

Students Urged to Set High Goals, Work Hard.

Mancherla, Aug. 6, TSIT : Trainee Deputy Collector Mohammed Wilayat Ali advised students to set ambitious goals and pursue them with dedication and hard work during a visit to the Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Backward Classes Welfare Residential Boys School at Gudipet in Hajipur mandal on Thursday.

He reviewed the facilities provided at the school and encouraged students to prepare for competitive examinations and government service with discipline and determination. Interacting with the students over breakfast and participating in sports activities, he enquired about their career aspirations and offered guidance to help them achieve their goals. School Principal Sirisha, teachers and staff were present.



Jayashankar's Role in Telangana Movement Remembered.

Mancherla, Aug. 6, TSIT : District Collector Kumar Deepak on Thursday said that Acharya Kothapalli Jayashankar played a pivotal role in the Telangana statehood movement and inspired generations through his vision and commitment.

Paying floral tributes to Jayashankar's portrait at the Integrated District Offices Complex in Naspur on the occasion of his birth anniversary, the Collector said Jayashankar united the people of Telangana and made significant contributions to the movement for a separate State. He called upon citizens to work collectively towards fulfilling the ideals of the late ideologue



and building a model Telangana.

Earlier, the Collector, along with Additional Collector P. Chandraiah and other district officials, participated in the Vanamahotsavam programme and planted saplings, urging people to take responsibility for protecting the environment by planting and nurturing trees.

Governance with people's aspirations as priority

Paleru (Khammam): Implementing welfare and development programmes swiftly in line with people's aspirations is the primary objective of the people's government, said Telangana Revenue, Housing and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy. Accompanied by District Collector Divakar T.S., the minister toured Kusumanchi mandal on Thursday and laid foundation stones for various development works at an estimated cost of Rs 6.74 crore.

The works include BT roads from Eswaramadaram to Bhadruthanda and Tallagadda Thanda, a high-level bridge at Choutapalli and an



R&B BT road at Lingaram Thanda. Ponguleti said Telangana was the only state in the country providing free fine rice to every ration-card holder, with each beneficiary receiving six kg every month. He

said the government had sanctioned eight lakh Indiramma houses and that the selection process for the second phase would begin shortly.

He said Rythu Bharosa funds had already been credited

to farmers and a bonus of Rs 500 per quintal was being provided for fine paddy. The land re-survey in the Palair constituency was progressing rapidly and genuine farmers would be issued valid patta-dar passbooks after the cancellation of fake ones, he said.

At Lingaram Thanda, the minister interacted with farmers and personally ploughed a field using a bullock-drawn plough. Earlier, at Eswaramadaram, he distributed three months' free fine rice to beneficiaries at a fair-price shop. Beneficiaries expressed happiness over the improved quality of the rice and said they were now using it at home.

United fight in the House against Bidadi Township: Opposition Leader R. Ashoka

New Delhi : BJP and JD(S) will jointly fight against the Bidadi Township project, which is being pursued for the real estate mafia. Opposition Leader R. Ashoka said that a joint struggle will be waged both inside and outside the House.

Speaking to reporters, he said the Congress government has implemented the Bidadi Township project by inviting the opposition of farmers. A padayatra will be taken out by BJP and JD(S) against it. He has discussed this with Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, and talks have



been held to fight unitedly. The struggle will take place both inside and outside the Legislative Assembly. A coordination meeting will be held on Saturday, where the matter will be discussed and a clear stand taken.

Professor Jayashankar Birth Anniversary Celebrations at District Police Office: SP Dr. Vineeth, IPS Pays Rich Tributes



NARAYANPET, AUGUST 6 (TSIT): The birth anniversary of Professor Kothapalli Jayashankar—the great visionary who laid a strong ideological foundation for the formation of Telangana state and voiced the aspirations of its people to the world—was celebrated on a grand scale across Narayanpet district. As part of the celebrations, a formal event was organized at the District Police Office.

Narayanpet District Superintendent of Police (SP), Dr. Vineeth, IPS, paid rich tributes to the ideologue by garlanding his portrait. Not just an Activist, But a Great Educationist: SPSpeaking on the occasion, the District SP praised Professor Jayashankar, stating that he dedicated his entire life to the rights, self-respect, social justice, and equitable development of the people of Telangana.

Grand Arrangements Planned for Independence Day Celebrations on Aug15: Collector Khushboo Gupta

Mahabubnagar, August 6 (TSIT Bureau): District Collector Khushboo Gupta has directed all departments to make comprehensive arrangements for the grand celebration of the 79th Independence Day on August 15.

On Thursday, the Collector chaired a review meeting with district officials at the Collectorate Conference Hall to discuss the preparatory arrangements for the Independence Day celebrations. She instructed all departments to discharge their assigned responsibilities with proper coordination and ensure that the event is conducted without any shortcomings.

The Collector directed the Municipal Commissioner to ensure adequate drinking water and sanitation facilities at the parade ground. She instructed the District Chief Planning Officer to prepare the Chief Guest's address highlighting the district's developmental achievements. The Deputy Executive Engineer of the Information Department was asked to arrange a



proper public address system, while the Horticulture Department was directed to decorate the stage with flowers.

She further instructed all departments to set up tableaux and exhibition stalls showcasing various government welfare and development programmes. Education Department officials were directed to organize cultural performances by students reflecting national integration and patriotism.

The Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO) was instructed to make proper shami-ana and seating arrangements to ensure the convenience of public representatives, officials, students, and the general public

attending the celebrations. The Electricity Department was directed to ensure uninterrupted power supply, while the District Medical and Health Officer was instructed to establish medical camps at the venue for emergency healthcare services. The Fire Department was also directed to keep fire tenders on standby.

The Collector instructed all departments to submit, by August 10, the names of two employees from each department who have rendered outstanding services over the past two years for the presentation of commendation certificates during the Independence Day celebrations.

Collector Pays Tribute to Prof. Jayashankar

Wanaparthi (TSIT): Wanaparthi District Collector Adarsh Surabhi lauded the unforgettable services rendered by Professor Jayashankar in the achievement of a separate Telangana state. District Collector Adarsh Surabhi attended the birth anniversary celebrations of Telangana ideologue Professor Kothapalli Jayashankar as the chief guest on Thursday at the IDOC office in the district headquarters. On this occasion, accompanied by Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Khimya

Naik and Additional Collector (Revenue) Vinod Kumar, the Collector paid tribute by garlanding the portrait of Professor Jayashankar. Speaking subsequently, he reiterated that Professor Jayashankar's contributions to the cause of a separate Telangana were truly memorable. He noted that the lifelong efforts of Professor Jayashankar dedicated to fulfilling the aspirations of the people of Telangana serve as an inspiration for future generations.



MLAs Offer Silk Garments at Subrahmanyeswara Temple

Chittoor, Aug. 6: Puthalapattu MLA Dr. Kalikiri Murali Mohan and Chandragiri MLA Pulivarthi Nani on Thursday offered traditional silk garments to Sri Valli Devasena Sametha Subrahmanyeswara Swamy during the 78th Adikrutika Brahmotsavams at Anandagiri near Utavaripalli in Tirupati district. The silk garments, brought from Sri Swayambhu Varasiddhi Vinayaka Swamy Devasthanam, Kanipakam, were received with Poornakumbham by Temple EO Yuvarani, Chairman Chandrasekhar Naidu and temple committee members. The MLAs offered prayers for the health, prosperity and well-being of the people and the state. Special prayers were also performed in the name of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and his family. Thousands of devotees participated in the festival amid elaborate arrangements made by the temple authorities.

Collector Urges SHGs to Use Loans Productively



Jogulamba Gadwal TSIT. District Collector Rizwan Basha Shaikh has urged members of Women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to utilize interest-free loans effectively by taking up sustainable livelihood activities and income-generating enterprises to achieve economic empowerment.

Addressing the Stree Nidhi District Committee Review Meeting held at the IDOC Conference Hall on Thursday, the Collector said that although substantial interest-

free loans are being extended every year to SHGs through SERP and MEPMA, there is a need to assess how effectively these funds are being utilized.

He advised women to move beyond small-scale businesses and focus on manufacturing products that have strong market demand by adopting innovative and entrepreneurial approaches. He stressed the importance of encouraging SHGs to participate in sectors such as poultry, dairy, fisheries, and other allied industries to enhance their

income and contribute to rural economic development.

The Collector also suggested that women SHG members in remote areas with limited public transportation facilities should consider purchasing electric auto-rickshaws, mini vans, and other transport vehicles to generate sustainable livelihoods.

He directed officials not to limit loan assistance only to older SHGs but to ensure that members of Sneha Committees and other eligible groups also receive interest-free loans to improve their employment opportunities. Community Coordinators (CCs) and Assistant Project Managers (APMs) were instructed to make significant progress in expanding access to such financial assistance.

Ponnam Vows to Complete Gouravelli Project



Husnabad, Aug. 6: Telangana BC Welfare and Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Thursday said he was taking full responsibility for completing the Gouravelli project and urged farmers to cooperate with land acquisition for its canals.

During his visit to Koheda mandal in Siddipet district, the Minister inaugurated a Rs.20 lakh Gram Panchayat building at Dharmasagarpalli,

inspected the ongoing Young India Integrated Residential School at Tangallapalli, and directed officials to complete it before the next academic year. He said Rs.250 crore had been released for land acquisition for the Gouravelli canals, adding that legal hurdles had been cleared. The Minister also announced Rs.5 lakh incentives for villages promoting borewell recharge and oil palm cultivation.

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Website : www.karnatakabank.in
CIN : 080-22955928/929

SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to rule 8(6) / Rule 9 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to public in general and in particular to Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Constructive Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Karnataka Bank Ltd.**, the Secured Creditor on 13.02.2025, will be sold on "As is Where is" and "As is What is" basis on 28.08.2026, for recovery of Rs.2,60,29,515.82 (Rupees Two Crore Sixty Lakhs Twenty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Fifteen And Paise Eighty Two Only) i.e. Rs.2,01,56,833.28 under PSTL A/c No. 0637001800050601 along with future interest from 05.09.2025 and Rs. 58,72,682.54 under PSTL A/c No.0637001800050701 along with future interest from 05.09.2025, plus costs, due to the Karnataka Bank Ltd -Bengaluru-Nehrunagar Branch, the Secured creditor from - 1) Mile S V Constructions Represented by its Proprietor Mr.Srinivasulu G S/o Mr. Ganugapenta Narasimhulu, No.232, 1st Floor, White City Layout, Seeghalli, Virgonagar, Bengaluru-560049 Also at: D. No. 7-1-504-1/7-8-9 NGO Colony Main Road, Gandhinagar, Badvel, YSR District, Andhra Pradesh-516227 2) Mr. Srinivasulu G S/o Mr. Ganugapenta Narasimhulu, 3) Mrs. Ramanamma G W/o Srinivasulu G 4) Mr. Ganugapenta Ramesh Babu S/o Mr. Narasimulu G. No.2,3 and 4 also at: No.232, 1st Floor, White City Layout, Seeghalli, Virgonagar, Bengaluru-560049 No. 2,3 and 4 also at: No.2-531, Poolabavi Street, Badvel, Cuddapah-516227, Andhra Pradesh, No. 2,3 and 4 also at: D. No. 7-1-504-1/7-8-9 NGO Colony Main Road, Gandhinagar, Badvel, YSR District, Andhra Pradesh-516227, being the borrower/guarantor/mortgagor.

Reserve Price/Upset Price below which the properties may not be sold as under.

Description of Property	Reserve Price (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (In Rs.)	Date & Time of Auction
Item No.1: All that part and parcel of the residential vacant site bearing Plot No.08, measuring 2250 sq ft (As per deed), 1890 sq ft (As per actual) situated at Survey No.224/2A1 and 224/1A3, Rameshwaram Village Fields, Rendu Kulailu Road, Somulavaripalli Panchayat, Proddatur Mandal, Kadappa District, Andhra Pradesh belonging to Mr. Srinivasulu G. Boundaries of property: East by: Plot No.4,5, West by: Plot No.9, North by: Plot No.10,11, South by: 24 feet wide joint Rastha;	Rs.14,06,000.00 (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Six Thousand Only)	Rs.1,40,600.00 (Rupees One Lakh Forty Thousand Six Hundred Only)	28.08.2026 from 11.00 AM to 11.15 AM
Item No.2: All that part and parcel of the residential vacant site bearing Plot No.16, measuring 1593.75 sq ft (As per deed), 1293.75 sq ft (As per actual) situated at Survey No.224/2A1 and 224/1A3, Rameshwaram Village Fields, Rendu Kulailu Road, Somulavaripalli Panchayat, Proddatur Mandal, Kadappa District, Andhra Pradesh belonging to Mr. Srinivasulu G. Boundaries of property: East by: 24 feet wide joint Rastha West by: Site belongs to Vempalakula Kulialapp and others North by: Plot No.17, South by: Plot No.15	Rs.10,21,500.00 (Rupees Ten Lakh Twenty One Thousand Five Hundred Only)	Rs.1,02,150.00 (Rupees One Lakh Two Hundred Fifty Only)	28.08.2026 from 11.15 AM to 11.30 AM
Item No.3: All that part and parcel of the residential vacant site bearing Plot No.48, measuring 2111.25 sq ft (As per deed), 1751.25 sq ft (As per actual) situated at Survey No.224/2A1 and 224/1A3, Rameshwaram Village Fields, Rendu Kulailu Road, Somulavaripalli Panchayat, Proddatur Mandal, Kadappa District, Andhra Pradesh belonging to Smt. Ramanamma G. Boundaries of property: East by: Site of P Venkata Narayana & C Rama Chandra Reddy, West by: 24 feet wide joint Rastha, North by: Plot No.49, South by: Plot No.47	Rs.13,84,500.00 (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Eighty Four Thousand Five Hundred Only)	Rs.1,38,450.00 (Rupees One Lakh Thirty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Only)	28.08.2026 from 11.30 AM to 11.45 AM
Item No.4: All that part and parcel of the residential vacant site bearing Plot No.09, measuring 2250 sq ft (As per deed), 1890 sq ft (As per actual) situated at Survey No.224/2A1 and 224/1A3, Rameshwaram Village Fields, Rendu Kulailu Road, Somulavaripalli Panchayat, Proddatur Mandal, Kadappa District, Andhra Pradesh belonging to Mr. Srinivasulu G. Boundaries of property: East by: Plot No.8, West by: Executants remaining site/ site of V Lakshmidhar Reddy, North by: Plot No.11,12, South by: 24 feet wide joint Rastha;	Rs.14,05,500.00 (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Five Thousand Five Hundred Only)	Rs.1,40,550.00 (Rupees One Lakh Forty Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Only)	28.08.2026 from 11.45 AM to 12.00 Noon
Item No.5: All that part and parcel of the residential vacant site bearing Plot No.12, measuring 1987.50 sq ft (As per deed), 1669.50 sq ft (As per actual) situated at Survey No.224/2A1 and 224/1A3, Rameshwaram Village Fields, Rendu Kulailu Road, Somulavaripalli Panchayat, Proddatur Mandal, Kadappa District, Andhra Pradesh belonging to Mr. Srinivasulu G. Boundaries of property: East by: Plot No.11, West by: Plot No.13, North by: 24 feet wide joint Rastha, South by: Plot No.9	Rs.13,18,000.00 (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Eighteen Thousand Only)	Rs.1,31,800.00 (Rupees One Lakh Thirty One Thousand Eight Hundred Only)	28.08.2026 from 12.00 Noon to 12.15 PM
Item No.6: All that part and parcel of the residential vacant site bearing Plot No.18, measuring 2521.88 sq ft (As per deed), 2221.88 sq ft (As per actual) situated at Survey No.224/2A1 and 224/1A3, Rameshwaram Village Fields, Rendu Kulailu Road, Somulavaripalli Panchayat, Proddatur Mandal, Kadappa District, Andhra Pradesh belonging to Mr. Srinivasulu G. Boundaries of property: East by: 24 feet wide joint Rastha, West by: Site of V. Kulayappa & others North by: Plot No.19, South by: Plot No.17.	Rs.17,56,000.00 (Rupees Seventeen Lakh Fifty Six Thousand Only)	Rs.1,75,600.00 (Rupees One Lakh Seventy Five Thousand Six Hundred Only)	28.08.2026 from 12.15 PM to 12.30 PM
Item No.7: All that part and parcel of the commercial vacant site bearing Survey No.3471/A measuring 7527.60 sq ft (as per actual) situated at Bollavaram Village Fields, Jammilamadugu -Mylakur Bypass Road, Choutapalle Panchayat, Proddatur Mandal, YSR Kadappa District, Andhra Pradesh belonging to Mr. Srinivasulu G. Boundaries of property: East by: Land of Yenkalu Papi Reddy, West by: Executant remaining land/Road after that remaining site of V Pedda Nagi Reddy, North by: Land of Chaudam Narasimhulu South by: Jammilamadugu to Proddatur Road	Rs.1,41,71,000.00 (Rupees One Crore Forty One Lakh Seventy One Thousand Only)	Rs.14,17,100.00 (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Seventeen Thousand One Hundred Only)	28.08.2026 from 12.30 PM to 12.45 PM

(The borrower/s/mortgagor/s attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset). This Notice shall also serve as Notice under Sub Rule (6) of Section 8 / Sub Rule (1) of Rule 9 of Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 to the Borrower/Guarantors. For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to link in Karnataka Bank's Website ie. <https://karnatakabank.in> under Regulatory & Other Head under sub head "Auction Notices". The E-auction will be conducted through portal <https://www.auctionbazaar.com> on 28.08.2026 at above mentioned time with unlimited extension of 05 minutes. The intending bidder is required to register their name at <https://www.auctionbazaar.com/> and get the user id and password free of cost and get training i.e. online training on E-auction (tentatively on 27.08.2026) from MIS ARCA Emart Pvt. Ltd., (Auction Bazaar), 7-1-28/1A/1, Park Avenue 1, Amerpet, Begumpet, Hyderabad, Secunderabad, Telangana, India - 500016, Contact No.: 8885035382, E-mail: disposal.karnataka@auctionbazaar.com.

Date: 30.07.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Assistant General Manager & Authorized Officer
Karnataka Bank Ltd

EDITORIAL

Who Controls The Conversation? Meta, Algorithmic Power And India's Democracy

Recent developments surrounding Meta's content amplification practices have raised serious questions about the role of global technology platforms in shaping political discourse in India. Admissions made by the company, coupled with Parliamentary scrutiny, have intensified concerns over whether certain campaigns received artificial amplification far beyond their organic reach. If political visibility is determined not by genuine public engagement but by opaque algorithmic intervention or paid amplification, it fundamentally alters the democratic information ecosystem. The issue is no longer about social media marketing; it is about transparency, accountability, and the possibility of foreign influence over India's political processes.

Questions Meta Must Answer

Several critical questions remain unanswered. Why did Meta allegedly fail to disclose when content linked to the CJP campaign was being amplified, despite concerns reportedly raised before the Parliamentary Committee? What are the internal criteria that determine when Meta boosts political content? Who authorises such interventions? If amplification is linked to commercial arrangements, who funded these campaigns, and what safeguards exist to prevent financial influence over political narratives? If Meta's recommendation systems disproportionately amplified narratives targeting the elected Modi Government, was this merely an automated outcome, or did it reflect conscious editorial or algorithmic choices? These are not merely technical questions. They go to the heart of whether a private multinational platform can influence political opinion without transparency or accountability.

Parliamentary Scrutiny Has Intensified

The matter has already moved beyond public debate into institutional scrutiny. Meta was previously summoned by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) over the takedown of a video involving Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Since then, the Parliamentary Committee has reportedly escalated the matter by seeking a personal apology from Mark Zuckerberg within a stipulated timeframe and warning that continued non-compliance could invite a review of Meta's Safe Harbour protections. If such protections are revisited, platform executives could potentially face direct legal liability under Indian law for content moderation decisions and platform conduct. Equally significant is what Meta has not explained. Questions surrounding the functioning of its recommendation systems and the criteria governing political amplification reportedly remain unanswered before the Parliamentary panel. That silence only deepens concerns over how political content is prioritised and whether external commercial or institutional influences play any role. A Global Pattern of Algorithmic Concerns

The questions confronting Meta today are not unique to India. Across several countries, the company has faced allegations that its systems have selectively amplified some political narratives while suppressing others.

From Kathmandu, With Care: Lessons For India From Nepal's Gen Z Movement

As youth protests culminated in a Parliament March in New Delhi in the third week of July, and as reels of young protesters went viral on social media, most Nepalis were watching the developments in India with a sense of dread: What will happen to the government of Narendra Modi? Most Nepalis had one (expressed or unexpressed) wish: May what happened in Nepal on September 9 never happen in India. Why did Nepalis think so? Why did they wish what they wished? As people sharing an affinity with India on multiple levels and in multiple layers, Nepalis have always wished well for India and the Indian people. But the reason they had that particular wish is because of their own lived experience of youth protests and the events that followed. Few may have thought the protests of September 8, 2025, called by the Gen Zs, would spiral into a mammoth mass agitation. The common feeling among the people at large, who had full support for the anti-corruption protests, was that the demonstration would be peaceful, and the nation would return to business as usual on September 9. That was not meant to be. The protests were an expression of pent-up frustration against malgovernance, which had been building for years. Students from schools, colleges, and universities were ready to hit the streets if that would help hold the government - thought to be thoroughly corrupt and utterly insensitive to the youth's voice - to account. It would probably have ended up that way too. But when protesting youth clashed with police personnel in Kathmandu on September 8, the first day of the protest, and the police opened fire, the protest took a deadly, ugly turn. Young students were shot; over a dozen of them died while undergoing treatment in hospitals. Curfews failed to deter the angry youths, and



the government ministers showed no sign of reassuring them that their genuine concerns would be addressed. Instead, government ministers, including the Prime Minister of the day, continued to speak of the Gen Z protesters in denigrating terms. It was, therefore, evident that the protest would continue on September 9 and that it would turn violent. But that it would burn down the nation was beyond anyone's imagination. What happened on September 9 was something that Nepal had never witnessed in its history-the total breakdown of law and order. Police posts, the houses of political leaders, Singha Durbar (the Rana-era palace that houses the administrative offices of the Government of Nepal), the Supreme Court, the Parliament building, ministers' quarters, hotels and supermarkets were attacked, vandalised, looted or set ablaze. The nation had fallen apart; anarchy had been loosed upon Nepal, it seemed. Anyone who witnessed any of this would break down in tears. Amid this moment of chaos, arson attacks, looting

and vandalism, just anybody's house could be burnt down, just any leader could be chased away from his dwelling place, anybody could be killed. Common people prayed for peace and for the restoration of law and order. The situation began to normalise after the Nepal Army appealed for calm and was mobilised to restore order. The rest, as they say, is history: the resignation of Prime Minister KP Oli, the formation of an interim government under the leadership of former Chief Justice Sushila Karki, the announcement of elections for the House of Representatives, the then serving Mayor of Kathmandu Metropolitan City Balendra Shah joining the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP), the RSP emerging as the largest force, and the formation of the government under the leadership of Balendra Shah. Wounds And Scars The deaths of September 8 and the vandalism, arson attacks, deaths and destruction of September 9 not only left a deep scar on the country's image of peace and harmony but also challenged the long-

held notion that Nepal and Nepalis are fundamentally peaceful, with no animosity or ill feeling towards anyone. Neither the political parties that were in power at the time nor the youths who led the protests have been able to come to terms with the trauma of loss and destruction. While the old guard lives with the guilt of its apathy towards the legitimate concerns raised by the youths, its insensitivity and lack of readiness to address their demands, and the repercussions of what a ban on social media platforms would entail for the youth, many now believe that an earlier political response-a call for talks by the Prime Minister, young leaders of the ruling parties mediating talks between the government and the Gen Zs, and some reassuring words from people in power-would possibly have reduced the risks of violence. Maybe the chaos of September 9 would not have followed; maybe the nation would not have been inflicted with such pain and loss. On their part, those who led the protests (the majority of whom are leading the government today) have

answers to why they had to hit the streets on September 8, but they have no reasonable justification for the anarchy that followed the next day. The two sides blame each other for the incidents of September 8 and 9. Questions of accountability for both the violence and the destruction are avoided by both sides as far as possible. At times, some political actors of the pre-September 8 order point to conspiracy theories that the whole episode was orchestrated by foreign elements' bent on destabilising not only Nepal but the whole of South Asia (implying India as well), but these claims are difficult to substantiate with the available evidence. Message to India Some argue that India's situation is incomparable to that of Nepal. True, but not entirely. Nepal's Gen Z protests were fuelled by years of malgovernance that had gnawed at the nation to its core, a lack of accountability, corruption and a lack of opportunities for the youth. The frustration had reached a boiling point; the government's decision to ban 26 social media platforms acted as a trigger that unleashed it.

In India, the NEET paper leaks and controversial remarks by a Supreme Court judge appear to have worked as a catalyst in uniting the youth in protest. In India, the restraint shown by the youth helped keep much of the movement peaceful, and the security forces appear to have acted with restraint, although allegations of excessive force have emerged. The resignation of Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, interpreted as a 'victory' by protesters, led the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) to call off the immediate protests, but the possibility of their resumption still remains. Youths in India and Nepal have common aspirations: They want jobs, they want transparency, accountable government, corruption-free governance, they want to be heard, they want results, and they want the government to safeguard their future in their own homes. When their expectations are not met, when they feel that the government is treating them unfairly, when corruption, or the perception of corruption, becomes rampant, they can resort to protests and demonstrations. Needless to say, Nepal and India differ significantly in size, economic structures and political dynamics. Yet the dynamics of youth movements and the government response offer valuable lessons for each other. First, when the youth rise and speak out, the government must listen before anger becomes rage. Undermining their voices and denigrating them can be costly. On their part, the youth need to be cognisant that governance is about process, the government has limitations, and it is not always possible to address all of their demands. Maturity, tolerance, reason and the ability to listen to the other side are the hallmarks of leadership. Second, institutions and the way they function can be flawed. But they need reform.

I WANT EVERYTHING IN THE VILLAGE, BUT I DON'T WANT THE VILLAGE

-Dr. Priyanka Saurabh

"We want everything from the village, but not the village itself." This isn't a simple statement, but rather a fitting depiction of the changing mindset of modern Indian society. We talk about pure village milk, praise desi ghee, are willing to pay more to buy organic grains, consider village fruits and vegetables the foundation of health, and identify village culture, folk songs, folk dances, and traditional life as our identity. But when it comes to living in the village itself, most people want to distance themselves from it. This contradiction is not just a question of lifestyle, but also of our concept of development. For centuries, India has been called a country of villages. Even today, a large population lives in rural areas. Our economy is founded on agriculture, and agriculture is impossible without villages. Yet, ironically, while village products are respected, villages themselves suffer neglect. We seek to take everything from villages, yet we fall short in providing them with the respect, facilities, and opportunities they deserve. Today, there's a huge market for "organic" in cities. Village wheat, millet, mustard oil, local pulses, and fresh vegetables sell at high prices. People consider village honey, local jaggery, and coarse grains to be healthy. But the lives of the farmers who produce these products are often filled with struggles. The children of the same farmers whose hard work fills the plates of urban residents are forced to migrate to cities for better

education and healthcare. Rural life's greatest asset has been its social connections. The entire village stood together as one family, through joys and sorrows. Weddings, festivals, harvests, or times of crisis—every occasion symbolized togetherness. Today, in urban life, people seek this same sense of belonging. People living in large apartments don't even know their neighbors. Meanwhile, the village square, the shade of the peepal tree, and group conversations are slowly fading into memory. We praise that intimacy, but do nothing to preserve it. The search for education and employment has accelerated the migration of youth from villages. This migration is not only economic but also cultural. Educated youth consider settling in cities a success. Returning to villages is seen as a symbol of backwardness. As a result, more elderly people, women, and children remain in villages, while the energy of young people is being expended in cities. If quality education, modern healthcare, industry, and respectable employment were available in villages, a large number of people would choose to remain in their villages. It's also true that villages face many challenges. Lack of basic amenities like education, health, transportation, internet, drinking water, sanitation, and employment is still evident in many areas. Problems like social evils, caste discrimination, and conservatism also persist. It's important to acknowledge these shortcomings, but the solution lies not in fleeing villages, but in improving them.

Today, when the entire world is grappling with an environmental crisis, the importance of villages increases even more. Clean air, open fields, trees, water sources, and a life in harmony with nature are the hallmarks of villages. In cities, people seek to experience nature by building artificial parks, whereas in villages, nature is a natural part of life. If we expand cities without preserving villages, future generations will only see natural life in books and pictures. The COVID-19 pandemic also reminded us of the importance of villages. When economic activity in cities ground to a halt, millions of people returned to their villages. Villages provided them with shelter, food, and the opportunity to rebuild their lives. It became clear then that villages are not just geographical entities, but also society's strongest security system in times of crisis. Today, the need is not just to create rural development plans, but to change the mindset of development. The need is not to turn villages into cities, but to integrate them with modern amenities while retaining their unique characteristics. Good roads, quality schools, digital connectivity, modern hospitals, agriculture-based industries, skill development, and local employment—these are the true foundations of rural development. If opportunities exist in villages, migration will naturally decrease. We must also inculcate respect for villages in our education system. Children must understand that farming is not just a profession, but the foundation of the

nation's food security. Farmers are not only food providers but also environmental protectors. Villages are not just places to live, but the very source of our civilization and culture. The media and entertainment industry also play a significant role in this. Villages are often portrayed as either extremely backward or merely romanticized. The real village is different from both these images. It offers struggles and possibilities; it also offers tradition and the desire for change. Only a balanced portrayal can foster a positive perspective in society. The government, society, and the private sector must work together to strengthen the rural economy. Villages can become self-reliant by promoting agriculture, animal husbandry, beekeeping, fisheries, cottage industries, rural tourism, and handicrafts. Digital technology and e-commerce can help rural products reach consumers directly. This will increase the income of farmers and rural entrepreneurs and create new employment opportunities in villages. A village is defined not only by its farms but also by its culture. Respect for elders, collectivism, cooperation, sensitivity to nature, and simplicity—these values remain the village's greatest strengths even today. Modernity doesn't mean abandoning these values, but rather advancing them in step with the times. If we lose these values in the race for development, even economic prosperity will fail to bring us mental satisfaction. Society must recognize that cities and villages are not competitors, but complementary.

Parliamentary Deadlock and Democracy: When Will the Culture of Dialogue Return?

Saurabh Varshney

The greatest strength of Indian democracy lies in its Parliament. Parliament is not merely a platform for enacting laws; it is the supreme democratic institution that shapes the aspirations and problems of the people and determines the nation's future direction. Here, both the ruling party and the opposition sit as representatives of the people. The ruling party arrives with a mandate to govern, while the opposition fulfills the constitutional responsibility of reviewing government policies, offering criticism, and suggesting necessary reforms. Democracy is strengthened when Parliament functions smoothly; conversely, when it falls prey to persistent deadlock, not only is the House's time wasted, but public trust also begins to erode. In recent years, deadlocks over various issues have been witnessed in almost every parliamentary session. At times, the opposition demands a discussion on a specific subject, while at other times, the government accuses the opposition of preventing the House from functioning. The consequences include the adjournment of Question Hour, the passing of bills without comprehensive debate, and the wastage of crores of rupees worth of public time and resources. While differences of opinion are natural in a democracy, the very soul of democracy is wounded when these differences transform into confrontation rather than dialogue. Uproar in Parliament is nothing new. Indian parliamentary history has witnessed heated debates, protests, and disruptions to proceedings on numerous

occasions. However, the past also saw extensive and serious deliberations. The opposition would hold the government accountable, the government would respond, and ultimately, the facts would be laid before the public. Today, the situation is such that slogan-shouting has replaced debate, and political strategy has supplanted dialogue. This undermines the dignity of Parliament. The role of the opposition is of paramount importance in a democracy. The opposition exists not merely to oppose the government but to present alternative perspectives. It is the opposition's duty to check the government if it makes a flawed decision, to raise public grievances in the House, and to ensure accountability. Conversely, the government has a responsibility to listen to the opposition, facilitate discussions on critical issues, and proceed by taking Parliament into confidence. If both sides fail to balance their respective responsibilities, democracy is weakened. Today, numerous significant subjects await discussion in Parliament. Issues such as unemployment, inflation, farmers' concerns, education, healthcare, national security, border disputes, digital crime, environmental conservation, judicial reforms, the challenges of artificial intelligence, and economic inequality demand comprehensive debate. Unfortunately, one often witnesses more political recrimination than serious deliberation on these matters. The public sends representatives to Parliament not to shout slogans, but to find solutions. Respecting parliamentary traditions is a prerequisite for a robust democracy.

Millions of people watch the live broadcast of parliamentary proceedings. The younger generation learns from their representatives how dissent is expressed within a democracy. If the scene in Parliament is one of constant uproar, slogan-shouting, and disorder, the culture of dialogue in society also weakens. Democracy signifies not just majority rule, but also respect for dissent. A serious question also arises: who pays the price for the repeated wastage of Parliament's precious time? Running Parliament costs crores of rupees daily; this money comes from the hard-earned income of taxpayers. When House proceedings are adjourned without any meaningful discussion, it results not only in financial loss but also in a loss of democratic accountability. The public expects its representatives to utilize every minute in the public interest. Adequate discussion on bills is a fundamental requirement of democracy. Any law impacts society for years to come. If bills are passed without sufficient debate, numerous practical difficulties may arise in the future. The more transparent and well-considered the law-making process, the more effective and acceptable the laws will be. Therefore, the government should allow the opposition ample time to discuss important bills, and the opposition, in turn, should participate in the debate by offering constructive suggestions. The role of the media is also crucial in this context. If the media prioritizes political confrontation while failing to give adequate coverage to serious parliamentary debates, political parties will also prioritize headline-grab-

bing politics. In a democracy, the media's responsibility extends beyond merely highlighting controversies; it also involves fostering meaningful discourse on policies, laws, and issues of public interest. Political polarization is another reason for the deadlock in Parliament. Today, ideological differences between political parties appear to have transcended reasonable limits, evolving into personal and entrenched animosity. While electoral competition is essential in a democracy, national interest must take precedence over elections are over. In Parliament, the ruling party and the opposition may be rivals, but they are not enemies. If the sentiment of "country first, politics later" takes root, solutions to many problems will emerge naturally. India is the world's largest democracy. Many developing nations regard India's parliamentary system as a model. Consequently, the conduct of our Parliament sends a message not only to the nation but to the global community as well. If Parliament becomes synonymous with constant deadlock, it will tarnish India's democratic image. Therefore, every Member of Parliament bears the responsibility of rising above personal and partisan interests to fulfill their national obligations. To make Parliament more effective, certain practical reforms should also be considered. Regular all-party meetings should be held, efforts should be made to build consensus on contentious issues beforehand, parliamentary committees should be further empowered, and the dignity of Question Hour and Zero Hour must be upheld under all circumstances.



Technology is helping ICICI Prudential Life bring down its savings cost-to-premium ratio

Mumbai, 06 August 2026: ICICI Prudential Life Insurance's sustained investment in technology and automation along with other cost optimisation initiatives has played a central role in bringing down its cost-to-premium ratio for the savings line of business to 13.6% in Q1-FY2027. It has reduced by 50 basis point over the previous year, even as the Company continues to scale its business. Commenting on this, Mr. Ganessan Soundiram, Chief Technology Officer, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance, said, "At ICICI Prudential Life Insurance, our investments in bolstering the Company's digital infrastructure have not only empowered our customers but also enabled us to deliver an enhanced customer experience across their policy life cycle. We are leveraging AI, analytics and platforms such as ICICI Pru Partner Stack, IPRU Edge, etc. to strengthen customer acquisition, distributor effectiveness, servicing and operational efficiency.



When we built our technology stack, the goal was never automation for its own sake. It was about taking out the friction and the cost that come from manual processes, so that savings get passed on more efficiently and customers get a faster, simpler experience. That same thinking is now helping us to improve operational efficiency." Much of this efficiency has come from rethinking how a policy moves from application to issuance. Around 58% of policies issued using digital KYC and close to 54% of savings policies were issued on the same day in Q1-FY2027. The Company enables quick claim assistance through end-to-end digital claim registration, supported by real-time tracking via chat-

bot Ask Khushmani, WhatsApp, and AI-driven pre-claim assessment and processing. AI-based models that support underwriting decisions are also used to predict policy persistency and assess claims, contributing to an industry leading claim settlement ratio of 99.3% with an average turnaround of just 1 day for non-investigated individual claims in Q1-FY2027. A large share of day-to-day servicing is handled through Ask Khushmani, the Company's AI-based chatbot, while renewal reminders are increasingly delivered through a multilingual voice assistant capable of reaching up to 50,000 customers an hour, one of the few such deployments in Indian insurance.

STOCK MARKETS EDGED HIGHER AMID LOWER CRUDE OIL PRICES



Mumbai: Stock market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty edged higher in opening trade on Thursday, August 6, amid lower crude oil prices and buying in Reliance Industries. The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 201.43 points to 78,782.43 in opening trade. The 50-share NSE Nifty was marginally up 16.35 points to 24,641. Benchmark indices have been facing divergence since Monday after stock exchanges introduced a new auction mechanism for shares having futures and options (F&O) contracts. The Closing Auction Session (CAS) in the equity cash segment became operational on Monday, introducing a new auction-based mechanism for determining the closing prices of eligible stocks in a move aimed at making the price discovery process more transparent and robust. From the Sensex pack, Titan, Reliance Industries, Eternal,

Bharat Electronics, State Bank of India and Asian Paints were among the major winners. Power Grid, Trent, Mahindra & Mahindra and Axis Bank were among the laggards. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, traded 0.13 per cent lower at USD 79.35 per barrel. The Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday maintained a status quo on its benchmark policy rate for the fourth consecutive meeting and retained the stance as "neutral", with Governor Sanjay Malhotra saying the next move of the central bank on interest rates, as well as policy stance, will be data dependent. The six-member Monetary Policy Committee unanimously voted to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 5.25 per cent, and opted to wait for more clarity on whether higher energy costs in the wake of the West Asia crisis feed into broader inflationary pressures.

CFA Institute Hosts its First Finance Industry Network Roundtable in Hyderabad to Strengthen Academia- Industry Collaboration

Hyderabad, 06 August 2026: CFA Institute, the global association of investment professionals, recently hosted its first Finance Industry Network (FIN) Roundtable in Hyderabad, bringing together academic leaders and finance educators from leading universities across the city to discuss strengthening alignment between finance education and the evolving needs of the global investment profession. The FIN Roundtable served as an orientation-cum-discussion session designed to introduce CFA Institute's university engagement initiatives, facilitate the exchange of perspectives on finance education, and explore opportunities to strengthen collaboration between academia and industry. The session provided an overview of the CFA Program®, its globally recognised, practitioner-driven curriculum, and its relevance for undergraduate and postgraduate finance education. Discussions also highlighted CFA Institute's broader portfolio of learning pathways and initiatives that



support students and educators in developing industry-relevant knowledge, ethical decision-making capabilities, and practical skills for careers in finance. Speaking at the roundtable, Saim Fakih, Manager, University Relations-India, CFA Institute, said: "The Hyderabad FIN Roundtable marked an important milestone in our efforts to deepen engagement with academic institutions across India. The discussions highlighted the shared commitment of educators and industry stakeholders to preparing students for an

increasingly dynamic and global financial ecosystem. A notable theme that emerged from the discussions was the growing number of students securing placements in Global Capability Centers (GCCs), reflecting Hyderabad's emergence as a major hub for the financial services. With several multinational organizations establishing and expanding their presence in the city, Hyderabad appears well positioned for continued growth and offers a promising future for aspiring finance professionals." The roundtable brought together represen-

tatives from leading institutions across Hyderabad, including IMT Hyderabad, Woxsen University, NMIMS Hyderabad, GITAM University, University of Hyderabad, and St. Joseph's Degree & PG College, among others. Deepak Singh Parihar, Professor of Practice at Woxsen University commented: "It was great joining the FIN Roundtable by CFA Institute along with academicians from other institutions - we talked about how we can make students more industry ready and how the CFA Program fits into their journey.

RANGE ROVER SV ULTRA: THE ULTIMATE EXPRESSION OF RANGE ROVER LUXURY IN INDIA

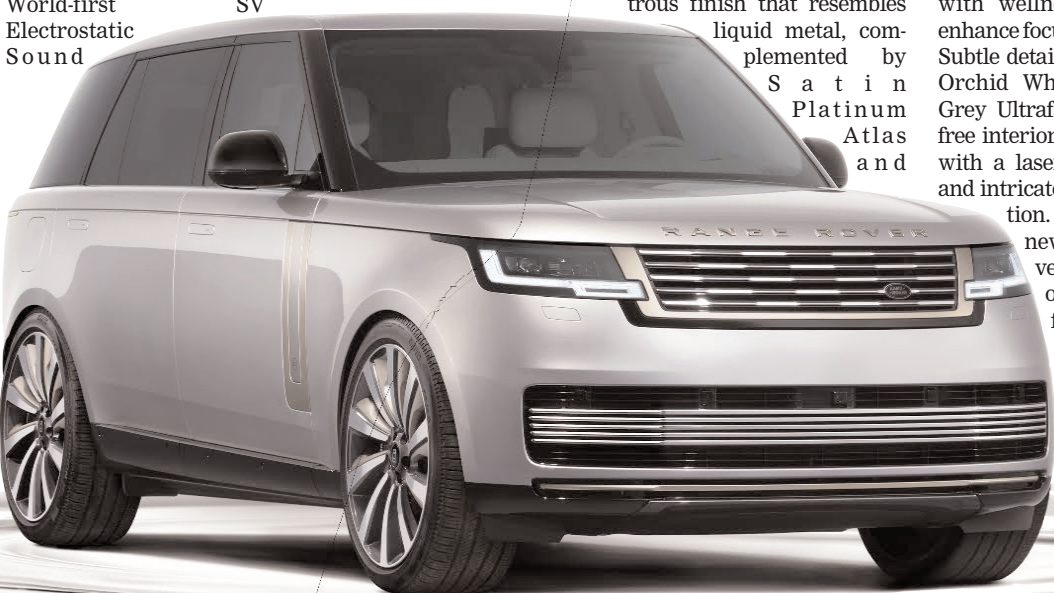
Ultra exclusive: Range Rover SV Ultra is the most exquisite interpretation of Range Rover luxury and distinction, with an exclusive exterior and finely crafted interior finishes. Pioneering audio: World-first Electrostatic Sound

debuts on Range Rover SV Ultra, transforming the cabin into a concert hall and placing you at the heart of the performance, and is offered exclusively as an option across all SV

models, including SV Ultra. Lustrous finishes: New and exclusive to SV Ultra, Titan Silver exterior paint features fine aluminium flake and advanced pigment technology for a deep and lustrous finish that resembles liquid metal, complemented by Satin Platinum Atlas and

Silver Chrome accents. Harmonious blend: Complemented by Body and Soul Seats and the world-first Sensory Floor, the cabin becomes an immersive full-body audio environment with wellness modes that enhance focus and relaxation. Subtle details: New duo-tone Orchid White and Cinder Grey Ultrafabrics™ leather-free interior features seating with a laser-crafted pattern and intricate mosaic perforation. It pairs with a new rattan palm veneer in a natural open-pore finish for a subtle, harmonious look. Refined power: Range Rover SV Ultra is now available with 395 kW petrol mild-hybrid V8, with a fully electric version coming

later this year. Find out more at www.rangerover.com. MUMBAI, INDIA – 6 AUGUST 2026: Range Rover introduces Range Rover SV Ultra, the pinnacle of Range Rover luxury and distinction. Combining elevated finishes with world-first audio technology, SV Ultra is the most luxurious and technologically advanced Range Rover ever created. The array of immersive audio technologies in Range Rover SV Ultra now includes revolutionary SV Electrostatic Sound, which turns the cabin into a concert hall, alongside Body and Soul Seats (BASS) and Sensory Haptic Floor. SV Electrostatic Sound is the world's first application of electrostatic audio technology in a vehicle. The Electrostatic Sound system features 21 lightweight thin-film transducers to create a personal auditorium for each seat.



Union MoS Sushree Shobha Karandlaje Unveils India SME Forum's Largest-Ever Survey on MSME Digital Procurement; Four in five MSMEs see digital platforms as critical in expanding their business

New Delhi, August 6, 2026: India SME Forum (ISF) today launched the Digital Bharat: India Digital Procurement Report 2026, one of India's most comprehensive studies on MSME procurement behaviour and digital adoption. Covering India's 515.3 lakh Udyam-registered MSMEs, the report was unveiled by Sushree Shobha Karandlaje, Hon'ble Minister of State for MSME and Minister of State for Labour & Employment, during an event in New Delhi attended by MSME industry leaders, entrepreneurs, and other dignitaries including Shri Ateesh Kumar Singh, Additional Secretary, DPIIT and Shri Keshvendra Kumar (IAS), Joint Secretary, Ministry of MSME. The ISF report, developed using the MSME Procurement Economy Model (MPMEM) built on official Udyam Registration data, provides the first comprehensive estimate of India's MSME procurement economy and maps the evolving digital adoption landscape across the sector. Based on one of India's largest MSME procurement surveys, covering enterprises across manufacturing, services and trading sectors, the report estimates that India's MSME procurement economy is valued at INR



124.9 trillion, making it one of the country's largest business expenditure categories. Among the services evaluated, the survey found that Amazon Business emerged as the leader for price transparency, with 37.3% of respondents identifying it as their preferred choice. It also ranked first for supplier quality, with 32.6% of respondents selecting it as the service offering the best supplier network. Moglix emerged as a leader in industrial procurement and embedded finance, reflecting growing

demand for specialised procurement solutions among manufacturing MSMEs. Commenting on the report, Sushree Shobha Karandlaje, Hon'ble Minister of State for MSME and Minister of State for Labour & Employment, said: "India's MSMEs are at the heart of our vision of building a developed and self-reliant economy. As businesses increasingly adopt digital technologies, procurement too must evolve from a routine operational function into a strategic business capability. Digital procure-

ment can help MSMEs improve efficiency, reduce costs, access wider markets and build stronger supply chains, enabling them to compete more effectively in India and globally. My thanks to India SME Forum for crafting the report and curating this event. Congratulations to Amazon Business as they emerge as the preferred partner for MSMEs. I urge them to continue this with even more vigour." Speaking on the findings, Mitranjan Bhaduri, Director, Amazon Business India, said: "This report by India SME Forum provides critical evidence of the untapped potential in India's MSME procurement economy. At Amazon Business, we see our role as an enabler, helping MSMEs access trusted suppliers, transparent pricing and seamless purchasing experiences. The fact that 4 in 5 MSMEs expect digital procurement to drive their growth is a strong signal that the digital shift is transformational. We remain committed to supporting India's MSMEs in their procurement transformation journey by continually investing in selection, services and AI-powered automation & insights to transform Procurement from a cost-center to a competitive advantage."

Bandhan Contra Fund Aims to Tap Opportunities Beyond Market Sentiment



Bangalore, August 06, 2026: Bandhan Mutual Fund today announced the launch of the Bandhan Contra Fund, an open-ended equity scheme following a contrarian investment strategy. The fund seeks to identify fundamentally strong businesses that may be temporarily out of favour due to sector-wide concerns, cyclical challenges, macroeconomic uncertainties or prevailing market sentiment, with the potential for re-rating as perceptions and fundamentals improve over time. The New Fund Offer (NFO) opens on Monday, August 10 and closes on Monday, August 24. Investments in Bandhan Contra Fund can be made through licensed mutual fund distributors,

online platforms and directly at <https://bandhanmutual.com/nfo/bandhan-contra-fund>. Commenting on the launch, Vishal Kapoor, CEO, Bandhan AMC said, "The launch of Bandhan Contra Fund comes at a time when valuation spread across sectors has widened considerably, creating opportunities for selective contrarian investing. Several sectors and companies continue to trade below their long-term potential despite possessing sound business models, improving earnings visibility and strengthening balance sheets. Such sectoral divergence can provide fertile ground for investors seeking opportunities beyond the prevailing market consensus.

Capri Loans Unveils Integrated Brand Campaign Featuring Nayanthara

Launches New Gold Loan Film Reinforcing Trust and Financial Empowerment

Mumbai, 6th August 2026: Capri Global Capital Ltd. (CGCL), one of the leading diversified non-banking financial companies (NBFC) operating under the brand name 'Capri Loans', has launched its latest integrated brand campaign featuring acclaimed actor Nayanthara. Built around the theme of #DreamsGetWings for the Brand film and #TryCapriGoldLoans for the Gold Loan film, the campaign reinforces Capri Loans' commitment to accessible, transparent and customer-centric financial solutions. The brand film celebrates the journey of Nayanthara and the inspiration she draws from the resilience and aspirations of everyday Indians, from farmers and entrepreneurs to artisans and working professionals, as she introduces them to Capri Loans. It positions Capri Loans as a trusted financial partner that empowers customers at every stage of their journey by providing them timely financial support. The Gold Loan film



encourages customers to view gold not just as jewellery but as a valuable financial asset. Through a heartfelt interaction, Nayanthara highlights how Capri Loans enables customers to unlock the value of their gold through a transparent, respectful and secure lending process, offering quick access to funds with dignity, trust and peace of mind. Commenting on the campaign, Mr. Nishant Gehlot, Head - Marketing, Capri Global Capital Limited said, "At Capri Loans, every campaign we create begins with a simple belief that access to the right financial support can

empower people to move forward with confidence. Through our #DreamsGetWings campaign, we wanted to celebrate the aspirations of millions of Indians and position Capri Loans as a trusted partner in helping them achieve those dreams. The Gold Loan film further builds on this thought by encouraging customers to view gold not just as jewellery, but as a valuable financial asset that can provide timely support during life's important moments. With Nayanthara bringing authenticity and warmth to both narratives, we believe these

films will resonate strongly with audiences while reinforcing our promise of trust, respect and customer-first service." The integrated campaign entails a comprehensive multimedia strategy spanning across television, print and digital platforms, supported by social media and prominent on-ground visibility, featuring Nayanthara, ensuring a consistent brand experience across all customer touchpoints. Through meaningful storytelling and practical financial solutions, the campaign aims to strengthen Capri Loans' presence across Southern India, deepen emotional connections with customers, and inspire them to pursue their aspirations with the confidence of having a trusted financial partner by their side. With this campaign, Capri Loans further reinforces its position as one of India's fastest-growing retail-focused NBFCs, offering innovative, accessible, transparent and trust-led lending solutions.

After deadly Kyiv strike, Ukraine warns interceptor shortage is costing lives



At the Kvitneva railway station near Kyiv, workers lift white body bags from the pockmarked platform and carry them to waiting ambulances. Shoes, glasses and some pieces of clothing mark the spot where eight people were killed during Russia's latest massive aerial attack on Ukraine. Overnight, Moscow fired 115 drones and 24 ballistic missiles. Most of the drones were shot down, but Kyiv's depleted air defences did not intercept any of the missiles. Twenty-one people were killed and dozens more were injured. The latest Russian barrage destroyed storage and logistics facilities - from online retailer warehouses to a postal sorting centre. In Kvitneva, it is not clear if the target was the railway itself or the warehouse beside it, which was also hit and was still smouldering hours later. Down the road, another warehouse was still ablaze more than 12 hours after the attack. The attack started just after midnight, with very little warning. It was one of the most intense nights of bombardment

Kyiv has endured in recent months. Nearby, Anastasiia Dudley's house was almost totally destroyed but she and her mother survived - shaken but unharmed. Anastasiia has lived through years of war - but Wednesday was her "scariest night" since the start of Russia's full-scale war on Ukraine in February 2022, she says. She looks up at the precariously leaning walls of her house, which she says was hit by a drone a few hours before missiles struck the warehouse and the station nearby. "You see two floors - the first and the second, but it was a three-floor house with a roof," she says. The building's top floor has been sliced off. "So no roof, no third floor, and extensive damage on the second floor. It's pretty unstable". Ukrainians have lived through four-and-a-half years of war, but now air defences are increasingly vulnerable, resulting in dozens of deaths at a time. For years, Ukraine has relied on US supplies of Patriot interceptor missiles to shoot down Russian ballistic missiles.



■ Huge smoke plume over Russian city as Ukraine hits two oil refineries in long-range attacks

Iran says deal with Oman on Strait of Hormuz is in final stages

Iran says it has reached an agreement with Oman on a route for shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. Foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei did not give any further details on the agreement, which he said was "in the final stages". Baqaei warned, however, that a deal with Oman would not guarantee safe navigation through the strait, arguing security remained impacted by the US blockade of Iran's ports. The US and Oman have not commented on the proposal. Since the US and Israel attacked Iran in February, Tehran has largely blocked the Strait of Hormuz through which about a fifth of the world's oil and liquefied natural gas usually passes. On Tuesday, US President Donald Trump



warned that Iran would be "hit very hard" if the strait did not open "very soon". His comments came after senior US officials said talks had progressed to allow shipments to potentially resume later this week, though Iran has maintained that it is not negotiating with the US and has no plans to do so. In his statement, the Iranian foreign ministry spokesman

said the "geographical coordinates of the route" had been agreed with Oman. "The factors making the Strait of Hormuz insecure still exist on the part of the United States, particularly the naval blockade and other aggressive and threatening actions against Iran and its interests," he said, according to Iran's official Irna news agency. Iran's Deputy

Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi later told Irna the new route would be temporary and could stay open from two to four months. He did not give further details. Oil prices edged lower on Thursday, with global benchmark Brent crude down by 0.3% at \$79.24 (£58.84) in morning Asian trade. Energy prices have fluctuated wildly during the conflict as shipments through the key route for around 20% of the world's oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) have been severely disrupted. Since the beginning of the war, traffic through the strait has dwindled. Iran has said all passage needs to be cleared beforehand - and it has attacked vessels which have ignored the order.

Senate committee votes to hold Dr. Anthony Fauci in contempt of Congress



Ahead of today's vote, Rand Paul had vowed to send the committee's recommendation straight to the Justice Department, bypassing a full Senate vote in a move that's likely to set up a high-stakes legal and political test for the Trump administration. He had conceded that there is little precedent for bypassing a full Senate vote before asking the Justice Department to bring contempt charges — a decision that could pose a hurdle for any resulting attempt at prosecution. "There is not a lot of precedent for a lot of this, but it isn't law so there isn't any exact procedure that it has to follow," Paul told CNN on Tuesday. "It's a referral, it's a recommendation." Vice President JD Vance will now need to sign off on the committee's circumvention of long-established rules due to his constitutional role as president of the Senate. Then it would be up to the Justice Department to decide whether to bring formal charges. Even then, legal experts cautioned, there's little guarantee that the contempt charges would succeed, instead likely kicking off a lengthy court battle over the limits of Fauci's Fifth Amendment rights. The Senate committee vote today has only drawn a handful of public attendees, a far sparser crowd than those who packed into the room for Fauci's testimony last week. The committee began debate Thursday morning before roughly two-dozen people who quietly observed Democrats' efforts to table the contempt vote and Chairman Rand Paul's rejections of their arguments.

ing a fiery hearing last week, infuriating Republicans on the panel. They have since argued that his decision opened the door to federal contempt charges — a crime that, if convicted, can carry with it a sentence of up to a year in prison. Republican chairman Rand Paul has said he will send the committee's recommendation straight to the Justice Department, bypassing a full Senate vote in a break with precedent that's likely to set up a high-stakes legal and political test for the Trump administration. Vice President JD Vance will now first need to sign off on the committee's circumvention of long-established rules due to his constitutional role as president of the Senate. Then it would be up to the Justice Department to decide whether to bring formal charges. Even then, legal experts cautioned, there's little guarantee that the contempt charges would succeed, instead likely kicking off a lengthy court battle over the limits of Fauci's Fifth Amendment rights. The Senate committee vote today has only drawn a handful of public attendees, a far sparser crowd than those who packed into the room for Fauci's testimony last week. The committee began debate Thursday morning before roughly two-dozen people who quietly observed Democrats' efforts to table the contempt vote and Chairman Rand Paul's rejections of their arguments.

Hosa Opens at The Loft, Hyderabad

Hyderabad, August 6, 2026: After Hosa's resounding success in Goa and Gurugram, EHV International, the company behind award-winning restaurants including Indian Accent, Comorin, Fireback, Barback, Chor Bizarre and Drift, is delighted to announce the launch of Hosa Hyderabad at The Loft, RMZ Nexity. Hosa, which means 'new' in Kannada, explores South Indian cuisine beyond the familiar, with dishes that straddle the five southern-most states of India spotlighting coastal and regional flavours, accompanied by tropical-inspired cocktails and an extensive wine list. The Hosa Filter Coffee Club, a curated coffee experience which runs in the afternoon between lunch and dinner hours, also comes to Hosa Hyderabad following its much-loved editions in Goa and Gurugram. Under the leadership of Brand Chef, Harish Rao, the menu explores regional traditions across the South, through refined techniques, seasonal ingredients, and contemporary presentation while preserving the soul of every dish. The Hosa menu goes way



beyond the familiar, offering bold and indulgent flavours including small plates like Shimeji Mushroom Varuval and Roti Canai, Pesto Curry Leaf Snapper Ceviche, and Kari Dosa with a Bone Marrow Hollandaise. Larger plates, such as the Aubergine Steak, bring depth and richness to the table. Cocktails borrow from tiki and modern traditions, with a creative edge and house-made infusions, while an extensive wine list completes a beverage programme designed to complement the food. The Hyderabad menu introduces a number of exclusive creations, inspired by Andhra and Telengana's rich culinary diversity, while contin-

uing to feature several of Hosa's most celebrated signature offerings. Among the new highlights are several vegetarian options including Jackfruit Iguru, Aubergine Steak, and Okra Butter Bean Curry. Non-vegetarian specialties include Paper Fish Curry, wrapped and served with a vibrant Pulusu; Rayalaseema Brain Fry, Garelu Chicken Curry and the indulgent Kapi Tres Leches, our innovative South Indian twist on the Italian classic. "At Hosa, it is all about honest South Indian cooking that is plated well and deserves to be experienced in all its complexity and diversity" says Brand Chef Harish Rao. "For

Hyderabad, we've created a special menu that celebrates regional traditions while introducing flavours and techniques that feel fresh and unexpected. Every dish holds the memories and stories of a place, while remaining unmistakably Hosa." Complementing the menu is an equally thoughtful beverage programme crafted by EHV International's Head of Bars, Varun Sharma. Inspired by the flavours and ingredients of South India, the cocktail menu looks at regional favourites, featuring house-made cordials, shrubs and tinctures alongside ingredients such as kokum, nannari, curry leaf, banana leaf, jaggery, coconut, Guntur chilli and filter coffee. Highlights include the sparkling Hosa 75, the refreshing Rum Kokum Cola, the aromatic Panakam, the bold Black Pepper Penicillin, the coffee-forward Kaapi Time, and signatures such as Soul Kadhi and Chica Bonita. Designed to pair seamlessly with Hosa's South Indian cuisine, the cocktail programme is vibrant, layered and deeply rooted in the flavours of the region.

SONS OF JAILED PAKISTANI LEADER IMRAN KHAN FEAR FOR HIS HEALTH



London and Islamabad — The sons of the imprisoned former leader of Pakistan Imran Khan say they fear for their father's health, claiming authorities in the South Asian country are preventing them from seeing him. On the third anniversary of their father's arrest, Kasim and Sulaiman Isa Khan said they had "no updates because his family, doctors (and) lawyers haven't been allowed to see him for seven months." Thousands of workers from Khan's Tehreek-e-Insaf party took to the streets in rallies across the country on Wednesday to demand the release of the former star cricketer-turned-politician

and his wife Bushra Bibi. Khan, who led the country from 2018 until his ouster in a parliamentary no-confidence vote in 2022, has been in prison since his conviction a year later on charges including corruption and revealing state secrets - charges he and his supporters say are a politically motivated response to his opposition to the current government of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. Following his ouster, Khan had led large rallies against Sharif's government, which he accused of orchestrating his downfall in collusion with the military and the United States (a claim denied by both the military and the US).



Nigerian security forces rescue more than 300 abductees

FUNERAL OF IRISH ACTRESS BRENDA FRICKER TAKES PLACE IN DUBLIN

Oscar winning actress Brenda Fricker "brought out the best in people" and "shot from the hip", her funeral in Dublin has heard. Fricker, who died last month, won the Oscar for best supporting actress in 1990 for playing Daniel Day-Lewis's on-screen mother in My Left Foot. She was the first Irish woman to win an Academy Award, beating Hollywood stars including Julia Roberts and Anjelica Huston. The funeral mass took place in St Catherine's Church on Meath Street at 11:00 local time and was followed by a private burial. The 81-year-old was also well known for playing nurse Megan Roach in the BBC's Casualty from 1986, making her final appearance in 2010; and was the Central Park pigeon



lady in 1992's Home Alone sequel. Crowds of locals gathered outside on the street and clapped as her hearse made its way down the road and into the church. Monsignor Eoin Thynne said Fricker was a "Liberty belle at heart", referring to the place in Dublin where the actress lived. "Brenda wanted this day to be simple and dignified. No grand display, just

those she loved gathered together. "She won the highest honour in her profession - an Academy Award. "What really mattered to her was not the trophy, not the applause or recognition, what mattered to her most of all was bringing out the best in people. That was Brenda's greatest gift, to see the light in others and help to make it shine brightly," he said. Among the mourn-

ers who attended the ceremony at St Catherine's Church on Thursday were Irish actor Brendan Gleeson, who starred along side Fricker in the 1990 film The Field. Musician Frankie Gavin and TV presenter Ray D'Arcy were also among the congregation. "Brenda wanted this day to be simple and dignified. No grand display, just those she loved gathered together. "She won the highest honour in her profession - an Academy Award. "What really mattered to her was not the trophy, not the applause or recognition, what mattered to her most of all was bringing out the best in people. That was Brenda's greatest gift, to see the light in others and help to make it shine brightly," he said.

CWG JUDO GOLD-WINNER ASMITA DEY FACES UTTAR PRADESH REWARD ELIGIBILITY QUESTION

India's Asmita Dey etched her name in the history books by winning the country's first-ever judo gold at the Commonwealth Games. She produced a spirited comeback to clinch the top honours in the women's 48kg final, defeating Canada's Heidi Quach in a dramatic Golden Score contest in Glasgow. The 23-year-old from Tripura found herself on the back foot early in the final after conceding a yuko and then receiving a penalty, allowing Quach to take control of the bout. However, Asmita responded brilliantly, attacking with greater intent and levelling the scores at 1-1 shortly after the midway stage of the four-minute contest. Neither judoka could find the decisive score during regulation time despite a series of intense exchanges, forcing the match into the Golden Score period, where the first



scoring action determines the winner. Maintaining her composure under pressure, Asmita launched a decisive attack in sudden-death overtime and earned another yuko to seal a memorable victory and hand India the gold medal. The triumph capped an impressive campaign for the young judoka, who showed remarkable resilience to recover from an early deficit and outfight her Canadian opponent in a gripping final. Days after her

victory, the Indian judoka finds herself in a bit of controversy over her eligibility for Uttar Pradesh's state athlete benefits. It is worth noting that Asmita, who hails from Tripura, represents Uttar Pradesh in judo events. So, is she eligible for UP's state rewards according to the August 2024 order? If Asmita gets a green signal, she will receive a massive sum of Rs 1.5 crore for her achievement at the Games in Glasgow.

BCCI Questions Team India Physio Over 'Dip In Fitness Standards': Report



The medical team at the Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Bengaluru is looking to restructure its fitness programme amid injury concerns of players in the Indian cricket team, according to a report by Times Of India. The report claimed that the CoE is working on a standardised base fitness parameter for all cricketers instead of customised tests. Since Adrian Leroux took over as the strength and conditioning coach, it was decided that the Bronco test would be the primary test to judge fitness

instead of Yo-Yo test. Now, the BCCI medical team has reportedly decided on 5.15-5.20 minutes as a 'base figure to complete the assorted drills to be declared fit'. The CoE has also set 9-10 minute mark to complete the 2 km running test. "The Indian players are not used to the Bronco test. Over the last year, the CoE had set different base parameters for players. It has now emerged that certain senior players were given much comfortable targets to meet to clear fitness tests.

Banned from football at home, Afghan women's team reunite 8,000 miles away

The changing room is busy with footballers going through their pre-match routines. Some stretch and tighten their boots, others embrace. "Be strong as always because we are representing Afghan women," says midfielder Fatima Haidari to fellow members of Afghan Women United. Applause erupts in the room where an Afghan flag hangs and a patriotic song is played. As the women sing along some struggle to hold back tears. There's a final team huddle with words of encouragement from their coach before they head out to the pitch – a place that for years they had been told they did not belong. The 23-player squad, selected from Afghan players now living abroad, has travelled to New Zealand for a training camp and to play two unofficial friendly games against the Cook Islands. This is the first time they have been together since football governing body Fifa ruled in April that they could represent their country in official matches in the future. Previously, they would have needed the approval of the Afghanistan



Football Federation. This was not possible under the Taliban, who returned to power in August 2021, imposing wide-ranging restrictions on women and girls, including barring them from secondary school and university, most professions and organised sport. The country's national women's team, formed in 2007, could no longer play and its members were among those evacuated and resettled in countries including Australia, the UK and Portugal. Years of campaigning led to the creation of a refugee team, which became Afghan Women United. Thanks to Fifa's ruling, it can now try to qualify for international competitions such as the Olympics and World Cup.

Gathered in New Zealand, the squad is excited to be playing together - as asylum seekers living in various countries it has been hard for them to get the travel documents in order to train as a team over the past five years. Sitting in the hotel in Auckland the day before the match, Manozh Noori, who has short hair, wears a T-shirt and knee-length shorts - a look that she says has often drawn criticism from relatives for looking too masculine. As the 23-year-old speaks to BBC Global Women about her family, her voice begins to falter. She pauses, takes a deep breath and looks away for a moment before continuing. There are no tears, but the emotion is clear.

Pakistan Can Hold India To A draw In FIH Men's World Cup Clash On August 19: Chief Selector

Chief selector Samiullah Khan on Thursday said that Pakistan can hold arch-rivals India to a draw in their hockey World Cup clash on August 19, which will be the key for them to get past the first round pool stage in the showpiece in Belgium and the Netherlands. Pakistan on Wednesday announced a 20-member squad for the World Cup (August 15-30) in which the national team is taking part after eight years. "Look, realistically the key is holding India at least to a draw and we have the capacity to beat Wales but our toughest opponent is England who are ranked high while we are placed 12th right now in the FIH rankings," Samiullah, a former Pakistan captain, said on Thursday. Samiullah said that team director and chief coach Herman Kruis will join the squad directly in the Netherlands where he is presently on a pre tournament assignment. Pakistan



Hockey Federation (PHF) has also brought in two foreign coaches, Bob Johan Veldhof and Christopher Bowen to assist Kruis. According to Samiullah, the squad had been chosen jointly by the national selectors and the recently-appointed foreign coaching staff. India is also in Pakistan's group in the World Cup and Samiullah was

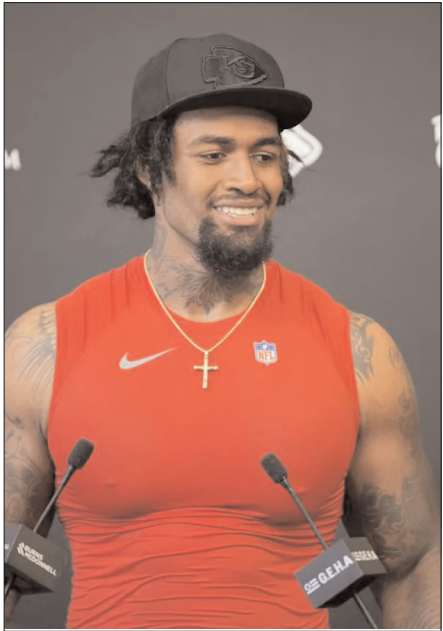
optimistic that the team can hold them to a draw. England and Wales are the other teams in Pool D of the tournament. Pakistan will open their campaign against England at Amstelveen, Netherlands on August 15 Samiullah said that Pakistan's recent performances against South Korea in the ongoing home series, in which they estab-

Highlights

■ Chief selector Samiullah Khan on Thursday said that Pakistan can hold arch-rivals India to a draw in their hockey World Cup clash on August 19, which will be the key for them to get past the first round pool stage in the showpiece in Belgium and the Netherlands.

lished an unassailable 3-0 lead in the four-match Test series, had boosted the team's confidence. Chief selector Samiullah Khan on Thursday said that Pakistan can hold arch-rivals India to a draw in their hockey World Cup clash on August 19, which will be the key for them to get past the first round pool stage.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS' BIGGEST X-FACTOR? WHY JOSH SIMMONS COULD HOLD KEY TO PATRICK MAHOMES' SUCCESS



Josh Simmons did everything the Kansas City Chiefs expected of him when they drafted him in the first round last year. He won the starting job protecting the blind side of Patrick Mahomes in the offseason, and the former Ohio State standout held fast to it throughout training camp. He was a stalwart through the first five weeks of the season, not only living up to the expectations placed upon him but, at least to those watching from afar, exceeding every one of them. Then things went haywire, much as they did for the team as a whole. Simmons was gone for about a month for what the team would only call "personal reasons." When he returned, he managed to play just a few more weeks before a fractured wrist in Week 13 landed him on season-ending injured reserve. Well, the wrist is healed now. The ACL injury that ended his final season with the Buckeyes has long since healed.

Thai Footballer Dies As Lightning Strikes During Match, Tragic Incident Caught On Camera

In a tragic incident on Tuesday, a Thai footballer named Softwan Awa, who was just 24 years old, lost his life after being struck by lightning during a local football match in southern Thailand. Twelve other players were also injured, as the incident left everyone in shock. A video has surfaced on social media showing players playing football amid rain when lightning suddenly struck the pitch, followed by a loud explosion. The players rushed to Awa, who fell to the ground and remained motionless. As per reports, Awa, who was a winger, succumbed to the critical injuries he suffered despite the efforts of emergency medical teams. As per The Independent, the incident occurred during the Golok FA Cup, a local tournament featuring amateur and Thai-Malaysian teams. The match was between Awa's



side, SAMCOLTS, and Abu x Nong Sirin. As the video surfaced on social media, condolences started pouring in from all corners. Meanwhile, some users also questioned the decision to conduct the match under such conditions. "That's devastating. Stopping a match in storm conditions should be automatic protocol everywhere," wrote a user. "This is disastrous and so sad to see. Imagine watching your child play football and this happened. God rest his soul,"

wrote another user. "The league is responsible, they need to take more precautions. RIP to the player who got hit," another comment read. The news outlet also pointed out that deaths due to lightning in Thailand are quote common. Quoting data from the Department of Disease Control, it stated that at least 283 people were struck by lightning across the country between 2020 and 2024, and many of them died on the spot.

Report Says Gianni Infantino Offered 2030 World Cup Final To Morocco Amid Ongoing Row. FIFA Responds



FIFA president Gianni Infantino offered Morocco the chance to host the FIFA World Cup 2030 final in exchange for political backing amid the ongoing controversy, according to a report by The Times. Infantino found himself in the middle of a major controversy after his plans of selling a minority stake in the World Cup to private investors led to massive outrage. The report claimed that Infantino made the offer to Morocco in order to receive public backing from member

associations ahead of next year's FIFA presidential election. Morocco is all set to host the World Cup in 2030 along with Spain and Portugal but the venue for the final has not been decided yet. According to the report, Infantino privately promised the final to Morocco with the under-construction Hassan II Stadium near Casablanca as the chosen venue for the summit clash. However, FIFA has denied the report and said that no such commitment was made to any nation. "It is

false and misleading to claim the FIFA President has made any promise in relation to hosting the FIFA World Cup 2030 final. A decision will be made by FIFA in due course," a FIFA spokesperson said. FIFA said on Wednesday that it had apologised for errors made over Gianni Infantino's failed plan to sell stakes in the World Cup and that senior staff in attendance at a crisis meeting in Morocco "reaffirmed their full support" for his presidency.

World football's governing body attempted to present a unified front amid the turbulence caused by Infantino's controversial plans, with calls for him to step down. In a statement, FIFA said Secretary-General Mattias Grafstrom and members of the management board in attendance in Rabat had given their support to the embattled president.

ALEXANDER ZVEREV, FELIX AUGER-ALIASSIME AND DANIIL MEDVEDEV EXIT MONTREAL MASTERS



The ATP Montreal Masters lost its top two seeds in the space of a few hours on Wednesday as Germany's Alexander Zverev and Canadian Felix Auger-Aliassime both exited the field. Top seed and world number three Zverev, this year's French Open champion and Wimbledon runner-up, was toppled by Dutchman Tallon Griekspoor, who rallied for a 6-7 (3/7), 6-2, 6-4 second-round upset. "I didn't expect to play well," Zverev said. "I also didn't expect to play this bad, to be honest." Montreal native Auger-Aliassime had to withdraw before his scheduled night match after injuring his back during training on Monday. "It was quite sudden. I was training here for two weeks and I had zero problems," Auger-Aliassime said. "Just the timing is tough. I thought that day by day things would get better, but I tried to go on court today, I tried to warm up, and then I basically couldn't serve really, so it was impossible for me

to think about even competing." Joining his fellow elites on the sidelines was fourth seed Daniil Medvedev, the 2021 champion, who went out 6-3, 7-6 (7/5) to Botić Van de Zandschulp, another Dutch spoiler. Medvedev missed out on achieving his 100th career victory at the Masters level as he lost in his Canada opener, weighed down by 40 unforced errors. Tournament officials already were fuming at an event in which world number one Jannik Sinner and Novak Djokovic were both high-profile absentees even before the start. "I'm not going to lie, we were hoping that Felix was going to win at least a few matches," tournament director Valerie Tetreault said. "He's definitely the player everybody was talking about and people wanted to know when he was going to play." Zverev was competing for the first time since his Wimbledon final loss to Sinner and began to fade in the second set against world number 69 Griekspoor.

LIONEL MESSI SCORES 2 GOALS, PROVIDES ASSIST FOR INTER MIAMI TO LEAVE FANS BUZZING



Lionel Messi scored his first two goals since the World Cup and took the career scoring lead in the Leagues Cup as Inter Miami overcame an early deficit to beat Atletico San Luis 4-2 on a rainy Wednesday night. The match at Nu Stadium was delayed 30 minutes in the second half because of lightning in the area. Messi scored in the 11th and the 44th minutes. He has 14 goals in 12 Leagues Cup matches — one ahead of Los Angeles FC's Denis Bouanga for most in the tournament's four-year history. Telasco Segovia and defender Micael

also scored, and Noah Allen had three assists as Inter Miami extended its unbeaten streak to eight matches. Messi returned to Miami's starting lineup in his second match since the World Cup, where he led Argentina to its second straight final appearance before La Albiceleste lost 1-0 to Spain. The 39-year-old played 37 minutes as a substitute in a 2-2 draw with the Columbus Crew on Saturday. After being held off the scoresheet against Columbus, it didn't take Messi long to make an impact on Wednesday. He

fired a long cross from Allen past Andres Sanchez to equalize after David Rodriguez put San Luis ahead with a header four minutes into the match. Messi finished from close range later in the first half and assisted on Micael's header in stoppage time. Rafa Llorente also scored for San Luis. Messi led Miami to the Leagues Cup title in 2023 shortly after his arrival with the club. Inter Miami reached the final again last year, losing 3-0 to Seattle in a match that ended with a brawl involving Luis Suarez.

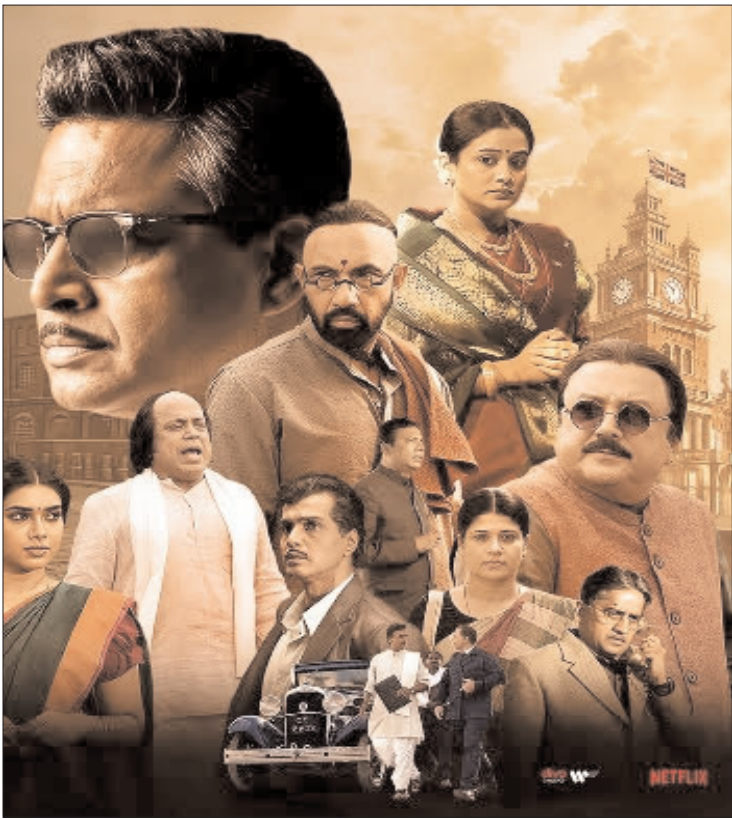
The veteran forward appeared to spit toward a member of the Sounders' staff and grabbed at least one Seattle player by the neck during the melee, resulting in a six-match tournament suspension. That means Suarez, who has seven goals in the past four matches, was not available Wednesday and will not play in this year's tournament. Lionel Messi scored his first two goals since the World Cup and took the career scoring lead in the Leagues Cup as Inter Miami overcame an early deficit to beat Atletico San Luis 4-2.

Versatile Actor R. Madhavan's 'G.D. Naidu' Set for a Grand Theatrical Release on August 7

Versatile actor R. Madhavan, known for consistently choosing unique and meaningful subjects, stars in the biographical drama 'G.D. Naidu' (GDN), directed by actor-filmmaker Krishnakumar Ramakumar. The film is based on the inspiring life of legendary Indian scientist and inventor Gopalswamy Doraiswamy Naidu (G.D. Naidu), who was widely celebrated as the "Edison of India," "Miracle Man," and the "Wealth Creator of Coimbatore." The film is produced by Vijay Moolan. R. Madhavan portrays the iconic G.D. Naidu, bringing to life the extraordinary journey, brilliance, and relentless spirit of one

of India's greatest innovators. The film also features Sathyaraj, Jayaram, Priyamani, Dushara Vijayan, and Vinay Rai in pivotal roles. G.D. Naidu is all set for a worldwide theatrical release on August 7. After winning widespread acclaim for portraying Nambi Narayanan in the biopic Rocketry: The Nambi Effect, Madhavan has once again undergone a remarkable transformation for this film. His impressive makeover, diverse looks, authentic period setting, and the film's grand production values have significantly raised expectations. Govind Vasantha's powerful background score further ele

vates every moment of the trailer, promising an emotionally stirring cinematic experience. G.D. Naidu brings to the big screen the inspiring story of a visionary who revolutionized India's technological landscape and left behind an enduring legacy. The recently released Telugu trailer has received an overwhelming response from audiences, film critics, and industry experts alike. With tremendous anticipation surrounding its release, G.D. Naidu has emerged as one of the most eagerly awaited Indian films of the year. The film will have a worldwide theatrical release on August 7th.



YUKTI THAREJA TURNS QUEEN IN REAL LIFE



Yukti Thareja is set to star in KJQ, alongside Dheekshith Shetty and Shashi Odela. Co-star Deekshith revealed at the press meet that KJQ will surprise everyone, expressing confidence the film will strike a chord, a fitting tribute to late director KK's vision. Yukti Thareja turns up the glam quotient. Yukti served pure ethereal elegance in this shot, twirling in an ivory-gold lehenga with intricate gota-patti leaf motifs scattered across the flared

skirt and a heavily embellished border. She paired it with a matching mirror-work blouse, a statement choker, jhumkis, and stacked gold bangles, letting her loose curls complete the regal look, total Queen energy, fitting given her role in the film. KJQ hits screens tomorrow, The period crime drama, also starring Shashi Odela, is all set for a grand worldwide release on August 7, marking the emotional culmination of KK's final directorial vision.

SARA ARJUN SERVES BOLD GRAZIA GLAMOUR



Sara Arjun turned heads in Grazia's latest photoshoot, effortlessly nailing four distinct looks. From a sultry lace-trimmed slip dress to a striking blue textured gown with fringe detailing, and a bold printed mini paired with a Louis Vuitton bag, Sara proved once again why brands love her. Her styling game has never been stronger, even as her film choices hit a rough patch. The actress became a household name after Dhurandhar and its sequel Dhurandhar: The Revenge, which together

crossed a massive ₹3,100 crore worldwide. But her Telugu solo debut Euphoria, released in February this year, failed to click with audiences, opening weak and fading fast at the box office. Since then, Sara hasn't announced a major new project. The question now is whether Sara can carry a film on her own or remain a strong supporting presence in big franchises. Her fashion outings suggest she's staying relevant, but fans are waiting for her next big screen move.

Watch Anakapalli in theatres and make It a Grand Success: Sonu Sood at Pre-Release Event

Anakapalli is a raw and rustic entertainer starring Vikram Sahidev, Sandhya Vasishta, and Tarak Ponnappa in the lead roles. Produced by Kandregula Naidu and Thrinadha Rao Nakkina under the Bhavya Sri Movie Makers and Nakkina Narratives banners, the film is directed by Khagesh Thammineeni. Kandregula Kumar Raja serves as the co-producer, while Thrinadha Rao Nakkina has not only provided the story and screenplay but also plays a pivotal role in the film. The movie is gearing up for release soon. As part of the promotions, a pre-release event was held in Anakapalli on Wednesday. Speaking at



the event, Sonu Sood said*, "I am happy to be here for the Anakapalli event. It looks like Vikram, Tarak, and Sandhya have

delivered excellent performances. Khagesh appears to have directed the film brilliantly. I request the people of

Anakapalli to support this movie. I hope everyone watches Anakapalli in theatres and makes it a grand success."

Nandamuri BasavaRama Tarakam NTR Charitable Trust Dispatches Essential Relief Supplies to Assam Flood Victims



The Nandamuri Basava Tarakam NTR Charitable Trust, established on the occasion of the birth centenary of Smt. Nandamuri BasavaRama Tarakam Garu, wife of the legendary Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao (NTR), has extended a helping hand to the flood-affected people of Assam by dispatching essential relief materials.

Moved by the devastating floods that have disrupted the lives of thousands in Assam, the Trust launched a large-scale relief initiative by voluntarily collecting essential supplies from people across the Telugu states. The collected relief materials were handed over to the NGO The Embryos, which will distribute them among flood victims

in Assam. The relief consignment includes food supplies, clothing, drinking water, and other daily necessities. The initiative received an overwhelming response from Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Khammam, and several other regions, with contributions also pouring in from supporters living abroad.

'Hushar Pittalu' Will Touch Everyone's Hearts: Bekkem Venugopal

Starring Anshu and Vasavi Ganesan, Hushar Pittalu is an upcoming youthful entertainer directed by Bikshu. Presented by Padma Amma and BVG Studios, the film is produced by Venkat Yadav under the Rudra Kranthi Pictures banner. Having completed production, the film is being distributed by leading production houses Asian Suresh Films and is set for a theatrical release on August 15. The film's teaser, released recently, received an overwhelming response. The makers also launched the energetic song "Tonga Tonga" along with "Sakkani Gadiya" on Friday, both of which have been well received. The film's trailer will be unveiled on August 10.



Pragya Jaiswal Turns Up Sultry Heat

Pragya Jaiswal is setting temperatures soaring with her latest photoshoot. Dressed in a fuzzy white off-shoulder crop top paired with matching high-waisted shorts, the actress strikes a series of sultry poses that have quickly caught fan attention online. It's been a quiet year on the film front for Pragya, with Tyson Naidu, co-starring Bellamkonda Sai Sreenivas and Nabha Natesh, remaining her only upcoming project. With no other films announced, fans are keeping a close watch on updates about the film.



Kajal Aggarwal Radiates Grace In Ethnic Style

Stunning beauty Kajal Aggarwal recently grabbed attention by sharing stunning new pictures online. Wearing an elegant off-white embroidered suit with a matching dupatta and eye-catching circular earrings, she looked absolutely graceful. Her subtle makeup and soft smile continue to charm fans across social media. The actress was recently seen in the Hindi social drama The India Story. Despite covering a sensitive topic, the movie failed to connect with audiences and turned out to be a box-office flop. However, Kajal remains focused on her big career moves despite this brief setback.

Sardar Sarvai Papanna" Movie Poster Launched Grandly



The animation film Sardar Sarvai Papanna, based on the life of the legendary historical warrior and Bahujan emperor Sardar Sarvai Papanna, has been directed and produced by Venkatesh Goud Lingampally. The film is presented by VG

Movie Makers, with Deepak Nyati serving as the production supervisor. It is set for a grand theatrical release next week across the Telugu states through RK Films, headed by Dr. Prathani Ramakrishna Goud.