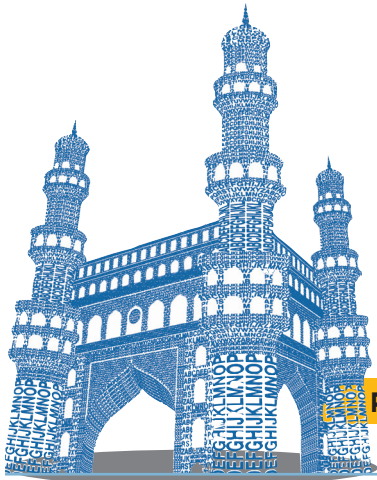
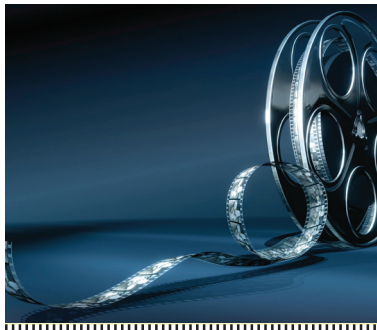




# HYDERABAD HEADLINES

RNI NO.APENG/2010/33328 VOL NO.17 ISSUE NO.: 55 RANGAREDDY (HYDERABAD) PAGES: 12 RS. 1/- SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026 WWW.HYDERABADHEADLINES.COM



CINEMA  
BEYOND THE  
WRITTEN WORD

OPINION 06

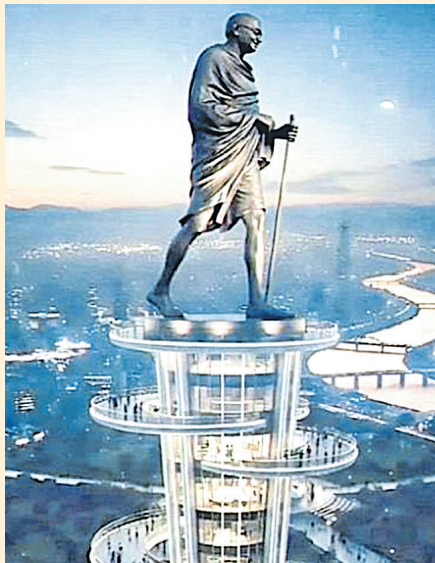
ANDREA JEREMIAH  
GRACE IN  
EVERY GLANCE



BOX-OFFICE 12

## Defence Ministry Approves Gandhi Sarovar Project

Hyderabad, June 19: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy expressed his gratitude to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh for granting permission for the prestigious Gandhi Sarovar project that the state government plans to undertake at Babu Ghat in Hyderabad. The Chief Minister stated that this approval would serve as a significant milestone in the state government's vision of transforming the banks of the Musi River into an environmental, cultural, and public-use hub, alongside the river's comprehensive rejuvenation. He also thanked the Central Government for its support of the state government's development plan.



## Govt resolves to promote the state as “Education & Sports Hub”

Young India Sport University was established aiming to win medals in the Olympics

Government is distributing Young India student Kits to 27.50 lakh students

8.5 per cent of the total budget outlay to education this year

CM Revanth Reddy participated in reopening of schools and laid foundation stones for various development works at LB Stadium today

HYDERABAD, JUNE 19

Chief Minister Shri A. Revanth Reddy affirmed that the Government resolved to transform the youngest state of Telangana into a 'Education and Sports Hub' in the country. The establishment of Young India Integrated Residential Schools and Young India Sports University were part of the initiatives of introducing revolutionary



reforms in education and winning medals in the Olympics in the future, the Chief minister said.

Addressing a gathering of students at the launch of the distribution of Young India student kits to 27.50 lakh students and also laid foundation stones for sports complexes in different districts at the LB stadium, the Chief minister warned that the 'AI storm' was leaving millions of people unem-

ployed. The government launched skill development programmes for the youth to create more blue-collar jobs. A facility to provide German and Japanese language teaching programmes alongside English was also created to get the youth jobs abroad. The ITIs have been transformed into ATCs and also established a Skill University with the aim of bringing out talent from the youth and shaping them into skilled

manpower.

The Chief minister emphasized that students educated in social welfare institutions should become doctors, IAS and IPS officers, and political leaders. The CM called upon the students to join as active partners in the reconstruction of the Telangana state. "Students should grow into a strong force that leads the nation."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

## TOURISM, RESOURCES TO DRIVE TELANGANA REVENUE

Dy. CM Bhatti asks officials to tap tourism, natural assets and registrations for sustained growth

HYDERABAD, JUNE 19

Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka on Friday said the State must focus on sectors capable of generating sustainable revenues, stressing that Telangana's natural resources and institutional assets should be effectively utilized to strengthen the economy.

Chairing a meeting of the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Revenue Mobilisation at the Dr B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, the Deputy Chief Minister said, "Our resources are our investment," and emphasized the need to create wealth by optimally using the State's assets.

Ministers N. Uttam Kumar Reddy and Jupally Krishna Rao attended the meeting.

**Tourism as Growth Engine**

Identifying tourism as a major source of revenue generation, Bhatti Vikramarka said Telangana possesses enormous tourism potential and called for better utilization of government lands and properties located at tourist destinations.



Drawing examples from Goa and Kerala, he said tourism not only generates employment but also contributes significantly to economic growth.

**The Deputy Chief Minister directed officials to focus on:**

Temple Tourism  
Eco-Tourism  
Health Tourism

He also proposed introducing weekend helicopter tourism services to attract high-end visitors

and instructed officials to prepare tourism development plans for the backwaters of Srisaikal and Nagarjuna Sagar.

**PPP Model for Tourism Projects**

Stating that several tourism assets remain underutilized, Bhatti asked officials to develop them through the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. He directed the Cabinet Sub-Committee to prepare a comprehensive action plan for tourism infrastructure development and submit the proposal along with the required policy framework for Cabinet approval.

**Sand Resources Under Review**

The committee reviewed desiltation works at the Lower Manair Dam, Upper Manair Dam and Medigadda Barrage. Members supported granting permissions to crusher operators complying with legal and environmental norms. Officials informed the meeting that Robo Sand is available at comparatively lower prices than river sand.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

## RELIANCE UNVEILS JIO IPO PLAN



MUMBAI, JUNE 19

Reliance Industries' digital arm, Jio Platforms Ltd, has filed draft papers for what is expected to be India's largest-ever initial public offering (IPO), seeking to

raise about ₹37,700 crore (USD 4 billion) at an estimated valuation of USD 137 billion. The move marks a major milestone in Reliance's transformation from an energy-focused conglomerate into a technology, digital services and artificial intelligence

powerhouse. The draft red herring prospectus (DRHP), filed with market regulator SEBI, proposes a fresh issue of up to 27 crore equity shares. The final size of the offering will depend on the issue price determined through the book-building process.

Announcing the development at Reliance Industries' 49th Annual General Meeting, Chairman Mukesh Ambani described the proposed listing as a landmark event for both the company and India's technology sector. "The proposed listing of Jio will demonstrate to the world that India can build technology companies of global scale, global capability and global value," Ambani said. If completed at the expected size, the IPO would surpass Hyundai Motor India's ₹27,870 crore issue in 2024 and become the largest public offering in Indian capital market history.

Launched in 2016, Jio disrupted India's telecom industry through low-cost data services and free

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

SIR IS  
CONSTITUTIONAL  
EXERCISE,  
NOT BJP PROG: NRR

Hyderabad, June 19: Telangana BJP State President N. Ramchander Rao on Friday asserted that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls is a constitutional exercise undertaken by the Election Commission of India and not a BJP initiative.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

RAHUL GANDHI'S  
BIRTHDAY MARKED BY  
SERVICE ACTIVITIES  
ACROSS HYD

HYDERABAD, JUNE 19

Hyderabad DCC President Syed Khalid Saifullah on Friday celebrated Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi's birthday by participating in a series of public welfare and service programmes across the city. Saifullah distributed fruits to patients at the Urban Community Health Centre in Jangammet, Falaknuma, and conveyed birthday greetings to Rahul Gandhi, praising his commitment to social justice, democratic values and the welfare of marginalized communities. Later, he joined Panchayat Raj and Women & Child Welfare Minister Seethakka at the inauguration of a Model Anganwadi-cum-Crèche Centre at Arundhati Nagar in Chandrayangutta. The facility, established under the "SBIF Muskaan" initiative with support from SBI Foundation and Mobile Crèches, aims to provide quality childcare services for working women and urban families.

Addressing the gathering, Seethakka highlighted the importance of early childhood care and urged parents to enroll eligible children in Anganwadi and childcare centres. She encouraged women to utilize government-backed interest-free loans for entrepreneurship and economic empowerment.

OPERATION LOTUS:  
BJP'S MASTERSTROKE  
OR CONGRESS'S  
COMEBACK  
CATALYST?

DEFLECTIONS  
DELIVER  
GOVERNMENTS,  
BUT NOT VOTES.

IS BJP BUILDING  
A STRONGER  
RIVAL FOR  
2029?



PAGE 02

### CEMENTING DREAMS WITH SUPERIOR STRENGTH.

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## FOCUS ON ENGLISH PROFICIENCY WITHOUT NEGLECTING MOTHER TONGUE: GOVERNOR



HYDERABAD, JUNE 19

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla has urged teachers to promote English language proficiency among students while ensuring the preservation of their mother tongues and cultural heritage.

Interacting with participants of the two-week English Language Proficiency Programme organised for teachers working in Tribal Welfare Educational Institutions, the Governor presented certificates to those who successfully completed the training programme at Lok Bhavan on Friday. The programme, organised by the English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU), Hyderabad, was aimed at enhancing the English language teaching skills of teachers serving in Tribal Welfare Residential Educational Institutions across the State.

As part of its support for teacher capacity-building initiatives in the tribal welfare sector, the Lok Bhavan sanctioned ₹12.80 lakh from the Governor's Discretionary Fund for the programme. A total of 50 teachers and five faculty members from EFLU participated in the training. Addressing the participants, the Governor appreciated the efforts of EFLU and the Tribal Welfare department in strengthening the communication and teaching abilities of educators working in remote tribal areas.

## SIR IS CONSTITUTIONAL EXERCISE, NOT BJP PROG: NRR

➤FROM PAGE 1

Addressing a workshop for BJP workers in Nagole, the BJP leader accused the Congress, BRS and MIM of spreading misinformation about the voter verification process. In fact, SIR aims to remove duplicate, fake and deceased voters from the electoral rolls while ensuring that genuine voters remain protected. "These parties are deliberately spreading fear and panic among people by falsely claiming that the votes of Muslims would be deleted. This is completely false. No vote of any genuine voter belonging to any community will be deleted. The SIR process is meant only to remove dead voters, duplicate voters, fake voters and illegal Rohingya from the electoral rolls", he noted.

He urged the BJP booth-level representatives to actively participate in the revision process, assist voters, and counter 'false propaganda' surrounding the exercise. He emphasized that only eligible Indian citizens have the right to vote and called for the removal of illegal entries from voter lists. Every eligible Indian citizen has the right to vote, but foreigners, Rohingyas and illegal Bangladeshi immigrants have no right to be part of India's voter list, he added.

## Govt resolves to promote the state as “Education & Sports Hub”

➤FROM PAGE 1

The future lies within the classrooms and education will only change the destiny of everyone “.

CM Revanth Reddy held the previous BRS government responsible for the deterioration of the education standards in the state. They failed to increase diet and cosmetic charges during their decade-long tenure. The Chief Minister also slammed the last government for not increasing the diet and cosmetic charges. We increased the charges immediately upon assuming office. Many government schools were closed down in the last government and they were opened in recent times. The CM took strong exception to the opposition criticism of the absence of a dedicated Education minister in the state cabinet. He retained the education portfolio to overhaul the entire system aiming to provide quality education to the poorer sections.

CM Revanth Reddy highlighted that the government

## Telangana plans modern silos at 20 locations to upgrade paddy procurement

HYDERABAD, JUNE 19

Telangana plans modern automated grain silos at 20 locations across 10 major paddy-producing districts, said Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy. The initial silo network, with a gross capacity of 50,000 tonnes, will complement—not replace—the existing procurement and storage system to strengthen post-harvest management, reduce losses and improve grain movement. The Minister reviewed proposals from leading storage and logistics firms and asked storage engineering companies for detailed plans on locations, capacities and implementation. Firms showcased automated intake, digital sampling and quality testing, mechanised transfer to silos, and continuous sensor monitoring of temperature and moisture. FAM-SUN's Grain Silo Technology division offered technical expertise, citing large FCI projects. The Minister asked firms to work out costs and said procurement via SHGs, IKP centres and PACS will continue.

introduced a pre-primary education system by reviving the government schools and competing with the private institutions. Today, the government schools were displaying ‘ No admission’ boards as the demand for the seats increased many fold.

The Chief minister also highlighted the government has allocated 8.5 percent of the budget outlay to education which was a good sign of the strengthening of the education sector. Rs 26,600 crore were being spent on education alone in the 2026-2027 financial year. The government was considering spending on education as an investment for future generations, the CM noted .eom

The CM recalled that the Telangana state was formed after a protracted struggle for over 60 years and the ultimate sacrifices made by hundreds of youths. CM Revanth Reddy reiterated that “ Revanth Anna “ will take the responsibility of providing quality education to every student.

## RELIANCE UNVEILS JIO IPO PLAN

➤FROM PAGE 1

voice offerings, accelerating internet adoption and reshaping the sector. Over the last decade, it has evolved into a diversified digital platform spanning telecommunications, broadband, cloud services, enterprise solutions, artificial intelligence and emerging technologies.

For FY26, Jio Platforms reported revenue of ₹1.47 lakh crore and profit after tax of around ₹30,000 crore. Its telecom subsidiary, Reliance Jio Infocomm, served 524.4 million subscribers as of March 31, including 268.5 million 5G users, making it one of the world's largest mobile operators.

Reliance currently holds a 66.43 per cent stake in Jio Platforms. The company has previously attracted some of the world's biggest technology and private equity investors. In 2020, Jio raised over USD 20 billion from investors including Meta, Google, KKR, Silver Lake, General Atlantic, Mubadala, ADIA and Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund.

According to the DRHP, up to ₹27,500 crore from the IPO proceeds will be used to repay debt at Reliance Jio Infocomm, which had outstanding borrowings of ₹71,529 crore as of March 31, 2026. The remaining funds will be used for general corporate pur-

poses.

The listing will be the first major public offering from the Reliance Group in nearly two decades and is being overseen by Ambani's children - Akash Ambani, Isha Ambani and Anant Ambani - reflecting the group's ongoing leadership transition.

Alongside the IPO announcement, Ambani outlined Reliance's roadmap for future growth, placing artificial intelligence at the centre of the conglomerate's strategy. Reliance plans to build large-scale AI infrastructure and services for consumers, enterprises and governments, supported by partnerships with Google, Meta and Nvidia.

The company aims to expand AI applications across healthcare, agriculture, education and business services while strengthening India's digital infrastructure. Earlier this year, Reliance announced plans to invest ₹10 lakh crore in AI-related initiatives over the next seven years and launched Jio Intelligence, a subsidiary focused on AI services, data centres and edge computing.

Jio also plans to accelerate migration of its entire subscriber base to Ji-oTrue5G by 2030, expand broadband coverage through JioAirFiber and deepen its enterprise technology of-

ferings. The company intends to commercialise proprietary software, network technologies and AI platforms in international markets.

Beyond digital services, Reliance reaffirmed its commitment to clean energy. The group is investing in solar manufacturing, battery storage, green hydrogen, compressed biogas and other renewable energy projects through its Jamnagar-based Green Energy Giga Complex. It expects battery manufacturing operations to begin this year and plans to scale integrated solar manufacturing capacity to 20 GW. Ambani said Reliance's future growth will be driven by five key pillars: oil-to-chemicals and advanced materials, new energy, artificial intelligence, consumer businesses and exports. He expressed confidence that the company would more than double its consolidated EBITDA over the next five years.

The proposed Jio IPO comes amid a more cautious environment for India's primary market, with several companies delaying listing plans due to global economic uncertainty. Nevertheless, investors are expected to closely watch what could become one of the largest technology listings globally in recent years and a defining moment in India's digital growth story.

## TOURISM, RESOURCES TO DRIVE TELANGANA REVENUE

➤FROM PAGE 1

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy suggested examining the feasibility of exporting sand to neighbouring states as a potential source of revenue.

**Rise in Property Registrations**  
Officials reported a significant increase in property registrations across the State. The improvement was attributed to slab-based land valuation revisions, which have enhanced revenue collections through the registration system.

**Focus on Transport Revenue**  
The committee also discussed measures to strengthen revenue collections in the Transport Department, particularly regarding BH (Bharat) Series vehicle registrations. Members referred to a recent court ruling favouring Kerala that upheld states' taxation powers. The sub-committee examined legal and policy options concerning BH Series taxation. Bhatti directed officials to convene a meeting of Transport Ministers from southern states to

evolve a coordinated approach on the issue.

**Industrial Land Regularisation**

The meeting also reviewed revenue generation through industrial land regularisation. Officials discussed measures to maximize revenue while facilitating industrial growth and ensuring compliance.

**Senior Officials Attend**

The meeting was attended by Principal Finance Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania, Future City Development Authority Commissioner Shashank, TGMDC Vice-Chairman and MD Anudeep Durishetty, Special Secretary Krishna Bhaskar, Stamps and Registration Special Secretary Rajiv Gandhi Hanumanthrao, Transport Commissioner Ilambarathi and other senior officials.

Bhatti Vikramarka reiterated that strengthening revenue-generating sectors such as tourism, transport, registrations and natural resource management is essential for Telangana's long-term economic growth and fiscal stability.





## Unsung Heroes Honoured at GITAM through MUDITA 4.0

HYDERABAD

GITAM Deemed to be University celebrated MUDITA 4.0, the fourth edition of its annual employee recognition and appreciation programme, honouring the hospitality, campus life, and support services teams whose dedication plays a vital role in creating a safe, welcoming, and enriching campus environment.

Derived from the Sanskrit word Mudita, meaning joy in the happiness and success of others, the event embodies the values of gratitude, service, teamwork, and collective achievement. Over the years, MUDITA has evolved into a cherished tradition that recognizes the invaluable contributions of employees who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support the university community.

Organized by the Directorate of Hospitality and Campus Life, the event brought together staff from housekeeping, dining services, maintenance and engineering, gardening and landscaping, residences, utilities, transport, projects, information technology, audio-visual services, human resources, finance, administration, and other support functions. The programme celebrated excellence, innovation, teamwork, dedication, and long years of service.

The event featured employee recognition awards, service ex-

cellence honours, appreciation ceremonies, and cultural performances, acknowledging individuals and teams who consistently go above and beyond in their responsibilities.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambika Philip said, "Our teams create a little bit of magic every day through their unwavering commitment to serving students, parents, faculty, staff, and visitors.

With ownership, passion, and compassion, they continuously strive to deliver meaningful experiences and dependable services while contributing positively to the campus community." University leadership highlighted that the success of a great institution depends not only on academic excellence but also on the dedication of those who work selflessly to support its mission. They emphasized that MUDITA is a tribute to the individuals whose efforts often remain unseen but are fundamental to the smooth functioning and growth of the university.

MUDITA 4.0 reaffirmed GITAM's commitment to fostering a culture of appreciation, inclusivity, respect, and service excellence. The celebration concluded with a powerful message that the true strength of a university lies in the collective efforts of every individual who contributes to making the campus a place of learning, belonging, growth, and care.

## CID arrests Worldline VP in Falcon Discounting fraud case

HYDERABAD

The Crime Investigation Department (CID), Telangana, has arrested Sheikh Mohideen (46 years), Executive Vice President of Worldline E-Payment Gateway, Mumbai, in connection with the Falcon Invoice Discounting fraud case involving collection of unauthorized deposits, cheating, criminal breach of trust, and criminal conspiracy. The case pertains to the operation of the Falcon Invoice Discounting application and website, through which the ac-

cused allegedly created fake investment deals in the names of reputed multinational companies and induced investors with promises of high returns in short-term plans. Investigations revealed that approximately ₹4,215 Crores were collected from 7,056 depositors across the country. Out of these, 4,065 victims were allegedly cheated to the tune of ₹792 Crores through M/s Capital Protection Force Private Limited, operating under Falcon Invoice Discounting.

Based on complaints received from victims, cases were registered under re-

levant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and the Telangana State Protection of Depositors of Financial Establishments Act, 1999, and subsequently transferred to CID, Telangana, for detailed investigation. Several additional cases have also been registered against the main accused and associates across India. Investigation disclosed that Sheikh Mohideen allegedly colluded with the principal accused and facilitated the collection of deposits by providing payment gateway services through Worldline E-Payment Gateway. The company

is found to have received approximately ₹7.53 Crores as transaction-related earnings from the fraudulent operations.

The accused was arrested by CID Telangana and produced before the Hon'ble Court for judicial remand. The investigation was conducted by CID Telangana. Public Advisory: Citizens are advised not to invest in online invoice discounting or similar schemes that promise unusually high returns. Investors should verify the authenticity and legality of investment platforms before parting with their hard-earned money.

## Governor Shukla calls for Telangana to lead in higher education

HYDERABAD

Telangana Governor and Chancellor of State Universities, Shiv Pratap Shukla, has directed that the future-oriented and industry-relevant courses introduced by the Telangana Council of Higher Education be implemented in all State Universities from the academic year 2026-27.

The Governor held a detailed review meeting with TGCHE Chairman Prof. V. Balakista Reddy at Raj Bhavan in Hyderabad. During the meeting, various aspects related to the introduction and implementation of innovative academic programmes proposed by TGCHE were discussed. The Chancellor instructed the Council to take all necessary steps to ensure the effective rollout of these programmes across the state's universities from the forthcoming academic year.

Prof. Balakista Reddy briefed the Governor on the newly de-



signed courses in emerging and strategically important sectors such as Aerospace, Defence, Maritime Studies, FinTech, Climate Governance, Life Sciences, and Food Technology. He explained that these programmes have been developed in alignment with the principles of the National Education Policy 2020 and international best practices. The courses have also been designed keeping in view national priorities, industry re-

quirements, and future employment opportunities.

Expressing satisfaction over the Council's initiative to introduce employment-oriented and future-ready academic programmes, Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla stated that such courses would play a crucial role in developing a skilled workforce capable of meeting the demands of a rapidly evolving global economy.

The Chancellor appreciated the innovative efforts undertak-

en by TGCHE and emphasized that Telangana should become a model for other states in the field of higher education. He stressed the importance of innovation, academic excellence, and industry collaboration in strengthening the higher education ecosystem.

He further advised the Council to ensure the successful implementation of these courses from the 2026-27 academic year and to enhance collaboration with industries, research institutions, and other stakeholder organizations to elevate the programmes to higher standards.

Prof. Balakista Reddy thanked the Chancellor for his continuous encouragement and guidance. He assured that the Telangana Council of Higher Education would take all necessary measures to successfully implement these courses across universities and colleges in the state, thereby enhancing students' employability and preparing them for future career opportunities.

## Geetha Murthy with BJP Leaders Meet Malkajgiri MP Etela Rajender

■ Discuss Civic Issues and Electoral Roll Revision

HYDERABAD

BJP National Council Member Smt. Geetha Murthy, along with BJP Neredmet 136 Division President Aditya, former Corporator Upender Reddy, and party leaders Raji Reddy, Akella Sharma, Anjali Devi, Sanyanarayana, and others, met Malkajgiri MP Etela Rajender at his residence in Shamirpet on Friday.

During the meeting, Geetha Murthy and other leaders apprised the MP of several public issues affecting the Neredmet Division in the Malkajgiri constituency, particularly poor road conditions, inadequate drinking water facilities, and the growing stray dog menace. Responding positively, the MP assured the delegation that he would visit the area soon and take steps to address the concerns. The leaders also discussed the ongoing Special Intensive Revision of electoral



rolls. Geetha Murthy informed the MP that the exercise would help identify and eliminate irregularities in voter lists, while alleging that the Congress party was creating unnecessary fear and confusion among the public by raising baseless concerns.

The BJP leaders recalled that nearly ₹70 crore had been sanctioned by the Central Government, with the MP's support, for the construction of around 15 underpasses and overbridges in the Neredmet area. Geetha Murthy, Anjali Devi, Upender Reddy, and others highlighted the significance of these infrastructure projects for local

residents. On the occasion, Vice-Chairman Jagadish and committee members Amarnath and Anjali Devi of Sri Kalyana Venkateswara Swamy Temple at Vinoba Nagar, Neredmet, invited the MP to attend the temple's annual Brahmotsavam celebrations, scheduled to commence on June 22.

**Tamil Nadu BJP Leader Nalini Invites Geetha Murthy to Her Son's Wedding**  
Nalini, BJP National Executive Member and Organizational In-charge for BJP Telangana from Tamil Nadu, visited the residence of BJP National Council

Member Smt. Geetha Murthy in Hyderabad and personally handed over the wedding invitation for her son's marriage.

Nalini had travelled specially from Salem, Tamil Nadu, for the occasion. BJP Telangana State Media Convener Swapna also accompanied her during the visit. During their interaction, Nalini and Geetha Murthy discussed the current political developments and evolving political scenario in Tamil Nadu.

The meeting was marked by cordial discussions and an exchange of views on organizational and political matters concerning the state.

# A Historic Initiative Marking a New Chapter in School Education

HYDERABAD

In a landmark initiative that created a memorable milestone in the lives of students stepping from school education into higher studies, Lotus Lap Public Schools organized a grand Convocation Ceremony for Class X graduates. Traditionally reserved for universities and higher educational institutions, the concept of a convocation was brought to the school level, making it a first-of-its-kind event in India for students completing their secondary education.

The ceremony was graced by Prof. V. Balakista Reddy, Chairman of the Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE), eminent academician and legal scholar, as the Chief Guest. Wearing the traditional academic gown, he formally inaugurated the convocation ceremony. Addressing the students, Prof. Balakista Reddy emphasized that Class X marks a crucial turning point in a student's life and that discipline, values, and dedication developed at this stage become the foundation for future success. He advised students to enhance their communication skills, leadership qualities, and creative thinking to face global challenges and opportunities.

Dr. Ravi Teja, Research Scholar from Osmania University, stated that continuous learning, a research-oriented mindset, and a pas-



sion for innovation are essential for achieving excellence in today's rapidly evolving world. He encouraged students to become responsible citizens who contribute to society through knowledge and service.

Advocate Madhusudhan Reddy, practicing lawyer at the High Court, remarked that success in life is built on ethical values, integrity, responsibility, self-confidence, and perseverance. He urged students to transform every challenge into an opportunity and move forward with determination.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Lion Komatireddy Gopal Reddy, Chairman of Lotus Lap Group of Schools, National Advisor of TRS-MA, renowned educationist, envi-

ronmentalist, and recipient of several educational accolades, said that education should not be confined merely to securing marks in examinations but should foster personality development, values, leadership qualities, and a spirit of social responsibility.

He emphasized that the institution aims to provide students with global exposure and opportunities to interact with distinguished personalities while delivering education aligned with international standards. Honouring students upon the completion of Class X, he said, would inspire them with greater enthusiasm and responsibility towards higher education.

Welcoming the dignitaries,

Lion Komatireddy Abhishek Reddy, Director of Lotus Lap Group of Schools, stated that the convocation ceremony was conceived to make the transition from school to higher education a memorable occasion for students. He acknowledged the invaluable contributions of parents and teachers in shaping the success of every child.

One of the highlights of the event was the presentation of certificates to the Class X graduates, who proudly walked onto the stage wearing traditional convocation gowns. The atmosphere was filled with applause and joy as parents, teachers, and guests celebrated the achievements of the students. Many students became emotional while sharing their cherished memories and experiences at the school.

Expressing their gratitude to their teachers, the students pledged to scale greater heights in the future and bring further glory to their alma mater. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from teachers, parents, alumni, and well-wishers, making it a resounding success.

Educationists present at the event observed that by introducing the culture of convocation at the school level, Lotus Lap Public Schools has opened a new and innovative chapter in the field of education, setting a precedent that may inspire educational institutions across the country.

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**E-TENDER NOTICE No:**  
GEM/2026/B/7677147

E-Tenders from the Contractors for the following works are invited by the undersigned up to 18.00 hrs on 10-07-2026.

1 **Tender Ref No:** GEM/2026/B/7677147 **Dt.**18.06.2026 **Tender Title** : GNT Division - Manning & up keep of TRD Depots - 4 Nos., (VKN, MRK, GID & NDL) in MUK-NDL section for a period of Two Years. **Approx Value (₹):** 67,24,709/- **Earnest money deposit (₹):** 1,34,500/- **Cost of tender form (non-refundable) (₹):** NIL

**Last Date and time for online submission of E-bids :** 10-07-2026 upto 18.00 hours.

If the due date of tender opening is declared as holiday at later date the tenders will be opened on the next working day

For any detailed information log on to website **www.Gem.gov.in** on or after 18.06.2026 up to 18-00 hrs on **10.07.2026**. Any further Communication/Corrigendum shall only be intimated through E-portal **www.ireps.gov.in**.

**Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, TRD/Guntur**

**Tender Notice No: 03-Mech-VB-WET-TPTY-26-R**  
**Dated 16.06.2026**

**Dy.CME/CRS/TPTY** acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender No: mentioned here under closing date as mentioned below up to 11:00Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

1. **Description of work :** 03-Mech-VB-WET-TPTY - 26-R Dated 16.06.2026 \*Supply and Apply of Wet- on-Wet PU painting on Exterior, Interior FRP Painting, Roof, Under frame and Marking /Stickers on both side and End walls on Vande Bharat Coaches for SS-II Schedules at CRS/TPTY\* **Approx Cost in (₹):** 54,67,463.04/- **Bid Security in (₹):** 1,09,400/- **Period of Completion :** 08 Months from the date of commencement of work **Date of closing :** 08.07.2026 @ 11.00 Hrs

**Website particulars :** [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

**Notice Board Location where complete details of tender can be seen :** Office of the chief workshop manager, Carriage Repair Shop, Tirupati

**Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer, SCoR.A036 Carriage Repair Shop, Tirupati**

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at <https://www.ireps.gov.in>



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of the Anna Akka  
Mentorship



**HYDERABAD:** Day-1 of the Teaching Internship on AI and Digital Learning Training, part of the Anna Akka Mentorship program, commenced successfully at GDCW Hussainialam. Under the capable leadership of Principal Prof. Appiya Chinamma and Vice Principal Dr. Md. Ghouse Sir, the day unfolded with clear direction and enthusiasm. The organized coordination by IQAC coordinator Dr. K. Sreedevi and the dedicated Nodal Officers—Prof. D. Shanmukhi Jyothi, Dr. P. Manjula, and Dr. K. Shobha Rani—ensured smooth operations across both sessions held in the Computer Labs. Trainer M. A. Shahbaz from Deccan College of Engineering and Technology guided the participants through the day's activities, focusing on equipping the student mentors with the skills to teach AI concepts to school learners. The Day-1 sessions were split into morning and afternoon blocks, providing a hands-on environment where participants could practice and refine their instructional approaches in a focused setting. The initial training targeted Classes 6 and 7, aligning content with appropriate developmental milestones for younger audiences.

State plans modern silos at 20 locations,  
upgrading paddy storage network

■ **Uttam Reviews Technology-Driven Automated Grain Storage Systems**

■ **SHGs and PACS to Continue their Key Procurement Role**

HYDERABAD

Telangana government is preparing to modernise its paddy storage infrastructure with plans to establish state-of-the-art grain silos at 20 locations across 10 major paddy-producing districts, Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy announced during a meeting with representatives of leading grain storage and logistics companies on Friday. The silo network proposed initially with a gross storage capacity of 50,000 metric tonnes, will function in addition to the existing procurement and storage infrastructure. Strengthening post-harvest management It is aimed at strengthening post-harvest management, reducing storage losses and improving the efficiency of grain movement across the state. While making it clear that the new system would complement—not replace—the existing procurement ecosystem, the Minister wanted the cost involved to be worked out before taking the final call on the new technology. The Self-Help Groups (SHGs) operating IKP procurement centres and Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS), which have played a crucial role in Telangana's paddy procurement operations, will continue to have a significant role in procurement and grain management activities. The proposal was discussed during a detailed presentation by representatives FAMSUN Storage Engineering Company Limited's grain silo technology division. The delegation outlined modern grain handling systems that integrate automated storage, digital



monitoring and dedicated logistics infrastructure.

Automation to Address Labour Shortages

During the presentation, company representatives explained how modern silo systems automate the entire grain handling process—from intake and quality testing to storage and dispatch. The mechanised unloading systems would help address the growing challenge of manpower shortages, particularly during the peak Rabi procurement season in April and May when extreme heat wave conditions often affect labour availability. Under the proposed model, incoming grain is sampled, tested and digitally approved before unloading. Mechanised systems then transfer grain into storage facilities, eliminating much of the manual handling currently involved in procurement operations. The technology can reduce vehicle turnaround time from several days to nearly one hour, significantly easing congestion at procurement and storage centres.

Digital Monitoring for Safe Storage

The companies showcased technology-driven storage solutions in which

grain remains under continuous monitoring through digital sensors that track temperature, moisture and storage conditions. Automated aeration systems and scientific pest management practices help preserve grain quality for extended periods while minimising storage losses. Similar quality-control measures are followed at destination terminals before grain is bagged and dispatched through the Public Distribution System (PDS) or open market channels. Representatives described the model as an integrated supply chain designed to protect grain "from harvest to household."

**Rail Connectivity and End-to-End Logistics** A key feature of the proposed infrastructure is its integration with dedicated railway connectivity. The companies explained how grain can be moved seamlessly from procurement centres in surplus-producing regions to consumption centres across the country through technology-enabled logistics systems. Dedicated rail-linked terminals would facilitate faster movement while preserving grain quality throughout the transportation process. The logistics chain includes storage, handling and dispatch facilities

designed to maintain grain quality at every stage of movement.

Bangladesh Silo System Cited as Model

During the discussions, representatives highlighted modern paddy storage infrastructure developed in Bangladesh as a successful example of large-scale grain management. The Bangladesh model, comprising multiple modern storage facilities with a combined capacity of about 150,000 tonnes, was cited as demonstrating how scientific drying and storage systems can preserve grain safely for extended periods.

Technology Support

Representatives of FAMSUN Storage Engineering Company Limited, including Grain Silo Technology division, offered to provide technical expertise and advanced storage solutions for Telangana's proposed modernisation programme. They outlined their involvement in grain storage infrastructure and referred to their association with large-scale silo projects developed for the Food Corporation of India (FCI). They explained how India's modern silo programme has expanded significantly since its initial rollout in 2016.

Detailed Plans Sought

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy directed the companies to submit detailed proposals identifying suitable locations, storage capacities and implementation strategies for the proposed silo network across Telangana's major paddy-producing districts. He said the government would examine the proposals as part of its broader efforts to strengthen procurement, storage and distribution systems while ensuring that farmers continue to receive seamless procurement services through the existing network of SHGs, IKP centres and PACS.



Sanath Nagar Joins Nationwide Birthday  
Observances for Rahul Gandhi,  
Emphasizing Inclusion and Accountability

HYDERABAD

Rahul Gandhi's birthday was celebrated with enthusiastic fervor across the Sanath Nagar constituency, as supporters organized grand events in Sanath Nagar, BK Guda, Ameerpet, Begumpet, Rangopalpet, Bansilalpet, Padmarao Nagar, and SR Nagar. The celebrations showcased cake-cutting ceremonies, Annadanam, and the distribution of sarees to women, reflecting a broad-based effort to engage the community. Dr. Kota Neelima, PCC Vice President and Congress Party In-Charge for the Sanath Nagar Constituency, highlighted Rahul Gandhi's role as a national leader who consistently holds the government accountable on issues affecting the nation. She described him as a beacon of hope who champions constitutional values, social justice, and democratic ideals, underscoring his commitment to safeguarding the Constitution. At a special birthday event held at the SR Nagar Community Hall, fireworks, cake cutting, and the distribution of sweets accompanied a range of community service activities. Congress leaders and party workers joined in the celebratory mood, conveying heartfelt birthday wishes to Rahul Gandhi and reaffirming their support for his leadership.

In her address, Dr. Neelima spoke about Rahul Gandhi's steadfast stance against policies perceived as anti-people and anti-Constitutional under the BJP-led government. She underscored his efforts to protect democratic values and his active engagement in Parliament, where he raises issues affecting marginalized communities, women, and the poor, while extending unwavering support to victims across the country. Dr. Neelima also highlighted Gandhi's outreach through the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra, which she described as a mechanism enabling him to connect with people from diverse walks of life and address a wide range of concerns. She praised his integrity, dedication to public welfare, and resolve to stand with those in distress in the pursuit of justice, portraying him as a steadfast guardian of constitutional values. The organizers reiterated the Congress party's core values of compassion, inclusivity, and social harmony, asserting that Rahul Gandhi embodies these principles in both thought and action. She expressed a wish for Rahul Gandhi to enjoy a long, healthy life and remain committed to advancing constitutional values, social justice, and the welfare of the people for many years to come.



No Need to Pay Even a Single Rupee  
for Government Welfare Schemes

SURYAPET

AICC Member Ramreddy Sarvotham Reddy stated that there is no need for anyone to pay even a single rupee to avail the welfare schemes being provided by the people's government. He said he would make every effort to ensure that every eligible homeless person in the constituency receives an Indiramma house. On Friday, in Bandameedi Chandupatla village of Chivvemla Mandal, along with Mandal Party President Dharavath Veeranna Naik and Sarpanch Gayam Udayasri Chandrasekhar Reddy, he inaugurated the Indiramma houses of beneficiaries Panthangi Priyanka-Anvesh and Shiga Saidamma-Srinu. Speaking on the occasion, he said that the government's objective is to provide permanent housing to every homeless poor family and that Indiramma houses would be sanctioned to all eligible beneficiaries in a phased

manner. He also highlighted several welfare schemes being implemented by the Congress government, including the Mahalakshmi Scheme for women's economic empowerment, Rythu Bharosa for farmers, free electricity, 200 units of free power for domestic consumers, LPG cylinders at ₹500, and employment opportunities for youth. He said these initiatives are bringing positive changes to the lives of people. Later, a cake was cut at the residence of Sarpanch Udayasri Chandrasekhar Reddy to celebrate the birthday of Rahul Gandhi. Congress leaders Vemulapalli Vasudeva Rao, Bodupula Harikrishna, Kodirekka Edukondalu, Abdul Rahim, Nagula Vasu, Chilumula Sunil Reddy, Tangella Karunakar Reddy, Elimineti Abhinay Naidu, Nagu Naik, Padidala Ravi, Wajid Miya, Ramesh Rao, Buddha Venkanna, and others participated in the programme.

Government of Telangana Launches  
School Education Services on WhatsApp

HYDERABAD

Starting today, more than 18 lakh students and parents across Telangana will begin receiving regular updates and important information related to School Education Department services and activities directly through WhatsApp. These updates will cover academic progress, distribution of educational materials, scholarships, examinations, school events, health and wellness programmes, and other student-centric initiatives, ensuring timely communication between the Government, schools, students, and parents. In a major step towards digital governance and citizen-centric service delivery, the Government of Telangana today launched School Education Services on WhatsApp at a grand event held at LB Stadium, Hyderabad. The initiative was formally launched by the Shri. Shiv Pratap Shukla, Hon'ble Governor of Telangana and the A. Revanth Reddy, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Telangana. The platform has been de-

veloped by the Electronic Service Delivery (ESD) – MeeSeva Division of the Information Technology, Electronics & Communications (ITE&C) Department, Government of Telangana, in collaboration with the School Education Department. The initiative aims to provide seamless, transparent, and accessible educational services directly to parents and students through WhatsApp, one of the most widely used communication platforms. The services are already reached more than 18 lakh parents and students across the State. Services already Available: Several key educational services are already available through WhatsApp, including Progress Reports, Hall Ticket Downloads, Marks Memos, Examination Results, Historic SSC Memos (83,000), Bonafide Certificates, Transfer Certificates, and SSC Memo Correction Requests. Over the past year, lakhs of students and parents have availed these digital services, significantly reducing the need for physical visits and paperwork. Pro-

posed Services: As part of the next phase, additional services will be introduced through the platform, including student and parent feedback mechanisms, updates on the distribution of uniforms, textbooks and notebooks, attendance details, pre-matric scholarship applications, mid-day meal information, health and wellness programmes, sports and co-curricular activities, and updates related to residential school welfare initiatives. A unique feature of the campaign is the introduction of a friendly mascot, Palapitta (Indian Roller), which will communicate important information and updates to parents and students through engaging video messages on WhatsApp. This innovative approach is designed to make government communication more interactive, accessible, and relatable. Speaking on the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister emphasized the Government's commitment to leveraging technology to improve educational outcomes and strengthen engagement with students and parents. The initiative reflects Telangana's continued leadership in adopting digital platforms for efficient and citizen-friendly governance.

Rahul Gandhi is the  
Visionary of a United India



■ **MLC Ketavat Shankar Naik, AICC Member Ramireddy Sarvotham Reddy**

SURYAPET

MLC Ketavat Shankar Naik and AICC Member Ramireddy Sarvotham Reddy stated that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is the visionary of a united India. They described him as the leader sought by the younger generation and the hope of 1.4 billion people. Speaking after cutting a birthday cake during Rahul Gandhi's birthday celebrations organized under the leadership of Youth Congress Constituency President Kareemulla Beg Javed at Vaniji Bhavan Center in the district headquarters on Friday, the leaders praised Rahul Gandhi as a leader who continuously

fights for the protection of democracy, social justice, and the welfare of youth and farmers in the country. They called upon every party worker to strive to take the ideals and principles of the Congress Party to the people. Expressing confidence in Rahul Gandhi's leadership, they said that the Congress Party would emerge stronger in addressing the problems faced by the people of the country. The leaders urged people to support the Congress government, which is working with the sole objective of public welfare. They said Rahul Gandhi's efforts toward national unity, social justice, and youth empowerment are an inspiration to the present generation and highlighted that he is a leader who directly reaches out to the people to understand their concerns.

Kanchi Mahendar Hosts High-Profile BJP-OBC  
Morchha Meeting to Drive Statewide Strengthening



MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI

BJP leaders gathered at Kanchi Mahendar's residence in Hyderabad for a pivotal meeting with the state and district heads of the OBC Morcha to discuss strengthening the party's organizational base and future plans. The discussion was led by notable attendees

including OBC Morcha state president Anand Goud and state general secretary Prabhakar Yadav, who joined district presidents in meeting with Kanchi Mahendar. The session focused on expanding BJP's reach at the grassroots level, addressing public concerns, and outlining upcoming party activities

and strategic steps for the state. Leaders emphasized the importance of engaging more closely with the public, ensuring that central welfare schemes reach beneficiaries on the ground, and advancing the development of youth and socially disadvantaged groups. A large contingent of OBC Morcha leaders participated, including Vinod Goud, Sateesh Goud, and divisional leaders from Fatehnagar such as Balesh, Suresh, Usha Rani, Shiv, Ashok, Chand, Aravind, Kamalakhar, Ramesh, Raghu, Tilla, Manikanth, and Gopal, among others. The gathering fostered strong coordination among leaders and boosted the morale of party workers, with a unified commitment to drive the BJP's growth and public service in the days ahead.

Karimnagar District Emerges as a Model of People-Centric Governance

■ **Praja Palana - Pragati Pranalika Brings Significant Change in People's Lives**

■ **99 Days, 10 Key Themes, Comprehensive Development Through Public Participation**

■ **Transparent Administration, Faster Services, and a New Direction for Sustainable Growth**

KARIMNAGAR

The State Government's flagship Praja Palana – Pragati Pranalika programme has been successfully implemented in Karimnagar district, setting new benchmarks in inclusive and people-centric governance. Implemented from March 6



to June 12, 2026, the 99-day initiative brought together public representatives, government officials and citizens at every level, from villages to the district headquarters, resulting in tangible improvements in service delivery and overall development. The programme was carried out under the leadership of District In-charge Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, Ministers Ponnamp Prabhakar,

Sridhar Babu, and Adhuri Laxman Kumar, with close monitoring by the district administration. Special focus was placed on ten key sectors, including sanitation, disposal of pending files, road safety, agriculture, welfare schemes, healthcare, education, employment generation and citizen services. As part of the initiative, extensive sanitation drives were conducted across all 318 gram

panchayats and urban local bodies in the district. A total of 4,290 pending files relating to public services were resolved, ensuring faster and more efficient governance. The district also received recognition for its innovative "Arrive Alive" road safety campaign, which enhanced public awareness and contributed to a reduction in road accidents. In the agriculture sector, financial assistance amounting to ₹143.55 crore was extended to 1.93 lakh farmers under the Rythu Bharosa scheme. Under the Rythu Bima programme, compensation of ₹13.35 crore was provided to the families of 206 deceased farmers. Karimnagar achieved notable success in paddy procurement as well, with procurement operations conducted through 319 centres, strengthening the district's reputation as a leader in agricultural support.

The district also excelled in implementing welfare schemes. As many as 45,920 new ration cards were issued, while flagship initiatives such as Mahalakshmi, Gruha Jyothi, and Indiramma Housing benefited lakhs of families. Special initiatives were undertaken in healthcare and education to improve access and service quality. Mega job fairs organised by the district administration created employment opportunities for hundreds of unemployed youth. The success of the 99-day programme reflects the strong coordination between public representatives, government departments and citizens. Karimnagar has emerged as a model district, demonstrating how collaborative governance can translate public aspirations into measurable outcomes. The Praja Palana – Pragati Pranalika initiative stands as a testament





Robbery Attempt on Trader Foiled, Assaultants Open Fire  
NEW DELHI: (JUN 19)

A robbery attempt on a trader carrying Rs 9 lakh was foiled in east Delhi's Geta Colony area on Friday after bike-borne assaultants failed to snatch his cash bag and fled the spot after firing three rounds in the air, police said. The incident took place when the trader was on his way from Priyadarshini Vihar to Chandni Chowk with the cash, they said. According to police, the assaultants intercepted him on the way and tried to snatch the bag containing the money. However, the trader resisted and amid the commotion, the accused could not succeed in taking away the bag.

Minister Calls for Wider Public Role in Environmental Awareness  
MUMBAI: (JUN 19)

Maharashtra Environment and Climate Change Minister Pankaja Munde on Friday called for greater public participation in the state's 'Majhi Vasundhara' campaign and said she would push for monthly reviews of climate change issues at cabinet meetings. Reviewing the restructuring of the campaign and the State Climate Change Cell, Munde said youth, students, women and social media influencers should be involved on a larger scale to strengthen environmental awareness. She said climate action plans should be discussed regularly in district planning committee meetings.

37 Lakh Pilgrims Visit Char Dham as Death Toll Reaches 198

DEHRADUN: June 19 More than 37 lakh pilgrims have visited Uttarakhand since the Char Dham Yatra began in April, while 198 fatalities have been reported among the devotees during the ongoing pilgrimage season, according to official data. The latest report from the State Emergency Operation Centre shows that 37.35 lakh pilgrims have visited the shrines till Thursday. Kedarnath Dham recorded the highest footfall with 12.61 lakh visitors since opening on April 22.

TMC's Abhishek Banerjee meets LS Speaker, seeks disqualification of 20 'rebels'

The TMC has asked the Lok Sabha Speaker to disqualify 20 rebel MPs after they sought recognition as a separate group and announced a merger with the NCPI. The move has become a major anti-defection test that could alter House numbers and alliance equations.



The Trinamool Congress (TMC) on Friday urged Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to disqualify 20 of its MPs after they revolted against the party, sought recognition as a separate group in the House and announced plans to merge with the Nationalist Citizens Party of India (NCPI).

TMC general secretary and Lok Sabha leader Abhishek Banerjee submitted 20 separate disqualification petitions to the Speaker, arguing that the rebel MPs had voluntarily given up the party's membership and that their claim of a merger did not qualify for protection under the anti-defection law. Banerjee met Birla along with Lok Sabha MPs Saugata Roy, Kalyan Banerjee and Mahua Moitra, and Rajya Sabha member Derek O'Brien. He said the Speaker had earlier called him, but he could not attend due to an Enforcement Directorate (ED) investigation. "Today I came to meet with all members," he told reporters after the meeting.

The development comes after Birla invited Banerjee

to present the TMC's position before deciding on the rebels' demand to be recognised as a separate group following their merger with the NCPI. The Speaker had called Banerjee after the 20 rebel MPs met him and conveyed their decision to form a separate bloc.

In the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, 29 MPs were elected on TMC tickets. One of them has since died and the seat remains vacant.

Speaking to reporters, Banerjee said the TMC learnt that four to five MPs had initially claimed they were forming a new party. He cited provisions of the Tenth Schedule, saying that any MP who voluntarily leaves a political party loses membership of the House. "We got to know those MPs claimed to have joined another party, NCPI. Nobody has heard the name of this group. Even they had not heard the name of this party," Banerjee said. He argued that the rebels could not claim protection under the merger provision of the anti-defection

law. Referring to paragraph 4 of the Tenth Schedule, he said a merger is recognised only when two-thirds of the total political party merges with another party, not merely a section of its legislators. "If they have been elected on a symbol and are claiming after two years that they are joining a new party, their membership should go," he said.

"Based on that, I, as the leader of Lok Sabha of TMC, have submitted 20 different disqualification petitions against those MPs," Banerjee added. He said both the act of leaving the party and what he described as an invalid merger attracted disqualification. Banerjee said the party had also submitted several court judgments relating to the Tenth Schedule to the Speaker. Referring to the rebels' demand for a separate sitting arrangement and their plans to elect a Lok Sabha leader and chief whip, Banerjee said, "This is not possible. You will first be disqualified." He also said, "If they have any integri-

ty left, they should leave their posts." Launching a sharp attack on the rebel MPs, Banerjee alleged that they had "sold their self-respect". "Someone has to escape ED, CBI... Some are getting money, or being threatened," he said, claiming he possessed "concrete proof". He added that anyone objecting to his allegations could approach the courts. "They are joining hands with the BJP because they can't fight; there is no space for such people in Bengal politics," he said. Banerjee also alleged pressure on his party from central agencies and the government. "In the last seven days, I have received five summons. There have been two raids at my house, two raids at Mamata ji's house. They took Mamata ji's security. We don't want it either. What can one expect from the government that unleashed bulldozers on the poor," he said. Asked whether the TMC would also move court, Banerjee said the party would take a decision in due course. "We have left it to the judgment and wisdom of the speaker. He has said he will listen to the other side again and call us once more. I hope the speaker of Lok Sabha will work as per the Constitution and not choke democracy," he said. Earlier, Banerjee had written to the Speaker asking him not to grant any recognition, status or facilities to any group claiming to be a separate faction of the All India Trinamool Congress, arguing

that neither the Constitution nor the anti-defection law permits the formation of a separate group within an existing political party.

If the Speaker accepts the rebels' plea, the NCPI would become the second-largest constituent of the NDA in the Lok Sabha, ahead of the Telugu Desam Party, which has 16 MPs, and the Janata Dal (United), which has 12. The BJP has 239 members on its own, excluding the Speaker.

The NCPI was registered as a political party in January 2023. Election Commission records list its address as a building in Sankrail in Howrah.

Former Lok Sabha secretary general and constitutional expert PDT Achary said paragraph 4 of the Tenth Schedule allows a merger only when a political party merges with another political party.

He said MPs or MLAs cannot independently merge with another party. According to the provision, a member is protected from disqualification only if the original political party merges with another political party and at least two-thirds of the members of the legislature party agree to the merger.

"If a party leadership decides to merge with another political party, its MPs and MLAs must agree, but the MPs or MLAs alone cannot merge with another political party. This is the constitutional provision," Achary told PTI.



DIPR Organises Jan Kalyan Shivir for Journalists' Welfare

IMPHAL, 19 JUNE, 2026

The Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), Government of Manipur, is organising a three-day Jan Kalyan Shivir – Beneficiary Registration and Awareness Camp from June 18 to 20, 2026. The camp is aimed at facilitating registration under the Manipur Working Journalists' Pension Scheme and the Manipur State Journalists' Welfare Scheme (MSJWS).

The initiative seeks to create awareness among journalists about welfare measures introduced by the state government and to ensure that eligible media professionals can avail the benefits provided under the schemes. Officials of DIPR explained the eligibility criteria, registration procedures, and benefits available. As per the guidelines, journalists must be Indian citizens, ordinarily residents of Manipur, and accredited by the Government of Manipur. Non-accredited journalists with a minimum of ten years of continuous service are also eligible for assistance under the welfare scheme. Under the Manipur State Journalists' Welfare Scheme, financial assistance of up to Rs.2 lakh may be provided to the family of a journalist in the event of death or permanent disability. The

scheme also provides up to Rs.1 lakh for the treatment of major ailments such as cancer, heart disease, renal failure, and other serious medical conditions. Assistance of up to Rs.50,000 is available for serious injuries requiring hospitalization, subject to prescribed conditions and approval of the competent authority. During the registration drive, journalists submitted the required documents and completed enrolment formalities. Pension pass books under the Manipur Working Journalists' Pension Scheme were also distributed to registered beneficiaries. Among the beneficiaries was Keisham Yaiphaba, a journalist who was formally enrolled under the pension scheme and received his pass book at the camp. The programme reflects the government's commitment to strengthening the social security network for journalists and ensuring their welfare through institutional support mechanisms. Participants appreciated the initiative and expressed hope that more journalists across the state would benefit from the schemes. The Jan Kalyan Shivir will continue until June 20, with officials assisting journalists in registration, verification, and awareness activities related to the welfare and pension schemes.

Experimental Stoppage at Haripur and Revision of Timings at Beawar

Hubballi, June 19: North Western Railway has notified the stoppage of Train No. 16209/16210 Ajmer-Mysuru-Ajmer Express at Haripur station on an experimental basis and has also revised the timings of these trains at Beawar station. Accordingly, Train No. 16209 Ajmer-Mysuru Express will arrive at Haripur at 07:22 hrs and depart at 07:24 hrs with effect from the journey commencing on 26.06.2026. Similarly, Train No. 16210 Mysuru-Ajmer Express will arrive at Beawar at 12:58 hrs instead of 12:55 hrs, while its departure time will remain unchanged at 13:00 hrs, with effect from the journey commencing on 23.06.2026.

This stoppage will remain in force until further advice. The timings of these trains have also been revised at Beawar station. Train No. 16209 Ajmer-Mysuru Express will continue to arrive at Beawar at 06:53 hrs; however, its departure time has been advanced from 06:58 hrs to 06:55 hrs with effect from the journey commencing on 26.06.2026. Similarly, Train No. 16210 Mysuru-Ajmer Express will arrive at Beawar at 12:58 hrs instead of 12:55 hrs, while its departure time will remain unchanged at 13:00 hrs, with effect from the journey commencing on 23.06.2026.



Chief Minister to release Rs 3,125 crore under Annadata Sukhibhava from Linganguntla village in Chilakaluripet constituency tomorrow (June 20) benefiting 46.85 lakh farmers

Amaravati : Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu will release Rs 3,125.47 crore under Annadata Sukhibhava-PM Kisan scheme from Linganguntla village in Chilakaluripet Mandal of Palnadu district tomorrow benefiting total of 46,85,838 farmers. The beneficiaries include 45,69,817 land-owning farmer families and 1,16,021 RoFR (Recognition of Forest Rights) farmer families cultivating land under the Forest Rights Act. During the previous year, the Government distributed Rs 8,985.41 crore under the scheme, including Rs 6,560.18 crore from the State Government and

Rs 2,425.23 crore from the Central Government. Implemented as part of the Super Six promises, the scheme provides financial assistance of Rs 20,000 annually to every eligible farmer family. In which the State Government contributes Rs 14,000, while the Central Government provides Rs 6,000 through the PM-Kisan scheme. The assistance is disbursed in three installments by the State and Central Governments. As part of the first installment for this year, the State Government will provide Rs 5,000 and the Central Government Rs 2,000 under PM-Kisan, resulting in a total credit of Rs

7,000 to each eligible farmer's account. As per schedule the Chief Minister will arrive at Linganguntla village in Chilakaluripet Mandal at 12:15 PM tomorrow. At 12:30 PM, he will visit the Anganwadi Centre in the village and inspect the facilities. From 12:50 PM to 1:20 PM, the Chief Minister will interact with farmers. He will then meet party workers from 2:15 PM to 3:45 PM. At 3:50 PM, the Chief Minister will address a public meeting at the Praja Vedika venue. The Chief Minister will leave Linganguntla at 6:00 PM and return to the Camp Office at 6:20 PM.

PATNA: ON JUNE 19, 2026

Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary flagged off the Chhapra-Delhi Express at a ceremony held at Chhapra Junction. Through video conferencing, they also inaugurated the extension of the Doharighat-Aunrihar train service up to Varanasi City and launched the Mau-Delhi Express. Additionally, at a ceremony held at the Madhaura Locomotive Plant in Bihar, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary flagged off the 51st WDG4G locomotive manufactured at the factory for export to the Republic of Guinea. Addressing the gathering at Chhapra Junction, Mr. Vaishnaw said that the launch of these services fulfills the announcements made during the program held at Doharighat on May 11, 2026, regarding the Chhapra-Delhi Express, Mau-Delhi Express, and the extension of the Doharighat-Aunrihar service

to Varanasi.

He noted that a train from Pune to Patna had also been introduced recently. He stated that Bihar's railway development has gained new momentum due to record budget allocations. Earlier, Bihar received an average railway allocation of ₹1,000 crore. After Prime Minister Narendra Modi took office in 2014, the allocation was doubled and has now increased to ₹10,000 crore. According to the minister, extensive railway infrastructure work is underway across Bihar, including construction of third and fourth railway lines, road overbridges (ROBs), and station redevelopment projects. Under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, 98 railway stations in Bihar are being redeveloped. Bihar currently has the highest number of Amrit Bharat trains, and 14 Vande Bharat trains are operating in the state. He further stated that Bihar will receive a bullet train in the coming years. A bullet train network is planned from

Delhi to Lucknow and Varanasi, and from Varanasi to Patna and Siliguri. Once operational, the Delhi-Patna journey is expected to take only 4 hours and 41 minutes. He described this as part of Prime Minister Modi's vision for a developed India. The Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train is expected to begin operations next year, and seven new rail corridors have been approved in this year's budget. Over time, bullet train services are expected to cover approximately 7,000 km, significantly reducing travel times.

The Railway Minister added that there had been a long-standing demand for the Chhapra-Delhi Express. The train will improve connectivity among Chhapra, Ballia, Mau, Azamgarh, Jaunpur, Sultanpur, Lucknow, Kanpur, Aligarh, and Delhi, bringing substantial benefits to residents of Chhapra.

He highlighted that during Prime Minister Modi's tenure, 2,034 km of new railway tracks have been laid in

Bihar. Several major projects are underway, including:

The Vikramshila-Kateriya new railway line with a rail bridge over the Ganga River. The Narkatiaganj-Raxaul line. Doubling of the Sitamarhi-Darbhangha and Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur sections. The Bhagalpur-Jamalpur third line.

The Bhagalpur-Dumka-Rampur Hat project.

Doubling of the Bakhtiyarpur-Rajgir-Tilaiya route. He said these projects would transform Bihar's railway map. With railway capacity being expanded, Bihar could see around 200 new trains introduced over the next 7-8 years, greatly reducing passenger difficulties.

Referring to the Madhaura Locomotive Plant, he noted that locomotive exports had begun under Prime Minister Modi's leadership. The 51st locomotive manufactured there is being dispatched today, and locomotives built on Bihar's soil will showcase the state's capabilities across the world. Addressing the event, Bihar Chief Minister Sam-

rat Choudhary described the day as historic for Bihar and Chhapra. He said that the launch of the Chhapra-Delhi Express, Mau-Delhi Express, and the extension of the Doharighat-Aunrihar train service to Varanasi City marked a significant milestone.

The Chief Minister stated that railway projects worth more than ₹1 lakh crore are currently underway in Bihar. He noted that 36 out of Bihar's 38 districts are now connected to the railway network. Construction of a third railway line from Chhapra to Katihar is also in progress. He welcomed the proposed bullet train project for Bihar.

On this occasion, Uttar Pradesh Cabinet Minister Arvind Kumar Sharma, Saran MP Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Maharajan MP Janardan Singh Sigrwal, and Ghosi MP Rajeev Rai expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw for introducing the new train services.





EDITORIAL.

The Islamabad MoU:  
A Reprieve,  
Not a Remedy

The signing of the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the United States and Iran this week marks a stunning, if deeply fragile, de-escalation of a Middle East conflict that has spent months teetering on the edge of total collapse. With the electronic signatures of President Donald Trump and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian formalized, the immediate relief to the global economy is palpable. The U.S. Navy has begun dismantling its crippling naval blockade, and oil tankers are once again charting courses through the critical Strait of Hormuz. Yet, as Vice President J.D. Vance prepares to lead technical negotiations in Switzerland this weekend, the international community must greet this breakthrough not as a final peace, but as a high-stakes, 60-day pause button. The MoU successfully unwinds the immediate triggers of the war, but it deftly defers the most explosive, core structural disputes to a ticking clock. What has actually been achieved is less a grand bargain and more a mutual retreat to the pre-war status quo. The immediate terms are transactional. Iran reopens the Strait of Hormuz to commercial traffic, aiming for full capacity within 30 days. The U.S. Treasury has issued immediate waivers on Iranian crude and petrochemicals, an acknowledgment that prior sanctions were merely handing China heavily discounted energy. Half of Iran's \$24 billion in frozen overseas assets are slated for release, creating a temporary economic cushion for Tehran.

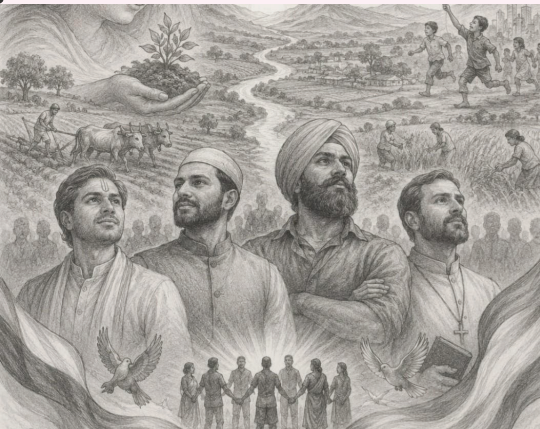
On paper, the agreement also mandates a permanent termination of military operations "on all fronts, including in Lebanon." This effectively binds Iran to rein in its proxy, Hezbollah. However, Israel is notably not a party to this MoU. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government—which as recently as last week demanded absolute bans on Iranian ballistic missiles—now watches a deal that omits missile restrictions entirely. The risk that unilateral regional actions could shatter this fragile framework remains acute. The true test of this deal lies in how the two nations navigate the next 60 days regarding Iran's nuclear program. Following the destruction of several atomic facilities by U.S.-Israeli air strikes last year, Iran still holds an estimated 400 to 440 kilograms of 60% enriched uranium. In a significant pivot, Washington appears to have abandoned its rigid prerequisite that Iran ship its entire uranium stockpile to American soil. Instead, the current framework allows for the uranium to be down-blended to a civilian-grade 3.67% inside Iran under IAEA supervision. While the Trump administration presents this as a pragmatic compromise to avert a forever war, congressional hawks are already sounding alarms, calling it a concession that yields vital American leverage upfront.

Tehran, conversely, is operating under deep systemic paranoia. Hardline factions within Iran's parliament view the generous economic overtures—including talk of a Western-and-Gulf-funded \$300 billion reconstruction plan—as a classic Trojan horse designed to lull the regime into a false sense of security before a secondary strike.

The Islamabad MoU has successfully stopped the bleeding, lowered global oil prices, and opened a channel for diplomacy where none existed. But a ceasefire is not a settlement. If Washington and Tehran cannot bridge two decades of profound, generational distrust within the next 60 days, the world may find that this week's historic breakthrough was merely the prelude to an even wider conflagration.



STOP



See this land, like a mother's grace  
A soil so sweet, a warm embrace.  
Richer than gold, more sacred than lore,  
A place where love and life restore.

Humanity blooms in every field,  
With crops of peace, our wounds are healed.  
Secular dreams in furrows grow,  
Where faiths may differ, yet rivers flow.

Look today and understand  
This is our multi-blooded land:  
A Hindu stands with honor high,  
A Muslim lifts the nation's sky,  
A Sikh who roars with lion's might,  
A Christian guards with steadfast light.

One law, one soul no caste, no creed,  
No room for hate, no space for greed.  
Stop the stains of faith and bribe,  
Cut the knots where politics thrive.

Step ahead, sow seeds of grace,  
Let truth and love reclaim their place.  
This land is great, not by its might,  
But by ideals that burn so bright.

So raise the mirror, hold it high  
This dream, this hope, will never die.  
Who dares to claim it's not divine?  
This nation's soul will stand through time.



...: Dr. Puka Raju ...  
National Poet  
7810032847



OPINION

CINEMA: A VISUAL LITERATURE BEYOND  
THE WRITTEN WORD AND THE LANGUAGE OF  
IMAGES AND INNER EXPERIENCE

“Literature is not confined to words printed on paper; it is the continuing evolution of human imagination”



Throughout history, literature has been humanity's most enduring means of expressing emotion and experience. Yet the written word unfolds sequentially; sentences are read one after another. Human consciousness, however, often perceives emotions, memories, and sensations simultaneously. Cinema transcends this limitation through the language of images, sound, and montage. By juxtaposing a mother's grief, the ticking hands of a clock, and the eloquence of silence within a single frame, cinema can convey both temporal movement and emotional intensity at once. In doing so, it has evolved into an artistic medium that absorbs and synthesizes the expressive possibilities of poetry, painting, music, drama, and literature.

The psychological depth traditionally associated with fiction is recreated in cinema through visual means. Novelists reveal the inner lives of characters through introspection and stream-of-consciousness techniques; filmmakers achieve comparable effects through lighting, framing, and camera movement. A conflict of conscience may be suggested not through pages of monologue, but through the interplay of shadow and light upon a face. In Telugu cinema, films such as Maro Charitra and Sagara Sangamam communicate emotion-

al isolation and personal decline not merely through dialogue but through silence, spatial composition, and body language. Such techniques demonstrate cinema's unique capacity to externalize states of mind.

Visual Poetry and  
Collective Emotion:

Indian aesthetic theory holds that the experience of art culminates in a process of universalization, whereby the emotions represented in a work become shared human experiences. Cinema transforms this aesthetic process into a collective phenomenon. In the darkness of a theatre, strangers laugh, weep, and rejoice together, participating in a common emotional experience. K. Viswanath's Swathi Muthyam elevates innocence into a moral ideal, while Rudraveena presents the aspiration for social equality as both an ethical and humanistic concern. In such works, music becomes more than accompaniment; it acts as an invisible interpreter of emotions that words alone cannot fully express.

Cinema has also created a distinctive form of visual poetry. Just as poets employ metaphors and symbols, filmmakers use framing, movement, and composition to construct visual metaphors. Mayabazar,

for instance, transforms humour and satire into visual spectacle, while the lyrics of Sirivennela Sitarama Sastry demonstrate how cinema can carry philosophical and poetic traditions to wider audiences. Songs such as "Vidhaata Talapuna" and "Jagamantha Kutumbam Naadi" communicate profound spiritual and humanistic ideas in forms accessible to ordinary listeners.

Cinema as Social Criticism and  
Living Literature:

From the perspective of social criticism, cinema functions as a continuing dialogue with society. If writers and dramatists once challenged social conventions through literature, cinema has expanded that conversation to reach millions. From the socially conscious works of Tatineni Prakash Rao to the films of contemporary directors, Indian cinema has repeatedly engaged with questions of inequality, morality, and justice. Shankar's Bharateeyudu, for example, explores corruption not merely as a political issue but as a symptom of ethical decline.

Perhaps cinema's greatest literary quality lies in its ability to generate layers of meaning. As readers search for symbolism in poetry, viewers interpret meanings embedded within cinematic images. A colour,

a recurring object, the sound of rain, or even the gradual transformation of costume can reveal dimensions of character and theme that remain unspoken. Every frame possesses the potential to function as a text open to interpretation.

Literature is not confined to words printed on paper; it is the continuing evolution of human imagination. In bringing together narrative, music, image, movement, and symbolism, cinema has extended the possibilities of literary expression. Far from replacing literature, it has given rise to a modern form of visual storytelling that remains one of humanity's most complex and compelling artistic achievements.



CHITIKENA  
KIRAN KUMAR  
Eminent Poet,  
Writer & Editorial Columnist  
Member: International  
Benevolent Research Forum

| “World Refugee Day” 20th June

Solidarity with Refugees  
Until Everyone is Safe



A refugee is defined as someone who has a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons such as war, persecution, violence, conflicts, climate related disasters, race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, and who is outside their country and unable to seek its protection. Different categories of displaced persons include refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons, stateless persons and returnees. United Nations adapted 20 June annually as “World Refugee Day” in 2000 to address this global problem. This day was first observed on 20 June 2001 to honour the courage and resilience - people forced to flee their own country and seek safety in another country (due to war, persecution or violence). This day highlights refugee rights and honour the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country.

Theme of World  
Refugee Day-2026:

The theme of 2026 World Refugee Day is “Solidarity with Refugees Until Everyone is Safe”, urges people everywhere to stand with refugees, honour their stories, and show that no one is alone in their plight. The Refugee Week 2026 also aligns with this theme under the banner “Community as a Superpower”, celebrating small acts of kindness that collectively build inclusive and compassionate societies. Organisations worldwide will focus on empathy campaigns, solidarity rallies, and storytelling that highlights refugee experiences. There are roughly 108 million refugees forcibly displaced worldwide, including refugees, internally displaced persons, and asylum seekers - an all-time high. Every minute 33 persons are displaced by conflicts or

persecution. This day also shines a light on refugee rights, needs and aspirations, mobilising political support, funding, and community empathy.

Refugee Problem in India:

India hosts tens of thousands of refugees and asylum seekers from Myanmar, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Tibet, and other countries. The different contemporary refugee groups are partition, Tibetan, Sri Lankan, Bangladeshi, Chakma and Hajong, Rohingya, Jewish refugees in India. In 2022, over 46,000 refugees are registered in India, including about 22,500 Rohingyas from Myanmar. India's refugee communities mostly live in urban centres and maintain informal livelihoods. India lacks a formal refugee law. India has enabled resettlement for few Sri Lankan Tamils and extended support to Tibetans. Despite global efforts, only 7 percent refugees have access to education, compared to a global average of 43 percent. Globally 87 percent of refugees live in low- and middle-income nations, many with serious health problems. India has not signed the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocols.

The World Refugee Day highlights the importance of empathy, solidarity, legal safeguards, and sustained humanitarian support in addressing one of the most pressing human rights challenges of our times. Refugees are not separate from us. Our commitment to refugee health reflects our values, one is a testament to equality, dignity and shared humanity. Healthy societies leave on one behind and hence let's extend the fullest cooperation to refugees and their human rights.

- PROF MADHUSUDHAN  
REDDY BURRA  
9949700037.





## BEST Bus Strike

Mumbai's lifeline halted! Strike by BEST employees not a single bus left from many depots

HYDERABAD, JUN 19, 2026



Transport in Mumbai disrupted due to BEST bus strike since midnight, lakhs of commuters stranded. BEST Action Committee puts forth 8 demands. Government declares strike illegal by invoking MESMA.

**Best Strike:** BEST services, considered the second lifeline of Mumbaikars, came to a standstill from 12 midnight. Due to the 'work stoppage' agitation called by the BEST Action Committee, Mumbai's transport system has collapsed. Lakhs of commuters heading to work and school/college in the morning are facing severe hardship. Since early morning today, buses have not arrived in many areas. As a result, passengers are left waiting.

**Where are buses shut?** According to information received, not a single bus left from Goregaon, Oshiwara, Wadala, Marol, and Kurla depots in the morning. Worker unions have claimed that the situation is almost the same

in nearly all depots across Mumbai. Due to this sudden strike, there is a huge rush of commuters at railway stations and auto-taxi stands. Commuters who left with their regular schedule are likely to be delayed today because of the BEST strike.

**These unions are not part of the strike!**

Although it is claimed that all workers are participating in this agitation, information has surfaced that Shashank Rao's BEST Workers Union and Prasad Lad's union will not participate in this 'work stoppage' agitation. This shows a split among the workers. BEST employees have called this strike to press for their long-pending demands before the administration and the state government.

## India's First Astronaut to Visit the International Space Station

Launches India's First Ease of Operating Schools Index at RISE for Viksit Bharat CCS Convenes National Dialogue on School Education Reform in New Delhi

NEW DELHI | JUNE 19, 2026 :



India's first astronaut to visit the International Space Station (ISS), Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, today launched the Ease of Operating Schools (EoS) Index 2026 at the Reforming India's School Education (RISE) for Viksit Bharat conclave, organised by the Centre for Civil Society (CCS) at the India International Centre, New Delhi. The EoS Index is India's first comprehensive assessment of the regulatory environment governing private schools across 28 states and 2 Union Territories. The report examines how laws, rules, and regulations affect schools' ability to establish, operate, expand, sustain themselves, and exercise institutional autonomy. The launch was followed by a panel discussion on the future of school education reform in India, moderated by noted author and public intellectual Gurcharan Das. The panel featured Indrani Bhaduri, CEO and Head, NCERT-PARAKH; Shailendra Sharma, Former Principal Advisor, Directorate of Education, Government of Delhi; Dr. Taneya Singh, School Education Consultant, NITI Aayog;

Vardan Kabra, Co-founder of Fountainhead Schools and Senior Vice President, ARISE Governing Body; and Sunita Johar, Principal, Army Public School. The panel reflected on the experiences of the last 75 years of independent India and highlighted the urgency of implementing reforms to harness the demographic dividend and achieve the vision of a developed India by 2047. Speaking at the launch, Captain Shubhanshu Shukla said, "The ability to navigate the gap between what our children already know and what they need to do is a crucial skill. We need to prepare children with problem-solving abilities to explore uncharted territories, including space. Education is the single most important factor in determining whether India becomes a developed nation by

2047." Dr. Amit Chandra, Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Civil Society, said, "The human capital expected in 2047 is sitting in Grade 1 classrooms today. We need to act fast to serve them. All schools, teachers, and parents must work together for every child, irrespective of affiliation or categorisation." Gurcharan Das observed, "India has succeeded on many fronts, but education is not one of them. The average child in India receives a poor education. We need to attract more idealistic people into this field, and that is what the Ease of Operating Schools seeks to achieve." Addressing the gathering, Sadula Madhusudhan, President of the Telangana Recognised School Managements Association (TRSMA), emphasized that governments should avoid dis-

criminatory regulations between government and private schools. He advocated for outcome-based standards rather than excessive infrastructure-based regulations, stating that overregulation often leads to corruption and hampers educational innovation. Dr. Komatireddy Gopal Reddy, eminent educationist, environmentalist, and National Advisor of TRSMA, pointed out that unaided private schools are educating nearly 50 percent of the country's students without imposing any financial burden on the government, while providing employment to lakhs of teachers across India. He urged both the Central and State Governments to encourage and support private schools in their mission of delivering quality education to the next generation. Dr. Gopal Reddy further advocated for the introduction of common Board Examinations for Classes V and VIII across all states to ensure learning outcomes and standards. He also stressed the importance of strengthening teacher education and maintaining strict quality standards in B.Ed. and M.Ed. programmes through rigorous training and regulatory oversight.



Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini addressing the gathering during a Yoga Camp organised at Mukhya Dham Baba Bhumanash (Sangar Sarista), village Bhumanash, Sirsa district on June 19, 2026.

## Yoga Reflects India's Spiritual Strength and Global Leadership- CM

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 19

Haryana Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that yoga is an invaluable gift of India's Sanatan culture, bestowed upon humanity by the country's sages for the welfare of the entire world. The journey of yoga, which began thousands of years ago, has today assumed a global dimension. Yoga is not merely a physical practice, it is a complete way of life that connects the body, mind, soul and society, he said. The Chief Minister was addressing a yoga practice programme organised on the occasion of International Yoga Day at the Main Dham of Baba Bhuman Shah located at village Baba Bhuman Shah (Sangar Sarista) in Sirsa district on Friday. During the programme, he presented shawls to Guru Maharaj Baba Brahm Dass Ji and Mahant Mahesh Muni Maharaj of Kurukshetra.

He said that he experienced immense peace and positive energy while visiting Dera Baba Bhuman Shah Ashram, a centre of spiritual consciousness situated on this sacred land. In his address, the Chief Minister said that the entire world will celebrate International Yoga Day on June 21. In this connection, yoga practice programmes are being organised across different districts of Haryana. He said that yoga has attained an international stature due to the efforts of Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi. As a result of his tireless efforts, the United Nations General Assembly declared June 21 as International Yoga Day in 2014. At that

time, 177 countries supported the proposal, and today almost every nation in the world has embraced yoga. The Chief Minister said that from New York's Times Square and Paris's Eiffel Tower to Tokyo and Toronto, India's spiritual heritage is receiving global recognition through yoga. This is India's strength, established not through the power of the sword but through the strength of penance, culture and spiritual values, he said.

He further said that under the leadership of Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi, Yogasana has been accorded the status of a sport and included in the Khelo India Youth Games. The Prime Minister's messages like 'Khelega Bharat to Khilega Bharatand 'Yoga Ki Dose, Aadha Ghanta Roz' have become a source of inspiration for people across the country.

**India's Global Prestige Has Grown Through Development and Yoga Over the Past 12 Years**

The Chief Minister said that it is a happy coincidence that this year's International Yoga Day is being observed at a time when the Union Government under the leadership of Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi is completing 12 years in office. During these years, India has reached new heights in infrastructure development, technology and the economy, while also showing the world the path of mental peace and better health through yoga. He said that the journey of these 12 years of development and the global spread of yoga reflects the growing strength and global leadership of New India.



## D Raja Slams BJP MP, Alleges Caste Bias Against Kharge

NEW DELHI: (JUN 19)

Communist Party of India (CPI) general secretary D Raja on Friday condemned BJP MP Ramesh Jigajinagi for his remarks against Karnataka minister Priyank Kharge, alleging that they exposed the "casteist mentality" of the RSS-BJP.

In a post on X, Raja said Jigajinagi's remarks revealed the "deep contempt" that the RSS-BJP harbours towards Dalit communities.

Raja was criticising Jigajinagi's questioning why Kharge, "a Dalit", should question the RSS, and claimed that those who tried to take on the RSS "have not survived."

## Railway Minister Reviews Station Management Reforms

Union Minister for Railways Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw yesterday held a review meeting with senior railway officials to discuss issues and challenges faced by Station Masters and to deliberate on a comprehensive framework aimed at empowering them to ensure safer, more efficient, and passenger-centric railway operations across the Indian Railways network.

Station Masters play a critical role in ensuring safe train operations, coordinating with multiple departments, managing passenger facilities and maintaining smooth functioning of railway stations. During the review, detailed discussions were held on identifying operational and administrative challenges faced by Station Masters in their day-to-day working and developing solutions to strengthen their effectiveness.

The meeting also discussed strengthening the role of Station Masters. In addition, proposals relating to enhanced administrative and opera-



tional powers, improved career progression avenues and greater opportunities to rise to higher levels of management were reviewed. These measures aim to empower Station Masters to take quicker decisions, improve passenger service delivery and effectively oversee station infrastructure, staff offices, colonies and other associated facilities. To address growing operational requirements, discussions focused on the provision of additional Station Masters in multi-track and high-density sections where traffic levels and operational complexity have increased significantly.

The need for expeditious filling of vacancies in the Station Master cadre was also reviewed, with emphasis on treating these vacancies on priority.

Recognising the importance of technology in improving efficiency, discussions were held on introducing mobile app-based paperless working systems for Station Masters. The meeting also reviewed the development of an integrated Station Management System that would enable better coordination among various railway departments and facilitate faster resolution of passenger-related issues at

stations. The Railway Minister emphasized the importance of modern skill development and capacity building. Officials discussed upgrading training methodologies through the use of Virtual Reality, simulators and other modern training technologies to better prepare Station Masters for handling increasingly complex railway operations and emergency situations.

To enable quicker resolution of local issues and improve passenger convenience, proposals relating to enhancement of financial powers of Station Masters were reviewed. Greater empowerment at the station level is expected to facilitate timely maintenance, faster response to passenger requirements and improved station management. The meeting also examined measures to improve career progression opportunities for Station Masters, enabling greater access to higher levels of management and leadership positions within Indian Railways. Discussions

focused on creating a more motivating and growth-oriented work environment for employees serving in this critical operational category.

Safety-related issues were also reviewed in detail. Discussions focused on providing improved safety equipment and user-friendly tools at stations, keeping in view the increasing participation of women Station Masters and women Pointsmen in railway operations. The objective is to ensure safer, more accessible and more efficient working conditions for frontline railway staff.

The initiatives discussed during the review meeting reflect Indian Railways' commitment to empower Station Masters with better manpower support, modern technology, enhanced training, and greater decision-making authority, with the aim of building a more responsive, efficient, and future-ready station management system for millions of passengers across the country.

## Dr. Rajashekhar scales Mt. Denali after summiting Mt. Everest

HYDERABAD, JUNE 19, 2026

Indian mountaineer and orthopedic surgeon Dr. Rajashekhar has successfully summited Mt. Denali, North America's highest peak, completing the prestigious Seven Summits challenge—climbing the highest mountain on each continent. With this achievement, he becomes the first doctor from the South Indian states to accomplish the feat. For Dr. Rajashekhar, the journey to the Seven Summits has been shaped as much by personal adversity as by high-altitude achievement. Throughout this journey, he received invaluable support and guidance from Bharath Thamineni, founder of Boots and Crampon, whose encouragement played an important role in helping him pursue this ambitious goal. A specialist in hip and knee surgery and a robotic surgeon, he spent years working alongside leading orthopedic surgeons in Hyderabad while also training younger surgeons entering the field. However, his life took an

**Mt. Vinson, becomes first doctor from South India to complete Seven Summits**  
**Dr. Rajashekhar Successfully Summits Mt. Denali, Completing Historic Seven Summits Challenge**



unexpected turn during the COVID-19 pandemic when he contracted the virus and was hospitalized. The recovery proved difficult. According to Dr. Rajashekhar, lingering fatigue and a loss of motivation forced him to step away from his profession for nearly a year. Determined to rebuild his health, he set himself an ambitious goal. He chose mountaineering, a sport that demands exceptional endurance, physical fitness and mental resilience, and began training systematically. His Seven Summits journey started with a successful ascent of Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania on January 26, 2022. He followed that with a summit of Mt. Elbrus, Europe's highest mountain, in August 2022. After suffering multiple injuries, Dr. Rajashekhar took a year-long break before returning to the mountains. He climbed Mt. Kosciuszko in Australia in August 2023 and reached the summit of Mt. Aconcagua, South Amer-

ica's highest peak, on February 4, 2024. Just months later, he achieved his most significant mountaineering milestone by summiting Mt. Everest on May 23, 2024. His first attempt on Mt. Denali in Alaska came in June 2025. Severe weather conditions prevented a summit push, and he suffered frostbite during the descent. Rather than ending the project, the setback reinforced his determination. Later, he successfully climbed Mt. Vinson, Antarctica's highest peak, alongside fellow climber

Kavita. On June 18, 2026, Dr. Rajashekhar reached the summit of Mt. Denali at approximately 8:30 AM IST. According to a voice message shared with family, the climb was completed smoothly despite cold temperatures and light winds. "Summit was successfully done without any issue. Little winds and cold temperature otherwise everything is good. No injuries, whole team is doing well," he said. Reflecting on the achievement, Dr. Rajashekhar said, "Standing on Mt. Denali after everything I've been

through is an incredibly emotional moment. This journey tested me physically and mentally, but it also reminded me of the power of resilience and purpose. Completing the Seven Summits is not just a personal milestone, but a message that recovery and determination can take you to the highest places on Earth." After the summit, he safely descended to the high camp at an altitude of approximately 5,247 meters, where the team regrouped. In his message, he added, "We just reached camp and are ready to enjoy tea being prepared by our leader Sewang. Please inform near and dear." With this successful ascent, Dr. Rajashekhar has officially completed the Seven Summits challenge, placing him among a select group of mountaineers worldwide who have stood atop the highest peak on every continent and becoming the first doctor from South India to achieve this milestone. Beyond mountaineering, Dr.

Rajashekhar draws immense strength from his close-knit joint family. He lives with his parents, brother, extended family members and grandmother. He and his wife, Dr. HariPriya, a specialist in Infectious Diseases, have a nine-year-old son. He takes great pride in his family, which has been a constant source of support throughout his journey. Reacting to the achievement, Dr. HariPriya said, "This journey has been nothing short of extraordinary. From battling a serious illness to standing on the highest peaks in the world, his determination has inspired all of us. As a family, we are incredibly proud of his resilience, discipline and courage. This achievement belongs not just to him, but to everyone who stood by him through every challenge." For the orthopedician-turned-mountaineer, the climb represents the final step in a journey that began with recovery from serious illness and evolved into one of the most demanding goals in global mountaineering—a remarkable story of resilience, determination and triumph.





India, UK discuss  
advancing  
collaborations in AI,  
emerging technologies

LONDON

India and UK discussed advancing collaboration in Artificial Intelligence (AI), emerging technologies, research and innovation and leveraging the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement to have new opportunities, foster innovation, and drive shared economic growth.

The discussions were held during a meeting between India's High Commissioner to the UK, P Kumaran, and Permanent Secretary, UK's Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Emran Mian, the High Commission of India in London announced on Friday.

"High Commissioner P. Kumaran had a constructive meeting yesterday with Emran Mian, Permanent Secretary, DSIT. They discussed advancing India-UK collaboration in AI, emerging technologies, research and innovation, and leveraging the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement to unlock new opportunities, foster innovation, and drive shared economic growth," the High Commission of India in London posted on X.

On Wednesday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) will formally enter into force on July 15, marking what he described as a "historic milestone" in bilateral relations. PM Modi stated that the agreement will significant boost bilateral ties and investment.

"A historic milestone for India-UK relations. Delighted to note that the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement will enter into force on 15th July 2026.

Italian minister  
cancels US visit over  
Trump's comments  
on Meloni

ROME

Italian Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Antonio Tajani on Friday announced the cancellation of his planned visit to Miami for a business forum, after the controversy over US President Donald Trump's comments on Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni.

"The serious and offensive words of President Trump towards Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni offend all of Italy. For this reason, I have decided to cancel my visit to the United States scheduled for the next 21 and 22 June," Tajani wrote on X.

"Trump's rants about Giorgia Meloni are just the latest episode of attacks and insults directed at European leaders. It is unclear whether by will or ineptitude, he is ruining the historical relations between the United States and Europe.

Pakistan's parallel diplomacy: How fixers, lobbyists  
and power brokers are opening doors abroad

NEW DELHI

When it comes to Pakistan's foreign policy there has been a noticeable shift. The foreign policy which was formally conducted through diplomats and Embassies has now witnessed a marked change. Today there is a lot of reliance on businessmen, lobbyists, crypto entrepreneurs, personal networks and political intermediaries.

Disinfo Lab, a group of researchers who investigate Info-warfare and Psy-war said in a series of posts on social media platform X that since 2024 there have been multiple such cases that explain this in the form of a pattern across the US, Gulf and China.

Pakistan always has someone with the right contacts, give them enough cover, and let them open doors that official diplomats cannot, it also said.

One of the most striking examples surfaced in April 2026, when US Vice President J.D. Vance and Special Envoy Steve Witkoff arrived in Islamabad for talks that were aimed at easing tensions between the United States and Iran.

Standing among the senior



Pakistani officials welcoming them was Umar Farooq Zahoor, a Dubai-based businessman of Pakistani origin. Zahoor is the same person who has spent several years under scrutiny in Europe. He was born in Sialkot before his family migrated to Norway. He has long been accused of financial misconduct and Norwegian authorities have pursued him for years in connection with major fraud investigations. He was convicted in Oslo in 2003 in connection with a travel-agency fraud case. In 2010 the Oslo police linked Zahoor to the Nordea bank fraud case involving millions of dollars. Following this, the Interpol issued a Red Corner Notice

against him. The notice was however dropped after Pakistan requested its removal in 2022.

However, authorities in Norway continue to pursue various aspects of this case. Despite all these allegations, his standing in Pakistan has risen steadily with Zahoor even receiving the Hilal-e-Imtiaz in 2025 which is Pakistan's second-highest civilian honour for contributions to foreign investment.

Officials say that this signals Pakistan's broader pattern where persons carrying significant baggage abroad remain useful to Islamabad.

Disinfo Lab says that the same logic is visible in Pakistan's growing embrace of cryptocur-

rency diplomacy. In April 2025, Islamabad began major crypto-sector engagement through the World Liberty Financial (WLF), a venture that is linked to the Trump family.

At the centre of this was one Bilal Bin Saqib. He joined the WLF in April 2025 as an adviser and eleven days later, Pakistan and the WLF signed a cooperation agreement.

The timing was interesting and this came at a time when the Pahalgam terror attack took place. This was followed by India's Operation Sindoor to avenge the attack in which multiple terror training facilities in Pakistan were destroyed.

It was at this time that Pakistan was cultivating political, financial and strategic relations with influential American people.

Bilal rose in the ranks and went on to become chief executive of Pakistan's Crypto Council. The council also appointed Binance founder Changpeng Zhao as a strategic adviser. Zhao had previously pleaded guilty to US anti-money-laundering violations, while Binance agreed to pay billions of dollars in penalties.

Questions also emerged regarding Bilal's corporate network in the United Kingdom. Several companies linked to him reportedly share the same address, maintain limited public operations and offer little financial transparency.

One company, Tayaba UK, has links to Al Mustafa Trust, an organisation whose leadership includes several retired Pakistan Army officers. In April 2025, Pakistan hired Seiden Law on a contract to facilitate access within the US political system.

The contract with the firm was worth \$200,000 per month. The firm partnered with Javelin Advisors, a firm that was founded by Keith Schiller, Donald Trump's long-time bodyguard and former Oval Office aide, along with George Sorial, a veteran Trump Organisation executive.

The documents filed under the Foreign Agents Registration Act revealed that the one objective involved presenting Pakistan's position on Kashmir and India-Pakistan relations before the White House, Congress and among other American policy circles.



Israel, Hezbollah reach  
ceasefire: Reports

JERUSALEM

Israel and Hezbollah have reached a ceasefire, local media reported on Friday, citing Israeli officials. The official said Israel would remain in the "security zone" in southern Lebanon. "If they attack us, we will respond," the official was quoted as saying, Israel's Channel 12 reported.

Ibrahim al-Moussawi, a member of Hezbollah's parliamentary bloc "Loyalty to the Resistance," said Friday that the group would continue to abide by the ceasefire agreement provided that Israel also respects its terms, Xinhua news agency reported.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu earlier in the day warned that Israel will not tolerate attacks on its soldiers or its territory, and will exact a "very heavy price" from Hezbollah for killing four soldiers in Lebanon on

Thursday. "I send heartfelt condolences to the families of the Commander of the Armored Corps 52nd Battalion, Lt. Col. Dor Gedalia Ben Simhon, and of three heroic fighters whose names have not yet been cleared for publication, may God avenge their blood. I also wish a speedy recovery to the wounded in the exchanges of fire yesterday," Netanyahu said, according to a statement posted by the Office of the Israeli Prime Minister on X.

"Following the heinous attack by Hezbollah, which is a flagrant violation of the ceasefire, I instructed the IDF last night to strike Hezbollah with force," he added.

According to him, the Israeli Defence Force (IDF) struck over 80 terror targets and eliminated dozens of terrorists. Subsequently, the IDF struck Hezbollah command posts in the Beqaa Valley this morning.

Pak forces kill two civilians, forcibly  
disappear another two in Balochistan

QUETTA

As violence against civilians continues unabated across Balochistan, leading human rights organisations on Friday brought to light the extrajudicial killing of two civilians and the enforced disappearance of two others allegedly at the hands of Pakistani forces.

Human rights body Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC) revealed that the bullet-riddled body of 22-year-old driver Mujahid was recovered near the Chakul area in the Panjgur district on Thursday after he had remained missing for more than 10 days.

According to the BYC, Mujahid was forcibly disappeared by Pakistani forces on the night of June 7 from the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)



Road area in the Sarsand region of Panjgur. The rights body noted his family received no information about his whereabouts during the period of his disappearance.

"Families of disappeared persons and human rights defenders have repeatedly called for transparent investigations into cases of enforced disappearance, unlawful killings, and

other human rights violations. However, state institutions have failed to respond adequately when it comes to Balochistan," the BYC stated.

In a separate incident, a 33-year-old Gul Badeen Notezai was killed by the Pakistani Army on June 17 in the Dalbandin region of Chagai District.

Condemning the killing, the BYC said, "The incident has

raised serious concerns among local residents regarding the safety and protection of civilians. Gul Badeen Notezai, along with many other innocent civilians in Balochistan, has become part of a wider pattern of incidents that continue to raise serious concerns about the safety, protection, and rights of people in the region." The rights body called for an immediate, transparent, and impartial investigation into the incident, urging the Pakistani authorities to ensure that all those responsible are identified and held accountable under the law.

Highlighting the atrocities against civilians in Balochistan, human rights body Baloch Voice for Justice (BVJ) on Friday alleged that another two Baloch youths were forcibly disappeared by Pakistani forces.

India, Uzbekistan agree to double bilateral trade in next 3 years

NEW DELHI

India and Uzbekistan on Friday agreed to deepen trade ties, address the issue of non-tariff barriers and work towards doubling bilateral trade in the next three years, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Friday.

Rajesh Agrawal, Department of Commerce Secretary, co-chaired the 14th Session of the India-Uzbekistan Inter-governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation with Shokhrukh Gulamov, Deputy Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade of Uzbekistan. The meeting was held in Tashkent, with the Indian co-chair participating through video conference.

"The Commission discussed



several product categories where Indian exports to Uzbekistan can be expanded. These include pharmaceuticals, medical devices, agricultural products, processed foods, agricultural machinery, engineering goods, electrical machinery, electronics, smartphones, automobiles and auto

components, tractor accessories, textiles and textile machinery, chemicals, healthcare services, education services, tourism, logistics and other business services," the statement said. The Commerce Secretary said that non-tariff barriers relating to approvals, standards, testing, certification,

customs procedures and market-access requirements need regular review; and businesses need predictability, regulators need dialogue and standards bodies need direct contact. A time-bound mechanism on resolving non-tariff barriers to trade would help convert goodwill into trade outcomes.

Both sides also recognised India's capabilities in agriculture and allied exports, processed foods, agricultural machinery, seed development, agricultural research and climate-resilient farming technologies. Besides, the two sides discussed ICT and digital cooperation. India highlighted its capabilities in IT, digital public infrastructure, telecom, fintech, cybersecurity, health services, digital education, engineering consultancy and

digital logistics. The Indian side suggested cooperating on customs data exchange and exploring interlinking of payment infrastructure for secure and efficient payments, with a view to supporting tourism, trade and commerce. Energy was discussed as an area of strategic cooperation.

India noted that its fast-growing digital economy, including rising demand from artificial intelligence, data centres and advanced computing, requires reliable and clean baseload power. In this context, ensuring critical minerals supply was identified as an important area for advancing India-Uzbekistan energy cooperation.

Both sides recognised that robust transport and logistics connectivity are essential for unlocking the full economic potential of the relationship.

Russia to consider NATO's strengthening  
nuclear potential in its military planning

MOSCOW

Russia will take the strengthening of NATO's overall nuclear potential into account in its military planning, the country's Deputy Foreign Minister said on Tuesday.

"We cannot ignore the obvious strengthening of the nuclear component of NATO's overall potential, which is in fact occurring as a result of Europe's efforts to develop its own nuclear capabilities in addition to the US's corresponding 'umbrella,'" Sergei Ryabkov, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister, was quoted as saying by Russia's leading Tass news agency during an interview with local media.

He also said that the strategic risks of a "head-on clash" be-

tween NATO and Russia are increasing, and its consequences would be catastrophic. Ryabkov also noted that the "escalatory narrative" of European capitals about the looming threat of high-intensity war with Russia.

"As a result of this escalation of tensions, including openly provocative actions in the nuclear sphere, strategic risks and the danger of a head-on clash between NATO and our country, with all the ensuing potentially catastrophic consequences, are increasing," the deputy minister emphasised. He stressed that Russia cannot remain without reactions in military planning, especially regarding France's efforts within the framework of the new strategy of "so-called" forward nuclear deterrence.

915 murder cases in 3 months raise concerns over law-and-order situation

DHAKA

Bangladesh is grappling with worsening law and order concerns amid a surge in shootings, targeted killings, and armed attacks linked to political feuds and underworld rivalries, with police registering 915 murder cases across the country in three months — a daily average of more than 10 killings, local media reported.

Citing analysts, Bangladesh's newspaper "The Daily Star" reported that the surge in violence is being driven by the proliferation of illegal firearms, weak policing, and the return of notorious criminals following the 2024 political transition. Analysts contend that political rivalries and factional feuds

have spilt onto the streets, with gangs increasingly being used as instruments of power, triggering targeted attacks across the country.

According to the Police Headquarters data, 915 murder cases were recorded during the three-month period, including 317 in March, shortly after the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) assumed office; 288 in April; and 310 in May.

The data showed that with 207 murder cases, Dhaka Range topped the list during the period, followed by Chattogram with 186 cases, Rajshahi with 106, and Khulna with 84. Additionally, the Dhaka metropolitan area also recorded the highest number of murders among metropolitan regions,



with 57 cases. The continued incidence of murders and brazen criminal acts in broad daylight has heightened concerns about public safety and law and order across the country.

"We don't feel safe. Killings, shootings, and muggings have become alarmingly frequent. People expect safety and security, but it appears the law-and-order situation has not

improved despite repeated assurances," The Daily Star quoted Khairul Hasan, a resident of Mohammadpur in Dhaka, as saying.

Omar Faruk, a professor in the department of criminology and police science at Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University in Tangail district, criticised the government for its failure to restore order.

"The law and order situation has not yet reached the level we had expected," Faruk said, pointing to the lack of reforms within law enforcement agencies.

Faruk stated that the authorities have failed to recover over 1,000 weapons missing from police stations, while illegal arms smuggling continues un-

abated. He alleged that many criminals released after August 5, 2024, remain in possession of weapons and carry out criminal activities under political patronage.

He further said the criminals have been emboldened by a lenient approach of law enforcement agencies, believing they can act with impunity. He also alleged links between these criminals and influential figures at the highest levels.

Violence has intensified since the political changeover in August 2024, law enforcement officials said, citing the return of several notorious gang leaders and convicted offenders to the streets after their release from prison or return from abroad.





APEDA flags off  
Uttarakhand's  
first litchi  
consignment to  
Italy

DEHRADUN:June 19 The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has facilitated the first-ever export consignment of fresh litchis from Uttarakhand to Italy, marking the state's entry into the European market. The inaugural shipment of one metric tonne of fresh litchis was dispatched from Dehradun on June 18, officials said on Friday. Grown under unique agro-climatic conditions in the Himalayan region, the Dehradun litchi is known for its distinct sweetness, red colour and delicate aroma. The primary varieties exported include Rose Scented, Calcuttia, and Bedana, which are widely cultivated in the Dehradun, Haridwar, Nainital and Udham Singh Nagar districts.

India Seeks  
BRICS Support  
to Strengthen  
MSMEs

AGRA (UP): (JUN 19)

India on Friday said that the cooperation among BRICS nations can help strengthen micro, small and medium enterprises, support weaker sections and contribute to the economic growth of member countries. Addressing the BRICS MSME Forum here, Union Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi said that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government has taken several steps to promote the MSME sector. Referring to BRICS cooperation, Manjhi said the grouping, which earlier had seven countries and has now expanded to 21 nations, could help strengthen MSMEs, support weaker sections and contribute to the economic growth of member countries.

Govt asks ICANN  
to set up root  
server in India

NEW DELHI: (Jun 19) The government has asked the global internet body, ICANN, to set up root servers in India, a senior government official said on Friday. Speaking at the NIXI event, Ministry of Electronics and IT Secretary S Krishnan said there should be one root server in India to cater to the needs of the huge population of the country. "We have been pushing for locating a root server in India given the number of people who use the internet and in terms of long-term resilience of the internet system itself," Krishnan said.

MONEY MATTERS

Sensex ends 600 points lower,  
Nifty tops 24,000; IT stocks bleed

benchmark indices ended lower on Friday, snapping a five-session winning streak, as a sharp selloff in information technology stocks following Accenture's weak outlook overshadowed supportive factors such as lower crude oil prices, a stable rupee and improving market sentiment.



The S&P BSE Sensex fell 607.08 points, or 0.78%, to close at 76,802.90, while the NSE Nifty50 shed 155.05 points, or 0.64%, to settle at 24,013.10. Despite Friday's decline, both benchmark indices gained around 1.7% for the week after a strong rally driven by easing geopolitical tensions and falling crude oil prices.

**ACCENTURE SHOCK HITS IT STOCKS**

The biggest drag on the market was the IT sector after Accenture's earnings commentary raised concerns over demand visibility and discretionary technology spending. The Nifty IT index plunged 3.65%, making it the

worst-performing sectoral index. Among the biggest losers were Infosys, which dropped 6.69%, TCS (-3.53%), HCLTech (-2.74%), Tech Mahindra (-2.47%) and HDFC Bank (-2.32%). M&M also fell 2.11%. Analysts believe Accenture's cautious outlook has raised concerns about the pace of recovery in global technology spending, prompting investors to cut exposure to Indian IT stocks.

**RELIANCE, HDFC BANK ADD TO PRESSURE**

The decline in benchmark indices was not limited to IT stocks. Reliance Industries fell 1.39% as investors booked profits following the company's AGM announcements and

board approval for a Mumbai listing of Jio Platforms. HDFC Bank dropped 2.32% as investors assessed developments around the appointment of the bank's next chairman after the RBI approved a temporary extension for interim chairman Keki Mistry. The weakness in these heavyweight stocks amplified the pressure on the Sensex and Nifty.

**BROADER MARKET REMAINS RESILIENT**

While large-cap stocks struggled, the broader market once again showed resilience. The Nifty Smallcap 100 gained 0.42%, while the Nifty Midcap 100 rose 0.22% and Nifty Midcap Financial

Services advanced 0.20%. This indicates that the selling was largely concentrated in heavyweight IT and banking counters rather than being a broad-based market correction. India VIX rose 2.34% to 12.97, reflecting a slight increase in investor caution. Several defensive sectors managed to buck the trend. Nifty Healthcare rose 0.98%, Nifty Pharma gained 0.73% and Nifty 500 Healthcare advanced 0.76%.

Among Sensex stocks, Eterna emerged as the top gainer with a 2.21% rise, followed by Bharti Airtel (+1.80%), Power Grid (+1.32%), NTPC (+1.04%), Titan (+0.84%) and Sun Pharma (+0.79%).

Consumer-focused stocks also found support, helping cushion some of the broader market weakness.

**WHAT EXPERTS ARE SAYING**

Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Investments Limited, said investors turned cautious after hopes of a US-Iran peace deal weakened and Accenture's outlook raised concerns over technology spending. "The IT index ex-

perienced a sharp correction, driven by Accenture's softer outlook, which has heightened concerns over discretionary and digital spending. Nevertheless, a buy-on-dips strategy appears prudent, supported by the current comfort in oil prices and expectations of an earnings revival in H2FY27," he said.

Ajit Mishra, SVP, Research at Religare Broking, said the market witnessed broad-based profit booking after a strong rally and struggled to sustain gains near key resistance levels. He noted that while benchmark indices corrected, broader market participation remained healthy, suggesting the underlying recovery trend remains intact. Investors will now closely track developments around global technology spending, management commentary from Indian IT firms and foreign investor activity. The progress of the southwest monsoon, crude oil prices and developments surrounding the US-Iran situation will also remain key triggers for market direction in the coming weeks.



Medicover Cancer Institute  
Successfully Performs Complex Oral  
Cancer Surgery on 65-Year-Old Woman

HYDERABAD, JUNE 19, 2026: Doctors at Medicover Cancer Institute successfully performed a highly complex cancer surgery on 65-year-old Kamalamma, who was suffering from oral cancer, giving her a new lease on life. Kamalamma, a resident of a rural area, was diagnosed with oral cancer that had affected her jawbone, requiring surgical removal of the impacted portion. Due to her age and fear of undergoing surgery, she was initially hesitant to proceed with treatment. However, with proper counseling and reassurance from the medical team, she agreed to undergo the procedure. The surgery was successfully performed under the leadership of Dr. Ajay Varun Reddy, Senior Robotic

Surgical Oncologist, with the support of Dr. Prajyoth Reddy, Reconstructive Surgeon. During the procedure, the cancer-affected portion was removed, and the oral structure was reconstructed using tissue harvested from the patient's leg. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Ajay Varun Reddy said that with advanced medical technology and the support of multidisciplinary medical teams, even highly complex cancer treatments can now be successfully performed in elderly patients. He further stated that Kamalamma's successful treatment serves as a ray of hope for cancer patients who delay or avoid treatment due to age-related concerns or fear of surgery. This version is suitable for media circulation and press release distribution.

The Silent Threat to Your Kidneys: Why Early  
Screening and Blood Pressure Control Matter

HYDERABAD, JUNE 19:

In the fast-growing urban landscape of Hyderabad, a silent health crisis is unfolding quietly in thousands of homes. Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) is emerging as one of the most important long-term health concerns, yet many people remain unaware they have kidney damage until it reaches an advanced stage. "The kidneys are remarkably resilient organs," says Dr. Arun Kumar Ponna, Senior Consultant Nephrologist & Kidney Transplant Physician at STAR Hospitals, Nanakramguda. "Unfortunately, that resilience also means kidney disease often progresses silently without obvious symptoms. By the time patients feel unwell, significant damage may already have occurred."

**Why Kidney Disease Often Goes Undetected**

One of the biggest dangers of CKD is the absence of symptoms in its early stages. Most patients feel completely normal while gradual damage continues inside the kidneys.

**Early kidney disease may not cause pain or noticeable discomfort. However, subtle warning signs can include:**

- Persistent fatigue or low energy
  - Swelling in the feet or ankles
  - Foamy urine due to protein leakage
  - Difficulty controlling blood pressure
- Because these symptoms are often mild or ignored, routine screening becomes the most powerful tool in preventing kidney failure.
- The Importance of Early Screening**
- Modern nephrology is shifting from reactive treatment to early prevention. Detecting kidney disease before symptoms appear allows doctors to slow or even halt progression.
- Simple screening tests can identify early kidney damage:**
- Urine Albumin-to-Creatinine Ratio (ACR): Detects protein leakage in urine
  - Serum Creatinine and eGFR: Measures kidney filtration function
  - Blood Pressure Monitoring: Helps identify silent vascular damage
  - Blood Sugar Testing: Essential in patients with diabetes
- "Protein leakage in the urine is one of the earliest and most important warning signs," explains Dr. Arun Ponna. "Many pa-



tients ignore it because they feel healthy, but persistent albumin leakage indicates ongoing kidney injury." Individuals with diabetes, hypertension, obesity, family history of kidney disease, or age above 40 should undergo periodic kidney screening even if they have no symptoms.

**The Critical Role of Blood Pressure Control in Kidney Disease**

Hypertension is not just one of the leading causes of kidney disease, it is also one of the strongest drivers of CKD progression. High blood pressure damages the delicate filtering units of the kidneys (glomeruli), increasing protein leakage into the urine. Over time, this accelerates scarring and loss of kidney function. At the same time, damaged kidneys worsen blood pressure control, creating a dan-

gerous cycle. "Controlling blood pressure is one of the most effective ways to protect kidney function," says Dr. Arun Ponna. "When blood pressure is well managed, protein leakage reduces significantly, and the progression of CKD can slow dramatically."

**Current kidney care focuses heavily on:**

- Tight blood pressure control
- Reduction of urine protein (albuminuria)
- Diabetes management
- Lifestyle correction
- Early medication intervention

Many modern kidney-protective medications now help reduce protein leakage, improve blood pressure control and preserve long-term kidney function.

**New Goal in Kidney Care: Stabilizing Kidney Disease**

A major advancement in nephrology is the concept of CKD remission or long-term kidney disease stabilization.

"Earlier, chronic kidney disease was considered inevitably progressive. Today, with early diagnosis, tight blood pressure control, reduction of protein leakage, and newer kidney-protect-

ive medications, many patients can achieve long-term kidney stabilization and maintain stable kidney function for years."

**This means:**

- Reduced protein leakage in urine
- Better blood pressure control
- Slower decline in kidney function
- Prevention of further kidney damage

"The focus today is not only treating kidney failure, but identifying kidney disease early, preserving kidney function, and improving long-term quality of life," says Dr. Arun Ponna.

**The key message is simple:**

Kidney disease is often silent, but it is not invisible if we screen early and act early.

**About Dr. Arun Kumar Ponna**

Dr. Arun Kumar Ponna is a Senior Consultant Nephrologist and Kidney Transplant Physician at STAR Hospitals, Nanakramguda. He specializes in Resistant hypertension and kidney disorders, Preventive nephrology with a focus on early detection and kidney protection strategies, ICU renal care and kidney transplant services.



Adequate Coal Supply to  
Thermal Power Stations  
during Monsoon

SCCL CMD Dr. Buddhaprakash Jyoti at the SCCL-TGGENCO Coordination Meeting

SINGARENI BHAVAN, HYDERABAD, JUNE 19, 2026: Chairman and Managing Director of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), Dr. Buddhaprakash Jyoti, IAS, stated that although coal production may face certain challenges during the monsoon season, Singareni will ensure adequate coal supply to thermal power stations in the state to meet Telangana's power requirements. On Friday, TGGENCO Chairman Dr. Harish met SCCL CMD Dr. Buddhaprakash Jyoti at Singareni Bhavan, Hyderabad. During the meeting, they reviewed coal supply arrangements for thermal power stations and discussed measures to ensure uninterrupted power generation at all thermal plants, including the Yadadri Thermal Power Station, by maintaining adequate stocks of quality coal throughout the monsoon season. Responding to the concerns, Dr. Buddhaprakash Jyoti explained that nearly 93 percent of Singareni's coal production comes from open-cast mines, and heavy rainfall often causes significant disruptions to coal production operations in these mines. However, keeping the state's power requirements in view,

SCCL has been implementing well-planned measures to ensure uninterrupted coal supplies to thermal power stations. He further informed that several precautionary measures have already been undertaken in all open-cast mines to minimize the impact of the monsoon. The meeting also reviewed in detail the coal stock position and the quantity of coal required to be supplied to thermal power plants during the rainy season. SCCL supplies nearly 28 million tonnes of coal annually to thermal power stations in Telangana. The Directors of SCCL informed that the company is currently supplying about 60,000 to 70,000 tonnes of coal per day to the state's thermal power plants. The CMD emphasized that there should be no disruption to Telangana's power requirements and also stressed that no compromise should be made in maintaining coal quality. The meeting was attended by SCCL Directors Sri L.V. Suryanarayana (Operations) and Sri K. Venkateswarlu (Projects & Planning), General Manager (Coordination & Marketing) Sri T.Srinivas, TGGENCO Executive Director Sri Nagya, Director Sri Rajasekhar, CE Sri Lakshmaiah, and other senior officials.

Mukesh Ambani's Jio IPO is here:  
Reliance to offer up to 27 crore fresh shares

Mukesh Ambani announced at Reliance's 49th AGM that Jio Platforms will file its DRHP with Sebi today. The move formally starts the long-awaited listing process and adds momentum to India's pipeline of mega public issues.

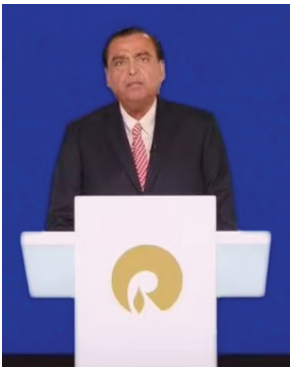
Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani on Thursday announced that Jio Platforms will file its draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with market regulator Sebi, formally kicking off the IPO process for India's largest telecom and digital services company. The announcement came at Reliance Industries' 49th Annual General Meeting (AGM), where Ambani described the development as a landmark moment for the company, its shareholders and

the country's technology sector. The filing comes just a day after the National Stock Exchange (NSE) filed papers for its long-awaited public issue, setting the stage for what could become two of India's biggest IPOs in the coming months.

**JIO BOARD APPROVES IPO PAPERS**

In a regulatory filing, Reliance said the board of Jio Platforms approved the DRHP on June 19 and will file it with Sebi, BSE and NSE in connection with its proposed initial public offering. The filing stated that the IPO will comprise a fresh issue of up to 27 crore equity shares with a face value of Rs 10 each. The final issue price will be determined through the book-building process and the offering will remain subject to regulatory approvals.

**'A DEEPLY EMOTIONAL MOMENT'**



Addressing shareholders, Ambani said, "With great delight, let me tell you that the Board of Jio Platforms has approved the Draft Red Herring Prospectus earlier today, and it will be filed with SEBI today." Calling it a significant milestone, he added, "This is a deeply emotional moment for me, for the entire Reliance Family, and millions of its shareholders." Ambani also

linked the listing to Reliance founder Dhirubhai Ambani's philosophy of wealth creation and broad-based shareholder participation. "The relationship Reliance shares with its shareholders is a deep and sacred relationship founded on pride, trust, respect, and shared growth," he said.

**NEXT GENERATION TO LEAD THE PROCESS**

Ambani said his children Isha Ambani, Akash Ambani and Anant Ambani are leading the Jio IPO process and will drive the next phase of growth for the business. "Imbued in the same spirit, Isha, Akash, and Anant are heading the Jio IPO process, and will lead the next generation of value creation opportunities in the future," he said. The statement offers another glimpse into the leadership transition taking shape across Reliance's key

businesses.

**WHY THE JIO IPO IS A BIG DEAL**

Jio's listing has been one of the most closely watched developments in India's capital markets. At last year's AGM, Ambani had indicated that Jio would be listed in the first half of 2026. Thursday's announcement comes just days before that timeline expires, providing investors with long-awaited clarity on the company's market debut. The telecom giant has transformed India's digital landscape since its launch in 2016 and today serves hundreds of millions of subscribers across telecom, broadband, enterprise and digital services businesses. Ambani said the IPO would showcase India's ability to create globally competitive technology companies. "The proposed listing of Jio will demonstrate to the

world that India can build technology companies of global scale, global capability, and global value," he said. "I assure you, and all prospective new investors, that a brighter future awaits Jio."

**INDIA'S IPO PIPELINE GETS BIGGER**

The announcement also signals renewed momentum in India's IPO market. On Wednesday, NSE filed draft papers for its own long-awaited public issue after nearly a decade of delays. With Jio now formally beginning its listing journey, investors could soon witness two mega IPOs that have been years in the making. While details such as valuation, issue size and listing timeline will become clearer after the DRHP is reviewed by Sebi, one thing is now certain: the countdown to the Jio IPO has officially begun.

Sebi restores market  
buybacks for firms, caps  
execution window at 66 days

MUMBAI: (JUN 19)

Markets regulator Sebi on Friday approved the reintroduction of share buybacks through stock exchanges, allowing companies to repurchase their own shares in the open market starting August 1, while capping the execution period at 66 working days. The move by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) al-

lows firms to carry out buybacks through regular trading mechanisms without a dedicated buyback window, streamlining the process and reducing procedural requirements. The decision, taken in the board meeting, aims to improve flexibility and execution efficiency, while potentially enhancing the attractiveness of buybacks as a capital allocation tool for listed companies.





# REWRITING THE SKY

HOW HYDERABAD'S LAND-MARK TOWERS ARE REDEFINING THE INDIAN SKYLINE



## "Redefining Residential Luxury: The Race to the 200-Meter Mark"

Nowhere is this vertical ambition more obvious than in the residential luxury sector, where developers are using height as the ultimate luxury amenity. Leading the charge is the landmark SAS Crown project in Kokapet. Rising to a staggering 235.3 meters (772 feet) across three distinct towers, this 58-story marvel topped out its structural phase and stands as the tallest residential building in South India. The engineering complexity of these landmark residential projects is shifting what local builders can achieve. SAS Crown Tower 2, for instance, features a slenderness ratio of 8.1, making it the thinnest skyscraper in South India. This type of architecture demands cutting-edge wind-tunnel testing, advanced high-performance concrete mixtures, and specialized seismic dampers. Similarly, projects like The Trilight (with its Canopus tower slated to hit 202.4 meters) and Myscape Yoo Residences in the Financial District (towering at 201.1 meters across 59 floors) demonstrate that high-density vertical living has become the preferred choice for Hyderabad's high-net-worth individuals. These signature residential properties are completely detached from traditional apartment designs. They offer expansive single-floor "sky villas" ranging from 3,000 to over 5,000 square feet, private elevator access opening directly into individual foyers, and continuous, wrap-around glass balconies offering panoramic views of the city's expanding grid.

Commercial Landmarks: Designing for the Next Generation of Industry

While residential skyscrapers capture the imagination of homebuyers, commercial signature proposals are re-shaping how the city works. A premier example of this specialized architectural evolution is the Sattva Image Tower in HITEC City. Developed by the Sattva Group, this massive commercial venture spans roughly 10 acres with a planned built-up footprint of 16 lakh square feet. Instead of building a traditional, generic corporate glass box, the developers

custom-engineered the architecture for highly specific, high-growth tech sectors: animation, gaming, visual effects (VFX), and next-generation software development. The structure features expansive basements and 20 upper floors designed with incredibly large floor plates—up to 80,000 square feet per floor. This allows multi-disciplinary creative studios to operate across unified, collaborative levels without being fragmented by vertical floor separations. Concurrently, on Road No. 1 in Banjara Hills, the Sattva Signature tower demonstrates how landmark architecture is moving back into established, premium urban zones. Occupying over three acres, this development balances corporate offices with high-end luxury retail on the lower levels, utilizing flexible floor plans designed to draw premium international brands. Further out west in burgeoning micro-markets like Tellapur and Kollur, structural innovation is moving sideways as well as up. Innovative proposals like the Anvita

High 9 Eco Walk in Tellapur combine 30-floor residential and commercial towers via a massive 1.6-kilometer elevated skywalk that weaves between multiple structures. This architectural element acts as a high-altitude community commons, integrating green spaces, jogging tracks, and recreational zones far above the street level.

## The Challenge of Going Vertical: Infrastructure, Sustainability, and Safety

The rapid rise of these signature structures brings critical urban planning responsibilities. Constructing a landmark building involves more than just architectural design; it requires a deep commitment to urban resource management. The High-Rise Challenge: A single 50-story residential tower can house more families and consume more power and water than an entire traditional horizontal neighborhood block. To address this, both the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and elite developers are piv-

oting toward sustainable construction frameworks: Grid Integration and Water Management. Modern signature proposals are rarely approved without comprehensive, self-contained water infrastructure. New projects routinely feature advanced dual-piping graywater systems, onsite sewage treatment plants (STPs), and extensive rainwater harvesting networks designed to minimize the load on the city's municipal water supply. Energy-Efficient Facades: The extensive use of glass facades in Hyderabad's signature towers initially raised concerns regarding the "greenhouse effect" in a climate where summer temperatures routinely breach 40°C. In response, contemporary commercial and residential developments—such as those designed by My Home and Sattva—extensively utilize specialized low-emissivity (Low-E) double-glazed glass. This material reflects solar heat radiation while allowing natural light to pass through, significantly lowering cooling costs. Logistical and Fire Safety

## The Evolution of the Micro-Markets: Beyond the Golden Triangle

Initially, Hyderabad's high-rise movement was strictly confined to a tight geography often referred to as the "Golden Triangle": Madhapur, Gachibowli, and the Financial District. However, because of the massive scale of these new signature proposals, growth is spilling over into nearby, well-connected corridors. 1. Neopolis, Kokapet: Arguably the crown jewel of Hyderabad's vertical master plan, Neopolis is a greenfield layout designed explicitly for high-rise development. Free from the constraints of legacy municipal infrastructure, major players like My Home Constructions are anchoring massive footprints here. Projects like My Home 99 and My Home Apas are setting a standard for integrated high-rise townships, blending residential towers with walk-to-work commercial environ-

ments. 2. Tellapur and Kollur: Once considered quiet rural fringes, these areas have transformed into massive construction zones. Major residential ecosystems like My Home Udyan and various high-density gated communities are establishing a new suburban paradigm. Attracted by proximity to the Outer Ring Road and relatively lower land acquisition costs, builders are proposing 30- to 45-story towers that cater directly to corporate professionals working in the nearby IT corridors. 3. Gopanpally and the HCU Peripheral Zone: Newer high-rise proposals are also capitalizing on unique urban green spaces. For example, Vertex Homes' upcoming luxury high-rise in Gopanpally towers over 40 floors. By positioning the structure adjacent to the protected, 2,300-acre natural sanctuary of Hyderabad Central University (HCU), the developers are marketing an intentional contrast: high-density, ultra-modern vertical living that features permanent, unobstructed views of a massive forest canopy.

Preparedness: Fighting fires or managing emergencies at a height of 200 meters requires dedicated engineering solutions. The state's disaster response and fire safety departments have updated code requirements, mandating that towers feature reinforced fire evacuation lifts, pressurized emergency stairwells, and automated, mid-building refuge areas on designated structural floors.

## Looking Ahead: The Future Form of Telangana's Urban Identity

The surge of landmark building proposals across Telangana reveals a profound shift in the state's economic self-conception. By giving builders the regulatory flexibility to dream vertically, Hyderabad is positioning itself as a modern global metropolis capable of matching the urban density and architectural ambition of international

real estate market in India outside of Mumbai. Local and national real estate developers are no longer just constructing residential blocks or corporate parks; they are competing to build definitive "signature towers" and iconic regional landmarks. From ultra-luxury residential skyscrapers surpassing 200 meters to hyper-modern commercial centers tailored for the animation, VFX, and tech industries, Hyderabad is completely rewriting its visual identity.

## The Catalysts of the Vertical Boom: Policy, Capital, and Geography

To understand why builders are suddenly proposing and executing projects of such staggering vertical scale, one has to look at the intersection of state policy and corporate demand. For years, Hyderabad expanded horizontally, spreading outward into low-rise gated communities and mid-rise apartments. However, as land prices in prime western corridors like Madhapur, Kondapur, and Raidurg escalated, horizontal growth hit an economic ceiling. The turning point came with the

state's liberalized approach to Floor Space Index (FSI). Unlike cities like Mumbai or Bengaluru, which heavily restrict building height based on plot size through strict, conservative FSI caps, Hyderabad adopted a highly accommodating policy for high-rises. If a developer possesses a sufficiently wide main road—such as a 100-foot or 150-foot thoroughfare—and meets requisite safety and environmental parameters, the state permits them to build vertically with virtually no arbitrary ceiling.

This regulatory freedom coincided with an unprecedented influx of institutional wealth and multinational corporations. Tech giants, global capability centers (GCCs), and major domestic companies look at Hyderabad not just as a back-office hub, but as a primary corporate anchor. For these entities, a standard commercial building is no longer enough. They require iconic architecture that projects corporate prestige—structures known in the industry as "signature towers."

REDEFINING RESIDENTIAL LUXURY:  
THE RACE TO THE 200-METER MARK

SAS CROWN  
KOKAPET

235.3 M  
(772 FT)

58 FLOORS

THE TRILIGHT  
CANOPUS TOWER

202.4 M  
(664 FT)

50+ FLOORS

MYSCAPE YOO  
RESIDENCES

201.1 M  
(660 FT)

59 FLOORS

Expansive sky villas (3,000–5,000+ sq. ft.)

Private elevator access

Wrap-around glass balconies with panoramic views

Cutting-edge engineering: wind-tunnel testing, high-performance concrete, seismic dampers

HYDERABAD RISING

THE NEW ERA OF  
LANDMARK ARCHITECTURE

BUILDING BEYOND LIMITS. DESIGNING THE FUTURE.

From record-breaking residential towers to next-gen commercial landmarks, Hyderabad is redefining urban living and workspaces with visionary architecture and sustainable innovation.

COMMERCIAL LANDMARKS:  
DESIGNING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

SATTVA IMAGE TOWER  
HITEC CITY

10 ACRES | 16 LAKH SQ. FT.  
20 UPPER FLOORS

Up to 80,000 sq. ft. floor plates

Designed for Animation, Gaming, VFX & Next-Gen Tech

SATTVA SIGNATURE  
BANJARA HILLS

3+ ACRES

Corporate Offices with Luxury Retail

Flexible floor plans for international brands

ANVITA HIGH 9  
ECO WALK  
TELLAPUR

30 FLOORS

1.6 KM ELEVATED SKYWALK

Green spaces, jogging tracks & recreation above the city

THE EVOLUTION OF THE MICRO-MARKETS

1 NEOPOLIS, KOKAPET

Greenfield layout for high-rise living. Projects like My Home 99 & My Home Apas set new benchmarks for integrated townships.

2 TELLAPUR & KOLLUR

From quiet fringes to construction hubs. 30–45 floor towers near ORR, ideal for IT professionals.

3 GOPANPALLY & HCU PERIPHERAL ZONE

Luxury high-rises next to 2,300-acre HCU forest. High-rise living with unobstructed green views.

THE CHALLENGE OF GOING VERTICAL

WATER MANAGEMENT

Dual-piping graywater systems, STPs & rainwater harvesting reduce pressure on municipal supply.

ENERGY-EFFICIENT FACADES

Low-E double-glazed glass reduces heat gain & lowers cooling costs.

SAFETY & FIRE PREPAREDNESS

Reinforced fire lifts, pressurized stairwells, & mid-building refuge areas for maximum safety.

THE HIGH-RISE CHALLENGE

A single 50-story tower can consume more resources than an entire traditional neighborhood block.

HYDERABAD IS BUILDING MORE THAN STRUCTURES.

HYDERABAD ISN'T JUST EXPANDING OUTWARD.





Women's T20 WC

Shreyanka's absence a setback, India may turn to Radha: Mithali



**NEW DELHI:** Former India captain Mithali Raj on Friday said the unavailability of off-spin bowling all-rounder Shreyanka Patil is a 'setback' for the Harmanpreet Kaur-led side and that the team management may have to turn to Radha Yadav to fill the void in the bowling combination ahead of a crucial Group A clash against South Africa in the ongoing Women's T20 World Cup. Shreyanka made a return to the India T20I set-up after a long injury layoff due to shin splints and thumb fracture and was named in the T20 World Cup squad. But after twisting her right ankle while fielding off her own bowling against Netherlands.

World Boxing Cup 2026

Prachi stuns Olympic medallist as India confirms six medals



**GUIYANG (CHINA):** With pugilist Prachi leading the charge, India delivered a commanding performance at the World Boxing Cup 2026 (Stage 2), confirming six medals for the country following a strong showing in the quarterfinals. Prachi (57kg) produced the standout performance of the day, defeating Paris Olympics bronze medallist Shih Yi Wu of Chinese Taipei in a hard-fought 4-1 verdict.

# Nitish Kumar is natural successor to Hardik Pandya: Ten Doeschate



CHENNAI

India's assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate said the side has identified Nitish Kumar Reddy as the natural successor to Hardik Pandya in the seam-bowling all-rounder role, adding that the youngster has been groomed over the last 18 months with next year's World Cup in mind. Reddy missed the second ODI against Afghanistan in Lucknow due to soreness in his left thigh and could return for the clash at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai on Saturday. "When Hardik's fit, he obviously brings a different element because he's such a strong batter, such a strong finisher. That sort of role scarcity is difficult to find - a finisher who can give you overs as well. "So those guys are all tracking really nicely. Like I said with Nitish, for the last 18 months, he's shown glimpses of how important he can be to this team, particularly in this format. I feel his body's getting stronger and stronger, and I sort of feel he is the natural successor or back-up to Hardik," Ten Doeschate said in the pre-match press conference. India have also experimented with Harshit Rana and Gurnoor Brar as lower-order options, but ten Doeschate underlined their primary role as bowling all-rounders. "I would still say the majority of those guys are bowling all-rounders. But certainly to see these

other guys chipping in and working on their games, even someone like Gurnoor and Harshit again, they're bowling all-rounders. "But the fact that we feel we've got guys who can hold the bat at No.9 and obviously looking forward to the next 14-15 months, that is going to be very important, especially in South Africa when you want to play three proper out-and-out seamers. "Those guys are going to need to bat. So yeah, a lot of good signs on the all-rounder front and also on the fast bowler front. I think it's been refreshing this week to see Prince, Gurnoor, and Nabi," he added. With India having sealed the ODI series, ten Doeschate confirmed changes are on the cards for the game in Chennai. "We will be making a few changes from the first two games. I think part of the brief coming into the series was that we wanted to try a few different combinations and give everyone a fair share of games. If someone like Arshdeep does very well in the first two games, he can take a rest tomorrow." On wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan's century in Lucknow, ten Doeschate praised his versatility. "I think with Ishan, the only concern was whether he transforms himself from a T20 specialist into a 50-over player, potentially even a red-ball player. I think he showed that the other night. "By nature, he's very aggressive, and we still feel there's space for that in this

team. You do have some solid batters around him if you include them in the team. With Shubman and Virat, you have two of the more classical guys who are going to bat through the innings. "He is a very versatile player. He can bat at the top of the order, he can bat in the middle, and obviously, the fact that he's a top gloveman as well. I think he ticks a lot of boxes and so on. Like I said, purely for versatility is something you want in your squad," he said. He signed off by saying India is likely to retain the same top three from the second ODI in Lucknow - Rohit Sharma and Yashasvi Jaiswal opening, followed by Shubman Gill at number three. "It is a consideration. The versatility of their batting line-up is fantastic. I don't think KL will bat at No.3 tomorrow. We want to have a good look at Yashasvi as well. Obviously, he didn't get around to the last game, so he will probably get another game, I would have thought. "Maybe with the combination, we need to look at Nitish again. Unfortunately, he couldn't play the last game, and he needs to start as well. So I would imagine five batters plus Nitish and Washi (Washington Sundar). "In a series like this against Afghanistan, you might say we can take the foot off the pedal a little bit. We do want to look at guys like Jaiswal. He is someone waiting in the wings because of the quality and depth we have in that position.

## Neeraj Chopra finishes fourth in Doha Diamond League on return to action for crucial season

DOHA

India's two-time Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra finished fourth in the javelin throw event of the Doha Diamond League event, ending with a season's best throw of 85.69 metres in Doha, Qatar. With his solid effort on Friday, Neeraj Chopra achieved the qualifying standard for the upcoming Commonwealth Games to be held from July 23 to August 2. This was the season's first Diamond League event for India's legendary athlete Chopra, who is returning from an injury. This was a decent effort by the star Indian athlete, who had delayed his decision over his return to action, asking the Diamond League officials to confirm his participation at the last moment as he continued to assess his recovery from injury. After his final training session convinced both him and his support team that he was ready, the organisers agreed, paving the way for his comeback in Doha.

Chopra, the first Indian athlete to win an Olympic gold medal, finished behind Sri Lanka's Rumesh Tharanga



Pathirage (88.96 m), former Olympic champion Anderson Peters of Granada (86.38), and Curtis Thompson of the United States, who ended third with a throw of 85.99m. Both Peters and Thompson also came up with their season's best. Pathirage, however, failed to come anywhere close to his personal best of 92.62 achieved at Rome two weeks back on June 4. Fellow Indian Sachin Yadav failed to qualify for the final. Indian fans were eagerly waiting for Neeraj Chopra's return to the season at his first Diamond League event of the year. However, they were left disappointed as the Indian star, who won a historic gold

medal in the Tokyo Olympic Games and followed it up with a silver in Paris in 2024, failed to recreate his usual magic and had to be satisfied with fourth position. The 29-year-old Chopra, a former Diamond League Champion, started the final with a foul and threw the spear to a modest 82.77m in the second round. His next throw was his best for the day as he crossed 85.69. Chopra, who has finished first in five Diamond League meets so far, failed to improve on that as he managed only 83.45 in his fourth throw and fouled his fifth and last attempt. Chopra has a personal best of 90.23metres.

## Taylor Fritz saves match point, sets up Halle semifinal clash with in-form Zverev

HALLE

Taylor Fritz finally ended his run of heartbreak against Ben Shelton in 2026, saving a match point to battle into the semifinals of the Terra Wortmann Open in Halle, where he was joined by top seed Alexander Zverev after the German extended his winning streak to 10 matches on Friday. Although the former World No. 8 suffered a loss to the 19-year-old at the Dallas Open final in February, he has now clinched a convincing victory in their rematch in the second round of the ATP 500 event in Germany. But this time on the grass. The victory, which took over four hours, saw an incredible tie-break in both the second and third sets. "I do not want to experi-



ence losing a match to Shelton again," Fritz exclaimed with huge relief on court, after losing to the World No. 29 in both the Dallas final in February and their previous week encounter in the Stuttgart championship showdown on grass court, only to reclaim a significant 6-7(5), 7-6(8), 7-6(3) hard-won win under two hours fifty minutes. "It just happened with his chances being excellent in the

other two matches that he won and my opportunities being even better here; I just put it into the back of my mind to capitalise on big moments, and thankfully, I could go through." The serve-heavy contest featured no breaks of serve. Fritz crushed 24 aces and battled to save all four of his service opportunities, while Shelton hit 15 aces without a break-point confrontation. He was one shot from losing at the tie-break of the second set, but when 6-7 against him, after his forehand flew wide. He later went on to level at a set, after holding serve with no issues, and then clinched the set via his dominant first serve, winning with a 196 mph serve and making very efficient use of Shelton's unforced errors to get the win.

## Jay Shah, Devjit Saikia meet Sri Lanka cricket officials to discuss governance issues

COLOMBO

The Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC), Jay Shah, and the Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Devjit Saikia, met with the leadership of Sri Lanka Cricket during a brief visit to Colombo on Friday, at which the two parties discussed issues related to governance transition and constitutional and administrative reforms. The discussions were cordial and constructive, focusing on the current status of cricket administration in Sri Lanka and the progress made by the Committee currently entrusted with overseeing the governance transition process. During the meeting, Sri Lanka Cricket provided the ICC Chairman and BCCI Secretary with a comprehensive update on the steps taken to date to strengthen



governance structures and advance the reform process, the SLC informed in a statement on Friday. The delegation was also apprised of the ongoing work relating to constitutional and administrative reforms aimed at ensuring long-term stability and good governance within Sri Lanka Cricket. Importantly, Sri Lanka Cricket shared indicative timelines for the completion of the reform process and the return to governance by a duly

elected administration in accordance with the applicable legal and constitutional framework. The ICC delegation was briefed on the milestones achieved thus far and the measures being undertaken to facilitate a smooth and transparent transition. The ICC Chairman welcomed the update and reaffirmed the ICC's commitment to supporting its Member Boards in promoting strong governance, transparency, and the continued growth of

the game. Sri Lanka Cricket expressed its appreciation to Mr. Shah and Mr. Saikia for taking the time to visit Colombo and engage in a constructive dialogue on the future direction of cricket administration in Sri Lanka. The meeting also provided an opportunity to discuss matters relating to cricket development, bilateral cooperation, and the continued strengthening of ties between Sri Lanka Cricket, the ICC, and the BCCI.

## Jessica Pegula outlasts Madison Keys in straight sets

BERLIN

Jessica Pegula battled past fellow American Madison Keys in a high-quality all-American quarter-final at the Berlin Open ATP Tour event, prevailing in two tie-breaks to secure a semifinal berth and take a 3-2 lead in their head-to-head record. The match repeatedly shifted between the two players before Pegula stayed calm in the crucial moments and claimed victory. Afterwards, the World No. 3 explained that her success on grass often comes from trusting her instincts, rather than being overly precise. "Sometimes on grass I'm not really aiming," Pegula said during her on-court interview. "It just goes wherever it wants to go. I think sometimes when you overthink and try to aim too much, the grass can really



play you, and you lose control of the ball. So I just try to commit to hitting around the court. Sometimes it's good, sometimes it's bad." Keys started stronger in the opening set, using her trademark power to break serve and go ahead 3-1. However, with a 4-2 lead, a series of errors let Pegula get back into the match. This momentum shift was crucial as Pegula took her first set point in

the tiebreak, hitting a return winner to take the opener. The second set followed a similar pattern but with the roles reversed. Pegula's variety helped her build a 4-2 lead, but Keys fought back to level the match and push for another tiebreak. In the final set, Pegula played some of her best tennis, including a brilliant running forehand pass and a perfectly judged lob. She showed impressive

composure under pressure, saving two match points as Keys attacked on the return before finally converting her fourth opportunity to secure the win. This victory continues an impressive grass-court run for Pegula in Berlin and brings her one win away from the final. She will next face either top seed Aryna Sabalenka or Czech wild card Nikola Pietrangola in the semifinals.

## Equestrian Anush Agarwalla approaches HC over exclusion from Asian Games team

NEW DELHI

Asian Games Team Dressage gold medallist Anush Agarwalla has taken up the cudgels against the Equestrian Federation of India for naming him as a reserve for the upcoming Asian Games and said the decision raises "important questions about the criteria being applied in athlete selection." "Today, I stand as India's No. 1-ranked dressage rider, Asia's No. 2-ranked rider, and World No.14 in the FEI 1\* Rankings. I have also achieved the highest PSG scores among all Indian athletes this year. That is why being named a reserve for the upcoming Asian Games comes as a surprise and raises important ques-

tions about the criteria being applied in athlete selection," Agarwalla said in an Instagram story on Friday. The Kolkata-born Agarwalla, who was part of the Indian team that won the Dressage gold in the 2022 Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, and a bronze in the Individual Dressage, claimed he has filed a writ petition against the Ad-Hoc Committee for Equestrian Federation of India and the Indian Olympic Association -- through the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports -- in the Delhi High Court. In his petition, Agarwalla sought the quashing of the Selection List dated 16.06.2026 issued by the Ad-Hoc Committee for Governance of Eques-

trian Federation of India and reconstitution of the Selection Committee in a free and transparent manner while ensuring there is no conflict of interest. "The main grievance to seek the above reliefs is the arbitrary mode and manner in which the selection process has been carried out to oust Mr. Agarwalla, despite his exceptional credentials and standing in the sport," his management team informed in a statement on Friday. Earlier, in his social media post, the 26-year-old Agarwalla said, "Over the past few years, I have had the privilege of achieving several milestones for Indian equestrian sport. I was part of India's historic Asian Games Team Gold



medal-winning campaign and won an Individual Bronze medal, becoming the first Indian to win an individual dressage medal at the Asian Games. I also became the first Indian dressage rider to qualify for and compete at the Paris

Olympic Games," he said. "My performances over the last few seasons have helped establish India on the global dressage map, and I have continued to improve my international rankings while proudly representing the country at

every opportunity," said Agarwalla. The talented horseman, an Arjun Award winner, said every athlete deserves clarity on the criteria used for selecting the team. "While I respect the selection process and the athletes chosen to represent India, I believe every athlete deserves clarity on how such decisions are made, particularly when current rankings, international performances, and proven results appear to suggest otherwise," he added. Agarwalla requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Sports Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya to review the selection decision and "ensure merit, transparency, and sporting excellence remain at

the heart of athlete selection." "That while my legal team and I explore legal remedies to make the system transparent and accountable not just for me but for all the athletes representing India to the best of their abilities, I respectfully request the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Hon'ble Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, the Sports Authority of India, and the concerned authorities to kindly review this decision and ensure that merit, transparency and sporting excellence remain at the heart of athlete selection," he said. While concluding his statement, Agarwalla said that

while fighting for his cause, he will continue to train, compete, and give my absolute best for the nation. "My commitment to representing India remains unwavering. I will continue to train, compete, and give my absolute best for the nation I am proud to represent," he said. Agarwalla is the second Asian Games medallist in two days to raise questions over the Asian Games selection by their respective federation. On Thursday, table tennis star Manika Batra also raised the red flag over her exclusion from the main team for the Asian Games in Japan. Like Agarwalla, Batra was also included among the reserves despite her proven record.





# Andrea Jeremiah: Grace in Every Glance

Actress-singer Andrea Jeremiah has once again captivated her fans with a serene and elegant new photograph shared on social media. In the stylish image, Andrea is seen seated gracefully on a bed, looking back with a gentle and enchanting gaze that perfectly complements her calm demeanor. Dressed in a delicate white lace crop top paired with denim shorts, Andrea exudes effortless charm and timeless beauty. Her flowing dark hair and minimalistic styling add to the soothing and sophisticated appeal of the picture, which reflects peace, purity, and grace. The stunning photograph has been widely appreciated by fans, who praised her natural elegance and understated style. The photo shoot was beautifully captured by photographer Soon-dah Wamu, while the makeup and hair styling were handled by Prakat Work and Sharmila Hairstylist. Andrea Jeremiah continues to remain one of the most versatile talents in South Indian cinema. Making her acting debut with Pachaikili Muthucharam in 2007, she earned critical acclaim through films such as Annayum Rasoolum, Vishwaroopam, and Taramani. Her notable performances in Vada Chennai, Master, and Aranmanai 3 further strengthened her position in the industry.

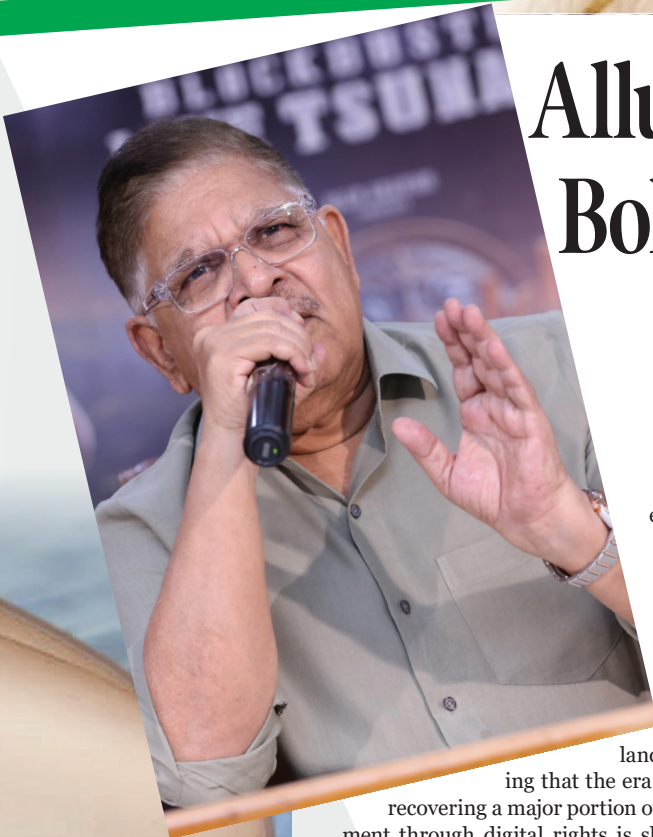


## Bollywood Divas Dazzle Delhi

Actresses Bhumi Pednekar and Janhvi Kapoor turned heads with their stunning fashion choices at the fourth edition of Flipkart's Glam Up Fest 2026 held at Bharat Mandapam in Delhi. The glamorous event witnessed the presence of lead-divas emerging as the biggest attractions of the evening. Bhumi Pednekar impressed everyone in an elegant white outfit featuring a stylish slit skirt paired with a halter-neck top. Keeping her look minimal yet classy with pearl earrings and subtle makeup, the actress spoke about her evolving relationship with beauty and fashion.

Calling herself a "beauty junkie," Bhumi revealed that beauty has become her strongest form of self-expression. She shared that she constantly follows beauty trends and enjoys experimenting with new styles. Looking back at her early days in the industry, the actress admitted that her fashion journey has transformed significantly over the years.

Meanwhile, Janhvi Kapoor showcased a chic boss-lady look in a layered brown vest, blue shirt, waistcoat, and charcoal grey trousers. Her sleek hairstyle and tailored outfit added a sophisticated touch to her appearance. Speaking at the event, Janhvi opened up about her fun pre-event rituals, saying she enjoys spending time with her styling and makeup team while discussing looks, sharing food, and engaging in light-hearted conversations.



## Allu Aravind Makes Bold Prediction on OTT Market

Veteran producer Allu Aravind has made some interesting comments about the changing OTT landscape, saying that the era of producers recovering a major portion of their investment through digital rights is slowly coming to an end. Speaking about the current market trend, Allu Aravind stated that OTT platforms have become highly selective while acquiring films. According to him, the earlier practice of recovering nearly half of a film's budget through OTT deals is no longer possible for every project.

He explained that streaming giants are now carefully evaluating factors such as content, star cast, director, production quality, and audience appeal before investing in a film. As a result, the competition among producers to secure lucrative digital deals has increased significantly. During the pandemic, OTT platforms emerged as a major revenue source for the film industry, with several movies opting for direct digital releases. This encouraged many producers to rely heavily on streaming deals to reduce financial risks. However, the market scenario has changed considerably over the last few years. Allu Aravind also pointed out that established production houses enjoy certain advantages in the OTT business. According to him, banners with a consistent track record of delivering successful films command greater respect and often receive better offers from streaming platforms.

Industry observers believe that OTT companies are now focusing more on quality than quantity. Platforms are investing carefully in projects that have the potential to attract viewers and increase subscriptions. With these remarks, Allu Aravind has sent a strong message to filmmakers that theatrical success and quality content remain crucial, as producers can no longer depend solely on OTT deals to recover their investments.

## Charan Cheers Maa Inti Bangaaram Star

Global star Ram Charan has heaped praise on Samantha Ruth Prabhu following the release of her latest film Maa Inti Bangaaram. The actor took to social media to congratulate Samantha and the film's team, calling her a woman of "extraordinary strength, grace and conviction."

Sharing a heartfelt message on X, Ram Charan wrote that he had been hearing positive reports about Maa Inti Bangaaram and expressed his happiness over the film's success. He congratulated Samantha and the entire team for their achievement.

Touched by his kind words, Samantha thanked the RRR star, saying that his appreciation meant a lot to both her and the film's team.

Recently, Samantha revealed that it was the resilience of her character Swarna that made her fall in love with Maa Inti Bangaaram. The actress also shared that among all the characters she has portrayed in Telugu cinema, Swarna is the one that comes closest to her real-life personality.

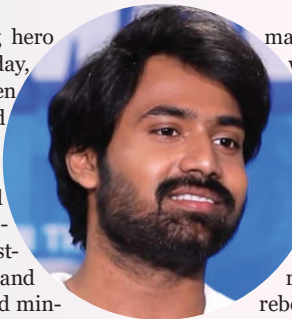
Speaking about the film's action sequences, Samantha stated that the movie avoids exaggerated slow-motion shots and commercial fight elements. She revealed that the action scenes were designed to be realistic and that she performed all the stunts herself, enduring injuries during the shoot.

Directed by B.V. Nandini Reddy, Maa Inti Bangaaram is produced by Samantha Ruth Prabhu along with Raj Nidimoru and Himank Reddy Duvuru under the Tralala Moving Pictures banner. The film also stars Gulshan Devaiah, Diganth Manchale, Gautami, and Sreemukhi in key roles.



## Narne Nithiin's NN6: A Journey In Coal Mines

On the occasion of young hero Narne Nithiin's birthday, his 6th movie has been announced officially, and it will be directed by U Suhash Babu. Billed to be a coalmine survival action drama, the movie NN6 will be produced by Bommak Shiva under Rudransh Celuloids banner. The announcement poster creates an atmosphere of mystery and grit. Set inside a dimly lit underground mining tunnel, the poster shows Nithiin at the center, surrounded by dozens of workers wearing safety helmets and digging relentlessly in the shadows. A beam of light from above subtly highlights the actor,



making him stand apart from the crowd while still appearing as one among them.

Sporting a rugged beard, checked shirt, and miner's helmet, Narne Nithiin displays a raw and grounded presence. The smoky textures, earthy tones, and claustrophobic setting hint at a story rooted in hardship, survival, and rebellion. Without revealing much, the poster sparks curiosity about the protagonist's journey and the larger conflict hidden beneath the surface. The makers will announce more details regrading the project later.

## Teja Sajja Continues Old Ones, No New Films

After getting fame, some heroes take certain decisions, which sometimes work out well, and sometimes don't. For example, after getting fame with Baahubali, Prabhas didn't get stuck there, but did a variety of films like Saaho, Adipurush and Salaar. That way, whether the film worked or not, he branched out into different genres and a variety of work. Here comes young hero Teja Sajja now. Firstly, Teja Sajja has shot to fame with the HanuMan movie, though most of the credit went to director Prashanth Varma. Then came his other film Mirai, which is full of visual effects, fantasy, and various other characters as well as well-crafted elements in the story. And now, rather than choosing new movies, Teja is coming up with a Mirai sequel on one side, and the sequel of his other commercial film Zombie Reddy on the other side. With the young actor getting attached to the old story even after a couple of years, many are wondering if that's the right decision going forward. On the other hand, sometimes believing in the content that has already delivered results at the box office might help big time. Because the audience knows what's coming and how to prepare for the same.



## Nagadurga Bags Big Tollywood Break

YouTube folk sensation Nagadurga is slowly making her mark in the film industry. After gaining popularity through her hit folk songs and social media presence, the actress has landed some promising opportunities in both Tamil and Telugu cinema. Nagadurga was recently signed as the female lead in the Tamil romantic comedy Love O Love opposite Pavish Narayanan. The film's teaser has already generated positive buzz. Now, the actress has reportedly bagged a major Tollywood project opposite Priyadarshi. Directed by Vamsi, the film is said to be set against the backdrop of Telangana culture and traditions. The project is reportedly backed by Sukumar and Bunny Vas. The film is expected to be launched on June 25, with regular shooting likely to begin in July. Fans believe this project could become a major turning point in Nagadurga's acting career.

