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Revanth seeks PM Mod's support for key Telangana projects



From Our Staff Reporter New Delhi, June 11 : Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and submitted a memorandum, seeking the Centre's support for a range of strategic infrastructure, education, industrial and connectivity

projects critical to Telangana's growth and India's journey towards Viksit Bharat 2047. The Chief Minister highlighted Telangana's vision of Telangana Rising and outlined the State's goal of becoming a 1 trillion economy by 2034 and 3 trillion economy by 2047

through investments in education, skills, infrastructure, manufacturing and innovation. He suggested creation of a special fund of ₹6 lakh crore, with an allocation of ₹1 lakh crore each to strengthen urban infrastructure in these cities. The Chief Minister re-

quested the Prime Minister's support for establishment of an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Hyderabad, stating that Telangana, despite hosting premier institutions such as IIT, IIIT, NALSAR, TIFR and ISB, remains one of the few major states without an IIM. The State government has offered 200 acres of encumbrance-free land in Hyderabad for the institution, he said. Seeking support for major infrastructure projects, the Chief Minister requested expeditious approval and implementation of the Hyderabad Regional Ring Road (Northern and Southern Corridors), the proposed Hyderabad-Amaravati-Bandar Port Expressway, and a four-lane elevated corridor from Mannanur to Srisailem on NH-765. On urban mobility, he sought approval for Hyderabad Metro Rail Phase-II, covering 122.9 km across seven corridors at an estimated cost of ₹38,595 crore, as a joint venture

project between the Government of India and the Government of Telangana. He also requested support for the Musi River Rejuvenation Project and the development of Bharat Future City, envisioned as a next-generation sustainable urban hub. The Chief Minister urged the Centre to approve the proposed Regional Ring Rail Project, facilitate establishment of a Central High-Speed Rail Hub at Shamshabad, and support the development of high-speed rail connectivity linking Hyderabad with Chennai, Bengaluru and Pune. Highlighting Telangana's emergence as a leading technology and manufacturing destination, Revanth Reddy sought allocation of projects under the India Semiconductor Mission 2.0 and requested sanction of the proposed Electronics Manufacturing Cluster (EMC 2.0) at Future City with grant-in-aid support from the Government of India.

Education, health key to 'Viksit Bharat': CM

From Our Staff Reporter New Delhi, June, 11 : Education and healthcare are the strongest foundations for the country's development, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy asserted. He emphasised the critical need for an educational overhaul, enhanced skill development, and the establishment of world-class infrastructure. He said realising the Central government's 'Viksit Bharat-2047' objective hinges on providing quality education and superior healthcare services to every student and citizen nationwide. Revanth Reddy made these remarks at the 11th NITI Aayog Governing Council meeting in New Delhi on Thursday, presided over by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He highlighted that national development is intrinsically linked to the well-being of its people, asserting that education and healthcare are instrumental in empowering individuals to become economic contributors and nation-builders. Citing key findings from the Telangana government's 2024 Socio-Economic, Educational, Employment, and Po-



litical Caste Survey (SEEEPC), which surveyed 3.55 crore individuals across 242 castes, he pointed out that education, rather than wealth or land ownership, is the primary determinant of social backwardness. He reiterated that achieving the 'Viksit Bharat' goal is contingent upon ensuring universal access to quality education. The Chief Minister further detailed the Telangana government's commitment to an educational revolution, offering comprehensive facilities to boost enrollment in state-run schools.

These initiatives include English-medium instruction, digital classrooms, and provision of free breakfast, midday meals, evening snacks, transportation, sports amenities, and quality teaching in public schools. Revanth Reddy also mentioned that students can now pursue their education from nursery to intermediate levels within a single campus, expressing optimism that the 'Young India Schools' being established will help dismantle caste-based divisions.

TWO SISTERS' DEATH CASE: CP SAJJANAR ORDERS THOROUGH PROBE



From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, June, 11 : City Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar has directed the officials to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the deaths of two sisters who allegedly fell ill after consuming mangoes in Narayanaguda. The Commissioner instructed the investigators to preserve samples of the deceased girls' internal organs and seek expert medical opinions to determine the exact cause of death. He emphasized

that the case would be thoroughly probed before drawing any conclusions. According to police, Vajjinaath and Indumathi, natives of Bidar residing in Vittalwadi, Hyderabad, consumed mangoes brought home by a relative on Sunday evening along with their four daughters. Soon afterward, all five reportedly developed vomiting and diarrhea and were admitted to a private hospital in Kavadiwadi. The couple's third daughter, Bhuvaneshwari (17), died

while undergoing treatment on Monday, while the youngest daughter, Sandhya, succumbed on Tuesday. Two other daughters are reported to be stable, while another girl continues to receive treatment. The Narayanaguda police have registered a case and are awaiting the post-mortem report. Investigators said the exact cause of death would only be known after forensic and medical examinations are completed.

Uttam directs officials to vigorously pursue Sitarama project clearances

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, June, 11 : Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Thursday directed officials to vigorously pursue and fast-track the environmental clearance process for the Sitarama Sagar Lift Irrigation Scheme. Chairing a comprehensive review meeting at Jalasoudha on major irrigation projects in the erstwhile Khammam district, the Minister instructed officials to remove all hurdles delaying project execution. Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bharti Vikramarka, Revenue, Housing and I&PR Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, Agriculture Minister Thummala Nageswara Rao, District In-charge Minister Vakiti Srihari, MPs, MLAs and MLCs from the district participated in the meeting. Uttam Kumar Reddy made it clear that issues relating to land acquisition, Reha-



bilitation and Resettlement (R&R), forest clearances, environmental clearances and court cases should be addressed on a priority basis. He directed irrigation officials to compile all pending requisitions immediately and submit them to district collectors and revenue divisional officers for time-bound action. Reviewing the Sitarama Lift Irrigation Project, the Minister

stressed the need to expedite all pending environmental clearances. Officials informed him that the project had already secured Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) clearance, also known as Techno-Economic Clearance, from the Central Water Commission (CWC). He said procedural delays should not deprive farmers of irrigation benefits and instructed officials to coordi-

nate closely with all concerned departments to ensure early clearance of pending environmental issues. The Minister also reviewed court-related matters concerning the project and directed officials to closely monitor cases pending before the Supreme Court and other judicial forums. He suggested deputing the Additional Advocate General to New Delhi for effective rep-

resentation of the State's interests before the Supreme Court. Stating that irrigation remained a top priority for the Telangana government, Uttam Kumar Reddy said that despite financial constraints arising from borrowings made by the previous government, the State was committed to mobilising resources and completing all viable ongoing irrigation projects. **Turn to Page 2**

ILLEGAL MEDICAL SHOP BUSTED IN KARIMNAGAR, DRUGS WORTH Rs.5.51 LAKH SEIZED

From Our Staff Reporter Karimnagar, June, 11 : Officials of Drugs Control Administration (DCA), Telangana raided an unlicensed medical shop in Choppadandi village and seized medicines worth Rs.5.51 lakh. Acting on specific information, the officials found 28 varieties of medicines, including antibiotics, IV fluids, painkillers and diagnostic kits, stocked for sale without a valid drug licence. The shop was allegedly being operated by Mallarapu Akhil. The seized stock has been sent for analysis, and further investigation is under-



way and action will be taken as per law against all the offenders. DCA warned that wholesalers supplying medicines to unlicensed outlets would also face stringent action under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. S. Umarani, Drugs

Inspector, Karimnagar, conducted the raid under the supervision of Sri K. Dass, Deputy Director, Nizamabad, and Dr. N. Narsaiah, Assistant Director, Karimnagar. DCA officers lifted the samples for analysis.

Southern command GOC-in-C calls on Governor

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, June, 11 : Lieutenant General Sandeep Jain, AVSM, SM, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief (GOC-in-C), Southern Command, Pune, called on Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla at Lok Bhavan on Thursday as part of his official visit to the State. Senior military officers of the Southern Command were also present during the meeting. During the interaction, Lt. Gen. Jain briefed the Governor on various initiatives, welfare programmes and security measures being undertaken under the jurisdiction of the Southern Command. Later, Malka Komaraiah, MLC representing the Medak-Nizamabad

Adilabad-Karimnagar Teachers' Constituency, called on the Governor at Lok Bhavan. Prof. C.V.Narasimhulu, Principal of Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), Gandipet, also met the Governor. Sidda Venkata Surya Prakasa Rao, International President of Vasavi Clubs International, along with other members of the organisation, called on Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla at Lok Bhavan. Leaders of the National Adivasi Girijana Abhyudaya Sangham, led by its president Chanda Lingayya Dora, met Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla at Lok Bhavan on Thursday. On the occasion, the representatives urged the Governor to ensure the effective imple-

mentation of the Panchayats (extension to scheduled areas) Act (PESA) and Regulation 1 of 1970 in the Scheduled Areas of Telangana, in accordance with the provisions of the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution. They also appealed for entrusting the responsibility of sand and mineral resource extraction in tribal areas to local tribal communities and ensuring that the revenues generated are utilised exclusively for the development of tribal regions. The delegation further requested the Governor to take special initiatives for the preservation and promotion of the culture and languages of Adivasi and tribal communities.

PLASTIC-FREE LIFESTYLE KEY TO CONTROLLING POLLUTION: IICT DIRECTOR

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, June, 11 : Stressing the urgent need for sustainable living, Dr A Gangagni Rao, director of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) - Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), said that adopting a plastic-free lifestyle is the most effective way to control environmental pollution. Speaking at a World Environment Day lecture organized by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University (BRAOU), Dr. Rao highlighted the interconnected challenges of waste management, climate change, and energy security. He advocated scientific processing of biodegradable waste through composting and biomethanation, and promoted the use of anaerobic digestion technologies to convert organic waste into renewable energy and organic fertilizers. Presiding over the event, Prof. E. Sudha Rani, Director Academic In-charge, said for sustainable development that is beneficial to the environment, economic survival and accessible to the society. Stating that the misuse of plastic is causing serious damage to the environment, she emphasized reducing plastic use, adopting reusable alternatives, and promoting recycling as a shared responsibility. She noted that BRAOU has already banned plastic usage on campus and is committed to eco-friendly practices.

Uttam directs officials to vigorously pursue Sitarama project clearances

From Page 1

He said that diverting Godavari waters from the Sitarama Lift Irrigation Project to the Paleru Balancing Reservoir through the NSP Left Canal system should be accorded top priority. Through the strategically designed Sita Rama Lift Irrigation Project (SRLIP), Godavari waters are being lifted from the Dummugudem Anicut and integrated with the NSP Left Canal system, thereby stabilising and augmenting irrigation in the existing ayacut, particularly in tail-end and water-scarce areas. Reviewing land acquisition issues, the Minister instructed officials to expedite

compensation payments and negotiated settlements wherever feasible. He said pending land acquisition issues should be resolved through close coordination between irrigation, revenue and district authorities. Officials informed the Minister that land acquisition had been largely completed in some project stretches, while certain forest clearances were still under process. Uttam Kumar Reddy directed officials to secure all required forest clearances by July-end and ensure that contractors do not cite land-related issues as reasons for delays. The Minister also directed officials to expedite

land acquisition for the Munneru-Paleru Link Canal. In a significant decision, the Minister gave in-principle approval to a proposal made by Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy to lift water from Sitarama Lift Package-I to the Bayyaram upland tribal areas in Yellandu Assembly constituency. He directed officials to prepare a practical and cost-effective proposal covering the source point, minimum lift requirement, utilisation of local streams, financial implications and expected ayacut benefits. Uttam Kumar Reddy further directed officials to prepare package-wise timelines, record agency-wise commitments in

the minutes of the meeting and regularly monitor progress. He warned that delays by non-performing agencies would not be tolerated. Addressing the issue of submergence in Bhadrachalam division due to Polavaram project backwaters, the Minister assured public representatives that the matter would be taken up shortly with the Polavaram Project Authority (PPA) and a dedicated review meeting would be convened to find solutions. The Minister also announced that he would undertake a comprehensive tour of irrigation projects in the erstwhile Khammam district within a fortnight to review progress on the ground.

Civic agencies, police collaborate to redesign Cyberabad streets for safety

From Our Staff Reporter
Hyderabad, June, 11 :

Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) Commissioner G. Srijana participated in the creating safer streets for all in cyberabad capacity-building workshop organised by the Cyberabad Police at the Novotel Hyderabad Convention Centre on Thursday. The programme was attended by Dr. M. Ramesh, Commissioner of Police, Cyberabad, along with senior officials from the Cyberabad police, traffic police, zonal commissioners, heads of departments, deputy commissioners, engineering officials, and other senior officers of Cyberabad Municipal

Corporation. The workshop served as a platform for bringing together urban planners, engineers, civic administrators, and traffic management agencies to deliberate on strategies for creating safer, more accessible, and inclusive streets across the city. Discussions focused on key aspects of urban mobility and road safety, including safer street design, pedestrian infrastructure, junction improvements, speed management, and the creation of people-friendly public spaces. Interactive sessions highlighted practical approaches and best practices aimed at enhancing safety for pedestrians, cyclists, commuters, and all road

users. The programme also emphasised the importance of integrating urban planning, engineering solutions, traffic management, and enforcement measures to improve mobility and ensure safer streets for all sections of society. The workshop provided a valuable opportunity for knowledge sharing, capacity building, and collaboration among civic agencies, planners, engineers, and law enforcement authorities. Participants exchanged ideas and experiences on adopting sustainable and inclusive urban design principles to address emerging mobility challenges in rapidly growing urban areas.

The commissioner noted that such collaborative initiatives play an important role in strengthening institutional capacity and fostering coordinated action among stakeholder departments. She reiterated the commitment of Cyberabad Municipal Corporation towards supporting initiatives that promote road safety, inclusive mobility, improved public infrastructure, and sustainable urban development. The workshop concluded with a shared commitment among participating agencies to work together towards creating safer, more accessible, and people-centric streets across Cyberabad.

Govt to build permanent buildings for RDO, Tahsildar, sub-registrar offices: Ponguleti

From Our Staff Reporter
Hyderabad, June, 11 :

Minister for Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy announced that the state government has taken a key decision to construct permanent buildings for RDO, Tahsildar, and sub-registrar offices, with the aim of providing more convenient and transparent administration to the people. He stated that the decision has been made to construct these buildings under the aegis of the Housing Corporation. The Minister held a review meeting with senior officials from the Revenue and Housing departments at his office in the Secretariat on Thursday. Revenue Secretary D.S. Lokesh Kumar, Inspector General (IG) of



Stamps and Registration Rajiv Gandhi Hanumanth, and Housing Secretary V.P. Gowtham, among others, participated in the meeting. The details have been gathered regarding the number of Tahsildar, RDO, and Sub-Registrar offices in the state currently operating in rented premises, as well as those housed in dilapidated or administratively unsuitable buildings. He said that

it is not appropriate for government offices to function in rented buildings and clarified that the decision was taken in alignment with Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's vision that centres providing services to the public should be dignified. The Minister announced that, in the first phase, permanent buildings equipped with modern facilities would be constructed for 125

Tahsildar offices and 11 RDO offices that are currently operating in rented or dilapidated premises. Additionally, the Revenue Secretary was directed to submit reports regarding necessary repairs in other locations. Officials were instructed to immediately identify the required sites and formulate an action plan to commence construction work as quickly as possible. The Minister stated that all buildings across the state would be designed with a uniform model and made accessible to the public. He mentioned that the final designs would be finalised after consulting with Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and said that the construction of these buildings would ensure the delivery of excellent services to the public at a low cost.

Telangana Inter Supple results declared: Girls outperform boys yet again

From Our Staff Reporter
Hyderabad, June, 11 :

The results for the 2026 intermediate public advanced supplementary examinations were released on Thursday, indicating that 49.29 percent of students successfully passed. According to the Telangana Board of Intermediate Education (TG BIE), 1,31,128 students from both general and vocational streams participated in the second-year examinations, with 64,639 (representing 49.29 percent) achieving a passing grade.



for the exams, and 68.84 percent were successful. Here again, girls outperformed boys, with 1,23,974 girls achieving a pass rate of 76.10 percent, while 1,43,357 boys registered a pass percentage of 62.57. The examination results are accessible on the official

websites: <https://tgbie.cgg.gov.in> and <https://results.cgg.gov.in>. Consistently, girls demonstrated a higher success rate compared to boys. Students interested in requesting a recounting of their marks or a re-verification along with a scanned

copy of their evaluated answer script must submit their applications and pay Rs. 100 for recounting and Rs. 800 for re-verification per paper. These requests can be made through the BIE website (<https://tgbie.cgg.gov.in>) between June 12 and June 18.

Harish alleges massive corruption in education, borrowings, Future City project

From Our Staff Reporter

Hyderabad, June, 11 :

Former minister and BRS deputy floor leader Harish Rao launched a sharp attack on the Congress government, alleging large-scale corruption in the education sector, reckless borrowing, excessive spending on luxury projects, and policies that are hurting farmers, students, employees and the common people.

Speaking during an informal media interaction at Telangana Bhavan on Thursday, Harish Rao alleged that the postponement of school reopening was linked to a massive ₹2,000 crore scam in the Education department.

He claimed that schools were not reopened on schedule because contracts related to uniforms, bags, notebooks, belts and other supplies had not been finalised due to commission-related issues.

According to Harish Rao, the previous BRS government had entrusted the stitching of uniforms to handloom workers and the manufacture of shoes and belts to LIDCAP to support Dalit families and local livelihoods. However, the Congress government allegedly centralised the process and handed contracts to a Gujarat-based contractor.

He alleged that supplies meant for nearly seven lakh Gurukul students, including uniforms, bags, belts and notebooks, had still not reached schools.

"During the BRS government, students received all materials on the very first day of school. Today, even after postponing the reopening of schools, the required supplies have not reached students," he said.

Harish Rao alleged that tender rates had been nearly doubled compared to previous years, resulting in large-scale corruption.

He further claimed that irregularities had occurred even in the procurement of



eggs supplied to students in residential schools.

He also accused the government of failing to implement the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme properly, delaying payments to women's self-help groups under Amma Odi committees and withholding salaries of school scavengers for the past four months.

Turning to Congress affairs, Harish Rao alleged that the rejection of the nomination of Telangana Congress in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan was the result of an internal conspiracy by leaders within the party itself.

He claimed that a close associate of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy was responsible for leaking information that led to the rejection of her nomination.

"Curtailing the political prospects of one's own party in-charge reflects the internal state of the Congress. The Chief Minister must order an inquiry and reveal the truth behind this episode," he said.

Harish Rao also criticised what he described as extravagant spending by the Chief Minister despite claiming that the state treasury lacked funds.

He alleged that a luxury guest house named Bodhi Pavilion was being constructed at a cost of nearly

₹100 crore near the Chief Minister's residence in Jubilee Hills.

According to him, a project initially sanctioned for ₹7 crore as a VVIP guest house had now expanded into a ₹100 crore facility, accompanied by additional spending on fencing and recreational infrastructure.

He further alleged that the Chief Minister was spending nearly ₹5 crore every month on helicopter travel, compared to about ₹2 crore earlier.

"If there is no money for fee reimbursement, farmers' welfare, employees' dues and welfare funds, where is the money coming from for luxury guest houses and helicopter rides?" he asked.

Harish Rao alleged that the government was imposing financial burdens on the public through increased RTA charges, registration fees, fuel taxes and other levies.

He criticised the increase in petrol and diesel taxes, claiming that the government would generate an additional ₹2,000 crore in revenue while burdening ordinary people. He also expressed concern over proposed additional levies linked to the Future City project, including impact fees and toll-based charges.

According to Harish Rao, the government was relying heavily on brokers to ar-

range borrowings beyond normal limits and paying huge commissions in the process.

He alleged that one Mumbai-based broker had received such large commissions from the state government that he was able to purchase an aircraft.

Harish Rao also criticised the Congress government for abandoning the Pharma City project, claiming that the decision had resulted in investments and employment opportunities moving to Andhra Pradesh.

He alleged that several companies which had originally planned to invest in Pharma City had shifted their investments to Sri City in Nellore.

"I personally contributed 17 acres of land for Pharma City and was among the first landowners to support the project. By abandoning it, the Congress government has deprived Telangana of investments, revenue and employment opportunities," he said.

Harish Rao asserted that a future BRS government would cancel the Future City project.

He urged the government to provide journalists with undisputed land parcels instead of offering plots in Future City, where legal disputes involving farmers were already pending.

Nepali domestic worker gang busted in hill ridge villas heist; stolen property recovered

From Our Staff Reporter
Hyderabad, June, 11 :

In a major breakthrough, the Cyberabad Police cracked a sensational villa theft case at the upscale Hill Ridge Villas in Gachibowli, recovering nearly 7.84 kg of Gold ornaments, 1.36 kg of silver, cash and mobile phones within days of the crime. The theft came to light after an elderly couple returned to their villa on June 7 and found a gold chain missing from a household idol. A subsequent inspection of a locker by their son revealed the disappearance of approximately 7-8 kg of gold jewellery and 1.5 kg of silver ornaments, triggering a massive police operation. Acting on intelligence gathered by Special Operations Teams (SOT), crime teams and local police, six teams were dispatched to Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Uttarakhand. On June 9, a Gachibowli police team, with assistance from Rampur Police in Uttar Pradesh, apprehended three accused on Bilaspur Road in Rampur district.

The arrested accused were identified as: Kamal Shahi (32 years), his wife Vimla Shahi alias Bimala Shahi and Kalpana Shahi (26), all coming from Nepal. Police recovered the entire stolen property intact. Investigators revealed that the gang specialised in targeting affluent families residing in luxury villas. The accused allegedly gained access to homes by securing employment as domestic workers and gathering



information about the residents' routines. Police said the prime absconding accused, Suresh alias Suraj, allegedly recruited workers from Nepal and placed them in high-end residences across Hyderabad. Using insider information about when houses were vacant, the gang executed thefts. In the Hill Ridge Villas case, the accused reportedly located a locker key kept near

the locker, opened it, removed the valuables, relocked it, and fled with the key to avoid immediate suspicion. Cyberabad Police Commissioner M. Ramesh lauded the investigating officers and staff for solving the high-profile theft swiftly and ensuring complete recovery of the stolen property. He announced cash rewards for the personnel involved in the op-

eration. The investigation was carried out under the supervision of Ch. Srinivas and with the active supervision and efforts of the Additional DCP, Serilingampally Zone, N. Uday Reddy, ACP Kalingarao, SHO, Gachibowli Balaraju, DI, Gachibowli PS, Naresh, Gachibowli PS, with support from special teams, technical staff and local police.

HYD TO HOST GLOBAL LOGISTICS LEADERS AT ICSL 2026

From Our Staff Reporter

Hyderabad, June, 11 : The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI), in association with MPL Logistics, will host the International Conference on Shipping & Logistics (ICSL) 2026 on June 12 at Novotel Hyderabad Convention Centre. Building on the success of its previous editions, the third edition of the conference will focus on emerging opportunities and challenges in multimodal logistics, digital supply chains, e-commerce fulfilment, warehousing, EV-led logistics, artificial intelligence, automation, and infrastructure development. "The conference aims to strengthen India's logistics and shipping ecosystem by fostering dialogue, innovation, collaboration, and investment in one of the country's most critical growth sectors." Organisers said the conference aims to strengthen India's logistics ecosystem through policy dialogue, innovation, investment, and strategic partnerships, while supporting the country's ambition to emerge as a global logistics powerhouse.

Jagan demands CBI probe into irregularities in DSC exam, recruitment

Amaravati: June 11
Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and YSR Congress Party President Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy alleged large-scale irregularities in the Mega District Selection Committee (DSC) exam and recruitment process and demanded a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Addressing a press conference on Thursday, he said that all the facts coming to light regarding the Mega DSC for recruitment of teachers are extremely shocking. He alleged that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's government has betrayed the trust of lakhs of candidates through scams, severely damaging the lives of talented aspirants. The former CM claimed that such a disastrous recruitment process was never witnessed anywhere. Stating that DSC represents the hopes and future of lakhs of youth, he said resorting to corruption and irregularities even in such a recruitment process was highly deplorable.



YS Jagan said the issue of DSC irregularities should be highlighted in the June 12 protest 'Vennupotuku Rendellu' (two years of betrayal) planned to mark two years of TDP-led coalition government. The YSRC chief gave details of alleged irregularities from the question paper to recruitment and said Chandrababu Naidu's governance was laden with leaks and corruption since 1995. "Lakhs of aspirants had worked hard for the 16,000 posts, but the process is filled with irregularities. Videos have surfaced that the posts were for sale," he said. He claimed that the flaw began with the Chandrababu Naidu government sidelining the DSC Convener and entrusting both question paper preparation and examination management to the SCERT Director, concentrating key responsibilities in a single authority and allegedly undermining transparency in the recruitment process. He said details like how many had access to the question paper and how much money changed hands will come out only if a third-party agency investigates the issue. He said that the merit list was not displayed at district level, which is the norm, but was centralised in the name of an online procedure.

"Making a big mockery of the DSC, Chandrababu Government has issued GOs stating that under sports quota candidates need not write the qualifying exam and just participation is enough for the job and opened the gates to accommodate their favoured people. The participation certificates were given by TDP MLAs and MPs certifying that they participated in College, University and district-level competitions and secured jobs. On the other hand, genuine candidates and National Games gold medalists who were called for the interview did not get the job. In all, 270 persons got jobs in Sports quota without writing the qualifying exam," he said. The former CM claimed that while Chandrababu Naidu's governance is always found wanting when it comes to conduct of exams, YSRC has the distinction of flawless recruitment of 1.30 lakh staff in a record time of four months from notification to issuance of job letters. "Chandrababu is the accused in this case along with his son Lokesh, who is the Education Minister, and if he sits in judgement, there would be no justice, which is the reason why we are demanding a CBI inquiry," he added.

He said details like how many had access to the question paper and how much money changed hands will come out only if a third-party agency investigates the issue. He said that the merit list was not displayed at district level, which is the norm, but was centralised in the name of an online procedure.

Modi elevated India as global economic power: Gorantla



Puttaparthi: June 11
Highlighting a historic political milestone, BJP Sri Sathya Sai District President Gorantla Mohan Shekhar announced that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has officially become India's longest-serving elected Prime Minister. Politics By completing 4,399 consecutive days in office on Wednesday during his third term, PM Modi surpassed the 4,398-day record of uninterrupted service held by India's first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, as an elected head of government. Mohan Shekhar remarked that over the past 12 years, the Prime Minister has elevated India into a global economic and military power while steadfastly preserving cultural heritage. The district chief noted that despite global recessions, India's economy has expanded threefold under a welfare-driven approach aiming for a Viksit Bharat by 2047. To celebrate the milestone, local BJP cadres organized mass prayer meetings and temple archanas across the district.

Cooperate to develop Nellore dist: Anam



Nellore: June 11
Endowments Minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy appealed both public representatives and officials to extend their cooperation for development of the district. Addressing Zilla Parishad general body meeting, chaired by its chairperson Anam Arunamma, on Wednesday, he said the government is keen on releasing funds for the completion of pending works like road repairs, construction of Secretariat buildings, health centres and school infrastructure projects. But it will be a mammoth task without the cooperation of politicians and official machinery, he added. He informed that one more meeting will be held before the tenure of the present ZP governing body concludes in three months. Minister P Narayana said road repairs, completion of secretariat buildings, construction of health centres and improvement of school infrastructure were discussed during the meeting and the government would take necessary steps to address them. Kovur MLA Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy pointed out that many government schools in Kovur constituency lack adequate dining facilities, causing inconvenience to students. Stating that development works like construction of CC roads, side drains, cremation grounds etc in SC and ST colonies in the constituency were pending for the past two years, she requested allocation of ZP funds to complete them. Chairperson Anam Arunamma directed officials of all departments to take immediate steps to address the issues raised by members, with special focus on road infrastructure. Joint Collector Mogili Venkateswarlu, ZP members, senior officials from various departments were present at the meeting.

BJP, TDP and JSP leaders unearth 'systematic loot' at Kadiri shrine



Kadiri: June 11
Serious allegations of large-scale financial misappropriation in the restoration and renovation of the sacred temple tank (Bhrugu Theertham Koneru) at the historic Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple in Kadiri have sparked demands for an immediate Vigilance and Enforcement investigation. Senior leaders of the BJP, TDP, and Jana Sena Party have jointly accused Endowments Department officials and contractors of misusing nearly Rs 6 crore of temple funds collected directly from devotees. During a joint inspection of the temple tank premises on Wednesday, BJP senior leader S Vishnuvardhan Reddy, Jana Sena leader Bairava Prasad, and TDP

Collector orders rapid digitisation of forms for SIR-2026 voter drive



Nandyal: June 11
District Collector G Raja Kumari has instructed Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to ensure that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR-2026) of the electoral rolls is conducted in a fair, impartial, and fully transparent manner, in line with Election Commission of India guidelines. National Politics Updates She emphasized that while every eligible citizen must be included in the voter list, utmost vigilance must be exercised to prevent the inclusion of ineligible names. Addressing BLOs and supervisors of Banaganapalle and Dhone constituencies during a training programme held at the PGRS Hall in the Collectorate on Wednesday, the Collector, along with Joint Collector Suraj Dhananjay, issued detailed instructions on the revision process. She stressed the importance of accurate field-level verification and strictly adhering to the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and 1951. She also warned that furnishing false declarations could lead to legal action under Section 31, while negligence by officials may attract action under Section 32. The Collector said door-to-door enumeration would begin on June 15 and continue till July 14. She directed offi-

cial not to wait for the formal start and to immediately begin distribution of enumeration forms, ensuring every eligible voter receives one. She further instructed that forms must be digitized simultaneously and strictly avoided duplication. In cases where forms are not returned, only four categories—absent, shifted, deceased, or duplicate—should be recorded. She also clarified that no unnecessary documents such as Aadhaar, ration cards, or EPIC copies should be collected, and only prescribed identity or residence proof should be accepted when required. The draft electoral roll will be published on July 21, followed by the claims and objections period. New voter registrations will be processed through Form-6, deletions through Form-7, and corrections or constituency transfers through Form-8. The final electoral roll will be released on September 22 after disposal of all claims. The Collector also directed rationalisation of polling stations to ensure a maximum of 1,200 voters per booth and instructed the establishment of help desks and effective use of helpline 1950 to assist voters. Officials including the DRP, RDOs of Dhone and Banaganapalle, BLOs, supervisors, and AEROs participated in the programme.

TDP leaders target Bhumana family for TDR bond scam in Tirupati



Tirupati: June 11
TDP leaders JB Srinivas and A Ravi Naidu alleged that the Bhumana family has brought a bad name to Tirupati, a city known worldwide for the temple of Lord Venkateswara. Speaking at a press conference held at Tirupati Press Club on Wednesday, Srinivas said the Vigilance Department had prima facie found irregularities worth Rs 414 crore in the TDR bonds issue, as TDP had been alleging from the beginning. He said Tirupati, which was

once identified with Lord Venkateswara, is now being discussed for issues such as bogus votes, ganja activities and TDR bond scam. Officials, who trusted former TTD Chairman Bhumana Karunakar Reddy, are now facing a situation where they may have to answer before the law. Srinivas further claimed that the people of Tirupati defeated YSRCP by a margin of 63,000 votes because of the alleged irregularities and misconduct committed by its

leaders including Bhumana and his son Abhinav. SAAP Chairman Ravi Naidu said the political future of the Bhumana family in Tirupati is nearing its end. He alleged that many people, who suffered due to the family's actions, would soon come forward and raise their voices. Tatayyagunta Gammamma Devasthanam Chairman N Mahesh Yadav, Kapu Corporation Director Thota Vasudev, JB Raghav and others were present. Politics

TDP, Jana Sena candidates to be elected unanimous for RS, official announcement awaited

Amaravati: June 11
It seems four candidates from the TDP and Jana Sena parties have been elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from Andhra Pradesh. With the deadline for the withdrawal of nominations having passed and only four candidates remaining in the fray for the four available seats, their election is considered a certainty. Sana Satish, Bashyam Ramakrishna, and Chintakayala Vijay filed nominations representing the TDP, while Lingamaneni Ramesh filed on behalf of Jana Sena. Since only these four candidates remained in the contest, their election is effectively confirmed. Returning Officer Vanitha Rani is set to officially hand over the certificates of election (Form-22) to the successful candidates shortly.



The Election Commission of India had announced the election schedule on June 1 for Rajya Sabha seats across 10 states, including Andhra Pradesh. According to the schedule, elections for a total of 27 Rajya Sabha seats were to be held on June 18. The terms of 24 Rajya Sabha members are set to expire during June and July. Additionally, by-elections were required for three other seats that

had fallen vacant before the completion of the incumbents' terms. India News Portal The Commission had announced that nominations would be accepted from June 1 to June 8, with the scrutiny of nominations scheduled for the 9th and the deadline for withdrawal set for the 11th. The Election Commission stated that the entire election process would be concluded by June 20.

Kurnool ZP proposes reservoirs, orders crackdown on low-hanging power lines



Kurnool/Nandyal: June 11
Kurnool Zilla Parishad Chairman Errabothula Papireddy has emphasized that the construction of reservoirs is the only sustainable and permanent solution to the persistent drinking water crisis in the western parts of the erstwhile Kurnool district and other vulnerable regions. Addressing the ZP General Body Meeting held on Wednesday, he noted that despite the availability of water from the Tungabhadra and Penna rivers, inadequate storage infrastructure continues to result in recurring drinking and irrigation water shortages. He called for collective action by officials, MLAs, MLCs, and ZP members to formulate long-term proposals for submission to the government in the form of a resolution. He instructed the Rural Water Supply Department to ensure the proper functioning of mother water plants and RO systems across eight fluoride-affected mandals in Kurnool and Nandyal districts. He also cautioned that ongoing NH-167K highway works could disrupt existing drinking water pipelines and insisted that alternative arrangements must be completed before any removal of infrastructure. Stressing the need for water conservation and scientific storage planning, he highlighted concerns over groundwater depletion and fluoride contamination and urged immediate attention to long-term solutions. On the electricity front,

the Chairman expressed concern over low-hanging and unsafe power lines leading to frequent accidents involving people, livestock, and heavy vehicles. He directed officials to strictly follow safety norms, repair hazardous installations on priority, and ensure timely compensation to families of electricity accident victims. He also underlined the need to strengthen government school infrastructure, including sanitation, drinking water, and toilets, while intensifying efforts to improve Class 10 pass percentages through targeted academic interventions. District Collectors of Kurnool and Nandyal Dr A Siri and G Raja Kumari assured that all issues raised during the meeting would be addressed promptly in coordination with concerned departments. They reviewed progress in agricultural dry sowing, CPWS drinking water schemes, and solar rooftop initiatives under net-zero waste programmes in schools and hostels. The Collectors also outlined proposals for infrastructure development, including bridge construction under MGNREGA, seasonal hostels for migrant children, and accelerated recruitment of assistant engineers in the electricity department. Adoni MLA Dr P Parthasarathy also stressed tackling drinking water scarcity, strengthening farmer credit systems, preventing fake seed and fertiliser sales, and expanding solar energy schemes with improved banking support for rural households.

SKYLINE

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Opposition's Test

The latest gathering of opposition parties in New Delhi offered a reminder that the central challenge before India's non-BJP political forces is no longer one of arithmetic. It is one of credibility. For years, opposition politics has revolved around alliance-building. The assumption was that if regional parties and the Congress could overcome local rivalries and pool their votes, they would create a formidable electoral challenge.

Yet recent elections have demonstrated that political chemistry cannot be reduced to mathematics. Voters may be dissatisfied with governments, anxious about the economy, worried about unemployment or disturbed by institutional controversies, but dissatisfaction does not automatically translate into votes for the opposition. This reality appears to be dawning on opposition leaders. Their discussions reportedly ranged from examination controversies and economic concerns to questions about electoral processes and the state of democratic institutions.

What ties these disparate issues together is a growing recognition that electoral contests are only one part of a broader political struggle. Winning elections requires winning public confidence. That confidence cannot be secured through press conferences, parliamentary coordination or occasional conclaves in the national capital. It must be built through sustained political work on the ground. The Bharatiya Janata Party's greatest advantage today is not merely its organisational strength or leadership appeal. It is its ability to maintain continuous engagement with voters between elections. Opposition parties, by contrast, often appear active only during campaigns or moments of crisis. The internal criticisms aired during the meeting are therefore significant.

Regional parties appear increasingly unwilling to accept a hierarchical arrangement in which the Congress is the unquestioned anchor of the alliance. Their message is simple: unity requires consultation, accommodation and mutual respect. If opposition parties cannot manage differences within their own ranks, convincing voters that they can govern together becomes considerably harder. Equally notable is the emergence of independent protest movements that operate outside traditional party structures like the Cockroach Janata Party. Whether such movements endure is less important than what they signify. They suggest that public anger does not only seek expression through established political parties. In a democracy, that should concern these parties.

Citizens who are unhappy with the government but remain unconvinced by its challengers create a political vacuum that no alliance formula can easily fill. The opposition's frequent focus on the fairness of the electoral playing field reflects another dilemma. If voters come to believe that institutions are under strain, such concerns deserve scrutiny and debate. But arguments about process cannot substitute for political mobilisation. Parties that wish to govern must persuade citizens not only that the system needs reform but also that they themselves offer a credible alternative. The meeting's most important takeaway is therefore not that the opposition remains united. It is that its leaders increasingly understand the scale of the task before them. The real test lies ahead: transforming scattered discontent into organised political support. Until that happens, unity will remain a slogan rather than a strategy

A fauji's salute to India's longest-serving Prime Minister

The year was 2013. I had just returned to my ooru (village) after serving the Indian Army. Like many young Indians of my generation, I stood at a crossroads. I knew I wanted to continue serving the nation, but I was still searching for the path through which I could do so. The country too stood at a crossroads.

Across India, there was a growing feeling that our nation was capable of much more than what it had settled for. In villages, towns and cities, a different energy was beginning to take shape. People were speaking about aspiration, confidence and possibility. At the centre of that conversation stood Narendra Modi, then the Chief Minister of Gujarat, whose message resonated with millions of Indians who wanted to see a stronger, more self-confident Bharat.

And in June 2013, I was given the responsibility of the District General Secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha in Dakshina Kannada. The uniform changed, but the mission remained the same - Nation First. We campaigned not merely for a party, but for an idea. An idea that India could be stronger, more confident, more self-reliant and more respected in the world.

A decade later, I had the privilege of taking oath as a Member of Parliament in the team led by the very leader who had inspired millions of young Indians to dream bigger.

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi becomes India's longest-serving PM, I find myself reflecting not only on the transformation of the nation, but also on the extraordinary opportunities this period has created for ordinary Indians like me.

The last two years have been among the most consequential years in recent global history. The world continues to grapple with geopolitical conflicts, energy security concerns, economic uncertainty and the persistent threat of terrorism. As a Member of Parliament associated with discussions relating to energy and defence, I have had the opportunity to observe many of these developments from close quarters.

But what taught me a lot about India's place in the world were the two international assignments entrusted to me during my maiden term in Parliament.

The first came in May 2025. In the aftermath of 'Operation Sindoor', I was chosen as part of an all-party delegation tasked with carrying India's message of zero tolerance against terrorism to the world. Our engagements took

us across Moscow, Madrid, Athens, Ljubljana, Riga. As a fauji, this assignment carried special significance.

For decades, India was often compelled to explain the reality of terrorism that it faced. During our interactions abroad, I witnessed a different reality. India's voice carried weight. India's stand of Zero tolerance against terror found global testimony.

More importantly, the delegation demonstrated something that I believe is fundamental to India's strength.

Members from different political parties and ideological backgrounds came together to represent a united national position.

Our message was clear. India may debate fiercely within its democratic framework, but when it comes to terrorism, national security and the protection of its citizens, Bharat speaks in one voice. The delegation sent a powerful message to the world. It also sent a message to those who believe India's democratic diversity can somehow be exploited against its national interests. Our diversity is our strength. Our unity in matters of national interest is our greatest force.

For me personally though, the assignment meant much more. For it reminded me of my early days in the Fauj. It was just my second year as a young officer of the Indian Army's 8 Gorkha Rifles; but my Commanding Officer chose to entrust me with leading the Ghatak Platoon during counter-insurgency operations in Manipur.

And being chosen by PM Modi to be his voice as part of this delegation, even as a first time MP, I was reminded of that same feeling of trust and responsibility. Leadership leaves a lasting impression when responsibility is entrusted with an assurance that speaks in silence.

A few months later came my second international assignment. In October 2025, I travelled to New York as part of India's parliamentary delegation to the 80th United Nations General Assembly. The delegation was constituted to represent India's democratic values, engage with lawmakers and policymakers from across the world, strengthen diplomatic ties and carry the voice of the world's largest democracy led by PM Modi to one of the world's most important multilateral forums.

For someone whose first foreign trip happened only after 2014, the experience was deeply moving. As I walked through the halls of the United Nations, I often found myself thinking not of New York,

but of home. Standing there as part of India's delegation, I realised that the journey was larger than my own. It reflected the possibilities that millions of Indians had come to believe in over the last decade. What struck me most was the way India was viewed and discussed.

Everywhere we went, we encountered members of the Indian diaspora who spoke of Bharat with immense pride.

Entrepreneurs, students, professionals, doctors, engineers and community leaders spoke not only about their own journeys, but also about India's growing stature in the world.

Today, the Indian diaspora, numbering more than 35 million people, is the largest diaspora community in the world. Their contributions extend far beyond remittances and economic engagement. They have become storytellers of modern India.

For decades, embassies told India's story to the world. Today, millions of Indians living abroad tell that story every day.

Prime Minister Modi recognised the strength of this community long before many others did. Wherever he travels, one witnesses an extraordinary connection between India and its diaspora. They see themselves not as distant observers, but as active participants in India's growth story.

Many of them spoke about the transformation they had witnessed in how India is perceived globally. They spoke about a country that no longer appeared hesitant on the world stage. They spoke about a nation increasingly seen as a source of solutions, innovation and leadership.

That change is visible across multiple dimensions. India's cultural influence continues to expand through yoga, Ayurveda, traditional knowledge systems, cuisine, cinema, technology and innovation. International Yoga Day is celebrated across continents. India's digital public infrastructure is being studied by governments around the world. Indian professionals lead some of the world's largest corporations. Indian entrepreneurs are building globally recognised companies.

The respect accorded to Prime Minister Modi by world leaders reflects this larger transformation. Over the last decade, numerous countries have conferred upon him their highest civilian honours. His meetings with global leaders attract attention not merely because of protocol, but because India today occupies a far more significant place in global conversations than it once did.



As a veteran, I perhaps viewed these experiences through a slightly different lens.

Over the last decade, India has steadily strengthened both its capabilities and its confidence. India's defence budget, which stood at around Rs 2.27 lakh crore in 2014, has grown to nearly Rs 7.85 lakh crore today. Defence exports have risen dramatically. Indigenous platforms, missile systems and defence manufacturing capabilities have expanded significantly. India has moved from being largely dependent on imports towards becoming a nation increasingly capable of designing, developing and manufacturing critical defence systems. The shift has not merely been one of numbers. It has been one of mindset.

The world increasingly sees an India that is willing to stand up for its interests, speak with clarity and act with confidence. Whether in matters of national security, diplomacy, technology, energy or economic growth, India today engages the world from a position of greater self-belief.

For those of us who have worn the uniform, these developments carry special meaning. National security is not built overnight. It requires patience. It requires investment. It requires institutions. Above all, it requires leadership that remains focused on long-term national interests.

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi becomes India's longest-serving Prime Minister, he sets yet another benchmark. Not merely of electoral success, but of endurance. In public life, leadership is often measured through victories. In the armed forces, we learn that leadership is equally about endurance.

A difficult mission is not accomplished through moments of bravado alone. It requires discipline. It requires consistency. It requires the ability to hold one's ground through uncertainty, setbacks and adversity. Disarming an adversary requires courage. Outlasting one requires discipline, patience and resolve. Twelve years in office is therefore

more than a political milestone. It is a measure of sustained commitment. A form of public tapasya carried out under constant scrutiny and amidst rapidly changing national and global realities. There is another lesson from Prime Minister Modi's journey that resonates deeply with me. Before he transformed India, he transformed Gujarat. The Gujarat model demonstrated what can happen when leadership remains rooted in the land that shaped it. It showed that meaningful change begins by investing one's energy, ideas and commitment in one's own people and one's own region. That lesson has deeply influenced my own thinking.

It is the spirit behind initiatives we have launched in Mangaluru such as BackToOoru, which encourages talented youth to rediscover opportunities closer to home, and Bolpu, which seeks to nurture local entrepreneurship and community-led development. At their heart lies a simple belief: that lasting change begins when people give back to the land and communities that shaped them. Twelve years ago, as he took on the mantle as the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inspired millions of Indians to dream bigger. Millions did. Mine is only one among those stories.

As I look back on a journey that took me from Pharangipete to Parliament, from the Army to public life, and from representing Dakshina Kannada to representing Bharat abroad, I remain convinced that the most enduring legacy of these twelve years lies in the confidence that ordinary Indians now have in themselves and in their country.

That confidence has carried India further than many thought possible.

And it will carry us much further still. And for that, here is a fauji's salute to our Pradhan Sevak Narendra Modi, for helping the world and all of us rediscover India, that is Bharat.

India's water needs

Water resources are finite and also critical for life. India's ambition to become a developed nation by 2047 is usually discussed in the language of highways, factories, digital platforms, exports, start-ups, global investment, etc. These are all important. But beneath every one of them lies a quieter, more basic question: will India have enough reliable water to sustain the economy it wants to build? A developed India cannot be built on uncertain water security.

The real test of "Viksit Bharat @2047" will not be whether India can announce ambitious infrastructure projects, but whether it can deliver dependable water systems at scale. By 2050 India's water demand is estimated to exceed the water supply and the per capita water availability is likely to touch the "water scarce" situation. India faces severe and interconnected water-sector challenges, especially in urban water management and agricultural water use. These problems are driven by population growth, climate variability, groundwater depletion, weak infrastructure, and policy distortions. Cities are growing faster than water infrastructure can keep up.

Water demand exceeds supply in many cities. The informal settlements often lack piped water access and dependence on groundwater and water tankers is increasing. The Non-Revenue Water (NRW) of treated water in many Indian cities is 30-50 per cent because of old and dilapidated pipelines, leakage, illegal connections and poor metering. A major share of urban wastewater is untreated before entering rivers and lakes due to insufficient sewage treatment plants (STPs),

industrial discharge and solid waste dumping. A similar picture emerges in the water sector in rural areas also.

Agriculture uses around 80-90 per cent of India's freshwater withdrawals, making it the dominant water-consuming sector. Farmers often grow highly water-intensive crops in water-stressed regions, such as rice in Punjab and Haryana, and sugarcane in Maharashtra. This mismatch between crops and local water availability is a major issue. India is one of the world's largest groundwater users. Agriculture is highly exposed to erratic monsoons, droughts, and heat stress. As climate change intensifies, irrigation demand increases while water availability becomes less predictable. For decades, groundwater has carried India's rural economy on its back. It supports most rural drinking water needs and a large share of irrigation. Yet because it is underground and out of sight, and by using the Easement Act 1882, it has too often been treated as an endless reserve. However, the latest groundwater assessment shows signs of progress. Recharge from conservation structures has risen from 13.98 billion cubic metres in 2017 to 25.34 billion cubic metres in 2024. The share of "safe" assessment units has improved from 62.64 to 73.39 per cent, while "over-exploited" units have declined from 17.24 to 11.13 per cent. One reason for this shift is the growing convergence between schemes and institutions.

The Atal Bhujal Yojana is a good example of this new approach. Water budgeting across thousands of Gram Panchayats is not

just a technical exercise. It is a democratic one. This is where India's water future will be decided: not only in large dams or policy documents, but in village-level decisions made before a well runs dry. The next phase of India's water governance will not be shaped only by canals, reservoirs and recharge structures. It will also be shaped by data. This is where institutions like the National Water Informatics Centre become crucial.

It needs real-time information, reliable datasets, predictive tools and transparent dashboards. Platforms such as India-WRIS and the Water Information Management System are steps in that direction. Decision-support systems can help governments move from crisis response to anticipation. Data is no longer a back-office function. It is part of the country's water infrastructure. India's industrial water demand is projected to rise sharply in the decades ahead. At present, the industrial water use efficiency in India is very low compared to international standards.

That should concern every policymaker and business leader. A circular water economy is no longer optional, it is imperative. Artificial Intelligence (AI)/data-centre cooling tower water demand in India is going to rise. It is estimated that for a 100 MW AI data centre running 24/7, approximately 1.68 million litres/day of water is required. Similarly, a green hydrogen plant is estimated to use a sizable amount of water in a year for purification and cooling. This is going to put additional burden on the already stressed water resources in India. Safe reuse of treated water



(SRTW), process efficiency and Zero Liquid Discharge technologies must become mainstream, especially in water-intensive sectors. Better water-use efficiency is possible when industry treats conservation as a business priority rather than a compliance burden. No water strategy can succeed if it remains confined to government files. Water is too local, too seasonal and too personal for that. It must become a people's movement with Jan bhagidari at the core. The Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign reflects this understanding. Its message is simple, but powerful: catch water where it falls, when it falls. In a country as diverse as India, that principle matters because local solutions often work better than one-size-fits-all models. India's water future will not be secured by the government alone.

It will be secured when citizens, Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), Panchayats, industries, scientists and administrators act as partners. By 2047, the country will need water systems that are reliable, transparent, technologically enabled and locally owned. It will need groundwater management that respects ecological limits. It will need river infrastructure that balances ambition with responsibility. It will need industries that

recycle before they extract. It will need cities that plan before they run dry. And it will need citizens who see water not as a free commodity, but as a shared inheritance.

Urban water solutions, such as leak reduction and smart metering, wastewater recycling and reuse, rainwater harvesting, lake and wetland restoration, 24/7 water supply reforms, and decentralized sewage treatment pave the way towards Jal Samridh Bharat. Agricultural solutions include crop diversification away from water-intensive crops, drip and sprinkler irrigation, better groundwater regulation, solar pumps with smart controls, water pricing reforms, and climate-resilient agriculture.

There is also a need for introducing water governance reforms at the Centre and state level. The existing concept of "Silos" in the water sector should be immediately discarded: for example, surface and groundwater are the same water resources, and not "silos" and their current management should be revised immediately. India's development story for "Viksit Bharat 2047" will be written in many languages: infrastructure, innovation, investment, productivity and jobs. But the ink, in the end, will be water.

Gangster Venkat Garg, wanted in murder and extortion cases, extradited from Georgia

New Delhi, June 11: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has announced that gangster Vainket Garg was successfully extradited from Georgia to India on Thursday, June 11. According to officials, the central agency brought back Garg to India in coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Haryana Police.

CBI informed that the gangster was wanted across multiple cases registered by the Haryana Police for major offences related to murder, attempt to murder, extortion, organised crime and use of illegal firearms, IANS reported. "The subject was arrested during the course of investigation; however, after being granted bail by the Court, he absconded



and fled from India to evade legal proceedings," officials said. On the request of Haryana Police, the NCB-New Delhi earlier got a Red Notice published against

the gangster via INTERPOL channels. "After the subject was geo-located and arrested by the Georgian authorities, an extradition request was submitted to them.

Following due legal process, the Georgian authorities granted the extradition of the subject to India, CBI officials said. While coordinating with the local authorities, an escort team of the Haryana Police visited Georgia and took the accused into custody. The team arrived in New Delhi on Thursday. "The CBI, as the National Central Bureau for INTERPOL in India, coordinates with all Law Enforcement Agencies in India through BHARATPOL for assistance via INTERPOL channels," officials said. Meanwhile, investigators have highlighted that more than 160 wanted criminals have been successfully brought back to India over the past few years via coordination between different agencies, according to IANS.

For the first time in a decade, displacement fell. But 117 million are still homeless, says UNHCR

New Delhi, June 11: The latest UNHCR Global Trends report reveals 117.8 million people remain displaced globally, even as 2025 records the largest wave of returns in agency's history. At least 117.8 million people or one in 70 individuals worldwide remain forcibly displaced, according to a report released by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

This figure represents 33 percent increase compared to five years ago. The total number of displaced people has nearly doubled over past decade. For the first time in 10 years, forced displacement has declined. The shift is driven by large-scale returns of refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) from the world's biggest displacement crises. Despite the drop, the numbers remain staggering. The crisis continues to affect every region on the planet, with millions living in prolonged uncertainty far from their homes.

Who is displaced? The 117.8 million figure covers several distinct groups. Of the total forcibly displaced: 68.6 million are internally displaced within their own countries due to conflict or other crises; roughly 28.5 million refugees are under UNHCR's mandate; 9 million are asylum seekers waiting for a protection decision in another country; 7.2 million people are in need of international protection; and 6 million are Palestinian refugees under UNRWA's mandate. Internally displaced people account for 58 percent of all forcibly displaced people. At the end of 2025, 68.7 million people remained internally displaced due to conflict and violence, a 7 percent decrease from the end of 2024. Sudan remains the largest internal displacement situation globally, with 9.1 million people still displaced within the country. Forty-six percent of all IDPs are displaced within just five countries: Sudan, Colombia, Syria, Yemen, and Afghanistan.

Where refugees are coming from? Almost three-quarters, or 72 percent, of all refugees came from just seven countries: Venezuela (6.4 million), Palestine (6 million), Ukraine (5.2 million), Syria (4.9 million), Afghanistan (3.7 million), Sudan (2.8 million), and South

Sudan (2.4 million). The concentration in these seven countries reflects the scale of ongoing conflict and persecution. War, persecution, and political violence remain the primary drivers. Who is hosting refugees?

More than one-third of the world's refugees live in just seven countries. The largest refugee populations are in Colombia (2.8 million), Germany (2.7 million), Türkiye (2.4 million), Uganda (1.9 million), Iran (1.7 million), Chad (1.5 million), and Pakistan (1.3 million). Some 65 percent of refugees and other people in need of international protection lived in countries neighbouring their countries of origin. Nearly all refugees in Iran and Pakistan are Afghans, while most refugees in Türkiye are Syrians. The vast majority of refugees in Colombia are from Venezuela. Germany hosts a large Ukrainian, Syrian, and Afghan refugee population. A majority of the refugees in Uganda are from South Sudan, and Sudanese refugees make up the largest displaced group in Chad. This pattern confirms a long-established reality. The burden of hosting displaced populations falls overwhelmingly on countries in the immediate neighbourhood of conflict zones, many of which are themselves developing nations. Largest wave of returns in UNHCR history In 2025, the number of refugees and IDPs returning home rose by 50 percent compared with 2024, with just over 14.7 million returning. This marks the largest wave of returns ever recorded by UNHCR.

Some 92 percent of returns were to just six countries: the Democratic Republic of the Congo (3.6 million), Sudan (3.6 million), Syria (3.3 million), Afghanistan (2 million), Ukraine (718,300), and Myanmar (415,200). The scale of returns offers some cause for optimism. However, UNHCR has flagged serious concerns about the conditions people are returning to. UNHCR warns that the conditions



for refugee returns are far from ideal, with many people returning to violence and instability. This raises serious questions about the dangers facing those who go back to their country of origin.

New crisis in Iran and Lebanon Despite a roughly 4 percent decrease in the number of displaced people in 2025, this progress has been overshadowed by Lebanon's fast-growing displacement crisis. Since the US-Israel war on Iran began in late March 2026, Israeli attacks have forcibly displaced more than one million, with a further 3.2 million internally displaced in Iran. The new displacement in the Middle East threatens to reverse the progress recorded in the 2025 data. Ongoing hostilities could push numbers upward again in the next reporting cycle.

A decade of rising displacement When the UN Refugee Convention came in shape in 1951, there were 2.1 million refugees. By 1980, the number surpassed 10 million for the first time. Wars in Afghanistan and Ethiopia during the 1980s caused the number to double to 20 million by 1990. The US invasion of Afghanistan in 2001 and Iraq in 2003, combined with civil wars in South Sudan and Syria, pushed refugee numbers beyond 30 million by the end of 2021. The war in Ukraine, which started in 2022, led to one of the fastest-growing refugee crises since World War II, with 5.7 million people forced to flee Ukraine in less than a year. At the end of 2025, there were approximately 3.7 million Afghan refugees or other people in need of international protection, a decrease of 36 percent from the previous year. This sharp drop reflects both large-scale returns to Afghanistan and updated counting methods.

India dominates global visa programmes, ranks as best exporter of high-skilled talent

New Delhi, June 11: India ranks at or near the top across major visa programmes tracked, including as the number one source of US H-1B visas, number two for UK Skilled Worker visas and number two for EU Blue Cards, a report said on Thursday. India continues to power major global skilled visa pipelines and is poised to benefit from shifting migration patterns as employers pay premiums for scarce talent rather than seeking cost saving, the report from workforce management services firm Deel said. Indians also led in both UAE Golden Visas and standard employment visas while already accounting for 38 per cent



of the UAE's total population. The report, covering data from over 40,000 companies hiring across more than 150 countries, found visa holders consistently earn more than local workers in comparable roles, underscoring that global hiring is driven by skill scarcity rather than wage arbitrage. In the United States, H-1B workers earn a median \$140,000 versus \$130,000 for citizens in similar roles; in the UK Skilled Worker visa holders earn £96,000 versus £87,000 for nation-

als; and in the UAE Golden Visa holders earn 6,05,000 AED compared with 4,59,000 AED for standard employment visa holders. Australia recorded the fastest growth in hiring Indian talent on Deel's platform, surging 724 per cent year-over-year, followed by the UK at 142 per cent and the US at 139 per cent. The UAE remains the top destination for Indian professionals globally, followed by Singapore, the UK, the US, and Canada. The report highlighted growing international

demand for Indian tech talent, particularly across engineering, software development, AI, and digital services. Germany's Opportunity Card programme, designed to attract skilled non-EU workers without requiring a job offer beforehand, has already issued nearly one-third of its total permits to Indians. "Rather than concentrating in a handful of traditional destinations, talent is moving across a broader set of markets," said Lauren Thomas, Economist at Deel. The report said that India may be entering a new phase of increasingly attracting globally trained professionals back home as domestic opportunities expand.

Kuwait reopens airspace after temporary closure amid regional tensions

Kuwait City, June 11: Kuwait reopened its airspace and resumed normal flight operations on Thursday after lifting precautionary restrictions imposed earlier amid heightened regional security tensions.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in Kuwait said air traffic in Kuwaiti airspace had returned to normal following the resolution of the circumstances that prompted the temporary closure. In a statement, the DGCA said operations at Kuwait International Airport had resumed in accordance with approved flight schedules, with airlines returning to normal service, Xinhua News Agency reported.

The authority said it was closely monitoring developments around the clock in coordination with relevant domestic and international authorities to ensure the highest levels of safety and security in the country's airspace. Earlier on Thursday, Kuwait temporarily closed its airspace and diverted flights. At the time, the General Staff of the Kuwaiti Army said air defence systems were intercepting hostile aerial targets to protect the country's airspace and vital facilities. The developments came amid escalating regional tensions after the United States launched fresh strikes on Iran, prompting retaliatory Iranian attacks against U.S. military bases in the region.

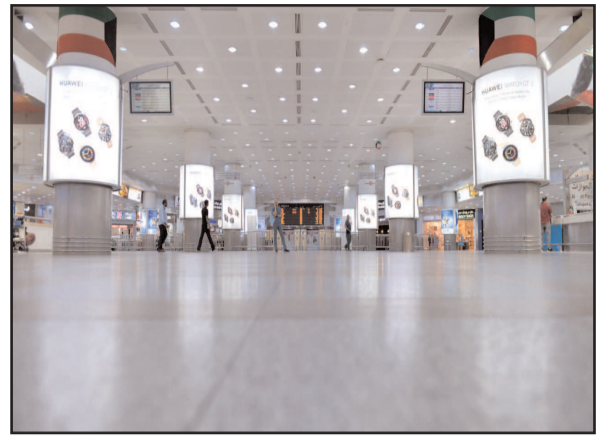
Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard

Corps (IRGC) said on Thursday that it had struck 18 U.S. military targets in Middle Eastern countries, including those at airbases in Kuwait and Bahrain, in response to new U.S. strikes against Iran.

Kuwait on Wednesday condemned what it described as a renewed attack on its territory, calling it a dangerous escalation that threatens civilian lives and critical infrastructure, while Iran said its operation had targeted U.S. military facilities.

On June 6, both Kuwait and Bahrain condemned the renewed Iranian attacks on their countries, calling them a flagrant violation of sovereignty and a dangerous escalation threatening regional stability. Kuwait's Foreign Ministry said on X that the attacks were a "flagrant violation" of Kuwait's sovereignty, security and territorial integrity, as well as a breach of international law, the UN Charter, and Security Council Resolution 2817.

It said the continued attacks marked a dangerous escalation at a time when global efforts are focused on preventing a wider



regional conflict. "The attacks cannot be justified or accepted under any pretext," it said.

Bahrain's Foreign Ministry said in a statement that the attacks posed a threat to the security and stability of the Gulf region.

It called on Iran to stop its attacks, fully reopen the Strait of Hormuz without restrictions, and respect the freedom of maritime navigation under international law.

Earlier, Kuwait and Bahrain both announced their interception of missile and drone attacks, while Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) confirmed attacking the Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait and the US Fifth Fleet headquarters in Bahrain, in retaliation for earlier US attacks on Qeshm Island and Sirik County in southern Iran.

Gold, silver prices fall up to 2 pc amid West Asia tensions

Mumbai, June 11: Gold and silver prices traded lower on Thursday, with precious metals falling by up to 2 per cent amid escalating tensions in the West Asia conflict.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold futures (August) declined as much as 1 per cent or Rs 1,573 to hit an intraday low of Rs 1,46,444 as of around 12 pm.

The yellow metal was trading at Rs 1,47,860, down 0.11 per cent or Rs 157. It touched an intraday high of Rs 1,48,089, up 0.04 per cent or Rs 72 from the previous close.

On the other hand, silver futures (July) were trading at Rs 2,34,500, down Rs 1,005 or 0.43 per cent. The white metal touched an intraday low of Rs 2,30,493, declining 2.12 per cent during the session so far. It recorded an intraday high of Rs 2,35,402, down 0.04 per cent or Rs 103 from the previous close.

Earlier in the day, gold and silver opened at Rs



1,46,518 and Rs 2,31,671, respectively, on the MCX.

In international markets, precious metals also remained under pressure. COMEX silver was trading at \$63.90, down over 1.29 per cent, while COMEX gold was trading 0.68 per cent lower at \$4,105.30 per ounce. According to commodity analysts, precious metals remained under pressure as investors assessed the latest developments in the

West Asia conflict. Gold stabilised near multi-month lows after the US military confirmed the completion of its latest strikes on Iran, raising expectations that diplomatic negotiations could resume. They said easing safe-haven demand, coupled with expectations that US interest rates could remain higher for longer, weighed on bullion prices. Higher interest rates reduce the appeal of non-yielding

assets such as gold and silver. Market participants also continued to monitor inflationary pressures stemming from rising energy prices and their potential impact on the US Federal Reserve's policy path. Meanwhile, crude oil prices surged sharply, with Brent crude rising over 2 per cent to trade near \$95 per barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude climbed 4 per cent to \$93.64 per barrel.

Another ship incident reported off Oman, seeking details, says Indian Embassy

Muscat, June 11: A fresh vessel incident has been reported off Oman's Shinas port, and details are being ascertained, the Indian Embassy in Muscat said. "We have learnt of an incident involving a vessel off Shinas port of Oman, earlier today. We are closely monitoring the situation and coordinating with the local authorities for further details", the embassy said in a post on X. The development marks the third vessel-related incident reported off Oman in recent days.

The first incident involved MT Marivex on June 8, when a fire erupted aboard the vessel carrying 24 Indian seafarers south of the Strait of Hormuz. The fire was reported at around 1:30 pm on Monday, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways said at an inter-ministerial briefing. "This is the preliminary information which we have received. Based on this, as per available information, all Indian seafarers are presently safe. So, whether the ship was hit by a projectile or not, presently we are trying to get absolute information. As you are aware, the fire incident was at 1:30 today," Opesh Kumar Sharma, Director in the Shipping Division, had said.



The official said that they were in touch with the owners and trying to ascertain the facts, adding that they were also in touch with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Indian mission in Oman. The second incident on June 10 involved an attack on a commercial vessel, Settebello, off the coast of Oman. Of the 24 Indian crew members onboard the vessel, 21 were rescued while three others were killed. In a statement on Thursday, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal said that three Indians seafarers who were reported missing are now confirmed dead.

"It is deeply unfortunate to learn of the tragic incident aboard the Palau-flagged MT Settebello. Sadly, three Indian seafarers initially reported missing are now confirmed dead after bodies have been located and identified," Sonowal posted on X. "This is a profound loss to our maritime family. The Modi Govt stands firmly with the bereaved during this difficult hour and is fully committed to supporting the next of kin. I have directed officials to ensure immediate repatriation of the rescued crew members and swift return of the mortal remains of the deceased for their final rites," he added.

“Give Me an Advance Right Now”: Vishwak Sen’s Demand to Allu Aravind



The trailer launch event of Deewana was packed with entertainment, emotions and plenty of laughter. While the trailer itself received a positive response from the audience, the fun conversation between Vishwak Sen and Allu Aravind became one of the biggest highlights of the evening. During the event, Vishwak Sen spoke about producers in his trademark humorous style. He joked that most producers lose their happiness after making films. Vishwak Sen said, “When people produce movies, they usually become tired, lose their smile and even lose their hair. But Allu Aravind sir’s gang is different. They are the only handsome producers’

gang.” His funny remark immediately brought laughter and applause from everyone present at the venue. Even Allu Aravind was seen enjoying the joke. Also in same event, the veteran producer revealed that both of them had been discussing a possible film together for the last five to six years. Allu Aravind said, “Vishwak Sen and I have been thinking about doing a film together for the last five or six years.” Without missing a beat, Vishwak Sen quickly responded with another humorous comment. He asked, “So, will you give me an advance now?” The audience burst into laughter once again after hearing

his response. However, Allu Aravind was ready with a witty answer of his own. The producer replied, “Tell me how much money you charge, and I will give it.” The exchange created a cheerful atmosphere at the event and quickly became one of the most talked-about moments on social media. Directed by Srikanth Singisetty and produced by Vasudev Koppineni and Sridevi Karyampudi, Deewana is scheduled for release on June 19. While the trailer generated excitement for the film, the humorous exchange between Vishwak Sen and Allu Aravind undoubtedly stole the spotlight at the event.

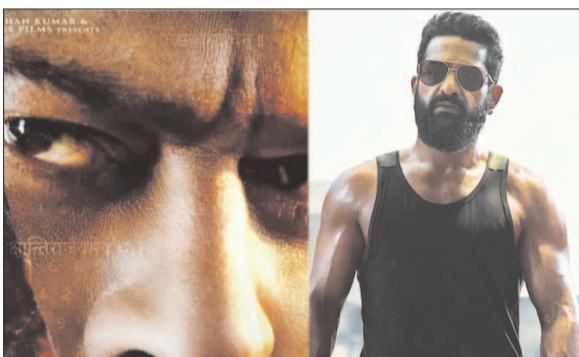
I will watch Sing Geetham for the legend - Trivikram



Legendary director Singeetham Srinivasa Rao is coming up with a novel and unique concept in his Sing Geetham, even at the age of 94. The movie is totally crafted as a musical fantasy adventure and it depicts the selfishness, innocence, all emotions flowing through songs. Highly revered and popular writer-director Trivikram Srinivas gave a special video byte about the film. He said, “My respect for a path breaking filmmaker like Singeetham Srinivasa Rao is always high. I salute his passion and penchant to create a unique experience every time he directs a film.”

He further continued to say, “I believe Legends need our respect and Sing Geetham is a legendary effort from a great craftsman. I am going to watch it for the legend and unique experience. What about you?” The movie is releasing on 12th June and Devi Sri Prasad has composed all songs with Nag Ashwin as producing it with International standard technical brilliance.

Fauzi and Dragon, Dealing with same Theme?



Two of the biggest projects that are coming up very soon are none other than Prabhas’ Fauzi and Jr NTR’s Dragon. While the film of NTR, directed by KGF fame Prashanth Neel, is planned to get released in June 2027, currently, there is no clarity about when Prabhas’ Fauzi is getting released. However, a piece of news is popping up that these two movies have a similar theme. So, what’s that? It’s known that Fauzi is the story of a soldier back in the World War II era, and what happens when that soldier comes to Hyderabad and takes part in the armed struggle here. However, after the release of Champion movie, the director of the film, Hanu Raghavapudi, is said to have made lots of changes to the script and

turned that into a new story. Anyway, the main theme is patriotism only. Even in Dragon, though it is said that the film deals with the export of opium and more, it’s about a secret spy who fights for the country. And none other than Jr NTR will be playing that secret agent, as per the reports. Imagine, after RRR, this is the second such patriotic film for Jr NTR, though even War 2 is a similar movie but hasn’t put the hero on the right side, and the content didn’t work too, and if this film clicks, the result will be like anything. Even for Prabhas, this is going to be a big stunner for sure, as this would be his first-ever patriotic movie to date. Hope both the heroes and their directors rock with the output.

Sukumar & Charan’s Movie: when will it take off?



Finally, the wait and weight of “Peddi” is completely over for Mega Powerstar Ram Charan, as the film got released on June 4th after multiple delays, and has collected more than ₹330 crores already. As the film has worked out at the box office, Ram Charan would definitely be feeling relieved because a couple of years ago, Game Changer disappointed him and his fans mightily. So, what’s next for the mega hero? In fact, long back it was confirmed that the maker of Pushpa 2, Sukumar, who has earlier crafted “Rangasthalam” with Ram Charan, a rural drama that paved the way for many other such village-backdrop movies to be taken up in Tollywood, is teaming up with the mega hero again. After a decade, both Sukumar and Ram Charan are said to be teaming up, but it’s coming out that the movie might not get launched

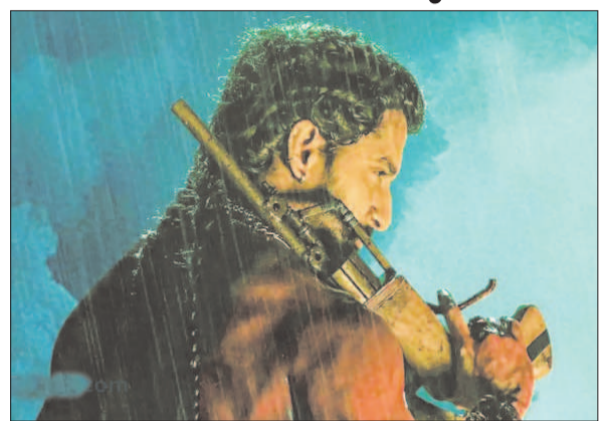
immediately. Though Sukumar has been waiting for Charan for more than 1.5 years already, ever since the release of Pushpa 2, the actor wants to take a good three-month break if reports are to be believed. Ram Charan has worked pretty hard for the movie Peddi, and he has gone through lots of physical transformations to play the role of various athletes in the movie. At the same time, he has met with a couple of injuries too, and is currently visiting various places to promote the film wearing that hand-wrap only. After going through all of this, the mega hero wants to take a break for some time before actually resuming anything related to the films, says a source. While Chiranjeevi and Ram Charan’s film will be formally launched with a muhurat event very soon, the shooting might not happen until three months for now.



Nani's the Paradise: why no Clarification On Delay?

Despite claiming multiple times that they are not shying away from the August 21st release date, a date that Nani’s upcoming film The Paradise locked after moving out of the March 2026 clash with the then-planned Peddi movie, there’s no sound yet again. With Raviteja’s Irumudi locking the date of The Paradise, things are very clear from the trade circles that the Dasara director’s movie is not hitting cinemas as planned.

Even for a couple of months, producer Sudhakar Cherukuri maintained that they are hitting cinemas on August 21st as planned, and even gave assurance about it. However, reports are coming that the film’s budget has shot up massively and the makers wanted to do some sort of magic for recovery. Keeping the Baahubali and Dhurandhar technique in mind, they have now decided to release the movie in two parts. Some reports are doing rounds that currently they are filming both parts simultaneously, meaning the extra footage



needed to extend Part 1 and the extra footage needed to fill Part 2, at the same time. That’s the reason behind the movie’s delay, and that’s why they have given up the August 21st slot much earlier. If the production house fails to give clarity over the same, fans might keep believing this story only. On the other hand, these days many big films, including the likes of Peddi, Toxic, and many others, haven’t stuck to the announced release date, and their change of plans is severely disrupting the plans of many other small films and medium-budget movies.

Deewana Trailer Promises an Emotional one-Sided Love story



The trailer of Deewana has been released, and it gives a glimpse into an emotional love story filled with romance, pain, and determination. The film appears to focus on a young man who deeply loves a girl but struggles to win her heart. As the makers themselves say, every great love story starts as a one-sided love story, and Deewana seems to explore that idea in an honest way. The trailer introduces a cheerful and

innocent heroine who shares a good friendship with the hero. However, the hero’s feelings go beyond friendship. He falls deeply in love and dreams of spending his life with her. While he remains sincere about his feelings, the journey is not easy for him. As the trailer progresses, viewers get to see several emotional moments. The hero experiences happiness when he is close to the girl but he also faces heartbreak

and disappointment. Some scenes suggest that the heroine may not feel the same way about him creating a major conflict in the story. Apart from romance, the trailer also hints at strong emotional drama and action. There are glimpses of fights, intense confrontations and situations that push the hero to his limits. These moments indicate that Deewana is not just a love story but also a tale of personal struggle.

NBK111 Glimpse: NBK's Perfect B'Day Treat

God of Masses Nandamuri Balakrishna has been giving huge blockbusters back to back. Director Gopichand Malineni is presenting him at his swaggy and stylish best in their upcoming film, NBK111. The film produced by Venkata Satish Kilaru is gearing up to rewrite box office history yet again. The glimpse takes us to 1993 Bombay and we see NBK driving a bike in rain attacking the goons. His swag while lighting the cigar, carrying the chains and weights, driving a bulldozer against into the goons gang with ruthlessness and unabashed energy is sensational.

by TaboolaSponsored LinksPromoted Links You May Like Trisha's Political Debut: Is Muhurtham Fixed? | Trisha's Political Debut: Is Muhurtham Fixed? However, superstar Vijay is said to be very keen to introduce Trisha into active politics as soon as possible. Makers have mentioned, “A lifetime of legacy. A never before seen attitude. A level of



swag that refuses to age,” on X and the glimpse represents it perfectly. We see NBK playing a character with swag and style that we have never seen him before and the action choreography is truly International. Production values, tone and bloody energy in the visuals is addictive. BGM by S Thaman elevates the scenes and screen presence of Balakrishna to next level. This is a perfect birthday treat from the team and NBK to the audiences. The glimpse projects the ambitious action in the film to unprecedented heights.

Bollywood's biggest star to Enter Sandeep Reddy Vanga's World?

A fresh buzz in Bollywood is grabbing the attention of movie fans. Reports suggest that superstar Salman Khan and filmmaker Sandeep Reddy Vanga may team up for a new film. Although there has been no official announcement from either side, the rumours alone have created a lot of excitement among audiences. Salman Khan is one of the biggest stars in Indian cinema. Over the years, he has delivered several blockbuster films and built a strong fan base across the country. Movies such as Wanted, Dabangg, Tiger, and Bajrangi Bhaijaan have helped him maintain his position as one of Bollywood’s most popular actors. His films are often known for action, entertainment, emotions, and larger-than-life characters. On the other hand, Sandeep Reddy Vanga has become one of the most talked-about directors in recent years. He earned fame through films like Arjun Reddy, Kabir Singh, and Animal. His movies are known for their intense sto-



rytelling, strong emotions, and powerful characters. Vanga’s unique filmmaking style has sparked discussions among audiences and critics alike. The possibility of these two popular names working together has naturally caught everyone’s attention. Fans believe the project could offer something different from Salman Khan’s usual films. Many are curious to know whether Vanga would present the actor in a darker and more intense role than audiences have seen before.

Can these five films stop Peddi's Blitzkrieg?



Despite some critics lambasting the movie for being routine fare with the heroine’s skin show becoming the most hated point of the movie, Ram Charan’s latest outing “Peddi” has stormed into the three hundred crores club quite easily. In just five days, the film has garnered more than Rs.330 crores gross from the box office, and is still continuing to show its power on the weekdays also. Well, what could stop this collection’s blitzkrieg? Surely another good film should do, or Peddi would get the attention as long as it is running in theatres. One of the first films to arrive in theatres after the Peddi storm is none other than veteran director Singeetham Srinivasa

Rao’s Sing Geetham, which is hitting cinemas on June 12th. As the film is produced by Nag Ashwin of Kalki 2898 AD fame, surely it’s getting terrific publicity and great attention as well. Though the cast of the film are not crowd pullers, it’s Singeetham and Nag Ashwin who are right now acting as the driving forces. If this film gets a blockbuster talk, surely it will have a bit of impact on Peddi’s run. And the following week, on June 19th, more than a dozen movies are hitting the cinemas. Of them, Samantha’s Maa Inti Bangaram is considered to be the biggest contender as the film marks the return of the senior heroine to a full-length role after a long

time. Along with this movie, another youthful film Deewana is also hitting cinemas. Vadde Naveen’s re-entry film Transfer Trimurthulu is also hitting cinemas on the same day. Along with them, two talked-about dubbing movies, Vijay Anthony’s Vanda Devullu and Balan: The Boy, which are carrying super positive buzz, are also releasing on the same day. In fact, schools in Telangana will reopen from June 15th, and so will colleges, and that would make the family audience super busy from then on. That naturally cuts down the flow towards the theatres. And if any of these films actually make an impact, then Peddi’s dream run might get affected a little.

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

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

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

Here are five football legends who are likely playing their final FIFA World Cup. 1. Lionel Messi (Argentina)

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

The eight-time Ballon d'Or winner ended decades of debate by lift-



ing the trophy in Qatar and now has a chance to achieve another historic feat, helping Argentina become the first nation since Brazil in 1962 to successfully defend the World Cup title. Regardless of how far Argentina go, Messi's legacy as one of football's greatest players is already secure. 2. Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal)

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

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

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

4. Thomas Muller (Germany)

A World Cup winner in 2014 and one of Germany's greatest tournament performers, Thomas Müller has built

a reputation for thriving under pressure. His intelligence, movement and knack for producing decisive moments have made him a fan favourite for more than a decade. As Germany look to reclaim their place among football's elite, the 36-year-old will hope to sign off with one final memorable campaign.

5. Neymar (Brazil) Brazil forward Neymar has already indicated the FIFA World Cup 2026 will be the last of his career. The 34-year-old made the statement in response to a social media post from FIFA showing images of Neymar's career along with the words, "We've watched him grow up." "The last dance," the Santos attacker replied in the comments section. Neymar, Brazil's all-time leading scorer with 79 goals in 128 international matches, has not played for Brazil since suffering a ruptured anterior cruciate ligament in October 2023. However, he has been included in the squad and would look to turn things around for Brazil, who are searching for their sixth FIFA World Cup trophy in 24 years.

Rohit, Virat's presence an advantage for captain Gill in 2027 WC: Raina

New Delhi, June 11 : Former India batter Suresh Raina touched upon the importance of ODI skipper Shubman Gill having veterans Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma's experience by his side in the 2027 World Cup, saying, "The presence of experience from the two veterans can make all the difference."

Kohli and Rohit, who have retired from T20I and Test cricket, remain exclusively active in ODIs. During the 2019 ODI World Cup, Rohit was the top scorer with 648 runs in nine games at an average of 81.00 with five hundreds and a half-century. He also became the first batsman in World Cup history to score five centuries in a single edition.

In the 2023 edition, Kohli was the leading run-scorer, amassing a historic 765 runs in 11 innings. Sachin Tendulkar's record (673 runs) for most runs in a single edition. Kohli was named the Player of the Tournament.

"Physical and mental preparation will be key for Virat Kohli. He looks very strong in white-ball cricket. The same goes for Rohit Sharma. Both are proven run-scorers in ICC World Cups. Rohit topped the run charts in 2019, and Virat did the same in 2023. They have also won ICC trophies, which adds immense value to their leadership and presence. They know how to handle pressure in knockout games. They have been there, done that," Raina said on JioStar.

"Experience matters in big tournaments. The young batters around them will benefit from their guidance. For Shubman Gill, captaining India in a World Cup, having Rohit and Virat alongside him will be a huge advantage. Their experience will be invaluable on and off the field. In a high-pressure tournament like the World Cup, that kind of presence can make all the difference," he added.

Meanwhile, former spinner and coach Anil Kumble praised Gill for not letting the captaincy affect his batting. "Shubman Gill is a very experienced captain. We have seen it in the IPL, he has rotated his bowlers well, used his spinners at the right time, and handled pressure situations with clarity. His form with the bat has not dipped. Sometimes, when players take up the captaincy role, they go through a dip in form. That is not the case with Shubman. He does not let the pressure of captaincy affect his batting. What helps him is the presence of experienced players around him.

"The Indian ODI team is very strong. Having players like Virat



Kohli and Rohit Sharma on the field helps him read the game better. They can guide him with field placements, bowling changes, and key tactical decisions. Shreyas Iyer is now the T20I captain, and he can share his inputs as well. So, Shubman doesn't have to carry the burden alone. He has the right mindset and the right people around him to succeed," he said.

India will play three ODIs against Afghanistan from June 13 in Dharamsala, followed by fixtures in Lucknow (June 17) and Chennai (June 20).

However, Kohli has been ruled out of the upcoming three-ODI series against Afghanistan after injuring his hamstring during Royal Challengers Bengaluru's run to the IPL 2026 title last week. Yashasvi Jaiswal has replaced him in the squad.

Delhi-born Nikhil Chaudhary added to Australia squad for Bangladesh T20I

Sydney, June 11 : Australia have added Delhi-born uncapped spinner Nikhil Chaudhary to their squad for their upcoming T20I series against Bangladesh. The 30-year-old drafted into the squad following Travis Head's withdrawal on personal leave.

Chaudhary could become the only Indian born player to play for Australia in more than 60 years after the Hobart Hurricanes all-rounder was called up for the T20I series against Bangladesh.

Chaudhary, currently playing for JB Bruges in the EUT20 competition in Belgium after a stint with Delhi Capitals in the IPL, is set to join the Australian squad in Dhaka on Friday. Born in Delhi before moving Down Under at the start of the decade, the leg-spin all-rounder will compete for a middle-order berth with the likes of Joel Davies and Aaron Hardie, who are also in the T20I



squad only. Australia selector Tony Dodemaide is confident the bowling all-rounder can perform well should he win selection.

"Nikhil has been a player of national interest for some time. He was a stand-by player for this tour, joining the squad at pre-season camps in Brisbane and comes in as a replacement for Travis Head," Dodemaide said.

"The panel has been impressed by his BBL form, particularly last sea-

son, leading to his addition to the squad. He has also been part of the Delhi Capitals setup in this year's IPL.

"Nikhil will gain invaluable experience in Bangladesh and will be in contention to play his first game for Australia when we sit down to pick a team for the opening T20 fixture here next week," he added. Born in Delhi, Chaudhary played 14 limited-overs games for the state side Punjab alongside the likes of Harbhajan Singh,

Shubman Gill and Abhishek Sharma, and trialled with the IPL side Mumbai Indians.

He was visiting an uncle in Queensland when the pandemic shut international borders, seeing him pivot to furthering his cricket ambitions in Australia. The three-match T20I series will be played entirely in Chattogram, with the first match scheduled for June 17. The second T20I will take place on June 19, while the third and final match of the series is set to be played on June 21.

Australia T20I squad: Mitchell Marsh (c), Xavier Bartlett, Nikhil Chaudhary, Cooper Connolly, Tim David, Joel Davies, Nathan Ellis, Cameron Green, Aaron Hardie, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Spencer Johnson, Matthew Kuhnemann, Riley Meredith, Josh Philippe, Matthew Renshaw, Adam Zampa.

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

New Delhi, June 11 : Beth Barrett-Wild, tournament director of the 2026 Women's T20 World Cup, said she is excited for a nation "to fall in love with women's cricket" as ticket sales for the 12-team mega event have touched the 200,000 mark.

Billed as the biggest-ever Women's T20 World Cup, the tenth edition of the tournament will see 33 games being played around seven venues. The competition will start on June 12 in Edgbaston and end on July 5 at Lord's.

"We have been building towards this moment probably for at least 12 months, but between 12 to 18 months now. We have set out with really big ambitions for this tournament. Our vision is to bring women's cricket into the mainstream.

"That is all about scale and status and real perception shifts around the women's game. We really want a nation in the world to really fall in love with women's cricket this summer and to recognise the world-class quality that it epitomises now," Beth told IANS in an exclusive conversation ahead of the competition on Thursday.

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

"One of our key objectives for this tournament actually is around player satisfaction. So we want to make sure the players have the best possible experience and sort of our KPIs is around that player experience point. That's everything from their travel and accommodation through to the facilities that they're gonna be playing and training at through the tournament.

"There's been a lot of attention to detail on that, but also a lot of work going in behind the scenes and off-field around and really growing the audience for the women's game, especially across England and Wales," she added.

The tournament has an ambition to sell 270,000 tickets, and surpass the box office sales done during the iconic 2020 edition in Australia, which famously concluded with a sold-out final at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Beth, who played hockey and cricket before joining the England & Wales Cricket

Board (ECB) in 2013, said that benchmark itself was a reflection of how far the women's game had progressed.

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

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

On the insights ticket sales have shown so far, Beth revealed that 36 percent of ticket purchases for this tournament had been made by women. "We've had to look really carefully at this - like the female toilets, because a lot of our venues, the way that they're set up from a historic fan and audience perspective for cricket, it is a traditionally very male-dominated audience.

"For men's cricket, that is still absolutely the case. So we know, for example, for an England men's fixture, roughly 80 percent of ticket purchases will be male. Whereas for this Women's T20 World Cup, we're seeing, I think, 36 percent of ticket purchases are female. So that's our highest percentage of female ticket purchases across any of our products - whether that's our England Men's Test cricket, T20 cricket, The Hundred and etc.

"36 percent female ticket purchases for this World Cup is the highest percentage there. We're around 23 percent kids' tickets. - that's slightly lower than The Hundred as it's played in the heart of our school summer holidays and it very much is targeting that family audience.

"Whereas actually I think for the Women's T20 World Cup in terms of our audience strategy, yes, it is. I think women's cricket and women's sport naturally entices a slightly more female and younger demographic, but that's not been our sole focus," she said. She outlined four distinct audience groups the tournament was targeting: "devotees" already



engaged with cricket in all formats; "all format fans" open to the women's game; "cricket converts" drawn in through The Hundred; and "bandwagoners" who simply love a major event and hope to see more of them in rest of the summer.

"But I think it's really important actually in terms of our audience segmentation - it's not all about going after a new audience. A lot of it actually is about just trying to convert our core audience and trying to just shift their perceptions, I suppose. You started there in terms of what 2017 did to help shift perceptions around sports.

"There is still a perception gap that we're trying to close. So it's actually one of our big key and long-term KPIs is that we want to close the perception that cricket is still a primarily male-dominated sport. We know that of UK sports fans, 40 percent of those still primarily view cricket primarily as a sport for men and boys in this country and we want to close that gap," she said.

Organisers are targeting a six percent reduction in the number of fans who view cricket as primarily a male sport, aiming instead for a perception of it as gender-equal. "We want to see a 6 percent increase in the number of fans that view cricket as a gender equal sport.

"There's a big perception shift still to be done and the audience profile of the fans that we're gonna be attracting to the venues is a big part of that. It's not to say that we're trying to educate them. I think we're just trying to showcase what a world-class proposition women's cricket is now," added Beth. She further explained how the tournament's broadcast quality would play a key role in that perception shift, with the ICC deploying a 30-plus camera operation including drones, spider cams and buggy cams - the same production standard used for a men's global event. "What you'd expect for a men's game, we're gonna see through this tournament. But then also some of the story-

telling that we'll do through the analytics will be really showcasing how women's cricket is not any less good than the men's cricket.

"It's just different and we know, for example, we've got some amazing stats that show that there's just more precision and control in the women's game. So from a bowling perspective, more of a higher percentage of deliveries go on to hit the stumps and that's really cool just because it's just different, right?"

"The modes of dismissal, therefore, are different. There's a statistic as well that says that definitely in T20 cricket, there are more twos run in the women's game than there are in the men's game.

"So we're gonna highlight and showcase that and try to get people excited about that. It's just a journey that we need to take fans on in terms of really highlighting exactly how good the women's game is now and using data and insight and production quality in a way to hopefully do that," she said.

The tournament's campaign slogan, "Catch the Spirit", reflects what Beth described as the infectious and unique character of pulling more fans towards women's cricket. "We have big ambitions for it. It's personally something that I'm incredibly proud of to be a part of and I know the team, I think, are as well (feeling the same).

"We're just really excited. Like it's kind of feels like we've been working on it for a little while now. So we're all desperate to get going. But we've got a massive, massive ambition for this tournament, and we're coming into it with a wave of momentum and strong foundations and all of the right conditions to really make sure that we're making it stick because, as we always say, this is - it's more than a moment in time." "It's about really making sure that we're using the tournament to shift thinking, feeling, behaviour and perceptions of women's cricket long-term. I'm just really, really excited for the world to fall in love with women's cricket this summer," she concluded.

realme introduces the realme P4R 5G with a Segment-Leading 8000mAh Titan Battery starting at INR 16,999

Visakhapatnam, June 11, realme, the most popular smartphone brand among Indian youth, today announced the launch of the realme P4R 5G, featuring the segment's largest battery capacity at 8000mAh. Designed for young users who demand dependable battery life, smooth performance, immersive entertainment, and intelligent everyday experiences, the realme P4R 5G is equipped with the segment's only 5300mm² AirFlow Vapour Chamber, practical AI features, and a durable design, delivering a smooth and seamless experience across gaming, study, entertainment and daily life. The realme P4R 5G offers 3 days of use after a full charge and despite the powerful battery is only 8.8mm thin and 224g light. Complementing the battery, the realme P4R 5G also features Bypass Charging, and One Tap Cooling helping manage heat and support stable 60fps for BGMI and Freefire making it ideal for gamers. It is also suitable for



long-term usage owing to its 7 years of battery health, 2+3 system updates, 4-year fluency, and Extended Use Care, which improves overall system smoothness by 20%. 8000mAh Titan Battery with 45W Fast Charge for Long-Lasting Endurance and Reliable Everyday Performance. The realme P4R 5G sets a new benchmark in its segment with a massive 8000mAh Titan Battery, delivering up to three days of usage on a full charge while maintaining a slim 8.8mm profile. Designed to support extended gaming sessions, streaming, social media usage, and daily productivity, the large-capacity battery helps users stay connected for longer

with reduced charging interruptions. Enhancing long-term reliability, the battery is engineered to for 3 days endurance with a single charge and maintains over 80% battery health even after 7 years of use and supports up to 1600 charging cycles. The device also integrates intelligent battery management technologies including AI Long-Life Algorithm, AI Night Charging Mode, AI Cold Charging Mode, and One Tap Cooling to optimize charging efficiency, improve battery longevity, and manage temperature during intensive usage scenarios. Complementing the large battery is the segment's fastest 45W Fast Charge, enabling faster charging when users need power quickly. The device further supports all-scenario bypass charging to reduce heat during gaming and heavy workloads, while wired reverse charging allows the smartphone to serve as a reliable power source for compatible electronic devices.

Finalisation of semi ring road alignment likely by this month end

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, June 11 Finalisation of the alignment of the proposed 102-km semi-ring road in Visakhapatnam is likely to be finalised by this month-end.

Aimed at decongesting the route to the Bhogapuram International Airport, the government has proposed the semi-ring road from Rambilli to Bhogapuram, connecting the three districts of Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam and Anapalle. Visakhapatnam Metro politan Region Development Authority (VMRDA), which takes up the project, sets a firm deadline to finalise the road alignment.



The government plans to go for a land pooling system, as the project requires over 12,000 acres. Work on land acquisition will begin once the alignment process is completed. During a review meeting, VMRDA Commissioner

N. Tej Bharat directed officials to ready the final alignment plan by the end of June. Focusing on comprehensive planning, he directed the consultants to identify the requirements for the construction of the major and minor bridges along the route.

YogaAndhra program at Naval Dockyard

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, June 11 District Collector Abhishek Kishore said that all people should participate in the YogaAndhra program and make the World Yoga Day program to be organized at RK Beach on the 21st a success.

As part of the YogaAndhra program to mark the 12th International Yoga Day, a yoga program was organized at the Naval Dockyard on Thursday morning under the joint auspices of the Indian Navy and the District Administration and AYUSH Department. Eastern Naval Command Vice Admiral Sushil Menon, District Collector Abhishek Kishore, and Joint Collector Vidyadhari Jyoti inaugurated the program.



A yoga asana program was organized under the leadership of Andhra University Assistant Professor Dr. Tulasi Rao and the AYUSH team. Speaking on the occasion, the District Collector said that as part of the programs organized by Abhishek Kishore to commemorate the 12th International Yoga Day to be organized on the 21st of this month, a yoga program

was organized at Naval Dockyard today. Similarly, yoga programs will be organized at Rushikonda Beach on the 12th, at Mudassarlowa Golf Court on the 15th, and on the 21st, International Yoga Day will be organized at RK Beach. He called on all the people to participate in these programs. He said that everyone should practice yoga



every day and thus improve their health. He wanted to make everyone aware of the importance of yoga. Joint Collector Vidyadhari, RDO Akhil Suryatej, retired Wing Commander PC Shekhar, AYUSH Department RDD Srinivasulu, Nodal Officer Dr. Chandra shekhar, Naval officers, district officers, ex-servicemen, employees and students participated in this program.

MLA Kala Venkata Rao meets newly appointed R&B Deputy Executive Engineer

-Discussion Focuses on Road Development and Infrastructure Projects in Cheepurupalli Constituency

Vizianagaram (Cheepurupalli), June 11 (Skyline): Cheepurupalli MLA and senior leader K. Kala Venkata Rao met newly appointed Roads and Buildings (R&B) Department Deputy Executive Engineer (Dy EE) K. Narayana Reddy of Gajapathinagar during a courtesy visit on Thursday.

During the meeting, the two discussed various infrastructure development initiatives, including road improvement works and building construction projects within the constituency. The official briefed the MLA on the progress and current status of ongoing R&B road projects and



highlighted proposals for new roads that are considered essential for public needs. Details regarding pending fund approvals were also discussed. Speaking on the occasion, MLA Kala Venkata Rao stressed the importance of improving transportation facilities across the constituency, particularly in rural areas. He directed

officials to ensure that all ongoing projects are completed within the stipulated timeframe while maintaining quality standards. The MLA also assured full support for securing approvals and funds for newly proposed development works aimed at strengthening the constituency's infrastructure.

Huge incentive for small and marginal farmers to grow fruit orchards: Dist Collector S Ramsunder Reddy

Vizianagaram, June 11 (Skyline): Small and marginal farmers in all villages of Vizianagaram district should take up fruit orchard cultivation under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and develop economically, said District Collector S. Ramsunder Reddy. He revealed that the government is providing wide-ranging incentives for the cultivation of horticultural crops in rain-fed and irrigated lands for the financial year 2026-27. He said that through this scheme, horticultural crops like mango, cashew, custard apple, sweet potato, lemon, guava, Taiwan guava, sapota, coconut, allaneredu, tamarind, pomegranate, fig, big plum, avocado, jackfruit, dragon fruit, rose, jasmine, groundnut, cocoa, jafra



(sindhuri), oil palm and other crops can be grown. It was stated that the government will bear the maintenance and upkeep costs for 2 to 3 years depending on the crops. It was explained that payments will be made in the form of wages and in material form through the Employment Guarantee Scheme for work like digging holes, planting saplings, watering, spraying pesticides, removing weeds, and protecting crops.

Taking a coconut plantation as an example, he said that 60 plants will have to be planted in one acre. He said that the government will spend Rs. 48,118 in the first year, Rs. 24,279 in the second year, and Rs. 26,274 in the third year, for a total of Rs. 99,183. He explained that Rs. 55,977 will be in the form of wages and Rs. 43,206 in the form of material will be provided to the farmers.



He said that in the last financial year 2025-26, various horticultural crops were cultivated in 1,030 acres in the district. He revealed that a target of 3,000 acres of horticultural crops has been set for this financial year 2026-27. Interested small and marginal farmers are advised to submit applications by contacting the relevant Mandal Employment Guarantee Office, Village Field Assistants or the Plantation

Manager at the District DAWMA Office, having a job card in their possession. For more information, the plantation manager can be contacted on mobile number: 7995551722. District Collector S. Ramsunder Reddy called on farmers to take advantage of this opportunity and earn a stable income while also contributing to environmental conservation.

Bio-inputs centre inaugurated in Bhupalapuram

Vizianagaram (Gurla), June 11 (Skyline): A Bio-Inputs Resource Centre (BRC) was inaugurated in Bhupalapuram village of Gurla mandal in Vizianagaram district on Thursday to promote natural farming and provide farmers with organic agricultural inputs.

The centre was inaugurated by Additional DPM for Natural Farming, Swami Naidu. Speaking on the occasion, he said excessive use of chemical fertilizers is affecting soil fertility and stressed the need for sustainable farming practices. He explained that the centre would supply natural farming inputs such as Jeevamrutham, Ghana Jeevamrutham, Beejamrutham and



Neemastram to farmers. He said natural farming helps reduce cultivation costs, increase farm income and improve the overall livelihood of farmers. He encouraged farmers to adopt eco-friendly agricultural methods for long-term benefits. NFA Shankar, Marketing NFA Ramesh and Gurla ZPTC member Sheera Appala Naidu attended the programme. The centre will be managed by

BRC owner Sunkari Narayana Rao, Kadagala Majja Rao, Farmer Master Trainer Pilla Rajeswari and Kuriminelli Santoshi Kumari. Organisers said the facility is expected to benefit farmers from 10 to 15 nearby villages by providing easy access to natural farming inputs. Farmers and members of women's self-help groups participated in large numbers.

GITAM to Organise 'BioMed Bharat 2026'

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, June 11 To foster healthcare innovation and empower young minds to develop affordable, impactful medical technologies, GITAM (Deemed to be University) has officially launched BioMed Bharat 2026 - Biomedical Device Innovation Hackathon. Spearheaded by the GITAM Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (GIMSR), the initiative aims to bridge the gap between engineering and medicine by bringing together interdisciplinary teams of students and researchers. The official event brochure was released on Thursday

by GITAM Vice-Chancellor Prof. Eroll D'Souza, Pro Vice-Chancellor Dr. B. Gitanjali, and Registrar Prof. D. Gunasekharan. The national-level hackathon challenges participants to ideate, design, and prototype biomedical devices tailored to solve real-world clinical challenges in India. The competition is open to undergraduate, postgraduate, and PhD students from recognized institutions across the country. Interested participants must form teams consisting of exactly three members and register through the official GITAM website. Following multiple



rigorous rounds of virtual evaluation and expert mentoring, the final short-listed teams will be invited to the GITAM Visakhapatnam campus in September 2026 for the final prototype development phase and the grand finale. To incentivize and accelerate the best ideas, and organizers have

announced a total prize pool of ₹4.5 lakh, with the winning team receiving a cash prize of ₹1 lakh and the runner-up team being awarded ₹50,000. Beyond the cash rewards, selected final teams will receive comprehensive support including expert mentorship, translational research guidance, and industry networking

opportunities. To ease their participation, GITAM is also providing travel reimbursement and accommodation facilities during the grand finale. Furthermore, standout projects will receive potential incubation support through the proposed GITAM MedTech Innovation ecosystem, which is being set up in collaboration with Blockchain for Impact. University leadership emphasized that BioMed Bharat 2026 is designed to be a launchpad for the next generation of healthcare entrepreneurs and vital medical technologies.

Rs.20 wage dispute ends in tragedy; senior police officials inspect crime

Vizianagaram (Garividi), June 11 (Skyline): A heated dispute over ₹20 in wage payments turned fatal in Sivaram village of Garividi mandal, resulting in the death of a 45-year-old man and prompting a police investigation.

According to police, Pachipala Kanakaraju (45) and his brother-in-law Majji Srinu, both migrant labourers, had been working at Isukapalem in Padma nabham mandal. After returning to their native village, an argument erupted over the distribution of wages. Kanakaraju reportedly paid Srinu Rs.110, while the latter claimed he was entitled to Rs.130 and demanded the remaining Rs 20. The disagreement escalated when Srinu allegedly attacked Kanakaraju with a stick, striking him on the



head. The victim sustained serious injuries and was rushed to KGH Hospital in Visakhapatnam, where he succumbed to his injuries while undergoing treatment on Tuesday night. Following a complaint lodged by the deceased's wife, Sujatha, Garividi police registered a case and initiated an investigation. On Thursday morning,

senior police officials, including Cheepurupalli DSP S.Raghavulu, CI G. Shankar Rao, and Garividi SI B. Lokeshwara Rao, visited the scene of the offence at Sivaram village. Police registered Crime No. 30/2026 under Section 103(1) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and are continuing their investigation into the incident.

Flipkart Group launches Meta affiliate partnerships to Power India's Creator Commerce Revolution

■ The experience enables creators to tag products from Flipkart and Myntra directly in Facebook posts and Reels, creating a seamless, one-tap path from discovery to purchase
■ From influence to income, the partnership creates a direct monetisation path for India's micro and nano creator community
■ Brands and sellers gain a new, high-intent route to consumers through content that is contextual, authentic and culturally relevant
Visakhapatnam, 11th June, 2026: Flipkart Group, India's home-grown e-commerce marketplace, through Flipkart and Myntra, today announced that it has joined as a Meta affiliate

partner to scale creator-led commerce in India by making product discovery and shopping more seamless for customers. The partnership enables creators to discover and tag products from Flipkart and Myntra directly within their posts and Reels through affiliate integrations, making it easier for consumers to discover and shop for products seamlessly. The partnership launches on Facebook, with Instagram as the next phase of a planned rollout across Meta's platforms. Flipkart Group identified this shift in consumer behaviour two years ago and has been systematically building for it through investments in creator infrastructure, content-led commerce, and platforms like Creatorhood and Affluencer. The partnership under-



scores the broader shift in how digital commerce is evolving in India: from search-led transactions to discovery-led, creator-influenced shopping. As social platforms become important discovery destinations, especially for GenZ customers, the Flipkart Group is bringing together content, creators, brands, sellers and trusted commerce infrastructure. For shoppers, the experience is simple: they see a product in a creator's post or Reel, tap the product tag, and complete the purchase on Flipkart or Myntra. For creators, it creates a structured way to turn recommendations into income by earning

commission from sales generated from their posts. For brands and sellers, it opens up a new route to reach high-intent audiences through content that is more contextual, authentic and culturally relevant. Empowering India's Creator Economy The initiative puts creators and customers at its core, and reflects the growing influence of creators in shaping how young consumers discover, evaluate and shop online. As social platforms become primary discovery destinations, especially for GenZ consumers, creator recommendations carry real purchase influence. The

Flipkart Meta affiliate partnership is designed to formalise and scale this dynamic, creating a structured, accessible path for creators of all sizes to participate in commerce, and for their audiences to shop from the content they already engage with. India's shopping behaviour is shifting rapidly. According to the 'How India Shops Online 2026' report by Flipkart and Bain & Company, GenZ now accounts for 40-45% of India's e-retail shoppers and drives nearly half of incremental e-retail orders, with influencer-led discovery and social content playing an increasingly significant role in purchase decisions across categories, from fashion and beauty to gadgets and lifestyle, and across both metros and non-metros.

Scientific Conclave on Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) 2026 Held in Haridwar; Highlights Role of Pharmacopoeial Standards in Strengthening Pharmaceutical Quality

- IPC Strengthens Industry Preparedness for IP 2026 Through Awareness and Capacity-Building Initiatives
- IP 2026 Conclave Encourages Wider Adoption of Pharmacopoeial Standards, Provides Handholding Support to Pharmaceutical Industry
- IPC Advances Stakeholder Engagement to Foster Pharmaceutical Quality and Manufacture of Quality-Assured Medicines



New Delhi, June, 11 (PIB): The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, organized a Scientific Conclave and Interactive Session on Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) 2026 "Strengthening Pharmaceutical Manufacturing through Pharmacopoeial Standards and Quality Compliance" at Haridwar yesterday, in collaboration with the Association of Devbhumi Pharma Industries (ADPI) and affiliated pharmaceutical manufacturing associations of Uttarakhand. The conclave was organized with the objective of enhancing aware-

ness on the provisions of IP 2026 and promoting quality compliance across the pharmaceutical manufacturing sector. Uttarakhand is one of India's leading pharmaceutical manufacturing hubs and has been among the states effectively utilizing the IP and Indian Pharmacopoeia Reference Substances for ensuring the quality, safety, and efficacy of medicines. Recognizing the state's significant contribution to pharmaceutical manufacturing, the conclave was organized to further strengthen industry awareness, support compliance with pharmacopoeial requirements, and promote the consistent adoption of IP standards across the

pharmaceutical sector, thereby providing handholding support to pharmaceutical manufacturers and other stakeholders in the state.

The programme brought together representatives from pharmaceutical manufacturing units, quality control and quality assurance professionals, regulatory authorities, analytical scientists, and drug testing laboratory personnel to deliberate on recent developments in pharmacopoeial standards and their implementation in the pharmaceutical industry. The inaugural session commenced with a welcome address by Shri Sandeep Jain, Chairman, ADPI. Addressing the



gathering, he emphasized the importance of collaboration between industry and standard-setting bodies in strengthening pharmaceutical quality systems. The session was also addressed by Shri Sidharth Sahai Malhotra, Assistant Drugs Controller (India), CDSCO, Dehradun, and Shri Tajber Singh, Drug Controller and State Licensing Authority, Uttarakhand, who highlighted the critical role of pharmacopoeial standards in ensuring regulatory compliance and safeguarding public health.

Delivering the Chief Guest address, Dr. V. Kalaiselvan, Secretary-cum-Scientific Director, IPC, underscored the pivotal

role of the IP in establishing scientifically validated quality standards for medicines and supporting India's growing stature as a global pharmaceutical leader. He highlighted the key advancements incorporated in IP 2026 and emphasized the importance of industry participation in ensuring the effective implementation of pharmacopoeial requirements. Following the inaugural session, a series of technical deliberations and knowledge-sharing interactions were conducted on key aspects of the IP, including recent developments in pharmacopoeial standards, reference substances, microbiological quality re-

quirements, quality management systems, analytical investigations and biological standards. The sessions provided participants with practical insights into the application of IP standards in pharmaceutical manufacturing and quality control. A dedicated interactive session provided participants with an opportunity to engage directly with IPC scientists and seek clarifications on technical, regulatory and implementation-related aspects of IP 2026. The discussions reflected the industry's keen interest in understanding evolving pharmacopoeial requirements and adopting best practices for quality assurance.

Bureau of Indian Standards under Department of Consumer Affairs Releases IS 20201:2026 to Safeguard Indigenous Crop Varieties and Align with Sustainable Development Goal 2

New Delhi, June, 11 (PIB): The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) under the Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India, has recently published a new Indian Standard — IS 20201:2026 Community Seed Bank Management - Requirements. Formulated by the Biodiversity Sectional Committee (EED 06) under the Environment and Ecology Department (EED) of BIS, this standard introduces a comprehensive, structured management framework for Community Seed Banks (CSBs) across the country. As an agrarian society experiencing the impacts of climate change including erratic precipitation, rising temperatures, and prolonged droughts; India's native seed varieties represent an invaluable strategic resource. Different traditional seeds possess unique vital traits such as natural drought tolerance, disease resistance, and high nutritional value. By offering a standardised operating protocol for decentralised, community-led seed banks, IS 20201:2026 aims to promote conservation of these indigenous varieties, thereby enhancing agricultural resilience and securing long-term food safety. The standard aligns with Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision and government's commitment to preserve agricultural biodiversity and support sustainable farming systems. It reinforces central initiatives, such as the National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) which provides a one-time assistance of ₹50 lakh for establishing community seed banks and statutory protections under the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 and the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

By functioning as a decentralised repository, standard-compliant CSBs empower local farmers to reliably collect, store, and exchange high-quality, locally adapted seeds. The standard outlines requirements relating to organisational arrangements, seed collection and acquisition, seed processing and storage. This protects the livelihoods of smallholders, builds grass-roots resilience, and ensures access to resilient, traditional crop varieties. The standard outlines rigorous requirements for the end-to-end lifecycle of seed bank operations, including organisational arrangements, seed collection and acquisition, viability testing, cleaning, drying, storage, documentation, quality assurance, seed regeneration practices, risk management, and continual improvement. The draft for this management system standard was developed under the patronage of the ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, with critical inputs from the National Biodiversity Authority, the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority, Rythu Sadhikara Samstha, and the BAIF Development Research Foundation.

This is voluntary certifiable management system standard. IS 20201:2026 can be downloaded free of cost from the official BIS portal. All community seed banks, cooperative societies, and agricultural stakeholders are strongly encouraged to adopt these guidelines to foster a quality-conscious, self-reliant ecosystem for indigenous seed preservation. Established under the BIS Act, 2016, the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is the National Standards Body of India responsible for the harmonious development of standardization, marking, and quality certification activities. Through its Environment and Ecology Department, BIS is actively engaged in developing standards related to environment protection and sustainable resource management to support national goals.

India and Nepal Launch Cross-Border Remittance Mechanism to Strengthen Bilateral Financial Connectivity

New Delhi, June, 11 (PIB): In a major boost to digital financial connectivity and neighbourhood cooperation, India and Nepal officially launched a peer-to-peer (P2P) cross-border remittance mechanism on June 6, 2026. The newly operationalized system establishes a direct link between India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Nepal's National Payments Interface (NPI). This integration enables citizens of both nations to make seamless, real-time, and secure instant money transfers directly via mobile banking applications and digital wallets.

The UPI-NPI linkage represents a major advancement in financial inclusion, fostering stronger economic and digital ties between India and Nepal. This aligns perfectly with regional goals for accessible, safe, and affordable cross-border payments, reinforcing longstanding social and economic bonds.

Driving Economic and Digital Integration:

The technical integration was executed via collaboration between NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), the international arm of the National Payments Corporation of India—and the Nepal Clearing House Limited (NCHL).

The Strategic Impact: Key Features of the UPI-NPI Remittance Linkage:

This digital payment corridor represents a major shift in how commerce operates between the two countries, delivering immediate benefits:

Enhanced Traveler Convenience: Eliminates the friction of physical currency exchange, carrying large amounts of cash, or navigating unfamiliar foreign exchange fees.

Economic Boost for Local Merchants: Nepal businesses gain immediate access to a massive, tech-savvy Indian visitor demographic, driving higher transaction volumes.

Operational Efficiency: Local merchants will experience optimized cash management, lowered overhead costs associated with physical cash handling, and secure, real-time transaction settlements.

Real-Time, Direct Transfers: Eliminates the need to carry physical cash across borders or rely on slower, traditional banking channels.

UPI Coverage around the world:

UPI is accepted in Nine countries - Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, France, Mauritius, Nepal, Bhutan, Qatar, Sri Lanka and Cambodia - enabling Indian travellers to make seamless payments abroad through familiar platforms.

Today's Horoscope



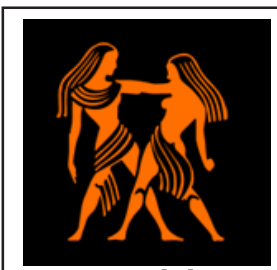
Aries

Sheer pleasure and enjoyment for you- as you set about to enjoy life to the fullest. Finances improve later in the day. You need to relax and try to find happiness amongst close friends and family members. You will have difficulty trying to make your mate understand your position. A day of careful moves- so don't present your ideas until you are sure it won't fail. Today, you can feel happy to find an old item at home and spend the whole day cleaning that stuff. Your spouse might fight with you because you might forget to share something with him/her today.
Remedy :- Love, respect, serve and take care of your mother for a great career.



Taurus

Throw away the gloom- which is enveloping you and disrupting your progress. Your unrealistic planning will lead to paucity of funds. You will have limited patience today- but take care as harsh or imbalance words might upset people around you. Love is the feeling to be felt and shared with your beloved. Student will have a very good day. They will fair very well in examination. Let it not go in your head rather motivate you to work harder. Your partner only wants to spend some time with you, but you're unable to fulfil their wish, thereby upsetting them. Today, you'll witness their frustration clearly.
Remedy :- Wear gold always, depending on your affordability, for constant improvement in your economic condition.



Gemini

Your personality will act like a perfume today. People who had invested somewhere are likely to suffer financial loss today. Your witty nature would brighten the environment around you. If you feel that your beloved does not understand you, then take some time out and spend it with them. Talk openly and speak out your heart clearly. It is also the good time to express yourself- and work on projects that are of creative nature. You can read a book in your free time. However, you may constantly feel disturbed by the members of your family. Your spouse will kiss your pains away in the fractions of seconds today.
Remedy :- Wear white coloured clothing more often and grow strong economically.



Cancer

Spend your valuable time with your children to get rid of stress. You will experience the healing power of child. As they are the most powerful spiritual and emotional personality on earth. You yourself will feel rejuvenated. You need to keep an eye on where your money is being spent, otherwise you may face problems in the coming times. Health of an elderly person causes some worry. Absence of love may be felt today. Keep your emotions under control when negotiating major business deal. Today you should focus on important issues. Your bad mood will be lifted up by your life-partner with some special surprises.
Remedy :- Establish a Guru Yantra, engraved on a piece of Gold or Bronze, and worship it everyday for blissful family life.



Leo

Harboring of ill-will against others will give mental tension. You should avoid these kinds of thoughts as these are life wasters and kill your efficiency. Improvement in finances will make it convenient for you to make important purchases. Evening with friends will be pleasurable. You may be overwhelmed by proposing as it unburdens you. Think twice before you take on any new project. Children of this zodiac sign will spend their entire day playing sports. Parents should pay attention to them, as they may get injured. Interference of outsiders will lead to disturbances in your married life.
Remedy :- For enhanced career/work life/business, brush your teeth with herbal-based toothpaste such as neem and babool.



Virgo

Quit coffee especially heart patients. You will like to overspend on others. A long-awaited message from a distant relative will convey good news for the entire family and especially for you. Don't indulge in eve-teasing today. If you consider applying for a job overseas- then today seems to be a lucky day. You may suddenly have to go on an unwanted journey today, due to which your plan to spend time with family may get spoiled. Your spouse might stop fulfilling your daily needs today, which will ultimately upset your mood.
Remedy :- Pour milk-offering on the Banyan tree, and apply tilak of the wet soil near the tree on your forehead, to bring auspiciousness to your health.



Libra

You have to control the way you feel. Businessmen who are stepping out of their homes for work should store their money at a safe place today, as there are chances of theft. Children need to concentrate on studies and plan for the future. Some difference may crop up with your darling- You will have difficulty trying to make your mate understand your position. Partners will be enthusiastic about your new plans and ventures. Be original in your conversation as putting up an act would get you nowhere. You might struggle in the morning to get ready due to power-cut or something else, but your spouse will come to your rescue.
Remedy :- For excellent health benefits, feed rotis to white cow.



Scorpio

A beneficial day and you may be able to find relief from a prolong illness. You should refrain from consuming alcohol or any such item today, as you may lose your items in toxic state. In a happy-energetic-loving mood- your jovial nature brings joy and happiness to those around you. You needn't dream about your erotic fantasies anymore; they might come true today. Today, you might get to know at work that the one you considered as your enemy is actually your wellwisher. To utilize your time, you can go to the park, but there are chances of you getting into an argument with someone unknown. This can even spoil your mood. Married couples live together, but it is not always romantic. Hence today, it is going to be really really romantic.
Remedy :- To make financial life stronger, use alum to clean your teeth.



Sagittarius

Playing with kids would give you a wonderful healing experience. There is a possibility of you getting into an argument with your spouse regarding money-related issues. S/He can lecture you on your unnecessary spending and regal lifestyle. A favorable day for domestic matters and finishing pending household jobs. Today your beloved would find it extremely difficult to deal with your erratic behaviour. A day of when you should meet important and eminent people to put a light on your new plans. The day is great. Take time out for yourself today and evaluate your shortcomings. This will bring positive changes in your personality. You might get irritated of your life-partner's babbling today, but he/she will do something really great for you.
Remedy :- Feed white rabbit with food for better financial condition



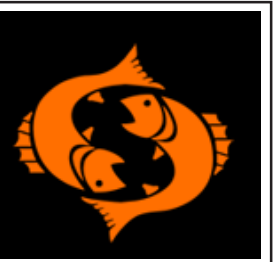
Capricorn

You will find people around you highly demanding- Don't promise more than you can deliver- and don't stress yourself to exhaustion just to please others. You can acquire money from an unknown source today, which will resolve many of your financial troubles. For some- a new arrival in the family brings in moments for celebration and party. You will find comfort in the arms of your beloved. Things seem to be in your favor at work. Today, you can go to a park or shopping mall with young members of the family. Looks like, the day is better than normal days with your life-partner.
Remedy :- Distribute and also eat white coloured sweets for positive health vibrations.



Aquarius

You may get rid from prolong illness. Planetary placement doesn't seem favourable for you today in regard with money matters. Hence, keep your money safe. Share your happiness with your parents. Let them feel worthwhile as feeling of loneliness and depression are erased. What do we live for if it is not to make life less difficult for each other. Your devoted and unquestioned love has a magic creative power. Take advantage of new moneymaking ideas that strike your mind today. If you live away from home due to your studies or job, then utilize your free time today by talking to your family members. During the conversation, you can also get emotional Your spouse will push the rewind button of those early stage love and romance today.
Remedy :- Accept rice and silver from your mother and keep it in your home to improve your financial condition.



Pisces

You are going to enjoy the pleasure of leisure. People who had invested somewhere are likely to suffer financial loss today. A favorable day for domestic matters and finishing pending household jobs. Love can drift you in a new world while standing at one place. It's the day when you will go on a romantic trip. Some co-workers would not like your way of handling certain important issues- but might not tell you- If you feel results are not as good as you had expected- it will be wise to review and alter the plans at your end. You will think of doing something new in your free time today. However, you will be so occupied in this task that all other things will take a backseat. You will get to know today that why marriages are made in heaven.
Remedy :- To make financial life stronger, use alum to clean your teeth.

Jaipur Cracker Factory Fire Case: 2 Cops Suspended, 5 Warehouses Sealed After Blaze Claims 8 Lives

Jaipur: A day after eight people, including a child, were killed in a devastating fire at an illegal firecracker factory in Jaipur's Khoh Nagorian area, two personnel from Khoh Nagorian police station, Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Amar Singh and Head Constable Pappu Ram, were suspended on Wednesday. Since Tuesday night, police teams have been conducting raids across Khoh Nagorian and adjoining localities. During the operation, large quantities of illegally stored gunpowder were recovered from three separate factories and warehouses. Authorities have so far sealed five factories and warehouses linked to the illegal manufacture and storage of firecrackers. Raids were also carried out at several houses in Ayesha Colony, where firecrackers were allegedly being produced. However, no arrests had been made till Wednesday afternoon. The tragedy has triggered allegations of administrative lapses and police inaction, prompting a wider crackdown on illegal firecracker manufacturing units operating in the area. The fire broke out



around 11 a.m. on Tuesday when an illegal firecracker manufacturing unit was allegedly operating. The property belongs to Yakub, son of Nazir Khan and a resident of Rakshya Ki Dhani in Khoh Nagorian area. Police said both the house owner Yakub and the alleged factory operator, Firoz, a resident of Delhi, have been absconding since the incident. The blaze claimed eight lives, including a child and two brothers, making it one of the deadliest industrial accidents in Jaipur in recent years. During raids in Javed Vihar, police sealed three warehouses located at

a single premises. Investigators recovered two machines allegedly used for manufacturing firecrackers. Officials said the warehouses were being used both for production and storage of explosive materials. Apart from the warehouse where the fatal incident occurred in Ayesha Colony, authorities sealed three warehouses in Javed Vihar linked to the accused. The facilities are reportedly owned by Yakub and his nephew Qayyum, both of whom have been named as main accused in the case. With the latest action, the total number of sealed factories and warehouses has

risen to five. Preliminary investigations indicate that the factory was producing "cold fire" crackers, commonly used at weddings and celebrations. Officials found that the house had been divided into two sections by a wall, allegedly to facilitate manufacturing activities while concealing the operation from public view. As investigations continue, authorities are examining how such a large-scale illegal firecracker unit managed to operate in a densely populated residential area despite repeated concerns over safety and regulatory compliance.

Vaishnav Launches FM Transmitter in Jaisalmer



New Delhi: Union Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting and Electronics & Information Technology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, today virtually inaugurated a 20 kW Akashvani FM Transmitter at Ramgarh in Jaisalmer from the Akashvani Jaipur premises. With this addition, the number of FM transmitters in Rajasthan has increased to 39. The Ramgarh transmitter will ensure radio coverage within an 80-kilometre radius in the border region, covering nearly 20,000 square kilometres of Jaisalmer district and enabling people to access a variety of information, educational and entertainment

programmes. Addressing the gathering, Shri Vaishnav called for a transformation in the functioning and outlook of Prasar Bharati. He emphasized that in the era of rapid technological advancement, radio broadcasting must adopt a "Digital First" and "Hyper-Local" approach to remain relevant and impactful. He directed officials to prepare a roadmap for this transformation and stressed the importance of integrating local artists and artisans into the broadcasting ecosystem. The Minister also referred to the upcoming AI Data Centre in Jaipur, describing it as a foundation for the future and a significant step towards techno-



logical advancement. Chairman of Prasar Bharati, Prasoon Joshi, addressed the gathering and highlighted the enduring importance of institutions such as Akashvani and Doordarshan. He said that these organisations are deeply connected to the roots of society and play a vital role in disseminating information and reflecting ground realities to a wider audience. The transmitter is aimed at strengthening the reach of All India Radio and Doordarshan in border areas. It will serve not only Jaisalmer but also surrounding regions, marking a major step in border com-

munication infrastructure. The initiative aligns with the vision of dedicated broadcast infrastructure "from Kashmir to Kutch", ensuring systematic expansion of broadcasting services across the entire frontier. During the event, Shri Vaishnav also interacted with young officers of Prasar Bharati. The ceremony, held at the Akashvani Jaipur premises, was attended by Rajasthan's Energy Minister Heeralal Nagar, Jaipur MP Manju Sharma, and Akashvani Director General Rajeev Kumar Jain. Jaisalmer MP Umedaram Beniwal also joined the programme virtually.

Eyes on Every Mile: How NSVs Are Here to Make India's National Highways Safer

New Delhi: On a crisp morning along India's bustling National Highways, a sleek white vehicle glides forward — not a police car, not a maintenance truck but something far more futuristic. Its rooftop scanners release invisible beams, high-resolution cameras quietly whirl and advanced 3D laser sensors begin mapping every inch of the road. This is the Network Survey Vehicle (NSV) — an innovation equipped with laser profilers, GPS and cutting-edge imaging technology. With every pass, it scans the road surface for cracks, potholes and unevenness, turning highways into living digital maps. What looks like a simple drive is, in fact, a revolution in how India monitors, maintains and safeguards its National Highways. To enhance the riding experience of commuters on India's National Highways, the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has announced a major leap forward: the deployment of Network Survey Vehicles (NSVs) equipped with advanced 3D laser-based systems across all states and its network. These high-tech futuristic vehicles deployed at several National Highway corridors are more than survey machines. They are digital guardians of road quality. By scanning every stretch of road, NSVs collect detailed data on road inventory and surface conditions, identifying defects in potholes and patches.



is set to revolutionise highway maintenance, ensuring that defects are not just detected but rectified swiftly, creating smoother, safer journeys for millions of commuters. What once took months is now accomplished in days — ensuring safer roads, faster rectifications and transparent communication across stakeholders. **From 80 km to 300 km a Day** Earlier, surveys could cover only 20 – 80 km in a single day. Today, with advanced technology, NSV surveys up to 300 km daily. This leap in efficiency means quicker detection of road defects and faster action on the ground. **Secure, Centralised Data Flow through a 3-Step Process** Raw survey data is encrypted and transmitted to the centralised NSV centre within 48 hours. Expert teams, strategically deployed across five zones, monitor and report findings systematically. Within 10 days, raw data is transformed into actionable insights — a process that earlier stretched to 4-6 months. **Quality Assured, Digitally Delivered** Every report undergoes a rigorous Q&A process by

experts before acceptance. Once validated, notices are issued to stakeholders digitally and automatically through digital platforms, eliminating human intervention and ensuring seamless communication. **AI-Powered Highway Monitoring for Smarter Maintenance** With the new NSV system, every detail captured on India's National Highways is uploaded directly to NHAI's AI-based Data Lake portal. This ensures that expert teams can analyse insights quickly and take evidence-backed repair and maintenance actions without delay. **Across Every Landscape** The surveys will span two-to eight-lane National Highways, covering diverse terrains — from busy freight corridors and traffic-heavy stretches to weather-prone regions. Conducted at regular six-month intervals, these surveys will make sure that no defect goes unnoticed. **Better Outcomes for Citizens** In the long run, this initiative strengthens asset management and road maintenance, delivering smoother rides, safer journeys and greater transparency. By harnessing AI and advanced survey technol-

ogy, MoRTH is ensuring that India's National Highways are not just built but they are sustainably maintained for the public good. **An App on the Go** A newly developed mobile app empowers site inspectors to: View NSV findings in real time Post comments and geo-stamped photos during inspections Track rectifications directly on site This ensures transparency and accountability at every step. **Closing the Loop with Rectification** Unlike earlier systems that stopped at monitoring, the new NSV framework ensures the process ends only after defects are fully rectified. Road maintenance agencies are held accountable until every reported issue is 100 percent resolved. This new initiative marks a decisive shift in highway management — moving from reactive fixes to proactive response. By identifying problems early, NSVs will help in reducing accidents linked to road defects and ensure smoother journeys for all. More than a technological upgrade, it now represents a bold step towards accountability, digital governance and data-driven infrastructure maintenance.

Labour Codes Empower Workers, Simplify Compliance



New Delhi: Union Minister of Labour and Employment, and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of India, Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, led the Indian delegation at the 114th International Labour Conference (ILC) in Geneva, Switzerland. Addressing the Plenary Session of the 114th International Labour Conference, the Union Minister congratulated the International Labour Organization on convening of the Conference and appreciated its continued leadership in promoting social justice and decent work amidst rapidly evolving global transformations. Sushri Shobha Karandlaje highlighted that India has undertaken wide-ranging labour reforms guided by the principle of "Antyo daya" through consolidation of 29 Central Labour Laws into four Labour Codes to simplify compliance, strengthen workers' welfare and create a modern and transparent labour ecosystem. She further mentioned that Youth Employability has increased from 34% in 2014 to over 56% in 2025. Between 2017 and 2025, unemployment rate fell from 6% to 3.1%, and women's workforce participation surged from 22% to 38.8%. The Union Minister also laid emphasis on India's progress in developing Digital Public Infrastruc-

ture in the labour and employment sector through the National Career Service Portal and the e-Shram Portal. The importance of international cooperation on skills and occupations and India's ongoing feasibility study with the ILO on developing an international reference classification of occupations, was also highlighted. She further enunciated the significant expansion of India's social protection coverage, which as per preliminary estimates of ILO has reached around 100 million. India's increasing female labour force participation and the launch of the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana to promote employment generation were also elucidated. On the sidelines of the 114th International Labour Conference in Geneva, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje held bilateral meeting with Amb. Christine Nkulikiyinka, Minister of Public Service & Labour of Rwanda. The discussions focused on strengthening bilateral cooperation in employment services, skilling, workforce planning and digital governance. India highlighted the success of the National Career Service Portal and the e-Shram Portal as scalable Digital Public Goods and extended technical assistance and capacity-building support for developing digital platforms for employ-



ment services, worker registration, jobs and skill matching. Rwanda highlighted India's impressive Digital Public Infrastructure & sought support on skills development and the journey from labour informalisation to formalisation. She also held a bilateral meeting with Mr. Anil Jayantha Fernando, the Labour Minister of Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka expressed strong interest in India's labour reforms and sought insights on the successful implementation of the four New Labour Codes. The Indian delegation shared its experience, highlighting the reform roadmap, implementation modalities, and extensive stakeholder consultations that enabled this transformative journey. Discussions also focused on collaboration in Digital Public Infrastructure, with India offering support through initiatives such as e-Shram and the National Career Service Portal to strengthen skilling, employment services, and workforce development. The Union Minister also held a bilateral meeting with Mr. Gilbert F. Houngbo, Director-General, International Labour Organization (ILO). During the meeting, she reaffirmed India's commitment to strengthening its partnership with the ILO in

advancing decent work, social justice and inclusive growth. She apprised the Director-General of the expansion of India's social protection coverage, which increased from 19% in 2015 to 64.3% in 2025, bringing 940 million people across the nation under the social security net. Director General, ILO extended his appreciation for the significant rise in India's social security coverage in a short span of time. He also highlighted that this coverage has seen further expansion over the past year, bringing an even greater percentage of the population under the ambit of social security. The discussions focused on India's landmark labour reforms through the four Labour Codes, expansion of social protection coverage, development of Digital Public Infrastructure in the labour and employment sector, future-oriented skilling initiatives and international labour mobility. The Minister of State also appreciated the ILO's technical cooperation with India, including support for the feasibility study on the development of an international reference classification of occupations. India's commitment to working closely with the ILO to build inclusive, resilient and future-ready labour markets was also underlined.

Pakistan Army Mi-17 Crashes Near Muzaffarabad During Take-Off, No Survivors Reported

A Pakistan Army Aviation Mi-17 helicopter crashed near Muzaffarabad during take-off after reportedly suffering a technical fault, according to Pakistan's military media wing, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR). In a statement cited by Pakistan's Dawn newspaper, the ISPR said the helicopter went down shortly after take-off. All personnel on board were killed in the crash, with no survivors reported. The military de-



scribed the deceased personnel as having "embraced martyrdom," a term commonly used by Pakistan's armed forces for service members killed in the line of duty. The exact number of personnel on board has not yet been officially disclosed. Authorities are expected to launch an investigation to determine the precise cause of the accident and examine the circumstances leading to the reported technical malfunction.

MSDE to Convene First Meeting of SARTHI to Drive Holistic Transformation of India's ITI Ecosystem

New Delhi: The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) will convene the first meeting of the SARTHI — Strategic Advisory and Reforms Taskforce for Holistic ITI Transformation, on 12 June 2026 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi. The meeting will be chaired by Shri Jayant Chaudhary, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and Minister of State for Education, Government of India,

bringing together senior representatives from Central and State Governments, industry, regulatory institutions and the skilling ecosystem to deliberate on the future direction of vocational training in India. SARTHI has been established as an apex advisory mechanism under CTS to create a structured platform for strategic dialogue, policy convergence and coordinated action among key stakeholders involved in vocational education

and training. The initiative aims to strengthen Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and ensure that vocational training systems remain aligned with evolving industry requirements and future workforce needs. CTS continues to serve as one of India's largest institutional skill development frameworks and currently operates through a network of 13,888 ITIs across the country, including 3,326 Government and 10,562 Private ITIs, deliv-

ering training across 169 NSQF-compliant trades. As the skill ecosystem expands and labour market requirements evolve, SARTHI aims to provide long-term strategic guidance for reforms across curriculum, assessment, governance, quality assurance, institutional development and industry engagement. In this inaugural meeting of SARTHI, the Council will deliberate on a comprehensive agenda covering critical areas of vocational training reform.

Rajasthan Govt Organises Statewide Temple Prayers To Mark Centre's 12 Years In Power

Jaipur: To mark the 12th anniversary of the central government, the Devasthan department of Rajasthan government organised special Puja and Anushtan in temples across the state. CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, all the ministers and BJP MLAs, and party workers participated in these events. The Devasthan department, which has over 50 thousand temples under its jurisdiction across the state and outside, issued an order to all the district collectors to hold special Puja and Anushtan under their supervision on June 10th. Although the said order had no mention of the 12th anniversary of the central government or any other reason behind holding special prayers, the Devasthan minister, Joramam



Kumavat, clearly stated that this special initiative is being undertaken to commemorate the 12 glorious years of the central government dedicated to service, good governance, and the welfare of the poor. The administrative officials

at the local level were entrusted with the responsibility of overseeing these events. Following the order, special arrangements were made in the temples across the state, and public representatives and workers of the BJP attended the Puja

and Anushtan. Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma said that this event is not merely a matter of religious faith but a means to transform the resolve for nation-building and a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India) into a mass movement.

Bharathiraja, The Filmmaker Who Took Tamil Cinema From Studios To Villages, Dies At 84

Chennai: One of Indian cinema's finest directors from Tamil Nadu, Bharathiraja, who is credited with taking film-making from the studios to villages, and introducing Sridevi, the dazzling dancing queen to Bollywood, passed in Chennai on Wednesday morning. The six-time national award winning film maker, hailed as Iyakkunar Imayam (Titan or Pinnacle of Directors) was 84 and ailing for some months. Apart from helming path breaking films on powerful social themes, Bharathiraja had also etched a space for himself as an actor, more so in character roles in later years. He was also a Tamil nationalist, whose voice became familiar to his audience who would hear him greet "En iniya Tamil makkaley" (My dear Tamil people) at the beginning of his films. News of his death evoked emotion-filled tributes from the film world across regions, political leaders and personalities from different walks of life. The Government announced his last rites would be performed with state honours. Until Bharathiraja, hailing from Theni, a region on the foothills of the Western Ghats



in southern Tamil Nadu that still retains its rustic charm, arrived in Tamil cinema, shootings remained confined to the studios. It was from within the scenes shot in the confines of the sets in the studio floors of AVM, Gemini Pictures or Prasad in Kodambakkam in Madras (now Chennai), that fans saw their stars act as a farmer, bus driver, a college goer, or doctor. But it was Bharathiraja's 16 Vayathinile (At 16), which brought the charm of the hinterland and scent of the soil, in its raw and undiluted form to the big screen. He took film shooting to the natural environs. That 1977 film, featuring a young and promising cast of Kamal Haasan,

Rajinikanth, Sridevi, Goundamani and Bhagyaraj (minor role) – all of whom would go on to carve their own spaces in the world of cinema – was a breath of fresh air. It turned out to be a cult hit, with its characters Chappani (a rustic role played by Kamal Haasan), Mayil (Sridevi) and Parattai (a crooked villainous character portrayed by Rajinikanth), remaining etched in the minds of film fans to this day. Bharathiraja went on to remake the film in Hindi as Solva Sawan introducing Sridevi to the north Indian audience with the versatile Amol Palekar playing the lead. Of course, it took a few more years for Sridevi to become a big name in

Bollywood with Himmatawala but Bharathiraja had prepared her for it. Decades after his remarkable success Bharathiraja would recall how the dream of cinema took him to Madras but "I took cinema to my villages; I filmed the lives of ordinary people." His entry into cinema was not easy. Born Chinnasami, he had started his career as a Health Inspector undertaking awareness of measles prevention. He had come to Madras with a desire to make it big in Kollywood. With him were the Paavalar brothers, also hailing from Theni, but better known today as music maestro Ilaiyaraaja, director-musician Gangai Amaran and the late Baskaran.

Panchayati Raj Wins Gold and Silver at e-Governance Awards

New Delhi: Four Panchayati Raj-related initiatives out of 17 projects across seven award categories have been selected for the National Awards for e-Governance (NAeG) 2026 highlighting the growing role of Gram Panchayats in advancing digital governance and citizen-centric service delivery. This year's awards will be conferred at the 29th National Conference on e-Governance, scheduled to be held in Jaipur, Rajasthan, on 1-2 July 2026. It is being jointly organized by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and the Government of Rajasthan, the Conference is themed "Viksit Bharat 2047: AI-Enabled, Data-Driven and Secure Digital Governance." It reflects the Government's commitment to leveraging emerging technologies, data-driven decision-making and robust cybersecurity frameworks to deliver efficient, secure and citizen-centric public services. The Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI), an initiative of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, has been conferred the Gold Award under the category Digital

Transformation by Use of Data Analytics in Digital Platforms by Central Ministries/States/UTs. PAI is the Ministry's flagship instrument for measuring and advancing the performance of Gram Panchayats across the country. It assesses Gram Panchayats on indicators aligned with the nine themes of Localized Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs), providing a granular and data-backed picture of governance outcomes at the village level. For more information on PAI Click Here. While Kadepur Gram Panchayat of Kadegaon Taluka, Sangli District, Maharashtra has won the Gold Award and Bijoy Nagar Gram Panchayat of Mohanpur Block, West Tripura District, Tripura has won the Silver Award under the category Grassroots-Level Initiatives by Gram Panchayats or Equivalent Traditional Local Bodies for Deepening/Widening of Service Delivery at the National Awards for e-Governance 2026. The Kadepur Gram Panchayat has built an end-to-end digital governance ecosystem, delivering over 1,355 services fully online to more than 4,300 beneficiaries through a completely paperless e-Of-

National Awards for e-Governance 2026
PANCHAYATI RAJ Shines on the National Stage
4 Awards Secured by Panchayati Raj related initiatives and institutions

- GOLD AWARD** Ministry of Panchayati Raj: Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) - Digital transformation by use of Data Analytics in Digital Platforms
- GOLD AWARD** Kadepur Gram Panchayat Sangli District, Maharashtra: Grassroots Level Initiatives by Gram Panchayats or equivalent Traditional Local Bodies for Deepening/Widening of Service Delivery
- SILVER AWARD** Bijoy Nagar Gram Panchayat West Tripura District, Tripura: Grassroots Level Initiatives by Gram Panchayats or equivalent Traditional Local Bodies for Deepening/Widening of Service Delivery
- GOLD AWARD** e-Aarogya Dhamni: District Level Initiatives in e-Governance

ice, eight AI-powered administrative applications, Blockchain-enabled record management, and GIS-based property geo-tagging. Kadepur is also the only Gram Panchayat in the country with formally approved policies on Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Nanotechnology, Biotechnology, and Robotics. To know more CLICK HERE. Bijoy Nagar Gram Panchayat presents an equally strong case grounded in participatory

governance, financial accountability, and inclusive digital adoption. Its PAI 2.0 score of 88.55 (Grade A) reflects a 38 per cent improvement over PAI 1.0, and Own Source Revenue has grown by nearly 194 per cent. Over 100 services are delivered online through a fully functional e-Office; the Gram Barta platform enables real-time voice communication with every household; and 100 per cent digital literacy among women has been achieved.

PMO Seeks Detailed Report Over Alleged Ram Temple Donation Count Irregularities

Lucknow: The alleged irregularities in the counting of donations at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya have escalated into a major controversy, with the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) seeking a detailed report from the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, according to sources. The development comes as the Trust's internal audit reportedly flagged discrepancies in the handling of temple offerings, prompting authorities to widen the scope of the inquiry. Sources said Trust Construction Committee chairman Nripendra Misra visited Ayodhya and chaired a review meeting after the audit findings surfaced. The investigation has since expanded and several individuals are under scrutiny. The controversy intensified following allegations of irregularities in the counting of cash offerings and the reported theft from a temple donation box. The issue has triggered a political storm, with Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav alleging that crores of rupees from the offerings made at the Ram Temple had gone missing and demanding a judicial probe. In a post on X, Yadav described the matter as "extremely sensitive" for Lord Ram devotees across the world. "The news that crores of rupees from the Ram Temple offerings are missing is deeply concerning for devotees globally," he wrote. Targeting the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth



Kshetra Trust and the government, Yadav said the alleged disappearance of such a large amount was "highly shameful" for the Trust. He questioned the silence of the authorities, saying no one was willing to explain the alleged discrepancy and that the government's silence appeared suspicious. The SP chief also urged the judiciary to take suo motu cognisance of the matter, arguing that it directly concerns the faith of millions of Sanatan followers across the world. Former Ayodhya MLA Pawan Pandey, who served as a minister in the Samajwadi Party government, claimed that the alleged discrepancy in temple offerings could range between Rs 5 crore and Rs 7.5 crore. He challenged Trust general secretary Champat Rai to publicly deny the allegations under oath if no theft had taken place. If the allegations were true, Pandey said, an FIR should be registered immediately.

Pandey also sought a comprehensive investigation to determine how long the alleged irregularities had continued and whether any Trust members had benefited from the missing funds. Responding to the controversy, Uttar Pradesh BJP president Pankaj Chaudhary said the government was ensuring that the allegations were thoroughly investigated. He said the issue primarily concerns the Ram Temple Trust and not the state government, but maintained that the inquiry would be conducted in a transparent manner. "If anyone is found guilty, strict action will be taken," Chaudhary said. According to the established system at the temple, cash offerings are counted by bank employees in the presence of Trust officials under CCTV surveillance. The amount is entered into official registers and kept in a locker inside the temple complex before being de-

posited into the Trust's main account at the State Bank of India, Ayodhya Dham branch, the following day. The Trust's audit process is monitored by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), while details of donations are placed before meetings of the Trust. During its last official review meeting on December 13, 2025, the Trust said it had received total donations of Rs 4,575 crore since its formation. It stated that Rs 2,475 crore had been spent over the previous five years and nine months on the construction of the Ram Temple, expansion of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi complex, purchase of land and buildings, and other related works. The Trust reported a remaining balance of around Rs 2,100 crore. Sources claimed the PMO has taken a serious view of the allegations and has sought a comprehensive report from the Trust on the reported discrepancies.

Who Is Swati Khanna? Counsel For UAPA Accused Khurram Parvez Reacts To Delhi HC Bail Relief



New Delhi: The Delhi High Court advocate has come into the spotlight after Kashmiri human rights activist Khurram Parvez secured bail in a case registered by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). A division bench of the Delhi High Court comprising Justice Navin Chawla and Jus-

tice Ravinder Dudeja granted bail to Parvez, who was arrested in 2021 over allegations of collecting sensitive military information and passing it on to banned terrorist organisations. According to reports, the bench allowed Parvez's appeal challenging a trial court order of December 17, 2024, which had denied him bail. "We have granted bail,

subject to various conditions," the bench observed. Following the ruling, advocate Swati Khanna, one of Parvez's lawyers, addressed the media. She said the detailed order was yet to be uploaded and therefore the conditions of bail were not immediately known. Khanna added that Parvez is facing two separate cases and that arguments on bail

had already been concluded before the Principal District Judge at Patiala House Courts. **Who is Swati Khanna?** Swati Khanna is an advocate practising before the Delhi High Court. According to publicly available information, she holds an LLM degree from the London School of Economics (LSE), an LLB from the University of Delhi, and a degree in Economics Honours from Delhi University. Apart from her legal career, Khanna maintains an active social media presence. Her Instagram biography describes her interests as dancing, laughing and spending time with good people, while noting that her account focuses on her personal hobbies. She has amassed thousands of followers across social media platforms, where she shares glimpses of her leisure activities and personal life.

12 Years of Social Justice, 11 Crore Lives Empowered

New Delhi: The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJE) today released a comprehensive review marking 12 years of landmark achievements, highlighting a paradigm shift from basic welfare to absolute empowerment. Through deep-rooted digital interventions, robust legislative safety nets, and targeted livelihood opportunities, the Ministry has directly impacted the lives of over 11 crore students, senior citizens, transgender persons, and marginalized communities across India since 2014. Revolutionizing Education Through Digital Transparency A multi-layered digital architecture has completely overhauled the delivery of educational assistance. By transitioning to an absolute Direct Ben-

efit Transfer (DBT) model linked with Aadhaar-seeded bank accounts from FY 2021-22, the Ministry eliminated leakages and institutional delays. To date, the flagship Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Castes has supported over 6.12 crore students with an investment of ₹46,581.54 crore. Similarly, the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme has secured the education of 2.99 crore vulnerable students with a ₹4,893.03 crore funding release. Under the PM-YASASVI scheme, over 1,069 lakh students from OBC, EBC, and DNT communities have received financial assistance, residential hostel infrastructure, and premier school placements totaling ₹15,555.53 crore. Concrete Safeguards

for Social Justice and Dignity The Ministry has enforced historic institutional protections. To ensure stringent justice, major amendments to the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act were enacted, establishing Exclusive Special Courts, setting up Victim Rights frameworks, and raising relief amounts. Since 2014, ₹5,012.17 crore has been released, directly supporting 7.26 lakh atrocity victims. On the national health front, the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) has built an unprecedented mass awareness force, reaching more than 26.28 crore citizens, including 9.56 crore youth, mobilized through partnerships with spiritual bodies and digital dashboards. Specialized Care Frame-

works for Senior Citizens and Transgender Persons Under the Atal Vayo Abhyudaya Yojana (AVYAY), senior care has moved from charity to institutional right. Over 8.53 lakh elderly persons have received 46.32 lakh free assistive living devices through Rashtriya Vayoshri camps, while the national "Elderline" (14567) has successfully resolved over 29 lakh calls. Furthermore, the pioneering SMILE scheme has extended legal and economic identity to transgender persons via a unified National Portal, issuing 33,189 certificates, setting up operational 'Garima Greh' shelters, and integrating gender-affirmation procedures into the Ayushman Bharat (PM-JAY) framework.

Austerity: Why Multiple Pensions for Politicians?

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, June, 11 : In the context of the Prime Minister's recent call to the people to observe austerity measures to face the tough economic situation facing the country, the need for cutting down the pay, perks and pensions of the elected representatives (MPs, legislators of States, etc.) has become a topic of discussion in the social media now-a-days.

The question being asked is that at a time when vast majority of people in the country were denied of pension after toiling for 30 to 40 years to eke out their livelihood, is there any justification for payment of two, three pensions and perks for the Members of Parliament, the legislators of different States? Some sections of people, particularly the tax-payers, are of the strong opinion that the multiple pension system reflected the faulty policies being pursued by the Central and State Governments since several years; and it is a matter of concern that

the political leaders, the policy-framers, the economic and legal experts and others have not bestowed their attention on ushering-in the necessary corrective measures in this regard.

As per the existing laws, if a politician renders service as a State Legislator, an M P and then becomes a Vice-President or a Governor of a State and retires, he would get three pensions and perks (for the three posts held by him), for his lifetime, without any contribution from them. Some participants in discussion on the T V channels pointed out that only in India such a system is prevalent, while 'one-man one pension' is the norm elsewhere. In USA and Canada, the politicians get only one pension, that too after collecting contribution from the beneficiaries. Also, they get pension only after attaining the age of 62, 65 years, respectively. In Sri Lanka, the practice of retirement pension for M Ps was ended recently, after 49 years, following peoples

demand. Similarly, Indonesia, Southeast Asia's biggest economy, witnessed violent protests against M Ps allowances and perks one year back, following which the President had announced that "the Parliament leadership conveyed that they would revoke several policies, including amount of allowances of lawmakers and a moratorium on overseas visits".

In India, Maharashtra legislators get the highest pay and allowances, followed by Telangana (more than Rs. two lakhs), while in Karnataka and Kerala the pay and pension is minimum. In Telangana, the legislators get the highest pension of Rs.50,000 a month, which is more than that of an MP. Significantly, in Gujarat, there is no pension for MLAs. It is to be mentioned in this context that the political leaders themselves decide on their pay, allowances, pensions and perks. Interestingly, some of the well-known personalities like the descendants of former rulers, sportsmen,

cinema celebrities, who own crores of rupees and wealth, are also claiming two, three pensions. An exceptional case is that of Daggupati Venkateswara Rao, who had given up all the pensions due to him.

Foreign trips

There is a strong feeling in some sections that the political leaders would do well to opt for one pension and give up others. Let us hope that the Prime Minister and the Chief Ministers of the States would bestow their attention to this vital issue, as an economy measure.

It is also felt necessary to fix guidelines prohibiting politicians, officials, business tycoons and others from opting for special (chartered) flights within the country and also foreign trips, of course with the only exception of the Prime Minister and the President of India. Also, curbs should be imposed on use of cars by politicians, officials, businessmen, and others.

HARISH RAO DEMANDS FAST-TRACK COURT IN KHAMMAM MINOR GIRL CASE

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, June, 11 :

Senior BRS leader and former minister T. Harish Rao strongly condemned the alleged assault of a 12-year-old girl in Khammam, accusing the Congress government of failing to respond adequately to the incident. Addressing the media, Harish Rao described the case as "heart-wrenching" and said it had brought shame to the society. He called for collective efforts by the government and society to prevent such crimes and demanded the establishment of a fast-track court to ensure swift and stringent punishment for the "beasts" who commit such heinous acts thereby preventing future occurrences. He expressed concern over the victim's condition, stating that the girl was reportedly unable to walk and required full support from society and the government. Former minister and BRS MLA Sunitha Lakshma Reddy also condemned the incident, calling it a heinous



crime against a minor. She said the victim's fear of interacting with male doctors reflected the severe trauma she had allegedly undergone. Criticizing the government's response, she questioned why the ministers, particularly those from Khammam district and women ministers in the state cabinet, had not publicly reacted to the incident. Sunitha Lakshma Reddy demanded immediate government intervention, the constitution of a fast-track court, and exemplary punishment for the accused to

deter similar crimes in the future. The BRS leader demanded that the government immediately constitute a fast-track court and ensure the harshest punishment for those responsible.

He alleged that the law and order situation had deteriorated significantly under the Congress government and claimed that five to six POCSO cases were being reported every day across the state. Referring to incidents involving minor girls in Yalal, Bomraspet, Basheerabad, Mominpet and Nirmal,

Harish Rao said the increasing number of such crimes reflected the government's failure to ensure the safety of children. Citing NCRB data, he claimed that crimes against children were rising in Telangana, with POCSO cases increasing from around 2,200 in 2024 to nearly 2,400 in 2025. Harish Rao urged the government to provide ₹10 lakh as ex-gratia to the victim's family, ensure that all required surgeries are conducted immediately and bear the entire cost of her treatment until she fully recovers.

Manda Krishna Madiga meets Telangana DGP C.V. Anand

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, June, 11 : MRPS founder-president and Padma Shri awardee Manda Krishna Madiga on Thursday met Telangana Director General of Police C.V. Anand and conveyed his greetings on the latter's recent appointment as the State police chief.

Manda Krishna Madiga called on the DGP at his office in Hyderabad and felicitated him with a shawl and a bouquet. During the interaction, C.V. Anand recalled his association with the first phase of the MRPS movement. He remembered serving as a police officer during the agitation at Basheerbagh crossroads. Speaking on the occa-



sion, M Krishna Madiga said C.V. Anand possessed vast experience in the police department.

He expressed happiness over C.V. Anand's appointment as the Director General of Police of Telangana. The meeting also pro-

vided an opportunity for the leaders to exchange views and extend goodwill following the DGP's assumption of office. Several MRPS leaders and supporters attended the programme.

Among those present were MRPS State president

Dr. Govindu Naresh Madiga, MSP national leader Tipparapu Laxman Madiga, noted lyricist and Nandi Award recipient Mittapalli Surender, film director Prem Raju and MSF State secretary Bairapogu Shiva Kumar Madiga.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY KEY TO SUSTAINABLE GROWTH, SAYS FTCCI

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, June, 11 :

Industry leaders and environmental experts stressed the need for sustainable waste management and circular economy practices at an interactive session organized by the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI), FTCCI Telangana State Council and the Telangana Pollution Control Board (TGPCB) in Hyderabad on Thursday.

TGPCB Member Secretary Ravi Gugulothu said plastic pollution poses serious threats to ecosys-

tems, water bodies and public health, urging industries to take responsibility for collecting and recycling plastic waste. He highlighted the importance of source-level waste segregation to improve recycling and reduce landfill burden. "Plastic pollution adversely impacts land, water bodies, ecosystems, biodiversity, and public health. Industries that manufacture, use, or market plastic products must take responsibility for collecting and recycling plastic waste generated through their operations", he added.

Explaining the importance of scientific waste management, he highlighted the Four-Stream Waste Collection System, which segregates waste at source into Wet Waste, Dry Recyclable Waste, Domestic Hazardous Waste, and Reject Waste. Such segregation improves recycling efficiency, reduces landfill burden, prevents contamination, and promotes resource recovery.

FTCCI President R. Ravi Kumar said sustainable waste management has evolved from a compliance requirement into a strategic

business opportunity that can enhance resource efficiency and competitiveness. FTCCI Telangana Co-Chairman Jayadev Meela called for setting up MSME-based plastic recycling units in every district to curb pollution and create jobs. The session, attended by over 300 participants, focused on plastic reduction, recycling mechanisms, circular economy opportunities, Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) and sustainable industrial practices under the State government's 99-Day "Praja Palana" Programme.

BRS LEGISLATORS CHALLENGE CM REVANTH TO RESIGN OVER JOB CLAIMS

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, June, 11 :

BRS legislators launched a scathing attack on the Congress government, alleging that it has failed to fulfill its promise of providing jobs to unemployed youth and challenged Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to resign if he could prove that 60,000 jobs had been provided since coming to power.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, BRS MLAs D. Sudheer Reddy, Madhavaram Krishna Rao, KP Vivekananda and MLC

Raju alleged that Congress leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, had promised two lakh jobs annually before the last Assembly elections but had delivered only about 12,600 jobs so far.

The BRS leaders claimed that the appointments made by the Congress government were based on recruitment notifications issued during the previous BRS regime. They declared that they would resign from their MLA and MLC posts if the government proved that 60,000 jobs had been provided, and demanded that

the Chief Minister do the same if he failed to substantiate his claim. The legislators also accused the Congress government of attempting to erase the legacy of former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao by replacing the proposed Pharma City project with the new Future City initiative. They argued that the Pharma City site had been carefully chosen away from residential areas to avoid inconvenience to the public. Highlighting infrastructure projects undertaken during the BRS tenure, the leaders

cited the construction of the Secretariat, Command Control Centre and Cable Bridge, alleging that the Congress government had not initiated any major new construction project since assuming office. The BRS leaders further claimed that the Musi River rejuvenation project was originally conceived by the KCR government and stressed that development works such as drinking water supply, roads, electricity and sanitation should focus on populated areas rather than uninhabited locations.

Malkajgiri Police solve murder case, seize firearm and ammunition



From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, June, 11 :

Malkajgiri Police solved a murder case within hours of its reporting and arrested the prime accused, recovering a country-made pistol, live ammunition, knives and other material linked to the crime.

Police apprehended Dhamara Arun Kumar, 48, near Moula-Ali Railway Station on June 11 in connection with a case registered under Section 103(1) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and provisions of the Arms Act. Police also named Harinder Singh alias Harbhajan Singh as an

absconding accused and Mir Muzammil Ali Khan, 23, as another accused in the case. The case came to light after Gaddam Santhosh Yadav lodged a complaint with Malkajgiri Police.

During the investigation, police found that Arun Kumar had first married the elder sister of the deceased, Nisharani, and later married Nisharani. Investigators alleged that the accused frequently suspected his wife's fidelity and subjected her to physical and mental harassment. Police said she had often taken shelter with relatives in Narsapur in Medak district. Officials also

found that the accused had previously figured in a firearm possession case registered at Amberpet Police Station. According to investigators, marital disputes intensified in recent days. Police alleged that Arun Kumar shot Nisharani at their residence in Maruthi Nagar, Malkajgiri, at around 4.30 am on June 10. The woman died as a result of the injuries, police said. Acting on technical evidence and other clues, police tracked down and arrested the accused. The seized property included a country-made pistol, a magazine containing three live rounds, three knives,

a surgical blade, a Maruti Baleno car and a Bajaj Chetak scooter.

Investigators also seized clothing and other material believed to be connected with the offence.

Police said the investigation remained in progress.

The case was detected under the leadership of Malkajgiri Police Commissioner B. Sumathi and senior officers of the commissionerate. The Police Commissioner appreciated the investigation team for its swift action and prompt detection of the case. Following the case, Malkajgiri Police urged citizens to promptly report domestic violence, criminal intimidation, illegal firearm possession and threats to life. Police cautioned that unresolved family disputes could escalate into serious crimes and result in loss of life. Officials also warned that unlawful possession, transport or use of firearms and deadly weapons would attract strict legal action.

UoH LAUNCHES ONLINE COURSES IN MALARIOLOGY & SANSKRIT COMPUTING

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, June, 11 :

The University of Hyderabad (UoH) has announced two new online certificate courses through its Centre for Digital Learning Training and Resources (CDLTR), beginning July 15, 2026.

The courses - Advanced Malariology: Biology of Parasitism and Drug Resistance and Samsadhani-

Pravesika: Learning Sanskrit using Computational Tools - will carry transferable academic credits and award certificates upon successful completion. Both programs are developed and taught by award-winning faculty members. In alignment with modern educational standards, these courses carry academic credits that are fully transferable across Univer-

sities. CDLTR Director Prof. Salman Abdul Moiz said, "Schools and colleges do not provide enough training to read and understand Sanskrit literature; this course will fill that gap." The Sanskrit programme would help learners better understand classical literature, while the malariology course would provide insights into drug resistance

meeting of the BRS will be held at Telangana Bhavan on June 14.

Speaking after a meeting with the constituency leaders at Telangana Bhavan here on Thursday, Talasani said BRS

Working President K. T. Rama Rao will participate as the chief guest. The meeting will focus on awareness regarding the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and the party's

meeting registration drive. Talasani urged the booth agents, former corporators, former division presidents and key party leaders to attend the meeting on time. (

and advances in molecular parasitology, he added.

The initiative is part of the University's broader digital education expansion plan, which includes the launch of online undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes from the 2027-28 academic year. Course details are available at <https://cdltr.uohyd.ac.in/blog/upcoming-course-launches/>.

KHAIRATABAD BRS MEET ON JUNE 14, KTR TO ATTEND: TALASANI

Hyderabad, June 11 (NSS) Former minister and BRS deputy floor leader in the Assembly, Talasani Srinivas Yadav, announced that a

Khairatabad Assembly constituency-level

meeting of the BRS will be held at Telangana Bhavan on June 14.

Speaking after a meeting with the constituency leaders at Telangana Bhavan here on Thursday, Talasani said BRS

meeting registration drive. Talasani urged the booth agents, former corporators, former division presidents and key party leaders to attend the meeting on time. (