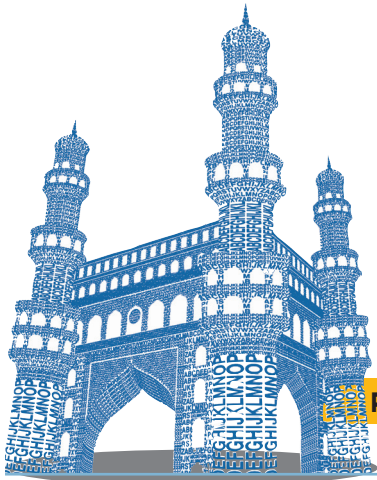




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NATURE'S FURY MEETS A NATION IN CRISIS

OPINION 06

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BOX-OFFICE 12

Ready to hold special Assembly

CM Revanth Reddy demands opposition parties to write letter to Assembly Speaker and Council Chairman for special session

Council session to debate on BRS , BJP and Congress rule performance

CM reaffirms Musi Rejuvenation project will be completed.

Warns the obstructors of dumping in Musi river

KCR and KTR constructed lavish farm houses. No houses for poor during BRS rule

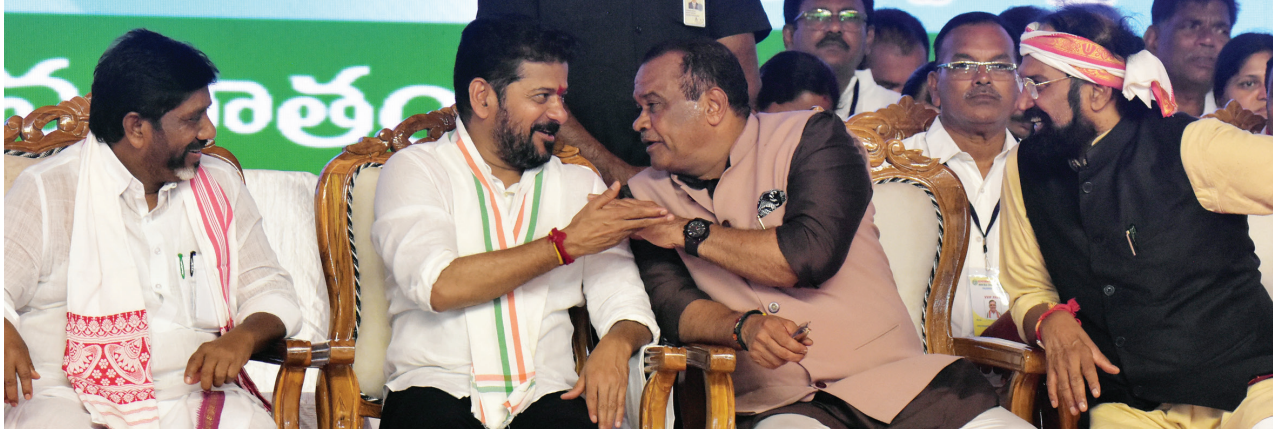
Telangana society boycott BRS . No future to KCR party in Telangana

KCR neglected SLBC project

" Billa and Ranga " are spreading canards

CM ridicules BRS claim of sacrifice for Telangana

CM addressed a public meeting after laying foundation stones for a slew of development projects in Nalgonda



Nalgonda, June 28: Chief Minister Shri A Revanth Reddy said that the State Government is ready to hold a special session of Assembly and Legislative Council sessions to debate on the performance of the 10 years of BRS rule, BJP's 12 year dispensation at the centre and two and half years of Congress government in the Telangana State.

Addressing a public meeting, the Chief Minister said that we are ready to convene a special sessions of the Legislative Assembly

and the Legislative Council and debate the performance of the three political parties in power. We are also ready to discuss the manifestos of the BJP, BRS, and Congress. The CM demanded the opposition parties write a letter to the Speaker and the Council Chairman.. Let us settle the score in the Assembly.

In a scathing attack on the Opposition for obstructing the Musi Rejuvenation Project, CM Revanth Reddy reaffirmed that he will complete the musli project . The Chief Minister

warned that those who create hurdles for the Musi project will be dumped in the Musi river. Pollution from the Musi River was causing women in Nalgonda to give birth to children with eye and limb deformities. " Should we step down just because we are cleaning up the Musi River?"

The CM launched a broadside at BRS President K Chandrashekhra Rao , and BRS leaders - KT Rama Rao and Harish Rao for spreading canards against the government.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >



Prime Minister Narendra Modi receives the prestigious 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon' title from Seychelles, dedicating the honour to nations fighting climate change.

Modi-Seychelles Talks Focus on Ocean Security and Climate Resilience

SPECIAL 02

Rahul needs to introspect his ROLE AS LOP: KISHAN REDDY

HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

Union Minister of Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy said that the Congress leader Rahul Gandhi needs to introspect on his role as the Leader of the Opposition and added that he had recently completed two years as the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha while noting that During this two-year period, he has set a unique record: he has faced defeat in every election held—with the sole exception of Kerala—while serving as the Leader of the Opposition.

Reddy said that In the elections held following the 2024 Lok Sabha polls across states such as Maharashtra, Haryana, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Bihar, West Bengal, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Assam, and Puducherry the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) won 664 assembly seats, whereas the Congress was confined to just 171 assembly seats.



"Such resounding results are being achieved because the people are wholeheartedly endorsing the governance of the Bharatiya Janata Party under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi a government that addresses public issues and respects the aspirations of the people. The public has enabled the BJP to achieve numerous

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

Renew your struggle for Telangana's comprehensive development : Nitin Nabin



HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

BJP National President Nitin Nabin on Sunday called upon every party worker to prepare for a renewed struggle for the comprehensive development of Telangana, driven by the resolve that politics is meant for service rather than power, sacrifice rather than self-indulgence and dedication rather than the pursuit of wealth.

In an event, nine new BJP district offices (Ranga Reddy Rural, Adilabad, Asifabad, Nirmal, Kamareddy, Siddipet, Medak, Wanaparthy, and Nagarkurnool were inaugurated across

Telangana on a single day amidst an atmosphere of great enthusiasm.

Speaking on the occasion, He emphasized that these newly opened district offices would serve as "Centres of Resolve" (Sankalpa Kendras) reflecting the party's ideology and "Centres of Service" (Seva Kendras) standing in support of the people. He expressed happiness that these offices would act as hubs of inspiration for the BJP workers, who operate on the motto: "Nation First, Party Next, Self Last."

On this historic occasion, Nitin Nabin paid humble

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

CM Revanth, BJP conspiring to erase Musi river for future generations: KTR



HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

Bharat Rashtra Samithi working president K. T. Rama Rao alleged that the Congress and the BJP are jointly conspiring to destroy the Musi River, depriving future generations of one of Telangana's most important natural resources.

Addressing the BRS general body meeting of the Vikarabad Assembly constituency on Sunday, he said that while Chief Minister Revanth Reddy claims to be committed to the rejuvenation of the Musi River, his government is simultaneously facilitating the destruction of nearly 12 lakh trees and vast stretches of forest in Vikarabad district, the birthplace of the Musi.KTR alleged that despite strong objections from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

CM NAIDU CALLS FOR JOINT FAMILY SYSTEM REVIVAL

AMARAVATI, JUNE 28

Praising the greatness of traditional Indian joint family system, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said such a system should come back.

Stating that the joint family system was one of our greatest strengths, he said grand parents and other family members helped shape children with values and emotional support.

The Chief Minister administered polio drops to children as part of Pulse Polio Immunization Programme at his camp office on Sunday. Later, he interacted with children and their parents and enquired about their health, vaccination sta-



tus and upbringing. He urged parents to ensure that children receive all government-recommended vaccinations on time to safeguard their health.

Officials of Health and Family Welfare department in-

formed the Chief Minister that the State aims to administer polio drops to approximately 4.92 million children below the age of five during the three-day Pulse Polio campaign beginning on Sunday.

During his interaction with families, the Chief Minister asked parents about the challenges of raising children, especially in households where both parents are working.

He stressed that child care should not be considered solely the mother's responsibility and called upon fathers to actively participate in raising children."Fathers and other family members must share the responsibility of bringing up children. Parenting should never be left entirely to mothers," he said.

The Chief Minister observed that societal attitudes towards having children are changing and stressed that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

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Modi-Seychelles Talks Focus on Ocean Security and Climate Resilience

VICTORIA (SEYCHELLES)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday held delegation-level talks with Seychelles President Patrick Herminie in Victoria, reaffirming the two countries' commitment to strengthening cooperation in maritime security, climate action, the blue economy and digital connectivity. Addressing a joint press conference after the talks, Prime Minister Modi said India envisions an Indian Ocean where security and economic prosperity go hand in hand and where partnerships are built on mutual trust and respect rather than size and influence.

"The Indian Ocean is our shared home, and its security, sustainability and prosperity are our shared responsibility," Mr. Modi said, describing it as the core of India's MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions) vision. The Prime Minister emphasized that the defence and security interests of India and Seychelles are closely interconnected. The two leaders reviewed the entire spectrum of bilateral relations and exchanged views on regional and global issues of mutual concern.

Mr. Modi said both countries had agreed to make economic cooperation more resilient and future-oriented. India, he said, would share its successful digital public infrastructure experience with Seychelles while exploring new opportunities for industries in both nations and improving connectivity between the two countries.

Several agreements were signed in sectors including agriculture, finance, space and healthcare. An agreement to implement the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in Seychelles was among the



key outcomes of the visit.

The Prime Minister said the partnership in the health sector had stood the test of time and noted that the memorandum of understanding on Jan Aushadhi would help provide affordable and quality medicines to the people of Seychelles.

President Patrick Herminie said maritime security remains central to bilateral relations, with both countries reaffirming their commitment to combating piracy, drug trafficking, illegal fishing and cross-border crimes in the Indian Ocean region.

In a major highlight of the visit, President Herminie conferred upon Prime Minister Modi the "Guardian of the Blue Horizon," Seychelles' highest distinction for leadership in environmental conservation and sustainable development. The honour was awarded

in recognition of Mr. Modi's commitment to climate action, the blue economy, sustainable management of ocean resources and support for Small Island Developing States.

This is the first time the prestigious honour has been bestowed.

Accepting the award, Mr. Modi dedicated it to all nations committed to environmental conservation and combating climate change. The recognition acknowledges initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance, Mission LiFE, Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam and the International Big Cat Alliance.

Later, addressing the National Assembly of Seychelles, Mr. Modi said climate action must be guided by fairness, responsibility and equity, particularly as island nations and the Global South remain among the most affected by climate change.

He called for stronger cooperation between India and Seychelles in the fields of the blue economy and digital innovation and reaffirmed India's commitment to ensuring that the concerns of Small Island Developing States receive adequate global attention.

The Prime Minister said India and Seychelles share a common vision for a more inclusive global order and international institutions that reflect present-day realities. He described Seychelles as occupying a special place in India's Indian Ocean vision.

"The Indian Ocean does not separate India and Seychelles; it connects us," Mr. Modi said.

Mr. Modi, who arrived in Victoria on Saturday on a three-day State visit, became the first Indian Prime Minister to address the National Assembly of Seychelles.

PV's Vision Laid the Foundation for a Prosperous India: Governor



HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on Sunday said that the foundations laid by Bharat Ratna and former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao through his landmark economic reforms have enabled India to emerge as a prosperous nation.

The Governor was speaking at the 105th birth anniversary celebrations of P.V. Narasimha Rao, organised by the P.V. Narasimha Rao Memorial Charitable Trust at Ravindra Bharathi. As part of the annual felicitation ceremony, he honoured organisations, educational institutions, corporate bodies, and individuals for their

outstanding contribution to voluntary blood donation.

Paying rich tributes to the former Prime Minister, Shukla said that P.V. Narasimha Rao, who rose from the rural heartland of Telangana to lead the nation, remained deeply rooted in the culture and values of his native soil. Describing him as an accomplished statesman, distinguished scholar, multilingual intellectual, author, and visionary, the Governor said Rao steered the country through one of its most challenging phases and ushered in transformative economic reforms that reshaped India's future.

Emphasising the importance of voluntary blood

donation, the Governor said blood cannot be manufactured in laboratories and can only come from the selfless generosity of fellow human beings. He called upon citizens to uphold the ideals of P.V. Narasimha Rao by dedicating themselves to the pursuit of knowledge, integrity, and selfless service to the nation. He also appreciated the Trust for bringing together a large number of individuals and institutions committed to humanitarian service.

Padma awardee and actor-producer Murali Mohan, founder of the P.V. Narasimha Rao Memorial Charitable Trust Dr. N.V. Sudha Kiran, and others were present on the occasion.

CONTINUATION FROM PAGE 1

Rahul needs to introspect..

FROM PAGE 1

milestones including a hat-trick of victories in Assam and Hariana, the appointment of the first-ever BJP Chief Minister in Bihar, the formation of a government with a magnificent majority in West Bengal for the first time in history and securing power for a second consecutive term in Puducherry. At the same time, the people of the country have lost faith in Rahul Gandhi due to the anti-national policies he pursues and his tendency to make statements based on a personal agenda that runs counter to the aspirations of the public. His conduct mirrors the pattern of consecutive electoral defeats suffered by the Congress party," he claimed .

He mocked that Rahul Gandhi was not the only one to receive a promotion despite dismal failure but the Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir was also elevated to the rank of a Field Marshal even after the Pakistan Army suffered severe losses during 'Operation Sindoor.' He quipped that None of them can predict when Rahul Gandhi might gain the wisdom to act as a responsible Leader of the Opposition.

CM Revanth, BJP conspiring to erase Musi river for future..

FROM PAGE 1

local residents, environmentalists and opposition parties, the State government has decided to clear more than 2,000 acres of forest land in the name of establishing a Navy Radar Station, permanently altering the ecological character of Vikarabad district.

He described Vikarabad as the only hill station located close to the Hyderabad metropolitan region and said its forests are renowned for their clean air and rich biodiversity, benefiting the health of countless people. He accused the government of conspiring to deprive the public of this valuable ecological asset.

KTR warned that while the Congress government speaks of cleaning the Musi River, destroying the forests at its origin would endanger the very existence of the river. He expressed concern that the large-scale

diversion of forest land for the Navy Radar Station, allegedly at the insistence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, would severely threaten the future of the Musi River. KT Rama Rao recalled that the previous BRS government, despite pressure from the Union Government, had refused to part with even a single acre of forest land in order to protect Telangana's ecological balance and natural environment. In contrast, he alleged that Revanth Reddy had readily surrendered thousands of acres to the Centre at the request of "Bade Bhai" (Prime Minister Modi), thereby facilitating large-scale environmental destruction.

He further alleged that the Congress government has failed to fulfil its electoral promises and has betrayed farmers and various sections of society, resulting in widespread public anger across Telangana.

FROM PAGE 1

Not a single woman was given a ministerial post during BRS first five year rule. Women have not forgotten.

CM Revanth Reddy ridiculed the BRS leaders propaganda of coming back to power. How should we deal with those who listen to private phone conversations between husbands and wives? Should such a monstrous sinner return to power? Should those who amassed crores by leaking question papers return? Should the leaders who had the poor beaten up for demanding ration cards return to power? Should that monstrous sinner, who harassed Congress workers with false cases for ten years, return to power?

Continuing tiruade against BRS leaders , the Chief Minister also questioned the opposition for not constructing houses for the poor. KCR built a 1,000-acre farmhouse in Gajwel, KTR in Janwada and his daughter built farmhouses in Shankarpalli. Had houses been provided over the last ten years, twenty-five lakh poor people would have received homes. The BRS leaders dreamt of only " Gadi" (feudal mansions) and farmhouses. The Congress government provided 4.5 lakh houses to the poor. Indiramma Houses' represent the self-respect of the poor.

Today, the poorer sections were also eating the very same fine rice that KCR (in his farmhouse) and KTR (in Janwada) consume, the CM said that not a single ration card was issued in ten years. Our government has distributed lakhs of ration cards. The previous government supplied coarse rice to the poor which was used as fodder for cattle. Now, we are supplying fine rice—at an allocation of 6 kg per person—to 3.28 crore people at a cost of ₹16,000 crore every year.

CM Revanth Reddy said that the Telangana society has already boycotted the BRS . "Billa and Ranga" (KTR and Harish Rao) are notorious. They are going from village to village spreading lies. 'Shukracharya' was sitting in the farmhouse. 'Subhavudu'

and 'Marichudu: were not speaking the truth. The Chief Minister took strong exception to spreading lies by BRS leaders claiming that Singareni was looted without a tender process. The people of Telangana know the BRS true colors. Telangana people are fully aware of how Telangana was looted during BRS rule.

Referring to the SLBC project, the CM lambasted the BRS President for neglecting the important project which is a lifeline to Nalgonda district. The Chief Minister assured that the project will be completed in the Congress government. The BRS leaders campaign against'Praja Palana' and return of 'Papala Bhairavudu' (a malevolent tyrant) was. ridiculous. Why should 'Praja Palana' come to an end? Should this people-centric governance be ousted for providing ₹27,000 crore in 'Rythu Bharosa' aid, waiving loans worth ₹20,000 crore, establishing a Skill University, and implementing numerous development and welfare programs?

The CM strongly objected to the BRS leaders repeatedly claiming that they will come to power on a foundation of sacrifices. Is resigning, triggering an election, and engaging in 'collections' (extortion/fund-raising) constitutes sacrifice?

CM Revanth Reddy remembered the sacrifices of many leaders and activists during the Telangana struggle. Konda Laxman Bapuji sacrificed his ministerial post for the sake of the state during the first Telangana movement. Komatireddy sacrificed his ministerial post for the state during the second Telangana movement.Komatireddy also undertook an indefinite hunger strike for the cause of Telangana state. Ishan Reddy and Venugopal Reddy sacrificed their lives.

'Aggipette Rao (Harish Rao) who could get petrol worth a hundred rupees but not a ten-paise matchbox—held a ministerial post for ten years. It was KCR who put a debt burden of ₹8.11 lakh crore and wreaked havoc on Telangana in just ten years. Was it not causing destruction equivalent to a century's worth?What about the sacrifices made by Srikantha Chari, Constable Kish-

taiah, and Yadaiah? How are we supposed to tolerate your plunder?

The brothers-in-law are prowling around like wolves and claiming that people want BRS to return to power. The people do not want and only your family desires it, the Chief Minister charged.

CM Revanth Reddy highlighted the government's achievements by comparing with the previous government. 200 units of free electricity for the homes of the poor was provided. We have spent ₹1.56 lakh crore on farmers through various initiatives, including loan waivers, Rythu Bharosa, and farmer bonuses.Transforming agriculture into a celebration and are witnessing happiness in the eyes of the farmers. Telangana is number one in Paddy production in the country. We have repeatedly appealed to the Central Government to secure adequate urea. We set a record by procuring 80 lakh metric tonnes of Paddy . A record paddy production was achieved without receiving a single drop of water from Kaleshwaram. Despite spending one lakh crore rupees to build Kaleshwaram, it turned into 'Kuleshwaram' (a collapsing structure). The State Government was introducing education from nursery to the 12th grade in government schools and striving to create hundreds of Ambedkars through quality public education. We are modernizing government schools for the benefit of Dalits, Adivasis, tribals, and children from poor families. The government provided a permanent solution to the issue of SC categorization, which had remained unresolved for a century. Our government also holds the distinction of providing 70,000 government jobs within a span of 30 months. We have upheld the self-respect of the unemployed, the Chief Minister said.

Further, the CM said that he laid the foundation stone for 6,300 kilometers of R&B roads at a cost of ₹13,000 crore today. The BRS have no future. We have buried the BRS in Nalgonda district. .

Revanth launches ₹13k-crore road overhaul



HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

In a major push to state infrastructure, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Sunday unveiled the foundation stone pylon for a massive road development initiative in Nalgonda district. The project aims to expand and reinforce 441 critical roads, covering a total distance of 6,092.37 kilometers across the state.

Executed under the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM), the mega infrastructure project is estimated to cost ₹13,006.27 crore. The official ceremony took place on the Nalgonda-Devarakonda road, adjacent to the market yard in the Kanagal mandal headquarters of Nalgonda district. Alongside the road network expansion, the Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone for Phase-1 of a vital drinking water scheme for the Nalgonda Municipal Corporation. Budgeted at ₹83 crore, this municipal upgrade is designed to significantly improve clean water access and utility pipelines for the region's growing urban population. Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, Legislative Council Chairman Gutha Sukhender Reddy, Ministers Uttam Kumar Reddy, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, and Adluri Laxman Kumar, MP Raghuvendra Reddy; MLAs Jaiveer Reddy, Bathula Laxma Reddy, and Balu Naik; and MLC Nellikanti Satyam were also present.

CM NAIDU CALLS FOR JOINT FAMILY SYSTEM REVIVAL

FROM PAGE 1

children should be viewed as a source of joy and strength rather than a burden.

Reiterating the State government's commitment to encourage larger families, Chandrababu Naidu said the government is creating awareness among people on the importance of having two or more children and promoting a family-friendly social environment. Director of Secondary Health K.V.N. Chakradhar Babu and officials from National Health Mission (NHM) also participated in the programme.

Renew your struggle for Telangana's comprehensive development : Nitin Nabin



FROM PAGE 1

tributes to the "Iron Man" Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel—who strove for the nation's integration—as well as to the martyrs, who sacrificed their lives for the separate state of Telangana and the late leader Sushma Swaraj, who had powerfully voiced the demand for Telangana in Parliament. He noted that despite the years that have passed since Telangana's formation, the dreams cherished by the martyrs had not yet been fully realized and affirmed that the responsibility of fulfilling those aspirations lies with the BJP. Lashing out at those, who criticize the BJP as an "outsider" party, he recalled the historical fact that when the party had only two MPs nationwide in 1984, one

of them was elected from the soil of Telangana. He humbly paid his heartfelt respects to all the senior party activists who, through years of hardship, police lathi-charges, struggles and sacrifices, helped the 'lotus' bloom across Telangana.

Nitin Nabin launched a scathing attack on the opportunistic politics of both the Congress and regional parties. He asserted that only the BJP activists possess the power to unseat the rulers, who have treated the state merely as a means to enjoy power. He criticized the Congress party for deceitfully reaping the benefits of struggles waged by the BJP activists against the failures of the previous government. Noting that the Congress has a history of prioritizing political self-in-

terest over national interests, he called upon the party activists to mobilize in every village and street to oust the current Congress government which has failed miserably in governance through public struggles.

He expressed confidence that history would repeat itself in Telangana just as the lotus bloomed in West Bengal state following struggles against widespread violence and anarchy. It was lauded that under the good governance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country's 1.4 billion Indians were moving forward in unity and added that the Modi government was fulfilling the visions of "Ek Bharat - Shreshtha Bharat" (One India - Great India) envisioned by Dr.

Syama Prasad Mukherjee, "Antyodaya" (upliftment of the last person) championed by Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya and the goals of good governance set by former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Also present at the event was BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao, Party National General Secretary and State In-charge Sunil Bansal, State In-charge Abhay Patil, BJP Co-in-charge for Tamil Nadu and Karnataka Ponguleti Sudhakar Reddy, State Organizational General Secretary Chandrashekhara Tiwari, Legislative Party Leader Aaleti Maheshwar Reddy, MP Konda Vishweshwar Reddy and Ranga Reddy Rural District President Raj Bhupal Goud.



Leaders pay tributes to former PM PV Narasimha Rao

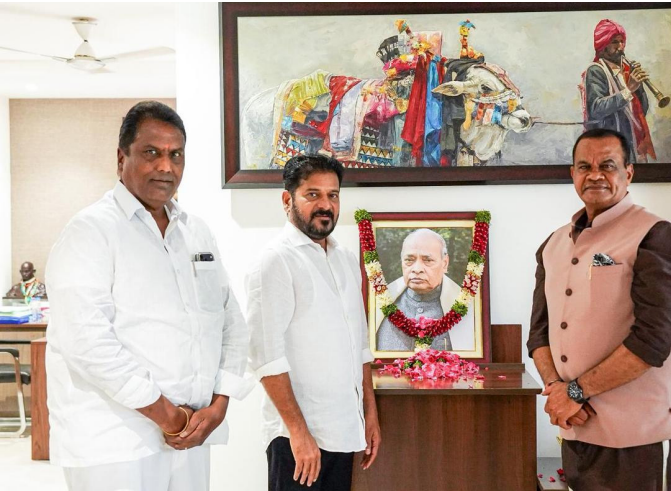


HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

Tributes were paid to former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao on his birth anniversary on Sunday at PV Gnaa Bhum (PV Ghat) in Hyderabad. Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, Former Governor Bandaru Dattatreya, senior politician K. Keshav Rao (KK), BJP State President Ramchander Rao, PCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud, MLC Anji Reddy, Daivagna Sharma and others paid their respects by laying a floral wreath at PV's memorial.

Speaking on the occasion, various party leaders noted that PV Narasimha Rao would go down in history as the great leader, who laid the foundation for the country's economic reforms. They lauded his services as a visionary leader, who provided effective leadership during challenging times and steered the Indian economy onto a path of development. The leaders remarked that PV Narasimha Rao's ideals and values serve as an inspiration to the current generation and that the people of the country would never forget his contributions. Subsequently, special prayers were offered at the memorial.

Gave Impetus to Economic Reforms: KCR
Meanwhile, Former CM KCR paid rich



tributes to former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao on the occasion of his birth anniversary and said that he gave impetus to economic reforms and steered India onto the path of progress. KCR shared this message on social media.

Former Minister Harish Rao hailed Bharat Ratna P.V. Narasimha Rao, who brought pride to the state, an exceptional administrator, and a leader, who rendered invaluable service to the nation as the Prime Minister. Harish Rao paid tribute to him while commemorating his birth anniversary,

sharing these sentiments on social media.

Former Minister KTR described Bharat Ratna P.V. Narasimha Rao as a statesman, a polyglot and the pioneer of economic reforms. He praised PV for steering the country out of a severe economic crisis during a challenging period and noted that his birth in Telangana was a source of pride for everyone. KTR recalled that the centenary celebrations of this beloved son of Telangana, P.V. Narasimha Rao, were conducted on a grand scale during KCR's tenure and mentioned that the Veterinary University was named after him.

KTR stated that the BRS government not only renamed Necklace Road as 'PV Marg' but also erected a towering statue of him to honor his enduring legacy. He lauded PV as a visionary, who propelled the nation's progress through significant economic reforms and highlighted his prowess as a polyglot capable of speaking fluently in multiple languages. KTR described PV as a repository of knowledge and an unparalleled strategist, who effortlessly overcame any number of obstacles.

1,000+ Telangana youth secure jobs at Kaushal Mahotsav

WARANGAL, JUNE 28

More than 1,000 young job seekers from across Telangana received employment offers at Kaushal Mahotsav - Warangal 2026, organized by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in collaboration with the Telangana Government and the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) at Kakatiya Institute of Technology & Science (KITS).

The mega employment and skilling event attracted an overwhelming response, with over 4,500 candidates registering and more than 2,200 participating in on-the-spot recruitment drives. Over 90 leading companies conducted interviews and offered jobs across sectors, including manufacturing, automotive, logistics, textiles, retail, healthcare, IT-ITeS, telecom, tourism, hospitality and BFSI.

Officials said nearly 50 percent of candidates who attended the recruitment process received job offers. Applicants not selected during the event will continue to be considered by participating employers as



part of their ongoing recruitment process. Addressing the gathering, MSDE Director V.S. Arvind said the event demonstrated the growing demand for skilled talent and reaffirmed the government's commitment to connecting youth with quality employment opportunities.

Several prominent employers, including Prompt Personnel, ParadigmIT Technology Services, Sitaram Spinners, Royal Enfield dealerships, KAPSTON Services, Cream Stone, Jayabheri Automotives, Blink Commerce and Varun Motors, participated in the drive. Telangana Overseas Manpower Company Limited

(TOMCOM) also facilitated more than 200 overseas job opportunities for eligible candidates.

Besides recruitment, the Mahotsav created awareness about apprenticeship programmes and flagship skill development initiatives such as the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Skill India Digital.

Officials described the success of the Warangal edition as a major step towards strengthening Telangana's skilled workforce and advancing the vision of "Viksit Bharat @2047".



PV's vision continues to guide India's progress: Bhatti

HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

On the occasion of the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka paid tribute, acknowledging his profound and immense services to the nation.

In a statement on Sunday, Bhatti Vikramarka hailed P.V. Narasimha Rao as the visionary leader who assumed office as Prime Minister during one of India's most severe economic crises and steered the country towards prosperity through bold and transformative economic reforms. He noted that the decisions taken by PV laid the foundation for India's emergence as one of the world's leading economic powers today.

Bhatti Vikramarka described P.V. Narasimha Rao as a son of Telangana of whom the entire nation is proud. He recalled that during his tenure as Chief Minister of the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh, PV introduced landmark land reforms that brought revolutionary changes in providing land to the poor.



"PV's initiative in establishing Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas opened the doors of quality education to talented students from rural areas. Born on the soil of Telangana, PV mastered several Indian and foreign languages and also left an indelible mark in the field of literature," he said.

Bhatti Vikramarka said that the ideals, vision, and path shown by P.V. Narasimha Rao will continue to inspire and guide future generations.

Cyberabad traffic police catch 300 for drunk driving during weekend checks

HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

Cyberabad Traffic Police (CTP) has conducted a special drunk driving enforcement drive over the weekend, resulting in the apprehension of 300 offenders.

The total cases booked 259 two wheelers, Six three wheelers, 34 four wheelers and one heavy vehicle based on their Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) levels 245 offenders had BAC levels ranging from 36 mg/100 ml to 200 mg/100 ml, 30 offenders had BAC levels ranging from 201 mg/100 ml to 300 mg/100 ml and 25 offenders had BAC levels ranging from 301 mg/100 ml to 550 mg/100 ml All the offenders will be produced before the Court. Cyberabad Police reiterate that driving under the influence of alcohol is a serious offence. If anyone is found to be driving in an inebriated condition and causes a fatal accident, such individuals will be booked under Section 105 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (Culpable Homicide Not Amounting to Murder).

The maximum punishment under this section is 10 years of imprisonment along with a fine. In the last week (June 22 to 27) a total 251 drunk driving cases were disposed in the courts, in which 251 persons got fine only.

Dr. Peruka Raju Receives Telangana Nandi Award-2026

HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

Renowned national poet, author, and multilingual scholar Dr. Peruka Raju has been honored with the prestigious Telangana Nandi Award-2026 in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of literary translation.

The award was presented today at a grand ceremony organized by the Bharatiya Kalakarula Aikya Vedika at the Telangana Saraswata Kala Parishat in Hyderabad.

Dr. Peruka Raju received this prestigious recognition for his remarkable contribution to literature through his translations and original writings in Telugu and several other Indian languages, reflecting social awareness and cultural values. His efforts in bridging Indian languages and promoting the



nation's rich literary heritage have earned widespread appreciation.

A proud son of Telangana, Dr. Peruka Raju is currently serving as a Junior Commissioned Officer in the Indian Army under the Ministry of Defence. Alongside his military service, he has continued

his literary journey with dedication, earning recognition at the national level.

Beyond literature, he is actively engaged in social service. He founded the voluntary organization MyGift with the mission of uplifting underprivileged communities across India. Guided by his philosophy,

"Encouragement is the greatest gift," his humanitarian initiatives have inspired many.

Having already received numerous national and state-level honors, Dr. Peruka Raju's selection for the Telangana Nandi Award-2026 has been warmly welcomed by writers, artists, admirers, and distinguished personalities from various fields.

The award ceremony was attended by noted actor Babu Mohan, Vice-Chancellor Malla Reddy, film director Dr. Ranjith, actress Roja, actor Hariharan, the President of the Film Chamber, along with several film personalities, literary figures, artists, and youth. During the event, the poster of the film Aitheera was officially unveiled, while vibrant cultural dance performances added grandeur to the celebration.

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Govt fast-tracks irrigation projects to end Nalgonda’s drought, fluoride crisis: Uttam

HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

Declaring that the Congress government was scripting a "new chapter" in the history of Southern Telangana, Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on said that every initiative being undertaken in the irrigation sector was aimed at permanently ending the region's decades-old problems of drought, fluoride contamination and distress migration.

Addressing a massive public meeting in Nalgonda on Sunday, attended by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Roads & Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy and several Ministers and public representatives, Uttam Kumar Reddy said irrigation projects worth thousands of crores were being fast-tracked to provide assured irrigation, safe drinking water and long-term prosperity to farmers.

Asserting that the Congress government believed in delivering results rather than making empty promises, the Minister said the State had launched an extensive programme to transform Nalgonda into a district with assured irrigation, safe drinking water and sustainable agriculture.

Recalling Nalgonda's long association with drought, fluoride contamination and migration, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government's resolve



was to permanently change that image by ensuring reliable irrigation and safe drinking water to every household.

"Nalgonda should no longer be remembered for drought and fluoride, but for prosperous farmers, secure drinking water and thriving agriculture," he declared.

Describing the Alimineti Madhava Reddy-Srisailem Left Bank Canal (AMR-SLBC) as one of Telangana's most significant irrigation projects,

the Minister said it would be completed in the current term of the Congress government by all means. It would utilise 30 TMC of Krishna waters to irrigate nearly four lakh acres while providing safe drinking water to 516 fluoride-affected villages in the erstwhile Nalgonda district.

He said the Congress government had revived the long-delayed project by resolving critical technical issues, engaging the National Geophysical

Research Institute (NGRI) to undertake advanced helicopter-based electromagnetic surveys and bringing the country's leading experts on board.

Turning to the Dindi Lift Irrigation Scheme, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the Congress government accorded the project top priority immediately after assuming office by removing long-pending hurdles and expediting all statutory clearances. Once completed, the project will provide irrigation to 3.61 lakh acres covering 14 mandals in Nalgonda district and five mandals in Mahabubnagar district, besides ensuring safe drinking water to fluoride-affected habitations.

He assured that land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement would be carried out in a humane and transparent manner while fully protecting the interests of displaced families.

Uttam Kumar Reddy further announced that, after completing the ongoing flagship irrigation works, the State government would undertake the comprehensive modernisation of the historic Nagarjuna Sagar Project, describing it as one of the greatest engineering achievements of independent India and among the Congress party's most enduring contributions to the nation's irrigation infrastructure. He said equal priority would be accorded to the modernisation of the Nagarjuna Sagar Left Canal and its distributary network.

Minister Jupally Krishna Rao at the Telangana Activists’ Get-Together

HYDERABAD, JUNE 28



Tourism and Culture Minister Jupally Krishna Rao said that the state of Telangana was formed as a result of the sacrifices and struggles of thousands of people who participated in the Telangana movement. However, he criticized the previous BRS government for ignoring the aspirations of the movement and disappointing the people through corruption, illegal activities, and family rule. He said that the people entrusted the Congress Party, which granted Telangana statehood, with the responsibility of governing, and that the people's government led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is administering the state in line with the spirit of the Telangana movement.

The minister attended the Telangana Activists' Get-Together as the chief guest at Indira Park in Hyderabad. The event was organized under the leadership of movement leader and former SC Corporation Chairman Pidamarthi Ravi. MLC Addanki Dayakar, former student movement leaders, and Telangana activists also participated in the program.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister said that instead

of honoring the leaders and activists who played a crucial role in the Telangana movement, the previous government had insulted them. He alleged that prominent movement figures such as Gaddar, Professor Jayashankar, and Professor Kodandaram were disrespected. He further claimed that leaders including Mahmood Ali, Eatala Rajender, and Gaddar were stopped at the gates of Pragathi Bhavan and subjected to humiliation.

He also accused former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) and his family members of amassing enormous wealth while pushing the state into a debt trap. He criticized the previous ad-

ministration for continuing an undemocratic, family-centric rule instead of providing the democratic governance that the people of Telangana had hoped for.

The minister stated that senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi recognized the sacrifices of the martyrs who laid down their lives for Telangana and granted the statehood demand. He said that this is why the people of Telangana once again placed their trust in the Congress Party. He added that the government led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is governing in accordance with the aspirations of the people while giving priority to the welfare of Telangana movement activists.

Unlocking the Potential of Administrative Data

(On the occasion of “National Statistics Day” on 29 June)



The National Statistics Day is celebrated all over India on 29 June to mark the birthday of Prof Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, the “father of Indian statistics”, highlighting the role of statistics in policy formulation, planning, and development, thus creating awareness of how statistics shape a data-oriented society. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis was a statistician and scientist born on 29 June 1893 at Kolkata. He made pioneering contributions to the field of statistical analyses and also for formulating Mahalanobis distance. The India's five-year plan and its perfect execution was done by Mahalanobis by applying statistical techniques to solve the problems of economic and social development.

This day was established in 2007 by GoI by organising seminars, workshops, lectures, quizzes, debates, essay writing, and discussions to inspire students

and young professionals to take up statistics as a powerful tool for achieving inclusive growth.

Theme of National Statistics Day-2026:

Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis founded the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) in 1931, and also established National Sample Survey (NSS) for gathering socio-economic data for policy purposes. He was a close companion of Nehru, championed the cause of the infusion of statistics into governance. This day pays homage to his significant achievements in the field of statistics, and also to educate the public on its role. Statistics find major fields of application in health, education, agriculture, environment, and economic programs. National Statistics Day-2026 theme is “Unlocking the Potential of Administrative Data”, reflects the growing need to use data for administrative,

governance, policy making, and development. This theme emphasises the importance of leveraging data generated through daily administrative processes to drive evidence based policymaking and improve governance.

Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis laid foundation for the modern statistical system in India. With initialise digital India, the role of statistics has become even more critical in handling big data, AI integration, and digital governance. As the 19th Statistics Day approaches on 29th June 2025, it continues to remind us that “data is the new oil”, powering policy decisions, social programs, and economic strategies. By engaging the youth, fostering innovation, and promoting transparency through reliable data, this day in India contributes meaningfully to inclusive, informed, and sustainable national development.

- Prof : Madhusudan Reddy Burra
9949700037.

Telangana launches mega Pulse Polio drive to vaccinate 42 lakh children

HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

Health Minister Damodar Raja Narasimha officially launched the statewide Pulse Polio immunization campaign on Sunday by administering vaccine drops to children at the Borabanda Urban Primary Health Centre (UPHC) in Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad on Sunday.

The event was attended by Transport Minister Ponnampallabharathi, Minister for SC/ST Welfare Aduri Laxman Kumar, and local MLA Naveen Yadav.

During the occasion, Damodar Raja Narasimha announced that the Medical and Health department has developed a comprehensive plan to administer polio drops to an estimated 42 lakh children across Telangana. He further elaborated

that 229 polio booths have been established statewide for the Pulse Polio programme, complemented by teams stationed at 903 mobile transit points. To guarantee the program's effectiveness, the State Health department has secured 52 lakh doses of the bOPV vaccine and mobilized a substantial workforce, including 2,298 route supervisors, 8,393 ANMs, 27,181 ASHA workers, and 34,442 Anganwadi workers.

Despite the absence of polio cases in the state, Damodar Rajanarsimha emphasised that precautionary measures are being implemented, alongside an intensified government-led awareness campaign to promote polio vaccination among the people.

The Minister underscored the importance of administering the man-



datory two polio drops to children between 0 and 5 years of age, stating it would 'bring brightness into

their lives.' He also informed the public that the polio drops would be accessible from June 28 to 30.

'Our party will win in three corporations'

HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao today said that Regardless of whether the BRS, Congress, and Majlis join forces or who tries to stand in the way, state capital Hyderabad remains a BJP's stronghold and added that their party's symbol 'Lotus' was bound to bloom in all three corporations located in the state capital because the people desire change and are looking to the BJP as the alternative. He made these remarks while addressing the party's Booth Presidents' Convention held at the Nampally Exhibition Grounds in the city.

"I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the booth presidents, party leaders, and activists from the GHMC, Cyberabad, and Malkajgiri areas who have turned out in such large numbers for this convention. Witnessing your enthusiasm reinforces my confidence



that the BJP flag will certainly fly high in the GHMC, Cyberabad, and Malkajgiri municipal corporations in the near future," Rao said.

He alleged that CM Revanth Reddy had turned the GHMC, Cyberabad and Malkajgiri regions into hubs for real estate ventures and reminded that Under the previous BRS party's regime, a single day of rain would leave half of Hyderabad submerged while noting that , Now, under Congress rule, even light rain causes roads to become waterlogged and vehicles

to get trapped in floodwaters. He claimed that the This government lacks the sincerity to improve Hyderabad and added that Their sole objective appears to be filling their own pockets by turning the city lands into the real estate business ventures. He criticised that Amidst the ongoing SIR (Special Intensive Revision) process, the Congress, BRS and MIM parties were deliberately spreading false propaganda against the BJP and added that They were attempting to sow lies among the public.

P.V. Narasimha Rao's Vision Laid the Foundation for a Prosperous India: Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla

HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on Sunday said that the foundations laid by Bharat Ratna and former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao through his landmark economic reforms have enabled India to emerge as a prosperous nation.

The Governor was speaking at the 105th birth anniversary celebrations of P.V. Narasimha Rao, organised by the P.V. Narasimha Rao Memorial Charitable Trust at Ravindra Bhārathi. As part of the annual felicitation ceremony, he honoured organisations, educational institutions, corporate bodies, and individuals for their outstanding contribution to voluntary blood donation. Paying rich tributes to the former Prime Minister, Shukla said that P.V. Narasimha Rao, who rose from the rural heartland of Telangana to lead the nation, remained deeply rooted in the culture and values of his native soil. Describing him as an accomplished statesman, distinguished scholar, multilingual intellectual, author, and visionary, the Governor said Rao steered the country through one of its most challenging phases and ushered in transformative economic reforms that reshaped India's future.

Emphasising the importance of voluntary blood donation, the Governor said blood cannot be manufactured in laboratories and can only come from the selfless generosity of fellow human beings. He called upon citizens to uphold the ideals of

P.V. Narasimha Rao by dedicating themselves to the pursuit of knowledge, integrity, and selfless service to the nation. He also appreciated the Trust for bringing together a large number of individuals and institutions committed to humanitarian service.



Bhatti inspects progress of Lakshmipuram integrated school campus

KHAMMAM, JUNE 28

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka described the Integrated Residential Schools being constructed across the state as not merely buildings, but as “temples of vision” that will shape a brighter future for coming generations. He emphasised that the Indiramma People's Government is giving the highest priority to education.

The Deputy Chief Minister personally inspected the construction works of the Integrated Residential School at Lakshmipuram in Bonakal mandal under

Madhira Assembly constituency in Khammam district on Sunday. During his visit, Bhatti Vikramarka walked through the school campus and closely reviewed the progress of various construction activities. He inspected the junior hostel, junior and senior academic blocks, and the Administrative Block, and sought updates from officials on the status of the works. He paid special attention to the mechanical, science, mathematics, and computer laboratory buildings, which are expected to serve as platforms for students' bright futures.

Devotees throng Yadagirigutta, Indrakeeladri temples

HYDERABAD, JUNE 28

There was a heavy rush of devotees at the Yadagirigutta Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple today . As Sunday is a holiday, a large number of devotees flocked to the temple for darshan, creating a lively atmosphere within the premises. The Devotees lined up in long queues and their wait time was approximately two hours for free darshan and one hour for special entry darshan. The Devotees had fulfilled their vows by participating in Arjitha Sevas (paid rituals) and daily worship services. Bustling crowds of the devotees were observed at the Nitya Kalyanam area, Laddu prasadam counters, the Satyanarayana Swamy Vrata Mandapam, the Kalyana Katta (tonsuring center) at the foothills, the Pushkarini (temple tank), and the vehicle parking areas.

Devotees flock to Indrakeeladri in Vijayawada
Meanwhile , the Devotees flocked



to Indrakeeladri as today was Sunday. The Devotees rejoiced over the facilities provided to the devotees in Vijayawada. They flocked in large numbers to have darshan of Sri Kanakadurgamma, who is enshrined in thr Indrakeeladri. In the backdrop of consecutive holidays, the arrival of the devotees increased tremendously from 7 am on Sunday .

Keeping in mind the rush of the devotees, the temple authorities under the supervision of DEO Kishore Kumar, the temple AEOs Chandrasekar, Venkat Reddy and Ramesh Babu monitored the queue lines and made all the necessary special arrangements for the devotees. As the rush increased immensely, the authorities temporarily stopped the inter-temple

darshans from 10.30 am to provide quick darshan to the general devotees. Also, all types of VIP darshans were completely canceled from 10.30 am to 2.30 pm. Due to this, the ordinary devotees in the queue lines got the darshan of the goddess very quickly and easily.

The crowd of the devotees gradually decreased after 2.30 pm. The members of the Board of Trustees and monitored the facilities of the devotees. They stayed with the devotees and inquired about their needs. On the other hand, the temple assistant commissioner, Ranga Rao, worked hard to organize the queue lines with the staff by giving appropriate instructions from time to time.

Due to the coordination and hard work of the governing body, officials, the darshan of the goddess took place very peacefully without any inconvenience to the devotees even in such a huge crowd. The devotees expressed complete satisfaction with the arrangements made by the temple administration.



Naidu, Mittal Hold Talks on Digital Growth

AMARAVATI, JUNE 28

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday discussed with Bharti Enterprises founder and chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal the strengthening of the state's digital infrastructure and enhancing connectivity.

The Chief Minister posted on 'X' that he was delighted to meet Sunil Bharti Mittal. "We had a productive discussion on strengthening Andhra Pradesh's digital infrastructure and enhancing connectivity for our people. Our conversation focused on expanding last-mile internet and mobile tower connectivity, promoting investments in data centres and an undersea internet cable landing station, and further improving the ease of doing business for mobile service operators in our state," said the Chief Minister. The details of the talks between the Chief Minister and Sunil Bharti Mittal are not known. An official release from the state government is expected later. Airtel Nxtra, the data centre subsidiary of Bharti Airtel, is one of the partners in the Google AI Data Centre coming up in Visakhapatnam. The project, backed by an investment of around \$15 billion, will include gigawatt-scale data centre operations powered by clean energy and supported by a strong subsea network. The data centre, the foundation stone for which was laid in April, will be developed across nearly 600 acres with a total capacity of 1 Gigawatt.

Kerala achieves 88.53 pc coverage in Pulse Polio drive

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: As many as 17.53 lakh children below the age of five received Pulse Polio vaccine drops at booths across Kerala on Sunday, achieving 88.53 per cent coverage, Health Minister K Muraleedharan said.

In a statement, the minister said the state had targeted 19.8 lakh children under the Pulse Polio immunisation programme.

Health workers and volunteers will undertake a house-to-house campaign on Monday and Tuesday to administer the vaccine to children who missed the immunisation drive on Sunday, he said.

Chief Minister Chandrababu to Attend a Series of Events from July 1 to July 5

Chief Minister to participate in the groundbreaking ceremonies for Hero MotoCorp, VB G RAM G, and the Rayalaseema Steel Plant.

Chief Minister will stay overnight in the respective districts during the tour. Amaravati: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu will participate in a series of official programs from July 1 to July 5, visiting several districts across Andhra Pradesh. During these district tours, he will take part in various welfare and development initiatives.

On July 1, as part of the "Service to the Poor" program, the Chief Minister will visit Chillakur Mandal in Nellore district to distribute pensions. Later that day, he will

AP-EESL Pact for Energy Efficiency

Mission LiFE is a National Movement; Experts Urge Citizens to Make Environmental Protection a Social Responsibility. BEE, EESL and States Hailed for Delivering Annual Electricity Savings of 321.39 Billion Units and Rs 2 Lakh Crore in Economic Benefits. Andhra Pradesh-EESL Partnership had Launched Landmark Energy Efficiency Projects; Poised to Become a National Role Model. Energy Efficiency is No Longer an Option, but a National Necessity for Sustainable Development and Climate Action."
— S. Bala Subramanyam, EO Secretary to Govt, GAD(SR) department, AP, Head Quarters at Hyderabad.

VIJAYAWADA, JUNE 28:

With climate change emerging as one of the greatest global challenges of the 21st century, the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency and sustainable lifestyles has become more urgent than ever. Against this backdrop, the Government of Andhra Pradesh's comprehensive partnership with Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) is poised to become a national benchmark in implementing Energy Efficiency projects and Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), advancing India's climate commitments.

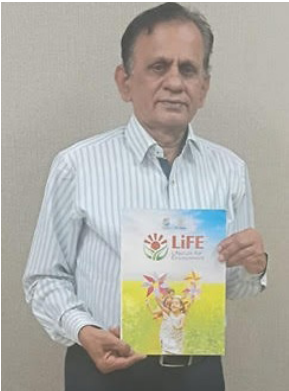
Mission LiFE, launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi during the COP26 Climate Summit in Glasgow, is an India-led global movement that encourages individuals and communities to shift from mindless consumption to mindful and sustainable use of natural resources. The initiative seeks to transform environmental protection into a mass movement by promoting responsible lifestyles and collective action. Addressing a programme organised by EESL, S. Bala Subramanyam, EO Secretary to

Govt, GAD(SR) department, AP, Head Quarters at Hyderabad (Inter-State Disputes), stressed that adopting Mission LiFE programmed by Ministry of Environment and climate change, is no longer an option but a historic necessity to combat climate change, safeguard the environment and secure the interests of future generations.

"India's youth have a vital role to play in making Mission LiFE a true people's movement. Every citizen should actively participate in the National Energy Conservation Movement and inspire others to adopt sustainable lifestyles. Our collective efforts can mobilise not only one billion Indians but also global citizens towards environmental protection," he said.

Interacting with EESL's Adviser (Media & Government Affairs) and senior officials, Subramanyam observed that India's age-old traditions of conservation, moderation and responsible use of resources perfectly complement the philosophy of Mission LiFE.

Drawing upon his more than three decades of public service, he said energy efficiency today is not merely an operational choice but a development imperative that



delivers long-term ecological, economic and social benefits.

"Globally, energy efficiency alone contributes nearly 40 per cent of the emission reductions required to achieve climate goals. Investments in energy-efficient technologies simultaneously reduce energy costs, improve productivity, strengthen energy security and significantly cut greenhouse gas emissions," he noted. He lauded the initiatives of the Union Government implemented through the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) under the Ministry of Power, with active support from State Designated Agencies across Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha,

Punjab, Haryana, West Bengal, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and several other states. These initiatives have produced remarkable national outcomes, including annual electricity savings of over 321 billion units, monetary savings exceeding ₹2 lakh crore, and a reduction of more than 321 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions, making India's energy efficiency programme one of the world's most successful public-sector sustainability initiatives.

Highlighting Andhra Pradesh's unique collaboration with EESL, Subramanyam said the State has adopted one of the country's most comprehensive energy-efficiency partnerships covering multiple sectors including industries, MSMEs, DISCOMs, housing, Municipal Administration & Urban Development, Panchayat Raj & Rural Development, Anganwadis through induction cooking, tourism and other public infrastructure. He said the saturation-based implementation strategy adopted by Andhra Pradesh has the potential to generate savings worth hundreds of crores of rupees annually in future while substantially reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

"While EESL has partnered with several states across the country, Andhra Pradesh's integrated and long-term collaboration across multiple sectors has the potential to emerge as a landmark model in India's energy-efficiency journey. The State's holistic approach can serve as a blueprint for other states aspiring to combine economic growth with environmental sustainability," he observed.

During the programme, Subramanyam unveiled a report on Mission LiFE. EESL officials also highlighted the 75 actionable lifestyle changes recommended under Mission LiFE, including widespread adoption of LED lighting, greater use of public transport, electric and CNG vehicles, cycling, carpooling, rooftop solar systems and other energy-efficient practices aimed at creating a greener and more sustainable future. The programme concluded with a call for stronger collaboration between governments, institutions, industry and citizens to accelerate India's transition towards a low-carbon economy, making Mission LiFE a people's movement and positioning Andhra Pradesh as a role model in sustainable development.

Vaiko's MDMK loses over 150 leaders to DMK a day after quitting alliance

More than 150 functionaries of the MDMK, including state leaders, district secretaries, advocates and students, formally joined the DMK on Sunday in a setback for Vaiko-led party. The move came a day after the MDMK general council announced that it was snapping ties with the DMK.

The defections took place at the DMK headquarters, Anna Arivalayam, where the leaders joined the party in the presence of DMK president and former Chief Minister M K Stalin, according to a press release. The shift strengthens the DMK across several regions, with many of those who crossed over coming from the MDMK's leadership base in Sivaganga, Tiruvallur, Virudhunagar and Tirupur districts. Those who led the move included high-level committee members and district secretaries such as Pulavar S Sevanthiyappan from Sivaganga, TRR Senguttuvan from Tiruvallur, propaganda secretary Thiruparankundram Azhagundaram and RMS Sekhar from Virudhunagar. A group of 40 students from Tamil Nadu Dr Ambedkar

Law University also joined the DMK along with the senior leaders, indicating a coordinated shift from the MDMK's youth and student wings. In a resolution passed at its meeting here, the MDMK alleged that after the Tamil Nadu Assembly election results were announced on May 4, 2026, it had become clear that "behind-the-scenes political deals" had gone against the mandate given by the people. It further claimed that it was an open secret that "arrangements" had been made to install an AIADMK government, though it did not directly name the DMK.

"Therefore, this general council hereby decides to withdraw from the DMK-led Secular Progressive Alliance. This general council resolves that the party will take appropriate decisions regarding alliances when the elections approach," the resolution said. The MDMK also recalled that it had been part of the DMK-led Secular Progressive Alliance for more than eight years.

The developments marked a sharp political turn, with the MDMK ending its alliance with the DMK and, within a day, losing more than 150 functionaries to the rival party.

Karnataka to Act Against Intoxicant-Laced Products

Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Sunday said the Karnataka government would crack down on manufacturers found mixing intoxicating substances into pan masala and gutka, and warned that such products could be banned in the state if they were found to contain narcotic substances.



educational institutions. He also urged students attending the conclave to remain disciplined and stay for the speeches by constitutional authorities, saying only disciplined students could become true ambassadors of the Nasha Mukta Bharat campaign.

Shivakumar said Karnataka is home to the country's largest health sciences university, which produces 13,940 medical graduates every year, with more than 70 medical colleges and over four lakh students. He said doctors trained in Karnataka were serving with distinction across the world and announced that RGUHS would soon shift to its new campus in Bengaluru South district.

Describing Bengaluru as a city known for its pleasant weather, rich culture and advanced healthcare infrastructure, he said Karnataka had established itself as one of the country's leading healthcare destinations.

Invoking former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's words, "The children of today will make the India of tomorrow," Shivakumar said protecting the younger generation from drugs was crucial to securing the nation's future. He assured the gathering of the state government's full support in building a drug-free Karnataka, while reiterating that the government would act firmly against intoxicating substances being mixed into consumer products.

Two minor sisters killed, woman injured as wall collapses in Chhattisgarh's Bemetara

BEMETARA (CHHATTISGARH): (Jun 28) Two minor sisters were killed and a 30-year-old woman sustained serious injuries after a wall of their house collapsed in Chhattisgarh's Bemetara district on Sunday, police said. The inci-

dent occurred in the morning at Raurpur village within the jurisdiction of the Bemetara police station, an official said. The deceased were identified as Vanshika Kosale (10) and her younger sister Radhika (8), he said.

Rain triggers landslide in Arunachal, bridge collapse adds to chaos

Heavy rainfall continued to wreak havoc across Arunachal Pradesh on Sunday, triggering fresh landslides, flash floods and infrastructure damage in several districts, while the death toll in the rain-triggered flash floods in Keyi Panyor district rose to three.



A heavy landslide occurred at Siji block point in Lower Siang district, blocking the Siji River above the Likabali checkpoint between Siji and Magi. The blockage has led to the accumulation of river water, raising concerns over the safety of people and property in downstream areas. District police have reached out to residents living downstream and advised them to stay away from riverbanks due to the potential danger posed by the accumulated water. In another incident, a bridge collapsed at Ledum village following heavy rainfall. Officials also reported that a flash flood struck Ledum in East Siang district on Sunday morning, damaging infrastructure and property.

Arunachal Pradesh, the largest state in Northeast India by area and demography and sharing international borders with China, Myanmar and Bhutan, has witnessed a series of disasters amid the ongoing spell of

heavy rainfall. Meanwhile, the toll in the rain-triggered flash floods in Keyi Panyor district rose to three after the body of Saurabh Kumar Kharwar was found in the adjoining Papum Pare district on Sunday, officials said. State Disaster Management Secretary Dani Sulu said the body was recovered near Hawa Camp, around 35 km from the flood-hit Poosa area in Keyi Panyor district. A rescue team has been dispatched to retrieve the mortal remains. Five people went missing after a flash flood triggered by incessant rainfall struck Keyi Panyor district on Wednesday morning. With the latest recovery, authorities have confirmed three deaths, while two people remain missing. The body of a 35-year-old woman was recovered on Wednesday, and another woman's body was found on Saturday.

Search and rescue operations entered the fifth day on Sunday. One rescue team launched raft

operations from the dam side of the Panyor Lower Hydroelectric Project, while another ground team continued searching for the two missing persons who were swept away from the NEEPCO Colony. Authorities have intensified relief and rescue efforts in the affected region. An additional 23 personnel of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) left for Keyi Panyor district on Sunday to strengthen the ongoing search operation. The Indian Red Cross Society, Arunachal Pradesh State Branch, is also sending relief materials to the flood-hit area. The supplies are scheduled to be airlifted from Naharlagun helipad to Poosa via Ziro by an MI-17 civil aviation helicopter, subject to favourable weather conditions. Officials said the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) has not received any fresh requisition for additional personnel, and its existing deployment in Keyi Panyor district remains unchanged.

Civil Aviation authorities said one sortie has been kept on standby to transport relief materials from Naharlagun to Ziro, but the flight will operate only after receiving weather clearance. The North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) said it is yet to complete an assessment of the damage caused to its hydropower infrastructure and power generation facilities. Officials said a detailed report will be issued once the situation stabilises. The flash flood devastated the NEEPCO Colony at Poosa, damaging houses, disrupting road connectivity and triggering landslides at several locations. According to preliminary estimates, around 30 houses were completely damaged or washed away at the NEEPCO Colony. Another 10 houses were destroyed and 14 were partially damaged in the Poosa and Pitapool areas. A total of 128 households have been affected in the district. Authorities have set up a relief camp on the NEEPCO campus, where 60 displaced people are currently taking shelter. In Leparada district, the Kidi River was flowing above the danger level at Basar, threatening a vital bridge. Chisi village under Dari circle was among the worst-affected areas, while another key bridge also remained under threat. Officials said rain-triggered floods and landslides have affected nine

districts—Keyi Panyor, Papum Pare, Kra Daadi, Kurung Kumey, Lower Subansiri, Kamle, Upper Subansiri, East Siang and Leparada. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast the possibility of more than 200 mm of rainfall in parts of the state over the next 24 hours till Monday morning, prompting the state government to issue an alert and urge people to remain vigilant. The State Disaster Management Department said the IMD has warned of heavy to extremely heavy rainfall across several parts of Arunachal Pradesh, increasing the likelihood of flash floods, landslides and waterlogging in vulnerable areas.

For Sunday, the weather office issued a very heavy rainfall warning of 12-20 cm in 24 hours for Papum Pare and East Siang districts. Lower Subansiri, Leparada and Lower Siang were placed under a heavy rainfall warning, while heavy rainfall alerts were also issued for West Kameng, Pakke Kessang, East Kameng, Kamle and Lower Dibang Valley. According to the Meteorological Centre in Itanagar, West Kameng, Lower Subansiri, East Siang, Papum Pare, Leparada, Lower Siang, West Siang and Lower Dibang Valley are likely to receive heavy rainfall of 6-11 cm in 24 hours at isolated

Chief Minister Advocates Joint Family System to Strengthen Society

AMARAVATI :

Praising the greatness of traditional Indian joint family system, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said such a system should come back. Stating that the joint family system was one of our greatest strengths, he said grand parents and other family members helped shape children with values and emotional support. The Chief Minister administered polio drops to children as part of Pulse Polio Immunization Programme at his camp office today. Later he interacted with children and their parents and enquired about their health, vaccination status and upbringing. He urged parents to ensure that children receive all government-rec-

ommended vaccinations on time to safeguard their health. Officials of Health and Family Welfare Department informed the Chief Minister that the State aims to administer polio drops to approximately 4.92 million children below the age of five during the three-day Pulse Polio campaign beginning today.

During his interaction with families, the Chief Minister asked parents about the challenges of raising children, especially in households where both parents are working. He stressed that child care should not be considered solely the mother's responsibility and called upon fathers to actively participate in raising children. "Fathers and other family members

must share the responsibility of bringing up children. Parenting should never be left entirely to mothers," he said. The Chief Minister observed that societal attitudes towards having children are changing and stressed that children should be viewed as a source of joy and strength rather than a burden. Reiterating the State government's commitment to encourage larger families, Chandrababu said the government is creating awareness among people on the importance of having two or more children and promoting a family-friendly social environment.

Director of Secondary Health K.V.N. Chakradhar Babu and officials from National Health Mission (NHM), participated.



EDITORIAL

The Illusion of Peace:
The Fragility of the Modern
Ceasefire

The geopolitical ledger of late June 2026 presents a stark, unsettling reality: the line between a diplomatic breakthrough and a catastrophic escalation has never been thinner. Just days ago, the global community breathed a collective sigh of relief as a fragile ceasefire was signed to de-escalate tensions around the critical maritime choke point of the Strait of Hormuz. Yet, within forty-eight hours, a series of retaliatory strikes and counter-strikes has pushed the region back to the precipice of an open regional conflict. This rapid unraveling exposes a systemic flaw in modern diplomacy: the reliance on short-term tactical pauses over deep-rooted structural conflict resolution. When a ceasefire acts merely as a dynamic waiting room for the next deployment, it ceases to be peace—it is simply a re-arming period. “The true measure of a diplomatic agreement is not whether it achieves a momentary silence of guns, but whether it establishes a mechanism robust enough to survive the first provocation.” The instability in the Middle East does not exist in a vacuum. It reverberates across an interconnected global landscape that is currently managing severe systemic strains on multiple fronts. As naval and aerial assets remain deployed on high alert, a single miscalculation or misidentified signal risks triggering automated or rapid-response protocols that cannot easily be recalled. Furthermore, supply chains face immediate price spikes the moment critical trade straits are threatened. Beyond state-level actors, localized non-state groups and cross-border insurgencies—such as the recent deadly compound breaches witnessed in Karachi—threaten to hijack state diplomacies for their own asymmetric agendas. If the international community wishes to avoid a slide into broader conflict, the strategy must pivot from reactive containment to proactive conflict de-escalation. Ceasefires are vital to halting immediate bloodshed, but they are incredibly fragile structures. Without immediate, legally binding frameworks, independent maritime verification bodies, and economic off-ramps, these agreements will continue to collapse under the weight of historical grievances and mutual distrust.

World leaders cannot afford to treat a signed piece of paper as a mission accomplished. True deterrence requires building an architecture that makes escalation too costly to consider, rather than one that merely pauses the countdown clock.

BELIEVE THE TRUTH
(A MOTHER’S PRAYER)



She stares at the stars, her heart full of ache,
Her son in the army, for the country’s sake.
No sleep in her eyes, no food on her plate,
Just prayers in whispers and hands at fate.

“Oh Lord who knows all, where are You now?
Do You hear me weep? Will You show me how—
To bear this void, to brave this fear,
To hold my hope when he’s not near?”

No answers come, just silent night,
She hugs her pain, holds it tight.
Alone she sits, her soul turned gray,
While the world laughs and lives away.

No one knows her waiting game,
Every ring of the phone, she whispers his name.
While others dine and sleep with glee,
She dreams of snowfields he may never see.

But believe the truth, Oh heart so worn,
The darkest nights meet brightest morn.
When sorrow’s tide begins to slow,
The winds of fate may gently blow.

Nature arrived with a soft sunrise,
And tears gave way to joyful cries.
Her door flew open, no warning, no sound
She turned and found her son safe and sound!

She hugged him close, her fears undone,
Thanked every god, and the morning sun.
For now she knew, through pain and strife
Faith had kept her child and life.

... Dr. Peruka Raju ...
National Poet
7810032847



OPINION

Nature’s Fury Meets a Nation in Crisis: Venezuela’s Earthquake Tragedy

“Earthquakes do not kill indiscriminately; vulnerability does. When powerful tremors struck Venezuela, they exposed far more than shifting tectonic plates. They laid bare the devastating consequences of economic collapse, neglected infrastructure and years of institutional decline. What unfolded was not merely a natural disaster, but a humanitarian catastrophe decades in the making.”

Years of economic decline, political turmoil, international sanctions and deteriorating public infrastructure had already pushed the South American nation to the brink. The earthquakes have now compounded that crisis, leaving thousands of buildings in ruins, claiming hundreds of lives and trapping countless others beneath collapsed structures. Rescue teams continue to race against time, while fears remain that the death toll could rise significantly.

This is not merely another story of nature's destructive power. It is also a stark reminder of how weak institutions, neglected infrastructure and prolonged economic distress can transform a natural hazard into a humanitarian catastrophe.

The disaster stands out not only because of its scale but also because of its unusual geological nature. Seismologists describe the event as a seismic doublet—a rare phenomenon in which two major earthquakes of nearly comparable magnitude occur within seconds or minutes of each other.

Ordinarily, a major earthquake is followed by aftershocks that are considerably weaker. In this case, however, the second powerful tremor struck before already damaged buildings had any chance of withstanding additional stress. Structures weakened by the first quake simply gave way during the second, dramatically amplifying the scale of destruction. Such seismic doublets are exceptionally uncommon and are capable of causing disproportionately severe damage.

Venezuela lies along the boundary between the Caribbean and South American tectonic plates. As these massive plates grind past one another, enormous stress gradually accumulates beneath the Earth's surface. When that stress is suddenly released, earthquakes occur. The country's Bocoña Fault system has long been recognised as one of its principal seismic zones.

The recent earthquakes originated at relatively shallow depths, allowing much of their energy to reach the surface with greater intensity. Scientists also point to another crucial factor: resonance. Every building possesses a natural frequency of vibration. When seismic waves oscillate at or near that same frequency, the building's movement is amplified, greatly increasing the likelihood of structural failure. Many of Venezuela's ageing buildings were constructed before modern earthquake-resistant standards became widespread. Once the first tremor weakened these structures, the second proved catastrophic, reducing many of them to rubble.



When Vulnerability
Magnifies Destruction:

Earthquakes are not unfamiliar to Venezuela. The devastating earthquake of 1812 claimed thousands of lives, while another powerful quake struck Caracas in 1967, causing widespread destruction. Yet decades of economic hardship have severely limited investment in earthquake-resistant infrastructure, retrofitting of older buildings and disaster preparedness. Urban planning has often failed to account adequately for seismic risks, even in one of the country's most vulnerable regions. The latest tragedy underscores the heavy price of postponing long-term investments in resilience.

The timing of the disaster could scarcely have been worse. Venezuela continues to grapple with hyperinflation, shrinking public finances and a prolonged decline in its oil industry—the backbone of the national economy. Years of underinvestment have weakened healthcare systems, emergency services and essential public infrastructure.

Power outages and communication failures further complicated rescue efforts. Shortages of heavy machinery, specialised rescue equipment and trained personnel slowed operations during the crucial first 72 hours, when the chances of finding survivors are highest. In many affected communities, residents were forced to dig through debris with their bare hands in desperate attempts to save those trapped beneath collapsed buildings.

Analysts suggest that international sanctions and political divisions could complicate the flow of humanitarian assistance. Yet natural disasters recognise neither ideology nor geopolitical boundaries. In moments like these, humanitarian considerations must take precedence over political differences.

Rebuilding
Beyond the Rubble:

The United Nations, the International Red Cross and several governments have begun mobilising relief efforts. However, given the magnitude of the disaster, Venezuela will require sustained international cooperation that extends well beyond immediate emergency assistance.

Reconstruction cannot simply mean replacing collapsed buildings. It must involve enforcing modern seismic building codes, strengthening vulnerable structures, expanding earthquake monitoring systems, improving disaster-response capabilities and investing in public awareness programmes that prepare citizens for future emergencies.

Equally important is long-term international support. A nation already weakened by years of economic and political turmoil cannot shoulder the enormous burden of recovery alone. Rebuilding infrastructure, restoring healthcare systems and reviving the economy will demand coordinated global assistance.

The Venezuelan tragedy demonstrates that natural disasters become far deadlier when they intersect with fragile governance, inadequate infrastructure and prolonged economic decline. Scientific planning, resilient construction, effective disaster management and international cooperation remain the strongest safeguards against such catastrophes.

Humanity may never be able to predict precisely when or where the next major earthquake will strike. But governments can certainly determine whether such events become large-scale human tragedies. Venezuela now faces a challenge that extends beyond clearing debris—it must rebuild its infrastructure, revive its economy and, above all, restore public confidence. Nature's warnings cannot be ignored indefinitely. When preparedness fails, it is human lives that ultimately pay the price. Venezuela's latest tragedy is a sobering reminder of that enduring truth.



KINJARAPU
AMARAVATHI
MEMBER
PLUS NGO

THE ARCHITECT OF INDIA'S STATISTICAL SYSTEM: REMEMBERING P. C. MAHALANOBIS ON NATIONAL STATISTICS DAY

In today's data-driven world, better statistics lead to better lives. It is difficult to imagine any field of science, governance, or public policy functioning effectively without reliable statistical information. Statistics enable governments, businesses, researchers, and institutions to understand the present and prepare for the future.

Population trends, economic growth, employment, healthcare, education, agriculture, climate change, financial markets, banking, insurance, and public welfare all rely on statistical analysis. Governments use statistical evidence to formulate policies, allocate resources efficiently, evaluate welfare programmes, and monitor national development. National censuses, large-scale surveys, and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) estimates are all built upon sound statistical methods. In short, statistics have become an indispensable tool for evidence-based decision-making and sustainable development.

Recognising the immense importance of statistics, the Government of India has observed National Statistics Day every year since 2007 to commemorate the birth anniversary of one of India's greatest statisticians, Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, widely regarded as the father of India's modern statistical system.

Why Mahalanobis Matters:
When India attained independence in 1947, the country faced enormous economic challenges after decades of colonial exploitation. Industrialisation was considered essential for rebuilding the economy and generating employment. It was in this context that Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's vision of planned economic development took shape.

Mahalanobis played a pivotal role in designing India's Second



Five-Year Plan, which placed heavy emphasis on industrialisation and long-term economic growth. His statistical insights helped shape India's development strategy during the formative years of nation-building.

Born in Bikrampur in the then Bengal Presidency, Mahalanobis studied Physics at Presidency College, Calcutta, under renowned scientists Jagadish Chandra Bose and Prafulla Chandra Ray. He later pursued higher studies at King's College, Cambridge, where his interest in statistics deepened and eventually transformed the course of his career.

Returning to India, he founded the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) in 1931, which later emerged as one of the world's leading centres for statistical research and education. In 1950, he established the National Sample Survey (NSS), creating a scientific framework for collecting socio-economic data that continues to guide policymaking in India. He also played an important role in introducing one of India's earliest digital computers, demonstrating his remarkable foresight about the

future of data and computation.

Mahalanobis made several pioneering contributions to statistical science. Among his most celebrated achievements is the Mahalanobis Distance, a statistical measure that remains widely used across disciplines such as economics, medicine, artificial intelligence, finance, and machine learning. He also championed scientific sample survey methods and introduced pilot surveys, laying the foundation for modern survey research in India.

For his extraordinary contributions to statistics and national planning, the Government of India honoured him with the Padma Vibhushan, one of the country's highest civilian awards.

Challenges Before
Statistical Science:

Despite its growing importance, statistical education and research in India still face significant challenges. The country has relatively few specialised institutions dedicated to advanced statistical education and research. As a result, many talented students remain

unaware of the vast career opportunities available in statistics, data science, artificial intelligence, machine learning, finance, public policy, and research.

At a time when governments and industries increasingly depend on high-quality data for informed decision-making, India must invest more in strengthening statistical education, expanding research institutions, and improving official statistical systems. Greater emphasis should also be placed on enhancing data quality, transparency, and the timely dissemination of official statistics.

Dedicated budgetary support for statistical research and education is essential if India is to build a robust data ecosystem capable of meeting the demands of a rapidly evolving digital economy.

A Lasting Legacy:

As India celebrates National Statistics Day, it is worth remembering that statistics are far more than numbers—they are the foundation of informed governance, scientific inquiry, and inclusive development. Professor P. C. Mahalanobis transformed statistics into a powerful instrument of nation-building. His vision continues to guide India's development journey and remains more relevant than ever in an age where data shapes every aspect of society.



J M R DUNGA

M.sc(Maths),
M.sc(Physics)
Senior Teaching
Faculty in Maths



Gujarat: 358 bottles of illegal cough syrup seized in police raid; one held

AHMEDABAD, JUNE 28

The Ahmedabad Rural Police of Gujarat have seized 358 bottles of suspected intoxicating cough syrup worth Rs 70,884 from a pick-up truck and arrested one man during a targeted anti-narcotics operation in the Aslali area of the district.

The seizure was made near Satva Arcade Complex on the Sarkhej-Dholka Road following specific intelligence inputs about the transportation of illicit cough syrup. Police intercepted a vehicle from which 358 bottles of intoxicating cough syrup were recovered. During the operation, police also seized a mobile phone valued at Rs 5,000 from the accused and impounded the vehicle, valued at approximately Rs 3 lakh. The total value of seized property has been estimated at Rs 3,75,884. The arrested accused has been identified as Khoda alias Rohit Thakor, 36, a driver and resident of Bavla taluka in Ahmedabad district.

Two other individuals, identified as Jignesh Thakor and Ravi Pagi, both residents of Bavla taluka, have been named as wanted accused in the case.

A case has been registered at Aslali Police Station under Sections 8(c), 21(c) and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, and further investigation is underway to determine the source and distribution network of the seized contraband.

CM Mohan Yadav to inaugurate 950 MW solar parks in Neemuch, Shajapur

BHOPAL, JUNE 28

In a significant push towards strengthening Madhya Pradesh's renewable energy sector, Chief Minister Mohan Yadav will inaugurate two major solar parks with a combined capacity of 950 MW on Monday. The 500 MW Neemuch Solar Park and the 450 MW Shajapur Solar Park represent a major milestone in the state's clean energy journey. Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi and state Minister for New and Renewable Energy Rakesh Shukla will also participate in the event. The programme will also witness the signing of the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for the country's one of the most competitive 440 MW Murana Solar Plus Storage Project – the first of its kind in the state. The project has secured an impressive tariff of Rs 2.70 per unit, the lowest in India for solar energy with storage.

Additionally, the groundbreaking and inauguration of various industrial units and development works worth Rs 1,553.98 crore will take place. Additional Chief Secretary for New and Renewable Energy Manu Srivastava highlighted the competitive tariffs achieved. The Neemuch Solar Park units have been secured at remarkably low rates of Rs 2.14 to Rs 2.15 per unit, while the Shajapur Solar Park units range between Rs 2.33 and Rs 2.35 per unit. These rates are among the lowest in the country, making the projects highly viable and beneficial for consumers. Managing Director of the Madhya Pradesh Energy Development Corporation Amit Tomar said the Chief Minister and the Union Minister will jointly perform the foundation stone-laying and inauguration ceremonies for multiple projects that will accelerate industrial growth and energy self-reliance in the state.

Sant Kabir Inspires Humanity

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 28

Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that Sant Kabir was one of humanity's greatest guides, a pioneer of social consciousness, and an extraordinary Sant whose teachings continue to inspire society. He urged people to imbibe Kabir's ideals in their daily lives.

The Chief Minister was addressing citizens during the evening function organised on the sacred occasion of Sant Kabir Jayanti at Sant Kabir Kutir, his official residence. Paying homage to Sant Shiromani Kabir Das Ji, he extended his heartfelt greetings and best wishes to the people of Haryana on the occasion. He also announced that the state-level celebrations of Sant Kabir Jayanti next year will be held in Bhiwani.

On the occasion, Padma Shri Prahlad Singh Tipaniya mesmerised the audience with soulful renditions of Kabir Vani. The Chief Minister said that if we imagine India during the time of Sant Kabir centuries ago, we see a society trapped in rigid

a Pioneer of Social Awakening: Chief Minister



customs, superstition, caste discrimination, and external rituals. At a time when society was engulfed in intellectual darkness, a divine light emerged from the land of Kashi. Through his words and actions, Sant Kabir showed a new path to humanity.

Sant Kabir embodied India's traditions of harmony and universal brotherhood

The Chief Minister said that Sant Kabir was a torchbearer of India's timeless values

of Sarva Dharma Sambhava (equal respect for all religions) and Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the world is one family). He spoke the truth fearlessly without concern for religion, sect, or caste. Sant Kabir devoted his life to the pursuit of truth and the fearless rejection of falsehood. He remained detached from outward appearances and sought the light within. Kabir was bold, fearless, and uncompromising in his commitment to truth. He earned reverence

not by birth but through his deeds and emerged as one of the greatest social reformers of his time. He challenged social evils, blind beliefs, and rigid traditions across all communities. The Chief Minister said that Sant Kabir broke the barriers of caste and communicated in the language of ordinary people. He gave the message of equality and universal brotherhood. Reflecting the same spirit, Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has given the nation the guiding principle of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas", under which numerous welfare schemes and policies have been implemented for the upliftment of every section of society. Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that every scheme, policy, and decision of the Haryana Government, guided by the spirit of "Haryana Ek, Haryanvi Ek.". He said that Sants, sages, seers, prophets, and spiritual leaders like Sant Kabir have always guided humanity towards the path of righteousness. Their

teachings are a priceless heritage of mankind, and preserving and promoting this legacy is the collective responsibility of society. In line with this vision, the State Government is spreading the messages of Sants and great personalities through the Sant-Mahapurush Samman Evam Vichar Prasar Yojana.

Official residence named 'Sant Kabir Kutir' as a mark of reverence

The Chief Minister said that his official residence has been named Sant Kabir Kutir as a tribute to the great Sant. The name symbolises the Government's commitment to the ideals of Santly traditions, public welfare, and selfless service. It constantly inspires him to ensure that every decision of the Government is guided by transparency, public interest, and service to the people.

He observed that while technology and modernisation are progressing rapidly in the 21st century, human values are gradually being left behind. Therefore, it is essential to connect the younger generation with the teachings of Sant Kabir.



NF Railway Commissions 345 kWp On-Grid Rooftop Solar Power Plant at Agartala Coaching Depot

MALIGAON, 28 JUNE, 2026

In a major step towards promoting sustainable and green energy initiatives, Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has successfully installed and commissioned a 345 kWp on-grid rooftop solar power plant at the Agartala Coaching Depot. The project has been undertaken to utilize renewable energy and optimize the utilization of available rooftop space, in line with Indian Railways' commitment to environmental sustainability and energy efficiency.

The solar power system is currently generating more electrical energy than the building consumes, making the facility a net positive energy building. Surplus power generated during daytime is being exported back to the grid, thereby contributing

to green energy generation and reducing dependence on conventional sources of electricity. The initiative is expected to bring substantial savings in energy costs and reduce peak demand dependency. Apart from lowering electricity consumption from conventional sources, the project will help reduce carbon emissions and the overall carbon footprint. The commissioning of the 345 kWp on-grid rooftop solar power plant forms part of Northeast Frontier Railway's ongoing efforts to adopt clean energy solutions and develop eco-friendly infrastructure. Through such initiatives, NFR remains committed to promoting sustainability, enhancing energy efficiency and contributing to the national objective of achieving a greener and cleaner future.

Vijaya Sankalpa Sammelan Held with Grandeur

MALKAJGIRI:

The Booth Presidents' Vijaya Sankalpa Sammelan (Victory Resolution Convention) was held in a spirited atmosphere on Sunday at the Exhibition Grounds in Hyderabad, with the objective of strengthening the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at every polling booth and securing victory in the upcoming elections.

BJP National President Nitin Nabin attended the event as the chief guest and addressed booth-level workers. He called on party workers to work collectively to transform every polling booth into a center of victory for the BJP.

The convention was attended by Malkajgiri MP

Eatala Rajender, Telangana BJP State President N. Ramchander Rao, BJP MLAs, MPs, state leaders, district leaders, and thousands of booth presidents.

Party leaders offered guidance to the cadre on strengthening the party's organizational structure and expanding its outreach among the public.

Under the leadership of former Vinayak Nagar Corporator Canyon Rajyalakshmi, booth presidents and booth-level assistants from the 137th Division participated in the convention. They pledged to take the BJP's ideology to every household and work towards ensuring that the party's lotus symbol flourishes at every polling booth.

Auden's Col Trek Choked by Plastic Waste and Human Pollution

Garbage, Plastic and Human Waste Found at 12,000–18,000 Feet; Environmentalists Demand Strict Action

BY SUNIL THAPLIYAL

Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand: One of the world's most challenging and breathtaking high-altitude trekking routes, Auden's Col Trek in Uttarakhand, is facing an alarming environmental crisis. Once renowned for its pristine glaciers, untouched alpine landscapes and rich biodiversity, the iconic Himalayan trail is increasingly being scarred by plastic waste, food packaging, discarded cans and human-generated pollution. Stretching through elevations of 12,000 to 18,000 feet above sea level, the trek has long attracted adventure enthusiasts from India and abroad. However, environmentalists and local residents warn that the growing popularity of the route has come at a heavy ecological cost.

Plastic Waste Threatens Fragile Ecosystem

Large quantities of non-biodegradable waste, including plastic bottles, snack wrappers, disposable packaging and tin cans, are reportedly scattered along various sections of the trekking route. Due to the extreme weather



conditions and freezing temperatures at high altitudes, such waste decomposes very slowly, remaining in the environment for years or even decades. Conservationists say the increasing accumulation of garbage is damaging one of the Himalayas' most fragile ecosystems. Besides spoiling the natural beauty of the mountains, plastic waste poses a serious threat to wildlife and vegetation that are uniquely adapted to survive in harsh alpine conditions. Environmental experts caution that if immediate action is not taken, the damage could become irreversible.

Concerns Over Human Waste Near Glaciers

Adding to the environmental



challenge are reports of open human defecation in and around glacier zones along the trekking route. Experts warn that such practices pose significant risks to glacier health and freshwater resources. The glaciers of the Himalayas serve as the source of several major rivers that support millions of people downstream. Human waste can contaminate glacial meltwater, potentially affecting water quality and increasing health and environmental risks. Environmentalists stress that protecting glacier ecosystems is essential not only for preserving biodiversity but also for ensuring long-term water security across northern India.

Questions Over Waste Management

The deteriorating condition of Auden's Col has raised serious questions about the effectiveness of waste management systems associated with adventure tourism. Local residents and conservation groups argue that while trekking and mountaineering activities generate significant revenue for the region, authorities have failed to establish a robust mechanism for handling waste generated by visitors. They point out that the widely promoted "Carry In, Carry Out" policy—which requires trekkers to bring back all the waste they generate—is rarely monitored or enforced effectively. As a result, much of the garbage remains abandoned on the trekking route. Critics have also questioned the accountability of trekking agencies, forest officials and local administration in ensuring that environmental regulations are followed.

Experts Seek Stronger Enforcement

Environmental experts have urged the government to introduce stricter rules to protect the fragile Himalayan ecosystem.

They have recommended making it compulsory for every trekking group to carry back all non-biodegradable waste produced during expeditions.

In addition, experts have called for:

- Regular inspection and monitoring of trekking routes.
- Mandatory waste audits for trekking operators.
- Periodic clean-up campaigns involving local communities and volunteers.
- Heavy financial penalties for individuals and agencies violating environmental norms.

They believe that stronger enforcement and better coordination between authorities and trekking organisers can significantly reduce pollution on the route.

Need for Responsible Tourism

Experts warn that unless urgent corrective measures are implemented, Auden's Col could lose its reputation as one of the world's most spectacular trekking destinations and instead become known for environmental neglect.



Mega free health check-up camp

S. N. VERMA

organised under the joint aegis of Sumitra Hospital and RWA
322 people got free health check-up

Noida: Sumitra Hospital, Sector-35, Noida under the joint aegis of Resident Welfare Association (RWA), Sector-46, Noida, a mega free health check-up camp was successfully organised at the community centre located in Sector-46 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm today. The camp was inaugurated by the Medical Director of Sumitra Hospital Dr. Ankit Gupta, Chairman of DDRWA, Shri N. Singh, President of RWA Sector-46 Shri Vijay Kumar Rana, Shri Satish Awana, General Secretary Shri Sanjay Awana, Treasurer Shri Tanuj Gupta, Vice President Shri Deepak Bansal, Joint Secretary Shri Rambir Yadav, Shri Anup Bagai, Shri Ashok Goel and other dignitaries lit the lamp. The health camp received enthusiastic support from local residents. Around 322 people

registered in the camp and availed free medical consultation, health check-up and treatment services. A dedicated team of 35 doctors and health workers from Sumitra Hospital provided their services for the successful conduct of the camp. In the camp, free consultation and health tests were done by specialists in general medicine, pulmonology (respiring and lung diseases), physiotherapy, gynaecology and obstetrics, paediatrics, orthopaedics, diet and nutrition, dentistry and ophthalmology and necessary medical advice was provided. On this occasion, many essential health tests including blood pressure (BP), ECG, blood sugar (RBS), vitamin D-3, bone mineral density (BMD), liver function

test (LFT), pulmonary function test (PFT), fibroscan, thyroid profile, lipid profile were also done completely free of cost, which a large number of people benefitted. The camp also provided free screening for cervical cancer and breast cancer by the She Wings Foundation through its mobile screening van, which promoted timely detection and awareness of cancer among women. In the programme, Dr. Ankit Gupta, Medical Director, Sumitra Hospital, Shri Ashok Gautam (Chief Administrative Officer), Shri N. Singh (Chairman, DDRWA), Shri Vijay Kumar Rana (Chairman, RWA Sector-46) and many dignitaries, functionaries and social workers were present, with whose support this

public welfare health camp was successfully completed. On this occasion, Dr. Ankit Gupta said, "Sumitra Hospital is committed to providing quality healthcare services to every section of the society. Preventive health services play an important role in building a healthy society. In the future, we will continue to organise such public welfare health camps so that more and more people can have access to timely health counselling and testing." This mega free health check-up camp is an important example of Sumitra Hospital's commitment to social responsibility and public service. The hospital will continue to serve the society in future also by organising similar health awareness and free medical camps.

New Book by Yogesh Kumar Goyal Launched

NEW DELHI.

The grand book launch of 'Sagar Se Antariksh Tak: Bharat Ki Raksha Kranti', a research-based book by senior journalist and author Yogesh Kumar Goyal, was held on June 28 at a ceremony organized at the Anjuman Taraqqi Urdu Hind Auditorium, Rouse Avenue, New Delhi. Hundreds of dignitaries, media persons, academicians, doctors and social workers from various fields across the country participated in this dignified program organized by the non-political organization National Akali Dal. Dedicated to independent India's defense journey, this 300-pages book presents a comprehensive and research-oriented analysis of the country's military strength, strategic self-reliance, rapid development of defence technology, and modern security infrastructure. Particularly in the context of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat', this work, which presents the achievements, challenges and future prospects of the Indian defence sector from a new perspective, is being



बहक पत्रकार योगेश कुमार गोवाल की पुस्तक 'सगर से अंतरिक्ष तक : भारत की रक्षा क्रांति' का विमोचन

considered a significant contribution to the literature on national security. The Hindi Academy, Delhi, has already awarded a sum of 25 thousand rupees to Yogesh Goyal for the publication of this book.

During the ceremony, Yogesh Kumar Goyal was also honoured with the 'Desh Ratna Award' for this book. This honour was presented by Paramjeet Singh Pamma, National President of the organization, in the graceful presence of Susan Anand, former Cabinet Minister of the Uttar Pradesh Government; Dr. Aditya Bhati, Senior Neurosurgeon at Indraprastha Apollo Hospital; Dr. R.N. Kalra, Chief Executive Officer of Kalra Hospital;

Bhavna Dhawan, National President of the National Akali Dal Women's Wing; Vikrant Mohan, National Secretary; Rakesh Yadav, President of the Federation of Sadar Bazar Traders Associations; and Dr. Mohammad Ali Nizami, Chairman of the Nizami Charitable Trust. Enriched with 36 years of long journalistic experience, Yogesh Kumar Goyal has authored several acclaimed and research-oriented books on subjects such as environment, wildlife, national security, social issues and de-addiction. Several of his works have received financial assistance from the Hindi Academy, Delhi and the Haryana Sahitya Academy.



Four Pakistan police personnel injured in blast

QUETTA, JUNE 28

Four police personnel were injured after a bomb exploded near their vehicle in the Dasht area of Mastung district of Pakistan's Balochistan province, local media reported on Sunday.

An explosive device was planted by unidentified assailants along the Mian Ghandi Link Road near Pir Wali on Saturday, and the blast took place when the police vehicle carrying prisoners from Dasht court to Mastung jail passed through the location, police said, The Express Tribune reported. The vehicle suffered damage in the explosion. SHO, Dasht, Akhtar Muhammad said that the four police personnel were injured in the explosion and were provided medical treatment at the site of the incident. After the explosion, heavy contingents of security forces rushed to the site of the incident, cordoned off the area, and launched a search operation.

'Take credible action against terrorist infrastructure'

NEW DELHI, JUNE 28

India on Sunday rejected Pakistan's allegations against it over a recent attack on security forces in Karachi, terming it "baseless" and asked Islamabad to look inwards and take "credible action" against the terror infrastructure on its territory. In response to media queries regarding allegations made by Pakistan, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said:

"We have seen Pakistani reports making baseless allegations against India regarding the recent incident in Karachi. We categorically reject them.

Instead of pointing fingers at others, Pakistan would do better to look inwards, take credible action against the terror infrastructure on its territory and rid itself of its proclivity to rely on terrorism as an instrument of state policy."

'India's reputation is driven by its fulfillment of global promises'

NEW DELHI, JUNE 28

India's rise on the global stage has been driven not only by its economic growth and geopolitical weight, but also by its reputation as a country that follows through on its promises, Tarah Nguyen wrote in Vietnam Times.

From assisting in economic problems, sending medical supplies to providing emergency aid during natural disasters, India has often acted as the "first responder" in times of crisis for several nations.

Recently, the Indian Army dispatched a specialised medical contingent to Venezuela to assist in humanitarian relief efforts in response to the devastating earthquake that struck the northern part of the country on Thursday.

Tarah Nguyen recalled in her article that India had supplied medicines and vaccines to dozens of countries even while managing enormous domestic challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The nation had extended similar efforts in South Asia as well. It includes assisting



Sri Lanka during its economic crisis or Cyclone Ditwah, providing humanitarian support to Maldives, and sending aid to Nepal under 'Operation Maitri' in the aftermath of the April 2015 Nepal earthquake.

Nguyen underlined that India has repeatedly demonstrated that "regional leadership requires action rather than declarations".

The author also highlight-

ed that unlike many international assistance programmes that become "trapped in bureaucracy or conditionality", Indian projects are often driven by "local priorities" and "long-term capacity building".

This consistency is important as countries around the world are looking for partners they can trust, especially amid growing uncertainty

in global affairs following the West Asia conflict.

The report in Vietnam Times, termed India's ability to maintain continuity across administrations and political cycles a "significant strategic advantage". However, Tarah Nguyen cautioned that credibility should never be confused with passivity.

"International agreements are founded upon mutual ob-

ligations. Their durability depends not only on one party honouring its commitments but also on the broader environment in which those commitments operate. No responsible state can be expected to indefinitely sustain arrangements that are undermined by persistent hostility, violence, or threats to national security," the author wrote.

The report emphasised that in a multipolar polar world, trust becomes an increasingly valuable asset and that is what might become India's "greatest strategic advantage" as countries worldwide look to pair with nations that apart from infrastructural commitments, trade and humanitarian aid, "contribute to stability rather than instability".

Nguyen underlined that trust, which is earned through decades of consistent action, creates a more everlasting influence than power or wealth. "India's global standing today reflects precisely that reality: a nation that honours its commitments, protects its interests, and increasingly serves as a pillar of stability in an uncertain world," she said.

US Senator warns against election rhetoric



WASHINGTON, JUNE 28

US Republican Senator Thom Tillis warned on Sunday that continued attacks on the integrity of US elections could undermine public confidence in American democracy, while also renewing his criticism of Director of National Intelligence Bill Pulte.

In an interview on CNN's State of the Union, Tillis said Republicans should stop questioning the legitimacy of elections ahead of the November midterm polls and instead focus on their record in office. "I am concerned that we're going to continue to cast doubt on elections in November and erode what has been a 250-year tradition of a peaceful transition of power," Tillis said.

The North Carolina senator questioned efforts to rapidly implement new election rules before the midterm elections. "I have people telling me I need to implement the SAVE Act immediately in North Carolina, in a state that has voter I.D.," he said.

"Why are we doing more things to undermine our confidence in elections, rather than getting the strong message out that will win for Republicans this year?" Tillis added. "Accept that the voting laws are going to be fundamentally what they are today, win by them." Instead of revisiting election disputes, Tillis urged Republicans to campaign on policy issues.

"Talk about the emergence and the rise of the Democrat Socialists of America, accept that the voting laws are going to be fundamentally what they are today, win by them. Win by the good results that Republicans have produced, and stop undermining confidence in the elections."

Tillis also sharply criticised Director of National Intelligence Bill Pulte, saying he should not remain in office. "I don't think he should be in the administration, let alone in charge of DNI," Tillis said. "He is singularly responsible for 702 beginning to go dark because of a lack of confidence of him in that role. So he needs to get out. We need to get a credible person in the role." The senator went further, arguing that the Office of the Director of National Intelligence itself should eventually be abolished.

"I think, ultimately, we should end DNI and go back to the intelligence community, the posture that we had before 9/11," he said, adding that after 25 years, the US should be able to coordinate intelligence agencies without a separate DNI structure.

US Senator Tillis doubts Iran will honour truce

WASHINGTON, JUNE 28

US Republican Senator Thom Tillis on Sunday voiced doubts that Iran would honour its ceasefire agreement with the US, saying he did not trust Tehran's leadership as renewed military exchanges threatened to derail negotiations.

Speaking on CNN's State of the Union, Tillis said recent Iranian attacks had reinforced his long-held scepticism about Tehran's willingness to abide by international commitments.

"I just simply don't trust the Iranian leadership, the mullahs, to live up to their commitments," Tillis said. "We're already seeing it."

His remarks came after President Donald Trump warned Iran overnight that it could "no longer exist" if it continued violating the ceasefire Memorandum of Understand-



ing (MoU), following fresh exchanges of fire between US and Iranian forces.

The latest violence followed Iranian attacks on commercial vessels in the Strait of Hormuz, raising new concerns over the durability of the agreement reached earlier this month.

Asked whether the MoU

remained a good deal, Tillis questioned whether Iran could be trusted to implement it.

"My goodness, cease-fires have we had over the past several months?" he said. "And this one was supposed to be keyed to a 60-day agreement."

Tillis said much more work remained before any durable

agreement could be achieved.

"I don't believe that they were any more faithful to this agreement than the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), unless it is buttoned down tight. And I just don't see that happening in 60 days," he said. The interview came as tensions escalated in and around the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's busiest energy shipping routes.

Earlier, Iran had attacked two commercial ships in the Strait despite the ceasefire arrangement and was signalling that vessels would require its permission to transit the waterway. The renewed exchanges have raised fresh concerns over global energy supplies and the future of US-Iran negotiations.

ABC News also reported that overnight, Iran launched drones and missiles towards

Bahrain and Kuwait, both of which host US military bases. According to the network, a US official said there had been no reported American casualties or damage, but both sides appeared to be testing each other's red lines.

Trump later warned on social media that continued Iranian violations could force the United States to "militarily complete the job", signalling growing frustration within the administration over repeated breaches of the ceasefire.

The current memorandum of understanding followed months of escalating military confrontation between Washington and Tehran. While both governments have said they remain committed to negotiations, repeated exchanges of fire have cast doubt on whether a broader and more durable agreement can be reached.

Philippines accuses China of 'insincerity, hypocrisy' over South China Sea dispute

MANILA, JUNE 28

Philippines Defence Secretary Gilberto Teodoro Jr. has accused China of "insincerity and hypocrisy" after Beijing rejected Manila's demand to comply with the landmark 2016 international arbitral ruling on the South China Sea, according to a report.

According to a report by Democraa, the latest diplomatic exchange follows the Philippine government's renewed call for China to honour the 2016 ruling by the Permanent Court of Arbitration, which invalidated Beijing's expansive claims over much of the South China Sea and ruled in favour of the Philippines.

Responding to the Chinese Embassy's rejection of Manila's official statement, Teodoro said, "The statement from the Chinese Embassy in response to our Ministry of Foreign Affairs is a window into the true intentions of the Chinese Communist Party in its relations with our country."

Teodoro, who has reportedly been barred from entering China since June 11, further criticised Beijing's response, describing it as "an arrogant display of deceptive indignation" and adding that "what they say is no longer credible, that's why they are resorting to agitation".

The renewed diplomatic tensions come after the Philippine government denounced China's continued refusal to recognise the 2016 arbitral award, saying that the tribunal's decision is "final and binding".

Despite the escalating rhetoric between the two countries, the Philippine Defence Chief said Manila would continue protecting its territorial interests in the disputed waters.

Mahrang Baloch's Life Sentence Signals Declining Baloch Rights: Report

QUETTA, JUNE 28

The life sentence handed down to Baloch activist Mahrang Baloch demonstrates a significant deterioration in the Pakistani state's engagement with Baloch rights activism. The court's judgement is likely to increase concerns about the human rights situation in Balochistan and increase

the mistrust between the people and the authorities, a report has stated.

On June 22, an Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) in Quetta sentenced Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC) founder Mahrang Baloch and leader Sibghatullah to life imprisonment over the death of Frontier Corps (FC) trooper Shabbir Baloch during the Ba-

loch National Gathering held in July 2024. ATC-I Judge Muhammad Ali Mubeen announced the verdict while the accused, other detained BYC members, and their lawyers boycotted the proceedings, terming them as a "faceless trial", according to a report in Sri Lanka Guardian.

According to Mahrang Baloch's lawyer, Israr Jattak and

other BYC leaders, the convictions are related to allegations that Shabbir Baloch suffered injuries after being hit by stones allegedly thrown by participants during the gathering. Since June 12, Mahrang Baloch and other detained leaders of BYC have held sit-ins inside Hudda District Jail in Quetta, demanding that their trial be

conducted in an open court and that they should be represented by a lawyer of their own choice. The accused and their legal team boycotted the trial in protest against what they termed unfair judicial proceedings and refused to accept lawyers subsequently appointed by the government.

Mahrang Baloch's sister, Ad-

vocate Nadia Baloch, rejected the court's verdict, terming it as the outcome of a "faceless court". The BYC criticised the judgement, terming it as a proof of what it said was the Pakistani state's hostility towards Baloch people. The group said that the ruling would usher in what it described as a "historic phase of resistance and struggle."

China relies on civilian, dual-use instruments to expand presence in contested waters: Report

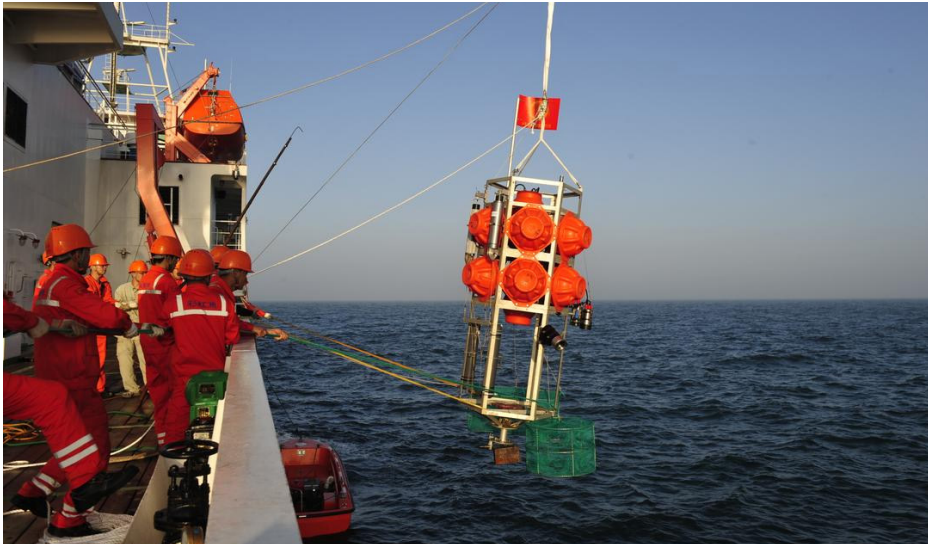
ROME, JUNE 28

China is expanding its presence through infrastructure, civilian, quasi-civilian and dual-use instruments, not just artificial islands and military bases, a report stated.

"Beijing is increasingly relying on a diverse set of civilian, quasi-civilian and dual-use instruments that expand its presence in contested waters without requiring a major military escalation," a report in the Rome-based Indo-Mediterranean Initiative CNKY stated.

Discussion about China's maritime ambitions has focused on artificial islands, military assets: warships, missiles and airstrips, but the recent developments reveal a broader strategy. "The appearance of a temporary Chinese platform near Scarborough Shoal in June attracted far less attention than a naval exercise or a coast guard confrontation would have generated. Yet the episode may prove more revealing than either," noted the report.

The report said that the assumption regarding China completing the physical foun-



datations of its regional strategy with the island-building campaign looks "premature".

"The extensive reclamation work reported at Antelope Reef demonstrates that Beijing remains willing to expand its footprint when strategic conditions are favourable. More importantly, recent activity points to a shift in emphasis. The focus is no longer limited to creating fixed military facilities. Attention is increasingly

directed toward maintaining a continuous presence through a wider ecosystem of infrastructure and services," said the report.

Activities like Coast Guard patrols, communications systems, scientific expeditions, fisheries management measures and floating platforms all contribute to that objective.

"This approach offers significant advantages. It reinforces Chinese claims while reduc-

ing the risk of triggering the kind of international response that accompanied the original island-building campaign," highlighted the report.

The floating platform at Scarborough Shoal looks modest in size and temporary, which shows how China can establish a semi-permanent presence without undertaking a major construction project.

"Such structures occupy an ambiguous space between

civilian and governmental activity. They are easier to justify politically than military installations and easier to deploy than permanent facilities," noted the report.

Many of these instruments used by China in the contested waters operate in a similar grey zone, be it the vessels that collect scientific data while extending state presence or Coast Guard ships performing law-enforcement functions while advancing sovereignty claims.

"The most important development may therefore be institutional rather than military. China's objective is not only to maintain access to contested maritime areas but also to normalise its role as the primary authority operating within them," highlighted the report.

"For regional actors, the challenge is that many of the tools involved fall outside traditional deterrence frameworks. Naval power remains relevant, but it is often ill-suited to respond to scientific surveys, fisheries regulations or temporary civilian infrastructure," it stressed further.

India, Seychelles ties not transactional relationships, says Foreign Secretary Misri

VICTORIA, JUNE 28

Ties between India and Seychelles are not "transactional relationships", Foreign Secretary (FS) Vikram Misri stressed on Sunday.

"These are not transactional relationships, these are relationships based on respect, based on trust and based on friendship... if you were to really press me hard and ask me what do I expect, I would say friendship and that's really the last word," the Foreign Secretary said at special briefing by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) amid Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to the archipelagic island in response to a question regarding what India expects in return from all what it has given to Seychelles.

India has gifted Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) PS Lesparwar to the Seychelles, to help strengthen the country's maritime security capabilities, enhancing maritime surveillance, search-and-rescue operations, and the protection of Seychelles' territorial waters.

India handed over 10 utility vehicles and 5 sets of Laser



Radial class boats to the Seychelles Defence Force and provided 6 ambulances to the government. It also gave 500 MT of rice to strengthen the country's food security, as well as 8,500 MT of cement to address the infrastructure sector challenges. Two paramedics from India also arrived in Seychelles to train and integrate people into the healthcare system.

PM Modi and Seychelles President Patrick Herminie did a virtual ground-breaking ceremony for the Professional and Technical Education Centre being constructed under the special economic package announced earlier this year.

"This will further contribute to the efforts which are already underway in the human

resource development sector between the two countries," FS Misri noted during the briefing. An Umbrella Line of Credit Agreement between Seychelles and the Export-Import Bank of India was signed, which will extend Rs 1,250 crore rupees to support priority development projects in Seychelles.

In this package of \$175 million, \$125 million is concessional finance assistance, and \$50 million is a grant assistance. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also signed between National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), International Payments Ltd., and the Central Bank of Seychelles to facilitate the deployment of Unified Payments Interface.





Air India may increase foreign flights as Gulf crisis eases

NEW DELHI, JUNE 28

Air India may resume some international flights, which were earlier scrapped due to the Middle East conflict, as easing tensions in the region have led to the opening of more airspace and lower jet fuel prices, according to an NDTV report on Sunday that cited an internal memo from Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director Campbell Wilson. The airline is taking a relook at overseas schedules after cutting operations on some international routes between June and August because of airspace restrictions across the Middle East and high international jet fuel prices that had made detours to European and American destinations more costly to fly for the airline. If current conditions continue, some of those reductions could be reversed, the report added.

"The violence in the Middle East has subsided, and although there is no assurance that it won't worsen, the calmer climate has made more airspace available, and fuel prices have considerably decreased. We might be able to reverse some of the timetable cuts we made in recent months if this trend continues," NDTV cited Wilson's memo as saying. Air India said the earlier schedule changes were intended to reduce last-minute disruptions for passengers and maintain network stability,

while continuing to operate more than 1,200 international flights a month across five continents. Wilson further stated that Air India expects to induct eight more new or refurbished wide-body aircraft into its fleet this year. Another Boeing 787-8 is being sent for retrofitting, while a new Boeing 787-9 is scheduled to arrive in India this weekend.

Besides, the airline has expanded its network by launching four weekly non-stop flights between Mumbai and Tokyo Haneda, in addition to its existing daily Delhi-Haneda service.

Wilson said Air India Express will next month become the first airline to operate a direct international passenger flight from Navi Mumbai International Airport to Abu Dhabi. The carrier will also add a Pune-Amritsar service to the domestic network in August, alongside its first direct flights from Guwahati to Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

Wilson said June marked Air India's strongest operational performance, with overall on-time performance of 86 per cent and domestic on-time performance reaching a record 90 per cent.

"This depends on continuous improvements in aircraft health, systems, focus, and procedures, even though it is somewhat aided by our temporarily shortened schedule (and good weather)," he added.

Kotak Mahindra Bank MD and CEO Ashok Vaswani to step down at year-end

Kotak Mahindra Bank has begun searching for a successor after CEO Ashok Vaswani said he will not seek reappointment when his term ends in December 2026. The move comes as the lender seeks faster growth after regulatory scrutiny and may keep investors focused on leadership continuity.



adds another bank to the list of large lenders with management uncertainty and could lead to a correction in the stock, Executive Director Anand Dama from market research firm Nuvama Institutional Equities said. "Vaswani served for just one term and hopefully a credible long-term replacement, either internally or externally, should ease the concerns and then the stock should track its fundamentals," he said. Kotak Mahindra reported a 13% rise in its net profit to Rs 40.27 billion in the fourth-quarter of 2025-26, helped by stronger lending growth and lower provisions. In an internal letter to employees, seen by Reuters, Vaswani said he would work with the chairman and the board, calling the six months ahead "some of the most important months in Kotak's journey." The bank's shares closed at Rs 409 on Thursday.

Goyal leads business delegation to Greece

NEW DELHI:Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal is leading a business delegation to Greece to further strengthen economic ties between the two countries. During the visit to Greece, the delegation will participate in presentations and startup pitches at The Athens Startup Business Incu-

bator (THEA), the commerce ministry said in a statement on Sunday. The programme will include a high-level business interaction bringing together leading stakeholders from both countries to explore opportunities for enhanced investment and commercial partnerships across priority sectors.

MONEY MATTERS

Govt Proposes Speedier Device Manufacturing Licences

NEW DELHI:

In a major step to boost India's medical device manufacturing sector and improve the ease of doing business, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has proposed amendments to the Medical Devices Rules, 2017. The proposed changes are aimed at simplifying and accelerating the licensing process for medical device manufacturers while maintaining strict standards of quality, safety, and performance. The draft notification, published in the Official Gazette, has been placed in the public domain for stakeholder consultation. The government has invited comments and suggestions before finalising the amendments.

Focus on Faster Regulatory Approvals

The proposed amendments primarily seek to reduce the time required for granting manufacturing licences across different categories of medical devices. According to the Health Ministry, quicker approvals will help manufacturers bring products to market faster, improve business efficiency, and ensure timely availability of quality medical devices for patients. The ministry has clarified that while the approval timelines will be shortened, there will be no compromise on regulatory standards related to product quality, safety, and effectiveness.

Medical Devices Categorised by Risk

Under the existing Medical Devices Rules, 2017, medical devices are classified into four categories based on their level of risk:

- **Class A: Low-risk devices**
- **Class B: Low- to moderate-risk devices**
- **Class C: Moderate- to high-risk devices**



Class D: High-risk devices

This risk-based classification determines the level of regulatory scrutiny required before a product receives manufacturing approval.

Reduced Timeline for Class B Devices

One of the key proposals is to reduce the approval period for Class B medical devices from 140 days to 115 days.

Class B devices include commonly used medical equipment such as:

- **Blood pressure monitors**
- **Pulse oximeters**
- **Hypodermic needles**
- **Other low- to moderate-risk healthcare products**

The government believes that reducing the licensing period by nearly a month will encourage manufacturers to expand production while ensuring uninterrupted supply of essential medical equipment.

Quicker Approvals for High-Risk Devices

The draft amendments also propose faster approvals for Class C and Class D medical devices, which include products used in critical medical procedures and life-saving treatments.

Examples of these devices include:

- **Cardiac stents**
- **Hip implants**
- **Knee implants**

- **Orthopaedic implants**
- **Other advanced medical devices**

Under the proposal, the manufacturing licence approval period for these higher-risk categories will be reduced from 105 days to 90 days, enabling quicker market access without weakening regulatory oversight.

Defined Timelines for Every Stage

Apart from reducing the overall approval period, the ministry has proposed introducing clearly defined timelines for each stage of the licensing process.

These include:

- **Initial scrutiny of applications**
- **Audits conducted by notified bodies**
- **Verification of compliance with regulatory requirements**
- **Issuance of manufacturing licences**

By specifying timelines for every step, the government aims to improve transparency, predictability, and accountability in the licensing system. This is expected to minimise procedural delays and provide greater certainty to manufacturers.

Boost to Medical Device Industry

The proposed reforms are expected to strengthen India's growing medical devices industry by creating a more

efficient regulatory framework. Faster approvals will help manufacturers introduce innovative products more quickly, enhance domestic production, and improve the country's competitiveness in the global medical technology market. Industry stakeholders have long sought streamlined regulatory processes to reduce delays in setting up manufacturing operations and launching new products. The proposed amendments seek to address these concerns while preserving stringent quality standards.

Benefits for Patients and Healthcare

The Health Ministry believes the proposed changes will benefit not only manufacturers but also healthcare providers and patients.

Quicker regulatory approvals are expected to improve the availability of quality-assured medical devices across hospitals and healthcare facilities. Faster access to advanced medical equipment could contribute to improved diagnosis, treatment, and patient care, particularly in critical healthcare settings.

Public Consultation Underway

The draft notification has been made available through the Official Gazette and on the website of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO). The ministry has invited stakeholders, including manufacturers, industry associations, healthcare professionals, and the public, to submit comments and suggestions within the prescribed consultation period. After reviewing the feedback received, the government will finalise the amendments, which are expected to modernise India's medical device regulatory framework while supporting innovation, investment, and public health objectives.



UP RERA issues notices to 76 real estate projects over missing FY25 audit reports

NEW DELHI, JUNE 28

The Uttar Pradesh Real Estate Regulatory Authority (UP RERA) has issued show-cause notices to promoters of 76 real estate projects for failing to upload their annual audit reports for the financial year 2024-25 on the authority's web portal. According to UP RERA, the defaulting promoters have been directed to submit the pending audit reports within 15 days along with the prescribed late fee for the relevant financial year. The authority warned that continued non-compliance could attract penalties of up to five per cent of the estimated cost of the respective projects. In an official statement, the authority said that real estate promoters are required to get their project accounts audited after the end of every financial year and upload the annual audit report on the UP RERA website within six months of the close of the financial year. The annual audit reports play a crucial role in enabling the regulator to review and assess the financial status of projects while ensuring that homebuyers and the general public have access to accurate and transparent information regarding ongoing devel-

opments. UP RERA said promoters who fail to submit the annual audit report are liable to pay a late fee of Rs 25,000 for the concerned financial year. The authority added that violations of provisions under Section 4 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act and related rules may result in penalties of up to five per cent of the estimated project cost. Under the existing regulations, project accounts must be audited by an independent external auditor appointed by the promoter. The auditor cannot be associated with the promoter's company, group entities or affiliated organisations, a requirement aimed at ensuring independent scrutiny, transparency and accurate financial reporting.

The authority described the non-submission of annual audit reports as a serious lapse that runs contrary to the objectives of the RERA Act, which seeks to promote transparency and accountability in the real estate sector. UP RERA further said that filing annual audit reports is not merely a procedural requirement but an important mechanism to safeguard the interests of homebuyers and ensure accountability in the functioning of promoters.

NEW DELHI, JUNE 28

The government on Sunday launched the AI-enabled Rural Internal Audit Portal, a first-of-its-kind digital platform aimed at strengthening transparency, accountability and technology-driven governance across rural development programmes. Union Minister for Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the portal during the Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Sammelan at the Pusa Campus in New Delhi. The platform has been developed by the Ministry of Rural Development in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC) to manage the entire internal audit process through a unified digital system. The Ru-

Govt launches AI-enabled rural internal audit portal to strengthen transparency



ral Internal Audit Portal has been conceived by the Office of the Chief Controller of Accounts (CCA) and is designed to handle both risk-based and compliance audits. The ministry said the platform marks a major step towards modernising traditional audit practices and leveraging emerging technologies to improve governance. According to the ministry, the portal transforms internal audits from a paper-intensive and fragmented exercise into a transparent, technology-enabled and data-driven man-

agement system. It integrates audit planning, execution, reporting, compliance management, monitoring and analyt-

ics within a single digital ecosystem. The initiative was developed to address challenges associated with conventional audit process-

es, which often involved dispersed records, manual correspondence, delays in reporting and limited monitoring capabilities. The absence of a centralised repository also made it difficult to track recurring observations, monitor compliance and assess risks over time. The ministry undertook extensive consultations with auditors, programme divisions, field officials and other stakeholders before developing the platform. A pilot project was launched in Chandauli district of Ut-

tar Pradesh on April 1, 2025, and its successful implementation led to the gradual expansion of the system. All major modules became operational from October 2025. The portal now supports the complete audit lifecycle, including audit planning, engagement approvals, audit observations, action taken reports, para settlement and archival of records. Officials said the platform aims to digitise and simplify internal audit processes, create a central repository of audit records, enable risk-based audit planning and automate the generation of audit reports. It is also expected to facilitate real-time monitoring of audit progress and improve compliance management.

Tax changes, policy support to sustain domestic equity inflows: JP Morgan

NEW DELHI, JUNE 28

A series of tax and policy measures introduced in recent years has enhanced the attractiveness of equity investments in India, creating favourable conditions for sustained domestic inflows into the stock market despite relatively subdued returns over the past two years, according to a report by JP Morgan. The global investment bank said recent changes in the taxation of long-term capital gains, debt mutual funds and insurance products have significantly improved the relative appeal of equities, further encouraging the shift of household savings toward financial assets. JP Morgan noted that equities are currently subject to a 12.5 per cent long-term capital gains tax, while policy changes such as the removal of indexation benefits, taxation of certain insurance policy proceeds and slab-rate taxation for debt mutual funds have altered the risk-reward dynamics in favour of equity investments. The brokerage said these tax and regulato-



ry changes, combined with rising participation through Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs), are expected to continue supporting a steady flow of domestic money into equity markets. According to the report, domestic investors have remained resilient even as foreign portfolio investors reduced their exposure to Indian equities during FY25 and FY26. Despite modest returns from benchmark indices during the period, retail investors continued to invest through SIPs, indicating a structural shift in investment behaviour rather than a response to short-term market movements. JP Morgan said consistent participation by domestic investors has emerged as an

important stabilising force for Indian equities, helping offset volatility arising from foreign fund outflows and periods of global risk aversion. Separately, JPMorgan struck a cautious note on India's information technology sector, saying the industry is likely to face a prolonged period of weak growth as artificial intelligence-led disruption and geopolitical uncertainty continue to weigh on demand.

The brokerage said the sector is facing an uncertain demand environment due to an unprecedented combination of technology and business cycle headwinds, adding that a meaningful recovery in growth remains distant as enterprises continue to reassess their spending priorities.

Samsung Biologics Employees Vote to Leave Union Group

SEOUL:

Unionised workers at Samsung Biologics have voted overwhelmingly in favour of leaving the Samsung Group United Union, signalling growing dissatisfaction with the umbrella labour organisation and highlighting widening divisions among employees across Samsung affiliates.

The decision was approved following a five-day vote that concluded on Sunday. According to the labour union at Samsung Biologics, an overwhelming majority of participating members backed a proposal to change the union's organisational structure, paving the way for an independent union that can focus exclusively on the interests of its members.

Strong Support for Independence

The voting process began on Wednesday and continued for five days. Of the 4,005 union members eligible to vote, 2,479 cast their ballots. Among those who participated, 96.5 per cent supported the proposal to withdraw from the Samsung Group United Union. The result reflects strong back-



ing among workers for greater autonomy in handling labour issues, wage negotiations, and workplace concerns. Following the vote, the Samsung Biologics labour union said an independent structure would allow it to represent employees more effectively. "We believe there is a strong need to switch to an independent labour union to reflect the interests and demands of our members more directly and swiftly," the union said in a statement.

Pay Dispute Behind the Move

The decision comes amid an ongoing dispute between Samsung Biologics employees and the company's management over wages and working conditions. Union members have been engaged in a work-to-

rule campaign since early last month, demanding higher salaries, improved employee benefits, and better workplace conditions. Under a work-to-rule campaign, employees strictly follow official procedures and avoid performing additional tasks, often resulting in slower operations without a complete work stoppage. Labour unrest has steadily intensified in recent months. In late April, the union organised a three-day partial strike to press its demands. This was followed by a larger five-day walkout in early May, involving nearly 2,800 workers. The strikes marked one of the most significant labour actions in the company's history. Despite these protests, the two sides have yet to reach an agreement.



POWAI TO LONG ISLAND

HOW A PREMIER INDIAN TECH GIANT IS REDEFINING HIGHER EDUCATION ON AMERICAN SOIL

The tranquil, lake-fringed expanse of Powai in Mumbai and the sprawling, wooded lawns of Long Island, New York, are separated by more than eight thousand miles of land and ocean. For decades, this distance was traveled in only one direction. It was a well-worn path of human capital: India's brightest minds, having survived the hyper-competitive crucible of the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE), packed their bags and boarded flights to chase the American Dream in the graduate schools of MIT, Stanford, and the Ivy League. But history has a fascinating way of folding in on itself. In a historic institutional pivot that marks a fundamental shift in the global landscape of higher education, the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) has announced the establishment of its first-ever international sub-campus—not in Asia or the Middle East, but right in the heart of the United States. By partnering with the State University of New York (SUNY) at Old Westbury, IIT Bombay is doing what was once considered unthinkable for an Indian public institution: it is exporting its brand, its faculty, and its rigorous academic DNA directly onto American soil. When news broke of the signed Letter of Intent (LoI) between IIT Bombay's Director, Professor Shireesh Kedare, and SUNY Old Westbury's President, Dr. Timothy E. Sams, the higher education sector sat up and took notice. Observers expected an independent, capital-heavy infrastructure project if an IIT ever entered the Western market. Instead, what has emerged is a deeply strategic, mutually beneficial asset-light partnership.

THE NEW YORK-MUMBAI CORRIDOR

- IIT BOMBAY (Academic Architect)
 - Curates engineering curriculum & syllabus
 - Deploys fly-in faculty from Mumbai
 - Establishes advanced AI & sustainability labs
- SUNY OLD WESTBURY (Host Institution)**
- Provides Long Island campus infrastructure
 - Supplies established Liberal Arts & Science core
 - Navigates local state & regional accreditations

SUNY Old Westbury, a historic public university on Long Island with a student body of over 4,700, is renowned for its diverse student demographics, robust liberal arts foundations, and professional programs. However, it lacks a dedicated engineering department. This vacuum presented the perfect entry point for IIT Bombay. Setting up a brand-new campus in the United States from scratch is an administrative and financial nightmare, requiring massive land acquisitions, zoning clearances, and years of navigation through complex regional accreditation boards. By

embedding itself as the engineering and technology wing of an established American university, IIT Bombay cleanly bypasses these real-estate and bureaucratic bottlenecks. The institute can focus entirely on what it does best: constructing top-tier academic programming. The rollout of the Long Island sub-campus is designed as a calculated, phased expansion rather than an overnight transformation. According to institutional frameworks, the campus will welcome its inaugural cohort in 2027. The initial offerings will not be traditional four-year degrees, but highly specialized, market-responsive certificate programs targeted at areas where global industry demand drastically outstrips talent supply. These will focus on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, covering cutting-edge software architectures and neural networks, alongside Sustainability Science and Clean Technology to address environmental engineering principles, renewable energy systems, and carbon-capture tech solutions. Once these foundational certificate programs establish operational stability, the alliance will pivot to full-fledged undergraduate (B.S.) and postgraduate (M.S.) degrees in engineering disciplines. Crucially, these programs will not exist in isolation. They are being built to integrate with SUNY Old Westbury's existing strengths, paving the way for unique inter-

disciplinary pathways—such as intersectional tracks combining tech with business management or ethics in AI. For half a century, the narrative surrounding the IITs was inextricably linked to the concept of "brain drain." The Indian state invested heavily in subsidizing the education of its sharpest minds at Powai, only for a significant percentage of those graduates to emigrate to the United States, driving the tech booms of Silicon Valley and Wall Street. This new venture completely flips that traditional script. Instead of sending Indian students abroad to study, India is sending its academic institutions abroad to teach.

TRADITIONAL PATTERN (1970s - 2010s)

[Top Indian Talent] -----> [US Graduate Schools / Silicon Valley]

Indian public funds subsidize elite education; talent exits permanently.

THE MODERN PIVOT (2026 and Beyond)

[IIT Bombay Faculty & Systems] -----> [US Sub-Campus]

Academic excellence exported; revenue and global prestige return to India.

Furthermore, this initiative is completely distinct from typical international joint-degree or student-exchange programs. It is a physical footprint. Faculty members from the Powai campus will travel to New York to teach, run

THE ACADEMIC LAG: WHY UNIVERSITIES ARE RUSHING TO REBOOT CYBERSECURITY EDUCATION

Walk into a university lecture hall hosting a cybersecurity class today, and you might see students studying the structural nuances of the classic 1970s OSI model or manually drafting firewalls using yesterday's network blueprints. But out in the corporate trenches and sovereign data centers, the threat landscape looks radically different. Phishing attacks are fully automated by generative AI, large language model (LLM) pipelines are hijacked via prompt injection, and deepfake biometric bypasses trick traditional authentication systems at machine speed. The contrast highlights a critical gap in higher education. As digital systems face unprecedented, highly automated risks, specialized degree programs in cybersecurity are experiencing a massive surge in enrollment. Yet, while the demand for these courses is gaining historic traction, the true battle is happening behind the faculty doors: an urgent, systemic race to upgrade archaic syllabi before the ink on a student's degree becomes obsolete."The global cybersecurity workforce gap stands at over 4.8 million unfilled roles. But employers no longer just want degrees; they need candidates ready to handle zero-trust architectures and defensive AI analytics from day one."The explosion of student interest in cybersecurity is easy to understand. With major regulatory shifts forcing enterprise accountability, securing data has shifted from an IT concern to a core requirement for business survival. Universities have responded by launching dedicated Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Master of Science (M.Sc.) tracks in cybersecurity, uncoupling them from generic computer science degrees to attract ambitious students. However, the rapid pace of technological shift has exposed

a major structural flaw in traditional curriculum development. Academic syllabi typically operate on rigid multi-year revision cycles, requiring layers of institutional approval, board reviews, and accreditation checks. In contrast, the modern threat environment changes in a matter of weeks. When a university syllabus treats cybersecurity as a static list of compliance checkboxes and theoretical cryptography equations, it fails to prepare students for actual field conditions. To bridge this gap, pioneering institutions are completely rethinking their educational architecture. Progressive programs are shifting from a purely theoretical model to an active hybrid strategy, combining fundamental principles with intense practical application. The most critical upgrade required in today's syllabi is the integration of Artificial Intelligence. Because cybercriminals now weaponize machine learning to scan for vulnerabilities, defensive strategies must follow suit. Modern specialized curricula are introducing dedicated modules on AI-driven threat detection, securing ML pipelines, and operating Security Orchestration, Automation, and Response (SOAR) platforms. Students are taught to map adversary behaviors using advanced frameworks like MITRE ATT&CK, transforming them from passive observers into active threat hunters. Furthermore, forward-thinking universities are abandoning old-school exam formats in favor of continuous, gamified evaluations. Students earn credits by participating in live Capture-the-Flag (CTF) hackathons, conducting Vulnerability Assessments and Penetration Testing (VAPT) in sandboxed virtual labs, and documenting professional-grade incident response playbooks.

labs, and mentor students. The revenue generated from these international tuition streams will not merely fund local US operations; it is explicitly earmarked to be reinvested back into the home campus in Mumbai to upgrade domestic research labs, build advanced infrastructure, and fund Indian doctoral scholars. One of the most radical aspects of the IIT Bombay US sub-campus is how it decouples the prestigious "IIT" brand from the legendary anxiety of the Indian examination system. In India, securing a seat at IIT Bombay's Computer Science department requires ranking in the top fraction of a percent among over a million applicants in the brutal, multi-tiered Joint Entrance Examination (JEE). It is a system built primarily on hyper-filtering and elimination. The New York sub-campus will operate under an entirely different paradigm. Admissions will follow holistic American higher education standards, evaluating academic transcripts, cumulative GPA, and standardized testing indicators alongside project portfolios, demonstrated leadership, creative problem-solving, and community engagement. By removing the JEE-Advanced requirement for the Long Island campus, IIT Bombay is transitioning from an institution defined by its exclusivity to one defined by its impact. It allows the institute to train global talent—including American domestic

students and international applicants from Europe, Africa, and Latin America—who possess immense engineering potential but have never been trained in the specific mechanics of the Indian coaching-factory ecosystem. The birth of this sub-campus is not an isolated academic event; it is a direct byproduct of a deepening bilateral alignment between New Delhi and Washington. Facilitated by India's Consul General in New York, Binaya Pradhan, the collaboration aligns seamlessly with the broader goals of the India-US Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (ICET). At a time when supply chains are de-risking and tech ecosystems are friend-shoring, talent corridors must follow suit. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan appropriately hailed the venture as a "living corridor of knowledge." By establishing a physical presence in New York, IIT Bombay positions itself at the center of Western venture capital, industrial research partnerships, and policy-making circles.

THE MULTI-LAYERED BENEFITS VALUE CHAIN FOR SUNY OLD WESTBURY:

- Instantly acquires an elite, globally recognized engineering wing
 - without building an internal department from scratch.
- FOR IIT BOMBAY**
- Gains direct access to US research grants, close corporate

alliances, and global tuition revenue to fund domestic Powai development.

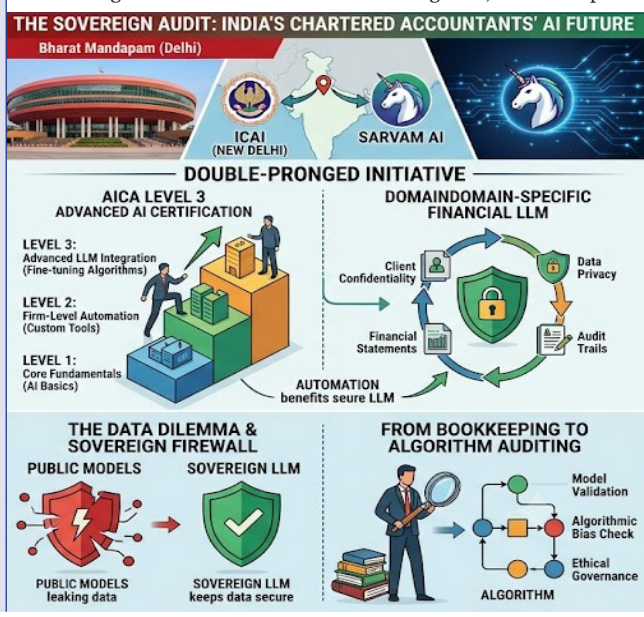
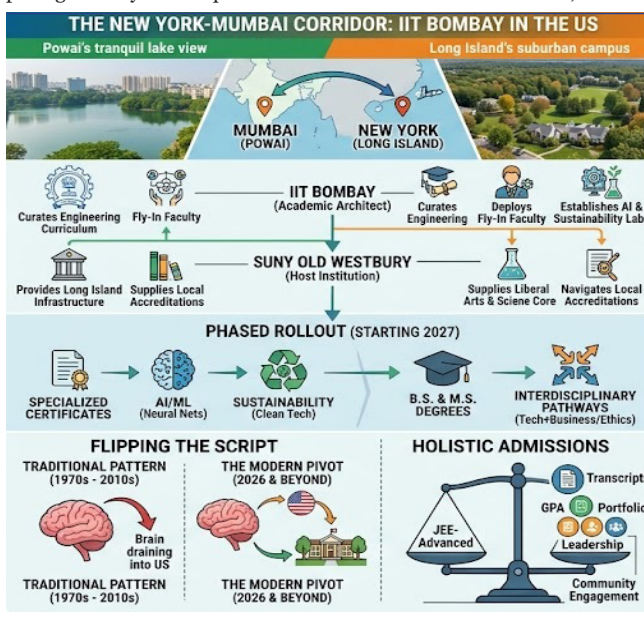
FOR THE TALENT ECOSYSTEM:

Offers global students elite Indian tech training combined with the flexible, interdisciplinary benefits of American higher education.

While the announcement marks an extraordinary milestone, the path to 2027 is filled with complex structural hurdles that both institutions must solve. First, there is the faculty strain. IIT Bombay already manages a demanding student-to-teacher ratio at home. Cultivating a rotational pool of elite faculty willing to travel and teach in New York without compromising the core academic delivery in Powai will require careful logistical balancing. There is also the challenge of culture and pedagogy integration. Blending the highly focused, intensely analytical, and structured engineering style of an IIT with the flexible, discussion-heavy, and broad-based liberal arts environment of a SUNY school will require creating an entirely new hybrid classroom culture. Finally, the project faces a global brand litmus test. The ultimate success of this experiment will depend heavily on how corporate America views an IIT certificate or degree earned on US soil versus one earned after surviving the intense competitive fires of the Indian mainland. As the higher education landscape faces systemic financial strains and shifting domestic enrollment trends across the West, innovative, cross-border models like the IIT Bombay-SUNY alliance represent the future of global learning. This sub-campus is a declaration that premier education is no longer a one-way street running from East to West. By setting up its engineering wing on Long Island, IIT Bombay is proving that true academic excellence is borderless, adaptable, and ready to shape the next generation of global innovators right in their own backyard.

-Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director of IIT Bombay THE SOVEREIGN AUDIT: WHY INDIA'S CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS ARE BUILDING THEIR OWN CLOSED-LOOP AI FUTURE

For decades, the path to becoming a Chartered Accountant (CA) in India has been synonymous with thick tax code volumes, rigorous auditing manuals, and the legendary, competitive challenge of the ICAI examinations. But inside New Delhi's Bharat Mandapam, a new corporate reality has taken center stage.





Women's T20 WC

Shabnim Ismail scripts his-tory, becomes tournament's leading wicket-taker



LONDON: South Africa pace spearhead Shabnim Ismail added another remarkable milestone to her illustrious career on Sunday by becoming the most successful bowler in the history of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup. The veteran fast bowler claimed her 49th wicket in the tournament during South Africa's crucial Group 1 encounter against Bangladesh at Lord's, moving past Australia's Megan Schutt to stand alone at the top of the all-time charts. The record-breaking dismissal arrived early in Bangladesh's innings when opener Taj Nehar was trapped leg-before in Ismail's second over. It was a trademark breakthrough from one of the quickest bowlers women's cricket has produced and proved to be another defining moment in a career that has consistently delivered on the biggest stages. Having made her Women's T20 World Cup debut back in 2009, Ismail has now accumulated 49 wickets from 37 appearances in the competition.

India knocked out of semis as Perry, Gardner power Australia to historic chase

LONDON, JUNE 28

India's campaign in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 came to a heartbreaking end as Australia produced the highest successful run chase in the tournament's history to register a commanding six-wicket victory at Lord's on Sunday. Chasing a challenging target of 171, Australia rode on superb half-centuries from Ellyse Perry and Ashleigh Gardner to complete the chase with an over to spare, ending India's hopes of reaching the semifinals.

The defeat meant India finished third in Group 1 with six points from five matches, while Australia and South Africa progressed to the last four with eight points each. It was another painful exit for Harmanpreet Kaur's side despite posting one of their best batting performances of the tournament.

India had looked firmly in control after captain Harmanpreet Kaur produced a sensational late assault to power her side to 170/4, a total that appeared competitive on a surface offering something for both batters and bowlers. However, Australia's experienced middle order absorbed the early pressure before launching a clinical chase that eventually rewrote the Women's T20 World Cup record books.

Needing a strong start, Australia suffered an early setback when Renuka Singh trapped Georgia Voll leg-before in the opening over. Voll departed for just four, briefly lifting Indian spirits in what was a must-win encounter.

However, Renuka's opening over also contained four wides and conceded 11 runs, allowing Australia to recover quickly. Returning from injury, Phoebe Litchfield looked confident from the outset as she struck consecutive boundaries off Kranti Gaud in the second over before Beth Mooney joined the attack with two boundaries of her own.

Litchfield ensured Australia finished the Power-play strongly by smashing a six off the first ball of the sixth over before collecting another boundary, taking Australia to 49/1 after six overs despite the early wicket.

India finally found another breakthrough immediately after the Power-play through their premier spinner Shree Charani. The left-arm spinner produced a superb delivery that trapped Litch-

Tector, Moondra, Holland star as Ireland stun India by one run, win 2-0 series sweep

BELFAST, JUNE 28

Ireland stepped up really well when it mattered the most to defeat India by just one run and complete a memorable 2-0 series sweep – their first-ever bilateral triumph over the Asian heavyweights.

Vice-captain Tilak Varma's fighting 55 kept India in the hunt, but debutant Jai Moondra's early strikes and disciplined death bowling ensured the hosts defended 154/8 at the Civil Service Cricket Club in Stormont on Sunday.

Harry Tector, playing in his 100th T20I game, anchored the innings with a scratchy but vital 53, while the bowlers produced a superb team performance to keep India at bay. Moondra and Matthew Holland picked three wickets apiece

The result ended India's streak of 16 consecutive T20I series wins dating back to 2023, as it also marked one of the greatest weekends in Irish cricket history. Under newly appointed T20I captain Lorcan Tucker, the side missed its five first-choice players. But Ireland showed remarkable spirit to defend totals in both games, and celebrate a famous triumph in front of a jubilant home crowd. For India, the series defeat was a sobering reminder of the challenges outside IPL-style batting decks and their continued struggles against left-arm pace. Despite Varma's resistance, the middle order faltered under pressure, leaving the T20 World Cup champions humbled.

The chase began disastrously for India as Moondra dismissed openers Sanju Samson and Abhishek Sharma for first-ball ducks. Just like how it happened in the first game, Samson fell for a duck after he missed a flick off Moondra's skiddy delivery and trapped lbw. On the fourth ball, Abhishek miscued a pull off Moondra's short ball to third man.

India were rattled further as skip-



per Shreyas Iyer chopped onto his stumps off Moondra for 10. Ishan Kishan attempted to rebuild alongside Tilak Varma, but a mix-up resulted in his run-out for 12. At 39/4, India were in deep trouble, having lost four wickets inside the Power-play for just the 13th time in T20Is. Vice-captain Varma, however, held his nerve. He struck successive boundaries off Moondra through the leg-side and steadied the innings with a 32-run stand with Axar Patel. Rain interruptions briefly halted play, but the duo ensured India stayed afloat, even as the asking rate hovered above eight runs per over.

Once the game resumed, Matthew Holland broke the partnership as Axar looked to steer him, but was caught by a superb Lorcan Tucker diving to his left and completed a stunning one-handed catch. Shivam Dube added some impetus into the innings with two fours, before pulling to deep square leg off Matthew Humphreys. Amidst all this, Varma hung around and brought up his

fifty in 45 balls by hitting India's first six of the innings – crouching low to heave Holland over deep mid-wicket. But on the very next ball, Varma's aim to hit a lofted drive resulted in him mistiming to extra cover, and was followed by debutant Suryansh Shedge's pursuit of clearing the bigger side of the ground ending in a catch to deep mid-wicket.

Rana, though, had other ideas – he slammed Moondra through point for four, before muscling him over long-on for six. With 20 runs needed off the final over, Rana got a boundary by evading the keeper on the free hit. Despite Tector giving two wides, he had the last laugh by having Rana caught at long-on. Though Prince Yadav hit a last-ball six, it wasn't enough to stop the result from going in Ireland's favour.

Previously, at one point, Ireland were primed to get 180, especially with Tector and Ben Calitz (37) sharing a 65-run stand. But losing wickets in a hurry at the end meant Ireland could just pass 150-mark.

Indian Men's Hockey Team prevails 3-2 over England in shoot-out after goalless draw

LONDON, JUNE 28

The Indian Men's Hockey Team displayed remarkable defensive resilience to defeat England 3-2 in the penalty shoot-out after a hard-fought 0-0 draw in the reverse fixture of the FIH Hockey Pro League at the Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre in London on Sunday. Abhishek, Shilanand Lakra and Hardik Singh converted their shoot-out attempts for India, while defender Sanjay was named Player of the Match for his outstanding performance.

England started brightly and earned an early penalty corner after Sam Ward won one off Yashdeep Singh. Indian goalkeeper Mohith Shashikumar responded with a sensational double save before producing another fine stop to deny Ward and later keeping out Sanford as India weathered sustained early pressure.

India's best opportunity of the opening quarter came through Abhishek, who threatened late in the period, but England enjoyed the better of the opening exchanges. The first quarter ended goalless, thanks to Mohith's sharp reflexes and India's disciplined defensive structure.



The hosts continued to press in the second quarter and came close through Bandurak, while India responded through Jarmanpreet Singh, whose effort was well saved by the England goalkeeper. England continued to pile on the pressure, but India's resolute defence stood firm as the teams headed into half-time locked at 0-0.

India returned after the break with renewed attacking intent and produced a dangerous counterattack led by Hardik Singh, whose driving run from midfield created an opportunity for Mandeep Singh, only for

the England goalkeeper to make another important save. Hardik continued to influence proceedings and earned India a penalty corner in the 37th minute, but Amandeep Lakra was unable to convert.

A major turning point came late in the third quarter when England were awarded a penalty stroke after Yashdeep Singh was adjudged to have fouled Henry Croft. India immediately opted for a video referral, and the decision was overturned after replays confirmed a clean challenge. Following the overturned decision, England's Nicholas Park

received a green card.

India earned another penalty corner soon after, but England's goalkeeper made another smart save. Tempers flared between both teams during the closing stages of the quarter, resulting in Dilpreet Singh receiving a green card. England also threatened through Thomas Sorsby, but neither side could break the deadlock heading into the final quarter. England again put India under pressure in the fourth quarter, but goalkeeper Suraj Karkera made a crucial save to keep the scores level. India then enjoyed a sustained attacking spell as Sukhjeet Singh won a penalty corner with an excellent piece of play, leading to a series of penalty corners. However, England's defence held firm.

England attempted to launch a late counterattack, but Jarmanpreet Singh intercepted the danger. The hosts earned a penalty corner in the closing minutes, only for Karkera to produce another excellent save. With just two seconds remaining, England were awarded another penalty corner, but India successfully reviewed the decision and the call was overturned, ensuring the contest finished 0-0 after regulation time.

Three gold medals for women wrestlers as India dominates day 2 of U15 Asian Championships

PATTAYA, JUNE 28

Indian women wrestlers produced a dominant performance, clinching three gold medals as the country bagged an impressive eight medals on the second day of the Under-15 Asian Wrestling Championships here on Sunday.

Samruddhi Satish Patil (33kg), Vinakshi (46kg), and Disha Shokeen (66kg) captured gold medals in their respective weight categories to headline a stellar day for the Indian contingent. Besides the three gold medals, India won two silver and three bronze medals to ensure a 100 per cent podium record across all eight medal bouts of the day.

Meanwhile, the Indian Under-15 Greco-Roman team finished third overall in the team standings, securing 150 points following their opening-day performances. Uz-



bekistan claimed the top spot with 171 points, while Kazakhstan finished second with 167 points.

In the women's events, Shokeen

was clinical in the 66kg final, registering an authoritative 11-0 win by technical superiority over Japan's Nowa Doike. In the 33kg

title clash, Patil defeated Uzbekistan's Madina Nosirova 8-2, while Vinakshi overcame another Uzbek grappler, Muslima Hojimatova, 7-4 to claim the 46kg final.

Divya Rani (36kg) and Dnyaneshwari Vrusheshwar Shinde (42kg) settled for silver medals after going down against Japanese opponents in their respective title clashes.

Rani lost 2-6 to Sara Kori, while Shinde suffered a narrow 7-9 defeat to Ramu Sugibayashi.

The Indian contingent also swept all three of its bronze-medal playoffs. Nisha Mor (54kg) secured an 8-0 victory by fall against Chinese Taipei's Lo I Huang, Dipanshi (58kg) defeated Mongolia's Anudari Bayanmunkh 6-1, and Anjali Santosh Vetal (62kg) outclassed Mongolia's Khongorzul Lkhagva Ochir 15-2 via technical superiority.



Varanasi, Spirit & Dragon: Father-Son Link?



As per the latest industry buzz, three of the biggest upcoming pan-India films, Varanasi, Spirit, and Dragon are reportedly built around the emotional bond between a father and son. While each film belongs to a different cinematic world, this common emotional thread could become their biggest strength. Yesterday, filmmaker S.S. Rajamouli confirmed that Varanasi carries a strong father-son emotional core, adding more excitement among movie lovers. Meanwhile, reports suggest that Spirit and Dragon may also explore similar emotions, though each in its own unique way and narrative style. In recent years, audiences have embraced larger-than-life action spectacles, but what truly makes these films memorable is the emotional foundation beneath the grand visuals. Whether it's revenge, sacrifice, legacy, or redemption, father-son relationships often create powerful emotional highs that connect with viewers across all languages. For Tollywood, this approach has consistently delivered impactful blockbusters. Mass moments become even more effective when backed by heartfelt emotions, making audiences cheer, cry, and celebrate the characters' journeys. If these reports turn out to be true, Varanasi, Spirit, and Dragon may not just compete with scale and action but also with emotionally compelling storytelling. After all, in commercial cinema, emotions remain the biggest driving force behind unforgettable cinematic experiences.



Ram's 100 Crore Lone Wolf Begins Tomorrow!

Ram Pothineni is all set to begin his next big project with the film's pooja ceremony and regular shoot commencing tomorrow. Celebrity hairstylist Aalim Hakim has already designed Ram's new look. Reportedly mounted on a Rs 100 crore budget, the film revolves around the story of a lone wolf and promises a grand cinematic experience.

Rao Bahadur: A World Beyond Imagination

The makers of Rao Bahadur have unveiled an exciting glimpse into the film's creative journey through the video called World Of Rao Bahadur, where the team shared their thoughts on the ambitious project. Producer Anurag Reddy revealed how the collaboration with Venkatesh Maha began. He said he was eager to know what the acclaimed filmmaker who made C/O Kancherapalem was working on next. A simple message to Maha led to an unexpected surprise. "I just happened to message Venkatesh Maha, and he said, he has a story. He had been wanting to make it for the past five years," recalled Anurag. What impressed him the most was the director's unwavering passion and belief in the script. He described it as a story capable of resonating with audiences from every corner of the world, irrespective of language or culture. Hero Satya Dev, equally amazed by the film's vision, admitted that his first reaction was to wonder how someone could even imagine a world of this scale. According to him, only someone obsessed with cinema could dream so fearlessly. Calling Venkatesh Maha a madman and a dreamer, he praised the filmmaker's relentless pursuit of creating something extraordinary. Satyadev further revealed that the team has built a massive cinematic world unlike anything audiences have witnessed before. He believes the visuals and scale of Rao Bahadur will offer a completely fresh experience that deserves to be watched on the big screen. Director Venkatesh Maha explained that while the film presents a grand spectacle, its emotional core lies in the protagonist's inner world. He shared that Rao Bahadur's story and psychology became the foundation for creating a visually immersive experience. Maha emphasized that his dream is to take Telugu cinema to global audiences by telling stories that are both unique and timeless. Confident about the film's impact, the director expressed his hope that Rao Bahadur, along with its central character Rao Bahadur, will remain unforgettable for years to come.



Four Different Roles for Venkatesh Ahead

Venky Mama is getting ready to entertain audiences with a fresh lineup of movies in different genres. The senior star, who is known for his family entertainers and strong screen presence, is planning to work with some of the biggest directors in Telugu cinema. This exciting lineup has already created a lot of buzz among movie lovers. The first project is expected to be with director Trivikram Srinivas. The movie is reportedly titled Aadasha Kutumbam. As Trivikram is famous for emotional family stories and meaningful dialogues, fans are expecting another heart-touching entertainer. Venkatesh has always impressed family audiences, so this combination has become one of the most awaited projects. Another interesting film is with successful director Anil Ravipudi. The movie is said to be a full-length comedy entertainer with multiple lead actors. Both Venkatesh and Anil Ravipudi earlier delivered the blockbuster Sankranthiki Vasthunam, so fans are excited to see them work together once again. The new film is



expected to offer plenty of fun, laughter, and family entertainment. After these projects, Venkatesh is likely to join hands with Bimbisara director Vassishtha. Reports suggest that this film will be a grand action drama with a different storyline. It is expected to present Venkatesh in a powerful role that fans have not seen before. Apart from these movies, Venkatesh is also planning to work with director Bobby on a mass entertainer. Bobby is known for making commercial films packed with action, emotions, and energetic moments. This project is expected to target mass audiences while showcasing a new side of the actor. With this impressive lineup, Venkatesh is proving that he is ready to explore different genres instead of sticking to one style. Family drama, comedy, action, and mass entertainment are all part of his upcoming slate. This variety is one of the biggest reasons why fans are eagerly waiting for his next releases. Although the makers have not officially announced complete details about every project, these reports have already raised expectations. If everything goes as planned, Venkatesh could have one of the strongest lineups in his career. Fans are now eagerly waiting for official announcements, title reveals, shooting updates, and release dates for these exciting films.

Faria Rocks Street Chic

Faria Abdullah has been in the Telugu film industry for five years now and while a big lead heroine break is still waiting to happen, she has been quietly staying in the game. This year she was seen in Gaayapadda Simham and now she has her next project Sigma lined up, a Telugu-Tamil bilingual film that has people curious. The actress recently shared new pictures on social media and her look is all kinds of fun. She wore a navy blue printed mini dress covered in colourful quirky graphics and paired it with bright pink heels. She carried a printed tote bag and kept her hair loose with bold eye makeup finishing the look. Very playful, very her. Say what you want about Faria's career graph but she is not the kind of actress who disappears between films. Small film or big film, she keeps showing up. She stays active on social media, keeps her audience engaged and makes sure people do not forget her face. In an industry where heroines vanish after one or two films, that itself is no small thing.



Fauzi

Are Fauzi Makers Serious About Its Release?

The makers of Prabhas' Fauzi are gearing up to announce their release date. They have locked December 3rd as their Release Date and the announcement is round the Designer for the Release Date Announcement Poster. Sources also say they are also gearing up to release some video content from the film in August. Meanwhile, Social Media is abuzz with speculations that the date announcement is just a gimmick and the makers can not keep up the date. They are citing the example of how they blocked March 28th as Peddi release date and later occupied it with Ustaad Bhagath Singh. But then, Fauzi team is serious this time, we are told. A very reliable source within the team said to Gulte.com, "December 3rd is the date, if it is missed, the OTT offer will lapse. The terms of Netflix are very clear. So, there is no room for a postponement". So, it appears to be serious. We are also told that Prabhas has to shoot close to one month for the film and he will be done. There are five months and so, if Prabhas co-operates, December 3rd release should not be a problem.

Tamil Composer Betrays Bangaaram?



It has the message "FUSN IYKYK." Some users are interpreting "FUSN" as the F word directed at Santosh Narayanan. There was an indirect hint about the team's unhappiness with Santosh Narayanan during a speech at the film's Success Meet in Vishakapatnam. We investigated what happened and learned that the music director completely disappeared without completing the rerecording or mixing of the film. It reached a point where he wasn't even picking up their calls. Raj Nidimoru and Nandini Reddy had to scramble to complete the work. Just one week before the film's release, they approached Mickey J Meyer, Mahesh Shankar, and Suresh Bobbili to handle the rerecording. Suresh Bobbili reportedly worked on the 'Muthyamantha Chaya' song, the bus fight scene, the wife and husband emotional scene, Samantha's warning scene, and some additional work in the climax. Mickey J Meyer reportedly worked on the final reel of the film and some other key portions. Mahesh Shankar handled some portions of the First Half. All the three of them together worked at the last minute and saved the film. We can see a Thanks Card for the three of them at the start of the film. Raj Nidimoru who favors a corporate style of filmmaking was very upset about this behavior, which explains the screenshot you saw in the film.