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YSRCP leaders funding smear campaign on social media, says Andhra CM Chandrababu Naidu

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Kuppam, July 6
Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday claimed that Opposition YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) leaders of actively funding a smear campaign against the Telugu Desam Party (TDP)-led coalition government in the state. The Chief Minister alleged that YSRCP leaders were providing funds to certain social media platforms to criticise him and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. Talking to media persons in his constituency Kuppam in



Chittoor district, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu remarked that the 'Axe Party' relies on violence and abusive language. He accused the YSRCP of promoting factionalism and rowdiness.

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu said that while the TDP-led coalition government was moving forward with welfare and development initiatives, some people were creating obstacles at every step. Saying that extensive development activities are underway across the state, the Chief Minister added that no matter how many hurdles are created, the development works will not stop. He alleged that the previous YSRCP government embroiled companies in controversies after allocating land to them and claimed that valuable land and mineral resources were tied up for the benefit of a single individual. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu said the modus operandi of YSRCP leaders has been to drive away companies and force industries to flee. He mentioned that projects like Obulapuram and AnRak faced similar troubles. "Now, they (YSRCP leaders) are claiming credit for every project actually initiated by the TDP-led coalition government," he said while accusing the YSRCP leaders of spreading falsehood. He also alleged that the previous

CM directs intensified search for seven missing fishermen off Visakhapatnam coast



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Kuppam, July 6
Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu directed officials to intensify the search operation to trace and rescue the seven fishermen who went missing at sea after setting out from Visakhapatnam. Speaking to officials from Kuppam on Sunday, the Chief Minister reviewed the steps being taken to locate the missing fishermen. Officials briefed him on the ongoing rescue efforts and the measures initiated by various agencies. Naidu instructed the authorities to step up the search using Coast Guard ships and ensure that all available resources are deployed for the rescue operation. Officials informed the Chief Minister that the rescue operation had been

Two AP MLC seats to fall vacant; lobbying begins



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, July 6
Lobbying has begun within the Telugu Desam Party as the process gets underway to fill two Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council seats under the Governor's nominated quota that are set to fall vacant later this month. The terms of Legislative Council Deputy Chairman Zakia Khanam and YSR Congress Party MLC Pandula Ravindra Babu, both nominated under the Governor's quota, are scheduled to end on July 28, creating two vacancies. According to party sources, the TDP leadership has initiated consultations to identify suitable candidates for the posts. Several senior party leaders are reportedly under consideration, making the selection process a closely watched affair in political circles. Sources indicate that one of the vacancies is likely to be offered to senior TDP leader Varla Ramaiah.

EC shocks Kavitha, rejects TRS as her Party name



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, July 6
In a rude shock to Kalvakuntla Kavitha, president of the newly formed political party Telangana Rakshana Sena, the Election Commission has rejected her proposal to use the abbreviation TRS, citing numerous objections received from members of the public and other stakeholders. According to sources, the Election Commission communicated to Kavitha earlier this week that the proposed name of her party could not be approved due to objections and claims raised by various parties and individuals. The Commission reportedly directed her to submit three alternative names within 15 days. The ECI also made it clear that if alternative names are not submitted within the stipulated period, the application for registration of the political party will be treated as closed. Responding strongly to

Most senior ex-ministers from Trinamool's previous Bengal cabinet have deserted Mamata Banerjee

Kolkata, July 5 : Barring just a handful few, almost all the heavyweight former ministers in the previous Mamata Banerjee-led cabinet from 2011 to 2026 have deserted her and joined the "rebel majority" camp in Trinamool Congress led by expelled party legislator, Ritabrata Banerjee, with the former West Bengal Minister of State for Finance (independent charge), Chandrima Bhattacharya, also the former state president, being the latest in the list. On Saturday afternoon, Bhattacharya, who was defeated in the recently concluded Assembly



polls, resigned from all party posts and soon after held a meeting with the Ritabrata-led rebel camp. She stated that since Mamata Banerjee had questioned her loyalty after the rebel camp took over the Trinamool Congress' main party office in the capital city, she felt it would not be wise for her to continue with the former Chief Minister. After resigning, she also accused Mamata Banerjee of not allowing her to operate independently as the erstwhile Minister of State for Finance

High-stakes diplomacy on cards this week: PM to embark on three-nation tour on Monday

New Delhi, July 6: In a major initiative to expand India's global outreach amid shifting geopolitical dynamics, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark on a three-nation Indo-Pacific tour on Monday while External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar left on Sunday on a ten-day six-nation visit to the Gulf, the United States of America and Belgium. With the world facing an uncertain situation, especially on the energy front following the West Asia crisis and the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, the PM will leave tomorrow morning on a week-long



visit to Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand to give a major push to India's multifaceted relationship with these nations in the Indo-Pacific. The visit comes days after Modi hosted Sanae Takaichi in New Delhi for the India-Japan Summit, where the two leaders categorically stated that a free, prosperous and rules-based Indo-Pacific is their shared priority. Cooperation in several key areas such as defence, maritime issues, trade, and supply chain resilience will also be

Prashant Kishor to make electoral debut in Bihar bypoll, to contest from BJP stronghold

Patna, July 5 : Election strategist-turned-politician Prashant Kishor is set to contest by-elections from Bihar's Bankipur Assembly seat, a stronghold of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for decades, Jan Suraj Party (JSP) chief Manoj Bharti announced here on Sunday. This marks the first official confirmation of Jan Suraj founder Prashant Kishor throwing his hat in the ring, ending days of speculation about whether he will challenge the BJP in its long-held bastion. Earlier, now BJP national President Nitin Nabin won this seat by a significant



margin in the Bihar Assembly elections. The Bankipur Assembly seat has been consistently won by the BJP for decades. The polls were necessitated after Nitin Nabin quit his Assembly membership and moved to the Rajya Sabha. Addressing media persons

'Khawaja Asif is mentally unstable': India slams Pakistan's Defence Minister over remarks on PM Modi

New Delhi, July 5 : India has slammed Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif over his recent statement on Prime Minister Narendra Modi receiving Seychelles' highest environmental honour, with government sources describing him as "mentally unstable" and what his holding the post revealed about the current situation of Pakistan. "That Khawaja Asif is mentally unstable is a known fact. That he could be entrusted with his current responsibility says much about today's Pakistan. Clearly, he has no day job and passes time by making silly com-



ments on matters of which he has little knowledge. Envy is always a bad motivation, particularly so from someone steeped in hate speech," a government source told IANS. India's response came after Asif raised questions over PM Modi receiving Seychelles' highest environmental honour. On June 28, PM Modi was conferred the 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon', Seychelles' highest distinction for leadership in environmental conservation and sustainable development. PM Modi dedicated the

America is winning': Trump hails military strength, economic gains on 250 years of US independence

Washington, July 5 : US President Donald Trump marked America's 250th Independence Day with a sweeping address celebrating the nation's history, military strength and economic achievements, while renewing calls for tighter election laws, condemning communism and outlining an ambitious vision for American leadership on Earth and in space. Speaking from the majestic National Mall after severe thunderstorms



delayed the celebrations for several hours, Trump thanked thousands of supporters who returned after being evacuated because of lightning. "There was no way we could be deterred," he said. "You're very special people, and we have a very special country." Calling the occasion "one

of the most joyous and glorious milestones of all time", Trump described the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence as a defining moment in American history. "For 250 years, the United States of America has been the hope, the promise, the light, and the glory among all of the nations of the world," he said. "They try to be like us. Nobody can be like us." Throughout the nearly

Extensive search operations underway for missing fishermen

The state government will stand by the affected families: Minister Kondapalli Srinivas

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, July 05 : MSME Minister Kondapalli Srinivas said that the state government is responding with utmost priority to the incident in which seven fishermen who went fishing in the sea on the 1st of this month went missing. As soon as he came to know about the matter, he reached the Visakhapatnam Fishing Harbor and met the affected family members and reassured them. Speaking to the media afterwards, the minister



said that all government agencies are working in coordination to trace the missing fishermen. The missing fishermen spoke to their family members on the phone at 2 pm yesterday, and the family members were worried when their phones were not available for half an hour. He said that as soon as the matter was brought to the attention of the gov-

ernment at 10 pm, it was immediately brought to the attention of the Chief Minister. He said that he spoke to the district collector as per the Chief Minister's orders and immediately alerted the Navy and Coast Guard teams. He said that extensive search operations are currently underway in the open sea with two Navy ships and two Coast Guard helicopters. The minister said that the boat owner, Karri Chinna, was found by a cargo ship and rescued safely. He is

Avanthi Celebrates Silver Jubilee Alumni Meet – 2026

Makavarapalem (Visakhapatnam), July 5, 2026:

As part of the Silver Jubilee celebrations marking 25 glorious years of excellence, Avanthi Institute of Engineering and Technology (Autonomous), Makavarapalem, organized “Alumni Meet-2026” with great enthusiasm and grandeur on Sunday, July 5, 2026, at the college campus.

The event was graced by Sri M. Srinivasa Rao, Founder and Chairman of Avanthi Educational Society, Former Minister, as the Chief Guest. Sri Sudhakar Panthula, CEO of Prospecta Technologies, attended as the Guest of Honour, while Sri Konchada Kishore Kumar, Group Manager, Infosys, participated as the Distinguished Guest. Special guests included Sri M.V.S. Nandish, Vice President of Avanthi Educational Society, Dr. M. Priyanka,

General Secretary, and Dr. C. Mohan Rao, Principal of AIETM.

Prominent alumni who attended the event included Sri Naveen Jain, Senior Director, Salesforce (USA); Sri Sai Charan Kuppli, Technical Director, Jinko Solar; and Sri Ganesh Machavarapu, Staff Physical Design Engineer, Qualcomm.

Addressing the gathering, Sri M. Srinivasa Rao expressed his delight at interacting with alumni during the institution's Silver Jubilee celebrations. He emphasized the importance of alumni contributing their knowledge, expertise, and professional experience towards enhancing student employability and supporting the continued growth of the institution.

Sri Sudhakar Panthula, CEO of Prospecta Technologies, stated that continuous learning and adaptation to



emerging technologies are essential for achieving success in today's competitive world.

Speaking on the occasion, Sri Konchada Kishore Kumar, Group Manager, Infosys, remarked that alumni interactions provide current students with valuable insights into industry expectations and contemporary technological advancements.

Alumnus Sri Sai Charan Kuppli, Technical Director at Jinko Solar, described Avanthi as an institution that offers “training like a mother and protection like a father,” nurturing students with care and guidance.

Sri Naveen Jain, Senior Director at Salesforce (USA), highlighted that Avanthi instills not only technical competence but also discipline, dedication, and ethical values among students.

Sri Ganesh Machavarapu, Staff Physical

Design Engineer at Qualcomm, appreciated the institution's contribution towards producing highly skilled engineers, particularly from rural backgrounds, thereby supporting industrial growth and national development.

Principal Dr. C. Mohan Rao noted that Avanthi Institute of Engineering and Technology has successfully completed 25 years of academic excellence, producing thousands of engineers who are serving in reputed organizations across the globe. He further stated that the institution has earned prestigious accreditations from NBA and NAAC and was granted Autonomous Status for a period of ten years in 2024.

Dr. T. Srinivasa Rao, Training and Placement Officer, informed that the institution has established strong collaborations with more than 80 national and

multinational companies and has been able to provide employment opportunities to every eligible student through campus recruitment initiatives.

During the interactive sessions, alumni shared their professional journeys, experiences, and career guidance with the current students. The distinguished guests and eminent alumni were felicitated with shawls and mementoes in recognition of their achievements and contributions.

The event witnessed the participation of nearly 400 alumni, members of the Avanthi Alumni Association, faculty members, and students. The gathering provided a memorable platform for alumni to reconnect, relive cherished memories, and inspire the younger generation through their experiences and accomplishments.

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YSRCP leaders funding smear campaign on social media, says Andhra CM

YSRCP government turned the agency area into a hub for cannabis cultivation. Now, the Centre has also launched a 'Drug-Free India' campaign.

He remarked that those who hurt the sentiments of devotees by adulterating the Tirumala 'prasadam' were now preaching morality. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, who visited Kuppam Assembly constituency for the third day on Sunday, said that the constituency is attracting an unprecedented number of industrial projects.

"We are enhancing connectivity -- including roads and communication networks -- across all sectors in the Kuppam constituency. People will soon witness a transformed, developed Kuppam. We intend to develop every constituency in the state in a similar manner," he added. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu said that the state government has formulated plans based on the policy of decentralised development to ensure progress across all regions.

"We are making efforts to attract investments in the quantum technology and semiconductor sectors. Operations at the quantum computing centre in Amaravati will commence by December. In the energy sector, alongside solar and wind power generation, we are introducing other state-of-the-art power supply systems."

The Chief Minister added that major steel companies like ArcelorMittal and Jindal Steel Works are setting up their projects in Andhra Pradesh.

Most senior ex-ministers from Trinamool's previous Bengal cabinet

(Independent) charge.

With Bhattacharya, almost the entire previous cabinet led by Mamata Banerjee is now in the rebel majority camp, with other former heavyweight ministers in the same list being Firhad Hakim, Aroop Biswas, Javed Ahmed Khan, Jyotipriya Mallick, Siuli Saha, and Arup Roy.

Of these former heavyweight ministers, Hakim, Khan, Saha and Roy are still elected legislators. Apart from that, Roy, a four-time elected party legislator from Howrah (Central) Assembly constituency in Kolkata-adjacent Howrah district, was appointed as the chairman of the newly formed National Working Committee (NWC) of Trinamool Congress by the “rebel majority” faction last month.

Two of the former heavyweight ministers in Mamata Banerjee-led cabinet, who have not officially joined the rebel majority faction as yet, are former Education Minister Bratya Basu and Women & Child Development and Commerce & Industries Minister Dr Sashi Panja.

However, both Basu and Panja, who faced defeat in the Assembly polls, have maintained silence so far. Neither the duo has made any statement about continuing their allegiance to the minority faction led by Mamata Banerjee and her nephew Abhishek Banerjee, nor have they announced any decision to join the rebel majority camp led by Ritabrata.

Another former heavyweight minister, Soumen Mahapatra, has also been totally silent on the matter so far.

The only former heavyweight minister and still a legislator who is vocal about his continued allegiance to Mamata Banerjee and Abhishek Banerjee is the maverick party legislator, Madan Mitra, whom Mamata Banerjee once described as the “most colourful personally” in her party.

After Chandrima Bhattacharya's departure on Saturday afternoon, Mamata Banerjee has not appointed anyone else as the party's state president.

High-stakes diplomacy on cards this week: PM to embark on three

high on the agenda during the PM's visit. Senior Indian officials said the visit aims to deepen India's ties with the three Indo-Pacific nations.

Briefing reporters on the visit, Rudrendra Tandon, Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs, said the PM will be in Indonesia from 6-8 July and Australia from 8-10 July before travelling to New Zealand for the last leg of his tour.

In Indonesia, PM Modi will hold bilateral talks with President Prabowo Subianto to build on maritime security, connectivity, and ongoing defence acquisition talks. The itinerary in Australia includes meetings with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese in Sydney alongside a community outreach event in Melbourne.

The PM will participate in the third India-Australia Annual Summit process. The conversations will cover emerging areas of bilateral relations, particularly critical minerals, cyber security, supply chain resilience, emerging technologies and so on, the official said.

On the visit to New Zealand, Tandon said this will be the first visit by an Indian PM in 40 years. The last Indian

PM to visit New Zealand was Rajiv Gandhi. Modi will hold discussions with Prime Minister Christopher Luxon to build on the recently signed Free Trade Agreement to boost bilateral trade.

The visit to Australia is especially important since both India and Australia are Quad members along with the United States and Japan and also cooperate in forums such as G20, East Asia Summit, Commonwealth and the Indian Ocean Rim Association. Australia is a significant source of lithium, cobalt and rare earth minerals—resources that are increasingly important for India's electric mobility, semiconductors and renewable energy ambitions.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Jaishankar has left for the Gulf states of Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman. He will be in the Gulf until 10 July before leaving for New York to launch India's official campaign for the 2028-29 UN Security Council tenure. He will then attend the 3rd India-EU Trade and Technology Council meeting and interact with his EU and Belgian counterparts in Brussels on 14-15 July before returning home.

The visit to the Gulf states will provide Jaishankar an opportunity to ascertain their views on the evolving situation in West Asia in the wake of a ceasefire between the US and Iran. Both Qatar and Oman played a significant role in bringing about the ceasefire.

Prashant Kishor to make electoral debut in Bihar bypoll, to contest from

life, and for the next ten years, until the vision of change in Bihar is achieved, I have no other purpose. I consider the responsibility of contesting the Bankipur by-election as a step towards that goal. Thousands and millions of people were connected with the ideas and efforts of Jan Suraj in November 2025. After the results, many felt disappointed or discouraged. Most of them believe that if Jan Suraj wins the Bankipur by-election, it will not only strengthen the movement but also help revive the vision of change in Bihar. I accept this responsibility with humility and thank all my colleagues, workers, and leaders," Kishor said.

He also expressed gratitude to partymen and leaders for placing the responsibility and trust on his shoulders. Voting for the Bankipur by-polls is slated for July 30, and the results will be declared on August 3. All political parties are busy with preparations for the by-elections.

The Congress has already voiced its opinion of backing Kishor in the elections, while all eyes are now on the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) on whether it will throw its weight behind the JSP leader in the bid to snatch the seat, long-held by the BJP.

‘Khawaja Asif is mentally unstable’: India slams Pakistan’s Defence

honour to all the countries that are committed to environmental conservation and fighting climate change. He underlined that the recognition, at a time when India and Seychelles are celebrating 50 years of their diplomatic relations, would go a long way in further enhancing the special friendship.

The honour recognised PM Modi's longstanding commitment towards a greener planet, including the International Solar Alliance, Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant for Mother), International Big Cat Alliance, among others, according to the statement released by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

This was the latest in a series of global honours recognising PM Modi's work on climate action, sustainable development, and green growth.

In May, PM Modi was conferred the 2026 Agricola Medal, the highest honour of the Food and Agriculture Organisation, during a ceremony held at the FAO Headquarters in Rome.

Earlier in 2018, he received the Seoul Peace Prize for advancing sustainable economic growth, global cooperation and inclusive development.

PM Modi was also conferred the Champions of the Earth Award 2018 for Policy Leadership by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres at a ceremony held at Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra in New Delhi.

CM directs intensified search for seven missing fishermen off Visakhapatnam coast

expanded with the deployment of Navy helicopters to strengthen the search efforts over the sea.

The Chief Minister also directed the Marine Inspector General of Police and the Visakhapatnam Police Commissioner to coordinate the search operation closely so that the efforts of all agencies remain well organised and effective.

Officials were asked to keep him informed about the progress of the search operation at regular intervals until the missing fishermen are traced.

Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaaidu also inquired about the incident involving the seven missing fishermen who had ventured out from the Visakhapatnam fishing harbour.

He spoke with the District Collector over the phone to obtain details and ordered officials to conduct search operations on a war footing.

Minister Atchannaaidu assured the fishermen's families that the government would stand by them. He also advised fishermen against venturing out to sea during periods of heavy rainfall.

Two AP MLC seats to fall vacant; lobbying begins

The second position is reportedly expected to go to a leader from the Rayalaseema region as part of the party's regional and social balancing exercise.

Both leaders under consideration had earlier aspired for Rajya Sabha nominations but were overlooked due to political and social equations.

The party is now believed to be considering accommodating them through the Legislative Council.

Varla Ramaiah had reportedly figured prominently in the party's deliberations over Rajya Sabha nominations on two occasions but narrowly missed selection each time.

Party insiders now believe the leadership is inclined to nominate him to the Legislative Council under the Governor's quota.

For the second vacancy, another senior leader from Rayalaseema, who had also unsuccessfully sought a Rajya Sabha berth, is said to be under active consideration.

If he is not ultimately selected, the party may instead nominate a Backward Class leader from the region.

Apart from these names, several other TDP leaders are also reportedly in the race for MLC positions.

Former MLA Vangaveeti Radha, former minister Devineni Uma Maheswara Rao, former Pithapuram MLA S.V.S.N. Varma and former MLA Kommalapati Sridhar are all understood to be aspiring for Legislative Council berths.

Speculation over Vangaveeti Radha's elevation has persisted for nearly two years, with repeated reports suggesting that he would receive an MLC nomination. However, the appointment has yet to materialise. Fresh discussions on social media have once again suggested that he could be considered for one of the vacancies under the Governor's quota.

Similarly, Devineni Uma, Pithapuram Varma and Kommalapati Sridhar, who were denied Assembly tickets in the last elections, are also hoping to be accommodated through Legislative Council nominations. The final decision now rests with the TDP leadership, whose choices are expected to reflect a combination of seniority, regional representation and social equations.

EC shocks Kavitha, rejects TRS as her Party name

the Election Commission's decision, Kavitha said she had already submitted legally valid explanations addressing the two principal objections raised by the Commission.

She maintained that the proposed name had been selected strictly within the legal framework and ruled out the possibility of suggesting any alternative names.

Declaring that she would not back down, Kavitha said she was prepared to challenge the Election Commission's decision before higher courts, if necessary, and would pursue all available legal remedies. Her stand has further intensified the dispute over the registration of her new political party.

The controversy assumes political significance because Kavitha, daughter of Bharat Rashtra Samithi president and former Telangana chief minister K Chandrashekar Rao, recently floated a new political party following differences with her father and the BRS leadership.

KCR had originally founded the Telangana Rashtra Samithi, which spearheaded the movement for a separate Telangana state. Following the formation of Telangana, the party was renamed Bharat Rashtra Samithi as part of its national political expansion. Political observers believe Kavitha deliberately chose the name Telangana Rakshana Sena so that its abbreviated form would once again be TRS, seeking to revive the emotional content associated with the original TRS brand among grassroots workers and rural voters.

The strategy was reportedly aimed at reclaiming the goodwill and emotional appeal still attached to the three-letter acronym “TRS”, while also attracting former party cadres ahead of future elections.

However, the Election Commission is understood to have taken the view that allowing a new political party to use an abbreviation closely resembling that of a well-known existing or former political party could create confusion among voters.

With Kavitha now refusing to change the name and preparing to move the courts, the issue is expected to trigger a significant legal and political battle.

America is winning’: Trump hails military strength, economic

40-minute address, Trump traced America's journey from the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution through the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, westward expansion, industrialisation, two World Wars, the Cold War and the Space Age.

He hailed the nation's founders for proclaiming that “all men are created equal” and described the Constitution as “the most righteous political document ever conceived”.

“Our founders not only won our liberty, they secured it with the most righteous political document ever conceived,” he

said.

The President used a series of historic American flags displayed on stage to recount key moments in US history, including the victories at Saratoga and Yorktown, the Civil War, Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders, Pearl Harbour, D-Day, Iwo Jima, the Korean War, Vietnam and the fall of communism.

He invited decorated veterans and Medal of Honour recipients to the stage, including Colonel Paris Davis, Pearl Harbour survivor Ken Shubrin, D-Day veteran Arthur Rose and Iwo Jima veteran Corporal Graves, describing them as symbols of American courage.

“They saved the world, and they made America very, very proud,” Trump said of what he called the “greatest generation”.

Military strength was a recurring theme.

Trump said recruitment across the armed forces, police departments and fire services had surged because “people respect and love our country again”.

“We rebuilt our military in my first term,” he said. Referring to this year's conflict with Iran, Trump added: “You look at Venezuela, you look at Iran, we wiped it out, wiped out their military.”

Later, he claimed the United States had secured “one of the greatest naval victories in history” by “sinking the entire Iranian navy, 159 ships to the bottom of the sea.”

“America is a nation of winners, and today our country is winning again,” Trump declared.

He also urged Congress to approve the “Save America Act”, saying it would require voter identification, proof of citizenship and sharply restrict mail-in voting.

“All voters must show voter ID. All voters must provide a little thing called proof of citizenship, and there will be no mail-in ballots, except for illness, disability, military deployment, or travel,” he said.

Trump repeatedly denounced communism, saying: “We don't want communists in our country.”

Later, referring to Cold War veterans, he added: “America will never be a communist country. Communism is a loser, and it always will be.” He described communist ideology as “a cancer” that should be stopped “before it begins”.

The President also highlighted America's scientific and technological achievements, welcoming NASA's Artemis II astronauts and Apollo 17 astronaut Jack Schmitt to the stage.

Presenting the Artemis crew with a US flag flown over the Capitol earlier in the day, Trump said it would one day be planted on the Moon.

“We're going to do the Moon, and we're going to go from there. We're going to go to Mars,” he said.

He also defended his creation of the US Space Force, saying critics had mocked the idea but that America was now leading China and Russia in space.

Trump honoured 11 Gold Star families, thanking them for the sacrifices made by their loved ones in military service. “They loved our country. They sacrificed it all,” he said.

In the closing minutes, Trump argued that the nation was experiencing renewed prosperity.

“Our stock market is the strongest it's ever been,” he said, adding that the United States had attracted “\$19.2 trillion” in investment, was building more factories than ever before, had record employment and that retirement accounts were at historic highs.

He also claimed Washington had become “safe and gleaming and beautiful again” after previously being “a very unsafe place”.

Ending on an optimistic note, Trump declared that the United States remained unmatched after 250 years.

“We may be the oldest constitutional republic on earth, but our country is just getting started, because the best is yet to come,” he said. Calling the present era “the golden age of America”, Trump pledged to make the country “bigger, better, stronger”, saying the spirit of 1776 continued to inspire Americans two-and-a-half centuries after independence. The speech concluded with a fireworks display over the National Mall.

The address marked the centrepiece of the White House's America250 celebrations commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, signed on July 4, 1776. The year-long programme has included nationwide events honouring the nation's founding, military service and constitutional traditions.

Since returning to office, Trump has consistently framed his presidency around restoring what he calls American strength, economic growth and national pride. Saturday's speech reflected those themes, combining tributes to the country's past with a vision of continued military, technological and economic leadership in the years leading to the United States' next quarter millennium.

Extensive search operations underway for missing fishermen

currently under the care of the Coast Guard. According to Karri China, the boat encountered heavy waves and rough seas on its return journey as per the warnings of the Meteorological Department, and at that time, three fishermen tried to head towards the cargo ship that was seen in the distance. The Minister said that the Chief Minister is regularly reviewing the whereabouts of the missing fishermen and is monitoring the situation through the Real Time Governance Society (RTGS). The Minister said that it is extremely unfortunate that fishermen, whose livelihood is fishing in the sea, have gone missing and assured their families that the state government will provide all possible support. The Minister clarified that the search operations will continue continuously until the missing persons are safely located.

CM embarks on expanding Net Zero model across Kuppam



Kuppam (Chittoor district): July 5 (Skyline daily):

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu inspected several government initiatives in Kuppam constituency on Saturday, with a focus on environmental sustainability, public health and service delivery, and directed officials to speed up their implementation. Government On the second day of his visit to Kuppam, the Chief Minister visited Nalagampalli village, where the Net Zero model is being implemented. He inspected rooftop solar systems, induction cooktops, rainwater harvesting, kitchen composting and terrace gardening in several houses. Officials were asked to prepare a case study on the Nalagampalli model and expand it across Kuppam constituency. During his visit to one of the houses, Naidu enquired about the number of solar panels installed, the electricity generated and whether it was sufficient for the family's needs. The beneficiaries told him that using solar power along with induction stoves had helped them save around Rs 400 a month on electricity. The Chief Minister also reviewed rainwater harvesting, kitchen composting, kitchen gardens and terrace gardens. He suggested including the use of electric vehicles as part of the Net Zero initiative and directed officials to promote the circular economy at the village level. He said the Nalagampalli model should become an example for the rest of the State. Naidu said modern induction stoves are now suitable for all types of cooking and noted that the government has already supplied them to Anganwadi centres across the State. Villagers told him that induction stoves are safer as they reduce the risk of gas leaks. Officials informed the Chief

Minister that the expansion of rooftop solar systems in Kuppam would benefit 7,489 SC and ST families, 39,215 BC families and 7,381 OC families. He directed officials to extend the programme across the constituency to reduce household electricity costs and promote environmental protection. Later, the Chief Minister visited the Kuppam Area Hospital and inaugurated the newly established CT Scan and Dialysis Centres. He reviewed the implementation of the Sanjeevani programme and stressed that proper data integration is essential for improving healthcare services. Officials were directed to focus on digitising health records, maintaining hospital cleanliness and strengthening healthcare delivery. While inspecting the CT Scan centre, Naidu asked about its daily capacity. Officials informed him that 30 to 40 patients could undergo scans every day. The Chief Minister also visited a walking track developed under the Panchatatva concept and planted a sapling. An exhibition showcasing innovations in the health sector was also visited and appreciated a student who developed a device to send immediate alerts to doctors during road accidents. Representatives of the Brahma Kumaris explained how meditation is being used to help people recover from drug addiction. Naidu directed senior police officials to take strict action against the use of drugs and ganja. Later, he also inaugurated the 'Swarna Kuppam-Swachh Kuppam' welcome arch in Kuppam town. District collector Sumit Kumar, transport minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy, Chittoor MP Daggumalla Prasada Rao, public representatives and officials were present.

Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) Under Ministry of Power

Panyam: July 3

Vijayawada: In a significant step towards advancing India's climate action agenda and promoting sustainable energy practices among young citizens, the Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture under the Ministry of Power, has partnered with the institution of Foundation for Agricultural Resources Management and Environmental Remediation (FARMER) and Municipal corporation of Delhi (MCD) to implement a comprehensive Energy Efficiency Initiative across schools under MCD in the Civil Lines Zone. The initiative aligns with the Government of India's vision of addressing climate change through sustainable development, energy conservation and environmental protection. It seeks to transform school campuses into models of energy efficiency while empowering students to become active participants in the nation's clean energy movement. Under the agreement, EESL will facilitate the adoption of effective energy management systems in selected MCD schools and provide energy-efficient appliances, including BEE Star-rated Super Efficient BLDC fans, LED tube lights and bulbs under the flagship Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) programme. Beyond infrastructure improvements, the programme aims to inculcate responsible energy consumption habits among school children at an early age. By



sensitising students to issues of energy conservation, climate change and sustainability, the initiative seeks to nurture a generation of environmentally conscious citizens committed to India's clean energy future. Recognising EESL's contribution towards energy efficiency awareness and implementation in schools, Delhi Mayor Raja Iqbal Singh, Municipal Commissioner Ashwini Kumar and Education Committee Chairman Yogesh Verma presented a Certificate of Appreciation to EESL's communication team. Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner Ashwini Kumar said the initiative, being implemented under the leadership of EESL Chief Executive Officer Akhilesh Kumar Dixit, would significantly contribute to India's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by reducing energy consumption, lowering carbon emissions and promoting sustainable lifestyles among students. During the signing of the agreement, EESL highlighted the remarkable success of the UJALA programme launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi a decade ago. The

programme has emerged as one of the world's largest energy-efficiency initiatives, delivering substantial energy savings and environmental benefits across the country. Primary & Secondary Schooling (K-12) According to EESL, the programme has helped generate annual monetary savings of over Rs 19,153 crore while avoiding peak power demand of 9,586 MW nationwide. States such as Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Bihar, Odisha, Kerala, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Delhi have played a pivotal role in the programme's success. Among them, Andhra Pradesh and Delhi have emerged as pioneering performers. Andhra Pradesh has achieved energy savings of 2,863 million units (MU) annually with monetary savings of Rs 1,145 crore, while Delhi has recorded energy savings of 1,192 MU and annual savings of Rs 703 crore. Together, the two regions have contributed significantly towards reducing nearly 2.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions.

Srinivas to lead TDP in Tirupati constituency



Tirupati: July 3

Telugu Desam Party (TDP) has ended months of speculation over its Tirupati Assembly constituency leadership by appointing Mannem Srinivasa Prasad, popularly known as JB Srinivas, as the new constituency incharge. The decision replaces former MLA M Sugunamma, who had been handling the responsibility until now. The party leadership has been looking to bring in younger leadership in Tirupati as part of its efforts to strengthen the organisation ahead of future political battles. High Command held several rounds of discussions with senior party leaders before finalising Srinivas' name. The appointment is also seen as an attempt to build a stronger challenge against former MLA and senior YSRCP leader Bhumana Karunakar Reddy. Many leaders in the constituency had expected a change in leadership, and several aspirants were in the race for the post. However, the party ultimately chose 50-year old Srinivas, who has been actively associated with the TDP since 2012. He is engaged in finance and real estate businesses and is considered to have a strong support base in Tirupati. Party leaders believe his Balija community background and organisational network worked in his favour during the selection process. Over the past year, Srinivas has emerged as one of the more active TDP leaders in the constituency. He attracted the attention of the party leadership after taking an aggressive stand against the YSRCP on several local political issues. His supporters had confronted YSRCP workers during a protest near the residence of Bhumana Karunakar Reddy, following the display of banners criticising Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. According to party sources, District incharge Minister and Revenue Minister Angani Satya Prasad, AP Sports Authority Chairman A Ravi Naidu and others have strongly backed Srinivas. Andhra Pradesh Tourism It was also said that party supremo N Chandrababu Naidu also discussed with them along with party Tirupati parliamentary president Panabaka Lakshmi before finalising Srinivas' name. Naidu advised him to make the best use of the opportunity and work hard in taking the party's welfare and development activities into the people more effectively. Speaking to The Hans India, Srinivas said he would live up to the confidence reposed in him by the party leadership. He said he would work sincerely to discharge his responsibilities and ensure coordination among all leaders without encouraging groupism. The efforts of every party leader and worker will be recognised while striving to provide them with due opportunities and support.

Three women, die after being run over by a train in Eluru



Amaravati: July 5

Police stated on Sunday that at least four people, including three women, died after being struck by a train in the Eluru district of Andhra Pradesh. The incident occurred after midnight on Saturday near Chebrolu in Unguturu Mandal. According to the police, one man and three women died after falling under the Cherlapalli-Shalimar Special train. The bodies were mutilated beyond recognition. Upon receiving the information, the Government Railway Police (GRP) from Tadepalligudem arrived at the scene and removed the bodies. Police suspect that the victims belonged to the same family and may have died by suicide. They are estimated to be between 30 and 35 years of age. Police found an ATM card near one of the women's bodies; the card was in the name of Shaik Hasina. A bike parking receipt issued by the Tadepalligudem RTC depot was found with another woman. Police also recovered two mobile phones from the scene. Both phones were damaged. They are attempting to retrieve data from the SIM cards to identify the deceased. GRP personnel shifted the bodies to the Tadepalligudem Area Hospital for post-mortem examinations. A GRP official stated that a case has been registered and an investigation is underway. Meanwhile, four people died in a road accident in Telangana's Nalgonda district early Sunday morning. TelanganaNews App The accident occurred on the Hyderabad-Vijayawada National Highway near Peddakaparthi village in Chitaly Mandal, when a private travel bus collided with a car. While four occupants of the car died on the spot, the driver, V.V. Prasad, sustained severe injuries. Prasad's wife, son, daughter, and a friend lost their lives in the accident. According to the police, the car was traveling from Chennai to Hyderabad. As it neared Peddakaparthi, a bus belonging to an Odisha-based private travel agency rammed into it from behind. Police and rescue personnel faced significant difficulty retrieving the bodies trapped inside the mangled car. The deceased hailed from Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh and were residing in Hyderabad. Traffic on the national highway was disrupted for some time due to the accident. Police and National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials brought in a crane to remove the wrecked car and restored the flow of traffic.

Anivara Asthanam on July 17; TTD cancels VIP break darshans

Tirumala: July 5

The annual traditional accounting festival, 'Anivara Asthanam', will be celebrated in a grand manner at the hill shrine of Lord Venkateswara on July 17. In view of the major religious event, the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has announced modifications in darshan and arjitha seva schedules for the upcoming week. IndianCurrent Events As a prelude to the festival, the traditional temple cleansing ritual, 'Koil Alwar Tirumanjanam', will be performed inside the sanctum sanctorum on July 14. During this ritual, the main temple premises, sub-shrines, and puja vessels will be purified with a specialized aromatic herbal paste called 'Parimalam'. Consequent to these two major religious events, the TTD



management has cancelled VIP Break Darshans on both July 14 and July 17, except for constitutional protocol dignitaries. Accordingly, no recommendation letters for VIP Break Darshan will be accepted or processed on July 13 and July 16. Furthermore, the temple administration has cancelled major virtual and physical arjitha sevas, including

Kalyanotsavam, Unjal Seva, Arjitha Brahmothsavam, and Sahasra Deepalankara Seva, on July 17 due to the day-long temple rituals. Devotees planning their pilgrimage to Tirumala have been requested to take note of these dynamic changes in timing and cooperate with the TTD administration to ensure smooth crowd management.

Ultimate sacrifice of Alluri Sitarama Raju will inspire generations to come: Collector



Nellore: July 5

Describing Alluri Sitarama Raju as a towering freedom fighter, Nellore District Collector Himanshu Shukla on Saturday said that the legendary leader made the ultimate sacrifice for the nation, remaining completely unfazed by British oppression in his relentless pursuit of India's independence. GeographicReference The Collector, along with other district officials, paid rich floral tributes to the revolutionary icon by garlanding his portrait during a commemorative programme organized at Tikkana Bhavan within the Collectorate premises. Speaking on the occasion, Collector Himanshu Shukla recalled that the armed rebellion led by Alluri Sitarama Raju stands out as a remarkable and highly distinct chapter in the history of the Indian freedom movement. He stated that the people of Andhra Pradesh should remain eternally

grateful to Alluri for his fierce and uncompromising crusade against colonial rule. The sacrifices, indomitable courage, and valour displayed by him will continue to serve as an inspiration for generations to come, the Collector added. He further noted that Alluri's fight against British tyranny and his dedicated efforts to protect the rights and forest livelihoods of tribal communities occupy a prominent place in the nation's history. The Collector called upon the youth to imbibe the core values of patriotism, sacrifice, and selfless service, urging them to draw inspiration from Alluri's ideals to actively fulfill their responsibilities toward nation-building and societal development. Trainee Collector Pavan Teja, District Revenue Officer Vijay Kumar, and I&PR Deputy Director Venu Gopal Reddy were present.

NSLC project committee seeks early completion of Chintalapudi Lift Scheme

Mylavaram July 5

The general body meeting of Nagarjuna Sagar Left Canal (NSLC) Project Committee on Saturday urged the State government to expedite completion of Chintalapudi Lift Irrigation Scheme to ensure a permanent solution to irrigation problems in third zone of Left Canal ayacut. Government The meeting, chaired by Project Committee Chairman Kota Veera Babu, was held at Farmers' Training Centre in NSP Camp Colony at Mylavaram. Addressing the meeting, Veera Babu stressed the need to appoint outsourced canal workers (Lashkars) during irrigation season for effective canal maintenance. He also called for joint inspections by irrigation officials and Water Users' Association representatives to identify and remove encroachments on major, branch and minor canals. He said the State government had sanctioned Rs 11.56 crore for canal desilting, strengthening of embankments and removal of vegetation in



NTR, Krishna and Eluru districts during 2026-27 financial year. He urged Water Users' Associations to complete works on priority so that irrigation water reaches tail-end ayacut. He also sought immediate release of pending bills relating to 107 canal maintenance works executed during 2025-26. Project Committee Vice-Chairman Alla Venkata Gopala Krishna Rao said Left Canal irrigates 3.6 lakh acres with an allocation of 32 TMC of water, but only 22 TMC was received from Telangana during previous irrigation season. He recalled that nearly 70% of Chintalapudi Lift Irrigation scheme had been completed between 2014 and 2019 and welcomed the government's

allocation of Rs 430 crore for the project in 2026-27 Budget. He urged the government to complete remaining works at the earliest to stabilise irrigation in Third Zone. The committee also adopted resolutions seeking relocation of Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) headquarters from Hyderabad to Amaravati, construction of new regulator gates at key locations along Left Main Canal, and official recognition for Water Users' Association representatives in Gram Panchayat, Mandal Parishad and district-level review meetings. SE S Ramachandra Rao, EEs S Srinu and K Kishore, besides committee members from Krishna, NTR and Eluru districts, attended the meeting.

SKYLINE

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At 250

America’s 250th birthday has naturally prompted reflection on what remains the world’s most consequential republic. Such anniversaries invite celebration, but they also encourage honest stocktaking. The question is not whether the United States remains a great power; it plainly does. The more relevant question, as the fireworks fade, is whether it still stands as far above every other nation as it once did. Increasingly, the answer is no. This distinction is crucial because absolute strength and relative dominance are not the same. By almost every meaningful measure, the United States remains pre-eminent.

It is home to the world’s largest economy in nominal terms, the dollar remains the backbone of the international financial system, its universities continue to attract the brightest minds, and its companies dominate frontier technologies ranging from artificial intelligence to biotechnology. No country can yet match its combination of military reach, financial influence, innovation and alliances. What has changed is the distribution of power around it. China has emerged as a technological and manufacturing powerhouse. India is steadily expanding its economic and geopolitical footprint. Countries such as Japan, South Korea and Germany remain formidable centres of advanced industry, while innovation is increasingly dispersed across multiple economies.

The world is no longer organised around a single, overwhelming centre of gravity. History offers useful perspective. America’s extraordinary dominance after the Second World War owed much to the devastation of Europe and Japan. Its unrivalled position after the Soviet Union’s collapse reflected another exceptional geopolitical moment. Neither period represented the normal condition of international politics. As other nations rebuilt, educated their workforces, invested in research and integrated into global markets, a narrowing of the gap was almost inevitable.

That reality does not diminish America’s achievements. If anything, it underlines how unusually dominant it once was. The challenge today lies elsewhere. Mounting public debt, deep political polarisation, contested immigration policies and recurrent institutional gridlock threaten to erode advantages that competitors cannot easily replicate. External rivals have become stronger, but internal dysfunction risks proving the greater constraint on American leadership. Even so, reports of American decline remain exaggerated. The United States has repeatedly demonstrated an extraordinary capacity for renewal. It emerged stronger from the Great Depression, adapted to the Cold War, led the digital revolution and continues to shape the technologies likely to define this century.

Few countries possess comparable entrepreneurial dynamism or institutional depth.As America is midway through its third century of independence, the appropriate conclusion is neither triumphalism nor pessimism. The age of uncontested American supremacy is receding, but the age of American relevance is not. The United States remains first among nations, even if other countries are catching up. At 250, its greatest challenge is not preserving an impossible monopoly on power, but adapting successfully to a world that has finally lengthened its stride.

Anticipating a new era in Nepal-India relations

It has not been long since contemporary global dynamics began to be described as a "field of exploding realities" within an "era of uncertain fluidity." Amidst constant shifts in the balance of power, alliances, and international relations, nations must remain hyper-vigilant and entirely prepared to safeguard their national aspirations and core interests. The relationship between Nepal and India is no exception to this reality. Geography, civilization, deep people-to-people ties, and a shared commitment to democratic ideals provide a stable foundation for the relationship between these two neighbours. However, geopolitical dynamics are constantly evolving. The drivers of this fluidity are multidimensional, no single nation or government is solely responsible for these shifts.

The impressive rise of the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP), which secured a near two-thirds majority as a fresh political force, has generated widespread expectations of long-term political stability in Nepal. Crucially, this internal political stability must now be leveraged as a tool to maintain geopolitical equilibrium. To be sure, this is not the first time Nepal has seen a government with a near two-thirds majority. In the 2017 general elections, the left-wing alliance achieved a similar landslide victory. However, that was a shared success between two distinct entities, the CPN-UML and the CPN (Maoist Centre) and was deeply entangled in the sharp internal contradictions of the communist movement. Consequently, that massive mandate was squandered, leaving the country's geopolitical balance even more fractured.

Following the Gen Z movement and the recent general elections, Nepal has entered a new chapter of opportunity. These historic milestones have generated profound expectations for a meaningful shift in both political mindset and governance. The young, newly appointed Prime Minister, Balendra Shah, has already made it clear that Nepal will move away from traditional, passive concepts like acting as a "buffer state" or maintaining "equal distance." Instead, his administration aims to pursue a foreign policy centered on being a "dynamic bridge" and practicing "equal proximity."

While analysts and politicians may debate the semantics of these terms, the core intent and spirit behind them are what matter most. Meaningful efforts driven by genuine goodwill are bound to yield positive results. Recently, RSP Chairman Rabi Lamichhane concluded a five-day visit to India. Undertaken at the invitation of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Lamichhane's visit should be

viewed as a strategic effort to elevate bilateral ties within this altered political context. High-level engagements of this nature are rarely confined to mere state formalities, they are driven by a strong sense of purpose and underlying missions. It is precisely this shared sense of purpose that makes such high-level dialogues possible. Lamichhane's meetings with top-tier Indian leadershipincluding PM Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, and Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, indicate that India is keenly observing and welcoming Nepal's new political landscape. It also underscores that New Delhi continues to accord high priority to its relationship with Kathmandu.

Immediately after Lamichhane's return, Foreign Minister Shishir Khanal embarked on an official visit to New Delhi. The meetings between Minister Khanal and his Indian counterpart, S. Jaishankar, culminated in several preliminary agreements. These initial understandings signal a harmonious start to cooperation under Nepal's new political dispensation. Nevertheless, persistent issues like the boundary dispute continue to shadow bilateral ties. It remains unclear what specific discussions the RSP leadership and the current government held with their Indian counterparts on this matter, or what response they received, as both sides have publicly maintained their traditional stances.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs recently urged observers to look at the spirit rather than the literal wording of Prime Minister Balendra Shah's remarks during a parliamentary Q&A session. While the cloud of suspicion has thinned slightly following clarifications that the Prime Minister's remarks on "encroachment" were meant in the context of "cross-border occupation" and that Nepal is not seeking British mediation on the boundary issue, the ruling coalition must deeply reflect on whether these diplomatic maneuvers are sufficient. While governance shortcomings in domestic politics may be forgiven or have limited fallout, any signs of immaturity in managing geopolitical balance and diplomatic relations can carry an incredibly high price tag.

The boundary disputes over Kalapani, Lipulekh, and Limpiyadhura are historical. There is no alternative to resolving these issues through bilateral talks and quiet diplomacy aimed at fostering mutual trust and empathy. Finding the right resolution for long-standing issues can take time; impatience, hyperbole, or any form of political extremism will not yield

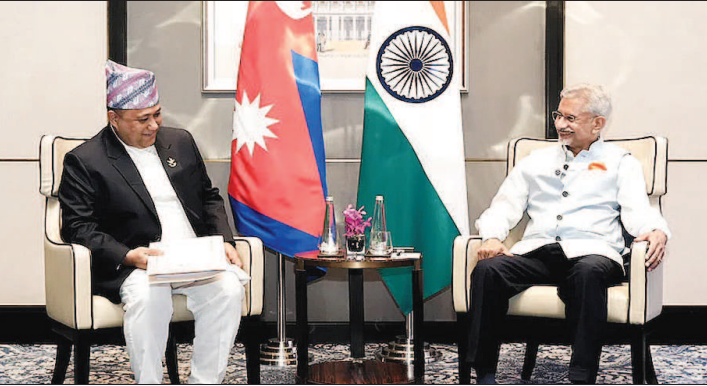
positive results. More importantly, a stalemate on one specific issue should not be allowed to paralyze progress across other dimensions of the relationship.

In this altered environment, both India and Nepal must clearly define their current priorities and core concerns. Nepal needs to articulate exactly what it expects from India, requiring a well-defined, mutually agreed-upon agenda. The strengthening of bilateral ties must be anchored in structured agendas rather than emotional rhetoric or preconceived notions. If certain legacy issues prove too difficult for either side to navigate right now, both nations must be prepared to shelve them temporarily.

The report of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) is a case in point. It has been eight years since this joint report was prepared. If it has become unacceptable, the reasons behind this gridlock need to be openly addressed. Could a new joint task force not be formed to review it under the current realities? When joint initiatives undertaken through bilateral consensus stall because one party finds them problematic, every effort must be made to find a mutually acceptable middle ground. If that proves impossible, there is no choice but to shelve the matter for the time being. Geopolitical dynamism demands that relationships be viewed through the lens of adaptation, review, and continuous improvement rather than rigidity or stagnation. Protecting shared interests does not mean compromising on sovereignty or surrendering core principles.

Traditional frameworks, such as the historic "Roti-Beti" connection, now require a modern redefinition. While the profound social, cultural, religious, and civilizational ties between the two nations remain foundational, they cannot endure in the modern era without contemporary connectivity, robust physical infrastructure, and deep economic cooperation. In today's world, economic partnership is paramount, and infrastructure is an absolute prerequisite for deepening that economic collaboration.

In Nepal, there is frequent and loud public discourse surrounding a potential railway connection northward to China. In contrast, very little attention is paid to the fact that a Raxaul-Kathmandu railway line to the south - favoured by much easier geography - would be faster to build, significantly cheaper, and far more economically viable. If both governments demonstrate strong political will, constructing this 136-kilometer railway line would not take long. Such infrastructure would dramatically boost people-to-people ties, economic integration, trade, and tourism. The financial realities of the



Pokhara and Bhairahawa international airports have already demonstrated that without robust economic and infrastructure cooperation with India, Nepal will struggle to reap returns from its largest capital investments. On such matters, New Delhi needs to demonstrate greater flexibility, accommodation, and generosity.

Water and energy partnership between Nepal and India must also be elevated to a new level. As Nepal inches closer to becoming self-sufficient in hydropower, India remains its most accessible and logical market. Given India's massive population and its skyrocketing demand for clean energy, a long-term, strategic energy partnership between the two neighbors is vital.

Reviewing legacy irrigation agreements like the Koshi, Gandak, and Sharda treaties could unlock substantial benefits for both sides, especially since these projects rely on century-old technology and design capacities. Similarly, both nations must critically evaluate why mega-projects like the Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project have remained stalled due to mutual distrust.

Concepts like the Cultural Circuit, the Ramayana Circuit, and the Lumbini-Buddhist Circuit present clear win-win opportunities for both countries, where neither side stands to lose anything. There are dozens of such potential agendas between Nepal and India that require meticulous analysis, identification, and execution.

Historically and contemporaneously, Nepal and India have never been adversaries, nor will they be in the future. Sharing a porous border stretching over 1,750 kilometers, the two nations are not merely neighbors; they are partners in a shared civilization. Barring hyperbole and prejudice, it would not be an exaggeration to describe them as "twin nations" of the same civilization. Their heritage, historic sites, and national pride are inextricably linked. The bond between Janakpur and Ayodhya is irreplaceable, just as nothing else can replicate the profound connection connecting Lumbini, Bodhi Gaya, and Samath. Historical misunderstandings that have flared up from time to time

have ultimately harmed both nations, leaving behind painful memories that neither side can recall with pride.

Nepal has no reservations in acknowledging the reality of India as an emerging global power. Similarly, India has never textually or in principle refused to recognize Nepal's sovereignty and strategic autonomy. That being the case, there are no objective reasons why this relationship should not move forward smoothly. Problems born out of subjective anxieties and political posturing are short-lived and yield no good outcomes. Rising above complexes of power superiority or small-state vulnerability to shape relations realistically is the only way to ensure the well-being of the citizens of both countries.

The Balendra Shah administration must leave no stone unturned in imparting a new momentum and warmth to Nepal-India relations. A corresponding reciprocity is naturally expected from the Indian establishment. Treating Nepal as a primary partner under New Delhi's "Neighbourhood First" policy must transcend geopolitical rhetoric and become a tangible reality, a humble acceptance of geographical and historical truth.

Ultimately, both nations lag behind the contemporary developed world in terms of economic development and human living standards. Crucially, the pockets of deepest underdevelopment and poverty in India lie precisely in the states bordering Nepal. The northern regions of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal much like the southern plains of Nepal's Terai-Madhesh remain plagued by weak infrastructure, limited economic opportunities, slow human development, and low per capita income.

Both New Delhi and Kathmandu must honestly acknowledge that they have failed to do justice to their borderlands. Global examples demonstrate that border regions can become vibrant hubs of economic dynamism, high commercial returns, and elevated living standards. Both sides need to seriously ponder why the reality along the Nepal-India border remains so starkly different.

The question that needs an answer

Last week the Republic said something true about itself, and the nation recoiled. The Ministry of External Affairs clarified on Passport Seva Divas that a passport is a travel document and not a document of citizenship. The statement was legally unimpeachable. It also exposed a question India has never fully answered. Let us start with the law because the law is not in dispute. The Passports Act of 1967 governs the issuance of passports and the Citizenship Act of 1955 governs the acquisition and loss of citizenship. While the former regulates a document, the latter determines a status. The courts have consistently considered a passport to be good prima facie evidence that its holder is Indian but never as conclusive proof. Last August, the Bombay High Court iterated that citizenship cannot be established solely through a passport, Aadhaar or voter card. Citizenship, it ruled, is determined under the Citizenship Act. On paper, the ministry merely restated settled doctrine. So why the alarm? The law was settled but the uncertainty was not. Supporters of the clarification dismissed the controversy as a reaction to "old law".

Civil EngineeringCritics feared that the same principle, applied carelessly, could place ordinary citizens at risk. Both sides missed the deeper question. Most Indians were not debating doctrine but asking something more fundamental. If the document that carries the Republic's authority across borders does not prove you belong to it, then what does? The real problem is not legal ambiguity but the absence of a clear answer. Every democracy has the right to maintain

accurate electoral rolls and remove the dead, the duplicated and the genuinely ineligible. A State has the right to establish its nationality and to take action against fraud. The question is narrower and harder.

When the state does ask for proof of citizenship, what can a citizen actually produce? Consider the documents most Indians carry. Aadhaar expressly does not establish citizenship or domicile. Voter ID proves inclusion on an electoral roll, not nationality. PAN is a tax identifier and can be issued to foreign nationals. Ration cards establish eligibility for welfare benefits and driving licenses establish residence and skill. A citizen may possess multiple state-issued documents and still be unable to conclusively establish the status on which all other rights depend. What then counts?

In law, only a limited set of documents: a citizenship certificate, proof of descent from an Indian citizen, or in some cases a birth certificate. Now another challenge starts. Citizenship by birth has changed over time. Those born between 1950 and 1987 are citizens by birth. After 1987, at least one parent had to be an Indian citizen. After 2004, additional conditions were imposed. The consequence is profound. For many Indians, proving citizenship increasingly requires proving the citizenship of their parents, who may in turn have to prove their own. It is here that an exact law collides with an inexact reality. Under Section 9 of the Foreigners Act, 1946, once a credible doubt is raised, the burden falls on the individual to establish that she is not a foreigner. Geographic Reference The problem lies in the evi-

dence. Millions were born when registration was patchy, records incomplete and names inconsistently recorded. The law often assumes an archive that never existed. We have already seen the consequences. Assam's NRC exercise excluded 19 lakh people in 2019. Among them were individuals whose names appeared in historical records and who had participated in public life for decades. Families were divided over documentary discrepancies. A decorated soldier had to approach the courts to establish that he was Indian. Assam is less a verdict on intent than a warning about documentary systems under stress. The warning is relevant today as the ministry did not speak into empty air.

It was answering a question about whether a passport could keep a voter on the rolls during the Special Intensive Revision. The Revision requires the citizen to trace her name (or a parent's) back to a roll that was made many years ago. It has a valid reason for cleaning and updating the register. The difficulty is the same as that which pervades this whole subject. It requires individuals to record a status that the state has not certified. In Bihar, about forty-seven lakh names were struck off in the first round, including names of the deceased and the migrated names, although there were also some names that were disputed. In May, the Supreme Court upheld the exercise.

It also made an observation worth holding on to. The Court observed that inclusion in an electoral roll creates a presumption, not an irrebuttable fact. The burden of reopening citizenship claims falls hardest on the weakest citizens. This is the unre-



solved contradiction. The state is able to verify someone sufficiently to issue a passport. It sends her abroad as it's national. Foreign governments admit her on its word. However, the same verification is not, in law, a final determination of her belonging. This is not being malicious but a task that hasn't been accomplished. A republic can protect itself from fraud but it should not make belonging forever contingent.

So, for the poorest the honest answer to the question 'Are you a citizen?', is 'it depends upon what you can produce today'. Citizenship, according to Hannah Arendt, is the right to have rights. Strip a person of it and every other guarantee, to speech, to property, to liberty itself, becomes a courtesy that can be withdrawn. That's why the gap is not a clerical issue but a constitutional one. Other democracies closed it long ago, not trusting documents, but constructing one. A universal and clean civil register. All births were recorded with no exceptions in records that outlive memory. India never finished that work, and no government, of any party, has ever completed it.

Statelessness, thus, doesn't

come as a command. Rather, it's more frequently in a form that isn't fillable. The cure is unshowy in the form of Universal birth registration and honest-durable archives. And, someday, one document that explicitly declares citizenship, so that nationality never again hangs on a missing page or a misspelt name. If a state can find a person to tax her, and enrol her, and record her data, she can be found by them to confirm that she is its own. None of this is a weakening of the law but completing it. Until then the ministry's honesty stands. The passport is a travel document and there are tougher truths to be found underneath.

In the Republic of India, the concept of citizenship continues to lack its own document and a right that can't be proven is, after all, a right that's based on trust. So, ask yourself the question that was posed to us all. Are you a citizen of India? Then go to the more difficult one. Could you prove it to someone who had reason to doubt you, if you were asked to? For a great many Indians that is not an abstraction. Their situation in the Republic could become a question they will have to answer.

Pakistan: Crypto dispute emerges in foreign women gangrape case involving Dy PM Ishaq Dar’s relative

Islamabad, July 5: The ongoing probe in Pakistan in connection with the abduction and gangrape of two foreign women have led to a fresh line of investigation, with officials pointing towards a possible cryptocurrency-related dispute behind the high-profile case. Notably, Muhammad Raza Dar, a key accused in the matter, is a relative of Pakistan’s Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, IANS reported. Local media reports have even claimed that Raza Dar is a grandson of Ishaq Dar. This comes after one of the survivors recorded her statement before a judicial magistrate as part of the ongoing investigation. In her testimony, the woman-claimed that Muhammad Raza Dar received \$100,000 in exchange for securing her release.



As per the copy of the survivor’s statement obtained by ARY News, she informed the magistrate that a group of armed men entered the house where she and her friend had been staying. The woman alleged that both of them were restrained and locked inside a room by the attackers, while Raza Dar repeatedly demanded access to a computer and cryptocurrency funds. “They asked where the computer with the money

survivor described an incident during which she was sexually assaulted by two of the accused while another suspect stood guard outside. “They were laughing, slapped me and told me to keep quiet when I started crying,” she is believed to have stated during her testimony before the magistrate. As per the woman’s statement, Raza Dar allegedly used her mobile phone to send messages to people in her contact list requesting money. While nobody responded to them initially, the mother of the second woman later informed the suspects that \$100,000 had been arranged. Among the two women, one is from the Netherlands and the other from Venezuela. They were allegedly abducted on June 29 and subsequently gangraped in Lahore.

‘We will always be on top’: Donald Trump mixes patriotism with partisanship to celebrates 250th anniversary of US

Washington July, 5: Commemorated 250th anniversary of American independence, US President Donald Trump mixed partisan politics with patriotic appeals as he declared the event as “one of the most joyous and glorious milestones of all time.”Executive Branch. During his address at the National Mall in Washington, Trump honoured veterans, including those from World War II as well as one of the first Black officers to lead a Special Forces team in combat in Vietnam, The Associated Press reported. The event took place after storms prompted a nearly two-hour evacuation of the venue. In his campaign-style speech that repeated his calls for new voting restrictions, Trump warned that “communists” could gain ground in

the United States. Besides lauding American achievements like war victories, the lunar landing and the Wright brothers’ pioneering flight, the US President urged Congress to pass stalled legislation aimed at limiting mail ballots and requiring proof of citizenship to register to vote. He even claimed to have “wiped out” Iran’s military and cautioned against a rise of communism in the country. “We will always be on top... We will never let our country fall. We will



always be the best,” Trump said. Politics (Right) He even joked about seeking a third presidential term and about World War II’s “greatest generation.”“They are the greatest generation... I hate to admit that, but they are,” he added.

Donald Trump says July 4 speech will happen ‘no matter what’ as storms threaten event



Washington July, 5: US President Donald Trump said he will deliver his much-awaited speech to

mark the country’s 250th anniversary at the National Mall “no matter what,” even as thunder-

storms threatened to disrupt the event. “Storms bring luck to whatever the occasion. They also make events a little bit more exciting! We will wait it out, I don’t care if it’s 2:00 O’Clock in the morning, or in one hour from now. Looks like it is going to pass, they always do. I will be there no matter what, but the ‘what’ usually turns out to be a good thing,” Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform. This came after authorities ordered the crowd to evacuate the area near the Washington Monument

where Trump was scheduled to speak. The group organising the event, Freedom 250, stated that they would be readmitted and Trump would speak at 11 p.m. ET, one hour later than the previous schedule, Reuters reported. Earlier on Saturday, visitors waited for hours to get into the event, amid temperatures reaching 102 degrees Fahrenheit (39 degrees Celsius). The record-breaking heat wave even led to the cancellation of several parades and other events in the area.

Pope Leo Calls on America to Uphold Immigrant Legacy and Human Dignity

Vatican City, July 5: Pope Leo XIV has urged the United States to remain true to its historic values of liberty, unity and compassion, praising the country’s long tradition of welcoming immigrants while calling for greater protection of human dignity. The Pope delivered the message in a live address from the Vatican after receiving the Liberty Medal from the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. His speech came as the United States celebrates the 250th anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence. Without mentioning Donald Trump by name, Pope Leo’s remarks were widely interpreted as an indirect criticism of the Trump administration’s restrictive immigration policies. The Pope has previously described such policies as “inhuman” and has consistently advocated for the rights of migrants and refugees. Highlighting America’s history as a nation built by immigrants, Pope Leo said the country’s moral and democratic strength lies in its willingness to welcome people seeking freedom and opportunity. He urged Americans to preserve the ideals that have made the nation a global symbol of liberty. “The moral greatness of a nation is



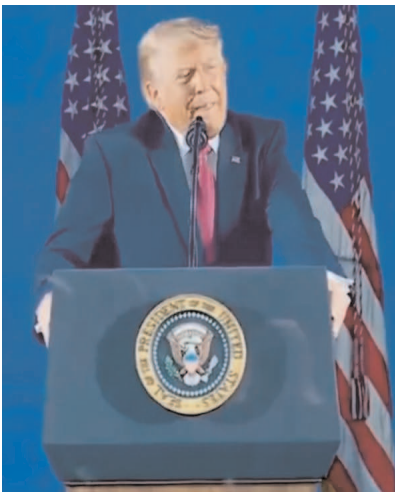
manifested, above all, in its capacity to support, protect and cherish the lives of all, especially the most vulnerable and those whose worth is questioned,” the Pope said. He also reaffirmed the Catholic Church’s pro-life position by calling on lawmakers to enact legislation that would “recognise and safeguard” human life from conception until natural death. The Pope stressed that protecting life at every stage is essential to building a just and compassionate society. Calling for unity, Pope Leo said a nation can truly flourish only when its people are united by



enduring ideals rather than short-term political goals or temporary interests. He urged Americans to strengthen their commitment to justice, freedom, human dignity and solidarity. The speech reinforced the Vatican’s long-standing emphasis on human rights, care for migrants and the sanctity of life. It also served as a reminder that America’s founding principles of liberty and equality should continue to guide its policies and national identity as the country marks 250 years of independence.

Trump calls Communism America’s greatest threat, bigger than Pearl Harbor and 9/11, at Mount Rushmore on America’s 250th anniversary

Washington July, 5: US President Donald Trump turned America’s 250th Independence anniversary address into a sweeping warning against Communism, telling supporters at Mount Rushmore that the ideology posed a “mortal threat” to American liberty. Speaking in South Dakota on the eve of July 4 celebrations, Trump framed the anniversary not only as a national milestone but as a moment to defend American identity, history and culture. He also called for ending the filibuster to pass the SAVE America Act, linking the issue directly to the coming midterm elections.



Trump says Communism is ‘enemy of July 4th, 1776’ Trump said the United States was facing a renewed ideological challenge decades after the Cold War. “Communism is a mortal threat to American Liberty. It is the Greatest Threat to our Country including World War One, World War Two, Pearl Harbor, or 9/11,” Trump said. Executive Branch He added, “Because Communism is the enemy of Free People everywhere. It is the enemy of the Constitution. Above all, it is the Enemy of July 4th, 1776.” The President said the issue was not a routine political disagreement over taxes or regulation. He described it as a direct challenge to the American way of life. “These are not mere political disagreements, like differences over taxes or regulations,” he said. Trump claimed that Communist ideas had resurfaced in the US, including among “newcomers to our country who embrace ideas totally opposed to our way of life.” The President also attacked what he called “Marxist lies” about American heritage. “You can be loyal to Karl Marx, or you can be loyal to America. You can be a Communist, or you can be a Patriot. You cannot be both,” Trump said. He accused critics of America’s founding story of attacking the country’s future. “As for those who would peddle Marxist lies about our heritage—who tell our children that we live on stolen land, or that our heroes were oppressors—they are

doing something much worse than slandering our past. They are attacking our future,” he said. Trump said such views were an attempt to “tear down the American Character” and destroy the people who “declared Independence, crossed the Delaware, settled the West, and conquered the skies.” He ended that section with a blunt pledge: “America will never be a ComTrump links filibuster fight to midterms Trump also urged lawmakers to end the filibuster and pass the SAVE America Act. “We can only lose the midterms if we allow ourselves to lose the midterms—if we are foolish, stupid, and unwise,” he said. “But if we terminate the filibuster as we should do, and immediately vote for the SAVE America Act, then we will not lose an election for 100 years,” Trump added. President praises America as ‘most exceptional nation’ While much of the speech focused on Communism and American identity, Trump also used the Mount Rushmore backdrop to celebrate the country’s 250-year journey. Executive Branch “At 250 Years, America is the oldest Republic on earth. We are the freest people on earth. We have the most righteous and enduring Constitution on earth. We are the strongest and most powerful country on earth,” Trump said. He described the United States as “the most successful, most accomplished, most exceptional nation ever to exist in

human history.” Trump said America’s story was built on “liberty, justice, equality, self-government, and unmatched prosperity.” “What we have created in this country is not the natural way of the world. It is not the norm. It is the exception. It is rare, it is priceless, and it is truly mir Trump used the Mount Rushmore setting to invoke George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt. “These are the men who declared the freedom, won our freedom, saved our freedom, and secured our freedom,” he said. He described them as “men of action, men of ambition, men of daring, men of destiny.” Trump said their faces were carved into the mountain not only because of what they did, but because they represented the American character. “The identity of a nation is the destiny of a nation,” he said. July 4 proclamation issued Earlier in the day, Trump proclaimed July 4, 2026, as the 250th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. “I urge all Americans to proudly observe this day with all due ceremony to honour the glorious heritage, history, and accomplishments of our beloved Republic,” the proclamation said. Trump also signed pardons for six people who were prosecuted under the Biden administration before leaving for South Dakota, according to ANI.

2,645 dead, 890 aftershocks, thousands still missing: Venezuela’s earthquake nightmare is far from over

The death toll from the powerful earthquakes that struck Venezuela on June 24 has risen to 2,645, with 12,666 people injured as emergency teams continue rescue and relief operations across the country. The latest official update indicates that thousands remain displaced while authorities race to provide shelter, medical care and essential supplies. The disaster has also triggered hundreds of aftershocks, complicating rescue efforts and raising concerns over damage to infrastructure. National Assembly President Jorge Rodriguez, who also heads the command centre overseeing temporary camps, said 6,462 people have been rescued so far. He added that assistance has reached 86,117 affected families. Relief operations continue across affected

regions According to Rodriguez, the earthquakes damaged 885 buildings, while another 189 structures collapsed. Authorities have established 59 temporary camps to accommodate displaced residents. More than 3,300 international rescuers and nearly 29,600 emergency responders remain deployed across affected areas, he said. Rodriguez also said Venezuela has recorded 890 aftershocks since the twin earthquakes struck. National mourning declared for earthquake victims Acting President Delcy Rodriguez on Thursday declared seven days of national mourning to honour those who lost their lives in the disaster. “In honour of the memory of the victims, I have decided to decree National Mourning for seven (7)



days, starting at 6:00 p.m. today,” she said in a statement posted on social media. “In these moments of profound sadness, we embrace those who suffer from this tragedy and reaffirm our commitment to accompany and protect them.” She also said, “Venezuela’s soul is torn by the human losses caused by the devastating earthquakes.” The two earthquakes, measuring magnitude 7.5 and 7.2, struck north of

Caracas on June 24. Authorities have previously said tens of thousands of people remain missing. Earlier, Delcy Rodriguez had urged health workers, firefighters and security personnel to register on the Patria platform to support relief efforts, particularly those related to housing for displaced families. Authorities had initially activated 25 temporary camps across several regions before expanding relief arrangements.

Aamir Khan Reportedly Finds Love Again, Marries Gauri Spratt

Mumbai, July 5: Bollywood actor Aamir Khan has reportedly tied the knot with his longtime partner Gauri Spratt in a private and intimate ceremony attended by close family members and friends. Speculation about the couple’s relationship had been growing for several months. Earlier this year, during his 60th birthday celebrations, Aamir publicly introduced Gauri to the media, revealing that they had known each other for many years and that their friendship had eventually blossomed into a relationship. Since then, reports about a possible wedding had been circulating. According to media reports, the couple has now exchanged vows in a simple ceremony, choosing to keep the event low-key. However, neither Aamir Khan nor his representa-



tives have officially confirmed the marriage. If confirmed, this would be Aamir Khan’s third marriage. He was first married to Reena Dutta, with whom he has two children. After their separation, he married filmmaker Kiran Rao in 2005. The couple announced their separation in 2021 but have continued

to maintain an amicable relationship, co-parent their son, and collaborate professionally. Gauri Spratt, who is believed to be based in Bengaluru and comes from a business background, has largely stayed away from the public eye. She recently attracted attention after making public appearances alongside Aamir at a few

events. While the reports have generated considerable interest among fans and the entertainment industry, an official announcement from Aamir Khan or his team is still awaited. Until then, the news of their marriage should be treated as unconfirmed media speculation.

Alpha Movie Review

Cast - Alia Bhatt, Sharvari, Anil Kapoor, Bobby Deol, Dia Mirza, Dibyendu Bhattacharya, Kiara Khanna, Vishal Katpal, Shubhi Mehta, Digvijay Sawant, Bhushan Simpi, Pavleen Gujral, Pranay Narayan, Rajiv Ranjan, Hrithik Roshan & others

Director - Shiv Rawail

Producer - Aditya Chopra

Banner - Yash Raj Films

Music - Rohanish and Abeer Pandit, Sanchit Balhara and Ankit Balhara

Since 2012, a total of six films have been released in the ‘YRF Spy Universe’ franchise. The first four films, Ek Tha Tiger, Tiger Zinda Hai, War & Pathaan, were super successful at the box office and helped to build a fandom for the Spy Universe. Unfortunately, the last two films in the franchise, Tiger 3 and War 2, ended up as duds and dented the prospects of the upcoming films. At a time when a blockbuster success is the need of the hour to reclaim the franchise’s brand value, Yash Raj Films, announced, Alpha, the first film in the franchise with two women in the lead roles. Alia Bhatt and Sharvari, played the lead roles in the film. After getting postponed a couple of times in the last few months, the film was finally released in theatres today. Did Alpha instil life into a sinking franchise? Did, Alia Bhatt and Sharvari, help the YRF Spy Universe’s lost glory? Let’s figure it out with a detailed analysis.

What is it about?

Due to an unfortunate incident, Sita(Alia Bhatt) and Durga(Sharvari), the twin sisters, get separated, at a hospital right after their birth. The father(Anil Kapoor) was made to believe that his elder daughter is dead. What was the unfortunate incident that made the twins get separated? What exactly is ‘Alpha’ serum? Why is Fateh Singh Lakhawat(Bobby Deol) hell-bent on getting the serum developed? What exactly does Alpha serum do when it is injected into the bodies of the army soldiers? What is the real identity of Fateh Singh Lakhawat? Forms the rest of the story.

Performances:



Alia Bhatt’s screen presence and performance are the only saving graces in this forgettable film. She looked good, performed well and even looked like a live wire during the action sequences. Sharvari looked good but there is not much to talk about her performance. She has improved her acting skills a lot if she’s serious about a career as an actor. Anil Kapoor, Bobby Deol, and even the usually very reliable, Dibyendu Bhattacharya, delivered terrible performances. Not just these three actors, almost all the actors in the film looked out of place and uninterested.

Technicalities:

Alpha is one of those very rare films where almost every technical department, came up with a bland output. There’s not much the technicians can do when the script was written badly. Everything that could go wrong, had gone wrong for the film at the writing table itself. So, the entire blame should go to the writing team and the director but not the technicians. It is high time for Aditya Chopra to hire good writers. Audiences just aren’t interested in seeing ‘all style & no substance’ spy drama films anymore.

Positives:

1.? ?Alia Bhatt Performance

Negatives:

1.? ?Beaten to Death Storyline

2.? ?Unexciting Direction

3.? ?Lack of original ideas

4.? ?Bad Music

5.? ?Terrible Performances

6.? ?Poorly Executed Hrithik’s Cameo

Analysis:

Even if you consciously try to avoid comparing, while watching Alpha, your mind cannot help

but draw parallels with both parts of the Dhurandhar franchise. It is almost impossible to match the standards set by Dhurandhar for any filmmakers in India who aim to make a film in the ‘Spy Thriller’ genre in the future, but the least the audience expects is an honest effort. There’s no way the high-on-style-without-any-substance films work any more in this genre. In Dhurandhar, we have seen that a spy is expected to lead an invisible life and if required, a spy is also expected to stay away from having any contact with the family. Nation comes first, is what the spies believe in. But, at the end of Alpha, Anil Kapoor says the following dialogue to Alia Bhatt – ‘Kill him...For your family, for yourself and for the nation. This particular dialogue effectively summarises the film. At its heart, Alpha is a ‘Family Drama’ but not exactly a ‘Spy Thriller’. All we get to see throughout the film is the boring drama between two sisters and their father, against the backdrop of spies and terrorists. Even if you step into the theatre with the least of expectations, Alpha will still fail to reach your lowest of low expectations.

The director started the film on a boring note with terrible and seemingly uninterested performances by Anil Kapoor and Bobby Deol and continued the bland narration until the end. Lead actors in designer clothes, exotic locations, bikinis, liberal doses of skin show, slow motion walking shots of the lead actors and a cameo, we will see all these aforementioned trademark YRF Spy Universe qualities in Alpha as well. Unfortunately, none of those elements was able to save this mess of a film. It is no exaggeration to say the team at YRF, were unable to come up with at least one engaging sequence in a film with around 140 minutes runtime. It feels as if the people associated with the film, lost interest even before the filming started, and they just worked for

the sake of completing and releasing the film.

There was a cameo of Hrithik Roshan in the role of Kabir, for about ten minutes. It was shocking to see the director and his team, coming up with such an unexciting writing & execution for the cameo role. There may have been many cameo roles in films in the past which failed to create an impact, but Hrithik Roshan’s cameo in Alpha, should certainly qualify as the worst of all. Read this – ‘A R&AW Chief, who can single-handedly kill a huge group of attackers, right before killing the attackers, asks his self-reliant daughters to go to a safe house by road. Know what? It takes 72 hours for the daughters to reach the safe house. They have to ride bikes, drive a car, walk for some time, climb mountains and swim for a while in lakes, to reach the safe house’. While watching the above-mentioned brain rot of a sequence, we start to wonder, why in the world does he transport them to the safe house through a chopper? Isn’t it quick and safe? After all, he’s the chief of R&AW, and he can order his team to quickly come and rescue his daughters. Instead, he gives two bikes to the daughters and asks them to go to the safe house. Why? Because, the director and his writing team, want to show us the riding skills, swimming skills, mountain climbing sequences, cleavage and biking clad bodies of the lead actresses.

Overall, apart from stylishly appearing lead actresses, Alpha, has nothing else to offer. The writing, the screenplay, the direction, the acting, the music and almost everything else, misfired and ended up making, Alpha, a mess of a film. With, Tiger 3, War 2 and Alpha, YRF Spy Universe, delivered three consecutive duds and severely dented the brand value of the franchise. YRF has only two options now, i.e., either shelve the franchise or hire good writers and come up with grippingly made spy stories and thrillers. And yes, do yourself a favour for now, stay away from stepping into a theatre to watch, Alpha. It has nothing to warrant your valuable time of two and a half hours.



Naga Vamsi Explains Why Producers Should Not Stay on Film Sets

Producer Suryadevara Naga Vamsi recently shared his thoughts about film production and explained why he believes a producer does not need to stay on the movie set every day. His comments have now become a big talking point among cinema lovers. Speaking in an interview, Naga Vamsi said many people believe that a producer can reduce expenses by staying on the shooting location. However, he completely disagrees with that idea. According to him, this belief is "trash." He explained that when a producer is present on the set, the production team often gives special VIP treatment. This can actually increase the overall expenses instead of reducing them. Extra arrangements, hospitality, and unnecessary attention may add to the production cost. Naga Vamsi also spoke about the relationship between a producer and a director. He said a producer may ask ques-



tions like, "Why was this scene not completed today?" While such questions may seem normal, they can create pressure on the director. Over time, this can affect the trust and understanding between both of them. He believes that a director should be given enough freedom to complete the film in the best possible way. A healthy relationship between the producer and director is important for the success of any project. Instead of interfering in daily shooting activities, a producer should focus on supporting the team and solving bigger production chal-

lenges. Meanwhile, Naga Vamsi is also making headlines for his upcoming big project with N. T. Rama Rao Jr. and director Trivikram Srinivas. The producer recently hinted that Trivikram’s most ambitious vision will soon unfold on a grand scale. Industry reports suggest the film could be a large-scale mythological drama. There is also speculation that the movie may be titled Shanmukhudu, and Jr NTR could reportedly play the role of Lord Murugan. However, the makers have not officially confirmed the title, story, or character details.

Mahesh fans face Their Toughest yet Happiest Phase



For many years, fans of Superstar Mahesh Babu have waited to see him work with director SS Rajamouli. When the project was finally announced, excitement reached a new level. It is one of the biggest Indian films in production, and expectations are very high from both fans and movie lovers. At the same time, this has become a difficult period for Mahesh Babu fans. Rajamouli is known for taking a long time to complete his films. He believes in perfect planning and never rushes his work. Because of this, Mahesh has not released any other film during this long schedule. Fans are happy because he is working on a dream project, but they also miss seeing their favorite star on screen regularly. Last year, many fans

expected a special update on Mahesh Babu’s birthday. However, no teaser, poster, or glimpse was released on that day. The team later shared the first look after a few months. While the glimpse received a great response, many fans felt disappointed that there was no birthday surprise. Now, expectations are growing once again. Mahesh Babu’s birthday is coming closer, and fans are hoping the makers will release at least a small teaser, a character poster, or a short video. Even a simple update would make the celebrations more special for them.

The film has stayed quiet for some time after the first glimpse. Many believe this is the right moment to start creating more excitement. Since the movie is planned on a

huge scale, regular promotional content can help keep the buzz alive until release. Rajamouli has always followed his own style of promotions. His films usually create massive hype closer to release, and his strategy has worked many times before. Still, fans feel that giving a birthday gift to Mahesh Babu’s supporters would be a wonderful gesture and increase excitement even more. Mahesh fans are now experiencing both happiness and patience. They know they are waiting for one of the biggest films of his career, but the long wait is testing them. If the team shares something special on his birthday, it could make this waiting period much more memorable and give fans another reason to celebrate.

Samantha Wait or Sai Pallavi Entry?



Director Nandini Reddy is enjoying the success of Maa Inti Bangaaram. The film, starring Samantha, has received a very good response from audiences and continues to perform well even after its release. It has become one of the biggest women-centric hits in recent Telugu cinema. After this success, many people are talking about Nandini Reddy’s next project. The makers have already hinted that Maa Inti Bangaaram may continue with a second part. Reports say that the basic idea for the sequel is ready, and the team is expected to develop the full script in the coming months.

However, the biggest question is about Samantha’s availability. Since she is taking a maternity break, fans are wondering if Nandini Reddy will wait until Samantha returns or direct another film before starting the sequel. As of now, there has been no official announcement about the shooting schedule. Nandini Reddy is also believed to have a few other story ideas. If she finds the right actor and the dates match, she may complete another project during this gap. Otherwise, she could choose to wait and focus completely on the sequel once Samantha is ready to return. At the same time, there is another interesting discussion among movie fans. Sammatha herself said that Sai Pallavi was originally considered as the first choice for Maa Inti Bangaaram before she came on board.

Because of these rumours, a few fans are also wondering whether Sai Pallavi could appear in the second part of the story and introduce a new female lead. This is also just fan discussion, and there is no official update supporting it. For now, the future of Maa Inti Bangaaram 2 depends on the completion of the script and Samantha’s return. Fans are eagerly waiting to hear what Nandini Reddy decides next.

Akhil Is Giving Everything for Lenin

The promotions for the upcoming Telugu movie Lenin are creating a lot of buzz. The film stars Akhil Akkineni and Bhagyashri Borse in the lead roles. While both actors are working hard to promote the movie, many fans have noticed that Akhil is getting more attention during the promotional events. In the past, Bhagyashri often became the center of attraction during movie promotions. Whether it was Mr. Bachchan or Andhra King Taluka, she impressed audiences with her confident presence and glamorous style. However, this time, things seem to be different. Akhil has been very active in promoting Lenin. He is attending almost every event, interacting with the media, and speaking confidently about the film. His interviews and public appearances have attracted the attention of fans and social media users. Many people feel that he is leading the promotional campaign with great energy.



The reason behind this is easy to understand. Lenin is one of the most important films in Akhil’s career. After facing a few setbacks with his previous movies, he is hoping this film will become a big success and help him build a stronger position in the Telugu film industry. Because of that, he is leaving no stone unturned to make sure the movie reaches a wide audience. Bhagyashri also has high hopes for the film. She has been receiving good offers in Telugu cinema and wants to continue her successful journey. A hit with Lenin will further strengthen her career and

help her maintain her growing popularity. Even though both stars need the movie to perform well, many believe the pressure is much higher on Akhil. Bhagyashri already has a positive image and several opportunities, while Akhil is looking for a much-needed commercial success to revive his career. For that reason, his strong involvement in the promotions has become one of the biggest talking points. Directed by Murali Kishor Abburu, Lenin is produced by Nagarjuna Akkineni and Naga Vamsi. The film is scheduled to release in theatres on July 10.

Shocker! Hombale, Hrithik & Parasuram

Last time, a few Telugu directors like Gopichand Malineni met and narrated stories to Hrithik Roshan; many Telugu movie lovers felt that the Bollywood star wouldn’t even sign these commercial masala flicks that are being narrated by our filmmakers. But it looks like the people who expressed their surprise at that time are now in for a shock. Because an unexpected combo is likely to take off, if Film Nagar rumours are anything to go by. A rumour is being heard loud that director Parasuram, who has carved out movies like Family Star, Sarkaruvari Paata, Geetha Govindam and others, has recently narrated a story to Hrithik Roshan and bowled him out. None other than the makers of films like KGF and Salaar, Hombale Films, are likely to pro-

duce the movie if reports are true. However, people who heard about this combination are asking if Hrithik Roshan really heard the script and okayed it. On the flip side, there’s always a chance that any director who made a flop recently could narrate a beautiful story for his next and make it work. So maybe Parasuram might have really rejected a story for Hrithik and got his approval. However, there’s nothing confirmed so far, as there are chances that Hrithik will work with a South director, but definitely not Parasuram, but a much bigger director. Earlier, it has also come out that the director of films like Thandel and Karthikeya, Chandu Mondeti, is likely to make a film with Hrithik Roshan for Geetha Arts.

Nani Eyeing On New Lot, Already Caught One?

Well, a couple of days ago, it came out that even Tamil director TJ Gnanavel of Jai Bhim fame, who has been waiting for Nani’s dates for a year or so, has walked out and is doing a film with Suriya again. However, “The Paradise” star is not short of talent, and he’s eyeing a new lot of film-

makers who could join him immediately after his latest outing gets released in September 2026. A big piece of news is coming out that Tamil director Subhash K Raj, who has carved Arjun Sarja’s Blast, which has heroine Preity Mukundan playing an almost lead role and clicked well at the

box office, is now in talks with Nani. Blast became a surprise blockbuster for its pacing, realistic fights, and simple point, but also for an interesting screenplay. At the same time, the film was shot on a shoestring budget with limited locations and in a short time.

Kirti Azad seeks answers from BCCI, raises voice against adult ads during IND-ENG telecast

New Delhi, July 5 : Former India cricketer and Trinamool Congress MP Kirti Azad has questioned the broadcast of an alleged adult advertisement during the second T20I between India and England at Old Trafford, urging the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to examine the matter.

Azad, who also posted about the issue on social media during the match, said the presence of such advertisements during a game watched by millions of children raised serious concerns and warned that he would take up the issue in Parliament if necessary. Elaborating on his concerns, Azad said cricket's massive family audience made the issue particularly significant, arguing that children should not be exposed to such content during live sporting events. "This is an adult adver-



tisement. Children watch the match with their parents. They are children under 16 years old. In this country, cricket is considered a religion. When I was watching it, 44 crore people were watching it, and an adult advertisement appeared during the match," Azad told IANS. The former all-rounder said such advertisements often leave parents in an uncomfortable position while prompting questions from children who may not understand the context. "Parents don't know

where to look, and children don't understand it. They ask what it is. What effect will it have on their minds? This is a very big question, and the BCCI should answer it. How are they allowing all this?" he questioned. Azad also asked why such advertisements were being aired when promotions related to alcohol and tobacco remain prohibited. "Alcohol and cigarette advertisements are all banned, and they should be. So why adult advertisements? And that too

between overs. I raise a big question over its validity," he said. While stopping short of calling for immediate legal action, Azad maintained that the cricket board should first address the matter. However, he indicated he was prepared to pursue it further if required. "The BCCI has to look into it. If needed, then yes, I will raise it in Parliament. I will definitely raise it," he added. Sharing his objection on X during the match, Azad had called on the BCCI to take note of what he described as an inappropriate advertisement during the live telecast. He wrote, "Children are watching live the international T20 match between India and England being played at Old Trafford. Isn't it a shame that an adult advertisement for Durex comes on the screen @BCCI to take note."

Babar returns as Test captain as Pakistan name squads for West Indies, England tours



Lahore, July 5 : Pakistan have handed Babar Azam the Test captaincy once again while announcing their squads for the upcoming tours of the West Indies and England, marking the former skipper's return to leadership after he stepped away from the role in 2023.

The Pakistan Men's National Selection Committee unveiled the squads during a press conference at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore on Sunday. Babar will lead the side in both the two-Test series against the West Indies, scheduled from July 25 to August 6, and the three-Test series in England, scheduled for August 19 to September 13. A 16-member squad has been named for the West Indies tour, while a 17-member group has been picked for the England series. Saud Shakeel has

been included in the England squad, subject to fitness. The selectors have also rewarded four uncapped players with call-ups. Left-arm spinner Ali Usman, right-handed batter Muhammad Awais Zafar, right-arm pacer Ubaid Shah, and wicketkeeper-batter Muhammad Ghazi Ghorri have all been named in the squads as Pakistan look to inject fresh talent into the Test setup. Babar's appointment marks a significant turnaround in Pakistan's leadership timeline. The 31-year-old had resigned as captain across all formats in November 2023 following Pakistan's group-stage exit from the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup in India. Although he returned as Pakistan's ODI and T20I captain in March 2024, that stint proved short-lived. Babar stepped down from the white-ball captain-

cy again in October 2024, ending his second spell in charge after just six months.

His latest appointment now sees him return to the helm of the Test side as Pakistan prepare for two challenging overseas assignments against the West Indies and England.

Squad for West Indies tour: Babar Azam (captain), Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Fazal, Ali Usman, Azan Awais, Imam ul Haq, Khurram Shahzad, Mohammad Abbas, Mohammad Ali, Mohammad Rizwan (wicket-keeper), Mohammad Awais Zafar, Muhammad Ghazi Ghorri (wicket-keeper), Sajid Khan, Salman Ali Agha, Shan Masood, and Ubaid Shah

Squad for England tour: Babar Azam (captain), Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Fazal, Ali Usman, Azan Awais, Imam ul Haq, Khurram Shahzad, Mohammad Abbas, Mohammad Ali, Mohammad Rizwan (wicket-keeper), Muhammad Awais Zafar, Muhammad Ghazi Ghorri (wicket-keeper), Sajid Khan, Salman Ali Agha, Saud Shakeel (subject to fitness), Shan Masood, and Ubaid Shah

Schedule for West Indies series: July 25-29 – 1st Test, Brian Lara Cricket Academy, Tarouba August 2-6 – 2nd Test, Queen's Park Oval, Port of Spain, Port of Spain

Schedule for England series: August 19-23 – 1st Test, Leeds August 27-31 – 2nd Test, Lord's September 9-13 – 3rd Test, Birmingham

Rayudu Defends Sanju Samson After T20I Snub, Backs Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's Bright Future

New Delhi, July 5: Former India batter Ambati Rayudu has voiced his support for Sanju Samson after the wicketkeeper-batter was left out of India's playing XI for the second T20I against the England cricket team. While celebrating the international debut of teenage opener Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Rayudu urged fans not to overlook Samson's significant contribution to India's recent T20 success.

India made a change to the batting line-up after Samson managed just one run from seven balls in the opening T20I. The team handed a debut to the highly-rated Sooryavanshi, one of the country's most exciting young batting prospects, in a move aimed at strengthening the top order.

Reacting to the selection decision, Rayudu took to social media platform X, where he reminded fans that Samson had been one of India's standout performers in the recent T20 World Cup.

"Let's spare a thought for Sanju Samson... very happy to see Vaibhav make his debut, and it



deserves a celebration, but let's not forget that Sanju was the man of the tournament in the T20 World Cup just three T20 games ago," Rayudu wrote. The former batter also expressed confidence that Samson would overcome the disappointment and make a strong comeback. At the same time, he wished the young debutant a successful and memorable international career. "I just hope he comes back strong and also wish Vaibhav a very

long and record-shattering career," Rayudu added. Samson's omission has sparked widespread discussion among cricket fans and former players, with many questioning the decision to drop a player who was instrumental in India's recent T20 World Cup triumph. His Player of the Tournament performance remains fresh in the minds of fans, making his exclusion after a solitary low score a major talking point. Meanwhile,

Sooryavanshi displayed his fearless batting approach despite a modest debut. The youngster scored 14 runs off just 10 deliveries, including two towering sixes, before being dismissed. England went on to register a four-wicket victory in the second T20I, taking a 1-0 lead in the five-match series after the opening game ended in a washout. England now needs two more wins to clinch the series, while India must win all the remaining matches to secure the contest.

2nd T20I: 'We played for a perfect team, can do better,' says Ishan after loss to England

Manchester, July 5 : India batter Ishan Kishan claimed that the team management had picked the 'perfect team' for the second T20I against England, rejecting the suggestion that they needed an off-spinner to stem the run-flow in the middle overs.

Ishan Kishan scored 49 and, along with skipper Shreyas Iyer (37) and Abhishek Sharma (43), helped India post a challenging 190/7 upon electing to bat first at Old Trafford on Saturday. However, England rode on an unbeaten 76 from Jacob Bethell to overhaul the target and reach 191/6 in 19 overs, recovering from a precarious 1/2 and 51/3 for a four-wicket win. The key to India's defeat was the 17th over bowled by Ravi Bishnoi that cost 29 runs as the leggie finished with figures of 4-0-60-0.

Asked whether India needed an off-spinner to capitalise on the situation in the middle and lower-order, Ishan Kishan said the bowlers picked for the match were "quality bowlers," and all this talk was conjecture. "No, I mean, we played for a perfect team, you know. It's just that when you don't win, there are a lot of thoughts coming in, a lot of ifs and buts are coming in. But at the same time, I feel all of them were very good bowlers who have done well in the past, who have made their team win in different situations. Even bowling on very flat tracks and still getting wickets. So, I don't think we could have done anything different looking at the team side," said Ishan Kishan in the post-match press conference.

Kishan, however, admitted that the team has to consider how it can improve its performance, taking the conditions into account.

"Yeah, like I said, we need to just understand what conditions are and how we can improve, what we can do better. You know, thoughts will keep coming in. But at the end of the day, we just need to understand the situation, like we are playing outside India, and what the pitch requires from us as a batter and as a bowler. Not only one batter or one bowler can, you know, just make the difference. But as a group, I feel we need to just understand more, like where we can get better," he added. Kishan came in at one down as India went in with 15-year-old opener Vaibhav Sooryavanshi in the second match. The first match was abandoned without a ball being bowled in the second innings after India posted 189/7 in the rain-hit match. Pointing out that the team has been losing momentum in the backend and falling short by 15-20 runs from what they could have in both times they batted in this series, the Jharkhand wicketkeeper-batter said the team has to improve, and said all batters would have to think about where they can score those 20-plus runs.

He said they will have to look at the



hosts' batters to understand what they are doing better because they know the conditions better.

"100%, I mean, yes. Obviously, you know, they'll have the best choice of bowling, where to pick up, which bowler to put (under pressure), and which batsman to put (under pressure). They understand the condition better than we do. But at the same time, you know, as I said, I mean, everyone's answer is the same. Like, we are all looking to improve.

"We are all looking to understand what these guys are doing against us. Like, when we play in India, we have more ideas about the wicket. So, here, obviously, every batter needs to understand, as a team, like, where we can, you know, get those extra 20 runs, whether it's by scoring boundaries or, because it's a big ground, you need to take those, whether you have to target the gaps. So, these are a few things I feel we'll talk about as a group, we'll understand, and we'll get better with time," he said.

2nd T20I: 'Want to do well against world's best teams,' says Bethell after match-winning knock against India



Manchester, July 4 : England all-rounder Jacob Bethell said testing himself against the strongest sides in world cricket is what drives him after his unbeaten 76 powered England to a four-wicket victory over India in the T20I. Speaking after being named Player of the Match, Bethell reflected on his previous success against India, England's calculated approach to the chase, the turning point provided by Ravi Bishnoi's expensive over, and the partnerships that helped overhaul a target of 191.

Having also impressed against India during the 2026 T20 World Cup, Bethell said delivering against quality opposition makes performances all the more rewarding, while acknowledging the

challenge posed by India's attack.

"I really enjoyed that semi-final (2026 T20 WC), although we couldn't get over the line. They're a high-skilled attack, it's just that I've played them on two pretty nice pitches. And, yeah, you want to do well against the best teams in the world. So, yeah, it's really pleasing to do so," Bethell said during the post-match presentation.

Bethell arrived at the crease with England reeling at 1/2 after both openers fell in the first over. However, Harry Brook's counterattacking cameo restored the momentum before Bethell and Tom Banton stitched together a crucial partnership that steadied the chase. Looking back, Bethell

said the innings was built around partnerships and waiting for the right moments to accelerate rather than attacking throughout.

"It worked out well in the end, but just going into bat two down, Brooky (Harry Brook), set the tone really well there. He flipped the momentum straight back on them. And, that made it easier for me to go out there and just give him strike to start and then it's a shame when he got out. But I thought Banton came in and that partnership we built, both of us would have liked to go on and finish that. But everyone just keep chipping in. And then, yeah, in those kind of chases, you're not going rapid the whole time, but a couple of big overs and then the game swings. So, yeah, it was one of them that just kind of got timed really well," he added.

The biggest swing arrived in the 17th over when England collected 29 runs off Ravi Bishnoi, aided by two free hits after the leg-spinner overstepped twice. Bethell admitted that targeting that particular end of the ground had not

originally been part of his thinking, but the circumstances demanded a change in approach.

"If I'm honest, I probably would have targeted the other end more with my leg side, with the wind, but, and the shorter side. But, yeah, when, (there are) a couple of free hits and then bowler's down, so then you try and take him. So, yeah, that all worked out really well. And then, yeah, Jof (Jofra Archer) came in and finished it off," he stated.

While one boundary was significantly shorter than the other, Bethell said England's batters avoided becoming fixated on clearing the shorter side and instead focused on exploiting whichever areas the field allowed.

"Yeah, I think so. I mean, the thing with playing on different dimensions is one side might be easier to hit sixes, but you can also score the same amount of runs, hit in the gaps that are bigger on that big side. So, yeah, it was just about being smart with that. And I thought as a batting group, we were really good at that on the whole," Bethell concluded.

HomeLane Strengthens Presence in Visakhapatnam with Third Experience Centre at Diamond Park

Visakhapatnam, July 5, 2026: HomeLane, India's leading tech and AI-enabled home interiors brand, has strengthened its presence in Visakhapatnam with the launch of its third experience centre in the city, reinforcing its focus on high-growth tier-2 markets.

Located at Diamond Park, one of Visakhapatnam's prominent residential and commercial hubs, the new experience centre strengthens HomeLane's ability to meet the rising demand for organised, design-led and technology-enabled home interior solutions. By expanding its presence in the city, HomeLane aims to serve a larger base of homeowners while making its seamless, end-to-end interior design services more accessible across Visakhapatnam. The expansion marks another milestone in HomeLane's continued growth across high-potential markets, with the new studio complementing the brand's existing network of two experience centres in Visakhapatnam. The launch also supports HomeLane's long-term plan to scale its FOF (Franchise-Owned, Franchise-



Operated) network to 100 studios this year while expanding into emerging markets where demand for organised, design-led and technology-enabled home interior solutions continues to grow. The studio was inaugurated in the presence of P. S. Ramachandra Raju Garu, Former Managing Director, Sugar Industries (Chodavaram), Government of Andhra Pradesh, alongside HomeLane representatives, partners and local stakeholders. The new experience centre has been launched in partnership with Vamsi Deepak TSV. Through this partnership, HomeLane combines local market understanding with its design capabilities, factory-backed execution and technology-

led planning to deliver a seamless and professionally managed home interiors experience.

Spread across 1,100 sq. ft., the Diamond Park experience centre offers homeowners an immersive, end-to-end interior design journey. Customers can explore modular kitchens, wardrobes and complete home interior solutions through hyper-realistic displays, experience premium materials firsthand and leverage technology-driven consultations that enable them to

visualise their dream homes before execution. The studio brings every stage of the interior design process under one roof, offering personalised guidance from concept to completion.

Through SpaceCraft, HomeLane's proprietary AI-powered platform, homeowners can visualise their home interiors in 3D, receive instant pricing and experience a seamless transition from design to execution. Customers also benefit from transparent pricing, a 45-day delivery guarantee, a 10-year material warranty and end-to-end project management support.

'Winning as MLA this time was my biggest mistake': Budda Prasad's remarks spark political debate

Vijayawada, July 5: Avanigadda Jana Sena MLA and former Andhra Pradesh Deputy Speaker Mandali Budda Prasad stirred political discussion on Saturday after expressing disappointment over the current state of politics, saying that winning the Assembly election this time was "the biggest mistake" of his long political career. Budda Prasad made the remarks while speaking at the unveiling of the statue of former united Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Konijeti Rosaiah, organised by the Vasavi Foundation at Bhavanipuram in Vijayawada. Paying rich tributes to Rosaiah, Budda Prasad praised the late leader for his integrity, political maturity and commitment to demo-

cratic values. He said Rosaiah remained steadfast to his principles throughout his public life and always treated political opponents with dignity and respect. "Unlike many leaders today, Rosaiah never used abusive or undemocratic language. His differences with political rivals were always ideological and never personal," Budda Prasad said. Recalling an incident involving former Chief Minister N. T. Rama Rao, he said that despite sharp debates in the Assembly, NTR and Rosaiah shared a cordial personal relationship. He remembered how NTR had warmly seated Rosaiah beside him and interacted with him during Budda Prasad's wedding, describing it as an example of the political culture that



once prevailed. Expressing concern over present-day politics, Budda Prasad said he was deeply saddened by the decline in political values. "We practised dignified politics alongside leaders like Rosaiah.

Today, I do not understand the direction in which politics is heading. Every day I wonder why we continue in such a polluted political environment. In my long political career, winning as an MLA this time has become my biggest mistake," he remarked. He also claimed that the previous YSRCP government had not granted permission to install Rosaiah's statue in Avanigadda. Budda Prasad said he had vowed to inaugurate the statue after being re-elected as MLA, and expressed happiness that the statue was finally unveiled in Vijayawada through the efforts of the Vasavi Foundation. His remarks have since generated widespread discussion in Andhra Pradesh political circles.

The rescue operation is continuing continuously

The government will stand by the families of the fishermen victims.

District Collector M. Abhishikth Kishore



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, July 5

District Collector M. Abhishikth Kishore said that the Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Police are continuing the search and rescue operation on a war footing to trace the fishermen who went missing at sea. On Sunday morning, the Collector visited the family members of the fishermen who went missing at the Visakhapatnam Fishing Harbor and inquired about their well-being. He assured that the government will support them in every way and that the search operations will

continue continuously until the missing persons are identified. Speaking to the media later, the Collector said that as soon as the information was received, the district administration was alerted and started the search operations along with the Coast Guard, Navy and Marine Police. He said that an intensive search is underway in the open sea using helicopters, ships, and Coast Guard ships, coordinated by the Joint Operations Center, based on the last signals received and the direction the boat traveled. He said that out of the

seven people on the boat, the boat owner, Kari Chinna, was safely rescued by a commercial vessel and all government machinery is working in coordination to trace the rest. The District Collector reiterated that the rescue operation will continue with all available resources until the missing fishermen are safely identified and the government will support the affected families in every way. Nellimarla MLA Lokam Madhavi visited the affected family members and expressed her courage.

Ongole Citizens Association Seeks 8-Lane Road in Place of Mangamuru Flyover



Ongole, July 5:
(Skyline Daily)

The Ongole Citizens Association has submitted a memorandum to Prakasam District Collector P. Rajababu, requesting the district administration to examine the feasibility of replacing the existing Mangamuru Flyover with an eight-lane road to improve connectivity and address traffic congestion in the city. In the memorandum, Association President Kolla Madhu stated that the construction of the flyover has disrupted access to several internal roads serving nearby residential

colonies. As a result, residents, students, employees and business owners are compelled to take longer routes, leading to increased travel time, traffic congestion and daily inconvenience. The association contended that an eight-lane road would restore connectivity between the main road and adjoining colonies, enabling smoother traffic flow and reducing bottlenecks. It also noted that improved road infrastructure would help save travel time and fuel while facilitating easier movement of vehicles. The memorandum further

pointed out that better accessibility would benefit local businesses by increasing customer footfall to shops and commercial establishments along the corridor. It also emphasized that emergency services such as ambulances, fire engines and police vehicles would be able to reach residential areas more quickly during emergencies. According to the association, a wider road would provide safer passage for pedestrians, senior citizens and schoolchildren while improving traffic management in view of the city's future expan-

sion. It also stated that enhanced connectivity between Mangamuru Road, Kurnool Road, surrounding residential colonies, educational institutions and commercial centres would support Ongole's long-term urban and economic development. The Ongole Citizens Association has urged the

district administration to undertake a comprehensive technical and administrative assessment of the proposal, taking into account public convenience, future traffic requirements and the city's long-term development needs before arriving at an appropriate decision.

KIMS Cuddles Conducts CME on Pediatric Subspecialty Update at Novotel, Visakhapatnam

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, July 5

KIMS Cuddles Mother & Child Centre successfully organized a Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme on "Pediatric Subspecialty Update - Bridging Multidisciplinary Expertise in Advanced Pediatric Care" at Novotel, Beach Road, Visakhapatnam on Sunday. The scientific conference witnessed the participation of over 200 pediatricians, consultants, postgraduate students, and healthcare professionals from across the region. The CME featured comprehensive discussions on the lat-



est advances in pediatric subspecialties, multidisciplinary management of complex pediatric disorders, neonatal and child healthcare, and evidence-based treatment protocols. The programme was organized under the leadership of Dr. Nikhil

Tenneti, Dr. Santhosh Kumar Routhu and Dr. Guru Prasad Team who emphasized the importance of continuous medical education in improving pediatric healthcare services and patient outcomes. The event was attended by Dr. Satish Kumar Pethakamsetty

Managing Director, KIMS ICON Hospital Dr. Sai Balarama Krishna; Dr. Nagesh, RCEO, KIMS Hospital; Dr. Viswamohan, COO, KIMS ICON Hospital; and Mr. K. N. V. Dilip Kumar, Vice President, KIMS Cuddles, who appreciated the efforts of the organizing committee and highlighted KIMS' commitment to academic excellence and advanced pediatric care.

The dignitaries congratulated the organizing team for conducting a high-quality academic programme that promotes knowledge sharing and enhances the standards of pediatric healthcare in the region.

Gurla Police solve missing case within 24 hours, reunite family

Vizianagaram (Gurla), July 5 (Skyline): Acting swiftly on a missing complaint, the Gurla Police successfully traced a woman and her two children within 24 hours and reunited them with their family.

According to police, a resident of Gurla village lodged a complaint on July 4 stating that his wife and two children had gone missing. Following the complaint, Gurla Sub-Inspector P. Narayana Rao immediately registered a missing case and formed a special team to trace them. Under the supervision of the SI, the police team



launched a prompt search operation and successfully located the missing woman and her children within a day. They were safely reunited with the complainant. The husband expressed his gratitude to the Gurla

Police, particularly SI P. Narayana Rao, for their quick response and efficient investigation. Villagers also appreciated the prompt action and dedication shown by the police in resolving the case swiftly.

National Doctors' Day Celebrations & Felicitation Ceremony Organised by the Indian Medical Association (IMA), Visakhapatnam Branch In association with Mahatma Gandhi Cancer Hospital, Visakhapatnam

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, July 5

The Indian Medical Association (IMA), Visakhapatnam Branch, in association with Mahatma Gandhi Cancer Hospital, Visakhapatnam, have organized the National Doctors' Day Celebrations and Felicitation Ceremony to honour distinguished medical professionals for their exceptional service to society and the medical fraternity at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Auditorium, CAB Building, Andhra medical college Visakhapatnam.

National Doctors' Day is observed every year to commemorate the birth and death anniversary of the legendary physician and humanitarian Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, whose life exemplified excellence in medicine, compassion, and selfless service. The day serves as an opportunity to recognize the invaluable con-



tributions of doctors who dedicate their lives to the care and well-being of humanity. As part of the celebrations, IMA Visakhapatnam Branch have felicitated the following eminent doctors for their outstanding professional excellence, ethical medical practice, and dedicated service:

- * Dr. G. Santa Rao. Retired Director of Medical Education
- * Dr. K. Satya Vara Prasad. Retired Director of Medical Education
- * Dr. A. Bhagya Laxmi. Principal NRI Institute of Medical Sciences
- * Dr. N. Rukmini. Retired Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology

* Dr. N. Uma Sundari. Retired Additional Director of Medical and Health Services. These distinguished physicians have made significant contributions to patient care, medical education, and community health through their unwavering commitment, clinical excellence, and compassionate service. Their achievements continue to inspire the medical fraternity and uphold the noble traditions of the profession.

The programme was attended by senior members of the medical fraternity, healthcare professionals, dignitaries, and representatives from various hospitals and medical institutions. The event aimed to celebrate the spirit of service, acknowledge excellence in healthcare, and reinforce the commitment of doctors towards providing quality, ethical, and compassionate medical care.

RDO Reviews SIR Voter Verification in Kondapalem Panchayat

Vizianagaram (Garividi), July 5 (Skyline): As part of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, Revenue Divisional Officer and Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) M. Sudharani inspected the house-to-house voter verification process in Kondapalem Gram Panchayat of Garividi mandal on Sunday until 2pm.

The inspection focused on the progress of voter verification and ensuring that the revision exercise is being carried out accurately and within the stipulated timeframe. The RDO directed field officials to verify voter details carefully and ensure that no eligible voter is left out



of the electoral rolls. Garividi Tahsildar Ch. Bangaraju, MPDO M. V. B. Subrahmanyam, Deputy MPDO, and Panchayat Executive Officer Venugopal Rao participated in the inspection and reviewed the

field-level verification being undertaken by Booth Level Officers (BLOs). Officials reiterated their commitment to completing the SIR exercise in a systematic and time-bound manner.

SP Damodar Calls for Tree Plantation to Secure Future Generations -Joins High Court Justice Cheemalapati Ravi Kumar in Green Initiative at Bairipuram Village

Vizianagaram (Bairipuram) July 5 (Skyline): District Superintendent of Police A. R. Damodar urged every citizen to plant at least one tree for the benefit of future generations while participating in a plantation drive held at Bairipuram village on Saturday.

The programme was organised in the native village of Cheemalapati Ravi Kumar, where the SP joined the High Court Judge in planting saplings as part of a green initiative aimed at improving the village environment. Addressing the gathering, SP Damodar highlighted



the importance of trees in maintaining ecological balance and protecting public health. He praised Justice Ravi Kumar for rising from a village background to become a High Court Judge, describing him as an inspiration to the younger generation.

The SP said Justice Ravi Kumar's commitment to transforming his native village into a greener and healthier place reflected a strong sense of social responsibility. He encouraged students and young professionals to contribute to the development of



their native villages after achieving success in their careers. He also stressed that environmental degradation has led to several health and climate-related challenges, making large-scale

tree plantation essential for a sustainable future. S. Ramsunder Reddy, M. Babita, judicial officers, district officials, students and local residents participated in the programme.