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CM Chandrababu Directs Faster Disposal of PGRS Petitions, Focus on Zero-Waste Urban Bodies

-Andhra Pradesh Targets Zero-Waste Urban Bodies in Three Months

-Chandrababu Reviews Governance, Calls for Faster Public Service Delivery

-Naidu Stresses Political-Bureaucratic Coordination for Effective Governance

-CM Chandrababu Orders Swift Disposal of Pending PGRS Petitions

(By Our StaffReporter)
Amaravati, July 6: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to expedite the disposal of pending applications under the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS). He also stressed the need to achieve the goal of zero-waste urban local bodies and instructed officials to take special measures to establish Anna Canteens in tribal areas. The Chief Minister issued these directions during a review meeting held through the Real-Time Governance Centre on Monday, where he assessed the performance of various government departments. Reviewing services provided by the Municipal

Administration, Panchayat Raj, Home, Excise and other departments, Naidu emphasized that effective governance requires a balanced combination of political leadership and efficient bureaucratic action. He also reviewed the response of various departments to the recent fishing boat accident off the Visakhapatnam coast,



in which several fishermen went missing, stressing the importance of swift and coordinated emergency action. The Chief Minister instructed officials to clear all pending petitions in the Public Grievance Redressal System without delay. He further directed urban local bodies to complete major waste-clearance drives within the

(Contd. on pg.2)

Village Marts Launched in Andhra Pradesh to Offer Affordable Essentials



Guntur, July 6: The Andhra Pradesh government has launched Village Marts to provide essential commodities at subsidized prices through fair price (ration) shops. The pilot project was inaugurated on Monday at Lalpuram in Prathipadu Assembly constituency by

Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar. MP Bhashyam Ramakrishna and MLA Burla Ramanjaneyulu were also present. Speaking to the media, the minister said that seven Village Marts were inaugurated in the Prathipadu

(Contd. on pg.2)

Pride of every BJP worker: PM Modi lauds Nitin Nabin's simplicity amid Opposition swipe

New Delhi, July 6 : Amidst the Opposition's caustic swipe at BJP National President Nitin Nabin and subsequent war of words, Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed his simplicity, conduct and high moral character. He shared a post of Nabin's college friend, a noted journalist, where the latter describes his humble beginnings and a penchant to stay grounded while shunning any privileged treatment owing to his political background. "This simplicity and straightforwardness is a matter of pride for every BJP worker," PM Modi said, sharing the journalist's post. The journalist described



Nabin's student life in Delhi in 1998. The post recalled that despite being the son of a sitting MLA, Nabin led a simple life, shared inexpensive meals with friends, travelled by Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses and participated equally in household chores to reduce expenses. According to the journalist, he and Nabin first became friends in 1998 after both moved to Delhi for higher studies

(Contd. on pg.2)

Donation theft row deeply distressing, shouldn't be politicised: Ram Temple trust chief

Lucknow, July 6 : Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust President Mahant Nritya Gopal Das on Monday expressed deep anguish over the alleged theft of donations from the Ram Temple and demanded the strictest punishment for those responsible, while urging against politicising the issue. He also expressed confidence that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will ensure justice. He urged that the matter, linked to the faith of millions of Hindus, should not be politicised for personal gain. In a statement, Mahant Das said, "I am deeply distressed by the theft of



donations from the temple of Shri Ramlalla Sarkar. Whoever has committed this sin must face the severest possible punishment. I have full faith in the esteemed Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath, and the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, that they

will ensure punishment for anyone involved in this sinful act." "This is a matter concerning the faith of crores of Hindus, and I urge that no one should engage in politics over this for personal gain," he added. Meanwhile, the Shri Ram

(Contd. on pg.2)

Ram Temple probe given to SIT, not central agencies due to BJP 'rift', claims Akhilesh Yadav

Lucknow, July 6 : Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav on Monday launched a veiled attack on the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), alleging that the investigation into the alleged Ram Temple donation theft case was entrusted to a Special Investigation Team (SIT) instead of central agencies such as the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) due to an "internal power struggle" within the party. Addressing a press conference here, Akhilesh Yadav, without naming the BJP, suggested that it had two centres of power - one in Lucknow and the other in Delhi -- and alleged that the handling of the investigation was influenced by this internal



rivalry. "Offerings, donations, and contributions have fallen into the hands of a gang of thieves. They are unable to face the public's anger. As you mentioned, they are afraid of public outrage, which is why they are staying indoors," he said. "You mentioned the ED, CBI, and Income Tax. You did not understand what I said. I said this is a power struggle. This gang of thieves, who thrive on offerings and donations, is unable to face the public's outrage. They are terrified of this backlash, which is why they are staying holed up at home," he said, addressing the reporters.

(Contd. on pg.2)

BJP MLA Vishnu Kumar Raju Criticises Jagan Over 'MaVigan' Remark



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam July 6: BJP MLA Vishnu Kumar Raju launched a sharp attack on former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy,

criticizing his reported proposal to include "MaVigan" in the party's election manifesto. Addressing the media on Monday, Raju said it was unfortunate that Jagan was

making such statements. He recalled that all political parties, including Jagan himself, had earlier agreed that Amaravati would be the capital of Andhra Pradesh. However, after assuming office in 2019, Jagan changed his stand and proposed the three-capital model, he alleged. The BJP legislator accused the YSRCP chief of making controversial remarks because he could not accept the developmental initiatives being

(Contd. on pg.2)

AP Minister Narayana Hits Out at Jagan, Defends Government's Development Agenda



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Nellore, July 6: Andhra Pradesh Municipal Administration and Urban Development

Mohan Reddy, warning that people would not tolerate attempts to obstruct the state's development. Speaking to the media during his visit to Nellore on Monday, the minister said the public would deliver an appropriate response to those who portray positive initiatives in a negative light. He made the remarks after inspecting the quality of the midday meal served at Mallela Sanjeevaiah High School and the adjoining primary school. Narayana said the coalition government had

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Deeply touched: PM Modi thanks Indonesian President Subianto for warm welcome at airport



Jakarta, July 6 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday that he is "deeply touched" by the warmth of Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto, who received him at the airport in Jakarta as he kicked off his three-day State Visit to the country. This is PM Modi's first bilateral visit to Jakarta since the elevation of ties to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2018 and he said that he is looking forward to the talks with President Subianto that will provide greater momentum to the close ties between both countries. PM Modi also stated that he is looking forward to interacting with the Indian community in Indonesia. "Arrived in Jakarta. I was deeply touched by the warmth of President Prabowo Subianto, who personally welcomed me at the airport. In 2018, we elevated the relationship

(Contd. on pg.2)

AP Government Appoints Liaison, Special Representatives to Boost Global Investment Outreach



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, July 6: The Andhra Pradesh government has appointed a Principal Liaison and Special Representatives to strengthen its international investment outreach and global coordination. The General Administration Department (GAD) issued orders on Monday, stating that the appointments have come into immediate effect. As per G.O. Rt. No. 1333,

Satish Manduva has been appointed as the Principal Liaison for North America to facilitate investment promotion and engagement with stakeholders in the region. The government has also appointed Radhakrishna Rao as Special Representative for West Asia and other countries, Jayakumar Guntupalli as Special Representative for Europe, and Srinivas Pallapothu as Special

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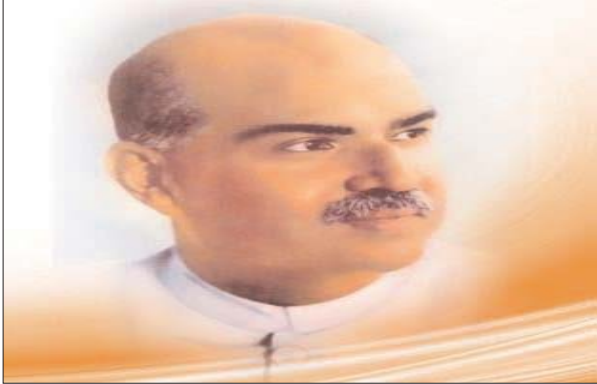
AP Government to Impose ban on recruitment, transfers from July 13



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, July 6: The Andhra Pradesh government has fixed July 13 as the date for enforcing a ban on government recruitments, transfers, promotions, deputations, and the creation or upgradation of posts. The restrictions will remain in force until the process of local cadre allocation is completed under the implementation of Presidential Order (P.O.) 2025, according to fresh orders issued by the state government. The Finance Department (HR Planning and Policy Wing) issued the memorandum, stating that the extension was necessitated as the cadre allocation process is yet to be completed in several departments. The government clarified the implementation date following requests from employee associations. While the original process was scheduled to conclude on

(Contd. on pg.2)

Pawan Kalyan pays tributes to Syama Prasad Mookerjee



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, July 6 : Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan on Monday paid tributes to Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his birth anniversary. The Jana Sena leader called Mookerjee "one of India's foremost nation builders, an eminent educationist, visionary statesman, and a fearless patriot whose life was dedicated

(Contd. on pg.2)

CM Chandrababu Directs Faster Disposal of PGRS Petitions, Focus on Zero-Waste Urban Bodies

next three months as part of the state's zero-waste initiative. Naidu also called for greater public awareness about the government's anti-cannabis campaign. He instructed officials to issue clear Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for drinking water supply, operation of Swachh Rath vehicles, and door-to-door waste collection at the grass-roots level. He asked all government departments to review the outcomes of the AWARE 2.0 programme within a month and assess its effectiveness. The Chief Minister also directed officials to prepare an action plan for installing mobile communication towers in remote areas to improve network connectivity across the state. Additionally, he instructed officials to take special measures to establish Anna Canteens in tribal regions to ensure affordable food access for residents.

Deeply touched: PM Modi thanks Indonesian President Subianto for warm welcome at airport

between our two countries to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, which has brought many benefits to our peoples," PM Modi posted on X. "During this visit, President Prabowo Subianto and I will hold discussions aimed at providing greater momentum to this partnership across various sectors. President Prabowo and I will also visit the Prambanan Temple complex in Yogyakarta. This visit will strengthen the cultural ties between our two nations even further. While in Indonesia, I am also very much looking forward to the opportunity to interact with the Indian community," he added. Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated that President Prabowo Subianto and four ministers welcomed PM Modi at the airport. PM Modi witnessed a cultural performance at the airport. Fighter jets from the Indonesian Air Force accompanied the Indian PM's plane from the time it entered the Indonesian airspace. In his departure statement, PM Modi said that he will be in Indonesia from July 6-8 at the invitation of Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto. "India and Indonesia elevated bilateral ties to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership during my first visit to Indonesia in 2018. This will be my first bilateral visit after the elevation of our bilateral ties and follows the state visit of President Prabowo, who was the chief guest at our Republic Day celebrations on 26 January, 2025," the Prime Minister said. He mentioned that India and Indonesia share strong civilisational and people-to-people ties, and this visit will "further deepen all aspects of our multifaceted partnership". "During this visit, I will also interact with the Indian diaspora in Indonesia and visit the Prambanan Temple complex at Yogyakarta with President Prabowo, which is another remarkable testament to our close cultural ties," he added. Indonesia is the first stop on PM Modi's three-nation visit. It will be followed by visits to Australia and New Zealand, later in the week.

AP Government Appoints Liaison, Special Representatives to Boost Global Investment Outreach

Representative for the rest of the world. The appointments are aimed at attracting foreign investments, strengthening international partnerships, and improving global coordination for Andhra Pradesh's economic development. The government said the initiative reflects its renewed focus on expanding the state's international presence and positioning Andhra Pradesh as a preferred investment destination.

AP Government to Impose ban on recruitment, transfers from July 13

July 5, additional time has now been granted to complete the exercise. All government departments have been directed to strictly implement the orders. District Collectors and Heads of Departments have also been instructed to ensure compliance. The state government reiterated that administrative actions related to appointments, transfers, promotions, deputations, and post creation will remain restricted until the redistribution of local cadres is completed.

Pawan Kalyan pays tributes to Syama Prasad Mookerjee

to safeguarding the unity, integrity, and sovereignty of our nation." The actor-politician posted on social media that as the founder of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, Mookerjee laid the foundation for a political movement rooted in nationalism, democratic values, and public service. "His unwavering conviction that 'One Nation, One Constitution, One Flag' became a defining symbol of national unity and constitutional integrity. A distinguished scholar and one of the youngest Vice-Chancellors of the University of Calcutta, he believed that education was the cornerstone of nation-building. "His remarkable contributions to public life, governance, and national discourse continue to inspire generations to uphold the ideals of courage, selfless service, and unwavering commitment to the nation. On this solemn occasion, let us reaffirm our resolve to build a strong, united, and developed Bharat by drawing inspiration from his extraordinary vision, sacrifice, and enduring legacy," reads his post on 'X'. Meanwhile, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu paid his tributes to former Deputy Prime Minister, late Babu Jaggiyan Ram on his death anniversary. The Chief Minister called him a great soul who dedicated his entire life to the pursuit of social justice, the empowerment of the poor and weaker sections, and the building of an equitable society with equal opportunities. The Telugu Desam Party (TDP) national president said that Babu Jaggiyan Ram was a visionary leader who laid a strong foundation for the Green Revolution in the country's agricultural sector and played a pivotal role in achieving food security. HRD and IT Minister Nara Lokesh also paid tributes to Babu Jaggiyan Ram. "As a Union Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of the country, he worked tirelessly until his last breath to protect Dalit rights. The life of Jaggiyan Ram, who earned a name as one of the architects of modern India, remains an inspiration for today's generation. Let us commit to realizing his aspirations," Lokesh posted on 'X'.

Village Marts Launched in Andhra Pradesh to Offer Affordable Essentials

constituency as part of the pilot initiative. He alleged that the previous YSRCP government had weakened the state's 29,750 fair price shops and said the present government is introducing corporate-style reforms to modernize the rural public distribution system. Manohar stated that the government aims to transform ration shops into model retail outlets capable of earning national recognition. As part of the phased rollout, 1,000 mini marts will be established across the state. The minister said the Village Marts currently stock 60 varieties of essential goods, including millets, which are being sold at 73 to 74 less than open market prices. The product range will gradually be expanded to 250 items in the coming months. He also announced that digital payment facilities will soon be introduced at Village Marts, making purchases more convenient for consumers.

Donation theft row deeply distressing, shouldn't be politicised: Ram Temple trust chief

In a statement, Mahant Das said, "I am deeply distressed by the theft of donations from the temple of Shri Ramlalla Sarkar. Whoever has committed this sin must face the severest possible punishment. I have full faith in the esteemed Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath, and the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, that they will ensure punishment for anyone involved in this sinful act." "This is a matter concerning the faith of crores of Hindus, and I urge that no one should engage in politics over this for personal gain," he added. Meanwhile, the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust is scheduled to hold a crucial meeting later in the day, during which members will consider the resignations submitted by the Trust's General Secretary, Champat Rai, and Trustee Anil Mishra. The meeting will also deliberate on the ongoing Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe into alleged irregularities related to temple donation collections and the management of the Ram Mandir. According to a notice issued by the Trust's Treasurer, Swami Govind Dev Giri, the meeting has been convened with the approval of Trust President Mahant Nritya Gopal Das to discuss several urgent matters requiring immediate decisions. Das is currently hospitalised. "All members are hereby informed that, with the permission of the Honourable President, a meeting has been convened by the Treasurer on Monday, 6 July 2026. This meeting has been called on short notice to deliberate on urgent matters and to take necessary decisions," the notice issued by the Treasurer stated. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. on July 6 at Mani Ram Das Chhavi in Ayodhya Dham, Uttar Pradesh. The notice further detailed the agenda, which is: "Consideration of the resignations of General Secretary Shri Champat Rai and Trustee Dr. Anil Mishra. Information regarding the SIT interim report concerning the counting of funds received in the Trust's donation boxes. Deliberation on arrangements related to future temple management. Information and approval regarding the unaudited income-expenditure statement, balance sheet, and other financial details for the financial year 2025-26. Other urgent matters, with the permission of the Honourable President." It also appealed to all members to be present in the meeting, stating, "Therefore, all concerned members are requested to attend the meeting at the scheduled time and venue and contribute to its success." Earlier, on June 27, Treasurer Swami Govind Dev Giri had formally confirmed through a letter that the resignations of Champat Rai and Anil Mishra had been received by the Trust. Under the provisions of the Trust deed, the resignations can only be accepted if they receive the support of a two-thirds majority of the Trust members. However, it remains unclear how many members will be present at the July 6 meeting and whether the required quorum will be achieved to take a final decision on the resignations.

BJP MLA Vishnu Kumar Raju Criticises Jagan Over 'MaVigan' Remark

The BJP legislator accused the YSRCP chief of making controversial remarks because he could not accept the developmental initiatives being undertaken by the coalition government. He advised Jagan to abandon what he described as political conspiracies and engage in constructive politics. Raju reiterated that the Central Government has officially recognized Amaravati as the capital of Andhra Pradesh, adding that it would remain the state's permanent capital. He also said that if Jagan wished to discuss the "MaVigan" issue, he should do so in the State Assembly instead of addressing it through press conferences outside the House. The MLA further clarified that there was no removal of voters' names under the "SIR" process, dismissing allegations to the contrary. Commenting on the Rushikonda buildings, Raju described them as a valuable public asset and said they should be used in a manner that benefits the people. He opposed the idea of handing over the property exclusively for a five-star hotel and suggested that it should remain accessible for wider public use.

Ram Temple probe given to SIT, not central agencies due to BJP 'rift', claims Akhilesh Yadav

"Offerings, donations, and contributions have fallen into the hands of a gang of thieves. They are unable to face the public's anger. As you mentioned, they are afraid of public outrage, which is why they are staying indoors," he said. "You mentioned the ED, CBI, and Income Tax. You did not understand what I said. I said this is a power struggle. This gang of thieves, who thrive on offerings and donations, is unable to face the public's outrage. They are terrified of this backlash, which is why they are staying holed up at home," he said, addressing the reporters. Elaborating on his allegation, Akhilesh Yadav questioned why the matter was not investigated by central agencies. "You haven't quite grasped the point regarding the ED, CBI, and Income Tax departments. I was talking about a power struggle. If the ED, CBI, or Income Tax were involved, who would be controlling the investigation? Before the Delhi leadership could even react, the Lucknow faction seized control of everything. Can't you understand even that much? What is this SIT? To whom was the report submitted? You fail to grasp even this simple fact," he said. The former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister further alleged that the choice of the investigating agency itself reflected the internal political dynamics within the ruling party. "If it were the ED, CBI, or Income Tax, who would hold the reins of the investigation? And in whose hands does the SIT investigation lie?... All of this is happening because of a power struggle. There is a saying: Give a man power, and you will see his true character," Akhilesh Yadav stated. He also took a swipe at those allegedly involved in the case, saying: "People have completely lost their heads at the sight of money. As for us, we believe that anyone who studies the life of Lord Ram knows about the 'Lakshman Rekha' (the line of propriety); yet, everyone here has crossed the boundaries of 'Maryada' (decorum and moral limits)." Meanwhile, the BJP has hit out at the SP chief for his repeated criticism of the BJP-led UP government over the Ram Temple donation row. Reacting to Akhilesh Yadav's criticism, Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak described the incident as very unfortunate but accused the Opposition parties of attempting to politicise a matter related to people's faith. "The incident is very unfortunate. However, the people of this country and every follower of Sanatan Dharma know that the Samajwadi Party and the Congress have consistently opposed the Ram Temple. They used to claim that it was not even certain that Lord Ram was born in Ayodhya. They even argued before the Supreme Court that Ram Lalla's birthplace had not been established," he told reporters. He further claimed that the Congress and the Samajwadi Party had no right to raise questions on the issue. "They have made several remarks against Lord Ram. Lord Ram will not forget what they have said. They have repeatedly tried to defame Sanatan Dharma... They will have to face the consequences of the statements they have made about Lord Ram," Pathak said.

AP Minister Narayana Hits Out at Jagan, Defends Government's Development Agenda

during his visit to Nellore on Monday, the minister said the public would deliver an appropriate response to those who portray positive initiatives in a negative light. He made the remarks after inspecting the quality of the midday meal served at Mallela Sanjeevaiah High School and the adjoining primary school. Narayana said the coalition government had reopened the VRC that was closed during the previous YSRCP administration. He also announced that 15 more high schools are being modernized on the same model and expressed confidence that all schools would be fully prepared for the next academic year. The minister criticized YSRCP leaders for targeting these initiatives as well, alleging that Jagan and his party were making baseless accusations for political survival and electoral gains. He warned that such criticism would only damage their credibility. Highlighting the government's priorities, Narayana said the coalition administration is giving special emphasis to education, healthcare, agriculture, and sanitation. He added that schools in Nellore are being upgraded in line with the vision of Education Minister Nara Lokesh to improve educational infrastructure and learning standards.

Joint Collector Warns Against Delay in Resolving Public Grievances

Machilipatnam, July 6: Krishna District Joint Collector M. Naveen has warned officials that delays in resolving public grievances will not be tolerated and directed all departments to dispose of complaints within the stipulated time while ensuring quality in redressal. Chairing the "Meekosam" Public Grievance Redressal Programme at the Collectorate on Monday, the Joint Collector received petitions from the public along with In-charge DRO P. Pothuraju, KRRRC SDC Neelakanteswara Reddy, MEPMA PD Saibabu, and DSP Srinivasa Rao. Addressing officials, Naveen said the delay in grievance disposal was largely due to the lack of regular reviews of the PGRS (Public Grievance Redressal System). He expressed dissatisfaction that despite repeated instructions, officials had failed to review applications listed under the "Yet-to-View" category on the PGRS portal every weekend and assign them to the concerned officers. He noted that departments such as Panchayat Raj, Municipal Administration, Rural Water Supply (RWS), Roads & Buildings (R&B), and Survey & Settlement had accumulated an alarming number of pending cases. The Joint Collector stressed that departments should focus not only on reducing the number of pending complaints but also on ensuring the quality of grievance resolution. He directed Municipal Commissioners, the District Panchayat Officer, engineering officials, and other department heads to give special attention to pending complaints and ensure timely disposal. During the programme, several public grievances were submitted. Fishermen from Ullipalem village in Koduru mandal requested the installation of electricity poles and streetlights along a 500-metre stretch of road, citing safety concerns for nearly 150 fishing families who travel at night for fishing activities. In another petition, Kumpati Varalakshmi from Chatravani gudem village in Ghantasala mandal sought intervention in a family property dispute. She alleged that two of her sons were preventing the implementation of her late husband's will and threatening her. She appealed to the district administration to ensure that the property is divided according to the will and to provide her protection. Several district officials, including ZP Deputy CEO Dr. Anand Kumar, DPO Dhanalakshmi, R&B Executive Engineer Lokeshwara Rao, Drainage Executive Engineer Kiran, LDM Ravindra Reddy, Fisheries Officer Ayya Nagaraja, ICDS PD M.N. Rani, Agriculture and Horticulture officials, and District Medical and Health Officer Dr. Yugandhar, attended the programme.



290 Pets Vaccinated Free Against Rabies on World Zoonoses Day

Machilipatnam, July 6: A special awareness programme on zoonotic diseases was organised at the Regional Veterinary Hospital in Machilipatnam on Monday to mark World Zoonoses Day. The event focused on educating the public about diseases that can spread from animals to humans and the importance of preventive healthcare for pets. Officials explained that major zoonotic diseases include rabies, brucellosis, leptospirosis, bird flu, and swine flu. They advised pet owners to vaccinate their animals regularly, maintain proper hygiene, and seek veterinary care immediately if animals show signs of illness. As part of the special vaccination drive, 290 pets were administered free anti-rabies vaccines, including 260 dogs and 30 cats. Veterinary officials highlighted that timely vaccination is the most effective way to prevent rabies and urged pet owners to ensure their animals receive vaccinations at the recommended intervals. Former Library Chairman G. Gopichand and SPCA member and Brahmin Corporation Director Phani, who attended as chief guests, called upon the public to actively participate in promoting animal welfare and safeguarding public health. District Animal Husbandry Officer Dr. M. Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Director Dr. S. Sajja Nagabhushana Babu, retired senior veterinary officer Dr. Veeranki Madhusudhan Rao, Assistant Director of the Regional Veterinary Hospital Dr. Veeranki Madhubabu, along with veterinary officials, staff, public representatives, and local residents, participated in the programme.



Jos Alukkas Unveils ‘Signature Jewellery Show - Exhibition and Sale of World Class Gold Jewellery’ in Visakhapatnam

Visakhapatnam, 6th July 2026: Jos Alukkas, a trusted name in quality, innovation, and trendy jewellery in India, is hosting an exclusive exhibition of world class gold jewellery – ‘Signature Jewellery Show’ from 4th to 26th July 2026, at their Visakhapatnam showroom. At the show, customers can explore and purchase Jos Alukkas’ latest gold jewellery, including a wide range of everyday, formal and party wear designs. Each piece is meticulously crafted with precision and features unique and contemporary designs comprising intricately crafted necklaces, statement earrings and bespoke bridal sets. At the expo, customers



can avail special offers - up to 30% discount on making charges for gold jewellery and 30% discount on diamonds. Additionally, customers can exchange their old gold with new BIS HUID Hallmarked gold jewellery and avail benefits. A range of unique artistic pieces will be on display



and made available for purchase, making this a delight for jewellery connoisseurs and collectors. The showcase also offers customization services, allowing each piece to be crafted to match individual style and preferences. On the Signature Jewellery Show, Mr. Paul Alukkas, Managing Director, Jos Alukkas, said, “We are delighted to bring Jos Alukkas’ exclusive gold collection to the Signature Show in Visakhapatnam, a city that has always appreciated our commitment to quality, craftsmanship, and timeless elegance. The gold collection at Jos Alukkas has been thoughtfully curated to offer jew-

ellery that seamlessly complements every occasion while striking the perfect balance between contemporary aesthetics and the enduring charm of traditional gold. Through this showcase, we are reimagining the beauty of gold with designs that resonate with today’s wearer without compromising on its timeless appeal.”

Hold a special cabinet meeting to implement the election promises of SCs

Restore cancelled welfare schemes -- Dr. Boosi demanded

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, July 6
AP Vidasam United State Convener Dr. Boosi Venkata Rao has demanded that the issue of implementing the election promises of SCs be discussed as a single agenda at the state cabinet meeting to be held on July 10th and that special action be taken to revive the cancelled welfare schemes.

Amidst the ongoing protests in all districts today demanding the implementation of the promises made to Dalits in the TDP manifesto, the Vidasam Srenus staged a protest in front of the Visakhapatnam Collectorate. Speaking at the event, Venkata Rao said that the TDP election manifesto had declared in bold letters that the welfare schemes of the SCs that were cancelled by the previous government would be restored, that old age pensions would be given to SCs and STs at the age of 50, and that SC corporation loans would be sanctioned. Venkata Rao criticized the



alliance for recently celebrating its victory after completing two years in power, but for ignoring the promises made to the SCs. SC Corporation chairmen and directors even after two years of appointment, not a single rupee. He also reminded that the loan has not been released. He demanded that the minister answer what happened to the GO given last year for the loans. He

said that in the last seven years, not even 50 percent of the sub-plan funds released to 15 departments such as Housing, Rural Water Supply, Panchayat Raj, Social Welfare Department have been spent, and advised the government to issue a white paper on this and prepare an action plan for the expenditure of the surplus funds. He also demanded that the tenders for the works undertaken

with the sub-plan funds be allocated to SCs only. He demanded in the petition that the compensation for the families of SCs who died in Turaka Palem be increased and that the acquisition orders of the assigned lands of the panchadars be withdrawn. He demanded that the Chief Minister explain the comments of Deputy Speaker Raghurama Krishnam Raju that Dalit votes are not ours. Organizing president Jaji Omkar said that pressure should be brought to bear on the Center to amend the 1950 Constitutional Order on SC status for Dalit Christians.

Assistant convener Sodadasi Sudhakar demanded that the compensation for the families of the steel plant victims be increased to one crore rupees. Bula Bhaskara Rao, D. Nirmala, Gudivada Bhaskara Rao, B. Uma Maheshwari, D. Uma Maheshwari, Nirikshan Rao and others participated in this program.

Collector directs time-bound resolutin of public and land grievances

-141 petitions received at PGRS Revenue Clinic; Revenue Department tops with 63 complaints

Vizianagaram, July 6 (Skyline): District Collector S. Ramsunder Reddy on Monday reaffirmed that the government's priority is to resolve public grievances in a speedy, transparent, and rule-based manner. Speaking at the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) and Revenue Clinic held at the District Collectorate, he instructed officials to ensure that every petition is examined carefully and resolved within the stipulated time. The Collector personally received grievances from people across the district and directed department officials to dispose of pending petitions without delay. He stressed that reports on complaints should be submitted only after officials speak directly with the petitioners and record the date and time of the interaction. A total of 141 petitions were received during the programme, with the Revenue Department



accounting for the highest number (63). Other petitions included Panchayat Raj (20), Education (13), DRDA (12), Municipal Administration (7), Village Secretariat (6), Electricity (4), District Medical and Health (2), and Other Departments (14). Priority for Farmers' Land Issues. The Collector instructed revenue

officials to give top priority to resolving farmers' grievances related to re-surveys, boundary disputes, land record errors, and extent discrepancies in villages where re-surveys have been completed. He warned that negligence in addressing land-related issues would not be tolerated and directed officials to provide transparent

services at Tahsildar offices without forcing farmers to make repeated visits.

1100 Toll-Free Complaints
Ramsunder Reddy also reviewed complaints received through the State Government's 1100 toll-free grievance service. He directed officials to handle every complaint responsibly, verify issues by speaking directly with applicants, and submit factual reports. He also called for greater public awareness about the grievance helpline.

District Joint Collector Sethu Madhavan, DRO CH. Sathibabu, PGRS District Nodal Officer E. Murali, CPO Balaji, DRDA PD Srinivasapani, Housing PD Muralimahan, Special Deputy Collectors Venkateswara Rao and Kalavathi, Assistant Director of Survey and Land Records R. Vijayakumar, RDOs, Tahsildars, revenue officials, and district officers of various departments attended the programme.

District Collector S. Ramsunder Reddy unveils Amaravati Championship –2026 poster

Vizianagaram, July 6 (Skyline): On the occasion of National Sports Day, which is celebrated every year on August 29 to commemorate the birth anniversary of hockey wizard Major Dhyan Chand, District Collector Shri S. Rama Sundar Reddy unveiled the poster of the "Amaravathi Championship -2026" to be organized under the auspices of the Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh (SAAP) at the Collectorate Auditorium on Monday. He called upon the youth and sportspersons of the district to utilize this rare opportunity and showcase their talent at the state level. He said that the Amaravathi Championship will be a good platform to identify and encourage talented sportspersons from rural and urban areas. He instructed the officials to make this championship, which is being



organized with great prestige by the state government to unearth and encourage the talent of the sportspersons, a success in the district. He suggested that a wide

campaign should be undertaken through schools, colleges and sports associations so that eligible sportspersons participate in large numbers. Amaravathi

Championship -2026 competitions will be held in three phases from July 15 to August 26. Competitions will be held in 12 sports such as archery, athletics, badminton, boxing, basketball, chess, hockey, kabaddi, kho kho, weightlifting, volleyball, yoga etc. at the constituency, district and state levels. Boys and girls from under-17 and under -23 categories can participate in these competitions. A total of Rs. 91.90 lakh cash prizes will be awarded across the state, he said.

Joint Collector Sedu Madhavan, District Revenue Officer CH. Sathibabu, DRDA PD Srinivas Pani, District Education Officer U. Manikyam Naidu, District Sports Development Officer S. Venkateswara Rao, district officials and others participated in this program.

AU law student Satyala Anjanapriya secures seat at Forensic University

For the first time in the history of AU, admission to the NFSU Gandhinagar Main Campus under the auspices of the Union Home Ministry

By Skyline Staff Reporter

Visakhapatnam, July 6
Andhra University (AU) has once again showcased its talent at the national level. Satyala Anjanapriya, a fifth year B.A. LL.B. student at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Law College, has created a rare history by achieving the prestigious LL.M. (Criminal Law) at the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), Gandhinagar, Gujarat Main Campus, which is recognized as the world's first and only forensic sciences university, and has become a source of pride for Andhra University. Anjanapriya created history by becoming the first female student in the history of Andhra University to be admitted to the NFSU Gandhinagar Main Campus. With this, Andhra University Law College has once again proven its uniqueness at the national level. Established as an Institution of National



Importance' by a special Act of the Parliament of India, NFSU is currently the first and only university in the world dedicated entirely to forensic and allied sciences, operating under the auspices of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs. The prestigious Gandhinagar Main LL.M. (Criminal Law) has only 20 seats, and Anjanapriya's standing as the only candidate from South India among those 20 students has further raised the bar for

Andhra University. Her success has not only made her a source of pride for herself but also for Andhra Pradesh. While Andhra University Law College students have been achieving consecutive successes in national-level competitive examinations, this rare achievement by Anjanapriya has once again brought nationwide recognition to the standards of legal education at the university.

Collector Sets July 14 Deadline for 100% Digitization of Voter Enumeration Forms

-SIR drive achieves 99.97% form distribution and 57.77% digitization across Vizianagaram district

Vizianagaram, July 6 (Skyline): The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) programme of the electoral rolls has entered its final phase in Vizianagaram district, with voter enumeration form distribution almost complete and digitization progressing steadily. District Collector and District Election Officer S. Rama Sundar Reddy announced that 15,78,439 enumeration forms have been distributed to 15,78,949 registered voters, achieving 99.97% coverage. So far, 9,12,232 forms have been digitized, taking the overall digitization rate to 57.77%. Among all Assembly constituencies, Shringavarupukotta recorded the highest digitization rate at 61.96%, followed by Gajapathinagaram (61.19%), Rajam (61.03%), Cheepurupalli (59.47%), Bobbili (58.09%), Nellimarla (54.18%) and Vizianagaram constituency (49.92%). Reviewing the progress, the Collector



directed Election Registration Officers (EROs), Assistant EROs, Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and other election staff to complete the collection of pending forms and achieve 100% digitization by July 14. He stressed that coordinated efforts by all officials are essential for the timely completion of the Special Intensive Revision programme.

Garividi SI Conducts Student Awareness Programme at ZP High School, K.L. Puram

Vizianagaram (Garividi), July 6 (Skyline): An awareness programme on social responsibility and public safety was conducted at ZP High School, K.L. Puram, in Garividi Mandal on Monday. The programme was led by Garividi SI B. Lokeswara Rao, who interacted with students and educated them on several important issues affecting society. The SI explained the harmful effects of ganja consumption and warned students about its legal, physical and psychological consequences. He urged students to stay away from drugs and report any illegal activities to the police. He also created awareness about the Sakthi App, encouraging girls and women to install and use the app for their safety during emergencies.



The session covered crime against women, road safety, cyber security, and the provisions of the POCSO Act, highlighting the importance of protecting children from sexual offences. Students were advised to follow traffic rules, use the internet responsibly, and immedi-

ately report cyber fraud or suspicious online activities. Teachers and students actively participated in the programme and appreciated the police department's initiative to create awareness among young people.

SKYLINE

Tuesday 7.7.2026

Electoral Limits

The Supreme Court may have upheld the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, but it did so while drawing an equally important constitutional boundary. The Commission may determine whether a person is entitled to vote; it cannot determine whether that person is an Indian citizen. That distinction is now under strain. The controversy surrounding former Telegraph editor R. Rajagopal's passport renewal has shifted the debate from electoral administration to constitutional governance. South Asians & Diaspora

If his account is correct, the obstacle he encountered was not a judicial finding that he was ineligible for citizenship, but the administrative consequence of his name having been deleted from the electoral roll. Whether intentional or not, this risked converting an electoral exercise into a gateway for restricting unrelated civil rights. The Supreme Court anticipated precisely such a possibility. While recognising the Election Commission's constitutional authority under Article 324 to undertake an intensive revision of electoral rolls, it also made clear that any inquiry into citizenship is confined to deciding electoral eligibility. Deletion from the voters' list affects only the right to vote.

It neither extinguishes citizenship nor authorises other departments of government to presume that citizenship itself is in doubt. That legal distinction matters because the Indian state functions through numerous interconnected databases and verification mechanisms. If one agency begins treating exclusion from the electoral roll as sufficient reason to delay passport renewal, another may use it to question welfare entitlements, ration benefits, property records or other statutory rights. Administrative convenience could gradually blur constitutional limits.

This is not merely a question of one passport or one journalist. Rajagopal's prominence has ensured public attention, but the larger concern lies elsewhere. Millions of names have been removed during the SIR across multiple states, while many affected citizens are pursuing appeals before judicial tribunals. Until those appeals are decided, their status remains contested. To attach wider legal disabilities before due process is complete would undermine the very procedural safeguards that the Supreme Court insisted upon. The issue is therefore institutional rather than political.

Electoral integrity is a legitimate constitutional objective, and inaccurate rolls damage democratic credibility. Equally, the legitimacy of any verification exercise depends upon strict adherence to the limits imposed by law. A voter list is designed to identify electors, not to function as a universal certificate of citizenship or civil status. The Rajagopal episode should prompt governments, police authorities and passport officials to revisit their administrative practices.

The judiciary has already defined the legal consequences of exclusion from the electoral roll. The executive must ensure that its procedures reflect that judgment faithfully. Otherwise, an electoral verification mechanism risks evolving into something the Supreme Court expressly said it was not: a proxy determination of citizenship with consequences extending far beyond the polling booth.

Democracies sometimes confront a difficult question: when religious customs, practices, or scriptures conflict with the principles of equality, liberty, and particularly gender justice, which should prevail? A secular state cannot evade this dilemma by retreating behind claims of religious neutrality, non-interference, or the guise of endless consensus-building. Unlike a theocratic state, its foremost obligation is not to preserve religious tradition but to safeguard the constitutional rights of its citizens.

This principle is particularly relevant to the contemporary debate on the future of Muslim personal law in India and the move towards a Uniform Civil Code (UCC). At its core, the debate concerns the relationship between constitutional citizenship and religion-based personal law regimes. The central question is whether individual rights should remain subordinate to religious norms or whether the Constitution should guarantee justice irrespective of faith.

The framers of the Indian Constitution had anticipated this conflict. During the Constituent Assembly debates on what became Article 44, a Directive Principle of State Policy that directs the State to endeavour to secure a Uniform Civil Code for all citizens, several members recognised that a modern democratic republic could not indefinitely sustain separate personal laws. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar argued that personal laws were not beyond legislative reform and that the State had historically intervened in matters previously regarded as religious whenever justice and constitutional principles required it.

The inclusion of Article 44 in the Constitution was therefore deliberate. It reflected the constitutional aspiration to establish

a Uniform Civil Code based on equal citizenship rather than differential religious identities. Although its implementation was deferred at that time, the constitutional direction remained clear.

Critics often argue that reforming religious personal laws or introducing a UCC infringes religious freedom under Articles 25 and 26. This argument overlooks the constitutional design: religious freedom is a fundamental right but is expressly subject to public order, morality, health, and other provisions of Part 3 of the Constitution. Religious freedom cannot override the Constitution's guarantees of equality, dignity, and non-discrimination.

Indeed, India's legal-constitutional history shows that when religious customs have violated basic principles of justice, the State has intervened. The abolition of sati is a powerful example. Despite claims that it was religiously sanctioned and voluntary, its prohibition affirmed a fundamental principle: practices that undermine life, dignity, and equality cannot be protected in the name of religion. Today, no serious argument exists for its restoration.

Similarly, the Hindu Code Bills of the 1950s reformed marriage, inheritance, guardianship, and adoption laws within Hindu personal law. These reforms faced resistance but were enacted because constitutional justice required it. The Hindu Marriage Act introduced monogamy and legal divorce, while the Hindu Succession Act significantly improved women's inheritance rights, later strengthened further in 2005. These were not merely legal adjustments but deliberate constitutional interventions prioritising equality over tradition. Today, these reforms are widely accepted as milestones in gender

justice. Few would now argue for a return to pre-reform Hindu personal law simply because it reflected religious custom. The same constitutional logic must apply across all communities.

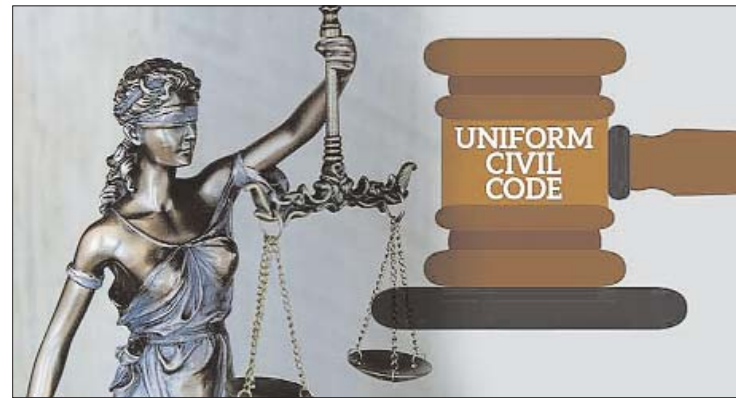
If Hindu personal law could be reformed despite religious objections, there is no constitutional reason for Muslim personal law to remain immune from scrutiny. Equality before law cannot be selective.

The Shariat Application Act of 1937, which made Muslim personal law applicable to matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, and family relations, is a colonial-era statute enacted by the legislature. It is not sacred law and has been amended over time, confirming that it remains subject to legislative authority. Parliament therefore retains the constitutional power to amend or repeal it.

The Supreme Court has also reinforced this constitutional trajectory. In Shah Bano, it held that maintenance under secular law cannot be denied on the basis of personal law. More recently, in the Triple Talaq judgment, the Court struck down instant divorce not to interfere with religion but because arbitrariness violates constitutional guarantees of equality and dignity. These rulings affirm that citizenship rights precede community-based norms.

The Doctrine of Essential Religious Practices further limits its constitutional protection under Articles 25 and 26 to practices deemed essential to a religion. Since courts determine what is "essential," non-essential practices remain open to state regulation and reform, preventing absolute claims of religious immunity.

Whenever a secular constitutional state must choose between religious custom and



fundamental rights, the Constitution itself provides the answer. It exists to protect individuals when tradition fails to do so. Indian secularism is therefore not strict separation but principled intervention in the service of equality and dignity.

The debate over the Shariat Act and the Uniform Civil Code should not be framed as a conflict between religions. It is about ensuring that justice, liberty, equality, and dignity apply equally to all citizens, irrespective of faith or gender.

Although untouchability was once justified by some as a religious practice, the Constitution rejects it outright. Article 17 abolishes untouchability and forbids its practice, while the Protection of Civil Rights Act enforces this prohibition through legal penalties. Together, they establish that constitutional values of equality and dignity prevail over any religious or customary practice. The exclusion of Scheduled Tribes from the Uniform Civil Code is constitutionally defensible because tribal customary laws occupy a distinct position within India's constitutional framework. Unlike religious personal laws, tribal customs are protected under the Fifth and Sixth Schedules and other special provisions aimed at preserving indigenous identity, cultural

autonomy, and self-governance. These customs are not merely religious practices but integral to collective social organisation. Moreover, many tribal customary laws have evolved through community consensus and are often more flexible and, in several cases, more gender-egalitarian than codified personal laws. Exempting tribal communities, therefore, is not an exception to equality but an affirmation of India's commitment to protecting vulnerable indigenous cultures while pursuing reform in other personal law regimes.

In the context of Muslim personal law, state intervention is neither arbitrary nor majoritarian but is triggered when certain rules produce systemic rights-violations, particularly gender-based discrimination. The constitutional threshold for such intervention is failure to meet the guarantees of equality, and dignity under Articles 14, 15, and 21. Where aspects of personal law deny women equal rights in matters such as marriage, divorce, or inheritance, they cannot remain insulated as purely religious norms and become subject to constitutional correction. The purpose of reform, therefore, is not to target a faith, but to ensure that all legal regimes within the republic conform to the basic standards of justice and equality.

What cities owe their Anganwadis

Meeta, a 29-year-old anganwadi worker in Mumbai's M-East ward, had already spent 45 minutes waiting for a bus in the humid heat when her phone rang. Her landlord was calling to say the ten-by-ten room she rents for her Anganwadi Centre (AWC) in Natwar Parekh Compound wouldn't be available that day — the residents' association needed it back for their own work. In most professions, losing your workplace at the last minute means an unexpected day off. For Meeta, it meant logging into her reporting app as usual, then going door-to-door distributing food packets to every registered child. It took her months to find a space for the AWC; co-renting was the most stable option she found.

"For a few months, I even ran it from a 225-square-foot home with six people living in it. There were new challenges every day."

Around 900 kilometres away in Bhuj, Rashmi, a 37-year-old anganwadi worker with more than a decade of experience, stared at yet another notice to vacate — one month to find a new space. "People don't like renting their rooms for an anganwadi," she explained. "The rent the government gives is much lower than market rates." In ten years, Rashmi has moved six times; each relocation disrupts early childhood care and pushes vulnerable children to drop out entirely.

Anganwadis are not crumbling welfare bastions for the poor — they are the foundation of neighbourhood economies, women's mobility, and children's development. Workers like Meeta and Rashmi perform this care for millions across India. AWCs have grown into outposts of community life in both rural and urban areas: crisis centres during the pandemic, immunisation points for children, venues for menstrual health training for adolescent girls. Seeing them as infrastructures of care, not welfare points tucked into borrowed

rooms, is the first step to reimagining Indian cities around care. Anganwadis, loosely translated as "courtyard shelters," were set up in 1975 as part of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme to combat child hunger and malnutrition. Today, about 1.3 million AWCs provide services to over 100 million beneficiaries, including children under six, pregnant women and lactating mothers. At this scale, anganwadis form one of the densest, most intimate networks of public infrastructure in the country, woven into the everyday life of low-income communities.

Over the decades, anganwadis have expanded far beyond their initial nutrition mandate. Each AWC is meant to be staffed by an anganwadi worker who provides nutritional support and early childhood services, assisted by an anganwadi helper, an auxiliary nurse midwife who attends to pregnant and breastfeeding women and delivers babies, and an Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) who offers first aid, referrals for special needs, and reproductive health counselling. In practice, these roles often collapse onto the anganwadi worker herself. In Mumbai's Natwar Parekh Compound, none of the five AWCs has an ASHA deployed, so workers routinely counsel women on reproductive health themselves; in Bhuj too, workers report stepping into ASHA roles whenever needed.

For low-income mothers, the anganwadi is often the only childcare and nutrition support that makes paid and unpaid work possible. Pallavi, a young mother in Bhuj, was able to take up a receptionist job in a local doctor's clinic only after enrolling her daughter in the neighbourhood anganwadi.

"I drop her off on my way to work and pick her up on my way back," she says. "On days I get delayed, the anganwadi worker waits with her."

Despite this critical role, the

spaces where the work happens are systematically neglected. Recent research visits to AWCs in Mumbai and Bhuj found centres squeezed into 8-by-10-foot rooms serving 40 to 50 children, some without toilets or drinking water, others without ventilation or natural light — all on borrowed or rented premises.

Even crammed into rented spaces, the anganwadi remains a multi-dimensional space, shape-shifting to meet the community's needs. Yet our planning paradigm rarely acknowledges care as infrastructure — master plans stay oblivious to the embodied work that supports, nurtures, and repairs communities so they can perform every other socio-economic function.

The derelict state of AWCs is not a result of absolute scarcity but of lack of intent. Cities like Mumbai and Bhuj have no shortage of ambition or funds for mega-projects: coastal roads and harbour links in Mumbai, or the redevelopment of bus and railway stations in Bhuj.

This refusal is rooted in a deeper devaluation of care and of the women who perform it. The ICDS programme is structured on a premise of "volunteerism" that takes women's labour for granted. Anganwadi workers have long been demanding recognition as workers entitled to minimum wages, not the honorarium they currently receive. When their labour is discounted, the spaces in which they work are also treated as informal, flexible, and ultimately expendable. Ignoring anganwadi workers' infrastructural needs doesn't just fail the children, adolescents, and mothers who depend on them — it compromises the future of cities that are begging to be reimaged. Listening to the city's careworkers is the first step.

Anganwadis As Neighbourhood Commons
Feminist political theorist Joan Tronto defines care as everything we do to maintain, contin-



ue, and repair our world so we can live in it as well as possible. Reimagining Indian cities with care means dismantling the current idea of anganwadis as rooms allotted in housing schemes. We can start by asking: Is there a permanent, accessible, adequately sized building for every AWC, just as there are sites reserved for schools, parks or bus depots?

Can every household reach a well designed and built anganwadi within a safe 5–10 minute walk, without having to cross highways or navigate hostile streets?

Are anganwadi workers paid, trained and protected as public professionals, with stable tenures and a say in how their spaces are designed and used?

If cities adopted "universal access to dignified anganwadi infrastructure" as a non-negotiable standard — alongside water supply or road connectivity — care would slowly claim its physical and social space in cities. Well-designed anganwadis aren't just a demand from workers; they're an opportunity to build neighbourhood commons on a network of care-givers, parents and children that already exists. All it takes is converting rented, contested rooms into vibrant spaces that hold learning, play, health, and collective life together.

Rebuilding Cities From Rooms Of Care

Some states have already begun this transformation. In Tamil Nadu and Kerala, anganwadi workers are recognised as state

employees with pensions and maternity leave — measures that have made the job more secure, respected, and sought after.

Kerala has also invested in the built form of anganwadis. Under its "Smart Anganwadi" scheme, the state has renovated dozens of centres and, in 2022, completed its first purpose-built smart anganwadi

in Thiruvananthapuram, for around forty lakh rupees. The two-storey structure includes a study room, lounge, dining area, kitchen, storeroom, and indoor and outdoor play spaces. Kerala plans dedicated buildings for all 33,000-plus AWCs in the state, including the thousands still running from rented premises.

These aren't extravagant populist experiments. If Indian cities invested in care this way, anganwadis would stop being welfare collection points and become a visible, protected, celebrated grid of neighbourhood commons — each node a place where children learn, grow and play, women find support, and communities gather and organise.

Cars and concrete have become the defining features of Indian cities. Changing that begins with transforming the crowded rooms where early childhood is nurtured and cared for. Our cities would look very different if we made care an organising principle of urban life. All we have to do is rebuild one anganwadi at a time.

Trump’s new ride: Qatar-donated Boeing 747 becomes his interim presidential aircraft

US President Donald Trump has begun traveling aboard a Boeing 747-8 donated by Qatar while the next generation of Air Force One aircraft remains delayed, according to a report by The Wall Street Journal. The aircraft is currently serving as a temporary presidential jet until Boeing delivers two new VC-25B aircraft that were commissioned during Trump’s first term. The project has faced repeated delays, leaving the existing Air Force One fleet in service longer than originally planned. Why Trump is using a Qatar-donated Boeing 747 According to the report, Trump has sought to modernise the ageing presidential aircraft fleet since 2017, when he ordered two customised Boeing 747-8 jets to replace the existing planes. However, the first of those aircraft is now expected to be delivered only by mid-2028, just months before the end of Trump’s current term. To address the gap, the US



Air Force searched for a suitable aircraft capable of transporting the president. The search led to a VIP-configured Boeing 747-8 that had belonged to Qatar’s royal family. Trump later inspected the aircraft in Palm Beach. The report said he had initially asked whether Qatar’s emir would allow the United States to use the aircraft temporarily. Instead, the emir offered it as a gift to the US government. Ownership was formally transferred to the US Air Force in the spring of 2025. Gift drew criticism over ethics and taxpayer spending

The report said the aircraft was valued at around USD 400 million when it was donated. The move triggered criticism from both Republicans and Democrats over the ethics of accepting such an expensive gift from a foreign government. According to The Wall Street Journal, the aircraft has since undergone about USD 400 million worth of military upgrades funded by US taxpayers. These include secure communications systems and defensive capabilities required for presidential travel. The outlet reported that

the former Qatari aircraft is expected to remain Trump’s primary presidential transport until Boeing completes the delayed Air Force One programme. Trump plans aircraft display at presidential library The report said Trump eventually wants the Boeing 747 to become the centrepiece of his planned presidential library in downtown Miami. According to The Wall Street Journal, the proposal is intended to mirror the retired Air Force One display at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in California.

‘Have some other friends, like India’: Israeli PM Netanyahu firmly rebuts JD Vance’s ‘only powerful ally’ remark

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has described India as one of Israel’s strongest international supporters while rejecting US Vice President JD Vance’s suggestion that the United States is Israel’s only powerful ally. Speaking in an interview with Fox News, Netanyahu said Israel continued to receive significant backing from countries beyond Washington. He singled out India for what he described as overwhelming public support, even as he reiterated that US President Donald Trump remained Israel’s closest friend in the White House. “I respect JD Vance, and we have a very good relationship, but it doesn’t mean that I agree with everything that he says. Donald Trump is the greatest friend we ever had in the White House, and I stand by that completely,” Netanyahu said. He then referred to India’s support for Israel. “We have some other friends, like a small country called India. You know

it has 1.4 billion people, and boy, do we have tremendous support there. You know, I have this Facebook thing, and I’m just flooded by the overwhelming support there,” he said. Netanyahu says Israel has support beyond the US. The Israeli Prime Minister said international backing for Israel extended beyond what was often reflected in public discourse or media coverage. “Many leaders call me up and say, ‘Hey look, I’ve got this problem with public opinion, but I want you to know we respect you, and can we make some deals, and can you teach us some of the things that your military does, and can we have some of your AI and cyber expertise?’” he said. Netanyahu also described Israel as a global technology leader. “You know Israel is the number two country in cyber in the world, and our technology is so good. So the relations are not quite as they appear, and we have many, many friends,” he said.



Remarks follow JD Vance’s comments on US-Israel ties Netanyahu’s response came after Vance last month urged Israel to avoid publicly criticising Washington while the United States pursued diplomatic engagement with Iran. “If I was in the Cabinet of the Israeli government, I might not be attacking the only powerful ally that I have anywhere left in the entire world,” Vance had said during a White House briefing while responding to reports that Israeli leaders were unhappy with the US-Iran agreement and had criticised President Trump.

Separately, Axios reported that Trump said Netanyahu had requested a meeting at the White House. The US President said the two leaders would meet after speaking over the phone, although Israeli officials indicated the visit could take place the following week because of Trump’s travel schedule. According to the report, the proposed meeting comes amid reported differences between the two leaders over Iran, Lebanon and broader regional security issues. Despite those differences, they have agreed to meet in Washington as Israel prepares for its October elections.

Missiles rain on Kyiv as Russia steps up pressure before NATO summit in Ankara



Russia launched a fresh missile and drone assault on Kyiv early Monday, triggering explosions across the Ukrainian capital just a day before a NATO summit in Ankara where the war in Ukraine is expected to dominate discussions. Ukraine’s air force said the overnight attack involved ballistic missiles, cruise missiles and drones. The strike came after President Volodymyr Zelensky warned that intelligence suggested Moscow was preparing another large-scale offensive. Kyiv reports damage after overnight attack Explosions echoed

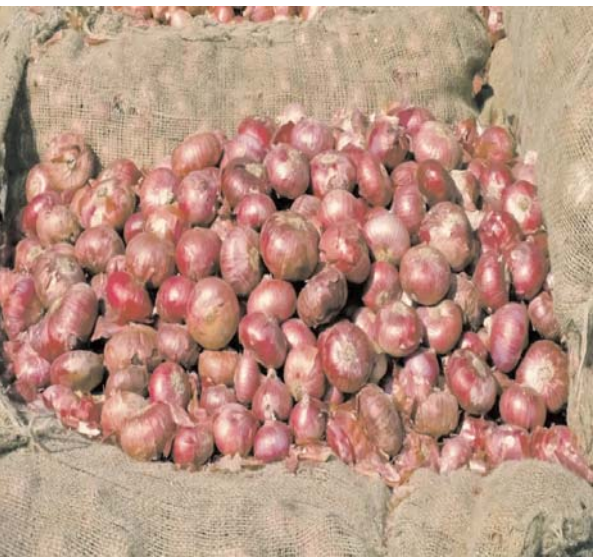
through central Kyiv in the early hours as air raid sirens sounded across the city. News Kyiv Mayor Vitaliy Klitschko said falling debris caused fires or damage in at least two districts of the capital. Authorities did not immediately provide details on casualties. On Sunday, Zelensky said Ukrainian intelligence had detected signs of another major Russian attack. “Intelligence once again indicates that the Russians are preparing a new massive strike. This is typical of Putin: right after America’s Independence Day and

before the NATO Summit in Ankara. Russia wants to bring more evil and kill people,” Zelensky wrote on X. Ukraine war expected to dominate NATO discussions The latest bombardment follows a large Russian strike on Kyiv last Thursday that killed at least 30 people. According to CNN, it was the third-deadliest attack on the Ukrainian capital since the war began. Executive Branch The conflict is expected to be a key focus at the NATO summit, which opens in Ankara on Tuesday. According to CNN, Russian forces have

stepped up operations in eastern Ukraine’s Donetsk region as Moscow presses to seize more territory. Ukraine, meanwhile, has intensified missile and drone attacks targeting Russian infrastructure, including oil refineries, ports and military manufacturing facilities. The latest escalation also comes days after Russian President Vladimir Putin and US President Donald Trump spoke by phone on July 4. Russia’s foreign ministry said the conversation lasted nearly 90 minutes, during which Trump again offered to help end the war.

Centre raises onion procurement price

The Central government has increased the procurement price of onions for the Price Stabilisation Buffer by 13%, from Rs 1,875 per quintal to Rs 2,125 per quintal. The revised procurement price is effective from 4 July 2026. Procurement of onions through NAFED and NCCF for the government’s Price Stabilisation Buffer is in progress. The revised procurement price will ensure better returns for onion farmers while supporting buffer procurement efforts. As per the Second Advance Estimates of the Department of Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare for 2025-26, onion production is estimated at 307.37 lakh metric tonnes (LMT), which is comparable to the production of 307.67 LMT in 2024-25. An official release said that going by the production estimates, the overall availability of onions is



not a concern at this stage, though prices may be expected to inch up in line with the normal price seasonality. Current stock levels in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are adequate. At present, there are no indications of any shortage of stored onions. Daily mandi arrivals at the all-India level remain

robust at over 50,000 metric tonnes (MT), while arrivals in Maharashtra are over 30,000 MT, with average modal prices of about Rs 18 per kg. Better-quality stocks continue to remain in storage and are expected to be released during the lean period. The all-India average retail price is Rs 31 per kg. The delay in monsoon

arrival and lower-than-normal rainfall in some regions has led to speculative buying by a section of traders, though there is no significant demand at the prevailing price levels in major consuming centres. Despite the sentiment in consumer markets, production centres such as Nashik and parts of Madhya Pradesh are witnessing a tendency for speculative trading activity, largely on expectations of a future market recovery rather than on strong underlying demand. Onion exports are normal, with about 1.50 LMT exported during June 2026. However, traders expect that the pace of onion exports may slow down for a short duration, primarily because fresh crops from Pakistan and China are available at competitive rates in key export destinations such as the Gulf countries, Sri Lanka and the Far East.

India emerges as one of the lowest-cost major solar power markets globally

India emerged as one of the world’s lowest-cost major solar power markets in 2025 and ranked third globally in installed solar power capacity, fourth in wind power capacity, and fourth in total renewable energy capacity, according to a report released by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). According to the report, the levelised cost of electricity (LCOE) from solar PV in India stood at \$35 per megawatt-hour (MWh) in 2025, compared with \$36 per MWh in China and \$37 in Brazil, and the global weighted average was significantly higher at \$44 per MWh. Notably, since 2010, the cost of solar PV has declined by 89 per cent, while onshore and offshore wind costs have fallen by 71 per cent and

63 per cent, respectively. More than 90 per cent of newly commissioned utility-scale renewable projects in 2025 generated electricity at a lower cost than the cheapest new fossil-fuel alternative. The IRENA report comes as global renewable power costs begin to stabilise after more than a decade of steep declines. The global average cost of solar power remained unchanged at \$44 per MWh in 2025, while onshore wind costs fell to \$33 per MWh and offshore wind costs declined to \$78 per MWh. The installed cost of four-hour utility-scale batteries declined by nearly 30 per cent in 2025 to around \$140 per kilowatt hour, about 95 per cent below 2010 levels. Costs in China fell below \$70 per kWh. Falling battery prices are



enabling the installation of hybrid renewable energy systems. The cost of solar-plus-battery systems offering 95 per cent reliability fell below \$85 per MWh at high-quality sites in 2025, from more than \$100 per MWh in 2020, the report estimated. Global renewable power additions crossed 690 GW in 2025, about one-fifth

higher than the previous year. Solar accounted for more than 500 GW of the new capacity additions, while wind contributed around 160 GW. “The use of renewables avoided 8.4 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide emissions and saved \$480 billion in fossil fuel costs in 2025,” the IRENA report claimed.

Tata Renewable commissions 100.8 MW Jewali Wind Project in Maharashtra

Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL), a subsidiary of The Tata Power Company Limited, officially announced here on Friday that it has successfully commissioned its 100.8 MW Jewali Wind Project in Dharashiv district of Maharashtra. The electricity generated from the project will be supplied to Tata Power Mumbai Distribution and will help contribute towards its Renewable Purchase Obligation targets, supporting its transition to a more sustainable and environmentally responsible Utility, according to the statement. The project comprises 28 SG 3.6-145 Wind Turbine Generators, based on advanced horizontal-axis wind turbine technology. The facility is expected to generate approximately 299 million units (kWh)

of clean electricity annually, the statement mentioned. Weather The project is expected to offset nearly 245 million kg of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions every year, based on an estimated emissions reduction of 0.82 kg of CO2 per unit of electricity generated, making a significant contribution towards decarbonisation and enhancing Tata Power’s clean energy portfolio, according to the statement. According to the statement, after the commissioning of the Jewali Wind Project, TPREL’s wind energy portfolio now exceeds 3.9 GW, including more than 1.3 GW of operational capacity, with the balance under various stages of development across Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Tamil



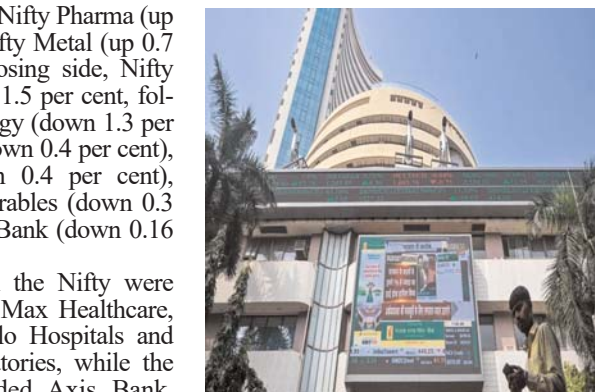
Nadu. The project also advances Tata Power’s long-term vision of achieving 100% clean energy generation by 2045 and complements its expanding renewable energy portfolio. State & Local Government With the addition of the Jewali Wind Project, TPREL’s total renewable utility capacity has reached 11.6 GW. Of this, 6.7 GW is operational, including 5.4 GW of solar and 1.3 GW of wind capacity, while 4.9 GW is under various stages of implementation. The under-construction portfolio comprises approxi-

mately 2.1 GW of solar, 2.6 GW of wind projects and 0.2 GW of BESS, which are expected to be commissioned in phases over the next 6-24 months, the statement mentioned. The project underscores TPREL’s strong execution capabilities and commitment to delivering large-scale renewable energy projects. The milestone further strengthens the TPREL’s growing renewable energy portfolio and reinforces its leadership in India’s clean energy transition, according to the statement.

Stock markets continue winning streak, led by buying in IT, pharma

Indian stock markets ended the week on a positive note on Friday, extending their winning streak to a third consecutive session, with the Nifty closing above the 24,250 mark, supported by buying in IT, pharma, metal and realty stocks. At the close, the Sensex was up 261.79 points, or 0.34 per cent, at 77,763.91, while the Nifty gained 95.15 points, or 0.39 per cent, to settle at 24,270.85. For the week, the BSE Sensex and the Nifty added nearly 1 per cent each. Among the sectors, buying was witnessed in select heavyweights from the IT, pharma and banking sectors amid largely positive global cues. Investor sentiment remained positive on expectations of less aggressive rate hikes by the US Federal Reserve. South Asians & Diaspora Nifty Realty emerged as the top gainer, rising 2 per cent, followed by Nifty

IT (up 1.7 per cent), Nifty Pharma (up 1.7 per cent) and Nifty Metal (up 0.7 per cent). On the losing side, Nifty PSU Bank declined 1.5 per cent, followed by Nifty Energy (down 1.3 per cent), Nifty Auto (down 0.4 per cent), Nifty Media (down 0.4 per cent), Nifty Consumer Durables (down 0.3 per cent) and Nifty Bank (down 0.16 per cent). The top gainers on the Nifty were HCL Technologies, Max Healthcare, Bajaj Finserv, Apollo Hospitals and Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories, while the major losers included Axis Bank, M&M, SBI, L&T and Tech Mahindra. Stocks & Bonds Nearly 160 stocks touched their 52-week highs on the BSE. These included Manappuram Finance, Aditya Birla Capital, Aurobindo Pharma, Nuvama Wealth Management, CreditAccess Grameen, Oberoi Realty, Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS),



Torrent Pharmaceuticals, Inventurus Knowledge Solutions, Bosch, Apollo Hospitals, Cement India Projects, Grasim Industries, Aadhar Housing Finance, JB Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals, The Phoenix Mills, Nippon Life India Asset Management, Federal Bank, Granules India and Pidilite Industries, among others.

Nagabandham is being appreciated by audiences everywhere - Virat Karrna



Abhishek Nama envisioned an epic visual spectacle based on Indian history and mythology, Nagabandham. The movie stars Virat Karanna, Nabha Natesh in leading roles and it is produced on a gigantic budget. Post release, the movie received mixed response from critics but audiences have been going to theatres to watch it. It has been trending even on a Monday and hence, makers NIK Studios have conducted a Gratitude Meet. At the event, Virat Karanna looked effected by negative comments. He said, "I am thankful for audiences who watched our film in theatres. We are shocked to see such negativity about our film and people asking not to watch. My request to everyone to kindly, not make such statements. Let people decide what they want to watch and it is heartening to see people ignoring such reviews." Abhishek Nama explained that he is shocked by the paid negativity as people started posting about their film on 2nd July itself when the movie released on 3rd July. He commented that in our Indian history

Pradeep Ranganathan's PR Show With Mamitha: Creatively Promising



Not every film announcement introduces a completely new filmmaking model, and that's exactly what makes Pradeep Ranganathan's maiden production venture under PR Show so intriguing. Instead of a single director, the project is being helmed by The Alpha Unit, a six-member team that joins forces to bring the story to life. Penned by Pradeep Ranganathan himself, the film stars Mamitha Baiju opposite filmmaker Ashwath

Marimuthu, who steps in front of the camera for the lead role. Supporting them are Sivaji Sontineni, Swasika, Anamika Mahi, and Lizzie Antony. The Alpha Unit consists of Vishal TR, Yash V, Naren Saoda, Chanakkiyan R, Dhanush Kumar, and Ilamparithi, making this one of the rare projects to embrace collaborative direction on such a scale. The makers chose to unveil the project with a creatively designed

announcement video. The promo gradually introduces the entire team, and ends with Pradeep revealing his production house. Complementing the visuals is an energetic score by Sai Abhyankkar, whose music adds style and intensity to the presentation. Dinesh Purushothaman is the cinematographer. With its innovative approach and promising talent, the film has made a great impression with its announcement video alone.

This Jr NTR movie is Never going to Happen?



Some movie combinations create huge excitement among fans even before they are officially announced. People keep waiting for years to see their favorite hero and director work together. But because of busy schedules and changing plans, some dream projects remain only as discussions. One such combination is Jr NTR and director Nelson Dilipkumar. After the blockbuster success of Jailer, Nelson became one of the most wanted directors in South Indian cinema. Many reports said that he had planned a pan-India film with Jr NTR under producer Naga Vamsi's banner. Fans were very excited because both of them are known for delivering powerful commercial entertainers. However, the project now looks difficult to happen anytime soon. Nelson is currently busy with Jailer 2, which is expected to release later this year. After that, reports suggest he may direct a massive film starring Rajinikanth and Kamal Haasan together. Such a big project will need a lot of time for writing, planning, and shooting. At the same time, Jr NTR also has a packed schedule. After finishing Dragon, he is expected to begin his mythological film with Trivikram Srinivas, which is tentatively titled God of War. Since the movie is expected to have a grand scale and heavy visual effects, it could take several years to complete. Because both Nelson and Jr NTR already have long commitments, their film together may not start soon. Even if the project is still alive, it may take at least another two or three years before fans get any official update. Producer Naga Vamsi is reportedly still interested in bringing this exciting combination to the big screen. However, everything depends on when both the actor and director become free from their current projects. Many such dream combinations have created excitement in the past but never became reality. Sometimes schedules, script changes, or other commitments stop them from happening. Fans can only hope that this combination will finally become true one day. Until then, the Jr NTR-Nelson project remains one of the most-awaited but uncertain films in Indian cinema.

Big Update on Prabhas' next with Aditya Dhar



One of the country's biggest stars is none other than Prabhas, whose fame spans from Haryana to Kerala, Rajasthan to Assam, and everything in between. Despite coming up with some mediocre films in recent times, he's making huge money from the opening weekend, thanks to his star power. The latest buzz is that he's teaming up with the country's most celebrated director right now, and he's none other than Aditya Dhar. Here's a big update about this. Apparently, whenever a director pops up on the grid, movie lovers and fans often think that the filmmaker is teaming up with Prabhas. However, the big update is that neither has Prabhas met Aditya Dhar in the first place, nor is his diary so empty that he will be offering dates to the star

director. Currently, Prabhas is busy with Fauzi, Spirit and Kalki 2, while Aditya Dhar is scripting a sports drama that would feature Ranveer Singh in the lead. So, technically, there's no question of them teaming up anytime soon. On the other hand, this revelation might upset Prabhas fans because they are expecting that Aditya Dhar's next will feature him. However, that also should be the reason to rejoice because a film with Aditya Dhar at the moment might push Prabhas into another realistic zone, while most of his films are fantasy and elevation-centric, which are in the offing. That said, many Telugu stars are said to have met Aditya Dhar and hosted him at parties, but none have been able to get the director's attention so far.

OG2: The Missing Part Is Worked Out Fully

Like it was discussed in these columns already, even though Pawan Kalyan's last year's outing #OG made Rs.300 crores from the box office, but there is one big disappointment from the film. While the visuals, elevations for Ojas Gambheera and the music are top notch, director Sujeeth has failed to come up with an interesting story that would stun the audience. That's the biggest drawback for the film which otherwise could have easily grossed more than Rs.700 crores. Coming to #OG2, a prequel film that was announced recently by Pawan Kalyan himself, based on



the comic book that was created by Sujeeth long back, here's what they are doing. As the talk of the not-so-impactful story has spread everywhere,

director Sujeeth and his team are currently working on the story part. Even Pawan Kalyan is said to have advised the director to carve out a more powerful story



Can Lenin Continue Star Heroes Tollywood's Seventh Film Trend?

Many Telugu film fans believe that the seventh movie is very important in a hero's career. Over the years, several top Tollywood stars have delivered successful films as their seventh project. Now, Akhil Akkineni is hoping to continue the same trend with his upcoming film Lenin. Mahesh Babu's seventh film was Okkadu, which became a blockbuster and changed his career. Pawan Kalyan's seventh movie Kushi also became a huge hit and is still loved by fans. Jr. NTR's seventh film Simhadri was another blockbuster that made him one of the biggest stars in Telugu cinema. Allu Arjun's seventh film Arya 2 received a good response and later became a fan favourite. Ram Charan's seventh movie Yevadu was also a commercial success. Ram Pothineni impressed audiences with Kandireega, while Nani's Pilla Zamindar became one of the most memorable films in his career. Naga Chaitanya's seventh film Manam was a big emo-



tional hit and remains a classic family entertainer. Vijay Deverakonda's seventh movie Geetha Govindam became a blockbuster and took his popularity to a new level. Looking at this list, many fans have started discussing Akhil Akkineni's seventh film, Lenin. The movie has already created good buzz with its teaser, trailer, songs, and pre-release event. Akhil has also said that Lenin is a very special film for him and that he wants the audience to accept him with this movie. Directed by Murali Kishor Abburu, Lenin is a rural action drama featuring Bhagyashri Borse as the

female lead. The film is produced by Nagarjuna Akkineni and Naga Vamsi and will release in theatres on July 10. Interestingly, fans have noticed that, except for Prabhas, the seventh films of many leading Telugu heroes turned out to be hits, blockbusters, or above-average successes. Because of this, expectations for Lenin have become even higher. Now, all eyes are on Akhil's seventh film. Will Lenin continue this lucky trend and become the biggest success of his career? The answer will be known when the film reaches theatres on July 10.

New Era for Indian Animation with Hanumat Sundarakanda

Indian animation is preparing for a big milestone with the announcement of Hanumat Sundarakanda, a new animated mythological film based on one of the most loved chapters from the Ramayana. The makers recently released the first teaser and posters, creating excitement among movie lovers and devotees alike. The film promises a fresh cinematic experience by combining Indian storytelling with modern animation technology.



The movie is presented by Aindri Creations and is written and directed by Arun Kumar Rapolu. According to the makers, the film uses world-class motion capture, next-generation animation, and advanced visual effects to bring the story of Lord Hanuman to life on the big screen. The newly released posters show Hanuman in a powerful and majestic look, while the teaser highlights the grand visual quality of the project. Hanumat Sundarakanda tells the famous story of Hanuman's journey to Lanka in search of Goddess Sita. This chapter from the Ramayana is known for its courage, devotion, wisdom, and faith. The makers aim to present this timeless story in a way that connects

with today's audience while respecting its spiritual importance. The teaser launch event was held at Vijaya Bharathi English Medium School in Madanapalle. The film is being produced by Nischitha Sethu, who is also the principal of the school. Along with her team, she has stepped into film production with the goal of creating a high-quality animated feature based on Indian culture and mythology. Many guests attended the event and appreciated the teaser for its impressive visuals and emotional presentation. The makers have announced that Hanumat Sundarakanda is planned for release during Vinayaka Chavithi next year. The film is expected to be released in six languages, allowing audiences across India to enjoy the epic story.

Tabu Surprising role in King100 Revealed

Veteran actors Nagarjuna Akkineni and Tabu are coming together once again after almost 28 years for Nagarjuna's milestone 100th movie, currently titled King100. However, this time, fans will see a completely different side of their on-screen relationship. Instead of playing a romantic pair, Tabu is expected to appear as the main villain in the film. According to recent reports, Tabu has been chosen to play a strong negative role opposite Nagarjuna. This exciting casting choice has already created a lot of buzz among movie lovers. Fans are eager to watch these two talented actors share the screen again in a fresh and unexpected way. Nagarjuna and Tabu first worked together in the 1996 Telugu romantic hit Ninne Pelladata, which became a huge success and won several awards.



Their chemistry was loved by audiences, and they later appeared together in Aavida Maa Aavide and Sisindri. After that, they did not work together again until now. The first shooting schedule of King100 has already been completed. The film is directed by Ra Karthik and is being produced by Annapurna Studios. Since this is Nagarjuna's 100th film, expectations are very high. Tabu is well known for playing powerful and complex characters. She impressed audiences with

memorable performances in films like Maqbool, Haider, Andhadhun, and Fitoor. Her experience in playing challenging roles makes her a perfect choice for the antagonist in King100. Recently, Tabu was seen in Bhooth Bangla alongside Akshay Kumar. She also appeared in the TV series Dune: Prophecy, expanding her presence in international entertainment. Meanwhile, Nagarjuna was last seen in Kuberaa, directed by Sekhar Kammula, with Dhanush and Rashmika Mandanna in important roles.

A budget is a personalized financial roadmap that tracks your expected income and expenses over a specific period, helping you control spending and reach your savings goals. Banking involves the financial services that securely manage your money, offering tools like checking accounts for daily transactions and savings accounts to grow wealth.

Fundamentals of Budgeting
A budget bridges the gap between where your money goes and where you want it to go.

Income: All money received, including salaries, wages, or investments.

Expenses: Money going out. These are categorized as Fixed (e.g., rent, loan payments) and Variable (e.g., groceries, entertainment).

The 50/30/20 Rule: A popular budgeting framework where 50% of your income goes to needs, 30% to wants, and 20% to savings and debt repayment.

Benefits: Prevents overspending, reduces financial stress, and ensures funds are available for emergencies.

Banking Basics: Banks provide the infrastructure to keep your money safe while actively supporting your budget.

Checking Accounts: Best for everyday use. They allow for easy deposits, debit card purchases, and bill payments, though they often yield little to no interest.

Savings Accounts: Best for storing emergency funds or saving for future goals. These accounts earn interest over time.

Key Features: Features like mobile check deposits, online bill pay, and automated transfers help you manage your funds seamlessly.

Benefits: Banks offer safety (protecting your money from theft or loss) and convenience through online and mobile banking platforms that often have built-in expense tracking tools.

Frequently asked objective questions in different competitive examinations

1. The chairman of a bank is appointed by the -----
Ans: Government

2. Loan repayment includes principal and -----
Ans: Interest

3. Bank reconciliation compares cash book with -----statement.
Ans: Bank

4. The value of money decreases during ---
Ans: Inflation

5. Budget allocation is made for various ---
Ans: Sectors

6. The government collects -----from citizens.
Ans: Taxes

7. RBI supervises commercial -----
Ans: Banks

8. Deposit insurance is provided by _____.
Ans: DICGC

9. DICGC stands for Deposit Insurance and Credit ----- Corporation.
Ans: Guarantee

10. Inflation hurts fixed ----- earners.
Ans: Income

Budget and Banking Terms

(Useful for Banking, Insurance, UGC NET, APPSC, TSPSC, SSC, RRB, RBI and other Competitive Exams)



11. Fiscal policy aims at economic -----
Ans: Stability

12. Public sector banks are owned by the ---
Ans: Government

13. Budget documents contain revenue and -
----- accounts.
Ans: Capital

14. Capital expenditure creates -----
Ans: Assets

15. Budgetary control helps in financial ----
Ans: Management

16. Treasury bills are issued at a -----
Ans: Discount

17. Bank locker facility ensures -----
Ans: Safety

18. A fiscal year consists of -----
months.
Ans: Twelve

19. RBI monitors banking -----
Ans: Operations

20. Budget proposals are discussed in -----
Ans: Parliament

21. Financial inclusion aims to provide banking to _____.
Ans: All

22. PMJDY stands for Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan -----
Ans: Yojana

23. Zero balance accounts are common under -----
Ans: PMJDY

24. ATM withdrawals require a -----
Ans: PIN

25. PIN stands for Personal Identification --

Ans: Number

26. Online banking requires internet -----
Ans: Access

27. Inflation reduces real -----
Ans: Income

28. Government securities are traded in the -
----- market.
Ans: Money

29. Commercial papers are short-term debt -----
Ans: Instruments

30. RBI controls credit through monetary -----
Ans: Policy

31. Public finance studies government -----
Ans: Finance

32. Endorsement transfers the ownership of a -----
Ans: Cheque

33. Core banking uses computer -----
Ans: Networks

34. Mobile banking is done through -----
Ans: Smartphones

35. Debit cards deduct money from -----
Ans: Account

36. Credit cards provide short-term -----
Ans: Credit

37. Inflation affects cost of -----
Ans: Living

38. Banking sector is part of the financial --

Ans: System

39. The RBI governor heads the -----
bank.
Ans: Central

40. Tax revenue forms part of government -

Ans: Income

41. Public borrowing increases public -----
Ans: Debt

42. Budget estimates are reviewed through -

Ans: Audits

43. Audit ensures financial -----
Ans: Accuracy

44. RBI regulates money -----
Ans: Supply

45. Bank merger improves operational -----
Ans: Efficiency

46. Foreign exchange deals with foreign ---

Ans: Currency

47. FEMA stands for Foreign Exchange Management -----
Ans: Act

48. Foreign exchange reserves are maintained by -----
Ans: RBI

49. Budget surplus occurs when revenue exceeds -----
Ans: Expenditure

50. A cheque is a negotiable -----
Ans: Instrument

51. The RBI governor is appointed by the --
-----Government.
Ans: Central

52. A crossed cheque cannot be paid over the -----

Ans: Counter

53. MICR code helps cheque -----
Ans: Processing

54. Budget speech is delivered in -----
Ans: Parliament

55. Revenue deficit relates to revenue receipts and -----
Ans: Expenditure

56. The highest banking authority in India is -----
Ans: RBI

57. Savings promote capital -----
Ans: Formation

58. Fiscal deficit is financed through -----
Ans: Borrowing

59. Open market operations involve buying and selling of -----
Ans: Securities

60. Foreign currency exchange is handled by -----dealers.
Ans: Authorized

61. A bank statement shows account -----
Ans: Transactions

62. Tax evasion is -----
Ans: Illegal

63. Tax avoidance is generally -----
Ans: Legal

64. Budget helps control public -----
Ans: Expenditure

65. Government grants are a type of -----
-receipt.
Ans: Revenue

66. Treasury bills mature within -----
year.
Ans: One

67. Inflation increases commodity -----
Ans: Prices

68. Bank deposits help in credit -----
Ans: Creation

69. A demand deposit can be withdrawn on -----
Ans: Demand

70. Interest rate is expressed as a -----
Ans: Percentage

71. Inflation is an economic -----
Ans: Problem

72. Budget planning helps resource -----
Ans: Allocation

73. Government expenditure supports economic -----
Ans: Growth

74. Bank deposits provide financial -----
Ans: Security

75. Credit rating indicates repayment -----
Ans: Capacity

76. A secured loan requires -----
Ans: Collateral

77. An unsecured loan requires no -----
Ans: Collateral

78. Banking promotes economic -----
Ans: Development

79. Government taxation affects consumer -

Ans: Spending

80. Budget transparency improves -----
Ans: Accountability

81. RBI maintains financial -----
Ans: Stability

82. Monetary policy influences interest ----

Ans: Rates

83. Budget is an instrument of economic ---

Ans: Policy

84. Public sector banks contribute to financial -----
Ans: Inclusion

85. Digital banking improves customer -----
Ans: Convenience

86. The banking sector mobilizes -----
Ans: Savings

87. Currency circulation is managed by ----

Ans: RBI

88. Capital market deals in long-term -----
Ans: Funds

89. Money market deals in short-term -----
Ans: Funds

90. Public debt may be internal or -----
Ans: External

91. Budget estimates may be revised during the -----
Ans: Year

92. Sound banking strengthens the -----
Ans: Economy

93. The backbone of the financial system in India is -----
Ans: RBI

94. RBI conducts open market -----
Ans: Operations

95. Public accounts are audited by -----
Ans: CAG

96. CAG stands for Comptroller and Auditor -----
Ans: General

97. Government bonds are long-term -----
Ans: Securities

98. ATM is an example of electronic -----
Ans: Banking

99. Budget reflects government -----
Ans: Priorities

100. Inflation may be caused by excess ----

Ans: Demand

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Generosity as a Soft Skill: Importance, Development, and Benefits in Daily Life and Professional Career

Introduction
Generosity is one of the most admirable soft skills that reflects kindness, compassion, and a willingness to help others without expecting anything in return. It goes beyond donating money or material possessions; it includes sharing knowledge, offering encouragement, giving time, appreciating others, and supporting people in need. In today's competitive world, generosity is considered an essential interpersonal quality because it strengthens relationships, promotes teamwork, and creates a positive environment. A generous person inspires trust, respect, and cooperation, making this trait valuable in both personal and professional life.

Importance of Generosity:
Generosity plays a significant role in shaping an individual's personality and character. It encourages empathy, understanding, and emotional intelligence, enabling people to connect with others on a deeper level. Generous individuals contribute to a culture of kindness where people feel valued and respected. In educational institutions and workplaces, generosity fosters collaboration rather than unhealthy competition. Employees who willingly share ideas, mentor colleagues, and celebrate the success of others contribute to organizational growth. Similarly, students who assist classmates create an atmosphere of mutual learning and academic excellence. Generosity also enhances mental well-being. Helping others often brings a sense of satisfaction, purpose, and inner happiness. It reduces stress, strengthens self-esteem, and promotes emotional resilience. As a result, generous individuals often enjoy healthier relationships and greater life satisfaction.

Importance of Generous:
Generosity is a habit that can be cultivated through conscious effort and consistent practice. Developing this quality requires both self-awareness and compassion. Begin by practicing empathy. Try to understand the feelings, challenges, and perspectives of others before making judgments. Active listening helps people feel respected and appreciated. Share your knowledge and skills whenever possible. Teaching someone a new concept, guiding a colleague, or helping a friend solve a problem demonstrates intellectual generosity. Express gratitude and appreciation regularly. Complimenting others sincerely and acknowledging their efforts encourages positivity and strengthens relationships. Volunteer for community service or participate in social welfare activities. Such experiences develop compassion and broaden one's understanding of different life situations. Practice small acts of kindness every day, such as offering assistance, encouraging someone who is struggling, or simply being patient and respectful. These simple actions gradually build a generous mindset. Finally, avoid expecting recognition or rewards for every good deed. True generosity comes from genuine concern for others rather than the desire for praise. Usefulness in Daily Life: Generosity enriches everyday life by improving personal relationships and creating a supportive social environment. Family members who generously share responsibilities and offer emotional support build stronger bonds. Friends who help each other during difficult times establish trust and lifelong companionship.

Generosity also promotes effective communication by encouraging patience, understanding, and forgiveness. Instead of focusing solely on personal interests, generous individuals consider the needs of others, leading to fewer conflicts and stronger cooperation. Furthermore, generosity inspires others to perform kind acts, creating a positive ripple effect throughout society. Communities where people willingly help one another become safer, happier, and more resilient during challenging circumstances. Usefulness in Professional Career: In the workplace, generosity is a highly respected professional quality. Employees who willingly share information, mentor junior colleagues, and contribute to team success become valuable organizational assets. Such individuals are often viewed as dependable, approachable, and trustworthy. Generous leaders create inclusive work environments by recognizing employees' contributions, encouraging innovation, and supporting professional development. Their leadership style increases employee motivation, job satisfaction, and organizational commitment. Generosity also enhances networking opportunities. Professionals who help others without immediate personal gain often develop meaningful professional relationships that lead to future collaborations, career advancement, and business opportunities. Customer service professionals benefit greatly from generosity because kindness, patience, and genuine concern improve customer satisfaction and strengthen brand reputation. Likewise, teachers, healthcare professionals, managers, and entrepreneurs

achieve greater success when generosity guides their interactions with others. Employers increasingly value soft skills alongside technical expertise. Therefore, generosity improves employability by demonstrating teamwork, emotional intelligence, leadership potential, and ethical responsibility. Conclusion: Generosity is far more than an act of giving; it is a powerful soft skill that reflects empathy, integrity, humility, and compassion. It strengthens relationships, enhances emotional well-being, promotes teamwork, and contributes to both personal fulfillment and professional success. By practicing kindness, sharing knowledge, appreciating others, and helping without expecting rewards, anyone can develop this valuable quality. In a world that thrives on collaboration and mutual respect, generosity not only transforms individuals but also creates stronger families, workplaces, and communities. Cultivating generosity is therefore an investment in lifelong success, meaningful relationships, and responsible citizenship.

Dr. A. Harish Sharma MS (clinical psychology), MA . English, MCA, CFD(NHI California), CFN, CST English (Vidhya Bharathi sharadha dharamam). MTIET Palamaner



England name unchanged playing eleven for third T20I against India at Trent Bridge



Nottingham, July 6 : England have named an unchanged playing eleven for the crucial third T20I against India, scheduled to be played at Trent Bridge on Tuesday. The hosts currently hold a 1-0 lead in the five-match series, following their clinical four-wicket victory over the visitors at the Old Trafford Cricket Ground in Manchester on Saturday. With momentum firmly on their side, especially after the first T20I at Chester-le-Street in Durham was abandoned due to rain, the England team management has opted for continuity by backing the same set of players to extend their advantage in the ongoing series.

In their previous meeting in Manchester, Shreyas Iyer-led India, the current Men's T20 World Cup holders, finally gave an international debut to teenaged sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, who made 14 off 10 balls, as the visitors posted 190/7 in their 20 overs. Sooryavanshi was stumped off Will Jacks on his highly-awaited international debut, coming at the expense of Sanju Samson, after hitting two sixes. It took knocks of 49 and 43 from Ishan Kishan and Abhishek Sharma to take India to exactly 190. Harry Brook-led England chased down the target with an over to spare as young Jacob Bethell struck a calculated, unbeaten 76 off 46 balls, laced with five fours and as many sixes. Bethell was also aided by India leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi bowling three back-foot no-balls, as he took him down in a sensational 29-run 17th over. Sam Curran also excelled with the ball by picking 3-33. After the game in Nottingham, India and England will play the remaining two T20Is in Bristol and Southampton on July 9 and 11 respectively. England playing eleven: Phil Salt, Jos Buttler (wk), Harry Brook (captain), Jacob Bethell, Tom Banton, Sam Curran, Will Jacks, Liam Dawson, Jofra Archer, Adil Rashid and Josh Tongue

63-ft Ganapathi idol to come up at Manginapudi beach



Machilipatnam: July 6
(Skyline daily):

As part of the State government's initiative to develop Manginapudi Beach near Machilipatnam in Krishna district into a premier tourist destination, Minister for Mines & Geology and Excise Kollu Ravindra on Sunday performed Bhumi Puja for the construction of a 63-foot-tall Vijaya Ganapathi idol at the beachfront. The minister was joined by APSRTC Chairman Konakalla Narayana Rao, local leaders, officials and members of the Mahaganapathi Seva Samithi during the ceremonial launch of the ambitious project. Speaking on the occasion, Ravindra said the initiative was conceived with the objective of bringing national-level recognition to Manginapudi Beach on the lines of the famous Khairatabad Ganesh celebrations in Hyderabad. He said the proposed idol would be made entirely of eco-friendly clay and would serve as a major attraction for devotees and tourists alike.

As part of the larger development plan, foundation stones were also laid for replica structures of some of the country's most renowned temples, including Kanipakam Varasiddhi Vinayaka Temple, Tirumala Sri Venkateswara

Swamy Temple, Srisailem Mallikarjuna Swamy Temple, Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam (Kanaka Durga Temple) in Vijayawada, and the Ayodhya Ram Mandir. Ravindra said the State government has drawn up a comprehensive plan to develop nearly 250 acres around the beach area with tourism and recreational infrastructure. He recalled the success of previous Beach Festivals at Manginapudi and assured that world-class facilities would be created to enhance the visitor experience. The minister expressed confidence that Machilipatnam would emerge as a major tourism and economic hub with the completion of the Machilipatnam Port next year and the establishment of several industries in the region. "Being the nearest port city to Amaravati, Machilipatnam is being developed as the 'Gateway to Amaravati'. The entire landscape of this region will undergo a remarkable transformation in the coming year," he said. Krishna Zilla Grandhalaya Samstha former chairman Gorrepati Gopichand, TDP district general secretary Gopu Satyanarayana, former municipal chairman Babaprasad, public representatives, party leaders, officials and devotees participated in the programme.

Call to preserve tribal culture



Vijayawada: July 6

A massive gathering of tribal communities attended the Tribal Adivasi Cultural Convention held at Tummalapalli Kalakshetram in Vijayawada. Addressing the gathering as the chief guest, Vadithya Shankar Naik, former ST Commission member and founder and national president of Girijana Praja Samakhya (GPS), emphasised that preserving tribal culture, traditions, and customs is the collective responsibility of every individual. He demanded the restora-

tion of GO No 3 in the Agency areas and called for the strict implementation of the 1/70 Land Transfer Regulation to prevent the transfer of tribal lands to non-tribals and ensure that such lands remain with tribal people. The cultural segment of the convention featured vibrant traditional dances performed by Adivasi artists, highlighting the rich heritage of the Banjara community and receiving enthusiastic appreciation from the audience. Among those who participated were GPS State President Raju Naik, State Secretary

Ravi Naik, Hanumanthu Naik, Mallu Swamy, Prakasham District President Saida Naik, Krishna District President Sameer Naik, National Vice President Vishnu Naik, Guntur District leader Anja Naik, Peram Satyam, Dharma Kumar, Durga Naik, Parvathi Bai, Lakshman Naik, Krishna Naik, Chandra Naik, Pandu Naik, Madhu Kumar from Kakinada, Varahalu, renowned tribal artist Bhikshu Naik and his cultural troupe, along with thousands of tribal community members from different regions.

Heavy rush witnessed at Durga temple



Vijayawada: July 6

A large number of devotees thronged the Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam on Sunday to offer prayers to Goddess Sri Kanaka Durga Ammavaru, resulting in heavy rush from the morning hours. With Sunday being a holiday, the number of devotees increased sharply from around 9 am. In view of the heavy footfall, temple authorities made elaborate arrangements to ensure smooth crowd management and hassle-free darshan. IndiaNews Updates To facilitate quicker darshan for general devotees, Antaralaya Darshan was temporarily suspended from 10.30 am, while all categories of VIP dar-

shan were cancelled between 10.30 am and 2.15 pm. The arrangements were supervised by Deputy Executive Officer Kishore Kumar, while Assistant Executive Officers Chandrasekhar and Ramesh Babu monitored the queue lines and coordinated with temple staff. Temple Executive Officer VK Seena Naik continuously monitored the arrangements through wireless communication, while Assistant Commissioner Ranga Rao supervised crowd management. Devotees expressed satisfaction over the well-organised arrangements, stating that despite the heavy rush, they had a smooth and peaceful darshan.

'Tribal boys' school inaugurated



Narasaraopet: July 6

Minister for Tribal Welfare, Women and Child Welfare Gummadi Sandhya Rani assured that she will release Rs 6 crore funds for the construction of Tribal Welfare Boys School compound wall and dormitory. She, along with MLA GV Anjaneyulu, inaugurated the Tribal Welfare Boys School constructed at a cost of Rs 3 crore at Checkkavagu of Vinukonda Assembly constituency in Palnadu district on Sunday. Speaking on this occasion, she said that all the necessary facilities have

been provided in the new building complex for the convenience of the students and explained welfare schemes being introduced by the coalition government for students. She further said that the government is giving top priority to education, women's welfare, women's empowerment, youth welfare and urged the eligible to avail the benefits of welfare schemes. MLA Anjaneyulu thanked the minister for her assurance to sanction another Rs 6 crore for the development of the Tribal Boys Welfare School.

Walkathon to promote cleanliness organised



Kakinada: July 6

ONGC, Kakinada, organised a walkathon on Saturday as part of Swachhata Pakhwada 2026 to raise awareness about cleanliness and encourage greater public participation in the Swachh Bharat Mission. The walkathon was flagged off by Executive Director and Asset Manager Prabal Sengupta, who joined ONGC employees and students of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Kakinada in the awareness drive. Principal of JNTU College of Engineering, K Padma Raju, also participated along with students. The event began at Ramanayapeta and proceeded to the Sarpavaram Junction-Boat Club circuit. Employees, students and the public took part in large numbers, carrying the message, "Swachha Aadat se Swachha Bharat." Participants highlighted the importance of cleanliness, hygiene, environmental responsibility and sustainable civic practices. Addressing the gathering, Prabal Sengupta said, "Cleanliness is not merely a campaign but a way of life. Every small effort made by each individual contributes to a healthier environment and a stronger nation."

RTC holds passenger awareness drive



Rajamahendravaram: July 6

State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) on Sunday conducted a special awareness programme at the Rajamahendravaram bus station as part of its campaign titled "Your satisfaction is our goal - Your encouragement to our services." (Mee Samtrupthi Maa Lakshyam - Maa Sevalaku Mee Protsaham). Addressing the passengers, Murthy said APSRTC has been providing safe and reliable transport services for the past 58 years and continues to enjoy the trust of the public. He said the number of passengers has increased significantly following the implementation of the 'Stree Shakti' scheme, but the corporation is making constant efforts to provide better services to commuters. He said bus stations are equipped with clean

waiting areas, comfortable seating arrangements, fans, proper lighting, RO drinking water facilities, toilets for men and women, passenger information centres, ticket booking counters, bus arrival and departure display boards, wheelchairs for persons with disabilities and parking facilities. Murthy urged passengers to report any shortcomings in services by recording their complaints in the complaint register available at bus stations or by contacting the APSRTC Central Complaint Cell through phone numbers 0866-2570005 or 149. He also appealed to passengers to scan the QR codes installed at bus stations and participate in the IVRS feedback survey to share their views and suggestions. Depot Manager K Madhav, Assistant Manager (Traffic) M Ajay Babu and others participated in the programme.

Land titles for Krishna bund residents demanded

Vijayawada: July 6

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPM) State Secretariat member Ch Babu Rao demanded that the state government grant land ownership titles to families residing along the Krishna river bund in Vijayawada. He accused it of neglecting the poor while pursuing the proposed privatisation of Bhavani Island. Indian Current Events The demand was made during a padayatra organised by the party in Ranadive Nagar of Krishnalanka to highlight issues such as house site pattas, construction of an outfall drain and other civic problems faced by residents. Addressing the gathering, Babu Rao alleged that while the government was willing to lease the 130-acre Bhavani Island to private firms for tourism development, it had failed to provide ownership rights to families who have been living on the Krishna bund for nearly five decades. He said thousands of res-



idents had built houses with their own earnings without any government assistance and questioned why they were still being denied land titles even after the construction of the retaining wall. He also urged the government to permit residents to replace damaged roofs and provide financial assistance for house repairs. Babu Rao criticised the delay in constructing the outfall drain at Ranadive Nagar, stating that despite the retaining wall being completed more than two years ago, the absence of a proper drainage system had resulted in stagnant sewage, mosquito breed-

ing and health hazards. He alleged that despite election promises to protect Krishna bund residents, the government had failed to address their long-pending demands. The CPM leader warned that the party would intensify its agitation until land titles are issued, the outfall drain is completed, and basic civic amenities are provided to the residents. Government CPM State committee member Donepudi Kashinath, East City secretary P Krishna, city secretariat member Korada Ramana, and other party leaders participated in the padayatra.

Merit students receive Rs 2L worth scholarships



Vijayawada: July 6

Manavatha Vijayawada Branch on Sunday organised its annual Prathibha Puraskaram (Talent Awards) programme, honouring meritorious students and promoting academic excellence. Scholarships and merit awards worth Rs 2 lakh were distributed to deserving students at the event. The programme was held at Swatantra Samara Yodhulu Bhavanam (Freedom Fighters' Bhavan) near Bandar Locks in Vijayawada. Around 150 students and nearly 100 parents attended the event, reflecting the organisation's continued commitment to encouraging education and recognising academic achievement. Founder-President of Sri Balaji Orphans and Destitute Service Organisation, Dr

Chunduri Krishna Mohan Das, attended the programme as the chief guest. Commending Manavatha's efforts, he said such initiatives play a vital role in motivating students to excel in their studies and build successful careers. Manavatha general secretary Davuluri Sambasiva Rao, chairman Pagidipalli Ramu, assistant secretary Rangu Venkata Durga Prasad, and executive committee members Sunkara Subhash Chandra Bose, Atluri Tripura Sundara Rao, Medical Raju, Nadella Sumathi, Ch Vijay Kumar, R Koteswara Rao, P Masudhana Rao, Medishetti Venkateswara Rao, Nemani Kameswari, Muvva Sailaja, Ravindra, and Javvaji Srinivasa Rao participated in the programme.

BESCOM suspends July meter reading amid Gruha Jyothi verification drive

Bengaluru: July 6

The Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM) has announced that regular electricity meter readings will not be carried out during July as meter readers have been deployed for the state government's Gruha Jyothi beneficiary verification drive, which officially began on July 1. The house-to-house verification exercise requires significant manpower, prompting BESCOM to assign its meter readers to assist in identifying and verifying beneficiaries under the Gruha Jyothi scheme. As a result, the routine monthly meter reading process has been temporarily suspended for July. In a post on its official X account, BESCOM clarified that domestic consumers will not receive a meter reading visit this month. Instead, electricity bills for July will be generated based on the average power consumption recorded over the previous three months. However, BESCOM stated that this temporary arrangement will not apply to High Tension (HT) consumers, Low Tension (LT) consumers with connected loads of 40 BHP or above, rooftop solar consumers under the net-metering system, and temporary electricity connection holders. These categories of consumers will continue to receive regular meter readings as per the existing schedule. HT consumers typically include large industrial units, commercial establishments, IT parks, and residential complexes that receive electricity at higher voltage levels such as 11 kV, 22 kV, or 33



kV. Since their billing is based on different tariff structures and consumption patterns, meter readings for these consumers will continue without interruption. Similarly, rooftop solar consumers connected under BESCOM's net-metering system require periodic meter readings to calculate the difference between electricity imported from and exported to the grid, which determines their final electricity bill. As part of the Gruha Jyothi verification exercise, ESCOM personnel have begun visiting households across the state to verify eligible beneficiaries. During verification, consumers are required to produce documents such as their Voter ID, Aadhaar card, and, where applicable, rental agreement. BESCOM has also advised consumers to verify the identity of officials conducting the verification. The utility said all personnel visiting households must carry and display their official identity cards while carrying out the verification process.