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Chandrababu Naidu urges farmers to overcome challenges posed by El Nino



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, June 29 :
Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Monday called upon farmers to overcome

the challenges posed by El Nino, a phenomenon which disrupts normal rainfall. The Chief Minister (Contd. on pg.2)

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, June 29 :
Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Monday directed officials to make government services more accessible and citizen-friendly. Reviewing the performance of various departments from the Real Time Governance Society (RTGS) Centre at the Secretariat, the Chief Minister directed the officials to simplify and streamline the service



delivery mechanisms. According to an official release, officials informed

the Chief Minister that the government has already initiated measures to sim-

plify procedures, beginning with 11 categories of services. (Contd. on pg.2)

Government School Students Are Brand Ambassadors of Education System: Minister Nara Lokesh

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, June 29 :
Andhra Pradesh Minister for Education and IT Nara Lokesh on Monday said that students who excel in government schools are the true brand ambassadors of the state's education system. Addressing the "Shining Stars" felicitation ceremony held in Amaravati, he honoured students who secured outstanding results in the Class 10 and Intermediate public examinations. As part of the programme, 55 Class 10 toppers were presented with a cash



award of Rs. 30,000, a medal, and a certificate of appreciation. Similarly, 61

Intermediate achievers received laptops and (Contd. on pg.2)

PM Modi emplanes for New Delhi after concluding State visit to Seychelles



Victoria, June 29 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday emplaned for New Delhi after concluding his three-day State visit to Seychelles.

Prior to his departure, PM Modi greeted members of Indian community gathered outside the airport to meet him. People carrying (Contd. on pg.2)

AP to Host 31st CII Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam on November 12-13

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, June 29 :
Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Monday reviewed preparations for the 31st CII Partnership Summit, scheduled to be held in Visakhapatnam on November 12 and 13, during a meeting at the State Secretariat. The review meeting was attended by Ministers T.G. Bharat, Kondapalli Srinivas, Ponguru Narayana, Kandula Durgesh, and Gottipati Ravi Kumar, along with CII Director General



Chandrajit Banerjee and senior officials from various departments. The summit will be held under the theme "Navigating Change: Leadership, Technology,

Trust and Trade in a Transforming World." Ahead of the main event, the government is planning regional partnership meetings in (Contd. on pg.2)

Amaravati Farmers Accuse YSRCP of Conspiring Against Capital City



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, June 29 :
Farmers from the Amaravati capital region

on Monday launched a sharp attack on YSR Congress Party president and former Chief Minister

Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, alleging that several attempts were made during the previous government to weaken and derail the development of Amaravati as the state capital. Addressing the media, the farmers claimed that the previous administration had systematically tried to dismantle the capital development framework. They alleged that efforts were made to change the (Contd. on pg.2)

Indian passport application fee to go up from July 1



New Delhi, June 29 : The Ministry of External Affairs has raised charges for passport-related services which will make getting a passport more expensive with effect from July 1, 2026. The increased fee structure will be applicable for fresh passport applications, renewals, Tatkaal services, replacement of lost or damaged passports, police clearance certificates (PCC) and other passport-linked services. In the case of adults, the charges on a normal appli-

cation for a fresh 36-page passport or renewal have been raised from the existing fee of Rs 1,500 to Rs 2,500. For a 60-page passport (adult, normal), the fee has been increased from Rs 2,000 to Rs 3,500. For a 36-page adult passport under the Tatkaal scheme, the fee has been raised from Rs 3,500 to Rs 5,000, while for a 60-page passport in the category, the fee has gone up from Rs 4,000 to Rs 6,000. (Contd. on pg.2)

Minister Kollu Ravindra alleges YSRCP behind Amaravati Unrest



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Machilipatnam June 29 :
Andhra Pradesh Minister

Kollu Ravindra on Monday alleged that the recent disturbances in

Amaravati were orchestrated by the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) under the direction of its president and former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. Reacting to the incidents that took place in Amaravati two days ago, the minister claimed that YSRCP leaders were attempting to create unrest among the capital region farmers, who had been living peacefully. He (Contd. on pg.2)

AP Government Cracking Down on Cyber Crime, Says Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, June 29:
Andhra Pradesh Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha on Monday said cyber crimes have increased significantly in the post-COVID period and asserted that the NDA government is taking stringent measures to curb the growing menace through technology-driven policing. Speaking at a Cyber (Contd. on pg.2)



Two head constables surrender in Vijayawada lock-up death case



Nagaraju. The Special Investigation Team (SIT), which is

probing the case, had found during the (Contd. on pg.2)

India to corner Pakistan at FATF with evidence of terrorists roaming freely

New Delhi, June 29 : India is all set to mount pressure on Pakistan at the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) after several videos of terrorists roaming around in the open have surfaced. Pakistan, which had managed to get out of the Grey List of the FATF, is under tight scrutiny after it assured that it would do more to curb terror financing. The Pakistan establishment is caught between the Devil and the deep

sea. On one hand it has to stay out of the FATF's radar and on the other it cannot afford to displease its proxies such as the Lashkar-e-Tayiba. An official said that Pakistan is making the same mistake that it did with the Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD). The JuD is the financial wing of the Lashkar-e-Tayiba and this group was one of the primary reasons why Pakistan got into trouble with the FATF, the



Mallikarjun Kharge takes oath as RS member again, vows to continue 'holding govt accountable'

New Delhi, June 29 : Congress National President Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday took oath as a member of the Rajya Sabha after being re-elected to the Upper House from Karnataka. The oath was administered by Rajya Sabha Chairman and Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan in his chamber in Parliament. Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi and Wayanad MP

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra were present during the oath-taking ceremony. Several senior leaders were also present on the occasion, including Health Minister and Leader of the House J.P. Nadda, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal, and Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Hariwansh. On June 11, three Congress candidates, (Contd. on pg.2)



PM Modi pays tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, visits Navasakthi Vinayagar Temple in Seychelles



Victoria, June 29 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid floral tributes at Mahatma Gandhi Statue at Peace Park in Seychelles on Monday and also interacted with members of Indian diaspora who had gathered to welcome him. Members of Indian diaspora carrying the Tricolour chanted "Modi Modi" and "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" as they welcomed the Prime Minister. PM Modi spoke to children gathered there to welcome him.

Earlier in the day, PM Modi offered prayers at Navasakthi Vinayagar Temple. He also interacted with Indian community members gathered outside the temple. Ahead of his visit to the temple, Indian community members expressed excitement and said they were eagerly looking forward to welcoming him. Speaking to IANS, several members of the Indian community said extensive preparations had been made for the Prime (Contd. on pg.2)

Chandrababu Naidu urges farmers to overcome challenges posed by El Nino

greeted farmers on the occasion of Eruvaka Pournami, which marks the beginning of the new farming season. Agriculture minister K. Atchannaidu also urged the farmers to face the El Nino phenomenon with courage. In a message, the Chief Minister noted that on Jyeshtha Shuddha Pournami, farmers perform the Eruvaka ritual, worshipping the land and livestock, and attuning themselves with nature. "I pray that the homes of farmers be filled with the light of bountiful harvests. We, born on the soil that reveres nature, uphold those traditions. Let us nurture crops through natural farming, safeguarding our land and our health from toxicity," he said. The Chief Minister stated that the coalition government will always take proactive steps to strengthen the agricultural sector. As part of this, under Annadatha Sukhibhava, the government credited PM Kisan funds and stood by them as support. "I hope that farmers overcome the challenges arising due to El Nino

and international conditions. I aspire that farmers, by following government guidelines and advice, cultivate and reap success through farming," Chandrababu Naidu added. Agriculture minister K. Atchannaidu visited Kanaka Durga temple in Vijayawada to pray for the prosperity of the state's farming community. Special prayers were offered for an abundant crop and for farmers to achieve high yields and profits. The Minister stated that fertilizers and seeds required for the Kharif season are available in ample quantities. He clarified that farmers need not worry about their availability. Minister Atchannaidu affirmed that the government would provide all necessary support and assistance to farmers. The Minister revealed that the government has completed all arrangements for Kharif cultivation. Minister Atchannaidu emphasized that farmer welfare is the government's primary objective and called for facing the El Nino phenomenon with courage. Deputy Chief Minister Pawan

Kalyan also greeted farmers on Eruvaka Purnami. He noted that Eruvaka Purnami is an agricultural festival that celebrates the bond between humanity and nature, while honoring Mother Earth and livestock. It is customary for farmers to pay obeisance to Mother Earth and inaugurate the new farming season with great enthusiasm on the full moon day of the Jyeshtha month. On this occasion, I extend my best wishes to the entire farming community and pray to the Almighty for timely and abundant rains, so that farmers' households may overflow with bountiful harvests and prosperity," he said. Pawan Kalyan stated that the coalition government is committed to the welfare of farmers and the development of the agricultural sector. "We have already demonstrated our commitment by depositing the first installment of 'PM Kisan-Annadatha Sukhibhava' funds directly into farmers' accounts. We are also formulating plans to ensure that the upcoming 'VB G-Ram G' works benefit the farming community," he said.

PM Modi pays tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, visits Navasakthi Vinayagar Temple in Seychelles

Minister's visit. One community member said, "We are very happy that Prime Minister Modi is visiting us on the occasion of the 50th National Day. All the arrangements have been made smoothly. We will pray at the temple for his long life and wish that he continues serving the people of India. We have also organised cultural programmes to welcome him." Dhanalakshmi, another member of the Indian diaspora, said she felt honoured by the Prime Minister's visit. "I work closely with the government on several initiatives. We also hope that, given the strong bilateral relationship between India and Seychelles, the Indian government will support the temple's infrastructure development," she said. On Sunday, PM Modi attended the National Day celebrations of Seychelles as the Guest of Honour, during his State visit to the archipelagic island.

CM Naidu directs Officials to Make Government Services more Citizen-Friendly

The Chief Minister directed officials to further strengthen the public grievance redressal system and make it more accessible to citizens. He suggested enabling people to lodge complaints online and through the Mana Mitra WhatsApp platform. He also instructed officials to ensure that even voice messages sent through the platform are accepted. When the officials informed that nearly 3,000 locations currently face mobile connectivity challenges, the Chief Minister directed officials to resolve these issues within three months. The officials gave a presentation on the

"Navachethana" early childhood development screening programme being implemented by the Department of Women and Child Welfare. They explained that the programme assesses children's physical and mental development. So far, 33,949 children have been screened across the state. Officials said that, in addition to screening children attending Anganwadi centres, teams are also conducting household visits. A pilot project will also be implemented to ensure appropriate follow-up actions after screening. Officials said a circular has been issued mandating field visits by senior offi-

cers. Accordingly, Secretaries will spend three days, Heads of departments six days, and district collectors eight days every month on field visits. The Chief Minister instructed officials to identify areas facing major issues and provide immediate solutions. The officials said Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been issued to further improve the functioning of the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS). The Chief Minister visited the RTGS Centre along with the Director General of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Chandrajit

Banerjee and other CII representatives. IT Secretary Katameni Bhaskar explained the functioning of RTGS to the delegation and highlighted the use of Artificial Intelligence and other technologies in governance. He also presented case studies on RTGS' response during natural disasters. The Chief Minister urged CII representatives to expedite the establishment of the CII Global Leadership Centre in Andhra Pradesh. Chief Secretary G Sai Prasad and DGP Harish Kumar Gupta participated in the meeting.

PM Modi emplanes for New Delhi after concluding State visit to Seychelles

Indian flags chanted "Modi, Modi" and "Vande Mataram" as he interacted with them. Earlier in the day, PM Modi paid floral tributes at the Mahatma Gandhi statue at Peace Park in Seychelles. He also interacted with members of the Indian diaspora who had gathered to welcome him. He also offered prayers at Navasakthi Vinayagar Temple and interacted with members of the Indian diaspora gathered outside the temple. On Sunday, PM Modi attended the golden jubilee celebrations of Seychelles National Day as the Guest of Honour at the invitation of Seychelles President Patrick Herminie. In a post on X, PM Modi said, "Honoured to participate in the National Day celebrations of Seychelles, marking the Golden Jubilee of the nation's Independence. The occasion was a fitting tribute to the remarkable journey of the Seychellois people over the past fifty years." "India is proud to stand alongside Seychelles as a trusted friend and partner in its development journey. Our partnership continues to grow stronger with shared values and closer people-to-people ties. I am confident our

friendship will grow even further in the times to come," he added. PM Modi was conferred the 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon', Seychelles' highest distinction for leadership in environmental conservation and sustainable development. The award acknowledges PM Modi's long-standing push for sustainable growth and his green vision. PM Modi and President Herminie on Sunday discussed new opportunities in industries, connectivity, technology, and digital infrastructure. PM Modi expressed India's support for Seychelles in various sectors like housing, healthcare, transport, skilling, food security, education and defence. "Held wide-ranging discussions with Dr. Patrick Herminie at the State House earlier this morning. My visit is taking place at a historic moment when Seychelles is completing 50 years of its Independence and we are also celebrating the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Seychelles. Our talks focussed on how to add further momentum to this close partnership," PM Modi posted on X.

Indian passport application fee to go up from July 1

The higher charges will apply from July 1, 2026, for applications submitted in India or abroad under the revised fee structure. Applicants seeking a replacement passport due to loss or damage will also have to pay higher charges of Rs 5,000 for a 36-page passport compared to Rs 3,000 earlier. In the case of a 60-page passport in this category, the fee has been hiked to Rs 6,000 from Rs 3,500 earlier. For a 60-page adult passport replacement in the Tatkaal category, the fee has been raised from Rs 5,500 to Rs 8,500.

Passport services for children below 18 years will also become costlier. In the case of a 36-page fresh or reissue passport for minors (normal), the fee has been raised from Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,750. In the case of 36-page fresh or reissue passport for minors in the Tatkaal category, the fee has been increased from Rs 3,000 to Rs 4,250. For the replacement of a lost or damaged passport for minors (normal) the new fee has been fixed at Rs 4,250 while in the Tatkaal category for minors, the new fee will

be Rs 6,750. Charges for miscellaneous passport services, including police clearance certification (PCC) and other passport-related certificates, the fee has been increased from Rs 500 to Rs 750. The revised structure also includes charges for services such as surrender certificates and other passport-linked documentation. Indian citizens applying for passport services outside India will follow a separate fee structure. For example, the fee for a fresh 36-page passport

application abroad (normal) has been fixed at \$125. The fee for the same passport application in the Tatkaal category will be \$250. The revised overseas fee structure will apply to Indian citizens seeking passport services through missions and consulates abroad. A 10 per cent discount on fresh passport applications will continue for children below eight years of age and senior citizens above 60 years. However, the discount will not apply to passport reissue applications.

India to corner Pakistan at FATF with evidence of terrorists roaming freely

trouble with the FATF, the official said. With the JuD in the shadows, Pakistan currently is promoting the Pakistan Markazi Muslim League (PMML), which is affiliated with the Lashkar-e-Tayiba. The president of the Islamabad wing of the PMML was seen recently attending the funeral of former Pakistan cricketer Shoaib Akhtar's brother. He was seen along with Hafiz Talha Saeed, the son of Lashkar-e-Tayiba founder Hafiz Saeed and the LeT's deputy Saifullah Kasauri. An Intelligence Bureau official said that the PMML is just a front for these terrorists to roam around in the open. Pakistan is desperately trying to portray internationally designated terrorists as political leaders. This is why there is so much emphasis on ensuring that these persons are visible at public events and other programmes. The official said that India is collecting all such videos that are being circulated on both PMML and Lashkar-e-Tayiba linked channels. This would be used as proof when

the FATF hearing comes up next, the official said. Another official said that when the FATF had specifically warned Pakistan about its backing of terror groups and the funds that they raise, there is still a brazen show on display. Pakistan wants to legitimise these persons by adding their names to political outfits, so that these do not come under the scrutiny of international agencies, the official said. Even when it came to the JuD, the modus operandi was a similar one. While the JuD was not projected as a political outfit, Pakistan claimed that it was a group involved in charity work. Many top leaders part of the Lashkar-e-Tayiba would be seen at JuD events and Pakistan would project them as charity workers. India however managed to build up a case against these designated terrorists, following which the FATF initiated a probe. Pakistan remained in the Grey List before being taken out after it assured that it would do more on terror financing. An official said

that Pakistan will never stop backing terror and would do all it can to legitimise terrorists. The formation of the PMML, too, was a step in that direction whereby political legitimacy could be given to terror groups, the official said. There have been several instances in Pakistan where terrorists have been seen at important events and at time government functions too. Even serving ISI and Army officials have often attended funerals of terrorists. By sending serving officers of the ISI and Army to attend funerals of terrorists and also publicise it, is clearly Pakistan's way of trying to tell the world that these events are legitimate ones. An official said that the case that is being built up is a strong one and Pakistan would find it hard to explain a lot of things before the FATF. Pakistan is an exporter and backer of terror and hence needs to be repeatedly exposed before the international community, the official added. The next FATF plenary and Working Group meetings will take place in Paris, France from October 26 to 30 this year.

Mallikarjun Kharge takes oath as RS member again, vows to continue 'holding govt accountable'

including Kharge, along with one BJP nominee, were declared elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from Karnataka. The elections were held to fill four Rajya Sabha seats from the state following the completion of the terms of sitting members Iranna Kadadi and Narayana Koragappa of the BJP. Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge and former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda of the JD(S), whose tenure ended on June 25. Kharge had sought re-election to the Upper House from Karnataka after the expiry of his previous term. Taking to X after taking the oath, the Congress president said, "It is a matter of immense pride and responsi-

bility to continue serving this august Upper House as the Leader of the Opposition." He also expressed gratitude to Rajya Sabha Chairman C.P. Radhakrishnan and Deputy Chairman Harivansh for their continued support. Kharge thanked Sonia Gandhi and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, Congress MPs, and party workers and supporters, whose unwavering faith and encouragement, he said, have "sustained me throughout my long journey in public life and Parliamentary service." "I am equally grateful to the Floor Leaders of all political parties, especially our colleagues in the INDIA bloc, and the wider Opposition, for

their cooperation and camaraderie. I look forward to even stronger coordination during the forthcoming Monsoon Session of Parliament so that, together, we can make the government of the day more accountable," he added. The Congress president reiterated that the Opposition would continue to highlight issues affecting the people and ensure that their concerns receive due attention in Parliament. "We will continue to raise the burning concerns, aspirations and voices of the people with sincerity, conviction and determination. That remains our foremost responsibility, and I shall discharge it with the utmost commitment," he added.

Government School Students Are Brand Ambassadors of Education System: Minister Nara Lokesh

medals in recognition of their academic excellence. Speaking on the occasion, Lokesh said the state government has introduced several reforms aimed at making Andhra Pradesh's education model a benchmark for the rest of the country. He revealed that the government

has set a target of attracting two lakh students from private schools to government schools in the next academic year by improving the quality of education and infrastructure. The minister said that student-centric reforms implemented by the Education Department have already

resulted in a significant improvement in the Class 10 pass percentage in government schools. He noted that while government schools once struggled to attract admissions, they are now witnessing growing demand, with recommendations being sought for securing seats.

Amaravati Farmers Accuse YSRCP of Conspiring Against Capital City

name of the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) to the Amaravati Metropolitan Region Development Authority (AMRDA), but the move had to be reversed following court intervention. Expressing their anguish, the farmers said Amaravati was deliberately neglected as part of a broader attempt

AP Government Cracking Down on Cyber Crime, Says Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha

Crime Recovery Mela held at the Visakhapatnam Police Commissionerate, the Home Minister said the state government has intensified its efforts to combat cyber fraud and strengthen the cyber crime investigation system. The event was attended by Visakhapatnam Police Commissioner Shankhabrata Bagechi and senior police officials. On the occasion, the Home Minister handed over recovered amounts to victims of cyber fraud. She said police had successfully recovered nearly Rs. 6 crore

and returned the money to 310 victims of cyber crimes.

AP to Host 31st CII Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam on November 12-13

Visakhapatnam, Rajamahendravaram or Kakinada, Amaravati, Anantapur, and Tirupati to promote investment opportunities and industrial development while creating greater regional awareness. The two-day summit will feature the signing of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs), ministerial sessions, plenary discussions, country-specific sessions, business-to-business (B2B), and business-to-government (B2G) meetings. Representatives from leading Indian and global companies, Union ministers, and delegates from several countries are expected to participate.

Minister Kollu Ravindra alleges YSRCP behind Amaravati Unrest

accused Jagan Mohan Reddy of abandoning political restraint and deliberately encouraging tensions in the capital region. Ravindra alleged that the YSRCP was trying to disturb law and order in Amaravati under the banner of the Amaravati Protection Committee. He asserted that leaders who had opposed Amaravati as the state capital had no moral right to visit the region or speak on issues concerning the capital.

Two head constables surrender in Vijayawada lock-up death case

investigation that the two head constables were assisting Nagaraju. The SIT arrested Nagaraju on June 23. The next day, a city court sent him to judicial remand till July 8. Meanwhile, the Andhra Pradesh High Court adjourned the hearing to Tuesday on a Habeas Corpus petition filed by Sai Krishna's mother, Vijaya Lakshmi.

TRUHOME FINANCE LIMITED (Formerly Known As Shriram Housing Finance Limited)	
	Reg. Off.: Srinivasa Tower, 1st Floor, Door No. 5, Old No.11, 2nd Lane, Cenatopha Road, Alwarpet, Teynampet, Chennai-600018 Head Office, Level 3, Wockhardt Towers, East Wing C-2, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051 Website: http://www.truhomefinance.in
PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE	
Whereas The undersigned being the authorised officer of Truhome Finance Limited (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Limited) under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (said Rules) issued demand notices to the Borrowers details of which are mentioned in the table below to repay the amount mentioned in the said demand notices.	
The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorised officer Truhome Finance Limited (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Limited) has taken PHYSICAL POSSESSION of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules on 29-06-2026.	
The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of Truhome Finance Limited (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Limited) for an amount as mentioned herein below with interest thereon.	
The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.	
Borrower's Name and Address	
1. Mrs. .TANIKONDA SUJATHA W/O MR.TIPPINEMI SITARAMAIAH 2. MR.TIPPINEMI SITARAMAIAH S/O MR.VENKATESWARAIAH All are Resident of DOOR NO 7-628 6TH LINE GANDHI NAGAR ROAD ONGOLE PRAKASAM DISTRICT ANDHRA PRADESH INDIA 523002	
Amount due as per Demand Notice	
Demand Notice Date – 15-12-2025 Demand notice Amount Rs.1418560/-/Fourteen Lakh Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty Only) as on 31-12-2025 under reference of Loan Account No. SHLGUNT0001078..	
Description of Mortgaged Property	
All that piece and parcel of Property situated in the Prakasam District Ongole Sub-District, Ongole Municipal Corporation Area Limits Mamidipalem Grama Survey No 237 (South Side of Mangamuru Donka, Near Door No. 1-122) Lay Out No. 126/2019/P, Plot No 7,8,9,10,11,12 Covering an extent of 2415 Sq.yrds of RCC Road Residential Building is Being Bounded by: East: Property belongs to Suraksha Infrastructure Private Ltd. South: 33H Wide Road, West: 40H Wide Road, North Property belongs to Suraksha Infrastructure Private Ltd. Within these boundaries covering in an extent 2415Sq.yrds of Residential Still Ground+4 Floors RCC building including all Constructions therein. SCHEDULE - B	
An Undivided and undivided share Measuring 26 sq. yards Or 21.736 Sq. mts. In total Extent of 2145 sq.yrds of above mentioned A Schedule site along with Flat No. 114, Located in the Ground Floor "SURAASHA PARADISE - PHASE-1" Apartment With a plinth Area of 1016 sq.ft (including 780 Sq.foot plinth Area, 136 Sq.ft common area and 100 Sq feet one car parking Area in still floor) and which has constructed for above share of site is being bounded East: Open To Sky, South Corridor, West: Corridor North Open To Sky, Within these boundaries Flat No 114, Located in Ground floor, SURAASHA PHASE-1 Residential Flat with all accessories and easement rights	
Place: Ongole. Date : 29/06/2026	Sd/- Authorised Officer- Truhome Finance Limited (Earlier Known As Shriram Housing Finance Limited)

Parents of Radha Gayathri met AP Home Minister Smt Vangalapudi Anitha

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, June 29
Parents of Smt. Radha Gayathri, the 27-year-old techie from Visakha patnam, Sri Sudhakar and Smt. Satyavathi, met Hon'ble Andhra Pradesh Home Minister Smt. Vangalapudi Anitha on Monday at the Visakha patnam Police Commis sionerate.

During the meeting, the parents requested the Hon'ble Home Minister's intervention and support in coordinating with the Mussoorie Police Investigation Officer regarding the suspicious death of their daughter. Responding immediately, Hon'ble Home Minister Smt. Vangalapudi Anitha directed South Zone DCP Mary Prasanthi and Visakhapatnam Commis



sioner of Police Shri S. Bagchi to ensure proper communication and coordination with the concerned authorities in Uttarakhand.

The Hon'ble Home Minister assured full support from the Government of Andhra Pradesh and stated that an official letter will be sent to expedite the post-mortem report and other investigation processes. She further mentioned that Hon'ble

Chief Minister Shri Nara Chandrababu Naidu is personally monitoring the incident and has instructed to extend complete legal aid support to the family. Smt. Vangalapudi Anitha assured that the Kutami government will stand with Radha Gayathri's parents and provide all necessary assistance to coordinate with the Uttarakhand Home Department in Mussoorie.

UTF unveils TET-1A study material for teachers

Vizianagaram (Garividi), June 29 (Skyline):
The United Teachers Federation (UTF) launched a seven-volume TET-1A study material at the Garividi Mandal Educational Resource Centre to support teachers preparing for the Teacher Eligibility Test.

The books were released by Mandal Education Officers P. Rama Rao and D. Appanna, who distributed copies to teachers on the occasion.

Speaking at the event, MEO P. Rama Rao said the material would help teachers prepare effectively for the TET examina



tion and improve their success rate.

UTF State leaders D. Ramu and A. Satya Srinivas, along with Mandal leaders Kotla Ramana, Aikya Satyanarayana, and others, attended the programme.

The UTF Garividi unit

New borewell project launched to end water scarcity in Cheepurupalli colony

Vizianagaram (Cheepuru palli), June 29 (Skyline):
A long-pending drinking water issue in Ramanjaneya Colony of Cheepurupalli Town is set to be resolved with the launch of a new borewell project worth Rs.9 lakh. The initiative, funded through Panchayat resources, aims to provide a permanent source of safe drinking water to residents who have faced water shortages for several years.

The foundation stone for the project was laid by Kimidi Ram Mallik Naidu, TDP State Executive Secretary, in the presence of local leaders, Panchayat officials, and residents.

Addressing the gathering, Ram Mallik Naidu said the project was taken up after repeated requests from the public and reflects the government's commitment to strengthening basic



civic infrastructure. He noted that women and elderly residents had been facing considerable hardship due to the lack of a dependable drinking water supply.

He said the administration is giving priority to resolving public issues by ensuring the timely implementation of essential development works. He also assured that similar drinking water and infrastructure projects would be taken up in other areas of the constituency based on local requirements.

Residents of Ramanjaneya

Police Officers Pay Courtesy Visit to Newly Appointed Magistrate

Vizianagaram (Cheepuru palli), June 29 (Skyline):
Senior police officials from the Cheepurupalli Circle paid a courtesy visit to newly appointed Second Class Magistrate Sai Sekhar and extended a warm welcome by presenting him with a bouquet, reaffirming the commitment to strengthen coordination between the police and judiciary.

The delegation was led by Circle Inspector G. Shankar Rao and included Cheepurupalli SI P. Uma Venkateswara Rao, Garividi SI Lokeshwar Rao, Gurla SI P. Narayana Rao, and Budarayavalsa SI J. Lokesh Kumar. The officers congratulated the Magistrate on his new assignment and conveyed their best wishes on behalf of the police department.

Speaking on the occasion, CI G. Shankar Rao highlighted the importance of close cooperation between the police and the judiciary in ensuring effective law enforcement and



timely delivery of justice. He said that coordinated efforts are essential for crime prevention, efficient investigation of cases, and expeditious completion of legal proceedings.

He further stated that the assignment and conveyed their best wishes on behalf of the police department.

Speaking on the occasion, CI G. Shankar Rao highlighted the importance of close cooperation between the police and the judiciary in ensuring effective law enforcement and

100-cr Gati Shakti Project to drive FACOR revival, boost Vizianagaram industries

Vizianagaram (Garividi), June 29 (Skyline):
FACOR Alloys Limited has received a major boost in its efforts to revive operations, with the East Coast Railway granting in-principle approval to upgrade its existing railway siding into a Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal (GCT). The proposed project is expected to transform industrial logistics in Vizianagaram district and create new opportunities for economic growth.

Planned with an estimated investment of Rs.100 crore, the cargo terminal will be developed in phases over the next four years. Once completed, the facility will serve not

only FACOR Alloys but also several industries across the district by providing improved rail-based transportation and modern cargo handling infrastructure.

The project includes the modernization of the existing railway siding, installation of mechanized loading and unloading systems, upgraded signalling and safety mechanisms, and enhanced rail connectivity in line with the Ministry of Railways' Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal Policy.

Company officials said the approval marks an important milestone in FACOR's long-term revival strategy. Preparations for the



Detailed Feasibility Study Report (FSR), engineering designs, and other technical documents have already begun. The project will move forward after obtaining the required statutory and railway clearances.

The new cargo terminal is expected to reduce logis

hub.

FACOR Alloys President Vinodh Saraf thanked the Government, Railway authorities, employees, former employees, business associates, and local residents for their continued support during the company's challenging period. He appealed for the cooperation of all stakeholders to ensure the successful implementation of the project.

The management expressed confidence that the Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal will play a key role in restoring FACOR's industrial legacy while contributing to the long-term economic and infrastructure development of Vizianagaram district.

First convocation of Central Tribal University in Visakhapatnam today

373 graduates awarded degrees, 13 awarded gold medals

The President of India, Union and State Ministers will be the chief guests.

Chancellor Madan Lal Meena and Vice Chancellor T. Srinivasan at a press conference

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, June 29 :
The first convocation of the Central Tribal University will be held in Visakhapatnam on Tues day, said the university's Chancellor Madan Lal Meena and Vice Chancellor Professor T. Srinivasan. They revealed the details of the convocation at a joint press conference held at the local Daspalla Hotel on Monday.

They said that a total of 373 students who completed various courses from 2020 to 2025-26 academic years will be awarded degree and PG degrees. It was also stated that 13 students who have shown outstanding talent will be honored by being awarded gold medals by the President.

He explained that the Central Tribal University was established in 2019 with its headquarters in Vizianagaram and

classes started from 2020. He said that currently the university is running eight PG courses and five degree courses. He said that educational programs are being conducted under the auspices of the School of Sciences, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and School of Management.

It was revealed that 200 students from the School of Sciences, 82 from the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and 91 from the School of Management will receive their degrees at the graduation ceremony.

He said that 13 students who have shown exceptional talent are being awarded gold medals. He said that it is noteworthy that among them, 10 are female students and three are male students. Five students from the MSc



Chemistry department, two from Integrated MSc Chemistry, two from Master of Social Work, two from Master of Business Administration and two from MSc Biotechnology were selected for gold medals.

Chancellor Madan Lal Meena said that the graduation ceremony is an important milestone in the life of every student. He said that

versity is giving high priority to quality education, research, innovation, and skill development. He said that many innovative programs are being implemented to prepare students according to the needs of the industries.

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, State Governor Abdul Nazeer, State Education Minister Nara Lokesh, Founder VC T.V. Kattimani, other ministers, public representatives, prominent educationists and distinguished guests will be present at the graduation ceremony. He explained that all arrangements have been completed to this extent. He asked the graduates and their parents to attend the program on time and make it a success.

Registrar Jitendra Mohan Mishra participated in this meeting.

100-cr Gati Shakti Project to drive FACOR revival, boost Vizianagaram industries

- Departmental officers should review PGRS requests on a daily basis.
- Sir, the digitalization of applications should be done quickly.
- District Collector S. Ramsunder Reddy ordered a review of PGRS Vizianagaram , June 29 (Skyline):
District Collector S. Ramsunder Reddy said that the departmental officers should review every day and every complaint on how the PGRS complaints received by the respective departments are being

resolved . He suggested that a phone call should be made to every applicant and a quality and accurate reply should be given. The Collector reviewed the PGRS complaints at the Collectorate conference hall on Monday. Speaking on the occasion, he said that the number of positive and negative responses given among the endorsements should be reviewed. He said that PGRS complaints should be considered as a responsibility.

He said that the district's rank should not decrease in the positive opinion of the public , and that the



programs given during that week should be explained to the people first , and that our rank will increase only if they respond positively. He said that if the services we provide are proper and they are satisfied, the positivity will increase with

that the district authorities should inspect the secretariats as directed and send their remarks.

He directed the revenue officials to complete the digitalization process of the applications received under Special Intensive Revision – Sir at the earliest. He said that 80 percent of the process still needs to be completed in the next 15 days and that it should be done at the earliest. He said that the daily targets should be achieved.

Joint Collector Sethu Madhavan, DRO Sathhibabu, and district officials participated in this meeting.

Stayfree® Expands its Menstrual Hygiene portfolio with the launch of Xpert XL: Experience Redefined On-The-Go Period Protection

Visakhapatnam, 29 June 2026: Stayfree®, a leading menstrual hygiene brand announced the launch of Stayfree® Xpert XL – a new menstrual hygiene solution designed to offer superior protection and comfort to women during their periods along with ease of carrying and disposing it. With this launch, Stayfree® expands its portfolio in the feminine hygiene segment, offering a best-in-class solution tailored to support women through their changing lifestyles and evolving needs.

The introduction of Stayfree® Xpert XL reaffirms the brand's continued focus on innovation to meet emerging needs of women in their overall period management. The Stayfree® Xpert XL is designed with 3-in-1 protection

- Superior Protection: With Gel Lock Pockets for deep and instant absorption, locking in fluid quickly, giving a dry feel and protection

throughout the day

- Comfort: Air Soft^ Cover for breathable and gentle feel against the skin, ensuring comfort throughout the wear
- Compact & Fits in Pocket - individually wrapped napkins that allow women to carry their pad conveniently with a wrapper for easy disposal

Commenting on expansion of Stayfree portfolio, Supriya Srinivasa, Marketing Director, Stayfree, said, "At Stayfree, we realize every woman has a different period experience and are constantly building solutions to improve the period experience for them. Stayfree® Xpert XL is one such disruptive innovation providing superior 3-in-1 protection with its: Gel Lock Pockets to provide deep and instant absorption, Air Soft Cover to improve how the pad feels on their skin and fitting-in-pocket design in individually wrapped napkins for ease of carrying and disposal. Stayfree remains committed to offer varied solutions for



our consumers so they can choose what works best for them to manage their periods".

To amplify the launch, Stayfree® has commenced a mega influencer campaign collaborating with voices from various walks of life, including Aditi Bhatia, Ashnoor Kaur and more to connect with younger, active digital-first consumers.

In Stayfree's digital campaign with actress Aditi Bhatia, the film brings to life

a regular day in any woman on her periods, the constant worry of leakage, skin irritation from using a pad, and the extra mental and physical baggage of carrying pads around when they are out and about. As the woman deals with her inner thoughts and anxieties, the film highlights how Stayfree Xpert XL plays an active role in helping her manage her period challenges more seamlessly!

Through such authentic and

relatable content across digital platforms, Stayfree reinforces its role in supporting women through trusted menstrual hygiene solutions.

The new Stayfree® Xpert XL with 3-in-1 protection is available nationwide across retail channels, modern trade, general trade, pharmacies, ecommerce and quick commerce platforms. Priced at MRP Rs. 48/- (incl. of all taxes) for 6 Units, Stayfree® Xpert XL is available in packs of 6, 18 and 40Units.

SKYLINE

Tuesday 30.6.2026

Brexit Dividend

Ten years after Britain voted to leave the European Union, the most revealing aspect of Brexit is not what happened, but what did not. The promised economic renaissance never arrived. Yet neither did the collapse predicted by some of its fiercest critics. What emerged instead was something more subtle and perhaps more consequential: a slower, less dynamic economy whose losses accumulated quietly over time. Political campaigns are won on grand promises. Brexit was sold as a route to restored sovereignty, regulatory freedom and global commercial opportunity. In formal terms, those objectives were achieved. Britain regained control over trade policy, immigration rules and regulatory frameworks. The country’s elected governments now enjoy greater latitude in shaping economic policy without reference to Brussels. The problem is that economic freedom and prosperity are not the same thing. Modern trade depends less on tariffs than on the absence of friction. For decades, British firms operated within a vast integrated market where goods, services and capital moved with minimal obstacles. Leaving that framework inevitably introduced costs. Customs declarations, regulatory compliance, border checks and divergent standards may appear technical, but collectively they alter commercial behaviour. Businesses that once treated Europe as a domestic marketplace must now navigate barriers that did not previously exist. The burden has fallen disproportionately on smaller firms. Large multinational companies possess the resources to adapt. Smaller exporters often do not. Some have reduced their European footprint; others have withdrawn altogether. The result is not a dramatic collapse in trade but a gradual narrowing of commercial opportunities. Investment tells a similar story. Businesses invest when they can predict future conditions with reasonable confidence. The prolonged uncertainty surrounding Britain’s departure from the EU discouraged many long-term commitments. Lost investment does not produce immediate headlines. Instead, it appears years later in weaker productivity, slower wage growth and diminished competitiveness. To acknowledge these costs is not to argue that Brexit delivered no benefits. Britain has shown greater flexibility in negotiating trade agreements and may possess advantages in emerging sectors where regulatory agility matters. In an age defined by artificial intelligence, strategic competition and shifting geopolitical alliances, the ability to move independently could yet prove valuable. But potential future gains cannot erase present realities. Geography remains one of the most powerful forces in economics. The European market sits on Britain’s doorstep, and no network of distant trade agreements can fully replicate that proximity. The real lesson of the past decade is that sovereignty carries economic trade-offs. Nations can choose greater political autonomy, but they cannot choose a world in which economic interdependence ceases to matter. Brexit expanded Britain’s room for manoeuvre. Whether that freedom ultimately proves worthwhile will depend not on the referendum itself but on how effectively future governments use it. The next chapter of the Brexit story will not be written by campaigners. It will be written by policymakers confronting a simple challenge: how to turn political independence into economic success.

330 million: Why the biggest number in India’s boom is the most useless one

India has the largest crowd of AI users. But that number could be a vanity, pleasant to report in the morning and slow to pay by evening. Because who wants to pay for AI yet? Every few weeks a new number arrives to tell us that India has won the artificial intelligence race before it has properly begun. That we are the largest market for this X, or the fastest growing for that Y, and the second-largest base of users for nearly every model that matters. The figures are real. The story made with them is unreal. Markets exist to price things, and the market for Indian AI has the price wrong in both directions at once. The visible side is overpriced. The durable side is underpriced. We are sold a supply side story while the demand side waits in the shade, holding both the real opportunity and the real danger. Let me start with what is overpriced. According to Sensor Tower’s State of AI 2026 report, ChatGPT counts roughly 330 million monthly users in India and Gemini around 229 million. Those figures get offered as proof of demand. They measure footfall. Appetite shows itself only when there is a price to pay, and the price in India today sits close to zero, because the frontier labs are subsidising access in a land grab for the world’s largest pool of users. The narrow gap between the two leaders gives the game away. It exists because Android’s installed base does the distribution work that genuine preference does elsewhere. The top of

our market has been won by distribution and subsidy wearing the costume of demand. Early in my career, putting a new dishwasher liquid product into Indian kitchens, I watched free samples by the tons flowing off retailers in a week. The number that mattered arrived a month later, when a homemaker reached for it again and paid with her own money. The first number flattered the internal review. The second one paid the salaries. WhatsApp owns near total reach in this country and has spent a decade in search of the commerce that was meant to follow. Vast usage, thin value. The capital now flooding into AI infrastructure rests on the same headcount story, on a subsidised price that still awaits its first real test. The day a real price appears, we will learn how much of that 330 million was appetite and how much was a free sample. Turn the picture over, because the underpriced side is the richer one. Value in this technology is born at the point of use, in the hands of someone solving a real problem. Models commoditise by the quarter. The lasting surplus lives in deployment against the messy, multilingual, high-friction problems that fill Indian life be it credit for the borrower with a thin file, advice for the small farmer or public services in a dozen languages that a model trained abroad meets as strangers. This is the terrain where India is strong and where capital, mesmerised by the supply side,

keeps its eyes elsewhere. The abundant thing draws the attention. The scarce thing sits unpriced. That gap is the textbook shape of a mispricing. The clearest evidence hides inside the same data everyone celebrates. The positions worth watching grow on session depth, paid conversion and word-of-mouth, far from the headlines that cheer downloads. One cohort that opens its wallet tells you more about this market than three hundred million who only opened the app. That wallet reports demand. The download reports distribution. There is a third element, the one that ought to keep folks up at night, because its cost still sits off the books. The value of AI in commerce and public life rests entirely on trust, and trust is a bill the current price quietly defers. Years ago, in 2011-13, I built the case for online debit in India. As Marketing Director for Visa, I saw an entire business rest on one fragile act: a stranger’s willingness to type her card number into a screen and trust that the money would behave. Reach stayed worthless until that trust arrived. The same law now governs AI. Deepfake-driven fraud, the synthetic manufacture of opinion, impersonation aimed at the retail investor who has only just entered formal markets, these are the bills that arrive later. Demand looks healthier than it can sustain, flattered by a charge we keep deferring. The day it lands, through a scandal or a market shock or a wave of fraud



against ordinary savers, the whole thing reprices, and it reprices violently. A country welcoming millions of first-time investors and first-time internet users in the same decade stands fully exposed to that reckoning. All of which gives the phrase ‘Swadeshi AI’ a sharper edge than the slogan usually carries. The real question runs deeper than whether we can stamp a flag on a model. It asks whether India keeps the surplus it is strong enough to create or rents its intelligence from abroad in perpetuity while paying the trust cost at home. Building at the model layer is the smaller prize. Owning the demand layer, the interface, the deployment, the trusted relationship with the citizen, is the larger one and it currently goes cheap. A free sample is a poor trade for a civilisational asset. A mispricing earns its keep only when it tells you who collects as it corrects. **Three actors stand ready:** The builder who designs for what Indians will gladly pay for, and earns the wallet that a

download only borrows. The policymaker who funds distribution and trust, the rails and the redress and the protection of the small saver, with the conviction now reserved for compute, because compute on its own is a tower built on sand. The investor who learns to read depth and pays for it, while the crowd still pays for downloads. I have spent a working life building categories from the demand side, in dishwasher and debit cards, motorcycles and cargo electrics, with a few sporting leagues along the way. The lesson travels intact every time. Markets go to whoever first grasps what people will gladly pay for, and why. The largest free crowd is a vanity, pleasant to report in the morning and slow to pay by evening. India’s AI moment will be settled on this ground. The headcount dazzles. The economics beneath it still await a careful reading. For now, we are pricing the wrong thing. The correction, when it arrives, will reward the few who priced the right one.

India’s Solar Dreams have a big China problem

In April 1933, John Maynard Keynes took the boat to Dublin to deliver the first Finlay Lecture at University College. He was by then the most famous economist alive, and what he said, in “National Self-Sufficiency”, printed soon after in the Yale Review, caused a small, genteel scandal. Here was the man every undergraduate filed under free markets and open exchange, calmly taking apart a faith he had once held without question. “I was brought up, like most Englishmen, to respect free trade not only as an economic doctrine which a rational and instructed person could not doubt, but almost as a part of the moral law.” Having confessed the creed, he proceeded to renounce a good part of it. I thought of that lecture while reading a notification issued by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy on March 18, 2026. The notification extends something called the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers, ALMM in the acronym-strewn manner of Indian administration, to solar ingots and wafers, with effect from June 1, 2028. ALMM began life as an order in 2019. List-I, for solar modules, became enforceable in 2021; List-II, for cells, from June 1, 2026; and now List-III, for the wafers and ingots that sit further upstream still. The mechanism is simple. Only manufacturers on the list may supply projects awarded under Section 63 of the Electricity Act, 2003, and net-metering and open-access projects besides. Chinese firms are, in practice, kept off it. ALMM is a non-tariff barrier dressed in the language of quality assurance.

Let nobody pretend otherwise. David Ricardo settled the matter in 1817, and two centuries of Lancashire and Manchester and the repeal of the Corn Laws settled it again. If China makes a wafer more cheaply than India can, the gains from buying it are real and the buyer, here, ultimately, the household paying an electricity bill, is the beneficiary. Every rupee of protection is a tax that someone pays, usually the person least able to see that he is paying it. Industry’s own estimates suggest the cell mandate alone could raise project costs by three to five per cent, with sharper spikes when supply is short. This is trite, and it is true. And yet, this is precisely where Keynes is useful, because he was not a protectionist crank reaching for tariffs to please a constituency. He had arrived, reluctantly, at a more uncomfortable position, that the case for free trade had been oversold as a moral absolute when it was only ever a contingent argument. “I sympathise, therefore ... with those who would minimise, rather than with those who would maximise, economic entanglement between nations.” Ideas, knowledge, art, hospitality, travel, these should be international by their nature. “But let goods be homespun whenever it is reasonably and conveniently possible; and, above all, let finance be primarily national.” The phrase to dwell on is reasonably and conveniently possible. Keynes was not abolishing trade. He was denying it the status of scripture. The argument for domestic capacity, capacity, note, not autarky, rests on a narrow ground, and the narrowness is the whole point. Some goods are not like other goods. Wine and toys and televi-

sion sets can come from wherever they are cheapest, and if a supplier turns difficult, one shrugs and buys elsewhere. A handful of goods are different, because the world makes them in only one place. China produced roughly 91% of the world’s polysilicon and over 97% of its ingots and wafers in 2023-24. A supplier with that share of a market is not, in any meaningful sense, a market at all. It is a chokepoint. India, against some 172 GW of listed module capacity, has perhaps 2 GW of ingot-and-wafer capacity. The entire edifice of Indian solar, the panels, the parks, the rooftop schemes, the 500 GW of non-fossil capacity promised by 2030, rests, at its base, on a single supply line that runs across a contested border. Anyone who watched Galwan in 2020, or the pandemic’s scramble for ventilators and active pharmaceutical ingredients, or Europe’s sudden education in the price of Russian gas, has learnt the same lesson by now. Supply chains can be weaponised. A dependence that is purely commercial in peacetime becomes a lever in any other weather. Electricity is not a discretionary import. To build the grid of the next half-century on a thread held in one foreign hand is to mistake cheapness for security, and the two are not the same thing. Renewable energy is, in my view, exactly the sort of area Keynes had in mind, where homespun is worth a premium, because the alternative is not a higher bill but a hostage. That is the case for ALMM, honestly stated. But the caveat matters more than the case, and here I would not be a cheerleader. Strategic is the most elastic word in the entire lexicon of protection.



It is the Humpty Dumpty word. It means whatever the minister chooses it to mean, neither more nor less. India has heard it before. The two decades after 1956 were one long festival of import substitution, in which every industry from scooters to soda ash discovered that it was infant, or strategic, or both, and deserving of a wall. The infants were still infants thirty years later, fat and querulous behind their tariffs, and it took the crisis of 1991 to wean them. The danger is not that the renewable-energy argument is wrong. The danger is that it is right, and that its rightness becomes a licence for every other claimant to dress in the same clothes. ALMM’s own short history is the warning written in advance. The module mandate was kept in abeyance for 2023-24 and reinstated in April 2024, and in the interregnum imports surged, module imports rose some 360% year on year as developers stocked up on the very Chinese panels the policy existed to displace. The mandate, in other words, ran ahead of the capacity it presumed. To their credit, the framers of List-III seem to have absorbed this. The wafer list issues only

when at least three independent units totalling 15 GW exist, and projects already in the pipeline are grandfathered. The test of a good protective measure is whether it contains, from the start, the conditions of its own removal. ALMM now gestures at this. Whether the gesture survives contact with the lobbies it will create is another matter. The deeper point is the one Keynes reached in Dublin and India learnt the hard way through Lancashire cloth and the broken handloom. Free trade was never quite the moral law its evangelists proclaimed, and self-sufficiency was never quite the folly its critics alleged. Both are instruments, to be used where they fit and abandoned where they do not. The question is never whether to protect, but where, how narrowly, and, the part always forgotten, for how long. Keynes ended his lecture by warning against the fanatic of self-sufficiency quite as sternly as against the fanatic of free trade. It is sensible advice for a country about to build a great deal behind a wall. The sun, at least, levies no customs duty. The wafer that captures it should not need a permit forever.

Summer eye care tips, wars against UV ray damage

Most people protect their skin and hair in summer. Acharya Balkrishna says the eyes need just as much attention. UV rays from sunlight can cause serious damage. A wide-brimmed hat and four litres of water a day can help. Acharya Balkrishna, co-founder of Patanjali Yogpeeth, put up a Facebook post this summer with some advice on taking care of your eye in the heat. Not the most obvious topic — most people think about sunscreen and hair masks when summer rolls around — but he made a fair point that eyes take a beating this time of year too. **UV rays and eye damage** His main concern was UV rays, and honestly, it’s a legitimate one. Sunlight carries UVA and UVB radiation, both of which



can quietly damage eye tissue over time. We’re talking cataracts, photokeratitis (basically a sunburn on your eyeball), pterygium, and in some cases macular degeneration. The WHO has flagged UV exposure as a real risk factor for all of these.

Summer makes things worse for a couple of reasons. Days are longer, the sun is more direct, and reflective surfaces — water, sand, even concrete — bounce UV rays right back up at your face. Your eyes end up getting hit from multiple angles, not just

from above. **Wearing a wide-brimmed hat** Balkrishna’s first suggestion was simple: wear a hat with a wide brim when you step out. Not groundbreaking advice, but ophthalmologists actually back this one up. A brim of around 7–8 cm can block a good chunk of the UV that sunglasses alone miss — especially the light coming in from the sides or bouncing up from below. Sunglasses and a hat together cover a lot more ground than either one on its own. **Drinking enough water** His second point was about hydration — specifically, drinking three to four litres of water a day through summer. He connected this to eye lubrication, and mentioned xerophthalmia as a condition that can result from severely dry, moisture-deficient

eyes. Xerophthalmia is technically tied to vitamin A deficiency, and in serious cases it can lead to blindness — it’s more of a concern in areas with poor nutrition access. But the broader point about hydration and eyes isn’t wrong. Your eyes are covered by a thin tear film that keeps the surface moist, clear, and protected. When you’re dehydrated, tear production drops, and you start noticing it — irritation, redness, that gritty feeling, blurry vision. In summer, you’re sweating more and losing water faster, so the baseline for “enough water” goes up. Keeping fluid intake consistent is one of those small things that genuinely makes a difference for eye comfort, even if most people don’t think about it that way.

Trump claims peace talks with Iran in Doha on Tuesday; ‘no technical meeting scheduled,’ says Tehran

US President Donald Trump on Monday claimed that Iran has “requested a meeting” and the same will take place in Doha on Tuesday. “IRAN HAS REQUESTED A MEETING. IT WILL TAKE PLACE TOMORROW IN DOHA!,” Trump said on Truth Social. However, senior Iranian negotiator and deputy foreign minister Kazem Gharibabadi dismissed Trump’s claim, saying no technical meeting has been scheduled for this week. “No technical meetings of the working groups have been scheduled for this week,” Gharibabadi



said, according to Press TV “Although consultations with Qatar, including regarding the follow-up to the implementation of the other side’s commit-

ments, are continuing as usual, reports by some media outlets claiming that technical talks of the working groups will be held in Doha are not confirmed,” he added.

He further stated that the first round of technical talks within the framework of the designated working groups will be held once conditions are in place and after agreement is reached on the date and venue. The US and Iran agreed to resume peace talks and end the recent hostilities that threatened the fragile preliminary agreement signed earlier this month. The two sides exchanged strikes around the Strait of Hormuz just a week after they signed an MoU that began a 60-day negotiation period toward a permanent deal to end the war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz.

Rescue teams continued searching for survivors across Venezuela on Sunday as the death toll from last week’s devastating twin earthquakes climbed to 1,450, while fresh aftershocks complicated relief operations in several of the worst-hit areas. Authorities are still assessing the scale of the destruction after the magnitude 7.2 and 7.5 earthquakes struck the country on Wednesday. Hundreds of aftershocks have since shaken affected regions, forcing thousands of residents to remain on alert as emergency workers race against time. Venezuela’s National Assembly President Jorge Rodriguez said the country has recorded 430 light to moderate aftershocks since the two major earthquakes. Earlier, he said 3,238 people had been injured and 3,142 families affected by the disaster. Offering condolences to families who lost loved ones, Rodriguez said tens of thousands of personnel remain engaged in round-the-clock search and rescue operations. Fresh tremor rattles central Venezuela

Foundation for Seismological Research (Funvisis) reported that a magnitude 4.1 earthquake struck the country’s central region on Saturday. According to the agency, the tremor’s epicentre was located about 35 kilometres west of La Guaira, a major port city that has been declared a disaster zone following extensive damage from Wednesday’s earthquakes. The quake occurred at a shallow depth of 5 kilometres, a factor that can intensify ground shaking. Residents in Caracas and neighbouring areas reported feeling the tremor, with many leaving buildings fearing further structural collapses. Government announces housing review, extends school closures Separately, Acting President Delcy Rodriguez announced the formation of a presidential commission to assess damage to homes and critical infrastructure caused by the earthquakes. She also said schools would remain closed for another week as authorities continue emergency response and recovery efforts.



Rodriguez highlighted a rare moment of hope during the rescue operation, saying an 11-year-old boy was pulled out alive from the rubble in Caraballeda earlier in the day. “In these hours, every life is hope for Venezuela,” she said. International rescue efforts continue The US Southern Command said international rescue teams remain engaged in search operations across the hardest-hit communities. In a post on X, it said first responders had assisted a US Marine climbing through collapsed structures during efforts to locate survivors. “Operating day and night, these crews continue to support international

search and rescue operations across the hardest-hit communities,” the command said, adding that US military personnel were supporting US Department of State-led disaster assistance efforts in Venezuela. Earthquake strikes amid economic challenges The disaster has hit Venezuela as the country continues to grapple with economic difficulties. According to CNN, the country has been dealing with years of sanctions, corruption, hyperinflation, and challenges in its oil sector. The report said the economy has contracted sharply over the past decade despite recent signs of higher oil production following the easing of some US sanctions.

Does China have a five finger policy towards the Himalayan border?



The latest allegations emerging from Taksing circle situated in Arunachal Pradesh’s border with China, if proven true, may result in heavier troop deployments in the eastern Himalayas. The Nah Welfare Society, representing indigenous communities in Upper Subansiri district, has accused the People’s Liberation Army of gradually occupying traditional grazing lands and hunting grounds near Taksing, north of the Subansiri River. In a letter to local authorities, the group alleged that Chinese forces have built roads, bridges and military camps in areas that local residents say they accessed freely until only a few years ago. There have been similar accusations in the past too. While some have been proven false as the PLA had remained within the loosely penciled 890-km long McMohan line, others such as the famous Sumdorong Chu standoff, were genuine cases of

China overstepping into Arunachal. The Sumdorong Chu incident occurred in 1986 when Gen K Sundarji ordered the airlift of Indian troops and artillery to take over a grazing ground in the high Himalayas and followed it up with Operation Chequerboard, all along the eastern border in 1987 to demonstrate to China, India’s military preparedness. China claims most of Arunachal Pradesh, claiming it as “South Tibet” and routinely announces new names for various peaks and areas in Arunachal in what can be called a “cartographic claim creation”. The problem, military analysts say is that over the years, China has “dramatically expanded its network of all-weather roads, airfields, bridges and dual-use villages across the Tibetan plateau.” Improved infrastructure enables Beijing to patrol disputed areas more frequently while

reducing India’s response time. Many Indian strategic thinkers interpret this behaviour through the prism of the so-called “Five Fingers of Tibet” theory, which is widely attributed to China’s strongman Mao Zedong in 1949, though never formalised in any official Chinese policy document. The concept portrays Tibet as the “palm” from which influence extends into Ladakh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. While historians continue to debate its doctrinal significance, the framework remains influential because it appears to mirror China’s attempted expansion of strategic footprints across the Himalayan arc. The historical backdrop is equally significant. British India viewed Tibet as a buffer against imperial Russia and sought to preserve its autonomy. That strategic geography disappeared after the People’s

Republic of China incorporated Tibet in 1950, transforming what had long been an Indo-Tibetan frontier into a direct Sino-Indian border stretching nearly 3,500 kilometres. Besides, disputes with India over Arunachal and Ladakh, China has also routinely intruded into Nepal, as has been documented by a 2021 Nepalese government document which was leaked as also a lawmaker’s investigation. Border pillars had been destroyed, infrastructure built deep inside Nepal in Humla and Sindhupalchowk districts. Similarly, China claims about 269 sqkm of territory in Doklam plateau (Western Bhutan), 495 sqkm of territory in Jakarlung and Pasarlung valleys (Central Bhutan) and 650 sqkm in Sakteng (Eastern Bhutan) Many analysts feel the Tibet question lies at the heart of all these Chinese claims and hence Mao’s unauthenticated statement, “Tibet is the palm, which we must occupy. Then we will go after the five fingers.” For India, the challenge extends beyond strengthening military deployments. It increasingly involves ensuring that frontier communities remain populated, economically viable and politically connected. Local residents often serve as the earliest witnesses to changes on the ground that satellites or diplomatic exchanges detect only later.

Taliban says Pakistani airstrikes killed 36 civilians in eastern Afghanistan, tensions with Islamabad deepen

Pakistan carried out fresh cross-border airstrikes inside eastern Afghanistan, killing 36 civilians and injuring 163 others, according to the Taliban administration, which accused Islamabad of targeting residential areas and rescue workers during overnight attacks. The latest strikes threaten to further strain already fragile ties between Pakistan and Afghanistan. While the Taliban condemned the operation as an attack on civilians, Pakistan maintained that the action was part of an intelligence-based operation launched after a series of militant attacks inside its territory. Taliban says women, children among those killed Taliban deputy spokesperson Hamdullah Fitrat said the strikes hit parts of Paktia, Paktika and Kunar provinces late Sunday. “According to the reports available thus far, the attacks carried out last night resulted in the martyrdom of 36 civilians, including women and children, while 163 others sustained injuries. Three residential houses were completely destroyed,” Fitrat said in a statement posted on social media. According to the Taliban, one strike hit a civilian home in Mandokhail village in Chamkani district of Paktia province, killing an elderly man and a child while injuring other members of the family. Fitrat alleged that Pakistani aircraft struck the same location again after residents gathered to rescue survivors.



“Subsequently, when local residents gathered to conduct rescue operations, the area was bombed for a second time, resulting in the martyrdom of 28 villagers and injuries to 158 others,” he said. Another strike reportedly hit a residence in Walust village in Giyan district of Paktika province, where six people, most of them women and children, were killed. In Barolo village of Manogai district in Kunar province, a residential house was destroyed, though no casualties were reported, according to the Taliban. Taliban spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid separately condemned the operation, calling it a “cowardly act of aggression”. Pakistan says operation followed militant attacks Pakistan defended the cross-border action, saying its security forces had conducted a “well planned intelligence based ground operation” supported by aerial strikes. Information Minister Attaullah Tarar said the operation was launched after

a series of recent militant attacks inside Pakistan, including incidents in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and an assault on a paramilitary installation in Karachi. Pakistani daily Dawn reported that militants attacked the headquarters of the Pakistan Sindh Rangers in Karachi’s Gulistan-i-Jauhar area on Saturday night. According to the report, three Rangers personnel and three attackers were killed. An affiliate of Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, a splinter faction of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), claimed responsibility, Al Jazeera reported. Former US envoy criticises Pakistan Former US Ambassador to Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad criticised Islamabad following the strikes, saying Pakistan had once again chosen military action over dialogue. “Ignoring the calls from around the world and from many Pakistanis for negotiations to resolve their differences with their neighbour, once again Pakistan has attacked Afghanistan, again killing and injuring many. I have consistently condemned Pakistan’s killing of innocent Afghans. I do it again today,” Khalilzad wrote on X. Questioning Pakistan’s broader objectives, he asked whether Islamabad was interested in a negotiated settlement or pursuing other strategic goals in Afghanistan. “If these are actual Pakistani objectives, it’s no surprise that the Pakistani establishment does not articulate them publicly,” he said.

The United States and Iran have agreed to temporarily halt military strikes and will meet in Doha on Tuesday to address tensions over the Strait of Hormuz, according to a report by Axios. The reported understanding comes after days of military exchanges raised concerns over commercial shipping through one of the world’s most important maritime routes. The upcoming discussions are expected to centre on navigation and security in the Strait rather than Iran’s nuclear programme, which had initially been the focus of the negotiations. According to Axios, citing US officials, both countries have agreed to stand down “for now”, allowing commercial vessels to move freely while technical discussions continue. The talks were originally scheduled to take place in Switzerland. However, renewed tensions in the Strait of Hormuz led to the venue being shifted to Doha, Qatar, with shipping security becoming the immediate priority, according to the report. Axios also reported that negotiators had previously agreed in Switzerland to establish a direct “hotline” between the US military and Iran’s Islamic Revolution Guard Corps to help coordinate vessel

movements through the strategic waterway. The communication channel, however, had not become operational as of Saturday. Military exchanges preceded reported breakthrough The diplomatic push follows another round of military action between the two countries. According to the US, it carried out strikes on Iranian targets on Friday and Saturday after accusing Tehran of continuing attacks on commercial shipping in the Strait of Hormuz. Iran responded by targeting US military positions in the region. On Saturday, US President Donald Trump said American forces had launched fresh air strikes against Iranian military infrastructure after accusing Tehran of violating the ceasefire by attacking the Panama-flagged tanker M/T Kiku, which was carrying more than two million barrels of crude oil. The US Central Command (CENTCOM) said the tanker was struck by what it described as a one-way Iranian attack drone while transiting near the Strait of Hormuz. In a post on Truth Social, Trump said US aircraft had targeted Iranian missile and drone storage facilities along with coastal radar installations.



“United States aircraft just struck Iranian missile and drone storage locations, and coastal radar sites, for violating the Cease Fire Agreement, AGAIN! It is very possible that they will never learn!” “There may come a point when we are no longer able to be reasonable, and will be forced to militarily complete the job that we very successfully started. If that happens, the Islamic Republic of Iran will no longer exist!” he wrote. CENTCOM said Iran had been given an opportunity to comply with the ceasefire after US strikes carried out in response to an earlier attack on M/V Ever Lovely. Iran asserts role in managing Strait Meanwhile, Axios reported that both governments had agreed to stop “all the kinetic activity”, quoting a senior US official. Another official told the publication that both

sides would stand down “for now” while negotiations continue. Meanwhile, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said Iran has the exclusive right to manage traffic through the Strait of Hormuz under what The Wall Street Journal described as a preliminary peace agreement. According to The Wall Street Journal, Tehran maintains that it will oversee arrangements for the safe passage of commercial vessels and determine the future administration of maritime services in consultation with regional countries. The United States has disputed that interpretation and has argued that navigation through the international waterway must remain unrestricted. The reported Doha meeting comes as both sides seek to prevent further escalation around the strategically important shipping corridor.

India’s airport infra likely to attract investments of up to Rs 4.2 lakh crore by 2029

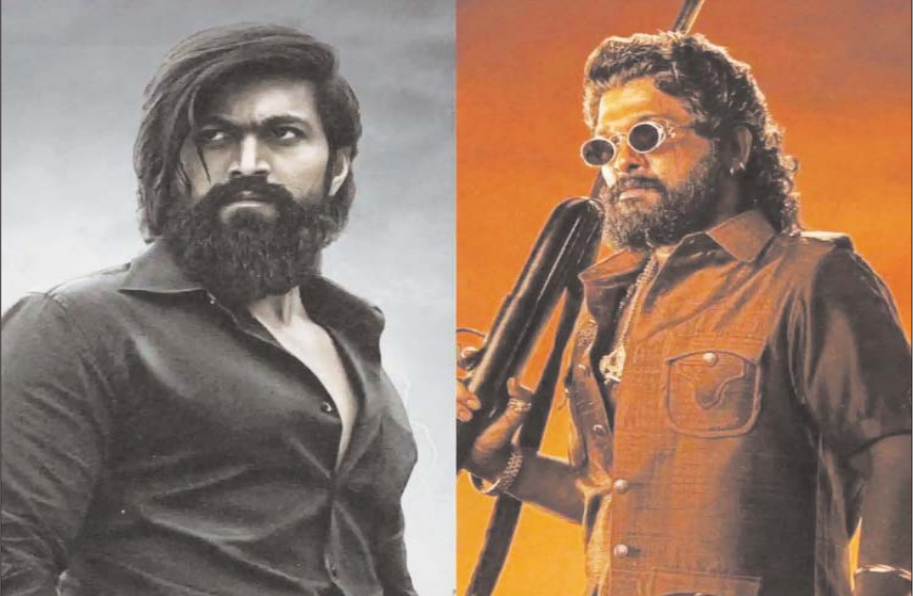
New Delhi, June 29 : India’s airport infrastructure sector is expected to garner investments of up to Rs 4.2 lakh crore by 2029, a report said on Monday. The estimation includes Rs 3.7 lakh crore based on the value of projects announced and under implementation as of FY26 and project value likely to be commissioned by 2029 at nearly Rs 0.5 lakh crore, the report from Brickwork Ratings. After robust operating revenue growth in FY26 over record passenger traffic and tariff hikes, the revenue growth in FY27 is expected to remain strong driven by domestic air traffic growth and footprint expansion. The sector navigated an intensive capacity expansion phase in FY26, with regional airport development and terminal upgrades accelerating to absorb a structural surge in domestic travel. “Air traffic is expected to grow by 8–10 per cent driven by resilient domestic demand, expanding Tier-2 footprints and the launch of new



greenfield assets including Navi Mumbai and Jewar airports,” said Niraj Rath, Senior Director - Ratings, Brickwork Ratings. These factors cushion a highly subdued international segment, he added. International growth has flattened due to route restrictions, rising fuel prices, and the Middle East conflict. The Middle East constitutes a massive 38–40 per cent share of India’s entire international passenger traffic and instability in the region will have a major impact on the sector. “These combined headwinds will likely maintain growth in H1FY27

flat and subdued, but a sharp capacity and demand recovery could occur in H2FY27 as airlines adjust schedules for peak winter travel and new airport assets scale up,” Rath said. The report said the credit outlook for the airport infrastructure sector is stable. Heavy spending on terminal expansions pressures near-term cash flows, but steady growth in passenger traffic keeps the industry moving forward safely. Operating margins for FY26 surged to an estimated 53.8 per cent, up from 44.4 per cent in prior year due to completion of new terminals. Margins are projected to improve to 54.5 per cent in FY27 as these expanded facilities open up, allowing operators to collect high-margin retail fees and airport charges from a larger volume of passengers. Tailwinds for the sector include UDAN initiative with a capital outlay of Rs 288 billion by FY36, and the 100 per cent FDI being permitted in greenfield airport development projects.

Why Hindi Media Claims Pushpa & KGF As Bollywood Films ?



Over the last few years, the Indian movie industry has changed completely. In the past, Bollywood was considered the face of Indian movies. However, South Indian cinema has now stepped forward and taken the crown. Filmmakers from the Telugu, Kannada, Tamil, and Malayalam industries are making movies that capture the attention of the entire country. This big change started with SS Rajamouli's Baahubali franchise, which proved the true potential of South cinema. Following its success, movies like RRR, Pushpa 2, and KGF 2 further cemented the place of South cinema. These films broke numerous records and made massive money at the pan-India box office, proving that South cinema is no lesser than Bollywood. Unfortunately, some Hindi media outlets have started calling hit franchises like Pushpa and KGF as Bollywood films. Few leading news portals published an article stating that Bollywood hit franchises are coming

back with their third installments. In this, it was mentioned that Pushpa 3 and KGF 3 are among the much anticipated Bollywood franchises in the coming days. This has surprised many movie lovers because these films actually belong to the South Indian film industry. Labelling them as Hindi cinema ignores the hard work and unique style of South Indian filmmakers who crafted these stories. These movies became successful beyond South because they offered something fresh and never-before-seen content for Hindi audiences as well. They brought large-scale action, intense emotions, and hero-worshipping moments that people truly missed seeing on the big screen. Because of this massive love from fans, South Indian actors and directors are now recognized as the biggest stars in the entire country. So, labeling their hits as Bollywood films is simply wrong, as the glory belongs to the South Indian film industry that redefined Indian cinema.

Ram Commences shoot for his Most Ambitious Project RAPO23



Ram Pothineni has begun his most ambitious film yet, #RAPO23, marking a major milestone in his career as it serves as his directorial debut. The landmark project was launched today on a grand scale with a traditional pooja ceremony. During the event, producer Krishna Pothineni handed over the script, while P Murali Mohan and PV Ravi Kishore handled the camera switch-on and clapboard duties respectively. Ram directed the muhurtham shot himself. Following the pooja ceremony, the regular film shoot commenced today with several cast members. Ram has conceived and written the story for this project, promising a gripping psychological action thriller set against a dark neo-noir backdrop. His dual responsibility behind and in front of

Ravi Teja Irumudi Kattu Gives Fans Goosebumps

The makers of Ravi Teja's upcoming film Irumudi have released the first song from the movie. Titled Irumudi Kattu, the song has created a strong first impression among movie lovers and devotees. It introduces the spiritual theme of the film and gives a glimpse of the emotional journey that the story will follow. The movie is directed by Shiva Nirvana and produced by Mythri Movie Makers. Ever since the first look was released, the film has attracted attention because of its different concept. Now, the first song has increased the excitement even more. Music director GV Prakash Kumar has composed a devotional track that combines traditional sounds with modern music. The tune creates a peaceful and spiritual feeling, making it easy for listeners to connect with the emotions in the song. The music highlights the importance of faith and devotion throughout. The lyrics are written by Shiva Nirvana and Kalyan Chakravarthy. They explain the spiritual journey of an Ayyappa devotee in a simple and emotional way. The song talks about taking the sacred Mandala Deeksha, carrying the holy Irumudi, and finally reaching the famous Sabarimala temple. Singer Ananthu brings life to the song with his heartfelt voice. His emotional singing made the devotional number



even more touching. One of the biggest highlights of the song is Ravi Teja's new look. Known for his energetic mass roles, the actor appears in a calm and devoted character this time. His sincere performance has impressed fans and shows a different side of his acting. Choreographer Baba Baskar has designed the visuals using traditional devotional movements, giving the song an authentic feel. The song also introduces important members of the hero's family. Priya Bhavani Shankar plays his wife, while Baby Nakshatra appears as his daughter. Their presence adds warmth and emotion to the visuals. With its meaningful lyrics, soulful music, and impressive performances, Irumudi Kattu has given the film a memorable beginning. The devotional song is expected to become a favorite during Ayyappa pujas and has raised expectations for the rest of the movie's soundtrack.

Music Director Joins Jr NTR's God of War



Jr NTR fans have another big reason to celebrate. It has now been confirmed that Anirudh Ravichander will compose the music for the highly anticipated film God of War, directed by Trivikram Srinivas. The announcement has created huge excitement as fans believe the combination has the potential to deliver a memorable musical album. God of War is one of the biggest upcoming Telugu films and is expected to be made on a massive pan-India scale. The project brings together Jr NTR and Trivikram for the first time, making it one of the most awaited collaborations in Indian cinema. With the music department now finalized, expectations have reached an even higher level. This film will be a special milestone in Anirudh's career. It will be his first-ever mythological film, giving him an opportunity to create a fresh and powerful musical experience. Fans are eager to hear how he combines grand orchestral sounds with emotional melodies for a story based on mythology. The movie also marks Anirudh's second collaboration with Jr NTR after Devara. Their previous film featured several popular songs and a powerful background score that received appreciation from both fans and critics. Because of that success, many believe the duo can deliver another blockbuster musical album. For the past few weeks, there was a lot of discussion about who would compose the music. While some fans expected Thaman to be chosen because of his strong association with the production team, a large section of Jr NTR's fans wanted Anirudh to take charge. Now that the makers have confirmed his name, social media is filled with celebration posts and positive reactions. Music plays a major role in big-scale films, especially mythological action dramas. From emotional scenes to heroic moments, the soundtrack and background score can make every sequence more impactful. Fans are hoping that Anirudh will create chart-topping songs along with a powerful background score that will elevate the film's overall experience. Produced by Haarika & Hassine Creations in association with NTR Arts, God of War is expected to be one of the costliest Telugu films ever made.

Samantha shows why she is a True Star



Samantha has once again proved that she is one of the biggest stars in Telugu cinema. Her latest film Maa Inti Bangaaram is performing very well at the box office and continues to attract audiences even in its second weekend. The movie has become a favorite among family audiences, and many viewers are praising Samantha's emotional and powerful performance. Before the film's release, Samantha was not very confident about its success. She had stayed away from Telugu films for nearly three years, and she openly admitted that she was unsure whether people would return to theatres to watch her movie. She even joked in interviews that she did not know if the film would sell enough tickets. However, the audience has proved that her fears were unnecessary. From the very first day, Maa Inti Bangaaram received a strong response. The film enjoyed impressive collections during its opening weekend and continued to perform well on weekdays. Even in the second weekend, theatres are seeing good footfalls, showing that positive word-of-mouth is helping the movie.

Many people now feel that Samantha underestimated her own popularity. Over the years, she has built a strong fan base through her performances and dedication. Her latest success shows that audiences still have great love and respect for her. Some fans are even saying that she is creating a box office wave similar to many top male stars, proving that content and performance matter more than anything else. Interestingly, in a recent interview, Samantha was called the "lady superstar." Instead of accepting the title, she humbly responded that Nayanthara is the real "Lady Superstar" and said, "I am just Samantha." Her simple and grounded reply won the hearts of many fans and showed her humble nature despite her growing success. The success of Maa Inti Bangaaram has also increased excitement about Samantha's future projects. Reports suggest that she may sign several Telugu films after completing her maternity break. There is also buzz about a sequel to the film, and fans believe it would be impossible to imagine the franchise without Samantha in the lead role.



Did Sukumar Get Hurt With Buchi Babu?

Sukumar is the most tribute and highly ranked director of this generation and the kind of ethic that he displays generally attracts some of the biggest stars in industry. He has the good habit of encouraging his subordinates as well. Incidentally, we have the case of Buchi Babu, who was a former of associate of Sukumar and he happened to work with Ram Charan for Peddi. Sukumar was one of the backbone members behind this project as he convince Charan to work with Buchi in the first place.



Before the release of this film, there were several reports about the development of Sukumar in the production of this project and also convincing Charan to make it happen in the first place. But it appears that Sukumar has turned rather silent after the release of the film, as he appears to be hurt by the kind of work ethic that was displayed by Buchi Babu. Firstly, this film was not executed on time as there was a delay for at least six months in execution. Along with that, the lack of adequate commercial group

on the presentation of Charan has worked against the cause. Subsequently, this film turned out to be one of the least culturally significant superstar oriented films in recent times. It appears that Sukumar expected great things from this project and promise the same to Charan as well, but that was not delivered by the Director Buchi Babu. This could have potentially shown great effect on Sukumar and eventually kept him away from the project after the release. This could be one of the reasons why he did not comment on the film after the release.

Peddi OTT release: Ram Charan film gets two streaming dates

Peddi, starring Ram Charan and Janhvi Kapoor, is getting ready for its digital release after a successful run in theatres. The sports action drama hit the big screens on June 4, 2026, and became one of the biggest Telugu box office hits of the year. Although the film received mixed reviews from critics, audiences appreciated Ram Charan's powerful performance, emotional scenes, and action sequences. The movie marks the first on-screen pairing of Ram Charan and Janhvi Kapoor. It is directed by Buchi Babu Sana and produced by Venkata Satish Kiluru under the Vridhhi Cinemas banner. Oscar-winning music composer A.R. Rahman composed the soundtrack, which also received a positive response from fans. According to reports, Netflix has acquired the digital streaming rights for Peddi. The film is expected to premiere on the platform from July 16, 2026, in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, and Kannada. Reports also suggest that



the Hindi version may arrive on July 30, 2026, after completing its theatrical window. However, the makers and Netflix have not yet made an official announcement about the release dates. Peddi tells the inspiring story of a talented young athlete from a small village. He dreams of bringing pride and recognition to his hometown through sports. To support himself, he participates in local cricket and wrestling competitions. His life changes when a rival destroys his opportunity to compete at the National Wrestling Championship. Instead of giving up, Peddi chooses

a new path. He becomes a para-track athlete and works harder to achieve his dreams. The film also includes a touching love story between Peddi and Achiyamma, played by Janhvi Kapoor, who is the daughter of a local politician. The movie features a strong supporting cast including Shiva Rajkumar, Jagapathi Babu, Boman Irani, Divyendu Sharma, and Ravi Kishan. At the box office, Peddi delivered impressive numbers. The film has earned over 2240 crore net in India and crossed 2336 crore worldwide, making it one of the highest-grossing Telugu films of 2026.

15 Days & Just Promos: are these enough?

Akhil Akkineni's latest film "Lenin" is hitting cinemas on July 10th. Almost from the last two months, the makers are releasing the content from the movie, like songs, song videos, small promos and teasers, and the film got postponed from May 1st to June 26, two dates, twice. However, Nagarjuna Akkineni, who joined the film as a co-producer with Sithara Entertainments, stated that the makers are carving the film more for betterment, and they have locked July 10th as the release date. And that's just 15 days away. These days, big-ticket stars like Prabhas, Allu Arjun, and Ram Charan are not even doing any media interactions, press meets, and special interviews with media folks, but are usually conducting some events. They are busy promoting their films in Bollywood, while the Telugu audience will anyway watch those movies. However, that wouldn't work in the case of heroes who don't yet have a



solid fanbase or a believable market. That puts Akhil in the spotlight now as he is not aggressively promoting the film. And only if he promotes day and night for the next 15 days, the film will get solid openings. Otherwise, the trailers and songs, which are not so aggressively engaging, can't do huge engagement and turn that into footfalls. Well, Akhil and his father Nagarjuna know the game better. But then, industry talk is that Nagarjuna is pretty confident on the shock factor inside the content, and he hopes that the film works like a Kantara and Manjummel Boys once it hits cinemas.

Ireland head coach Heinrich Malan steps down after historic T20I series win over India

Belfast, June 29 : In a major development following their historic 2-0 T20I series triumph over India, Ireland head coach Heinrich Malan announced on Monday that he will be stepping down from his role. Malan, whose current contract was slated to run until early 2027, informed his players and support staff that he is stepping away as part of a planned transition aligned with the next ICC ODI World Cup cycle. Appointed to the role in March 2022 after Graham Ford left the job, Malan oversaw a golden period in Irish men's cricket and leaves the set-up less than 24 hours after Ireland got its first-ever T20I series win over India in Belfast. His tenure was highlighted by three consecutive T20 World Cup qualifications, Ireland's first three Test match victories, the development of a wider pool of international-standard talent, and the just-concluded, historic maiden T20I series win over heavyweights India. "It has been an absolute privilege to work with these players, staff and the wider Irish cricket



community. My family and I have had a wonderful experience living here, and we will look back on our time involved in Irish cricket with great affection. "On the field, we can look back with great pride on our historic T20 World Cup victory against England in Melbourne, our first-ever Test victory against Afghanistan in Abu Dhabi, the first home Test win vs Zimbabwe in Belfast, the historic T20 series win at home vs India and beating Pakistan, West Indies, South Africa as well as direct qualifications for T20 WC's through our consistent ability to chal-

lenge and beat the world's top teams." "Thank you to the players, coaches and staff for believing in our shared vision - it has been a very special journey," Malan said in his farewell statement. Cricket Ireland said Malan's strategic exit is aimed at providing a new head coach the opportunity to utilize the upcoming ODI series against Afghanistan in August as a crucial building block ahead of the all-important 50-over World Cup Qualifiers in early 2027. Graeme West, Cricket Ireland's Director of High Performance, stated that discussions regarding the future roadmap

led to this mutual decision. "I have very much enjoyed working with Heinrich over the last two years and thank him for his outstanding contribution during that time. "He joined us at a challenging period and has played a key role in progressing the Ireland Men's set-up - from World Cup qualifications to historic Test wins, and in developing the depth of our playing group. "Over recent months, we have been discussing the upcoming World Cup Qualifier cycle and what would best support the squad's preparation. In those conversations, Heinrich expressed a desire to step back at this point, which aligned with our focus on ensuring continuity heading into that campaign." "I would like to thank Heinrich for his dedication to the head coach role - through his leadership, he has worked hard to increase the depth of playing talent within the Irish system, which will benefit the squad immensely over the coming months and years. We wish Heinrich and his family well for the future," West concluded.

Sooryavanshi ready to play, but must 'bide his time and wait,' says ten Doeschate

Belfast, June 29 : Dynamic teenaged opening batter Vaibhav Sooryavanshi is ready to play international cricket for India, but will have to 'bide his time and wait' for his opportunity in a packed line-up, said India assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate. The swashbuckling Sooryavanshi was fast-tracked into the India T20I side after amassing 776 runs at a staggering strike-rate of 237.30 to bag the Player-of-the-Tournament honour in IPL 2026. But Sooryavanshi was unused in Ireland, as India suffered a shock 2-0 series loss. "He's absolutely ready to play international cricket, there's no doubt about that. But also, I think it's not a question to say you can leave Sanju Samson out. A guy who went a long way to winning India the World Cup three months ago. A guy who's had a fairly good IPL. "It's important in terms of giving players confidence, and the message we're sending to players. We want to give guys a long run in the team. So, as ready as Vaibhav is and as excited as we are and you are to see him play,



he's going to have to go through the same process as everyone else and, you know, bide his time and wait. But certainly no questions about how good he is and how ready he is," said ten Doeschate at the conclusion of the series. Sooryavanshi will now travel to England for the five-game T20I series starting in Durham on July 1. If either of Sanju Samson or Abhishek Sharma don't make big runs, then an opening for Sooryavanshi's much-awaited international debut can be made. Ten Doeschate refused to hide behind scheduling constraints in Ireland being a factor in them losing the series. "I think training more does give you a better

chance to adapt. I think you also really need to tread carefully in terms of freshness and giving guys time off and making sure that they're mentally fresh for series as well. In hindsight, I wouldn't have done things differently. "We got here on Thursday and, again, we know how hard the Irish are trying to put on good facilities. The training facilities weren't ideal, so we had a little hit there but of course you'd rather have three or four hits like you would for a normal tour. "Again, no excuse. If we're really critical of ourselves, it's the desire to want to adapt and to play differently when you are presented with a different challenge. We put our hands up, and

say that's something we need to get better at a lot quicker," he added. Ten Doeschate, who played for Netherlands, was also effusive in his praise for Ireland's landmark achievement. "Without being disrespectful, no. You mark guys player to player and what the Indian players have achieved in their careers. There's a couple of guys sitting there who have won two World Cups on the bounce. "There's guys who have played hundreds of IPL games, and I think that sort of just underlines what an achievement it is (for Ireland). I wouldn't even say we had two bad days. I thought the Irish were fantastic over both days. Not a razzmatazz 240, 250 type of cricket. They (were) smart enough to navigate their way to two good scores. "I mean we won both tosses as well. I'm pretty chuffed for them. It's obviously super disappointing to lose, but to see them make progress like that and just win by making the most of what they have is very impressive, and we take our hats off to them," ten Doeschate concluded.

Gold, silver trade lower amid weak global cues

New Delhi, June 29 : Gold and silver prices traded lower on Monday, with the yellow metal slipping below the Rs 1.44 lakh mark and the white metal hovering near Rs 2.23 lakh amid weak global cues. On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold futures (August) opened at Rs 1,44,180 per 10 grams, marginally higher than the previous close of Rs 1,44,162. However, selling pressure emerged later. At around 10 am, the yellow metal was trading at Rs 1,43,470, down Rs 692 or 0.48 per cent. So far in the session, it has touched an intraday high of Rs 1,44,180 per 10 grams -- its opening price -- and a low of Rs 1,43,454, down 0.49 per cent or Rs 708. On the other hand, silver futures (September) traded largely flat in early deals. The white metal opened at Rs 2,23,912 per kg against the previous close of Rs 2,23,472. At the last count, it was trading at Rs 2,23,174 per kg, down Rs 298 or 0.13 per cent. So far during the session, silver has touched a high of Rs 2,24,248 per kg and a low of Rs 2,22,641, down 0.37 per cent or Rs 831. Similarly, in the international market, precious metals were trading lower, with COMEX gold down 0.41 per cent at \$4,078 per ounce, while COMEX silver declined more



than 1 per cent to \$58.52 per ounce. According to commodity market experts, gold remained under pressure as investors turned cautious amid renewed geopolitical tensions and expectations that the US Federal Reserve could keep interest rates higher for longer. A stronger US dollar and elevated US Treasury yields also weighed on bullion prices. "Safe-haven demand received only limited support after fresh exchanges between the US and Iran over the weekend strained the fragile ceasefire. While the recent US-Iran peace framework had eased concerns over energy-driven inflation by pulling crude oil prices lower, renewed attacks on vessels near the Strait of Hormuz have revived

uncertainty over the region," the analysts said. Investors will now closely track key US economic data, including consumer confidence, ADP employment, jobless claims and non-farm payrolls, for further cues on the Fed's policy outlook and the direction of the US dollar, they added. In the currency market, the Indian rupee opened five paise higher at 94.35 against the US dollar on Monday, compared with its previous close of 94.40. Meanwhile, international benchmark Brent crude rose about 1 per cent to \$72.78 per barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude gained more than 2 per cent to nearly \$71 per barrel.

I see Kishan to bat at No. 4 with Kohli's return for England ODIs: Rayudu

New Delhi, June 29 : Former India batter Ambati Rayudu on Monday said Ishan Kishan is ideally suited to bat at number four in the ODI side once Virat Kohli returns to the playing eleven for the three-game series against England, starting on July 14, citing the left-handed wicket-keeper-batter's scoring ability against both pace and spin making him a valuable addition in the batting order. Kishan made a memorable comeback to ODI cricket with scores of 34 and 125 in ODIs against Afghanistan in Dharamshala and Lucknow earlier this month. With Kohli unavailable due to a hamstring injury, Kishan, ODI captain Shubman Gill and T20I skipper Shreyas Iyer all batted at the number three spot once. "When it comes to Ishan Kishan, it is great that he is part of the ODI setup and being a left-hander, he'll add a lot of value. So I see him eventually bat at number four. That is an ideal number for him. Being a left-hander, he plays spin exceptionally well and also plays pace well. "So he and Shreyas Iyer can have that role of number four and five batters. That will be a very, very formidable number four and five for India going forward," Rayudu said while replying to a question from IANS in a virtual group interaction facilitated by Sony Sports Network. In the build-up to the 2027 ODI World Cup, there's been endless debate on whether Kohli and Rohit Sharma are cer-

tainties to play in the mega event. Rayudu, who played 55 ODIs and six T20Is for India and was shockingly dropped from the 2019 ODI World Cup squad, recalled how Kohli's mental strength and preparation has always been top-class, citing the turnaround he made after a difficult Test series in England in 2014. "A guy like him who is so meticulous with his processes, training, and methodology, he knows that there'll be ups and downs. But when you're so focused, when you're so meticulous, when your training is so proper, you know that those lows will not last for a long time. "He had a lot of help from very good Indian team management that time. So for him, it has been the process, and he has set the bar in terms of fitness and mental strength. A lot of youngsters have really tried to emulate it and they have really benefited with what he has done, seeing what he has done and learning from it. So he's been a great example if you look at it in that way," he added. On whether Rohit, the former skipper, remains a certainty in India's plans for the 2027 ODI World Cup, Rayudu backed him to remain a key figure, citing his experience and big-match temperament. After two lean scores against Afghanistan, Rohit finally found his rhythm when he hit 79 in the third ODI in Chennai. "I think clarity is very, very important, especially for him. I'm sure they would have given him the clarity. Maybe they're not just giving us the clarity about Rohit Sharma. So I



just think his experience is invaluable. He needs to be there because he's a leader not only on the ground but also in the dressing room to keep the atmosphere really, really nice and that is very, very important when you go into a big tournament like the World Cup. "I'm sure he's in the plans for the World Cup. I think that's the reason why he's been persisted with. His batting is always sublime. It's just that when you play for so many years, your hunger sometimes might not be as much as what it used to be. But definitely when a big tournament comes around, I'm sure he'll step up big time. "Even in a big series like the one that is coming up against England, I'm sure he'll be hungry and he'll be raring to go. So we can see a big knock because technically, physically, he's definitely there and mentally, it is up to him to switch on. We all know Rohit Sharma switches on whenever there's a big game, whenever there's a big moment and whenever he wants to do it. So, I'm very, very hopeful that he'll have a great impact for the Indian

team in the ODIs," he elaborated. Asked about Yashasvi Jaiswal's place in the side, especially after him making way for a returning Kohli despite hitting a century, against Afghanistan in Chennai, Rayudu felt the left-handed opener is best placed to be groomed as the side's third opener for the ODI World Cup. "For me, both Rohit and Jaiswal have a place in the Indian side. When it comes to Jaiswal, I think he deserves an opportunity. There's no two ways about it. He will get his due, but he should be prepared to really contribute well for the Indian team in the World Cup and he definitely should be a part of the team going forward. "When it comes to being the third opener, it should be Jaiswal for sure and he should be given enough opportunity to be prepared before the World Cup, just in case we have an injury." Watch India Tour of England 2026 - England vs. India - 1st T20I on July 1, 2026, from 10:00 PM IST live on Sony Sports Ten 1 SD & HD, Sony Sports Ten 5 SD & HD and Sony MAX.

Muzumdar asks for '18 months' to turn 'inexperienced' bowling into attacking unit

London, June 29 : Following India's exit from the Women's T20 World Cup, head coach Amol Muzumdar pointed out the shortcomings across multiple departments and admitted that Women in Blue's bowling attack has been "very inexperienced" for international cricket and asked for 18 months to develop it into the attacking unit. Addressing the media after the loss, Muzumdar reiterated that India's bowling philosophy remains rooted in attacking cricket, insisting that the team has no intention of shifting towards a defensive mindset despite the disappointing campaign. "We always talk in our meetings about picking up wickets. Whatever be the format of the game - whether it is T20, 50-over, or Test match cricket - it is all about picking up wickets when you're on the field. Containment is never a line that we use. We always think about picking up wickets in the dressing room, and I think that will be the mode of operation going forward as well. We keep thinking of wickets when the ball is in our hand," Muzumdar said in a post-match presser. While accepting that the bowling unit fell short during the tournament, Muzumdar urged patience, pointing to the group's lack of international experience. "If you look at our bowling attack, it's been very inexperienced as far as international cricket is concerned. So I've said this before in the previous press conference: give us 18 months and this attack will be a different one," he noted. Assessing the contest against Australia, Muzumdar believed India had posted a competitive total but admitted the opposition ultimately proved superior on the



day. "I thought it was a good score, a par score on this pitch. We even got the momentum towards the end of that innings, and I think we carried it on the field as well. It's just that I think at the end of the day, Australia were a better side than us," Muzumdar told reporters after India's loss. The head coach also shed light on the decision to retire out Jemimah Rodrigues late in the innings, explaining that the move was dictated by the match situation rather than any reflection on the batter's contribution. "It really didn't strike me at that time (with 3-4 overs to spare). I thought Jemi is a clutch player for us. Jemi and Harman, both of them, were going really strong. In the last two overs, I felt that Jemi couldn't penetrate that field, and that's why that call was taken," he added. He also highlighted the absence of all-rounder Shreyanka Patil as a significant setback, particularly on a surface where her skillset could have made a substantial impact. "And also, it didn't help Shreyanka not being there. Shreyanka was probably one of our strikers. So it didn't help her missing out on half of the tournament. We really missed her in this game today. I think she would

have made a difference on that pitch and on this ground," he added. On the batting front, Muzumdar rejected suggestions that India lacked intent, maintaining that the team had embraced an aggressive approach throughout the tournament. However, he admitted the bowling and fielding units failed to provide enough support. "We have been batting with a lot of intent. We have been positive in our thinking. We have been thinking about fours and sixes, as modern-day T20 cricket is all about fours and sixes. So, we have been thinking and we have been playing in that fashion for sure. It's just that our bowling also needs to up the ante a little bit. I don't think our bowling or our fielding helped the cause, to be very honest," Muzumdar expressed. Looking ahead, the head coach called for a broader reassessment of the team's T20 blueprint, saying the lessons from the tournament must shape future planning. "We need to really go back and think how we're going to approach the T20 game and also be in that positive frame of mind. We really need to put our heads around what combination we are going to play," he admitted. Summing up India's cam-

paign, Muzumdar identified bowling, fielding and greater batting aggression as the three primary areas requiring immediate attention. "If I have to pinpoint certain things in the entire tournament, I think we really need to think about our bowling and our fielding. We also need to be a little aggressive with the bat, and we could have maybe 15-20 runs as a cushion (against Australia)," he opined. When asked whether India could have accelerated during the Powerplay against Australia, Muzumdar acknowledged there was room for improvement but stopped short of attributing the defeat solely to that phase. "Yes, we could have had. I mean, every time you lose a game, you would want 10-15 runs more in the pocket, but I guess that wasn't the case. Of course, the powerplay didn't really go our way. It could have gone maybe 10-15 runs more at that time. Maybe that could have been the difference. But having said that, we hadn't lost any wicket then, so we were in total control of things. But as I said, I think Australia chased it down really well. They were also three wickets down (at the halfway mark), mind you," he said.

Protection of Christian and Minority Rights Is Possible Only Through Congress: Former Union Minister J.D. Seelam



Guntur: June 29
(Skyline daily):

Former Union Minister J.D. Seelam stated that the Congress Party has always remained committed to protecting the rights and welfare of Christians and other minority communities. A meeting of Christian and Minority representatives was held at Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan, the Guntur District Congress Party office, under the leadership of Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee Minority Department Working President Chandrapal. Former Union Minister J.D. Seelam attended the meeting as the chief guest. Addressing the gathering, Guntur District Congress President Yannam Sudheer Babu

alleged that despite hundreds of attacks on churches, prayer halls, and pastors during the NDA government's tenure, both the Central and State governments have remained silent and failed to protect the rights of minority communities. He criticized the governments for neglecting minority welfare and failing to implement schemes meant for their benefit. He reiterated that the Congress Party is firmly committed to safeguarding the rights and welfare of Christians and minorities and will continue to fight for the resolution of their issues. The meeting was attended by minority leaders, pastors from various churches, Congress leaders, and party workers in large numbers.

Meer Mahaboob Ali (Haddu) Appointed as Guntur City Youth Congress President

Guntur: June 29
(Skyline daily):

Meer Mahaboob Ali (Haddu) has been appointed as the President of the Guntur City Youth Congress. On the occasion, former MLA and APCC Working President Shaik Mastan Vali felicitated him by presenting a ceremonial shawl and congratulated him on his new responsibility. Speaking on the occasion, Shaik Mastan Vali said that the Congress Party is committed to encouraging dedicated young leaders by entrusting them with important organizational responsibilities. He expressed confidence that Meer Mahaboob Ali would work tirelessly to strengthen the party in Guntur City, address public issues, and inspire more youth to join the Congress. He urged the newly appointed president to uphold the party's ideology and actively serve the people. Addressing the gathering, Meer



Mahaboob Ali expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Congress leadership for reposing faith in him and appointing him as the Guntur City Youth Congress President. He thanked the party high command, the state leadership, and especially Shaik Mastan Vali for their support and encouragement. He assured that he would work with dedication to strengthen the organization at the grassroots level, mobilize

youth, and strive for the welfare of the people. He pledged to remain accessible to the public and work tirelessly to uphold the values and principles of the Congress Party. Several Congress leaders, Youth Congress functionaries, party workers, supporters, and well-wishers attended the felicitation ceremony and extended their congratulations to Meer Mahaboob Ali on his appointment.

Penumaka Incident Reflects the NDA Coalition Government's Undemocratic Actions: YSRCP State Secretary Ghulam Rasool

Guntur: June 29
(Skyline daily):

YSR Congress Party State Secretary Ghulam Rasool alleged that the attack on YSRCP leaders who visited land pooling-affected farmers in Penumaka, located in the Amaravati Capital Region, reflects the undemocratic and unethical functioning of the NDA coalition government. Addressing a press conference on Monday, Ghulam Rasool claimed that former ministers, MLCs, and other YSRCP leaders had visited Penumaka to express solidarity with farmers affected by land pooling when they were allegedly attacked by TDP workers in a pre-planned manner. He alleged that stones and eggs were hurled at the leaders and that their vehicles were vandalized during the incident. He further alleged that the attack was carried out under the leadership of a TMSF leader said to be a close associate of Minister Nara Lokesh. According to him, not only were YSRCP leaders targeted, but police personnel who attempted to intervene were also attacked, amounting to an attempt to cause serious harm. Ghulam Rasool criticized the government for allegedly failing to act against those responsible for the attack while instead registering cases against YSRCP leaders. He said this reflected the coalition government's



double standards and accused it of misusing the law for political vendetta, which he said was against the spirit of democracy. He stated that addressing the concerns of farmers in the capital region is the responsibility of the government and that preventing opposition leaders from meeting affected farmers through violence is unacceptable in a democratic society. He demanded a fair and impartial inquiry into the incident and urged the government to take strict action against those responsible. Note: The above statements are allegations made by YSRCP State Secretary Ghulam Rasool during a press conference. The response of the government or the accused parties was not available at the time of issuing this press note.

Granite Factory Worker Dies of Electrocution in Chimakurthy



Chimakurthy, June 29
(Skyline daily):

A 30-year-old worker from Uttar Pradesh died after suffering an electric shock while working at a granite cutting factory in Chimakurthy on Saturday evening.

According to police, the deceased has been identified as Anil Rai, son of Sarnath, a native of Itwana village in Uttar Pradesh. He had been working at Sri Hari Granite Cutting Factory in Chimakurthy for the past 15 days.

The incident occurred at around 5:30 p.m. on June 28, when Anil Rai climbed onto a crane to cut an elevated pipe using a cutter. While attempting to remove a wire from inside the pipe with the help of a hammer and channel, he accidentally came into contact with a

live electrical wire and suffered a severe electric shock. The impact caused him to fall to the ground, resulting in a bleeding injury below his chin. Co-workers immediately shifted him to Jawahar Hospital in Chimakurthy for treatment. However, doctors declared him dead on arrival.

Based on a complaint lodged by the deceased's younger brother, Sunil Rai, police registered a case and initiated an investigation into the incident. Following the post-mortem examination, Anil Rai's body was handed over to his family members for the last rites. Police are investigating the circumstances surrounding the workplace accident and whether adequate safety measures were in place at the factory.

RUSAL says aluminium is becoming a critical enabler of AI infrastructure



Vijayawada June 29th, 2026 - The global shift towards artificial intelligence (AI), digital infrastructure, and production automation is fundamentally reshaping the demand landscape for primary aluminium. As technologically advanced sectors scale, the metal's role is evolving from a traditional industrial material into a critical component of the hardware required for the digital economy.

The expansion of the digital economy has positioned aluminium as a core material for high-tech applications. The electrical engineering sector, vital for the development of power grids and data-heavy systems, accounted for 16.4% of global aluminium consumption in 2025. This demand is sustained by massive investments in energy infrastructure, which exceeded USD 2 trillion globally in 2025, driven by the need for reliable power distribution in digital and renewable hubs.

Furthermore, the industry is witnessing a structural shift towards higher value-added products (VAP) to meet the precise requirements of technological infrastructure. For example, the stable production of high-purity A7 grade aluminium-achieved through innovative inert anode technology-provides the unique conductivity and purity properties required for advanced casting alloys and high-tech electrical goods.

Automation and Industrial Robotisation: The rapid adoption of production automation is a primary factor supporting stable demand. Specialized aluminium alloys are increasingly utilized in the mechanical components of industrial robots and automated systems due to their weight-saving properties and durability. Innovations such as scandium-containing materials are providing up to 15% weight reduction in novel structures, while high-strength thermally stable alloys are demonstrating 10% higher electrical conductivity for transport and automation wiring.

The Requirement for "Green" AI Hardware As data centres and AI manufacturing hubs face increasing pressure to manage their environmental impact, the carbon footprint of the base infrastructure has become a decisive metric. Global demand for low-carbon products is rising as companies set ambitious greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets.

In 2025, 100% of the aluminium produced by the Company met low-carbon criteria, with Scope 1 and 2 emissions remaining significantly below 4 tonnes of CO2e per tonne of metal. The most advanced brand, ALLOW INERTA™, has established an industry-record low footprint of 0.01 tonnes of CO2e per tonne of aluminium, providing the tech sector with a material base aligned with "Net Zero" objectives.

Strategic Market Positioning in India and Asia Supply chains are currently being redesigned to focus on regions with predictable growth and high technological potential. Market data indicates that while demand in Western markets remains moderate, the markets of India and broader Asia are experiencing sizeable growth.

Krishna DCC Bank Reports Rs 82 Crore Net Profit, Approves Key Farmer Welfare Measures



Machilipatnam June 29
(Skyline daily):

Reaffirming its commitment to farmers' welfare and the cooperative sector, the Krishna District Cooperative Central Bank (KDCC Bank) approved several key resolutions at its 2026-27 Annual General Body Meeting, held at the bank's headquarters under the chairmanship of Nettem Sri Raghuram.

The meeting unanimously approved the annual report, audit report, financial performance, future action plan, and measures aimed at strengthening Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS). A major decision was the approval of a ₹4.43 crore grant under the District Level Stabilisation Fund (DLSF), in line with NABARD guidelines, to pay salaries of eligible employees working in financially weak PACS.

Addressing the gathering, Chairman Nettem Sri Raghuram said the bank's primary objective is to promote farmers' welfare, strengthen the cooperative sector, ensure transparent governance, and provide quality banking services to members. He said the bank is extending priority loans to agriculture, dairy, fisheries, poultry, horticulture, women self-help groups, and young entrepreneurs, besides financing PMEGP, PM Surya Ghar, allied agricultural activities, education, self-

employment schemes, and electric vehicle purchases. He announced that the bank would implement a One-Time Settlement (OTS) scheme for farmers who had availed loans before 2015 but were unable to repay due to various reasons. The General Body also resolved to waive interest on crop loans of up to ₹3 lakh in cases where borrowers had passed away.

As part of its expansion plans, the bank has opened a new branch at Velaturu with RBI approval and will soon launch branches at Seri Lakshmipuram and Reddigudem. Proposals have also been submitted to the RBI for new branches at Uutukuru, Mirzapuram, Chillakallu, and Singarayapalem.

To improve banking access in rural areas, the bank is expanding digital services through mobile banking vehicles, a mobile app, UPI, and QR code-based payment facilities. Raghuram also noted that KDCC Bank became the first District Cooperative Central Bank in the state to implement the 2022-27 wage settlement, paying enhanced salaries along with arrears to employees. He further announced a ₹5 lakh health insurance cover for PACS presidents and employees.

Highlighting the importance of PACS in the rural economy, the chairman urged cooperative soci-

eties to focus equally on loan recovery and credit distribution, stating that societies achieving 100 percent loan recovery serve as models for the cooperative movement. He added that PACS are being modernised through computerisation, core banking solutions, UPI, and QR payment systems in line with the initiatives of the State Government, APCOB, and NABARD.

Presenting the annual report, CEO Shyam Manohar said KDCC Bank recorded a net profit of ₹82 crore during the 2025-26 financial year. The bank's total business stood at ₹12,456.77 crore, including ₹3,850.76 crore in deposits and ₹8,606.01 crore in advances. He added that the bank continued to maintain its 'A' audit classification, while achieving significant progress in financial discipline, loan recovery, and digital banking.

APCOB Managing Director Venkata Ramakrishna praised KDCC Bank's performance under the leadership of Chairman Nettem Sri Raghuram, describing it as one of the best district cooperative banks in Andhra Pradesh. During the meeting, 61 Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies that achieved 100 percent loan recovery, along with their chairpersons, directors, CEOs, and employees, were felicitated for their outstanding performance.

Farmer Welfare Top Priority of Coalition Government, Says Minister Kollu Ravindra



Machilipatnam June 29
(Skyline daily):

Andhra Pradesh Minister for Mines, Geology and Excise Kollu Ravindra said the coalition government is giving top priority to the welfare of farmers and the development of the agriculture sector, stating that the prosperity of the state depends on the prosperity of its farmers. Participating in the Eruvaka programme at Buddalapalem village in Machilipatnam Rural mandal, the minister offered prayers to Bhudevi along with farmers, ploughed fields, sowed seeds, and distributed seed and fertilizer bags.

Addressing the gathering, Ravindra said the government had allocated ₹58,000 crore for agriculture, describing it as one of the largest agriculture-focused budgets in the country. He said free soil testing, scientific crop

advisories, subsidised seeds and fertilizers, and natural farming are being promoted to improve farmers' incomes. He added that irrigation canals have been modernised and Water Users Associations strengthened to ensure adequate water supply.

The minister announced that the road to Buddalapalem has been sanctioned and drinking water issues in the village will be addressed soon. He also said the Machilipatnam Port project would be completed at the earliest, creating employment opportunities for local youth and boosting tourism.

Ravindra said farmers are now receiving payments within 24 hours of selling their produce. He also stated that the coalition government has accelerated work on the Polavaram Project and is committed to completing

it at the earliest to provide assured irrigation through gravity canals. Highlighting welfare initiatives, he said the government is providing pensions to 63 lakh beneficiaries, implementing the Talliki Vandanam scheme from July 15, and extending ₹20,000 per farmer under the Annadata Sukhibhava scheme by combining state and Central assistance.

The minister also criticised the opposition, alleging that the YSR Congress Party was attempting to obstruct the state's development and create divisions among people. He asserted that stable governance is essential for sustained development and expressed confidence that Andhra Pradesh would emerge as one of the country's leading states through continued reforms and investments.