

SKYLINE

ENGLISH DAILY

Published from Hyderabad & Medchal - Malkajgiri

Circulated throughout Telangana State



Vol. 50 Issue: 225

Friday, July 3, 2026

Hyderabad, 12 Pages Rs.1.00

AI must reach MSMEs to make India globally competitive: Telangana industries director

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, July, 2 : Artificial Intelligence (AI) adoption must extend beyond large enterprises to MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) if India is to remain globally competitive, Telangana Industries Director Nikhil Chakravarthy said at a FICCI Telangana conference on "AI in Manufacturing - Accelerating the Future of Smart Manufacturing" held in Hyderabad on Thursday. Addressing industry leaders, policymakers and technology experts, Chakravarthy said Telangana is working with global consultants to integrate AI into governance and MSME-focused policies. Drawing from his visits to manufacturing hubs in China and Taiwan, he stressed that AI-driven technologies are rapidly reshaping global manufacturing.

FICCI Telangana Chairman VV Rama Raju said AI has become a business necessity rather than a future concept, while Conference Chairman Harsh Vardhan, Global Head-Digital Innovation Hub at Apollo Tyres,

highlighted AI's growing role in Industry 4.0, digital twins and intelligent automation. He emphasized that AI should augment human capabilities and called for robust governance as AI systems become increasingly autonomous.

A panel comprising government and industry experts discussed AI's role in predictive maintenance, quality assurance, smart supply chains, workforce transformation and sustainability, stressing the

need for strong digital infrastructure, cybersecurity, data governance and workforce upskilling.

The key highlight of the conference was a panel discussion on "AI in Manufacturing: Driving Productivity, Innovation and Sustainability", moderated by M. V. Reddy, SVP & Head - Cloud Services, Jio Platforms. The panel included: Sarvesh Singh, CEO, Life Sciences & Pharma, Government of Telangana; Qi Yang, Head

- AI & Machine Learning, Biological E. Limited and Gulbahar Singh, CIO & Digital Transformation Leader, MYK LATICRETE.

The conference also featured case studies from Apollo Tyres and MSME-focused AI applications, with participants agreeing that AI and Industry 4.0 technologies will be key to strengthening India's global manufacturing competitiveness and accelerating sustainable industrial growth.

HYD startup develop AI-powered phyto-medicines for psoriasis, diabetic wounds

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, July, 2 : Acubiosys Private Limited, a biotechnology startup incubated at the CDFD Technology Incubator of the BRIC-Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics (BRIC-CDFD), has developed AI- and nanotechnology-enabled phyto-medicines for psoriasis and diabetic wound care.

The startup has commercialised two

patented products - BOCUGL, a topical formulation for psoriasis, atopic dermatitis and melasma, and AZBEKO, an advanced wound-care formulation for chronic wounds and diabetic foot ulcers. Both products are manufactured in India under AYUSH and Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) standards.

The company has filed patent applications in India, China and the United States and is

expanding its AI-driven drug discovery platform to develop next-generation phytopharma ceuticals for autoimmune and infectious diseases.

Founder and CEO Dr. Srinivas Maddi said the company aims to combine artificial intelligence, nanotechnology and life sciences to develop affordable, evidence-based therapies while strengthening India's biotechnology innovation ecosystem.

Agency constituencies seek 2,000 more Indiramma houses



From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, July, 2 : The MLAs representing Agency constituencies urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to allot an additional 2,000 Indiramma houses in tribal Assembly segments. The demand was submitted through a memorandum during a meeting at the Dr.

B. R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat. The delegation was led by Panchayat Raj Minister Dansari Anasuya Seethakka and comprised tribal legislators. Besides seeking additional housing, the delegation requested the government to grant land titles for podu lands in tribal areas.

It also urged the state to implement the Indira Giri Jala Vikasam scheme. Furthermore, the legislators sought stronger Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs). They also requested the government to upgrade tribal Ashram schools up to the Intermediate level. The MLAs who

met the Chief Minister included Jare Adinarayana, Payam Venkateswarlu, Koram Kanakaiah, Tellam Venkat Rao and Vedma Bojju. Ministers Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, Adluri Laxman Kumar and Mohammed Azharuddin were also present during the meeting.

Indiramma houses tenders soon in CURE area



From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, July, 2 : Revenue, Housing and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Wednesday said the Telangana government

would soon invite tenders for Indiramma houses in Hyderabad's CURE area. He said officials would complete land acquisition for the project within two to three days. The minister said the government planned to

build one lakh Indiramma houses within the Inner Ring Road limits under the Comprehensive Urban Renewal and Expansion (CURE) project. He added that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had directed officials to speed up the process. Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy distributed ownership documents to beneficiaries of completed double-bedroom houses in Goshamahall.

spite land prices ranging from Rs.100 crore to Rs.200 crore per acre. Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said the government completed 125 unfinished double-bedroom houses at Dhoolpet. He said the previous government had left those houses incomplete. He also directed the district collector to identify more land for additional housing projects in the area. The minister said the government would not shift poor families 30 kilometres away from cities. Instead, it would provide houses close to their livelihoods and within their own constituencies. He also claimed that the Congress government would build more houses in two-and-a-half years than the BRS government built in ten years. He accused the previous government of focusing on large projects instead of housing for the poor.

Parakala flags 'lack of transparency' in voter list revision at PV memorial lecture

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, July, 2 : Economist and social analyst Dr Parakala Prabhakar on Thursday alleged that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls lacked transparency and accountability, urging civil society and intellectuals to question the exercise.

Delivering the PV Memorial Lecture on the topic "SIR 2025-26: Is it diluting the essence of India?" at Dr BR Ambedkar Open University (BRAOU) on the 105th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao, he cautioned that large-scale deletion of voters could adversely affect minorities, Dalits, tribals, women and economically weaker sections. He also questioned the Election Commission's

transparency, claiming RTI requests on SIR-related policy decisions received no supporting documents. In some states, hundreds of thousands of voters have been removed from the lists, and when asked about it, there's no one giving a proper answer, he argued and said that the current

voter list (SIR) is significantly different compared to the extensive revisions made in 2002.

BRAOU Vice-Chancellor Prof Ghanta Chakrapani said a transparent electoral roll is the foundation of democracy, remarking that while voters once chose their rulers, "today rulers

are deciding who the voters are."

PV's daughter and MLC Surabhi Vani Devi paid tribute to P.V. Narasimha Rao's leadership and commitment to social justice, while Academic Director Prof G Pushpa Chakrapani highlighted the late leader's vision and statesmanship.

Tribal MLAs urge Revanth to allocate additional Indiramma houses for agency areas

From Our Staff Reporter

Hyderabad, July, 2 : Adivasi and Tribal MLAs have requested Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to allocate an additional 2,000 'Indiramma' houses to constituencies within Agency regions. The MLAs, led by Panchayat Raj Minister Seethakka, met Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at the Secretariat on Thursday, where they presented petitions addressing various issues. They also emphasised the need for the government to issue land titles (pattas) for Podu lands and to implement the 'Indira Giri Jala Vikasam' scheme. Additionally, the MLAs called for the upgrade of Tribal Ashram schools to the Intermediate level and the further strengthening of Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs). Among those present at the meeting were Ashwarapeta MLA Jare Adinarayana, Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu, Illandu MLA Koram Kanakaiah, Bhadrachalam MLA Tellam Venkat Rao, and Khanapur MLA Vedma Bojju, along with Ministers Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, Adluri Laxman, and Azharuddin.

WELFARE TENDERS & STATE DEBT

High-volt drama enfolds Hyderabad over Congress-BRS open challenge

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, July, 2 : Tension situation prevailed at Gun Park and BRS Bhavan in Hyderabad on Thursday, marked by challenges and counter-challenges between Ministers and BRS leaders regarding the location for an open debate about alleged irregularities in welfare department tenders.

Ministers Ponnamp Prabhakar, Adluri Laxman, and Azharuddin, who had accepted the BRS's invitation for a debate, gathered at Gun Park and accused BRS leaders of not attending. They expressed their willingness to engage in

discussions with any former BRS minister who might arrive, extending an invitation to the Somajiguda Press Club for the debate.

In the meantime, former minister Harish Rao began his journey from Telangana Bhavan to Gun Park, which led to heightened tension as the police intervened to stop him. This situation escalated into a heated exchange and a scuffle between BRS supporters and the police. Subsequently, former Ministers T. Harish Rao and V. Srinivas Goud, along with BRS General Secretary RS Praveen Kumar and other party officials, were detained and pre-

vented from reaching Gun Park.

Harish Rao stated, "I am open to discussing the Congress government's debts. Congress Ministers lack the courage to engage in this debate."

In response, Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar remarked that if the statements made by BRS leaders were accurate, they should be willing to participate in discussions. BRS leaders, including KT Rama Rao, Harish Rao, and Praveen Kumar, have claimed corruption related to hostels, to which Prabhakar countered, stating these accusations

against the Congress government are unfounded.

"The public has the right to understand the truth. The government has conducted the entire procurement process in a transparent manner, with tenders issued under the supervision of four different departments. Do the BRS leaders not realise that anyone can participate in these tenders? They simply cannot accept the progress and well-being of SC, ST, BC, and minority children," Ponnamp Prabhakar asserted.

Adluri Laxman, the Minister for SC and ST Welfare, accused BRS leaders of misleading the public with

untrue claims regarding irregularities in the welfare department tenders. He also called for BRS president K. Chandrashekhara Rao to join the debate. Laxman pointed out that the total value of the tenders was Rs. 1,143 crore, alleging that BRS was wrongly asserting irregularities amounting to Rs. 2,000 crore.

Later, Excise Minister Juppally Krishna Rao, who had previously invited the BRS to a debate on the state's debt at Telangana Bhavan, also arrived at Gun Park while BRS working president KT Rama Rao was at Telangana Bhavan awaiting his arrival.

H-NEW BUSTS NATIONWIDE SPEED POST GANJA SYNDICATE; MASTERMIND ARRESTED



From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, July, 2 : In a major breakthrough against interstate narcotics trafficking, the Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing (H-NEW) has dismantled a sophisticated ganja distribution network that used Speed Post and courier services to deliver cannabis across nearly 21 states. The operation led to the arrest of the alleged mastermind, Satyam Misra of Jharkhand, while four other key accused members - Shubham Misra @ Shubham Dada @ Bhaiya (Elder brother of Satyam Misra), Rahul Jha @ Chote Misra (Parcel booking and dispatch agent), Sachin Misra (Relative of Satyam Misra) and Santosh Pandit (Mumbai network coordinator) re-

main absconding.

Investigators revealed that the syndicate dispatched 80 to 100 orders daily, including 8 to 10 Speed Post consignments, by falsely declaring the parcels as medicines. Customers placed orders through WhatsApp and made payments via UPI, enabling the gang to earn an estimated Rs.30 - Rs.35 lakh per month, with an annual turnover of nearly Rs.5 crore.

The racket came to light after H-NEW intercepted a ganja parcel booked from Jharkhand and addressed to Hyderabad. The investigation led to the arrest of two Hyderabad-based buyers, Sushanth Vyas and Laddu, and the seizure of 2 kg of ganja. Police also uncovered a Mumbai distribu-

tion network serving over 1,000 regular consumers, where coded terms such as "Mango", "Stick" and "Flower" were used to conceal drug transactions.

The investigation exposed a major security loophole, with narcotics parcels transported through trains and flights without mandatory scanning. In response, Hyderabad City Police will recommend stricter screening protocols for postal consignments to the concerned central authorities.

Police also found that the syndicate laundered drug proceeds through multiple bank accounts and UPI IDs, including accounts belonging to family members, before investing the money in gold and luxury vehicles.

The Hyderabad City Po-

lice has directed courier agencies to compulsorily scan all parcels and urged citizens to immediately report suspicious deliveries by calling Dial 100 or the H-NEW helpline (8712661601).

Commissioner of Police V.C. Sajjanar commended the 22-member H-NEW team, led by DCP Gaikwad Vaibhav Raghunath, for successfully dismantling one of the country's most organized postal drug trafficking networks. Pivotal roles were played by Inspectors Balaswamy and Nagarjuna, Sub-Inspector (SI) Manoj Kumar, Gudimalkapur SI Upendra Babu, Assistant Sub-Inspectors (ASIs) Chakrapani and Subbarao, Head Constable Umashankar and other police constables.

Indiramma Housing tenders for 1 Lk homes in CUR area soon: Minister Ponguleti



From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, July, 2 : Telangana Revenue, Housing and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy announced that the state government will soon invite tenders for the construction of one lakh Indiramma houses in the City Urban Region (CUR) within the Inner Ring Road limits. Land acquisition for the

project across three municipal corporations would be completed within the next two to three days, as directed by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, he added.

Addressing a gathering after distributing allotment documents for double-bedroom houses in the Goshamahal Assembly constituency, Ponguleti said the government aims to provide a house to every

poor family. He announced that, as a pilot, 500 - 1,000 houses would be taken up in each of the 19 CUR Assembly constituencies, with additional allocations planned in later phases.

Further, the minister said the government would construct houses within city limits despite high urban land costs, ensuring beneficiaries receive homes close to their livelihoods. He also said 125

stalled houses in Dhoolpet are being completed and that the district collectors have been directed to identify more land for eligible beneficiaries. Ponguleti reiterated his challenge (that he would not contest the upcoming elections if this proved impossible) that the Congress government would build more houses in two-and-a-half years than the previous BRS government did in 10 years.

MISSION TELANGANA: BJP KICKS OFF 2028 CAMPAIGN, TARGETS CONG & BRS

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, July, 2 : The BJP has formally launched its political campaign for the 2028 Telangana Assembly elections by declaring the state as its "Mission Telangana", with party leaders asserting that the Congress government and the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) are increasingly vulnerable. In a statement issued on Thursday, Telangana BJP spokesperson PL Srinivas said BJP national president Nitin Nabin's recent visit to Hyderabad marked the beginning of the party's long-term strategy to emerge as the principal alternative in the state. According to Srinivas, the BJP plans to strengthen its grassroots network through booth-level

organisational restructuring and sustained public outreach ahead of the local body elections, which the party views as a crucial stepping stone to the 2028 Assembly polls. For the BJP, the coming municipal polls are not merely civic contests but the first major political test ahead of the 2028 Assembly elections. The BJP also accused the Congress government of failing to fully implement its election promises despite being in office for more than two years, while blaming the previous BRS government for leaving Telangana with a heavy debt burden. Referring to the BJP's organisational growth in West Bengal, Srinivas said the party believes a similar expansion is possible in Telangana through sus-

tained cadre-building and voter outreach. The BJP's declaration of "Mission Telangana" signals an early start to the battle for the 2028 Assembly elections, with the party aiming to position itself as the main challenger to both the ruling Congress and the BRS. "BJP national president

Nitin Nabin's visit to Hyderabad was far more than a routine organisational exercise. It was a carefully scripted political message - to the party cadre, to the electorate, and more importantly, to the ruling Congress and the opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi", he noted.

Govt appoints temporary committees for 14 PACS

Hyderabad, July 2 : Agriculture and Cooperation Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has revealed that the State government has issued orders to establish temporary non-official Person-in-Charge (PIC) committees for 14 Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) in Telangana.

According to the Minister, these committees have been appointed for a duration of six months, in line with the Telangana Cooperative Societies Act. Their tenure will last until elections for the relevant societies are conducted or until further directives are provided by the government, whichever comes first.

Harish Rao accuses Congress govt of evading debate on debt, Gurukul tenders

From Our Staff Reporter

Hyderabad, July, 2 : Former minister and BRS deputy floor leader T. Harish Rao strongly criticised the Congress government, alleging that it had backed out of the public debate it had itself proposed on the issues of State debt and alleged irregularities in Gurukul tenders.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan on Thursday, Harish Rao said the government had issued repeated public challenges but failed to appear for the debate. He said BRS leaders, including himself and K.T. Rama Rao, were present at Telangana Bhavan, but Congress leaders failed to honour their own challenge.

Harish Rao said Minister Jupally Krishna Rao initially alleged that the previous BRS government had burdened Telangana with Rs.8 lakh crore of debt but later reduced the figure to Rs.7 lakh crore, questioning the credibility of the government's allegations.

Harish Rao said the Congress government prevented the debate by deploying the police and obstructing BRS leaders from reaching the designated venue. He alleged that the



government's actions demonstrated its unwillingness to defend its claims in public.

Referring to the alleged irregularities in Gurukul tenders, Harish Rao said he, along with BRS leaders R.S. Praveen Kumar and Koppula Eshwar, had presented documentary evidence regarding alleged irregularities in the procurement process. He alleged that the government's refusal to participate in the debate had effectively exposed the irregularities.

The BRS leader further alleged that tenders for groceries, uniforms, footwear, notebooks and other supplies meant for Gurukul in-

stitutions had been manipulated, resulting in substantial financial loss to the State. He claimed that inflated procurement costs in items such as edible oils, spices and other essential supplies had caused significant loss to the exchequer.

Harish Rao also alleged that procurement orders meant for LIDCAP, which benefits Dalit entrepreneurs, had been diverted in violation of existing government policy. He questioned how the government could deny irregularities when LIDCAP itself had formally represented that it had received such orders during the previous BRS government.

He further alleged that irregularities in notebook procurement were exposed after BRS questioned the introduction of a watermark condition, following which the tenders were cancelled. Harish Rao claimed that this delay had affected the timely supply of notebooks to school students.

The BRS leader criticised the transfer of the wife of BRS leader R.S. Praveen Kumar, alleging that it was a retaliatory action taken because he had questioned the government over the Gurukul tenders. He also alleged that the security provided to R.S. Praveen Kumar had been reduced for political reasons.

KTR slams Congress govt over cowardly retreat from debt face-off

From Our Staff Reporter

Hyderabad, July, 2 : Bharat Rashtra Samithi eorking president K.T. Rama Rao launched a blistering attack on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and his cabinet Ministers on Thursday, accusing them of a cowardly retreat from a debate on state debts. Speaking to the media at Telangana Bhavan on Thursday, KT Rama Rao stated that the entire state witnessed the "sheer cowardice" of the ruling dispensation, which backtracked after throwing open challenges. He revealed that the party had specially arranged a chair and a shawl at Telangana Bhavan, waiting for over three hours for Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, who had boastfully claimed he would visit the BRS headquarters. "Instead of turning up, the Minister chose to hide, and the government orchestrated high-

drama elsewhere," KTR said. Condemning the arrests of senior BRS leader T. Harish Rao and other prominent figures who were heading to Gun Park for the debate, KT Rama Rao termed the action a shameful display of cowardice. Terming it a blatant assault on democratic rights, KTR vehemently condemned the fact that he himself was unlawfully obstructed by police personnel right at the entrance gate when he attempted to proceed to Gun Park on foot. "This government lacks the spine to face us in a democratic debate. Sitting in safe havens and hurling challenges while using the police force to suppress the opposition exposes the moral degradation of this regime," KTR slammed. He further condemned the police for restricting leaders from even visiting those detained at the Kanchanbagh Police



Station. The BRS working president challenged the Chief Minister to immediately convene a special session of the Legislative Assembly if the government has the courage to face facts. "Give us the floor without abruptly cutting off our microphones, and we will thoroughly expose the

two-and-a-half years of hollow governance and corruption of this Congress regime," he asserted. The BRS working president accused the government of resorting to 'Shikhandi politics' to divert public attention from its administrative failures and the 420 unfulfilled electoral promises.

TELANGANA TOURISM LAUNCHES ONE-DAY PILGRIMAGE & HERITAGE TOUR

From Our Staff Reporter

Hyderabad, July, 2 : The Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation Limited (TGTDC) has launched a new one-day Pilgrimage and Heritage Tour Package covering some of the state's most prominent spiritual, cultural and heritage destinations.

The circuit - Hyderabad-Yadagirigutta-Shilparamam-Kolanpaka Jain Temple-Swarnagiri Temple-

Bhoodan Pochampally-Hyderabad - offers tourists a blend of temple visits, heritage exploration and Telangana's famed handloom tradition in a single-day itinerary.

The tour departs from Yatri Nivas, Secunderabad (7:00 am), Paryatak Bhavan, Begumpet (7:15 am) and CRO office, Basheerbagh (7:30 am). The package includes darshan at the Sri Yadagiri Lakshmi

Narasimha Swamy Temple, visits to Shilparamam, the historic Kolanpaka Jain temple, Swarnagiri temple and Bhoodan Pochampally, along with breakfast, vegetarian lunch, hi-tea and AC mini bus transportation.

The tour returns to Hyderabad by around 7.30 pm. The all-inclusive package is priced at Rs.2,070 for adults and Rs.1,770 for children. Telangana Tourism said the initiative is aimed at

promoting the state's religious tourism, cultural heritage and world-renowned Ikat handloom tradition while offering an affordable and comfortable travel experience. For bookings and enquiries, tourists can contact the Central Reservation Office, Basheerbagh on mobile numbers - 98481 25720 and 83672 85285, or book online through the official TGTDC portal - <https://tgtdc.in/package/yadagirigutta-swarnagiri>

TRS CHIEF KAVITHA ARRESTED DURING BODUPPAL PROTEST

From Our Staff Reporter

Hyderabad, July, 2 : Police on Thursday arrested Telangana Rakshana Sena (TRS) president Kavitha in Boduppal after she attempted to participate in a protest over land-related issues in the Uppal Assembly constituency.

The TRS had organized the agitation demanding the implementation of land-

related promises made to Telangana activists. Police intercepted Kavitha upon her arrival at the protest site, leading to a heated argument between party workers and police personnel. Following a scuffle, Kavitha and several TRS activists were taken into custody and shifted to Bollaram Police Station.

Addressing the media be-

fore being taken into custody, Kavitha alleged that police used force against protesters, including women and Telangana activists. She accused the police of resorting to indiscriminate lathi-charge and said several activists were injured. She maintained that the protesters were only demanding the fulfillment of the Congress government's

promise to allot 250-square-yard residential plots to Telangana activists. Kavitha said the government should honour its commitments and warned that the "countdown for the Congress government has begun". She asserted that the TRS would continue its agitation until the promises made to Telangana activists are fulfilled.

AP Minister Gottipati Ravikumar orders measures to resolve power issues

Vijayawada July 2
(Skyline daily):

Andhra Pradesh Minister Gottipati Ravikumar has directed officials to accelerate measures to resolve power outages and low-voltage issues across the state. The Minister reviewed the status of power supply, project progress, and thermal power generation. He ordered the completion of TRANSCO projects within the stipulated deadlines and instructed officials to review project delays with contractors to expedite the work. He emphasised the need for coordination with District Collectors to resolve field-level issues promptly. The Minister noted that the Plant Load Factor (PLF) of thermal plants exceeded 80 per cent between January and June, whereas it had remained between 45% and 50% during the previous government's tenure. The Minister instructed officials to ensure that thermal power stations maintain coal reserves sufficient for at



least 15 days. He called for strengthening APGENCO and increasing captive power generation, while also directing officials to formulate a strategy to reduce power purchases. He further instructed that an action plan regarding BESS (Battery Energy Storage Systems) be prepared to meet future power requirements. Minister Gottipati Ravikumar directed officials to work towards enhancing public satisfaction with power sector services.

Rs 100.69-cr AMRUT 2.0 water project launched in Penukonda



Penukonda: July 2

A major drinking water infrastructure project under the AMRUT 2.0 scheme, estimated at Rs 100.69 crore, was launched in Penukonda Municipality on Wednesday. The foundation stone was laid by Revenue Minister Anagani Satya Prasad, Minister Savithamma, Hindupur MP BK Parthasarathi, and Sri Sathya Sai District Collector A Shyam Prasad. The massive project aims to overhaul and strengthen the drinking water supply system across Penukonda and surrounding areas. Speaking at the gathering, Minister Savitha stated that the project

was sanctioned keeping in mind the town's rising population and the escalating water requirements driven by industrial growth, particularly around the nearby Kia manufacturing ecosystem. She recalled the region's historical water scarcity that once forced mass migrations, affirming that this project will deliver a permanent solution to ensure safe drinking water reaches every household. During the event, the Ministers also distributed land ownership documents to local beneficiaries. Minister Savitha highlighted the smooth rollout of welfare schemes like Taliki Vandanam and Deepam 2.0, while Revenue

Minister Anagani Satya Prasad reiterated the government's commitment to timely monthly pension distribution and balanced regional development.

Hindupur MP BK Parthasarathi noted that the project would bring permanent relief to peripheral villages like Venkatreddypalli, Konapuram, Seefaram, and Venkatapuram. District Collector A Shyam Prasad urged residents to eliminate water wastage and maintain urban cleanliness to help transform Penukonda into a model municipality. The mega launch was attended by public representatives, local officials, and executives from Jindal Industries.

Reliance sets up major plant at Orvakal; EV unit to start ops soon

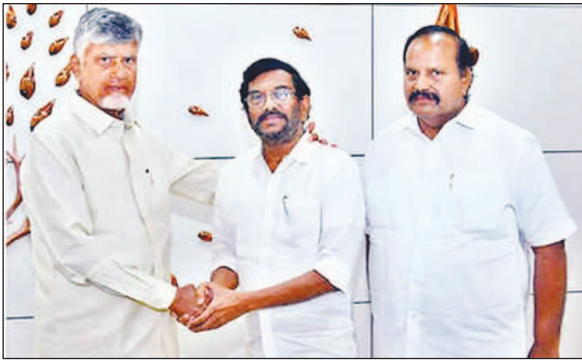


Kurnool: July 2

Andhra Pradesh Minister for Industries, Commerce and Food Processing, TG Bharath Gupta, has said the State Government is committed to accelerating Kurnool's industrial development with the twin objectives of generating large-scale employment and curbing migration from the district. The Minister made these remarks while participating in a pension distribution programme at Erraburuju in Kurnool city on Wednesday. During the programme, he visited beneficiaries at their residences, personally handed over pensions and interacted with families to understand their grievances. He said the public response during his visits to various wards reflected growing confidence in the coalition government's governance and welfare initiatives over the past two years. The Minister said the government, under the leadership of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh, is making sustained efforts to attract investments to Kurnool district.

According to him, investment proposals worth nearly Rs.10,000 crore have already been secured for the Orvakal Industrial Park, while an electric vehicle manufacturing unit with a proposed investment of Rs 300 crore is expected to begin operations shortly. He also pointed out that the industrial park had long suffered due to inadequate water infrastructure, but the coalition government prioritised and expedited the pending works after assuming office, paving the way for rapid industrial expansion. Emphasising Orvakal's emergence as a key industrial destination, TG Bharat said several major companies are establishing manufacturing facilities in the region. He noted that Reliance has set up what he described as the world's second-largest beverages manufacturing plant at Orvakal, further strengthening the district's industrial profile. Reiterating the government's commitment to balanced regional development, the Minister also affirmed that efforts are continuing to establish a High Court Bench in Kurnool.

MLA briefs CM over Sarvepalli development



Nellore: July 2

Sarvepalli MLA Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy briefed Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on development activities in his Sarvepalli constituency at Undavalli on Tuesday and presented a specially prepared booklet with details of various development and welfare schemes undertaken in Sarvepalli, including 'P4' initiatives, to the CM. The MLA explained Naidu about upcoming development projects worth crores of rupees planned for the current financial year under P4 initiative, including distribution of another 2,000 bicycles, installation of water plants and solar streetlights, establishment of skill development centers, upgrading high schools into model schools, hospital construction and adoption of

Muthukurru and Krishnapatnam panchayats. After the formation of the alliance government, Somireddy focused specifically on the effective utilisation of CSR funds and insisted that 75 per cent of these funds be spent for the benefit of locals, who bear the brunt of industrial pollution after giving up their lands for setting up these industries. He reported that development and welfare schemes worth over Rs 52 crore in CSR funds were implemented in the first year and preparations are currently underway to execute further works worth Rs 34 crore. MLA Somireddy had previously adopted tribal village Mallikarjunapuram and now adopted two children, taking full responsibility of their care.

MLA Jayasurya inaugurates Dronacharya urban forest



Dhone: July 2

In a major boost to urban greenery, the 115-acre Dronacharya Urban Forest, located opposite the new Government Hospital in Dhone, was inaugurated by MLA Kotla Jayasurya Prakash Reddy on Wednesday. Developed by the Forest Department at a cost of Rs 2 crore, the massive park is designed to serve as a vital "green lung" for the town, promoting environmental conservation while offering a peaceful retreat amid rapid urbanization. Speaking at the launch, MLA Jayasurya Prakash Reddy emphasized that expanding green cover is essential for improving public health and quality of life. He stated that the project aligns with the government's core vision of "Health for Every Home and Greenery for Every Region," ensuring residents have seamless access to clean air and sustainable public spaces.

The newly opened urban forest is equipped with modern recreational amenities, including a well-laid walking track, trekking trails, dedicated children's play areas, comfortable visitor seating, and extensive plantations. The MLA expressed confidence that the serene environment would quickly become a popular destination for morning walks, family outings, and leisure activities. Looking ahead, the MLA announced that future developments would be shaped by public feedback. He also revealed major plans to establish a Mini Deer Park and introduce additional recreational features to transform the facility into a prominent eco-tourism hub for the district. The inauguration ceremony was well-attended by public representatives, Forest Department officials, alliance leaders, and a large number of enthusiastic local residents.

Jagan resembles 'Spyder' villain, resorts to 'corpse' politics: JSP



Anantapur: July 2

Janasena district presidents, along with AHUDA Chairman TC Varun and TIDCO Chairman Vemulapati Ajay Kumar, strongly condemned YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on Wednesday. Speaking at a press conference, they accused Jagan of disrupting law and order and resorting to desperate "corpse politics," comparing his behavior to the psycho-villain in the movie Spyder. The leaders accused YSRCP of stoking caste and religious tensions for political gain.

They questioned Jagan's track record on the rule of law, citing past atrocities during his regime, including the forced tansure of Dalit youth Varaprasad and the murder of Dalit driver Subrahmanyam by former YSRCP MLC Anantha Babu. Issuing a stern warning, TC Varun stated that if YSRCP continues to level baseless allegations against CM Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, they will face a heavy defeat in the upcoming local body polls.

Call to JSP workers to participate in party committee formation



Nellore: July 2

Jana Sena Party leader Gunukula Kishore has highlighted the party's transparent mechanism that identifies and nurtures ordinary grassroots workers, transforming them into capable leaders. Speaking at the party committee formation coordinators' information collection meeting held in Nellore on Wednesday, chaired by Narsapuram MLA and Government Whip Bommidu Narayana Nayakar, Kishore praised

Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan for opening a new chapter in politics by empowering common people committed to public causes. He noted that his decade-long service as district general secretary helped him earn wider recognition and strengthen the party. He lauded Pawan Kalyan's integrity, saying the leader stands out for fulfilling his promises. Government Kishore cited Bommidu Nayakar's inspiring journey from an ordinary

worker to MLA, Government Whip, and Chairman of Fishermen Development Corporation as a shining example for all activists. He also appreciated Sadam Mounika, the first Jana Sena MPTC member in the district. Urging workers to set aside differences and unite, Kishore called for active participation in the ongoing committee formation process, assuring dedicated members of opportunities within the party.

Dy CM Pawan virtually inaugurates Kailasagiri Eco park



Tirupati: July 2

Deputy Chief Minister K Pawan Kalyan virtually inaugurated newly developed Kailasagiri Eco Park near Ramapuram reservoir in Srikalahasti forest range. It marks the launch of a pilot eco-tourism project aimed at promoting environmental conservation and sustainable tourism. Spread across 50 acres, the park has been developed by Forest department under Nagar Van Yojana with an investment of Rs 2 crore. The project was executed under the joint supervision of the Central and State governments. Speaking on the occasion, Pawan said that urban forests play a key role in providing people with clean air and a healthy environment. He expressed happiness at participating in the inauguration of the Kailasagiri Eco Park, developed amid lush greenery and also appealed to the public to protect urban forests and actively take part in plantation drives. Located amid lush green hills, the eco park has been designed to offer visitors a blend of nature, recreation and environmental awareness. It includes landscaped gardens, herbal plantations and a wide variety of native plant species to

encourage conservation and attract tourists. Another big attraction of the park is a dedicated plantation of red sanders, a tree species native to Seshachalam forests. It also features a Red Garden showcasing endangered plant species, besides gardens developed based on Nakshatras (birth stars) and zodiac signs. It incorporates several eco-friendly features such as solar power generation, nature trails, attractive entrance structures and environmentally sustainable infrastructure to minimise its ecological footprint. Visitors can also enjoy a range of recreational facilities, including trekking trails, a lotus pond, boating, kayaking and pedal boats. The park has food courts, children's play areas, a maze garden, a green hedge maze and an amphitheatre. Other attractions include a giant national flag, archery and rifle shooting facilities, besides a toy tram that offers visitors a ride around the park. Satyavedu MLA K Adimulam, Srikalahasti Devasthanam Chairman Kotte Saiprasad, Chief Conservator of Forests Y Srinivasa Reddy, District Forest Officer V Saibaba, State Silviculturist M Babitha and others participated.

Guv Nazeer visits Prasanthi Nilayam, pays homage to Sri Sathya Sai Baba



Puttaparthi: July 2

Andhra Pradesh Governor S Abdul Nazeer paid a reverential visit to Prasanthi Nilayam on Wednesday, offering prayers at the Maha Samadhi of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba during his visit to the spiritual center. The Geographic Reference The

Governor was received by RJ Rathnakar, Managing Trustee of the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust, who welcomed him on behalf of the Trust. Upon his arrival, the Governor proceeded to Sai Kulwant Hall, where he paid floral tributes and offered prayers at the Maha Samadhi of Bhagawan Sri

Sathya Sai Baba. He later visited the Bhajan Hall, spending a few quiet moments in silent contemplation amid the serene atmosphere of the ashram. The visit was marked by traditional courtesies and reflected the Governor's reverence for the spiritual legacy of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

SKYLINE

Friday 3.7.2026

Hotter North

For generations, countries of northern and western Europe were seen as places where summer meant pleasant sunshine rather than a struggle for survival. India, by contrast, has long lived with the annual ordeal of extreme heat. That distinction is beginning to blur. As parts of France, Spain and the United Kingdom record temperatures that rival or exceed those routinely associated with the tropics, the world is witnessing more than another difficult summer. South Asians & Diaspora

It is watching climate geography being rewritten. The significance lies not simply in the numbers on the thermometer but in the societies confronting them. India has evolved, however imperfectly, with an understanding that summer can be dangerous. Air-conditioning remains inaccessible to millions, but the country has increasingly adopted heat action plans, revised work schedules, early warning systems and public awareness campaigns after repeated deadly heatwaves. European societies, whose infrastructure, housing, public transport and even tourism were designed for milder climates, are discovering that prosperity does not automatically translate into climate resilience. The economic implications are substantial.

Heat is no longer merely an environmental concern but an economic variable. Productivity declines, energy demand surges, transport networks buckle, crops suffer and insurance costs rise. Museums close, schools alter schedules, outdoor work becomes hazardous and electricity grids come under unprecedented strain. Every new record exposes another weakness in infrastructure built for a different climate. For India, Europe's predicament should not invite schadenfreude but reflection. If wealthy nations with advanced public services find themselves struggling to cope with prolonged extreme heat, countries with larger populations, greater urban congestion and wider economic disparities face an even steeper challenge.

The question is no longer whether heatwaves will intensify, but whether governments can adapt quickly enough to minimise the human and economic costs. This also challenges a lingering misconception that climate change is primarily a future problem or one confined to vulnerable developing nations. The burden is increasingly global, though its consequences remain unequal. Rich countries may possess greater financial resources to adapt, but they are learning that decades of infrastructure investment cannot be redesigned overnight. Poorer countries often have greater experience living with heat but far fewer resources to protect their citizens.

The emerging reality demands a shift in public policy. Climate adaptation deserves the same seriousness as roads, defence or public health. Urban planning must prioritise cooling, green spaces and resilient buildings. Water management, power systems and labour regulations must account for temperatures that once seemed exceptional but are becoming routine. Europe's unprecedented heat is therefore not simply Europe's story. It is a reminder that the climate dividing line between temperate and tropical regions is becoming less meaningful. In a warming world, no nation can assume that yesterday's weather will define tomorrow's normal. The sooner governments accept that reality, the better prepared their societies will be for the summers that lie ahead.

2027 delimitation must go beyond North-South talk

When India's Delimitation Commission next convenes, it will inherit a task that no commission has faced in fifty years: the freedom to actually change how many parliamentary seats each state sends to the Lok Sabha. The 84th Constitutional Amendment of 2001 froze that allocation until after the first census taken after 2026. The 2027 Census will lift that freeze, and the redistribution of roughly 281 new seats across 36 states and Union Territories will follow.

The political debate has focused almost entirely on the North-South dimension, on whether states such as Kerala and Tamil Nadu, which succeeded in controlling population growth, will now be punished for that success by a reallocation that rewards higher-growth Hindi-belt states. That concern is legitimate, and it deserves the attention it has received. But it has obscured an equally consequential question that will determine whether any new boundaries actually improve Indian democracy: which constituencies within states should be split, into how many parts, and on what evidence? An EAC-PM working paper provides the most systematic answer yet attempted.

Drawing on a panel of 2,171 constituency-elections across four general elections from 2009 to 2024 and linking each constituency to its demographic and linguistic profile, it overturns one of the oldest assumptions in Indian electoral studies. For decades, conventional wisdom held that large constituencies suppress voter turnout. The logic seemed self-evident: queues at metropolitan polling booths can run for hours, per-capita polling-station access in dense urban areas is lower, and the voter in a constituency of two million feels more remote from power than the voter in one of 500,000. Smaller constituencies, on this reading, should vote more. And they do, in the raw data. The smallest

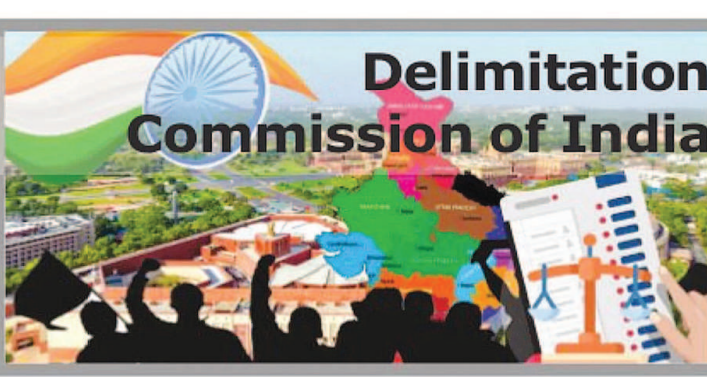
decile of constituencies turned out at a remarkable 22.9 percentage points above the largest decile in 2009. But that gap has been halving steadily. By 2024, it had fallen to 12 percentage points.

More importantly, once you account for the demographic and linguistic composition of constituencies, how urban they are, how many residents belong to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes, how linguistically polarised or diverse the local population is, the size penalty largely disappears and by 2024 reverses. A constituency with two million electors at a typical demographic profile now turns out approximately six percentage points higher than a comparable one with one million electors. The residual "size penalty" in the raw data turns out to be a composition effect. Smaller constituencies tend to be more rural, more tribal, and more linguistically polarised, and it is those features, not smallness itself, that drive higher turnout. Five compositional features dominate the picture, and they have been reorganising over the past fifteen years in ways that do not point in the same direction. Scheduled Tribe constituencies have emerged as the highest turnout category in Indian politics. The most ST-heavy decile of constituencies reached 73 per cent turnout in 2024, the highest of any group on any dimension in the research. Scheduled Caste constituencies, which once voted at a premium above the national average, have converged down to roughly the national mean. Urban constituencies, which in 2009 voted marginally above rural ones, now vote below them, a reversal that tracks India's ongoing but uneven urbanisation.

Linguistic structure, too, matters enormously. Constituencies in which a few large language communities coexist and compete have outpolled low-polarisation constituencies by eleven to thirteen percentage points in

every election of the past fifteen years, without exception. Where a few large groups believe the election will turn on their own mobilisation, each member of each group has a strong reason to vote. Constituencies with high overall linguistic diversity, many language communities coexisting, have been catching up as a turnout amplifier since 2014. The sharpest and most consequential finding is about gender. Women's electoral participation is dramatically more sensitive to constituency composition than men's. Urban share is the single largest predictor of female turnout, and the urban penalty for women is more than double the urban penalty for men.

Women in fully urban constituencies today turn out approximately five percentage points below rural women at every constituency size. For men, the urban gap is around two percentage points. This asymmetry has a clear structural logic. Dense female-targeted welfare networks, women's self-help groups, Anganwadi centres, vernacular health and microcredit programmes, are concentrated in rural India and provide a powerful social infrastructure for mobilising female voters. Urban anonymity and higher time costs of voting, particularly for working women with care responsibilities, weaken those networks precisely where constituency sizes and booth loads are highest. The implication is uncomfortable. The least-participating subgroup in Indian democracy today is not the rural poor. It is the woman in a large, fully urban metropolitan constituency. The most-participating subgroup is the woman in a high-Scheduled-Tribe, rural constituency. A targeted delimitation plan concentrating three-way splits on large metropolitan and linguistically complex constituencies, and two-way splits on secondary-urban ones, is estimated to raise national voter



turnout by between 0.3 and 2.3 percentage points at the next general election. That range reflects genuine statistical uncertainty. It corresponds to between nine and twenty-three million additional voters. Thirty-four of thirty-six states and Union Territories show a positive predicted gain.

The constituencies identified for three-way splits are heterogeneous: they include fully urban metropolitan seats such as Hyderabad, Secunderabad, and Kolkata South, but also rural Scheduled-Tribe constituencies such as Lohardaga in Jharkhand and Kandhamal in Odisha, whose joint demographic and linguistic depth generates steep predicted gains from splitting. There are, however, two things that splitting alone cannot do. It cannot close the female-urban participation gap. The residual five-percentage-point female urban penalty is preserved within every daughter constituency that a split would create, because the daughters inherit the parent constituency's compositional profile. Closing that gap requires accompanying operational reform: women-only polling booths in urban metropolitan constituencies, extended polling hours that accommodate the time constraints of urban working women, transport linkages from urban-fringe residential areas to polling stations, and women-targeted voter-roll drives using existing civic networks.

It cannot resolve the deeper constitutional question about

how states are represented in Parliament. Legal scholars have pointed out that the proposed approach of expanding the Lok Sabha on a pro-rata basis, preserving each state's current proportional share anchored in the 1971 Census freeze, extends rather than resolves a fifty-year-old political bargain that sits uneasily with the Constitution's original design. A more durable solution may lie in reforming the Rajya Sabha into a genuine forum for state interests, with meaningful powers over fiscal legislation and a rebalanced seat allocation that gives smaller states a structural voice. As India urbanises rapidly, the share of the electorate in large metropolitan constituencies will continue to rise.

Whether that rising urban share translates into falling national turnout or into a renewed wave of female and urban participation will be decided largely by what the Delimitation Commission chooses to do and what operational reforms accompany it. The 2027 Census offers India its first real chance in five decades to redesign the building blocks of its democracy. The empirical case for doing so wisely, and the constitutional stakes of doing so hastily, have rarely been clearer. The North-South debate is important. But the quality of the constituencies we create, who lives in them, how they are composed, and whether women in cities can actually participate in them, may matter even more.

How India and Japan can together navigate US shiftig Indo-Pacific strategy

The debate surrounding the United States' decision to revert from "Indo-Pacific Command" to "Pacific Command" has generated considerable speculation. Some view it as signalling a diminished American commitment to the Indo-Pacific, while others dismiss it as little more than a bureaucratic adjustment. Both interpretations miss the larger point.

The decision is perhaps best understood within the broader context of the United States' own search for strategic and national identity. President Donald Trump and the Make America Great Again movement have consistently sought to reconnect America with what they regard as the country's post-Second World War golden age-a period when the United States projected unparalleled military strength, economic confidence and global leadership. Other symbolic initiatives, including proposals to revive the title "Department of War" and restore historical military base names, reflect a wider effort to recover an earlier understanding of America's purpose in the world. Whether one agrees with this project or not is secondary. Great powers periodically revisit their history in order to shape their future. America is doing so today.

Rather than becoming absorbed in debating the title of an American military command, India and Japan should draw a different conclusion. If Washington is redefining its strategic narrative, the time has come for the original architects of the Indo-Pacific idea to reaffirm and refresh their own.

The modern Indo-Pacific concept did not originate in Washington.

It was articulated most powerfully by the late Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, whose vision of the "confluence of the two seas" brought together the Indian and Pacific Oceans into a single strategic and civilizational space. Prime Minister Narendra Modi embraced and developed that vision, giving it practical expression through initiatives ranging from maritime cooperation to the Quad.

As the Indo-Pacific gained international prominence, however, its meaning gradually narrowed. Increasingly, it came to be understood primarily through the prism of military alliances, strategic competition and the challenge posed by China's rise. These issues remain important, but they were never intended to define the Indo-Pacific in its entirety.

The original vision was broader and deeper.

The Indo-Pacific is not simply a geopolitical theatre. It is one of the world's oldest interconnected civilizational spaces. For over two millennia, the seas linking India, Southeast Asia, China and Japan carried not only goods but also ideas, religions, technologies, artistic traditions and systems of knowledge. Buddhism travelled from India across Asia. Hindu cultural influences shaped kingdoms throughout Southeast Asia. Chinese civilisation enriched the region through commerce, scholarship, innovation and maritime exchange. Together, these interactions created an enduring Asian community long before the emergence of modern

nation states.

This shared heritage remains one of Asia's greatest strategic assets.

No meaningful civilizational conception of the Indo-Pacific can overlook China. Contemporary strategic differences are real and, in some cases, profound. They must be managed with clarity and realism. Yet China has also been an integral participant in the historical exchanges that shaped Asia for centuries. Recognising this heritage does not require overlooking present-day disagreements. Rather, it acknowledges that a durable regional order cannot be built solely around rivalry. Strategic competition may persist, but it need not become the organising principle of the Indo-Pacific.

Today, both America and Europe are engaged in searching debates about their own civilizational identity. Questions of history, culture, national purpose and strategic direction increasingly shape both domestic politics and foreign policy. Such introspection is neither unusual nor undesirable. Great powers periodically redefine themselves.

India and Japan should undertake a similar exercise-but in a characteristically Asian way. Rather than constructing a civilizational narrative based on exclusion, they should build one based on connection. The Indo-Pacific should be understood as a region linked by centuries of interaction and capable of accommodating diversity while respecting national sovereignty. Such an approach would restore Southeast Asia to its rightful place at the heart of the Indo-



Pacific conversation-not as an arena of great-power competition, but as the historic bridge between the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

A renewed Indo-Pacific vision should therefore rest on multiple pillars. Security cooperation will remain indispensable. Economic integration must continue. Technological collaboration will become increasingly important. But these should be reinforced by deeper cooperation in education, maritime heritage, cultural exchanges, Buddhist and historical networks, scientific research, digital connectivity and sustainable development. Civilization should not replace strategy; it should enrich it.

The ongoing visit of Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi to New Delhi offers an ideal opportunity to begin this conversation. While defence, technology and economic cooperation have rightly dominated the bilateral agenda, the two leaders should also consider how India and Japan can jointly restore the broader intellectual and civilizational foundations of the Indo-Pacific concept they did so much to shape.

The subsequent G20 Summit in

Florida could provide an international platform for advancing this complementary vision. India and Japan need not distance themselves from the United States. On the contrary, they should continue working closely with Washington in promoting regional stability. But they should also ensure that the Indo-Pacific is not defined solely by American strategic vocabulary or by the changing priorities of successive administrations.

America will continue to redefine its place in the world according to its own history and political choices. That is both natural and inevitable. India and Japan should do the same. Their task, however, is not to recreate an earlier age but to shape a new one-an Indo-Pacific that is strategically secure, economically dynamic and civilizationally confident.

The debate over Pacific Command will eventually fade. The opportunity to renew the Indo-Pacific idea should not. The concept was born in Asia. Its next chapter should also be written in Asia.

Qatar reports ‘positive progress’ in US-Iran talks, next round to follow Khamenei funeral; Tehran blocks IAEA from bombed sites

Indirect negotiations between the United States and Iran have registered fresh momentum after mediators from Qatar and Pakistan reported “positive progress” during separate meetings with both sides in Doha. The parties have agreed to resume discussions after the funeral ceremonies for Iran’s former Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei. The latest round of diplomacy suggests that efforts to preserve the understanding reached under the 14-point Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) remain on track despite continuing disagreements over sanctions, nuclear inspections and regional security. While Washington has expressed optimism over the talks, Tehran has reiterated that it will not compromise on issues it considers matters of sovereignty. Qatar says talks will resume after funeral ceremonies. Majed Al Ansari, adviser to Qatar’s prime minister and official spokesperson for the Foreign Ministry, said separate meetings with American and Iranian negotiators concluded in Doha with positive movement on issues linked to the Islamabad MoU. According to Al Ansari, the discussions built on the outcomes of the Lake Lucerne Summit, and both sides agreed to continue negotiations at the earliest opportunity after the funeral processions for former Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei. Qatar & Pakistan mediators concluded separate meetings with the US & Iranian negotiators in Doha today, with positive progress made on issues related to the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding, building on the outcomes of the Lake Lucerne Summit. The parties agreed to continue... Dr. Majed Al Ansari (@majedalansari) July 1, 2026 Iran’s Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Kazem Gharibabadi said Tehran raised concerns over what it described as Washington’s failure to fulfil commitments related to Lebanon during the Doha discussions. He also said Iranian and Qatari officials reviewed arrangements for using part of the initially frozen USD 6 billion in Iranian funds to procure essential goods for the country. “In the meetings with Qatari officials, the issues related to the expenditure of part of the initial USD 6 billion were reviewed, and it was agreed that, based on the announced needs, the purchase of required goods will be carried out and placed at Iran’s disposal,” said Gharibabadi. Tehran rejects IAEA access to bombed nuclear facilities



As diplomatic engagement continued, Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf ruled out allowing inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to visit nuclear facilities damaged during the conflict. “Talk of IAEA inspectors’ access to bombed sites is false,” Ghalibaf said during an interview with Iranian state television. He said legislation passed by Parliament and the Supreme National Security Council prohibits access to damaged facilities under any circumstances. According to Ghalibaf, IAEA inspectors currently have access only to the Bushehr nuclear power plant and the Tehran research reactor. He also defended his participation in negotiations held in Switzerland, saying they accelerated the release of Iranian assets and the suspension of sanctions while helping secure previously agreed conditions. Pezeshkian defends diplomacy amid domestic criticism Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian rejected criticism from hardline factions over the government’s indirect engagement with Washington. He said every diplomatic step had been taken within Iran’s established decision-making framework and under the guidance of Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei. “If the leadership had ordered no negotiations, we would have certainly obeyed,” Pezeshkian said. He added that the Supreme National Security Council overwhelmingly backed the diplomatic process, with 12 of its 13 members supporting the current approach. The Iranian President maintained that all measures undertaken by his administration were consistent with the country’s broader strategic policies. US says negotiations are progressing well US Vice President JD Vance also expressed confidence in the Doha process, saying technical-level discussions involving American, Iranian and Qatari officials were

progressing well. “It’s still pretty early, but talks are going well,” Vance told CNN. He said technical negotiators were working through detailed issues before discussions shifted to Iran’s nuclear programme. “Well, right now, the technical negotiators are sitting down with the Iranians, with the Qataris, and with others in Doha, talking about some of the details here,” he said, adding: “We’re worried about the nuclear issue. We’re going to start talking about that, so right now the talks are going well”. In the meantime, Vance, speaking at Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach, argued that the negotiations were taking place from what he described as a position of strength following recent US military operations. President Donald Trump also struck an optimistic tone, saying efforts towards the “denuclearisation” of Iran were progressing and reiterating that Tehran would not be allowed to obtain a nuclear weapon. “They’ve come a long way. We hit them very hard last week. They’re fine. We’re going to get it. It’s the denuclearisation of Iran,” Trump said. Frozen assets, Lebanon commitments remain key issues Iranian officials said the Doha discussions also focused on the implementation of commitments under the Islamabad MoU. According to Gharibabadi, Tehran accused Washington of failing to honour commitments relating to Lebanon and stressed that the agreement must be implemented as a single package rather than through selective provisions. He said a direct communication mechanism would be established between members of the joint monitoring group to document, review and address future implementation issues. The latest round of talks concluded without direct high-level US-Iran negotiations, but both sides agreed to continue indirect engagement through Qatari and Pakistani mediators in the coming weeks.

Russia launches overnight missile and drone barrage on Kyiv; apartment block collapses, fires erupt

Kyiv, July 3: Russia launched a fresh wave of overnight missile and drone attacks on Ukraine’s capital, Kyiv, early Thursday, triggering powerful explosions across the city, damaging residential buildings and igniting multiple fires. The assault came amid growing fears of an escalation in the conflict, with Ukrainian officials warning residents in advance to prepare for another large-scale strike. Air-raid sirens wailed across Kyiv late Wednesday night as successive waves of Russian attack drones and ballistic missiles approached the city. Ukrainian air-defence systems were activated immediately, engaging incoming threats for several hours. Despite interception efforts, several explosions were heard across different parts of the capital, causing panic among residents and widespread damage. The attack followed a warning from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who said intelligence reports indicated that Russia was preparing another major strike on Kyiv. He urged citizens to remain vigilant, closely monitor air-raid alerts, and immediately seek shelter whenever warnings were issued. Thousands of Kyiv residents responded by taking refuge in underground subway stations, many carrying sleeping bags, blankets, and pets as they



prepared for what officials described as a potentially prolonged assault. Authorities had advised residents to remain indoors and avoid unnecessary travel during the night. Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko confirmed that emergency services had been deployed across multiple districts following reports of fires and structural damage. He urged people to remain inside bomb shelters after ballistic missiles entered Ukrainian airspace, warning that additional strikes could follow. One of the most serious incidents occurred when a nine-storey apartment building partially collapsed after being struck during the attack. Rescue teams rushed to the site, fearing that several residents could be trapped beneath the rubble. Firefighters and search-and-rescue personnel worked through the night to locate survivors and extinguish fires. Authorities also reported multiple blazes in different parts of the city, including a major fire in

the city centre. Emergency crews battled flames on the roof of a hotel, while another residential building caught fire in a separate district. Thick smoke was seen rising over several neighbourhoods as rescue operations continued. The complete extent of casualties was not immediately known. Mayor Klitschko said at least five medical workers were injured while responding to the emergency, though officials cautioned that casualty figures could rise as rescue efforts progressed. The latest attack comes as Ukraine has intensified its own long-range drone operations targeting Russian territory. In recent weeks, Ukrainian forces have carried out strikes on fuel infrastructure inside Russia, launched drone attacks near Moscow, and continued military operations in Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula annexed by Russia in 2014. Kyiv says these operations are aimed at increasing pressure on Moscow and weakening its military capabilities.

Speaking during a visit to Ireland before returning to Ukraine, President Zelenskyy reiterated that Russian President Vladimir Putin remained determined to continue the war. “Putin wants to keep fighting. That is why he must face conditions that make it impossible for him to keep this war going,” Zelenskyy said. Meanwhile, diplomatic tensions between Russia and the United States also remain high. On June 25, Russia reiterated its warning to Washington over continued military assistance to Ukraine. Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said Moscow had repeatedly expressed concerns about Western weapons supplies to Kyiv, arguing that continued military support could have “unforeseen consequences” for regional and global security. She also criticised Zelenskyy over his recent remarks concerning Belarus, accusing him of displaying what she described as a “terrorist nature.” The overnight assault underscores the continuing intensity of the war, with both sides escalating military operations even as diplomatic efforts to end the conflict remain stalled. Emergency responders continue rescue operations in Kyiv as authorities assess the full scale of the damage caused by the latest Russian strikes.

Venezuela earthquake toll climbs to 2,295; seven-day national mourning declared

Venezuela has declared seven days of national mourning after the death toll from the twin earthquakes that struck the country on June 24 rose to 2,295, according to the latest official update. The revised toll reflects the scale of the disaster as rescue operations continue across affected regions. Authorities said more than 11,000 people have been injured, thousands have been rescued, and temporary camps are being expanded to accommodate those displaced by the earthquakes. National Assembly President Jorge Rodriguez said on Wednesday (local time) that 11,267 people had been injured and 12,841 had been affected by the disaster. He said rescue teams had pulled 6,461 people to safety. More than 4,000 domestic and international rescue workers and volunteers remain engaged in search and relief operations. Temporary camps expanded as rescue efforts continue Rodriguez, who also heads the com-



mand centre overseeing temporary shelters, said authorities were rapidly equipping relief camps and relocating affected residents. He urged health workers, firefighters and security personnel to register on the Patria platform to support housing and rehabilitation efforts. According to the official update, 25 temporary camps are currently operational. Thirteen are in La Guaira, eight in Caracas, two in Miranda, one in Carabobo and one in Yaracuy. Hundreds of aftershocks recorded since June 24 Authorities said Venezuela has experienced 782 aftershocks since the twin earth-

quakes struck on June 24. Rodriguez said both the frequency and intensity of the tremors had declined in recent days. Acting president announces week-long national mourning Acting president Delcy Rodriguez announced a seven-day period of national mourning beginning at 6 p.m. on Wednesday (local time). “In honour of the memory of the victims, I have decided to decree National Mourning for seven (7) days, starting at 6:00 p.m. today,” she said in a statement shared on social media. “In these moments of profound sadness, we embrace those who suffer from this tragedy and reaffirm our commitment to accompany and protect them,” she said. “Venezuela’s soul is torn by the human losses caused by the devastating earthquakes,” Rodriguez added. The earthquakes struck Venezuela on June 24 and triggered a large-scale rescue and relief operation that remains underway.

Delhi-NCR premium housing sales jump 30%, homes above Rs 1 Crore make up 71% of demand: Report



Delhi-NCR’s premium residential market continued to outperform the broader housing sector in the first quarter of 2026, with housing sales rising 30 per cent year-on-year. This growth was driven by higher incomes, infrastructure-led growth and sustained demand from affluent homebuyers, according to a report by Equirus Securities. The brokerage said the premiumisation trend has strengthened significantly, with homes priced above ₹1 crore

accounting for nearly 71 per cent of all residential transactions in the region during the January-March quarter. Developers also stepped up supply, with new residential launches increasing 64 per cent year-on-year, reflecting confidence in sustained demand despite early signs of moderation in the wider housing market. Equirus attributed the strong performance to robust employment growth, rising household incomes and large-scale infrastructure projects, including the

Dwarka Expressway and the Noida International Airport. These developments are expanding the premium residential catchment across Delhi-NCR and enhancing the region’s long-term investment appeal, the report said. While the brokerage expects the overall residential market to enter a more moderate growth phase due to macroeconomic uncertainties, softer white-collar hiring and a higher base, it believes the premium housing segment is likely to remain resilient. According to the report, homebuyers are increasingly favouring quality-led developments over speculative investments, with greater emphasis on established brands, timely project execution, financial strength, corporate governance and differentiated

offerings. Equirus said developers such as Max Estates, ATS, DLF and Oberoi Realty are well placed to benefit from these structural shifts, backed by their execution track record, premium product portfolios and disciplined balance sheets. The report also identified non-resident Indians (NRIs) and high-net-worth individuals (HNIs) as key drivers of premium housing demand. Although geopolitical tensions in the Middle East could temporarily weigh on overseas investments into Indian real estate, Equirus expects NRI participation to remain on a long-term growth trajectory, supported by rupee depreciation, increased confidence in regulated projects and a growing preference for branded developers.

Sensex jumps 579 points, Nifty tops 24,175 as easing oil prices lift market mood

Mumbai, July 2 : Indian benchmark equity indices ended sharply higher on Thursday, supported by a decline in global crude oil prices after encouraging signs emerged from trade talks between the United States and Iran, boosting investor sentiment. The Nifty closed at 24,175.70, gaining 169.85 points, or 0.71 per cent, while the Sensex advanced 579.48 points, or 0.75 per cent, to settle at 77,502.12. Commenting on Nifty technical outlook, experts said that the index witnessed steady buying interest throughout the session and gradually advanced towards the 24,200 resistance zone. "From a technical perspective, a sustained breakout above this band would reinforce bullish momentum and could pave the



way for an advance towards the 24,400–24,450 region, where the 200-day EMA is positioned," a market expert said. "On the downside, the 24,000 psychological mark is expected to act as the immediate support zone," the expert added. Technology stocks led the rally, with Infosys, Tech Mahindra and Tata Consultancy Services emerging as the top gainers in the Nifty index. The strong performance

helped the Nifty IT index register its biggest single-day gain since May 2025. The broader market also participated in the uptrend. The Nifty MidCap index ended 0.48 per cent higher, while the Nifty SmallCap index outperformed with a gain of 1.25 per cent. Among sectoral indices, the Nifty IT was the best performer of the day. The Nifty Auto, Nifty Consumer Durables and Nifty Realty indices also posted strong gains as positive global cues and easing concerns over oil prices lifted market sentiment. "Easing energy prices and fresh India-Japan agreements in strategic areas such as AI, defence technology and energy security helped sustain domestic market optimism," as per the analyst.

Manufacturing the Future of Indian Homes: The Industry’s Shift Towards Scale, Precision and Trust

Hyderabad: July 2

As India’s home interiors market evolves from fragmented, contractor-led execution towards organised, technology-enabled delivery, manufacturing is emerging as a critical differentiator. While design remains central to the customer journey, consistency, quality, speed and predictability increasingly depend on the strength of the manufacturing ecosystem supporting project execution. Reflecting this shift, Homevista, the parent company of HomeLane and DesignCafe, has operationalised a new 56,000 sq ft integrated manufacturing and warehousing facility in Bhiwandi, Maharashtra. The facility will cater to growing demand across North and



West India and, for the first time, bring both HomeLane and DesignCafe onto a shared manufacturing backbone for the region, creating a unified production ecosystem focused on precision, material traceability and execution excellence. The development comes amid a growing national focus on expanding manufacturing capabilities, improving product quality and accelerating technology adoption across industries. Recent policy initiatives have highlighted the importance of strengthening domestic manufacturing ecosystems, enhancing supply-chain resilience and creating

globally competitive production infrastructure. Homevista’s investment reflects how these priorities are increasingly influencing consumer-facing sectors such as home interiors. For India’s home interiors industry, estimated at over Rs.2.8 lakh crore, the move signals a larger transition towards factory-led manufacturing models. As homeowners increasingly seek predictable timelines, transparent processes and consistent quality, organised players are investing in advanced manufacturing infrastructure to bring greater accountability and standardisation to the interiors journey. The facility combines advanced CNC machining centres, automated beam saws, precision edge-

banding systems, robotic finishing technologies and conveyor-based assembly lines within a digitally connected production environment. Integrated with SpaceCraft, Homevista’s proprietary AI Tech Platform along with SAP-enabled production tracking systems, it enables approved designs to move seamlessly from concept to manufacturing with minimal manual intervention and complete backward traceability of each Project. With the new unit operational, Homevista’s combined manufacturing capacity now stands at nearly 1,200 homes per month across its network of facilities, with headroom to scale a further 40 per cent in line with growing demand.

Megastar vs Superstar at the Box Office Again?



A massive box-office battle could be on the cards if the latest reports are to be believed. Megastar Chiranjeevi's Vishwambhara and Superstar Rajinikanth's Jailer 2 are reportedly eyeing release dates just a day apart, setting the stage for one of the biggest clashes in recent times. According to industry buzz, Jailer 2 is targeting an October 15 release, while Vishwambhara is expected to arrive on October 16. If both films stick to these dates, audiences could witness another high-profile showdown between two of Indian cinema's biggest legends. Interestingly, this wouldn't be the first time Chiranjeevi and Rajinikanth have gone head-to-head. Back in 2023, Chiranjeevi's Bhola Shankar clashed with Rajinikanth's Jailer. While Jailer emerged as a massive blockbuster and dominated the box office, Bhola

Shankar failed to make an impact commercially. Now, fate appears to be bringing the two icons together once again. However, the situation is very different this time. Vishwambhara is a fantasy adventure mounted on a grand scale, while Jailer 2 carries the goodwill of a hugely successful franchise and the popularity of Nelson Dilipkumar's first installment. Trade experts believe both films have the potential to open big, but a clash could affect their overall box-office potential. Fans of both stars are already discussing the possibility online, making it one of the hottest topics in South Indian cinema. For now, the release dates remain unofficial. But if the clash materializes, October 2026 could witness a truly epic battle between Chiranjeevi and Rajinikanth once again.

Thiru Veer's Oh..! Sukumari Release Date Confirmed



Thiru Veer and Aishwarya Rajesh starrer Oh..! Sukumari, directed by Bharat Dharshan, has already piqued interest through its teaser and first single, both of which hinted at a refreshingly different storyline. Rather than following a conventional love story, the film revolves around a quirky

premise that instantly stands out. Today, the makers came up with an update of the film's release date. Oh..! Sukumari will grace the cinemas on July 17. The release date announcement comes with a captivating poster. Aishwarya Rajesh is seen sitting peacefully on a hilltop, while Thiru Veer appears

to float towards her with a bright smile, creating a whimsical and fairy-tale-like atmosphere. The film blends rural flavor with romance, comedy, and family emotions, offering what appears to be a complete entertainer, backed by producer Maheswara Reddy Mooli under the Ganga Entertainments banner.

'Rangasthalam Could Have Shaken the Entire Country'



Ahead of the release of Lenin, Akhil Akkineni and Bhagyashri Borse sat down with Gulte pro's Ram Venkat Srikar for an engaging conversation that went beyond routine promotions. They spoke about the film's rooted storytelling, evolving cinema, and why they strongly believe content is becoming the biggest star. One of the most interesting moments came when Akhil spoke about Rangasthalam. He said, "I feel that if Rangasthalam released today, it would have shaken the entire country, just like Pushpa." According to him, the film was ahead of its time and its rustic world, emotional depth, and authentic story-

telling would have found an even bigger nationwide audience in today's pan India era. Explaining why Lenin excited him, Akhil said the film carries the same honesty and rootedness that made classics like Rangasthalam memorable. He added that young actors today cannot rely only on star image and must first earn the audience's trust through strong stories and believable characters. Bhagyashri shared her experience of shooting on a massive village set with hundreds of junior artists every day. She admitted it was overwhelming at first, but the realistic atmosphere helped her immerse herself in the character

and deliver a more natural performance. Both actors agreed that the script was the biggest reason they signed Lenin. They described it as an organic love story woven into intense drama, saying the emotional journey is what sets the film apart from routine commercial entertainers. The duo also praised director Murali Kishor Abburi for giving actors enough freedom while ensuring every scene stayed true to the film's realistic tone. They expressed confidence that Lenin will leave audiences emotionally satisfied and prove that heartfelt storytelling still has the power to create magic on the big screen.

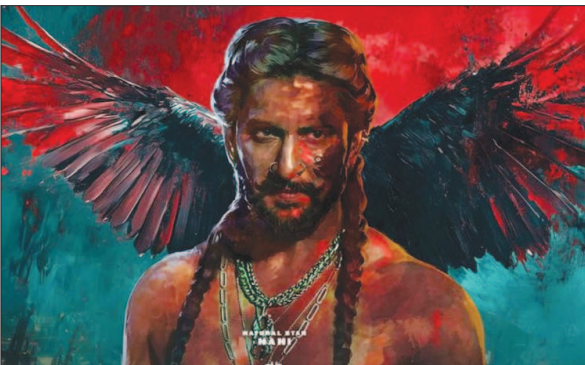
Ram Charan Can't Find Big Directors?



To score big, one has to find big directors who can give big films. Else, star heroes should find directors who have the vision to give a pan-India level story and execute it in a way that the film would become universally appealing and get applauded. Otherwise, it would become a "Peddi" that got applause and massive collections in Telugu states but hasn't found reception up north. But still, it's coming out that Ram Charan thinks working with Buchi Babu will help him next time. According to some reports, Ram Charan recently made a producer give an advance to Buchi Babu, and the director is working on the script of his new story, which will once again feature the New Age Megastar. As his

role in the film Peddi got huge applause for his acting prowess, the actor feels that working again with director Buchi Babu Sana will sharpen his acting skills. Many are wondering if this news is true and Charan will really team up with Buchi Babu for a film again after wrapping Sukumar's project. At a time when the likes of Jr NTR and Allu Arjun are finding top-notch directors like Prashanth Neel, Atlee, Lokesh Kanagaraj and others, many are wondering why Charan is still toying with the idea of Buchi Babu, whose content hasn't appealed to all sections of society. Many are wondering if this is Charan's strategy to work with these directors and score big hits, or if he can't simply do enough PR to grab big filmmakers.

Biggest task in front of Paradise



From losing out on a March release to giving up the August 2026 release date, Nani's The Paradise movie has already lost a chunk of good release dates. Currently, the film is being shot in Hyderabad on specially erected sets, and inside sources revealed that the shoot would take longer than anticipated. However, the big thing is not about wrapping the shoot, but finding the right date again. While July and August are already ruled out by The Paradise itself, they should focus on September, October and November for a good release. Because December and January 2027 are also packed with lots of biggies. However, movies like Vijay Deverakonda's Ranabali, Venkatesh's Adarsha Kutumbam, Tarun

Bhaskar's Ee Nagarani Emaindi 2, Rashmika's Mysaa are already looking at big dates. At the same time, biggies like Chiranjeevi's Vishwambhara is eyeing October 16th, while Rajinikanth's Jailer 2 is also coming a couple of days around it. If the likes of Fauzi also seal this year's dates, along with Shah Rukh Khan's King and other films, surely Nani will not be able to find a solo date. Even Nani gets to find a solo release across the nation, quite luckily, there will be only a week window for the ₹200 crore budgeted movie to make it big. That's the biggest worry right now for The Paradise makers as they have to find a solo date and also two weeks window to make it big around ₹400-500 crores of collection, to the least.

Weakest Film in the YRF Spy Universe Yet?

As the release of Alpha draws closer, concerns are growing over its relatively weak pre-release buzz. With only three days left before it hits theaters, the film has yet to generate the kind of excitement typically associated with the YRF Spy Universe. Previous installments built strong anticipation through impactful trailers, hit songs, memorable promotional campaigns, and widespread audience discussions. In comparison, Alpha has struggled to create the same level of momentum. Lead actors Alia Bhatt and Sharvati have been actively promoting the film through interviews, events, and media appearances. Despite these efforts, online conversations and audience enthusiasm appear more subdued than expected for a major franchise release. This has led some fans and industry observers to question whether the marketing campaign has been effective enough. Ultimately, the film's fate will depend on its content. If Alpha receives positive reviews and strong word of mouth after release, it can still overcome the muted pre-release response and perform well at the box office. However, if the film fails to impress audiences, it could raise questions about the future direction and consistency of the YRF Spy Universe. For a cinematic universe that has established high expectations with previous successes, Alpha represents an important test. Its performance may influence both audience confidence and the franchise's long-term momentum. Let's see what happens.



Will Naga Bandham Reach Delhi Leaders

Among the upcoming releases at the box office, there is one movie that is generating a special interest. Titled Nagabandham, the movie is going to offer a divine experience touching the Hindutva elements. The promotional material already hinted at the film's world, giving an understanding of what one can expect from the movie. Meanwhile, the big question that everyone has is that can the film impress the big BJP bosses in



North. The Sanathana Dharma element in the movies is getting a lot of reception from the audiences. It is also catching the attention of BJP leaders from north. Leaders like Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, JP Nadda and others shared their admiration towards filmmakers behind Kantara, HanuMan and even Karthikeya. All these films also got a good release and reception. Meanwhile, when the makers are asked if they have a chance to showcase their film or catch the attention of the BJP leaders, the team said that everyone would want a film like Sanathana Dharma but they'll consider approaching big wigs probably for the film's

sequel. According to them, they are too small now to take that step. But it'll be a good opportunity if the team gets a chance to showcase their film to Delhi leaders as it can bring a lot of attention towards the film in the North. The film's plot is "A captivating exploration of India's ancient Vishnu temples, delving into the enigmatic ritual of Nagabandham. The film unveils hidden mysteries and sacred traditions, offering a glimpse into the spiritual world of these revered sites." Directed by Abhishek Nama, the film features Virat Karna and Nabha Natesh in the lead roles. The movie is hitting the screens on July 3rd.

Rao Bahadur Could Change Satyadev & Maha's Careers

They say one Friday is what it takes to make or break anyone. It looks like this Friday holds the same stakes are up for men behind Rao Bahadur. Stayadev has been around for more than a decade in Telugu cinema, holding the reputation fo being one of the finest performer. From supporting roles to acclaimed lead performances in films like Uma Maheswara Ugra Roopasya, Godse and Zebra to playing antagonist with Megastar Chiranjeevi's Godfather, he has consistently earned praise for his acting, proving his capabilities beyond every stereotype he was imposed with. Yet, he is still step away from a genuine star-making blockbuster. The stakes are equally high for Venkatesh Maha.



With his debut, C/o Kancharapalem, he established himself as one of Telugu cinema's most distinctive storytellers. He followed it up with Uma Maheswara Ugra Roopasya during the pandemic, a bold move that further reinforced his reputation for sensitive and grounded filmmaking. However, despite earning widespread critical

acclaim, he is yet to enter the league of directors who command large scale commercial projects. If Rao Bahadur succeeds, Satyadev could finally become the leading star many believe he deserves to be, while Venkatesh Maha could graduate from an acclaimed filmmaker to one of Telugu cinema's most sought-after directors.

Sandeep Vanga Is Racing Ahead With Spirit

Sandeep Reddy Vanga's no-nonsense approach towards filmmaking puts him in a league of his own. Besides his explosive style in presenting the lead protagonist, one impressive quality that has been consistent throughout his career is the way he sticks to the timelines once he kick starts the shooting formalities. This is once again evident with his upcoming film Spirit which stars Prabhas in the lead role. Right from the start till now, the much awaited cop drama has been progressing at a brisk pace. He has avoided the typical delays associated with big-budget films. Instead, he has kept the momentum incredibly high, pushing the cast and crew to give their absolute best every single day. Even though the movie started its production later than initially expected, the team has lost no time in getting straight to business. Currently, reports suggest that a massive 70% of the film's shoot is already completed. Vanga continues to move at a very brisk pace to ensure the timeline does not slip. One of the biggest advantages of his shooting strategy is that he is capturing the story in raw and real locations. By choosing actual places over heavy, imaginary studio sets, the film will not



require extensive, time-consuming digital post-production work. This smart decision is saving the team a massive amount of time. The makers have confidently locked in their release plans well in advance and the movie is very much on track to hit screens worldwide on March 5, 2027. This disciplined schedule is a massive relief for Prabhas fans. All his previous films since Baahubali faced major delays during production, testing the patience of audiences. However, Spirit is breaking that pattern entirely. Even though Spirit also faced some hiccups in the early stages, Sandeep Reddy Vanga's relentless pace has kept it perfectly on track.

'What started as a dream has become a reality': Shah Rukh Khan on Knight Riders' international cricket stadium in LA

Los Angeles, July 2 : Bollywood Superstar and Kolkata Knight Riders co-owner Shah Rukh Khan hailed the opening of the Knight Riders Cricket Ground in Los Angeles as the realisation of a long-cherished dream after the venue hosted its first-ever Major League Cricket (MLC) match, with the Knight Riders Group becoming the first global cricket franchise to establish an international-standard cricket stadium.

The Los Angeles Knight Riders (LAKR) took on Washington Freedom in the inaugural fixture at the newly-built venue, marking another milestone in cricket's growing presence in the United States. Reflecting on the historic occasion, Shah Rukh Khan said the project was the culmination of years of planning and a vision to take cricket to newer audiences. "What started as a dream has become a reality today. Bringing cricket, the second most-watched sport in the world, to Los Angeles is a landmark moment for all of us. Through this long-term partnership between Fairplex and Knight Riders, we are creating much more than a cricket venue. We are building a space that celebrates community, togetherness, energy and entertainment. It is a place built not just for sport, but also for entertainment, for families, and for mem-



ories that will last forever," he said. Expressing his hopes for the future, Shah Rukh Khan said he wanted the ground to become the city's cricketing home and inspire generations of players and fans. "We hope this becomes a home for cricket in Los Angeles and inspires generations of fans and players alike. This is for Los Angeles, for cricket fans across the globe, and for the Knight Riders family. Believe in Purple and Gold," he added. Knight Riders Sports CEO Venky Mysore described the stadium as a defining moment in the franchise's global journey. "The Knight Riders Cricket Ground, LA is much more than a stadium; it is a statement of intent

for the future of cricket. Becoming the first global cricket brand to establish an international cricket stadium is a proud milestone for the Knight Riders Group and reflects our belief that the growth of the game must be supported by world-class infrastructure," Mysore said. Built to international standards, the Knight Riders Cricket Ground features eight wickets on the main square, ICC-standard playing dimensions, six 120-foot floodlight towers and required the movement of over 32,000 metric tonnes of earth during construction. The venue will stage Major League Cricket matches from July 1 to July 5, reinforcing the United States' emergence as one of cricket's fastest-growing markets.

If Vaibhav needs to play, he should, but not at the expense of dropping someone: Pujara



New Delhi, July 2 : Former India batter Cheteshwar Pujara addressed the discussion surrounding India's top order ahead of the second T20I against England, making it clear that he does not believe Sanju Samson should lose his place to accommodate Vaibhav Sooryavanshi despite growing calls for the teenage batter to be included in the playing XI. The veteran batter added that constant speculation over Samson's place in the side was unnecessary, insisting the wicketkeeper-batter deserves a longer run. "I think India should persist with Sanju Samson. I don't think he should be

feeling any pressure. He has proved himself in the T20 World Cup and, with the kind of talent he possesses, he should be there in the playing XI," Pujara said on JioStar. "There shouldn't be a lot of noise about dropping Sanju Samson. He is a quality player and should get a longer run. Sanju just needs to bat naturally and not think too much," he added. While Pujara acknowledged that Sooryavanshi has earned an opportunity, he argued that the youngster's inclusion should not come at the cost of disrupting India's established top order. "If Vaibhav needs to play, he should play, but not at the expense of dropping someone,

rather by resting someone. If you want to give him an opportunity, that is fine. But you shouldn't be dropping any of India's top three players, whether it's Sanju, Abhishek or Ishan Kishan. Having said that, Vaibhav does deserve an opportunity, and his opportunity will come," he mentioned. Pujara also praised captain Shreyas Iyer's composed innings after India recovered from an early setback to post a competitive total in the rain-hit opening T20I against England in Durham. With India losing early wickets after electing to bat first, Pujara said Iyer's ability to steady the innings before accelerating played a decisive role in putting the visitors in a strong position. Pujara felt Iyer delivered exactly what was expected of a captain after India found themselves under pressure in the powerplay, balancing caution with aggression as the innings progressed. "It was an important knock from Shreyas Iyer

and, when you are leading the team, you always look to lead from the front. He showed a lot of maturity because India were in trouble after losing a couple of early wickets," Pujara told JioStar. He also credited Iyer for pacing his innings according to the match situation before shifting gears once he was well established at the crease. "Abhishek played a good knock, but it was important for Shreyas to hold one end up and take his time. Once he was set, he played some quality shots," he added. According to Pujara, the India captain's innings reflected both responsibility and leadership, leaving the side in an excellent position by the end of its 20 overs. "If you look at his innings at the end of the 20 overs, you know that, as a captain, you have done your job. You have put your team in a very commanding position. This was a perfect knock from Shreyas, both as a leader and as a batter," he said.

'Had enough runs to defend': Parthiv backs India's batting efforts in washed-out T20I vs ENG

New Delhi, July 2 : Former India wicketkeeper Parthiv Patel backed India's batting display after the rain-hit opening T20I against England in Durham ended without a result on Wednesday. India, who opted to bat first after winning the toss, posted 190 before persistent rain prevented the second innings from getting underway. Assessing the visitors' performance after play was called off, Patel said the innings showed India's willingness to adapt to English conditions and highlighted Abhishek Sharma's impact at the top of the order. According to Patel, India embraced the challenge of batting in unfamiliar conditions instead of taking a cautious approach. "From India's point of view, they needed this kind of batting performance, especially after what had happened in Ireland. They wanted to challenge themselves; they wanted to adapt to the conditions early, and India did that really well in this game," Patel told JioStar.

"190 runs on this pitch, with three spinners bowling through the middle overs, I thought India had enough runs to defend. Nevertheless, they will definitely be more confident going into the second T20I," he added. The former India cricketer also reserved special praise for Abhishek Sharma, crediting the left-hander for quickly reading the nature of the surface and making the most of scoring opportunities. "I thought he batted really well. He understood the conditions well. There was a slightly spongier bounce in Durham, but he made sure that whenever the opportunity presented itself, he capitalised on it," he stated. Patel pointed to Abhishek's aggressive intent against both pace and



spin as one of the defining features of the innings, as he said, "That over from Saqib Mahmood was an important one, where he stepped out and hit three boundaries, two over point and one over mid-off. Then, when the spinners came on, he chose the right areas to hit those sixes." Looking beyond the knock itself, Patel said performances in overseas conditions continue to reinforce Abhishek's credentials as one of the leading batters in the shortest format.

T20 is here to stay, not too sure about ODI cricket: Ashwin

New Delhi, July 2 : Former India off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin believes T20 cricket has cemented its place as the format that will drive the sport's future, while expressing doubts over the long-term sustainability of One-Day Internationals. Speaking during a media interaction after the European T20 Premier League (ETPL) 2026 Player Draft on Thursday, the Dublin Guardians captain and mentor said T20's shorter duration makes it the ideal vehicle for cricket's global expansion and its return to the Olympic Games. Responding to a question on whether cricket's growth in emerging nations should focus only on T20s or extend equally to other formats, Ashwin stressed that players must first master the art of adapting to different situations, irrespective of the



format they play. "I think cricket as a whole needs to be learned in a way that you get better every single day. You should be able to adapt. The name of the game is adaptation," Ashwin said in a media interaction following the conclusion of the ETPL 2026 Player Draft. He pointed to India's recent T20I series against Ireland as an example of how external conditions can significantly influence the shortest format, forcing players to evolve constantly.

"Which is why what happened recently between India and Ireland in that T20 series is a classic example of how conditions can eliminate a lot of aspects of the game that have been developed as a root cause of T20 as a sport," the all-rounder added. The veteran spinner, however, believes that when it comes to expanding cricket's footprint across new markets, T20 remains the most practical and effective format. "But that aside, our job

will be purely on T20 cricket and how it can get better. And if the game has to become global and it has to become an Olympic sport, the shorter the game, the more viable it is," the Dublin Guardians captain and mentor stated. Ashwin said the format's accessibility and the opportunities created by franchise leagues around the world would continue to fuel its growth and expose a wider pool of players to elite competition, stating, "And that's how it's going to become much bigger, and you will see a better sample size of players. Which is also very critical for several of these leagues, which run through the year." The 38-year-old then offered a blunt assessment of how he views the future of the game's formats. "T20 as a sport is here to stay. I am not too sure about ODI cricket."

India to tour Sri Lanka for a two-match Test series from August 15-27



Colombo, July 2 : India has been confirmed to tour Sri Lanka in August 2026 for a two-match Test series, which will be part of the ongoing ICC World Test Championship (WTC) 2025-2027 cycle, Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) announced on Thursday. According to a statement by SLC, the opening Test match will be played at the picturesque Galle International Cricket Stadium

(GICS) from August 15 to 19. The second and final Test is scheduled to be held at the Sinhalese Sports Club (SSC) in Colombo from August 23 to 27. Both matches are scheduled to commence at 10 am local time. The two-

game assignment holds significance for both teams as they look to climb up the WTC standings. In the current WTC cycle points table, the Shubman Gill-led India have a points percentage (PCT) of 48.15 after nine matches and are in fifth place. Sri Lanka, meanwhile, are at the sixth spot with a PCT of 44.44. A series victory will provide a much-needed push for

either side in their bid to secure a top-two finish and make the final. The upcoming series marks India's return to Sri Lanka for playing Tests after 2017, when, under the captaincy of Virat Kohli, they managed to get a clean sweep victory. With the Lanka Premier League (LPL) scheduled to conclude on August 8, the Test series against India will begin after it ends. There was no mention from the SLC on the addition of a three-match T20I series between India and Sri Lanka, which was initially proposed with an aim to raise funds for relief and reconstruction efforts in the island nation following Cyclone Ditwah. As of now, Dhruv Jurel-led India A are currently in Sri Lanka for a two-match red-ball shadow tour in Galle. After the first game ended in a draw, the second four-day match is currently underway.

Entire world waiting to see Sooryavanshi play, will feature in all three formats soon, says Karim

New Delhi, July 2 : Teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi is not only the cynosure of Indian fans, but also of the entire cricketing world, who is eagerly waiting to see him perform at the highest level, said former India selector and wicket-keeper Saba Karim. Sooryavanshi, who grabbed headlines by amassing 776 runs at a staggering strike-rate of 237.30 to bag the Player-of-the-Tournament honour in IPL 2026 for Rajasthan Royals, is currently eyeing a much-anticipated international debut for India in the ongoing five-match T20I series against England. Sooryavanshi was unused in Ireland, as India suffered a shock 2-0 series loss.

"In my opinion, in the history of the IPL, perhaps after that season of Virat Kohli when he scored so many runs, if one season has to be defined, it is Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's IPL, IPL 2026. The kind of performances he has put in against top-quality bowlers, even though in Indian conditions, have been top-notch. "I have full faith in his ability to score big runs.



Not only Indian fans but the entire world is waiting to see Vaibhav Sooryavanshi play in the same manner that he did in the IPL. I have high hopes for this young lad. Very soon, we will see him in all three formats. I am dead sure about it," said Karim on JioStar. He also recalled of the time when Sooryavanshi first burst in IPL 2025 and didn't expect him to get big runs. "I didn't expect him to score in his very first year. But before last season's IPL, I remember getting a lot of videos from all his coaches, Manish Ojha from the Patna academy, our Bhojpuri commentator Robin, and a few others, saying, 'Sir, you have to

watch him. He's a kid, but he has great timing.' "When he was bought in the auction, I was just hoping that he would get a chance to play at least once because I wanted the world to see that India now has such a talented player. Just imagine, you're playing your first match on such a big platform, up against a top-quality bowler who has played for India. He had no baggage whatsoever. The first ball he faced, he completely dismissed the bowler from his sight. This is what Vaibhav Sooryavanshi is all about." Dismissing concerns that the youngster would suffer from second-season blues after opposition ana-

lysts figured out his game, Karim revealed of his reassuring conversation with RR batting coach Vikram Rathour. "Even after he scored that record 170-odd in the Under-19 World Cup final, everybody still felt that in the second season, it was possible that bowlers would come with definite plans against him and cause him problems, targeting his body and identifying areas to trouble him. "But I didn't feel that he would have second-season blues. I felt that he was well prepared, and he batted in the same way. I remember having a chat with Vikram Rathour, who is the batting coach at Rajasthan Royals, where I asked him if Vaibhav could find it challenging against top-quality bowling or short-pitched deliveries at 145-150 clicks. He said, 'Saba, just wait and watch.' I think he is equally prepared to handle any kind of delivery," he said. Karim went on to praise Sooryavanshi's high cricketing IQ and his rapid adaptability, noting how the left-hander expanded his shot range to counter targeted bowling.

Canon Powers #IndiaInMotion with the Launch of EOS R6V, a New Video-Focused Full-Frame Camera with First-Ever L-Series Power Zoom Lens for the Next Generation of Filmmakers & Creators

Visakhapatnam, 2nd June 2026 – Canon India, one of the leading digital imaging companies has announced the launch of its latest professional camera kit featuring the EOS R6V full-frame camera and the RF 20-50 F4L IS USM Lens - Canon's first-ever full-frame professional

grade L-series lens with a built-in power zoom. Designed to meet the evolving needs of filmmakers, creators, and modern production professionals, the power- duo combines cinematic imaging, advanced video performance, mobility, and lens innovation in one seamless ecosystem.

With this launch, Canon further strengthens its video ecosystem in India, enabling the next generation of content creators with a future-ready solution for professional-quality storytelling. India is evolving into one of the world's most vibrant storytelling hubs - driven by



wedding filmmaking, regional cinema, digital-first cre-

ators, and hybrid production formats. Canon continues to strengthen its commitment to empowering creators with tools built for the future of visual storytelling. Furthering this vision, the company also unveiled #IndiaInMotion, a creator-led movement that celebrates authentic, cinemat-

ic narratives capturing the diversity, emotion, and energy of India in motion. The EOS R6V possesses the powerful stills and video performance of the EOS R6 Mark III in a body that has been optimised for Filmmaking. The upgrades include a built-in cooling fan

and vertical tripod socket for added flexibility and convenience. Its full-frame CMOS sensor, with up to 32.5 effective megapixels and 7K Open Gate recording, allows users to utilise the full field of view of ultra-wide-angle lenses opening different possibilities.

Chartered Accountants’ 78th anniversary celebrations in grand style

CA Patnala Lokesh unfurls the ICAI flag

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, July2
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) Visakhapatnam Branch organized the 78th anniversary celebrations of Chartered Accountants in a grand manner. On this occasion, Branch Chairman CA Patnala Lokesh inaugurated the programs by unfurling the ICAI flag. Later, members enthusiastically participated in the blood donation camp and sapling planting program. Cultural and entertainment programs were impressive in the evening celebrations. On this occasion, senior chartered accountants



CA V.V. Ram Mohan and CA J. Kesava Rao were felicitated. Prizes were also given to the winners of various entertaining games competitions. Branch Vice Chairman CA Nemmadi Ramunaidu, Secretary CA Ujwala M.L.D., Treasurer CA Mogalapalli P. Gurumurthy, Students' Federation President CA K. Rambabu, Past President CA Sridhar

Andhavarapu, along with a large number of Chartered Accountants from Visakhapatnam and Anakapalle districts of the Visakhapatnam region and their family members participated in this program. Amidst the feast and entertainment programs, the members met each other cordially and celebrated the anniversary celebrations with joy and enthusiasm.

GITAM’s 17th Graduation ceremony on August 22nd

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, July2
Gitam Deemed University will hold its 17th convocation on August 22, Gitam Registrar Dr. D. Gunasekharan said in a statement on Thursday. Students who have successfully completed undergraduate (UG), post-graduate (PG) and PhD courses in the academic year 2025-26 are eligible to participate in this convocation. He said that the event will be a platform for graduates from various disciplines like Engineering, Management, Science, Law, Pharmacy, Humanities



and Social Sciences, and Architecture to celebrate their academic achievements. Eligible students are advised to apply online from July 3 to July 17 to

participate in this program. Students are advised to visit www.gitam.edu for complete details and guidelines regarding registration and graduation ceremony.

Young Indians parliament on 4th, 5th in GITAM

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, July2
Young Indians (YI), an integral part of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Vizag Chapter, will organize 'Young Indians Parliament (YIP) 2026' on July 4th and 5th, 2026 at Gitam Deemed University, said Vizag Chair Deepa Kodali. One of the prestigious youth leadership programs of YI, this Young Indians Parliament aims to inculcate constitutional awareness, democratic values, leadership qualities, public speaking and critical thinking skills among school students through a model parliamentary experience. This year, 185 students from leading schools in Visakhapatnam will participate in the program. They gain first-hand knowledge of the functioning of India's democratic institutions by participating in parliamentary activities, debates, and discussions. The inauguration ceremo-



ny, to be held on July 4th at 9:00 am, will be graced by Visakhapatnam Member of Parliament M. Sribharat will be the chief guest. A strong believer in empowering students through civic participation and democratic practice, he has been the chief guest at every edition of the Young Indians Parliament held in Vizag. Rajahmundry Member of Parliament Dr. Daggubati Purandeswari will attend the valedictorian ceremony to be held on July 5th at 3:00 PM and felicitate the participating students. Students who succeed in this chapter round will be

eligible to represent YI Vizag in the Young Indians Parliament regional round. The event is led by YI Vizag Chair Deepa Kodali and Co-Chair Supriya Lingam, while the Thalir team is led by Brinda Lau (Chair), Yogita Erra and Harshita Guggilam (Co-Chairs). Over 170 YI Vizag members, moderators, mentors, jury members and volunteers are coming together to provide this amazing learning experience that inspires the youth to become informed, responsible and active citizens.

Everyone register to vote Minister Kondapalli Srinivas's call

Vizianagaram , July 2 (Skyline): Minister for Micro , Small and Medium Enterprises , Rural Poverty Alleviation and Empowerment of Diaspora Affairs Kondapalli Srinivas has called on everyone to register their vote. On Thursday, the SIR enumeration forms were completed and handed over to District In-charge Collector Sethu Madhavan. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Kondapalli Srinivas said that in a democracy, it is essential for everyone to exercise their right to vote. He said that by exercising their right to vote, they will have the opportunity to vote for the leader of their choice. Today's youth have recognized that the constitutional provision for elect-



ing leaders is made possible through just one vote and want everyone to register their vote in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) program. He said that if major changes are to be brought about in politics, it is possible only by exercising the right to vote in the order of priority of the youth. On this occasion, the In-charge Collector

created awareness among the people about the SIR program. He said that steps should be taken to create awareness through the staff so that it can be brought. He said that by creating awareness among the people of rural areas, the voter registration process in the (SIR) program will be completed quickly.

GITAM University files Rs. 20 crore defamation suit against Sakshi Group

YSRCP leader KK Raju, Leader Newspaper in response to a Coordinated Social Media Campaign

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, July2
Legal notices were also issued to 69 social media handle holders who propagated the false agenda across X, YouTube, Facebook (meta) and Instagram; Grievance letters have also been sent to platform governing bodies of Meta, X, Google and News Broadcasters & Digital Association as university takes decisive stand against deliberate misinformation GITAM Deemed to be University has initiated sweeping legal action against the

architects of a coordinated social media campaign that allegedly misrepresented lawful construction activity on university-owned land as illegal. The university has moved the court with a civil defamation suit seeking Rs 20 crore in damages from KK Raju (Sakshi Group, Leader Newspaper among others). Alongside parallel criminal defamation charges, GITAM has issued legal notices to 69 social media account holders for propagating demonstrably false content across X (formerly

Twitter), YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram. According to GITAM authorities, KK Raju have repeatedly claimed in speeches that a "backdoor process" was used for land grabbing, alleging a blatant abuse of power by the institution. These speeches were widely circulated across local news channels including Sakshi TV, Leader Newspaper, R Star TV, Great Andhra News, and VTV Prime - and multiple social media handles. GITAM stated that videos of routine, legal construction on its campus were

deliberately spun into a false narrative to mislead the public. In a dual-pronged approach, the university has also issued formal notices to the governing bodies of Meta, Google, X, and the News Broadcasters & Digital Association (NBDA), demanding platform-level accountability and the immediate removal of the offending content. Notably, this is not the first time Sakshi Group has faced legal action from GITAM. In a near-identical past instance of alleged misinformation,

the Sakshi newspaper lost a defamation case against the university, received a formal warning from the court, and was directed to pay compensation. GITAM argues that this repeat behavior underscores a willful, intentional assault on its reputation. To support its position, GITAM has submitted documents before the appropriate legal forums, including approvals from relevant municipal, aviation, fire, district administration and other statutory authorities associated with the project.

Work on VBG Ramji scheme begins in Jinnam village Minister Kondapalli Srinivas

Gajapathinagaram , July 2 (Skyline): As part of the inauguration program of the VBG Ramji scheme works in Jinnam village of the mandal, the Minister for Micro , Small and Medium Enterprises , Rural Poverty Alleviation and Empowerment of Diaspora Affairs, Kondapalli Srinivas, took the baton. The VBG Ramji works were formally inaugurated on Wednesday at Tamaracheruvu in Jinnam village. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Kondapalli Srinivas said that the central government has increased the VBG Ramji scheme from 100 days to 25 days and the new policies introduced are very beneficial for the poor people and farmers. Everyone should take up work as per the instructions of the officials and get wages as per the government rules. He said that in this scheme introduced by the center, it has stood third in the country for the last two years under the leadership of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu.



He said that due to lack of work during the summer, the residents of our district used to migrate to other places , and the employment guarantee works have been provided to such people. He said that the central and state governments are working for the upliftment of the poor people. Union Minister Shivraj Chauhan , Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu , Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan and Human Resource Development Minister Nara Lokesh launched this scheme in Tirupati. Special puja programs were conducted as part of the opening programs before the program. A cake was cut with the employment guarantee workers. The employment guarantee workers happily took selfies with the minister. Along with the minister, Telugu Desam Politburo member Gantiada Sridevi , AMC Chairman PV Gopala Raju , Makkuvu Sridhar , Bangaru Naidu , Chinnam Naidu , Pradeep and others participated in the program.

ERO Inspects House-to-House Voter Verification Drive

Vizianagaram (Garividi), July 2 (Skyline): The house-to-house voter verification drive under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls is progressing across the Cheepurupalli Assembly Constituency, with election authorities intensifying efforts to ensure an accurate and updated voters' list. Revenue Divisional Officer and Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) M. Sudharani inspected the ongoing verification process in Garividi town on Thursday. She reviewed the work of Booth Level Officers (BLOs) in Polling Stations 111, 112, 113, 114 and 115 and directed them to complete the door-to-door verification exercise by July 14. The ERO instructed BLOs to verify voter details carefully, ensure eligible citizens are included in the electoral roll and rectify any discrepancies during field visits. She stressed that the revision process should be carried out in a systematic and transparent manner to maintain the accuracy of electoral records. Assistant Electoral Officer and Garividi Tahsildar Ch. Bangarraju, MPDO Subrahmanyam, Revenue Inspector Achyuta Rao, RDO Office Administrative Officer Suryakantham and other officials participated in the inspection.



Young woman ends life ahead of engagement: One under treatment

Vizianagaram (Garividi), July 2 (Skyline): A tragic incident was reported from Tondrangi village in Garividi mandal, where a 22-year-old woman allegedly died by suicide following sustained pressure and threats from a man known to her. Police have registered a case and launched an investigation. According to Garividi Police, the deceased, Balagam Akhila (22), and Korada Ramunaidu of the same village were reportedly in a relationship. Police said Akhila's engagement with another man was scheduled for July 2. Investigators allege that Ramunaidu, who is already married, pressured Akhila to cancel the engagement and allegedly threatened to reveal details of their relationship to the prospective groom if she refused. Police further stated that he allegedly instigated her to consume pesticide. Unable to bear the alleged pressure, Akhila reportedly consumed pesticide. She was shifted to a private hospital in Vizianagaram for treatment but succumbed on Wednesday. Police also said that Ramunaidu later consumed pesticide and is currently undergoing treatment at Cheepurupalli



Hospital. Based on a complaint lodged by the victim's father, Garividi Sub-Inspector B. Lokeshwara Rao has registered a case and is investigating the circumstances leading to the woman's death. Police said further action will be taken based on the outcome of the investigation.

Up to 45% off on Alexa-enabled Echo smart speakers and displays, and Fire TV devices

Visakhapatnam, 2 July 2026, India: Amazon India has returned with its annual Prime Day shopping event, celebrating its tenth edition this year. Between July 4 and July 6, 2026, Prime members can enjoy exciting offers across a range of Alexa-enabled devices including Echo smart speakers and smart displays to Fire TV streaming devices, and smart TVs with Fire TV built-in. Whether you're setting up a smart home, upgrading your TV streaming experience, or simply looking for a smarter way to get things done—there's something for everyone this Prime Day. Members can also enjoy savings on new launches like Echo Dot Max, Echo Studio, and Fire TV Stick HD. Here are some of the top deals available during Prime Day 2026:
Embrace smart living
Echo smart speakers and smart displays with Alexa make everyday tasks effortless—from playing music and managing compatible smart home devices to setting reminders, making to-do lists, and accessing information,



all through simple voice commands. You can also ask Alexa to add items to your shopping cart or stay updated on order deliveries by saying, "Alexa, add garam masala to my shopping cart" or "Alexa, track my package." During Prime Day, enjoy discounts on the Echo line-up, including the latest Echo Dot Max and Echo Studio smart speakers. Look out for these offers during Prime Day:
●Flat 27% off on Echo Dot (5th Generation). Get it for Rs.3,999.
●Flat 41% off on Echo Pop. Get it for Rs.2,949.

●Flat 50% off on Echo (4th Generation). Get it for Rs.5,000.
●Flat 18% off on the latest Echo Dot Max. Get it for Rs.8,999.
●Flat Rs.2,000 off on Echo Spot. Get it for Rs.6,999.
●Flat Rs.7,000 off on Echo Show 8. Get it for just Rs.17,999.
●Flat Rs.2,500 off on Echo Show 11. Get it for Rs.24,499.
●Flat Rs.2,500 off on the latest Echo Studio. Get it for Rs.21,499.
Transform at-home TV streaming. Whether turning a non-smart TV into a smart TV or making an existing smart TV fast and

responsive, Fire TV devices help elevate your TV streaming experience. You can watch lakhs of movies and TV show episodes across apps like Prime Video, Netflix, JioHotstar, YouTube, Zee5, and more (subscription fees may apply), or enjoy playing popular Xbox games directly through the Xbox app (requires compatible Bluetooth controller). Prime members can enjoy savings on a range of Fire TV devices this Prime Day, including the latest Fire TV Stick HD—Amazon's slimmest and fastest HD streaming stick yet.
Look out for these offers during Prime Day:
●Flat 45% off on the latest Fire TV Stick HD. Get it for just Rs.2,999.
●Flat 36% off on Fire TV Stick 4K Plus. Get it for just Rs.4,499.
●Flat 36% off on Fire TV Stick 4K Select. Get it for just Rs.3,499.
●Flat Rs.1,000 off on Fire TV Cube. Get it for just Rs.12,999.
●Enjoy up to 55% off on Smart TVs with Fire TV built-in.

BHASHINI Showcases Multilingual AI Innovations at NCeG 2026; Launches Rajasthan Language Model Training Hackathon



New Delhi, July, 2 (PIB): The Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD) marked a strong presence at the National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) 2026, organised by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Government of India, in collaboration with the Government of Rajasthan. Through live demonstrations, multilingual AI solutions, and interactive experiences, BHASHINI showcased how Language AI is making digital governance more inclusive, accessible, and citizen-centric. At the BHASHINI exhibition stall, delegates explored the platform's core AI capabilities through live demonstrations of speech and text translation, voice-based AI services, Shrutlekh, BhashaDaan, and Suno Sutra, India's first handheld

multilingual edge AI device. Visitors also experienced real-world governance use cases powered by BHASHINI, including CPGRAMS, Nyaya Setu, Arogya Vani, SabhaSaar, and Yuva Saarthi, demonstrating how multilingual AI is enabling seamless access to public services across languages. The stall also witnessed enthusiastic participation in BhashaDaan, BHASHINI's

national crowdsourcing initiative for language data. Visitors contributed and validated language datasets across Indian languages and received Digital Participation Certificates in recognition of their contributions towards strengthening India's multilingual AI ecosystem. During the conference, BHASHINI also launched the Rajasthan Language Model Training Hackathon, an initiative aimed at strengthening AI models for Rajasthan's regional languages through the creation of high quality language datasets for Marwari, Mewari, Dhundhari, Hadoti, Mewati, and Bagri. Another key highlight was the deployment of ShrutLekh, BHASHINI's AI-powered real-time speech-to-text solution, across multiple plenary and breakout sessions throughout the conference. Shrutlekh enabled live transcription and translation during several technical sessions showcasing how AI-powered language technologies can enhance accessibility at large public events. The BHASHINI stall was visited by the Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma, Shri Rajyavardhan Rathore, Minister for Information Technology and Communication (DoIT&C),

Government of Rajasthan, along with senior government officials and distinguished delegates from across the country, who experienced BHASHINI's multilingual AI solutions and appreciated their potential to transform citizen service delivery. On the sidelines of the conference, Shri Amitabh Nag, CEO, Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD), also participated in the Investors' Meet and held discussions with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Rajasthan on advancing multilingual AI and language technologies for the state, with a focus on strengthening inclusive digital governance through language-first innovation. Amitabh Nag, Chief Executive Officer, Digital India BHASHINI Division said: "For AI to truly serve every citizen, it must understand the languages people speak in their daily lives. Every language contribution, every validated dataset, and every new use case brings us closer to building AI that is more inclusive, more representative, and more accessible for all."

BHASHINI's participation at NCeG 2026 reinforced its commitment to advancing Multilingual Digital Public Infrastructure by enabling governments and institutions to deliver services in citizens' preferred languages. Through innovative AI solutions, community driven dataset creation, and scalable language technologies, BHASHINI continues to strengthen the vision of a Digital India where language is never a barrier to governance.

About Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD): The Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD), under Digital India Corporation (DIC), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), is India's national initiative for AI-driven multilingual digital inclusion and language technology. Through the National Hub for Language Technology (NHLT), BHASHINI enables scalable speech and text-based AI services across Indian languages for governance, public digital platforms, and institutions. Today, BHASHINI powers over 800 government websites, processes more than 20 million AI inferences every day, and has enabled over 8 billion cumulative AI inferences. The platform supports 36 Indian text languages, 23 Indian voice languages, and 35 international languages, while offering more than 20 specialised NLP services, driving multilingual AI innovation and strengthening India's Digital Public Infrastructure.

New Delhi, July, 2 (PIB): India's coal import basket has registered a significant decline in April 2026, with total coal imports falling to 21.13 Million Tonnes (MT) from 24.27 MT in April 2025 - a reduction of 3.14 MT (about 12.95%). The decline reflects the sustained impact of the Ministry of Coal's continuing push for import substitution and enhanced domestic coal availability, particularly for the power sector.

Key Highlights

Power Sector Imports Down Sharply: Coal imports by power plants fell by 24.89%, from 4.67 MT in April 2025 to 3.51 MT in April 2026, driven by improved domestic linkage supplies and reduced dependence on imported coal for blending Imported Coal-Based (ICB) Plants: Imports for plants designed to run on imported coal declined by 27.45%, from 3.97 MT to 2.88 MT, the steepest reduction among all categories tracked. Domestic Coal-Based (DCB) Plants for Blending Imported Coal: Coal imported for blending purposes by domestic plants fell by 11.26%, from 0.71 MT to 0.63 MT, underscoring the success of efforts to ramp up assured domestic supply and reduce reliance on the blending mandate. Overall Import Dependence Narrows: Coal imports as a share of total coal consumption fell from 21.69% in April 2025 to 19.68% in April 2026, a decline of over 2 percentage points. Coking Coal Imports Remain Steady: Coking coal imports, which cater primarily to the steel sector where domestic coking coal reserves remain limited, rose marginally by 1.34% (5.93 MT to 6.01 MT), consistent with continued growth in domestic steel production and reflecting that this category is driven by resource-specific requirements rather than availability gaps. The consistent decline across ICB, DCB and overall import categories reflects the Ministry of Coal's sustained focus on ramping up domestic coal production and offtake, strengthening First Mile Connectivity, close monitoring of thermal power plant stock positions, and coordinated efforts with Ministry of Railways, Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries to ensure assured supply to power utilities. These measures have progressively reduced the need for imported coal, including for blending purposes, while maintaining healthy stock levels at thermal power plants across the country. The Ministry of Coal remains committed to further strengthening domestic coal production, evacuation infrastructure and quality-based grading to sustain this trend of reduced import dependence in the coming months.

TRAI Assesses Mobile Network Quality Across Karimnagar City and Highway under AP LSA

New Delhi (PIB): The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released findings of Independent Drive Test (IDT) conducted across Karimnagar City and Highway under AP LSA, during the month of May 2026, for information of general telecom consumers. The purpose of this drive test is to assess and verify real time quality of mobile network services (both voice & data) provided by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs). During the IDT, TRAI captures performance of TSPs for key Quality of Service (QoS) parameters like Coverage, Call Drop Rate (CDR), Call Setup Success Rate (CSSR), data Download (DL) and Upload (UL) throughput etc., which are then published to inform Consumers and encourage TSPs to improve their services. These IDTs have been designed to capture on ground mobile network performance of all TSPs across diverse usages environment like cities, hotspots, public transport hubs, etc. In this type of drive testing, live data and voice sessions are established using SIM cards from all TSPs over 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G networks. Multiple advanced test handsets are used, and the sessions are monitored and analysed in real-time using advanced Software Systems. TRAI, through its appointed agency, conducted drive tests across City drive – 136.3 Kms, Hotspot locations - 3, Highway – 217.2 Kms in Karimnagar and surrounding towns and Karimnagar-Vemulawada-Siricilla and Karimnagar-Bejjanki-Husnabad- Mulkanoor-Elkatirthy-Huzurabad-Karimnagar - Highway during 11th May 2026 to 12th May 2026 in Andhra Pradesh LSA. These tests were conducted under the supervision of the TRAI Regional Office Hyderabad. The observations presented in drive test reports represent the performance of the TSPs on the area/route under test on the day/ time of conducting the drive test.

NRAA-Funded Wild Rice Conservation Project Secures Major Milestone in Assam

- Borjuli Site in Sonitpur Notified as Biodiversity Heritage Site

New Delhi, July, 2 (PIB): The National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, has achieved a significant milestone in the conservation of India's wild rice genetic resources through its funded project titled "In-situ Conservation and Management of Wild Rice (*Oryza rufipogon*) in Sonitpur District of Assam." The project has been implemented since 2022 by the ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (ICAR-NBPGR), New Delhi, in collaboration with the Assam State Biodiversity Board. A team of scientists from ICAR-NBPGR called on Dr. Chandra Shekhar Kumar, IAS, Chief Executive Officer, NRAA, and briefed him on the project's achievements in the exploration, conservation and characterization of wild rice germplasm. The team informed that the Borjuli site in Sonitpur district of Assam, identified under the project, has been notified as a Biodiversity Heritage Site by the National Biodiversity Authority. The recognition marks a major step towards conserving India's rich wild rice diversity and strengthening climate-resilient agriculture. Commending the efforts of the research team, Dr. Chandra Shekhar Kumar said that wild rice species are an invaluable source of genes for developing climate-resilient, high-yielding and nutritionally superior rice varieties. He emphasized the need to replicate similar conservation initiatives for other crop wild relatives across the country to enhance the resilience, sustainability and long-term food security of Indian agriculture. The meeting was facilitated by Dr. Pankaj Kumar Shah, Director (Agriculture & Horticulture), NRAA, and Dr. Anil Kumar Mishra, Technical Expert (Watershed Management), NRAA.

Coal Imports Decline by Nearly 13% in April 2026, Reflecting Steady Progress Towards Import Substitution

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Today's Horoscope



Aries
Your positive outlook will impress those around you. Today, you can get into a fight with someone close, and things can escalate to the court. Because of this, your hard-earned money will be spent. You will make new friends if you get involved in group activities. Romance on the card but sensual feelings may erupt which would spoil your relationship. Get involved in jobs which are of creative nature. Time is precious, and you need to fully utilize it to attain desired results. However, flexibility in life and spending time with your family is an important aspect as well, which you need to understand. Your spouse might push you to go out when you are in no mood or vice versa, which will eventually make you feel irritated. Remedy :- Deepen your love bond with lover by keeping 1 black and 10 golden fish in an aquarium at home.



Taurus
You need to sit back and relax today- and get involved in hobbies and things that you enjoy doing the most. Together with your spouse, you can discuss finances and plan your wealth for your future. In a happy-energetic-loving mood-your jovial nature brings joy and happiness to those around you. Exciting day of romance- Plan something special for the evening and try to make it as romantic as possible. Your internal strength will equally support you in making the day awesome at work. Tours and travel would bring pleasure and would be highly educating. With just little efforts, the day might become the best day of your married life. Remedy :- Mars is called Bhoomi-Putra (meaning Son of Earth).



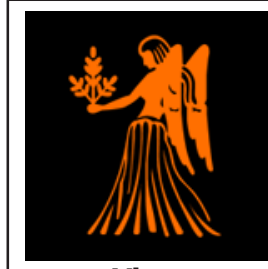
Gemini
Some unavoidable circumstances can give you some uneasiness. But you must try to keep your poise and should not react immediately to tackle the situation. Do not take any step or act in such a manner which can cause financial loss today without the advice of an experienced person. Family front doesn't seem to be happy and smooth. Your love partner will surprise you with something really beautiful today. Things seem nice at work. Your mood will stay good throughout the day. If you live away from home due to your studies or job, then utilize your free time today by talking to your family members. Remedy :- Feed seven types of whole grains to birds and attain excellent health.



Cancer
Start your day with a little exercise- It's time you start feeling good about yourself- Make it a regular feature everyday and try to stick to it. Today, you are likely to attain benefits from the help of your brother or sister. Family members will hold a special place in your life. Your eyes are so bright that they can light up a dark night of your lover. Fresh problems will surface for you at workplace- especially if you don't handle things diplomatically. Excessive use of TV or Mobile can result in wastage of time. Your spouse will make you realize today that heaven is on earth. Remedy :- Mars is called Bhoomi-Putra (meaning Son of Earth). Every morning, before touching the ground with your feet, pay obeisance to Mother Earth. This will help your work life/ business



Leo
Maintain your mental health- which is prerequisite for spiritual life. Mind is the gateway of life because everything whether it is good/ bad comes through mind. It helps in solving life problems and endows one with requisite light. Any of your chronic diseases may bother you today, due to which you may have to go to the hospital and spend a lot of money. Children might seek your help to complete school projects. Sharing food with beloved in candlelight. Your confidence will make an impact in your professional life. It will enable you to convince others your point of view and take their assistance. Remedy :- To make financial life stronger, use alum to clean your teeth.



Virgo
Blessings of a saintly person will give peace of mind. Due to the placement of the Moon, your money can be spent on unnecessary things. If you wish to accumulate wealth, then talk to your spouse or parents about it. Visiting guests occupy your evenings. Somebody may come between your love today. All the hard work that you had been putting at work will pay you today. You may suddenly have to go on an unwanted journey today, due to which your plan to spend time with family may get spoiled. A person might take too much interest in your spouse today, but you will realize at the end of the day that there is nothing wrong going on. Remedy :- For maintaining good economic condition, apply a paste of saffron or turmeric on forehead, before venturing out for any work.



Libra
Too much worry and stress could cause hypertension. New sources of income will generate through people you know. Guests crowd your house for a pleasant and wonderful evening. You will meet a caring and understanding friend. If you feel that you can handle important jobs without the assistance of others then you are highly mistaken. Today, you will have ample time to spend with your spouse. Your lover will feel overwhelmed at the attention and love s/he will get. Your spouse will make you realize today that heaven is on earth. Remedy :- Wear Silver in any form to achieve healthy lifestyle.



Scorpio
Pleasure trips and social get-togethers will keep you relaxed and happy. New contracts might look lucrative but will not bring gains as desired- Do not make hasty decisions when it comes to investing money. You are going to learn some lessons from your children. They have very pure auras and can transform those around them by their innocence joyfulness and absence of negativity. Likely to face disappointment as date program may fail. Today, you might get to know at work that the one you considered as your enemy is actually your wellwisher. You can spend time with an elder of the family today to understand the intricacies of life. Remedy :- Offer almonds at Hanuman temple, bring half of these back home and keep inside your locker for more auspiciousness in your financial life.



Sagittarius
Outings-parties and pleasure jaunts will keep you in good mood today. Money can be required anytime, so plan your finances and start saving now as much as possible. Let family tension not divert your attention. Bad times give us much more. You will be in a loving mood- so be sure to make special plans for you and your beloved. New assignments undertaken would fall short of expectations. Travel and educational pursuits will enhance your awareness. Those who say that marriage is all about sex, they lie. Because today, you will know what true love is. Remedy :- For enhanced career/work life/business, brush your teeth with herbal-based toothpaste such as neem and babool.



Capricorn
Your frank and fearless views could hurt the vanity of your friend. It's another high-energy day and unexpected gains are foreseen. You will upset your spouse if you spend money on things that you don't immediately require. Beloved will be in a romantic mood. Daydreaming will bring your downfall- Do not count on others to do your work. You need to remember that god helps those who help themselves. Today, you will fall in love with your spouse again. Remedy :- Maintain harmony and balance in the family by switching on a white-light zero watt bulb in the Northwest direction.



Aquarius
Health will be perfect today. If you were about to take a loan and had been engaged in this work for a long time, then today is your lucky day. Domestic work keeps you busy most of the time. Love will show positive vibes Good day for businessmen. A sudden trip undertaken for business purpose will yield positive results. Today, you can think of spending your free time carrying out religious work. During this time, do not get into unnecessary conflicts. Today, you will forget all the hardships of your life with the love of your spouse. Remedy :- For enhancing positive experiences in the family, offer 28 drops of mustard oil near Peepal or banyan tree or in a pot filled with mud at home.



Pisces
Cheer up as good time ahead and you will have additional energy. You may get into a fight with your spouse today over money-related matters. However, you will fix everything with your calm attitude. A wonderful day to enjoy the company of guests. Plan something special with your relatives. They would also appreciate it. A good communication or a message from your beloved or spouse will enhance your morale today. Added knowledge that you acquire today would give you an edge when dealing with peers. Amidst your busy life, you will get enough time for yourself today and be able to do your favorite things. Marriage had never been so wonderful before than today. Remedy :- Accept rice and silver from your mother and keep it in your home to improve your financial condition.

People should take advantage of the Praja Darbar, which is aimed at public welfare

Madanapalle, July 02(Skyline daily): The Praja Darbar organized at the Madanapalle MLA office received a special response as usual. People from all over the constituency came in large numbers and made requests to solve various problems, and MLA Shahjahan Basha instructed the officials over the phone to work to solve everyone's problems. Later, MLA M Shahjahan Basha, along with local coalition leaders, launched the supply channel development work through the VB-G RAM G department near the Kankara Mission in CTM-1 Panchayat, Madanapalle Mandal. Speaking on this occasion, he said that everyone should take advantage of this 125-day work and that the government has taken it as a responsibility to provide work to everyone. Also, the relevant department was instructed to distribute job cards to everyone and expedite the work. As the drinking water problem is increasing in Madanapalle town, the MLA has instructed the officials to inspect the old boreholes in the vicinity of Bahuda Kalava along with the municipal officials and take steps to restart those boreholes and prepare a plan to end the drinking water problem.

CMRF cheques distributed by the MLA....
In Madanapalle Mandal, CTM Gram Panchayat, MLA Shahjahan Basha personally went to their homes and, along with his party leaders, handed over Chief Minister's



Relief Fund cheques worth one lakh 40 thousand rupees to the beneficiaries. In the review of local alliance leaders, they expressed their joy on this occasion that they will be indebted to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Madanapalle MLA M Shahjahan Basha for the rest of their lives. Alliance leaders and local people participated in the respective programs in large numbers.

Minister Nara Lokesh Offers Prayers at Sri Kalahasteeswara Temple



Srikalahasti- 2 July (Skyline Daily): Andhra Pradesh Minister for Education, IT and Electronics, Sri Nara Lokesh, visited the Sri Kalahasteeswara Swamy Temple on Wednesday and offered special prayers to Lord Sri Kalahasteeswara Swamy and Goddess Gnana Prasunamba, seeking divine blessings. Accompanying him on the occasion were Tirupati Urban Development Authority (TUDA) Chairman Sri Dollar Divakar, Venkatagiri MLA Sri K. Ramakrishna, Gangadhara Nellore MLADr. V.M. Thomas, and Darsi MLA



Sri Damacharla Satya. Local MLA Sri Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy, Temple Executive Officer Sri B.K. Venkatesulu, Temple Chairman Sri K. Sai Prasad, Board Members Sri Gopinath and Sri Gurrappa Shetty, and Market Committee Chairman Sri Rangineni Chenchayya Naidu welcomed the minister with traditional temple honours and supervised the darshan arrangements. Temple officials, staff members, TDP leaders, party workers, and a large number of devotees participated in the programme.

BJP National and State Leaders Offer Prayers at Sri Kalahasteeswara Temple



Srikalahasti - 2 July (Skyline Daily): BJP National Co-Organisation General Secretary Sri Shiv Prakash Ji, Andhra Pradesh BJP State President Sri P.V.N. Madhav, and BJP State Organisation Secretary Sri Madhukar Ji visited the Sri Kalahasteeswara Swamy Temple in Srikalahasti on Wednesday. During the visit, Sri Shiv Prakash Ji participated in the sacred Rahu-Ketu Pooja and later offered prayers to Lord Sri Kalahasteeswara Swamy and Goddess Gnana Prasunamba, seeking divine blessings. Temple Executive Officer Sri B.K. Venkatesulu,



BJP State Vice-President Sri K. Anand Kumar, Special Invitee Smt. Shailaja, BJP leaders Chandrappa and Kandriga Uma, and Protocol AEO Sri Lokesh Babu welcomed the dignitaries with traditional temple honours and supervised the darshan arrangements. The programme was attended by Temple AEO Sri Vidyasagar Reddy, Temple Supervisor Sri C. Nagabhushanam, Temple Inspector Sri M. Hari Yadav, APRO Sri Ravi, other temple officials, BJP leaders, party workers, and devotees.

Kadapa Clinch South Zone U-16 Title in Thrilling Contest

- Centuries by Sarik and Taneeswar Go in Vain as Chittoor Finish Runners-up
(By Skyline Staff Reporter)

Vayalpad, July 2: Kadapa district emerged as champions of the Andhra Cricket Association (ACA) South Zone Under-16 Multi-Day Tournament after defeating Chittoor in a thrilling final-like encounter held at the CDCA-GVSCS Ground-1 in Vayalpad. The match remained evenly poised until the final innings, with Chittoor putting up a spirited fight before falling just short and settling for the runners-up trophy. After winning the toss, Kadapa elected to bat first and were bowled out for 279 runs in 71.5 overs. K. Lokesh scored 67, S.K. Umar Siddiq made 59, while P. Hitesh Sai remained unbeaten on 65. For Chittoor, right-arm pacer Jayaprakash produced an outstanding spell, claiming 5 wickets for 93 runs, while Tejesh and Dinesh picked up two wickets each. In reply, Chittoor were dismissed for 107 runs in 35 overs in their first innings. V.J. Noel was the lone bright spot with 45 runs. Kadapa bowlers M. Varshith Kumar and P. Hitesh Sai starred with four wickets apiece, giving their team a commanding 172-run first-innings lead. Batting again, Kadapa were bowled out for 222 runs in 64.3 overs in their second innings. K. Lokesh scored 50, P. Askan Khan contributed 46, Y.V. Shiva Charan added 37, and A. Sai Abhinivash made 31. Chittoor bowlers Dinesh (4/48) and Jayaprakash (3/58) once again impressed with the ball. Set a daunting target of 394 runs, Chittoor produced a remarkable fightback through magnificent centu-



ries by Mohammed Sarik Akhtar (131) and Taneeswar Tendulkar (111). Their crucial partnership brought Chittoor within touching distance of victory, but the lower order failed to provide the required support, and the team eventually fell short in a nail-biting finish. For Kadapa, P. Hitesh Sai claimed three wickets, M. Varshith Kumar took two, while B. Muni Gnaneshwar and B. Sai Krishna Chaitanya picked up one wicket each to seal the championship. The prize distribution ceremony was attended by CDCA President Srinivasa Murthy, Vice-President Sridhar Kumar, Secretary Satish Yadav, Chittoor District Head Coach Sunil Kumar, Kadapa Joint Secretary Srikanth Reddy, coaches Siddiq, Shoaib, and Anjaneyulu, selectors Reddy Girish, Jawahar Basha, Harish, and Vijay Kumar, and senior cricketers Bharath and Vishnu, who presented the trophies and congratulated the players on their outstanding performances.

Work-Study Dual Model: A Bridge to Fill Academics & Industry Gap

Sri City, Tirupati District, 2 July - Sricity International University (SIU) was formally launched today at its Interim Campus by the Hon'ble Minister Shri Lokesh Nara - Minister for HRD, IT E&C and RTG, Government of Andhra Pradesh, in the presence of SIU's Global Advisory Council, Governing Board, and Industry Partners.

SIU is pioneering a new education system of Work-Study Dual Model in India - designed from the ground up to ensure that every graduating student is employable with industry relevant skills.

The launch comes at a defining moment for Indian higher education. India produces more than nine million graduates every year, yet only about 42.6% are assessed as employable; more than half of those who do find work are in roles below their qualification, and over 80% of employers report serious skill gaps. SIU calls this the Bharat Employability and Jobs Challenge - and has been established to solve it.

In the Work-Study Dual Model, students spend roughly a third of their time learning on campus and the remainder working as interns with industry partners. While interning at Industry Partners, students are paid a minimum stipend of ₹10,000 monthly from the very first year. The Industry Partners are expected to increase the stipend amount as the student productivity improves with experience. At SIU, a four-year degree student graduates with about 2+ years of real work experience.

The curriculum is co-designed with industry partners and updated annually to keep pace with the rapidly evolving AI-driven industrial landscape, ensuring that students acquire the knowledge, skills, and competencies demanded by the future of work.

To promote Entrepreneurship, SIU has already set up an Incubation Center (Station-S) at its campus. Around 10 startups have commenced operations with the support of Station-S & Gnan Circle Ventures, a Cat-I Venture Capital Fund.

Andhra Pradesh leading the way on Employability Skills "Our young people have the ability and the ambition; what they need is an education that connects directly to work... Andhra Pradesh is proud to lead the nation in solving this challenge."- Shri Nara Lokesh

Hon'ble Minister for HRD, IT, E&C, and RTG, Government of Andhra Pradesh

An ecosystem that makes the model possible

What makes this model possible is the extraordinary ecosystem of Sri City, where more than 200+ companies from over 30 countries operate across a wide range of industries. Few places in the country - or the world - bring industry and education together so closely. Students at SIU will learn and work alongside leading global companies right where they study, and Andhra Pradesh is proud to be home to an institution that turns this advantage into real opportunity for our young people.



- Shri Nara Lokesh
Hon'ble Minister for HRD, IT, E&C, and RTG, Government of Andhra Pradesh
Employable from day one

A four year degree student graduates with 2+ years of real work experience, earned through paid internships from the very first year - and combined with a curriculum designed together with the industry, that makes our students highly employable. Beyond industry aligned skills, we focus on building strong life skills and an entrepreneurial mindset, giving every student a firm foundation to build a career - or to create jobs for others.

- Srini Raju
Chairman, Sricity Education Foundation & SIU Governing Board

Programmes and admissions
SIU is offering four undergraduate programmes for the 2026-27 academic year:

- B.Tech in Computer Science & Engineering - School of Technology & AI

- B.Tech in Advanced Manufacturing - School of Advanced Manufacturing

- BBA in Finance & Accounts - School of Business

- BBA in Digital Media & Communications - School of Nova Media

Admissions for 2026-27 are now open. Students can apply online at www.thesiu.org. Admissions enquiries: +91 8977763331 / +91 8977763332

Email: admissions@thesiu.org

About Sricity International University

Sricity International University (SIU) is a philanthropic initiative, established by a distinguished group of technocrats, entrepreneurs, and philanthropists with a shared mission to create a new academic system in higher education. SIU is established under AP State Private Universities Act by Sricity Education Foundation, a not-for-profit Section 8 company.

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MLA Amaranath Reddy's birthday celebrations

- Banners and cut-outs displayed in villages

affection by setting up banners and cut-outs in every vil-



(By our Skyline staff reporter)

Palamaneru, July 2: The Telugu Desam Party leaders and activists of Palamaneru constituency celebrated the birthday of MLA Amaranath Reddy on Thursday. On this occasion, a festive atmosphere prevailed in all the mandals of the constituency. Leaders and activists displayed their

age. Similarly, huge cakes were cut and firecrackers were burst in the villages and celebrated. Later, food distribution Programme was organized for the poor and milk and fruits were distributed to pregnant women at the government hospital. Sapling planting programme was organized in Madanapalle Road under the auspices of Palamaneru town leaders. Market Committee Chairman Rajanna participated in the birthday celebrations along with the laborers. Speaking on the occasion, the leaders praised the development of Palamaneru constituency in all sectors under the leadership of MLA Amarnath Reddy. He said that he has been recognized as a leader who is ac-

cessible to the people and continues his service programmes continuously. Wishing him the opportunity to rise to higher positions in the future and serve the people more. TDP leaders, activists and a large number of people participated in this programme.

Former Cricketer Srikanth Offers Prayers at Srikalahasteeswara Temple



Srikalahasti - 1 July (Skyline Daily): Former Indian cricketer Krishnamachari Srikanth visited the famous Sri Kalahasteeswara Swamy Temple along with his family members on Wednesday and offered special prayers to the presiding deities. Temple officials extended a warm welcome to Srikanth and arranged a special darshan for the family. Later, Vedic scholars blessed them near the Mrityunjaya Swamy Temple and presented them with portraits of Lord Srikalahasteeswara and Goddess Gnana Prasunambika. Devotees at the temple enthusiastically took selfies with the former cricketer, who cheerfully interacted with everyone and posed for photographs with a smile. Former YSRCP board member Munna Royal, Jaishyam, Manoj, YSRCP Town Youth President Mallembakam Muni Krishna Reddy, Deva Surya, Satish, and others participated in the visit.

MITs Deemed to be University gets national recognition in India Today-MDR Best Colleges Rankings 2026



Madanapalle, July 02(Skyline daily): MITs Deemed to be University near Madanapalle has achieved another prestigious achievement. MITs has secured a distinguished position in the India Today Best Colleges 2026, a ranking of the country's leading educational institutions, said Dr C Yuvaraj, Vice Chancellor of the university. In the rankings conducted for all government and private engineering colleges, MITs has secured 187th rank in the country, while it has secured 155th rank in the country in the private engineering college category, he said. Speaking on the occasion, he said that this national level recognition is a testament to the quality education offered at MITs, state-of-the-art laboratories, emphasis on research, industry-linked teaching, talented faculty and excellent placement opportunities. He said that admissions are currently ongoing for B Tech, M Tech, BBA, BCA, MBA, MCA and PhD courses for the academic year 2026-27. He called on students to utilize this opportunity and build their future with MITs.

Bharat Tex 2026 Set to Showcase Textile Excellence

New Delhi: Bharat Tex 2026, India's largest global textile event, is set to be held from 14th- 17th July 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, showcasing the complete breadth and depth of India's textile ecosystem on a unified global platform. Organised by the Bharat Tex Trade Federation, a consortium of Textile Export Promotion Councils and Industry Bodies, with the support of the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, the event showcases growing India's global leadership in textiles, fashion, sustainability, technology, innovation, investment and international trade. Inspired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi's 5F Vision - Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign, Bharat Tex 2026 has evolved into a premier global platform for business, investment, sourcing, innovation, policy dialogue and strategic partnerships across the textile value chain. The event brings together

manufacturers, exporters, global buyers, brands, sourcing consultants, investors, policymakers, States, international delegations, designers, artisans, start-ups and technology providers. The third edition is expected to witness participation of over 7,000 buyers, 1.3 lakh trade visitors, 20,000+ textile products and exhibition spread across 1.6 million sq. ft. leading to meaningful commercial engagements during the event. The event brings together over 350 speakers including international experts, national industry leaders, CXOs, policymakers and thought leaders from more than 20 countries alongside a dedicated International Pavilion designed to deepen global participation and facilitate structured cross-border engagement. Speakers and experts from the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, Italy, Netherlands, Belgium, Canada,

Portugal, France, Switzerland, South Korea, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Sweden, Kenya, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Egypt and Indonesia are expected to contribute to discussions. This edition has witnessed overwhelming participation with Eight Sponsor States including Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. In addition, nine States and UTs, including Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Odisha, Manipur, Rajasthan and West Bengal, are participating as exhibitors. These State participations will showcase India's regional textile ecosystems, investment opportunities, cluster capabilities, manufacturing infrastructure and policy & regulatory support. On the exhibition front, Bharat Tex 2026 presents a comprehensive showcase of India's

complete textile value chain with over 1,600 exhibitors across dedicated exhibition halls spanning fibre, yarn, fabric, apparel and fashion, home textiles, technical textiles and ancillary industries. Another key highlight of the exhibition is celebrating and showcasing India's textile clusters including Tirupur, Ichalkaranji and Ahmedabad, amongst others. This edition has international exhibitors from 14 countries including United States, United Kingdom, Japan, Portugal, Spain, New Zealand, South Korea, South Africa, Nepal among others. In addition, there is strong institutional representation from the United Nations and European Union, and strong participation from industry players with key sponsors including Trident, Vardhman Textiles, RSWM, Shahi Exports, Colorjet, Arvind, PDS Limited and Sattva underscoring Bharat Tex's standing as India's largest Global Textiles Expo.

Labour Conciliation Brings Relief to Bank Employees



New Delhi: A significant breakthrough has been achieved through the conciliation efforts of the office of the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Raipur, under the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, in resolving an industrial dispute concerning the employees and

officers of Chhattisgarh Gramin Bank. The dispute arose following a proposed one-day strike call scheduled for 29 June 2026 by the All India Regional Rural Bank Employees' Association (AIRBEA), Chhattisgarh Unit, over several long-pending employee and officer-related demands. Following marathon conciliation proceedings

facilitated by Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Raipur constructive discussions were held between the Bank Management and representatives of the employees' unions and associations. As a result, a tripartite Memorandum of Settlement was executed under Section 53(3) of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, leading to the with-

drawal of the proposed strike. The conciliation proceedings commenced at 11:00 AM and concluded at 8:30 PM on 22 June 2026. The settlement is expected to benefit approximately 2,610 employees of Chhattisgarh Gramin Bank and has an estimated financial implication of ₹15 crore. The timely intervention also averted an estimated one-day financial loss of ₹1.29 crore that could have resulted from the proposed strike. During the proceedings/conciliations, the management of Chhattisgarh Gramin Bank represented by the General Manager, Administration & Chief Manager, HR played a pivotal role in arriving at an amicable settlement by facilitating mutually beneficial compromises on conflicting issues.

NHRC Takes Cognizance of Kolkata Building Collapse

New Delhi: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India has taken suo motu cognizance of a media report that at least five labourers died and twenty others were injured when an under-construction warehouse building collapsed in the Taratala area of Kolkata district in West Bengal on

24th June 2026. Reportedly, 12 to 15 people were feared trapped under the debris. Allegedly, the sanctioned building plan was faulty, resulting in the tragedy. The Commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, raise serious issues of violation of human rights. Therefore, it has is-

sued notices to the West Bengal Chief Secretary, Kolkata Police Commissioner and Municipal Commissioner, calling for a detailed report on the matter within two weeks. The report is expected to include the status of the investigation as well as compensation, if any, paid to the next of kin of the de-

ceased and injured. According to the media report, carried on 25th June 2026, about forty labourers were working at the construction site when the concrete casting of the iron structure of the under-construction warehouse suddenly collapsed, trapping several workers beneath the debris.

NHAI Clarifies Delhi-Dehradun Corridor Road Cave-In

New Delhi: The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) would like to inform that a road surface cave-in observed at Km 55+480 on the Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor was the result of localized water stagnation following rainfall previous night, coupled with constraints in commissioning the permanent cross-drainage system at the location. During routine route patrolling in the early hours of 1 July 2026, the project team detected the affected stretch and immediately initiated restoration works. The damaged portion was repaired on priority, ensuring safe and uninterrupted movement of traffic. The balancing culvert constructed at Km 55+480 was designed to facilitate cross-drainage by conveying rainwater across the median and safely away from the carriageway. However, the culvert could not be connected and commissioned because



of sustained resistance from local residents, who have not permitted integration of the drainage system and have instead been using the culvert opening as a vehicular

crossing. Consequently, the intended cross-drainage arrangement has remained non-operational, leading to accumulation of rainwater along the carriageway dur-

ing the heavy rainfall and the subsequent road surface cave-in. In addition, permanent slope protection and chute drain works at the location remain pending due to an ongoing land-related arbitration dispute. Despite repeated efforts by NHAI, the concerned landowners have not permitted execution of these works. As a result, the permanent protection measures envisaged under the project design could not be completed at the site. To address the situation, NHAI has initiated construction of an interim parallel drain of a length of approximately 1.5 kilometres. The drainage facility is being redesigned to convey rainwater up to the entry/exit location at Km 56+500, pending commissioning of the balancing culvert. NHAI is continuously monitoring the affected location and has deployed all necessary resources to ensure smooth and safe movement of traffic.

Youth Affairs Ministry Hosts Industry Conclave

New Delhi: The Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, will organise the Industry Association Conclave on 3 July 2026 at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar International Centre (Ambedkar Bhawan), New Delhi, bringing together senior government officials, industry leaders, corporate foundations and development partners to forge a collaborative roadmap for empowering India's youth through the MY Bharat (Mera Yuva Bharat) ecosystem. The conclave will be graced by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports and Labour & Employment, and Smt. Raksha Nikhil Khadse, Minister of State for Youth Affairs & Sports. The programme will also witness the participation of Dr.

Pallavi Jain Govil, Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Shri Nitesh Kumar Mishra, Additional Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Shri Shiv Ratan, Joint Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Dr. Priyanka Shukla, Chief Executive Officer, MY Bharat, and senior officials of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and the MY Bharat ecosystem. Conceived as a first-of-its-kind engagement, the conclave seeks to build a structured partnership between the Government, industry associations, corporates and public sector enterprises to accelerate youth-led development. The discussions will focus on leveraging the MY Bharat platform to expand access to volunteering opportunities, internships, skilling initiatives, entrepreneurship support, corporate

social responsibility (CSR) programmes and other youth-centric interventions at a national scale. The event will bring together representatives from leading industry bodies including CII, FICCI, ASSOCHAM, NASSCOM, PHDCCI, CREDAI, Indian Banks' Association, IPA, NHRDN, WTC Mumbai, AIAI, SHRM, India SME Forum, CAIT and SCOPE, along with prominent CSR organisations and foundations such as SBI Foundation, Reliance Foundation, Paytm Foundation, HCL Foundation, Bisleri Foundation and Pratham, providing a unique platform for dialogue and collaboration on youth empowerment. The conclave will feature an overview of the MY Bharat ecosystem, presentations by industry associations on their existing and proposed

youth initiatives, deliberations on collaborative models for CSR, volunteering, internships and skilling, followed by an open stakeholder discussion chaired by the Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs. The deliberations are expected to lay the foundation for sustained institutional partnerships that align industry-led initiatives with national youth development priorities. The expected outcomes include onboarding major industry associations and their member organisations onto the MY Bharat platform, strengthening coordination on youth-focused CSR initiatives, establishing nodal partnerships with industry bodies, and positioning MY Bharat as the national repository for youth opportunities and collaborative engagement.

E-Mobility Key to Green Growth: Bhupender Yadav

New Delhi: Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav, presided over the National Conference on 'Electric Mobility: Building India an Electric Mobility Hub for Viksit Bharat', as Chief Guest, in New Delhi today. The Conference was convened by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), bringing together senior policymakers, industry leaders, automotive manufacturers, technology providers and other stakeholders to deliberate on the roadmap for accelerating India's electric mobility transition and strengthening the country's position as a global EV manufacturing hub. The deliberations highlighted a need for policy continuity, stronger charging infrastructure, localisation of manufacturing, resilient battery supply chains, financing support and technological innovation to accelerate EV adoption and position India as a global electric mobility hub under the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. Addressing the Inaugural Session of the Conference, Shri Yadav stated that India's transition to electric mobility is not merely about replacing one technology with another—it is about building a sustainable industrial ecosystem that strengthens manufacturing,



creates green jobs and supports Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047. "As we accelerate this transition, our focus must remain on green growth, resilient infrastructure, transparent governance and a circular economy that ensures long-term environmental sustainability", he added. The Minister informed that the Government has undertaken a series of reforms to simplify environmental clearances, digitise approval systems through PARIVESH portal, rationalise compliance requirements and promote ease of doing business without compromising environmental safeguards.

These reforms are enabling faster investments while ensuring responsible development, he said. "India's future lies in moving from a linear 'take-make-dispose' model towards a circular economy based on reuse, recycling and sustainable resource management", Shri Yadav noted. He stated that electric mobility must be supported by robust charging infrastructure, localisation of advanced manufacturing, secure critical mineral supply chains, battery recycling and resource efficiency. Further, the Minister said that industry, policymakers and institutions must work together to build an innovation-led eco-

system that positions India as a global hub for clean mobility. He concluded by saying, "Ecology and economy must progress together, and through collaborative action. India can emerge as a global leader in sustainable manufacturing, green mobility and climate-conscious development." The inaugural session featured the presence of Shri Nirmal K. Minda, President, ASSOCHAM and Chairman, UNO Minda; Shri Nishant Arya, Chairman, ASSOCHAM National Council on Green Mobility and Vice CMD, JBM Group; and Shri Saubhagya, Secretary General, ASSOCHAM.

11 Years of Digital India: 110 Crore Academic Records Digitised

New Delhi: As the Digital India programme completes eleven years on 1 July 2026, India continues to strengthen digital public infrastructure to make governance more transparent, accessible and citizen-centric. Since its launch in 2015, Digital India has transformed public service delivery across sectors, including education, through trusted digital platforms that improve ease of living and promote efficient governance. In the education sector, Digital India has supported the development of digital platforms that promote lifelong learning, academic mobility and secure digital credentials in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) and the National Academic Depository (NAD) are among the key initiatives driving this transformation. The Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), an initiative of the Ministry of Education regulated by the University Grants Commission (UGC), is a digital platform for storing, transferring and redeeming

academic credits earned by students from recognised higher education institutions. It supports the National Education Policy 2020 and the National Credit Framework by enabling Multiple Entry-Multiple Exit (MEME), credit transfer and flexible learning pathways. Integrated with APAAR (Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry), ABC provides every learner with a unique lifelong academic identity, enabling secure access to academic records across school education, higher education, skill development and other recognised learning programmes through a unified digital platform. As per the latest progress, 2,963 higher education institutions have registered on the ABC platform. More than 26.29 crore APAAR IDs have been created, while over 110.65 crore academic records have been uploaded, reflecting the growing adoption of the digital academic ecosystem across the country. ABC simplifies academic administration by

replacing physical documentation with secure digital records, enabling students to access, transfer and redeem academic credits online. It also facilitates faster verification of academic credentials for admissions, scholarships, internships and employment, reducing paperwork while enhancing transparency and trust. The National Academic Depository (NAD) is a 24x7 online repository of academic awards that enables educational institutions to issue, store and verify academic certificates, degrees, diplomas and mark sheets in a secure digital format. Developed under the Digital India programme, NAD provides learners with anytime-anywhere access to authenticated academic records while enabling institutions, employers and government agencies to digitally verify credentials. By replacing physical certificates with digitally authenticated records, NAD reduces administrative costs, minimises paperwork and eliminates the risk of loss or

damage of academic documents. Secure online verification also helps curb the use of forged certificates while improving transparency and efficiency in admissions, recruitment, scholarships and other public services. Together, the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), APAAR and the National Academic Depository (NAD) are strengthening India's digital academic ecosystem by: Providing secure digital academic records, reducing dependence on physical certificates and minimising the risk of loss, damage or forgery. Enabling anytime, anywhere access to academic credits, certificates and mark sheets through an integrated digital platform. Supporting flexible learning by facilitating academic credit transfer and Multiple Entry-Multiple Exit (MEME) in line with NEP 2020. Accelerating admissions, scholarships and employment through faster digital verification of academic credentials by educational institutions, employers and government agencies.

Road widening should be limited to 70 feet



(By Our Reporter / Skyline)
Narayanakhed, July.2 : The owners of commercial and residential houses on both sides of the road submitted a petition to MP Suresh Shetkar in

Hyderabad on Thursday, demanding that the national highway in Narayanakhed town be widened by 35 feet on both sides, to a total of 70 feet, and that adequate compensation be provided to the

be much traffic problems in the town, and therefore the road widening should be limited to 70 feet. They said that the livelihood of about a thousand people will be affected by the road widening as about 70 buildings will be affected. They expressed their concern that small traders will lose their houses and shops built with their lifetime hard work. They appealed to provide adequate compensation so that justice is done to the victims. Responding to their request, MP Suresh Shetkar assured that he would discuss the matter with the National Highways Department officials and the District Collector and work to ensure that the victims suffer the least possible damage.

RK Foundation provides assurance to a family in distress

(By Our Reporter / Skyline)
Patancheru, July.2 : Kalvagadda Raj Kumar, the BRS party senior leader and RK Foundation Chairman participated in the 'SIR' program organized in Pocharam village under Muthangi division of Patancheru constituency. On this occasion, he inspected the program along with the people of the village and local leaders and inquired about the problems in the village, the needs of the people and the implementation of welfare programs. After the program, local leaders brought to Rajkumar's attention the fact that Dappu Mallesh of Pocharam village was suffering from severe kidney disease and was undergoing dialysis treatment for some time. He immediately reached Mallesh's residence and inquired about his health condition and visited the family members. He provided immediate



assistance of Rs.20 thousand to the family facing financial difficulties for medical treatment. Speaking on the occasion, Rajkumar said that public service is the main objective of RK Foundation. He said that they consider it their responsibility to help any poor family

in Muthangi division in case of any trouble. They assured that they will continue to provide services by participating in the hardships of the people and that the foundation will work to provide the necessary medical assistance to Dappu Mallesh in the future as well. The Program

was attended by former Vice Sarpanch Bhavani Raju, former Sarpanch Kakthi Nagamani, Kakthi Beeriah, Eldanuru Prasanth, Sankapalli Rajkumar, Kanjarla Yadagiri, Bhavani Gopal, RK Foundation members, local BRS leaders, participated in this program.

SIR process should be conducted perfectly



(By Our Reporter / Skyline)
Narayankhed, July.2 : Uma Harathi, the Narayankhed Sub-Collector

has suggested that the authorities should work in coordination to conduct the Special Comprehensive Voter List Amendment (SIR-

2026) process smoothly and transparently. She inspected the ongoing voter mapping process at Kangti Mandal Center, on Thursday.

Speaking to the public on this occasion, the Sub-Collector appealed every voter to participate in the SIR process. They were advised to enter the necessary details properly and fill the application forms completely and submit them. The concerned officials were instructed to conduct the voter list amendment process without any errors. The BLOs were advised to provide necessary awareness to the people and provide them with cooperation. The Program was attended by Kangti Mandal Tahsildar Ganga bhavani, BLOs, revenue officials and others.

Participate in MSME Idea Hackathon-6

(By Our Reporter / Skyline)
Patancheru, July.2 : Vikas Kumar Srivastava, Deputy Director, Gitam Venture Development Center and Coordinator, MSME Incubation Scheme, has called upon the students and faculty of Gitam Deemed University to actively participate in the prestigious MSME Idea Hackathon-6.0 organized by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India, and once again demonstrate their mettle at the national level. He said that each innovation selected in the hackathon will be provided financial assistance of up to Rs.15 lakhs to develop it into a functional prototype, proof of concept or a commercially viable



product. He said that this hackathon will serve as a platform for innovative

technological innovations that will provide solutions to the challenges faced by

society and industry. Srivastava said that two projects from Gitam were selected for central government funding in the MSME Idea Hackathon-5.0 held last year. The 'FlexiHeel' project designed by Dr.Satyabrata Dash received financial assistance of Rs.10.2 lakhs, and the 'Coast-Safe' project developed by Chandrakantha Mahanti received financial assistance of Rs.11.9 lakhs. He advised that applications should be submitted by July 5 through the MSME Innovation Portal and that Gitam should be selected as the host institute while sending proposals. Srivastava called upon students with innovative ideas to take advantage of this opportunity and showcase their talent at the national level.

Harish Rao arrested out of fear of Corruption being exposed



(District Correspondent / Skyline)
Sangareddy, July.2 : Chinta Prabhakar, the Sangareddy legislator strongly condemned the Congress government's illegal arrest carried out through the police of former Minister and Deputy Floor Leader Harish Rao. Harish Rao was on his way to present evidence to the

public regarding corruption worth thousands of crores of rupees in Gurukul school tenders. He lashed out, saying that instead of answering the opposition's questions about corruption, the Congress government's attempt to silence them by using the police as a tool is a sign of cowardice. He criticized the government, asserting that by arresting

those who speak the truth, the Congress administration is effectively admitting to its own corruption. He pointed out that Congress ministers had boasted that no irregularities occurred in the tenders and had challenged the opposition to an open debate, however, when Harish Rao accepted the challenge and set out for the Gunpark Martyrs

Memorial with evidence, they backed down in fear and resorted to arresting him an act that demonstrates their moral bankruptcy. He said that if the Congress ministers possessed genuine sincerity and courage, they would face a public debate regarding the evidence Harish Rao was presenting, instead, it is shameful that they are attempting to silence him through arrests because they cannot refute the evidence. Chinta Prabhakar made it clear that BRS leaders' struggle cannot be halted by arrests or illegal detentions. They warned that they would fully expose to the public the corruption of the Congress government which has jeopardized the futures of students from poor and marginalized sections under the guise of residential schools while handing over thousands of crores of rupees to big contractors. He asserted that the people of Telangana would teach a fitting lesson at the right time to the Congress government for its autocratic attitude in attempting to suppress the democratic right to question.

Water management is key to the survival of industries : NJR

(District Correspondent / Skyline)
Sangareddy, July.2 : Nirmala Jaggareddy, the TGILC chairperson said that Telangana government's main goal is to establish industries, as well as protect the environment and conserve natural resources. She attended and spoke as the chief guest at the high-level conference on "Water Security - Industrial Sustainability" held at 'The Park' hotel in Hyderabad on Thursday under the aegis of the Indian Chamber of Commerce. Speaking on the occasion, Nirmala Jaggareddy said that without water security, sustainable industrial growth is not possible. She revealed that zero liquid discharge policy and advanced sewage treatment plants will be made mandatory in every industrial park to be set up in the state in the future. She called on industries to allocate their corporate social responsibility (CSR) funds for the restoration of local ponds and improvement of drinking water facilities in rural areas. Experts participating in the



conference opined that in the current era of depleting groundwater, industries should use smart technologies like IoT and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to curb water wastage and leakages. More than 100 industry representatives, environmental experts and government of-

ficials from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh participated in the event and discussed industrial water management in detail.

District Mahasabha to achieve the rights of journalists



(District Correspondent / Skyline)
Sangareddy, July.2 : MAK Faisal, the State Vice President, District President Bandaru Yadagiri and District General Secretary Vishnu Prasad said that the TUWJ (IJU) District

Mahasabha will be organized on a large scale on the 9th of this month in Sangareddy. A preparatory meet was held at the TNGO Bhavan in Sangareddy on Thursday regarding the arrangements for the Mahasabha. Speaking on

the occasion, Faisal said that the aim of organizing this Mahasabha is to bring the problems of journalists in the district to the attention of the government. He said that many eligible journalists have not yet received their houses and the health card

issue is still pending. At the same time, he said that job security has also been lost. He explained that the Mahasabha will be organized in Sangareddy on the 9th to discuss all these. It was announced that financial assistance of Rs.10,000 each will be provided to two journalists who are suffering from illness. Later, Bandaru Yadagiri said that the aim of their union is to solve the problems of journalists in the district. He also said that print media, electronic media, small and medium newspapers, Urdu newspapers, cable TV, photographers and video graphers have been living on this profession for decades and this conference will provide assurance to all of them. The Program was attended by District electronic media and print media journalists.