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From Our Staff Reporter
Hyderabad, August, 17 : Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy inaugurated the Dr. Marri Channa Reddy Telangana Institute of Medical Sciences (TIMS) Hospital in Sanathnagar, Hyderabad, on Monday. Following the inauguration, the Chief Minister inspected various facility blocks and reviewed key patient care services, including the reception's automated token dispenser. He also conducted a detailed walk-through of the outpatient (OP) registration counters, post-operative wards, trauma unit, and operation theatres to assess functional readiness. Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, Ministers Damodara Raja Narasimha, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, and Ponnamp Prabhakar, MP Anil Kumar Yadav, along with MLAs and MLCs attended the event.

From Our Staff Reporter
Hyderabad, August, 17 : The Telangana State Election Commission has published the draft electoral rolls prepared following the first phase of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR). Addressing media persons here on Monday, Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Sudarshan Reddy stated that the initial phase of the

state-wide exercise is complete, with enumeration form reception crossing 78 per cent. During the verification process, over two per cent of voters were identified as deceased, while nearly 60 lakh records reflected entries with anomalies. Additionally, approximately 32 lakh electors were found to be unmapped. Consequently, notices are

Private lands wrongly included in 22-A list due to officials' errors: Ponguleti

From Our Staff Reporter
Hyderabad, August, 17 : Minister for Revenue and Housing Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy has clarified that the inclusion of private lands in the 22-A prohibited properties list was due to errors by officials and assured that all such mistakes would be rectified. Speaking to the media at the Secretariat on Monday, the Minister said the government had no intention of causing any hindrance to people's properties and urged the people not to panic. "Interfering with people's properties is not our government's policy. There

is no need for anyone to worry," he said. Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said the government had so far received 750 complaints regarding the inclusion of private lands in the 22-A list. Of these, around 500 complaints were from Medchal and 100 from Rangareddy, besides complaints from Hyderabad. The government had conducted inquiries into cases relating to prime areas in four districts, he said, adding that the objective was to ensure that not even a single square yard of genuine private property was affected. The Minister said around 350 complaints from the



erstwhile Rangareddy district pertained to EC properties. He added that several cases involving lands included in the prohibited list were pending before the High Court. "We have identified mistakes committed by officials in some areas. Problems arose because court orders were not uploaded online. We are rectifying the errors committed by officials. Genuine cases will be resolved soon," he said. Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy appealed to people not to worry and assured them that the government would take responsibility for ensuring justice to those affected. He also

criticised attempts to provoke people in the name of the 22-A issue and said the government would address genuine grievances. "I apologise to the people who have faced difficulties because of the 22-A issue," he said. The Minister warned that strict action would be taken against officials if people were made to run from one office to another under the pretext of resolving 22-A-related issues. He announced that a high-level committee would be constituted to resolve 22-A cases and that a toll-free number would be established to receive complaints from genuine cases.

TELANGANA WAIVES Rs.20,616 CR CROP LOANS, BENEFITS 25.35 LAKH FARMERS

From Our Staff Reporter
Hyderabad, August, 17 : The Telangana Government has waived crop loans worth Rs.20,616.89 crore for 25,35,964 farmers as part of its commitment to farmer welfare, claimed Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao. The Minister said the one-time waiver covered crop loans up to Rs.2 lakh, including principal and interest, and was implemented during the first crop season after the government assumed office. According to the Minis-

ter, banks submitted details of 42.30 lakh loan accounts, of which 31.07 lakh were identified as family accounts. Following verification, 25,35,964 accounts were found eligible for the waiver. To ensure that no eligible farmer was left out, officials conducted nearly two months of village-wise, door-to-door verification. Aadhaar linkage and account discrepancies were also corrected, enabling farmers who were initially excluded due to technical or documentation issues to receive the benefit in sub-

sequent phases. Tummala said the entire process was carried out transparently, with beneficiary details placed before the Legislative Assembly and made available constituency-wise and village-wise. He clarified that the waiver applies only to crop loans up to Rs.2 lakh, while long-term agricultural loans are treated separately. The government, he said, would continue measures aimed at reducing farmers' financial burden and strengthening the agricultural sector.

From Our Staff Reporter
Hyderabad, August, 17 : The development of the Zahirabad Industrial Smart City will be completed by March 2028, with the Telangana government targeting investments of around Rs.15,000 crore and employment opportunities for nearly two lakh people, IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu said. The Minister made the announcement while participating virtually from the Telangana Secretariat on Monday in a meeting of the National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT), chaired from New Delhi by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal. Chief Ministers and

Industries Ministers from various States participated in the video conference. The Zahirabad Industrial Smart City is being developed over 3,245 acres and is envisioned as a major industrial and manufacturing hub in Telangana. Once fully operational, the project is expected to generate direct and indirect employment for nearly two lakh people, Sridhar Babu said. He said the Telangana government has a 51 per cent stake in the project in the form of land, while the Central government is providing financial support for the development of the industrial corridor. The Minister said the development plan has already been submitted to the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) and works are progressing under

the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) model. All infrastructure works will be completed within the committed timelines, he said. The tendering process for water supply infrastructure has already been completed, while works related to power supply will also be completed within the stipulated timeframe, Sridhar Babu said. Seeking greater support for Telangana's industrial expansion, the Minister urged Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal to allocate four of the 100 Plug-and-Play Industrial Parks announced under the Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojana (BHAVYA) to Telangana. Sridhar Babu said the allocation of Plug-and-Play industrial parks would further strengthen Telangana's indus-



trial ecosystem and help accelerate investments, manufacturing activity and employment generation in the State. TGILC Managing Director Shashanka, Industries De-

partment Special Secretary Krishna Aditya, Industries Commissioner Nikhil Chakravarthy and other senior officials participated in the video conference.

Congress workers are party's greatest strength: Uttam

From Our Staff Reporter
Bhongir, Aug.17 : Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Monday hailed the commitment and resilience of Congress workers, describing the grassroots cadre as the party's greatest strength and a vital link between the Congress government's welfare programmes and the people of Telangana. Addressing a Political Affairs Committee meeting attended by AICC Telangana in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan, Ministers Komatireddy Venkat Reddy and Adluri Lakshman Kumar, elected representatives and senior party functionaries, Uttam Kumar Reddy said Congress workers had stood by the party through difficult political circumstances and that their loyalty and sacrifices could never be overlooked. Recalling his long association with the Congress organisation, including his tenure as TPCC president,



he said he had personally witnessed the dedication of ordinary workers who continued to uphold the party flag even during challenging times. "The Congress worker is our real strength. Governments and positions may come and go, but it is the worker who carries the party flag, stands with the people and keeps the Congress organisation alive at the grassroots," he said. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the Congress government

had launched a wide range of welfare initiatives, but their full impact could be realised only when the party organisation effectively communicated them to the people. "We are providing free rice, free electricity, houses, free bus travel and strong support to farmers. When these programmes are combined with an active and committed Congress cadre, their impact reaches every household," he said.

From Our Staff Reporter
Yadadri Bhongir, Aug.17 : AICC General Secretary and Telangana Congress in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan's grassroots review has injected fresh momentum into the party cadre across the erstwhile Nalgonda district, Minister for Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Komati reddy Venkat Reddy said. Speaking at the Political Affairs Committee (PAC) meeting for the erstwhile Nalgonda district-encompassing Bhongir, Nalgonda, and Suryapet-held at the Vivera Hotel in Yadadri Bhongir on Monday, the Minister commended the decision to hold key PAC deliberations at the district level rather than at Gandhi Bhavan in

Hyderabad. Komatireddy Venkat Reddy highlighted that Natarajan's decision to directly engage with local leaders and party workers to assess grassroots issues would significantly strengthen the organisation. Key agenda items discussed included internal party surveys, organisational appointments, nominated posts, and the construction of new party offices, he said. Komatireddy Venkat Reddy assured that every dedicated worker who stood by the party would receive due recognition and justice. The Minister announced that party leadership has instructed cadre to organise large-scale programmes on August 20 to

commemorate the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Hailing Rajiv Gandhi as a visionary who modernised the country, introduced cutting-edge technology, and strengthened Gram Swaraj, the Minister noted his landmark contribution of lowering the voting age to 18 to empower Indian youth. On this occasion, party workers have been directed to launch an extensive voter registration campaign targeting young voters. Komatireddy Venkat Reddy committed to making the erstwhile Nalgonda district the top performer in Telangana for new voter enrolments. Underscoring southern Telangana's strong



support for the Congress in recent elections, he reiterated that Nalgonda remains an unassailable party stronghold. He called on workers to build seamless coordination at the local level to ensure a clean sweep in upcoming polls and strengthen Rahul Gandhi's

leadership nationally. "We will work tirelessly until Rahul Gandhi becomes the Prime Minister. We stand firmly behind the workers who put their faith in us, and together we will deliver a resounding victory in Nalgonda," he affirmed.

Natarajan's grassroots review energises party cadre: Komatireddy

Medak Fort should be developed as major tourist destination: Vivek



From Our Staff Reporter Medak, Aug.17 : Minister for Labour, Mines and Geology Dr. G. Vivek Venkataswamy unveiled a special postal cover dedicated to the Medak Fort on Monday. On the occasion, the Minister congratulated the Postal department for recognising the historical significance of the Medak Fort

and releasing a special postal cover. He said that with Medak now serving as a district headquarters, there is a need to develop the Medak Fort into a prominent tourist destination. "As the fort is a heritage property, necessary clearances must be obtained from the Central government. There is an opportunity to secure funds from the Union

Ministry of Tourism through MP Raghunandan Rao.," Vivek said. "Funds should be allocated by combining central grants with a matching contribution from the State Government," he added. In a lighter vein, Dr. Vivek Venkataswamy remarked that walking up the fort is akin to a cost-free and effective workout. Recalling that Chief Min-

ister A. Revanth Reddy had previously sanctioned ₹30 crore for the development of the Medak Church, the Minister suggested that Medak should be transformed into a full-fledged tourism hub. Medak MP Raghunandan Rao, MLA Mynampally Rohit, other elected representatives and officials were also present.

Vivek launches employment portal linking job seekers with local industries

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, August, 17 : Minister for Employment, Training & Factories and Mines & Geology Dr. G. Vivek Venkataswamy launched a first-of-its-kind employment portal in Muppireddypally village of Medak district that connects students and job seekers directly with local industries to address the regional demand for skilled labour. The Minister said the portal is a unique initiative in the country that bridges the gap between

industries and students. Speaking on the occasion, Vivek Venkataswamy noted that there are over a thousand industries in the region facing a need for skilled manpower. He described the portal as a commendable joint effort by the district administration and industry owners. "Unemployment remains a major issue both in the region and across the country. While the Telangana government is facilitating overseas employment opportunities through

TOMCOM, there is also a strong need to supply skilled labour to local industries.," the Minister said. Vivek recalled that investments worth ₹5 lakh crore were secured through the Telangana Rising Global Summit organised by the Chief Minister, and these industries require skilled manpower. He highlighted that the government is providing training in German and Japanese languages to enable youth to secure high-paying jobs. "Students should not focus solely on

the software sector, as excellent opportunities exist in many other fields," he said. Vivek Venkataswamy informed that German language training is being conducted in the Mandamarri area of the Singareni region. "Students have reached B2 proficiency level and job offers with salaries of ₹25 lakh await them. The government is also bearing up to half of their visa-related expenses. Going abroad for work can uplift the lives of many families," the Minister said.

STUDENTS HIT STREETS AGAINST SHAKTI MERGER; AIDS0 CALLS FOR BANDH

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, August, 17 : Over 500 students of Quli Qutb Shah Government Polytechnic staged a protest rally from the QQGPT college to Bahadurpura Junction on Monday, opposing the Telangana government's proposed merger of ITIs, vocational institutions and Polytechnic colleges, vide GO 97, under the Skill Human capital and Knowledge Training

Initiatives (SHAKTI) / Young India Skills University (YISU) framework. Under the banner of All India Democratic Students' Organization (AIDS0), students alleged that the restructuring could dilute technical education and undermine institutional autonomy. They demanded withdrawal of the merger proposal, consultations with students and teachers, and guarantees on courses, examinations, cer-

tificates and higher-education eligibility. "Mechanically merging distinct educational streams - each having its own unique curriculum, course duration, and academic objective - will dilute the quality of technical education and compromise institutional autonomy", the student leaders remarked and strongly condemned the government for introducing such far-reaching administrative restructuring

without conducting any prior democratic consultation with students, teachers, or educational experts. AIDS0 has called for a state-wide bandh on August 18, warning of intensified protests if the government fails to reconsider the proposal. It demanded the government to make complete implementation framework of SHAKTI and YISU public and invite objections from all educational stakeholders.

YOUNG TENNIS STARS SHINE AT TSTA TOURNAMENT IN HYD

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, August, 17 : The Kia Tennis Premier League (TPL), in association with the Telangana State Tennis Association (TSTA), hosted a State Ranking Tournament in Hyderabad on August 15 and 16, providing young players a platform to compete for ranking points and gain valuable experience. The tournament, con-

ducted under the Race to Gold scholarship programme, featured Boys' U-10, U-12 and U-14, and Girls' U-12 and U-14 singles categories. Ayansh Abhilashi won the Boys' U-10 title, while Hiyan Shah and Adhitya Devarakonda emerged champions in the U-12 and U-14 categories respectively. In the girls' events, Parivita V. claimed both the U-12 and U-14

titles. The tournament is part of TPL's effort to strengthen grassroots tennis and provide aspiring players with competitive exposure. The Race to Gold programme also offers selected youngsters tennis equipment support and access to coaches, nutritionists, physiotherapists and mental trainers. TPL co-founders Kunal Thakkur and Mrunal Jain welcomed

the enthusiasm among young players and said such tournaments would help build a stronger grassroots tennis ecosystem. The event also comes ahead of the Eighth season of Kia Tennis Premier League, scheduled to be held in Hyderabad in December, further strengthening the league's presence in Telangana.

BRS TAKES TO STREETS, DEMANDS REVIVAL OF KALYANA LAKSHMI, SHAADI MUBARAK

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, August, 17 : Former BRS ministers and party leaders stepped up their campaign demanding continuation of the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak welfare schemes, accusing the Congress government of trying to dismantle programmes introduced during the KCR regime.

Former Minister and Narsapur MLA Sumitha Laxma Reddy said the schemes were launched by former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao to support poor families struggling to meet marriage expenses. She accused the Congress government of playing with the interests of economically weaker

sections. BRS cadres staged a rasta roko and protest demonstration at the Chilipched Tahsildar office in Medak district, demanding continuation of the schemes. In Maheshwaram, former Minister and MLA Sabitha Indra Reddy, along with local women, submitted a representation to the Tahsildar

following a call by BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao to hold protests at mandal headquarters across Telangana. The BRS leaders said the schemes had provided substantial financial assistance to poor families and warned the Congress government against scrapping or weakening them.

Food security, welfare and voting rights at heart of Congress agenda: Natarajan

From Our Staff Reporter Bhongir, Aug.17 : AICC Telangana in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan on Monday placed food security and protection of the rights of the poor at the centre of the Congress party's organisational and political agenda, saying the welfare measures being implemented by the Telangana government reflected the party's long-standing vision of ensuring that no vulnerable family was denied food, shelter, healthcare or democratic rights.

Addressing a meeting of the Political Affairs Committee of the erstwhile Nalgonda district at Bhongir, Natarajan drew a direct link between the right to vote and the right of ordinary citizens to access the social security measures created for their welfare.

Ministers N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, Komatireddy

Venkat Reddy and Adluri Lakshman participated in the meeting.

Her remarks came in the backdrop of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

She urged Congress workers to remain vigilant and ensure that no genuine voter, particularly from economically weaker sections, was excluded from the electoral rolls. Natarajan said the Congress organisation would devote its efforts during the month-long exercise to protecting the voting rights of genuine electors and coordinating with the administration whenever necessary. The AICC in-charge emphasised that protecting a poor citizen's name on the electoral roll was not merely an electoral exercise but part of a larger effort to safeguard the person's dignity and access to the benefits of the welfare state. Referring to the

Telangana government's programmes, including the distribution of fine rice, Indiramma Indlu and Aarogyasri, she said eligible beneficiaries must continue to receive the benefits without disruption.

Natarajan also indicated a strategic shift in the Congress's preparations for the 2028 Assembly elections, with the party seeking to increasingly focus on a direct political contest with the BJP while strengthening its organisational base.

She stressed the need to consolidate traditional Congress strongholds and turn districts such as the erstwhile Nalgonda, Mahabubnagar and Khammam into strong organisational bastions, while simultaneously expanding the party's presence in areas where the BJP is seeking to make inroads. The strategy, she indi-



cated, would involve strengthening the party from the grassroots upwards, with particular emphasis on booth-level organisation and protecting the Congress's electoral base. Stating that no genuine voter should be deprived of the right to vote, Natarajan reiterated that the poor must also continue to enjoy their entitlements to fine rice, Indiramma housing and healthcare under Aarogyasri.

Harish slams Congress govt over indiscriminate inclusion of lands in 22A list

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, August, 17 : Former minister and BRS Deputy Floor Leader T. Harish Rao alleged that the Congress government was indiscriminately placing lands in the prohibited properties list under Section 22A, causing severe confusion and uncertainty among people across Telangana.

He said lakhs of people were living in fear, unsure whether their properties had been included in the 22A list or not. In a chit chat with media persons at Telangana Bhavan on Monday, Harish Rao said the Urban Land Ceiling Act had been repealed across the country in 1999. In Telangana, the then Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy had completely abolished the Act in 2008. "What kind of justice is it to now bring back lands that had been exempted from the ceiling limits and cleared at that time, and include them under Section 22A?" he asked. Harish Rao said the move was evidence of the government's lack of basic understanding and administrative grip. "If even gov-

ernment lands such as those belonging to the airport and the Outer Ring Road have been included in the 22A prohibited list, it shows how appalling the functioning of the officials is," he said.

Harish Rao alleged that lakhs of properties in Hyderabad city were overnight included in the prohibited list. He said properties of people who had built houses and been living peacefully for the past 20 years in Survey Nos. 8 and 9 of Srinagar Colony had also now been included in the 22A list. "It is atrocious to include even apartment flats purchased 30 years ago in the prohibited list. Where are those people supposed to go now?" he asked. The BRS leader said many ordinary people were unaware that their properties had been included in the 22A list. "They pay the challan amount and complete the payment process for registration, only to be told at the last moment that their land falls under 22A and that the registration cannot proceed," he said.

Harish Rao further alleged



that the government was effectively looting public money by refusing to refund the challan amount paid for registration. The BRS MLA said banks had earlier sanctioned loans against lands for which official NOCs had been issued by the government. "Now, by bringing the same lands under the 22A list, the government is creating problems for both property owners and banks," he said. Harish Rao cited the inclusion of areas such as the Banjara Hills Housing Society in the prohibited list as another example of the seriousness of the situation. Harish Rao alleged that Section 22A had become a tool

for the government to "indiscriminately exploit" people. He claimed that it was an open secret that a 30 per cent commission was being demanded for any work in the Revenue department, including getting a property removed from the 22A list. "Not a single file is moving in the Revenue department without a 30 per cent commission," he alleged. Harish Rao also expressed surprise that even Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's house had reportedly figured in the 22A prohibited list. "The government swung into action only after the issue affected the Chief Minister's own house," he alleged.

Dr A VINAY KUMAR TAKES CHARGE AS IFHE VICE-CHANCELLOR

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, August, 17 : Dr A. Vinay Kumar has taken charge as Vice-Chancellor of the ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education (IFHE), Hyderabad, with effect from August 3, 2026.

A finance scholar and academic administrator, Dr Kumar brings over 27 years of experience in higher education, including more than two decades at IIM

Lucknow, where he served as Professor and Associate Professor of Finance.

At IIM Lucknow, he handled several key responsibilities spanning academic administration, institutional development, accreditation, rankings, doctoral education, research, executive education and financial management. He was also Chairman of the Doctoral Programme and

held leadership roles in the Audit Committee and Employee Provident Fund.

Dr Kumar has contributed to initiatives involving NIRF rankings and international accreditations such as AACSB, AMBA and SAQS. His work has also included curriculum redesign, NEP-aligned programmes, AI integration in higher education,

entrepreneurship and research development.

He holds a Ph.D. in Business Management (Finance) from Osmania University and has undergone executive pedagogy training at Harvard Business School. His research areas include venture capital, market microstructure, derivatives, financial-market sentiment and corporate governance.

GLOBAL DONER BRAND GDK MAKES INDIA DEBUT IN HYD

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, August, 17 : Global quick-service restaurant brand German Doner Kebab (GDK) has entered the Indian market with its first outlet at Film Nagar, Tollywood Lane here in Jubilee Hills. GBC India, GDK's master franchise partner, launched the brand in Hyderabad on Monday, marking the beginning of an ambitious India expansion plan targeting more than 450 restaurants. Founded in Berlin and headquartered in the UK, GDK operates across several international markets, including the UK, US, UAE, Canada, Sweden

and Ireland. Its menu centres on flame-grilled doner, fresh ingredients, signature sauces and toasted waffle bread. The company plans to expand into cities including Mohali and Chandigarh as well as other Tier-I and

Tier-II markets, through a mix of company-owned and franchise outlets. GDK India CEO Vikrant Tomer said the brand aims to build the Doner category in India and offer consumers a globally benchmarked experience

tailored to the country's young QSR market. The brand has also roped in musician, actor and filmmaker Parmish Verma as its Cultural Partner to strengthen its connect with India's youth.

AUROBINDO PHARMA GETS USFDA CLEARANCE FOR RALEIGH PLANT

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, August, 17 :

Aurobindo Pharma's Raleigh facility in North Carolina has received a major regulatory boost after the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) classified its inspection as Voluntary Action Indicated (VAI) and closed the inspection. The facility, operated by Aurolife Pharma LLC, manufactures inhalers, dermatology and transdermal products. The USFDA inspected the plant from March 24 to April 10, 2025, and issued a Form 483 containing 11 observations. The company said it has now received the Establishment Inspection Report (EIR), with the facility classified as VAI. The development will allow pending applications for multiple inhalers and other dosage forms manufactured at the facility to progress through the USFDA review process.

72-Year-Old Lingam Ravindra Rao Scales 5,642-Metre Mount Elbrus with 17-Year-Old Grandson, Sets Sights on Seven Summits

At 72, Ravindra Rao scaled Mount Elbrus alongside his 17-year-old grandson Anuraag Pokuri, turning the climb into a remarkable grandfather-grandson adventure



Vijayawada, 17 August 2026: At an age when many people begin to slow down, Lingam Ravindra Rao from Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, continues to push his physical limits. At 72 years, one month and 13 days, Ravindra Rao scaled the 5,642-metre Mount Elbrus West Peak, the highest peak in Europe, on August 14.

Ravindra Rao is the oldest Indian to have climbed Mount Elbrus as of the date of his ascent. His achievement has drawn attention not only because of the height of the mountain but also because of the age at which he took on the demanding climb. For Ravindra, however, the journey towards Mount Elbrus did not begin in his seventies. His

interest in physical challenges goes back to his student days. In 1972, at the age of 18, while studying at IIT Kharagpur, he undertook a remarkable cycling journey with his friends from Kharagpur to Darjeeling. The group covered around 1,700 kilometres in just 10 days. Although his professional career and business responsibilities later took priority, Ravindra never completely gave up his focus on fitness. He continued playing sports and maintaining an active lifestyle, eventually returning to adventure activities and taking on high-altitude mountaineering. His recent achievements include climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in 2024 and Mount Labouche. Mount Elbrus now becomes another major milestone in his journey towards an even bigger goal-the Seven Summits, the highest peaks across the world's seven continents. A family expedition Ravindra's Mount Elbrus

climb also became a special achievement as he was joined by his 17-year-old grandson, Anuraag Pokuri, from Hyderabad, Telangana. While Ravindra completed the West Peak ascent, Anuraag climbed both the West and East Peaks back-to-back in 3 hours and 44 minutes. According to the information provided, Anuraag is the youngest citizen of Indian origin, as of the date of the achievement, to have summited both peaks back-to-back. The expedition thus brought together two generations of the same family, with Ravindra Rao's decades-long interest in fitness meeting his grandson's growing passion for mountaineering. For Ravindra, the significance of sport extends far beyond personal achievement. He believes India has abundant sporting talent, but that talent must be identified and nurtured from an early age. He says, "India has abundant talent in sports, but that talent needs to be

identified and nurtured from a very young age. Sports should become an integral part of the school curriculum, with every student encouraged to choose a sport and receive proper guidance from coaches." He wants schools to play a greater role in developing sporting potential, with sports becoming an integral and compulsory part of the curriculum, allowing every student to choose a sport with the guidance of trained coaches. His own journey, from a 1,700-kilometre cycling expedition at 18 to scaling a 5,642-metre peak at 72, reflects the message he wants to convey: fitness and sporting ambition should remain part of life at every age. Now, with Mount Elbrus behind him, Ravindra Rao's next ambition remains clear-to continue the pursuit of the Seven Summits, alongside his grandson, and demonstrate that the desire to challenge oneself does not have an age limit.

Kuchipudi: India's Gift to the World of Dance

(By Skyline Staff Reporter)

Machilipatnam Aug 17 : Kuchipudi, one of India's most celebrated classical dance forms, has earned global recognition and remains a proud cultural contribution of the country, said Lankishetti Balaji, president of Machilipatnam Sahiti Mitralu.

He was speaking as the chief guest at the 40th anniversary celebrations of Sri Bala Tripura Sundari Nritya Niketan, held at the Kala Vedika of the Prasanna Anjaneya Temple in E d e p a l l i , Machilipatnam. The event featured cultural programmes and performances by students of the dance institution. Balaji said Indians should take pride in the fact that India gave the world the rich tradition of Kuchipudi. He noted that the classical dance form has gained international recognition and has emerged as one of the leading Indian dance traditions. He appreciated the State government for giving due importance to Kuchipudi and encouraging its development. He also recalled the collective efforts of Telugu people in establishing a Kuchipudi performance record in the Guinness World



Records, describing it as a memorable achievement. He said Kuchipudi had received great patronage from ancient times through the eras of kings and continued to occupy a prominent place in India's cultural heritage. Balaji said the 40-year journey of Bala Tripura Sundari Nritya Niketan in Machilipatnam was a matter of pride for the city. Over the decades, thousands of students have received training in Kuchipudi through the institution and have gone on to perform in various parts of India and abroad. He urged parents to encourage children to remain connected with traditional arts and cultural activities. He stressed the importance of preserving Indian traditions and providing children with opportunities to learn classical arts. At the programme, Bhavishya, president of Bhava Tarangini, presided over

the gathering. Vemula Suri Babu, president of the Town Stage Artists' Association; Peteti Satyanarayana, a district revenue employees' leader; Chennai Srinivasa Rao of the Police Department; Rukmini Rajyalakshmi; and Nritya Niketan president Eleswarapu Purnachandra Rao also addressed the gathering. The organisation felicitated renowned dance teacher and artiste Dr. Sivalenka Ushakiran, mridangam exponent Chinta Surya Prakash and music exponent Tarakuturi Srinivasa Rao. N a t y a c h a r y a Purnachandra Rao and his wife Nagalakshmi were also honoured by the dance artistes. The event concluded with captivating Kuchipudi performances by students of the Nritya Niketan, who impressed the audience with their skill and graceful presentation.

VNG School recognition cancellation demanded over alleged Sexual assault case

Nellore, August 17: Members of the Dalit Rights United Forum submitted a petition to the District Collector on Sunday, demanding strict action in connection with an alleged sexual assault case involving a minor student at VNG School in Santapet. The delegation, led by Dalit Rights United Forum president Chappidi Vengala Rao, raised the issue during a special Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) meeting conducted specifically to address the problems and grievances of SC and ST communities. The representatives demanded that the recognition of VNG School be cancelled in view of the allegations against PET teacher Moraboyina Subbarao, who is accused of sexually assaulting a minor student. They also urged the District Educational Officer (DEO) and Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO) to personally visit the victim's family, enquire into their grievances and ensure that justice is delivered. The delegation further demanded that an SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act case be registered against the school management if the allegations and circumstances



warrant such action. Speaking on the occasion, the representatives stressed the need for authorities to take stringent measures to ensure the safety and protection of students, particularly children from vulnerable communities. They appealed to the district administration to conduct a thorough inquiry and take action against those found responsible. The petitioners urged the Collector to intervene personally and ensure that the victim and the family receive appropriate support and justice. They also called for necessary measures to prevent similar incidents from occurring in educational institutions in the future.

Yarlagadda Accuses YSRCP Leaders of Politicising Irrigation Issue

(By Skyline Staff Reporter)

Gannavaram, August 17 Government Whip and Gannavaram MLA Yarlagadda Venkata Rao said the drought-like conditions prevailing in the Krishna Delta were also affecting farmers in the Gannavaram constituency. He criticised YSRCP leaders for allegedly politicising the irrigation issue at a time when efforts should be focused on resolving farmers' problems. Speaking in the Assembly on Monday, Yarlagadda said Pattiseema water currently has to pass through Gannavaram to reach Vijayawada and then return to the Gannavaram region through the Eluru Canal. He alleged that after the elections, a defeated YSRCP leader had removed the motors that had earlier been installed to facilitate water supply.

Yarlagadda said he had spent around Rs. 2 crore from his own funds to install motors so that farmers would not face difficulties in getting irrigation water. He accused the opposition leaders of attempting to turn the serious drought situation into a political issue. He said the government was taking steps to address farmers' irrigation problems and that he had brought the matter to the attention of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. Yarlagadda said that soon after being elected as MLA, he had requested that the Eluru Canal be connected at the 137.6-kilometre point from Polavaram. The government had sanctioned Rs. 38 crore for the work, he said. The project would help stabilise irrigation facilities for nearly 80,000 acres



under the Eluru Canal system and benefit farmers in the Eluru and Denduluru areas. He further said another Rs. 36 crore had been sanctioned for construction of a UT at Enikepadu. With a total of Rs. 74 crore sanctioned for the two projects, he thanked Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for supporting the irrigation works.

At present, the system has the capacity to transport around 5,000 cusecs of water, which could potentially be increased to 25,000 cusecs in the future, Yarlagadda said. This would help stabilise irrigation for nearly 80,000 acres. He urged the government to issue clear guidelines on the cultivation of dry crops in the coming days.

Gannavaram is not entirely dependent on dryland crops, he said, urging the Irrigation and Agriculture departments to coordinate closely while considering the difficulties faced by farmers. He also requested the government to examine suitable provisions under the crop insurance scheme to provide relief to farmers affected by the prevailing water shortage.

Discovery brings together India's top Military and National Security Leadership for the First Time with declassified: Operation Sindoor

~ The two-part series features first-hand accounts from the leaders who oversaw India's 88-hour response ~
~ Following its exclusive premiere on Discovery on August 15, 2026, Declassified: Operation Sindoor is now streaming on discovery.+~

Vijayawada, 17 August 2026: This Independence Day, Discovery brought unparalleled access to India's senior military and national security leadership, operational commanders and frontline personnel in Declassified: Operation Sindoor. Building on the brand's legacy of taking audiences deeper into pivotal real-world stories, the docuseries reveals how key moments in the operation took shape and unfolded through those who led it. Following its premiere on Discovery on August 15, 2026, the two-part docuseries is available to stream on discovery.. In his first interview since Operation Sindoor, Ajit Doval, National Security Advisor of India, says in the docuseries, "We had decided the objective of the operation was destruction of the enemy camps particularly those who had been responsible for the Pahalgam attack." "Our message to the world is very clear - India's gen-

erosity or India being tolerant should not be mistaken for its weakness. India can take risks and hit hard, irrespective of the consequences," he added. Beginning in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack, Part 1 traces how the armed forces and intelligence teams moved into action, gathering intelligence, carrying out surveillance and preparing for the operation. From identifying targets, to conducting mock drills and planning for multiple scenarios, teams worked towards a precise operation designed to minimise civilian and military casualties. Part 2 moves from planning to execution, taking viewers inside the operation as it unfolded. Drawing on first-hand accounts from those involved, it captures the tense moments before the strikes, the coordination across the three services - Army, Navy and Air Force, and the decisions made in real time. As the strikes began, the

docuseries follows the operation finally leading to the confirmation coming in that the mission was complete. The series also offers a view into the military thinking that followed once the objective had been set, including the assessment of targets, decisions taken as the situation developed and the responsibility placed on those carrying out the mission. Anil Chauhan, former Chief of Defence Staff said, "All of us, as citizens of this country, were deeply affected by the sheer brutality of this attack. It was, I believe, one of the most barbaric attacks we had witnessed. It was decided that India would not bow down to such kinds of threats. At a strategic level, I think that knowing when to stop a conflict is equally important. It is easy to start a war; it is very difficult to stop it." Speaking on Army's Women officers addressing the press briefing, former Chief of Defence Staff said, "From

the armed forces, we were represented by two women officers, and it conveyed two important messages: that the women of India will not be deterred by these cowardly attacks, and that the social and emotional fabric of India will remain unaffected even by such kinds of challenges." At the heart of the docuseries are the voices of those closely associated with the operation, recounting the events, choices and considerations that shaped its course. Together with inputs from defence experts and the wider national security context, they take audiences deeper into the story behind Operation Sindoor like never-seen-before. Declassified: Operation Sindoor also opens a new chapter for factual storytelling in India for Warner Bros. Discovery. Speaking on this, Arjun Nohwar, SVP & Managing Director, India & South Asia, Warner Bros. Discovery, said,

"For decades, Discovery has earned the trust of audiences by telling real stories which are not only riveting but also authentic and credible. With Declassified: Operation Sindoor, our endeavour is to bring audiences closer to one of the most significant chapters in India's recent military history through the voices of those who led and lived it." He added, "Launching the Declassified franchise reflects our ambition to spotlight the defining events that have shaped history. It has been a privilege for us to present this docuseries, and we hope it leaves audiences with a deeper understanding of the preparation and leadership behind this operation." The docuseries is co-directed by Prabhu Asgaonkar and Manika Berry, who bring together these different voices to tell a cohesive story of the operation. Speaking on their experience, they shared, "From the very beginning, our objective was to document this



operation with honesty, depth and responsibility. The extraordinary access we were given allowed us to move beyond the headlines and tell this story through the voices of those who lived it. Every interview and every detail was approached with care to create an authentic record that honours the service and national

resolve, while bringing audiences closer to the human stories behind the operation." Declassified: Operation Sindoor was supported by a 360-degree, multi-platform campaign spanning outdoor, television, cinema, digital and social media. The campaign included large-scale projections at landmark loca-

tions such as Mumbai's Sea Link and WeWork BKC. Inspired by the symbolism of sindoor, the projections illuminated these landmarks in striking crimson red, bringing the content's visual identity to life at scale. Declassified: Operation Sindoor is now streaming exclusively on discovery+.

SKYLINE

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Next Act

NChandrasekaran’s decision not to seek another term as chairman of Tata Sons is being presented as a succession question. It is more consequential than that. It marks the first major test of who controls the group after Ratan Tata, and what the conglomerate should become without the man who held its competing interests together. Chandrasekaran has not been abruptly removed. He will complete his present term ~ until February 2027. But his explanation is revealing: a proposal to extend his tenure failed to secure unanimous board support in February and remained unresolved six months later. For the chairman of a group built as much on consensus as on corporate hierarchy, that deadlock was itself the message. The disagreement matters because Tata Sons is not an ordinary holding company. Tata trusts control about two-thirds of it, while Tata Sons in turn exercises decisive influence over the sprawling commercial empire.

Ratan Tata could reconcile the interests of trustees, professional managers and shareholders because his personal authority was greater than the institutional tensions between them. His death removed that balancing force. Noel Tata, who became chairman of Tata Trusts after his half-brother’s death, now occupies a pivotal position, reporting on the dispute points to disagreements over capital allocation, loss-making ventures, governance and the future of Tata Sons itself.

The question of a possible listing is particularly important. So is the position of the Shapoorji Pallonji Group, which holds a substantial minority stake and has long sought an exit. These are not technical disagreements. They concern the purpose of the Tata Group. Chandrasekaran’s Tata has pursued an ambitious transformation: Air India, electronics and semiconductor manufacturing, batteries, digital businesses and other new ventures require enormous capital before they can deliver returns. That strategy may eventually strengthen the group, but it also increases the risks borne by Tata Sons. Geographic Reference

Air India’s continuing losses and other pressures make the argument over capital allocation harder to avoid. The alternative is not simply greater caution. It could mean a Tata Group more focused on businesses that already generate dependable returns, with tighter scrutiny of investments and less willingness to pursue grand industrial bets. That makes the choice of Chandrasekaran’s successor unusually important. Tata Trusts has already begun the process of selecting the next Tata Sons chairman. She or he will therefore inherit not merely a portfolio of companies but an unresolved argument about strategy, governance and ownership. There is an irony here.

Tata’s distinctive structure was designed to protect the group from the short-term demands of ordinary corporate ownership. Yet after Ratan Tata’s death, that same structure has become the arena for a struggle over strategic authority. The real succession battle, therefore, is not over who occupies the chairman’s office. It is over which Tata Group comes after Ratan Tata: one that continues Chandrasekaran’s expensive transformation, or one that consolidates and exercises greater control over its ambitions. Chandrasekaran’s departure does not settle that question. It makes it unavoidable.

India must adapt to cash in on youth dividend

For nearly two decades, India’s demographic dividend has occupied a central place in the country’s economic narrative. Policymakers, economists and investors have repeatedly argued that India’s greatest competitive advantage lies in its youthful population. While advanced economies such as Japan, Germany and Italy contend with ageing societies and shrinking workforces, India remains home to the world’s largest working-age population.

According to the United Nations Population Fund’s State of World Population Report 2023, nearly 68 per cent of Indians are between the ages of 15 and 64, giving the country a demographic profile unmatched by most major economies. But demographics are not destiny. They are an opportunity whose value depends entirely on the economic environment in which they operate. Artificial intelligence is now transforming that environment. The assumption that a large labour force will automatically translate into economic growth is becoming increasingly fragile as intelligent machines perform a growing range of cognitive and routine tasks. South Asians & Diaspora

India therefore faces a defining policy challenge: how to convert its demographic dividend into an AI dividend before technological disruption erodes one of its greatest strategic advantages. The debate around artificial intelligence in India is often dominated by fears of job losses. Those concerns are understandable but incomplete. AI will undoubtedly automate certain occupations, particularly repetitive white-collar work such as document processing, customer support, routine coding and administrative functions.

Goldman Sachs estimated in 2023 that generative AI could affect around 300 million full-time jobs globally, although many of these jobs are expected to evolve rather than disappear. The World Economic Forum’s Future of Jobs Report 2025 similarly projects that while AI and automation will displace millions of roles, they will also create new occupations requiring advanced digital, ana-

lytical and creative capabilities. The real risk for India is not unemployment alone; it is employability.

Every year, millions of young Indians enter the labour market. Yet several surveys continue to highlight a troubling mismatch between educational qualifications and workplace readiness. Reports by employability assessment firms have repeatedly shown that a significant proportion of graduates lack industry-ready skills despite holding formal degrees. This gap becomes even more consequential in an AI-driven economy, where adaptability matters more than routine expertise. Previous technological revolutions largely complemented India’s development model.

Globalisation created demand for software engineers and business-process outsourcing professionals. The digital economy generated opportunities in e-commerce, fintech and telecommunications. AI, however, is different because it increasingly automates precisely those middle-skill cognitive tasks that fuelled India’s services boom. That does not imply India’s demographic advantage has disappeared. It means its nature has changed. Countries that succeed in the AI economy will not necessarily possess the largest workforces. They will possess the most skilled, adaptable and technologically empowered ones. South Asians & Diaspora

Human capital, rather than population size, is becoming the decisive determinant of competitiveness. This is where India’s policy choices become critical. The country already possesses several structural advantages. It has one of the world’s largest digital public infrastructures. Platforms such as Aadhaar, the Unified Payments Interface and DigiLocker have demonstrated that digital systems can operate at population scale while supporting innovation across sectors. India also hosts the world’s third-largest startup ecosystem, with a rapidly expanding AI entrepreneurship landscape.

According to Stanford University’s AI Index Report 2025, India ranks among the leading countries globally in AI skill



penetration and contributes significantly to the global AI talent pool. Yet there remains a striking paradox. Indian engineers help build many of the world’s most sophisticated AI systems, but much of the intellectual property, frontier research and commercial value continue to be created elsewhere. India exports talent while importing advanced AI platforms. Bridging this gap requires rethinking education before rethinking technology. The National Education Policy 2020 rightly emphasises multidisciplinary learning, critical thinking and digital literacy. However, implementation must accelerate. AI is reducing the premium on memorisation while increasing the value of reasoning, creativity and complex problem-solving. Universities should integrate AI across disciplines instead of treating it as a specialised engineering subject. Medical colleges should teach AI-assisted diagnostics, law schools should explore algorithmic governance, business schools should incorporate data-driven decision-making, and agricultural institutions should prepare students for precision farming. Equally important is lifelong learning.

The traditional assumption that education ends in one’s early twenties is increasingly obsolete. Workers will need continuous reskilling as AI reshapes industries at an unprecedented pace. Countries such as Singapore have already institutionalised lifelong

learning through programmes like SkillsFuture, enabling citizens to update their competencies throughout their careers. India will require a similar national commitment if it hopes to preserve labour-market resilience. Skill development alone, however, is insufficient. India must also strengthen its AI ecosystem. The IndiaAI Mission is an encouraging beginning, particularly its emphasis on computing infrastructure, datasets and startup support. But becoming an AI leader demands sustained investment in research universities, semiconductor capabilities, high-performance computing and indigenous foundation models capable of understanding India’s linguistic and cultural diversity. Public-private partnerships will be essential, but so will long-term public investment in frontier science. South Asians & Diaspora

There is another reason why an AI dividend matters. Artificial intelligence is no longer simply an economic technology. It is becoming a strategic capability. AI increasingly influences defence planning, cybersecurity, healthcare, governance and industrial competitiveness. Countries that merely consume foreign AI systems risk technological dependence in areas central to national security and economic sovereignty. India cannot afford such dependence. Strategic autonomy in the 21st century will depend as much on computational capability and research ecosystems as it once

depended on energy security or military strength.

The demographic dividend has always been described as a once-in-a-generation opportunity because favourable age structures eventually disappear. India’s working-age population is expected to peak in the coming decades before the country too begins ageing. That leaves only a limited window to transform demographic potential into sustainable productivity. Artificial intelligence has therefore raised the stakes rather than diminished them. A youthful population without advanced skills may struggle in an automated economy.

A youthful population equipped with AI capabilities, digital literacy and adaptive education could become the foundation of India’s next growth story. The real question is not whether AI will replace India’s demographic dividend. It is whether India can use AI to amplify it. If policymakers invest with urgency in education, research, innovation and lifelong skills, India could become the first major economy to convert demographic strength into technological leadership. If those investments are delayed, the country risks discovering that the world’s largest workforce is no guarantee of prosperity in an economy where intelligence – both human and artificial, has become the defining source of national power.

4,800 Indians removed, 51,000 ICE arrests: What’s hapening in Trump’s America?

Last week, Venkata Vasamsetty, a long-term US green card holder, was arrested by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), three months after a judge dismissed efforts to remove her from the country. Vasamsetty, who’s been a lawful permanent resident in the US since 2013, hasn’t committed any crime, as is the case with most victims of ICE. The agency wants to remove her because she stayed in India for a few months in 2022 to visit her ailing father, and later contracted Covid. ICE accuses her of abandoning her permanent residency, a charge she denies. Two weeks earlier, the agency arrested another US resident, Pritesh Walia, a jazz musician. He has now been released on bond. Vasamsetty is also hoping to be freed on bond. But this is not the end of their troubles. The threat of deportation remains.

Vasamsetty and Walia are among the growing number of Indians affected by ICE’s operations, part of US President Donald Trump’s immigration crackdown. The US has deported more than 4,800 Indian nationals since Trump took office. As many as 1,273 have been deported already in the first half of this year, and 3,567 were sent back last year, according to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Last year’s figures were the highest in 16 years, but this year’s total could be even more. Nationally, ICE arrested 51,000 people in July, a new monthly record. Trump has set a record of 2,000 arrests a day. According to Markwayne Mullin, Secretary of US Homeland Security, ICE made an average of 4,200 arrests in the first week of August. So, many more Indians could be arrested and deported in the rest of this year.

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Indians Are The Most Targeted Group

Although the largest number of arrests and deportations by the US involve nationals of Latin American and Caribbean countries, Indians now top such lists among Asians, according to Stop AAPI Hate, an American NGO that tracks and analyses data on Asian and Pacific Island nations and campaigns against ICE. Between January 2025 and March 2026, almost 28% of

the 14,402 Asians arrested were Indians. During the same period, 6,218 Asians were deported; Indians again occupied the top spot, with a 28% share of removals. Stop AAPI Hate told this author that in their analysis of the latest data, which they have not yet released, they found that "Indian people remain the most targeted by ICE, with the highest number of arrests, detentions, and deportations out of all A/PIs (Asian and Pacific Islanders)".

Indians are the third-largest foreign-born group in the United States, after Mexicans and Chinese, and there have been numerous cases of immigration and ID fraud involving them. Earlier this month, US authorities filed a case to revoke the American citizenship of India-born Harinder Singh after it was found that he had used a false identity and concealed his earlier immigration history. However, the growing targeting of Indians by US immigration officials is not due to a surge in such cases. "A broader trend we also see is that the growth of the Indian population in the US, as well as the growing prominence of Indian leaders in politics, business, etc., has spurred a hateful backlash that is being further fuelled by bigoted policies and rhetoric under the Trump administration," says Stop AAPI Hate.

How ICE Became Trump’s Most Feared Arm

ICE was formed as part of the US Homeland Security Act of 2002, a response to the 9/11 attacks in 2001. But the agency has never been as controversial as it has been since Trump began his second term as president 18 months ago. Mass deportation was Trump’s main election promise, and his administration has granted ICE unprecedented powers and near-impunity to carry out immigration crackdowns and deportations. ICE agents can stop, detain, and arrest people they suspect of being in the US illegally, which is a civil offence. But since last year, they have frequently been accused of overstepping their powers and acting as if they were pursuing hardened criminals.

ICE officers have kidnapped people, broken into cars to arrest suspects, and deported people even in violation of court orders. They have also used tear gas, pepper spray, and live bullets on non-violent protesters. At least six people, including three US citizens,



have been shot dead by immigration officers since Trump came to office. Fifty-seven people have died in ICE custody since then, according to the NGO National Immigration Project. Thirty-three died last year, the highest in over two decades. This year, 24 deaths have already been reported, and the total for the year is expected to be even worse.

In January, protests against ICE spread nationwide after a 37-year-old US citizen, Renee Nicole Good, was shot dead by its officers in Minneapolis. A day after her killing, Vice President JD Vance declared that the agent who shot Good "is protected by absolute immunity". Later that month, another US citizen, Alex Pretti, was killed by Border Patrol, an immigration agency that works alongside ICE. The authorities have not arrested or charged anyone for the killings, despite national outrage.

Electric Shock Gloves

Last week, the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) said it planned to purchase special gloves for ICE officers that can deliver electric shocks. Produced by the US firm Compliant Technologies, the gloves haven’t even been adopted properly by police forces in the country. They deliver low-voltage electric shocks on contact. The company says the technology in the gloves can inhibit "the subject from performing coordinated muscle movement". The news has alarmed human rights activists and some former officials of the US Immigration and Customs

Enforcement department.

But the Trump administration is happy to proceed with such measures in an attempt to meet its goal of reducing immigration to a bare minimum and deporting all those it deems illegal. Trump’s deportation target has been one million each year. However, ICE’s own figures show only 4 lakh people were deported in 2025. This has made many hard-core Trump supporters unhappy, but officials claim many more have left the US voluntarily. The DHS told The Atlantic in a statement that "more than 3 million illegal aliens have left the US because of the Trump administration’s crackdown on illegal migration, including an estimated 2.2 million self-deportations". These are staggering numbers, if true.

Trump-Loving Courts

Last September, the US Supreme Court’s Republican-appointed majority allowed ICE agents to stop people and question them about their immigration status based solely on race and ethnicity, or even on whether they speak English with an accent. This means ICE agents can decide who to stop and detain for questioning, a practice that lower-court judges had earlier found unconstitutional. This alarmed human rights groups and activists in the country. But most Federal judges are not following the Trump administration’s line, which is a ray of hope for the victims. Many have come to immigrants’ aid, ordering their release from ICE’s custody after hearing their habeas

petitions, a growing trend. In the past year, these judges have ruled against ICE’s detention tactics more than 17,300 times, according to a Politico investigation. The flood of cases has stretched the judiciary to a breaking point across the country. One District Judge, Fred Biery, told the magazine that his courthouse typically handles about 1,500 lawsuits a year but had already reached roughly 4,000 cases by May this year.

A Self-Goal For America

For decades, Indian students have been drawn to US educational institutions, producing some of the country’s top business leaders and scientists. Thanks to Trump’s policies, that is changing. Another recent report by ICEF Monitor, an education market agency, said that 59% of US higher education institutions received fewer inter-national applications this year, and 63% expect a decline in 2026-27. "The most pronounced decreases are reported for India, with only 39% of institutions indicating stable or increased application numbers," the ICEF report said. Nearly all respondents (92%) cited visa issues, such as processing delays or rising rejection rates, as the most significant factor affecting this year’s enrolment outlook, the report added. This suggests Indian students are considering other options. The question is, does Trump care?

Zohran Mamdani skips NYC’s main India Day Parade, breaks decades-old mayoral tradition

New Delhi, Aug 17 : The political spotlight at New York’s biggest India Day celebration shifted away from City Hall on Sunday after Mayor Zohran Mamdani stayed away from the Manhattan parade routinely attended by his predecessors. Mamdani had been invited to the 44th India Day Parade by the Federation of Indian Associations, according to a source familiar with the matter. His absence ended a long-standing mayoral presence at the event that dates back to the inaugural parade in 1981. Former New York mayors Eric Adams, Bill de Blasio, Michael Bloomberg, and Rudy Giuliani had attended the Manhattan celebration. The tradition began under Mayor Ed Koch. Access Premium News

Zohran Mamdani skips Manhattan India Day Parade

Mamdani was elsewhere in the city on Sunday. He attended a family day programme organised by an association of public housing residents in Brooklyn. His absence from Manhattan came a day after he joined a smaller India Independence Day



celebration in Floral Park in Queens. After Saturday’s event, Mamdani referred to his own history-making election in a post on X. He wrote that he had attended the celebration as “the first Indian American mayor of New York City”. Mamdani also invoked former Mayor David Dinkins’ description of New York as a “gorgeous mosaic”. Stream History Documentaries

“Mayor David Dinkins once described our city as a gorgeous mosaic. Today, I saw that mosaic in the Hindus and Christians, Muslims and Jains, Buddhists and Sikhs across the Indian diaspora

who have helped make our city what it is,” he wrote. Mamdani is the son of filmmaker Mira Nair and Ugandan academic Mahmood Mamdani, who is of Indian origin. Kathy Hochul leads political turnout at India Day Parade With Mamdani missing from the Manhattan event, New York Governor Kathy Hochul became its most prominent political attendee. Hochul joined members of the Indian-American community as they celebrated India’s 80th Independence Day. She said she was honoured to participate with New York’s “vibrant community” of Indian

Americans. Also marching were Republican candidate for New York attorney general Saritha Komatireddy, New York State Senator Jeremy Cooney and Congressman Shri Thanedar. Indian Tricolour lights up New York landmarks

The parade was part of wider Independence Day celebrations across New York. The Consulate General of India in New York said its parade float showcased India’s strengths in trade, technology, and development along with the country’s cultural heritage and tourism. It thanked the Federation of Indian Associations for organising the celebration of India and the India-US partnership. Several prominent sites were also illuminated in the colours of the Indian Tricolour. They included the Empire State Building, Grand Central Terminal, Niagara Falls, and Bloomberg’s New York headquarters, according to the Consulate General. The Consulate described the illuminations as a tribute to India’s 80th Independence Day and the ties between India and the United States.

Russian missile strike hits Lakshmi Mittal’s Ukraine steel plant; 2 killed, production disrupted

Masco, Aug 17 : A Russian missile strike has forced a partial halt to production at ArcelorMittal Kryvyi Rih, Ukraine’s largest steel plant, after two people were killed and 14 others were reported injured in the attack. The strike hit the sprawling industrial facility in Kryvyi Rih, the hometown of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Power-generation and blast-furnace facilities suffered damage, according to the steelmaker. ArcelorMittal Kryvyi Rih said some of its production processes had been stopped following the attack. Subscribing To “As a result of the attack, key production facilities in the power generation and blast furnace sectors have been damaged, and the plant’s production processes have been partially halted,” the company said. ArcelorMittal Kryvyi Rih production hit after Russian missile strike

The plant is part of global steelmaker ArcelorMittal. Indian businessman Lakshmi N Mittal is the company’s Executive Chairman, while Aditya Mittal serves as Chief Executive Officer. The attack puts one of Ukraine’s major industrial facilities directly in the latest wave of long-range strikes exchanged between Russia and Ukraine. Both countries have intensified drone attacks, with energy, industrial, and military infrastructure among the targets cited during the latest exchanges. Zelenskyy says Russia fired over 1,550 drones in a week. Zelenskyy said Russia had launched more than 1,550 attack drones, nearly 1,560 guided aerial bombs, and 62 missiles against Ukrainian cities and communities over the previous week. Most of the missiles were ballistic missiles of different types,



according to the Ukrainian President. His figures came as the latest attacks struck Kryvyi Rih and other parts of Ukraine. Russia, meanwhile, said Ukrainian forces had mounted a major drone assault of their own. Russia says ArcelorMittal plant was among targets. Russia’s Defence Ministry said the metallurgical complex in Kryvyi Rih was among facilities targeted in its latest attacks. It also said defence-related production facilities in Kyiv

were struck. Moscow separately claimed that its forces had intercepted hundreds of Ukrainian drones during the latest wave of attacks. Reports citing the Russian Defence Ministry put the figure at 822. The latest strike has left ArcelorMittal Kryvyi Rih assessing damage to facilities central to its steelmaking operations. The attack comes more than four years after Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

Iran puts \$30,000 bounty on US troops; women offered double for killing or capturing them



Tehran, Aug 17 : Iran’s Army chief Amir Hatami has put a \$30,000 reward on the killing or capture of US military personnel, with women promised twice the amount for carrying out such an act. The announcement comes as Tehran and Washington remain locked in a confrontation that has continued despite a ceasefire and subsequent efforts to establish a framework for negotiations. Hatami said the Iranian Army would pay the

reward following what he described as a “large number of requests” from people seeking to participate. He did not specify where or when US personnel might be targeted. Iran Army chief announces \$30,000 reward for US soldiers

“Anyone who kills or captures and hands over an invading American military personnel will receive a reward equivalent to USD 30,000 or 5 billion tomans from the Islamic Republic of Iran’s Army,” Hatami said.

He referred to the reward in tomans, an informal Iranian monetary unit equivalent to 10,000 rials. “Courageous Iranian women who carry out such an action will receive double the reward,” Hatami said. There is no known deployment of US ground forces inside Iran during the conflict. The exception was an April rescue operation after an F-15 went down. Around 200 US personnel and more than 170 aircraft were involved in the mission to recover the aircraft’s weapons systems officer. Hatami also renewed Tehran’s demand that American forces leave the region. “They no longer have permission to enter the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman, or the Strait of Hormuz,” he said. His remarks put fresh focus on the Strait of Hormuz and surrounding waters, where Iran and the US have exchanged sporadic fire since the collapse of diplomatic

efforts. US-Iran fighting followed February 28 strikes. The current hostilities began on February 28 after the United States and Israel launched strikes against Iran. An April ceasefire stopped the fighting before an attempt was made in June to establish a framework for peace negotiations. That effort later collapsed. Since then, exchanges of fire have continued intermittently, particularly around southern Iran and the Strait of Hormuz. Communication between the two sides has continued indirectly through mediators, but the talks have not produced a major diplomatic breakthrough. ANI reported that 17 US military personnel have been killed since the conflict began, with the latest casualties recorded in July. None of those deaths occurred inside Iran, according to the report. US personnel were among those killed in Jordan and Iraq.

‘Too late to cancel’: Trump scales back major US-South Korea drills, calls them ‘hostile’ to North Korea

Washington Aug 17: US President Donald Trump has ordered a substantial reduction in joint military exercises with South Korea, calling the drills costly and a “totally inappropriate and hostile” signal to North Korea. His intervention comes as the annual Ulchi Freedom Shield exercise is scheduled to run from August 17 to 27. Trump said cancelling the drills was no longer possible but directed Secretary of War Pete Hegseth to scale them back. Trump cites relationship with Kim Jong Un over military drills

Trump linked his decision to his relationship with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. News “Based on my very good relationship with Kim Jong Un, of North Korea, I am not happy with the fact that the United States has, long ago, agreed to participate in Joint Military Exercises with South Korea,” Trump wrote on Truth Social. He also objected to the



cost of the exercises and the message he believes they send to Pyongyang. “These exercises are not only costly, with much of these costs paid for by the United States of America (as usual!), but send a signal that is totally inappropriate and hostile, to a Country that, as long as Donald J. Trump has been President, has been unthreatening and respectful,” he said. Trump then issued his instruction to Hegseth. “Therefore, and based on the fact that it is too late to cancel, I have instructed

Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to substantially reduce the Joint Military Exercises!” he wrote. North Korea has repeatedly criticised joint US-South Korea military exercises and described them as provocations and rehearsals for war. About 18,000 South Korean military personnel are expected to participate in this year’s Ulchi Freedom Shield exercise. The drills are expected to include training against drones, GPS disruption, and cyberattacks as the two sides prepare for

North Korea’s evolving military capabilities. Trump’s order comes as the exercise gets underway and directly changes the US approach to an annual military engagement that has repeatedly drawn objections from Pyongyang. Trump says South Korea declined Iran proposal

In the same social media post, Trump raised a separate conversation with South Korean President Lee Jae Myung concerning Iran. Trump claimed he recently asked Lee whether South Korea wanted to join the United States in what he called the “Denuclearization of the Islamic Republic of Iran”. “While somewhat unrelated, I recently asked the President of South Korea if they would like to join us in the Denuclearization of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and they said, ‘No thanks!’” Trump wrote. He offered no further details about the exchange.

Sensex, Nifty end lower as IT stocks drag markets

Mumbai, Aug 17 : The benchmark indices ended lower on Monday, weighed down by selling pressure in IT and FMCG stocks. The Sensex declined 281.09 points, or 0.36 per cent, to close at 77,728.16, while the Nifty fell 78.35 points, or 0.32 per cent, to settle at 24,287.65. Commenting on Nifty technical outlook, experts said that the 24,400 zone remains the immediate resistance area. “A sustained breakout above 24,400 would be required to improve the near-term structure and support a recovery towards the 24,500–24,600 region,” an analyst said. “On the downside, the 24,300–24,200 zone now remains an important support. A decisive break

below 24,250 could intensify selling pressure and drag the index towards the 24,000 psychological mark,” as per the market expert. The experts further added that overall, the bias is likely to remain volatile. The broader market remained relatively resilient, with the Nifty MidCap index gaining 0.05 per cent and the Nifty SmallCap index rising 0.36 per cent. Among the major Nifty constituents, Infosys, Sun Pharmaceutical Industries and HCL Technologies were among the biggest laggards, dragging the headline indices lower. Sectoral performance was mixed, with the Nifty IT index emerging as the worst performer after declining nearly 2 per cent. In contrast, the Nifty Metal and Nifty Realty



indices recorded the strongest gains during the session. Experts said that the market remained subdued as investors adopted a cautious approach, with weakness in key IT stocks offsetting gains in select metal and realty shares. “On the domestic front, bond yields moved higher following elevated crude

price and the RBI’s decision to advance the closure of the FCNR(B) deposit window,” a market expert stated. “Globally, a weaker U.S. dollar and softer consumer data have eased concerns over near-term monetary tightening, improving long-term risk appetite,” the analyst added.

India world’s 2nd-largest fish producer, contributes 8 pc to global output

New Delhi, Aug 17 : India is the world’s second-largest fish producer, contributing 8 per cent to global output, ranks second in aquaculture production, leads in shrimp production and export, and is one of the largest producers in capture fisheries, the government said on Monday. Since 2015, the government has made cumulative investments of Rs 39,272 crore through key initiatives such as the Blue Revolution Scheme, Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF), Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), and its sub-scheme, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah - Yojana (PMMKSSY), to drive sustainable growth and development in the sector. The fisheries and aquaculture



sector plays a critical role in India’s economy, providing livelihoods to approximately 3 crore fishers and fish farmers while generating significant employment opportunities across the value chain, according to Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying. The ministry further said that youth, fishers and fish farmers are central to the future of fisheries sector, bringing enterprise, innovation and dynamism across the fisheries value chain from modern aqua-

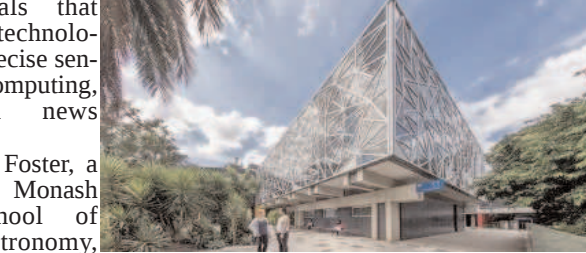
culture practices, digital traceability and cold-chain management to value addition, branding, marketing and exports. Their active participation is expected to further strengthen fisheries as a key pillar of India’s Blue Economy. Notably, the Union Cabinet approved the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah - Yojana (PM-MKSSY), a Central Sector Sub-scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), on 8th February 2024 for a peri-

od of four years from FY 2023-24 to FY 2026-27. PM-MKSSY will be implemented in all the States and Union Territories with an estimated outlay of Rs 6,000 crore. It aims to address the inherent weaknesses of the sector through identified financial and technological intervention for bringing in institutional reforms to support the transformation of the fisheries sector in the long-term. Following the Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort, the Department of Fisheries organised an interaction programme with beneficiaries under PM-MKSSY and their spouses to recognise their contributions and highlight the impact of government initiatives in the fisheries sector.

Researchers in Australia predict new form of quantum matter

Melbourne, Aug 17 : Researchers in Australia have predicted a new type of quantum matter, challenging decades of thinking about how ultracold particles behave. The study shows that under the right conditions, mixtures of two fundamentally different types of quantum particles -- bosons and fermions -- can form stable, self-bound “quantum droplets,” according to a statement released Monday by Australia’s Monash University. Until now, scientists believed these exotic droplets were unlikely to exist in strongly interacting Bose-Fermi systems, according to the study, published in Physical Review Letters with collaborators from Heidelberg University in Germany. Researchers said the discovery provides a new theoretical roadmap for experiments around the world and could deepen understanding of

quantum materials that underpin future technologies, from ultra-precise sensors to quantum computing, reports Xinhua news agency. Lead author Sam Foster, a PhD candidate at Monash University’s School of Physics and Astronomy, said the findings open the way to exploring new quantum states and address a long-standing theoretical challenge. “These two very different types of particles could balance each other perfectly to create a stable droplet that effectively holds itself together,” Foster said, adding that previous theories could describe such systems only when particles interacted relatively weakly, while the new approach allows researchers to explore stronger interactions where



more complex physics emerges. The study found that unlike an ordinary liquid droplet, a quantum droplet exists because of the strange rules of quantum mechanics. In this case, an attractive force between the particles is exactly balanced by the pressure generated by the fermions, preventing the system from collapsing. The team found the predicted droplets should be achievable using existing ultracold atom experiments, making experimental confirmation a realistic next step.

DC Is Too Cool...

Lokesh Kanagraj... Well, he is always introduced as an ace filmmaker, right... But now, he is also an actor. The magic in Lokesh's films is always experienced in the best possible way. And coming to the movie, DC in which he essayed the lead role thoroughly impressed all and sundry. Within 10 days of its release, DC crossed Rs 50 crore mark and is now slowly marching towards a bigger milestone.

Thus, this film carries additional significance to Lokesh as it is his debut film as an actor! Thus, now he is an ace actor and an ace director too. Thus, Lokesh's DC is now witnessing a strong box-office run. Additionally, it is also holding the social media buzz as Tollywood's prominent faces Mahesh Babu and Allu Arjun heaped praises on the movie through social media... Mahesh Babu dropped his review on social media stating the movie as an outstanding one... "#DC... what an original and outstanding



film. Just too cool... Loved every bit of it!! Congrats to the entire team..." Lokesh showed off his gratitude by dropping a thank you note in the comments section while director Arun also dropped a sweet reply thanking Mahesh Babu, "Thank you so much, sir! This truly means a lot to me. Seeing you watch and appreciate

#DC is incredibly special. Really grateful for your love and kind words." On the other hands, even Allu Arjun also watched this movie and stated it as a Tamil classic... "Watched #DC ! It's a Tamil classic. Every film lover must watch it. It's poetry for those who get it. Congratulations to the entire #DC team. Highest

respect to Director @ArunMatheswaran garu. @anirudhofficial absolute master booster! Technically brilliant. All the artists are fabbb, especially #WamiqaGabbi garu, and of course the hero! And my director @Dir_Lokesh garu, the biggest pillar of support." Director Arun thanked Allu Arjun for his review and expressed his happiness... "Thank you so much, sir, for watching #DC and embracing the film with so much love. It means a lot to the entire team. As a filmmaker, your words and appreciation make this even more special for us."

This movie also holds an ensemble cast of Wamiqa Gabbi, Sanjana Krishnamoorthy, Aadukalam Naren, Thalaivasal Vijay and Kasthuri Raja. While the movie highlights the story of Devadas, whose family becomes a victim of police brutality! Thus, DC stands as an action, survival and redemption thriller!



My first choice is Ravi Teja.. I wrote a story just for him: Director Buchibabu

Buchibabu Sana, who became a star director after getting a sensational success with 'Uppena' and then a huge hit with Ram Charan like 'Peddhi', made interesting comments on mass Maharaja Ravi Teja. The pre-release ceremony of 'Irumudi', directed by Shiva Nirvana, starring Ravi Teja as the hero, was held in Hyderabad. Buchibabu, who attended the event as the chief guest, attracted everyone's attention by openly revealing his desire to do a film with Ravi Teja. Speaking on the occasion, Buchibabu said, "Before I came to the industry, when I started my journey as a writer, the first story I wrote was for Ravi Teja garu. I prepared the script keeping in mind his energy and attitude. I still have that story. I will definitely tell him the full story in the future. It has been my lifelong desire to do a film



with Ravi Teja garu." The fans of the mass maharaja present erupted in cheers and applause at Buchibabu's words. Buchibabu, who gained national recognition with his first film 'Uppena' as a disciple of Sukumar, gave Ram Charan a milestone success in his career with his second film 'Peddhi'. With this, he became the most wanted director in Tollywood. Even top heroes are showing interest in working under his direction. There is already a rumor that Buchibabu has pitched a story to

Megastar Chiranjeevi and the project is almost finalized. At such a time, Buchibabu's announcement that he wants to do a film with his beloved Ravi Teja has gained significance. Analysts are predicting that if Buchibabu's mark film comes out with a solid mass content and reminiscent of vintage Ravi Teja, it will surely set new records at the box office. And it remains to be seen when this crazy combination will materialize.

The suspense thriller, The Red Bag is all set to release worldwide on 21st August,

The movie is produced by Harikrishna Somisetty under the Memory Makers banner, while Ravi Kumar Seerapu is the writer and director of the film. The star cast includes Kabir Singh, Prasad Behara, Raadhya, Monika, Sneha Singh, Akanksha, Eshan Shankar, Avinash Badal, Bhargavi, and Raasi. The makers have now unveiled the release date of the film as the PVR INOX Pictures has come on board for the theatrical release of the movie. Moreover, the film has managed to create quite an impression with the release of the poster of the movie.



The poster displays three-armed women, a red bag, cityscape,

and some action, suggesting that the film will have more

than one twist and turn in the story. They have also released the teaser of the film which has received an overwhelming response from the audience. The Red Bag will be a stylish suspense thriller where nothing is as it seems. Moreover, the team has remained mum about the plot of the film, leaving the suspense and mystery for the audience to unravel in the theatres. The cinematography of the film is superb with Priyesh Guruswamy, while Shekhar Mopuri has composed the music for the film. Shiva Sharvani is the editor of the film.

Ameer Log: Lead actors promise a pakka Hyderabad story

Hyderabad-based film Ameer Log will be unveiled in the theatres on August 21, and the lead actors believe that the audience will relate to the film's emotions, regardless of the language and dialect. This film directed by Ramana Reddy Soma is produced by Madhavi Reddy Soma of Awwal Number Production and Manohar Reddy Manchuri. It will be released by Spirit Media. The cast members stated that the film depicts the true Hyderabad basti culture and lifestyle. They also added that they grew up in a similar environment, so it was easy for them to adapt to the Telangana dialect and act in sync with their characters. The majority of the film's recording was done on a sync sound basis, and



only a small portion of the road dubbing was done. In addition to this, the lead actors mentioned that biryani plays a

significant role in the movie, just like in everyone's life. In fact, they compared Ameer Log to a complete biryani, stating that the

flavor of the story lingers in the mouth. The film production team also set up a cloud kitchen during the shoot, and the actors were always available to help. The cast members also revealed that Ameer Log is a slice-of-life family drama about the lives of three brothers. Moreover, Ameer Log contains dialogues in Telugu, Hindi, and Urdu languages because this is how Hyderabad's real language sounds. The lead actors of the film insist that everything in it is natural, including the dialogues. They also said that Smaran's music and background score helps the movie. Ameer Log promises to provide the audience with an immersive experience of real Hyderabad.

Young hero's 24 hr non-stop shoot

Energetic Star Ram Pothineni is raising the bar for his directorial debut RAPO23 by taking on an extraordinary workload both in front of and behind the camera. The actor-director completed a marathon 24-hour shooting stretch on the outskirts of Pondicherry, underlining the scale of his commitment to the project. The latest Pondicherry schedule lasted for nearly nine days and featured an elaborate production setup. While delivering his performance as the protagonist, Ram was also actively involved in directing the proceedings, making the lengthy schedule particularly challenging.



The shoot was eventually brought to a temporary halt after unexpected rains disrupted the proceedings. The team has since returned to Hyderabad, but plans are already in place to travel back to Pondicherry and finish the portions left incomplete on the same massive

setup. RAPO23 is being mounted as a large-scale production, with Krishna Pothineni bankrolling it on Rapo Cinematics banner. More details about the film's world, characters and additional cast are expected to emerge as production progresses.

Priya Bhavani Shankar on flower pot roles

Priya Bhavani Shankar has always been selective about the roles she takes up, and her latest conversation with Gulte Pro's Ram Venkat Srikanth ahead of Irumudi's release gives an interesting glimpse into her approach towards cinema. The actress opened up about choosing characters that actually have something meaningful to contribute.

One of the key points from the conversation is Priya's take on the typical flower pot roles offered to actresses. She made it clear that she does not want to be part of films merely for screen presence, songs or glamour, and prefers characters that have relevance to the story. Priya also spoke extensively about Irumudi and how the film's rooted setting adds another layer to the storytelling. According to her, the geography and culture are not just backdrops in the film but an important part of the narrative and the



characters. The actress recalled shooting in remote locations with limited network connectivity. Rather than seeing it as a difficulty, Priya described the experience as something that helped the cast and crew stay connected with each other and completely immerse themselves in the world of the film. She also had interesting things to say about director Shiva Nirvana and his working style. Priya appreciated the director's ego free approach and willingness to listen to actors, making the creative process much more collaborative on the sets. Priya was also pleasantly

surprised by Ravi Teja's performance. She revealed how his grounded and rooted portrayal challenged some of her initial perceptions about the star, especially when compared to the larger than life image associated with him. From flower pot roles to meaningful characters, rooted cinema and her experience working on Irumudi, Priya's conversation offers plenty of interesting insights into how an actress looks at her career. For anyone curious about what goes behind an actor's choice of roles, this conversation with Gulte Pro is definitely worth watching.

GV Prakash losing his magical touch?

GV Prakash is known for his sensible soundtracks, soulful music and joyful songs. His music has often added extra emotion and energy to films. GV Prakash is known for his soulful and memorable music, with films like Lucky Baskhar and Sir (Vaathi) standing as strong examples of his work in recent times. However, his latest output has not been on par with his previous work, say his critics. His latest film, Vishwanath And Sons, too, seemed to lack the



magical touch that is usually associated with GV Prakash. However, now, it feels like GV is missing that magical touch. In Vishwanath And Sons, except for the Butterfly song, which is also carried well by Mamitha Baiju, GV's work feels weak for most of the film. There are several scenes that could have looked much more beautiful with soulful and emotional background music. But the music often feels flat and fails to elevate those

moments. This has made some music lovers wonder if GV Prakash is slowly losing the touch that once made his music special. Now, all eyes are on his next film, Irumudi, to see if he can bring back that magic. Mass Maharaja Ravi Teja's Irumudi will be an important one for GV at the current stage. Fans are hoping that GV Prakash will deliver a full-fledged and memorable musical album this time and bring back his magical touch.

1st Test: Suthar, Jadeja star as India bowl out SL for 284, take 178-run lead despite Dinusha’s ton

Galle, Aug 17 : Left-arm spinners Manav Suthar and Ravindra Jadeja picked seven scalps collectively as India bowled Sri Lanka out for 284 at stumps on day three of the first Test at the Galle International Stadium on Monday. Before rain forced early stumps to be taken, Suthar and Jadeja ensured India secured a commanding 178-run first-innings lead despite a valiant maiden Test century from Sri Lanka all-rounder Sonal Dinusha. Suthar impressed everyone with his turn and bounce to pick 4-76 and be India’s standout bowler, while Jadeja took 3-57 to complete a clinical bowling display for India, who also had Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh Krishna picking a scalp each, as the visitors put themselves firmly in control of the contest. For Sri Lanka, a determined 146-run stand between Dinusha, who got his maiden Test century in 168 balls and Niroshan Dickwella, who hit 80 off 115 balls, did a great job in not only frustrating the Indians but also ensured the hosts avoided the follow-on,



especially after being 90/5 at one point. Resuming the final session from a position of strength, after the second session saw them not lose a single wicket, Sri Lanka’s resistance dissolved once the partnership was broken, as India’s bowling unit tore through the lower order to claim the final five wickets for 50 runs. Dickwella signalled Sri Lanka’s intent immediately after the tea break by ramping Prasadh Krishna over the slips for four, while Dinusha greeted Jadeja with a towering slog-sweep for six. But Krishna provided the crucial breakthrough in the 62nd over as he found subtle movement away from Dickwella, who gave a faint edge behind to Rishabh Pant and end a magnificent 146-run

stand for the sixth wicket. Jadeja then reached his milestone 350th Test wicket in bizarre fashion. Keshara Nuwantha drove a turning delivery straight into the knee of silly point fielder Yashasvi Jaiswal, with the deflection looping conveniently to Shubman Gill, who completed the catch at cover. It made Jadeja only the fourth player and second Indian overall to score more than 4000 runs and pick 350 wickets in men’s Test cricket history after Kapil Dev, Daniel Vettori and Ian Botham. Jadeja has also become the ninth spinner, fifth Indian and 28th overall to take 350 Test wickets, with him also becoming the first Indian left-arm bowler to pick 350 wickets in Test cricket. Dinusha remained res-

olute amid the chaotic lower-order collapse, sweeping Suthar to deep square leg for a single to get his century in 167 balls. The milestone was swiftly followed by India’s knockout blow. Prabath Jayasuriya mis-cued a slog-sweep off Suthar to deep square leg, before Jadeja trapped Dinusha lbw with a delivery that bit sharply off the pitch. Suthar sealed India’s lead by having Lahiru Kumara stumped while charging down the pitch. Brief Scores: India 462 in 116.4 overs (Devdutt Padikkal 167, KL Rahul 82; Prabath Jayasuriya 4-109, Keshara Nuwantha 3-175) lead Sri Lanka 284 in 79.4 overs (Sonal Dinusha 100, Niroshan Dickwella 80; Manav Suthar 4-76, Ravindra Jadeja 3-57) by 178 runs

Ravindra Jadeja becomes first Indian left-arm bowler to pick 350 wickets in Test cricket



Galle, Aug 17 : Ravindra Jadeja achieved another significant milestone in his illustrious Test career during the ongoing first match against Sri Lanka at the Galle International Stadium in Galle on Monday. Jadeja, who returned to the Test side after missing the one-off game against Afghanistan, has become the first Indian left-arm bowler to take 350 wickets in the longest international format. Jadeja achieved the feat on Day 3 of the first Test at the Galle International Stadium when he removed bowling all-rounder Keshara

Nuwantha in the third session of the moving day. The Indian iconic all-rounder got Nuwantha out with Shubman Gill taking the catch at covers after the Sri Lankan batsman tried whacking a ball towards covers but ended up hitting it to the thigh of an evading Yashasvi Jaiswal at silly point. The ball ricocheted towards Gill, who completed the catch. In the process, Jadeja became the first Indian left-arm bowler to take 350 wickets in the Test format, with former fast-bowler Zaheer Khan a distant second now with 311 wickets. The 37-

year-old is also the fifth Indian overall to have taken 350 wickets, joining the likes of Anil Kumble (619), Ravichandran Ashwin (537), Kapil Dev (434) and Harbhajan Singh (417). Jadeja is also the third left-arm spinner in the world to have achieved the milestone, joining the likes of Rangana Herath (433) and Daniel Vettori (362). In the process, he also achieved another significant record. Jadeja is now only the fourth player in the history of Test cricket to have a double of 4000-plus Test runs and 350-plus Test wickets. Only

Kapil Dev (5248, 434), Ian Botham (5200, 383) and Daniel Vettori (4531, 362) have achieved the milestone before him. India managed to put Sri Lanka’s resistance to a halt in the third session after the hosts put up a brilliant fight in the latter half of the first and the entirety of the second session. Returning to the Test side after three years, Niroshan Dickwella scored a strong 80, while youngster Sonal Dinusha made 89 as they forged a partnership of 146 for the sixth wicket. The hosts were reeling at 90/5 before the two stepped up and put up a fight. They took the team to 236/5 before Prasadh Krishna got the veteran Dickwella. Soon after, Jadeja came and removed Nuwantha for his milestone wicket. India had made 462 in the first innings with Devdutt Padikkal leading the way with his 167, while KL Rahul (82) and Dhruv Jurel (51) also made strong contributions on Day 2.

BWF World Championships: Treesa-Gayatri cruise into next round with dominant win



New Delhi, Aug 17 : Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand Pullela continued India’s positive start at the BWF World Championships, producing a dominant straight-game victory over Spain’s Lucia Rodriguez and Paula Lopez in front of a vocal home crowd here on Monday. The Indian pair began with high energy, feeding off the support from the packed stands. Treesa and Gayatri controlled the opening game from the outset and never

allowed the Spanish duo to settle, taking it 21-9. The second game followed a similar pattern, with the Indians racing to a 3-0 lead before Rodriguez and Lopez responded with two consecutive points. Treesa and Gayatri quickly regained control and went into the interval with an 11-7 advantage. The Indians continued to dictate play after the break, maintaining their lead before closing out the game 21-13 to seal a comfortable victory.

Earlier, M R Arjun and Hariharan Amsakarunan gave India its first win of the championships, advancing to the men’s doubles Round of 32 after Ireland’s Scott Guildlea and Paul Reynolds retired due to injury with the Indian pair leading 21-16, 6-4. Five-time World Championships medallist PV Sindhu then added another win for India, defeating Ireland’s Sophia Noble in straight games. Sindhu dominated the contest to take the

opening game 21-7 before closing out the second 21-11. Sindhu’s victory gives India another strong result on the opening day as the home crowd continues to rally behind the country’s players at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium. India’s campaign continues with more action later in the day, with Ayush Shetty set to face top seed and defending champion Shi Yu Qi of China in the men’s singles.

Smriti's skill, Harmanpreet's tenacity makes them exceptional competitors: Perry

London, Aug 17 : Legendary Australian seam-bowling all-rounder Ellyse Perry has lauded the skillsets of India captain Harmanpreet Kaur and vice-captain Smriti Mandhana, describing the latter’s mind and skill as ‘incredible’ while highlighting the former’s fierce competitive spirit. Ellyse recently led Birmingham Phoenix in The Hundred 2026 and concluded her campaign with a match-winning performance in their final league game. “What makes Smriti so successful? Her amazing skill. I think she’s got incredible willpower and a super-strong mind, the way she approaches the game, the way she prepares, the way she knows herself, the way she thinks about things, and the way that she likes challenges. “She’s got it all. Harman, I think her greatest strength is her tenacity. She’s a great competitor, and when she’s going, she hits some of the biggest shots in the women’s game,” said Ellyse to JioStar. Reflecting on her own remarkable career longevity and personal evolution over the years, Ellyse credited gradual, continuous learning rather than any single turning point. “You just naturally evolve as you grow as a person. Over the many years I’ve been involved in the game,



there have been a number of different experiences, things to learn, people to work with and new avenues to explore. “I guess incrementally, as that happens, you add new things or change the way you do things. Often, they’re only small changes, but over a long period of time, there’s always something new or a way to learn more. Hopefully, you keep improving, and that just kind of builds upon each other. So, nothing in particular, just years of experience.” Despite accumulating numerous World Cup titles and accolades on the global stage, Ellyse maintained that wearing the Australian shirt remains her ultimate highlight. “Honestly, just being able to play for Australia would be my proudest achievement. I’m a really

passionate and patriotic Australian, and I love representing my country.” Looking ahead to the inaugural ICC Women’s Champions Trophy in 2027, Ellyse welcomed the new addition to the international calendar, while acknowledging the physical and mental demands it will place on teams. “It’s another great opportunity for the women’s game and for all the teams competing. From my perspective, it’s a new event, so it’s always exciting to be a part of something like that, and a new spot on the calendar, which will be great for everyone. You want to play every game well. “This tournament will be physically and mentally a huge challenge, and preparing for those matches, everyone’s going to have to be spot on. But yeah, the

mindset remains the same, you just want to win every game,” she added. Offering her perspective on the next generation of female cricketers, Ellyse highlighted the shifting landscape of the women’s game and stressed on the value of mutual learning between generations as the key behind growing the game. “I was unbelievably fortunate to have some amazing advice when I was younger. I grew up playing cricket locally with some great friends, and I’ve always gone down to the nets with my dad. He’s taught me just about everything I know about cricket, and I’ve just loved having him as a confidant and someone to lean on all the time. “I think the landscape of women’s cricket is really different these days. You walk into a very different environment as a young professional, but those girls are so well prepared for that. So, I don’t think there’s any one piece of advice. It’s probably just as much as they would learn from current players, I learn from them. “They’ve got a different experience, a different energy and a different way of going about things. So, it’s just about supporting each other and having a really open mind to learn from each other,” she concluded.

BWF World Championships: Arjun-Hariharan advance to Round of 32 after Irish pair retires



New Delhi, Aug 17 : India opened its campaign at the BWF World Championships on home soil with M R Arjun and Hariharan Amsakarunan advancing to the men’s doubles Round of 32 after Ireland’s Scott Guildlea and Paul Reynolds were forced to retire from their opening-round contest on Monday. The Indian pair took the opening game 21-16 and moved 6-4 ahead in the second before the Irish combination was unable to continue due to an

injury, bringing the match to an early end. Arjun and Amsakarunan were in control for much of the opening game, although Guildlea and Reynolds stayed within touching distance. The Indians remained composed in the crucial rallies and converted their chances to take the lead. The second game barely had time to develop before the injury forced the Irish pair to retire, handing India its first victory of the championships.

The result gives Arjun and Amsakarunan a positive start at a World Championships being staged in India for the first time since 2009. The 2026 edition is being held at New Delhi’s Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium from August 17 to 23, bringing the tournament back to the country after a 17-year gap. The Indian duo will now await their next opponents as they look to build on their opening-day win. There is plenty more Indian interest on the

opening day. Five-time World Championships medallist PV Sindhu is set to begin her women’s singles campaign against Ireland’s Sophia Noble, with the Indian star chasing a record sixth medal at the event. Ayush Shetty, meanwhile, faces top seed and defending champion Shi Yu Qi of China in the men’s singles. Shetty has faced the Chinese star three times and is yet to beat him. Earlier, Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand will take on Spain’s Paula Lopez and Lucia Rodriguez, while Kavipriya Selvam and Simran Singh face Spain’s Nikol Carulla and Carmen Maria Jimenez later in the day. With Sindhu and Shetty still to take the court, India’s campaign has already begun with a win, albeit one cut short by injury, as Arjun and Amsakarunan move into the next round of the home World Championships.

Cristiano Ronaldo hints at end of legendary football career: ‘Probably my last year’

Melbourne, Aug 17 : Cristiano Ronaldo has offered his strongest indication yet that his remarkable football career could be nearing its end, admitting that the current season is “probably my last year” in the sport. The Portugal captain, who turns 42 next year, made the revelation in an interview with Vogue published on Sunday, while stopping short of announcing a definitive retirement date. “This is probably my last year of football, and I want to leave a spectacular legacy,” Ronaldo said. Ronaldo’s contract with Saudi Pro League club Al Nassr runs until June 2027, but the five-time Ballon d’Or winner has previously acknowledged that retirement is approaching. In November last year, Ronaldo said he expected to continue playing for another “one or two years” and confirmed that the 2026 FIFA World Cup would be his final appearance at football’s biggest tournament.

Portugal’s World Cup campaign ended last month with a defeat to Spain in the last 16. Ronaldo scored three goals during the tournament. His latest comments suggest that he could bring the curtain down on his playing career sooner than previously expected. The 41-year-old has already started looking beyond football, saying he wants to spend more time with his family and explore interests away from the game. “I have my future all mapped out,” Ronaldo told Vogue. “I have so many things to keep me busy that to tell you just one thing is hard.” The Portuguese star said football could leave a significant void after retirement and that he would need to fill his time with different activities, including travelling and playing padel. “Because after all it’s been 25 years with a lot of sacrifice,” he said. The interview was conducted five days before



Ronaldo married his long-time partner Georgina Rodriguez in Cascais, Portugal, adding another major milestone to a period of significant personal and professional change. Ronaldo began his senior career with Sporting CP before moving to Manchester United, Real Madrid and Juventus. He joined Al Nassr in January 2023. His nine-year spell at Real Madrid remains the defining chapter of his club career. In 438 appearances for the Spanish side, Ronaldo scored a club-

record 450 goals and established himself as one of the most influential players in the club’s history. His latest retirement comments also come shortly after Lionel Messi, his long-time rival, raised questions over his own future following the death of his father, Jorge Messi. For Ronaldo, however, the focus now appears to be on making the final chapter of a record-breaking career as memorable as the 25 years that came before it.

Ravi Pal elected as state chairman of Youth Hostels



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, Aug 17
CH Ravi Pal elected as state chairman of Youth Hostels Association of India The new executive committee was elected at the state general meeting held at the Youth Hostels building on Beach Road on Sunday. Chimala Ravi Pal, who contested as chairman for the second consecutive term, was unanimously elected. Dr. Verma was elected as president, A. Pundarikaksha, N. Mallikarjuna

Rao, J. Madhusudhan Rao as vice presidents, V.V.V.N. Jagapathi Raju as treasurer, K.V.E. Prasad as secretary and Barri Umamaheswara Rao as managing secretary. The new executive committee will hold office for three years. Telangana Youth Hostels Association Chairman Venkat Yadav was present as election observers. After assuming office, the new executive committee appointed various committees.

SEED recognized for outstanding service towards a drug-free society

The district administration honored SEED Secretary Venuthurupalli Sanyasiraju with a meritorious certificate.

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, Aug 17
The Visakhapatnam district administration has honored the Society for Education and Environment Development (SEED), an organization providing distinguished services in rehabilitation, treatment, counseling and creating awareness about the ill effects of drugs, with a meritorious certificate. SEED Secretary Venuthurupalli Sanyasiraju received this meritorious certificate from the district administration led by the District Collector at a program organized on the occasion of Independence Day. The New Life-Integrated Rehabilitation Center for Addicts (IRCA) run by SEED in Chinamushidivada, Pendurthi, provides comprehensive services such as prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, counseling,

outreach programs, capacity development, and aftercare to those affected by drug abuse. SEED was selected for this award in recognition of its efforts to support government actions at the district level in controlling drug abuse and to bring victims back into the mainstream of life. SEED continues to provide its services extensively in line with the programs being undertaken by the central and state governments with the aim of building a drug-free India. The organization is fulfilling its social responsibility by providing counseling to victims and their families, creating awareness about the harms caused by drugs, and providing necessary support even after rehabilitation. In recognition of the services provided by SEED, the Department of Welfare of the Disabled, Transgenders and Elderly



proposed the name of the organization to the Visakhapatnam District Administration. This honorary award was presented considering the services provided by the organization in the areas of prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, counseling, etc. Sanyasiraju said that it was a great encouragement for the district administration and the welfare department to recognize and honor the services of their organization.

He said that this honor will inspire the staff, counselors and field staff of SEED to work with greater dedication. He said that this recognition given by the district administration has been an important incentive for SEED's efforts for drug eradication, rehabilitation of victims and building a healthy society. Ravi Pal elected as state chairman of Youth Hostels CH Ravi Pal elected as state chairman

of Youth Hostels Association of India The new executive committee was elected at the state general meeting held at the Youth Hostels building on Beach Road on Sunday. Chimala Ravi Pal, who contested as chairman for the second consecutive term, was unanimously elected. Dr. Verma was elected as president, A. Pundarikaksha, N. Mallikarjuna Rao, J. Madhusudhan Rao as vice presidents, V.V.V.N. Jagapathi Raju as treasurer, K.V.E. Prasad as secretary and Barri Umamaheswara Rao as managing secretary. The new executive committee will hold office for three years. Telangana Youth Hostels Association Chairman Venkat Yadav was present as election observers. After assuming office, the new executive committee appointed various committees.

Schwan Lab' Inaugurated at GITAM's Biotechnology Department



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, Aug 17
Professor P. Bharani Chandra Kumar, Director of the GITAM School of Core Engineering, inaugurated the state-of-the-art 'Schwan Lab' at the Department of Biotechnology (under the School of Core Engineering, GITAM Deemed University) on August 17, 2026. Speaking on the occasion, he highlighted that the B.Tech Biomedical Engineering course integrates biological sciences, medicine, and engineering, and provides training in designing the modern equipment and technology essential for the healthcare sector. He explained that the Schwan Lab facilitates the analysis of physiological signals—such as ECG, EEG, and

EMG—using BioPac systems. He further noted that the lab enables the study of muscle movements and gait patterns using Noraxon technology. Additionally, he mentioned that the facility is equipped with cutting-edge medical devices, including surgical diathermy units, hemodialysis machines, non-invasive ventilators, spirometers, syringe pumps, and defibrillator simulators. Dr. I. Sarath Babu, Head of the Department of Biotechnology at GITAM, stated that the program fosters an understanding of engineering measurements, design, and systems analysis alongside biology and medical sciences. He mentioned that specialized training would be provided in areas such as medical imaging, BioMEMS,

biosignal processing, and surgical robotics. Through the 'Schwan' laboratory, students will gain a clear understanding of medical device maintenance and diagnostic procedures. As part of the course, students will receive two months of hands-on experience regarding hospital operations at prominent organizations and hospitals like AP MedTech Zone, Apollo Hospitals, and Pinnacle Hospitals. He added that, in collaboration with GITAM Medical College (GIMSR), students are receiving hospital-level training, in addition to training provided by AP MedTech Zone and Vijaya Diagnostics. Faculty members and students from the Department of Biotechnology participated in the event.

Traffic Enforcement Drive at Koduru Road Junction



Vizianagaram (Garivdi) 17 (Skyline):
Garivdi SI B.L. Lokeswara Rao conducted vehicle checking at Koduru Road Junction. Police officials inspected vehicles passing through the junction. The required vehicle documents were verified during the checking. Motorists violating traffic rules were identified by the police.

Fines were imposed on those found committing traffic violations. The SI warned motorists against rash and negligent driving. He advised vehicle users to carry all valid documents. Motorists were also urged to strictly follow traffic regulations. Police said regular checks would be conducted to ensure road safety.

Dedicated Health Assistant Mata Gopi Receives District-Level Honour



Vizianagaram (Gurla) 17 (Skyline):
Mata Gopi, a Health Assistant serving at Tettangi Primary Health Centre (PHC), has been recognised for his dedicated service by receiving the "Best Health Assistant" award during the Independence Day celebrations in Vizianagaram district. District Medical Officer Dr. A. Jeevana Rani presented the award to Gopi at the Independence Day programme held on August 15. The honour was given in recognition of his commitment, sincerity and contribution to delivering healthcare

services to people in the PHC limits. Tettangi PHC doctors Dr. M.D. Akib and Dr. G. Sai Sindhuja, along with staff members Chamundeswari, Sagar and Suresh, congratulated Gopi on the achievement. Staff nurses, MLHPs, ASHA workers and local public representatives also appreciated his services. Gopi said the recognition had further strengthened his responsibility towards the community and expressed his commitment to providing more effective healthcare services in the coming days.

Action should be taken against officials who are condoning government land grabbers

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, Aug 17
Former corporator Kallepalli Venkata Seetharama Raju alleged that the GVMC and Revenue Department officials are giving a helping hand to the land grabbers of government lands and are not protecting the property of the people. He was speaking at a press conference organized at a hotel in Srinagar. It is learnt that some builders in Rajendranagar, Srinagar, have colluded with squatters and hundreds of crores of rupees have changed hands by granting building permits. The people who bought the same building said that it is outrageous that the authorities are not paying attention to the suffering. They expressed concern that it has become a sin to buy a plot from the owners with great

hopes that the family will live happily and comfortably. They also expressed concern that the banks are not giving loans to the buyers and are trying to sell the plot to meet their needs and get their daughter married. The plots are listed as ULC 22A (slaughter house) as government land and cannot be sold, and the register office is saying that if you get an NOC for this survey number, it will be registered or it will not be registered. For that, they have been going around the mandal survey, town survey, and offices for years, taking huge bribes and giving NOCs, and due to them, registrations are being done, but they are facing a lot of difficulties in selling them, and they are making demonstrations around government offices, but there is no result. Did we make a mistake by buy-



ing the plots in the layout with the survey numbers approved by the government? We bought them in the layout or in the surrounding areas, hoping that the government would have approved them after examining all the infrastructure facilities for the local people, schools, parks, and wide roads. But they are suffering from the double standards of government officials.

They said that they have some properties in Survey No. 688A of GVMC area, Srinagar, and in Rajendranagar, Rajendranagar, the current South constituency area of ??GVMC ward 27. Raju said that in the layout plan of Block No. 24, Town Survey No. 688A, Town Planning No. 20/54, 6 plots have been allocated for roads and parks, and he bought it after seeing that layout plan. When he applied to GVMC for building permits on the same property, which he had been in possession of for a long time, the GVMC town planning officials announced that there were disputes in these survey numbers, T.S. No. 688A, T.P. No. 20/54. When he made an inquiry, he realized that many plot owners, including us, are suffering a lot.

It was alleged that due to arbitrary decisions by the GVMC Town Planning Department officials, the planning department of this area has become a cesspool of errors. He said that the reasons for the discrepancy in the boundaries, plot numbers and survey numbers of Allipuram Ward Block No. 24, Town Survey No. 688A land, TP No. 20/54 have come to light. He said that the facts have been revealed. He said that the GVMC planning officials have cooperated with the squatters and the occupiers without even looking at or examining the records under the GVMC, and that the government has registered ULC 22A as government land in the prohibited list so that no registration or sale of buildings can take place.

Discovery brings together India's top military and national security leadership for the first time with declassified Operation Sindoor

Visakhapatnam, 17 August 2026: This Independence Day, Discovery brought unparalleled access to India's senior military and national security leadership, operational commanders and frontline personnel in Declassified: Operation Sindoor. Building on the brand's legacy of taking audiences deeper into pivotal real-world stories, the docuseries reveals how key moments in the operation took shape and unfolded through those who led it. Following its premiere on Discovery on August 15, 2026, the two-part docuseries is available to stream on discovery+. In his first interview since Operation Sindoor, Ajit Doval, National Security Advisor of India, says in the docuseries, "We had decided the objective of the operation was destruction of the enemy camps particularly those who had been responsible for the Pahalgam attack." "Our message to the world is very clear - India's generosity or India being tolerant should not be mistaken for its weakness. India can take risks and hit hard, irrespective of the consequences," he added.

Beginning in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack, Part 1 traces how the armed forces and intelligence teams moved into action, gathering intelligence, carrying out surveillance and preparing for the operation. From identifying targets, to conducting mock drills and planning for multiple scenarios, teams worked towards a precise operation designed to minimise civilian and military casualties. Part 2 moves from planning to execution, taking viewers inside the operation as it unfolded. Drawing on first-hand accounts from those involved, it captures the tense moments before the strikes, the coordination across the three services - Army, Navy and Air Force, and the decisions made in real time. As the strikes began, the docuseries follows the operation finally leading to the confirmation coming in that the mission was complete. The series also offers a view into the military thinking that followed once the objective had been set, including the assessment of targets, decisions taken as the situation developed and the responsibility placed on those carrying out the mission.



Anil Chauhan, former Chief of Defence Staff said, "All of us, as citizens of this country, were deeply affected by the sheer brutality of this attack. It was, I believe, one of the most barbaric attacks we had witnessed. It was decided that India would not bow down to such kinds of threats. At a strategic level, I think that knowing when to stop a conflict is equally important. It is easy to start a war; it is very difficult to stop it." Speaking on Army's Women officers addressing the press briefing, former Chief of Defence Staff said, "From the armed forces, we were represented by two

women officers, and it conveyed two important messages: that the women of India will not be deterred by these cowardly attacks, and that the social and emotional fabric of India will remain unaffected even by such kinds of challenges." At the heart of the docuseries are the voices of those closely associated with the operation, recounting the events, choices and considerations that shaped its course. Together with inputs from defence experts and the wider national security context, they take audiences deeper into the story behind Operation Sindoor like never-seen-before.

Declassified: Operation Sindoor also opens a new chapter for factual storytelling in India for Warner Bros. Discovery. Speaking on this, Arjun Nohwar, SVP & Managing Director, India & South Asia, Warner Bros. Discovery, said, "For decades, Discovery has earned the trust of audiences by telling real stories which are not only riveting but also authentic and credible. With Declassified: Operation Sindoor, our endeavour is to bring audiences closer to one of the most significant chapters in India's recent military history through the voices of those who led and lived it." He added, "Launching the Declassified franchise reflects our ambition to spotlight the defining events that have shaped history. It has been a privilege for us to present this docuseries, and we hope it leaves audiences with a deeper understanding of the preparation and leadership behind this operation." Declassified: Operation Sindoor is now streaming exclusively on discovery+.

Congratulations Pour In for CI Who Received the Indian Police Medal



Skyline Correspondent Karimnagar AUG-17 Congratulations have been pouring in for Karimnagar Rural Circle Inspector (CI) Anumula Niranjan Reddy, who has been awarded the Indian Police Medal (IPM) for his outstanding services in controlling Naxal activities and curbing anti-social activities. “Niranjan Reddy received the medal from Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on August 15. Following the honour, several people congratulated him on Monday. “CI Niranjan Reddy met Karimnagar Commissioner of Police Goush Alam on Monday. The CP congratulated him and praised his exemplary services, noting that he had

displayed courage and dedication in the discharge of his duties. He said receiving the IPM was a matter of pride for the Karimnagar Commissionerate. “The CP also stated that police personnel who perform their duties with dedication and commitment would receive due recognition. “Niranjan Reddy received a warm welcome from police personnel when he visited the police station for the first time after receiving the IPM. He said he was delighted to have received the prestigious award. “Police personnel said there was a need to take inspiration from Niranjan Reddy’s dedicated services. Local residents within the police station limits also congratulated and felicitated him.

2.09 Lakh Voters in 109-Mulugu Constituency: Draft Electoral Roll Released

Skyline Correspondent Mulugu AUG-17 The draft electoral roll for the 109-Mulugu Assembly Constituency was published on Monday as part of the Special Intensive Revision-2026 programme. District Election Officer and Collector Bhorkade Hemanth Sahadeo Rao said in a statement. “The draft electoral roll covering 308 polling stations in the 109-Mulugu Assembly Constituency contains a total of 2,09,128 voters. Of these, 1,01,964 are male voters, 1,07,143 are female voters, and 21 are transgender vot-

ers, he said. “The District Election Officer urged every voter to verify their name, age, address and other details in the draft electoral roll. Eligible citizens whose names are missing from the draft roll, as well as existing voters who find errors or changes in their details, can submit claims and objections within the prescribed period. “Form-6 can be used for registering a new voter, Form-7 for raising objections to a registration or requesting deletion of a name, and Form-8 for correcting voter details or up-



dating registration following a change of residence, he said. “District Election Officer and Collector Bhorkade Hemanth Sahadeo Rao appealed to all residents of the 109-Mulugu Assembly Con-

stituency to check the draft electoral roll and verify that their names and other details are correct. Where necessary, voters should submit claims or objections through Form-6, Form-7 or Form-8 by September 16.

Municipal Chairperson Ippa Uma Rani Srinivas Extends Nagula Panchami Greetings

Skyline Correspondent Kamareddy AUG-17 On the occasion of Nagula Panchami, Municipal Chairperson Ippa Uma Rani Srinivas performed special prayers at the ant-hill near Peddamma Temple in the district headquarters and sought the blessings of Goddess Peddamma. Later, she offered special prayers along with the devotees who had gathered at the temple. “Speaking on the occasion, Municipal Chairperson Ippa Uma Rani Srinivas said that Nagula Panchami holds great significance in the Indian tradition, which worships nature and all living beings. She expressed her wish that the blessings and



grace of the Nagadevata (Serpent God) would always remain upon all the people of the municipality. “She sincerely wished that this sacred festival would bring the blessings of Goddess

Lakshmi into every household and fill everyone’s lives with good health, peace, prosperity, and happiness. “Temple General Secretary Dubbaka Prasad, Chityala Ramesh,

Mantri Balnarsimulu, Kanakanti Ramesh, Battu Narsimulu, Kakarl Ashaiah, Kakarl Raju, Naresh, and several local residents and others participated in the programme.

Farmers Stage Protest Demanding Release of Project Water : Asifabad MLA Kova Lakshmi Extends Support



Skyline Correspondent Kumarambheem Asifabad AUG-17 Farmers staged a protest by sitting on the national highway near Buruguda, demanding the release of irrigation

water under the ayacut of the Vatti Vagu Project in Asifabad mandal. They demanded that water be released from the project immediately through the canal to ensure irrigation

for their crops. Asifabad MLA Kova Lakshmi extended her support to the protesting farmers and participated in the dharna. Speaking on the occasion, she said that farm-

ers were facing the risk of losing their crops due to the lack of irrigation water. She demanded that officials immediately release water for irrigation. Asifabad and Rebbenna Single Window Chairpersons Alibeen Hameed and Kamadham Sanjeev Kumar, Khaigaon Sarpanch Munjam Rupeshwar, Rebbenna Sarpanch Durgam Bharadwaj, leaders Karnadham Venkatesham, Bommineni Sridhar, Vinod Jaiswal, Jeevan, Srinivas and Naveen, along with a large number of farmers, participated in the protest.

Spot Admissions to Fill Vacant Seats in Gurukulam Schools for the 2026–27 Academic Year



Skyline Correspondent Mancherla AUG-17 District Collector Kumar Deepak announced that spot

admission counselling/selections will be conducted to fill the vacancies arising from Class 5 to Class 9 for the academic year 2026–27 in the nine Gurukulam schools run by the Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TSWREIS) in the district. “He stated that spot admission counselling will be conducted on the 20th

of this month, based on the vacancies available in various community/caste categories in the five boys’ Gurukulam schools and four girls’ Gurukulam schools in the district as of that date. “Eligible students must personally attend and submit their applications at the Integrated District Offices Complex in Naspur between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00

noon on the 20th. A merit list will be prepared after 2:00 p.m., following which the available vacancies from Class 5 to Class 9 in various community/caste categories across the nine Gurukulam schools will be filled according to the prescribed rules. “The District Collector encouraged all eligible and interested students to make use of this opportunity.

Petitions Should Be Resolved Promptly: District Collector Garima Agrawal



Skyline Correspondent Rajanna Sircilla AUG-17 District Collector Garima Agrawal directed officials to ensure the prompt reso-

lution of petitions submitted by the public through the Prajavani programme. The District Collector participated in the Prajavani

programme held at the auditorium of the Integrated District Offices Complex (IDOC) on Monday and received petitions from the

public. She instructed officials to act responsibly and ensure that the petitions received through Prajavani are resolved promptly. “At the Sircilla RDO Office, two petitions were received during the Prajavani programme, while seven petitions were received at the Vemulawada RDO Office. The concerned officials were directed to examine and resolve the petitions. District Collector Garima Agrawal urged people to make use of the Prajavani programme conducted every Monday at the Integrated District Offices Complex, Sircilla and Vemulawada RDO offices, and all MPD

MLA Madan Mohan Takes Special Initiative for Ellareddy Development

Skyline Correspondent Kamareddy AUG-17 Ellareddy MLA Madan Mohan is taking special initiatives for the development of the constituency. He submitted a representation to Deputy Chief Minister and Electricity Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, requesting the immediate release of pending bills related to various development works in the constituency and the sanctioning of 13 new electricity substations to address power-related issues. “The MLA brought to the Deputy Chief Minister’s attention the proposals for establishing 13 new substations, considering the low-voltage problems reported in several villages, difficulties in power

supply, and the expected increase in electricity demand in the future. He also requested that pending bills related to various development works be released at the earliest. “Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka responded positively to the representation submitted by MLA Madan Mohan. He assured that the proposals for releasing the pending bills and establishing the 13 new substations would be examined and that necessary action would be taken soon. “Constituency residents have expressed their appreciation for MLA Madan Mohan’s continued efforts to bring local issues to the government’s attention and secure funds for development works.



Awareness Programme on Eradication of Invasive Weed Species



Skyline Correspondent Kamareddy AUG-17 District Collector Ashish Sangwan called upon everyone to take responsibility for identifying and

eradicating invasive weed species as part of environmental conservation efforts. “An awareness programme on the identification and eradication of

invasive weed species was organised at the Kamareddy District Collectorate premises under the aegis of Eco Fan Society. District Collector

Ashish Sangwan, Additional Collectors V. Victor and N. Y. Giri, Assistant Collector Ravi Teja, district-level officials from various departments and staff members participated in the programme. “Eco Fan Society Chief Executive Officer Mettu Sai Sampath explained the adverse impact of invasive weed species on agriculture, forest areas, water resources and biodiversity. He emphasised the need for government departments and the public to work together in a coordinated manner for their eradication. “Eco Fan Society State Coordinator Tal

Petition Submitted to Mahatma Gandhi Statue Over Continuation of Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak Schemes

Skyline Correspondent Kodad AUG-17 Former MLA Bollam Mallaiah Yadav, along with local women and BRS leaders, staged a protest at the Gandhi statue near the bus stand center in Kodad, following a call given by KTR. They submitted a petition to the statue, urging the government not to discontinue the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes, which provide financial support to poor families. “He further said that during the last elections, the Congress party had promised in its manifesto to provide Rs.1 lakh



along with one tola of gold under the Kalyana Lakshmi scheme. However, he alleged that the promise has not been implemented so far. Not

only have they failed to implement the promised benefits, but the government is now trying to discontinue the existing scheme as well,” Mallaiah

Yadav said. He reiterated that the BRS would launch statewide protests if the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes are discontinued.

CYBERABAD OPENS FIRST C&D WASTE COLLECTION POINT AT GOWLIDODDI

From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, August, 17: Cyberabad has launched its first designated Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste collection point at Gowlidoddi, aimed at curbing illegal dumping and improving scientific waste management. The facility, inaugurated

by Special Chief Secretary and CMC Special Officer Jayesh Ranjan in the presence of CMC Commissioner G. Srijana, has been developed at a cost of around Rs.20 lakh on 1,500 sq. yards. It can receive around 100 tonnes of C&D waste daily and cater to generators within a 5-km radius.

The centre will serve areas including Gachibowli, Kondapur, Nanakramguda, Narsingi, Manikonda, Nallagandla and Serilingampally. Equipped with a weighbridge, digital recording and CCTV surveillance, the facility will ensure transparent billing

and tracking of waste. It is the first of four planned collection points in Cyberabad. CMC will also offer on-demand collection of smaller quantities at reasonable charges. Collected waste will be sent to authorised processing facilities for recycling and resource recovery.

Extensive Awareness Campaign Needed for AIDS Control: Collector Garima Agrawal



Skyline Correspondent Rajanna Sircilla AUG-17 District Collector Garima Agrawal has directed officials to conduct extensive awareness campaigns at the grassroots level to prevent and control AIDS. “As part of an AIDS awareness

programme organised by the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO), Telangana State AIDS Control Society, District AIDS Prevention and Control Unit, and the Medical and Health Department, District Collector Garima Agrawal flagged off an

awareness rally from the Integrated District Offices Complex (IDOC) on Monday. “Following the rally, the Collector unveiled posters featuring the toll-free helpline number 1097 and a QR code. The rally began at IDOC and proceeded through

the New Bus Stand, Ambedkar Chowrasta, and Gandhi Chowk before reaching the Maneru Bridge. It then returned to IDOC, where it concluded. She also instructed officials to conduct thorough confirmatory tests wherever positive cases are detected. Awareness meetings and competitions should be organised for youth and students to educate them about AIDS prevention and control, she said. “ZP CEO Venkata Madhava Rao, District Medical and Health Officer Angela Alfred, District Education Officer Mondaiah, doctors, medical staff, and other officials participated in the programme.

BMS Dharna Held in Siddipet Demanding Resolution of Workers’ Issues



Skyline Correspondent Siddipet AUG-17 On August 17, a protest (Dharna) was organized by the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) in front of the Siddipet District Collector’s Office to demand the immediate resolution of various workers’ issues. “As part of the decisions taken at the BMS Central Working Committee meeting, it was decided to organize large-scale protests and demon-

strations at district headquarters across the country on August 17. Accordingly, a Dharna was held in Siddipet under the leadership of BMS. “State President Kalal Sheenanna attended the programme as the chief guest. State Vice President Bolekkeswari, District President Chamakuri Rajayya, General Secretary Muddam Rajireddy, and Bidi Workers’ Union General Secretary

Kandikonda Kondal Reddy were among those present. “He criticized both the Central and State Governments for making several promises to workers during elections and urged them to take immediate steps to address workers’ concerns. He warned that if the demands are not resolved, the BMS will organize larger-scale protests in the coming days. “As part of the nationwide protest,

the BMS leaders submitted a memorandum to the Additional Collector of Siddipet, demanding immediate action on their key demands. “BMS leaders Donthula Malleshram, Vasanth, Akkalakshmi, Buchilingam, Vishnu Raju, Challa Srinu, Krishnamurthy, Srinu, and others participated in the programme. A large number of bidi workers also took part in the Dharna.

Continue Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak Schemes: BRS Holds Massive Rally



Skyline Correspondent Vemulawada AUG-17 The Vemulawada town unit of the Bharat Rashtia Samithi (BRS), along with its women’s wing, staged a protest on Monday demanding the continuation of the Kalyana Lakshmi and

Shaadi Mubarak schemes. “Following a call given by BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) and under the direction of constituency in-charge Chalmada Lakshminarasimha Rao, party leaders and activists

took out a massive rally from Telangana Chowk to the Tahsildar’s office. They later staged a dharna in front of the office and raised slogans against the government. “Later, BRS leaders met the Tahsildar and submitted a memoran-

dum outlining their demands. They urged the Tahsildar to send a report to the government recommending the continuation of the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes. They warned that if the government failed to respond, they would intensify their public protests.

Councillors Vasala Lavanya-Srinivas, Enugu Tirupathi Reddy and Vengala Srikanth Goud, former councillors Guduri Madhu, Sirigiri Ramchander, Maram Kumar, Konda Narsaiah, Regula Rajesh, Peddi Raju, Goskula Narsaiah and Ullendula Hanmanth, along with women leaders Mottala Anusha, Jangiti Srinidhi and Peddi Lalitha, and several other BRS leaders and activists participated in the programme.

SP Akhil Mahajan Offers Special Prayers at Nagoba Temple on Nagula Panchami

Skyline Correspondent Adilabad AUG-17 On the occasion of Nagula Panchami, Adilabad Superintendent of Police (SP) Akhil Mahajan offered special prayers on Monday at the Nagoba Temple in Keslapur, the traditional deity of the tribal community. “As a large number of devotees visited the temple on the festival day, the district police made elaborate security arrangements and closely monitored the situation, the SP said. “At the outset, the temple trustees and committee members welcomed SP Akhil Mahajan in ac-

cordance with tribal customs. Later, the SP, along with Utnoor ASP Ruthvik Sai Kotte, offered special prayers at the Nagoba Temple. “Following the prayers, the temple committee members felicitated the SP and the Utnoor ASP with shawls. Subsequently, the SP inspected the security arrangements at the festival venue and issued several instructions to the police personnel deployed for bandobast. “He directed the officials to take all necessary measures to prevent any untoward incidents. He said that the security personnel would re-



main on duty until all devotees had safely left the premises. He also advised the public to contact Dial 100 or 112 for any assistance. “Utnoor ASP

Ruthvik Sai Kotte IPS, Utnoor CI M. Prasad, Indravelli SI Sayanna, SI Vikram, and other police personnel participated in the programme.

Problems of the People Should Be Resolved at the Mandal Level: Minister Seethakka

Skyline Correspondent Mulugu AUG-17 State Minister for Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, Rural Water Supply, Women and Child Welfare, Danasari Anasuya Seethakka, directed officials to ensure that public grievances are resolved at the mandal level itself and that every petition received during the Mandal Prajavani (public grievance programme) is given a clear response. “The minister also instructed officials to establish special help desks at MPDO offices, respond immediately to urgent issues, and ensure that people are not made to visit government offices repeatedly for the same problem. She directed officials to accept pension applications from single women and widows by August 31 and asked them to visit remote villages and tribal hamlets to understand people’s problems firsthand.



Seethakka stated that strengthening grievance programmes at the mandal level would reduce the number of people visiting district headquarters and help resolve issues more quickly at the local level. She urged officials to perform their duties responsibly and sincerely and examine every grievance with the objective of finding a solution. “The minister further directed officials not to

remain confined to their offices but to visit remote villages, interior habitations and tribal hamlets to understand people’s problems directly. She said priority had been given to road development in areas including Pasra, Govindaraopet and Chalpai. Works worth approximately Rs. 50 crore would be undertaken to develop basic infrastructure in ST tandas and tribal

hamlets, she said. Measures would also be taken to resolve internal village roads and cement concrete road issues in a phased manner. “Library Organisation Chairman Banoth Ravichander, Market Committee Chairperson Rega Kalyani, Tahsildar Srujan Kumar, MPDO Varun Kumar, local public representatives and concerned officials were present at the programme.

Priority to Basic Infrastructure Development in Every Division – Mayor Kolagani Srinivas



Skyline Correspondent Karimnagar AUG-17 Mayor Kolagani Srinivas said that development works are being expedited by giving priority to the provision of basic infrastructure in every division of the city. On Monday, he laid the foundation stones

for drainage and cement concrete (CC) road works to be taken up with the general funds of the Municipal Corporation in Vidyanarayapur (3rd Division) and Balajinagar (23rd Division). “After laying the foundation stone for the drainage

works in Vidyanarayapur, the Mayor said that permanent solutions would be provided to drainage problems in the colonies and that basic infrastructure would be improved. Later, he inaugurated CC road and drainage works in Balajinagar. “He said

that development works are being undertaken on a priority basis according to the needs of the people and instructed officials to complete the works quickly while maintaining quality standards. “The Mayor stated that efforts are being made for the overall development of the city with the objective of providing better roads, sanitation and drainage facilities. “Choppadandi MLA Medipalli Satyam, 3rd Division Corporator Sadineni Lavanya Muninder, 23rd Division Corporator Gummadi Raj Kumar, Library Institution Chairman Sattu Malleshram, 21st Division Corporator Varala Narsingam, municipal officials, leaders, public representatives and colony residents participated in the programme.

MLA Payam Venkateshwarlu Gives Priority to Degree College Development

Skyline Correspondent Bhadradi Kothagudem AUG-17 Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateshwarlu is giving priority to the development of the Government Degree College at Samithi Singaram in Manuguru mandal of Bhadradi Kothagudem district. As part of the development initiatives, the MLA performed bhumi puja on Monday for ground levelling works to be taken up at the college at a cost of Rs. 15 lakh. “Speaking on the occasion, MLA Payam Venkateshwarlu said the government’s objective was to provide students with quality education along with improved infrastructure and a pleasant academic environment. He said the development works required at the college were being taken up on a priority



basis. “The MLA stated that once the ground levelling works were completed, the college premises would become more convenient and suitable for students to conduct sports activities, cultural programmes and other academic activities. “Payam Venkateshwarlu assured that he would make every effort to provide the necessary in-

frastructure for the development of the Government Degree College. He said there was a need to develop colleges in all respects to ensure that students from rural areas had better access to higher education. Development with Students’ Future as the Priority “Officials concerned, college faculty,

mandal presidents, town presidents, senior district leaders, sarpanches, deputy sarpanches, ward members, minority wing presidents, women’s wing president, Congress party leaders, public representatives, women leaders, college staff, students and Congress party workers, among others, participated in the programme.

Modern Learning Facilities Launched at Sri Saraswathi Sishu Mandir



Skyline Correspondent Bhadradi Kothagudem AUG-17 MLA Dr. Tellam Venkata Rao on Monday inaugurated the Matru Bhoomi Smart Classrooms

and Brindavanam Goshala established at Sri Saraswathi Sishu Mandir on Kunavaram Road. He formally inaugurated the facilities by cutting the

ribbon. “Speaking on the occasion, Mla Dr. Venkata Rao expressed his wish that tribal students make the best use of modern technology and scale greater heights in the field of education. He thanked NRIs and prominent citizens for their support towards the development of the Sishu Mandir school. “He appreciated the efforts to provide modern

facilities to students and urged them to make effective use of the newly established smart classrooms to achieve excellence in their future careers. “Pakala Durga prasad, Pakala Durga prasad, party leaders Ratnam Ramakanth, Narra Ramu, Bhimavarapu Venkata Reddy and Peddineni Srinivas, along with party workers, public representatives and youth leaders, and others.

Will thwart conspiracies to cancel Kalyana Lakshmi, Shaadi Mubarak



(District Correspondent / Skyline)

Sangareddy, August.17: Chinta Prabhakar, the Sangareddy legislator has accused the Congress government of conspiring to cancel Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes, which have become a symbol of self-respect and financial security

for poor girls in Telangana. As per the orders of the BRS party, BRS ranks led by MLA Chinta Prabhakar staged a protest in front of the Collectorate in Sangareddy district headquarters. They raised slogans against the government and displayed placards. They demanded that the Kalyana Lakshmi and

Shaadi Mubarak schemes be continued. Later, MLAs Chinta Prabhakar, Manikrao, former MLA Chanti Kranthi Kiran along with BRS leaders submitted a petition to the District Additional Collector Pandu. On this occasion, MLA Chinta Prabhakar criticized the Congress government for trying to scrap the

Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes that have supported lakhs of poor families by citing the High Court verdict as an excuse. The BRS government has provided financial assistance of about Rs.13 thousand crores to the families of nearly 3 lakh girl children. He said that even during a severe economic crisis like Covid, the government has supported the marriages of poor girls. He clarified that the BRS party will continue to fight on behalf of the people until Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes continue. The Program was attended by MLA Manik Rao, former MLA Kranti kiran, BRS leaders Patnam Manikyam, Buchi Reddy, Chinta Sainath, Jaipal Reddy, Dr.Srihari, Kondal Reddy and others.

Pagidimarri Srinath as OBC Morcha SRD Dist Executive member

(District Correspondent / Skyline)

Sangareddy, August.17: Pagidimarri Srinath has been appointed as the OBC Morcha Sangareddy District executive member. Speaking on the occasion, he thanked the D BJP president Godavari, Sangareddy MP M.Raghunandan Rao, MLC Anji Reddy and

OBC Morcha district president Kendra Vittal for trusting in him and appointing him as the Bharatiya Janata Party Sangareddy district OBC Morcha executive member. He said that he will work hard with sincerity to bring the BJP party to power in the state in the coming days, upholding the responsibility entrusted to him with trust.



Draft Voter list of NKD Constituency released



(By Our Reporter / Skyline)

Narayankhed, August.17: The draft Voter lists for the Narayankhed constituency were released on Monday by the respective Mandal Tahsildars. The constituency has a total of 208,225 voters, comprising 105,133 men, 103,079 women, and eight individuals in the 'others' category. There are 298 polling stations in total. A breakdown by mandal reveals the following: Kalher

has 23 polling stations and 15,758 voters (7,774 men and 7,984 women). Kangti has 43 polling stations and 30,842 voters (15,784 men and 15,058 women). Manoor has 33 polling stations and 22,599 voters (11,569 men and 11,030 women). Nagalgidda has 31 polling stations and 22,514 voters (11,750 men and 10,764 women). The NKD rural area has the highest number of voters, with 50,551 voters across 74 poll-

ing stations, this group includes 25,622 men, 24,926 women, and three individuals in the 'others' category. In Nizampet, across 23 polling stations, there are 15,542 voters, comprising 7,610 men, 7,929 women, and three others. In Sirgapur, across 30 polling stations, there are 22,155 voters, comprising 11,286 men, 10,868 women, and one other. In Pedda Shankarampet, across 41 polling stations,

there are 28,264 voters, comprising 13,743 men, 14,520 women, and one other. On Monday, Municipal Commissioner Prashanthi, along with her staff, released the draft voter list for the Narayankhed municipality at the municipal office premises. According to the list, there are a total of 12,572 voters within the municipality, consisting of 6,395 men, 6,175 women, and two others.

Ruckus over foundation stone laying of Govt school in Tellapur

(By Our Reporter / Skyline)

Patancheru, August.17: The foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of a government school has led to a political ruckus. Congress leaders have objected to the ceremony being held without a stone plaque and relevant officials. Former councilor Kolluri Bharat said, "The Congress government has sanctioned Rs.48 crore for the construction of the school. The credit for sanctioning about Rs.100 crore for education in Tellapur division belongs to CM Revanth Reddy. However, it is not



right for BRS leaders to claim this ceremony as their own." A scuffle broke out at the ceremony as BRS

and Congress leaders shouted slogans at each other. The police intervened and pacified the situation.

Later, Congress leaders anointed the CM's portrait and criticized the local MLA's behavior.

Aim is to provide corporate level education to poor students



(By Our Reporter / Skyline)

Patancheru, August.17: Gudem Mahipal Reddy, the Patancheru legislator

laid the foundation stone for the construction work of Cure Urban School, which will be built at a cost of Rs.48 crore in

Survey No.323 of Tellapur division. The school, which will be built on an area of one acre, will provide educa-

tion from pre-primary to intermediate in a single campus. The MLA said that the aim is to provide corporate level education to poor and middle class students. He said that digital classrooms, modern labs, library, playgrounds and other facilities will be provided. He instructed the officials to complete the construction work within the stipulated time with quality standards. The Program was attended by BRS leaders Somireddy, Ramulu Goud, Devender Yadav, Mallareddy, PACS Chairman Buchi Reddy, former councilors, party leaders and activists.

Ameti Kittu as president of Manik Prabhu Temple committee



(District Correspondent / Skyline)

Sangareddy, August.17: Ameti Kittu elected as Manik Prabhu Temple committee President. On Monday, a new committee of Manik Prabhu Mandir in Sangareddy town was elected unanimously. The newly elected elected Chief Advisor

Topaji Anantha Kishan, General Secretary Kovvuru Hanumanthu, Treasurer Naikoti Nagaraju, Vice Presidents Srinivas and Ashok Reddy, Joint Secretaries Srinivas Goud and Kondapuram Jagan, Organizing Secretaries Parameshwar Goud and Gundlupalli Naresh Kumar, Assistant Secretaries Nama

Srinivas and Ameti Rajendra Prasad, Honorary President Ameti Mahender, Advisors Mithai Narayana, Ameti Prabhulingam, Kompalli Vidya Sagar, Pampati Krishna Murthy, Prahlad, and Anjaiah, and Executive Committee Members Suresh, Balwanth Rao, Ryakala Santhosh Kumar,

Kamshetti Shankar, Venkat, Madhu, Pentaiah, Anumula Santhosh, and Juluri Thirumalesh Shekar. Speaking on the occasion, the newly elected President Ameti Krishna, said that the executive committee members will work wholeheartedly towards the development of the temple.

BJP is dividing the country in the name of caste and religion



(District Correspondent / Skyline)

Sangareddy, August.17: Deepak Rathore, the AICC observer has flagged that BJP leaders are dividing the country in the name of caste and religion, and that even during this period of traveling to the moon, BJP leaders are showing discrimination against Dalits. The Congress party strongly condemned the cleaning of the stage where Congress national president

Mallikarjun Kharge addressed in Uttarakhand with Ganga water the next day in the name of 'purification'. The leaders made it clear that they will repeat attempts to divide the country with caste and religious hatred. On Monday, AICC observer Deepak Rathore, along with DCC president Nirmala Jaggareddy, TPCC working president Jaggareddy, Nerella Sarada, library chairman Riyaz, and Duddilla Srinivas participated in the

dharna program organized in Sangareddy under the leadership of SC cell district president Gangeri Srihari to protest against the actions of BJP leaders. The protest rally started from IB and ended at the MLA camp office, after which they garlanded the statues of Phule and Jagjivan Ram located next to the camp office and paid tributes. They said that Congress workers will fight for the unity, integrity and

harmony of the country. On this occasion, AICC observer Deepak Rathore said that as Mallikarjun Kharge is a Dalit BJP leaders purified the area where he spoke and that BJP leaders are dividing the country in the name of caste and religion. Recently, Opposition Leader Rahul Gandhi said that he is working with students, youth and people from all sections of society to understand their problems and find solutions. He said that he is constantly working to maintain unity, mutual goodwill and harmony in the society. Later, AICC observer Deepak Rathore said that the selection process for the Sangareddy District Congress President is ongoing as part of the Congress 'Sanghatan Srujan' program. He said that they will visit the district for another 5-7 days and collect the opinions of leaders, activists and complete the selection process.

Farmers Should Focus on Crop Diversification: District Collector Kumar Deepak

Skyline Correspondent

Mancherial AUG-17 Farmers should opt for alternative crops based on the availability of water, said District Collector Kumar Deepak. He made these remarks at a press conference held on Monday at the conference hall of the Integrated District Offices Complex in Naspur. Irrigation Department SE Vishnu Prasad and District Agriculture Officer Surekha also participated in the meeting. "The District Collector said that, in view of the possibility of lower

rainfall due to the El Niño effect and declining groundwater levels, farmers should pay special attention to crop diversification. He advised farmers to take precautionary measures during the ongoing Kharif season as well as the upcoming Rabi season, as water availability may remain a challenge. "The Collector said that steps were also being taken to provide farmers with the required seeds to encourage the cultivation of pulses. The government is providing Minimum Support Prices



(MSP) for crops such as maize, red gram, green gram and black gram. In some instances, maize is also fetching prices in the open market that are higher than the MSP. "The Collector

urged farmers to assess water availability in advance and select crops in consultation with officials from the Agriculture, Agricultural Extension and Irrigation departments.

Congress Government Ignores Farmers’ Plight: MLA Payal Shankar Demands Immediate Restoration of Rythu Bima



Skyline Correspondent Adilabad AUG-17 Adilabad MLA Payal Shankar held a press conference on Monday and expressed strong anger at the Congress government over various problems being faced by farmers across the state. ““MLA Payal Shankar demanded that

the government immediately restore the Rythu Bima (Farmers’ Insurance) scheme, which provides crucial support to farmers’ families during emergencies. He said that when a farmer dies unexpectedly, the financial assistance provided through Rythu Bima is of great help to

the bereaved family. However, he criticized the government for its negligence in enrolling newly eligible farmers and issuing proper guidelines for the scheme. ““Payal Shankar said that although the Central Government is implementing several schemes for farmers’

welfare and providing funds, farmers are suffering severely because the state government is not releasing its share of funds on time and is failing to implement the schemes effectively. ““The MLA demanded that the government immediately address farmers’ issues and take action on Rythu Bima restoration, pending Rythu Bharosa funds, farm loan waiver, input subsidy, quality seeds under Central Government schemes, agricultural mechanization, micro-irrigation, crop insurance, and other related issues. ““Ramdas, Dayakar, Karthik, Sanna, Karunkar Reddy, Ashok Reddy, Srinivas, and others participated in the programme.

Public Grievance Applications Must Be Resolved Quickly : Asifabad District Collector K. Haritha



K u m a r a m b h e e m Asifabad AUG-17 Asifabad District Collector K. Haritha directed officials to coordinate and take prompt action to resolve applications received during the Prajavani public grievance programme after conducting field-level inspections. ““On Monday, the Collector, along with

Additional Collector (Revenue) M. David and District Revenue Officer Dasari Venu, received applications from people at the Integrated District Collectorate Complex in the district headquarters. ““Kampelli Ravinder of Kagaznagar town submitted an application seeking a seat for his son in a Gurukul school. S.

Bhaskar Rao of Mancherial district headquarters requested the issuance of Pattadar Passbooks for his lands located on the outskirts of Laggam village in Dahegaon mandal. ““P. Srinivas, former Sarpanch of Rahapalli Gram Panchayat in Asifabad mandal, submitted an application seeking payment of

pending bills pertaining to his tenure as Sarpanch. Syed Zubair of Chintaguda Koyavagu village in Kagaznagar mandal also submitted an application seeking sanction of a disability pension. ““During a video conference with Mandal Parishad Development Officers, she said that a Mandal-level Prajavani programme would be conducted from Monday onwards at the MPDO offices in every mandal headquarters. Applicants could submit their grievances at the mandal level, where efforts would be made to resolve them locally. If an issue could not be resolved at the mandal level, applicants could submit their petitions at the Prajavani programme conducted at the district headquarters. ““The Collector urged people to make effective use of the Mandal-level Prajavani programme to get their grievances resolved quickly.

Praja Vani' applications must be resolved promptly: District Collector Tejas Nand Lal Pawar

Skyline Correspondent Suryapet AUG-17 Suryapet District Collector Tejas Nandlal Pawar has directed officials to accord top priority to the 'Praja Vani' program, which serves as a platform for resolving public grievances. Speaking at a review meeting with district officials following the 'Praja Vani' session held at the Integrated Collectorate complex on Monday, he clarified that, in accordance with government directives, all 'Praja Vani' applications—at both district and mandal levels—must be registered on the online portal. The Collector ordered that pending applications from the old 'Praja Vani' portal be resolved on a war footing and advised that newly received appli-

cations be entered into the portal without delay. He emphasized that officials from the concerned departments must take special initiative to immediately resolve applications pending under the state-level 'Praja Vani' program. He instructed that measures be taken to resolve public petitions within the stipulated timeframe rather than leaving them pending. “The Collector also reviewed the 'Praja Vani' program being conducted at the mandal level. He directed district officials to ensure the mandatory attendance of mandal-level officials from all departments at these sessions. He noted that resolving mandal-level issues locally would spare the public from unnecessary hardship. Speaking on



the occasion of the 'Prajavani' (public grievance redressal) program held on Monday, the Collector stated that a total of 95 applications were received. These included 43 applications related to land issues, 8 for the DPO, 3 for the DWO, and 3 for the DM&HO, with the remaining 38 pertaining to various other depart-

ments; all applications have been forwarded to the respective departments for resolution. ““Additional Collector B. Hari Singh, DRO Prem Raj, Zilla Parishad CEO Shirisha, DRDA PD Sanyasayya, DEO Ashok, DPO Yadagiri, DAO Sridhar Reddy, other district officials, and others attended the program.

Special Prayers Held at Gangaputra Shiva Temple by MLA and His Wife

Skyline Correspondent Adilabad AUG-17 On the occasion of the holy Shravana month, Adilabad MLA Payal Shankar, along with his family, performed special prayers at the Gangaputra Shiva Temple in Adilabad. ““The MLA

and his family participated in the special rituals and received the blessings of the Vedic scholars. Later, he inspected the ongoing temple construction works. He assured the temple committee that he would extend his support and make every effort for the development of the



temple. ““Gangaputra Association District President Bojjanna,

BJP leader Manoj Pawar, and others accompanied him.

Accused Arrested for Selling Marijuana



Skyline Correspondent Kodada AUG-17 Kodada DSP Srinivasa Reddy stated that police have arrested several persons allegedly involved in the sale of marijuana. ““According to the details disclosed by the DSP at a press conference held on Monday, ten persons from Kodada and

Mellacheruvu areas—including Kodari Saidulu, Pasupuleti Venkatesh, Chinna Pangu Naveen, Sheikh Fayyaz Baba, Sheikh Rehan, Konda Nikhil, Sheikh Wajid, and three others—arrived at a mango orchard on the outskirts of Srirangapuram in Kodada town on four two-wheelers. The suspects alleg-

edly brought marijuana in a bag and were discussing plans to divide it into small packets for sale when police took them into custody. Three of the suspects reportedly fled from the spot. ““Police seized 1.2 kg of marijuana, materials used for packing marijuana, four two-wheelers, and five mobile phones from the suspects. The accused re-

portedly travelled to the Andhra-Odisha border region to purchase marijuana and then prepared it into small packets for sale in Kodada, Mellacheruvu, and surrounding areas. ““A case has been registered against the accused, and further investigation is underway. The DSP said the accused would be produced before the court.

Expedite Resolution of Prajavani Petitions: Collector Ankit

Skyline Correspondent Bhadradri Kothagudem AUG-17 District Collector Ankit directed officials to ensure the speedy resolution of petitions and grievances received through the Prajavani programme and stressed that every application must be disposed of within the stipulated time. “The Collector, along with Additional Collector Venugopal, Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Vidya Chandana and DRO Padmavathi, received petitions and grievances from people from various parts of the district during the Prajavani programme held at the IDOC office here on Monday. “People brought several issues to the Collector’s notice, including land-related disputes, revenue matters, implementation of welfare schemes, employment, pensions, housing, basic infrastructure and social security. “The Collector said that submitting all necessary supporting documents along with the petition would help in resolving the issues more quickly. He called upon all officials



to work in coordination to provide transparent and accountable governance to the people. “Some petitions received during Prajavani “Banath Chandramouli, a resident of the 17th Division under the limits of Kothagudem Municipal Corporation, submitted a petition stating that the ration shop in his locality was being run by non-locals instead of local residents. He requested that the ration shop be allotted to a local person for the convenience of the

people in the area. After examining the petition, the Collector endorsed it to the Tahsildar for necessary enquiry and action. “Goli Gopayya of Kantepalli village in Cherla mandal submitted a petition stating that he owned one acre and seven guntas of agricultural land in Survey No. 1 of the Kantepalli revenue limits and that the land had been inherited by him. He said that due to financial difficulties, he had not cultivated the land for the past few years and it had sub-

sequently become fallow. “He requested the authorities to examine the documents relating to the land and issue him a Pattadar Passbook. The Collector endorsed the petition to the Bhadrachalam Sub-Collector for necessary action. “Later, Collector Ankit unveiled the wall poster of the Telangana Open School Society. “District officials of various departments and concerned staff participated in the programme....

Purifying Kharge’s Rally Venue Is a Stain on Democracy: Ganesh Panchami

Skyline Correspondent Siddipet AUG-17 Siddipet District Congress General Secretary Ganesh Panchami strongly condemned the purification of the venue where Congress national president Mallikarjun Kharge addressed a public meeting in Uttarakhand, calling the act contrary to democratic values and the spirit of the Constitution. “He stated that after Kharge addressed a public meeting on August 8 at the Ramlila Ground in

Haldwani, Uttarakhand, affiliated groups of the BJP reportedly conducted a purification ritual, claiming that the venue had been “defiled.” He described the incident as extremely unfortunate. “He said that such actions could fuel social hatred and divisions in the country. While political differences are natural in a democracy, he stressed that acts intended to insult or demean individuals cannot be justified under any cir-

cumstances. He demanded that the government take stringent action against those who acted contrary to the ideals of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Indian Constitution. “Ganesh Panchami urged the government to immediately register cases and arrest those who carried out the purification of the Haldwani rally venue under the law prohibiting untouchability. He further appealed to the Central and



State governments to take appropriate measures to prevent such incidents from recurring, warning that such acts could harm national unity and social harmony.

District SP Narasimha (IPS) reviews grievances during 'Police Grievance Day'

Skyline Correspondent SURYAPET AUG-17 District SP Narasimha (IPS) received representations from complainants during the 'Police Grievance Day' program held on Monday at the Suryapet District Police Office. Individuals from various mandals across the district met the SP in person to submit complaints regarding various issues. “The SP listened

to each individual's grievance and issued necessary instructions to the concerned police officials over the phone, directing them to take immediate action for resolution. He ordered officials to ensure that justice is delivered swiftly to the public and that issues are resolved without delay. The SP also emphasized that the police department remains constantly ac-



cessible to the public for the resolution of their grievances. He assured that every complaint would be ex-

amined in accordance with the law and that measures would be taken to ensure justice for the aggrieved parties.