans to see Argentina and Portugal go to different sides of the World Cup schedule bracket, meaning they cannot face each other until the final. But which team has the easiest road to the World Cup final? The answer, actually, is quite

easy. It is the defending champions, Argentina, led by none other than Messi. Argentina's Path to the FIFA World Cup 2026 Final Argentina face Cape Verde in the Round of 32. Although the islanders have produced some fine upsets in this World Cup, getting the better of the mighty Argentinians will be their biggest challenge yet. If Argentina beat Cape Verde, they will square off against the winner of the clash between Egypt and Australia, two teams who limped into the knockouts of the tournament. A potential quarter-final clash for Argentina could see them take on one of Switzerland, Colombia, Ghana, or Algeria.

Pakistan Cricket's "Double Standards" Exposed By Ex-Captain, Fumes At "Sexist Tone" Targetted At Female Players

Former Pakistan captain Sana Mir has blasted critics and fans who are giving a 'sexist' touch to the performance of the national team in the ongoing Women's T20 World Cup. Pakistan ended its campaign in the World Cup on Saturday with a consolation win over the Netherlands after losing four straight games to India, South Africa, Australia and Bangladesh. Mir said in an interview to a Pakistani media outlet that when the national men's team doesn't do well does anyone say that the players would be better off making 'rotis' in the kitchen. "I see double standards while talking about the performances of the men's and women's teams. I don't agree with the tone of the criticism. Yes the team has not come up to the expectations



but just because it is the women's team why add a sexist tone to it," she said. Sana, who is commenting in the World Cup, said everyone was disappointed with the team's performance but it is the way we discuss the team is what is troubling for me. "Even after so many years we still don't give the required respect to the women's team while discussing its performances." Sana said fans and

critics had to take into account the problems girls face when they take up professional cricket in Pakistan. "Our players could not perform the way we expected. It took many years to convince everyone that Pakistan's girls have what it takes, that they can cause upsets," she said and also stressed that the mindset surrounding women's cricket needed to change first.

Argentine Footballer's Wife, Kids Killed In Devastating Venezuela Earthquake

In a devastating development, Venezuelan top-flight club Deportivo La Guaira has confirmed the tragic passing of Argentine defender Lucas Trejo's wife and two children following the recent earthquakes in Venezuela. Trejo's wife, Yanina Maranella, and their children, Aaron and Ainhoa Trejo, died when two powerful earthquake struck the country's Yaracuy region. The family had been reported missing after their apartment building collapsed during the seismic activity, with rescue teams later confirming the heartbreaking news. Trejo was not present at the scene as he was in Caracas with his club, Marítimo, to prepare for an upcoming match. "From the #DLG we join



the grief that overwhelms player Lucas Trejo, for the sensitive passing of his wife, Yanina Maranella, and of his children, Aaron and Ainhoa Trejo. Peace to their souls and comfort for Lucas and all his loved ones," the club said in an official statement. Trejo's family was in Playa Grande, one of the coastal areas hardest hit by the twin earthquakes, when the residential building where they lived collapsed.

The veteran Argentine defender had launched a desperate search for his wife and children, aided by family members, local volunteers, and professional rescue teams before the tragic outcome was confirmed. Before the tragic outcome was confirmed, Trejo made a public appeal to seek information about the whereabouts or potential survival of his family. "Our building in Playa Grande collapsed.

Naomi Osaka Suffers Blow In Wimbledon Preparations After Injury Retirement In Bad Homburg Open Final



Naomi Osaka's Wimbledon preparations received a setback when she retired at the start of the second set in Saturday's Bad Homburg Open final because of a foot injury. The fourth-seeded Japanese player, in her first grass-court final, was trailing 6-1, 1-0 to Karolina Muchova of the Czech Republic when she pulled out. Osaka had taken a medical timeout in the first set. Then, after gesturing she could not continue, she walked over to shake hands with Muchova and the umpire. "I just want to say thanks to you to everyone who came to watch the match," Osaka told the crowd during the trophy ceremony.

"I apologise for not being able to finish, but this atmosphere was incredible the whole week." A four-time Grand Slam champion, the 28-year-old Osaka has never been beyond the third round at Wimbledon, which begins on Monday. Seeded No. 14, she is scheduled to play Elsa Jacquemot in the first round. It was 11th-ranked Muchova's third career title from nine tour-level finals, and her first on grass. The final was moved forward by two and a half hours to 11 a.m. local time (0900 GMT) to avoid the worst of the day's heat as much of Europe endures often record-breaking temperatures.

RADUCANU 'PLANS TO PLAY' AT WIMBLEDON DESPITE INJURY SETBACK

Britain's Emma Raducanu says she "plans to play" at Wimbledon on Monday despite her participation being put into serious doubt because of a leg injury. Raducanu, 23, made the decision to play after a short practice session at the All England Club on Sunday. Raducanu, who is seeded 30th, is due to start her campaign against Croatia's Antonia Ruzic on Court One (13:00 BST). "I'm going to do everything with my team in terms of treatment," said Raducanu, who would not put a percentage on her chances of playing. "The plan right now is to play."

Fears about the British number one's fitness grew over the past week. Raducanu was spotted wearing a protective boot on Wednesday, then was unable to train on Thursday and Friday because of what is believed to be a shin problem. The 2021 US Open champion returned to the court on Saturday to test her fitness and, wearing strapping around her lower right leg, started with a gentle hour-long session with her team. But she then cut short another practice session with Russia's Anna Kalinskaya when the pair played a practice set - with 10 minutes

remaining. It is another setback for Raducanu in a career which has been blighted by a series of injury problems since her fairytale US Open victory in New York five years ago. This season has been disrupted by a viral illness that meant she only played six matches from early February to the start of Queen's earlier this month. Raducanu's run to the Queen's final bred confidence and increased optimism she could have a successful Wimbledon, where she reached the fourth round in 2021 and 2024. In a news conference at Wimbledon on

Sunday, Raducanu said the shin issue was a "niggle" which she had been dealing with for about a month. "I've been managing it. Queen's, maybe, was a lot of load for me. Five matches after having not competed for a while, it was just a lot." "But I'm just managing it with my team as best as I possibly can, exhausting all options and doing what we can." Analysis: Raducanu willing to take risk for Wimbledon To play or not to play? That is the question racing around Raducanu's mind less than 24 hours before she is due to start her latest Wimbledon campaign.



"HAPPY JOURNEY IS EVERYONE'S STORY": ANNAPOORNAMMA

Happy Journey' movie has been amazing. It is the story of all of us. A movie that the whole family should watch in theaters together: Senior actress Annapoornamma at the teaser launch event Gutta Productions & Kamalakara Film Corporation, Abhiram Naidu, launch the teaser of the heartwarming emotional drama 'Happy Journey' 'Happy Journey' is a heartwarming emotional drama jointly produced by Gutta Productions and Kamalakara Film Corporation. Directed by Abhiram Naidu, the film is focusing on women's emotions. Balaji Gutta and Kaushik Reddy are the producers, while Tarun Reddy is the co-producer. The film, which mainly shows the emotional journeys of seven women, stars Annapurnamma, Aamani, Anchor Jhansi, Payal Radhakrishna, Jinisha



Alisetty, Rupa Srinivas, and Sunayana in the lead roles, while Pridhvi Dandamudi, Vamsidhar Goud, and Ravi Sivateja will be seen in key roles. Each character has been crafted very naturally and emotionally. The makers have recently launched

the teaser. Speaking at the teaser launch event, senior actress Annapurnamma said.. Hello everyone. My role in this will be different from the roles I have done so far. I was really surprised that the director chose me for this role. This is a very good story. The story of all of us. We all have many stories and emotions. All of them will be understood more after watching this film. This is a film that the whole family can watch comfortably. This film also has a definition

that tells why we cannot understand our people at home. A very good film. I hope you all will watch it and bless us. Watch how I did in this role in the theater and bless me. We shot in a parish. The film came out very wonderfully.

Real Star Srihari's son Meghamsh Srihari's STUDENT teaser unveiled

Meghamsh Srihari, son of the late Real Star Srihari, is playing the lead role in the upcoming film Student. Vijeta Pareek stars as the female lead. The film is being produced by Bellam Siddareddy under the banners of Jovika Cinemas and Cherish Media Works, while Balu Tatvamasi is directing the project. Bellam Sangeetha and Bellam Bayyareddy are

serving as co-producers. The film is gearing up for its theatrical release, and the makers have now unveiled its official teaser. The teaser introduces Bhanu, played by Meghamsh Srihari, as a carefree college student who enjoys campus life. His decision to enter politics by representing the Andhra Rashtra Samithi Party creates a sensation

on campus. Although new to politics, Bhanu quickly learns about the challenges, strategies, and power struggles that define the political arena. One of the teaser's standout moments features Meghamsh delivering the powerful dialogue: "When someone next to you is fighting with a knife, if you interfere, you'll lose your hand."



RAO BAHADUR' IS A SURREAL FILM... INDIAN CINEMA HAS NEVER SEEN A FILM LIKE THIS: SENSATIONAL DIRECTOR SUKUMAR



The expectations on the most awaited psychological drama 'Rao Bahadur', made in the great combination of Satyadev and Venkatesh, are increasing day by day. Presenter Superstar Mahesh Babu, who has already seen the film, showered praises on it, while recently successful

director Sukumar also praised the film after watching the special preview. His comments on the film, which is getting ready for release on July 3, have further increased the interest. Sukumar said, "Rao Bahadur is a surreal film. I don't think there has ever been a film like this in the

Indian film industry. It is a magical, immersive cinematic experience. It surprises the audience at every moment." Speaking about Satyadev's performance, he praised him saying, "An actor rarely gets such an opportunity in life. This role is a great gift given to Satyadev by the entire team."

Konanki Entertainments releases first look of "Soldier – 24×7 On Duty"



Konanki Entertainments has officially released the first look poster of its prestigious action thriller "Soldier – 24×7 On Duty". The film, which is a symbol of patriotism, courage, sacrifice, and commitment to duty, is

arousing interest among the audience. The first look poster features Konanki Karthik in the role of a powerful soldier. His look amidst the war atmosphere, the

shades of combat, and the proudly waving Indian tricolor flag is further raising expectations for the film. With the tagline "24×7 on duty", the film will stand as a tribute to the Indian soldiers who work tirelessly for the security of the country by constantly performing duties at the country's borders. The film stars Konanki Karthik and Priyanka Varma in the lead roles. The film is being directed by Shraddha Khatri. K. V. Naidu is producing it under the banner of Konanki Entertainments. The film is a blend of action, emotions, patriotism, and human values that will entertain the audience.

AKANKSHA SHARMA SLAYS HARD IN BLACK SHEER GOWN



Akanksha Sharma made her Telugu debut with Vishvak Sen's Laila and while the film did not work at the box office, this Bollywood actress has absolutely refused to let that dull her shine. She keeps showing up on social media with looks that grab attention and her follower base across both industries is very much enjoying every bit of it. Her latest pic-

tures are nothing short of stunning. Akanksha wore a black sheer embroidered gown with deep floral lace detailing all over the full sleeves and body, a sweetheart neckline and a thigh high slit that added a very dramatic touch. The whole look is dark, bold and gorgeous and she carried it with full confidence. Laila may not have worked but Akanksha Sharma in a black gown like this is very hard to ignore. Her glamour does all the talking and right now it is speaking very loudly.

SHRADDHA KAPOOR'S HYPED FILM LANDS IN TITLE TROUBLE

Saaho heroine Shraddha Kapoor is finally returning with a most hyped content driven film after scoring a massive blockbuster with Stree 2. Her next release Eetha is arriving on August 28 under the direction of Laxman Utekar. But even before the promotions begin, the movie has landed in an unexpected controversy. Eetha is inspired by the life of legendary Marathi folk artist Vithabai Bhaui Mang Narayangaonkar. She was celebrated as the queen of Tamasha and ruled the stage for decades. One unforgettable incident from her life was delivering a baby backstage after performing while heavily pregnant. Laxman Utekar reportedly spent years researching Vithabai's remarkable journey before making the film.

The teaser has already generated curiosity. However, Vithabai's family is unhappy with the title Eetha. They believe the film should have carried her name instead of a fictional title. The family is even considering legal action against the makers over the issue. So far the production team has remained silent. The film will release in multiple languages including Telugu. Along with Shraddha Kapoor, Randeep Hooda and Mohammed Zeeshan Ayyub play key roles while Ajay Atul have composed the music. The teaser of Eetha has arrived, and it leaves a strong impact within its brief runtime. Directed by Cchaava fame Laxman Utekar, the film is based on the life of legendary Lavani and Tamasha artist Vithabai Narayangaonkar,

with Shraddha Kapoor stepping into one of the most challenging roles of her career. The biggest highlight of the teaser is undoubtedly Shraddha Kapoor's transformation. From her appearance to her body language, she looks completely immersed in the character. One particular sequence showing Vithabai enduring labor pains backstage before returning to perform on stage is both powerful and emotionally charged, instantly grabbing attention. Visually, Eetha looks grand and authentic. Laxman Utekar appears to have recreated the era with impressive detail, while the cinematography and production design add richness to every frame. The teaser carries a rustic flavor and successfully transports viewers into the world

of Maharashtra's folk theatre traditions. The background score also stands out, elevating the emotions and lending a larger-than-life feel to the visuals. More importantly, the teaser hints at a story filled with struggle, sacrifice, passion, and resilience rather than just a conventional biopic. Overall, Eetha delivers exactly what a teaser should, curiosity, intrigue, and excitement.

