

HYDERABAD | BENGALURU | CHENNAI | VIJAYAWADA | KOCHI

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SAAMANA EDITORIAL
TARGETS MAHA GOVT
OVER RESPONSE TO
MARATHWADA TREMORS

NATION PAGE

EAST ASIA BRACES FOR
DESTRUCTIVE TYPHOON
AS LANDSLIDES KILL 15 IN
PHILIPPINES

WORLD | NEWS



"WE FACED MANY CHALLENGES
DURING THE FILMING OF 'I,
NOBODY.' WE WORKED VERY
HARD ON THE ACTION
SEQUENCES."

CINEMA | PAGE

SCAN FOR
E-PAPEROM NAMO
VENKATESAYA

10-07-2026

Total pilgrims : 73,265
Tonsures : 39,690
Hundi kanukulu : 4,26 CR
Laddu sale : 4,09 Lac
Annasradams : 2,98 Lac
Medical treatment : 3,899
Waiting Compartments : Out side line
at Pachhaliva Gangamma Temple.

Assess. Darsan Time for Saravardhanam
(with out SSD Tickets) : 24 - 30 H.

4 killed, 2 critically
injured in tempo-truck
collision on Bihar highway

Patna (TSIT):

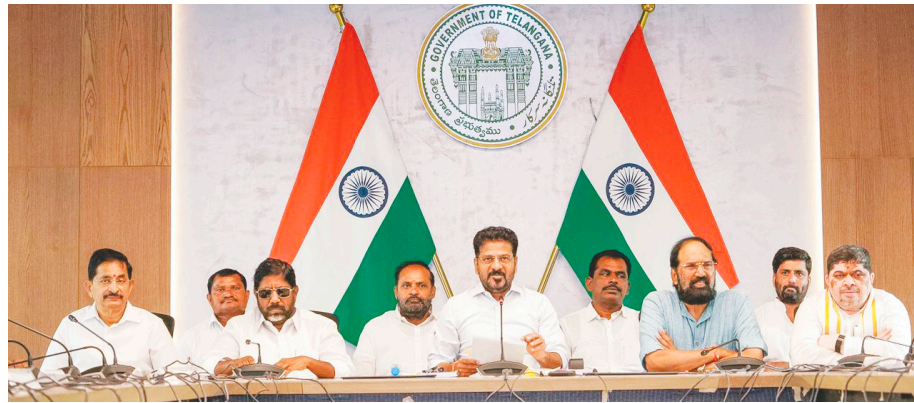
Four people lost their lives and two others suffered critical injuries after a passenger tempo collided head-on with a Hiwa truck on National Highway-139 near Madhuban village in Bihar's Arwal district on Saturday. According to police, the three-wheeler was travelling from Arwal to Parasi Bazaar with six occupants.

CM Revanth Challenges BRS BJP on Kaleshwaram Convince NDSA Expedite CBI Probe

Hyderabad, TSIT:

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday strongly defended the State Government's stand on the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project and challenged BRS and BJP leaders to convince the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) if they believed water could be safely lifted from the damaged barrages.

Responding to statements by BRS leaders and BJP MP Etela Rajender, the Chief Minister said there was a clear difference between the presence of water flow and the minimum water level required for pumping operations. He maintained that the State Government would strictly follow the recommendations of the NDSA and the Central Water Commission (CWC) regarding the restoration of the Medigadda,



Annaram and Sundilla barrages.

Revanth Reddy said the NDSA's inspection was carried out under the provisions of the Dam Safety Act, 2021, and not at the request of the State Government. He recalled that structural defects in the Medigadda barrage had first been reported by officials in May 2020, barely eleven months after the project's inauguration, and alleged that the previous BRS

government ignored the warnings, leading to the collapse of the barrage in October 2023.

Quoting the NDSA's final report, the Chief Minister said all three barrages—Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla—were found unsuitable for water storage in their present condition. He noted that the report recommended comprehensive structural rehabilitation, immediate stabilisation measures and

mandatory approval from the NDSA or the CWC before any repair or restoration works are undertaken. Explaining the technical issue, Revanth Reddy said the minimum pumping level required at the Kannepalli (Lakshmi) Pump House is 93.50 metres, while the present water level is only about 89.90 metres, making pumping operations impossible even if water is flowing in the river.

10 Tamils among 15 dead after tourist boat capsizes in Vietnam

Chennai (TSIT):

Fifteen people, including 10 tourists from Tamil Nadu, were killed after a tourist boat carrying Indian visitors capsized off Vietnam's Phu Quoc Island on Saturday, turning what was meant to be a reward trip into a major tragedy.

According to preliminary reports, the boat was carrying around 32 Indian tourists, including 17 from Tamil Nadu and others from Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Kerala when the accident occurred in waters south of Phu Quoc, a popular tourist destination in southern Vietnam.

The vessel reportedly overturned during the morning while cruising near the island. The exact cause of the accident has not yet been officially disclosed, and local authorities have launched an investigation into the circumstances leading to the tragedy. Rescue teams, local resi-



dents and emergency personnel rushed to the spot soon after the accident. Several passengers were pulled from the water, while rescuers performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on those found unconscious in an effort to revive them. Despite the emergency response, 15 people were confirmed dead after the boat capsized. Rescue operations continued for several hours to account for all those on board. Among those killed was 44-year-old Murugaprabhu from Palani in Tamil Nadu's Dindigul

district. His death has cast a pall of gloom over his hometown, where family members and friends gathered after receiving the tragic news. Murugaprabhu and his colleague Nirmal Kumar were distributors for Lava International's mobile phone business in Palani. According to family members, they had earned an incentive trip to Vietnam after achieving outstanding business performance. The overseas tour had been organised by the company as a reward for its top-performing distributors.

INS Mahendragiri commissioned into Indian Navy

Visakhapatnam (TSIT):

India on Saturday commissioned INS Mahendragiri, an advanced indigenous stealth frigate built under Project-17A, into the Indian Navy, further strengthening the country's maritime defence capabilities. Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh dedicated the warship to the Eastern Fleet at a commissioning ceremony held in Visakhapatnam.

Addressing the gathering, Rajnath Singh said INS Mahendragiri is a symbol of the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative and reflects India's growing capability in designing and building advanced warships using indigenous technology. He said that while emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, drones, cyber warfare and hypersonic weapons are reshaping modern warfare, conventional mil-



itary strength remains the backbone of national security. He added that the Indian Navy has earned global recognition as the "First Responder" and the "Preferred Security Partner" in the Indo-Pacific region.

Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Krishna Swaminathan said the induction of INS Mahendragiri would significantly enhance the Navy's operational capa-

bilities. He noted that the Project-17A programme showcases the successful collaboration between the Indian Navy, domestic industries and MSMEs in building world-class warships.

Named after the Mahendragiri mountain range in the Eastern Ghats, the warship carries the motto "Mighty, Majestic, Matchless." It is expected to strengthen India's strategic presence

in the Indian Ocean Region and play a key role in maritime security, anti-submarine warfare, surveillance and disaster relief operations.

Designed by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau and built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai, INS Mahendragiri has a displacement of about 6,670 tonnes and incorporates more than 75 per cent indigenous technology. The stealth frigate can attain a top speed of 28 knots and is equipped with BrahMos supersonic missiles, medium-range surface-to-air missile systems, advanced radar and electronic warfare systems, torpedo launchers, anti-submarine warfare weapons, a Close-In Weapon System (CIWS) and facilities to operate a multi-role helicopter.

New Zealand's space sector played key role in Chandrayaan-3 success: PM Modi

Auckland (TSIT):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that New Zealand's space sector has played a significant role in the success of India's lunar mission Chandrayaan-3.

Addressing the diaspora in Auckland, PM Modi recalled how celebrations emerged among the Kiwi-Indian community after the successful landing of Chandrayaan-3 on moon's South Pole.

"India's Chandrayaan-3, when it landed on the Moon's South Pole, the whole of New Zealand was dancing that day. And that day, we all felt proud. Now let me tell you one more thing to be proud of. New Zealand's technology has also contributed to this success," PM Modi told the gathering. Launched by



the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the mission safely touched down near the Moon's south pole on August 23, 2023. The historic achievement made India the fourth country to successfully land on the Moon, and the very first to reach the elusive southern polar region.

PM Modi stressed that space sector is the perfect example of how both India and New Zealand's economy can contribute to each

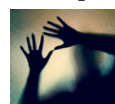
other's growth.

New Zealand's space company has worked with us on several occasions. We are working to take this cooperation further, said the Prime Minister.

India's space economy is poised to grow from the current \$8.9 billion to nearly \$40-45 billion over the next decade, driven by policy reforms, growing private participation and a rapidly expanding innovation ecosystem.

Woman gang-raped during robbery bid in MP; wooden object pushed into her body

Alirajpur (TSIT) A 40-year-old woman was allegedly raped by robbers who broke into her house in Madhya Pradesh's Alirajpur district, and sustained serious injuries after they pushed a wooden object into her private parts, police said on Saturday. The woman has been referred to a hospital in Indore for treatment, an official said.



Alirajpur SP Raghuvansh Kumar Singh told PTI over the phone that five to six men entered the woman's house in a village within the jurisdiction of the Bori police station on Friday night, and two of them raped her. "Preliminary investigation suggests that a wooden object was inserted into her private parts," Singh said. The woman sustained injuries to her private parts, which have been confirmed by doctors, he said.

Prakash Raj visits CJP protest site; Wangchuk distances himself from Gandhi comparisons

Chennai (TSIT)

Actor Prakash Raj joined the protesters of the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) at Delhi's Jantar Mantar on Saturday, expressing solidarity as the agitation entered its 22nd day. Activist Sonam Wangchuk, who is on the 14th day of his indefinite hunger strike, said that he is "just an ordinary citizen," not a "modern Gandhi" or a hero.

Former Kerala finance minister Thomas Isaac and CPI(M) leader and Leader of Opposition in Tripura Assembly Jitendra Chaudhury also visited the protest site and expressed support for the agitation over alleged examination irregularities, according to the CJP. According to a health update shared by the outfit, Wangchuk's blood pressure was



recorded at 109/72 mm Hg while lying down and 106/74 mm Hg in the sitting position. His heart rate was 81 beats per minute, blood glucose level 78 mg/dL and weight 58.45 kg, taking his total weight loss since the start of the hunger strike to about 7.5 kg.

In a video posted on X on Friday night, Wangchuk said he was feeling less energetic than the previous day but remained committed to the agita-

tion. History "Today, on the 13th day of my fast, I am not feeling as energetic as I was yesterday. I am feeling a little tired. It happens—some days are better, and some are not," he said.

Thanking people for supporting the movement on social media, Wangchuk said two kinds of comments left him disappointed. "Many people call me the Gandhi of the 21st century or a modern Gandhi. Others call me a hero. These comments make me uncomfortable. I am neither Gandhi nor a hero. I am just an ordinary citizen who has tried to fulfil his responsibilities," he said. He urged people to stop looking for heroes and instead take responsibility as citizens. "Please don't look for a hero in someone else. Be the hero of your own life. Fulfil your responsibilities as a citizen," he said.

Visakhapatnam (TSIT)

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said that the State Government would focus on population preservation rather than population control, and announced that the "Children are Wealth" programme would soon be taken forward after consultations with people. Addressing the World Population Day programme in Vijayawada, he said changing circumstances require a change in population policies, as adequate population is essential for economic growth and future development. The Chief Minister said that while ear-



lier governments implemented population control measures, the present situation demands population management. He noted that fertility rates are declining in many countries, including southern states of India, and warned that micro-family trends could create future challenges. "Children are the wealth of the state, and the Indian joint family system is a strength," he said, stressing that raising

children is a collective responsibility and women's health must be protected. He highlighted that youth skills and elders' experience are valuable assets to society and said the government is working to improve living standards through initiatives like P4, promote women entrepreneurship, and ensure balanced development across all regions. He also expressed concern over the negative

impact of excessive social media use on mental health and advised youth to combine technology with values.

The Chief Minister said the government is providing healthcare and nutrition through Anganwadis and supporting education through the Thalliki Vandanam scheme. He stated that his goal is to increase per capita income to Rs.55 lakh by 2047 and achieve Swarna Andhra by 2040. Later, he released the Population Management Framework Documentation. Vijayawada East MLA Gadde Ramamohan Rao, Medical and Health Department Special Chief Secretary Suresh Kumar, NTR District Collector Lakshmi Sha, and others participated in the programme.

Development with Welfare Defines Congress Governance Uttam Kumar

RS.21-CRORE RTC PROJECTS LAUNCHED; GOVERNMENT COMMITTED TO INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Hyderabad, TSIT: Telangana Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Capt.N.Uttam Kumar Reddy on Saturday said the Congress Government was delivering welfare and development simultaneously, ensuring inclusive growth and long-term socio-economic progress across the State.

Participating in development programmes in Kodad and Huzurnagar along with Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar and Kodad MLA N. Padmavathy Reddy, Uttam Kumar Reddy laid the foundation stone for a new RTC bus depot at Kodad and the modernisation of the Huzurnagar RTC bus station, with a combined investment of Rs.21 crore.

Minister said flagship welfare initiatives such as free fine rice distribution and the Mahalakshmi free bus travel scheme for women were transformative programmes aimed at



improving the quality of life of citizens.

Highlighting development initiatives in the region, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the Government was implementing key irrigation projects, including the Redlakunta, R-9 and Shantinagar Lift Irrigation Schemes, besides modernising Nagarjuna Sagar canals to provide assured irrigation for every acre.

He also announced major investments in education and healthcare, including a Rs.200-crore

Young India Residential School, a Rs.50-crore Jawahar Navodaya School, a Rs.26-crore 100-bed Government Hospital, and an advanced skill development centre for youth. Kodad would also be transformed into a modern municipality through investments in roads, drainage, drinking water, sanitation and urban infrastructure, he said.

Stating that the Government does not discriminate in implementing development programmes,

Uttam Kumar Reddy said every village, farmer, student, woman and youth would benefit equally from the State's development.

Addressing the gathering, Ponnam Prabhakar said women had completed 327 crore free bus journeys under the Mahalakshmi Scheme, receiving benefits worth nearly Rs.11,000 crore. He said the initiative had significantly improved women's mobility, access to education, employment and healthcare while reducing household expenses. He also said the Government had resolved several long-pending issues concerning RTC employees, strengthening the Corporation.

Programme was attended by Kodad MLA N. Padmavathy Reddy, TGSRTC Managing Director Nagi Reddy, Suryapet District Collector Tejas Nandlal Pawar, public representatives, officials and Congress leaders.

We too will work towards the eradication of marijuana.. Village youth sign the Wall of Promise frame

Mahabubabad :) Byline News. District SP Dr. Shabarish participated in the "Our Village - Our Responsibility" program organized in Parvatammagudem village of Nellikuduru mandal of Mahabubabad district. This program was organized with the participation of the village people to make the village marijuana-free, crime-free and safe. On this occasion, first of all, the villagers were made aware through video presentations and explained that the future of the youth is affected by marijuana and other drugs. He called on every villager to act responsibly in the construction of a marijuana-free village. Similarly, it was suggested that two-wheeler riders should wear helmets and follow road safety rules. Explaining the importance of CCTV cameras in village security, he said that CCTV cameras play a key role in crime control, identification



of criminals and public safety. On this occasion, District SP Dr. Shabarish and IPS distributed helmets to the villagers and media friends. He advised that using a helmet can save lives and that every two-wheeler rider should wear a quality helmet. Later, at the "Wall of Promise" set up in the village, the village sarpanch, members of the ruling body, village elders, youth and villagers took a pledge. They signed the pledge to stay away from ganja and drugs, to wear helmets and to cooperate with the safety of the village. The SP said that it is commendable that the village sarpanch,

ruling body, youth and the villagers are taking forward the "Mana Ooru - Mana Mana Mana" program together. He urged the people to continuously cooperate with the public safety and drug eradication programs being undertaken by the police department. Stating that public participation is very important in the eradication of ganja, he said that a cash reward of up to Rs. 5,000 will be given to those who provide information related to the cultivation, transportation, sale or use of ganja. Stating that the details of those who provided information would be kept completely confidential.

CM Revanth Reddy Mourns the Demise of Legendary Singer S.Janaki

Hyderabad TSIT: Telangana Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy has expressed profound grief over the passing of legendary playback singer S. Janaki, describing her demise as an irreparable loss to Indian cinema and millions of music lovers. In a condolence message, the Chief Minister said S. Janaki carved an everlasting place in the hearts of music lovers across South India with her melodious voice and extraordinary singing talent. He noted that her renditions, which beautifully captured the Navarasas (nine emotions) in accordance with the mood and context of countless films, mesmerized generations of listeners.

Chief Minister said it was a matter of great pride for Telugu people that the iconic singer hailed from the Telugu region. He recalled her remarkable musical journey, during

Collector advises farmers to plan Kharif crops cautiously

Suryapet, July 11 (TSIT): District Collector Tejas Nandlal Pawar has advised farmers to adopt scientific crop planning and exercise caution during the Kharif:2026 season in view of the India Meteorological Department's forecast of below-normal rainfall due to the impact of El Niño.The Collector said rainfall during the initial days of July has been significantly below normal and urged farmers to finalise their crop plans only after assessing local rainfall, weather forecasts and irrigation water availability. He said the district administration reviewed water levels in major irrigation projects and found that storage in some reservoirs remains lower than last year, making assured irrigation uncertain in several command areas. According to the review, the Nagarjuna Sagar Project, which irrigates about 2.29 lakh acres in the district, currently has 138.21 TMC of water against its total capacity of 312.05 TMC, while the SRSP Stage-II (Lower Manair Dam), serving over 2.13 lakh acres, has only 5.70 TMC in storage.

No negligence in voter revision process: Commissioner

Husnabad, July 11 (The South India Times): Husnabad Municipal Commissioner T. Mallikarjun has directed officials to ensure the successful implementation of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls, stressing that there is no room for negligence in the process. During surprise inspections at various voter help desk centres in the town on Saturday, the Commissioner reviewed the arrangements and the progress of the enumeration process. He interacted with members of the public,



clarified their queries regarding the required documents and instructed officials to provide prompt services without causing inconvenience to voters.Mr. Mallikarjun directed supervisors, ward officers and Booth Level Officers

(BLOs) to discharge their responsibilities with sincerity and coordinate effectively to complete the revision process on schedule. He warned that negligence or violation of official guidelines would invite strict action.

Mass Murder in Telangana: Out-on-Bail POCSO Accused Kills Teen Complainant, Her Family, and His Own Wife and Children

RANGAREDDY (TSIT)

In a horrifying revenge-driven massacre late Friday night, a man out on bail in a POCSO case allegedly murdered six people in Shabad mandal of Rangareddy district.The accused, B. Rajkumar, remains absconding. Police have launched a massive manhunt with seven special teams and announced a reward of Rs.2 lakh for information leading to his arrest.

Future City Commissioner of Police Tarun Joshi said the killings occurred between 11:00 PM and midnight at two locations about six kilometres apart in Daivalaguda vil-



lage. Rajkumar first went to the house of the 17-year-old girl who had filed a complaint against him. He allegedly stabbed to death her mother, Chityala Lakshmi (45), and her grandmother, Chityala Rukamma (65), with a knife.

He then abducted the minor girl, took her to a

secluded area near Nagarkunta lake or pond, sexually assaulted her, and murdered her. After committing these killings, Rajkumar returned to his own house and allegedly killed his wife Parvati Sarita (30), their three-year-old son Pareekshit, and their two-year-old daugh-

BJP committed to Dalit welfare: Chanti Prabhu

Sangareddy, July 11 (TSIT): BJP Dalit Morcha Sangareddy District President Advocate Chanti Prabhu on Saturday said the Narendra Modi-led Central Government is committed to ensuring social justice and safeguarding the constitutional rights of Dalits.

Addressing a meeting at his office, Chanti Prabhu said the BJP would strengthen its Dalit Morcha from the grassroots level and take the party's ideology to every section of society. He said he would work to strengthen the organisation by bringing together party workers and expanding its outreach across the dis-

trict.

He said the BJP remains committed to national unity, nationalism and the protection of Indian culture. Referring to the Modi government's initiatives, he claimed that several welfare schemes have been introduced for the education, employment and economic empowerment of Dalits and assured that efforts would be made to ensure all eligible beneficiaries receive these benefits.

Criticising the Congress government in Telangana, Chanti Prabhu alleged that it had failed to fulfil its election promises and had neglected the interests of farmers, unemployed

youth, Dalits and other weaker sections. He said the BJP would continue to raise public issues through democratic means and work for the welfare and empowerment of Dalits.

Expressing gratitude for his appointment as Sangareddy District President of the BJP Dalit Morcha, Chanti Prabhu thanked BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao, State Dalit Morcha President Kranti Kiran, Sangareddy District BJP President Godavari Anji Reddy, MP Raghunandan Rao, former MP B.B. Patil, MLC Anji Reddy and other party leaders and workers for reposing confidence in

Statewide Land Re-Survey Key to Effective Implementation of Bhu Bharati: Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy



Mahabubnagar, July 11 (TSIT) State Revenue, Information and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy has directed officials to accord the highest priority to the statewide land re-survey for the effective implementation of the Bhu Bharati Act.

Addressing a video conference with District Collectors from the IDOC office in Khammam on Saturday, the Minister reviewed the progress of the land re-survey, implementation of the Bhu Bharati Act, disposal of Sadabainama applications, construction of Indiramma

houses, distribution of pending 2BHK houses, and supply of school uniforms to students. Revenue Special Chief Secretary D.S. Lokesh Kumar and senior officials participated from Hyderabad, while Mahabubnagar District Collector Khushboo Gupta attended from the Collector's Camp Office.

The Minister said that after the formation of the people's government, the Dharani portal was abolished and the Bhu Bharati Act was introduced to provide complete security to farmers' land rights. Although the Act has been in force for 15

months, it has not yet fully met public expectations, he observed.

He noted that despite providing an opportunity under Bhu Bharati to resolve 9.26 lakh pending Sadabainama applications from the Dharani period and addressing related High Court issues, a large number of applications are still being rejected. He directed officials to identify the reasons for such rejections and resolve them promptly.

Ponguleti stated that experts had recommended a comprehensive land re-survey as an essential step for the successful implementation of the Bhu Bharati Act. He instructed officials to effectively utilize trained licensed surveyors alongside regular survey staff while clarifying that licensed surveyors were not being promised regular government employment. Referring to the pilot project conducted in five villages covering 413 unmapped locations, the Minister said that nearly 95 percent of land-related disputes had been resolved. He announced that 70 villages have been selected in each district for the first phase of the re-survey and directed Collectors to procure high-quality survey equipment in coordination with the State Government. The government aims to complete the statewide re-survey in three phases by March 2027.

BRS LEADER NAGESH MUDHIRAJ SEEKS EXTENSION OF ENUMERATION FORM SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Hyderabad TSIT:BRS State leader Nagesh Mudhiraj has urged the Election Commission of India to extend the deadline for submission of Enumeration Forms under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls from July 25 to July 31, citing a slow response in several parts of Greater Hyderabad.

During his visit to the Musheerabad Assembly constituency, Nagesh Mudhiraj interacted with BLOs and supervisors, including Sunanda, Harathi, Srinivas and Ramesh, to review the ongoing enumeration process. He appealed to all eligible voters in the constituency

to submit their Enumeration Forms and ensure their names are correctly included in the electoral rolls.He observed that the enrolment process was progressing slowly in many divisions of Greater Hyderabad and said extending the deadline by a few more days would enable more citizens to complete the process.Nagesh Mudhiraj recalled that BRS Working President K.T.Rama Rao (KTR) had launched statewide awareness campaigns on the Special Intensive Revision process to educate the public. He alleged that the State Government later followed a similar awareness approach.



False promises to farmers: Tata

Khammam Urban (TSIT): Alleging that the Congress government's Rythu Ashirvada Sabha at Chinthakani in Khammam district was aimed at misleading farmers, BRS MLC Tata Madhusudan on Saturday termed it a "gathering of false promises" and accused the ruling party of failing to fulfil its commitments to the farming community.

Addressing the media, the BRS leader alleged that the Congress had failed to implement its promise of providing Rs.15,000 per acre to farmers and claimed that the government's figures on financial assistance and farm loan waiver did not reflect the ground reality. He alleged that many eligible farmers were excluded from the loan waiver due to conditions linked to ration cards and Aadhaar details.

Madhusudan also accused the government of disrupting the power



supply system, alleging that farmers were facing irregular electricity supply and low-voltage problems, leading to damage to agricultural pump sets. He criticised the government's decision to replace the Dharani portal, claiming the new land administration system was creating inconvenience for farmers.

The BRS MLC defended the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme and alleged that the Congress government was politicising technical issues relating to the Medigadda barrage instead of restoring it for irrigation purposes.

Emirates Ready to Launch A380 Services in Hyderabad CM Revanth Invites Airline to Set Up MRO Facilities in Telangana

Hyderabad, TSIT: Emirates Airlines is preparing to introduce its flagship Airbus A380 services to Hyderabad, Emirates Vice President (India) Mohammed Sarhan informed Telangana Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy during a courtesy meeting held at the Chief Minister's residence in Jubilee Hills on Saturday. Meeting assumed significance as Emirates marked 25 years of operations in Hyderabad.

Welcoming the airline's expansion plans, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy urged Emirates to increase the frequency of its flight services to Hyderabad and



strengthen its presence in Telangana. Highlighting the State's growing aviation infrastructure Chief Minister said two new airports were coming up at Warangal and Adilabad and invited Emirates to establish

Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facilities at these upcoming airports. He assured the airline of the State Government's full support and all necessary infrastructure for its operations. Chief Minister also

requested Emirates to partner with the Telangana Government in promoting sports by sponsoring training programmes for athletes at the recently launched Young India Physical Education and Sports University in Gachibowli. Responding positively, Mohammed Sarhan expressed Emirates' willingness to launch A380 operations in Hyderabad and assured the Chief Minister that the airline would examine the proposals regarding expanded operations, MRO facilities and support for sports development in Telangana.

CPS employees seek restoration of Old Pension Scheme

Bhadradri Kothagudem (TSIT): Demanding the abolition of the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS), the Telangana State Contributory Pension Scheme Employees Union (TS-CPSEU) launched a Jana Jagarana Yatra at Bhadrachalam on Saturday. The campaign began with special prayers at the Sri Sita Ramachandra Swamy temple, followed by the unveiling of a poster for the proposed "Chalo Hyderabad" programme on August 23.

Employees and teachers, led by district president Tukkani Srinivas Reddy, organised a bike rally before submitting a memorandum to Aswaraopeta MLA Tellam Venkat Rao, urging the state government to implement the Old Pension Scheme. Addressing the gathering, TS-CPSEU state president Shitapragna said Congress governments in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and



Himachal Pradesh had restored the Old Pension Scheme after scrapping CPS. He urged the Telangana government to honour its election promise and extend OPS benefits to around 2.6 lakh employees and teachers in the state. Responding to the representation, MLA Tellam Venkat Rao assured the delegation that he would place their demand before Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and make every effort to help resolve the issue. TS-CPSEU state general secretary Kalwal Srikanth, district president Tukkani Srinivas Reddy, state secretary Nagu Nayak, district general secretary Rajasekhara, Gazetted Employees Association leader Vemula Kameswara Rao and other union leaders participated in the programme.

TPCC CHIEF MAHESH KUMAR GOUD MOURNS DEMISE OF FORMER PCC PRESIDENT G.S.RAO

Hyderabad TSIT: Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud has expressed profound grief over the demise of former PCC President and former Kovvur MLA G.S. Rao. In a condolence message, Mahesh Kumar Goud described G.S. Rao as a distinguished senior Congress leader who made significant contributions to strengthening the Congress party and serving the people. He said Rao's commitment to public service, dedication to addressing people's issues, and unwavering adherence to democratic values would remain an inspiration for future generations of political leaders.



Puvvada slams Revanth over personal remarks

Khammam town (TSIT): Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has made personal attacks and derogatory remarks to divert attention from the Congress government's failure to fulfil its election promises, alleged former minister Puvvada Ajay Kumar.



Addressing a press conference here on Saturday, Ajay Kumar said he had lost an eye in a road accident and that Revanth Reddy had made similar remarks against him in the past as well. He said people were aware of the development works he had undertaken despite the disability and questioned the achievements of the present ministers. He alleged that the Chief Minister and ministers were targeting him out of political vendetta. He accused the Congress government of failing to implement key promises, including crop loan waiver and Rythu Bharosa, and alleged that farmers had been deceived despite repeated assurances. He claimed that several of the Congress party's election guarantees remained unfulfilled. Defending the previous BRS government, Ajay Kumar said nearly Rs.9,000 crore had been spent on the Sitarama Lift Irrigation

Project and accused the present government of claiming credit for works initiated during the tenure of former chief minister K. Chandrashekar Rao. He also alleged that the government was neglecting the Kaleshwaram project despite the availability of Godavari waters. Ajay Kumar said Telangana's irrigation interests were being ignored and maintained that the BRS government had laid the foundation for utilising Godavari waters effectively. Referring to Andhra Pradesh's Pattiseema project, he said neighbouring states were making better use of Godavari waters while the Telangana government had failed to protect the state's interests. He further alleged that Revanth Reddy lacked commitment towards safeguarding Telangana's irrigation projects and farmers.

Ensure All Facilities for Devotees at Nayinipalli Maisamma Temple: Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil

The South India Times // Nagar Kurnool : District Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil directed officials to ensure all necessary facilities for the thousands of devotees visiting Nayinipalli Maisamma Temple in Peddakothapally mandal every Sunday. During his visit to the temple along with Superintendent of Police Dr. Sangram Singh G. Patil, the Collector reviewed arrangements and instructed officials to provide sanitation, drinking water, toilets, resting sheds, lighting, and effective traffic management.



The Collector asked the authorities to prepare a comprehensive plan for road widening, parking facilities, U-turn arrangements, and crowd control to avoid inconvenience to

devotees. He also directed the temple Executive Officer to obtain necessary approvals from the Endowments Department and streamline the conduct of Annadanam and

other feast arrangements under uniform guidelines. Collector Patil further instructed officials to convene a Gram Sabha at Chinna Karpamula village to discuss the temple's development, protection of temple lands, and creation of permanent amenities. District Excise Officer V. Venugopal Reddy, District Panchayat Officer Sriramulu, Kollapur RDO Bansilal, Peddakothapally Tahsildar Srinivasulu, temple Chairman Srinivasulu, the Temple EO, and officials from various departments were present.

Rythu Bharosa funds must not be adjusted against dues

Bhadradri Kothagudem (TSIT): Banks should not adjust Rythu Bharosa assistance credited to farmers' accounts against loan dues, service charges or any other pending liabilities, district authorities have said. The financial assistance provided by the state government for cultivation should reach farmers in full without any deductions. The district has completed the disbursement of Rythu Bharosa assistance to all eligible beneficiaries. A total of Rs.318.42 crore has been credited to the bank accounts of 1,78,828 farmers under the scheme. The funds were transferred directly to farmers' accounts in a transparent and time-bound manner through coordination among the agriculture, revenue and



banking departments in accordance with the government's guidelines. The state government is implementing several farmer welfare initiatives, including Rythu Bharosa, Rythu Bima, supply of quality seeds and fertilisers, and irrigation support, with the objective of strengthening the agriculture sector and providing timely financial assistance for cultivation.

Collector Assures Three-Wheeler to Differently-Abled Woman

The South India Times // Nagar Kurnool : District Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil assured a differently-abled woman, Devamma of Chinnakothapally village in Peddakothapally mandal, that necessary steps would be taken to provide her with a three-wheeler under government norms. The Collector, along with Superintendent of Police Dr. Sangram Singh G. Patil, interacted with people during his visit to the Nayinipalli Maisamma Temple on Saturday and listened to their grievances. Devamma explained the difficulties she faces in commuting and requested a motorised three-wheeler to improve her mobility.



Gender Equality Begins at Home Says Stand WithHer Panel



Hyderabad TSIT: Gender equality must begin within families by promoting shared responsibilities, emotional honesty and mutual respect, speakers emphasised during the fifth edition of the StandWithHer Panel Discussion Series held at WeHub, Dr.B.R. Ambedkar University, Hyderabad, on Saturday. The discussion, themed "Equality, Care & Emotional Honesty in Families Gender Equality and Patriarchal Attitudes," brought together experts from law enforcement, academia, journalism, cinema and social activism to examine how patriarchal attitudes continue to shape family relation-

ships and gender roles.

Addressing the gathering, Charu Sinha, Director General of the Women Safety Wing, said many gender stereotypes are sustained by invisible social norms. "It is a rule book no one has written, but everyone follows," she remarked, adding that greater awareness and open dialogue could bring positive change in society.

Professor Dr.K.Suneetha Rani, Dean of the School of Social Sciences at the University of Hyderabad, stressed that families should empower individuals rather than impose restrictions. "Family is a bonding, not a bondage," she said.

Film producer Supriya

Yarlagadda observed that individuals thrive when they are free from rigid social expectations, while Poonima Deepika, Founder of the Plantarium Vegan Foundation, urged women to prioritise their own well-being, noting that self-care is essential for healthy relationships.

Filmmaker Sashi Kiran Tikka called upon men to actively participate in conversations on gender equality, saying meaningful dialogue is key to challenging patriarchal attitudes.

The panel also featured Research Scholar Aman Kumar, while senior journalist Uma Sudhir moderated the discussion, focusing on emotional openness, shared caregiving and equality within families.

Organisers said the StandWithHer campaign is a year-long initiative that promotes constructive conversations on gender equality through monthly thematic discussions. The panel concluded that transforming attitudes within families is the first step towards building a more inclusive, compassionate and gender-equal society.

TSCPSEU calls for success of Jana Jagarana Yatra

Mahabubabad, July 6 (TSIT): Telangana State Contributory Pension Employees Union (TSCPSEU) State Secretary Mobin Ahmed has called upon CPS employees and teachers to participate in large numbers and make the Jana Jagarana Yatra a success. He said the yatra, launched under the leadership of TSCPSEU State President Sthitha Pragya, began in Bhadradri Kothagudem district on Saturday and is scheduled to enter Mahabubabad district on Sunday at 9 a.m. Mobin Ahmed said the awareness campaign is being organised across all 33 districts of Telangana to press for the restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS). He noted that 22 years have passed since the introduction of the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS), and although employees have secured benefits such as gratuity and family pension through sustained struggles, nearly 2.8 lakh CPS employees in the State continue to seek the implementation of the Old Pension Scheme. He appealed to all CPS teachers and employees in Mahabubabad district to participate in the yatra in large numbers and extend their support to the movement demanding the immediate restoration of OPS.

	BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II 1 st FLOOR, TRIVENI COMPLEX, ABIDS-500001, AT: HYDERABAD O.A. No. 509 of 2026 KARNATAKA BANK LIMITED ... Applicant AND SRI MAHEEJA CONSTRUCTIONS & THREE OTHERS ... Defendants SUMMONS BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION (1) SRI MAHEEJA CONSTRUCTIONS , Ground Floor, 1/126 Main Road, Trimmam, Chittoor, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh - 517551. Also at: Sri Mahejeja Constructions, H.No. 8-3-191/330, 62/D, Vengala Rao Nagar, Hyderabad - 500038. And also at: Sri Mahejeja Constructions Represented by its Partner Smt. Haritha M, Plot No. 37 & 38, Vijayadurga Residency, Flat No. 501, Siddarth Nagar, Hyderabad - 500038. (2) SRI AMARESWARA REDDY M , S/o Rosi Reddy M., Plot No. 37 & 38, Vijayadurga Residency, Flat No. 501, Siddarth Nagar, Hyderabad - 500008. (3) SMT. HARITHA M , W/o Sri Amareswara Reddy M., Plot No. 37 & 38, Vijayadurga Residency, Flat No. 501, Siddarth Nagar, Hyderabad - 500008. (4) SRI SURYA PRAKASH REDDY MANDYAM , S/o Sri Amareswara Reddy, Plot No. 37 & 38, Vijayadurga Residency, Flat No. 501, Siddarth Nagar, Hyderabad - 500008. ... Defendants Please take the summons in the above O.A. No. 509 of 2026, filed by the Applicant for recovery of money of Rs. 3,84,00,442/- against you. The Hon'ble Tribunal ordered summons to you by way of paper publication and posted the matter to 05-08-2026. In accordance with sub-section (4) of Section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants, are directed as under: i) To show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted; ii) To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the Original Application; iii) You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties; iv) You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of the assets over which security interest is created and/or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the Original Application without the prior approval of the Tribunal; v) You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of secured assets or other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets. You are hereby required to show cause on 05.08.2026 at 10:30 a.m. at Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, 1st Floor, Triveni Complex, Abids, Hyderabad - 500001, in person or by an Advocate duly instructed, as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in case of default, the Application will be heard and determined in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 8th day of July, 2026. (By order of the Tribunal) Registrar Debts Recovery Tribunal - II Hyderabad.
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PUBLIC NOTICE The General Public are hereby informed that my client Sri K. Shekar Babu, S/o. Deva Dass , is absolute owner and possessor of Plot bearing No. 16, admeasuring 183 Square Yards or equivalent to 153 Square Meters, in Survey Nos. 110 and 122 Parts, Situated at Almasguda Village, Balapur Revenue Mandal, (Previously Saroornagar Mandal), Ranga Reddy District, and it is Bounded by North: Plot No. 17, South: 30' Wide Road, East: Plot No. 7, and West: 20' Wide Road, the said property was purchased from Ramidi Bhoomi Reddy and 5 others Vendors 1 to 5 Rep., by their GPA Holder Sri R. Bikhshapathi Reddy , vide Sale Deed, Document No. 8046/1990, dated: 28.06.1990, duly registered at SRO: Hayathnagar. It is hereby notified that the first page of the aforesaid Sale Deed was lost while taking photocopies at Champapet, and despite diligent efforts, the same could not be traced. The general Public is hereby cautioned not to deal with the person/persons who are in illegal possession of the documents. If any person/persons entering into any transaction with respect to the above mentioned property basing on the lost document shall be doing so at their risk and such transactions shall not be honoured. If anyone has any claim/interest/ dispute over the said property, the same may be reported to the undersigned within 15 days from the publication of the notice, failing which no further claim over the said property will be entertained and shall be deemed there is no Encumbrance pending against this Document. Mereddy Narasimha Reddy (Advocate), House No. 11-13-194/1/4, Plot No. 5, Road No. 3, Green Hills Colony, Kothapet, Ranga Reddy District-034, Phone No. 6301426732

Surgery on Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan Successfully Completed

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) The surgery performed on Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Sri Pawan Kalyan in Mumbai has been successfully completed. A team of doctors led by world-renowned orthopaedic surgeon and sports medicine specialist Dr. Dinshaw Pardiwala performed the surgery on Sri Pawan Kalyan's right shoulder. major surgical procedure was required. The surgery lasted for approximately three and a half hours.Following the procedure, Sri Pawan Kalyan was shifted from the operation theatre to the recovery room. He is recovering from the effects of anaesthesia and is currently under the observation and care of the medical team.



No fertilizer shortage in Tirupati: Joint Collector

Tirupati, July 11 (TSIT): Joint Collector R. Govinda Rao has assured farmers that there is no shortage of fertilizers in Tirupati district for the Kharif-2026 season and said adequate stocks of urea are available to meet agricultural requirements.



Addressing a press conference at the Collectorate on Saturday, he said Kharif cultivation is expected to cover 92,620 hectares in the district, with the

Agriculture Department estimating a requirement of 53,050 metric tonnes of fertilizers. The district has been allotted 21,929 metric tonnes of urea up to July, of which 17,775 metric tonnes have already been supplied to farmers. At present, 14,860 metric tonnes of urea are available with AP Markfed, wholesale and private dealers, Rythu Seva Kendras (RBKs) and PACS.

Pen is Mightier Than the Gun; Books Can Transform Society: Home Minister Anitha

Visakhapatnam : Andhra Pradesh Home and Disaster Management Minister Vangalapudi Anitha said that the Telugu language, literature, and cultural heritage must be protected by every family and citizen. She made these remarks while participating as the chief guest at the 3rd International Telugu Women Writers' Conference-2026 held on the occasion of the birth centenary celebrations of Mandali Venkata Krishna Rao. The Minister praised Mandali Venkata Krishna Rao, popularly known as the "Gandhi of Diviseema," for his lifelong contribution to Telugu language, culture, and social service. She recalled his key role in organising the first World Telugu Conference in 1975 and bringing Telugu people across the world together.

Appreciating the contributions of Telugu writers including Yaddanapudi Sulochana Rani, Ranganaikamma, Volga, Vasireddy Seethadevi, and D. Kameswari, she said their literary services



remain an inspiration. She also praised Nannapaneni Rajakumari for her work towards women's empowerment."Telugu is not just a language; it is our culture and soul. The word 'Amma' itself reflects Telugu affection and emotional bonding," she said, adding that regional differences and dialects cannot weaken the unity created by the Telugu language. Highlighting the importance of reading, Minister Anitha said, "A pen is mightier than a sword, and a book is more powerful than a gun. A gun creates fear, but a book builds character." She urged youth to develop the habit of reading. Expressing concern

over harassment of women and abusive behaviour on social media, she said respect for women and good values must be taught to boys as well as girls. Strict action would be taken against those who insult women, she added.

The Minister said women are achieving success in every field, but society must ensure they receive the respect they deserve. She called upon everyone to work towards preserving Telugu language and passing its rich heritage to future generations. The conference was attended by prominent writers, literary figures, public representatives, and Telugu language enthusiasts.

Cabinet Meetings Are Being Held Only for the Benefit of Benamis: Former Minister Amarnath

Visakhapatnam (TSIT): Former Minister and YSR Congress Party West Godavari District Regional Coordinator Gudivada Amarnath alleged that the Cabinet meetings being conducted under the leadership of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu are not intended for public welfare but are limited to transferring government lands to benamis. Addressing a media conference at the party office in Visakhapatnam on Saturday, Amarnath claimed that a land scam worth between Rs.25,000 crore and Rs.30,000 crore had taken place in Visakhapatnam over the past two years, describing it as one of the biggest land scams in the country.

He criticized the government, alleging that Cabinet meetings were giving greater priority to matters relating to land allotments than to decisions concerning public welfare. He further alleged that even in the recent Cabinet meeting, a majority of the agen-



da items were related to land allocations. Amarnath questioned the transfer of 9.39 acres of valuable government land at Madhurawada to the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (APTDC). He alleged that the land, with an estimated market value of Rs.1,500 crore to Rs.2,000 crore, was transferred with the intention of eventually handing it over to private individuals. Alleging that government lands in Visakhapatnam were being allotted to private companies and benamis at

throwaway prices, Amarnath said that properties worth thousands of crores of rupees had changed hands through such land allotments during the past two years. Although the government had announced that lakhs of jobs would be created, he demanded that it release a white paper disclosing how many jobs had actually been generated. He also called for a comprehensive investigation into the alleged Rs.600-crore land transaction in Endada and sought an inquiry into the GITAM land issue in Bheemili. Amarnath further alleged that false cases were being registered against those questioning the government's failures and that efforts were being made to suppress dissent through a so-called Social Media Task Force. Accusing the government of allowing state assets to be diverted to benamis, Amarnath asserted that the YSR Congress Party would continue its fight on these issues on behalf of the people.

Three Andhra Pradesh Tourists Killed in Vietnam Boat Tragedy; Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu Expresses Deep Shock

Visakhapatnam: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu expressed profound grief over the tragic death of three tourists from Andhra Pradesh in a tourist speedboat accident near the famous Phu Quoc Island in Vietnam, describing the incident as heart-breaking. According to official informa-

tion provided by the Embassy of India in Vietnam, 32 Indian tourists were travelling in the speedboat, of whom 15 lost their lives, including 10 from Tamil Nadu, three from Andhra Pradesh, and two from Kerala, while the remaining passengers were rescued safely by Vietnamese rescue personnel. Gelli Kishore from

Machilipatnam sustained serious injuries and is undergoing treatment in critical condition. The deceased from Andhra Pradesh have been identified as Nallapeta Adishesayya Raviteja, Mudiya Sridhar (Kadapa), and Gelli Jayalakshmi (Machilipatnam). Following the tragedy, the Chief Minister held an emergency

review meeting with senior officials and directed them to extend all possible assistance to the bereaved families, coordinate with the Central Government for the speedy transportation of the mortal remains to Andhra Pradesh, and ensure the safe return of the rescued tourists to their hometowns.

HPV Vaccine is the Key to Preventing Cervical Cancer: Police Commissioner Dr. Shankhabrata Bagchi

Visakhapatnam: (TSIT) Visakhapatnam City Police Commissioner Dr. Shankhabrata Bagchi stated that cervical cancer in women, caused by the Human Papillomavirus (HPV), can be effectively prevented through the HPV (CERVAVAC) vaccine. He inaugurated the HPV booster dose vaccination programme, along with Dr. Shireen Rahman, President of Chaitanya Sravanthi, on Saturday at the Temple of Learning Hall in the Police Barracks. The programme was jointly organized by NATCO Trust, Lions Club of Vizag



Charitable Trust, and Chaitanya Sravanthi voluntary organization. During the two-day camp, HPV vaccines will be administered to 500 daughters of police personnel aged between 9 and 14

years. Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner expressed his gratitude to the voluntary organizations that came forward to provide free cancer-preventive vaccines to the daughters of

police families. He said that no complications were reported after the first dose and advised beneficiaries to consult doctors if they experience mild symptoms such as fever after receiving the booster dose.

APMEDUCON 2026 Successfully Concludes at GITAM



Visakhapatnam (TSIT) The 16th Annual State-Level Conference of the Andhra Pradesh Medical Educators Association (APMEA), APMEDUCON 2026, organized by the Medical Education Unit of GITAM Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (GIMSIR), successfully concluded on Saturday, July 11, 2026. Held with the theme "Innovations in Medical Education in India: Emerging Trends," the conference witnessed participation from more than 260 delegates, including medical edu-

cators, doctors, researchers, postgraduate and undergraduate students from across the country. The conference focused on several contemporary areas, including the globalization of Indian medical education, practical curriculum, research in medical education, experiential learning, mentoring future medical professionals, bedside wisdom and humanism, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital innovations in medical education, and competency-based medical education.

Grand First Convocation of JNTU-GV

- A DEGREE IS NOT THE FINAL DESTINATION; IT IS THE BEGINNING OF SERVICE TO SOCIETY: GOVERNOR S. ABDUL NAZEER



Visakhapatnam (TSIT): The first convocation of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University-Gurajada (JNTU-GV) was held in a grand manner on Saturday at the AU Convention Centre in Visakhapatnam. Andhra Pradesh Governor and Chancellor of JNTU-GV, S. Abdul Nazeer, presided over the ceremony. APSICHE Chairman Prof. K. Madhumurthy attended as the Special Guest, while Nirmaan Organization Founder and Global CEO Mayur Patnala was the Chief Guest. On the occasion, the University conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) upon Mayur Patnala.

Addressing the graduating students, Governor S. Abdul Nazeer stated that a degree is not the end of the educational journey but the beginning of service to society and a life of responsibility. He said that the students receiving their degrees at the first convocation would remain a permanent part of the University's history as its first graduating batch. He appreciated the sacrifices of parents, the guidance of teachers, and the encouragement of friends behind the success of the graduates. Quoting the Sanskrit saying, "Vidya Dadati Vinayam, Vinayad Yati Patratam, Patratvat Dhanam Apnoti, Dhanat Dharmam Tadah Sukham" ("Education gives humility; humility leads to worthiness; worthiness brings wealth; wealth enables righteousness; righteousness leads to happiness"), he explained the values of education. The Governor praised JNTU-GV for earning remarkable recognition within a short period in academic excellence, research, and transparent governance. He said that achievements such as establishing an MSME Centre with an investment of Rs.10 crore, forging international collaborations with institutions in Germany, the United States, and Sweden, and securing a national-level victory at the Amaravati Quantum Valley Hackathon stand as testimony to the University's excellence. He appreciated the University's initiative of issuing provisional certificates, original degrees, and transcripts within 24 hours, providing degrees through DigiLocker, and its decision to introduce a blockchain-based tamper-proof degree system in the future. He also commended the University's environmentally friendly initiatives, including rainwater harvesting, banning single-use plastics, and promoting electric vehicles on campus. He noted that Civil Engineering students undertaking repairs to hostel buildings as part of their summer internship serves as an example for other universities.

MP opens renovated social welfare girls' hostel



Palamaner (TSIT): Chittoor MP Daggumalla Prasad Rao and Palamaner MLA Amar Nath Reddy on Friday inaugurated the newly renovated Andhra Pradesh Government Social Welfare Department Girls' Hostel at Palamaner, developed at a cost of Rs.20 lakh from the MP's Local Area Development (MPLAD) funds.

Following the inauguration, the MP and MLA inspected the hostel building and reviewed the facili-

ties available for the students. They interacted with the hostel inmates, enquired about the quality of education, accommodation, food and other amenities, and encouraged the students to focus on their studies and make the best use of the facilities provided. The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening educational infrastructure and improving welfare facilities for students across the constituency.

SVIMS marks World Population Day with awareness programme

Tirupati (TSIT): The Department of Community Medicine at the Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS) observed World Population Day with an awareness programme at Sri Padmavathi Medical College for Women on Saturday.

The programme was inaugurated by Dean Dr. Alok Sachan, Registrar Dr. Aparna R. Bitla, Principal Dr. Umamaheshwar Rao, Head of the Department of Community Medicine Dr. Anju D. Ade and Programme Organising Nodal Faculty Prof. Visveswar Rao.

Addressing the gathering, Dean Dr. Alok Sachan said the programme was organised under the guidance of SVIMS Director and Vice-Chancellor Dr. R.V. Kumar. He noted that World Population Day, observed annually on July



11, aims to create awareness about the challenges arising from rapid population growth.

Principal Dr. Umamaheshwar Rao said the event was organised to educate students about the social, economic and environmental impacts of population growth. The dignitaries later visited a poster exhibition prepared by

students. Dr. Anju D. Ade highlighted the importance of population stabilisation, gender equality and sustainable development. She said this year's theme, "Realizing the hopes and aspirations of young people - today and for the future," underscores the need to empower youth and promote informed choices.

EDITORIAL

Meat Consumption and
Spending Rise

Meat, poultry, seafood and eggs are widely consumed in India. About eight out of ten people aged 15-49 eat some form of animal sourced protein (excluding dairy). The share of people who eat meat is higher among men, at 87% than among women (75%).

Over the years, the share of Indian adults who eat meat has increased slightly, rising from 74% in 2006 to 80% in 2021. Who eats meat in India?

The consumption of meat is more common among lower-income groups. Nearly nine out of ten people belonging to the poorest 20% of India's population eat meat, compared to about seven out of ten among the wealthiest 20%.

This difference is larger among women, especially in rural areas. Among women belonging to the wealthiest group in rural India, just over half eat meat, whereas three-quarters of men do. Consumption patterns also vary by social and religious groups. Religion also plays a role in dietary habits. Nearly all of the Muslim (99%), Christian (99%) and Buddhists/neo-Buddhist (97%) populations eat meat. Among Hindus, a little over three-quarters consume meat, while Jains and Sikhs have the highest share of vegetarians. Only one-quarter of Jains and half of Sikhs have ever eaten meat. Among Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), 87% and 88% respectively consume meat, while the figure is lower at 72% for other groups.

Only three states have a vegetarian majority – Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. Most coastal states have very few vegetarians, with less than 5% of the population reporting that they had never eaten meat, except in Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra. What kinds of meat are commonly consumed?

The NFHS classifies different types of meat into 3 broad categories – eggs, fish, and chicken/meat. Eggs are the most widely eaten animal source protein with 78% of people having eaten them, followed by chicken/meat (75%) and fish (72%). Most people do not eat meat every day. Overall, one in ten people eat some form of meat daily, while six in ten do so weekly. Both the share of meat consumers and their frequency of consumption are higher in urban areas. For instance, in 2006, nearly half of those who ate eggs consumed them only occasionally. By 2021, this share had dropped to a third, while the share of weekly egg consumers rose to over half. In 2006, a third of consumers of chicken/ meat ate it weekly, but by 2021, this had increased to over half. Spending on meat

On an average an individual spends Rs. 216 per month on meat items, accounting for 10% of total food expenditure. In rural areas, the average spending is just over Rs. 200 per month, while in urban areas, it is close to Rs 250 per month. The share of total food expenditure spent on meat on an average has doubled from 5% in 1988 to 10% by 2023. Among rural households, the share of food expenditure on meat increases with income. However, in urban areas, this trend is reversed, with the wealthiest groups spending a smaller share of the net food expenditure on meat items. Not just in relative terms, even in terms of absolute spending on meat, the median amount rises with wealth, except among the richest households, where it declines. In fact, urban households in the highest wealth quintile spend less on meat than those in the third and fourth wealth quintiles. In some states, a significant share of the average food expenditure is on meat. The northeastern states, for instance, spend almost 20-25% of their food budget on eggs, fish, and meat-the highest in the country.

AYODHYA AFTER THE TEMPLE:

FAITH, POWER AND THE
Embezzlement of Ramdhan

The 'Ram Janmabhoomi Movement' that involved L.K. Advani's Ram Rath Yatra, his arrest in Bihar, and the demolition of the Babri Masjid – all in the 1990s – played a pivotal role in altering the psyche of large sections of Hindu society and the subsequent change in India's political landscape.

Prime minister Narendra Modi's reign from 2014 onwards has witnessed the systematic sidelining of the "original heroes" of that movement – Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi, Ashok Singhal, Uma Bharti, Praveen Togadia, Vinay Katiyar et al. Yet the Modi-Amit Shah duo has made enormous political capital out of the Hindu-Muslim divide, the seeds of which were sown in the 1990s. Be it the ruling Sangh Parivar's growing clout over institutions such as the judiciary, or the investigating agencies that aid the judicial process, its control over public narratives, or otherwise, the construction of the Ram temple at the site where the Babri Masjid once stood, following the Supreme Court's order, is largely credited to Modi, particularly by sections of Hindu society in the Hindi heartland. And by acting as the jaiman at the consecration ceremony of the new Ram temple at Ayodhya ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the Modi emerged as the most potent Hindu Hriday Samrat. Obviously, the alleged embezzlement of chadhawa (offerings) before Lord Ram and chanda (donations) for the temple in cash and jewellery worth crores of rupees has driven observers of politics and religion to fathom its impact on the Hindu society's faith in Modi and his apparatus, if not in Ram.

The questions in the minds of these observers include: If the Ram Janmabhoomi movement created what the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) – the fountainhead of all the Sangh Parivar affiliates, including the BJP – describes as a Hindu navjagaran (renaissance), will the unprecedented heist of Ramdhan



(God's wealth) have no bearing on the minds of Hindus? If invoking Ram's name created huge political capital for the BJP, will the alleged embezzlement of the chadhawa and chanda for Ram not jolt people's faith in the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, manned by RSS functionaries – all reportedly picked by the prime minister's Office and the Union Home Ministry?

GRASSROOTS REALITY

The recent travels of yours truly through the remote hinterlands of Purvanchal – Siwan in Bihar, and Mehrauna and Bhatpar in Deoria district of eastern Uttar Pradesh – brought to the fore a drastic change in socio-economic relationships at the grassroots level. Advani's first Ram Rath Yatra from Somnath to Ayodhya and his arrest by the Lalu Prasad Yadav government's police took place in 1990. The Babri Masjid was demolished in 1992. It was still a pre-digital, pre-internet, pre-Android phone and pre-information technology revolution era, in which the pre-market economy and community life largely guided the thinking process of the people,

particularly at the grassroots level. Political leaders – Advani, A.B. Vajpayee, Joshi and Uma Bharti – and their speeches were distant phenomena, discussed only when they visited and addressed the people. Welfare measures like allotment of houses to the poor, subsidies during floods, droughts and other disasters, and special financial assistance to the deprived and marginalised sections existed. But the beneficiaries depended heavily on the physical infrastructure of the block and panchayat administration to deliver these benefits. Be it Yadav or Advani or any other political figure, people discussed them at community gatherings – village chaupals, under the shade of old trees in summer and around bonfires in winter – far removed from today's bombardment of information and rhetoric on mobile phones. Others who attracted and influenced the communities were local folk and ballad singers and village melas (fairs). The villages still had Ramleela actors and singers of Alha-Udal, Birha, Sorathi and Lorikayan to entertain them. The residents who played Ram and

Ravana in the Ramleela also extolled the sacrifice of Hussein at Karbala during Muharram, known in these parts as Tazia. The one use of technology that seems to have had an enormous impact on the socio-economic order at the grassroots is linking over 540 million people with the banking system (known as the Jan Dhan Yojana), involving the linking of Aadhaar, bank accounts and mobile phones, and the direct transfer of subsidies – old-age pensions, seasonal subsidies and poll-time bonanzas – to the beneficiaries. The State Bank of India (SBI) and some other rural banks have opened Customer Service Points (CSPs) in almost all villages. Now, these CSPs have emerged as new places where people gather on designated days to withdraw old-age pensions and subsidies. Parallel to the CSPs have come up ubiquitous computer and internet centres issuing KYC (Know Your Customer) documents and submitting online applications for caste, residence and domicile certificates, which have become primary requirements for people in this digital era. It is not that these

digital outlets are free from corruption. Similar to the pre-digital era, when block and panchayat officials demanded bribes, these CSPs and computer centres often ask for Rs 200 to Rs 300 for KYC or other certificates. But it is easier for the beneficiaries, who receive their dues directly in their accounts and are notified through the Short Message Service (SMS) on their mobile phones after paying the "bribe", which is apparently far less than the "free dole" they receive. Facebook and Instagram have witnessed an enormous surge of folk and ballad singers and storytellers, creating an illusion that they continue to flourish at the grassroots. But this writer found few Alha-Udal, Birha and Lorikayan singers in the villages of Purvanchal. Traditional sports and games that once attracted local youth, too, have largely vanished.

Movement against corruption? By all accounts, the alleged loot of Ramdhan is perhaps the biggest scam in the history of Hindu, or Sanatan dharma. Will it impact the BJP's political prospects?

Modi's Visit Seeks ‘Nap Times’ and ‘Venues Without Stairs’, Reports New Zealand Media

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to New Zealand will feature specific logistical accommodations due to his age, along with stringent security measures, according to local media reports. Media reportage in New Zealand states that "Modi's age (75) provides extra complexities". A report by the New Zealand news outlet Stuff detailed the extensive requirements laid out by the prime minister's advance security and logistics teams. Beyond physical security, the advance team has submitted highly specific requests regarding Modi's daily itinerary. Organisers have been instructed to structure a schedule that "allows for nap times" or "dedicated rest periods for Modi, who turned 75 on September 17, 2025. Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat, himself 75 now, had said in July 2025 that once they attain the age of 75, leaders should think of retiring and yield to younger colleagues. He later backtracked and claimed that he never said someone should retire. Additionally, the host government has been requested a "preference for venues without stairs he'd need to use". The report suggests that this "likely stems from when he fell on stairs during an event six years ago". Modi was visiting Kanpur to review the progress of the Namami Gange project on December 14, 2019 at the Atal Ghat when he fell forward while climbing the steps of the ghat. The Special Protection Group personnel immediately rushed to his aid and helped him back to his feet. A few days later, local authorities in Kanpur announced that the



specific uneven step on the staircase would be demolished and reconstructed to properly align with the rest of the stairs to prevent future accidents. As per the report, New Zealand authorities are adding extra layers of security, which reportedly includes the positioning of police snipers at key engagement sites. While New Zealand is generally considered a low-risk destination, these enhanced security protocols reflect standard operational procedures for the Indian prime minister to account for any potential risks. Modi's visit to New Zealand is expected to focus on strengthening bilateral ties, advancing ongoing trade discussions, and interacting with the Indian diaspora living in the country. India and New Zealand on Saturday (July 11) elevated their relationship to a Strategic Partnership with a strong maritime and security focus, signing a series of defence agreements and establishing new security dialogues even as a recently concluded free trade agreement (FTA) remains some distance from

taking effect. Modi's visit to Auckland, the first by an Indian prime minister since Rajiv Gandhi travelled to New Zealand in 1986, came less than three months after the two countries signed an FTA that both governments have cast as the foundation for a broader strategic partnership. The Indian PM arrived in New Zealand on Friday (June 10) night, at the end of a three-nation tour that included Indonesia and Australia. Announcing the upgrade, New Zealand prime minister Christopher Luxon said the Strategic Partnership reflected the two countries' "shared ambition to do more together" and that the leaders had "backed that ambition with action." He said the accompanying Roadmap to 2030 would guide cooperation across trade, investment, technology, maritime security, education, tourism, agriculture and people-to-people ties. Maritime Cooperation Arrangement between the Indian Navy and the New Zealand Defence Force Modi, who thanked Luxon for per-

sonally driving the trade negotiations, said it was rare for an FTA to be concluded "in such a short time" and described the Strategic Partnership as a milestone that would give bilateral ties "greater energy and greater confidence." Referring to India and New Zealand as maritime democracies, he said closer cooperation between the two countries could contribute to peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific. While trade provided the backdrop, the visit's substantive outcomes centred on maritime security and the Indo-Pacific. The two sides announced a Maritime Cooperation Arrangement between the Indian Navy and the New Zealand Defence Force, a reciprocal logistics support arrangement and an implementation arrangement on hydrography and nautical cartography. They also agreed to establish an annual Maritime Security Dialogue and welcomed New Zealand's decision to join the maritime security pillar of India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative. Speaking at a media briefing after the talks, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Secretary (East) Rudrendra Tandon said the strategic upgrade reflected India's growing engagement with the Pacific. "As an Indian Ocean country, the Pacific is a very important maritime zone for us," he said. "This whole visit is about strengthening the rules-based Indo-Pacific order." The joint statement reaffirmed support for a "free, open, peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific", freedom of navigation under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, ASEAN centrality and a rules-based regional order.

Israel's Gender Segregation Bill for Academia Is a Trojan Horse for Racial Segregation

Just before Israel heads to the polls, the Netanyahu-Ben Gvir government is racing to complete legislation that, officially, is intended to circumvent a ruling by Israel's Supreme Court and establish gender-segregated academic programs, with women and men studying separately. Although the legislation is presented as a way to integrate ultra-Orthodox Jews into universities and, ultimately, the workforce, gender segregation is a Trojan horse that could pave the way for racial segregation, with profound implications for Israel's Arab minority. Today, about 21% of university students in Israel are Arabs who study alongside Jewish students. The Bill's sponsor, Knesset member Limor Sun Har-Melech, said during a December 4, 2024, parliamentary debate in which the proposal passed its preliminary reading: The proposal is not directed at any particular sector but is open to anyone interested for reasons of religion, culture or personal preference. True equality is not achieved by forcing everyone into a single mould, but by creating a variety of options that respect the differences within society ... They tell you that this law is taking us towards Iran, but gender-segregated education is not unique to Israel. It is common practice in many countries around the world, including Western countries such as Australia. Yet Har-Melech herself evokes anything but equality, pluralism and respect for others. Instead, she is associated with her membership in the Kahanist Otzma Yehudit [Jewish Power] party and a social



media post showing her in the Palestinian village of Huwara while hundreds of far-right activists were setting fire to homes and vehicles. The accompanying caption said she had come there "to support the justified outcry of the hundreds of Samaria residents who came out to protest". Har-Melech also chairs the Knesset lobby "For Religious and Haredi [ultra-Orthodox] Women" that spearheaded the gender-segregation Bill. One of its leaders is Anat Gopstein, the wife of Bentzi Gopstein, a leading Otzma Yehudit activist, founder of the Lehava organisation, who was convicted last year of incitement to terrorism. In a video interview with Channel 7 published on December 8, 2024, Anat Gopstein explained that "the law is good news because it allows everyone to study in gender-segregated settings [...] The people frightened and disturbed by such a move are those who tell me how to live my life. If I want to study separately, I have that right, and they will not define what is

right for me. These are people who place themselves above us and want to educate us, and I am not prepared to accept that. We have the right to do what we believe in." Her husband, Bentzi Gopstein, shared the interview on his Telegram channel, titled "Bentzi Gopstein – Kahane Was Right!" where he regularly posts inflammatory quotations by Rabbi Meir Kahane. In November 2023, he also used the channel to urge his supporters to attend an event calling for the removal of Arab students from university dormitories. Anat and Bentzi Gopstein are not only spouses but also ideological and political partners. After exit polls from the November 1, 2022, election showed major gains for Otzma Yehudit, Anat told reporters, "Lehava has returned to power." The organisation's website also features an interview with her under the headline, "Anat Gopstein: The Woman Behind Lehava." In February 2024, Channel 7 published a video interview identifying her as the "head of the treatment

division of the Lehava organisation, which deals with assimilation". On December 19, 2024, she shared a post featuring an illustration of "Eyal, 26," described as "a reserve commander in Gaza" who was allegedly rejected from medical school, alongside "Ahmad, 20", who was allegedly accepted to medical school despite "not serving in the IDF, supporting the October 7 massacre" and receiving a lower score on Israel's national psychometric entrance exam than "Eyal". Lehava is the modern-day, more sophisticated successor to the Kach and Kahane Chai movements, which Israel designated as terrorist organisations in 1994 following the massacre at the Cave of the Patriarchs. It promotes an agenda of complete racial segregation. Lehava activists have been convicted of setting fire to Jerusalem's bilingual school, and the organisation periodically stages marches during which its members verbally and physically assault passersby they identify as non-Jews.

Udupi: Negligent BLOs to face action if complaints are received, warns DC Swaroopa T K

Udupi, Jul 11: Deputy commissioner (DC) Swaroopa T K has warned that strict action will be taken against any Booth Level Officer (BLO) found negligent in discharging duties related to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral roll if complaints are brought to the notice of the district administration. She was speaking at the monthly interactive programme on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral roll, organised by the Udupi District Working Journalists' Association in association with the Udupi Press Club Committee at the Udupi Press Club on Friday, July 10. DC Swaroopa T K clarified that the draft electoral roll under the SIR will be published on August 5, and only those whose names



are missing from the draft list will be required to submit any one of the 11 prescribed supporting documents. Those whose names already appear in the draft roll need not submit any documents. The DC said that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) have been repeatedly instructed to visit every household to distribute and collect enumeration forms. Notices

have already been issued to BLOs who have been slow in carrying out their duties. She further explained that if a person's name is omitted from the draft electoral roll despite the submission of the form, he or she may file another application using the acknowledgment copy in his or her possession. Those with discrepancies in their names will receive

notices from the authorities and will be required to submit documents supporting the requested changes. She assured that names appearing in the draft roll will not be omitted from the final electoral roll under any circumstances. The final electoral roll will be published on October 7, she added. To resolve confusion regarding the forms and assist the public, officials have been appointed at the taluk level. Volunteers have also been deployed at polling booths and will be available even on Sundays. Citizens with complaints regarding BLOs may contact the sector officers or the tahsildar by phone, she said. On the occasion, the DC also released the June issue of the Association's magazine, 'Sanmati'.

S. Manohar demands Supreme Court judges to investigate Ram mandir theft case

Bengaluru: KPCC General Secretary S. Manohar has demanded that The BJP government is protecting the corrupt priests who stole from the Shri Ram temple, hence the case should be investigated immediately by the Supreme Court judges. Speaking at a public awareness campaign organized by kpcc through the guise of Shri Ram and distributed posters to the public, he said that the Bharatiya Janata Party, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, Hindu organizations have taken money from the citizens of the country and devotees of Shri Ram for the construction of the Shri Ram temple and now have looted money and gold ornaments in the presence of Shri Ram. The corrupt BJP leaders



who have taken political benefits in the name of religion and God have today stolen the money hundi in front of the idol of Shri Ram, he said that the Narendra Modi government, which came to power after taking political benefits in the name of religion, has today desecrated the religious place of the country. The BJP, RSS and Sangh Parivar, who used to claim to be the heirs of Hinduism,

have remained silent about the looting in Ayodhya today. The Prime Minister of the country has come to worship in Ayodhya and is standing in defense of the accused who have cheated Shri Ram today. Meanwhile, the bulldozer Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath, declares every day that he will protect the religion by wearing a kavi, today, local priests have

looted crores of rupees of money and gold ornaments from the premises of the Shri Ram temple in Ayodhya and have failed to take action against it. Such corrupt BJP people have defiled the holy place of the country. In this context, they have demanded that this case be immediately investigated by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the corrupt people involved in the corruption and looting the gold ornaments be put in jail. Congress workers like A. Anand, Prakash Ji, Aditya, Hemraj, Anand Kumar, Suwal Haruve Gowda, Umesh, Sunkadakatte Naveen, Ranjith, Praveen Rao, Naveen Sai, Appu, Manjunath, Pawan, Puttaraju and many other workers participated in the protest.

"Padma Shri Dr. C. N. Manjunath Calls for Technology-Driven health care should be Patient-Centric Cardiac Care at ICVT LIVE 2026"

Bengaluru : Rural MP and Padma Shri Dr. C. N. Manjunath attended the inaugural session of ICVT LIVE 2026, organized by the Society of Indian Cardiovascular Technologists (ICVT), as the Chief Guest at Hilton Manyata Tech Park, Hebbal, Bengaluru. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Manjunath highlighted the alarming rise in cardiovascular diseases in India, noting that heart attacks are increasingly affecting younger individuals between the ages of 25 and 45. He stressed the importance of preventive healthcare, early diagnosis, and timely treatment to reduce the growing burden of heart disease. He observed that while medical technology is advancing at an unprecedented pace, it must always be guided by scientific evidence,



ethical practice, and patient safety. Appreciating the contribution of cardiovascular technologists, he remarked, "Cardiologists are the heart of cardiac care, but cardiovascular technologists are its brain," recognizing their vital role in ensuring successful cardiac interventions. Dr. Manjunath emphasized the need to train more skilled car-

diovascular technologists to meet India's growing healthcare demands. He also highlighted the importance of the Hub-and-Spoke model, where advanced cardiac centres (Hubs) support peripheral hospitals (Spokes), ensuring that patients in rural and remote areas receive timely, high-quality cardiac care through an efficient referral network. Highlighting

India's progress under the Make in India initiative, Dr. Manjunath noted that advanced medical technologies, including CT scanners, helium-free MRI systems, and several interventional cardiac devices, are now being manufactured in India. He said that affordable indigenous technology will further enhance the quality, accessibility, and safety of patient care. Concluding his address, Dr. Manjunath encouraged healthcare professionals to continuously upgrade their knowledge, learn from experience, and strive for excellence in patient care. He expressed confidence that conferences like ICVT LIVE 2026 would serve as temples of learning, promoting innovation, collaboration, and compassionate healthcare while delivering better outcomes for patients.

Punarjanmaa Trust founder B. Parameshwara receives the Badavara Asha kiran Award for his achievements



Bengaluru: When every person in society adopts the philosophies of great people who worked for the upliftment of humanity, the progress of society is possible. Punarjanmaa Trust president B. Parameshwara has shown that. In recognition of his achievements, Colorful News Kannada monthly magazine "Badavara Ashakirana" has honored Punarjanmaa Trust founder B. Parameshwar with the award. Speaking after receiving the award at a program held at Ravindra Kalakshetra, B. Parameshwara said that a human being can achieve success in life only when he abandons his inferiority complex and lives

Relaxo Footwears Expands Retail Footprint in South India, Opens Four New Stores in Bangalore

Bangalore : Relaxo Footwears Limited, India's largest footwear manufacturer, has strengthened its retail presence in South India with the launch of four new Exclusive Brand Outlets in JP Nagar, Attibele, Channasandra, and Magadi Road, Bangalore, taking the total number of stores to 429. The stores were inaugurated by popular and versatile Indian actress Adah Sharma, who joined the inauguration ceremony and interacted with consumers at the launch event. The expansion reflects Relaxo's continued commitment to delivering a more engaging, intuitive, and seamless footwear shopping experience for the modern Indian consumer. Designed in line with Relaxo's refreshed retail identity, the new outlets feature a cleaner and more contemporary design language, elevated with bold brand accents that create an inviting and easy-to-navigate shopping environment. The upgraded format combines style, simplicity, and accessibility,



enabling consumers to explore products effortlessly while enjoying a more immersive retail experience. The stores house Relaxo Footwear's leading brands- Sparx, Flite, Bahamas, MaryJane and Boston, supported by enhanced visual merchandising that improves product visibility and discovery. The thoughtfully designed layouts feature clearly defined brand zones and categories, allowing customers to navigate seamlessly, browse comfortably, and make confident purchase decisions. Speaking

on the launch, Mr. Aakash Koparkar, Vice President - Retail Business, Relaxo Footwears Limited, said, "Bangalore continues to be an important and fast-growing market for us. With these new stores, we are bringing our next-generation retail format closer to consumers, making the shopping experience more intuitive, contemporary, and engaging. Our aim is to further strengthen our presence in South India while delivering a consistent and elevated in-store experience across markets."

ABIPER Hosts National Conference on AI in Pharmacy Education and Research

Bengaluru : Aditya Bangalore Institute of Pharmacy Education & Research (ABIPER), Yelahanka, in collaboration with the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS), the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI), and the Karnataka State Pharmacy Council, successfully inaugurated a two-day National Conference on "Steering Pharmacy Education and AI for Advanced Research and Innovation" at its campus in Bengaluru. The conference was presided over by Dr. B.A. Vishwanath, Founder Chairman, Aditya Group of Institutions. Dr. Anjan Roy, Chairman of Flow Chemicals, Bengaluru, attended as the Chief Guest. The event was graced by Dr. Priya Vishwanath, Chairperson, Aditya Group of Institutions, Dr. Aditya Vishwanath, Vice Chairman, along with Prof. Shivananda and Dr. M.D. Karvekar. Eminent scientists, pharmaceutical industry experts, academicians, researchers, and students from across the country participated in the conference. Addressing the gathering, Chief Guest Dr. Anjan Roy said that Artificial Intelligence is transforming the pharmaceutical sector by



accelerating drug discovery, enhancing patient care, improving research outcomes, and enabling data-driven healthcare solutions. He urged students and researchers to acquire expertise in AI, digital technologies, and advanced research methodologies to remain globally competitive and future-ready. He also stressed the need for stronger collaboration between academia and the pharmaceutical industry to drive innovation and develop next-generation healthcare solutions. The conference featured keynote lectures, technical sessions, and research presentations by distinguished experts from leading pharmaceutical industries and reputed academic institutions. Discussions focused on the growing role of Artificial Intelligence in pharmacy education, pharmaceutical

research, healthcare, precision medicine, and drug development. The speakers highlighted that integrating AI into pharmacy education will equip students with cutting-edge knowledge, strengthen research capabilities, and prepare them to address future healthcare challenges. Participants gained valuable insights into emerging AI technologies, current industry trends, and innovative research practices, contributing significantly to their academic and professional development. The two-day conference aims to provide a national platform for knowledge sharing, collaboration, and innovation among academicians, researchers, industry professionals, and students, reinforcing ABIPER's commitment to excellence in pharmacy education and research.

Kumaraswamy should seek information from PM and Union Jal Shakti Minister before speaking on the river-linking project: CM D K Shivakumar

Bengaluru : Chief Minister D K Shivakumar hit back at Union Minister Kumaraswamy for his uninformed comments on river linking project saying he should get an update from the PM and Union Jal Shakti Minister before commenting. Speaking to reporters at Vidhana Soudha, the CM said, "Kumaraswamy should first meet the Prime Minister and the Union Jal Shakti Minister. He should get information about this project and speak only after that." Asked about Kumaraswamy's statement that the river-linking issue was not a real estate matter and that the quantity of water needs to be fixed, he said, "I will give the answer to whoever needs it, whenever it needs to be given." Building a drug-free Karnataka is our resolve "We have resolved to make Karnataka a drug-free state. Work is being done to create awareness among youth, students, and parents. Everyone should cooperate with the police in this process. That is why the Police department is running the 'Beda Bro' campaign," he said.

Will explore legal options against PRC and also petition to Governor; this is an attempt to usurp Centre's power and authority - Vijayendra

Bengaluru : Describing the Permanent Residential Certificate (PRC) being issued by the state Congress government as a "devious strategy to protect illegal immigrants and consolidate its vote-bank" State BJP President B. Y. Vijayendra on Saturday said that his party will explore legal options to challenge the Constitutional Validity of the PRC as well as petition to the Governor against this patently "illogical and Unconstitutional" move. In a statement issued here, Vijayendra said he will shortly convene a meeting of his party's legal team to discuss the ways and means to challenge this "patently Unconstitutional and illogical move" of the Congress government. "We will also petition to the Governor, the Constitutional Head of the State and bring this to his kind attention how the state government is trying to usurp the powers and authority of the Centre," Vijayendra added. The State BJP President slammed the Grand Old Party for its "double-standards and duplicity" on the issue of National Register of Citizens (NRC) and PRC. "When the BJP government at the Centre wanted to exercise its Constitutional Rights of preparing the National Register of Citizens (NRC), the Congress party opposed it and raised a hue and cry. Now the



Congress government in Karnataka is issuing PRC which is "totally unconstitutional and patently illogical" Vijayendra added. According to Vijayendra, the powers and authority to prepare NRC or issue PRC vests with the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) after thoroughly establishing whether a particular individual is a bonafide citizen or not. "The task of establishing the citizenship under Indian Citizenship Act is purely and solely is that of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs. I charge the Congress government not only of working cross-purposes with the Union government but also usurping the powers and authority of the Centre solely

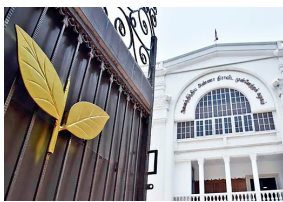
with political considerations," Vijayendra added. Vijayendra further said that the state government's decision to issue PRC at the very time of on-going SIR smacks of political conspiracy to draw electoral dividends by protecting the illegal immigrants and consolidating its vote-bank. BJP President signed off by saying, "My party will fight this patently Unconstitutional and Illogical exercise both politically and legally. We will go to the Constitutional Head of the State to draw his attention. We will not allow the Congress government to usurp Centre's power and authority in the matters related to Indian Citizenship

AIADMK slams Tamil Nadu CM Vijay for 'hand in gloves' remarks in Karur, alleges governance failures

IT ACCUSED THE TVK OF FORMING A GOVERNMENT THROUGH "SHEER POLITICAL OPPORTUNISM" BY POACHING THE DMK'S ALLIANCE PARTNERS.

CHENNAI: The AIADMK on Saturday (July 11) launched a blistering attack on the TVK government in Tamil Nadu, accusing it of "failing" the state across critical sectors, ranging from public safety to economic growth. Madras HC orders checkpoints on roads adjoining Mudumalai Tiger Reserve to monitor Jeep safaris

Taking to X, the AIADMK on Saturday said, "The current Chief Minister Vijay, who rode to power on the heels of a tragedy that claimed 41 innocent lives, has used the derogatory term hand in gloves." In a public meeting at Karur on Friday (July 10), the CM had attacked both the Dravidian parties, dismissing the DMK as an "evil force" and AIADMK as a "spent force".He alleged that in every government department, both parties were work-



ing together to plunder the state under the guise of collecting party funds. "The evil force and spent force are not separate entities, they are working hand in glove," the CM alleged and challenged them to prove otherwise in the upcoming bypolls.

Tamil Nadu government sets deadlines to clear pending NHIS insurance claims The AIADMK pointed out that it fought the DMK across all 234 constituencies and continues to function as a distinct, independent opposition party to this very day.

It accused the TVK of forming a government through

"sheer political opportunism" by poaching the DMK's alliance partners. Questioning Vijay's track record, the AIADMK asked, "In the two years since you launched your party, how many people have you actually met? What people-centric politics have you discussed?"

Tears turn to hope for Karur stampede victims' families as CM Vijay hands over jobs"While you (Vijay) were busy singing in Karur, reports have emerged that a massive Rs 38,000-crore investment by Hyundai has left Tamil Nadu," said the party, challenging the TVK chief to address the economic loss. The opposition party charged the TVK with "failing" to alleviate the daily suffering of citizens dealing with constant power cuts and a deteriorating law-and-order situation.

Madras HC orders checkpoints on roads adjoining Mudumalai Tiger Reserve to monitor Jeep safaris



CHENNAI: Expressing anguish over videos showing Jeep drivers chasing wild animals and elephants at the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, the Madras High Court ordered stricter regulation of private Jeep Safari operations and directed the establishment of check posts. The Special Bench comprising Justices N Sathish Kumar and D Bharatha Chakravarthy made the observations during a hearing on the uncontrolled private Jeep Safari operations in the

Mudumalai Buffer Zone and the surrounding roads connected to the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve.

Expressing concern over several videos showing violations in wildlife areas, the Bench observed that Jeep drivers were seen chasing wild animals even in the middle of the night and repeatedly interfering with their natural habitat.The court particularly took exception to incidents of drivers continuously honking and chasing elephants, observ-

ing that such acts were being carried out as though they were a sport. Stating that the issue caused deep concern and anguish, the court emphasised that wildlife must be preserved and protected, as forests are the animals' natural habitat.

The Bench directed that check posts be established on the roads leading to Moyar, Chemmanatham, Singara and Bokkapuram to regulate and monitor vehicular traffic.

Tamil Nadu government sets deadlines to clear pending NHIS insurance claimsThe court further directed that Jeeps operated by residents and members of tribal communities shall be given preference and registered with the Forest department, and only registered vehicles shall be permitted to transport tourists on the said roads.

Consumer forum raps TASMAC outlet for overcharging, orders Rs 6,000 compensation



CHENNAI: The District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Chennai (North), has held a TASMAC retail outlet guilty of overcharging a customer above the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) and directed it to pay Rs 6,000 as compensation and litigation costs, while dismissing the complaint against the state-run liquor retailer's Managing Director.

The Commission ruled that collecting even Rs 10 in excess of the printed MRP and failing to issue a purchase receipt amounted to both deficiency in service and an unfair trade practice under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019. The case arose from a complaint filed by G Devarajan, who alleged that he purchased a 180 ml bottle of MCLENE Original Brandy from TASMAC Shop No. 8924 at Madhavaram on October 13, 2025. Although the bottle carried an MRP of Rs 140, he was charged Rs 150 through a debit card transaction. He claimed the shop neither refunded the excess amount nor issued a receipt,

prompting him to issue legal notices and approach multiple authorities before moving the Consumer Commission.

TASMAC contested the complaint, arguing that liquor sales did not fall within the ambit of the Consumer Protection Act and that its centralised, barcode-based billing system eliminated any possibility of overcharging. It also questioned the maintainability of the complaint, contending that the complainant was not a "consumer" as defined under the Act. Rejecting the contention, the Commission held that TASMAC had failed to prove that the purchase was made for resale or any commercial purpose. It further observed that the corporation had not produced any system-generated bill or documentary evidence to establish that the transaction had been carried out strictly at the notified MRP. On the other hand, the complainant had substantiated his claim through his bank statement, MRP details and records of legal notices issued to the authorities.

Tamil Nadu government sets deadlines to clear pending NHIS insurance claims

CHENNAI: The Tamil Nadu Treasuries and Accounts Department has directed officials to expedite the disposal of all pending claims under the New Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) for government employees and pensioners by fixing strict timelines for their clearance through District Level Empowered Committee (DLEC) meetings. In a circular, Director of Treasuries and Accounts T Charusree, instructed all Joint



Directors of Health Services and District Treasury Officers to convene DLEC meetings immediately to dispose of pending claims

under NHIS 2021 (Employees) and NHIS 2022 (Pensioners), including claims arising from court orders.

According to the circular, all claims received up to May 31 must be placed before the DLEC and disposed of on or before July 31.

Claims received up to June 30, should be cleared by August 31, 2026. The department directed that no claim should remain pending beyond the prescribed timelines.

Madras HC orders checkpoints on roads adjoining Mudumalai Tiger Reserve to monitor Jeep

safarisThe circular also instructed Joint Directors of Health Services and District Treasury Officers to coordinate the DLEC process, while the Personal Assistant (Accounts) to the District Collector will serve as the nodal officer for convening committee meetings. The department clarified that the revised claim-processing procedures introduced under NHIS 2026 would apply only to hospital admissions from July 1.

73-year-old man arrested for raping, impregnating granddaughter in Ramanathapuram

RAMANATHAPURAM: A 73-year-old man was arrested under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act for allegedly sexually assaulting his 15-year-old granddaughter, who was later found to be pregnant, according to a Daily Thanthi report.

Madras HC orders checkpoints on roads adjoining Mudumalai Tiger Reserve to monitor Jeep safarisThe accused is a resident of a village near Paramakudi in Ramanathapuram district. Police said the survivor, a Class 10 student, had been



living with her widowed mother near the accused's house.

According to the report, the elderly man used to visit his daughter's house frequently. During the past few months, he allegedly sexually assaulted his granddaughter on several occasions.

When the girl informed her mother about the

alleged abuse, she confronted her father and warned him against visiting the house. However, the accused allegedly continued to harass the minor.

Police said the repeated sexual assault resulted in the girl becoming three months pregnant.

Tamil Nadu government sets deadlines to clear pending NHIS insurance claims After learning about the pregnancy, the survivor's mother lodged a complaint with the Paramakudi All-Women Police Station seeking action against her father.

Karur headmaster screens CM Vijay's speech inside classroom, suspended

Vijay's July 10 address in Karur marked his first visit to the region following the stampede tragedy that claimed 41 lives during a TVK rally last September. His speech was shown to students at the Panchayat Union Middle School (Girls) in Krishnarayapuram, as seen in a viral video.

CHENNAI: A headmaster of a government middle school in Karur district has been placed under suspension allegedly screening the live telecast of Chief Minister and TVK chief C Joseph Vijay's public address for students inside a classroom, in violation of School Education Department guidelines. Vijay's July 10 address in Karur marked his first visit to the region following the stampede tragedy that claimed 41 lives during a TVK rally last September. His speech was shown to students at the Panchayat Union Middle School (Girls) in Krishnarayapuram, as seen in a



viral video.Minister says inquiry confirmed violation

School Education Minister Rajmohan, in a post on X, said the department had already issued clear instructions that, except for official government programmes, no political party events should be screened for students inside

school premises. He said it was improper to telecast the live broadcast of a Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) event to students at the Krishnarayapuram Panchayat Union school, following which he ordered an immediate inquiry. According to the minister, the inquiry confirmed that the headmaster had acted independently in violation of departmental rules and government orders. Based on the findings, disciplinary proceedings were initiated and the headmaster was placed under suspension.

Suspension order cites disciplinary proceedings

The suspension order issued by the District Educational Officer (Elementary), Karur, on July 10 states that disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against S Malliga, headmaster of the Panchayat Union Middle School (Girls), Krishnarayapuram, over grave charges and alleged negligence of duty, with reference to the School Education Department circular issued on July 9. The order states that she has been placed under suspension with immediate effect under Rule 17(e) of the Tamil Nadu Civil Services (Discipline and Appeal) Rules until further orders.

Frozen embryo transfer linked to higher hypertension risk in IVF pregnancies

Beijing, Feb 10: Frozen embryo transfer has been found to be associated with a higher risk of pregnancy-induced hypertension compared to fresh embryo transfer, even though both methods show similar perinatal complication rates in ongoing pregnancies conceived through assisted reproductive technologies, according to a recent study.

The findings are based on a prospective cohort study conducted within a hypothetical randomised controlled trial framework. Researchers analysed data from 2,856 pregnant women recruited during the first trimester from 50 centres across 17 provinces in China between 2017 and 2021. All participants conceived through in vitro fertilisation (IVF) or intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) and were equally



assigned to either frozen embryo transfer or fresh embryo transfer groups.

The primary outcome assessed was the rate of perinatal complications, defined as perinatal death or birth defects. Results showed comparable rates between the two groups, with 5.0 per cent in the frozen embryo transfer group and 4.6 per cent in the fresh embryo transfer group. Researchers noted

that the difference was not statistically significant.

Secondary neonatal outcomes, including preterm birth, small or large size for gestational age, low birth weight and macrosomia, were also similar across both groups, indicating comparable neonatal safety profiles for frozen and fresh embryo transfer in ongoing IVF and ICSI pregnancies. However, the study high-

lighted a notable difference in maternal outcomes. Women who underwent frozen embryo transfer faced a significantly higher risk of developing pregnancy-induced hypertension compared to those who received fresh embryo transfer. No significant differences were observed between the two groups in terms of abortion rates, gestational diabetes mellitus or gestational thyroid dysfunction.

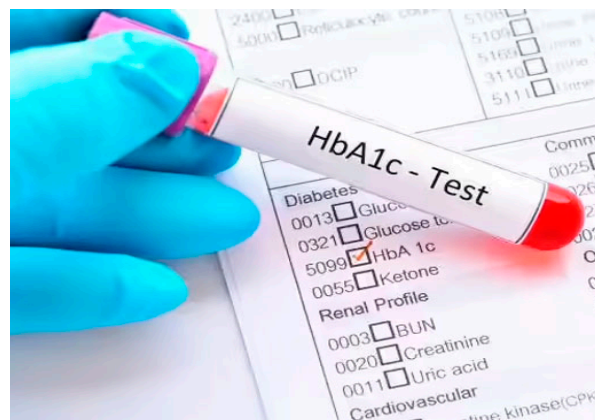
Researchers said the findings underline the need for careful and individualised counselling when choosing an embryo transfer strategy in assisted reproductive treatment. While neonatal outcomes appear largely similar, the increased maternal risk associated with frozen embryo transfer should be factored into clinical decision-making, they added.

Anaemia, blood disorders may skew HbA1c diabetes test results in India: Lancet study

New Delhi, Feb 11: The widely used HbA1c blood test for diagnosing and monitoring diabetes may give misleading results in millions of people across South Asia, especially in India, due to the high prevalence of anaemia and inherited blood disorders, a new analysis published in Lancet Regional Health - Southeast Asia has warned.

The review, led by senior endocrinologist Prof Anoop Misra, points out that HbA1c levels — which indicate average blood glucose by measuring haemoglobin glycation — can either under- or overestimate actual blood sugar levels in individuals with conditions affecting red blood cells. These include iron deficiency anaemia, haemoglobinopathies and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency.

"In regions like India,



where nutritional anaemia and red blood cell disorders are widespread, exclusive reliance on HbA1c can result in misclassification of diabetes status," said Prof Misra, Chairman of Fortis C-DOC Center of Excellence for Diabetes.

The authors noted that in some parts of India, more than half the population suffers from iron deficiency anaemia, which can significantly distort HbA1c readings and com-

plicate both diabetes diagnosis and long-term monitoring. The review also cautioned that undetected G6PD deficiency in men could delay diabetes diagnosis by up to four years, potentially increasing the risk of serious complications. Endocrinologist Dr Shashank R Joshi of Mumbai's Joshi Clinic said HbA1c variability is observed even in well-equipped urban hospitals due to red blood cell abnormalities. "In rural

and tribal areas, where anaemia and inherited blood disorders are more common, discrepancies may be even greater," he added.

The study further highlighted that inconsistent laboratory quality control across regions can worsen inaccuracies, making interpretation of HbA1c results more challenging. As a result, public health surveys that rely solely on HbA1c may underestimate or misrepresent India's true diabetes burden.

To address these concerns, the review recommends a resource-adapted approach to diabetes diagnosis and monitoring. In low-resource settings, it suggests using oral glucose tolerance tests (OGTT) along with periodic self-monitoring of blood glucose and basic haematological screening. In tertiary care centres, a combination of HbA1c.

India-NZ Free Trade Agreement to Boost Economic Ties: PM Modi



Auckland: The landmark India-New Zealand free trade agreement would add depth and dynamism to the bilateral economic ties and open new opportunities for market access, investment and talent mobility, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday, July 11. In an interaction with a select group of CEOs and business leaders, PM Modi emphasised that the two nations' shared demo-

cratic values, diversity, and commitment to sustainable development provide a robust foundation for an ambitious, forward-looking economic partnership. The prime minister made the remarks shortly after holding wide-ranging talks with his New Zealand counterpart Christopher Luxon that produced 18 key outcomes including elevation of the bilateral relations to the level of strategic partnership.

Modi landed in Auckland on Friday on the final leg of his three-nation tour that largely focused on expanding economic and security cooperation. It is the first visit to New Zealand by an Indian prime minister after a gap of 40 years and comes after the recent finalisation of a free trade agreement. "A stronger economic partnership between India and New Zealand will create new

opportunities for businesses, innovators and our youth," Modi told the business leaders. The prime minister said India and New Zealand have taken a historic decision to elevate the relations to the level of strategic partnership. "Under this, we will move forward in every sector with clear goals and concrete outcomes," he said. Modi described the India-New Zealand free trade agreement as a "landmark" initiative that would add depth and dynamism to the bilateral economic ties, and open new opportunities for market access, investment, services, technology and talent mobility. The prime minister underscored that India's sustained high growth coupled with young and skilled workforce, expanding middle class, digital revolution, next-generation infrastructure push, and continuing economic reforms, offer significant opportunities for trade and investment for companies in New Zealand.

NATIONWIDE PROTESTS ERUPT AGAINST ETHANOL BLENDING IN PETROL



APPLE SUES OPENAI, ITS EMPLOYEES CLAIMING THEFT OF TRADE SECRETS

Apple has accused OpenAI of gaining access to valuable inside information through the hiring of its former employees. In a federal lawsuit filed on Friday, Apple sued the artificial intelligence (AI) company, two of its employees, as well as io Products, claiming it has engaged in "a pattern of theft" of Apple's confidential product development and related work. At least two long-time Apple workers who left the company to join OpenAI allegedly took part in this pattern by, in part, emailing themselves internal Apple information. Drew Pusateri, a spokesman for OpenAI, told the BBC: "We have no interest in other companies' trade secrets." Pusateri added that the company, which is currently reviewing Apple's complaint, is "focused on building innovative technology that empowers people everywhere." An Apple spokesman told the BBC the lawsuit is the result of "significant evidence." It represents a major shift in relations between Apple and OpenAI, creator of the popular AI chatbot ChatGPT. Tim Cook, Apple's outgoing CEO, had added ChatGPT into Apple



devices as the company was looking to offer more AI features. This year, Apple shifted more of its AI features to run on Google's Gemini model and tools. Yet, when Cook revealed in April that he was stepping down, Sam Altman, co-founder and CEO of OpenAI, publicly praised him as "a legend", adding he was "very thankful for everything he has done". Now, Apple is accusing OpenAI of undertaking a "strategy to extract Apple's confidential information". Along with OpenAI, Apple is suing io Products, the design startup founded by Jony Ive, a long-time Apple executive. OpenAI

acquired the company last year. It is also suing Chang Liu, a senior electrical engineer who worked at Apple for eight years, and Tang Yew Tan, a vice president of design for iPhone and Apple Watch who spent 24 years with the company. Tan is now OpenAI's chief hardware officer. Through these former employees and their access to "sensitive projects, trusted partner relationships, proprietary manufacturing techniques, and unreleased products," Apple claims OpenAI has been able to glean details of its product plans and operations. Apple added that when OpenAI interviews

current Apple employees for potential jobs the company allegedly tries to extract further information from them. OpenAI interviewers allegedly have told the prospective hires to "bring 'actual parts' as 'props' from Apple for 'show and tell'" during their interview. Apple accused all of the parties it was suing of "acting in concert and as an enterprise, exploiting Apple's confidential information to advance OpenAI's efforts to enter the consumer hardware market". OpenAI is expected to release its first hardware product, a type of keyboard to be used with its AI tools, this month. It is also plan-

Highlights

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ning to become a publicly traded company. Apple said in its lawsuit that, because OpenAI's "misconduct is normalized and exemplified by leadership" its "nascent hardware business now rests on the shakiest of foundations, rotten to its core by its illegal reliance on misappropriated trade secrets". The company also said that it had attempted to discuss its concerns with OpenAI in February, but was ultimately ignored. Apple has asked the court to immediately prohibit OpenAI from obtaining or using any alleged confidential information and it is seeking unspecified monetary damages.

META SAYS IT REMOVED 1,60,000 ADVERTISER ACCOUNTS IN INDIA AFTER INSTAGRAM AD SCRUTINY

New Delhi: A BBC World Service report that demonstrates an Indian user account was "pushed" to find more child and adult sex and abuse advertising on Instagram, followed by a stern note from the Indian government asking for action against such content, has prompted Meta to respond with steps it has taken to curtail the abuse by advertisers on its platform. On Tuesday, July 7, 2026, Meta said in a blog post that it has blocked over 1,60,000 such advertiser accounts in India over the last year. It also said Meta had removed "36 million pieces of content" (not accounts) globally last year that specifically had content exploitative of children. It removed 4 million accounts globally, Meta said. Acknowledging the BBC report without naming the platform, Meta said it had been made aware of the concerns about "Instagram ads in India that violated our policies against child exploitation". "And we want to be clear: we take these concerns seriously, we never want this content on our platforms, and we're committed to improving our efforts to combat it," it said. "We're in a constant battle with criminals who hide among our 3.5 billion users

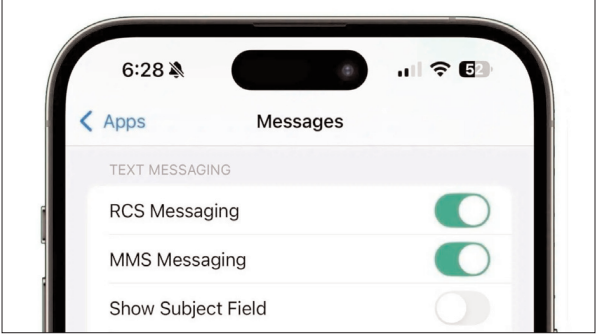


and try to evade our detection," the statement said, detailing the steps it takes to prevent and control illegal and abusive content on Instagram. Experts on cybercrime cited by BBC for its story said Meta's platform receives a high number of complaints from users also because of the large scale of its operations in India. A report on CNBC (US) said in May that in an earnings report from April 2026, Meta said that nearly 98% of its \$56.3 billion in first-quarter revenue came from advertising. BBC's report The BBC report, published Friday (July 3), was based on an Instagram account that staffers created to assess Meta's response to

advertisement featuring or linking to child abuse content: It took Meta 24 hours to respond to the user's complaint, the report says. When BBC reached out to Meta, the company said it had removed the reported content, as well as other content violating its policies and reported the accounts. "The BBC reported an advert to Instagram showing a very young girl in tears, with wording indicating that she had been sexually assaulted," said the report. "But 24 hours later, Instagram replied saying it hadn't removed the advert because 'our review team found that the advertiser's ad does not go against our community standards."

WHY AIRTEL IPHONE USERS STILL DON'T HAVE RCS

Hyderabad: Bharti Airtel's partnership with Google finally brought Rich Communication Services (RCS) to its network on March 1, ending years of resistance over spam and fraud concerns. But three months on, one group of Airtel customers remains left out: iPhone users. While Airtel subscribers on Android can use RCS through Google Messages, there is no confirmed RCS support for iPhone customers. Reliance Jio, by contrast, was reported to have reached an RCS deal with Apple as early as August 2025. The gap raises a straightforward question: why is Airtel's RCS rollout Android-only? What RCS is, and is not RCS is a GSMA-backed messaging standard. It upgrades the legacy SMS experience with read receipts, typing indicators, high-resolution media sharing and group chat. Since iOS 26.5, released in May this year, RCS also supports end-to-end encryption between iPhone and Android. The feature is still in beta and only activates when both users and carriers support it. That



makes the technical case for iPhone RCS simple: if the network supports the standard, and Apple supports the same standard, the feature should work. Yet, on Airtel, it does not. Airtel's stated reason: Spam control Airtel has been public about its condition for adopting RCS. The company wanted all RCS traffic to pass through its own AI-based spam filters before reaching subscribers. Google agreed and the March 2026 deal was announced as a "carrier-backed" RCS deployment with built-in spam protection. "We had not onboarded Google because we first wanted RCS messages to be routed through the Airtel spam filter," an Airtel spokesperson told

TechCrunch at the time. Apple's role: The certification gate Apple added RCS support in iOS 18 and expanded it with end-to-end encryption in iOS 26.5. But the company does not switch RCS on for every carrier automatically. Operators typically need to be tested and activated in Apple's carrier profiles. Jio was reported to have reached an agreement with Apple in 2025. Industry observers say Apple has little commercial incentive to rush. iMessage remains a powerful lock-in feature, especially in markets with high iPhone penetration. Where Apple does enable RCS, it blurs the blue-bubble/green-bubble divide that helps keep users inside its ecosystem.

PHONE CALLS FROM 1600 NUMBER SERIES CANNOT BE BLOCKED: TRAI



New Delhi: No app can block phone calls originating from 1600 number series that are meant for communications by regulated entities and the government to citizens, telecom regulator Trai said in a statement on Friday. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) has also clarified that promotional calls originating from 140 number series cannot be tagged or filtered by an app and can only be blocked by DND registry which is managed by the regulator. TRAI has also clarified that promotional calls originating from 140 number series cannot be tagged or filtered by an app and can only be blocked by the DND registry. "Under the Telecom

Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulation (TCC-CPR), any tagging, blocking or filtering of the calls originating from 1600 series numbers is not permitted," Trai said. The regulator said that it has mandated the use of 1600 series numbers for service and transaction calls by regulated entities of banking, financial services and insurance entities regulated by RBI, SEBI, IRDAI and PFRDA to their existing customers and by government entities for government-to-citizen communication. The key objective of assigning designated series for these important communications is to make such calls trustworthy for the citizens.

IN 12 YEARS, INDIA'S ENERGY DEPENDENCY HAS SHARPLY ZOOMED

India's vulnerability was quick to show. Within two weeks of the US and Israel attacking Iran on February 28, Indians were queuing for cooking gas. A woman, probably in her mid-forties, came close to breaking down in front of a reporter. "We have not cooked at home for 5-6 days now," she said. "We have been running around for a week looking for gas. Cylinders are now selling for Rs 7,000. How are we supposed to feed our children? Hum duty karein ya gas ki line mein lagey (Should we work or stand in queues for LPG?)" She wasn't the only one ambushed by the energy shortage. In the initial weeks of the war, as eateries slashed menus, switched to coal or firewood, or even contemplated closure, their suppliers, food delivery agents and employees wondered what lay in store. Farmers wondered if they would get enough urea. Industrial units running on LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) or CNG (compressed natural gas) – or those using industrial inputs made from petroleum – worried about shortages as well. By the end of the first month itself, some



of these fears had metastasised into reality. Units in industrial clusters like Gujarat's Morbi began closing. In Surat, five years after COVID-19, migrant workers queued once more outside train stations. "We have not eaten for the last four days," one textile worker said. Across India, prices of coal and firewood began climbing, taking the country into higher pollution and accelerated tree loss, even deforestation. The worst, however, was yet to come. The crises listed above had resulted from delayed oil shipments from the Gulf. Three months into the war, as the last of the pre-loaded cargoes reached India, the larger costs of slashed oil/gas production – as much as 40% of the refin-

ing capacity in the Gulf had been damaged – began to make themselves felt. Poorer families were spending as much as a third of their earnings on LPG or falling back on firewood. Between scarcer inputs like petroleum-based industrial feedstock and a mounting struggle to get diesel for trucks, industrial production dropped. Job losses rose. Along the way, the costs of energy dependence came home to roost in India. Today, as the world hopes the peace deal will last and India starts to reckon with the economic, ecological and social costs it has incurred, a question needs to be asked: How did we get here? The answer doesn't just lie in the US-Israel attack on Iran.

Indian tourists among 15 killed as speedboat capsizes in Vietnam



Fifteen people have died after a speedboat carrying Indian tourists capsized near a island in the south of Vietnam, according to local media reports. Local authorities say 32 Indians and four crew were on board the vessel, which overturned about 400 metres (1,312 ft) from Hon May Rut Ngoai island in rough sea conditions on Saturday. Several tourist vessels operating in the area quickly came to the rescue, finding many passengers trapped inside the speedboat, Vietnam's VnExpress reported. Twenty one people were later saved. Hon May Rut Ngoai - a pristine island in the An Thoi Archipelago in the Gulf of Thailand - attracts many tourists from around the world for island-hopping boat tours. Hon May Rut Ngoai is located about 10km (six miles) south of

Phu Quoc, Vietnam's largest island. Nguyen Tien Hai, a senior Communist official in the area, said the authorities were still working to confirm the exact number of those who died as well as the survivors. He is quoted by VnExpress as saying that the speedboat may have capsized due to heavy winds and high waves. "The top priority is rescue, bringing all victims ashore and focusing all efforts on providing emergency care to those who are still alive," Hai said. The Indian embassy in Vietnam described the incident as "tragic", publishing the full list of the 32 Indian nationals who were on board the capsized boat. The embassy also set up the telephone hotlines to "provide information and assistance to affected families".



■ China braced for second typhoon in a week as Bavi approaches landfall

US wants Iran to pledge to stop shooting at ships in Strait of Hormuz

The US wants Iran to publicly state that the Strait of Hormuz is open and to pledge to stop firing on commercial ships as part of negotiations due to be held in Oman on Saturday. US media cited unnamed officials as saying Tehran had privately acknowledged to President Donald Trump's advisers that the shooting at ships was a mistake, though the Iranians reportedly pinned the blame on a rogue internal group. Trump has said both sides have agreed to continue indirect talks despite this week's fighting over the Strait of Hormuz, which the White House saw as a violation of the ceasefire. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said his country had "kept its word" on the ceasefire, saying on X the US had violated the



deal. In June, the US and Iran signed a ceasefire agreement where Iran would, in part, give safe passage to commercial ships. Tehran said that an "errant" sect of hardliners was trying to undermine negotiations by firing on the commercial ships, senior US officials told CBS News, the BBC's US partner. One official told the TV network: "They [the Iranians] came

back to the table and said, 'We screwed up. We made a mistake. Let's keep talking.'" Vice-President JD Vance, Secretary of State Marco Rubio and two people who have been heavily involved in Middle East talks - special envoy Steve Witkoff and Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner - are expected to lead Saturday's negotiations. Araghchi is also expected to attend the talks. In a briefing for reporters on Friday, the US officials said a message to Tehran's leadership had been conveyed through regional mediators demanding Iran release a statement declaring the strait open and that it will stop shooting at commercial ships, according to multiple media reports. "They're either going to give us that statement or we're not having a good outcome for them," said one official, quoted by Reuters news agency. The White House also wants Iran to publicly acknowledge that firing on the shipping was a mistake, CBS reports. Meanwhile, a delegation from Qatar travelled to Iran on Friday for talks aimed at defusing tensions and easing navigation through the Strait of Hormuz.

US pays out \$3m to victims of mysterious Havana Syndrome



The US government has paid nearly \$3m (£2.2m) in compensation to victims of so-called Havana Syndrome, a mysterious neurological condition reported by spies, diplomats and their families. The payments are the first to be made to US agency staff in relation to the illness, reports of which began emerging a decade ago by CIA officers working in the Cuban capital. Since then, American staff based elsewhere, including China, have reported "anomalous health incidents". Sufferers have described symptoms such as hearing a low hum, clicks, squeals and "grinding metal" while others reported intense pressure on the skull, dizziness and nausea. The US Department of Defence said it would continue to prioritise "the care of affected personnel" as it announced the compensation, paid out under the Havana Act which was signed into law in 2021. There has been widespread speculation for many years over what - and who - is responsible for Havana Syndrome. Some have claimed the illness is caused by microwaves, prompting further speculation that a foreign power may have used some kind of sonar weapon to attack US over-

seas staff and their dependants. "My brain is broken," former CIA analyst Erika Stith told CBS News in 2022. "We got this as a result of serving our country. And we deserve to be taken care of," she said. Last year, most US intelligence agencies and departments surmised that it was "very unlikely" that a foreign actor used "a novel weapon or prototype device to harm" US personnel and their families. Although, a small component of the US intelligence community did not completely dismiss the theory. The report, by the National Intelligence Council, said none of the agencies or departments it spoke to "call[ed] into question the experiences or suffering" of US workers and their families. The community believed that they "experienced genuine, sometimes painful and traumatic, physical symptoms and sensory phenomena and honestly and sincerely reported those events as possible anomalous health incidents". What is Havana Syndrome? Havana Syndrome was first publicly reported in 2016, when US diplomats in Cuba reported getting sick and hearing piercing sounds at night. Other cases have been reported around the world.

Thousands attending Orange Order parade in Rosstownlugh

The annual Orange Order parade in Rosstownlugh is taking place in County Donegal. Large crowds are in the seaside village for the demonstration which attracts visitors from across the island. The Grand Master in Donegal David Mahon said there are stalls and food on offer and "a very relaxed atmosphere". "It's always a carnival type of day with lots of families here enjoying a really good time," he added. The Rosstownlugh demonstration always takes place each year on the Saturday before the main Twelfth of July commemorations in Northern Ireland. The Twelfth commemorates the Battle of the Boyne, when Protestant William of Orange defeated Catholic King James II in 1690. Lodges from across Donegal, Cavan, Leitrim and Monaghan are taking part. "It's very important because it's part of our culture and part of our faith. The grand master said the Orange Order in Donegal always had a good relationship with its Catholic neigh-



bours. "That's in terms of co-operation and some of them would be ringing us to see if we need the fields or land again for car parking or whatever." Gardai (Irish police) are visible, mainly for traffic duties during a busy parading day. Mahon said the order was going from strength to strength in

the county. The sun is shining! Lorna Walker, from Randalstown in County Antrim, said: "I always love coming to this annual parade every year. I like supporting the lodges in County Donegal. "Today the weather is going to make it as the sun is shining from early morning. Let's hope everyone has

an enjoyable day." Samantha Bates said: "We're from Lisnaskea in Fermanagh and we enjoy it and love it every year. "This is the first year our boys Matthew (13) and Jacob (7) are on parade with Cornafanog flute band so they are very excited and we are very proud as a family."

META PULLS NEW AI IMAGE FEATURE AFTER DAYS OF BACKLASH



Meta has abruptly taken down a new feature that allowed people to use its artificial intelligence (AI) tool to make fake images from user content on Instagram. The feature was part of a broad rollout of Muse Image, a new AI image generation tool Instagram's parent company released on Tuesday. It allowed users of the Meta AI chatbot to tag public-facing accounts on Instagram and quickly use content on those accounts to create AI-generated or altered content and images. The feature quickly sparked blowback due to privacy concerns, leading Meta to admit it had "missed the

mark" so it was "no longer available". Muse Image was the tech firm's first foray into AI image generation but faced backlash as Instagram users were opted in by default. It meant that anyone with a public account could have their likeness used without their knowledge or permission. Hollywood union Sag-Aftra described the U-turn as a "win". It had previously urged its members and "all Instagram users" to take action to protect their likeness stating that there had been an "utter miscalculation of public sentiment regarding the obvious dangers and harms inherent in such use".



Spain battles to contain one of its deadliest wildfires as at least 12 killed

SMALL PLANE CRASH IN BAHAMAS KILLS 10 PEOPLE

Nine passengers and a pilot have died in a small plane crash in the Bahamas, officials said. The light aircraft was making a short trip from Lynden Pindling International Airport, near capital Nassau, San Andros Airport when it "reportedly encountered difficulties" and crashed into bushes prior to landing, the country's Aircraft Accident Investigation Authority said in a statement. The fatal crash is occurred on the day of the Bahamas' 53rd independence anniversary. "Today is a day of celebration but it has become a day of mourning," Prime Minister Philip Davis told a media conference. He added: "Once again, a chapter in our nation's story has been marked by tragedy." Davis initially said there



was one survivor, although he confirmed hours later that the person had died from their injuries. The details of the people on board, including their age and names, have not been

released. The Cessna 402 aircraft was operated by Flamingo Air, a Bahamas-based airline. The Ministry of Aviation said it was temporarily suspending the airline's air operator certi-

cate "as a precautionary safety measure." The grounding measure "should not be treated as an adverse compliance action against Flamingo Air," the ministry said. It noted there had been "two safety incidents" that had occurred on Friday. Aviation Minister JoBeth Coleby-Davis told reporters a plane had earlier routed back to Nassau when the pilot reported an issue. A fire broke out on board once the aircraft landed and passengers had disembarked, the BBC's US partner CBS News reported. The BBC has contacted Flamingo Air for comment. In remarks to local media, the airline said: "At this time, the details are being gathered, and we are committed to cooperating with the relevant authorities."

Argentina Ends Silence On FIFA World Cup 'Fixing' Allegations

From favourable refereeing decisions to being drawn on the 'right side' of the FIFA World Cup fixtures bracket, Argentina have had plenty going their way in the 2026 FIFA World Cup. In fact, a win over Switzerland in the quarter-finals of the tournament would take the team to the last four without facing a single opponent ranked among the top 10 teams in the world. Both on-field and off-field factors have led many to suggest that the defending champions are being favoured by FIFA in the World Cup. In fact, after Argentina came from being 2-0 down to beat Egypt 3-2 in the Round of 16, the opposing team's camp claimed that the World Cup is 'fixed' to favour Argentina. As La Albiceleste prepare to take on Switzerland in their quarter-final match on Saturday, manager Lionel Scaloni broke his silence on the matter, admitting that



the outside noise has even reached the players. Scaloni, however, isn't thinking too much about these suggestions, calling it a 'staged rebellion' by people who don't want Argentina to win two World Cup titles in a row. "The thing is, we might have a lot more people who don't want us to win

because we won the last one, and well, we take that into account. And yeah, it gets to the players. We use criticism or comments to rebel. To stage a rebellion and make the players play even better," Scaloni told reporters on Saturday. "It's been a long time-40 years as you just said, since 1986, right? They were saying we

were favoured back then, too. So it's not something new. As far back as I can remember, Argentina has always been one of the teams that stir up the tournament, always. And in a way, as you rightfully pointed out, it's used to show the players that there are people who don't want Argentina to win. But

that's normal, just like there will be people who don't want another national team to win," said Scaloni. The Video Assistant Referee (VAR) has also been under the spotlight, especially after Egypt's second-half strike was chalked off for an incident that took place more than 10 seconds before the goal was scored. Scaloni, however, said that the VAR team is only following the rules that were set before the tournament started. "I think with VAR and all these things, it's very hard for them to help you. Very hard, very hard. There's no double interpretation with VAR. Plus, they made it crystal clear to us in that course they gave us before the World Cup started. They showed us all the footage. This is how it's going to be, it's going to be like this, like that. And it's been followed to the letter," he added.

Virat Kohli 'Secretly Filmed' In UK, RCB Teammate Shares Harrowing Details

Star India batter Virat Kohli is set to return to action in the upcoming ODI series against England. Kohli, who scored more than 600 runs during Royal Challengers Bengaluru's title-winning IPL 2026 campaign, missed the ODI series against Afghanistan due to a hamstring injury. However, he has now recovered and is expected to feature in the opening match of the series against England in Birmingham on July 14. Ahead of the first ODI, England batter Jordan Cox shared a surprising anecdote about his meeting with Kohli in London. Cox, Kohli's teammate at RCB, had met the star batter in London last month, with a photograph of their meeting quickly going viral on social media. Speaking recently about the encounter, Cox revealed that both of them tried their best to keep the meeting low-key, but were still photographed by someone, leaving him stunned. "The upsetting thing for him is that people are following him without him knowing.



Hundreds of people walked past us, no one stopped, no one did anything. But then, about two hours later, he's texting me, going 'Have you seen all these photos? I was like 'what the hell?,' Cox told the Guardian. "It's just a shame how many people want a piece of him. He just wants to go under the radar, have fun and live a normal life. Unfortunately, that's not always possible," he added. The 25-year-old England star also praised Kohli for the support and guidance he received from the former India captain during his stint with RCB in

IPL 2026. "The thing that I found the most special during the IPL is how much time he gave me as a player and, for someone who's achieved so much, how much he gives back generally. Some guys focus on their own game, but he is someone who always wants to help others before he helps himself. That is very rare," said Cox. India are currently facing England in the five-match T20I series, which the visitors have already lost with a 3-0 trail. The last match of the series will be played on Saturday in Southampton.

Jannik Sinner's Heartfelt Message For Rival Novak Djokovic After Reaching Wimbledon Final

Jannik Sinner hailed Novak Djokovic as a "true inspiration" as the defending Wimbledon champion revealed he had to raise his game to end his rival's title bid on Friday. Sinner produced one of his best performances this year to rout Djokovic 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 in a one-sided Centre Court semi-final. The world number one will face French Open champion Alexander Zverev in the final on Sunday. Sinner's dynamic display avenged his Australian Open last-four loss to Djokovic in January. Djokovic once again fell short in his quest to make history with a record 25th Grand Slam singles title, which would break his tie with Margaret Court. The seven-time Wimbledon champion might be in the



twilight of his career. But the 39-year-old showed in his five-hour victory over third seed Felix Auger-Aliassime - the longest quarter-final in Wimbledon history - that he can still compete with far younger players. Full of admiration for Djokovic's longevity, Sinner said: "Even when I had this small winning streak from last

year, you always feel pressure before playing against Novak. "This is why I practise. I like challenges. Playing against Novak in Grand Slams, they are very different than playing in Masters events. "It's so amazing to see him still producing this kind of level. The match he has played with Felix, I was watching.

The level was so high. "It's a true inspiration for all of us and also the younger generation, how much a good mindset can do to your body and mind as well." 'An honour to play against him' Brushing away talk of retirement, Djokovic said after losing to Sinner that he plans to return to Wimbledon at least one more time. Sinner would welcome Djokovic extending his remarkable career, but for now he hopes his latest victory over the Serb will propel him to a fifth Grand Slam title on Sunday. "Seeing him around and having the honour to play against him, feeling the pressure against him, these matches, they hopefully can help me and also in the future," he said.

High Jumper Sarvesh Kushare Finishes Third On Diamond League Debut In Monaco

National record holder high jumper Sarvesh Kushare finished third in his Diamond League debut in Monaco as he joined an exclusive four-member club of Indians to have achieved the feat of making the top-three in the prestigious event. The 31-year-old Kushare cleared 2.12m, 2.16m, 2.20m, 2.023m and 2.26m in his first try. But he failed to clear 2.28m in three attempts to take the third spot in the star-studded field. With his stunning show, Kushare, who set the national record of 2.31m in the National Inter-State Championships last month, became the only fourth Indian to finish in top-three of a Diamond League after javelin throw superstar Neeraj Chopra, long jumper



Murali Sreeshankar and former discus thrower Vikas Gowda. World leader and world indoor champion Oleh Doroshchuk of Ukraine won the title after clearing 2.32m, while Great Britain's Jack Kimani was second with 2.30m. Kimani could not clear 2.32m in

three-time world champion and Tokyo Olympics gold winner Mutaz Essa Barshim of Qatar, who finished joint eighth with 2.20m effort, 2023 World Championships silver winner JuVaughn Harrison of the USA, who finished joint fourth, and Tokyo Olympics gold winner Gianmarco Tamperi of Italy. However, Tamperi, who finished joint sixth with 2.23m, has been struggling of late. On June 27, Kushare broke Tejaswin Shankar's eight-year-old previous national record of 2.29m with an effort of 2.31m. He became the first Indian high jumper to clear 2.30m. Before Friday, Kushare was at joint fourth in the global season best jumps and number one among Asian athletes.

The Football Coach Who Returned From Dead and Rebuilt Norway

Stale Solbakken 'died' for seven minutes in 2001. Today, his team is preparing to become the first FIFA World Cup side from Norway to enter the semi-finals. This is the story of a football coach who plays 'chess' on the field. It is a much-told story, but every time it seems as marvellous as before. Back in 2001, Stale Solbakken was a midfielder for FC

Copenhagen in



Denmark. On March 13 that year, his life changed forever. Solbakken's heart stopped beating. For seven minutes, he was 'clinically dead' after suffering a heart attack. Team doctor Frank Odgaard revived him and saved his life. Solbakken later recalled the experience on the Drivkraft podcast. "I remember seeing a blue light and then a tunnel. I remember thinking that I would like to stay there a little longer," he said. Solbakken remained unconscious for 26 hours and was placed on life support in a hospital. As his family came to know about the incident, Solbakken told La Gazzetta dello Sport that his mother was thinking about how to organ-

ise his funeral on her way to the hospital. "My parents flew to Denmark straight away. I was told that on the plane my mum started planning my funeral. At first they worried whether I would survive, then whether my brain would be damaged. Those were the thoughts that tormented my family and team-mates, who witnessed me collapsing, dying and being brought back to life," tribuna.com quoted him as saying. He was placed in a medically induced coma to protect his brain. Though he recovered without neurological damage, his playing career was over. It was discovered that Solbakken had been born with a heart defect. "Something like that definitely changes some things," Solbakken said later.

Rapper Drake's Rs 10 Crore Gamble On Conor McGregor Could Turn Into A Fortune

Conor McGregor's highly anticipated return to the Octagon has attracted a seven-figure wager from one of the biggest names in music. Canadian rapper Drake has placed \$1 million (approximately Rs 9.5 crore) on the Irishman to defeat Max Holloway in the UFC 329 main event. If McGregor emerges victorious, the bet is expected to return \$2.85 million (approximately Rs 27.16 crore), putting the internet's infamous "Drake Curse" back in the spotlight. Drake shared a screenshot of the bet on Instagram along with a trademark McGregor-inspired caption. "THE MAC IS BACK???? The proper twelve drinking, tailored suit wearing, Lambo Yacht riding man with the Dubai tan that once had both belts in both hands...Say less @stake." The wager adds another storyline to one of



the biggest fights of the year. McGregor will make his first UFC appearance since breaking his leg during his trilogy bout against Dustin Poirier in 2021. The former two-division champion faces old rival Holloway in a rematch that fans have waited years to see. Holloway enters the fight fresh off his spectacular last-second knockout of Justin Gaethje at UFC 300, making the clash one of the most anticipated bouts of 2026. Drake has

become almost as famous for his high-stakes sports betting as he is for his music. The Grammy-winning rapper has routinely placed bets worth hundreds of thousands, and sometimes millions, of dollars on UFC, boxing, football and NBA events. His betting record has also given rise to the internet's famous "Drake Curse", a tongue-in-cheek belief that athletes and teams publicly backed by the rapper often end up losing.

Sprinter Animesh Kujur Becomes First Indian To Achieve This Historic Feat



India's national 200m record holder Animesh Kujur continued his rapid rise as one of the country's premier sprinters by clocking a personal best 10.14 seconds to finish second in the men's 100m final at the PUMA Fast Arms Fast Legs 2026 meet on Saturday. The Odisha athlete's performance is the fastest 100m ever recorded by an Indian on foreign soil and the second-fastest by an Indian overall, only behind Gurindervir Singh's national-leading 10.09 seconds. Animesh had shown his form earlier in the day by winning his heat in 10.19 seconds. He improved in the final, shaving one hundredth of a second off his previous personal best of 10.15 seconds. This continues a season in which he has consistently lowered his times. Already the national record holder in the men's 200m, Animesh has established himself among India's fastest-ever 100m runners. He now

owns three of the five fastest 100m times by an Indian, with the all-time list as follows: Gurindervir Singh (10.09s), Animesh Kujur (10.14s), Animesh Kujur (10.15s), Gurindervir Singh (10.17s), and Animesh Kujur (10.18s). His progress in the shorter sprint comes after he secured qualification for the Asian Games 200m at the Inter-State National Athletics Championships in June. He clocked 20.74 seconds, comfortably below the Athletics Federation of India qualifying standard of 20.88 seconds. Despite achieving the qualifying mark easily, Animesh admitted he was not happy with the timing, saying qualification was his only goal. "Honestly, I was not here for timing. The idea was to secure the qualification mark for the Asian Games. Since I have got it now, I will focus on improving before the Asian Games," he said after the race.

Days After World Cup Exit, Cristiano Ronaldo's Social Media Post Has Internet In Shock

Just days after

Cup 2026, Cristiano Ronaldo's social media activity has left the internet completely bemused. Ronaldo, who rated the UEFA European Championships as highly as the World Cup, after Portugal's elimination from the tournament, posted on his social media accounts: "A victory of millions", reminiscing about Portugal's triumph at the

UEFA Euro 2016, the biggest title the country has won in its history. Though the post from Ronaldo came on the occasion of the tournament's 10th anniversary, a large section of fans weren't pleased as Portugal were eliminated from the FIFA World Cup only a few days ago. Some even criticised Ronaldo for 'living in the past'. While it's common for athletes to recall their glory days and relive past titles, it was the timing of the post from Ronaldo that made him a subject of trolling and mockery on social media. In fact, right after Portugal

were eliminated by Spain from the World Cup, Ronaldo had said that the Euro Championship is as big as the World Cup. "I have won three titles for Portugal; before Cristiano Ronaldo, Portugal hadn't won a single title," Ronaldo said. "The biggest title the national team has ever won was in 2016, the European Championship, which, to be honest, is just as significant to me as a World Cup." Ronaldo remains Portugal's all-time leading appearance-maker and goalscorer, having guided the national side to multiple international

honours, including the UEFA Euro 2016 title and the inaugural UEFA Nations League crown. Portugal, hailed as one of the favourites to finally lift the trophy, ended their FIFA World Cup journey, falling way short again, in the round of 16. Cristiano, playing his last-ever FIFA World Cup as he had announced ahead of the Spain clash, was once again made to leave with the pitch with sorrow on his face and tears in his eyes as a late winner from Mikel Merino and plenty of missed chances by his side.

Audience always supports a good movie.. Producer King Nagarjuna at 'Lenin' success meet



Thanks to Telugu audience for supporting 'Lenin'.. Akhil Akkineni in success meet I am happy when everyone says that Akhil is a hit..Producer Surya Devara Nagavanshi at 'Lenin' success meet 'Lenin' is produced by Akkineni Nagarjuna and Suryadevara Naga Vamsi under the banners of Manam Enterprises LLP and Sitara Entertainments and is presented by Annapurna Studios starring Akhil Akkineni. Bhagyashree Borse is the heroine. Directed by Murali Kishore Abburu. This movie has a grand release on 10th July and is running successfully with blockbuster talk. In this order, the film unit organized a victory ceremony on Saturday. In

this success meet Producer King Nagarjuna said that after making 'Annamaiya', I did not ask God for anything. But after the event in Tirupati, when I visited Swami, I asked him not to give a hit. Later I came to know that Bhagyashree also wanted the same. First of all thanks to that Venkateswara Swamy. Thanks to my elder son Tarak for giving voice to 'Lenin'. We came to 'Tandel' success meet a year and a half ago. Now I have come to the success of 'Lenin'. Both of them are like my two eyes. Seeing the 'Lenin' team is envious. Everyone loved it and worked hard. We all did the films 'Shiva', 'Ninne Pelladutha' and 'Annamayya' together.

Lately, I have never experienced anything like this again. Thanks to everyone who worked for 'Lenin'. During this journey, I met Nandu, Nagavanshi and editor Naveen a lot. Both Nandu and Naveen are psychos (laughs). Both of them are crazy about the movie. No matter how many suggestions and inputs I gave, they understood. Wrote many versions. Dialogues are very well written. Many great dialogues were lost in the edit. Nandu.. go to the village with pride.. come here soon. If Naveen Nuli asked for two weeks extra time, we gave it. We did 90 percent of the corrections he said. Ma Akhil was treated like Brinda Master's own son. Bhagya acted as Sri Brilliant.

V.V. Vinayak Launches Third Single "Adukunnadhikkade" Lyrical Song from Venkatramayya Gaari Thaluka



"Venkatramayya Gaari Thaluka" a heartwarming family entertainer that highlights the values of family bonds and human relationships, is all set for a grand theatrical release on July 17. As part of the film's promotions, the makers unveiled the third lyrical song, Adukunnadhikkade through renowned director V. V. Vinayak. Releasing the song, V.V. Vinayak conveyed his best wishes to the entire team and expressed confidence that the film would achieve great success. Speaking on the occasion, the film's team said, "The teaser and the songs released so far have received an overwhelming response from the

audience. We are confident that 'Adukunnadhikkade' will also touch the hearts of listeners. The song beautifully reflects the emotions of the story and is sure to resonate with audiences of all age groups." The film stars Dinesh Kumar and introduces Divija Prabhakar as the female lead. Directed by Satish Aavala the film is jointly produced by Komali Mahender Thotte and Somesh Saripalli under the Komali Creations banner. Filled with family emotions, parental love, and heartfelt relationships, Venkatramayya Gari Thaluka is gearing up to entertain audiences worldwide on July 17.

Oh! Sukumari is a good family entertainer.

The movie turned out amazing. It will entertain with a new concept that will connect with everyone: Producer Maheshwar Reddy Mooli

Young hero Thiruveer and talented heroine Aishwarya Rajesh are going to entertain the village family entertainer 'O! Sukumari'. Directed by debutant Bharat Darshan, the film is being produced by Maheshwar Reddy Mooli under the banner of Ganga Entertainments. This is the film being made under this banner after the critically acclaimed first film 'Shivam Bhaje'. The first looks, teaser, songs and trailer that have already been released have received a good response. The film will be released in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada and Hindi languages ??on July 17. On this occasion, producer Maheshwar Reddy Mooli shared the features of the film in a press conference.

How is 'Oh..! Sukumari' going to be?

This is a good family entertainer. Emotion, comedy, and fun are all in balance. The movie turned out very well.

How did this movie start?

Our DOP introduced director Bharat Darshan. He told the story. I liked the story a lot. After working on the script for almost a year, we started the film.

What did you like most about this story?

There is a unique point in this movie. The entertainment and emotions surrounding the concept of 'shocking' are very new. They give a good feeling to the audience.

Whose idea was it to choose Thiruveer and Aishwarya Rajesh?

I felt that Thiruveer and Aishwarya Rajesh would be a good fit for the story. We waited for Aishwarya Rajesh for almost three months. We started shooting only after she said okay. We spoke to her after the success of the film 'Sankranthiki Yaaram'.

What will you tell the audience about the film?

The audience will get a full-fledged entertainment for every rupee they spend on the ticket. This is a good family entertainer that every family can watch together.

Was this film made with theaters in mind?

Yes. I have been a distributor since the begin-



ning. That is why we made this film keeping in mind the theater experience. The digital rights of this film have been acquired by Amazon Prime.

What is the reason for the pan India release?

Thiruveer is well-known in Telugu. We are also releasing it in Tamil for Aishwarya Rajesh. We are releasing it because it has good content in other languages ??as well. We have taken this decision with the aim of reaching a wider audience in OTT as well as in theaters.

What is special about this story?

'This is a film with a unique point that connects everyone. The village backdrop and emotions are close to everyone. There is also a logic to the 'shock' problem shown in it. In fact, every human body has electric energy. However, it is at a different level in each person. We have shown the same point in an interesting way in the story.

Did you complete the film within the planned budget?

I spent more than I thought. These days, audiences want value for every rupee. That's why there was no compromise on casting, production values, or technical quality.

Ramya Krishna Joins Director Rathan Rishi's 'Queen' in a Powerful Role

Ramya Krishna to Play Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Lakshmi Pranathi in 'Queen' Veteran actress Ramya Krishna has come on board for a pivotal role in the upcoming women-centric Telugu film "Queen," directed by talented young filmmaker Rathan Rishi. The film introduces popular social media influencer ER Yamini as the lead actress and is being produced under the One Circle Films banner. The makers have officially announced that Ramya Krishna will portray Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Lakshmi Pranathi, a powerful and influential character that is expected to be one of the major highlights of the film. With her commanding screen presence and



exceptional acting skills, Ramya Krishna is set to impress audiences in this

strong political role. Inspired by real-life incidents and personalities

while presenting a fictional narrative, "Queen" is set between 2006 and 2010. The film combines political drama with an engaging love story that reflects contemporary social issues, promising a unique cinematic experience. The film also stars Dialogue King Sai Kumar as the heroine's father, while Ajay Ghosh and Kalakeya Prabhakar play the antagonists. Tanikella Bharani, Naveen Bethiganti, and several other notable actors are part of the ensemble cast. The makers warmly welcomed Ramya Krishna to the team and expressed confidence that her addition will further strengthen the film. The regular shoot of "Queen" is currently progressing at a brisk pace.

Rasha Thadani: 'Manga' is a role close to my heart in Srinivasa Mangapuram

I am fortunate to be introduced to Telugu through the film 'Srinivasa Mangapuram' by Vjyayanthi Movies. Director Ajay Bhupathi has crafted the story and characters wonderfully. The role of Manga that I have played in this is very close to my heart: Heroine Rasha Thadani Superstar Krishna's grandson and Mahesh Babu's nephew Jayakrishna Ghattamaneni is making his debut as a hero with the film 'Srinivasa Mangapuram' directed by Ajay Bhupathi. Bollywood actress Raveena Tandon's daughter Rasha Thadani is also being introduced to the Telugu audience through this film. Senior actor Dr. Mohan Babu is playing a powerful role in this prestigious film. Producer P. Kiran is producing this film and Vjyayanthi Movies Ashwini Dutt is presenting it. The three songs, teasers and posters released so far have received a wonderful response from the audience. The film will be released in theaters worldwide on July 30. On this occasion, heroine Rasha Thadani shared the features of the film at a press conference.



calm girl. You will see that if you watch the movie in the theater. There are two different aspects to my character. I understand Telugu. But I can't speak clearly. For this film, director Ajay Bhupathi taught me every dialogue and emotion in it. He took great care in everything. The character of Manga is very close to me.

How was it working with Jayakrishna Ghattamaneni?

Jayakrishna is a very sweet and cool person. He is very fun on the set. It was a lot of fun during the shooting.

How was it working with Mohan Babu?

My mother also worked with Mohan Babu. Working with him was a very fun experience. He is very funny on the set. He always tells jokes. His experience was very useful for us. I learned a lot from him.

This is your first film in Telugu. What challenges did you face?

I don't know Telugu. Initially, I had a hard time understanding the dialogues. But director Ajay Bhupathi helped me a lot. He used to explain the dialogues in Telugu and Hindi.

What will your character be like in this?

My character has two shades. On one hand, she is very bubbly and excited. On the other hand, she appears as a very methodical and

Trikaala' Now Streaming on JioHotstar, Amazon Prime & Sun NXT



After receiving an encouraging response in theatres, the Telugu mythological dark thriller "Trikaala: A Script of God" is now making waves on leading OTT platforms. The film is currently streaming on JioHotstar, Amazon Prime Video, and Sun NXT, where it has emerged as one of the trending titles with impressive audience ratings. It has also garnered an outstanding 9.1 rating on IMDb, further strengthening its growing popularity among viewers. Starring Shraddha Das, Mahendran, and Ajay in lead roles, Trikaala is directed by Mani Tellagooti. Rather than relying solely on conventional storytelling, the film explores profound themes such as the law of karma, the significance of cow protection, and the concept of reincarnation, presenting them

through a visually compelling narrative. Blending mythology, psychological horror, and dark fantasy with a contemporary backdrop, director Mani Tellagooti has crafted the film into a unique cinematic experience. His meticulous visual planning from the scripting stage is evident in every frame, showcasing his technical expertise and creative vision. The film's immersive atmosphere is further elevated by Pawan Channa's striking dark visuals and Shajid Humayun's powerful background score, both of which have received widespread appreciation from audiences. With its distinctive storytelling, technical brilliance, and strong OTT reception, "Trikaala: A Script of God" has now become one of the most talked-about Telugu films on digital platforms.

TAMANNAAH MESMERIZES IN CHIC BEIGE LOOK EFFORTLESSLY

Tamannaah Bhatia has once again grabbed attention with her latest pictures, showcasing effortless elegance in a soft beige knitted outfit. Seated gracefully on the studio floor, the actress kept her look minimal yet striking, accessorizing with layered pearl necklaces, gold bangles, and statement rings. Her sleek hairstyle and subtle make-up perfectly complemented the earthy aesthetic, making the photoshoot a blend of sophistication and timeless charm. On the work front, Tamannaah has an exciting slate of films across multiple languages. She will be seen in the Telugu and Tamil projects Purushan and Ragini 3, while her Hindi film Vvan, co-starring Sidharth

Malhotra, is slated to hit theatres on August 28. Tamannaah Bhatia has shared her candid views on the differences between Bollywood and the South Indian film industry, shedding light on the challenges women often face in cinema. Having worked extensively in Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu films, Tamannaah said her experiences across industries have given her a unique perspective on how women are perceived and represented. According to her, Bollywood offers space for different kinds of female performers. She noted that some actresses focus on performance-driven roles, while others successfully balance commercial glamour with strong acting careers.

