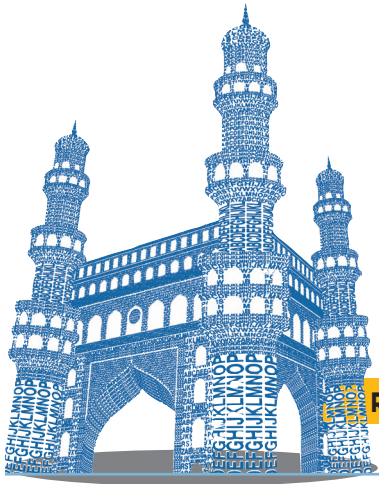




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A RENEWED THREAT TO GLOBAL PEACE

OPINION 06

Akshara's Al-Era Thriller

BOX-OFFICE 12



STRONG INFRASTRUCTURE, PROSPEROUS UTTAR PRADESH!

Lucknow, July 13: Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath today attended the inauguration and foundation stone-laying ceremony for three National Highway projects worth over ₹4,850 crore in Lucknow, along with Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari.

On this occasion, the Chief Minister said that, in addition to strengthening east-west connectivity across the state, efforts are now being made to accelerate north-south connectivity as well. With improved road infrastructure, world-class connectivity, a secure environment, and an effective model of good governance, the "New Uttar Pradesh" is steadily progressing as one of the country's key engines of growth.

ALL SET FOR BONALU: PONNAM



Hyderabad, July 13: Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Monday said the state government has made elaborate arrangements for the Ashada Bonalu Jathara, with all departments working in coordination to ensure smooth and safe celebrations from July 16 to August 13.

The Bonalu festivities will begin at the Golconda Sri Jagadamba Mahankali temple on July 16, followed by the

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TELANGANA MULLS KARNATAKA-STYLE PRC SYSTEM TO EASE VOTER VERIFICATION

Hyderabad, July 13: The Telangana government is considering introducing a Permanent Residence Certificate (PRC) system on the lines of Karnataka to help genuine residents establish their eligibility during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Government Advisor Mohammed Ali Shabbir said

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CM Calls on MPs to Protect STATE INTERESTS

Seeks Centre's Support for Irrigation, Metro, RRR, Airports and Infrastructure Projects

HYDERABAD, JULY 13

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday called upon Members of Parliament from all political parties to work collectively for Telangana's larger interests by securing Central approvals for key irrigation, infrastructure and development projects.

Addressing a meeting of MPs at Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Praja Bhavan ahead of the Monsoon Session of Parliament, the Chief Minister said political differences should not come in the way of protecting the state's interests. The State Government also made a detailed PowerPoint presentation on projects and proposals pending with the Centre.

Revanth Reddy said Hyderabad deserved an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) and urged MPs to meet Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to obtain approval for the institution. He noted that while six metropolitan cit-

ies account for only about 10% of the country's population, they contribute nearly 25% of India's GDP, making Hyderabad a strong candidate for an IIM.

On Hyderabad Metro Rail expansion, the Chief Minister said the Centre had agreed to appoint SBICAPS as consultant for the proposed takeover of Metro Phase-I and expansion of Phase-II. He appealed to MPs, particularly BJP leaders Etala Rajender and Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, to pursue the matter with the Union Government to expedite the process. The Chief Minister said nearly 95% of land acquisition for the northern stretch of the Regional Ring Road (RRR) had been completed. He urged MPs to secure Union Cabinet approval for construction and facilitate approvals for land acquisition on the southern stretch. Referring to the Musi River Rejuvenation Project, Revanth Reddy said the

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"Members of Parliament should work with the sole objective of protecting Telangana's larger interests, rising above political differences."



TODICHERLA-II COAL BLOCK FUTURE OF SINGARENI: KISHAN REDDY

HYDERABAD, JULY 13

Union Minister for Coal and Mines G Kishan Reddy today alleged that there was massive corruption took place in the allocation of coal blocks during Congress party UPA government led by Manmoha Singh in the country.

The coal scam of around Rs 2.60 lakh crore become a major talking point across the nation, Kishan Reddy said while addressing a meeting of Singareni workers and Intellectuals at Kothangudem on first day of "Singareni Bharosa Yatra".



In view of massive coal scam surfaced during Congress party tenure, the Supreme Court intervened and cancelled the coal block allocations made by

the Congress government, he revealed and said in 2014, the Supreme Court made it clear that in the future, coal blocks must be allocated strictly

through auctions, whether to public or private entities.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government respecting the Supreme Court's verdict, has allocated coal blocks to all government undertakings, including Coal India and Western Coalfields, strictly through auctions, the union minister said. Reddy announced that he is proud to state from this very soil of Singareni that after nearly eleven years, Tadicherla-II is the only coal block that has been directly allocated to Singareni without conducting an auction.

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Kaleshwaram failed due to ignoring experts: Bhatti



HYDERABAD, JULY 13

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka strongly criticised the previous BRS government, stating that the collapse of Kaleshwaram barrages within just three years was due to decisions taken without consulting experts and engineers. He alleged that the previous government looted public money in the name of irrigation projects and wasted it.

Bhatti Vikramarka, along with Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, and Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, visited the J. Chokka Rao Devadula project in Mulugu district on Monday. They reviewed the current water storage capacity and Godavari inflows with irrigation officials and conducted a high-level review meeting.

Speaking to the media on the occasion, Bhatti Vikramarka criticised leaders of the previous BRS government for ignoring engineers and making unilateral decisions.

He recalled how former leaders claimed they alone built Kaleshwaram with their intelligence, sidelining engineers. "If it had been constructed as per engineers' advice, it wouldn't have collapsed today," he remarked. Bhatti Vikramarka accused BRS leaders of misleading the public even after committing serious mistakes. Responding to opposition criticism regarding the failure of Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla barrages, Bhatti Vikramarka questioned why barrages were built if water could be lifted directly from flowing rivers.

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SHABAD ACCUSED RAJKUMAR FOUND DEAD

HYDERABAD, JULY 13

Rajkumar, the prime accused in the sensational murder of six members, including his family, in Ranga Reddy district's Shabad mandal, was found dead under suspicious circumstances on the outskirts of Panjarla village in Kothur mandal on Monday.

Police said a bottle of pesticide was recovered beside the body, indicating that the accused may have died by suicide while evading arrest. His identity was confirmed after local residents alerted police.

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CEMENTING DREAMS WITH SUPERIOR STRENGTH.

GERMAN TECHNOLOGY
ROBOTIC QUALITY CONTROL
TAMPER PROOF PACKING

3 TIMES BETTER

ALL SET FOR
BONALU: PONNAM

➤FROM PAGE 1
Balkampet Yellamma Kalyanam (July 20-22), Secunderabad Ujjaini Mahankali Bonalu on August 2, and celebrations at Lal Darwaza and other major temples on August 9.

The government has released Rs.15.05 crore for Bonalu celebrations across 3,427 temples in the erstwhile GHMC limits. Officials have been directed to ensure adequate drinking water, sanitation, power supply, traffic management, medical facilities, security, and special RTC bus services. Women can also avail free RTC travel during the festivities. Ponnam urged the devotees to follow police guidelines and assured that the government is committed to providing a safe and hassle-free darshan experience.

TELANGANA MULLS
KARNATAKA-STYLE PRC SYSTEM TO
EASE VOTER VERIFICATION

➤FROM PAGE 1
Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has discussed the proposal with senior officials following his representation, and a cabinet sub-committee is likely to be constituted to study the Karnataka model before recommending a suitable framework for Telangana. Shabbir Ali said a government-issued PRC could serve as an additional proof of residence for voters unable to trace their own or their family members' names in the 2002 electoral rolls, which are being used as a reference during the SIR process.

He clarified that no documents are being sought during the initial enumeration exercise, but voters whose names cannot be linked to the 2002 rolls may later be asked to produce supporting documents before electoral authorities.

The proposed PRC is expected to benefit young voters, married women who changed addresses, families that migrated within the state, elderly citizens, and long-term residents lacking older records. Like Karnataka, the Telangana model could rely on multiple forms of evidence, including Aadhaar, ration cards, educational and property records, electoral entries, and local enquiries rather than insisting on a single document.

Shabbir Ali said the proposed system would reduce documentation hardships for genuine residents while ensuring a robust verification process through government scrutiny.

Uttam Orders Faster
Execution of Devadula works

HYDERABAD, JULY 13

With Telangana facing continued rainfall deficiency, Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Monday directed officials to run all Devadula pumping units round the clock and to fill the project's 22 reservoirs to gross capacity to ensure adequate drinking and irrigation water across its command area. The instructions came during a high-level review of the Devadula Lift Irrigation Scheme attended by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Revenue and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, senior engineers and officials.

Reviewing the scheme's operational status and progress on Phase-III works, Uttam Kumar Reddy told engineers to maximise pumping while the Godavari's current inflows allow. With inflows around 20,000 cusecs, seven pumping units are already operating and supplying water for drinking and irrigation. He noted that when all 10 units run, the project can lift about 0.23 TMC per day, transferring roughly one TMC in about four-and-a-half days, and urged officials to exploit favourable river conditions so reservoirs remain stocked during the rainfall deficit.

The minister took stock of intake works on the Godavari, high-capacity pump houses, rising mains, balancing reservoirs and the gravity canal network, and reiterated the government's commitment to complete the entire Devadula scheme by December 2027. He said the project will deliver full benefits only after all three phases are finished and assured farmers

the government is determined to bring irrigation to the entire command area without delay.

Uttam Kumar Reddy directed engineers and contractors to prepare package-wise completion schedules with stringent monthly progress reviews, and to closely monitor every package to resolve bottlenecks immediately. He said the government is expediting land acquisition, statutory approvals and pending clearances, and deploying additional manpower and machinery across sites to hasten construction. He also assured that funds would not be a constraint and that the project would receive necessary financial support.

The Devadula Lift Irrigation Scheme aims to provide drinking water to numerous villages in northern Telangana and stabilise irrigation in Mulugu, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Hanamkonda, Warangal, Jangaon, Siddipet, Karimnagar, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri and Suryapet districts. Upon completion of all three phases, the project is expected to irrigate nearly 5.6 lakh acres. The total estimated cost is around Rs. 18,400 crore.

Referring to the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme, Uttam Kumar Reddy said rehabilitation of three barrages that are in precarious condition will begin once final designs are approved. He emphasised that the government will follow the National Dam Safety Authority's recommendations on operating the Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla barrages, and that no decision would compromise public safety.

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka said Devadula is among the government's highest

priorities and assured continued priority for fund releases. Revenue and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy said land acquisition has been fast-tracked and departments are coordinating to ensure timely completion.

Uttam Kumar Reddy outlined technical and scope details: Devadula is being implemented in three phases through 16 packages — Phase I will irrigate 1.23 lakh acres, Phase II 1.93 lakh acres and Phase III 2.39 lakh acres. The scheme comprises 642 km of pipelines, 57.16 km of tunnels, 306 km of main canals and a 2,185 km distributary network. Highlighting its engineering scale, he said Devadula includes Asia's longest 49-km D-shaped irrigation tunnel. Arrangements are underway to meet the project's 495.55 MW power requirement, and proposed integration with the Sammakka Barrage would help secure near year-round water availability.

The minister said the project has achieved 87.70 percent physical progress, with most major infrastructure — pump houses, pipelines and tunnel excavation — completed. Remaining work includes canal lining, distributary network completion, a few key structures and pending land acquisition, which continue to delay full utilisation of the constructed irrigation infrastructure.

Under Phase I, Package-45 is fully complete, while Package-46 stands at 96.86 percent. The review meeting was attended by Ramesh Babu, Engineer-in-Chief (General); Srinivas, Joint Secretary, Irrigation Department; and other senior engineers and officials.



Suvarna Vinayak Accorded
Grand Felicitation

HYDERABAD, JULY 12

The Telangana Recognised School Managements Association (TRSMA) felicitated veteran educationist Sri Suvarna Vinayak on his retirement after 42 years of distinguished service in the field of education.

Having served as a teacher, Headmaster and educational administrator, Suvarna Vinayak was honoured for his significant contributions to student development, teacher training and strengthening educational administration. The felicitation programme was attended by educationists, officials of the Education Department, leaders of teachers' associations, school management representatives, former students, friends and well-wishers.

Speaking on the occasion, TRSMA State President Sadula Madhusudhan described Suvarna Vinayak's four-decade-long service as exemplary and said retirement marked the beginning of a new phase in which his experience would continue to benefit society.

TRSMA State General Secretary Ramesh Rao said Suvarna Vinayak's commitment to student personality development, teacher empowerment and quality education would remain a source of inspiration for future generations.

State Treasurer Raghavendra Reddy praised his integrity, discipline and selfless service, stating that the values he upheld throughout his career would continue to inspire the education fraternity.

TRSMA National Advisor Dr. Lion Komatireddy Gopal Reddy said the service of a teacher never ends with retirement, as the knowledge and values imparted to students continue to shape society. He expressed confidence that Suvarna Vinayak's vast experience would continue to guide the education sector in Telangana. During the programme, the TRSMA State Committee honoured Suvarna Vinayak with a traditional shawl and a memento and wished him good health, peace and a fulfilling retired life. The event was attended by senior educationists, school management representatives, headmasters, teachers, former students, family members and well-wishers in large numbers.

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Kaleshwaram failed due to
ignoring experts: Bhatti

➤FROM PAGE 1
He said poor construction during the BRS regime caused the sinking of Medigadda pillars.

He noted that experts from the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) and Central Water Commission (CWC) inspected the barrages and warned that storing water could lead to their collapse, advising that gates be kept open. Despite this, BRS leaders continue to spread misinformation, he said, calling it "Goebbels-style propaganda. However, storing such water requires closing the gates, which experts warn could damage the foundations and lead to complete failure. Therefore, until full repairs are completed, the gates will remain open to allow floodwater to pass safely, he said.

Considering drought conditions due to El Niño, the government aims to fill 22 reservoirs under the Devadula Project. To expedite pending works, ₹146 crore has been released for the land acquisition (₹58 crore), pending works (₹74 crore) and maintenance (₹14 crore), he said.

Bhatti Vikramarka assured that under the Devadula Project, 10 pumps will be operated continuously to provide irrigation and drinking water to about 12 districts in the Godavari basin.

He stated that the government is ready to allocate any required funds to complete the Devadula Project. Additionally, Devadula and Sitarama projects will be completed on a war footing to supply water to erstwhile Warangal and Khammam districts, Bhatti Vikramarka said.

TODICHERLA-II COAL BLOCK FUTURE OF SINGARENI..

➤FROM PAGE 1
He said keeping the future of Singareni in mind and love for Telangana Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government allocated this block which has been demanded by Singareni workers, local citizens, public representatives, and various political parties for nearly twenty years to the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL). This is the only coal block in the country allocated to a public coal company without an auction, the union minister Reddy said.

Expressing concern in declining revenues of Singareni Kishan Reddy said Tadicherla-II is an extremely valuable coal block and this block offers the potential for coal production for nearly 40 to 50 years. The number of employees is also gradually decreasing. The workforce, which once stood at around 70,000, has now come down to approximately 40,000. Additionally, over 30,000 contract workers depend on Singareni for their livelihood. New coal blocks are absolutely essential to secure their future, he said.

The negligence of the previous BRS government is the main reason for Singareni reaching this state. While other public sector undertakings across the

country participated in auctions and secured new coal blocks, the then-government failed to utilize the opportunities available to Singareni, he alleged.

There were instances where the then-government even prevented Singareni from participating when two coal blocks came up for auction. At such a juncture, PM Narendra Modi allocating the Tadicherla-II block to Singareni serves as a great reassurance for the organization's future, Reddy said.

He said the centre has already allocated the Naini coal block in Odisha to Singareni to cater to the power needs of Telangana. At that time, he personally held discussions with the then Odisha Chief Minister, Naveen Patnaik, and secured the necessary cooperation for coal production. However, because the then state government failed to complete the required clearances and procedures in a timely manner, that project could not move forward, he said.

Later, after the formation of the BJP government in Odisha, and through the initiative of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the process related to the Naini coal block was fast-tracked. The tendering process has been completed. Currently, coal production is commencing there under the management of Singareni. This will bring additional revenue to Singareni. This stands as proof that the Central Government is supporting the development of Singareni in every possible way.

Keeping in view the concerns being expressed over falling production and the declining number of workers in Singareni, the central government took special initiative regarding the Naini and Tadicherla-II coal blocks, he said.

Union minister said taking into account the opinions expressed by the Telangana government, public representatives, Singareni leaders, and labor unions, we coordinated with all departments, secured the necessary clearances and took this historic decision.

Kishan Reddy said on behalf of the Singareni workers, the people of Singareni, and the people of Telangana, he is expressing his heartfelt gratitude to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for taking this decision.

Reddy said whether it be the BRS party or the current Congress government in Telangana, they must honestly acknowledge the support provided by the Modi government at the center for the development of Singareni and ques-

tioned stating that certain individuals who are boasting about Singareni today must answer to the public as to why they lost the opportunities that came Singareni's way in the past.

Singareni supplies coal to the state government's power utilities. The electricity generated at the Singareni Thermal Power Plant is also consumed by the state government. Despite this, the previous BRS government allowed massive dues owed to Singareni to accumulate, he alleged and said even under such circumstances, the central government constantly stands by Singareni to strengthen the organization and protect the future of its workers. Our commitment to the development of Singareni and the welfare of its workers will continue in the same manner in the future.

Kishan Reddy said whichever party's government is in power, it is the responsibility of governments to clear the dues owed to Singareni on time. However, both the previous BRS government and the current Congress government have acted negligently regarding the clearance of dues to Singareni, he lamented.

Union minister explained that the previous BRS government and the current Congress government jointly owe

dues amounting to approximately Rs 54,000 crore to Singareni. Out of this, the current government also owes a substantial amount of dues.

Reddy demanded that the state government immediately release the funds due to Singareni, rather than limiting themselves to just holding meetings and giving assurances. The funds due to Singareni are not a matter of charity from governments, it is the hard-earned revenue of the organization generated by the sweat of its workers. Singareni has full right over those funds.

Kishan Reddy said the central government and the BJP will stand fully supportive of any issue related to Coal India our party always fight alongside the workers and local citizens to resolve the issues of Bhadrachalam, Kothagudem, Manuguru, and other Singareni regions. Union minister said under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Central Government is sincerely supporting all sectors related to the development of Telangana, including Singareni, Railways, and Education. The BJP will always stand on the side of the people when it comes to the development of Singareni and the welfare of its workers, he assured.

CM Calls on MPs to Protect
STATE INTERESTS

➤FROM PAGE 1
first phase had reached the tender stage and required approval under the Centre's Urban Challenge Fund. He requested MPs to meet Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar to expedite sanction of the project.

On inter-State river water issues, the Chief Minister briefed MPs about the recent meeting chaired by Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil with the Chief Ministers of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. He said Telangana was entitled to 15.09 TMC of water from the Tungabhadra project but was receiving only about 5 TMC because of heavy silt accumulation. He urged MPs to press the Centre to facilitate desilting of the reservoir and canals in coordination with Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Revanth Reddy also discussed the proposed Godavari river-linking projects. He said the Centre should ensure Telangana's interests while imple-

menting the Godavari-Cauvery River Linking Project and in discussions with Chhattisgarh regarding surplus Godavari waters. He said the State expected a fair allocation of surplus water after meeting Chhattisgarh's future requirements.

The Chief Minister said several irrigation projects initiated during the united Andhra Pradesh era were awaiting No Objection Certificates (NOCs) from Andhra Pradesh. He expressed hope that the issue, already discussed with the Union Jal Shakti Minister and the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, would soon be resolved.

Regarding the Tummidihatti project, he proposed holding discussions with Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis for construction at the 150-151 feet level.

The Chief Minister also informed MPs that alignments had been finalised for proposed bullet train corridors connecting Hyderabad airport with Bengaluru, Chennai

and Mumbai. He said land acquisition had been completed for the proposed airports at Adilabad and Warangal, while the State was seeking approval for Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facilities and air cargo hubs at both airports.

Assuring full cooperation, Revanth Reddy said IAS officer Advait Kumar Singh had been posted at Telangana Bhavan in New Delhi to coordinate with MPs and provide all information relating to pending State issues, irrespective of party affiliation.

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka directed officials to provide MPs with updated briefing notes and copies of correspondence exchanged with the Centre so that they could effectively raise Telangana's issues in Parliament. He said the State Government remained committed to the spirit of cooperative federalism.

During the meeting, MPs raised several issues. Dr. Mallu Ravi sought revival of the

closed oil mill near Gadwal, while Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy suggested holding coordination meetings before every Parliament session. BJP MP Etala Rajender highlighted the shortage of rice milling and storage facilities in Telangana and stressed adherence to official protocol. Ramasahayam Raghuram Reddy suggested supplying MPs with information relevant to Parliamentary Standing and Consultative Committees. BJP MP Konda Vishweshwar Reddy called for an expert committee to examine the designs of the Kaleshwaram and Palamuru-Rangareddy projects.

The meeting was attended by Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, MPs Dr. Mallu Ravi, Etala Rajender, Kadiyam Kavva, Ramasahayam Raghuram Reddy, Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, Raghuver Reddy, Anil Kumar Yadav, Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju and senior officials from various departments.

Congress-BJP Nexus Over Kaleshwaram..

➤FROM PAGE 1
agitation under the directions of party president K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR).

KTR said that before the Congress came to power, the Mid Manair Reservoir remained full, whereas today it is drying up due to the government's deliberate inaction. He noted that lifting water from the Kannepalli Pump House could effectively address both irrigation and drinking water shortages at a time when Telangana is facing the threat of drought.

Accusing the Congress government of acting out of political vendetta against the previous BRS government and the Kaleshwaram project, KTR said the administration had completely ignored farmers' interests. He alleged that the government was refusing to consider the recommendations of retired irrigation engineers, technical experts, and the Opposition, while instead resorting to personal attacks against them.

Refuting the Chief Minister's claim that there was no flood flow in the Godavari, KTR said enormous quantities of water were flowing

downstream every day and that neighbouring Andhra Pradesh was successfully lifting the same water for its own needs. He alleged that the Telangana government was deliberately preventing water from being lifted through Kaleshwaram, thereby serving the interests of neighbouring states at the cost of Telangana farmers.

KTR pointed out that although lakhs of cusecs of water were flowing past Medigadda, the government was not utilising the opportunity to lift nearly 2 TMC of water through the Kannepalli Pump House without even lowering the Medigadda barrage gates. Despite being fully aware of these technical possibilities, the government continued to cite the NDSA report as an excuse to deny irrigation water to farmers, he said.

He accused both the Congress and the BJP of working together on the Kaleshwaram issue. While the State Irrigation Minister himself had acknowledged that repair works had been completed, the government continued to rely on the NDSA report to avoid lifting water. KTR described the

report as "not an NDSA report but a Shikhandi Report," alleging that it was politically motivated and prepared under the BJP-led NDA government to malign Telangana.

According to KTR, the refusal to lift water from Kaleshwaram has endangered not only the Lower Manair and Mid Manair reservoirs but the entire chain of projects across the Godavari basin. He warned that with El Niño conditions prevailing, Telangana could soon face severe agricultural distress as well as a major drinking water crisis.

Strongly condemning the Chief Minister's remarks against retired engineers, KTR said these were the very engineers who had fought for Telangana's rightful share of river waters during the statehood movement and deserved respect rather than insults.

KTR alleged that the Chief Minister's refusal to lift water stemmed solely from the fear that his repeated allegations against the Kaleshwaram project would be exposed as false.

Referring to the Chief Minister's reported remarks that "blood" was needed before water could be lifted through

Kaleshwaram, KTR recalled that senior BRS leader Prashanth Reddy, along with party student and youth wing activists, had voluntarily donated blood across the State with the message: "Take our blood if you want, but give water to Telangana's farmers."

He further alleged that the government was using the NDSA report to block water lifting from the Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla barrages, despite those structures having withstood flood flows of 2.85 million cusecs in the past. He termed the government's claim that the barrages could not withstand even one lakh cusecs as misleading and contrary to facts.

KTR demanded that the Congress government immediately set aside political considerations, resume lifting water through the Kaleshwaram project, ensure irrigation water for farmers and drinking water for the people, and protect Telangana's water interests. He warned that if the government continued to ignore these demands, BRS would intensify its statewide agitation in support of Telangana's farmers.



National Commission for Scheduled Castes Chairperson meets CM Revanth Reddy



■ **CM briefs SC empowerment and strengthening of education sector to Commission Chairperson**

HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Shri A Revanth Reddy has said that the State Government was taking a slew of measures to eliminate caste discrimination among students.

National Commission for Scheduled Castes Chairperson Kishore Makwana met with the Chief Minister today . During the meeting, the CM briefed the Commission Chairperson about the opportunities provided for the socio-economic and political empowerment of the SC communities. Implementation of the SC categorization was dis-

cussed in the meeting. CM Revanth Reddy asserted that the union government should take initiatives to provide necessary support and cooperation for the development of SCs To improve the education system, the Chief Minister informed Kishore Makwana the construction of 'Young India Integrated Residential Schools' in a sprawling 25-acres in every assembly constituency and start of the schools by the next academic year.

The establishment of 'Telangana Public Schools' to provide education from Nursery to Class 12 , breakfast, lunch and transportation facilities for students and the increase the number of Telangana Public Schools in the core urban region (CURE) among the important issues discussed.

BRS to Hold “Chalo Saroornagar Yuva Sangrama Sabha” on July 18

■ **Demand Fulfilment of Promises Made to Youth**

HYDERABAD

BRS leaders have strongly criticized the Congress government for allegedly failing to implement the promises made to young people under its “Youth Declaration” during the election campaign. As part of its campaign, the BRS Youth and Student Wings unveiled the poster for the “Yuva Sangrama Sabha”, which will be held at Saroornagar Stadium on July 18.

Speaking on the occasion, MLC Shambhipur Raju said that the Congress had deceived not only the youth but all sections of society during the elections. He recalled that Priyanka Gandhi, at the same Saroornagar Stadium, had announced several promises for unemployed youth under the “Youth Declaration.” However, despite the Congress government being in power for two-and-a-half years, not a single promise has been fulfilled, he alleged. He also criticized the government for failing to fill thousands of vacancies across various government departments. He said the BRS Youth and

Student Wings were organizing the large public meeting at the same venue to remind the Congress of its election promises, adding that BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) would attend the event.

MLA Devireddy Sudheer Reddy said it was unfortunate that the promises made by Priyanka Gandhi to unemployed youth in 2023 had not been implemented. He alleged that commitments such as fee reimbursement for students, job notifications for unemployed youth, and several other assurances had been ignored. He said the BRS was prepared to fight on behalf of young people and was organizing the gathering at Saroornagar Stadium as a platform to uphold the dignity and rights of unemployed youth.

Former Minister and MLA Sabitha Indra Reddy said the government's attitude toward unemployed youth was disappointing, in addition to its failure to fulfil election promises. She alleged that nearly 20,000 vacancies in the Police Department and another 20,000 vacancies in the Education Department remained unfilled despite the need for recruitment notifications. She criticized the government for ar-

resting those demanding recruitment, calling it contrary to democratic principles. She said the BRS would use the Saroornagar meeting to build public pressure on the government to fill the vacant posts.

Former Minister and MLA Tala-sani Srinivas Yadav alleged that the Congress had misled young people by promising jobs before the elections but failing to deliver after coming to power. He said unemployed youth, farmers, women, and other sections of society were deeply disappointed with the government's performance. He recalled that during the BRS government's tenure, around 200,000 government jobs had been filled. He appealed to unemployed youth from across the state to participate in large numbers in the Yuva Sangrama Sabha at Saroornagar on July 18.

BRS leaders said the meeting, being organized by the party's Youth and Student Wings, aims to mobilize unemployed youth from across Telangana to raise their voices for their rights. They stated that the event is intended to press the Congress government to fulfil the promises it made to the youth during the elections.

Revanth Reddy found on electoral rolls of two Assembly constituencies

HYDERABAD

Despite holding a responsible position, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy was enrolled in the electoral rolls of two Assembly constituencies under two different Parliamentary constituencies, according to electoral roll data. Under the Representation of the People Act, 1950, a person is not entitled to be registered in the electoral rolls of more than one constituency. The electoral rolls show Revanth Reddy as a voter in the Kodangal Assembly constituency under the Mahabubnagar Parliamentary constituency. His name also appears in the Achampet Assembly constituency under the Nagarkurnool Parliamentary constituency. The EPIC number in both entries is TESO274035.

The records also show a discrepancy in the spelling of the Chief Minister's name. In both constituencies, it is recorded as “Anumula Revant Reddy”, son of Narasimha Reddy, instead of the correct spelling, “Revanth”.

The Achampet entry lists House No. 3-48, correspond-

ing to his residential address in Kondareddypally village of Vangoor mandal. The Kodangal entry records the house number as 1-209. As per the prescribed procedure, the spelling error can be corrected by submitting Form 8 to the Electoral Registration Officer concerned. To remove the duplicate entry, Form 7 can be submitted voluntarily to the Electoral Registration Officer of the constituency where the voter does not ordinarily reside.

INTERLOCKING OF LC GATES AT ALIPURDUAR DIVISION

E-Tender Notice No. S&T/APDJ/11 Dated: 09-07-2026. Works tenders through “E” Tendering system for and on behalf of the president of India are invited for the works as detailed below:- **Tender No. AP-ST-11-2026-27.** **Name of work:** Alipurduar Division: Interlocking of LC gates with MACLS having more than 20000 TVU (17 Nos). **Tender Value:** ₹21,30,02,135.29/- . **Earnest Money:** ₹42,60,100/- . **Date & time of closing of tender:** At 15.00 hrs. on 07-08-2026 & opening at 07-08-2026 after closing E-Tender. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available in the website www.ireps.gov.in

DRM (S&T), Alipurduar Division
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on @SCRailwayIndia Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

No: C/E-Auctions Catalogue/SC/2026-27.
Date:13.07.2026

For and on behalf of the President, Union of India, the Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Secunderabad Division, South Central Railway invites e-Auction for Commercial earning and NFR contracts. Accordingly, SC division has processed an e-Auction for the following Categories, which are notified in the <https://www.ireps.gov.in> website.

1. **Category :** PARCELS **Catalogue No.:** SC-Parcels-1526 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 15-Jul-26 12:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** 20629, 12710, 17069, 17041, 17016, 17065. **Auction Details :** Parcel Space in SLR Coach (Single Compartment) in 20629, 12710, 17069, 17041, 17016, 17065.

2. **Category :** PARCELS **Catalogue No.:** SC-Parcels-1626 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 16-Jul-26 12:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** 12735, 18528, 12734, 22731. **Auction Details :** Parcel Space in SLR Coach (Single Compartment) in 12735, 18528, 12734, 22731

3. **Category :** CATERING **Catalogue No.:** SC-CATG-17-2026 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 23-Jul-26 14:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** MLY, CHZ, RDM, HTCY, UDGR **Auction Details :** Individual catering contracts at Moulali, Charlapalli, Ramagundam, Hitech city and Udgir Stations.

4. **Category :** ADVERTISING **Catalogue No.:** Advt-MIX-7-26 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 23-Jul-26 14:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** 20707/08, RDM, BPA, SKZR, JMKT, BMT, UDGR **Auction Details :** 1. Advertisement through Vinyl Wrapping for Train No. 20707/20708 Secunderabad-Vishakapatnam-Secunderabad Vande Bharat Express. 2. The Contract is for Commercial Advertisements through Static Hoardings in Circulating Area of Ramagundam, Bellampalli, Sirpur kazhaznagar and Jammikunta Railway stations. 3. The Contract is for Commercial Advertisements through Digital Boards inside BMT Railway Station 4. Non-digital contract for Udgir Railway station 5. The Contract is for Commercial. Advertisements through Static Boards inside Railway station of Ramagundam, Bellampalli, Sirpur kazhaznagar and Jammikunta Railway stations.

5. **Category :** MISC-STATIC **Catalogue No.:** MSS-MIX-7-26 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 23-Jul-26 14:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** BMT, KZJ, WL **Auction Details :** 1. Individual contracts for setting up and operation of Mobile Store and Accessories at Begumpet, Kazipet and Warangal Stations. 2. Contract for setting up and operation of premium store at Begumpet Railway station

6. **Category :** CATERING **Catalogue No.:** SC-CATG-PBCO-16 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 24-Jul-26 14:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** BMT, WL, KZJ, HYB **Auction Details :** 1. Individual contracts for setting up and operation Premium Branded Catering Outlet on Platform-1 inside Waiting hall at Begumpet, Warangal, Hyderabad and Kazipet Stations.

7. **Category :** ATM **Catalogue No.:** ATM-CHZ-2-26 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 27-Jul-26 14:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** HQ, CHZ **Auction Details :** Individual Contracts for Operation & Maintenance of Automated Teller Machine (ATM) at Sanchalan Bhavan and Charlapalli Station.

8. **Category :** PAY AND USE **Catalogue No.:** ACWH-MIX-7-26 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 27-Jul-26 15:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** HYB, SC, CHZ, KMT **Auction Details :** 1. Contract for Operation and maintenance of Cloak Room at Hyderabad Railway Station 2. Individual contracts for Prepaid AC Waiting Hall at Secunderabad Railway station at Platform 01, Charlapalli and Khammam Railway stations.

9. **Category :** MISC-STATIC **Catalogue No.:** MSS-MIX-7-26-1 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 28-Jul-26 15:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** SC, BMT, JMKT, LPI, PRLI, SKZR **Auction Details :** 1. Contract for Waste management at Secunderabad Railway Station including the Coaching depot(Secunderabad) 2. Contract for setting up and operation of food trucks/Juice bar with chat stall at Jamikunta, Begumpet, Parli, Lingampalli and Sirpurkazhaznagar Stations.

10. **Category :** MISC-STATIC **Catalogue No.:** MSS-MIX-7-26-2 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 30-Jul-26 14:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** SJVP, MCI, NDMH, KZJ, CHZ **Auction Details :** 1. The contract is for setting up and operation of a Fun Zone in the area available outside Sanjeevalah Park Railway Station and for the operation and management of the parking lot for two- wheelers, three-wheelers, and four- wheelers. 2. Individual contracts for setting up and operation of food trucks/Juice bar with chat stall/Drive-ins and two Wheelers and Four Wheelers Parking Lot at Manchiryal railway station, at Neredmet Railway Station, at Kazipet Railway stations. 3. Contract for setting up and operation of Mobile Store and Accessories at Charlapalli Railway Station.

11. **Category :** PARKING **Catalogue No.:** Park-Mul-100726 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 30-Jul-26 14:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** SC, SKP, LTRR, MLY, ZN **Auction Details :** 1. Parking Lot for Two Wheelers at location PLATFORM 10 SECUNDERABAD 2. Individual parking contract at Shankarpalli, Latur Road, Moula Ali and Janagaon Railway stations.

12. **Category :** MPS **Catalogue No.:** MPS-Mul-100726 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 30-Jul-26 14:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** CHZ, BPA, BIDR **Auction Details :** Individual MPS Contracts at Charlapalli, Bellampalli and Bidar Stations.

13. **Category :** ADVERTISING **Catalogue No.:** ADVT-MIX-26-1 **Auction Start Date & Time :** 30-Jul-26 15:00 **Corresponding station(s)/Train(s) :** BIDR, CHZ **Auction Details :** 1. The contract is for Commercial advertisements through Static Media at RUB KM No. 130 (B) near Bidar Railway station under Out of Home (OOH). 2. The contract is for commercial advertisements through static/digital media, including TV screens, unipoles, and hoardings at Charlapalli Station. 3. Hoardings at Road Under Bridge No. 90/2-3 near Bidar Railway station 4. The Contract is for Commercial Advertisements through Digital Boards inside Charlapalli Railway Station 5. Contract for the display of Commercial Advertisements through Static Boards inside Charlapalli Station.

Interested parties and contractors are to take note of this and go through the website as mentioned above for detailed information about the E-Auction notice. For enquiries/clarifications, Please contact the office of the undersigned.

A533 **Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Secunderabad**

कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम
Employees' State Insurance Corporation

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Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

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Inauguration of

New OPD Block, ESIC Hospital, Sanathnagar, Telangana

and

Virtual Inauguration of

100 Bedded ESIC Hospital, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu

100 Bedded ESIC Hospital, Rajamahendravaram, Andhra Pradesh

Upgraded 200 Bedded ESIC Hospital, Beltola, Guwahati, Assam

ESI Dispensary and Branch Office, Kota, Rajasthan

ESI Dispensary, Bhawanimandi, Rajasthan

ESI Dispensary and Branch Office, Surendranagar, Gujarat

By

Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya

Minister of Labour & Employment and Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India

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SHORT
TAKES

BJP launches "Singareni Bharosa Yatra", credits Modi govt for SCCL lifeline

HYDERABAD: The Telangana BJP on Monday launched its "Singareni Bharosa Yatra" claiming that the Centre's allocation of the Tadicherla-II coal block to the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) has secured the PSU's future while accusing the previous BRS and the present Congress governments of neglecting the organisation. The two-day yatra, led by BJP state president N Ramchander Rao under the supervision of Union Coal and Mines Minister G Kishan Reddy, began in Hyderabad and reached Kothagudem amid a grand reception by party workers and Singareni employees. Addressing a gathering, Rao said the allocation would enable coal mining for 40 to 50 years, generate thousands of jobs and strengthen Telangana's economy. He alleged that successive BRS and Congress governments had pushed the SCCL into financial distress through negligence and corruption. Taking a swipe at Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Rao accused the Congress government of ignoring Singareni's financial health while blaming the Centre for its own failures. He said the 1,200-km yatra would cover all Singareni regions to interact with workers and highlight the BJP-led Centre's initiatives for the coal sector.

Rs.2.96 cr hash oil seized in Hyderabad, two held while heading to Bengaluru

HYDERABAD: The Hyderabad Commissioner's Task Force and Borabanda Police arrested two alleged drug traffickers and seized 23,706 litres of hash oil worth Rs.2.96 crore near Erragadda on Saturday night, dealing a major blow to an inter-state narcotics network. The accused, identified as Lasangi Yakobu alias Venkat (29) and Yendrapalli Suri Babu (32), both natives of Andhra Pradesh's Alluri Sitarama Raju district, were intercepted near the Erragadda bus stop while allegedly attempting to board a bus to Bengaluru with the contraband. Police also seized two mobile phones. According to investigators, the duo procured the hash oil from associates who sourced it from Odisha and transported it to Hyderabad by train for onward delivery to a drug peddler in Bengaluru. Police said Yakobu is a repeat offender with a previous ganja transportation case registered in 2016 and is also an absconding accused in an NDPS case registered at Borabanda Police Station in September 2025. Investigators suspect the duo had supplied hash oil to Bengaluru on multiple occasions during 2025 and 2026. A case has been registered under the relevant provisions of the NDPS Act, and efforts are underway to trace other members of the inter-state drug syndicate involved in the supply chain.

Albendazole tablets distribution launched for 96.81 lakh children across Telangana

HYDERABAD
Minister for Health Damodar Rajanarasimha on Monday launched the statewide distribution of Albendazole tablets to prevent intestinal worm infections among children. The programme was inaugurated at the Raj Bhavan Government High School in Hyderabad, where the Minister personally administered the tablets to students. Addressing the gathering, the Minister appealed to parents to ensure that every child between 1 and 19 years of age receives the Albendazole tablet. He said intestinal worm infections can lead to anaemia, malnutrition, stunted growth and weight loss in children, adversely affecting their health and academic performance. The Minister noted that even when worm infections are not visibly apparent, they can significantly impact a

DGP C.V. Anand Chairs Young India Police School (YIPS) Society Committee Meeting

- **DGP expresses serious displeasure over delay in construction works**
- **Negligence and delay in execution will not be tolerated: DGP**
- **Directs officials to complete all pending works on stipulated time**
- **Calls for Young India Police School (YIPS) into a model institution of national excellence**
- **Constitute new committees to strengthen YIPS governance**



rected the concerned officials and representatives of the executing agency to complete all pending works within the stipulated time-lines, while ensuring the highest standards of quality through continuous monitoring. The DGP reiterated that the vision of the Young India Police School is to emerge as one of the world class educational institutions in the country by providing value-based, technology-enabled and globally benchmarked education. He stressed that the institution should focus on nurturing disciplined, responsible and socially conscious students equipped with leadership qualities, creativity and strong ethical values. During the meeting, the Society reviewed the progress made by the school as it enters its second academic year. Officials informed that student strength has increased from 345 students during the 2025-26 academic year to 360 students in 2026-27. While classes from Grade I to Grade V were offered during the previous academic year, Grade VI has been introduced from the current academic year. The committee was informed that the school currently (academic year 2026-27) offers education from Nursery to Grade VI. Of the

360 students enrolled, 184 are children of police personnel and 176 are from non-police families, reflecting the growing confidence of the public in the quality of education being imparted by the institution. Officials also presented the design and development plan of the new Academic Block comprising 17 classrooms, which forms a key component of the school's expansion plan. Emphasising holistic development, the DGP directed that equal importance be given to academics, sports, character building and life skills. He stressed the need to provide modern infrastructure, a safe and secure learning environment and contemporary teaching practices. He observed that encouraging sports among students would promote physical fitness, mental resilience, discipline and help keep children away from social evils, including drug abuse. The DGP further stated that parents have placed immense trust in the institution by entrusting their children to the school and emphasised that every member of the institution has a collective responsibility to uphold that trust by ensuring the highest standards of safety, education and student welfare. To further strengthen institutional governance, the So-

ciety constituted new operational framework of the Procurement Committee, Academic Committee, Infrastructure Committee and Coordination Committee. These committees will oversee key functional areas and ensure effective planning, execution and monitoring of academic, administrative and infrastructure-related activities. The School Principal and faculty made a detailed presentation on admissions, academic programmes, teaching methodologies, infrastructure and future development plans. DGP directed officials to accelerate the construction of the new Academic Block and maintain excellence in every aspect of the institution. The meeting was attended by DG (Law & Order) Sri Mahesh Bhagwat, IPS; DG (Greyhounds & OCTOPUS) Dr. Anil Kumar, IPS; Commissioner of Police, Cyberabad, Sri Ramesh Reddy, IPS; IG (Provisioning & Logistics) Sri Gajarao Bhupal, IPS; Financial Advisor Sri Sharath Kumar; AIG (Law & Order) Sri Ramana Kumar; Young India Police School Principal Ms. Anita Reddy; CSR Coordinator Ms. Deepti; GM Rajesh; Vishal; Satish; Sakshi; members of the Society; and other senior officers.



Rich History of the Planet Earth can be Explained by the Silent Rocks

KARIMNAGAR

Lifeless silent rocks explain the rich history of Mother Earth in detail, and the study of rocks reveals the journey of humanity from the Stone Age to today's digital age, as well as the wealth of cultural heritage, said renowned writer, columnist, retired Principal Lion: Dr. Captain: Burra Madhusudhan Reddy. Speaking as the chief guest at a special program organized by the Satavahana Lions Club at the Archaeological Museum in the heart of Karimnagar on the occasion of International Rock Day or

International Rock Day, he said that in the Stone Age, man lived by using rocks or stones as weapons and tools. He reminded that the Metal Age came after that. He said that evidence of past human history can be found with the scientific study of rocks and the age of rocks can be determined based on carbon dating. He expressed his concern that today, hills and mountains are melting due to the granite trade. He warned that granite industries are posing a threat to the environment and public health. Speaking at the meeting, Karimnagar Archaeological

Museum AD N. Sagar said that the Archaeological Museum has preserved rocks that are millions of years old, and it has priceless archaeological treasures like metal tools used by early humans, clay pots, and ceramic objects. On this occasion, Satavahana Lions Club President Lion Marripelli Mahender, Secretary Narla Venugopal, Treasurer Lion Mukuru Praveen Kumar, Senior Lion K Rajender Reddy, Lion Pachunuri Surender, and museum staff participated. AD N Sagar was felicitated by the club members in this program.

Karnan urges coordination among BLOs, political parties for SIR-2026

HYDERABAD

District Election Officer & GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan on Monday chaired the weekly review meeting with representatives of recognised political parties to review the progress of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR)-2026. The DEO briefed the representatives on the status of house-to-house enumeration, collection and digitization of Enumeration Forms, and emphasized the importance of close coordination among Booth Level Officers (BLOs), Booth Level Agents (BLAs), and political parties to ensure that every eligible elector is covered. During the meeting, the representatives raised issues relating to voter awareness, availability of BLOs, collection of Enumeration Forms, and digitization centres.

High-Level Legal Inquiry Sought into Adilabad Mega Industrial Park Land Acquisition

- **Government urged to act immediately to prevent misuse of public funds**

- **Legislative Council Opposition Leader Madhusudanachari, former Minister Jogu Ramanna, and Adilabad District BRS President Nadipelli Vijay Rao submit a representation to the Chief Secretary**

HYDERABAD

Legislative Council Opposition Leader Madhusudanachari, former Minister Jogu Ramanna, and Adilabad District BRS President Nadipelli Vijay Rao have demanded that the government order a high-level investigation into the serious legal, financial, and ownership disputes surrounding the land acquisition process for the proposed Mega Industrial Park in Adilabad district. On Monday, they met the Chief Secretary at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat in Hyderabad and submitted a detailed representation along with supporting documents and evidence. Speaking on the occasion, former Minister Jogu Ramanna said they fully support the establishment of the prestigious Mega Industrial Park proposed by the government in Hathighat, Guda, Rampur, and Gimma villages of Adila-



bad district. He stated that the project would significantly contribute to industrial development, attract investments, and generate employment opportunities in the backward district of Adilabad. However, he said that substantial legal and financial complications related to the lands proposed for acquisition have come to light based on evidence submitted by local farmers and affected persons. According to official records and the Bhu Bharati land portal, approximately 1,228.66 acres of land were purchased between 2006 and 2012 by GS Biotech Limited/Private Limited. Subsequently, these lands were mortgaged to several public sector banks—including SBM Bank, UCO Bank, the then State Bank of Hyderabad (now State Bank of India), and Canara Bank—to secure corporate loans. As the company allegedly failed to repay the loans, the matter came under the jurisdic-

tion of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). As part of the liquidation proceedings, records indicate that a Bengaluru-based firm, X-Factor Kamal Traders, acquired certain assets through an e-auction. Jogu Ramanna alleged that despite the lands being under the jurisdiction of the NCLT and subject to the primary rights of the lending banks, there are serious allegations that certain individuals or entities are attempting to illegally sell or transfer these mortgaged lands to third parties in violation of legal provisions. He warned that if the government proceeds with land acquisition and pays compensation without conducting a comprehensive revenue and legal verification, it could lead to serious consequences. Paying compensation before determining the rightful owners could result in irreparable losses to the state exchequer. Furthermore, banks

and NCLT-appointed liquidators may approach the courts, potentially dragging the project into prolonged legal disputes. He also expressed concern that genuine local farmers could ultimately suffer because of these corporate transactions. In this context, he demanded that the government immediately constitute a high-level inter-departmental committee comprising officials from the Revenue Department, the Stamps and Registration Department, legal experts, and banking authorities to examine all relevant records on a war footing. He also called for a comprehensive legal and banking audit of all sale deeds, mortgage documents, and ownership records relating to the disputed lands. Further, he urged the government to initiate strict legal action against anyone who attempted to illegally sell or transfer mortgaged lands in violation of the law. Jogu Ramanna clarified that their sole objective is to ensure that this prestigious Mega Industrial Park is implemented with complete transparency and without any scope for corruption or irregularities. He said they requested the Chief Secretary to treat the matter as one of utmost priority and intervene immediately to take appropriate action. He also stated that they submitted all relevant evidence to the Chief Secretary, including registered sale deeds, mortgage documents, and copies of land records from the Bhu Bharati portal.

GITAM Encourages Students to Participate in MSME Idea Hackathon 6.0

HYDERABAD

Students at the JayaMukhi Institute of Technical and Science (JITS) in Kukatpally, under JNTUH, say they are facing serious educational delays and are seeking urgent intervention from university authorities. According to student leaders and activists, the college administration has failed to conduct all scheduled exams on time and has shown significant delays in releasing exam results. The hold-ups are reportedly affecting students' opportunities for higher education, jobs, scholarships, and competitive exams. To address the issue, a del-



egation met with the JNTUH Registrar, Professor Damerodharam, and submitted a memorandum, asking for immediate intervention to ensure fair treatment for the students. Student demands include that all pending exams be conducted immediately and all pending results released with-

out delay, and that a thorough inquiry into the administration's negligence be conducted with strict action taken against responsible officials. The students also urged prompt steps to safeguard their futures. The meeting was attended by JNTU JAC chairman Botla Bikshapati, President

Pragident Balgar, and leaders from the Madiga Student Federation, along with representatives from various student groups and JayaMukhi Institute students. The students hope the university will act quickly to rectify the situation and ensure a fair academic environment.



Quality roads key to industry, jobs: Komatireddy

HYDERABAD

Minister for Roads and Buildings Komatireddy Venkat Reddy stated that quality roads are essential for attracting industries, promoting businesses, and generating employment opportunities. Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, along with Tourism and Excise Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, and Animal Husbandry Minister Vakiti Srihari, laid the foundation stone for Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) road projects worth ₹531 crore in Makthal Assembly constituency of Narayanpet district on Monday. As part of the HAM projects, the Ministers jointly laid the foundation stone for the ₹237-crore four-lane Makthal-Narayanpet HAM road project. MLAs Yennam Srinivas Reddy and Veerlapalli Shankar, District Collector Priyanka, elected representatives, officials, Congress leaders, and party workers in large numbers attended the event. Addressing the gathering, Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy said the government had launched HAM road projects worth ₹531 crore in Makthal constituency. He appreciated Minister Vakiti Srihari for consistently raising the demand for the Mak-

thal-Narayanpet road in every review meeting and making sustained efforts to secure approval for the project. The Minister said the four-lane Makthal-Narayanpet road would be completed within 12 to 16 months, reducing travel time to Narayanpet to just 20 minutes. He appealed to the people to cooperate with the road expansion works, assuring that the government would provide fair compensation to those whose lands are acquired. Despite inheriting huge debts and pending liabilities from the previous government, the present government is simultaneously pursuing welfare and development, he said. Komatireddy Venkat Reddy said that welfare schemes such as Rythu Bharosa, ration cards, and the distribution of fine rice were being implemented effectively. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Vakiti Srihari said the Makthal-Narayanpet road had been a long-cherished dream of the people and that it was becoming a reality under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. Srihari said the Chief Minister and the Ministers concerned were promptly sanctioning funds for every development project required in Makthal constituency.

RTGS CCTV360: Every Vehicle Thief's Nightmare

AMARAVATI:

A six-month-old infant abducted from a pavement in Chirala was reunited with his mother within 24 hours. A stolen scooter in Guntur led police to crack seven vehicle theft cases with a single real-time alert. In another instance, a long-pending missing woman was traced and reunited with her family after investigators received crucial technological assistance. These are not isolated success stories. They reflect the growing impact of RTGS CCTV360, Andhra Pradesh Government's Artificial Intelligence-enabled surveillance platform that is quietly redefining the way policing is carried out across the State. By integrating thousands of CCTV cameras into a single intelligent monitoring network, the system is enabling faster investigations, improving crime detection, and significantly enhancing public safety.

AI-Powered Policing for a Safer Andhra Pradesh
As part of its vision to build a Safe Andhra Pradesh, the

RTGS CCTV360 surveillance system is proving to be a major deterrent to vehicle thieves
AI-enabled cameras are helping trace stolen vehicles with remarkable speed and accuracy
A single real-time alert in Guntur led to the recovery of seven stolen vehicles
CCTV360 helped crack some other vehicle theft cases in NTR district
System assisted in recovering 81 stolen vehicles within just 4 months
The AI-powered system is significantly simplifying police investigations into vehicle thefts
System also playing a vital role in tracing missing persons

State Government has established one of India's most comprehensive AI-based surveillance ecosystems. More than 14,750 CCTV cameras installed across Andhra Pradesh have been integrated with the Real Time Governance Society (RTGS) through the advanced CCTV360 platform. Unlike conventional surveillance systems that merely record footage, CCTV360 uses Artificial Intelligence to analyse vehicle movements, identify travel patterns, generate instant alerts, and provide actionable intelligence to law enforcement agencies. The result is a shift from reactive policing to proactive, technology-driven policing.

One Alert, Seven Cases Solved
One of the most striking

examples comes from Guntur. A Honda Activa scooter was stolen from the Pattabhipuram Police Station limits. Despite extensive field searches, investigators could not locate the vehicle. The case was then referred to RTGS CCTV360. Using the vehicle registration number, the AI platform scanned the integrated surveillance network and detected the scooter moving through a major junction in Guntur city. Within seconds, a real-time alert was sent to the police. The suspect was intercepted and arrested almost immediately. During interrogation, he confessed to stealing not just the scooter but seven other vehicles. What began as a single theft investigation ultimately led to the detection of multiple crimes, demonstrating the

multiplier effect of AI-assisted policing.

Bringing Hope to Families
The system's value extends well beyond property crimes. Earlier this month, a woman living on the streets in Chirala, Bapatla district, woke up to discover that her six-month-old baby had been abducted while she slept. With RTGS CCTV360 analysing CCTV footage from multiple locations, investigators tracked the suspect's movements and identified his route. The information enabled police to arrest the accused within 24 hours and safely rescue the infant. The emotional reunion between the mother and her child became a powerful reminder that technology, when effectively deployed, can restore hope where despair once

prevailed.

Vehicle Thieves Find It Increasingly Difficult to Escape
RTGS CCTV360 is rapidly becoming a major deterrent for organised vehicle theft. Once a stolen vehicle's registration number is uploaded into the system, Artificial Intelligence continuously monitors its movement across the integrated CCTV network. Whenever the vehicle passes through any connected surveillance point, the system immediately generates a real-time alert to the concerned police officers. This dramatically reduces investigation time, narrows search areas, and increases the chances of recovering stolen vehicles before they disappear into interstate crime networks.

Technology Delivering Measurable Results

The impact of the platform is already visible. During the past four months alone, RTGS CCTV360 has assisted police in: Recovering 80 stolen vehicles. Tracing 73 missing persons. Helping apprehend 52 accused persons involved in various criminal cases. These outcomes underline how Artificial Intelligence is increasingly becoming an indispensable investigative tool rather than merely a surveillance mechanism.

Success across Multiple Districts

The platform has supported investigations across Andhra Pradesh. In Vijayawada, real-time alerts helped police recover a vehicle that was initially reported stolen, later revealing that it had been taken by the complainant's husband following a domestic dispute.

In Nandigama, a stolen motorcycle was traced near Chilakallu using CCTV360 inputs. Police in A.S. Nagar,

Vissannapeta, and Madanapalle have also successfully solved vehicle theft cases with technical assistance from RTGS CCTV360, including

investigations that had remained unresolved for long periods. Each successful case strengthens the confidence of investigators in adopting technology-led policing.

A Valuable Tool in Missing Person Investigations

The platform has also emerged as an important asset in locating missing individuals. Police recently traced a woman who had been missing for an extended period in Mylavaram, enabling her safe reunion with her family. On another occasion, officers successfully located a missing girl registered under S.R. Peta Police Station on the very same day the complaint was received. In Reddigudem, investigators identified the movement of a missing person's vehicle through the CCTV network, helping locate the individual safely. These interventions demonstrate that intelligent surveillance is not only helping solve crimes but also saving lives and reducing the emotional trauma experienced by families.

The Future of Smart Governance

The success of RTGS CCTV360 illustrates how Artificial Intelligence, when combined with robust public infrastructure and responsive policing, can significantly strengthen governance. Beyond crime investigation, the platform has the potential to support traffic management, emergency response, disaster management, and urban security. More importantly, it displays how technology can serve as a force multiplier for frontline policing without replacing the critical role of human investigators. As Andhra Pradesh continues to expand its digital governance ecosystem, RTGS CCTV360 stands out as an example of how intelligent public infrastructure can make communities safer, investigations faster, and governance more responsive. In an era where criminals increasingly exploit technology, Andhra Pradesh is demonstrating that governments can use technology even more effectively—turning thousands of watchful cameras into an intelligent network that never sleeps.

CM to Welcome Godavari Waters on Aug 14

POLAVARAM:

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu today announced that he will welcome Godavari waters through Jalaharathi at Anakapalli on August 14. He said that Polavaram project will be completed by March 2027 and it will be dedicated to nation soon after project receives water. The Chief Minister stated that it's moral responsibility of government to ensure complete justice to Polavaram displaced families and assured liberal rehabilitation of displaced families.

The Chief Minister inspected the progress Polavaram project works today. Later speaking to media persons at the project site, the Chief Minister said once the Polavaram project completes it will provide irrigation facility to 7.2 lakh acres of additional ayacut in addition to stabilisation of 23.5 lakh acres ayacut, providing drinking water facility to 28.5 lakh people and supplying 23.46 tmc of water for industrial use. He said the project will help for 960 mw of power generation

Polavaram project to be completed by March 2027: CM
Chandrababu assures complete justice to Polavaram displaced families
Veligonda Project to be dedicated to nation on September 1: CM

and he advised the officials to study the possibility of hybrid power generation project to generate power through pumped storage also.

The Chief Minister said during previous TDP regime 72 percent of project works completed. Due to negligence of previous government only 2 percent works completed from 2019 to 2024 and now the coalition government is forced to bear additional amount of Rs190 cr on new diaphragm wall. He said after assuming power the coalition government speeded up Polavaram Project works and 89 percent of works completed so far.

The Chief Minister directed officials to ensure that project-displaced families face no hardship in receiving rehabilitation and compensation. He said that compensation amounting to Rs. 2,250

crore has been disbursed to displaced families over the last two years and instructed officials to expedite land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement (R&R) activities.

The Chief Minister also proposed the construction of an Iconic bridge at Polavaram Project along with the development of supporting infrastructure. He said Polavaram should evolve into a model project for the country, serving as a landmark for tourism as well as inland navigation.

The Chief Minister announced that the first phase of the Veligonda Project will be completed and dedicated to the nation on September 1.

Reviewing 36 priority irrigation projects across the State, he said the government plans to invest Rs. 35,313 crore over the next three years for their completion.

YSRCP Stands by Amaravati Farmers

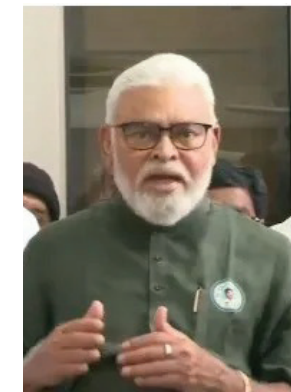
AMARAVATI, JULY 13

YSR Congress Party will stand firmly with every farmer affected by land acquisition in Amaravati and fight for justice in the courts, party leader and former minister Ambati Rambabu said on Monday.

Speaking to the media after a meeting of the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) Farmers Protection Committee, he said the party would challenge every illegal action of the coalition government.

Former Minister Perini Nani, MLC Monditoka Arun, YSRCP coordinators Donthireddy Vemareddy, Diamond Babu and Lella Appi Reddy, members of the party's Legal Cell and Amaravati farmers attended the meeting.

Ambati alleged that the government was forcibly taking away farmers' lands in the name of Amaravati capital development. He said the government deliberately carried out land acquisition on a Friday,



knowing that courts would remain closed over the weekend, and deployed a large police force and bulldozers to destroy standing crops and take possession of fields.

He alleged that officials started work on the land even before completing the mandatory legal procedures. He also accused the government and sections of the media of falsely portraying YSRCP as being against Amaravati whenever the party questioned these actions.

Ambati alleged that there were serious viola-

tions in the land pooling process and accused the government of organised corruption. According to him, ordinary farmers were allotted plots in low-value areas, while leaders close to the TDP received plots in prime locations. He claimed that officials had become brokers, helping acquire land for the benefit of TDP leaders. He also questioned why farmers in Undavalli were being offered only Rs 2.47 crore per acre when the market value was around Rs 7 crore.

Ambati said YSRCP would continue to fight for every affected farmer and provide full legal support. He said the party's Legal Cell was ready to approach the Supreme Court if required. He asserted that the party would not remain silent in the face of what it described as government excesses and would continue its legal and democratic struggle until justice was delivered to Amaravati farmers.



Odisha govt directs revenue officers to fast-track Jagannath Temple land cases

BHUBANESWAR, JULY 14

The Odisha Government has accorded top priority to the protection, preservation and effective management of the landed properties of Lord Shree Jagannatha Mahaprabhu, directing revenue authorities across the state to expedite the disposal of revenue cases relating to the deity's properties and other allied matters. Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue & Disaster Management Department, Arabinda Kumar Padhee, on Monday wrote to the Board of Revenue, all Revenue Divisional Commissioners (RDCs), District Collectors and the Director of Land Records & Survey (DLRS), directing them to take immediate and time-bound action on all matters relating to the temple's land. The revenue department stated that it had been brought to the notice of the government that several issues relating to the recording, protection and management of the lands belonging to Lord Shree Jagannatha Mahaprabhu, Bije Puri, require urgent attention, and that it was considered imperative that the district administration intervene promptly to safeguard the properties of Mahaprabhu Shree Jagannatha and ensure their proper

protection in accordance with law. He directed all revenue officers to act strictly in accordance with the law, government instructions and court orders communicated by the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA). The Revenue Department has asked officials to expedite the disposal of 11,675 miscellaneous revenue cases filed by the SJTA before various Tahasils in Khordha, Puri, Jagatsinghpur, Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Ganjam, Cuttack and Kendrapara districts, in compliance with the directions of the Board of Revenue, Odisha, Kataka, communicated vide Letter No. 1958 dated October 27, 2022. The Department has also directed immediate implementation of the Board of Revenue's orders in 257 cases filed under Section 7(A) of the Odisha Estates Abolition Act, copies of which have already been communicated to the respective Tahasildars. Officials have also been directed to examine historical Records of Rights, particularly the 1927-28 RoR, for correction of Khewat entries wherever warranted, keeping in view that the vesting notification dated March 18, 1974 under the Odisha Estates Abolition Act has been set aside by the Supreme Court.

HC Cites Scale of Terror, Upholds Death for 38 IM Operatives



AHMEDABAD: (JUL 13)

The Gujarat High Court, while upholding the death sentence of 38 operatives of the terror outfit Indian Mujahideen (IM) in the 2008 Ahmedabad se-

rial blasts, cited the large number of casualties, the "humongous" conspiracy and the intention to spread widespread terror as key reasons for affirming the punishment.

A division bench of jus-

tices A Y Kogje and Samir Dave, in its July 7 judgment -- a copy of which was made available on Monday -- also upheld life imprisonment given to 11 other convicts, holding that their roles in

terror training camps in Gu-

jarat and Kerala, and logistical support to the conspiracy had been proved.

On July 26, 2008, a series of 21 bomb blasts ripped through different areas of Ahmedabad in a span of 70 minutes, killing 56 people

and leaving more than 200 others injured. Explosions also occurred at hospitals where victims were being taken for treatment, marking the first such targeting of medical facilities in a terror attack in India.

Saroja Devi is a beautiful, Talented actress

(Actress “B. Saroja Devi”, first Death Anniversary on 14th July)

On 07 January 1938, a girl named Saroja Devi was born in Bangalore to couple Rudramma - Bairappa. Her father, Bairappa, who was a police officer, was passionate about drama. He acted in various roles in his plays. Even as a child, he would act with Saroja Devi and go crazy. “Abhinava Saraswati” Saroja Devi, who shone as an actress on the South Indian film screen, would make the audience go crazy after seeing her performance. Our Saroja Devi acted in Telugu, Kannada, Tamil and Hindi language films. Saroja Devi was a beautiful woman, excellent in acting, an actress who spoke clearly in many languages, and a serious and charming actress in the best historical films, combining facial expressions and gestures, beauty with acting, and left her own indelible mark on

the silver screen.

Multilingual Popular Actress:

Although Saroja Devi, who completed her schooling, preferred a teaching career, she made her film debut in 1955 with the Kannada film 'Mahakavi Kalidasa' at the initiative of producer 'Kannappa Bhagavathar', who saw her act in a play at the age of 13. As film opportunities increased, she moved to Madras and acted in Telugu, Tamil and Hindi films. The northern audience, who saw Saroja Devi's Hindi film 'Sasural', described her as the "Beauty of Madras". She acted in more than 200 films during her lifetime and impressed even the critics with her acting talent. Although her first Telugu film was 'Pelli Sandadi', 'Panduranga Mahatmyam' became the first Telugu film to be released. She

impressed everyone by acting opposite top actors of the time like Dilip Kumar, Sunil Dutt, Rajendra Kumar in Hindi, MGR, Sivaji Ganesan, Gemini Ganesan in Tamil, and NTR in Telugu. Our Saroja Devi acted in 30 successful films with MGR alone and 25 with Sivaji Ganesan.

Saroja Devi's Family and Film Career:

Before the Telugu audience could recover from the death of famous multilingual actor Kota Srinivasa Rao, another multilingual actress has breathed her last at the age of 87, which is disturbing the minds of film fans. The former beauty queen B Saroja Devi, who captivated the audience with her acting and acting skills and created magic, passed away at her residence in Bangalore due to age-related illnesses. Saroja Devi

acted in 100 films at the age of 19 and 161 films at the age of 23, proving her unparalleled talent in the film industry for seven decades. Saroja Devi, who is married to Sriharsha, has two daughters, Bhuvaneshwari and Indira Parameswari, and a son, Gautham Ramachandra.

Padma Bhushan Award Recipient:

B Saroja Devi has acted in many social, historical and mythological Telugu films, including Bhukailas, Jagadeka Veeruni Katha, Sri Krishnarjuna Yuddha, Sri Sitaramakalyanam, Darudu Moothulu, Atma Balam, Amarashilpi Jakkanna, Pandanti Kapuram, Vijayam Manade, Shakuntala, Dana Veera Sura Karna, Nireekshan, Yamadharma Raju, Alludu Diddina Kapuram, Samrat Ashoka, and many others that have been well-re-

ceived by the audience. Saroja Devi's acting has won the hearts of the entire country. As a testament to her acting, the Government of India has awarded her the prestigious 'Padma Shri (1967)', 'Padma Bhushan (1992)', Dr. Rajkumar Lifetime Achievement Award (2001) and the NTR Award (2009). Saroja Devi, who played a leading role in film associations, is also known for undertaking several charitable programs. In her seven-decade film career, she distinguished herself as a gossip-free, fearless and fearless Maha Nata Rani. Saroja Devi, who possessed special qualities like cooking, talking funny, adapting her acting to suit the times, and participating in TV shows, left a memorable mark on the Telugu film screen and look her last breath on 14 July 2025.

K'taka SIR: 94.23 pc Enumeration Forms distributed, 30.61 pc digitised

BENGALURU, JULY 13

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Karnataka has gathered pace, with 94.23 per cent of Enumeration Forms (EFs) distributed to voters and 30.61 per cent digitised, according to a statement released by the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Karnataka, on Monday. As part of the ongoing revision exercise, Enumeration Forms are being printed and distributed by Booth Level Officers (BLOs). The house-to-house enumeration and digitisation process is being carried out from June 30 to July 29, 2026. According to the latest data, a total of 52,233,954 Enumeration Forms, accounting for 94.23 per cent of the electorate, have been distributed across the state. As many as 40,289

polling stations (68.23 per cent) have achieved 100 per cent distribution of forms, while 9,652 polling stations (16.35 per cent) have crossed the 90 per cent distribution mark. The CEO's office said that 16,965,864 Enumeration Forms, or 30.61 per cent, have been digitised so far. Sixteen polling stations have completed 100 per cent digitisation, while 943 polling stations have achieved over 90 per cent digitisation. A total of 230,712 Enumeration Forms (0.42 per cent) have been submitted online by electors. During the verification process, 937,532 electors have been marked as ASDDO (Absent, Shifted, Deceased and Others). The exercise has also identified 105,766 untraceable or absent electors, 530,184 permanently shifted electors, 253,342 deceased electors, 45,260 vot-

ers who are already enrolled elsewhere, and 2,980 cases under the 'Others' category. The Special Intensive Revision is aimed at updating and verifying the electoral rolls to ensure greater accuracy ahead of future elections. House-to-house verification and digitisation of Enumeration Forms will continue until July 29. The BJP has alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Karnataka, claiming that the Congress government is influencing the exercise to manipulate voter lists. The party has raised concerns over the alleged enrolment of illegal immigrants and fake voters, questioned the role of Booth Level Officers (BLOs), and demanded a transparent and impartial verification process under the Election Commission's supervision.



EDITORIAL

A Dangerous Regression in Nagaland

The shadow of violence has lengthened over Nagaland once again. The recent improvised explosive device (IED) attack targeting an Assam Rifles convoy near the Sukhovi area of Chumoukedima district—which claimed the life of one jawan and left four others wounded—signals a chilling regression for a region that has clawed its way toward a fragile peace over the last decade. Beyond the immediate tragedy of a soldier lost in the line of duty, this targeted detonation shatters the hard-won tranquility of the state and serves as a stark warning: the embers of separatist insurgency are far from extinguished.

For years, the narrative surrounding India's Northeast, particularly Nagaland, has focused on reconciliation, political dialogues, and the gradual economic integration of the region. Decades of low-level conflict and heavy militarization seemed to be giving way to sustainable peace, anchored by long-standing ceasefire agreements and ongoing negotiations between the central government and various Naga political groups. However, this latest IED blast shatters any premature complacency. The use of an IED represents a calculated escalation. It is not a spontaneous clash of factions; it is a premeditated, asymmetric tactic designed to maximize casualties, project lethal capability, and undermine the authority of the state.

The timing of this resurgence is deeply troubling. The wider north-eastern region is already navigating acute geopolitical and internal anxieties, aggravated by prolonged ethnic volatility in neighboring states and a highly unstable border ecosystem with Myanmar, which historically provides sanctuary to disgruntled separatist factions. When extremist elements within Nagaland resort to high-grade explosives to target security forces, they are deliberately attempting to derail the peace process. By introducing blood and fire back into the public square, these fringe groups seek to re-legitimize violence as a political tool, terrorize local populations, and force a heavy-handed state response that they can subsequently exploit for recruitment.

Responsibility now lies heavily on both the state administration and New Delhi. The immediate temptation will be to respond with an overwhelming, blunt deployment of security measures. While strict area domination and a thorough investigation to bring the perpetrators to justice are absolutely non-negotiable, the security apparatus must tread carefully. History has repeatedly shown that indiscriminate crackdowns can alienate local communities, creating a grievances cycle that feeds the very insurgency the state seeks to destroy. Intelligence-led, surgically precise operations are the need of the hour.

Concurrently, this tragedy must catalyze an urgent review of the political deadlock. Peace talks cannot be allowed to drift indefinitely in a vacuum of bureaucratic inertia. Delays in finalizing a comprehensive, inclusive political settlement create a breeding ground for radical splinter groups to weaponize public disillusionment. The mainstream Naga civil society, which has consistently and courageously championed peace, must be empowered to isolate these violent elements.

The blast near Sukhovi is a grim reminder that peace is not merely the absence of active gunfire; it requires constant cultivation, political will, and vigilance. India cannot afford a relapse into the dark days of secessionist bloodshed in Nagaland. The sacrifice of the fallen Assam Rifles jawan must be honored not just through grief, but through an unwavering, sophisticated resolve to neutralize terror while aggressively securing a just and permanent political peace.



LOVE LETTERS OF MINE ON FLORAL PETALS: WHERE EVERY FLOWER CARRIES A HEARTBEAT

A Review of Love Letters of Mine on Floral Petals

Author : Yakkaluri Sreeramulu
Translated into English by: D. Syamala
Genre: Poetry | Pages: 456

There are books that merely speak of love, and there are books that become the fragrance of love itself. Love Letters of Mine on Floral Petals belongs to the latter. Across its 456 pages, Yakkaluri Sreeramulu transforms love into an enduring celebration of humanity, nature, memory, hope, and companionship. This is not simply a poetry collection it is a

At the heart of this anthology lies the tender emotional world of a fiancé and a fiancée. The poet delicately explores anticipation, longing, silence, separation, dreams, trust, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment. His poems remind us that genuine love is not measured by distance or time but by the invisible bond that unites two hearts beyond words.

One of the anthology's greatest strengths is its luminous imagery. Moonlight becomes a blessing, raindrops become messages of longing, flowers become love letters, butterflies become dreams, rivers become memories, and stars become silent witnesses to eternal promises. Nature does not merely decorate the poems it breathes within them. Every image carries emotional resonance, transforming ordinary experiences into unforgettable poetry.

Yet this collection reaches far beyond romance. It embraces childhood, motherhood, agriculture, water conservation, nature, compassion, and the dignity of human existence. Throughout the anthology, Sreeramulu presents love as the life-giving force that sustains not only two individuals but the entire universe. His poetry speaks equally to the heart and to the conscience.

The English translation by D. Syamala deserves heartfelt appreciation. She has translated not only the language but also the emotional fragrance, poetic cadence, and cultural soul of the original Telugu text. Her graceful rendering enables readers beyond the Telugu-speaking world to experience the beauty, warmth, and philosophical depth of Sreeramulu's poetic vision.

Born on 20 April 1953 in Dharmavaram, Anantapur District, into a traditional Kummari family, Yakkaluri Sreeramulu has lived a life shaped by simplicity, discipline, and unwavering dedication to literature. He served in the Khadi

and Village Industries organisation at Anantapur under the Mumbai administration while nurturing an extraordinary literary career. He has authored nearly forty works of fiction, besides his poetry, and served as a literary editor for various newspapers, encouraging generations of aspiring writers.

His literary excellence has been recognised with numerous prestigious honours, including the Ranjani Kundurthi Atyuttama Puraskaram, the Guntur Shendhra Sharma Kavita Puraskaram, SriSri Sahityanidhi Puraskaram, and many other awards that testify to his enduring contribution to Telugu literature.

The volume is lovingly dedicated to the three greatest inspirations in his life his beloved parents, Yakkaluri Ramannamma and Yakkaluri Balaiah, and his devoted wife, Yakkaluri Ramalakshmi. This touching dedication reveals that gratitude is the deepest root from which his poetry blossoms.

Who is Yakkaluri Sreeramulu?

He is not confined by any single ideology; his enduring commitment is to humanity. He breathed life into literary and social movements through the power of his pen. He chose conviction over comfort and integrity over recognition. He bows before truth, never before prejudice. He questions with courage and writes with compassion. He is a poet, novelist, essayist, dramatist, editor, and above all, a deeply humane literary craftsman.

He is a companion of smiles, a seeker of truth, and a lifelong pilgrim in search of beauty. He journeys through the infinite landscapes of imagination while remaining firmly rooted in the soil of ordinary people. His mind is youthful, his vision expansive, and his literary journey tireless. He writes not to impress the world but to awaken the human heart.

That is Yakkaluri Sreeramulu.

Love Letters of Mine on Floral Petals is not merely a collection of poems; it is a celebration of love as the eternal language of humanity. Every poem blooms like a flower, every metaphor breathes with tenderness, and every page preserves the fragrance of affection, gratitude, hope, and compassion. Beautifully translated into English by D. Syamala, this anthology stands as a significant contribution to Indian poetry in translation and a worthy addition to contemporary Indian literature. This is not simply a book to be read it is a book to be experienced. Like the lingering fragrance of a flower long after it has fallen, these poems continue to bloom in the reader's heart long after the final page has been turned. Such books do not merely occupy a place on a bookshelf they become cherished companions in one's literary journey.



..: Dr. Peruka Raju ..
National Poet & Literary Critic
7810032847



OPINION

US-IRAN CONFRONTATION: A RENEWED THREAT TO GLOBAL PEACE



As tensions between the United States and Iran escalate once again, the world stands dangerously close to another major conflict with consequences far beyond the battlefield. From energy security and global trade to economic stability and humanitarian concerns, the renewed hostilities highlight the urgent need for restraint, diplomacy, and international cooperation before the crisis spirals into a wider global catastrophe.

security can remain sustainable unless it builds an atmosphere of cooperation, transparency, and mutual confidence with its neighbours and the wider international community. A security doctrine built upon fear and retaliation ultimately undermines its own foundations.

The leadership style of President Donald Trump has added another layer of uncertainty to the crisis. At one moment, he advocates decisive military action; at another, he speaks of negotiations and peace agreements. Such contradictory signals weaken diplomatic credibility and generate instability in international financial and energy markets. Every statement by the leader of a major power has consequences that extend far beyond national borders, influencing investments, trade, energy markets, and the lives of billions. Leadership, therefore, demands patience, consistency, and credibility. History offers an unmistakable lesson: wars have never produced permanent solutions. From

the First and Second World Wars to Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, and Syria, military conflicts have claimed millions of lives, displaced countless people, and created fresh crises. Ultimately, solutions have always emerged through dialogue and diplomacy. If negotiations are inevitable in the end, why should they not begin at the outset? This is the fundamental question confronting humanity today.

India has consistently offered the world a vision rooted in peace, coexistence, and non-violence. The land of Gautama Buddha, Lord Mahavira, and Mahatma Gandhi has taught that true victory lies not in defeating an enemy but in eliminating enmity itself. India's foreign policy continues to draw inspiration from the ideals of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam—the world is one family—and global fraternity. By consistently advocating dialogue, diplomacy, and peaceful resolution of disputes, India has earned respect as a balanced power, a trusted partner, and a credible voice

for peace. In the present crisis, India is uniquely positioned to play a constructive role. It enjoys balanced relations with the United States, Iran, and the Gulf nations. Through the United Nations and other multilateral platforms, India can actively contribute to de-escalation and confidence-building efforts. Simultaneously, it must strengthen its long-term strategies to safeguard energy security, maritime trade, and the safety of millions of Indians living and working abroad.

The need of the hour is not the victory of one nation over another, but the victory of humanity itself. Lasting prosperity and genuine respect cannot be achieved through an arms race. True strength lies not in missiles, bombs, or warships, but in trust, cooperation, and dialogue. War never resolves problems; it merely creates new ones. Non-violence is not a sign of weakness—it is the highest expression of courage, self-discipline, and enlightened statesmanship. The international community must send a clear message that unilateral aggression, strategic arrogance, and the politics of war cannot be accepted. Global institutions, especially the United Nations, must become more effective, impartial, and proactive in preserving peace. If the world fails to restrain the forces of militarism today, future generations will inherit a far more dangerous and unstable world.

Humanity's collective hope is that the United States will exercise its power with wisdom, Iran will embrace restraint and prudence, and both nations will abandon the language of weapons in favour of meaningful dialogue. Peace remains the foundation of sustainable development, dialogue is the only path to enduring solutions, and non-violence continues to be humanity's greatest strength. This is the call of our times, the expectation of humanity, and the indispensable necessity for a peaceful future.



LALIT GARGG
Writer, Journalist,
Columnist

WHY HYDERABAD NEEDS MORE FOOT OVER BRIDGES: A GROWING URBAN NECESSITY

Hyderabad has transformed into a major global IT hub. However, this rapid development has brought a big challenge: traffic management. As the city grows, ensuring the safety of pedestrians while keeping traffic moving has become very important. Here is why Foot Over Bridges (FOBs) are essential for our city.

Rapid Population Growth

Over the last 30 years, Hyderabad's population has tripled, reaching nearly 1.5 crore people. With the expansion of IT corridors like Gachibowli and Madhapur, the number of vehicles on the road has increased by almost 20 times. Even with new flyovers, crossing the road has become a dangerous task for people on foot.

Safety First

Accidents involving pedestrians are common on busy main roads. When pedestrians try to cross busy junctions by jumping over dividers, it is not only dangerous for them but also slows down traffic. FOBs provide a safe, separate path for pedestrians, keeping them away from fast-moving vehicles and reducing the risk of accidents, especially for the elderly, children, and people with disabilities.

The Reality of Risk:

A Lesson from Hallmark Skyrena

While statistics and urban planning reports provide a macro view of the problem, the urgency of this issue becomes undeniable when it hits home. Recently, a female resident of the Hallmark Skyrena complex in Narsingi suffered a severe injury while attempting to cross the main road near her residence. In her attempt to navigate the busy traffic, she suffered a fracture of her tibia and fibula. This was not merely an accident; it was a symptom of a systemic failure to provide safe crossing infrastructure in an area that has seen rapid residential growth.

Why this incident matters:

The Vulnerability of Residents: Hallmark Skyrena and similar high-rise communities in the Narsingi-Puppalguda belt house thousands of families, including many el-



derly residents and children. When these residents have to risk their lives to reach a pharmacy, a grocery store, or a bus stop because there is no safe elevated crossing, the community's quality of life is compromised. The Cost of "Crossing": A tibia-fibula fracture is a significant injury requiring surgery, weeks of immobility, and long-term physiotherapy. For a professional or a homemaker, this is a life-altering event. When the lack of a Foot Over Bridge (FOB) leads to such injuries, it highlights that the current infrastructure is not designed for the people living there.

A Call for Localized Action: This incident should serve as a wake-up call for the local municipal authorities. In high-density residential zones like Narsingi, an FOB is not a "luxury" amenity—it is a basic safety requirement. The incident at Hallmark Skyrena underscores that we cannot wait for more accidents to happen before we prioritize the construction of safe, accessible crossings.

Smoother Traffic Flow

Traffic jams often happen because pedestrians walk across roads in the middle of traffic. Even at signal points, pedestrians crossing unexpectedly slow down vehicles. By moving pedestrians to a bridge above the road, vehicles can move more freely. This helps create a "signal-free" traffic flow, saving time and fuel.

Modern and Inclusive Design

Today's FOBs are not just stairs; they are designed for everyone. Most new bridges

now include lifts and escalators, making them accessible for the elderly and those with disabilities. Additionally, projects like "Skywalks" are connecting metro stations, bus stops, and offices, making the city look more modern and organized.

Challenges and Solutions

Building bridges is only the first step. To make them effective:

Usage: People should be encouraged to use the bridges. Installing high grills on road dividers is necessary to stop people from crossing on the ground level.

Maintenance: Authorities must ensure that lifts and escalators work properly and are kept clean.

Planning: Bridges should be built where they are needed most—near schools, hospitals, and busy metro stations.

A Step Toward a Global City

To become a truly "Global City," Hyderabad must prioritize the safety of its pedestrians just as much as its motorists. FOBs act as the "backbone" of safe urban transport. This unfortunate event at Narsingi is a clear example of why the "Global City" vision must prioritize the safety of the individual pedestrian over the speed of the motor vehicle. If a resident cannot safely cross the road in front of their own home, our infrastructure has failed its most basic purpose. It is time for authorities to fast-track the installation of FOBs in high-density residential pockets like Narsingi to prevent further preventable injuries. As our city continues to expand, building more Foot Over Bridges is not just an engineering project; it is a social responsibility to ensure that every citizen can travel safely and comfortably.



DR. CHITYALA RAVINDER
7798891795



MP takes fresh step towards UCC; panel submits final report, Bill likely in Monsoon Session

BHOPAL, JULY 13

The Madhya Pradesh government on Monday took a significant step towards implementing a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) after a high-level committee submitted its final report to Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, paving the way for the proposed legislation to undergo legal scrutiny before being introduced in the state Assembly. Receiving the three-volume report, Yadav thanked the committee for completing the exercise within the stipulated time.

"I thank the chairperson and all members of the committee for submitting the report within the prescribed timeline," the Chief Minister said in a statement on Monday. The report has been forwarded to the state Law Department. After legal examination, necessary revisions and scrutiny by a committee of senior secretaries, the draft Bill will be placed before the state Cabinet. The government is expected to introduce it during the upcoming Monsoon Session of the Madhya Pradesh Assembly. According to the state government, the report has been compiled in three volumes. The first contains the committee's recommendations after examining international practices and the existing Central and state laws. The second contains the draft Bill, comprising four parts, 404 sections and seven schedules. The third volume contains details of the public consultation process. The committee said it received more than 9.58 lakh responses through district-level meetings, state-level consultations and an online platform. The responses were analysed on the basis of questions, gender and community before the recommendations were finalised.

Kerala forms expert panel to review, restructure KIIFB

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: (Jul 13) The Kerala government has constituted a high-level expert committee to undertake a comprehensive review of the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) and recommend a restructuring roadmap to strengthen its long-term sustainability, governance standards

and capacity to finance the state's infrastructure projects. According to a government order issued on Monday, the five-member panel has been tasked with examining KIIFB's institutional, financial, governance and operational framework and suggesting measures to improve its functioning.

Mizoram CM: Traditional Crafts Kept NE's History Alive

AIZAWL, JULY 13

Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma on Monday said that the history and cultural heritage of the people of the Northeast had been preserved through their traditional attire, handicrafts, and indigenous skills long before they were documented in writing.

He said these traditional practices and artistic expressions continue to serve as living repositories of the region's identity, history and collective memory.

Inaugurating the week-long 'Zo Fair' (Aadhi Bazaar) in Aizawl, the Chief Minister said the products displayed at the fair reflected centuries of inherited craftsmanship and cultural traditions.

He observed that while modern technology has enabled the mass production of many goods, traditional handcrafted products still require painstaking manual work. These crafts, Lalduhoma said, are an integral part of the people's identity and serve as a living record of their history and culture.

He urged artisans to take pride in their skills and not to undervalue or abandon their traditional craftsmanship.



Although these products are made primarily for their own communities, the Chief Minister noted that appreciation and demand from outside are steadily increasing, creating better market opportunities.

He also expressed appreciation to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, TRIFED, and the concerned departments for their efforts in conserving and promoting tribal and forest-based products.

Welcoming participants from outside the state, Lalduhoma invited them to enjoy their stay in Mizoram, interact freely with the local people as members of one family rather than as visitors, and, if possible, explore Aizawl and visit local households to experience the hospitality of the Mizo people.

worth around Rs 20 lakh were recorded in a single day.

He reiterated that achieving the vision of Viksit Mizoram 2047, frequently emphasised by the Chief Minister, requires every village in the state to become self-reliant, and said efforts in that direction have already begun.

TRIFED Regional Manager P.S. Thuingaleng said Mizoram's Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) are among the best-performing in the North Eastern Region.

He, however, pointed out that their products require more attractive packaging, which would significantly improve their marketability. Thuingaleng also thanked the Chief Minister for inaugurating the fair.

The fair features 25 stalls, including 13 stalls from various Northeastern states and 12 stalls from Mizoram. Among them are two Tribal Food Cuisine stalls, while the remaining stalls display handwoven textiles, bamboo products, food items and other natural produce. The fair has been designed to enable direct interaction and trade between producers and buyers without intermediaries. It will remain open throughout the week.

Ex-Cop, Ex-DSO Among Congress Joinees

IMPHAL, 12 JULY 2026

Former Chief Minister and Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) President, Shri Okram Ibobi Singh on Sunday said more political leaders are likely to join the Indian National Congress in the coming days, as 11 prominent leaders from seven Assembly constituencies formally joined the party at a reception programme held at Congress Bhavan. Addressing the gathering, Ibobi said the induction marked the beginning of the Congress' organisational expansion in the state and reflected a growing willingness among leaders to unite against the BJP. Expressing concern over the prolonged crisis in Manipur, Ibobi said the suffering of the people remained unresolved despite the country's ability to address external security threats. He alleged that the hardships faced by the people had been ignored for long and called for political change to restore



peace and normalcy. Highlighting the Congress' legacy, Ibobi said the party played a historic role in India's freedom struggle. He also credited the Congress-led UPA government under former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh for steering the country through a period of significant economic growth.

Referring to one of the new entrants, Ibobi noted that Th. Oxford Singh had earlier worked with former Congress candidate Seram Niken in the Thongju Assembly Constituency with the objective of defeating the BJP. He

said the induction was part of the Congress' efforts to strengthen its organisational base ahead of future political developments.

The programme was attended by Congress Working Committee (CWC) member Gaikhangam, Inner Manipur MP Dr. Angomcha Bimol Akoijam and other senior party leaders.

List of 11 Newly Inducted Leaders:

- Th. Oxford Singh (5-Thongju AC) – Retired District Supply Officer, FCS Department
- Longjam Suranjoy Singh

(6-Keirao AC) – Retired Assistant General Manager, Imphal Urban Co-operative Bank

- Yengkhom Sanjeep Singh (9-Thangmeiband AC) – Retired Assistant Commandant, CRPF
- Laishram Sashibhushan Singh (10-Uripok AC) – Advocate, Manipur High Court

- B. Sarat Sharma (14-Yaiskul AC) – Retired Associate Professor
- Th. Brinda Devi (14-Yaiskul AC) – Retired MPS Officer
- Kh. Devendro Singh (16-Sekmai AC) – Former MLA
- Kh. Gambhir Singh (16-Sekmai AC) – Former Executive Engineer, Power Department
- Md. Nasir Khan (30-Lilong AC) – Former Government School Teacher
- M. Anwar Hussain (30-Lilong AC) – Former BJP Candidate
- Col. Mohd. Sahid Khan (Retd.) (30-Lilong AC) – Retired Army Officer



NFR Records 100% LHB conversion of all Long-Distance Passenger

Trains Running over the Zone

MALIGAON, 13 JULY, 2026

Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has achieved another major milestone in passenger service modernization with the successful conversion of all long-distance passenger trains running over NFR from conventional ICF coaches to modern Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches. With the completion of this conversion, a total of 103 long-distance passenger trains, including 55 train services belonging to NFR and 48 train services belonging to other railway zones are now operating with LHB coaches, making the zone fully LHB compliant for its long-distance train services. This accomplishment marks a significant step in Indian Railways' ongoing efforts to enhance passenger safety, comfort and operational efficiency across the network. The conversion of long-distance trains to LHB coaches has been carried out in a phased manner. During FY 2025-26, six pairs of long-distance train services were upgraded from conventional ICF to modern LHB coaches, while five new pairs of long-distance trains were introduced with LHB rakes. Further, during the current financial year, trains such as the Rani Kamalapati-Agartala-Rani Kamalapati Special Express Train have also been converted to LHBs thereby completing the process of LHB conversions of all long-distance trains. The induction of LHB coaches

brings substantial benefits to passengers travelling on long-distance services. Built with advanced German technology, LHB coaches offer superior crashworthiness through anti-climbing and anti-telescopic features, significantly enhancing passenger safety during unforeseen situations. These coaches are also capable of operating at higher speeds with better ride stability, lower noise and vibration levels, improved suspension and advanced braking systems. In addition, their stainless-steel construction, enhanced fire safety features and reduced maintenance requirements ensure greater reliability while providing passengers with a smoother, quieter and more comfortable travel experience over long duration train journeys. The successful completion of this conversion programme underscores NFR's commitment to adopting modern technologies and delivering world-class passenger services. The transition to a fully LHB based fleet for all NFR owned long-distance trains will not only improve the quality of rail travel for passengers across the Northeast and the rest of the country but also contribute towards more efficient and environmentally sustainable railway operations. NFR remains committed to continuously upgrading its infrastructure and rolling stock in line with the vision of Indian Railways towards more passenger-friendly and efficient transportation system.

Ladki Bahin E-KYC Deadline Missed by 60 Lakh

MUMBAI, JULY 13

The Maharashtra Department of Women and Child Development (WCD) on Monday late evening issued a comprehensive clarification regarding the ongoing E-KYC verification process for the Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana, firmly asserting that no eligible woman will lose her benefits.

The department issued the clarification in response to media reports claiming that the names of over 92 lakh women had been removed from the flagship Ladki Bahin Yojana. The WCD department categorically dismissed these reports as "factually incorrect and baseless".

According to the WCD department, despite a generous six-month window that began in August 2025 and an additional grace period in April 2026 to rectify discrepancies, over 60 lakh applicants failed to complete their mandatory E-KYC verification. Simultaneously, data integration with other government departments has helped filter out ineligible applications. Around 15 lakh applicants were found to have annual incomes exceeding the scheme's prescribed eligibility threshold. Approximately 5 lakh applicants were flagged for having four-wheeler vehicles registered in their names, a disqualifying criterion under the scheme rules, the WCD department said.

"Barring applicants who did not complete the E-KYC process despite repeated opportunities, and those who do not meet the scheme's eligibility



criteria, the Department has taken every precaution to ensure that not a single eligible woman faces injustice," the WCD Department stated.

Addressing concerns from genuine beneficiaries who completed their E-KYC but still experienced a suspension of benefits, the department confirmed that a strict re-verification process is currently underway to resolve these grievances. Additionally, the government clarified its stance on overlapping social welfare schemes. For women who applied to both the Sanjay Gandhi Nirdhar Yojana and the Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana, the department is actively ensuring that they continue to seamlessly receive payouts from at least one of the two schemes.

WCD Minister Aditi Tatkare reassured the public of the state's unwavering commitment to the welfare scheme, emphasising that it will continue without interruption. "With the steadfast support of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis, Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, and Deputy Chief Minister Sunetra Pawar, and with the trust of every beloved sister of Maharashtra, the Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana is moving forward with strength," she said.

Projects Must Be Completed Within the Prescribed Timelines: CM Nayab Singh Saini

CHANDIGARH, JULY 13

Haryana Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that officials must ensure the timely completion of all ongoing government projects within the stipulated deadlines so that people receive their benefits without delay. The Chief Minister was chairing the State PRAGATI Project Review Meeting, during which he reviewed in detail 12 projects worth more than Rs. 75 crore and issued necessary directions to the concerned officials. He directed that the implementation period of any project should not be extended, as delays increase the project cost and impose an additional financial burden on the government. Moreover, such delays prevent citizens from receiving the intended benefits on time. He also directed that solar power systems be installed on the sheds being constructed at the Apple Market, Pinjore, and the International Fruits, Flowers, Vegetables and Horticulture Market at Ganaur to make these mandis

Solar power systems to be installed on mandi sheds: CM Farmers from North India to sell their produce at Ganaur International Mandi Maratha Shaurya Memorial to be constructed at Kala Amb

self-reliant in terms of electricity. The Chief Minister said that three air-conditioned sheds have already been constructed in the mandi. Around 20 per cent of the area will be developed as green space, and plantations will also be undertaken along both sides of the roads. He directed officials to make arrangements for a Ranney well, light and sound systems, and facilities for rainwater harvesting and its effective utilisation. He said that the mandi would emerge as one of the finest and most modern agricultural markets in North India, enabling farmers from Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and other states to market their produce and earn better returns.

Optical Fibre Connectivity to Gram Panchayats in Final Phase

The Chief Minister directed officials to expedite the expansion of BharatNet services to every Gram Panchayat in the state so that high-quality internet connectivity becomes available at the earliest. He said that work to provide optical fibre connectivity to 5,200 Gram Panchayats has reached the final stage, while the remaining nearly 1,000 Gram Panchayats will also be covered soon. Under the scheme, connectivity will be provided to every Gram Panchayat, school, health centre, Anganwadi, e-library and other public institutions.

Seven-Storey 100-Bed Hospital to Come Up in Nuh at a Cost of Rs. 156 Crore

The Chief Minister said that a seven-storey, 100-bed hospital will be constructed in Nuh at an estimated cost of around Rs. 156 crore. Construction of the boundary wall has already commenced, and the project

is expected to be completed within the next two years. He further said that the Rao Tula Ram Shaheed Memorial will be constructed at Nasibpur in Mahendragarh district, for which the architectural drawings are currently being prepared. In addition, the Maratha Shaurya Memorial will be developed over 16 acres of land at Kala Amb in Panipat, and the proposal for the project is under preparation.

Four-Lane Corridor to be Developed up to Pinjore Garden

The Chief Minister said that tenders worth approximately Rs. 152 crore have been floated for the construction of the Apple Market at Pinjore, and work on the project will commence this month. He directed officials to develop a four-lane road up to Pinjore Garden and transform it into an attractive corridor.

He also instructed that the Tikkar Tal road be widened and strengthened. Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that infrastructure including an animal farm, animal sheds and a seed store is being developed at Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Hisar, at a cost of Rs. 153 crore. A Veterinary and Animal Sciences College will also be established there, and the required formalities are being completed. He further said that the construction of the State-Level Museum in Sector-5, Panchkula, being developed at a cost of Rs. 55 crore, is in its final stage. Tenders for artwork and related works will be invited shortly.

Integrated Manufacturing Cluster in Hisar, Global City in Gurugram

The Chief Minister said that infrastructure is being developed

for the Integrated Manufacturing Cluster (IMC) in Hisar at a cost of Rs. 707 crore. The project plan has been finalised, and tenders will be invited shortly. Similarly, work is progressing on the Global City Project in Gurugram at a cost of Rs. 1,003 crore. He directed that the road connecting Global City to Pataudi Road be widened and linked with NH-48 and the Dwarka Expressway. Chief Secretary Sh. Anurag Rastogi, Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister Sh. Arun Gupta, Additional Chief Secretaries Sh. A.K. Singh, Sh. Anurag Agarwal and Sh. Vijayendra Kumar, Commissioner and Secretary Sh. Amit Agrawal, Sh. J. Ganesan, Director General, Information, Public Relations, Language and Culture Department Sh. K.M. Pandurang, along with senior officers of various departments, were present at the meeting.



Security risks cast shadow over China-Myanmar-Bangladesh Economic Corridor

DHAKA

Security concerns remain perhaps the biggest obstacle for the implementation of the proposed China-Myanmar-Bangladesh Economic Corridor (CMBC), despite renewed momentum for the project following Bangladesh Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's visit to China in June.

The corridor was among the key issues discussed during the visit. It envisages a road and rail network linking Kunming in China's Yunnan province with Bangladesh's ports via Myanmar, a report has stated.

Highlighting the security implications, a report in Bangladesh's newspaper 'Daily Sun' said, "The proposed route would pass through Myanmar's conflict-ridden Rakhine State, where fighting has continued since the military takeover in 2021. The Arakan Army now controls or influences much of the territory through which the corridor would run, creating serious



uncertainty for long-term infrastructure projects." "The ongoing Rohingya crisis adds another layer of complexity. Bangladesh continues to host around 1.2 million Rohingyas, and analysts argue that any regional connectivity initiative should not undermine efforts to ensure their safe, voluntary and dignified repatriation," it added.

Citing experts, the report warned that infrastructure passing through conflict zones could inadvertently strength-

en armed groups by creating new sources of revenue or influence, underscoring the need for comprehensive security assessments before any commitments are made.

The initiative revives the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar (BCIM) Economic Corridor, originally proposed in 1999. However, India later exited the project due to concerns over China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Beijing's increasing regional influence, effectively leaving the

corridor without New Delhi's participation. Beyond security, the report said that the corridor has significant geopolitical implications. India remains concerned about projects that could increase China's presence near its sensitive northeastern region and the Siliguri Corridor, while the United States has encouraged Bangladesh to preserve its strategic balance amid deepening economic ties between Dhaka and Washington.

According to the report, the

financial consequences of the proposed corridor also require close scrutiny. Large infrastructure projects entail substantial investment, sustained maintenance and commercially viable operations. It cited economists who argued that any major investment should be assessed against competing national priorities, including port modernisation, export infrastructure, climate resilience, healthcare, education and industrial development.

Analysts reckoned that Bangladesh should evaluate the proposal solely through the lens of its national interests rather than geopolitical competition.

"Lessons from projects such as the China-Laos Railway, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and Sri Lanka's Hambantota Port show that infrastructure alone cannot guarantee economic success. Transparent financing, careful feasibility studies, strong institutions and a competitive domestic economy are equally important," the report noted.

Mortal remains of 15 Indian nationals killed in Vietnam boat accident arrive in India

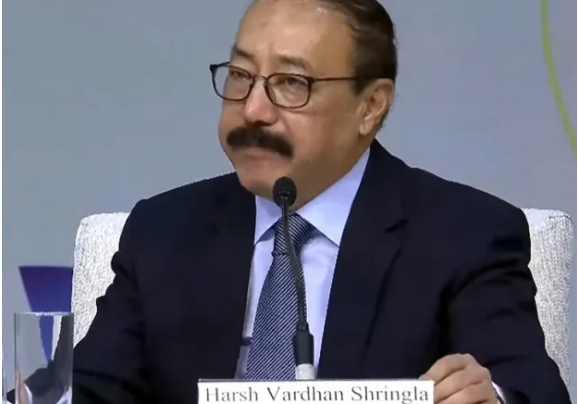
MUMBAI

The flight carrying the mortal remains of the 15 Indian nationals who died in a boat accident near Phu Quoc Island in Vietnam arrived at Mumbai airport on Monday.

"The flight transporting the mortal remains of the Indian nationals who had lost their lives in the tragic boat accident on 11 July in Phu Quoc has just arrived in Mumbai," the Indian Embassy in Vietnam wrote on X. "The Embassy in Hanoi and the Consulate in Ho Chi Minh City will continue to coordinate with respective State Governments to ensure that the mortal remains reach the bereaved families at the earliest. Our prayers are with the families of the deceased," it added.

The state governments of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu will coordinate the transportation of mortal remains to their final destinations within their respective states. Meanwhile, the Indian national undergoing treatment at Phu Quoc after the tragic boat accident successfully underwent a medical procedure on Sunday evening.

India's unique perspective sought after by world: Rajya Sabha MP and former FS



NEW DELHI

Asserting that India has become a country that is much sought after in the international high table, Former Foreign Secretary and Rajya Sabha MP Harsh Vardhan Shringla on Monday said that New Delhi's unique perspective and point of view is now sought after by the world.

"We are today a country that is much sought after in the international high table. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is invited to G7 and BRICS meetings. We are able to bridge the gap between the North and South and East and West. We have good relations with countries in the West and are also the voice of the Global South in many ways. So given that perspective, it is important for India to be a regular

feature in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)," the former diplomat told IANS while speaking about India's bid for an Asia-Pacific non-permanent seat at the UNSC for a two-year term starting in 2028.

He noted that the UNSC is the only organ in the United Nations whose decisions are binding on member states.

"India's presence is very important, and I think it is reflective of our global standing. It is important for us and for our point of view to be articulated through the Council. It also reinforces our claim to be a permanent member of the Security Council, and our membership of the Council also provides us with the opportunity to push the case for a reformed Security Council," Shringla highlighted.

Humankind's Closest Living Relative - Chimpanzee

(On the occasion of "World Chimpanzee Day" on 14 July)

In honour of humankind's closest living relative, World Chimpanzee Day of celebrated annually on 14 July to raise awareness on its protection, habitat preservation, and spreading the importance of this extraordinary species. 65 years ago on July 14, 1960, Dr Jane Goodall arrived in Gombe National Park, Tanzania, to start her research on wild chimpanzees. Jane's mission was to observe chimpanzees and improve our understanding of our closest relative. To mark this historic anniversary, we are celebrating World Chimpanzee Day on 14 July every year. There are an estimated 1,70,000 to 3,00,000 chimpanzees remaining in the world.



Chimpanzee Population Declining:

World Chimpanzee Day serves as a reminder of the urgent need to protect chimpanzees and their habitats. Due to deforestation, illegal hunting, and the devastating effects of the illegal pet trade, poaching, habitat loss, diseases, the chimpanzee populations have been steadily declining in the wild. Hence this day urges to take action and support conservation initiatives that ensure a future for these remarkable beings. Chimpanzees live in groups ranging from 12 to over 150 animals. They eat fruits, leaves, and shoots, they classified as omnivorous because they will also eat insects, eggs, birds, and small mammals. Today the chimpanzee is classified as endangered animal which can live up to 50 years. They are found mostly in Central Africa forests.

Close Relative of Man

Chimpanzees are genetically our closest relatives in the ani-

mal kingdom. We share over 98 percent of our DNA. Although chimpanzees and monkeys are both primates, chimpanzees are not monkeys. Chimpanzees are great apes and, unlike monkeys, do not have tail. Dr Goodall was the first scientist to observed and widely studied on chimpanzees's life system. She had her notebook, her binoculars, and her deep love for animals reshaped chimpanzees

science forever and transform our understanding of what 'being human' truly means. Dr Louis Leakey rightly said "Now we must accept chimpanzees as humans".

Jane also understood that chimpanzees were in need of help. They were facing serious threats then - and in the years since, those threats have only become more severe as human activity accelerates. The illegal and brutal wildlife trade, claims the lives of an estimated 3,000 chimpanzees each year. Goodall studies reveal that this complex and fascinating behaviours of these intelligent creatures, transforming our understanding on chimpanzees and their significance in the natural world. Witness the beauty of nature, immerse yourself in conservation efforts, and be captivated by the undeniable charm of our closest relative, the magnificent, ever charming chimpanzees

- Prof : Madhusudhan Reddy Burra
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Japanese PM Takaichi's India visit reflects continuation of longstanding relationship: Report

NEW DELHI

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's recent visit to India for the 16th India-Japan Annual Summit reflects the continuation of the longstanding relationship. Japan, a report highlighted, remains the second country after Russia with whom India holds annual bilateral summits.

India and Japan established this format in 2006 when the ties were elevated to a 'Strategic and Global Partnership'. India also holds an annual 2+2 ministerial dialogue with Japan, showcasing how close the two nations are to each other. The ties between India and Japan are bipartisan and both nations enjoy strong state-to-state connection and hold goodwill among their peoples. Japan is the most important partner in India's story of economic laterisation in the past 35 years, a report in Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS) detailed.

Takaichi was on a three-day



visit to India from July 1-3, her first to India after assuming office. During the 16th Annual India-Japan Summit at Hyderabad House in New Delhi on July 2, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Takaichi discussed the full spectrum of bilateral ties, including trade and investment, economic security, energy, emerging technologies, defence and people-to-people exchanges. Both leaders also spoke about regional and global develop-

ments of mutual interest.

During the summit, Japan committed to invest USD 62 billion in India over the next 10 years. The two nations also signed agreements in important sectors such as energy resilience, economic security, and artificial intelligence. Both nations also signed a first defence co-development pact, which would be useful for ensuring the security of maritime routes and maintaining a free and open In-

India hands over family tents to Afghanistan to support returnees

NEW DELHI

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Monday announced that India has handed over family tents for Afghan returnees as part of its continued humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan.

"As part of India's continued humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan, India has handed over family tents to the Afghan Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR) to support the shelter and rehabilitation needs of Afghan returnees," the MEA wrote on X. Afghanistan has

been witnessing a large number of returnees, especially from Pakistan, as Islamabad has ramped up measures to repatriate refugees and undocumented migrants.

According to reports, an enforcement drive has begun following the expiry of the July 10 deadline for Afghans without valid visas to leave voluntarily.

The Taliban's Secretariat of the High Commission for Addressing Returnees' Issues said that more than 4,000 Afghans were deported from Pakistan within 24 hours over the weekend, Amu TV reported. Figures obtained from the Hamza Baba transit point in

Landi Kotal showed a significant increase in the number of Afghan refugees returning in recent days. According to officials at the transit point, the number of returnees has exceeded 10,000 daily since Pakistan ordered all Afghan nationals in the country to return to Afghanistan, Pakistan's daily Dawn reported. The spokesperson for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Pakistan, Qaiser Khan Afridi, while speaking to Dawn, expressed concern over the Pakistan government's decision to "forcibly" send back Afghan refugees and asylum seekers.

'Pakistan embroiled in massive, never-ending war within its own borders'

ISLAMABAD

Ranked first in the 2026 Global Terrorism Index, Pakistan remains mired in a massive, never-ending war within its borders. According to the figures released by the Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS) in April, the country witnessed 1,045 incidents and 1,139 deaths in 2025 alone, the highest fatality level in over 10 years. A major reason behind the bloodshed is the resurgence of the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) which accounted for over half of these deaths. The violence is majorly occurring in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan and the root cause of this endless unrest is the dominance of Punjab, a report has highlighted.

Pakistan has four provinces: Sindh, Balochistan, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. However, over the years, critics and local residents have started calling Pakistan as "Punjab-istan" due to the dominance of the province over the rest of Pakistan. The centralised control of Punjab has resulted in other provinces feeling marginalised, a report in Asian News Post stated. For decades, people of Balochistan have claimed that Pakistan annexed their land illegally and have demanded independence, control over their own natural resource and the protection of their distinct culture. Balochistan is the richest province in Pakistan in terms of natural gas, coal, copper, and gold and serves as the central



hub for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). However, Balochistan's contribution to the national GDP is only five per cent.

Local residents have said that foreign investments, particularly Chinese megaprojects, have been planned to grab wealth of Balochistan to serve the country's Punjabi elite. This anger has resulted in formation of militant separatist groups like the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) which boasts around 6,000 fighters along with the Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF), United Baloch Army (UBA) and Baloch Republican Army (BRA), the Asian News Post report mentioned.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has also remained a hotspot, witnessing a sharp rise in violence since Taliban returned to power in Afghanistan. The unrest in the province is largely due to Islamist militancy, spearheaded by the TTP, the Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP), and the Hafiz Gul Bahadur Group. Currently, poverty in Sindh,

which earlier used to be prosperous hub of trade and agriculture, stands at 45 per cent. Sindh is facing a 62 per cent water shortage. A canal project has become a point of difference between the provinces of Pakistan. In 2024, Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari approved the construction of "six strategic canals". However, protests erupted in Sindh after the Cholistan Canal was inaugurated in 2025, fearing the project would divert its essential water to upstream Punjab. The project was ultimately put on hold after the government faced backlash from public.

Pakistan-occupied Gilgit-Baltistan does not have full constitutional status and people of the region lack representation in Pakistan's parliament. Locals face unemployment and prolonged power outages in PoGB as federal government exploits the region's hydropower and mineral resources for national benefit. Frustrated by the situation, massive protests led by local activists have been held in PoGB recently.

Trump says US will take over Hormuz, become its 'guardian angel'

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump on Monday said that the United States would take control of the Strait of Hormuz and could permanently oversee its security after accusing Iran of breaking a military agreement and continuing to send drones into the strategic waterway.

"We're taking over the Strait. They have nothing. They've got nothing," Trump said in an interview with Fox News.

Trump said the US had struck Iranian military assets overnight and would continue to respond forcefully to any new drone activity.

"We hit them very hard last night. Every time they send a drone, we hit them very hard," he said. "Most of their equip-



ment is gone. Their anti-aircraft gun, we hit them very hard last night," Trump added.

The president said Washington and Tehran had reached what he described as a completed agreement before Iran

sought changes after lengthy negotiations.

"But we had a deal. What nobody knows, we had a deal. It was a done deal. And then they broke it," Trump said. He said Iranian negotiators

had held an 11-hour meeting and initially agreed to everything under discussion. But they later called back seeking revisions.

"I said, changes? They got to make changes? We're not going to make changes. Always changes," Trump said. "You know, they're professional negotiators. That's all they are. I don't even call them good at it."

Trump said the United States would now keep control of the Strait and could assume a permanent role in safeguarding the vital shipping passage.

"They always break it. We've had 10 deals with these people, and so we're just going to hit them very hard. And we're going to keep the Strait, and we'll probably run it," he said.

"We'll become the guardian of the Strait. Maybe we'll call

it the guardian angel of the Strait," Trump said.

The president also said other countries benefiting from secure passage through the Strait should reimburse the United States for protecting it.

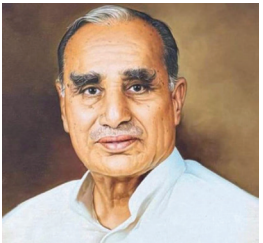
"And we should be reimbursed for that. When we do that, we're going to be reimbursed because the other nations are very wealthy," he said. Trump argued that the United States had guarded the waterway for decades without receiving payment. He said Washington should no longer be expected to shoulder the cost alone. "Now we're going to guard it, and we're going to get paid for guarding it," he said. "It's a lot of money. But we just want to be reimbursed for doing all of this, for putting our people in danger."



Jio Unveils
JioHome TV
Pack Starting at
₹400/Month

Hyderabad, July 13, 2026: Reinforcing its commitment to making digital entertainment more accessible and affordable, Jio has launched the JioHome TV Pack, an all-in-one home entertainment offering that combines over 1,000 Live TV channels, premium OTT apps and high-speed Wi-Fi in a single value-packed plan starting at just ₹400 per month. Designed to simplify home entertainment, the JioHome TV Pack offers access to 1,000+ Live TV channels at an all-inclusive price of ₹400 per month, making it an affordable solution for families seeking a comprehensive television viewing experience.

As part of a limited-period Welcome Offer, customers subscribing to the JioHome TV Pack will receive FREE unlimited Wi-Fi at 30 Mbps and 12 premium OTT subscriptions for the first month at no additional cost, delivering even greater value from day one. The pack is available through a First Recharge (FRC) of ₹2,400 (inclusive of GST), which covers a six-month subscription period, effectively bringing the monthly cost to ₹400. The upfront payment ensures transparent pricing with no hidden charges or recurring surprises. To further lower the entry barrier, Jio is offering ₹0 Installation and ₹0 Security Deposit, enabling customers to enjoy premium home entertainment without any upfront costs. With the JioHome TV Pack, Jio continues to redefine connected home entertainment by bringing together Live TV, high-speed broadband and premium OTT content in one seamless, affordable offering. The launch reflects Jio's continued focus on delivering simple, value-driven digital experiences that cater to the evolving entertainment needs of households across India.



Nand Kishore
Goenka
Passes Away

New Delhi: Shri Nand Kishore Goenka, father of Essel Group and Zee Group Chairman Dr. Subhash Chandra, has passed away. Many prominent personalities from across the country expressed their condolences, remembering the guidance, values, and wisdom he imparted to his family throughout his long and remarkable life of 96 years. Praying for the eternal peace of his departed soul, leaders from various political parties, industrialists, Union Ministers, State Ministers, Members of Parliament, and party presidents conveyed their heartfelt condolences to Dr. Subhash Chandra and the Goenka family. The values he upheld throughout his life, the guidance he provided to his family, and the respect he earned in society will always be remembered. Having faced numerous hardships from an early age, Shri Goenka began his journey with a small business and steadily built it into a successful enterprise spanning multiple industries. Following in his father's footsteps, his son, Dr. Subhash Chandra, entered the media industry. The family is credited with establishing the Zee media empire in India. Over the decades, the Zee Group has expanded its presence across the country, providing employment to thousands in the media sector.



MONEY MATTERS

Sensex falls over 300 points: Why is the stock market falling today?

Indian benchmark indices fell sharply after renewed US-Iran hostilities lifted crude oil concerns. The sell-off reflected worries over India's import bill, inflation and the market impact if Brent climbs above \$90.

Benchmark indices fell sharply in early trade on Monday after renewed military action between the US and Iran sparked concerns that crude oil prices could climb further if the conflict intensifies. Since India imports nearly 85% of its crude oil, any sustained rise in oil prices threatens inflation, corporate profits and economic growth, prompting investors to turn cautious. The BSE Sensex was down 626.40 points, or 0.81%, at 76,942.99, while the NSE Nifty50 slipped 184 points, or 0.76%, to 24,022.90.

WHY DALAL STREET IS WORRIED ABOUT CRUDE

The latest trigger came after Iran said it had once again closed the Strait of Hormuz following fresh



missile and drone attacks involving US forces over the weekend. The Strait of Hormuz is one of the world's most important oil shipping routes. Any disruption raises fears of supply shortages, pushing global crude prices higher. Those fears were immediately reflected in the oil market. Brent crude jumped more than 4% to \$79.12 a barrel, while WTI crude rose over 4% to \$74.33. Although prices remain below the \$90 mark, investors fear the conflict

WHY HIGHER OIL PRICES HURT INDIA

Higher crude prices are a major concern for India because the country relies heavily on imported oil. A sustained increase in crude prices can inflate the country's import bill, push up fuel and transportation costs, increase inflation and squeeze company margins. It can also limit the RBI's room to support

growth through lower interest rates.

These concerns triggered broad-based selling across sectors on Monday. Financials, metals, auto and private banks were among the biggest losers, while India VIX, the market's fear gauge, surged more than 10%, signalling higher investor anxiety.

WHAT COULD DECIDE THE NEXT MOVE?

According to Dr VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Investments Limited, the direction of crude oil prices will determine whether the current weakness deepens. "The back and forth movement in the West Asia crisis has become the new normal. The attempt by Iran to weaponise geography has negative implications for energy importers like India. And, President Trump's totally inconsistent stand vis-a-vis Iran has rendered stability a thing of the past. We don't know how this crisis will pan out."

He believes Brent crude is the most important in-

dicator investors should watch.

"From the market perspective, particularly for India, price of crude is the crucial factor. There is no panic in the oil market like in March. Brent is currently trading around \$79. So long as Brent trades below \$90, the market won't be impacted significantly. But if Brent shoots up above \$90, there can be a significant correction in the market."

Despite the near-term uncertainty, Vijayakumar noted that foreign institutional investors (FIIs) continue to support Indian equities.

"A positive factor that is imparting resilience to the market now is the FII inflows. During the last eight trading days, FIIs were buyers in five days. The weakness in the chip trade in South Korea is turning out to be positive for India. FIIs are reducing the concentration risk in chip stocks and moving money to stabler markets like India. If this trend sustains, the Indian market will continue to remain resilient."

Piyush Goyal dismisses report claiming India is holding back on US trade deal

The rebuttal comes at a sensitive stage in India-US trade negotiations, with both sides racing to bridge differences on tariffs and market access ahead of a proposed bilateral trade agreement.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Monday dismissed a report that said India had rejected a quick trade agreement with the United States and was holding out for a better deal, calling it "completely false, baseless and misleading". In a post on X, quote-tweeting the Reuters report, Goyal said: "This news is completely false, baseless and misleading." "I



had fantastic meetings with USTR Jamieson Greer when he visited Delhi in June. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to an agreement that is balanced, commercially meaningful, and delivers tangible benefits for businesses, farmers, workers, and consumers in both

countries," he said. The minister added that negotiations between the two countries remain active. "Our teams remain fully engaged in achieving this objective," Goyal said. The report had claimed that India had adopted a tougher stance in trade negotiations

with Washington despite the threat of higher US tariffs on its exports. Citing officials and analysts, it said New Delhi had declined to fast-track an interim agreement during US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer's visit to India last month and was prepared to wait for more favourable terms.

According to the report, Indian negotiators were seeking assurances on key issues, including a tariff advantage over competitors and protection from future US levies. It also suggested that India's confidence had been strengthened by improving economic fundamentals, expanding trade ties with countries such as the UK and ongoing nego-

tiations with the European Union.

The report further argued that legal uncertainty surrounding US trade policy and tariff measures had reduced pressure on India to conclude a deal quickly, allowing negotiators to hold firm on sensitive sectors such as agriculture and dairy. Goyal's remarks underscore New Delhi's position that negotiations for a bilateral trade agreement remain on track. India and the United States have been engaged in talks for a trade pact covering issues such as tariffs, market access and sector-specific concerns, with officials from both sides continuing discussions to reach a mutually beneficial agreement.

Delhi HC Proposes Shifting ₹2 Crore+ Property Disputes to Lower Courts

The Delhi High Court has observed that rising property prices in the national capital are creating an unexpected challenge for the judicial system, with even routine property disputes increasingly ending up before the High Court instead of district courts, reported Bar and Bench.

The court noted that many residential properties in Delhi are now valued at more than Rs 2 crore, which is the current pecuniary jurisdiction of civil and district courts. As a result, disputes involving such properties often have to be filed directly before the High Court, increasing both the burden on the court and the cost of litigation for citizens. The High Court has said the issue may warrant a review of the existing limits so that people do not have to approach the High Court for disputes that are essentially local in nature.

WHY DID THE DELHI HIGH COURT MAKE THIS OBSERVATION?

A Division Bench of Justices Anil Kshetarpal and Tejas Karia recently observed that the existing



pecuniary limits no longer reflect the reality of Delhi's property market.

The Bench noted that the sharp increase in real estate prices means that even comparatively modest residential properties are often valued above Rs 2 crore. As a result, disputes involving such properties have to be filed directly before the High Court rather than civil or district courts.

According to the judges, this increases both the cost and inconvenience of litigation for ordinary citizens.

Pecuniary limits refer to the monetary value up to which a court has the authority to hear and decide a case.

In Delhi, civil and district courts can currently hear cases involving claims of up to Rs 2 crore. If the value of the dispute exceeds this amount, the matter generally falls within the jurisdiction of the Delhi High Court. The High Court observed that while these limits may have been appropriate in the past, they no longer match present-day property values in the national capital.

WHY ARE MORE CASES REACHING THE HIGH COURT?

The judges pointed out that property prices in Delhi have risen significantly over the years. As a result, cases involving relief such as possession, partition, declaration, injunction

or specific performance frequently involve properties valued above Rs 2 crore. This means that even neighbourhood property disputes have to be heard by the High Court. The Bench observed that this adds to the burden on the High Court while making litigation more expensive and less convenient for those involved.

PROPOSAL TO RAISE THE LIMIT TO Rs 20 CRORE

The observations came while the High Court was hearing a plea seeking to stop the presentation of a report prepared by a committee of seven judges. The committee was constituted to examine whether the pecuniary jurisdiction of Delhi's district courts should be increased from Rs 2 crore to Rs 20 crore.

The High Court declined to halt the presentation of the report before the Full Court.

CAN THE HIGH COURT CHANGE THE LIMIT?

The Bench clarified that the pecuniary jurisdiction of the Delhi High Court is governed by the Delhi High Court Act, 1966, and any change to these limits can be made only by Parlia-

ment. However, the Court said it is well within its powers to examine issues affecting the administration of justice and make recommendations where necessary.

WHY THE COURT BELIEVES THE ISSUE DESERVES ATTENTION

The judges noted that Delhi has changed dramatically over the past six decades. The city's population has grown many times over, commercial activity has expanded substantially, and Delhi has become one of India's leading commercial centres. At the same time, judicial infrastructure has also improved, with 11 judicial districts now functioning across the capital.

Given these changes, the Bench said it is worth considering whether the existing pecuniary limits continue to serve the objective of delivering justice efficiently and as close to citizens as possible.

The Court, however, made it clear that the final decision rests with Parliament. The committee's role is only to study the issue and place its recommendations before the Full Court for consideration.



From Rs 5,000 late fee to 200% penalty: Income tax mistakes that could cost you big

A small mistake in your income tax compliance can turn into a big financial setback. From late filing fees to steep penalties for under-reporting income, the Income Tax Act prescribes strict consequences for different types of defaults. Are you aware of the most common ones?

Many taxpayers think filing an Income Tax Return (ITR) is the final step in meeting their tax obligations. But that's only part of the process. Missing the filing deadline, reporting incorrect income or failing to follow other tax rules can lead to extra costs. Depending on the nature of the default, taxpayers may have to pay late fees, interest or even hefty penalties. In some cases, the penalty can go up to 200% of the tax payable on the income that was wrongly reported.

LATE ITR FILING CAN ATTRACT A FEE

One of the most common mistakes is filing the ITR after the due date. Under Section 234F of the Income Tax Act, taxpayers may have to pay a late filing fee of up to Rs 5,000. However, there is some relief for small taxpayers. If the total income does not exceed Rs 5 lakh, the late filing fee is capped at Rs 1,000.

UNDER-REPORTING AND MISREPORTING COME WITH STEEPER PENALTIES

The Income Tax Act also deals strictly with incorrect reporting of income. Under Section 270A, if a taxpayer under-reports income, the penalty is equal to 50% of the tax payable on the under-reported amount. The penalty becomes much higher if the tax department

treats it as misreporting. This includes cases such as hiding facts, making false entries or claiming incorrect deductions. In such situations, the penalty can go up to 200% of the tax payable on the misreported income.

SEVERAL OTHER DEFAULTS ALSO ATTRACT PENALTIES

The Income Tax Act also prescribes penalties for a range of other defaults. If a taxpayer fails to pay taxes on time, the Assessing Officer can levy a penalty under Section 221(i), which cannot exceed the amount of tax in arrears. A delay in filing TDS or TCS statements attracts a fee of Rs 200 per day under Section 234E, subject to the amount of TDS or TCS. Businesses and professionals who are required to maintain books of accounts but fail to do so may have to pay a penalty of Rs 25,000 under Section 271A. Similarly, those who are required to get their accounts audited but fail to comply can face a penalty under Section 271B. The penalty is 0.5% of the turnover or gross receipts, subject to a maximum of Rs 1.5 lakh. Timely compliance can help avoid extra costs. According to the Income Tax Department, these fees and penalties apply under different provisions of the Income Tax Act depending on the nature of the default. Apart from penalties, taxpayers may also have to pay the applicable tax and interest wherever required. Filing the ITR within the due date, reporting all sources of income correctly, paying taxes on time and meeting record-keeping or audit requirements can help taxpayers avoid unnecessary notices, additional financial burden and prolonged disputes with the tax department.



June retail inflation climbs to 4.38%, breaches RBI's 4% target after 5 months

The latest reading marks the first time since January 2026 that headline inflation has crossed the RBI's 4% target. Retail inflation had eased to 2.74% in January before gradually rising to 3.21% in February, 3.40% in March, 3.48% in April and 3.93% in May.

India's retail inflation accelerated to 4.38% in June from 3.93% in May, breaching the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) medium-term target of 4% for the first time in five months, according to data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) on Monday. The Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based inflation print remained within the RBI's tolerance band of 2%-6%, but marked a sharp increase from the previous month amid a rise in food prices. Food inflation, measured by the Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI), rose to 5.32% in June from 4.78% in May. Rural food inflation stood at 5.45%, while urban food inflation was recorded at 5.09%. At the headline lev-

el, rural inflation increased to 4.74% in June from 4.25% in May, while urban inflation rose to 3.92% from 3.53%. The latest reading marks the first time since January 2026 that headline inflation has crossed the RBI's 4% target. Retail inflation had eased to 2.74% in January before gradually rising to 3.21% in February, 3.40% in March, 3.48% in April and 3.93% in May. Among major expenditure categories, food and beverages inflation stood at 5.05% in June, transport inflation at 4.31%, education services inflation at 3.34%, and restaurants and accommodation services inflation at 6.91%. Personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services recorded inflation of 16.72%. Housing inflation was recorded at 2.10% in June. The corresponding inflation rates for rural and urban areas were 2.66% and 1.90%, respectively.

Data showed that some food items continued to witness sharp price increases. Ginger inflation surged to 50.41% in June from 32.50% in May, while tomato inflation stood at 31.92%. Raisins and mace recorded inflation of 20.52%.





The World's Longest Railway Journey

A Week-Long Adventure Across Russia's Eight Time Zones

A Railway That Changed Russia Forever

The Trans-Siberian Railway is much more than a famous tourist attraction. It is one of the greatest engineering achievements in modern history and continues to play a vital role in Russia's economy.

Construction officially began in 1891 under Tsar Alexander III. At that time, Russia already occupied an enormous geographical area, stretching across Europe and Asia. However, moving people, military forces, food, and goods across such a vast territory was extremely difficult. Many settlements in Siberia remained isolated for months due to harsh weather conditions and the absence of proper transportation. Recognising the need for a reliable transport network, the Russian government launched one of the most ambitious infrastructure projects ever attempted. Thousands of engineers, labourers, and soldiers worked across forests, rivers, swamps, mountain ranges, and frozen landscapes to lay railway tracks through some of the harshest environments on Earth. The project demanded enormous determination. Workers faced freezing winters, remote locations, difficult terrain, and limited equipment. In many areas, construction materials had to be transported over great distances before work could even begin. After more than two decades of continuous effort, the main railway line was completed in 1916, establishing a direct rail connection between Moscow and Vladivostok. The railway transformed Russia by connecting remote eastern regions with the country's political and economic centres, encouraging settlement, trade, and industrial growth across Siberia.

More than 130 years later, the Trans-Siberian Railway remains one of Russia's busiest transportation corridors, carrying millions of passengers and huge volumes of freight every year.

Longest Continuous Railway Line in the World

The sheer scale of the Trans-Siberian Railway is what makes it truly remarkable. The complete route stretches approximately 9,289 kilometres, or about 5,772 miles, across Russia. Depending on the train service and number of scheduled stops, the full journey usually takes between six and seven days without interruption. Along the way, passengers travel through dozens of regions, cross hundreds of bridges, and stop at more than 80 cities and towns. Few rail journeys anywhere else in the world offer such an ex-

traordinary combination of distance, duration, and geographical diversity. Travellers often describe the experience as less of a train ride and more of a moving expedition across an entire continent.

Connecting Europe and Asia

One of the railway's most fascinating features is that it connects two continents without requiring passengers to change trains. The journey begins in Moscow, one

of the world's largest and most historic cities. As the train travels eastward, it gradually approaches the Ural Mountains, traditionally recognised as the natural boundary separating Europe from Asia. Crossing the Urals is a symbolic milestone for many travellers. In just a matter of hours, passengers officially move from Europe into Asia while remaining comfortably seated inside the same train. Very few railway journeys in the world allow travellers to cross continental boundaries so seamlessly. This unique geographical transition has helped make the Trans-Siberian Railway a dream destination for railway enthusiasts from around the globe.



Eight Time Zones in a Single Journey
Perhaps the most fascinating aspect of the

trip is how passengers experience time itself changing around them. Russia is the largest country in the world by land area and spans 11 time zones. The Trans-Siberian Railway crosses eight of these during its journey from Moscow to Vladivostok. As the train continues eastward, clocks are adjusted repeatedly. Sunrise and sunset occur at different times each day, and travellers gradually adapt to changing local times. Historically, many rail-

way schedules were displayed using Moscow Time regardless of the train's actual location to avoid confusion. Although local time is now commonly used in stations and cities, the experience of repeatedly crossing time zones remains one of the journey's most memorable features. Passengers often joke that the railway allows them to "travel through time" while never leaving their seats.

Changing Landscapes Every Day

One reason the Trans-Siberian Railway continues to captivate travellers is its ever-changing scenery. Unlike shorter train journeys where landscapes often remain similar for hours, the Trans-Siberian route offers something different almost every day. The adventure begins in Moscow, where passengers

is celebrated for an entirely different reason. It invites travellers to slow down and experience one of the world's largest countries through changing landscapes, diverse cultures, and more than a century of railway history. Over six to seven days, passengers witness bustling cities, dense forests,

mountain ranges, vast plains, crystal-clear lakes, and coastal scenery while crossing eight different time zones. For railway enthusiasts, photographers, history lovers, and adventure seekers alike, the Trans-Siberian Railway represents one of the greatest travel experiences ever created.



depart from one of Russia's busiest railway stations surrounded by grand architecture and historic landmarks. Soon after leaving the capital, urban landscapes give way to rolling countryside dotted with villages, farmland, churches, and rivers. As the train moves further east, forests become increasingly dense, eventually leading into Siberia's vast taiga—a seemingly endless wilderness dominated by pine, spruce, and birch trees.

Crossing the Ural Mountains

Although not among the world's tallest mountain ranges, the Urals hold enormous geographical significance because they traditionally divide Europe and Asia.

The railway winds through scenic valleys, forested hills, and rugged terrain before descending into the immense Siberian landscape. For many passengers, crossing this

mountain range marks the beginning of an entirely new chapter of the journey.

Railway announcements and station signs often remind travellers that they have officially entered Asia.

The Endless Beauty of Siberia

Siberia occupies a central place in the Trans-Siberian experience. Often misunderstood as nothing more than a frozen wilderness, Siberia is actually home to extraor-



inary natural beauty. Passengers spend several days travelling through enormous forests, broad rivers, peaceful villages, and open plains that seem to stretch endlessly toward the horizon. The region experiences dramatic seasonal changes. During summer, green forests, colourful wildflowers, and long daylight hours dominate the scenery. In winter, thick blankets of snow transform the landscape into a spectacular white wilderness. The sheer scale of Siberia becomes apparent only when viewed from a train window over several consecutive days. Its vastness offers travellers a rare sense of solitude and perspective.

Lake Baikal: The Jewel of the Journey

For many passengers, the highlight of the Trans-Siberian Railway is the section passing

near Lake Baikal. Recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Lake Baikal is the deepest freshwater lake in the world, reaching depths of more than 1,600 metres. It also contains approximately 20 percent of the world's unfrozen surface freshwater, making it one of Earth's most valuable natural resources. Several sections of the railway closely follow the lake's shoreline, providing breathtaking views of crystal-clear water surrounded by forests and mountains. Depending on the season, passengers may witness sparkling blue waters, frozen ice stretching across the lake, colourful autumn forests, or mist-covered hills. Many travellers choose to interrupt their rail journey here, spending several days exploring nearby villages, hiking trails, and cultural attractions before continuing eastward. Lake Baikal alone makes the Trans-Siberian Railway worth experiencing.

Major Cities Along the Route

Although many people imagine the railway travelling only through remote wilderness, it actually connects numerous important cities. Among the most notable stops are Yekaterinburg, Novosibirsk, Krasnoyarsk, Irkutsk, Ulan-Ude, Khabarovsk, and finally Vladivostok. Each city possesses its own unique history, architecture, cuisine, and cultural traditions. Some travellers choose the complete uninterrupted journey, while others break their trip into several shorter segments to explore different destinations along the way. This flexibility allows visitors to tailor the adventure according to their interests.

Reaching Vladivostok

After nearly a week aboard the train, passengers finally arrive in Vladivostok.

Located on Russia's Pacific coast, the city serves as one of the country's most important ports and naval centres. Modern bridges, coastal scenery, harbours, seafood restaurants, and views overlooking the Sea of Japan create a dramatic contrast with the forests and plains encountered earlier in the journey. For many travellers, reaching Vladivostok represents the successful completion of one of the world's greatest railway adventures. Standing at the final station after travelling almost 9,300 kilometres is a memorable achievement few people ever experience.

Life Onboard the Train

Despite the extraordinary distance covered, life aboard the Trans-Siberian Railway is surprisingly comfortable. Passengers can choose between different classes of accommodation depending on their budget and travel preferences.





Mithali, Rahane, Pathan lead plaudits as cricket fraternity celebrates India's historic win at Lord's

NEW DELHI

India's cricket fraternity rose in unison to celebrate the national team's historic victory in the first-ever women's Test at Lord's with former India captain Ajinkya Rahane, all-rounder Irfan Pathan and women's team captain Mithali Raj leading the tributes after Harmanpreet Kaur's side crushed England by 270 runs in a memorable performance at the Home of Cricket.

Rahane celebrated the achievement on social media, writing, "What a special win! Congratulations to Harmanpreet Kaur and the entire team for making history at Lord's. A performance to remember." (IPL T20)

Former India women's captain Mithali Raj said, "A complete team performance to seal a legendary, historic Test win in England! Two names added to the iconic Lord's honours board in a single game, huge congratulations to @yastikabhatia for her sensational hundred and Kranti Gaud for her clinical five-wicket haul, brilliantly set up by @mandhana_smriti's exceptional composure across both innings."

Off-spinner Sneha Rana excelled with figures of 4-42 as India secured



a solid victory on Monday, bowling England out for 186 while defending a challenging target of 457. Deepthi Sharma contributed with 2-36, breaking down England's lower order in the opening session of the fourth day.

Starting with 130/6, England's slim hopes relied on overnight half-centurion Amy Jones. However, Sneha struck early, dismissing her for 54. Deepthi then took out Issy Wong and Lauren Bell while Sneha finished the match by bowling Sophie Ecclestone, who had earlier made her maiden Test fifty, through the gate.

This decisive win gave India their seventh victory in the last 11 women's Tests and maintained their unbeaten record in red-ball cricket on English soil. Tributes flooded in after this historic victory. Former England captain Michael Vaughan praised India's all-round performance, while National Cricket Academy head VVS Laxman congratulated the team on their important win and highlighted the significance of conquering Lord's.

"A truly special win. Congratulations to the Indian Women's team on a memorable Test victory at Lord's. Your skill, resilience, and fighting

spirit have made the whole nation proud. Keep it up @BCCI," Laxman posted on X. "Fantastic win for India at Lord's in the historic test match. India completely dominated an England team that once again fell far short of where they should be. Two showcase moments for the women's game this past week. I enjoyed watching," Vaughan wrote on X.

BCCI vice-president Rajeev Shukla also praised the team for making history with their strong performance at the famous venue. (IPL T20). "Congratulations to Team India for winning against England @BCCI." India's victory was supported by outstanding performances over all four days. Vice-captain Smriti Mandhana scored 83 and 70; Yastika Bhatia hit a remarkable 113—the first century by a woman in a Test at Lord's—while Richa Ghosh smashed an unbeaten 50 off just 52 balls. Kranti Gaud also made her mark in the record books with the first five-wicket haul in a women's Test at the venue.

Former India cricketer Irfan Pathan posted, "Victory with a touch of class. Well done, Indian Women's team on the test match victory vs England w. Smriti Mandana, Deepthi Sharma, Kranti Gaud, Yastika Bhatia, Richa Ghosh, Sneha Rana.



'The journey of women's cricket has been remarkable,' says Sachin

NEW DELHI

Batting great Sachin Tendulkar hailed India's historic victory over England in the first-ever women's Test at Lord's, congratulating Harmanpreet Kaur's side for scripting history at the iconic venue and describing the match as another significant milestone in the growth of women's cricket.

Tendulkar, who was present at the iconic venue on the final day to witness history, and also addressed the Indian team before the start of play, reflected on the significance of the occasion in a post on Instagram after India completed a commanding 270-run victory. Highlighting the prestige attached to playing at Lord's, Tendulkar said the landmark fixture had fulfilled the aspirations of a new generation of cricketers.

"Every cricketer carries the dream of playing at Lord's. Over the past four days, a new generation lived that dream as women's Test cricket arrived at the Home of Cricket for the very first time," Tendulkar wrote on his social media handles. The former India captain also congratulated the visitors for their dominant display and singled out the performances

that shaped the memorable victory. "Congratulations to the Indian team on a wonderful victory," he added.

Tendulkar reserved special praise for vice-captain Smriti Mandhana, centurion Yastika Bhatia and fast bowler Kranti Gaud, whose performances proved instrumental in India's triumph. "Smriti's composure, Yastika's brilliant century and Kranti's five-wicket haul made this occasion even more special," Tendulkar stated.

He concluded by placing the result in the broader context of the game's evolution, saying the Lord's Test represented another landmark moment for women's cricket. "The journey of women's cricket has been remarkable, and this was another beautiful step forward," he wrote. India sealed a historic 270-run victory after dismissing England for 186 while defending a target of 457, clinching the first women's Test ever played at Lord's. Yastika became the first woman to score a Test century at the venue, while Kranti registered the first five-wicket haul in a women's Test at the iconic ground, ensuring India's name was etched into Lord's history in emphatic fashion.

Big names missing, departures likely as FC Barcelona starts

MADRID: FC Barcelona began preseason training ahead of the 2026-27 La Liga season on Monday as they look to win a third consecutive domestic title. Barcelona returned to work without players such as Lamine Yamal, Eric Garcia, Pedri, Ferran Torres, and Jules Kounde, who are still competing at the FIFA World Cup and are entitled to a three-week holiday after the tournament ends. The players arrived at 9 a.m. local time to undergo medical checks, with new signing Hamza Abdelkarim present despite the 18-year-old striker having had only a week's holiday.

'This will inspire generations of cricketers': BCCI hails

MUMBAI

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has congratulated the Indian women's cricket team on scripting history with a memorable 270-run victory over England in the one-off Test at Lord's Cricket Ground and said the remarkable triumph will inspire generations of cricketers and further strengthen the growth of women's cricket in India.

"Winning a Test match at the Home of Cricket is a

landmark achievement for any cricketer. For this young Indian side, it is a defining moment that reflects the remarkable growth of women's cricket in the country and the resilience, skill, and character that this team continues to display on the world stage," the BCCI said in a release.

The victory adds another glorious chapter to Indian cricket and reinforces the team's growing stature in international cricket. It also serves as an inspiration to countless young girls who

aspire to represent India at the highest level," the release added. BCCI President Mithun Manhas said, "This is one of the finest moments in the history of Indian women's cricket. To win a Test match at Lord's is incredibly special and is a reflection of the courage, discipline, and belief this team has shown throughout the contest. They embraced the occasion, played with tremendous character, and made the entire nation proud. I would like to acknowledge

the astute leadership of our former Honorary Secretary and current ICC Chairman, Mr Jay Shah, whose resolute commitment to the growth of women's cricket has helped lay the foundation for achievements such as this. On behalf of the BCCI, I congratulate Harmanpreet Kaur, the players, coaches, and support staff on a truly unforgettable achievement."

BCCI Honorary Secretary Devajit Saikia said, "This historic victory is the result of years of sustained invest-

ment and belief in women's cricket. The BCCI has remained committed to creating the right environment for our women cricketers to succeed through stronger domestic structures, enhanced opportunities, and greater professional support. I would also like to acknowledge the visionary leadership of our former Honorary Secretary and current ICC Chairman, Mr Jay Shah, whose landmark initiatives, including pay parity for centrally contracted women cricketers.

CM Revanth Reddy congratulates Gold medal winner in China

HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Sri A Revanth Reddy congratulated Pravalika Narimalla for winning the gold medal in the women's 4x400m relay at the inaugural Asian U-23 Athletics Championships held in Ordos, China.

Telangana pride Pravalika Narimalla displayed exceptional talent at the Asian U-23 Athletics Championship and won the gold medal in the women's 4x400m relay. Pravalika studied at the SC Gurukul Degree College in Nalgonda and trained at the Dindi Gurukul Sports Academy.



The Chief Minister praised Pravalika for excelling on the international stage and serving as an inspiration to all young athletes. Pravalika, daughter of a mason, proved that perse-

verance and dedication makes everything possible.

Pravalika won the gold medal as part of the 4x400m relay team alongside Sravani Sachin Sangle, Sandramol

Sabu, and Nofisa Khatun. The four-member team clinched the gold with a time of 3:33.62 seconds, surpassing the host nation, China.

Prior to reaching the international level, Pravalika established an impressive domestic record by winning a total of 35 state-level medals, including 23 gold medals across various competitions. The CM congratulated the coaches who trained Pravalika. CM Revanth Reddy also congratulated all the Indian athletes who won a total of 16 medals, including 3 gold, 4 silver, and 9 bronze in the championship.

GITAM Faculty Invited as Speaker at International ICT Summit in Goa



HYDERABAD

Prof. Pritee Ambarish Parwekar, faculty member in the Department of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, School of Computer Science and Engineering, GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, represented the university as an invited speaker at the 11th International ICT Summit & Awards (ICT4SD 2026), held from 9 to 11 July 2026 at Taj Vivanta, Goa.

Prof. Parwekar delivered an insightful address on the Internet of Things (IoT), highlighting its transformative role in developing smart, connected, and sustainable solutions across diverse sectors.

The presentation empha-



sized the growing significance of IoT in addressing real-world challenges through technological innovation.

The three-day international summit brought together leading academicians, industry experts, policymakers, and government representatives to discuss emerging technologies, exchange ideas, and explore opportunities for

collaborative research. The conference underscored the importance of interdisciplinary research and strong academia-industry partnerships in accelerating innovation and sustainable development. It also showcased cutting-edge research contributions by young researchers and professionals from across the globe.

Prof. Parwekar's participation reflects GITAM's commitment to promoting high-quality research, fostering innovation, and contributing to global discussions on emerging technologies.

Prominent dignitaries at the summit included Mrs. Pratima Gaurish Dhond, the first woman President of the Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Nitin Kunkolienker, Chairman, Advisory, Mentor and President of the Manufacturers' Association for Information Technology (MAIT); and Prof. Milan Tubia, Professor of Computer Science, Head of the Artificial Intelligence Project at Singidunum University, Belgrade, and Vice Rector for Research at Sinergija University, Belgrade.

Sanya Vats in Chennai Squash PSA Challenger semis

CHENNAI

Sanya Vats was the lone Indian to advance to the semifinals of the HCL Squash PSA Challenger Tour-Chennai at the Indian Squash Academy in Chennai on Monday.

Fourth seed Sanya beat eighth seed compatriot Unnati Tripathi in four games in the women's quarterfinals and will take on Egyptian top seed Rouqia Othman in the last-four stage. Earlier, second seed Indian Suraj Chand rallied to



beat Kuwait's Ammar Altamimi 6-11, 11-5, 11-5, 11-6 in the men's pre-quarterfinals of the event being played at the Indian

Squash Academy on Sunday.

Men's seventh seed Om Semwal and women's third seed Rathika Seelan, fourth seed Sanya Vats, eighth seed Unnati Tripathi, and Pooja Arthi Raghuvare were the other Indians to advance to the quarterfinals.

Ananya Narayanan beat Janet Vidhi in four games in the women's first round of the HCL Squash PSA Challenger Tour-Chennai at the Indian Squash Academy in the southern Indian metropolis on Saturday.

Golf: Aditi Ashok finishes 56th as Ryu wins back-to-back Majors

EVIAN RESORT (FRANCE)

Aditi Ashok faltered in the final round with a 3-over 74 and ended in a modest T-56 place at the 2026 Amundi Evian Championship on the Ladies European Tour at the Evian Resort in France.

Aditi, who shot 70-70-69 on the first three days, was on the lookout for a good finish, but a bogey start and two more on the fifth and sixth proved costly. She managed just two birdies on the third and the 13th against four bogeys for a 74.

Meanwhile, Haeran Ryu clinched back-to-back Major championships after rolling in her birdie putt during the first playoff hole to win the 2026 Amundi Evian Championship.

Korean star Ryu won the 2026 KPMG Women's PGA Championship just two weeks ago and hoisted another trophy at Evian Resort Golf Club after defeating Canada's Brooke Henderson in the playoff. It was a special moment for Ryu, who won the Amundi Evian Juniors Cup in 2015, at the same golf course. Ryu began the day with a three-stroke lead after firing the lowest round in Major history on Saturday with a 60 (-11). The 25-year-old shot a round of even par.

Gravton Quanta E-Bikes Awarded to TG20 League Winners

Outstanding performers in four categories receive special recognition

HYDERABAD

At the closing ceremony of the Greenidhi University TG20, Telangana's first franchise-based T20 cricket tournament, Hyderabad-based electric vehicle manufacturer Gravton Motors presented four Gravton Quanta electric motorcycles to players who delivered outstanding performances during the tournament.

The awards were presented after the final match at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Uppal.

The award winners were:

Emerging Player of the Tournament: Ved Reddy Amistapuram (Khammam Aces) Best Catch of the Tournament: Mikkil Jaiswal (Khammam Aces) Power Player of the Tournament: Tanmay Agarwal (Karimnagar Diamonds) Promising District Player of the Tournament: Ganesh Gadugu (Hyderabad E-Champions) Each of the four winners received a Gravton Quanta electric motorcycle as a prize.

Speaking on the occasion, Parshuram Paka, CEO of Gravton Motors, said he had been passionate about cricket since childhood. He noted that T20 cricket has grown tremendously in terms of quality, live broadcast reach, and fan en-



Screen Siren in PINK

Manasa Varanasi turned up the glam in a pastel-pink, off-shoulder dress patterned with soft florals, striking a poised silhouette against a rich purple backdrop. Hair swept into a relaxed ponytail and a delicate pendant at her throat, she kept makeup soft and the smile effortless — casual elegance with a red-carpet sheen. The former beauty queen isn't just a

“Glamour is about feeling like yourself in the moment — effortless, confident, and a little bit mysterious,” Manasa says, beaming. “I dress for the part of life I want to play.”

looker. Fresh from a lauded debut as Satyabhama in Devaki Nandana Vasudeva, Manasa has slipped seamlessly into mainstream cinema, stealing scenes as Mithra opposite Santosh Sobhan in the romantic drama Couple Friendly. With a knack for blending high-fashion moments and believable performances, she's shaping up to be one of Telugu cinema's most watchable new faces.



Nag Ashwin says 'I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING'

Director Nag Ashwin has responded to criticism over the portrayal of Karna in “Kalki 2898 AD”, asserting that he has the utmost respect for Indian history and mythology and knows exactly what he is doing.

The filmmaker was reacting to a social media comment in which a netizen claimed that director Murali Kishor Abburu portrayed the Karna-inspired character in “Lenin” better, while calling the climax of “Kalki” a “blasphemy” against Hindu beliefs.

Replying to the criticism, Nag Ashwin urged people to read the Mahabharata before passing judgment. He shared a snapshot from Bibek Debroy's translation of the epic, highlighting a passage in which Lord Krishna praises Karna. “These are Sree Krishna's own words to Arjuna in the Drona Vadha Parva... Please read the Mahabharata. I suggest the Bibek Debroy version. Or Google how many times Krishna praised Karna to Arjuna. I have the greatest respect for our history. I know what I'm doing. Wait for Part 2,” Nag Ashwin wrote.

Meanwhile, “Kalki 2”, starring Prabhas, Amitabh Bachchan, Kamal Haasan, and Deepika Padukone, is currently under production, with the makers expected to unveil more details in the coming months.



BHUMI Speaks About a TOUGH ROLE

Actress Bhumi Pednekar revealed which language she found the most difficult to speak on screen. While interacting exclusively to IANS, during the promotion of her 2025 release, 'Mere Husband Ki Biwi', Bhumi shared that although she loves trying her hands at various languages, she found Bundelkhandi to be the toughest one to perfect on screen.

"I love picking up different languages, but the toughest will have to be Bundelkhandi, which I adopted in 'Sonchiriya'. I had training for that for many months," she told IANS.

Bhumi was seen speaking Bundelkhandi in the 2019 drama 'Sonchiriya', which also starred late actor Sushant Singh Rajput, along with Ashutosh Rana and Ranvir Shorey as the core cast. are entirely in the Bundeli dialect. It shares the tale of a gang of dacoits who refer to themselves as Baaghis (rebels). The dacoit Western film has been co-written and directed by Abhishek Chaubey. 'Sonchiriya' has been jointly backed by Vashu Bhagnani, Jacky Bhagnani, and Deepshikha Deshmukh under the banner of RSVP Movies, along with MacGuffin Pictures. Shifting our focus back to 'Mere Husband Ki Biwi', the drama has been made under the direction of Mudassar Aziz.

With Arjun Kapoor, Bhumi Pednekar, and Rakul Preet Singh as the lead cast, Shakti Kapoor, Anita Raj, Dino Morea, and Aditya Seal are also a part of the ancillary cast, along with others. As far as the technical cast of the movie is concerned, Manoj Kumar Khatoai has looked after the camera work, whereas Ninad Khanolkar has headed the editing department.

Nani Eyes Film with 'LENIN' DIRECTOR

Natural Star Nani is actively exploring new collaborations as he nears completion of his much-awaited film The Paradise, which has been delayed from its originally planned release schedules. With earlier discussions for projects with Hi Nanna director Shouryuv and Jai Bhim director T.J. Gnanavel reportedly not moving forward, the actor has shifted his focus to emerging filmmakers who have recently delivered



successful films. Industry sources suggest that Nani has shown interest in collaborating with Murali Kishore Abburu (Nandu), the director of the recently released Lenin. Reports indicate that preliminary discussions

have begun, with producer Sahu Garapati keen on backing the project. Murali Kishore was initially expected to work with Garapati before joining hands with Sithara Entertainments' Naga Vamsi for Lenin.

Following the positive response to Lenin, Garapati is now said to be planning the director's next venture and is expected to arrange a narration for Nani. If the story meets the actor's expectations, the much-anticipated combination could soon take shape.

Earlier, Nani had also expressed interest in working with director Subhash K. Raj, whose film Blast received strong appreciation, reflecting the actor's inclination towards collaborating with promising new-age filmmakers.

Meanwhile, Lenin continues to perform steadily at the box office, maintaining a consistent run despite moderate collections on weekdays.

Akshara's AI-Era Thriller

Akshara Haasan is gearing up for the release of her upcoming sci-fi thriller 'Simulacra', which is set to premiere on Waves OTT on July 17. The film's teaser, unveiled recently, introduces audiences to a futuristic world where human memories can be rewritten using neural brain chips.

Opening up about her role, Akshara said playing Nivi was one of the most challenging experiences of her career. She said the character required a greater level of maturity and helped her explore new emotional dimensions as an actor.

"Nivi is a very different character that I've played. It required a different maturity level, both as a person and as an actor. The layered narrative allowed me to discover a new side of myself and explore complex emotions. It was a challenging yet rewarding experience," Akshara said.

Set in a near-future society dominated by advanced technology, 'Simulacra' revolves around a world where people can tailor, erase, or rewrite their personal memories through neural brain chips. The story follows Nayan (Satyajeet Dubey) and Nivi (Akshara Haasan), whose lives intersect under mysterious circumstances.

Nayan claims the two shared a deep relationship in the past and even possesses photographs stored in his neural memory vault as proof. However, Nivi has no recollection of him, with her own memory vault appearing

completely blank. As Nayan attempts to help her recover the lost memories, the two gradually develop genuine feelings, raising questions about memory, identity, and reality.

Actor Satyajeet Dubey said the film's unique premise and its exploration of reality, identity, relationships, and the growing influence of technology in the age of artificial intelligence convinced him to take up the project. He also praised director Pankaj Sawant's vision and passion for bringing the story to life.

Produced by Philosia Films, 'Simulacra' will begin streaming on Waves OTT from July 17. The film blends science fiction with romance and psychological drama, offering a thought-provoking take on the future of human memory and technology.

