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For Website Visit epaper.thesouthindiatimes.comwww.thesouthindiatimes.com[/thesouthindiatimes.yahoo.in](https://thesouthindiatimes.yahoo.in)**Will secure lesser votes than NOTA: BJP on Prashant Kishor's electoral debut in Bihar bypoll**

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CHINESE UNDER-GROUND CHURCH FIGURE JIN MINGRI FREED FROM PRISON

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**Star Heroes Must Speak Up on Issues Facing Small Films: Actor-Director SHERAZ MEHDI**

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SCAN FOR E-PAPER



OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

04-07-2026

Total pilgrims : 90,546
Tonsures : 36,303
Hundi kankada : 1,93 CR
Laddu sale : 4.61 Lac
Annaprasadams : 2,54 Lac
Medical treatment : 3,362
Waiting Compartments :
Outside line at Silahonam.

Approx. Darshan Time for Saravardashnam (with out SSD Tokens) : 10 - 24 H.

Centre notifies rules of origin of goods under India-UK CETA

New Delhi (TSIT): The Finance Ministry has notified the rules for determining the origin of goods under the India-United Kingdom Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), paving the way for the trade pact to come into force on July 15. The rules, issued by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), establish the framework for determining whether goods qualify for preferential tariff treatment under the agreement and prescribe compliance requirements for exporters and importers. According to the notification, titled the Customs Tariff (Determination of Origin of Goods under the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between India and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) Rules, 2026, the provisions will take effect from July 15, 2026. Under the notified framework, a product will qualify as originating in India or the United Kingdom if it is wholly obtained in either country, produced entirely from originating materials, or manufactured using non-originating inputs while meeting the product-specific rules of origin specified under the agreement.

CM Revanth Reddy Urges Kishan Reddy to Fast-Track Hyderabad Metro Phase-2

**Hyderabad, TSIT BUREAU:**

Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy has appealed to Union Coal and Mines Minister G.Kishan Reddy to personally intervene and expedite the approval of Hyderabad Metro Rail Phase-2, warning that further delays could result in an additional financial burden of thousands of crores on the project.

In a letter to Kishan Reddy, the Chief Minister urged him to coordinate with the Union Ministries of

Housing and Urban Affairs and Railways to secure immediate administrative and financial approvals for the Metro Phase-2 project. He also requested the Centre to speed up the transfer of Metro Phase-1 to the Telangana Government, stating that both issues are interlinked and require urgent action.

Revanth Reddy recalled the high-level meetings held on June 23 and 24 with Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar

Lal Khattar, which were attended by Kishan Reddy. Although important decisions were taken regarding the Metro project, he said none have been implemented so far.

The Chief Minister pointed out that it had been agreed to appoint SBI Capital Markets Limited (SBI Caps) to undertake the valuation and financial assessment of Metro Phase-1 and prepare the roadmap for its transfer to the State Government. The agency was also expected to develop the financial model and funding strategy for Metro Phase-2, but its appointment and the finalisation of the Terms of Reference (ToR) are still pending.

He said the delay in appointing SBI Caps has stalled both the Phase-1 transfer process and the approvals required for Phase-2, affecting funding arrangements and pushing back the project's implementation.

Monsoon knocks on Delhi, Haryana and Punjab;

IMD warns of heavy rain, strong winds over next week

**Panchkula (TSIT)**

After days of humid weather and intermittent showers, the southwest monsoon is finally poised to sweep across the remaining parts of Haryana and Punjab, bringing widespread rainfall and a significant change in weather over the coming week. The India Meteorological Department (IMD), in its All India Weather Summary and Forecast Bulletin issued at 08:44 IST on Saturday, said conditions have become favourable for the southwest monsoon to advance into the remaining parts of Haryana and Punjab, some more parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and the North Arabian Sea during the next four days.

According to the IMD, the Northern Limit of Monsoon currently passes through 22°N/60°E, 22°N/65°E, Jammagar, Udaipur, Ajmer,

Jhunjhunu, Hisar, Bathinda and 32.5°N/70°E, indicating that the monsoon is now on the doorstep of the remaining parts of Haryana. The weather office has forecast isolated to scattered rainfall over Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi on July 5 and again during July 9-10, while rainfall activity is expected to intensify into a fairly wide-

spread to widespread spell from July 6 to July 8.

Adding to the wet spell, the IMD has warned of isolated heavy rainfall across Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi during July 6-8, signalling the first major monsoon spell for the region.

Saturday may also witness thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds reaching 40-50

kmph and gusting up to 60 kmph at isolated places over Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi. Similar conditions have been forecast for Punjab Punjab is expected to witness a similar weather pattern, with scattered showers on Saturday giving way to widespread rainfall during July 6-8, accompanied by isolated heavy rain.

CM Chandrababu Calls for 'Golden Lives' for the Poor Through P4 Initiative

■ Bridging the Rich-Poor Gap is the Government's Goal

Visakhapatnam (TSIT)

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said the State Government is implementing the P4 (Public-Private-People Partnership for Prosperity) initiative as a long-term solution to eradicate poverty through active public participation. Addressing a meeting of Bangaru Kutumbalu (Golden Families) and Margadarsis (Mentors) in Kuppam on Sunday, he said the programme aims to transform the lives of poor families and reduce economic inequalities in society.

The Chief Minister stated that the primary objective of the initiative is the social and economic empowerment of identified poor families. He stressed that beneficiaries should become



financially self-reliant instead of depending solely on government assistance and eventually reach a stage where they can support others. Naidu explained that the government is pursuing a Zero Poverty mission through the MBK 10:20 model, under which the top 10 percent of economically stronger sections are encouraged to mentor and support the bottom 20 percent of poor families. He

revealed that nearly 1.2 million Bangaru Kutumbalu have already been identified across the State, while more than 110,000 Margadarsis have voluntarily joined the programme, reflecting growing public confidence in the initiative.

In Kuppam Assembly constituency, the responsibility for the development of 9,000 Bangaru Kutumbalu has been entrusted to corporate part-

ners including Adani Group, TVS Motor Company, and MEGA. The Chief Minister urged mentors and corporate partners to continuously monitor the progress of these families and help them achieve sustainable livelihoods. Naidu also announced that the success stories of beneficiary families would be widely publicised to inspire others.

He emphasized that increasing household incomes and reducing economic disparities are essential for inclusive development and reiterated the government's commitment to making the P4 initiative a national model for poverty eradication. Chittoor MP Daggumalla Prasada Rao, public representatives, senior officials, corporate representatives, mentors, and members of Bangaru Kutumbalu attended the programme.

Opposition's job is to make allegations : CM Shivakumar

Bengaluru (TSIT)

Karnataka Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar on Sunday hit back at the Opposition over its criticism of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process, saying that making allegations is the responsibility of Opposition parties.

Speaking to mediapersons at the residence of AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge, Shivakumar said the government is committed to ensuring justice for every citizen and protecting their voting rights.

"On behalf of the government, we must ensure justice for everyone, and we have appealed to all citizens to safeguard their voting rights. We too have our own protest. Wherever we need to protest lawfully, we will protest," he said.

The Chief Minister was responding to allegations by Opposition parties that



the SIR process was being conducted from a single location instead of through the prescribed door-to-door verification process.

Reiterating the government's stand, Shivakumar said the administration remains focused on conducting the process fairly while ensuring that every eligible voter is able to exercise their democratic rights. He maintained that lawful protests are a democratic right and the government would continue to raise its concerns through constitutional and legal means whenever necessary.

KTR demands lifting of water from Kannepalli to protect Telangana from drought

Hyderabad (TSIT):

BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao on Sunday demanded that the Congress government immediately operate the Kannepalli Pump House and lift Godavari waters to protect Telangana from an impending drought, warn-



ing that the State could face a severe water crisis due to the combined impact of El Niño, deficient rainfall and government inaction.

Addressing the media after inspecting the Kannepalli Pump House, KTR said 26 out of Telangana's 33 districts are already facing drought-like conditions, while lakhs of cusecs of Godavari water continue to flow wastefully into the sea because the government has failed to utilise the existing Kaleshwaram infrastructure. He accused the Congress government of displaying complete apathy towards farmers despite repeated warnings from weather experts about El Nino and below-normal rainfall. "Instead of preparing for a drought and protecting agriculture, the government is allowing precious water to go waste while farmers suffer," he said. KTR urged the government to immediately restart the Kannepalli pumps and fill reservoirs to provide irrigation and drinking water across Telangana.

Kaleshwaram Barrages Unsafe Until Scientific Rehabilitation is Complete Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy

Hyderabad, July 5: Telangana Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Sunday asserted that the Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla barrages of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP) cannot be operated until comprehensive scientific rehabilitation is completed, accusing the BRS of spreading misinformation on the issue.

Addressing a press conference at the State Secretariat, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) has prohibited operation of the three barrages until all rehabilitation works are completed and safety is certified. Rejecting BRS claims that



the Kannepalli pump house at Medigadda could be immediately operated, he maintained that "this is not politics, but engineering and public safety."

Minister said the final NDSA report has raised serious concerns over the structural integrity of all three barrages, citing compromised foundations, seepage, piping beneath the structures, inadequate

stilling basins, poor energy dissipation systems and construction quality deficiencies. He warned that storing water before rectifying these defects could have serious consequences for downstream areas, including Bhadrachalam.

He said the State Government has launched a comprehensive scientific rehabilitation programme involving Ground

Penetrating Radar surveys, nearly 100 deep boreholes, hydraulic modelling, Computational Fluid Dynamics analysis and digital twin simulations. The studies are being carried out by CWPRS Pune and global consultant Afry in association with IIT Bombay under the supervision of the NDSA and the Central Water Commission.

According to the Minister, preliminary studies indicate that continuous diaphragm walls and strengthening of stilling basins may be required across all three barrages. Rehabilitation designs are expected to be finalised during the current monsoon, with construction scheduled to begin after floodwaters recede.

Mumbai rains: Man dies after tree falls on him, Mayor advises caution amid Red alert

**Mumbai (TSIT)**

In a tragic incident in Mumbai, a man was killed after a tree collapsed on him as heavy rains and strong winds lashed several parts of the city on Sunday.

Mayor Ritu Tawde appealed to people to stay

indoors and exercise caution amid the harsh weather. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) had on Saturday issued a critical Red alert for Mumbai, Thane, and several neighbouring districts as relentless monsoon downpours lashed the region, officials

said. In the incident reported by NDTV from the city's Kurla area, the 63-year-old man, who recently bought a shop in the neighbourhood, had come there to prepare for its opening day when the falling tree struck him with great force. The tragedy was caught on CCTV camera.

The Mayor has announced Rs 5 lakh compensation for him.

In another tragedy on Saturday, an 18-year-old lost his life after a branch of a tree fell on him while he was driving a motorcycle in Mumbai's Aarey Colony area. The victim lost consciousness and was immediately rushed to hospital where doctors declared him brought dead, police said.

Telangana invites suggestions on CURE Integrated Governance Bill



Hyderabad: The Telangana government on Sunday, July 5, released the Core Urban Region (Integrated Governance) Bill, 2026, for public inputs. The bill proposes maintaining decentralised administration at the corporation level along with coordination at the metro level, bringing the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), Cyberabad Municipal Corporation, and Malkajgiri Municipal Corporation under an integrated governance system.

It aims to replace the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation Act, 1955, as it has not kept pace with the region's growth from a city of 15 lakh people to a metropolitan area of 1.3 crore, the government stated in a

release. While major provisions on corporations, standing committees, commissioners, ward committees, election administration, property tax administration, debt collection powers, and animal welfare will continue, some key reforms have also been introduced.

The new bill will shift property tax from Annual Rental Value to a Capital Value method, delete octroi/dog tax and introduce self-assessment, an Integrated Property Identity Code, and rebates for timely and sustainable payment.

For ease of doing business, the bill will introduce a simplified, single trade licence for all businesses and a new night-economy framework. The bill also calls for Geographic Information

System (GIS)-based street development plans, universal design for infrastructure, underground utilities, deemed approval for buildings, and decriminalising certain civil penalties.

Municipal authorities will be given special powers during public health emergencies, and water/sewerage regulation will be vested in the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board (HMWSSB). Public nuisance redressal will be simplified, and sanitation will be aligned with the Manual Scavengers Act to protect sanitation workers' dignity, health, and safety.

The bill also creates a CURE Apex Governance Council and an executive committee, which will be chaired by the chief minis-

ter.

While HYDRAA will be dedicated to the protection of lakes, drains and public land, different authorities will be created for disaster management, traffic management, climate action, heritage conservation, food safety, gender inclusion, and labour welfare.

A CURE SMART Governance Centre will be established for real-time, multi-agency monitoring and emergency coordination, and a CURE Appellate Authority will be created for speedy grievance redressal. An integrated digital portal and single consolidated utility bill have also been proposed.

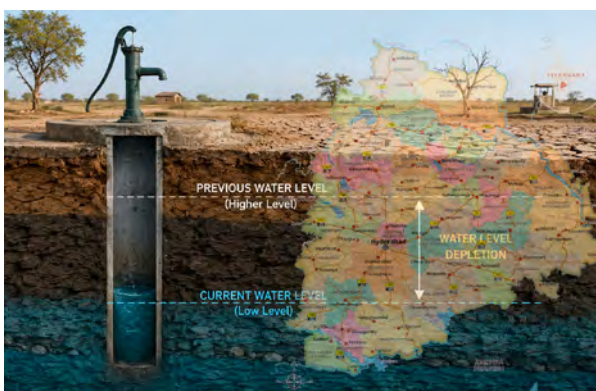
Suggestions and views on the bill have been invited from all stakeholders. For more details, citizens can refer to the document on the GHMC website.

Alarming decline in groundwater levels in Telangana; situation in Hyderabad 'critical'

Hyderabad : The steady depletion of groundwater in and around Hyderabad has emerged as one of the most pressing environmental challenges confronting Telangana. The latest data released by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) paints a worrying picture: groundwater levels have declined in 17 districts of the State compared with the corresponding period last year. Hyderabad, despite receiving substantial rainfall during the 2025 monsoon, has witnessed one of the sharpest falls, underscoring the growing disconnect between rainfall and groundwater recharge.

According to the CGWB's latest assessment for June 2026, groundwater levels deteriorated in 17 districts while only 16 districts registered an improvement over June 2025. Hyderabad recorded the most significant decline, with the average groundwater depth increasing from 9.96 metres below ground level in June 2025 to 12.43 metres in June 2026. This represents a fall of nearly 2.47 metres within a year, the steepest among all districts surveyed.

The findings are particularly alarming because they come after a year in which Telangana experienced an above-normal southwest monsoon. Ordinarily, abundant rainfall is expected to replenish underground aquifers. However, rapid urbanisation, concretisation of land surfaces, shrinking lakes, encroach-



ment of water bodies, and excessive groundwater extraction appear to have prevented effective recharge in Hyderabad and its surrounding urban areas.

Karimnagar also witnessed a marginal decline, with groundwater levels dropping from 8.82 metres to 8.93 metres below ground level. Though the reduction is relatively small at 0.11 metres, experts caution that even minor declines, if sustained over consecutive years, can lead to long-term stress on aquifers.

The report highlights contrasting trends across Telangana.

Bhupalpally recorded one of the most significant declines, with groundwater levels falling from 10.93 metres below ground level to 12.26 metres below ground level. Similarly, Adilabad also saw a decline from 9.50 metres below ground level to 10.27 metres below ground level.

Other districts seeing a decline included Rajanna Sircilla, which recorded a 1.51 metres fall in groundwater levels, Peddapalli 1.33 metres, Nizamabad

1.12 metres, Jagtial 0.99 metres and Bhadradi Kothagudem 0.95 metres.

In all, 17 districts have seen a decline in groundwater levels.

On the other hand, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district recorded the highest rise in groundwater levels of 2.86 metres. It was followed by Nagarkurnool (1.64 m), Rangareddy (1.51 m), Jangaon (1.46 m) and Vikarabad (1.44 m), indicating that local hydrogeological conditions, rainfall distribution and water management practices continue to influence groundwater behaviour differently across regions.

The broader State-level picture, however, calls for caution rather than celebration. Between June 2025 and June 2026, groundwater levels improved in only about half the districts, while the remaining districts either stagnated or declined. Such uneven recovery suggests that rainfall alone is insufficient to ensure sustainable groundwater resources. Scientific recharge mechanisms and prudent extraction policies are becoming increas-

ingly indispensable.

The CGWB report also analyses groundwater availability across different depth ranges. Approximately 51 per cent of monitoring wells recorded groundwater within five metres below ground level, indicating relatively shallow aquifers in many parts of the State. Another 28 per cent fell within the 5-10 metre range, while about 9 per cent registered groundwater between 15 and 20 metres below ground. These figures reveal that although significant portions of Telangana still possess accessible groundwater, several pockets are witnessing rapid depletion, particularly urban centres experiencing intense developmental pressure.

Long-term trends offer a mixed outlook. Comparing groundwater observations over the decade from 2016 to 2025, nearly 480 monitoring locations showed improvement, while about 141 stations recorded declining groundwater levels. This indicates that while groundwater management initiatives have yielded positive outcomes in several regions, the gains remain fragile and uneven. Hyderabad deserves special attention because of its unique urban challenges. Telangana's capital was extracting 96% of its annual available groundwater, ranking it in the "critical" category, according to a recent assessment by the Telangana Groundwater Department.

Beyond the Boundary: Azharuddin's Journey from Cricket Legend to People's Minister

A NEW CHAPTER FOR MINORITY WELFARE IN TELANGANA

By Syed Minhaj Hussain
APRO to Hon'ble Minister for Minorities Welfare & Public Enterprises
Public life often offers individuals a second innings. Few, however, embrace that opportunity with the same determination that once defined their first. Mohammed Azharuddin's journey from one of India's most celebrated cricket captains to Telangana's Minister for Minorities Welfare and Public Enterprises is not merely a change of profession—it is the continuation of a life dedicated to serving people.

For millions of Indians, Azharuddin will always be remembered for his elegant batting, composed leadership and remarkable achievements in international cricket. Yet, beyond the applause of packed stadiums and the glory of representing the nation, he chose a path where success is measured not by runs scored but by lives improved. Today, his focus is firmly on the welfare, education and empowerment of Telangana's minority communities.

The Minorities Welfare Department is one of the most diverse portfolios in government. Its responsibilities extend far beyond financial assistance. It touches education, employment, religious institutions, skill development, language preservation, economic empowerment and the aspirations of lakhs of families. In recent months, there has been a renewed emphasis on ensuring that these responsibilities translate into meaningful action.

Economic empowerment has emerged as a key priority. Efforts to strengthen subsidy-linked income generation schemes, improve access to financial assistance, expand employment opportunities and enhance vocational training reflect a broader vision of helping families become self-reliant rather than depen-



dent. The department has also continued to focus on loan-related initiatives through minority financial institutions while working to widen the reach of welfare programmes among deserving beneficiaries.

Education remains another area receiving sustained attention. From improving classroom performance among minority students to encouraging greater participation in competitive examinations such as EAMCET, ECET, EdCET and Civil Services, the emphasis is increasingly on

creating opportunities for the next generation. Coaching initiatives such as the CHAMAK programme represent an investment in young minds who aspire to serve the nation through public service and professional excellence. Alongside this, the preservation and promotion of the Urdu language continues to receive importance as an integral part of Telangana's rich cultural heritage.

The department's work also extends to protecting institutions that hold deep social and

religious significance. Efforts relating to the protection of Wakf properties, the maintenance and development of mosques and Wakf institutions, assistance for churches and Christian burial grounds, and the implementation of welfare schemes for the Christian community demonstrate an approach that seeks to address the needs of different minority communities with equal sincerity and respect.

Perhaps one of the most visible examples of administrative coordination was witnessed during the Haj season. From the selection of pilgrims and Khadimul Hujjaj to orientation programmes, passport assistance, Haj camps and continuous coordination until the pilgrims returned safely, the department remained actively engaged throughout the process. Many Haj pilgrims from Telangana appreciated the arrangements made both before departure and during their pilgrimage. The support and guidance extended by Hon'ble Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, combined with the close monitoring by Minister Mohammed Azharuddin and the dedication of departmental officers, contributed significantly to these efforts.

Leadership is not confined to government files or official meetings. One of the qualities that stands out in Minister Azharuddin's public life is his accessibility. Whether attending programmes as Chief Guest, Special Guest or Guest of Honour, he consistently makes time to interact with ordinary citizens. Listening to grievances, encouraging young people, meeting religious leaders and engaging with community representatives have become regular features of his public engagements. For him, governance appears to begin with listening.

Within the department, his working style has also earned appreciation from many officers

and employees. They often describe him as approachable, courteous, soft-spoken and respectful. Rather than creating unnecessary barriers, he encourages officials to work independently, share ideas and focus on solutions. His interactions frequently carry a simple but motivating message: "This is only the beginning. There is still much more to do." Such words reflect not complacency but an understanding that meaningful development is a continuous process.

During several interactions, the Minister has expressed a philosophy that goes beyond identity politics. He has often conveyed that he does not view people through the lens of religion or caste, but through the responsibility of public service. Having once represented India on the international cricket field, he now believes his duty is to contribute to the welfare and development of Telangana's minority communities while ensuring that government schemes reach those who need them most.

Every government is ultimately judged by the impact of its work, and history will determine the lasting legacy of today's policies. Nevertheless, there is a growing sense of optimism that the Minorities Welfare Department is moving with renewed energy, greater public engagement and stronger implementation. As new initiatives continue to take shape and existing programmes gather momentum, there remains considerable potential to expand educational opportunities, strengthen economic empowerment, improve institutional support and enhance the overall quality of life for minority communities across Telangana. Mohammed Azharuddin once inspired a generation with a cricket bat in his hands. Today, he seeks to inspire confidence through governance, compassion and a commitment to inclusive development.

Adilabad Sports School Alumnus Harshvardhan Scripts History with Asian Cadet Judo Championship Selection



Hyderabad TSIT: Telangana's sporting ecosystem received a major boost as Harshvardhan Motta, an alumnus of the Telangana State Sports School, Adilabad, was selected to represent India in the -60 kg category at the Asian Cadet Judo Championships, to be held in Jordan on July 16 and 17.

Harshvardhan's selection marks a historic achievement, making him the first judoka from Telangana to represent India at the international level. The milestone is being hailed as a proud moment for the Telangana State Sports School, Adilabad, and a significant chapter in the state's sporting history.

Harshvardhan began his judo career at the Telangana State Sports School, where he underwent eight years of structured training that laid the foundation for his success. His consistent performances and dedication earned him a place at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centre in Bhopal, where he is currently undergoing advanced

training. A key figure in Harshvardhan's journey has been his coach, Nanganuri Raju, whose guidance and mentorship played a crucial role in developing the young judoka into an international-level athlete.

His achievement is expected to inspire aspiring sports persons across Telangana and reflects the state's growing emphasis on identifying and nurturing young talent through its sports schools and high-performance training programmes.

Congratulating Harshvardhan on his achievement, Telangana Sports Minister, Government Sports Advisor, Special Chief Secretary, Sports Authority of Telangana Chairman and Managing Director also extended their best wishes to Coach Nanganuri Raju. They expressed confidence that Harshvardhan would deliver an impressive performance at the Asian Cadet Judo Championships and bring glory to both India and Telangana.

K Reddy calls for better monsoon preparedness and rainwater harvesting in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: union Coal and Mines Minister G Kishan Reddy on Sunday inaugurated open gyms in several parks across the Nampally Assembly constituency and stressed the need for improved monsoon preparedness, environmental conservation and rainwater harvesting in Hyderabad.

After touring various colonies in the constituency, which falls under the Secunderabad Parliamentary segment, Kishan Reddy said the open gyms had been set up in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "Fit India, Healthy India" to promote fitness and build a healthy population capable of con-



tributing to the nation's development. Expressing concern over the city's monsoon preparedness, he alleged that the state government had failed to undertake essential pre-monsoon works such as tree plantation, desilting of stormwater drains and clearing of pipelines within the GHMC limits.

He said even moderate rainfall was enough to inundate

Hyderabad's roads, causing severe inconvenience to commuters and residents.

The union Minister criticised both the previous BRS government and the present Congress government, alleging that despite promises to transform Hyderabad into a world-class city on the lines of London or Singapore, little progress had been made over the past several years.

Highlighting the importance of water conservation amid changing climatic conditions, Kishan Reddy said every drop of rainwater should be harvested to address declining groundwater levels and ensure sustain-

able water resources.

Observing that Hyderabad was increasingly turning into a concrete jungle with a rapid rise in apartment complexes, he said the city was witnessing higher temperatures and called for urgent measures to protect the environment through increased greenery and effective water conservation.

Referring to reports that rainfall during June was significantly below normal, he appealed to citizens to use water judiciously and install rainwater harvesting pits in homes and parks so that rainwater recharges groundwater instead of flowing into the Musi River.

REGISTER IN BLO APP BEFORE JULY 24: VOTER REGISTRATION OFFICER, RDO SUBRAMANIAM

Wanaparthy(TSIT):The Voter Registration Officer, RDO Subramaniam directed the booth level officials to enter the filled enumeration forms in the BLO app before the deadline set by the Election Commission on July 24. On Sunday, polling station numbers 120, 122, 123, 160 and 170 of Gandhinagar, Harijan Wada, Nagavaram under Wanaparthy

Municipality were visited and the special voter registration process was observed. Talked to booth level officials and supervisors and inquired about



the problems. The booth level officials and booth level supervisors examined the process of dispatching the enumeration form to the voters and filling up the enumeration

form and gave several suggestions to the booth level officials and supervisors that the enumeration form should be filled by the voter without any errors and the said form should be submitted to B.L. within the deadline fixed by the Election Commission. Ordered to register in the app.

In the same way, they talked to the voters and inquired about the difficulties in filling the form. The filled form must be returned to the booth level officers, otherwise the name will not be entered in the voter list.

CYBERABAD MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER SRIJANA GUMMALLA RETURNS TO DUTY AFTER SURGERY, REKINDLING MEMORIES OF HER COVID-ERA DEDICATION

Hyderabad, TSIT: When IAS officer G.Srijana walked back into her office just a day after undergoing shoulder surgery, it was more than a routine return to work - it reflected the same sense of public duty that has defined her administrative career over the years.

Now serving as the first Commissioner of the Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC), Srijana resumed official responsibilities immediately after surgery to review civic administration and ongoing development works, earning appreciation from officials and citizens alike.

For many, the moment revived memories of April 2020, when Srijana, then Commissioner of the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC), returned to duty just 22 days after giving birth during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Carrying her month-old son while leading one of the country's largest municipal administrations through an unprecedented public health crisis, she became an enduring symbol of dedication



in public service.

Speaking to a media outlet at the time, the 2013-batch IAS officer described her decision as a "call of duty," saying the extraordinary circumstances demanded her presence in the field. While supervising pandemic response measures, she balanced official responsibilities with caring for her newborn, travelling home whenever possible to breastfeed her child before returning to work.

Today, Srijana heads the newly created Cyberabad Municipal Corporation, established following the reorganisation of Hyderabad's civic administration. As its inaugural Commissioner, she has outlined an ambitious roadmap centred on sanitation, urban infrastructure, mosquito control, solid waste management and citizen-centric governance.

In a recent interview, she described sanitation

as the cornerstone of urban governance, emphasising that every citizen deserves a clean and dignified living environment regardless of economic status. She has also prioritised strengthening civic infrastructure to match the rapid expansion of Hyderabad's western growth corridor, home to the city's thriving IT and innovation ecosystem.

Her decision to resume office immediately after surgery is consistent with

the work ethic she has displayed throughout her career. Whether managing municipal services during a global pandemic or leading one of Telangana's newest civic bodies, Srijana has earned a reputation for hands-on administration, field engagement and prompt decision-making.

In her current role, she has been actively reviewing monsoon preparedness and directing officials to strengthen drainage networks and civic infrastructure to minimise flooding and ensure uninterrupted public services across Cyberabad.

As Telangana pushes ahead with rapid urban expansion, Srijana's latest return to duty is more than a personal story—it is a reminder that behind public institutions are individuals whose commitment often extends well beyond official responsibilities. Six years after inspiring many by returning to work soon after childbirth during the COVID-19 crisis, she has once again demonstrated the same unwavering sense of public service.

Coordination should be done at the field level on replacement of enumeration forms: DCC Chief Shivsena Reddy



Wanaparthy(TSIT):DCC President Shivsena Reddy has called upon the party ranks to implement the sir process which is ongoing throughout the district more effectively at the field level of the Congress party. To this end, a review meeting was held with the mandal and town presidents at the Wanaparthy

District Congress Party office on Sunday. In the meeting, the progress of replacement of enumeration forms in the respective mandals and towns, house-to-house campaign, voter registration process and the problems faced were discussed. Shiv Sena Reddy suggested that the party leaders and BLA-2s should work in coordination within each booth and take steps to ensure that every eligible voter receives the enumeration form. He said that the people should be provided with assistance and cooperation from time to time so that no difficulties arise in the process of filling the forms, and the problems encountered at the field level should be immediately brought to the attention of the district party. The party workers are advised to take responsibility of the sir process and conduct it effec-

LOST OF PASSPORT

I, Ms. Sara Fatima Naseer, D/o. Mohammed Naseer Uddin. H.No. 19-3-668/9, Misrigunj, Kumarvadi, Hyderabad- have lost my Original Passport B.No. **R5260236** which my father was kept in my vehicle Activa was stolen which he given complaint PS Balaguda, if any one found my passport kindly call Ph.No. 9963296703.

LOST OF PASSPORT

I, Mohammed Naseeruddin, S/o. Late. Ahmed Mohiuddin. R/o. H.No. 19-3-668/9, Misrigunj, Kumarvadi, Hyderabad- have lost my Original Passport B.No. **N3203939** which I was kept in my vehicle Activa was stolen which I given complaint PS Balaguda, if any one found my passport kindly call Ph.No. 9963296703.

LOST OF PASSPORT

I, Mrs. Shameen Banu, W/o. Mohammed Naseer Uddin, H.No. 19-3-668/9, Misrigunj, Kumarvadi, Hyderabad- have lost my Original Passport B.No. **R4189743** which my husband was kept in my vehicle Activa was stolen which I given complaint PS Balaguda, if any one found my passport kindly call Ph.No. 879078471.

Shadnagar Tops Ranga Reddy in SIR Enumeration Drive

RANGAREDDY : Shadnagar Assembly constituency has secured the top position in Ranga Reddy district in the distribution of enumeration forms under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, Revenue Divisional Officer N.R. Saritha said on Sunday.

Speaking at Annaram village in Farooqnagar mandal, Saritha said 2,09,130 enumeration forms have been distributed out of 2,44,426 voters,



achieving 95 per cent coverage. She appealed to all eligible voters to cooperate with officials to ensure

the successful completion of the exercise.

According to district data, Shadnagar recorded 85.56 per cent distribution, the highest among the district's eight Assembly constituencies, followed by Kalwakurthy (83.46%) and Chevella (82.24%). She added that field staff have been directed to expedite the distribution of the remaining forms and the digitisation process before the electoral roll revision is taken up.

Hyderabad, Cyberabad police book 502 drunk drivers in special enforcement drive

Hyderabad: Hyderabad and Cyberabad Traffic Police booked a total of 502 motorists for drunken driving during special enforcement drives conducted over the weekend as part of intensified efforts to improve road safety.

Hyderabad Traffic Police, during a two-day drive on July 3 and 4, caught 312 motorists driving under the influence of alcohol. The offenders included 245 two-wheeler riders, 35 three-wheeler drivers, and 32 four-

wheeler drivers. Eleven motorists recorded blood alcohol concentration (BAC) levels above 300 mg/100 ml.

In a separate weekend drive, Cyberabad Traffic Police apprehended 190 drunk drivers, comprising 154 two-wheeler riders, two three-wheeler drivers and 34 four-wheeler drivers. Of them, 32 recorded BAC levels above 200 mg/100 ml. All the offenders will be produced before the court.

Cyberabad Police warned that motorists

causing fatal accidents while driving under the influence of alcohol would be booked under Section 105 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, which carries a maximum punishment of 10 years' imprisonment along with a fine. Meanwhile, Cyberabad Traffic Police said that during the week from June 29 to July 4, courts disposed of 376 drunken driving cases, awarding jail and fine to 10 offenders, fine with social service to four, and fines alone to 362 others.

Farmers Advised to Book Urea Through Urea Booking App District Agriculture Officer Shivaprasad

Sangareddy, July 5 (TSIT) District Agriculture Officer Shivaprasad has urged farmers in the district to make use of the Urea Booking App introduced by the State Government to ensure transparent and need-based distribution of urea fertilizers. He advised farmers to first confirm the availability of urea at their nearest fertilizer outlet and then book the required quantity in advance through the app. He said that scientific and crop-wise application of urea based on the cultivated area would improve fertilizer efficiency and enhance crop yields. Farmers were also advised to apply urea in phases as recommended by the Agriculture Department. According to the guidelines:



in a single take. Farmers cultivating more than 2 acres and up to 5 acres should book urea in two splits. Farmers cultivating more than 5 acres should book urea in three splits in the ratio of 40% : 30% : 30%, enabling timely supply based on crop requirements.

The District Agriculture Officer further informed that after making one booking, farmers can place their next booking

only after a 20-day interval. He appealed to all farmers in the district to utilize the Urea Booking App for advance bookings to ensure timely availability of urea without any inconvenience. For technical assistance, farmers have been advised to contact their nearest Agricultural Extension Officer (AEO), Mandal Agriculture Officer (MAO), or authorized fertilizer sales centres.

Rs.21-Crore Kamsanpally Frozen Semen Centre to Be Operational Soon



RANGAREDDY : The Telangana Government will soon operationalise the Frozen Semen Straw Production Centre at Kamsanpally village in Farooqnagar mandal with an investment of Rs.21 crore, State Minister for Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Dairy Development, Sports and Youth Services Vakiti Srihari said on Sunday.

The Minister, accompanied by Shadnagar MLA and Telangana State Public Sector Undertakings

Chairman Veerlapalli Shankar, inspected the facility, which has remained non-operational despite completion of construction. Dr. Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Director of the Animal Husbandry Department, briefed the Minister on the infrastructure and the steps required to make the centre fully operational.

Speaking to the media, Vakiti Srihari said the Kamsanpally facility is the second Frozen Semen Straw Production Centre in

Telangana after Karimnagar. He said the government would provide the required infrastructure, technical equipment and manpower to begin operations at the earliest. The centre is expected to improve cattle breeding by producing high-quality frozen semen straws, thereby enhancing milk production and benefiting dairy farmers. He added that Telangana currently ranks 13th in the country in milk production, and the facility will play an important role in strengthening the State's dairy sector.

Veerlapalli Shankar said the centre has the capacity to produce around 10 lakh frozen semen straws annually, which will help improve the quality of livestock and increase milk production across Telangana.

STATE BANK OF INDIA

ACB Miryalaguda, Pin: 508207

LOCKER BREAK OPEN NOTICE

This is to inform you that the following locker account holders have failed to pay the prescribed locker rent since long time, in spite of various notices and demands issued to them time to time including Final Notice & Legal Notice to their addresses, however they failed to turn up nor responded the same. As such, in terms of the Schedule II of the Locker Agreement, the bank shall have a right to break open the Locker and deal with its contents in accordance with Clause 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 of this Agreement and to break open as stated in the termination notice. Accordingly, it is proposed to break open the said lockers on **05-08-2026** by under going the formalities. The respective locker holders are advised to approach the Branch before the due date and settle all dues to avoid action. The charges for break open would be borne by the Locker Hirer and the bank reserves the right to take legal action for recovery of the same along with rent arrears and other charges by sale of contents in the public auction. Branch Phone Number: 8134949061.

Sl. No.	Locker No.	Name and Address of the Locker Hirer
1.	1/26	Pasya Indra Sena Reddy, Village: Kondrapole, Mandal: Damaracharla
2.	2/12	Namireddy Shyam Swaroop Reddy Plot No. 318, Road No. 25, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad.
3.	3/19	A. Indira, H.No. 18-119/16, Ashok Nagar, Miryalaguda
4.	3/32	R. Swapna, H.No. 19-977/1, Nagarjuna Nagar, Miryalaguda
5.	3/81	P. Hanumantha Rao, H.No.13-122, Hanumanpet, Miryalaguda

Place: Miryalaguda Sd/- Branch Chief Manager
Date: 04-07-2026 State Bank of India

TELANGANA GRAMEENA BANK

HEAD OFFICE: HYDERABAD - RBO: NALGONDA
PSR CENTER BRANCH-6281, SURYAPET DISTRICT-508213.

POSSESSION NOTICE

Rule-8(1) (For Immovable Property)
Housing Loan A/c No.73144227028
WHEREAS, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **Telangana Grameena Bank, P.S.R Centre Branch, Suryapet Town & District** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a **Demand Notice dated: 05-01-2026** calling upon the **Borrowers: 1) Mr. Chima Venkanna, 2) Chima Dhanamma, H.No.2-41, Vatti Khammam Pahad, Suryapet Town & District-508213** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.9,47,131/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Forty Seven Thousand One Hundred Thirty One only)** as on **01-01-2026** and interest within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **constructive possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rules 8 of the said rules on this **30-06-2026**.

The borrower/guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Telangana Grameena Bank (TGB)** for an amount of **Rs.9,19,275/- (Rupees Nine Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Five only)** as on **30-06-2026** & expenses thereon.

DESCRIPTION OF MORTGAGED SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the Residential House No. 1-8-44/4, with in Sy. No. 215, Extent of 121.00 Sq. Yds, at Ward No.01, Block No. 08, internal Residential area of Church Compound, Suryapet, near to H. No. 1-8/5/57/A within Bechirag Madharam Revenue Grama Revenue (Shivar) within Jurisdiction of Sub- Registrar Suryapet District Registrar Nalgonda (vide Regd. sale deed Doc.No.5383/2007 dated 25-07-2007, MOD No.7754/2018, dated 28/06/2018) bounded by: North: Open Place of Bijja Emiliyamma, South: 24 Feet wide Road, East: Place of Moulana, West: Land of Janimiya.

Date : 30-06-2026 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place : Suryapet Telangana Grameena Bank

India to lead BRICS Anti-Drug summit in Guwahati

New Delhi, Jul 5: India will host the BRICS Heads of Anti-Drug Agencies Meeting in Guwahati, Assam, on July 6 and 7, bringing together senior officials from member nations to strengthen cooperation against the growing global threat of drug trafficking. The two-day conference will centre on three major priorities — combating synthetic drugs and the diversion of precursor chemicals, enhancing intelligence-sharing and coordinated enforcement, and expanding institutional cooperation and capacity building.

Organised by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs, the meeting will serve as a platform for the heads of anti-drug agencies from BRICS nations to deepen operational collaboration and reinforce long-term institutional partnerships.

Representatives from all BRICS countries will review the prevailing drug scenario in their respective nations while participating in six thematic sessions addressing emerging challenges in global narcotics control. Discussions will cover the use of digital technologies for real-time drug interdiction, dismantling darknet-based trafficking networks, tackling the spread of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), preventing the diversion of pre-



cursor chemicals, strengthening drug demand reduction initiatives, and improving institutional mechanisms for combating illicit narcotics.

The meeting will conclude with the adoption of a joint declaration outlining the shared commitments of BRICS members in addressing transnational drug-related challenges.

In a statement, the Ministry of Home Affairs noted that the global narcotics landscape has undergone rapid transformation, driven by the rise of synthetic drugs, New Psychoactive Substances, darknet-enabled trafficking, and cryptocurrency-based financial

transactions that facilitate organised crime across borders. At the same time, advances in data analytics, financial intelligence, and interdiction technologies have created new opportunities for stronger international cooperation. According to the ministry, India intends to use the Guwahati meeting to shift BRICS cooperation beyond dialogue towards practical, action-oriented collaboration by promoting closer operational coordination, intelligence exchange, capacity development, and joint responses to emerging drug threats.

The summit also provides India with an opportunity to highlight

its intensified efforts to curb drug trafficking and substance abuse. The government has stepped up action against organised criminal networks involved in illicit narcotics while simultaneously focusing on public awareness campaigns, community participation, and treatment and rehabilitation programmes for individuals affected by addiction.

As part of its comprehensive strategy, India has recently unveiled the Vision Document on Narcotics Control (2026–2029), aimed at strengthening institutional capabilities and enhancing the country's overall response to drug-related crimes.

During its BRICS chairmanship, India will advocate greater cooperation in sharing intelligence on clandestine drug laboratories, monitoring precursor chemicals and pharmaceutical substances, exchanging information on emerging synthetic drug trends, conducting joint training programmes, promoting expert exchanges, and adopting best practices in narcotics enforcement. India's BRICS Chairship is guided by the theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability," reflecting the people-centric and humanity-first vision outlined by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the 2025 Rio Summit.

West Bengal police arrest alleged sand mafia kingpin Ajay Hari in West Burdwan

Kolkata, Jul 5: Police have arrested alleged sand mafia kingpin Ajay Hari in West Bengal's West Burdwan district, marking a significant breakthrough in an ongoing crackdown against illegal sand mining and smuggling operations in the state. Hari was apprehended by personnel from the Malandighi police outpost in the Bidhbihar area on Saturday night. He is scheduled to be produced before the Durgapur Sub-Divisional Court, where investigators are expected to seek his custody for further interrogation.

According to police officials, Hari is suspected of running a large-scale illegal sand extraction and smuggling network that allegedly generated enormous illicit profits. Investigators claim the proceeds were used to acquire properties, luxury homes, vehicles and other assets worth several crores of rupees.

During custodial questioning, police intend to identify other members of the alleged syndicate, trace the financial trail, and uncover the operational network behind the illegal mining activities. Officials said Hari has long been accused of illegally extracting sand from the Ajay River and transporting it through an organised smuggling network. Authorities also alleged that despite repeated accusations over the years, no substantial action was taken against him under the previous administration.

Police sources further claimed that Hari maintained close links with leaders of the Trinamool Congress, allegations that have surfaced repeatedly in connection with the illegal mining racket. According to local accounts cited by investigators, illegal sand mining in the Durgapur region first gained momentum during the Left Front regime and expanded significantly in the years that followed under the Trinamool Congress government.



Centre issues notice to Meta over child abuse content on Instagram

New Delhi, Jul 5: The Centre has issued a notice to Meta over the alleged presence of child sexual exploitative and abuse material (CSEAM) in paid advertisements on Instagram, directing the company to immediately remove such content and submit an explanation within seven days, according to official sources.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has instructed Instagram to disable all advertisements and content that promote or facilitate access to child sexual abuse material on its platform.

The action follows a BBC Eye investigation, which alleged that Instagram displayed paid advertisements containing terms related to child sexual abuse that redirected users to Telegram channels where illegal content was reportedly being sold for as little as Rs 99.

According to the report, the advertisements had cleared Instagram's moderation process before appearing on the platform. As part of its investigation, the BBC created a test Instagram account in India and followed several profiles posting sexually suggestive content. Within days, the account reportedly began receiving advertisements



offering explicit material, including content depicting children in sexually suggestive situations linked to Telegram channels.

The investigation identified around 30 unique advertisements allegedly promoting child sexual abuse material, along with several advertisements featuring adult pornographic content.

Among the reported advertisements were images allegedly depicting minors in sexually explicit situations and content suggesting the sexual exploitation of children.

The BBC also claimed that Instagram initially determined one of the reported advertisements did not violate its community standards despite the nature of the content.

Following queries from the broadcaster, Meta said it had removed the reported advertisements, suspended the associated accounts and blocked URLs linked to policy-violating content.

Centre withdraws emergency gas supply curbs



New Delhi, Jul 5: The Centre has withdrawn the emergency natural gas supply controls imposed earlier this year following disruptions in liquefied natural gas (LNG) shipments caused by the conflict in the Middle East, according to a government notification issued on Saturday.

The emergency measures had been introduced after the conflict disrupted LNG shipments through the Strait of Hormuz, with several suppliers invoking force majeure clauses. The situation had necessitated the diversion of natural gas supplies to priority sectors to ensure uninterrupted availability.

To regulate the production, allocation, diversion, distribu-

tion, acquisition, use and consumption of natural gas, including LNG and regasified LNG, the Centre had notified the Natural Gas (Supply Regulation) Order, 2026 on Mar. 9, 2026. The latest notification stated that the conflict has since been brought under a ceasefire, negotiations are underway, and maritime traffic through the Strait of Hormuz has resumed. In view of the improved situation, the Centre has notified the Natural Gas (Supply Regulation) (Amendment) Order, 2026, withdrawing the emergency supply controls. The amended order comes into effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Police machinery under Andhra CM Chandrababu Naidu heading in 'dangerous direction': Jagan Mohan Reddy

Amaravati, July 5 : Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and YSR Congress Party President Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy said on Sunday that the police machinery under Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's 'malicious' rule was heading in a highly dangerous direction.

He accused the Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu of steering the police system in Andhra Pradesh toward a perilous path to facilitate political suppression and silence those who question him.

In a social media post on X, the YSRC Chief told Minister Chandrababu Naidu that Andhra Pradesh needs is neither a regime of 'rowdy policing' nor 'Jungle Raj'.

"The state requires an administration that ensures public safety and a system that delivers justice to victims. It needs a society that believes everyone is equal before the law. We need a police force that operates in accordance with the Constitution rather than acting on political directives," he said.

Jagan Mohan Reddy



alleged that Chandrababu Naidu through the toxic precedents had sown seeds of poison across the state and these are gradually sprouting and transforming into poisonous trees.

"There is no urgency in the investigation when children go missing. There is no action taken even when complaints regarding crimes against women are filed. No arrests were made even after a tribal woman was stripped and assaulted. Yet, if the state government is questioned on social media, you resort to filing cases, making arrests, inflicting torture, and invoking non-bailable

sections?" the former Chief Minister said.

He cited various incidents, including the case of little Gnaneswari from the Tuni constituency in Kakinada district who went missing a month ago, delay in registering the case of sexual assault against a mentally challenged girl in Peddapuram and a former TDP Councillor assaulting a tribal woman after stripping her naked in Nellore district.

"The case involving the custodial death of Sai Krishna and the subsequent disappearance of his body has rocked the state;

you still have no answers to the questions raised by his mother. The public was deeply distressed by the suicide of Kranthi Kumar, the dying declaration he gave, and the fact that people witnessed it unfold on social media. Incidents such as the custodial deaths of Gangamma and Thirupatamma, and the suicide of Kalavathi due to police harassment, have brought great disrepute to the state's police force. Yet, there is no check on your brazen conduct."

The former Chief Minister accused Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu of diverting public attention from these issues, by directing every Station House Officer to charge social media activists under non-bailable sections and link their cases to organised crime, rather than applying the relevant standard provisions. "This is an extremely dangerous trend. Attempting to intimidate people because you cannot answer their questions amounts to nothing less than the murder of democracy," Jagan Mohan Reddy said.

'Will secure lesser votes than NOTA': BJP on Prashant Kishor's electoral debut in Bihar bypoll

New Delhi, July 5 : After the announcement of the electoral debut of Jan Suraj founder Prashant Kishor in the upcoming Bankipur Assembly constituency bypoll, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Sunday remarked that Kishor will secure "lesser votes than even the None of the Above (NOTA)" voting option.

Election strategist-turned-politician Prashant Kishor is set to contest by-elections from Bihar's Bankipur Assembly seat, a stronghold of the BJP for decades, Jan Suraj Party (JSP) Chief Manoj Bharti said.

Earlier, BJP President Nitin Nabin won this seat by a significant margin in the Bihar Assembly elections. Speaking to IANS regarding the political development, BJP National Spokesperson R.P. Singh said: "He (Kishor) is contesting only to lose his deposit. He will not even get as many votes as NOTA." Echoing similar view, BJP leader Syed Shah Nawaz Hussain said: "Whether Prashant Kishor

contests or anyone else, it will make no difference. The BJP has been winning the Bankipur Assembly seat for the past 30 years."

"Nitin Nabin has been MLA from Bankipur, who is the National President (of BJP) today. The people of Bankipur are extremely happy and they will vote for the BJP candidate this time too, with a huge majority," he added.

Janata Dal-United leader Chandeshwar Prasad said: "Everyone is free to contest elections. There is no restriction on anyone." However, he asserted: "According to me, he (Kishor) will not succeed in this election." Earlier on Sunday, Prashant Kishor addressed the media in Patna, saying that the JSP will fight the by-election with full conviction and vigour, saying that the party's victory will lay the foundation for the beginning of "alternative politics" in the state. "For the past four years, Jan Suraj has been my life, and for the next ten years, until



the vision of change in Bihar is achieved. I have no other purpose. I consider the responsibility of contesting the Bankipur by-election as a step towards that goal. Thousands and millions of people were connected

with the ideas and efforts of Jan Suraj in November 2025. After the 2025 Assembly poll results, many felt disappointed or discouraged. Most of them believe that if Jan Suraj wins the Bankipur by-election, it will

not only strengthen the movement but also help revive the vision of change in Bihar. I accept this responsibility with humility and thank all my colleagues, workers, and leaders," Kishor said.

EDITORIAL

Sanand's Semiconductor Hub: A New Identity for Atmanirbhar Bharat?

The operation of the CG Semi Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facility in Sanand, Gujarat, is not merely an industrial project; it is a historic step that defines the trajectory of India's technological future. At a time when the global economy is increasingly reliant on semiconductor chips, India establishing a strong presence in this sector is crucial for both national self-reliance and economic security. On July 4, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the CG Semi OSAT facility in Sanand, Gujarat, and dedicated it to the nation. The function of an OSAT facility involves the assembly, packaging, and testing of chips following their initial fabrication. This constitutes a vital link in the semiconductor industry's supply chain. Until now, India has been almost entirely dependent on foreign companies and imported chips in this sector; consequently, the country's electronics, automotive, telecommunications, and defense sectors have remained vulnerable to global crises or supply chain disruptions. The unit established in Sanand will prove to be a significant step towards reducing this dependency. Developed with an investment of approximately ₹7,600 crore, this project has the potential to carve out a new identity for India within the global semiconductor value chain. The plant will undertake the packaging and testing of chips for the automotive, consumer electronics, telecommunications, 5G, Internet of Things (IoT), and energy sectors. This will strengthen the country's electronics manufacturing sector and provide fresh momentum to the 'Make in India' and 'Digital India' initiatives. A major benefit of this project will be the creation of employment opportunities. The growth of high-tech industries will generate new prospects for engineers, technicians, and researchers. This will provide the country's youth with training and experience in cutting-edge technologies, helping to establish India not merely as a consumer but as a producer of technology products. Thousands of direct and indirect jobs are expected to be created in the coming years. Sanand has already been a major hub for the automobile and manufacturing industries. Now, with the arrival of the semiconductor industry, this region could evolve into India's 'Silicon Valley.' The presence of other global companies, along with investments and research activities, will be encouraged here, thereby boosting the industrial capacity of not just Gujarat but the entire nation. The semiconductor industry holds strategic importance globally. The world witnessed the adverse effects of chip shortages during the COVID-19 pandemic and times of international tension. In this context, developing an indigenous semiconductor ecosystem is essential for India—not only from an economic perspective but also from a strategic one. The OSAT center in Sanand stands as a symbol of India's confidence and visionary policy in this direction. Undoubtedly, the CG Semi OSAT facility established in Sanand, Gujarat, will serve as a vehicle to propel India toward new heights of technological self-reliance, employment generation, export growth, and global competitiveness. This marks not just the beginning of an industry, but the laying of a foundation for the dream of a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India)—a nation that will stand in the front ranks of the world's advanced technological powers.

ANTICIPATING A NEW ERA IN NEPAL-INDIA RELATIONS

It has not been long since contemporary global dynamics began to be described as a "field of exploding realities" within an "era of uncertain fluidity." Amidst constant shifts in the balance of power, alliances, and international relations, nations must remain hyper-vigilant and entirely prepared to safeguard their national aspirations and core interests. The relationship between Nepal and India is no exception to this reality. Geography, civilization, deep people-to-people ties, and a shared commitment to democratic ideals provide a stable foundation for the relationship between these two neighbours. However, geopolitical dynamics are constantly evolving. The drivers of this fluidity are multidimensional, no single nation or government is solely responsible for these shifts. The impressive rise of the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP), which secured a near two-thirds majority as a fresh political force, has generated widespread expectations of long-term political stability in Nepal. Crucially, this internal political stability must now be leveraged as a tool to maintain geopolitical equilibrium. To be sure, this is not the first time Nepal has seen a government with a near two-thirds majority. In the 2017 general elections, the left-wing alliance achieved a similar landslide victory. However, that was a shared success between two distinct entities, the CPN-UML and the CPN (Maoist Centre) and was deeply entangled in the sharp internal contradictions of the communist movement. Consequently, that massive mandate was squandered, leaving the country's geopolitical balance even more fractured. Following the Gen Z movement and the recent general elections, Nepal has entered a new chapter of opportunity. These historic milestones have generated profound expectations for a meaningful shift in both political mindset and governance.



The young, newly appointed Prime Minister, Balendra Shah, has already made it clear that Nepal will move away from traditional, passive concepts like acting as a "buffer state" or maintaining "equal distance." Instead, his administration aims to pursue a foreign policy centered on being a "dynamic bridge" and practicing "equal proximity." While analysts and politicians may debate the semantics of these terms, the core intent and spirit behind them are what matter most. Meaningful efforts driven by genuine goodwill are bound to yield positive results. Recently, RSP Chairman Rabi Lamichhane concluded a five-day visit to India. Undertaken at the invitation of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Lamichhane's visit should be viewed as a strategic effort to elevate bilateral ties within this altered political context. High-level engagements of this nature are rarely confined to mere state formalities, they are driven by a strong sense of purpose and underlying missions. It is precisely this

shared sense of purpose that makes such high-level dialogues possible. Lamichhane's meetings with top-tier Indian leadership—including PM Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, and Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, indicate that India is keenly observing and welcoming Nepal's new political landscape. It also underscores that New Delhi continues to accord high priority to its relationship with Kathmandu. Immediately after Lamichhane's return, Foreign Minister Shishir Khanal embarked on an official visit to New Delhi. The meetings between Minister Khanal and his Indian counterpart, S. Jaishankar, culminated in several preliminary agreements. These initial understandings signal a harmonious start to cooperation under Nepal's new political dispensation. Nevertheless, persistent issues like the boundary dispute continue to shadow bilateral ties. It remains unclear what specif-

ic discussions the RSP leadership and the current government held with their Indian counterparts on this matter, or what response they received, as both sides have publicly maintained their traditional stances. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs recently urged observers to look at the spirit rather than the literal wording of Prime Minister Balendra Shah's remarks during a parliamentary Q&A session. While the cloud of suspicion has thinned slightly following clarifications that the Prime Minister's remarks on "encroachment" were meant in the context of "cross-border occupation" and that Nepal is not seeking British mediation on the boundary issue, the ruling coalition must deeply reflect on whether these diplomatic maneuvers are sufficient. While governance shortcomings in domestic politics may be forgiven or have limited fallout, any signs of immaturity in managing geopolitical balance and diplomatic relations can carry an incredibly high price tag. The boundary disputes over Kalapani,

Lipulekh, and Limpiyadhura are historical. There is no alternative to resolving these issues through bilateral talks and quiet diplomacy aimed at fostering mutual trust and empathy. Finding the right resolution for long-standing issues can take time; impatience, hyperbole, or any form of political extremism will not yield positive results. More importantly, a stalemate on one specific issue should not be allowed to paralyze progress across other dimensions of the relationship. In this altered environment, both India and Nepal must clearly define their current priorities and core concerns. Nepal needs to articulate exactly what it expects from India, requiring a well-defined, mutually agreed-upon agenda. The strengthening of bilateral ties must be anchored in structured agendas rather than emotional rhetoric or preconceived notions. If certain legacy issues prove too difficult for either side to navigate right now, both nations must be prepared to shelve them temporarily.

The report of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) is a case in point. It has been eight years since this joint report was prepared. If it has become unacceptable, the reasons behind this gridlock need to be openly addressed. Could a new joint task force not be formed to review it under the current realities? When joint initiatives undertaken through bilateral consensus stall because one party finds them problematic, every effort must be made to find a mutually acceptable middle ground. If that proves impossible, there is no choice but to shelve the matter for the time being. Geopolitical dynamism demands that relationships be viewed through the lens of adaptation, review, and continuous improvement rather than rigidity or stagnation. Protecting shared interests does not mean compromising on sovereignty or surrendering core principles. Traditional frameworks, such as the historic 'Roti-Beti' connection, now require a modern redefinition. While the profound social, cultural, religious, and civilizational ties between the two nations remain foundational, they cannot endure in the modern era without contemporary connectivity, robust physical infrastructure, and deep economic cooperation. In today's world, economic partnership is paramount, and infrastructure is an absolute prerequisite for deepening that economic collaboration. In Nepal, there is frequent and loud public discourse surrounding a potential railway connection northward to China. In contrast, very little attention is paid to the fact that a Raxaul-Kathmandu railway line to the south - favoured by much easier geography - would be faster to build, significantly cheaper, and far more economically viable. If both governments demonstrate strong political will, constructing this 136-kilometer railway line would not take long.

WHEN EARNINGS BECOME MORE IMPORTANT THAN RELATIONSHIPS

-Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

In Indian society, the family has been not merely a collection of blood relations, but a vibrant institution of trust, sacrifice, partnership, and mutual responsibility. The greatest strength of this institution was that it encompassed both rights and duties. As times changed, education expanded, and women's participation expanded beyond the confines of the home, reaching education, administration, medicine, justice, the military, science, and industry. Economic independence gave women new confidence, the ability to make decisions, and social respect. This change was not only necessary but also a significant step towards a just society. But every social change brings with it new challenges. Today, as both husband and wife earn, the question of sharing responsibilities alongside financial sharing has become more important than ever. Unfortunately, this balance appears to be deteriorating in many families. In some cases, there is an overemphasis on rights, while in others, duties are neglected. As a result, relationships are losing the ease and closeness that once characterized joint families. For a long time, in Indian society, the man was considered the economic pillar of the family. His wife, children, and parents were considered to have a moral right to his earnings. He considered his income not personal property but the family's capital. On the other hand, women's contributions were more visible in domes-

tic labor, child rearing, and family management. In modern times, circumstances have changed. Women are contributing as much financially as men by working hard. Therefore, the natural expectation was that economic responsibilities would be shared equally. However, in practice, the picture is often not so simple. Today, in many families, it's common knowledge that the husband's income is still considered the primary source of income, while the wife's income is considered a means of personal savings, personal investment, or personal independence. This isn't the case in every family, but where it exists, it causes dissatisfaction. If the husband bears every major household expense, but the wife's income is kept separate from family responsibilities, the principle of equality remains incomplete. Similarly, if the husband expects the wife to work, manage the household, and yet lack independence in financial decisions, this is also unjust. The problem isn't one party's, but one of double standards. Equality doesn't just mean equal rights. It also means equal responsibility. If both earn, they should share responsibility for the family's needs, future plans, children's education, elderly care, and emergencies. Financial partnership means not only combining income, but also building trust. The other aspect of the problem is psychological. Money not only provides comfort, it also gives confidence. But if this confidence turns into arrogance, it cre-

ates distance in relationships. Sometimes, it is seen that those with higher incomes begin to feel more empowered to make decisions. This tendency has been seen in men and is now visible in some women as well. Therefore, it would not be correct to say that financial arrogance is a problem of only one gender. The arrogance of wealth changes the person, not their gender. Today, in social media and public discourse, male-female relationships are often presented as a conflict. One side asserts its rights, while the other laments the injustices it has suffered. In this tug-of-war, family, communication, and partnership are left behind. Any ideology that aims to establish balance should be welcomed. However, if its interpretation limits rights to the exclusion of duties, it is natural for imbalance to arise in society. It's also true that millions of women today spend their entire income on their families. Along with their jobs, they also shoulder the responsibilities of home, children, and the elderly. There are many families where husbands and wives share their earnings without any accounting and make decisions together. Therefore, blaming any one group is neither fair nor factual. The aim of social analysis should not be to make accusations, but to understand trends and find solutions. The problem becomes serious when financial transparency between husband and wife disappears. When income, savings, investments, and expenses become separate worlds, suspicion

begins to creep into the relationship. Financial secrecy sometimes turns into emotional distance. Marriage is a partnership, not a business contract. Trust is its greatest asset. The greatest irony of modern life is that conveniences have increased, but satisfaction has decreased. Incomes have risen, but communication has diminished. Independence has increased, but partnerships have weakened. In the past, families lived together even with limited resources because decisions were made collectively. Today, resources are plentiful, but a mindset of "mine" and "yours" often divides relationships. Here's another important question. Is domestic labor less valuable than economic income? If the wife manages the home and the husband earns outside, is the breadwinner the sole breadwinner of the family? Absolutely not. Similarly, if the wife also works, is it appropriate to leave all the household responsibilities to her? The answer to this is also no. A family will remain balanced only when both economic and domestic labor are equally respected. This changing environment is also affecting children. When they see their parents embroiled in economic competition, their own definitions of relationships begin to shift. They learn a language of rights rather than cooperation. This is a matter of concern for future generations. Family not only creates the present, it also shapes the future. What is the solution? The solution lies not in blaming one party, but in strengthening family communication.

IT'S THE SMALL THINGS

On a warm summer day, amongst the buzzing bylanes of MG road, Bengaluru, leaning over a random wall, was a guy sticking some posters as he scrolled through Facebook with his other hand. The irony is very striking – he was posting on a wall as he was scrolling through posts on his wall. That's when it hit me: maybe the walls of the city are the OG social media wall after all. We scroll past them mindlessly as endless voices speak over each other. I'm still new to the city. I looked up the 'places to see', ticked off the 'food to eat', but all of that feels like it has shrouded what the city truly is. Maybe if I looked at the 'brick-and-mortar' feed buzzing past me all the time, and the city would unravel itself? Most walls flaunt how aesthetic and elegant they are. Some invite you for a cozy coffee, promising you to make you forget the hustle and bustle on the other side. Others offer a glimpse of what deep pockets can get you in the city. On one side are murals – huge and bright – are making people stop and click. On the other are chaotic graffiti on abandoned shutters and peeling paints over battered walls, not warranting a second look. Every glance decides what becomes part of the city's open-air museum and what is dismissed as vandalism. This is how the city takes shape. It reveals what it was, what it could have been, and what it is becoming – from raw and real to manicured and polished. It took nothing more than an unattended facade to give a snapshot of the politics in posters. Visibility is



power, and the walls are its front lines. Every election cycle, the city walls seem to turn into partisan scoreboards and canvases to stake territorial claims. In this era of algorithmic echo chambers, these walls speak simply show how the tides are turning. The government too leaves an imprint of its agenda across wherever it has authority – Metro walls, government buildings, public parks – the space for the authority to voice its self-praise is huge. Dissent rarely seems to find place, these days, however and when it is, it is quickly deemed vandalism and snubbed out by break of dawn. Paint is power. In the city of hustle and startups, we can expect nothing less. On one side, facades are rented out, advertising to sell us more aspirations and dreams. And right beneath them, as we bring down our chins to reality, a whole other economy is crawling on. Dozens of street-preneurs use the by-lane walls to advertise their services and

wares – on the extreme opposite of the spectrum, things we absolutely need. Under the grand metro mural celebrating the women frontline workers near Vivekananda road metro, as I impatiently wait for the red light to turn green, an old woman swarms through the traffic unable to earn her daily bread. The city walls contrast the reality it faces in ways more than one. Extravagant art depicting nature and magnificent birds are made on the very walls, built by cutting decades-old trees and filling up lakes. In another corner, we see a crude sketch of Ambedkar on the tinsheets of makeshift slums of the city. The utopia of the walls maybe is a constant reminder of where we, as people, should head to. The contrast is perhaps meant to keep us grounded. The author is a senior journalist, thinker, and political commentator. After marriage, husband and wife should openly discuss financial expectations,

savings, investments, family expenses, and personal needs. It should be agreed that both will contribute to the family according to their respective capacities. Whether someone's income is high or low should not be the criterion for respect. The true meaning of economic independence is not freedom, but responsible freedom. A free person is one who accepts their duties along with their rights. If earnings become a means of personal convenience, leaving the collective needs of the family behind, even economic prosperity cannot save relationships. Today, we need to forge a new definition of equality. One in which men abandon their traditional superiority and embrace partnership, and women respect their economic independence and family responsibilities equally. Both see each other as collaborators, not competitors. Marriage is not a platform for victory or defeat, but a shared journey through life.

KSCA unveils state-of-the-art LED Floodlighting System at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium

Bengaluru :The Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) today inaugurated its newly installed state-of-the-art LED Sports Floodlighting System at the iconic M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, marking a major milestone in the Association's continued efforts to modernise cricket infrastructure and deliver world-class facilities for players, broadcasters and spectators. The new lighting system replaces the stadium's metal-halide floodlights, which had been in operation since 2010, with the latest LED Sports Floodlighting Technology. Designed to meet and exceed current international standards for professional cricket, the system delivers more than 3,500 lux over the pitch and over 2,500 lux across the outfield, ensuring exceptional light uniformity and visibility for players, match officials and television audiences.

The project was inaugurated by Mr. G. Maheshwar



Rao, IAS, Chief Commissioner, Greater Bengaluru Authority and Chairman of the Government Expert Committee, and Mr. Seemanth Kumar Singh, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Bengaluru City and Member Secretary of the Government Expert Committee, in the presence of Mr. B. K. Venkatesh Prasad, President, Karnataka State Cricket Association, and Mr. Munish Peshin, Senior Vice President & Business Head – India, Havells India Limited. The lighting upgrade has been executed by Havells India Limited using its advanced LED Sports Lighting Solution integrated with intelligent

DMX Lighting Control Technology. The system is designed to support modern cricket broadcasting requirements, including High Definition (HD), Ultra HD (4K) and super slow-motion coverage, by delivering flicker-free lighting, high vertical illumination and superior colour rendering.

In addition to significantly enhancing broadcast quality and on-field visibility, the LED system is approximately 40% more energy-efficient than the previous lighting infrastructure, reducing electricity consumption and diesel usage while supporting KSCA's commitment towards sustainable and environmentally responsible operations. The intelligent DMX control technology also enables instant switching and dynamic lighting sequences before, during and after matches, creating an enhanced match-day experience for fans.

Central Election Commission Must Take Disciplinary Action Against Officials: Opposition Leader R. Ashok

Bengaluru : Opposition Leader R. Ashok has demanded that the Central Election Commission take disciplinary action against officials who are acting according to the instructions of the Congress government in the state and violating the rules of the SIR (Special Intensive Revision) process.

Speaking to reporters, he said that due to the Congress government in the state, officials are not responding properly to the SIR and are violating the rules. Applications are being accepted at places like mosques and kalyana mantapas. Names of non-voters, including foreigners, are not being deleted. The government has instructed officials to delay the process, make mistakes, and not remove anyone's name. When Congress ministers are asked about it, they say it

is not their responsibility. However, the same government has held meetings with officials regarding SIR preparations, he pointed out.

He added that because of the government's conspiracy, the SIR process is getting derailed. The dignity of this process must be protected. To this end, I have written a letter to the Central Election Commission raising objections. The Election Commission should immediately take disciplinary action against the officials here and suspend them. There should be re-verification at places where applications have been submitted on roads and streets. Just as in West Bengal, the SIR must be conducted properly here too. There is a suspicion that around 20 lakh Bangladeshi residents are present in the state.

Complaint to Election Commission about SIR irregularities

Bengaluru (TSIT): BJP and JDS have come forward to complain to the Election Commission about the irregularities taking place in the Special Voter List Revision (SIR) held in the state.

The two parties have decided to request the Election Commission to conduct a SIR as per the rules as there are irregularities taking place in the SIR in the state, and accordingly, Union Ministers H.D. Kumaraswamy and Pralhad Joshi will file a complaint with the Election Commission on Monday.

H.D. Kumaraswamy and Pralhad Joshi, who will meet the Election Commission, will file a complaint along with documents about the irregularities taking place in the SIR in the state.

Since there are irregularities taking place in the SIR in the state, these leaders will also request that this SIR process be completely canceled and a new SIR be

conducted.

Although it is mandatory for every BLO to visit every house and conduct SIR, some leaders are conducting SIR in houses of Kalyan Mantap, Dargah, Mosque, Hallikatte, and they will bring to the notice of the Election Commission that the SIR process is going on in the houses and the state government is misusing BLOs and committing irregularities in SIR.

According to the rules of the Election Commission, voter application forms should be distributed from house to house. It is not right to distribute application forms en masse in this way. Therefore, they will request that the SIR that has been held in the state for the last four days be canceled and a new SIR be conducted.

Earlier the state BJP has complained to the Chief Electoral Officer about this, and Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy had held a press conference about the

irregularities taking place in SIRs in Ramanagara, Yeshwantpur and other parts of the state and provided information along with documents about the types of irregularities that are taking place.

He released a video of a mass SIR being conducted at a welfare hall in Ramanagara and the next day released documents about the illegal SIR in Yeshamanthapura constituency and demanded action against the Ramanagara and Bangalore City District Magistrates. In addition, BJP leaders had accused the state government of illegally conducting SIR in various parts of the state by misusing BLOs. Former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had also alleged that SIR was being conducted illegally in Gadag. MLA H.K. Patil's name was found in three places and he had released documents about the illegal SIR.

Bengaluru Blasters cruise to eight-wicket victory over Mysore Warriors

~ NISCHITH N RAO'S FOUR-WICKET HAUL AND KRISHNAN SHRIJITH'S UNBEATEN FIFTY POWERED THE TABLE-TOPPERS ~

BENGALURU :Bengaluru Blasters continued their impressive run in the DACSS Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 with a commanding eight-wicket victory over Mysore Warriors at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday. Riding on Nischith N Rao's four-wicket haul and Krishnan Shrijith's unbeaten half-century, the Blasters registered their eighth victory of the season.

Chasing 149, the Blasters got off to a flying start with openers Bhuvan Mohan Raju (10 off 11) and Rohan Patil (34 off 15) adding 47 runs in just 3.3 overs. Although both departed inside the powerplay, Shrijith and Samit Dravid ensured there were no further setbacks, sharing an unbeaten partnership to guide the side home in just 14.4 overs.

Shrijith remained unbeaten on 57 off 37 balls, striking six boundaries, while



Dravid chipped in with an assured 40 not out off 25 deliveries, including a four and three sixes, as the Blasters completed the chase with 32 balls to spare. The victory took Bengaluru Blasters to 16 points from nine matches, further consolidating their position at the top of the table after already securing Qualifier 1. Mysore Warriors remained fourth

with seven points from nine matches, with the race for the remaining three playoff spots continuing to intensify. Earlier, Bengaluru Blasters elected to bowl and struck at regular intervals to dismiss Mysore Warriors for 148 in 19.4 overs. Nischith N Rao led the charge with figures of 4/34, reducing the Warriors to 36/3 inside the powerplay and leaving them on the back foot.

K P Karthikeya contributed 36 runs before Manoj Bhandage provided a late flourish with 38 off 17 balls, striking three fours and three sixes. He combined with Abhishek Prabhakar (11 off 5) for a quickfire 38-run stand for the eighth wicket to lift the Warriors after a difficult start.

Captain Shubhang Hegde and Samit Dravid chipped in with two wickets apiece to round off another disciplined bowling performance from the Blasters.

MLA C.P. Yogeeshwar's son Dhyan Yogeeshwar to make his Kannada film debut as a hero

Bengaluru: Dhyan Yogeeshwar, son of C.P. Yogeeshwar, who has been associated with the Kannada film industry for the past 40 years and became a household name with the popular film "Sainika" 25 years ago, is making his Kannada film debut by playing the lead role in the films "Karnatabalam Ajayyam" and "Sainika 2". Yogeeshwar is also acting in these two films, returning to acting after 25 years. Among these, the film "Karnatabalam Ajeyam" is being directed by senior director Naganna, while "Sainika 2" will be directed by Puneeth Rudranag. The muhurat ceremony of these two films was held recently in a grand manner.

Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar inaugurated the film "Karnatabalam Ajeyam" by showing the opening plaque. Union Minister V. Somanna inaugurated the film "Sainika 2" by showing the opening plaque. Bemul President D.K. Suresh operated the



camera. Former Minister Sudhakar, MLAs Uday Ravi, Mohan Sa. Ra. Govindu, Vishwaprasad (People Media Factory), producers Rockline Venkatesh, Lahari Velu, director Santosh Anandram and others arrived at the muhurat ceremony and wished them well. These two films are being produced by Sheela Yogeeshwar. On this occasion, the first look of the two films was released. The teaser was also unveiled. Later, the members of the film crew and dignitaries spoke.

I usually do not go to any

friend, launched the film "Sainika 2" in which his son and I are acting together. Union Minister V. Somanna wished the film a success.

MLA Yogeeshwar said that, Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who had seen my acting 25 years ago. He came and clapped on the muhurat day of the film "Sainika". he also came and clapped for the first film in which my son is acting as a hero. I thank the honorable Chief Minister, Union Minister V. Somanna and all the dignitaries who have come to the ceremony. I entered the film industry as an actor forty years ago. Then I entered politics. Now I have returned to the film industry. My son Dhyan Yogeeshwar is making his debut as a hero through these two films. The first of them is the film "Karnatabalam Ajayyam". We are trying to bring the film "Karnatabalam Ajayyam" to the screen next Sankranti time. Senior director Naganna is directing this film. This is a story of Kannada soil.

B. M. GIRIRAJA TELLS THE STORY OF 'KALYANI'

'KALYANI' TRAVELS FROM THE NORTH POLE TO THE SOUTH POLE



Bengaluru: Director B. M. Giriraja, who is known for his different films like 'Jatta' and 'Maithiri' in the Kannada film industry, is preparing to bring another different storyline called 'Kalyani' to the screen this time. B. M. Giriraja is giving a cinematic form to the story of writer Basava Reddy and bringing it to the screen under the name 'Kalyani'. This film, which started quietly a few months ago, has now completed its entire shooting and is busy with post-production work. Meanwhile, the film team, which came before the media, released the title and motion poster of the film and shared some information about the film's features. Incidentally, the new film directed by B. M. Giriraja, written by writer Basava Reddy, has been named 'Kalyani'.

Karnataka Journalists Association awards Kannada Rajyotsava award to Punarjanma Trust's R. Parameshwar



Bengaluru: In recognition of his social work and service in shaping the future of disadvantaged and underprivileged children, Punarjanma Charitable Trust's founder and president R. Parameshwar has been awarded the Kannada Rajyotsava award.

Punarjanma Trust President R. Parameshwar was honoured with the Kannada Rajyotsava award at a program organized by Karnataka Journalists Association at Ravindra Kalakshetra.

Speaking on the occasion, President R. Parameshwar said that it is a moment of pride and fulfillment for Punarjanma Charitable Trust to receive the award.

Parameshwar has been selected for development programs of government schools and development programs of backward communities and children of the community and other social services.

The Kannada Rajyotsava Award was presented to the Punarjanma Charitable Trust for its efforts in government school development works, jatha programs to increase the enrollment of school children, re-enrollment of school dropouts and continuation of education programs, planting and nurturing fruit and flower plants in school premises, and development and cultivation of Kannada medium schools.

BCIC Honours Four Distinguished Nation Builders at 49th Annual General Meeting, Marks Beginning of Golden Jubilee Year

CA K RAVI ASSUMES OFFICE AS PRESIDENT; DR. PRASHANTH REDDY TAKES OVER AS SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Bengaluru : The Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) marked the beginning of its Golden Jubilee year by honouring four distinguished personalities whose extraordinary contributions have enriched the fields of science, defence, healthcare and agriculture during its 49th Annual General Meeting (AGM), held in Bengaluru on Saturday.

The Chamber felicitated Padma Shri Dr. Shubha Venkatesh Iyengar, Major General R K Suresh, SC, SM, Dr. B S Srinath, and Padma Shri Dr. Khader Valli Dudekula, recognising their exemplary service to the nation and society. The landmark AGM also ushered in a new chapter in BCIC's leadership with CA K Ravi assuming office as President for 2026-27 and Dr. Prashanth Reddy taking charge as Senior Vice President. As the Chamber embarks on its Golden Jubilee year, the newly elected leadership will spearhead initiatives focused on strengthening industry-government collaboration, fostering innovation, supporting MSMEs, encouraging global partnerships and contributing to Karnataka's economic growth.

The event brought together senior government officials, diplomats, industrialists, entrepreneurs and business leaders, reaffirming BCIC's position as one of Karnataka's premier industry bodies and a trusted platform for policy dialogue, industry engagement and economic development.

Celebrating Excellence Across Sectors

A major highlight of the AGM was BCIC's felicitation of four emi-



nent personalities whose outstanding achievements have left an indelible mark on the nation. The Chamber honoured Padma Shri Dr. Shubha Venkatesh Iyengar, Distinguished Aerospace Scientist at CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL), for her pioneering contributions to India's aerospace research and indigenous technological advancement.

Major General R K Suresh, SC, SM, one of India's highly decorated Army veterans, was felicitated for his exceptional gallantry, distinguished military service and unwavering commitment to safeguarding the nation.

BCIC also honoured Dr. B S Srinath, Senior Surgical Oncologist and Managing Trustee of Sri Shankara Cancer Hospital & Research Centre, in recognition of his outstanding contribution towards making world-class cancer care affordable and accessible to thousands of patients.

Recognising his pioneering work in promoting sustainable

nutrition and reviving India's traditional food systems, the Chamber felicitated Padma Shri Dr. Khader Valli Dudekula, renowned food scientist and agricultural expert, for championing millet-based nutrition and healthy living.

Golden Jubilee Begins Under New Leadership

after assuming office as President, CA K Ravi said, "It is a privilege to lead BCIC at such a defining moment in its history as we celebrate 50 years of service to industry. BCIC has always been a trusted voice for business and a valued partner to government. As we embark on this new journey, our endeavour will be to strengthen industry-government collaboration, promote innovation, support MSMEs, encourage global partnerships and create greater opportunities for businesses across Karnataka. Together, we will build on BCIC's rich legacy while preparing our members for the opportunities and challenges of the future."

Autoverse Mobility Concludes Successful Garage Leadership Summit 2026, Bringing Together India's Independent Garage Ecosystem

Bengaluru : Autoverse Mobility, India's fast-growing B2B platform for independent garages, successfully hosted the Garage Leadership Summit 2026 in Bengaluru, bringing together over 100 independent garage owners, automotive experts, technology leaders and aftermarket stakeholders to discuss the future of India's rapidly evolving automotive service ecosystem.

The summit served as a knowledge-sharing platform focused on equipping garage owners with the technical expertise, business insights and digital capabilities required to succeed in an increasingly technology-driven automotive aftermarket. Led by Mihir Mohan, Founder & CEO, Autoverse Mobility, along with Rama Shankar Pandey, Co-Founder, Shiv Soni, Co-Founder and Krishna Kumar, Co-Founder, the event showcased Autoverse Mobility's vision of empowering India's independent garages through technology, access to quality spare parts and industry knowledge.

At the event, Autoverse Mobility unveiled two strategic initiatives designed to help independent garages accelerate business growth and improve operational efficiency—the Autoverse Quick Commerce Program and the Autoverse Franchisee Program. The Autoverse Quick Commerce Program enables garages to order



automotive spare parts directly through the Autoverse platform with deliveries in as little as 15 minutes from nearby Autoverse stores. Initially available across Bengaluru, the service covers high-demand categories including clutches, suspension components, filters, brake pads, brake discs, belts, hoses, clips and other fast-moving parts.

The Autoverse Franchisee Program allows entrepreneurs and garage owners to establish an Autoverse franchise store while leveraging the company's technology, sourcing capabilities and supply chain expertise.

A key highlight of the event was the panel discussion titled "Building a Profitable Garage in 2026," moderated by Rama Shankar Pandey, featuring leading independent garage entrepreneurs including Ranjith (Owner, Tweak7), Dhiren Mehta (Partner, United Motors), Rajendra (Owner, VR

Automotive) and Raghavendra (Owner, Laksh Multibrand). The discussion explored emerging opportunities in India's automotive aftermarket, customer expectations, digital transformation, operational excellence and sustainable business growth for independent workshops. Speaking on the occasion, Mihir Mohan, Founder & CEO, Autoverse Mobility, said, "India's independent garages are the backbone of the country's automotive service ecosystem. As vehicles become more connected, software-driven and technologically advanced, garages need more than just access to spare parts; they need knowledge, training, digital tools and a strong ecosystem that helps them compete and grow. The two initiatives launched by the company today are aimed at solving critical challenges faced by workshops, including faster access to spare parts and improved inventory management."

Police up heat on Balaji & Ashok, issue LOC

CHENNAI/TIRUCHY: A lookout notice has been issued against former minister and DMK MLA V Senthilbalaji and his brother Ashok Kumar, even as Chennai police on Saturday served summonses on the siblings through their parents in Karur in connection with the alleged Rs 35-crore MLA poaching case.

The brothers have been directed to appear before the Triplicane police on July 6 (Monday) at 1 pm. Eight persons, including associates of Senthilbalaji, have been arrested so far in the case.

A team from the Triplicane police handed over the summonses to Senthilbalaji's parents, Velusamy and Palaniammal, at their residence in Rameshwaram Patti, Karur. Police obtained the brothers' signatures acknowledging receipt of the notices after earlier attempts to serve the summonses directly on them reportedly failed.



The case was registered based on a complaint by TVK's Uthangarai MLA N Elaiyaraja to Greater Chennai Police Commissioner A Amalraj, alleging that he was offered Rs 35 crore to resign from his MLA post, defect to the DMK, and vote against the Speaker, despite being a ruling-party legislator.

According to the complaint, Thirunavukkarasu, who claimed to run a survey firm named Indian Political Democratic Strategies (IPDS), contacted Elaiyaraja with the alleged offer.

Vijay & co courting danger with double-edged sword: Anitha

THOOTHUKUDI: Warning that "a sword has two sharp edges", DMK MLA Anitha Radhakrishnan on Friday accused the ruling TVK government of using the police to target Opposition leaders and alleged that cases were being registered against former DMK ministers as part of a political vendetta. Speaking to reporters after appearing before the Judicial Magistrate Court in Tiruchendur, the MLA said, "Time will show that a sword has two sharp edges."

He alleged that the Athoor police had attempted to arrest him before he secured conditional bail from the court and claimed he was being intimidated through the police. He said the party would decide its next legal course of



action after consulting lawyers, in line with the directions of the DMK leadership.

Anitha Radhakrishnan further alleged that the TVK-led government was acting out of fear of the BJP and said repeated cases against former DMK ministers

would not weaken the party.

The MLA also expressed disappointment that the legal proceedings prevented him from seeing off DMK president MK Stalin on his visit to London.

Earlier in the day, Anitha Radhakrishnan appeared before Judicial Magistrate Chidambaram in Tiruchendur in compliance with the conditions of the anticipatory bail granted to him in a case registered by the Athoor police. He appeared before the court along with two sureties. DMK functionaries, including district Youth Wing organiser Ramajeyam, Union Secretary Senguzhi Ramesh and Town Secretary Vaal Sudalai, accompanied him to the court.

Urimai Thogai hike on cards; modalities being finalised: Minister K Jegadeshwari

CHENNAI: Social Welfare Minister K Jegadeshwari asserted on Sunday (July 5) that it was a matter of time for the TVK government to implement its promise to hike Magalir Urimai Thogai assistance from Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,500, while underscoring the administrative and procedural formalities required to complete the task. The State government has begun the process of increasing the monthly assistance for women heads of families, she said. The enhancement would be effected once the required procedures are completed, she added. Addressing a gathering in Rajapalayam, the minister said the government led by Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay remained committed to fulfilling its promise to raise the monthly assistance. It's for sure that the CM Vijay government will increase



the Magalir Urimai Thogai from Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,500, she said: "There is no ambiguity about it. The process for implementing the enhanced assistance has already commenced." Jegadeshwari said the government was continuing to disburse Rs 1,000 every month under the existing scheme while simultaneously working on the proposed revision. "It is a time-consuming process.

DMK will continue to protect minorities in mission to save Tamil Nadu from disaster: Udhayanidhi Stalin

CHENNAI: Leader of the Opposition and DMK youth wing secretary Udhayanidhi Stalin on Sunday asserted that the relationship between the DMK and the Muslim community could never be broken, saying the party would continue to stand by minorities and rescue the State from the present 'political disaster'. Addressing the wedding reception of a DMK functionary here, Udhayanidhi said the party's bond with Muslims had endured every political challenge and would remain intact irrespective of changing political equations. "You are all a witness to what is happening in the State today. Some people have left us after getting a sofa. But all of you have come here with the firm conviction that you will



remain with the DMK," he said, in an apparent reference to allies supporting the TVK government, some party leaders joining the ruling party.

Declaring that no political force could

drive a wedge between the DMK and the Muslim community, Udhayanidhi said, "No one can separate Muslims from the DMK. Whatever anyone says and whatever false propaganda is spread, the DMK will always remain a protective shield for minorities and the Muslim community."

He said the party had consistently stood with minority communities and would continue to defend their rights against attempts to create divisions. Don't play with Muruga's Tamil identity, NTK chief Seeman warns Telugu filmmakers Referring to the prevailing political situation in the State, Udhayanidhi described it as a political disaster and expressed confidence that the DMK would save the State from getting destroyed.

Governor can't act as parallel government; President must intervene: CPI

CHENNAI: The CPI on Sunday (July 5) sought President Droupadi Murmu's intervention against Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, accusing him of acting beyond his constitutional authority after he invited people to approach Raj Bhavan with their grievances.

In a statement, CPI state secretary M Veerapandian alleged that the Governor was attempting to function as a parallel government, citing his remarks at a book release function at Lok Bhavan on Saturday. Arlekar had said people could approach Raj Bhavan to seek solutions to their problems and that those working to address social inequalities could seek assistance from the Governor's office.

Veerapandian said the Governor's remarks amounted to an open declaration of running a parallel government against the democratically elected State



government and alleged that his actions constituted an overreach of authority and direct interference in the State government's administration. Urging the State government and Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay to act, the CPI leader called for immediate legal and political mea-

sures to prevent what he described as the Governor's abuse of authority. He also pointed out that the Supreme Court, in an earlier legal battle initiated by the Tamil Nadu government, had clearly and unequivocally defined the constitutional limits of a Governor.

Veerapandian further appealed to President Droupadi Murmu to intervene and take appropriate action against the Governor for allegedly acting beyond the authority conferred by the Constitution and disregarding the Supreme Court's rulings.

TN Minister Sengottaiyan rejects horse-trading charge, alleges DMK of pioneering the practice

ERODE: Tamil Nadu Minister K A Sengottaiyan on Sunday rejected the horse-trading charge levelled against the TVK government by the opposition, and alleged that it was the DMK that introduced and practiced it in Tamil Nadu.

He asserted that the Tamizhaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK)-led alliance government is strong, stable, and enjoys absolute public support. The DMK on Saturday accused the ruling TVK of indulging in political vendetta, horse-trading, and utilising state police to forcefully poach opposition leaders. "There is absolutely no truth or substance to these allegations of



horse-trading. We have formed a powerful and highly stable government today, and our alliance partners have extended their robust support to us. We have no need to engage in horse-trading," Sengottaiyan told reporters

here when asked about allegations that Rs 50 crore was used to strike a deal with certain MLAs. "Our alliance is robust and enjoys strong support from partners like the Congress, VCK and the IUML," he added.

Turning the tables on the opposition, the minister alleged that it was the DMK that historically introduced and practiced horse-trading in Tamil Nadu's political landscape. He claimed that in the past, legislators, including leaders like Anita Radhakrishnan from AIADMK, were engineered to defect. "Those who pre-

viously ran minority government with just 96 MLAs might require horse-trading, but we do not. Our government is transparent and built on the mandate of the people," he added.

When asked about the controversy surrounding the governor conducting an independent review meeting in Madurai, which critics have called an overstep of authority, Sengottaiyan declined to comment elaborately, stating that the state Law Minister -- who is well-versed in legal nuances -- had already issued a clear response on behalf of the alliance.

Extreme heat raises dehydration risks for outdoor workers

New Delhi, Jul 5: Rising temperatures linked to climate change are increasing the risk of dehydration and serious health complications among outdoor workers, with experts warning that prolonged exposure to extreme heat can lead to kidney damage, cardiovascular problems and other life-threatening conditions. The warning comes as outdoor labourers, particularly agricultural workers, continue to work for long hours in temperatures exceeding 39 degrees Celsius with limited access to drinking water, shade and rest.

Suvarna Dange, a 50-year-old sugarcane worker from Maharashtra's Kolhapur district, developed severe abdominal pain after spending an entire day working in extreme heat in April 2026. Medical examination later confirmed that she had developed a kidney stone, which doctors attributed to prolonged dehydration caused by working under intense heat with inadequate water intake.

Despite being advised to avoid working in extreme temperatures, Dange returned to the fields the same day because she could not afford to take leave.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO)



and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), nearly half the world's population is now experiencing the effects of increasingly frequent and intense heat waves. A 2025 report by the two organisations noted that worker productivity declines by 2 to 3 per cent for every degree Celsius above 20°C and warned of rising cases of heatstroke, dehydration, kidney dysfunction and neurological disorders.

Experts say women are particularly vulnerable as many consume less water during working hours due to limited access to toilets. They often continue household chores in poorly ventilated homes after returning from physically demanding outdoor work.

Behdin Nowrouzi-Kia, an

occupational therapist and assistant professor at the University of Toronto, said more frequent and severe heat events are expected to increase cases of dehydration, heat-related illnesses and kidney injuries.

A 2025 study published in the Journal of Climate Change and Health found that nearly half of sugarcane workers in Guatemala showed signs of reduced kidney function because of repeated exposure to extreme heat and dehydration.

Researchers explained that during strenuous work in high temperatures, blood is redirected towards the skin to cool the body, reducing blood flow to vital organs such as the kidneys. Dehydration further reduces blood circulation, increasing the risk of acute

kidney injury. Repeated daily episodes of heat stress without adequate recovery can eventually lead to chronic kidney disease.

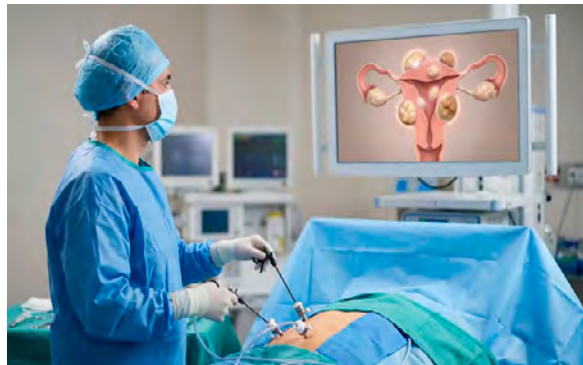
Medical experts also warned that dehydration affects more than just the kidneys. It can increase the risk of heart attacks and strokes by making blood thicker and more prone to clotting. Loss of essential electrolytes such as sodium and potassium can disrupt heart rhythm, weaken muscles and impair nerve function. Another farm worker from Maharashtra, 53-year-old Chingu Yadav, was diagnosed with kidney and heart complications after years of working in extreme heat. She eventually stopped farm work but continues to experience weakness and balance problems, which doctors linked to prolonged dehydration and electrolyte loss. Researchers studying more than 1,400 outdoor workers in India found they were 2.5 times more likely to experience severe heat stress under humid conditions. Another review covering 17 international studies found that heat exposure significantly affected the health of construction workers, mainly through dehydration and heat-related illnesses.

AI boosts accuracy in pelvic lymph node surgery

New Delhi, Jul 5: Artificial intelligence (AI) can significantly improve surgeons' ability to identify key pelvic anatomical structures during pelvic lymph node dissection, enhancing both sensitivity and specificity across multiple surgical specialties, according to a new study.

Pelvic lymph node dissection is commonly performed in colorectal, gynaecological and urological surgeries. However, the complex anatomy of the lateral pelvis and natural anatomical variations often make the procedure technically challenging, increasing the risk of complications if vital structures are not accurately identified.

To address this challenge, researchers developed an AI model to assist surgeons in recognising critical pelvic



anatomy during the procedure. The study involved 36 surgeons from colorectal, gynaecological and urological specialties with varying levels of experience. Participants reviewed 640 video clips, each lasting 0.5 seconds, extracted from pelvic lymph node dissection procedures.

The AI model was trained using 23,259 annotated images

and 653 unannotated images obtained from 293 surgical videos. It was designed to identify important anatomical structures, including the ureter, obturator nerve, external iliac artery and external iliac vein. During threefold cross-validation, the model achieved Dice similarity coefficients of 0.6483 for the ureter, 0.8654 for the obtura-

tor nerve, 0.8619 for the external iliac artery and 0.8736 for the external iliac vein, indicating high accuracy in recognising most key structures.

Researchers found that AI assistance significantly improved surgeons' sensitivity and specificity in identifying pelvic anatomy during assessment, with statistical significance (p<0.001).

The improvements were observed across colorectal, gynaecological and urological surgeons, irrespective of their level of experience, suggesting that AI-based support could benefit both experienced specialists and less-experienced surgeons.

The researchers said the technology has the potential to enhance surgical precision during pelvic lymph node dissection across specialties.

ICICI BANK SIGNS PACT WITH PRUDENTIAL TO RECLASSIFY UK FIRM TO 'INVESTOR' STATUS POST BHARTI LIFE DEAL

ICICI Bank Ltd. reclassified Prudential Corp.Holdings Ltd. to the position of 'investor' from its previous designation as 'promoter' for its company ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Co. according to an exchange filing from the bank on Sunday. This implies that the UK-based firm will now abstain from voting on any matters of the company requiring special resolution, in cases where such matters do not adversely impact any right or interest of the firm in the company. Prudential will further arrange for the resignation of its nominee director on the board of the company with effect from the date on which the company approves the company's reclassification application. The firm will not be nominating a director on the board of the company as it is no longer a promoter entity. ICICI Bank will also vote in favour of the appointment or replacement of the director to be nominated by Prudential on the board of the company. This will be subject to Prudential holding 10% shareholding in the company while not holding promoter status or more than 10% shareholding in other life insurance firms in India. This development



comes after ICIC Bank commenced the proceedings to acquire a majority of shareholding in ICICI Prudential Life Insurance after closing a deal with Bharti Life Insurance. As per the deal figures, Prudential Plc will acquire three-fourth stake in the India-headquartered Bharti Life Insurance, according to a release issued on May 17. Prudential "has agreed to buy 75% stake", Bharti Enterprises said, in the statement issued on the acquisition deal related to its insurance arm. The initial

transaction is valued at Rs 3,500 crore, with a potential additional payout of Rs 700 crore, Prudential said in a separate release. The deal marks an entry of Prudential as controlling shareholder in Bharti Life Insurance. The transaction, however, is subject to regulatory approvals and other customary conditions. Through this acquisition, Prudential is expected to leverage Bharti Life platform to expand life and health insurance offerings in India amid rising demand and digital adoption.

Indian Railways approves Rs 226 crore signalling upgrade on SECR's Durg-Taroki section

New Delhi: Indian Railways on Wednesday approved a Rs 226 crore project to modernise signalling infrastructure on the Durg-Taroki section of the Raipur Division under South East Central Railway (SECR), marking a significant step towards improving operational safety and efficiency. The sanctioned project involves replacing the existing Panel Interlocking (PI) system with advanced Electronic Interlocking (EI) technology at 13 stations across the section. The up-grade is aimed at strengthening train operations through a more reliable, automated and technology-driven signalling system. "The project involves replacing the existing Panel Interlocking (PI) system with Electronic Interlocking (EI) at 13 stations, enabling safer, more reliable and technology-driven train operations," the Ministry of



Railways said. The stations covered under the project are Marauda, Risama, Gundardehi, Latabor, Balod, Kusumkasa, Dalli Rajhara, Gudum, Bhanupratappur, Keoti, Antagarh, Taroki and the Raipur Store Depot. "The transition from Panel Interlocking to Electronic Interlocking will significantly modernise signalling infrastructure on this important section, improving operational

flexibility and system reliability," the ministry added. Electronic Interlocking is an advanced signalling system that automates route setting and signal operations while incorporating multiple safety safeguards. Compared with the conventional Panel Interlocking system, EI offers higher reliability, improved operational flexibility and quicker restoration of services in the event of disruptions.

"The project will enhance the safety and reliability of train operations, improve punctuality and provide a stronger technological foundation for handling growing passenger and freight traffic on the South East Central Railway network," the ministry mentioned. According to Indian Railways, the upgrade is expected to reduce signalling-related failures, enhance the safety of train movements and improve punctuality. The modernised signalling infrastructure will also help the section accommodate increasing passenger and freight traffic more efficiently. "The approval is part of Indian Railways' ongoing programme to modernise signalling systems across the national network through advanced technologies, ensuring safer, smarter and more efficient railway operations," the ministry stated.

How are Sensex and Nifty 50 likely to perform next week amid US-Iran war?

The Indian stock market wrapped up the week on a strong note, led by robust domestic macroeconomic data, healthy GST collections, improving industrial output, and sustained growth in both the manufacturing and services sectors. Investor sentiment also received a boost from expectations of a more accommodative global monetary policy after weaker-than-expected US labour market data. Despite mixed global signals and a slight moderation in India's services sector activity, benchmark indices remained resilient. The Nifty rose 0.90% to end at 24,270.80, while the Sensex gained 0.86% to close at 77,763.91 for the week. Ponnudi R, CEO - Enrich Money, believes that investors are expected to remain focused on developments in the US-Iran negotiations, with markets looking for greater clarity on the prospects of a formal agreement. While recent reports point to constructive engagement, any setback could revive geopolitical concerns and weigh on risk sentiment. "Crude oil prices will remain in focus after stabilising around \$68-69 a barrel as concerns over disruptions to shipments through the Strait of Hormuz eased. Sustained stability in energy prices would be supportive for India's inflation outlook and external balances. Following softer-than-expected US labour market data, which reinforced expectations of a less hawkish Federal Reserve, investors will closely scrutinise the minutes of the Fed's June policy meeting for further insights into policymakers' assessment of the econom-



ic outlook and the likely trajectory of interest rates," he said. Stock market trading strategy Ajit Mishra – SVP, Research, Religare Broking, said that the market continues to benefit from a favourable domestic macroeconomic backdrop, improving earnings visibility, and expectations of a more supportive global liquidity environment. Going forward, the earnings season is likely to take centre stage, alongside geopolitical developments, in shaping near-term market direction. "Investors should continue to focus on fundamentally strong companies with healthy balance sheets, improving earnings visibility, and relative strength. Banking, pharma, realty, and defence remain among the preferred sectors along with the broader indices, given their sustained relative outperformance in recent weeks. At the same time, maintaining disciplined position siz-

ing and prudent risk management remains essential, as global developments and earnings-related reactions could continue to drive short-term volatility," Mishra said. Key technical levels to watch out for next week - Sensex On the Sensex outlook, Ponnudi of Enrich Money said that the index continues to trade with a constructive bias after sustaining above its recent breakout levels. From a technical perspective, the 78,100-78,200 region is expected to act as the immediate resistance. A sustained move above this band could strengthen bullish momentum and open the door for an advance towards the 79,000 region. "On the downside, the 77,500-77,400 zone is expected to provide immediate support, followed by the 77,000 region. Holding above these levels will be crucial to preserve the broader recovery trend. Overall, the technical outlook

remains cautiously positive, although sustained buying above immediate resistance will be required to confirm the next leg of the rally," he added. Nifty 50 On the Nifty 50 outlook, Aakash Shah, Technical Research Analyst at Choice Broking, said that the index continues to trade above its 100-day EMA (24,131) and has successfully closed above the falling resistance trendline near 24,200, both of which are expected to act as immediate support levels in the coming week. Shah further noted that the index formed a bearish candle on the daily chart after profit booking at higher levels, it managed to sustain the bullish gap, indicating that the broader trend remains positive. "For the coming week, 24,050-24,150 is expected to act as the immediate support zone, while 24,421 (200-day EMA) remains the first major resistance. A sustained move above 24,421 could open the doors for a rally towards 24,600, which coincides with the April swing high and remains a crucial hurdle for the bulls," he said. Bank Nifty Meanwhile, on the Bank Nifty outlook, Shah added that the index formed a sizeable bearish candle, reflecting profit booking and lack of follow-through buying at higher levels. Momentum indicators suggest that the index is currently undergoing a consolidation phase. The index continues to maintain relative strength versus the broader market, but its relative momentum is beginning to fade. "From a technical perspective, the immediate support zone is placed at 57,400-57,500.

GOVT LIKELY TO SEND NOTICE TO WHATSAPP OVER UPCOMING CONTROVERSIAL USERNAME FEATURE

New Delhi: Alarmed at a possible misuse of an upcoming global username feature by Meta's WhatsApp, the government is considering issuing a notice to the Mark Zuckerberg-run social media giant. The matter is related to concerns that, like Telegram, the feature can allegedly be misused, and the government has expressed displeasure and serious concerns over it, according to government sources. Sources earlier indicated that popular messaging platforms could be held accountable if new features create opportunities for fraud, amid growing debate over WhatsApp's recently announced username feature. They said that messaging platforms like WhatsApp must ensure that their products are not misused for impersonation or misinformation. WhatsApp is launching usernames for privacy, enabling users to interact without disclosing phone numbers. While this can protect user identity, cyber security experts warn of risks like impersonation and scams, highlighting the necessity for robust anti-abuse measures to ensure safety of



millions of users in India. WhatsApp has announced the rollout of usernames, allowing users of the instant messaging platform to communicate with family, friends, or businesses without sharing their phone numbers. According to WhatsApp, users will soon be able to pick unique usernames, similar to those on social media platforms. Meta described the move as "designed to protect the privacy of your phone number," adding that

"people need to know your exact username to contact you." Earlier, Telegram and Signal also allowed users to hide their phone numbers and use only a username for a very long time. However, the Indian laws require messaging platforms like WhatsApp and Telegram to link to a verified mobile number. Under the Telecom Cyber Security Rules, 2024, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) enforces strict SIM-binding mandates to combat digital fraud.

Meta Says It Has Zero-Tolerance Policy Against CSAM, Uses AI To Detect Violations

Meta stated that it has a zero tolerance policy for soliciting or sharing CSAM, including in advertisements, via a statement from its spokesperson on NDTV Profit on Sunday. The company claimed that it uses advanced AI to proactively detect violating content and individuals. "We're in a constant battle with criminals who hide among our 3.5 billion users and try to evade our detection," the company stated. This development comes after the centre issued a formal notice to Meta directing it to immediately disable all Instagram advertisements and content that allegedly promoted or facilitated access to Child Sexual Exploitative and Abuse Material. The parent company of Instagram said that expert teams are constantly working to improve defenses, develop new technology root out predators and block links to violating websites. "We share intelligence with other companies so they can take action too," the spokesperson



said. The notice to Meta was initiated by India's Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). MeitY officials had told NDTV Profit that they have ordered Instagram to disable all content facilitating access to child sexual abuse material. The Government issued a stern notice to Meta on child sexual abuse material in paid ads on Instagram and it sought a detailed explanation within seven days. Failure to furnish information may invite legal action under the IT Act and POC SO. The Government further mandated immediate corrective measures against any

'algorithmic amplification' of child sexual abuse material. The ministry also demanded explanations as to how such advertisements were approved and displayed on Instagram. The spokesperson added that Meta's expert teams are continually improving the company's defences, developing new technologies to identify predators, blocking links to websites hosting abusive content, and sharing intelligence with other technology companies to help them take action. The statement comes after reports that Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology

Ashwini Vaishnaw directed the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to summon Meta officials over advertisements allegedly promoting child sexual abuse that appeared on Instagram. According to sources, the ministry is expected to seek an explanation from the US-based technology company on how such advertisements appeared on Instagram and what safeguards are in place to prevent the circulation of such content. Meta, which owns Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp, is also likely to be asked to explain its advertisement review processes, content moderation systems and the measures it has adopted to detect, remove and prevent child sexual abuse-related content on its platforms. The ministry is expected to seek details on the company's enforcement mechanisms and the steps being taken to further strengthen protections against illegal and harmful content, sources had said.

NYKAA SEES STRONG Q1 GROWTH LED BY BEAUTY, FASHION BUSINESSES

Highlights

■ **FSN E-Commerce Ventures Ltd., the parent of Nykaa, expects consolidated gross merchandise value (GMV) and net sales value (NSV) growth in the early-30% range for the June quarter, with consolidated revenue growth likely to accelerate to nearly 30%, driven by sustained momentum across its beauty and fashion businesses.**

FSN E-Commerce Ventures Ltd., the parent of Nykaa, expects consolidated gross merchandise value (GMV) and net sales value (NSV) growth in the early-30% range for the June quarter, with consolidated revenue growth likely to accelerate to nearly 30%, driven by sustained momentum across its beauty and fashion businesses. The company said its beauty vertical is expected to deliver NSV and net revenue growth in the late-20% range during the quarter, with net revenue growth likely to trail NSV marginally. It attributed the performance to robust customer acquisition, strong omnichannel execu-



tion and healthy growth in marketing income. Nykaa said its omnichannel beauty business continued to expand, while retail performance was supported by both like-for-like growth and continued expansion of its store network. The company also highlighted the strong performance of its owned brands portfolio. "House of Nykaa continues to demonstrate rapid growth, with brands such as Kay Beauty, Nykaa Cosmetics and Dot & Key delivering consistent success," the company said in its quarterly business update. The fashion business is expected to remain the fastest-grow-

ing segment, with NSV growth projected in the mid-50% range. Nykaa said the business benefited from lower operational leakages, an expanding brand assortment on its core platform and continued investments in customer acquisition. "All major fashion categories delivered strong performance during the quarter, while our partnership with Nike has shown encouraging early results," the company said. The company added that ongoing marketing investments continued to support new customer acquisition across both beauty and fashion, positioning the business for another quarter of healthy growth.

ALL OF US WILL NEED TO DO OUR PART TO CREATE THE NEXT 250 YEARS OF AMERICAN GREATNESS - VANCE



Vice President JD Vance has thanked President Donald Trump as he delivers a speech on USS Kearsarge in New York City. He says the US celebrates 250 years of "American daring and American naval excellence". "Today we celebrate 250 years of America, facing the future without fear. We celebrate 250 years of proving what a free people can achieve," he says. Vance pays tribute to the US' sailors, police officers, emergency workers as well as the dozens of Navy chiefs who are visiting the country from around the world. He then proceeds to read the second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights and among these rights are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Vance says that 250 years later these words remind US citizens who they are

as a people, noting that the words still carry tremendous power. Vice-President JD Vance is kicking off celebrations this morning with a speech aboard the USS Kearsarge in New York Harbor. You can watch live at the top of this page. Officials say the USS Kearsarge will be the "centrepiece" of the day's festivities in the harbour, with Vance speaking following the International Naval Review 250, led by the Navy's acting Secretary Hung Cao. Vance will deliver remarks "commemorating America's 250th birthday", honouring service personnel and celebrating the "strength, leadership and freedom" that has made the US the "greatest nation in the history of the world," say officials. Events to celebrate the nation's 250th birthday are being organised by two competing entities. America250 was established by Congress a decade ago to plan nonpartisan events.



■ Ukraine strikes St Petersburg oil terminal, naval base as Putin's 'Davos' gets under way

US marks 250th independence anniversary with nationwide celebrations as temperatures soar

US history is built on "carving a great civilisation out of the wilderness", he says as he adds that everything the US has done, it has done together - not as citizens divided against each other. Vance says that all US citizens have played their part before referencing the US' role in World War Two and when its astronauts went to the moon. "All of us have a part, all of us had our part... All of us will need to do our part to create the next 250 years of American greatness," he adds. He says he is proud of all Americans and says happy birthday to the nation before wrapping up. On the other side of the Atlantic, King Charles has hailed the relationship between the US and the UK in a message commemorat-



ing the US's 250th birthday. "Through centuries of shared challenge and achievement, our nations have built a relationship founded on friendship, trust and a belief in liberty, the rule of law and the dignity of all people," His Majesty says in a statement shared on X. "I have no doubt we will continue to defend our shared values," he adds.

The connection between our people is one I trust will only grow stronger." Celebrations are taking place across the US today to mark its 250th birthday. Large-scale fireworks, a fly-over of fighter jets, and a Trump rally are among the events marking Independence Day in Washington DC alone. Elsewhere, artists includ-

ing Christina Aguilera, Mary J Blige and the Smashing Pumpkins are set to perform at celebratory concerts - in Philadelphia, New York, and Los Angeles respectively. But some planned events have already been disrupted as forecasters warn of extremely hot temperatures and thunderstorms, as a sweltering heatwave grips parts of the eastern and central US. Multiple events across the country have already been cancelled - with some pushed back to later in the day. In a speech at the iconic Mount Rushmore last night, US President Donald Trump called the holiday "one of the most extraordinary days in the history of the world".

Pope urges Europe to do more for migrants while visiting gateway island



Pope Leo XIV has called on European leaders to rise to the "momentous challenge" of handling migration as he visited the Italian island of Lampedusa. The pontiff urged Europe to help new arrivals integrate better and improve conditions in their home countries, during a mass on the island, which receives tens of thousands of migrants a year. "Those who have lost their lives in this sea are victims both of decisions that were made and of decisions that were not made," the Pope said. Since becoming the head of the Catholic Church in May 2025, the Pope has repeatedly called for greater support for migrants and criticised anti-migrant policies. His trip comes two weeks after the EU approved tougher migrants rules that allow stricter border controls and broader detention powers. It marks a wider trend of governments hardening their stance on undocumented migration, with many, including the UK and Italy, adopting measures aimed at deterring it. The Pope began the trip with a visit to a cemetery on Lampedusa and prayed at the graves of migrants who had died while making the dangerous journey from Africa to Europe across the Mediterranean Sea. He also stood at the "Door of Europe" memorial for those who had perished attempting the crossing and spoke to a migrant family. "From this far-flung corner of Europe on the Mediterranean Sea, one can more clearly perceive the momentous challenge that the phenomenon of migra-

tion poses to European societies," the Pope told Catholics on the island. "Europe is capable of addressing the crisis in this region in a comprehensive manner, integrating immediate relief efforts into a long-term strategic plan capable of receiving, protecting, supporting and integrating migrants" while "assisting developing countries so that no one is forced to emigrate", he said. The island of Lampedusa - which sits 90 miles (145km) off Tunisia's coast - is home to a migrant reception centre that is overcrowded with challenging living conditions. Those who make the journey often travel in poorly maintained and overcrowded vessels, making sea crossings more perilous for those aboard. More than 1,400 people have died or gone missing while attempting to cross the Mediterranean this year, including 28 children, according to the UN's International Organization for Migration. New migrants, rescue officials, members of aid groups and the Italian Coast Guard were among those to gather to see the Pope. The Pope "continues to accompany you, support you and encourage you", he told the gathering. "The pope's visit speaks to every one of us," Kandeh Abdourahman, a migrant who arrived in Lampedusa in 2015, told news agency Reuters. It was "a reminder that our stories are seen, that welcome is not just a word but an act of humanity", said Abdourahman, now a cultural mediator with the International Rescue Committee.

Large crowds gather in Tehran on first day of Ayatollah Khamenei's funeral

Large crowds of black-clad mourners have gathered outside Tehran's main mosque to pay their respects to Iran's former supreme leader on the first day of his funeral commemorations. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's body is currently lying in state at the Grand Mosalla, ahead of his eventual burial in his hometown of Mashhad next Thursday. Authorities expect 15-20 million people to attend the ceremonies across Iran and Iraq over the coming days, which take place more than four months after Khamenei was killed in US and Israeli strikes. Masses of supporters of the Islamic regime turned out on Saturday morning, reportedly chanting slogans against the US and in support of revenge for the ayatollah's killing. "We came [to the funeral] because we promised the supreme leader we would stand by him to the very end," 37-year-old professor Reza told news agency AFP in the Grand Mosalla's courtyard. "For a long time, we shouted that we would



sacrifice our lives for the leader, but it was he who sacrificed himself for us." Arash Rahimi, 40, told Reuters: "Everyone here has come to avenge the blood of their supreme leader. "As our leader has said, we have a blood feud with the United States. Our relations with the United States will never be good." Khamenei was killed during joint Israeli and US strikes on Iran in late February, in what quickly spiralled into a wider region-

al conflict. US President Donald Trump said Iran's government was "dying to settle" a peace deal to end the war after a preliminary agreement was struck between the two, adding on Friday: "We gave them [Iran] a week off for a funeral because we're nice." Much of central Tehran will be locked down over the weekend as the funeral ceremony gets under way. It is expected to be the largest funeral ever in terms of attendees as a pro-

portion of the country's population. Khamenei's body will lie in the Grand Mosalla for three days, alongside the remains of family members who were also killed in the air strikes. There will then be three further days of events outside of the capital. On Tuesday, his body will be moved to Qom, to the south of Tehran, where a senior Shia cleric will lead funeral prayers at Jamkaran, one of Iran's most prominent and symbolic religious sites.

Keiko Fujimori declared winner of Peru's presidential election weeks after vote

Right-wing candidate Keiko Fujimori has been declared the winner of Peru's tight presidential election, nearly a month after the vote took place. The 51-year-old won 50.135% of voters' support in the runoff, held on 7 June, to 49.865% for left-wing candidate Roberto Sánchez - a margin of less than 50,000 votes, figures certified by Peru's electoral court show. It is the fourth time the daughter of disgraced former President Alberto Fujimori has sought the South American nation's presidency, promising this time to oversee a crackdown on organised crime. Her election, coinciding with the election of Abelardo de la Espriella in Colombia, marks a shift towards the right in Latin American politics. Fujimori said she would assume the role of president "with responsibility, humility and a deep sense of duty". "Each day of this transi-



tion process is an opportunity to listen, engage in dialogue and arrive prepared at the start of the new government," she added, with what appeared to be a nod to her thin mandate. Sánchez, 57, has alleged the runoff election had been "seriously compromised" and threatened legal action, arguing that strong support for Fujimori among Peruvian voters abroad was a sign of irregularities. After the result was declared on Friday, his party appealed against the electoral court's proclamation, calling for the vote to be nullified.



Brutal heat cancels Fourth of July events, from DC to Philadelphia

Taylor Swift marries Travis Kelce in NYC ceremony officiated by Adam Sandler

Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce have officially tied the knot at New York's Madison Square Garden, in a star-studded ceremony officiated by actor Adam Sandler. The pair wore Christian Dior, Swift's publicist said, and did not have bridesmaids and groomsmen. Swift's brother, Austin Swift, served as her man of honour, and Jason Kelce, Travis's brother, was his best man. The event shuttered one of Manhattan's busiest corridors and brought out Hollywood A-list stars, such as actors Hugh Grant and Jason Sudeikis, singer Benson Boone and model Gigi Hadid. Fans huddled outside the venue throughout the day, with some onlookers climbing scaffolding to



try catch a better view. The wedding celebrations began on Thursday with a much smaller "pre-party" event, according to permit filed with New York City officials. The ceremony on Friday was much a larger event, with a stream of blacked-out SUVs seen driving through a pop-up tent erected outside the stadium to shield guests' arrival.

Some celebrity guests were still spotted upon their arrival, including model Gigi Hadid, her actor boyfriend Bradley Cooper, actress Dakota Johnson, and members of Kelce's football team, the Kansas City Chiefs. As Swift's publicist, Tree Paine, said confirmed the pair had officially wed, an announcement appeared on a display outside

Madison Square Garden that read "JUST&T MARRIED" - a play on Taylor and Travis's names. Jonathan Anderson, a creative director at Dior, designed Swift and Kelce's outfits, Paine said. "This is the designer's first couture wedding dress for a world-renowned celebrity," Paine said in a statement. Their shoes were custom made by Christian Louboutin, she added, and Swift wore Cartier jewellery. The New York City Police (NYPD) closed the streets around the arena midday, closing them off to vehicles and pedestrian traffic. Swifties - the singer's legion of fans - lined nearby blocks around the arena, braving sweltering temperatures of up to 37C (98.6F).

Portugal Reach Dallas Ahead Of FIFA World Cup Clash With Spain

Portugal superstar Cristiano Ronaldo reached Dallas with the national side ahead of their FIFA World Cup round of 16 clash against Spain. Spain versus Portugal, scheduled for July 7, 12:30 AM, is set to be a clash of generations, with the 41-year-old Portugal icon, club football giant Cristiano Ronaldo, set to encounter the next generation of Spanish football, spearheaded by 18-year-old Lamine Yamal. The 2010 champions, Spain, who have not conceded in any of their FIFA WC 2026 games so far, will face a tough test against Cristiano's men, who are still searching for that perfect all-round game, especially against big sides. The match against Spain takes place on July 7, 12:30 AM IST. Posting an Instagram story, Cristiano greeted fans in Dallas with a caption, "Hello Dallas" Against Croatia in the round of 32, Ronaldo became the first player in history to feature in a FIFA World Cup knock-



out match at the age of 41 or older. The match also marked a unique milestone, as it was the first in World Cup history to feature two outfield players aged 40 or above, with Ronaldo facing former Real Madrid teammate Luka Modric. The appearance also saw Ronaldo extend another record, as he became the oldest goalscorer in World Cup

knockout history at 41 years and 147 days, further underlining his longevity and enduring impact at the highest level. This was also his first-ever FIFA World Cup knockout goal, removing a massive stain from his illustrious career. Portugal started off with a dull 1-1 draw against DR Congo in the group stage, with Cristiano failing to make an impact

and inviting a lot of criticism with his poor performance. During the match against Uzbekistan, a 5-0 win, Ronaldo led Portugal's charge with two goals, while Nuno Mendes and Rafael Leao also found the net. An own goal involving Uzbekistan goalkeeper Abduvohid Nematov further compounded the misery for Fabio Cannavaro's side as

Roberto Martinez's men secured their first win of the tournament in emphatic fashion. Ronaldo's brace saw him become Portugal's all-time leading scorer in FIFA World Cup history, taking his tally to 10 goals, surpassing Eusebio's record of nine. Eusebio, a Portuguese legend and 1965 Ballon d'Or winner, famously guided the team to third place at the 1966 World Cup. Behind Ronaldo and Eusebio, Pauleta is third on Portugal's World Cup scoring list with four goals. Ronaldo also became the first player to score in six different FIFA World Cup tournaments, ending his 10-match goalless streak across major competitions (the FIFA World Cup and the Euro Championship). After this, they made it to round of 32 with a goalless draw against Colombia. Against Croatia, they managed to survive the lead taken by the 2018 runners-up, with Cristiano and Goncalos Ramos firing goals to lead them to 2-1 win.

Stay humble - the Premier League feud about to hit world stage

One of the Premier League's most gripping personal feuds goes global on Sunday when Brazil face Norway in the World Cup last 16. Norway's irresistible force of Manchester City striker Erling Haaland comes up against Brazil's immovable object in the shape of Arsenal defender Gabriel in New York New Jersey Stadium. Haaland and Gabriel have been central figures as their clubs battle for domestic supremacy, creating a rivalry that regularly boils over into animosity. The outcome of their latest confrontation will go a long way to deciding whether it is Brazil or Norway who advance to the quarter-finals, where they will face either England or Mexico. Former England striker Chris Sutton told BBC Sport: "For all the battling for the Golden Boot between the greats such as Lionel Messi, Kylian Mbappe, Harry Kane and Haaland, there have not been any great personal duels. Now we have one. "This is the standout per-



sonal duel of the World Cup so far and make no mistake, it will have a huge bearing on the outcome of the game. "It is the standout because of the bad feeling we know exists between the pair. I am sure there is a level of respect great players have for each other, but everything we've seen between them suggests they don't like each other too much." Former England captain Alan Shearer is also relishing the confrontation between the pair, saying: "That will be a great battle because there is definitely a

bit of niggles there. "They don't like each other which is fine, you don't have to like your opponent, and we have seen them have clashes before so that's definitely one to look forward to." Adding further intrigue is the statistical quirk that five-time world champions Brazil have never beaten Norway in four attempts - drawing two and losing two. This makes Norway the only side the Selecao have faced, but never won against. Turn the clock back to Sunday 22 September, 2024.

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's 1st Social Media Post After India Debut Takes Internet By Storm

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi took to social media to share a heartfelt message for his fans after making his international debut for India in the second T20I against England on Saturday. The 15-year-old prodigy had been the subject of much discussion after Team India opted not to hand him his debut cap during the two T20Is against Ireland, despite his heroics in the IPL. After missing the opening match of the five-game series against England, Sooryavanshi finally got his opportunity in Manchester and scored 14 runs off 10 balls in his first international outing. Although India ended up losing the match by four wickets, Sooryavanshi's debut emerged as the biggest talk-



ing point of the day. The young batter expressed his gratitude to fans, teammates, and senior players, thanking everyone who supported and believed in him throughout his journey. Sharing a photograph of himself in the India jersey on his Instagram story after the match, the teenage batter

said representing the national team was a privilege and pledged to continue giving his best whenever called upon. "Overwhelmed by all the messages. Thank you to everyone of my well-wishers and seniors for your constant love and support. I'm truly grateful for the opportunity to represent my country, and I'll

always try to give my best for my team every single time. Thank you for everything, everyone," the 15-year-old, who broke Sachin Tendulkar and Shafali Verma's record to become the youngest debutant, wrote in an Instagram story. His emotional post quickly drew praise from fans, who congratulated him on achieving a major milestone and wished him success for the future. Speaking of the game, the hosts bounced back emphatically to defeat India by four wickets in the second T20I, chasing down 191 with an over to spare. Despite Arshdeep Singh's double strike in the opening over, Harry Brook's explosive 39 off 15 balls shifted the momentum before Jacob Bethell anchored the chase with an unbeaten 76 off 46 deliveries.

Sunil Gavaskar Hits The Bull's-Eye On Vaibhav Sooryavanshi Getting Stumped On 14 In Debut India vs England Match

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's international debut innings lasted 10 balls. In those 10 balls, two deliveries from Jofra Archer and Josh Tongue flew for sixes. He did announce his arrival on the big stage, but had he scored a few more runs, billions of fans watching the second India vs England T20I would have enjoyed it even more. On the fifth ball of the fifth over, Sooryavanshi was stumped off Will Jacks. The left-hander stepped out against a flat delivery outside off, but his attempted cut went in vain as he was outfoxed and Jos Buttler completed the dismissal. Sooryavanshi returned with 14 off 10 balls. India great Sunil Gavaskar said it was highly uncharacter-



istic of Sooryavanshi to go for such a cut shot. "That is not his shot. His shot is the cover drive," Sunil Gavaskar said on Sony Sports while discussing Sooryavanshi's dismissal. Earlier, Gavaskar called Sooryavanshi India's baby. "I won't be surprised if he gets going from the first ball. Everybody watching in India will be jumping.

held by Sachin Tendulkar (Test debut at 16 years and 205 days; ODI debut at 16 years and 238 days). Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's much-awaited and massively hyped debut ended in a whimper, but India, riding on Tilak Varma's last-over heroics, managed a decent 190 for 7 against England in overcast and windy conditions during the second T20 International on Saturday. Sooryavanshi struggled to cope with the extra bounce but hit a six each off Archer and Tongue. The first came when Archer tried to cramp him for room, and the left-hander played a no-look whip-scoop behind square for six. The shot against Josh Tongue was a more familiar IPL-style hoick over long-on.

HODGKINSON BEATEN INTO SECOND BY ODIRA IN EUGENE

Olympic 800m champion Keely Hodgkinson was beaten for the second consecutive Diamond League race as she finished behind Lilian Odira in Eugene. The Kenyan athlete, who is the reigning world champion over the distance, surged past the Briton in the home straight to win in a time of one minute and 56.19 seconds. It was a season's best performance for-



mance from Odira, with Hodgkinson crossing the line second in one minute and 56.73 seconds, well short of the British record she set in Stockholm in June, when Audrey Werro triumphed. It was also way off the oldest world record on the track of one minute 53.28 seconds set by Czech athlete Jarmila Kratochvilova in 1983.

However, that never looked like being a realistic goal in Oregon, with Hodgkinson emerging for the race with both knees heavily strapped - after a bad fall - and as a consequence, making a laboured start. It has been a mixed season for Hodgkinson, who had to pull out of the 400m final at the UK Athletics Championships last month after feeling "a little twinge".

Babar Azam Handed Big Responsibility As Pakistan Make Test Leadership Change

=Star batter Babar Azam has returned as Pakistan's Test captain after the team announced its squad for the upcoming series against the West Indies and England. Babar replaces Shan Masood at the helm of the Test side as Pakistan look to strengthen their chances in the World Test Championship cycle. The selectors have made several changes to the squad, including the inclusion of four uncapped players. Pakistan will face the West Indies in a two-Test series starting July 25, before taking on England in a three-match Test series beginning August 19. The four uncapped players are, left-arm spinner Ali Usman, batter Muhammad Awaiz Zafar, fast bowler Ubaid Shah, and wicketkeeper-batter Muhammad Ghazi Ghori. Meanwhile, Saud Shakeel has been included in the squad for the England



series, subject to passing a fitness test ahead of the tour. Pakistan are currently placed ninth in the World Test Championship standings. It is worth noting Shan Masood's stint as Pakistan's Test captain proved to be one of the most challenging in the format's history. He led the side in 16 Tests and suffered defeat in 12 of them, making him the first captain in Test cricket to lose as many as 12 of his first 16 matches in charge. Under his leadership, Pakistan also went through a

seven-Test losing streak, matching the team's longest sequence of defeats in the longest format. Pakistan squad for West Indies: Babar Azam (c), Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Fazal, Ali Usman, Azan Awaiz, Imam ul Haq, Khurram Shahzad, Mohammad Abbas, Mohammad Ali, Mohammad Rizwan, Mohammad Awaiz Zafar, Muhammad Ghazi Ghori, Sajid Khan, Salman Ali Agha, Shan Masood, Ubaid Shah Pakistan squad for England.

Eala wins 'for all the girls with ruffled socks and chubby cheeks'



Three years ago, Alexandra Eala was presented with her graduation diploma from the Philippines to reach the fourth round of a Grand Slam in the Open era. Asked what the victory meant, the 21-year-old replied: "I went to train every day after school with my ruffled socks, light-up shoes and chubby cheeks - to younger me this is everything. "It is incredible to have my countrymen cheering me on, knowing that we are all in this together. "This goes out to them, my family and all the girls with ruffled socks and chubby cheeks. It means the world." Eala played tennis as a youngster with her brother and grandfather, telling she "still can't keep up" with her older brother, even now.

Swiatek 7-6 (11-9) 6-2. With it, she became the first player from the Philippines to reach the fourth round of a Grand Slam in the Open era. Asked what the victory meant, the 21-year-old replied: "I went to train every day after school with my ruffled socks, light-up shoes and chubby cheeks - to younger me this is everything. "It is incredible to have my countrymen cheering me on, knowing that we are all in this together. "This goes out to them, my family and all the girls with ruffled socks and chubby cheeks. It means the world." Eala played tennis as a youngster with her brother and grandfather, telling she "still can't keep up" with her older brother, even now.



France head coach Didier Deschamps defended captain Kylian Mbappe regarding criticism over his leadership during the ongoing FIFA World Cup 2026. There has been a lot of chatter on social media regarding Mbappe's status in the team with more users even joking-

"You Make Him Seem Like A Dictator": France Coach Makes Huge Remark On Kylian Mbappe

ly referring to him as 'dictator'. Deschamps completely dismissed such talks and said that his perceived image is nowhere close to his presence in the squad. "No, he hasn't changed. You make him seem like a dictator. Kylian has an image for some people on the outside that doesn't correspond at all to reality," Deschamps told reporters after Mbappe scored to guide France to the quarterfinals with a 1-0 victory over Paraguay. Deschamps said his players were prepared for Paraguay's physical approach. Reflecting on the fiercely contested Round of 16 encounter, Deschamps said his squad had anticipated the nature of the match and managed to remain disciplined

throughout. "I've seen a lot of things," Deschamps said, as quoted by Reuters. "I have prepared the players. The players were expecting this game. I do not want to criticise Paraguay. Each team plays the way they want. But there were some insults from the other bench which I could have done without," he added. "The most important thing is that by the end of the game, there were no disagreements and that we (did not) get another card," he said. Deschamps acknowledged the physical nature of the contest, saying both teams committed numerous fouls. "We got three yellow cards with a lot of fouls. I'm not say-

ing that we did not make any fouls, but there were a lot from both teams." The France coach also dismissed suggestions that Mbappe had only recently developed into a mature leader, insisting the striker had always displayed those qualities while representing the national team. "There was a lot of media saying that he has evolved," Deschamps said, as quoted by Reuters. "I don't want to contradict myself, but Kylian has an image for you that is far from reality." "I don't want to lie. I've said from the first day that he had this spirit. He gave all his athletic efforts. He's a great top-notch player on the pitch. But when he speaks, he speaks for the entire group."

Lovely Hero Aadi Saikumar Launches Heartwarming Track "Aanandhala Vela" From Vasudheva Sutham

The promotional campaign for Vasudheva Sutham continues to build momentum with the release of another melodious track, Aanandhala Vela. The lyrical song was officially unveiled by Lovely Hero Aadi Saikumar, who extended his heartfelt wishes to the entire team after watching the video. Impressed by the film's promotional material, he described the project as highly promising and wished everyone involved great success ahead of its theatrical release.

Produced by Dhanalaxmi Badarla under the Rainbow Cinemas banner and directed by Vykunt Bonu, Vasudheva Sutham stars Master Mahendran and Ambika Vani in the lead roles. The family entertainer laced with devotional and action elements is all set to arrive in theatres on July 10.

Over the past few weeks, the film has steadily generated curiosity with its first-look posters, glimpse, teaser, and trailer, all of which have received an encouraging response from audiences. Taking the musical promotions a step further, the makers have now



The promotional campaign for Vasudheva Sutham continues to build momentum with the release of another melodious track, Aanandhala Vela.

Aanandhala Vela, a cheerful and emotionally uplifting number that beautifully reflects the warmth and togetherness at the heart of the film. Penned by Chaitanya Prasad, the song is elevated by the soulful voices of Sai Charan Bhaskaruni and Shruthika Samudrala, while star

composer Mani Sharma enriches it with a vibrant and memorable melody. The visuals accompanying the lyrical video radiate festive energy and family bonding, making the song an instant feel-good celebration. The song goes beyond family and talks about the power of love and emotional connections. It says that love brings hope, dreams, and happiness into life. The catchy tune and uplifting music make these emotions even more special and enjoyable. Overall, Aanandhala Vela is a

heartwarming song that celebrates love, family, and togetherness. The song indeed raises expectations for Vasudheva Sutham, giving audiences a glimpse of an emotional and entertaining film. Adding further strength to the technical team is cinematographer Jiju Sunny, widely recognized for his acclaimed work in Parking. With its promotional campaign striking the right chord and the music receiving a positive response, Vasudheva Sutham is gearing up for a grand theatrical release in 5 more days.

Chennai Love Story Hosts Grand Love Carnival in Vijayawada



AP Deputy Speaker Raghurama Krishnam Raju and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh Attend the Grand Love Carnival Event of Chennai Love Story in Vijayawada; Fourth Single "Hoyila Hoyila" Released Hero Kiran Abbavaram impresses with his natural and settled performance – Andhra Pradesh Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh The songs themselves reveal that Chennai Love Story will be an emotionally touching film – Andhra Pradesh Deputy Speaker Raghurama Krishnam Raju Audiences will enjoy the beautiful and meaningful aspects of love explored in Chennai Love Story – Producer SKN Chennai Love Story will

surely win your hearts – Story Writer and Producer Sai Rajesh Chennai Love Story will be a timeless romantic film that audiences will cherish for years – Producer Dheeraj Mogilineni Steven and Nidhi's love story is unlike anything you've seen before. They will become your friends by the end of the film – Actress Sri Gouri Priya Chennai Love Story will present a love story that audiences have never witnessed before on the big screen – Hero Kiran Abbavaram The grand Love Carnival event of Chennai Love Story was held amid enthusiastic cheers from fans at Raj Yuvraj Theatre in Vijayawada. Andhra Pradesh Deputy Speaker Raghurama Krishnam Raju and State

Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh attended the event as chief guests, while Jana Sena Party leader Panchakarla Sandeep was also present. On the occasion, the makers officially launched the film's fourth lyrical single, "Hoyila Hoyila." Dheeraj Mogilineni said, "We held our first promotional event in Tirupati, and this event was initially planned for Visakhapatnam. Due to heavy rains, we shifted the venue to Vijayawada, which happens to be my hometown, making it even more special. Telugu cinema has witnessed many love stories, but Chennai Love Story will remain memorable forever. Audiences will witness its magic on July 24. Kiran Abbavaram has worked incredibly hard for this

film, even shooting continuously for nearly 60 hours without proper rest over the past few days. That's why I feel like calling him 'Kiran Bangaram.' Sri Gouri Priya will earn even more recognition with this film. Though director Ravi Namburii couldn't attend due to post-production work, he has made an excellent film. My friends Sai Rajesh and SKN have always stood behind my success." Actress Sri Gouri Priya said, "I love Vijayawada, and I'm delighted to celebrate our film with all of you here. Watching the teaser and songs with the audience today was an emotional experience. We've been working on this film for one and a half years, and in another 20 days, it will finally reach audiences.

Star Heroes Must Speak Up on Issues Facing Small Films: Actor-Director Sheraz Mehdi



Actor-director Sheraz Mehdi has alleged that a major conspiracy is being carried out against small-budget films in the Telugu film industry, claiming that it has now turned into a "mafia." Expressing his anguish over the difficulties faced during the release and re-release of his film O Andala Rakshasi, Sheraz addressed the media at the Telangana Film Chamber after he was allegedly denied permission to hold a press conference at the Telugu Film Chamber. Sheraz claimed that the Telugu Film Chamber refused to provide him a platform because they feared he would expose the industry's internal problems. "Whenever I speak about the issues in the industry, they fear I will reveal the truth about them. That is why I was denied permission to conduct a press meet at the Telugu Film Chamber," he alleged. Questioning the discrimina-

tion, Sheraz said that if even Hyderabad locals are not given an opportunity there, then who actually deserves it. He further stated that everyone in the Telugu Film Chamber—from the peon to the president—is aware of the industry's problems, but none of them has the authority to act. "They have all become mere puppets. Compassion has disappeared from the Chamber, and arrogance has taken its place," he remarked. Small Films Facing Severe Discrimination Sheraz alleged that small-budget films are being subjected to discrimination in every aspect, including theatrical releases, OTT platforms, audio rights, satellite rights, and dubbed-language rights. Recalling his own experience, he said: "I was promised 20 theatres in the city, but eventually I was given only five. That is why I had to cancel the original release."

ON THE OCCASION OF NANDAMURI KALYAN RAM'S BIRTHDAY, TEAM #VENKYANIL5 #NKRAR2 UNVEILED HIS TRADITIONAL & STYLISH FIRST LOOK

One of the most exciting projects in Telugu cinema is shaping up to be a perfect festive family entertainer as Victory Venkatesh, Nandamuri Kalyan Ram, and blockbuster hit machine Anil Ravipudi come together for a grand entertainer, currently referred to as #VenkyAnil5 and #NkrAR2. The prestigious venture is being produced by Sahu Garapati under the Shine Screens banner on a lavish scale. Adding further strength to the project, Suresh Productions, Smt. Archana, and Zee Studios are presenting the film. Marking Kalyan Ram's birthday, the makers unveiled his first look from the movie, presenting him in a lively and celebratory avatar. Dressed in a traditional white pancha and kurta with a flower garland around his neck, Kalyan Ram is seen striking an energetic dance pose with effortless swagger. Sporting stylish sunglasses and a cheerful smile, he radiates festive charm.

Set against the backdrop of a beautifully decorated traditional house adorned with colorful floral garlands and surrounded by women dancing joyfully, the poster perfectly captures the festive spirit of the film. It is truly an "Acha Telugu" first look, hinting at a wholesome family entertainer packed with fun, humor, emotions, and grand celebrations. Remarkably, Kalyan Ram opened an Instagram account (@nandamurikalyanram) to unveil and share his first look from the film. "It's always a delight to be in @AnilRavipudi's zone... This Sankranthi 2027, get ready for a blast! #VenkyAnil5 #NKRAR2" he wrote on Instagram. This once again reflects the unique promotional strategies director Anil Ravipudi adopts for his movies. Bringing together an impressive ensemble, National Award-winning actress Keerthy Suresh stars opposite Venkatesh, while Krithi Shetty is paired with Kalyan Ram.



Narne Nithiin, Radha Krishna Reddy, Venkat K Narayana, KVN Productions' #NN5 Launched Grandly With Traditional Puja Ceremony

Young hero Narne Nithiin is continuing his impressive rise with an exciting new project after delivering a hat-trick of successful films. The actor has joined hands with director Radha Krishna reddy, who recently made his directorial debut with Junior, for a youthful romantic entertainer. Tentatively titled #NN5, the film is being produced by Venkat K Narayana under the prestigious KVN Productions banner, with Lohitha NK as creative producer. Renowned for backing ambitious, high-scale ventures across multiple film industries, KVN Productions has earned a reputation as one of the country's leading production houses. Staying true to its legacy of delivering



grand cinematic experiences, the banner is mounting #NN5 with lavish production values, promising to present Narne Nithiin in a refreshing and entertaining new avatar. Anikha Surendran and Megha

Shetty play the female leads opposite Narne Nithiin. The film's creatively designed announcement poster, released earlier, has already sparked considerable curiosity among audiences. The film was launched

today with a grand traditional puja ceremony. Producer Venkat K Narayana sounded the clap for the muhurtham shot, while popular cinematographer Senthil Kumar switched on the camera.

Posani Krishna Murali Operation Aruna Reddy trailer release grand release on 17th of this month



The film team has released the official trailer of the film 'Operation Aruna Reddy' starring famous writer, actor and director Posani Krishna Murali in the lead role. On this occasion, the film unit has also officially announced the release date of the film.

'Operation Aruna Reddy' will hit the theaters on 17th of this month. Speaking on the occasion, Posani Krishna Murali said, "I am confident that this film will impress all sections of the audience. I request everyone to come to the theaters with their families and watch the film and support it."