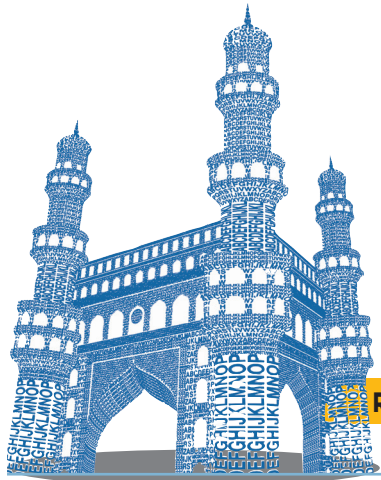




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Arunachal cursions: How Should India Respond?

OPINION 06

Krithi Shetty Adds Spark To Fanaa

BOX OFFICE 12



BY C. SUBRAHMANYAM

The fresh push for delimitation of Lok Sabha seats has ignited a fierce political clash across India. States that controlled population growth now fear losing their relative voice in Parliament. Northern states with faster population rise stand to gain dozens of seats. Regional parties, including the NCP (SP) faction, have raised sharp conditions. The exercise could permanently alter the federal balance and the weight of every vote. The numbers are cold. The politics is white hot. Delimitation is no longer a quiet constitutional exercise. It has exploded into a full-scale political war that could redraw the map of power in the Lok Sabha for decades.

For more than fifty years India has frozen the allocation of parliamentary seats on the basis of the 1971 Census. That freeze was extended so states which successfully brought down birth rates would not be punished. Southern states took the message seriously. They invested in health, education and family planning. Their total fertility rates fell to or below replacement (around 1.7-1.8). Northern states grew much faster. Today the arithmetic of democracy collides with the arithmetic of demography.

Current elected strength of the Lok Sabha: 543 seats. Five southern states hold 129 seats, roughly 23.8%. Uttar Pradesh alone has 80; Bihar 40. If seats are redistributed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

CJP Hints at 'Season 2' of Jantar Mantar Protest

NEW DELHI, AUG 12

The Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) is set to launch a fresh round of protests, with party founder Abhijeet Dipke announcing what he described as "Season 2 of Jantar Mantar" soon after the party concluded its 36-day agitation over the NEET paper leak issue.

The announcement came at a public meeting in Delhi after a CJP volunteers' meeting at Naraina was cancelled at the last minute. Dipke alleged that the banquet hall owner withdrew permission to hold the meeting following "pressure" from the ruling BJP.

Addressing the gathering, Dipke said the party had been receiving messages on social media asking when the second phase of its Jantar Mantar protest would begin.

"Season 2 of Jantar Mantar is going to

start very soon," he said, without giving a specific date for the fresh protest.

Venue row

Dipke alleged that the CJP had faced difficulties in securing a venue for its volunteers' meeting, claiming that several hall owners had refused bookings citing "pressure from above". He further alleged that even after a venue was finalised, its owners came under pressure on the morning of the meeting. According to Dipke, they were warned of consequences if they allowed the gathering to take place. The CJP founder blamed the BJP for the alleged interference and said the party would not be intimidated.

"They are afraid of the country's youth," Dipke said, asserting that the alleged pressure would not stop the CJP from expanding its activities. The BJP has not immediately responded to the allegations.

SHORT

TAKES

MODI TO YOUTH: CHOOSE BOOKS OVER 'REELS'

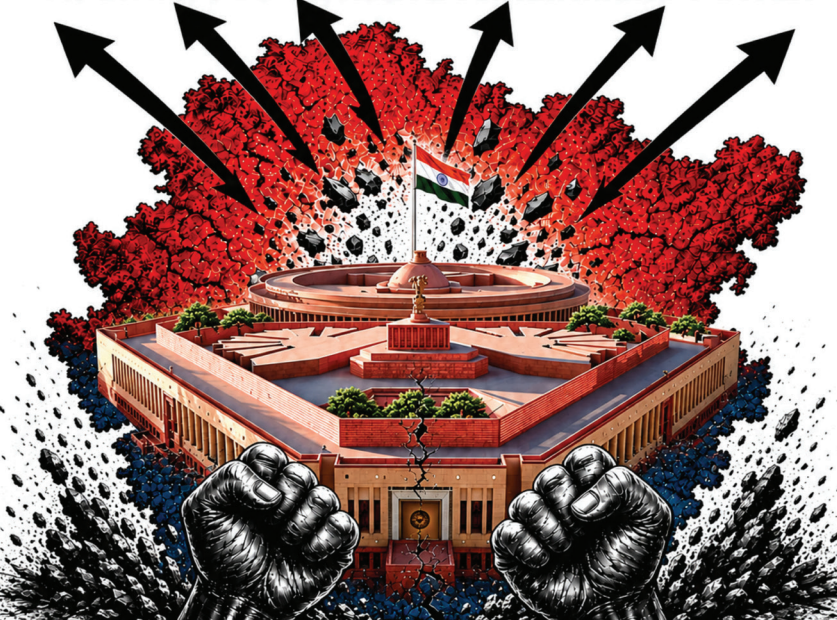
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday urged youngsters to look beyond social media "shortcuts" and read the autobiographies of people they admire. Launching former President Ram Nath Kovind's autobiography, *Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles*, Modi said books offer valuable insights into an era and a person's journey. Calling it the "era of reels", Modi cautioned against shortcuts and said Kovind's life demonstrated determination and resilience in overcoming adversity. His remarks come amid the Centre and BJP's increased efforts to connect with Gen Z on social media following the NEET paper leak protests.

Unclaimed Bank Deposits With RBI Fund Rise to ₹86,917 Crore

Unclaimed bank deposits transferred to the RBI's Depositor Education and Awareness (DEA) Fund rose to ₹86,917 crore as of June 30, 2026, the government informed the Rajya Sabha. State Bank of India accounted for the largest share at ₹20,040 crore, followed by Punjab National Bank (₹7,585 crore), Canara Bank (₹6,830 crore), Bank of Baroda (₹5,848 crore) and Union Bank of India (₹5,549 crore). Deposits in savings and current accounts that remain inoperative for 10 years, and term deposits unclaimed for 10 years after maturity, are classified as unclaimed.

DELIMITATION STORM HITS INDIA HARD

REGIONAL FORCES RAGE AS POPULATION NUMBERS THREATEN TO REWRITE PARLIAMENT POWER



ALLOCATE 11.56 LAKH HOUSES

- Minister Ponguleti appeals to Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- Invites Union Minister to visit Telangana
- Shivraj Singh Chouhan responds positively and agrees to visit the state

New Delhi, August 12: Telangana State Minister for Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, has urged the Union Government to allocate 11,56,915 houses to Telangana in a single tranche on a comprehensive basis under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G 2.0). On Wednesday, Minister



Ponguleti met Union Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan in New Delhi and submitted a representation to this effect. Recalling an earlier letter written by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, he requested that the process of allocat-

ing houses to the state be expedited.

Survey completed a year ago; delay only in sanctioning

Minister Ponguleti explained that a highly transparent door-to-door survey

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

BIHAR LOOKS TO T'GANA FOR FARM POLICY LESSONS: TUMMALA



02

CS MEETS MAHA CS, SBI CMD IN MUMBAI

HYDERABAD, AUG. 12

Telangana Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju on Wednesday held meetings with Maharashtra Chief Secretary Rajesh Aggarwal and State Bank of India (SBI) Chairman and Managing Director C.S. Setty in Mumbai, highlighting Telangana's development initiatives and investment opportunities. During his meeting with the Maharashtra Chief Secretary, Jaju briefed him on various welfare and development programmes being implemented by the Telangana government, the state's ongoing progress and the "Rising Telangana-2047" vision.

The two officials discussed ways to further strengthen the cordial relations between Telangana and Maharashtra and promote development initiatives through mutual cooperation.



Later, Jaju met SBI CMD C.S. Setty and apprised him of Telangana's development, investment opportunities and the objectives of the "Rising Telangana-2047" vision. He outlined the government's efforts to accelerate comprehensive development and industrial growth, attract investments and generate employment opportunities in the state.

T-BJP CHIEF HAILS 'HAR GHAR TIRANGA' FERVOUR ACROSS TELANGANA



Hyderabad, Aug.12: Telangana BJP state president N. Ramchander Rao on Wednesday said the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign is being celebrated across Telangana with the enthusiasm of a festival, following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call ahead of the 79th Independence Day.

Rao expressed happiness over the large participation of youth and citizens in the 'Tiranga Yatra' that began at the Bhagyalakshmi Temple near Charminar in Hyderabad's Old City. He appealed to people to proudly hoist the national flag at their homes with their families and actively participate in the celebrations.

He said the nation's progress rests on the sacrifices of freedom fighters and soldiers who laid down their lives for the country. Under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, India is moving ahead with renewed confidence, he said, urging citizens to contribute to the vision of a 'Viksit Bharat' (developed India).

Rao also described the August 14 'Tiranga Yatra' on Tank Bund, from the statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to that of Swami Vivekananda, as a sacred patriotic programme and called upon people to participate irrespective of political affiliations.

CEMENTING DREAMS WITH SUPERIOR STRENGTH.

**GERMAN TECHNOLOGY
ROBOTIC QUALITY CONTROL
TAMPER PROOF PACKING**

3 TIMES BETTER



Shah Offers Debate, Rahul Demands Answers

NEW DELHI, AUG 12

A political face-off between Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi over the student protest issue intensified in Parliament on Wednesday, with the Opposition rejecting Shah's offer of a prolonged debate and demanding specific answers on the alleged police action against protesters.

Shah said he was ready to participate in a discussion for up to 24 hours and answer every question raised by the Opposition. He challenged the Opposition to allow Parliament to function and said the government had nothing to hide.



The Home Minister's offer, however, failed to end the impasse. Opposition MPs continued their protests, insisting that the government should first clarify who authorised the police action and explain the circumstances surrounding the treatment of the protesting students.

Rahul Gandhi questioned the purpose of Shah's pro-

posed debate, saying the Opposition was seeking answers and accountability rather than a lecture. He pressed the Home Minister to directly address the allegations surrounding the police response.

The exchange came amid repeated disruptions in the Lok Sabha, with Opposition members raising slogans and demanding that Shah respond to the issue. Government members accused the Opposition of deliberately obstructing parliamentary proceedings despite the Home Minister's willingness to hold a discussion.

Shah urged Opposition members to follow parliamentary procedure and submit a

formal request for a discussion. He maintained that he was prepared to remain in the House and respond to their concerns.

The BJP subsequently accused Gandhi and the Opposition of avoiding a debate, alleging that they were reluctant to face Shah's response. The Congress, meanwhile, maintained that its demand was for accountability and clear answers on the action against students. With the Monsoon Session entering its final phase, the confrontation has emerged as a major political flashpoint, with the continuing deadlock threatening to overshadow legislative business in the remaining sittings.

National Librarians' Day Celebrated at GDCW Hussainialam



HYDERABAD, 12 AUGUST

The Department of Library & Information Science, Government Degree College for Women, Hussainialam, Hyderabad, marked National Librarians' Day on 12 August 2026 at the College Library Reading Hall. The celebrations were held to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, widely known as the Father of Library Science in India.

The programme was graced by Dr. Pranitha, In-charge Principal, who served as the Chief Guest. In her address, Dr. Pranitha paid tribute to Dr. Ranganathan and highlighted his significant contributions to the growth of library and in-

formation science in India. She also emphasized the vital role of libraries in building reading habits, strengthening academic achievement, supporting lifelong learning, and improving access to knowledge. Asst. Librarian P. Manemma underscored how the event reflected Dr. Ranganathan's enduring principle—"Library is a Growing Organism." She noted that the idea remains relevant today, even as libraries evolve with digital tools and resources.

To further engage students and faculty, the Department of Library & Information Science organized a Book Exhibition in association with S. V. Publications, Hyderabad. The exhibition showcased a wide range of degree-level publications

across subjects, benefiting the academic community and encouraging wider use of printed resources.

Faculty members and students participated actively throughout the event. They expressed appreciation for the role of libraries and librarians in education and society, and shared a short sketch of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan's life and contributions.

The celebrations concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Shobha Rani, Asst. Prof. in Economics, who expressed gratitude to the Chief Guest, Principal, faculty members, students, and all participants for making the National Librarians' Day programme a success.

DELIMITATION STORM HITS INDIA HARD

FROM PAGE 1

strictly according to current or projected post-2026 population in a fixed House, the shift is dramatic. Projections show Uttar Pradesh climbing toward 120–140 seats or higher, Bihar toward 60–70-plus. Tamil Nadu could fall from 39 toward the low 30s or below in relative terms; Kerala from 20 toward 14–15. The southern bloc's share risks sliding toward 19–21%.

In April 2026 the Centre tried to manage the storm. It proposed expanding the Lok Sabha ceiling to around 850 seats (working models around 816), linking it to women's reservation of one-third seats, and conducting delimitation. Home Minister Amit Shah laid out the preferred 50% uniform increase model on the floor of the House: southern states would rise from 129 to 195 seats, holding their collective share near 24%. Specifics cited: Tamil Nadu 39 to 59, Kerala 20 to 30, Karnataka 28 to 42, Andhra Pradesh 25 to 38, Telangana 17 to 26. Absolute numbers rise for everyone; relative balance is largely protected. The Con-

stitution Amendment package secured about 298 votes in favour but fell short of the two-thirds majority required. It is not dead. It is waiting for the next opportunity.

The Monsoon Session of 2026 has seen intense outreach. Speculation of a special session after 13 August continues. NDA numbers in the Lok Sabha have improved with realignments but remain short of the roughly 360 votes needed in an effective House of around 540. In the Rajya Sabha the gap has narrowed further.

Census 2027 is already under way, house-listing phase running through 2026, population enumeration targeted for early 2027 with reference date 1 March 2027. Without a constitutional change, the first published figures after 2026 will trigger pure population-based reallocation under existing Articles 81 and 82.

Regional parties smell danger. They see a permanent transfer of political weight from the more developed South and West to the more populous North and East. A Parliament dominated by a few large states will speak

with a different voice on language policy, resource allocation and cultural priorities. Maharashtra's NCP (SP) faction has drawn a clear line: any support is more likely only if every state receives a uniform 50% increase that protects relative shares. Meetings with the Prime Minister have fuelled speculation, yet the party insists the final stance will follow discussion within the INDIA bloc once a concrete Bill appears. The message remains blunt. Do not use population control as a stick to beat the progressive states.

This is not abstract theory. It is about real power. Every extra seat means more ministers, more influence over budgets, more say in who becomes Prime Minister. The states that controlled their population did so at a cost. They invested public money, changed social attitudes and accepted slower short-term growth in numbers. Now the same success is treated as a liability. That is the injustice regional forces are highlighting with full force.

The government insists the exercise is constitutional and

long overdue. One person, one vote cannot remain frozen forever. The census after 2026 will force the issue. But the method of redistribution will decide whether the Union remains a partnership of equals or becomes a numbers game dominated by the largest populations. The difference is not technical. It is political and it is existential for many states.

MY SHOT

India cannot run a modern democracy on fifty-year-old population figures. That much is clear. But punishing states for successful population control is a betrayal of the very policy the Centre once pushed. Any new delimitation must protect the federal balance while restoring the principle of equal representation. Expand the House if needed. Guarantee that progressive states do not lose relative strength; the 50% uniform model that lifts the South from 129 to 195 seats while keeping its share near 24% is one practical path. Anything less will deepen the North-South fault line and weaken the Union itself. The numbers must serve the nation, not the other way around.

'Lungi Wala' Remark Rocks House

NEW DELHI, AUG 12

CPI(M) MP John Brittas moved a privilege motion against BJP MP Sushmita Dev, alleging she called him "lungi wala" during a Rajya Sabha exchange.

Brittas termed the remark derogatory and said it stereotyped South Indians and amounted to "othering".

The allegation triggered an uproar, with Opposition MPs backing Brittas and demanding action.

Treasury bench members said Dev should also be given an opportunity to present her side.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju urged members to maintain the dignity of the House.

Chairman C.P. Radhakrishnan stressed respect for India's diverse regional cultures and advised members against hurting fellow MPs' sentiments.

The Rajya Sabha was later adjourned amid the protests.

TGSPDCL POWERS 8,977 ANGANWADI CENTRES ACROSS TELANGANA

Hyderabad, Aug.12: Telangana Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGSPDCL) has achieved 100 per cent electrification of all eligible Anganwadi Centres under its jurisdiction, marking a major step towards strengthening infrastructure for women and child welfare.

Under the DA-JGUA Scheme, 9,234 unelectrified Anganwadi Centres were identified. Of these, 257 were found to be not required, merged, non-existent or untraceable. Electricity connections have now been provided to all 8,977 eligible centres.

The initiative was undertaken under the leadership of Chief Minister A Revanth Red-

dy, with the special initiative of Deputy Chief Minister and Energy Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, and the guidance of Women and Child Welfare Minister Danasari Anasuya (Seethakka).

The electrification programme was completed in two phases. Phase-I covered 7,073 centres and was completed in July 2026, while Phase-II provided connections to 1,904 centres and was completed on August 10.

TGSPDCL chairman and managing director Jitesh V Patil said the availability of electricity would create better learning environments for children, improve health and nutrition services, and provide

improved working conditions for Anganwadi staff. He appreciated the efforts of engineers, field officers, line staff and other employees whose coordinated work enabled the programme to be completed within the stipulated timeline.

Officials said the initiative would further strengthen Anganwadi services for children, pregnant women and lactating mothers, while supporting the State Government's broader welfare and development programmes.

TGSPDCL reaffirmed its commitment to supporting government welfare initiatives through reliable power infrastructure and quality electricity services across Telangana.

CONTINUATION FROM PAGE 1

RECOVER EVERY PENNY OF CMR..

FROM PAGE 1

The Chief Minister accused the previous government of indulging in irregularities in collecting dues from the millers, which caused the accumulation of the dues in thousands of crores. Revanth Reddy took strong exception to the opposition parties for blaming the present government for the recovery of mounting dues from the rice millers.

When the official briefed on the progress in recovering the dues, Revanth Reddy insisted that the value of every single grain must be recovered. Further, the Chief Minister instructed officials to formulate specific guidelines for a process to recover the dues and submit the report to the Cabinet Sub-Committee.

The State government would take an appropriate decision following the Cabinet

Sub-Committee's review, he said.

Revanth Reddy further announced that the paddy previously allocated to millers who have become defaulters would instead be allocated to women's groups and the milling responsibilities would be entrusted to them.

Noting the recurring difficulties in storing paddy stocks each season, Revanth Reddy instructed officials to formulate an action plan immediately. A pilot project for constructing silo bags would be taken up in districts with high paddy yields- Nalgonda, Suryapet, Nizamabad, Peddapalli, and Kamareddy, he said.

The Chief Minister also announced that 50 to 100 acres of land per constituency would be allocated for these silo bag facilities, to be managed by Self-

Help Groups (SHGs). A meeting would be convened with the Ministers of Revenue, Civil Supplies, and Women's Welfare to discuss the construction of these facilities, he said.

Revanth Reddy suggested exploring the possibility of the construction of spacious platforms under the VBG-Ram G scheme and using German tents for paddy storage in the available space. The officials were also instructed to identify private warehouses, function halls, old cinema theatres, and other sheds at the Mandal and village levels in advance and lease them for paddy storage.

Principal Secretary to the CM V. Seshadri, Civil Supplies Commissioner Stephen Ravindra, South India Rice Millers Association President Thudi Devender Reddy and others were present.

Revanth orders full utilisation of Godavari water

Hyderabad, Aug.12: The Telangana government has resolved to ensure optimum utilisation of Godavari river water, with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy directing officials to undertake lift operations from the Yellampalli, Devadula and Sitarama projects to make maximum use of the available water.

At a review meeting of the Irrigation Department held at MCRHRD on Wednesday, the Chief Minister noted that water was currently not being stored in the Sundilla, Annaram and Medigadda barrages in accordance with the recommendations of the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA).

He emphasised that the NDSA recommendations should be strictly followed.

Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy informed the Chief Minister that defects had been identified in the Medigadda and Sundilla barrages. Revanth Reddy directed officials to immediately consult the NDSA on the issue.



The Minister also informed the meeting that water lifting operations using nine pumps were currently being carried out under the Devadula project, describing it as an unprecedented initiative.

The Chief Minister instructed officials to focus on resolving even minor issues affecting lift irrigation operations under the Devadula and Sitarama projects to ensure their smooth functioning.

The meeting also reviewed the pend-

ing payment of compensation to farmers in villages whose lands had been acquired for various irrigation projects. Revanth Reddy directed officials to prepare an action plan for immediate disbursement of the compensation.

Irrigation and Revenue officials were instructed to conduct field visits and submit factual reports on villages facing the threat of submergence, as well as pending compensation and rehabilitation issues.

The Chief Minister emphasised that

compensation should be paid immediately to villages facing an imminent impact. He said completion of the process would pave the way for filling the Baswapur and Gouravelli projects with water.

Revanth Reddy emphasised that compensation should be paid immediately to villages facing imminent impact, adding that completing the process would pave the way for filling the Baswapur and Gouravelli projects with water.

ALLOCATE 11.56 LAKH HOUSES

FROM PAGE 1

had been conducted across the state through the 'Awaas Plus-2024' app. The survey identified more than 11.56 lakh rural poor families as eligible for housing, he said. Although the super-check and exclusion of ineligible beneficiaries had been completed a year ago, there has been a delay from the Centre in announcing the housing targets, he said. As housing construction for the poor in Telangana has remained stalled for the past 12 years, resulting in a huge accumulated demand, he requested that all these houses be sanctioned at once.

5 lakh financial assistance for

house construction

Ponguleti said the state government had taken a historic decision to provide ₹5 lakh in financial assistance to every eligible poor family to construct a house, irrespective of the Centre's share and the regular state contribution under PMAY-G. He clarified that the state government had already made the necessary allocation in the state budget.

Invitation to visit Telangana

Minister Ponguleti warmly invited Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan to visit Telangana. He said that if the Union Minister personally visited the state and announced the allocation of

houses under PMAY-G 2.0, it would provide enormous support to rural poor families in Telangana and become a historic moment.

Responding positively to Minister Ponguleti's request, Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan agreed to visit Telangana. Those who accompanied Minister Ponguleti during the meeting with the Union Minister included MPs Mallu Ravi, Vamshi Narender Reddy, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, Suresh Shetkar, Ramasahayam Raghuram Reddy, and Anil Kumar Yadav, along with Telangana Housing Corporation Managing Director V.P. Gautam, among others.

Revanth Seeks Army..

FROM PAGE 1

Officials to take special initiative during disaster situations in Telangana. On the occasion, Lieutenant General Rajesh Pushkar commended the state government's prestigious Musi River rejuvenation project. The rejuvenation of the Musi River is need of the hour to protect Hyderabad by reducing pollution, and restore the city's historical glory. Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, Major General Srinivas Rao and other senior Army officials were also present.

BIHAR LOOKS TO T'GANA FOR FARM POLICY LESSONS: TUMMALA

HYDERABAD, AUG. 12

Bihar state is keen to learn from Telangana's technology-driven agricultural policies and farmer welfare initiatives, Agriculture Minister Tummal Nageswara Rao said here on Wednesday. Bihar Agriculture Minister Vijay Kumar Sinha called on Tummal at the State Secretariat, with the two ministers discussing agricultural co-operation, technical knowledge exchange, crop diversification

and best practices. Tummal briefed the Bihar delegation on various initiatives, including weather alerts, crop booking, satellite-based crop monitoring, urea booking, AgriStack and the AI-powered 'Krishi-Vas' crop monitoring system. He also outlined the Rythu Bandhu, Rythu Bima, loan waiver, Rythu Bharaas schemes and also a bonus of Rs.500 offered for fine-variety paddy.

The ministers discussed Telangana's growing focus on oil

palm, maize, pulses, soyabean, mango, chilli and turmeric. Tummal said Telangana had emerged as a leading oil palm cultivation state, with 3.11 lakh acres under cultivation. Sinha highlighted Bihar's crop-cluster approach, including dedicated clusters for makhana, maize, fruits, vegetables and millets. He also explained initiatives of the recently constituted Makhana Board aimed at boosting production, research, value addition and exports.

UoH Rejects Ganja Test Reports

HYDERABAD, AUG. 12

The University of Hyderabad (UoH) has strongly denied media reports claiming that 17 students tested positive for ganja during recent checks on the campus, terming the reports "factually incorrect and misleading".

The university said it maintains a strict zero-tolerance policy towards illicit substances and continues to cooperate with law enforcement agencies to ensure a safe and drug-free campus.



SHORT
TAKES

FRC row: Telangana to seek legal opinion on ECI's SIR decision

HYDERABAD: Advisor to the Telangana Government Mohammed Ali Shabbir said the State would seek legal opinion on the Election Commission of India's decision to reject the newly introduced Family Register Certificate (FRC) as a designated document for verification under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Shabbir Ali said the government respected the ECI's constitutional authority but would examine whether government-verified FRC records could be given evidentiary value during voter verification. He argued that the underlying data was sourced from the government's Food Security Card database and should not be disregarded merely because it originated from ration-card records. The government would explore legally sustainable options to ensure genuine voters, particularly poor, elderly and vulnerable citizens, were not burdened by documentation difficulties, he added. Shabbir Ali also pointed out that the ECI had allowed the earlier Family Member Certificate issued after document verification and local enquiry, while rejecting the new FRC. He said the government would examine whether additional verification mechanisms could address the ECI's concerns. "Our effort will be to find a legally sustainable solution that makes verification easier for genuine citizens while fully preserving the integrity of electoral rolls", he said.

78 Telangana prison inmates clear SSC through NIOS



HYDERABAD

In a significant step towards rehabilitation and social reintegration, 78 inmates of Telangana prisons have successfully passed the SSC examination through the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) for the first time. The Telangana Prisons Department had entered into an MoU with NIOS to enable inmates to pursue secondary education. A total of 108 inmates from Central Prison, Cherlapalli, Central Prison, Nizamabad and the Special Prison for Women, Hyderabad, enrolled for the Class X programme. Of the successful candidates, 56 are from Cherlapalli, 15 from Nizamabad and

seven from Special prison for women, Hyderabad. The inmates underwent a year of structured preparation, including regular classes, mock tests and pre-board examinations, with support from government and private teachers. Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services Soumya Mishra distributed certificates to the successful candidates and praised their determination and commitment to education. She announced Director General's Remission to all inmates who passed the SSC examination through NIOS as a special incentive and encouragement for inmates pursuing education and self-improvement.

The department will encourage the successful candidates to pursue Senior Secondary (10+2) through NIOS. After completing 10+2, they can pursue undergraduate courses through the Dr B.R. Ambedkar Open University Study Centre at Cherlapalli Central Prison. The successful inmates are also eligible to pursue ITI courses at the prison's ITI centre, providing them with opportunities to acquire technical skills and improve their employability. The initiative reflects the Telangana Prisons department's focus on education, skill development, rehabilitation and helping inmates build dignified lives after release. The programme was at-

tended by Parampreet Singh, Joint Director in-charge (NIOS Media); Dr. Praveen Chauhan, Regional Director, NIOS, Hyderabad; Y. Rajesh, Inspector General of Prisons; Dr. D. Srinivas, Deputy Inspector General of Prisons Hyderabad Range; M. Sampath Deputy Inspector General of Prisons Warangal Range and G. Pramod, Superintendent, Central Prison, Cherlapalli, D. Bharath, Superintendent, Prisoner's Agricultural Colony, Lakshmi Srinath, Superintendent SPW Hyderabad, P Ashok Kumar, Superintendent CP Nizamabad along with other senior prison officials, NIOS representatives, teachers, staff members and inmates.

BRS Raises Political Heat Over Malkam Lake Land, Demands CBI Probe Into PM Ekta Mall Row

MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI

The Bharat Rashtia Samithi intensified its attack on the Congress government and the BJP-led Centre on Wednesday, staging a protest at the Malkam Lake area in Gachibowli division of Serilingampally constituency. The party alleged that valuable government land opposite Malkam Lake, earlier identified for the PM Ekta Mall project, was being diverted to private interests through what it called an "under-the-table understanding" between Congress and BJP. Former corporator Madhavaram Ranga Rao, BRS MLC Dasoju Shrawan, MLC and youth movement leader Sham-bhipur Raju, along with senior BRS leaders and hundreds of party workers, gathered at the site and raised slogans against the alleged decision. The protest marked a fresh political flashpoint in Hyderabad's western corridor, where land value, infrastructure planning and public asset protection remain highly sensitive issues. Addressing the gathering, Madhavaram Ranga Rao said the land in question had been allotted during the tenure of former Chief Minister K. Chandrababhai Rao for the PM Ekta Mall project. He said the project was intended to create a national-level marketplace for One District One Product items, GI-tagged goods, handlooms, handicrafts and traditional products from different states. Ranga Rao claimed that the Centre had sanctioned nearly Rs. 200 crore as an interest-free loan under the Special



Assistance to States for Capital Investment scheme for the PM Unity Mall. He questioned how the present state government could allegedly move in a different direction without protecting the original purpose of the project. According to the BRS leader, the proposed financial model raises serious concerns. He alleged that the Rs. 200 crore interest-free loan sanctioned under SASCI is proposed to be routed through the Telangana Trade Promotion Corporation Limited to a selected developer on a back-to-back basis. He said the government must explain who benefits from such an arrangement and whether the interests of Telangana's artisans, handloom workers and small producers are being compromised. Ranga Rao further alleged that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's government had handed over the land to private firms, including Aparna and Vamsi Ram Builders, at a very low percentage fee. Calling it a "serious wrongdoing," he demanded that the matter be handed over to the Central

Bureau of Investigation. "The Centre has already sanctioned funds for a project meant to support artisans, handloom workers and local producers. If such land is diverted to private players, it is not merely a land issue but an injustice to the people of Telangana," Ranga Rao said. The PM Ekta Mall, also referred to as Unity Mall, was announced in the Union Budget 2023-24 as part of a national plan to promote ODP products, GI-tagged goods and handicrafts from across India. Each state and Union Territory is expected to have dedicated space in the proposed mall to display and sell its local products. Under Part VI of the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24, the Union government allocated Rs. 5,000 crore for the construction of PM Ekta Malls across states. The Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, approved Detailed Project Reports of 27 states based on recommendations from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.

Azharuddin reviews arrangements for felicitation of minority toppers

HYDERABAD

Minister for Minorities Welfare & Public Enterprises Mohammed Azharuddin convened a high-level review meeting at the Secretariat on Wednesday to review the arrangements for Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's felicitation programme scheduled to be held on August 13. The programme will felicitate meritorious students from minority communities who have excelled in Group-I, Group-II, IIT-JEE, EAPCET and other competitive examinations, along with toppers of the Telangana Minorities Residential Educational Institutions Society (TGMREIS) in SSC and Intermediate examinations. During the meeting, Minister Mohammed Azharud-



din reviewed the arrangements with senior officials and directed the concerned departments to ensure that the programme is conducted smoothly, systematically and with all necessary facilities for the students, their families and guests. The Minister stressed the importance of recognising and encouraging academic

excellence among minority students, stating that the achievements of the toppers would inspire more young people to pursue higher education and competitive examinations with confidence. He further emphasised the need for close coordination among all concerned departments to ensure proper security, traffic management, sanitation, medical assistance, fire safety, civic amenities and other logistical arrangements for the successful conduct of the programme. Advisor to the Telangana Government Mohammed Ali Shabbir, TGMREIS President Faheem Qureshi, Minorities Welfare department Secretary B. Shafiullah, Principal Secretary Ahmed Nadeem, and other senior officials participated in the review meeting.

750 students join Har Ghar Tiranga rally in Hyd



HYDERABAD

The Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT), Regional Centre, Hyderabad, under the Ministry of Culture, organised a vibrant "Har Ghar Tiranga" rally to promote patriotism, national unity and Jan Bhagidari among schoolchildren and the wider community. Around 750 school children, escort teachers, CCRT officials and staff, along with 78 CCRT-trained teachers from 13 states, participated in the programme. Students from seven Hyderabad schools took part in

the event. The programme began at the CCRT campus with a collective rendition of Vande Mataram, with bilingual Telugu-English copies provided to the children. The highlight was a one-kilometre Tiranga rally through the Hitech City area, where students marched in formation carrying the national flag and raising patriotic slogans. The rally was led by CCRT consultant Y. Chandrasekhar and field officer Soundarya Kaushik, taking the message of patriotism beyond the campus and involving the public in the spirit of Jan Bhagidari.

After returning to the campus, the students witnessed a Tiranga concert by Dr. Linga Srinivas and his troupe. Folk artists presented Telangana folk music and local cultural traditions alongside patriotic songs centred on India's Independence, Vande Mataram and the significance of Har Ghar Tiranga. The programme concluded with the singing of the National Anthem. CCRT said the initiative reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing patriotism, cultural awareness, national integration and active public participation among the younger generation.

Massive rally marks launch of two-month HIV/AIDS awareness drive

HYDERABAD

A massive awareness rally was organised in Hyderabad on Wednesday as part of the State government's efforts to create awareness about HIV, AIDS, syphilis and other sexually transmitted infections, while strengthening measures for their prevention and control. Hyderabad in-charge Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar flagged off the rally at the HMDA Grounds. Around 1,500 people participated in the rally, which proceeded from the HMDA Grounds to Necklace Road Railway Station, carrying messages on HIV and AIDS prevention and urging the public to dispel misconceptions sur-

rounding the disease. Speaking on the occasion, Ponnamp Prabhakar said creating awareness and dispelling misconceptions about HIV and AIDS were the collective social responsibility of every individual. He stressed the need to promote awareness about preventive measures to prevent new infections while ensuring proper medical care and support for people living with HIV. The Minister said extensive publicity and awareness programmes would be conducted across Telangana for two months from August 12. He appealed to people to participate in the programmes and contribute to efforts to prevent and

control HIV and AIDS. Ponnamp Prabhakar said the Medical and Health Department and the Telangana State AIDS Control Society were working in coordination towards making Telangana an HIV-free State under the slogan, "Be Positive – Stop HIV Positive." Telangana State AIDS Control Society Project Director Vidyasagar, Health department Principal Secretary Christina Z. Chongthu, GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan and Information Commissioner Mukunda Reddy were among those who participated in the event. Officials, medical staff, representatives of voluntary organisations, students and awareness activists also took part in the rally.

Congress MPs urge Centre to expedite railway development projects

HYDERABAD

Congress MPs Gaddam Vamsi Krishna, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, Mallu Ravi, and Suresh Shetkar met Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw in New Delhi on Wednesday and discussed railway infrastructure development in Telangana, pending projects, and essential facilities for the public. Peddapalli MP Gaddam Vamsi Krishna specifically discussed the progress of the Ramagundam-Manuguru railway line, a project of vital importance to his parliamentary constituency. The line is proposed with an estimated investment of approximately ₹4,000 crore. The MP sought details on the current status, work progress, and future steps. He explained that the railway line is crucial for the industrial, commercial, and transport development of the Ramagundam, Peddapalli, and Mancherial regions.



He urged the Minister to expedite the project and ensure visible progress on the ground. Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw responded positively and informed that work on the Ramagundam-Manuguru railway line is progressing rapidly. Vamsi Krishna also raised issues regarding already sanctioned Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Foot Over Bridges (FOBs) in the Peddapalli parliamentary constituency, particularly delays in fund releases and execution. He noted that de-

spite continuous follow-ups over the past two years, the works remain delayed. He highlighted that waterlogging at construction sites is causing inconvenience and risks to the public, and urged immediate action to expedite the pending works. The MP further discussed the upgradation of Peddapalli, Ramagundam, and Mancherial railway stations with Railway department officials. Gaddam Vamsi Krishna stated that he is continuously coordinating with the Union Ministry of Railways to strengthen railway infrastructure in Peddapalli and Mancherial districts, accelerate pending projects, and provide better transport facilities for the public. The Congress MP affirmed that he would continue to bring every aspect of the constituency's development - from the Ramagundam-Manuguru railway line to ROBs, FOBs, and station upgrades - to the Centre's attention and strive to ensure swift progress.

Age Limit for Telangana Police Jobs Should Be Increased

- EBCWA National President Vallapurreddy Ravinder Reddy

HYDERABAD

Vallapurreddy Ravinder Reddy, National President of the Economically Backward Classes Welfare Association (EBCWA), has urged the Telangana state government to increase the age limit for recruitment to Constable and Sub-Inspector (SI) posts in the Telangana Police Department. The association has demanded that the existing upper age limit for police recruitment be increased to 36 years for



Constable posts and 39 years for SI posts. It also appealed to the government to comprehensively

identify vacant police posts across all districts of the state and undertake recruitment to fill them. The association not-

ed that although the government had previously increased the age limit for police jobs through Government Order

(G.O.) No. 87, there is still a need to provide additional opportunities to the youth who have been waiting for recruitment notifications. It said that many candidates are losing job opportunities because they have crossed the prescribed age limit. The EBCWA stated that filling vacant posts would not only provide employment opportunities to unemployed youth but would also help address the shortage of personnel in the Police Department to some extent. In this regard, the association submitted a representation to senior officials of the Police Department.

Adani Group Briefs Andhra CM on Titanium Plant

AMARAVATI, AUG 12

A delegation led by Karan Adani, Managing Director of Adani Ports and SEZ Limited, met Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and briefed him on the proposed titanium plant to be established by the Adani Group in Srikakulam district with an investment of Rs 16,000 crore.

During the meeting at the State Secretariat here on Wednesday, the delegation briefed the Chief Minister on beach sand mining, the products that can be manufactured from these minerals, their applications across various sectors and market demand, said an official release.

The Adani Group representatives explained that ilmenite available in beach sand can be value-added to produce titanium slag, titanium dioxide (TiO2) and titanium sponge. They said TiO2 has applications in paints, coatings, cosmetics, plastics



and polymers, UV-protection products and several other industries. The Adani Group representatives also informed the Chief Minister that steps would be taken to establish skill development facilities, Adani University, an international school, a 1,000-bed hospital under the name Adani Aarogya Mandir, and a 150-seat medical college in Visakhapatnam. They also presented the master plan details for the proposed Adani Data Centre and IT Park in Visakhapatnam. The Chief Minister called for value addition to beach sand minerals available in Andhra Pradesh. He emphasised the need to

prioritise the manufacture of value-added products within the State to reduce dependence on other countries for rare earth minerals and called for adoption of advanced technologies in this sector. Chief Minister Naidu stressed the importance of manufacturing value-added products within the State to maximise the economic benefits from the state's mineral resources. He said beach sand minerals should not be viewed merely as resources to be extracted as raw minerals, but as the foundation for developing an integrated value chain that delivers maximum benefit to both the State and

the country. The Chief Minister said Andhra Pradesh should move towards self-reliance in rare earth minerals. Mining and development of rare earth minerals should contribute to nation-building while also strengthening the state's economy, he said.

Naidu directed officials to focus on identifying the resources available in the State, the technologies required for their development and suitable technology partners in the rare earth minerals sector. The entire process, he emphasised, should be designed to serve the interests of both Andhra Pradesh and the nation.

Karnataka Says Cauvery Water Release to TN Difficult

Karnataka Minister Ramalinga Reddy on Wednesday said the state would find it difficult to release 12,000 cusecs of Cauvery water a day to Tamil Nadu, as directed by the Cauvery Water Management Authority.



He said the state government would decide its next course of action after a Supreme Court hearing on Thursday on Tamil Nadu's petition, and added that it would ensure that no injustice was done to Karnataka. The Cauvery Water Regulation Committee, which met in New Delhi on Tuesday, directed Karnataka to release 12,000 cusecs of water daily to Tamil Nadu for 15 days from August 12. The Cauvery Water Management Authority later upheld the decision. Reddy said discussions had been held with Chief Minister D K Shivakumar and officials. "I have held discussions with the Chief Minister (D K Shivakumar) and officials. The CM spoke to our Advocate General and advocates in Delhi. Tamil Nadu's petition is coming up before the Supreme Court tomorrow; it has been listed. We will have an opportunity there, and our advocates will file our objections. Let's see what the Supreme Court says. Thereafter, we will have further options," he said. Speaking to reporters, the State Water Resources Minister said the government's future course of action

would depend on the outcome of the hearing. "Tamil Nadu has filed a petition, and we have been served a notice. We will have an opportunity to present our case there. Based on the outcome, we will decide whether further legal action is required. This is based on the suggestions given by the advocates," he added. The Tamil Nadu government had earlier this month moved the Supreme Court over the Cauvery dispute with Karnataka, saying that the quantum of water directed by the CWRC, as well as the water released by Karnataka, was insufficient. Earlier, on July 28, the CWRC had directed Karnataka to release 3,500 cusecs of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu for 15 days. Karnataka had initially said it could not release water because of poor storage in its reservoirs. However, after heavy rain in the Cauvery catchment areas in the state, it began releasing water under the earlier 3,500-cusec direction. Reddy said Karnataka had complied with that earlier order and had, in fact,

released more water to Tamil Nadu. "When the Kabini dam filled due to rains in the catchment area, the water flowed downstream as there was no scope to store it further. About 10 TMC of water has flown," he said. He said Karnataka had about 76 TMC of water in its reservoirs, of which 36 TMC would be needed every year for drinking water, apart from losses due to evaporation and the requirement for rivers and crops. "We have about 76 TMC of water (in our dams), out of which we will need 36 TMC a year for drinking water. There will also be evaporation, and we will have to release water to rivers and for crops. Asking Karnataka to release 12,000 cusecs for 15 days is inappropriate," he said. Reddy said the earlier direction to release 3,500 cusecs a day was somewhat acceptable, but the latest order to release 12,000 cusecs daily for 15 days, amounting to about 16 TMC, was "too costly" for Karnataka. He said the state would not have faced difficulty if it had been asked to release a smaller quantity.

"This is too high a quantity," he said. He also said the monsoon had not been satisfactory in Karnataka's old Mysuru region and claimed that Tamil Nadu had enough water in its reservoirs. He said Tamil Nadu receives most of its rainfall during the north-east monsoon from October to December and has a better water table than Karnataka. "Our water table is too low here. Even if we go 800-1,000 feet, we don't get water, while they get water at much higher levels. Despite our Additional Chief Secretary, advocates, and experts effectively putting forward our case with all these facts, the order has come. It will be difficult for us to release 16 TMC of water in 15 days. We have discussed it. We will decide what to do," he said.

"The CM has spoken to advocates in New Delhi and experts. We will ensure that no injustice happens to the state," he added.

Meanwhile, farmers have staged sporadic protests in Cauvery basin districts, including Mandya and Mysuru, against the water release order. Some pro-Kannada organisations have called for a Karnataka bandh on Thursday in protest against the directive, while others have opposed the bandh call. Overall, the state government has said it will place its objections before the Supreme Court and decide its next steps after the hearing.

Karnataka Allocates Portfolios, DK Shivakumar Retains Finance

After the August 3 expansion that inducted 19 ministers, the Shivakumar-led Karnataka cabinet strength rose to 33, with one vacancy remaining and no woman minister included.



Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Wednesday allocated portfolios to the newly inducted ministers, 10 days after expanding his cabinet. The reshuffle also included changes in the departments held by two ministers who had taken office earlier. The allocation came a day before the Monsoon session of the state legislature. With the expansion on August 3, in which 19 ministers were inducted, the strength of the Shivakumar-led cabinet has gone up to 33, with one berth still vacant. There is no woman minister in the cabinet. BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan has been given Housing, while Lakshman Savadi will handle Co-operation. Rudrappa Manappa Lama-

ni, who was Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly until recently, has been assigned Sugar and Textiles. The portfolios of two ministers were changed after they were unhappy with their earlier assignments. Ramalinga Reddy has been moved from Major Irrigation to Forest, Ecology and Environment, while KH Muniyappa has been shifted from Food and Civil Supplies to Social Welfare. UT Khader has been given additional charge of Minority Welfare, Haj and Wakf. Shivaraj Tangadagi has been assigned Backward Classes Welfare and Kan-

nada and Culture, while T Raghunurthy will handle ST Welfare. Ajay Singh has been given Minor Irrigation and Science and Technology, Cheluvarayaswamy will handle Major and Medium Irrigation, Madhu Bangarappa has been assigned Primary and Secondary Education, Basavaraj Raya Reddy Higher Education, and Shivalinge Gowda Excise.

Puttaranga Shetty has been given Animal Husbandry and Sericulture, Vijayananda Kashappanavar Small Scale Industries and Public Enterprises, Santosh Lad Labour and Employ-

ment, KS Basvanthappa Muzrai, Fisheries, Ports and Inland Water, SS Mallikarjun Mines and Geology and Horticulture, Rizwan Arshad Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Narendra Swamy Agriculture, HC Balakrishna Municipal Administration, and B Nagendra Planning and Statistics.

The portfolio allocation completed the distribution of departments after the cabinet expansion, with some changes made to accommodate ministerial preferences ahead of the Monsoon session.

Textbook Gaps, New Exam Patterns Stress Students

NEW DELHI: (AUG 12)

A parliamentary panel has flagged a significant gap between curriculum designing and implementation for classes 9 to 12, saying the non-availability of textbooks and application-based Board examination patterns are creating academic stress and confusion among students, especially those appearing for classes 10 and 12 examinations.

The observations are part of the Tenth Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Estimates (2026-27) on 'Budget and Policy Aspects for Providing Affordable and Quality Education in the Country including Review of CBSE', presented to Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

The committee observed that the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has onboarded the curriculum framework for Grades 9 to 12 with the goals of the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2023.

Ghaziabad-Jewar Corridor May Link Airport to Namo Bharat

NCRTC has proposed a 72.44-km Ghaziabad-Jewar corridor with Namo Bharat and metro services. The link could cut travel time to Noida International Airport and improve regional connectivity.



Ghaziabad, Greater Noida and Noida International Airport are among the proposed stations on the 72.44-km Ghaziabad-Jewar corridor, according to station details shared by the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC). The corridor is planned to offer both Namo Bharat and metro services, giving commuters a public transport link between Ghaziabad, Noida and the airport.

An official said the project is still at the Detailed Project Report stage. Once developed, the corridor is expected to cut travel time between Ghaziabad, Noida and Noida International Airport to about 40 to 50 minutes, with a planned maximum operational speed of 180 kmph.

The corridor will connect Ghaziabad station on the Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat corridor with Noida International Airport at Jewar. Of the total length, around

71.5 km will be elevated and 1.29 km underground, the corporation said. The route is planned with 11 stations for Namo Bharat services and 18 stations for metro services, allowing passengers to use both regional rapid rail and local metro along the corridor.

The proposed Namo Bharat stations are Ghaziabad South, Greater Noida Sector 2, Greater Noida Sector 3, Greater Noida Sector 12, Surajpur, Alpha-I, Eco-Tech-VI, Dankaur, YEIDA North (Sector 18), YEIDA Central (Sector 21) and Noida International Airport. The proposed metro stations are Siddharth Vihar, Greater Noida Sector 16C, EcoTech 12, Greater Noida West (Sector 4), Greater Noida Sector 10, Knowledge Park V, Police Lines Surajpur, EcoTech-2, Knowledge Park III, Omega-II, Phi-III, EcoTech-1E, EcoTech VIII, Dadupur,

Junedpur, YEIDA Sector 17, YEIDA Sector 15 and YEIDA Sector 33.

The project aims to strengthen public transport connectivity across the National Capital Region by linking Ghaziabad to Greater Noida, the Yamuna Expressway area and the upcoming Noida airport, the official said. He added that the corridor will provide an additional public transport option for passengers travelling between Ghaziabad, Noida and Noida International Airport, while improving connectivity to residential, commercial and upcoming infrastructure hubs along the route.

In sum, the proposed Ghaziabad-Jewar corridor is planned as a dual-service route with Namo Bharat and metro stations, linking key parts of Ghaziabad, Greater Noida and the Noida airport area, though it remains at the DPR stage.

YSRCP denied LoP status to gag its voice, says Jagan Mohan Reddy

AMARAVATI, AUG 12

Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and YSR Congress Party President, Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, on Wednesday said that the coalition government led by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu is unwilling to give Leader of Opposition status to YSRCP to gag the voice of the Opposition. Jagan Mohan Reddy said that he would continue to highlight people's issues through the media. Addressing a meeting of party legislators ahead of the Monsoon Session of the legislature beginning on August 17, Jagan Mohan Reddy instructed the MLCs to be vigilant and raise issues of public interest and highlight the failures of the Naidu government in the Legislative Council. YSRCP has been boycotting the Assembly for nearly two years, demanding the Leader of Opposition (LoP) status. Jagan



Mohan Reddy said that the TDP-led coalition government is unwilling to give LoP status to YSRCP which is the principal Opposition party, to gag its voice. He said he will highlight the issues through the media to show people the other side of the coin. "As we have strength in the Council, we should be the voice of the people and highlight the issues we have taken up, which include irregularities in DSC on which we had taken up 10 types of protests over the past 74 days, placing all evidences to establish our viewpoint," Jagan Mohan Reddy said.

"We exposed leakage and outsourcing scandals, irregularities in sports quota, changes in Government Orders and demanded a CBI enquiry into the involvement of Education Minister Nara Lokesh, who is the son of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu," he said. The YSRCP chief told the party legislators that they have to raise the issues of fees reimbursement and 'Vasathi Deevana' as students are badly affected due to the pending bills for 13 quarters accumulating to over Rs 9,100 crore and Rs 3,300 crore respectively.

Stating that the government has released only Rs 2,900 crore, he asked the MLCs to raise the issue in the House and insist on a discussion.

"On the farmers' issue we have to raise our voice as no crop is getting MSP, no sufficient water is being provided and free crop insurance is being suspended pushing the farmers into distress," Jagan

Mohan Reddy said.

Providing viability gap funding for PPP projects besides granting other concessions to private players pushes the burden on the people and the government's plans to privatise public services should be questioned strongly, Jagan Mohan Reddy said.

He stated that the repeal of Disha Bill and cases against BCs should be raised vociferously as the unjust and vindictive cases are being filed for questioning the government. The cases against Chintada Ravi and Mustafa are fabricated targeting BC leaders, he said. YS Jagan said junior doctors' strike, dissatisfaction among employees besides the ire of women, youth and unemployed and all sections of people should be highlighted.

He asked the legislators to go to the House fully prepared with all data on hand and expose the government and its failures.

Vijay Govt's Anti-Delimitation Push: 3 Key Demands

The resolution by the Vijay-led Tamil Nadu government comes amid the Centre's renewed push to get support for the delimitation bill, which it has linked to the implementation of women's reservation.



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay moved a resolution in the Assembly against the delimitation of Lok Sabha constituencies on Wednesday, even though he firmly backed women's reservation, urging the Centre to implement it within the existing 543 seats. The TVK chief warned that the representation of southern states such as Tamil Nadu, which have successfully implemented population-control measures, could be hit if delimitation is carried out on the basis of population. The resolution comes amid the Centre's renewed push to get support for the delimitation bill, which it has linked to the implementation of

which successfully implemented population control, will suffer. There is a necessity to freeze the numbers," Vijay said. The Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, which proposed lifting the freeze on expanding the number of Lok Sabha seats, was defeated by a united opposition when it was tabled in April. The bill sought to redraw constituencies based on the 2011 Census. Tamil Nadu and other southern states have argued that linking the delimitation exercise to population would unfairly benefit the North, where population growth has been higher. Vijay underlined that southern states had followed population-control policies successfully. The Chief Minister also called for maintaining the existing 2.2:1 ratio between Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha representation. "Keeping Tamil Nadu in front, I request the parties here to unanimously endorse the resolution," Vijay said.

VIJAY ON WOMEN'S RESERVATION

The Chief Minister also pressed the Centre for the early implementation of the women's reservation law. In a veiled swipe at the BJP government, Vijay pointed out that the legislation had already been passed in Parliament, but its implementation had been delayed. He said the delay in implementing the quota amounted to denying women their political rights. The TVK chief began his speech in the Assembly with a personal message. "The major reason who Vijay was before and who Vijay is now is because of the women in my family," he said. Pointing out that Tamil Nadu had a higher share of women voters than men, Vijay underlined the need for "equal political rights" and "reservation" for women. "When a nation gets a good name is when the community treats women right," Vijay said, highlighting the contributions of women in Tamil Nadu's history and their role in the freedom struggle.

EDITORIAL

India’s Digital Transformation: The Next Phase of Inclusive Growth

India’s digital transformation has moved well beyond the adoption of smartphones and internet services. Digital technology is increasingly becoming part of everyday economic and social activity, from making payments and accessing public services to learning, conducting business and connecting communities. The next challenge is to ensure that this transformation remains inclusive, secure and capable of creating lasting economic value.

One of India’s most significant achievements has been the development of digital public infrastructure. Platforms that enable instant payments, digital identity and paperless access to services have demonstrated how technology can simplify transactions and reduce barriers for citizens and businesses. Their growing adoption has also created opportunities for innovation by startups, banks, small enterprises and technology companies. The impact is particularly visible in financial services. Digital payments have made it easier for small businesses and individuals to participate in the formal economy. For many consumers, transactions that once required physical visits to banks or offices can now be completed within minutes. This convenience has the potential to improve productivity while bringing more economic activity into the formal system.

Yet digital inclusion cannot be measured simply by the number of people connected to the internet. Access, affordability and digital literacy remain equally important. Rural communities, senior citizens and people with limited technological familiarity may require additional support to use digital services confidently. Local-language interfaces and accessible design can help bridge this gap. The next phase should also focus on digital education. As technology becomes increasingly important in workplaces, students need more than basic computer skills. They must develop the ability to evaluate information, use digital tools responsibly and adapt to rapidly changing technologies. Strengthening digital capabilities from schools to vocational institutions will therefore be essential for preparing the workforce of the future.

Cybersecurity must grow alongside digital adoption. Greater dependence on online platforms also increases the importance of protecting personal information, financial transactions and essential digital infrastructure. Awareness among users, stronger security practices and responsible technology development can help build trust. For businesses, digitalisation can be a major productivity tool. Small and medium enterprises can use cloud services, digital payments, online marketplaces and data-driven tools to reach new customers and improve efficiency. Helping smaller firms adopt such technologies could significantly strengthen their competitiveness. India’s digital journey is therefore entering a more mature phase. The emphasis must gradually shift from access to meaningful participation, from adoption to productivity and from convenience to trust.

Technology by itself cannot guarantee inclusive growth. But when supported by affordable access, good infrastructure, appropriate skills and strong safeguards, it can widen opportunity on a remarkable scale.

The task ahead is to ensure that India’s digital transformation remains people-centred. If technology can become accessible, useful and trustworthy for every section of society, it can serve not merely as an instrument of modernisation but as a powerful foundation for broad-based and sustainable growth.



THE BEAST WITHIN

Man, herald of sentience, scion of lore,
Yet plunders the world in his carnal uproar.
He profanes the vessel, once chaste and divine,
Distorting fair nature to further his line.
To glut his flesh, he draws the blade
On voiceless kin, his wrath is laid.

With brutish glee and savage art,
He rends the meek with callous heart.
The hen that clucks, the lamb that bleeds
He slays not out of primal needs.
His frame, a blend of blood and clay,
Now mimics beasts in fouler way.

Doth he ascend the throne of mind,
Or crawl, debased, through instincts blind?
While roots and herbs, in verdant grace,
Invite him to a kinder place
He turns from fruits, from grains sublime,
To banquet at the edge of crime.

Behold the doe, in leaps she springs,
More fair than babes or queens or kings.
The dove, a cloud in gentle flight,
Would shame the moon in silver light.
Yet still he hunts, with poisoned breath,
And turns their beauty into death.

The cow that yields her milk so pure,
Receives no mercy, love, or cure.
The bull who tills, the beast who births,
Are cast aside for lesser worths.
The peacock, draped in royal hue,
Falls prey to man’s ungrateful view.

Oh Man! Thou architect of doom,
Whose greed hath made the world a tomb.
Is this compassion this charade?
Where every pact with life’s betrayed?
Thy mouth declares a moral creed,
While hands in silent slaughter bleed.

Can greens not grace the banquet’s board?
Do pulses not their strength afford?
Do those who feast on roots alone
Not flourish in both flesh and bone?
Yet thou, enthralled by fleshly vice,
Exacts on life a brutal price.

The earth was shaped for shared delight,
Not bloodied paths and endless blight.
O child of stars, return, repent
Let mercy be thy testament.
Crown not thyself with bones and pain,
But rise — reborn — from savage stain.



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



OPINION

FROM SCIENTISTS TO ENTREPRENEURS: A NEW PATH FOR POOR CHILDREN – REVANTH REDDY’S EDUCATION POLICY

Political developments and governance methods in Telangana are always tied to a specific historical and social background. Aspirations of the Telangana movement, social justice, the unemployment problem, rural poverty, and the lack of quality education are major issues that have troubled this region for decades. In this context, the government led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has initiated revolutionary changes in the education sector. Revanth Reddy’s education policy is shaped with the sole aim of not just increasing literacy, but connecting education with employment and employment with industrial needs. Here is a comprehensive analysis of this journey, which aims to show a new path to poor children, ranging from scientists to entrepreneurs.

Historical Background - Challenges Faced by Telangana’s Education Sector

Before and after the formation of the state of Telangana, severe inequalities continued in the education sector. Privatization grew immensely from primary education to higher education. Government schools in rural areas suffered heavily due to a lack of basic infrastructure. Due to vacant teacher posts, flaws in the mid-day meal scheme, and a lack of access to digital education, poor and middle-class children were deprived of quality education.

Engineering, medical, and other professional courses turned into luxuries accessible only to the rich. Even though thousands of educated youth held graduation degrees, they remained unemployed because they lacked the skills required by industries. At a time when degrees were turning into mere pieces of paper, a historical necessity arose to thoroughly overhaul the education system. Current Chief Minister Revanth Reddy took this massive responsibility upon his shoulders.

Core Principles of Revanth Reddy’s Education Policy
The new education policy introduced by Revanth Reddy is based on the idea of not only changing the appearance of government schools but also providing world-class education to children from the most marginalized sections of society. Its main pillars can be examined here:

Education as a Ladder to an Equal Society: A strong aspiration that scientists, doctors, engineers, and entrepreneurs should emerge from families crushed in the traps of poverty.

Top Priority for Skill Development: Providing training to students in market-demand sectors, alongside regular ed-

ucation. Strengthening the Public Sector: Developing government educational institutions to compete with corporate schools. International Standards: Making changes in curricula and teaching methods to withstand global-level competition.

Young India Integrated Residential Schools - The Beginning of Fundamental Change

The most crucial step in Telangana government’s education policy is ‘Young India Integrated Residential Schools’. Integrating previously separated SC, ST, BC, and minority gurukuls into a single place, these schools are being built with corporate-level facilities.

Special Features of These Schools:
Comprehensive Facilities on a Single Campus: Students from all backgrounds studying together on a single campus strengthens social unity. The feeling that all children are equal, without caste or religious differences, takes deep root in them from childhood.

International Standard Basic Infrastructure: Digital classrooms, advanced laboratories, playgrounds, spacious buildings, and a pleasant environment are provided here.

Nutritious Meals: The government has given top priority to the physical and mental development of growing children by providing necessary nutritious food.

Through these gurukuls, even poor children in rural areas are getting the capacity to compete equally with those studying in big corporate schools. There is no doubt that future scientists who rule the country and entrepreneurs who create sensations will emerge from these schools.

Young India Skill University - Permanent Assurance for Employment

The main reason why jobs are not secured despite completing degrees is the lack of skills. Recognizing this problem, the Revanth Reddy government established ‘Young India Skill University’ very prestigiously centered in Hyderabad. The main objective of this university is to produce skilled professionals required for the industrial sector expanding in areas like Mutthrajpalpy or Warangal.

Industry Partnership: In this university, instead of only theoretical teaching, hands-on training is provided in partnership with prominent industry giants.

Job Guarantee Courses: The syllabus is constantly updated according to which sector has a demand in the market. As a result, youth secure employment or jobs immediately after completing their edu-

cation.

Corporate Jobs for Poor Students: The primary goal of this Skill University is to bring global jobs and high-salary positions—normally accessible only to the children of the rich—within reach of poor students.

Technological Revolution from School Education - Digital and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Education

At a time when the world is running towards Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning, the Revanth Reddy government is taking revolutionary decisions with the intention that our government school students should not stay away from it. Coding and Robotics: Plans are being drawn up to teach computer science, coding, and basic robotics to students right from the primary level.

Digital Boards and Smart Classes: Digital screens are being introduced in place of traditional blackboards, keeping online lectures from scientists of organizations like ISRO and others accessible to students.

English Medium Instruction: English medium education of quality is being strengthened in government schools to prevent poor children in rural areas from lagging due to a lack of English.

Role and Training of Government Teachers

For any education policy to succeed, the role of teachers is extremely crucial. Recognizing the responsibilities of teachers, the Revanth Reddy government is providing them with international-level training in modern teaching methods. Better Basic Infrastructure: Other administrative problems in schools are being resolved so that teachers can focus solely on teaching.

Incentives: Honoring teachers and schools that achieve the best results increases their competitive spirit.

Use of Technology: Training camps are being conducted so that teachers can also use modern technology (apps, smart tools) to simplify teaching.

From Scientists to Entrepreneurs - A Clear Roadmap

The government’s goal is not just to light lamps in huts for poor children, but to take their thoughts all the way to space.

Growth as Scientists: Creativity is brought out in students during the school phase itself through science fairs and Atal Tinkering Labs. Encouraging them to do science projects at a young age builds future scientists in organizations like ISRO and DRDO.

Formulation as Entrepreneurs: Revanth Reddy aspires that instead of searching for

jobs, poor children should become entrepreneurs who provide jobs to ten others. For this, financial and technical support is provided to startup ideas through the ‘Young India Skill University’ and incubation centers.

Criticisms and Challenges - Precautions the Government Must Take

It is natural for some practical challenges to arise when implementing any great reform. Revanth Reddy’s education policy also faces certain challenges:

Fund Allocation: Massive funds are required for the maintenance of integrated residential schools and the Skill University. This is possible only by giving top priority to the education sector in the budget.

Continuous Monitoring: If built buildings, provided food, and quality teaching are not continuously monitored, the government’s goals run the risk of being defeated. Rural and Urban Gap: The grass-roots machinery must work to ensure that these educational fruits reach deep into remote thandas and gudis instead of remaining confined to announcements.

Assurance for the Future of Generations

“Education is the only ultimate weapon we can use against poverty,” said Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Understanding this truth, the Revanth Reddy government has stepped forward to overhaul Telangana’s education sector. Whether serving the country as scientists or driving the national economy forward as entrepreneurs, education is the only proper platform. The education policy being implemented by the Revanth Reddy government with the intent that every child born in poor families receives higher education leaves no doubt that it will stand as a role model for the country in the coming days. If this policy succeeds, tomorrow a great scientist or a pioneer entrepreneur will emerge from any village. That is the true realization of Telangana, and that is the absolute success of the people’s governance dreamed of by Revanth Reddy.



DR. CHITYALA RAVINDER
7798891795

CHINESE INCURSIONS INTO ARUNACHAL HOW DOES INDIA RESPOND?

The villagers in Arunachal Pradesh have lodged complaints that the PLA is taking their land inch-by-inch and even whisking away their livestock. People in Ladakh have been making similar complaints.

The initial reaction of the Government of India is often denial, or the assurance that the matter will be investigated. Some TV channels have even suggested, rather viciously, that these complaints are orchestrated by vested interests to tarnish the image of the Indian Army and embarrass the Union Government.

Be that as it may, there is no gain-saying the hard fact: China took away 38,000 sq km in Aksai Chin and the Shaksgam Valley in 1962. Since then, through “salami-slicing” and disputes along the LAC — Line of Actual Control — it continues to contest and occupy another 4,800 sq km of Indian territory.

To trace the chronology of incursions, the pattern is old, but the intensity is new. 1956: China built a road through Aksai Chin and issued maps showing it as Chinese territory; 1959: The first serious military clash at Longju in NEFA. The same year, the Dalai Lama sought asylum in India after the uprising in Tibet, adding a strategic dimension to the border; 1962: A full-scale war. China advanced, declared a unilateral ceasefire, and retained Aksai Chin.

One is reminded of a famous anecdote in Parliament. When Nehru, replying to a debate on Chinese incursion, said, “The land on which the Chinese have built the roads is such that there is not a blade of grass nor a human being,” a Member of Parliament, Mahavir Tyagi shot back: “Sir, for the last several years there is not a single hair on this head, but for that reason shall I surrender my head to the enemy?”

Then, 1967: Nathu La conflict in Sikkim. 80 Indian soldiers died; 1975: Tulung La ambush in Arunachal; 1986-87: Sumdorong Chu standoff; 2013: Depsang incursion in Ladakh; 2017: Doklam standoff on the China-Bhutan-India tri-junction.

The faceoff lasted 73 days; 2020-2022: The most serious period since 1962. In June 2020, PLA and the Indian Army clashed at Galwan Valley. An Indian Colonel was killed during a flag meeting. In the subsequent combat, 20 Indian soldiers died. Indian media claimed 40+ Chinese casualties, though China never confirmed. Since then, China has enhanced its position through infrastructure development and salami-slicing tactics.

Thereafter, multiple friction points emerged in Ladakh: Galwan, Depsang, Pangong. Both sides have deployed in large numbers ever since. Observers contend that incursions by the PLA are now a frequent occurrence.

The core problem: the borders have not been concretely demarcated. They are managed on the basis of the LAC. China does not adhere to this convention and seeks to alter it unilaterally. As NSA Ajit Doval once noted in negotiations, China has a habit of claiming any disputed territory as its own by default. This claim is untenable.

How Should India Respond?

Revisit the 3Cs. India’s traditional China strategy has oscillated between Confrontation, Containment, and Collaboration. New Delhi shifts from one to another depending on geopolitics. For instance, when Donald Trump, in his second term, appeared hostile to India and propped up Pakistan as an interlocutor in the Iran issue, New Delhi seemed to move closer to China, the main strategic rival of the United States. One hopes this was optics, not a substantive shift in China policy.

WHAT WE NEED NOW IS A FRESH STRATEGY WITH FOUR PILLARS: MILITARY, DIPLOMATIC, ECONOMIC, AND CIVIL SOCIETAL.

Military: Deterrence through Presence
The Indian military is not what it was in 1962. Beyond loyalty and commitment, it has evolved in R&D and

now produces sophisticated weaponry. The BrahMos missile is in demand across the developing world. But one lesson of 1962 remains: we lacked connectivity to the borders. We still lag China. Therefore: Build border roads, airstrips, and bridges along the LAC on a war-footing. Galwan showed that presence matters. You cannot claim what you cannot reach. Maintain parity and quick reaction capability in Ladakh and Arunachal. Use drones, satellites, and sensors to detect salami-slicing early and react before positions harden.

Diplomatic: Carrot, Stick, and Third Parties

Use existing mechanisms for dialogue — SR (Special Representative) talks, WMCC — Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs — but remember: talks can become a delaying tactic while facts change on the ground. In the BRICS Summit next month on 12-13 in New Delhi, Russian President Putin has decided to come. Chinese Premier Xi Jinping is also expected. Should he come, Govt of India and Indians should make a strong presentation of our concerns on the border.

China’s playbook is well known. It penetrates a distance into “no man’s land” or even Indian territory, and after negotiations retreats half of it as a “concession,” retaining the other half. It keeps pushing while offering to talk. As Sun Tzu said in The Art of War, deception is central to Chinese strategy. We must not be induced into believing that “all is normal.”

We should also involve third parties. Unlike Pakistan, China is a bigger and more dangerous rival. Bilateralism alone will not suffice. Doklam was defused partly because Bhutan issued a demarche. ASEAN matters. And the Quad should be the most formidable bulwark against China, notwithstanding the ambivalence of any single leader. The Quad’s strategic value must not be diluted.

Economic: Raise the Cost
India is a big market. China has

huge exports to India. New Delhi must use this interdependence as leverage. Sadly, Indian imports from China are phenomenally increasing, widening the trade deficit. Trade cannot be delinked from territory. We must connect economic access to responsible behaviour on the border. Concessions in trade cannot be given as goodwill while territorial integrity is challenged.

Civil Society: Voice from the Ground

In a democracy, the government is not the only player. Media, market, and masses must respond. The cries of villagers in Arunachal and Ladakh should not go unheard. Their security is also our first line of defense. When civil society raises its voice against incursions, it sends a message both to Beijing and to our own citizens living precariously on the frontier: the nation stands with them.

China’s incursions are not random. They are calibrated, incremental, and aimed at changing facts without war. India’s response cannot be ad-hoc either. We need roads that reach the last post, diplomacy that does not concede ground, an economy that raises costs for aggression, and a society that refuses to normalize encroachment.

The land in Aksai Chin may have “not a blade of grass,” but it is still our head. And as Mahavir Tyagi reminded Nehru, we do not surrender our head.



BY DR. D.K. GIRI
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Tripura CM felicitates Commonwealth gold medallist Asmita Dey

IMPHAL, AUG 12

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha on Wednesday said that Asmita Dey's historic gold medal-winning performance at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, where she became the country's first judoka to win a gold medal, has brought glory to both Tripura and the nation.

The Chief Minister made the remarks while addressing a reception ceremony organised in honour of Asmita Dey by the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports at Rabindra Satabarshiki Bhavan in Agartala. At the ceremony, he handed over a cheque of Rs 10 lakh to Asmita Dey on behalf of the state government. A land allotment document was also handed over to her family.

Saha said the people of Tripura had so far known gymnast Deepa Karmakar as the state's 'Golden Girl' and taken immense pride in her achievements. "Today, Asmita Dey has established herself as the second name in that list. Coming from a very ordinary family in Sonaichari village of Belonia subdivision in South Tripura, Asmita has made Tripura's name shine on the world stage through her hard work, concentration and indomitable willpower. Her success is a matter of pride for the entire state," he said.

Recalling Asmita's struggles, the Chief Minister said he had learnt about the diffi-

cult circumstances faced by her family. He also acknowledged the sacrifices made by her family in supporting her sporting career. After learning about her housing difficulties, Saha and Sports Minister Tinku Roy decided to provide land to her family, which was implemented on Wednesday.

Although Asmita is currently working under the Uttar Pradesh Police Department, the Chief Minister assured her that the Tripura government would always stand by her and extend all possible support.

Highlighting the development of sports infrastructure in Tripura, Saha said the condition of facilities had once been poor but had now changed radically. "Modern synthetic football fields, hockey fields and high-quality stadiums have been developed in the state. Sportspersons from different states are also impressed by the development of Tripura's sports infrastructure. The state government is also honouring successful sportspersons," he said.

He added that initiatives were aimed not only at encouraging the current generation but also at recognising the contribution of renowned sportspersons, including those no longer alive. "Various sports infrastructures have been named after many sportspersons, which will serve as an inspiration to the future generation," he said.

Verma Impeachment Motion May Come in Winter Session

The government sources close to the development also told India Today that the proposed impeachment proceedings would also allow Justice Varma to present his defence during the discussion on the motion in Parliament.



has raised a legal and constitutional question, as Justice Varma had already submitted his resignation to the President in April. Despite the resignation, his name is still listed in the Allahabad High Court as one of the judges.

The situation is being seen as unprecedented, as an enquiry against a judge has been completed despite his resignation, while questions remain over his formal status and whether Parliament can initiate proceedings for his removal. A key issue under discussion is a 1978 Supreme Court ruling by a five-member bench, which held that a judge's resignation takes effect on its submission and does not require formal acceptance. Against this backdrop, the possibility of bringing an impeachment motion after Justice Varma's resignation has triggered a debate over the legal validity and purpose of such a move. The move could therefore become a significant test of the constitutional and parliamentary process governing the removal of judges, particularly in a case where the judge has already tendered his resignation but remains listed as a sitting judge.

WHAT IS THE CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING JUSTICE VARMA

The controversy stems from the recovery of a large amount of cash from the storeroom of Justice Varma's official residence in March last year. Demands for his resignation mounted quickly.

Although the judge initially refused, he later resigned. The incident subsequently led to an investigation against him by a three-member committee constituted by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla under the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.

The committee examined three charges that were brought against the former judge. These charges include the discovery and possession of unexplained Indian currency at official premises, failure to preserve or alleged interference with material evidence, and providing evasive or misleading explanations. After a year of investigation, the enquiry committee submitted a report, citing that substantial unexplained cash was found at his official residence, material evidence was not properly preserved, and his explanations about the episode were evasive and unsatisfactory.

The big pond will look amazing with the colors of the tricolor

the boat tricolor journey will take place with hundreds of boats.. For the first time in the country, floating tricolor will be made in the middle of the pond

DR.BHUPENDRA VIKAL

Bhopal 12 August: On the call of the country's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a huge boat Tiranga Yatra will be organized in Madhya Pradesh's capital Bhopal on 13 August in the series of Tricolor Yatras being taken out across the country on the occasion of Independence Day. Chief Minister DrUnder the chief hospitality of Mohan Yadav, this journey will start at 11 am from Boat Club, Bade Talab. Cooperation, Sports and Youth Welfare Minister Vishwas Sarang said that hundreds of boats with the tricolor will participate in this grand event and thousands of patriotic citizens

will be a part of the Tiranga Yatra. The water area of the big pond will be drenched in the colors of the tricolor. Minister Sarang said that on the call of Prime Minister Shri Modi, Tricolor Yatras are being taken out across the country. Organizing the Boat Tricolor Yatra amidst the natural beauty of the Big Lake of Bhopal will be a center of special attraction for Bhopal. Minister Sarang said, "Our aim is to hoist the tricolor everywhere from sky to water." This grand yatra is being organized with the aim that Mother India should reach the ultimate glory and every citizen of the country should be imbued with the spirit of patriotism.



Gujarat Dy CM Harsh Sanghavi leads massive 'Tiranga Yatra' in Ahmedabad

AHMEDABAD, AUG 12

More than one lakh citizens joined Ahmedabad's Tiranga Yatra on Wednesday as the city marked the run-up to Independence Day with a procession from Raypur to Sarangpur, carrying the Tricolor and paying tribute to the country's armed forces. Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi flagged off the yatra from Rai-pur by unfurling the national flag. The procession was organised by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation under the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign as part of Independence Day celebrations and to mark 150 years of Vande Mataram. The yatra had earlier been scheduled for August 11 but was rescheduled to August 12. Minister of State for Urban Development, Darshana Vaghela, also participated in the procession. Speaking at the event, Sanghavi said: "From Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from villages to metropolises, there is only one colour of patriotism today... the colour of the Tricolour." "Soldiers continued to stand firm to protect the country in extreme heat, torrential rain, severe cold and other difficult circumstances," he added. He said citizens had a responsibility to express their gratitude to soldiers and their

families and appealed to people to salute their courage and carry the message of patriotism across the country with slogans of 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai'. Sanghavi said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign had turned it into a nationwide people's movement, with people ranging from children to senior citizens and residents of villages and cities participating with the national flag. The Deputy CM described the participation of young people, women and elderly citizens in Ahmedabad's procession as a reflection of the city's patriotic spirit. Sanghavi also urged citizens to maintain the dignity of the national flag. "The Tricolor should always be kept flying high, and care should be taken to ensure that it does not fall on the road, even accidentally. After the procession, citizens should fold the flag properly, take it home respectfully and preserve it appropriately," he said. The procession began from the Big Bazaar-Raypur area and passed through several parts of the old city before concluding at Sarangpur.

The route was decorated in the colours of the Tricolour, with 11 welcome stages set up at locations including Rai-pur Char Rasta, Khadia Gate and Sarangpur Char Rasta.

GM NFR Inspects Redevelopment & Infrastructure Works at NJP and Katihar Railway Stations

MALIGAON, 12 AUGUST, 2026

Shri Chetan Kumar Shrivastava, General Manager of Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR), carried out an extensive inspection of New Jalpaiguri and Katihar Railway Stations on 11th August, 2026, reviewing major ongoing infrastructure and passenger amenity works. At NJP, the General Manager inspected the progress of redevelopment of the World-Class Railway Station and directed officials to ensure timely completion of all works without compromising on quality, safety and passenger convenience. He also inaugurated the Experience Zone at Platform No. 1/2, a newly developed solar energy-based parking facility on the western side of NJP station, a new booking counter and an air-conditioned



waiting hall at Platform No. 4. The existing passenger waiting area at Platform No. 5 has also been renovated to provide improved comfort and convenience to passengers. During his visit to NJP, Shri Shrivastava also opened eight additional rooms at Kanchan-jungha Officers' Rest House, further augmenting railway accommodation facilities at the station. He reviewed the progress of various ongoing works and the future course of action with concerned of-

ficials, stressing that the redevelopment of NJP should provide modern, passenger-friendly facilities while adhering to the stipulated timeframe. Senior officials from NFR Headquarters and Katihar Division, including Shri Nilmani Brahma, Principal Chief Engineer/NFR and Shri Kirendra Narah, Divisional Railway Manager/Katihar, accompanied the General Manager during the inspection programme. As part of the inspection programme, the General Man-



ager also conducted a window-trailing inspection of the recently commissioned Katihar-Kuretha and Katihar-Sonaili double-line sections, reviewing the newly commissioned infrastructure and associated works. The window trailing inspection of the railway section was done for taking stock of the condition of tracks, infrastructure and developmental works along the route. He advised the officials to remain focused on safety and ensure smooth and efficient railway

operations. At Katihar Railway Station, Shri Shrivastava inaugurated a 132 kWp solar power plant at the passenger area, strengthening NFR's efforts towards adoption of renewable energy and sustainable railway infrastructure. He also inaugurated the renovated heritage 790 'B' Class NG locomotive of Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR). The historic locomotive, has been preserved and displayed at Katihar station as a reminder of the rich railway heritage of the re-

gion. The General Manager also inspected Katihar Railway Station and reviewed various developmental and passenger amenity works. During the inspection and review meetings, the General Manager emphasised timely execution of all ongoing projects while maintaining the highest standards of quality, safety and operational excellence. He directed officials to accord due priority to passenger convenience and ensure that infrastructure augmentation and station redevelopment works translate into improved travel experience for passengers. Shri Shrivastava appreciated the dedicated efforts of railway officials and staff towards continuous modernization, sustainable infrastructure development and provision of safe, reliable and passenger-friendly railway services across NFR.

Akhilesh Yadav calls FCRA Bill anti-minority, Kiren Rijiju says prove it

Akhilesh Yadav accused the FCRA Bill of targeting minorities after it was sent to a Joint Parliamentary Committee. Kiren Rijiju denied the charge and said the wider dispute was over proposed powers to control foreign-funded assets.



ing. Honourable Speaker, the honourable minister is saying that this bill is not against minorities. I want to ask the honourable minister: tell us, which bill has this government brought so far that was not against minorities? Akhilesh said while reiterating the Opposition's position to withdraw the bill. Akhilesh's words did not go unanswered as Rijiju soon countered him with the claim that not a single provision of the FCRA Bill is anti-minority and it does not target any religion or civil

society groups. He also 'challenged' Akhilesh to prove how the bill targets any religion or group. "Show me one provision in the Bill that is against minorities. They are spreading lies. There is no question of targeting minorities. This country is not a federal republic. There is not a single provision in the Bill that targets minorities," he said. The minister further asserted that no foreign fund can flow into the country without a proper regulatory framework. The Foreign Contribution (Reg-

ulation) Act, or FCRA, is the law that regulates the receipt and use of foreign donations by NGOs, associations and other organisations in India. The government uses the law to ensure that foreign funds are not used in ways that could adversely affect national interest, public order or other legally protected interests. Organisations receiving foreign contributions are required to register under the FCRA and comply with rules governing the receipt, utilisation and disclosure of such funds. The proposed FCRA Amendment Bill, 2026, seeks to tighten these regulations and introduce new safeguards around foreign-funded organisations. One of its key proposals is the creation of a Designated Authority that could take over the management of foreign contributions and assets created from such funds if an

organisation's FCRA registration is cancelled, surrendered or ceases because it is not renewed. The Opposition's principal concern centres on the proposed powers of the designated authority. It has questioned whether the government should have the power to take control of assets built over several years with foreign contributions if an organisation's FCRA registration is cancelled or not renewed. The Opposition, along with several civil society groups, argue that such powers could give the government excessive control over NGOs and institutions that depend on foreign donations for their operations. They have particularly raised concerns about organisations running schools, hospitals, charitable institutions and welfare projects, where the assets involved may have been created over decades.

Punjab Govt to Install 3 Lakh Solar Streetlights in Villages

According to minister Aman Arora, the decision was taken in view of the limited financial resources available to panchayats and to ensure equal opportunity for all gram panchayats to take part in the programme.



The Punjab government will install 3 lakh new LED-based solar streetlights in villages across the state at a cost of Rs 470 crore. New and Renewable Energy Sources Minister Aman Arora said on Wednesday. He said the move is aimed at improving safety, connectivity and sustainability in rural areas through clean energy lighting. Arora said the AAP government will bear 70 per cent of the project cost, while gram panchayats will pay the remaining 30 per cent. He said this marks a major change from the earlier

30:70 funding pattern, which had placed a heavy financial burden on village bodies. According to the minister, the decision was taken in view of the limited financial resources available to panchayats and to ensure equal opportunity for all gram panchayats to take part in the programme. He said the initiative reflects the state government's focus on improving safety, strengthening rural infrastructure and promoting clean energy in villages.

Arora said 62.51 per cent of Punjab's population, or around 173.20 lakh peo-

ple, lives in rural areas. He said dark streets increase the risk of accidents and crime, while also limiting economic and social activity after sunset. The project, he added, will help villages near major economic hubs extend working hours and support the rural economy.

The Punjab Energy Development Agency will be the nodal agency for the project. It will oversee the installation of new solar streetlights as well as the repair and renewal of existing systems.

Arora said the maintenance support period has also been extended from five years to seven years, based on feedback from panchayats, to ensure long-term functioning of the systems. Overall, the project is intended to expand clean energy lighting in Punjab's villages while easing the financial burden on panchayats.



South Korea, India
vow closer ties in
customs affairs
SEOUL

The South Korean customs agency said on Wednesday it has agreed with its Indian counterpart to bolster cooperation in customs affairs and facilitate smoother trade between the two countries.

The Korea Customs Service (KCS) said it met with officials from India's Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs in New Delhi on Tuesday (Indian time), asking the Indian government to support smooth customs clearance for South Korean businesses, reports Yonhap news agency.

During the meeting, the KCS shared cases of South Korean firms based in India facing difficulties with customs-related issues, with the two sides also holding discussions on bilateral cooperation, including training programs.

"With India being a major partner in the Asia-Pacific region, the two countries intend to bolster cooperation down the road to address hurdles facing South Korean firms seeking to export to India," Han Min, director general for international affairs at the KCS, said in a release. Meanwhile, customs agency last month it had seized 2.1 tons of drugs in a recent joint global operation with partners in the Asia-Pacific region.

The achievement came after the Korea Customs Service joined forces with the Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific under the World Customs Organization under the campaign slogan, "For a Drug-Free World." During the two-month operation with 18 other countries from May to June, customs authorities seized 2.1 tons of drugs in 785 cases.

One of four missing
Portuguese
nationals found alive
ZAGREB

One of four Portuguese nationals who went missing overnight off Croatia's Adriatic coast was found alive in a cove on the island of Krk on Wednesday and has been handed over to emergency medical services, harbour master Nenad Bugarin told media, as the search continued for the remaining three.

The rescued woman told rescuers that another member of the group had been near her only about 20 minutes earlier, but that person has not yet been located, Bugarin said.

Earlier on Wednesday, Croatia's Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre in Rijeka (MRCC Rijeka) launched a co-ordinated search and rescue operation

for four young Portuguese nationals who went missing overnight in the Velebit Channel along the country's Adriatic coast, the Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure said.

MRCC Rijeka said it received a report at 4:41 am local time (0241 GMT) from an acquaintance of the missing group, who said the four friends had set out to paddle a small inflatable boat, no more than 1.5 metres long.

Chinese Communist Party's Tibet policy textbook
case of empire-building through assimilation: Report

LHASA

The Chinese Communist Party's policy in Tibet demonstrates an example of empire-building through assimilation. However, history indicates that rigid, forced assimilation plans ultimately face systemic limits, a report has detailed.

"The sweep of history reminds us of a simple truth: no empire, however mighty, is permanent. Rome, the Ottomans, the British Raj; all believed their dominion eternal, only to discover that power is cyclical, not absolute. Today, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) exercises seemingly unassailable control over the Tibetan Plateau, integrating it through modernisation, surveillance, and demographic engineering," Khedroob Thondup, Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama's nephew, mentioned in a report in the European Times.

It mentioned that the history indicates that rigid, forced assimilation plans ultimately face systemic limits. The CCP's strategy of assimilation and approach to Tibet has been comprehensive and uncompromising.



misgiving. The party considers Tibet as a national security protection, an economic resource base and a geopolitical anchor, with infrastructure projects and military deployments reinforcing its strategic role, wrote Thondup adding that CCP's policies mandate the sinicisation of Tibetan Buddhism.

He emphasised that these plans have been made by the CCP to remove differences and implement uniformity. However, history suggests that such rigidity often causes fragility and the fragility of imperial longevity has demonstrated that empires collapse due to external challenge and internal contradiction. China in the

Last week, leading international human rights organisation Amnesty International strongly condemned the arrest of prominent Chinese pro-democracy activist Zhang Yi after he displayed a photograph of the Dalai Lama during a visit to a monastery in Tibet.

The organisation described the case as a chilling example of China's continued crackdown on peaceful expression and the longstanding misuse of "inciting separatism" charges to criminalise peaceful expression in the Tibetan region.

"The arrest of Zhang Yi after he showed a photograph of the Dalai Lama while visiting a monastery is a chilling reminder of how far the Chinese authorities will go to police the peaceful exercise of human rights. This case bears all the hallmarks of the Chinese authorities' long-standing misuse of the offence of 'inciting separatism' to criminalise peaceful expression in Tibetan areas and in relation to Tibetan history, culture and religious belief," said Amnesty International's Deputy Regional Director Sarah Brooks.

"Pending his release, they must ensure that he has

prompt access to his family and a lawyer of his own choosing. Authorities must protect him from torture and other ill-treatment while in detention," she added.

Citing an arrest notice received by his family, Amnesty International said that Zhang was formally arrested on July 28 on suspicion of "inciting separatism".

According to the rights body, Zhang was detained by police in Lhasa on July 1 while visiting Sera Monastery in Tibet with his younger brother. It noted that after being unable to communicate verbally with a Tibetan worshipper from whom he wished to borrow a prayer mat, Zhang showed the person a photograph of the Dalai Lama on his mobile phone.

Referring to his family's account, Amnesty International said that two plainclothesmen observed the interaction and appeared to record Zhang and his brother as they left the prayer area. The activist was detained by police before he could leave the monastery. His detention came on the same day when China's new Promoting Ethnic Unity and Progress Law came into force.

Surge in attacks on
aid workers across
South Sudan: UN

JUBA

The United Nations (UN) relief agency has expressed concern after attacks in South Sudan killed six humanitarian workers in July, warning that rising violence severely threatens vital aid operations across the country. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has said that humanitarian access across South Sudan remained severely constrained in July due to persistent conflict, violence against aid workers, administrative hurdles and degrading infrastructure.

"Restrictions on the movement of cash, fuel and communications equipment into opposition-controlled areas also persisted, affecting the delivery of cash-based and other essential assistance," the UN agency said in its report.

It said two humanitarian workers were killed in Jonglei State, two in the Greater Pibor Administrative Area and two others in Warap State, Xinhua news agency reported. According to OCHA, three humanitarian workers were abducted with ransom demands in Central Equatoria and Western Equatoria states, while escalated hostilities in northern



Jonglei forced the relocation of 10 aid personnel. In July, 65 humanitarian access incidents were recorded, up from 63 in June, primarily in localities including Upper Nile, Central Equatoria, Jonglei, and Unity in the country, as ongoing insecurity posed severe threats to aid personnel and operations, OCHA said.

OCHA noted that a combination of escalating insecurity, movement restrictions, bureaucratic hurdles and weather-damaged infrastructure severely hampered humanitarian operations and delayed life-saving aid across South Sudan in July.

Meanwhile, over 60 people were killed and 50 others injured on Sunday after armed youth from neighbouring Unity State launched coordinated attacks across South Sudan's Warap State, local authorities confirmed on Monday.

China's leadership ignoring
domestic consumers in
pursuit of big projects: Report

NEW DELHI

China's leadership is continuing with its thrust on developing its "AI plus" initiative, pushing for breakthroughs in frontier technology, building new pillar industries in pursuit of national power while ignoring its weak consumer demand at home, which enables the country to export goods at cheap prices and pile up a trade surplus, according to an article in Foreign Policy magazine.

"The neglect of the household is a top-down decision, a cost that the Chinese leadership has determined is worth paying for the sectors it counts on for national power," the article states. It points out that the Chinese Politburo's strategy this year has even dropped the "special initiatives to boost consumption" that were mentioned last year.

The article points out that the strategy has been adopted despite the fact that the IMF, in its review of China's economy, proposed that Beijing should spend roughly a trillion dollars finishing the country's unfinished presold apartments or compensating the buyers. However, the Chinese leadership said that it planned no additional spending to complete pre-sold housing and that social spending would have to wait on fiscal sustainability.

Some Chinese economists have argued for years for direct transfers, cash, or vouchers being put into consumers' hands. However, Xi Jinping's 2021 essay on common prosperity, which still governs policy, warned that the state must

never fall into the trap of a welfareism that raises lazy people, the article observes.

While the Chinese leadership is allocating large scale funds to finance the country's technology drive and also focusing on supporting the stock market, this leaves little headroom to fund households which locks China's economy onto exports, and exports depend on the exchange rate.

China ran a goods trade surplus of 3.99 trillion yuan in the first half of this year, with exports up 17.6 per cent in dollar terms. This huge surplus could have pushed the yuan much higher than the current 6.79 to the dollar, but China's leadership is not keen to see it becoming stronger. The article points out that the IMF, in its new External Sector Report, has stated that the yuan is around 20 per cent undervalued and noted that state banks appear to have been intervening to slow its rise.

China's motivations go back to the household. An economy holding down domestic consumption needs foreign buyers for what its factories make; a cheap currency is what keeps those buyers and lower exchange rate helps its exports.

If Beijing did the opposite and spent heavily to lift household incomes. Chinese factories would sell more at home, imports would rise, and the trade surplus would shrink. A serious boost to household consumption would work against the rest of this model and undermine the leverage that Beijing has built from its trade surplus.

Houthis launch fresh ballistic missile
attack on Yemen's Red Sea port city

SANAA

Yemen's Houthi group launched a fresh ballistic missile attack on the Red Sea port city of Mocha on Wednesday, stepping up its attacks on areas controlled by the internationally recognised government, pro-government media reported.

The pro-government Al-jumhuriya TV cited a port official as saying that two missile strikes hit the maritime pier, causing further damage to port facilities. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

The latest attack came after two Houthi missile and drone attacks in Mocha since Sunday, leaving eight people, including four government soldiers, dead and dozens of others wounded, according to government sources. The Houthis have said their



recent strikes on Mocha targeted gatherings and positions of Saudi-backed forces, accusing them of preparing military operations against Houthi-held areas.

The Houthis have sharply intensified missile and drone attacks on government-held areas in Yemen and Saudi-linked

targets in recent weeks, raising fears that the military escalation could unravel the relative calm that has largely prevailed since a United Nations-brokered truce took effect in 2022.

On Tuesday, the Houthis targeted what it described as a Saudi military equipment transport ship in the strategic

Bab al-Mandab Strait, as well as Saudi-backed forces in the government-held areas of Mocha and Marib, Xinhua news agency reported. In a statement posted on social media platform X, the Houthis' military media centre said the group's forces had carried out an operation targeting "a Saudi military equipment transport ship" in Bab al-Mandab. It did not identify the vessel or provide further details about the operation.

In a separate statement on X, Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Sarea said "a large number of ballistic missiles and drones" targeted troop gatherings, weapons depots and command centers in Mocha, a coastal city in southwestern Taiz province, and at Tadawin military camp in the northeastern province of Marib.

Bangladesh measles outbreak claims
five more lives, death toll nears 900

DHAKA

At least five children died from the measles outbreak in Bangladesh on Wednesday, raising the total number of confirmed and suspected deaths to 885 this year, amid an escalating health crisis in the country, local media reported. According to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), the deaths were reported in the 24 hours leading up to Wednesday morning.

Among the latest fatalities from the disease, one was identified as a confirmed measles death while the remaining four were classified as suspected deaths, Bangladeshi media outlet UNB reported. Reports suggest that while the number of confirmed



deaths has risen to 99, the total number of suspected deaths climbed to 786. The DGHS recorded a total of 941 new suspected measles cases during the 24-hour period, bringing the overall tally of suspected cases to 139,125.

Additionally, 84 new confirmed cases were reported, increasing the total to 17,469 during the same period.

As Bangladesh continues to witness a sharp increase in measles cases, a leading international advocacy group

recently described the 2026 outbreak as one of the country's worst public health crises in recent history, highlighting the concern that the disease is preventable through vaccination.

In its latest report titled 'Preventable Tragedy: Bangladesh's 2026 Measles Outbreak', Canada-based Global Centre for Democratic Governance (GCDG) said that although the measles outbreak appeared sudden to the public, it was not an unexpected event from an "epidemiological perspective".

The report noted that the crisis resulted from a combination of disruptions to vaccine supply and health programs in 2024-2025 during the former interim government led by Muhammad Yunus, along with

missed routine vaccinations, cancellations of scheduled supplementary immunisation programmes, administrative delays in vaccine procurement, and a failure to promptly identify at-risk populations. According to GCDG, Bangladesh had long procured WHO-approved vaccines through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)'s international supply chain; however, the interim government replaced this system with an open tender procurement process. Citing UNICEF, the report said the agency repeatedly warned the interim government of a potential vaccine shortage through five to six formal letters and around 10 meetings held between 2024 and 2026.

Pakistan has history of using military force on its own people

NEW DELHI

Pakistan's airstrikes on people it calls its own crosses a moral and political line that civilised societies refuse to breach, yet remains with many precedents.

It has reportedly carried out airstrikes in Balochistan's Surab district on Wednesday that is said to have killed more than 30 civilians, including women and children, and injured several others.

Nearly a year ago, the Pakistani Air Force carried out similar bombing at a village in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province that left almost a similar number dead.

Pakistan has a history of using military force against

its own population, most infamously during the 1971 crackdown in East Pakistan -- now Bangladesh -- and currently in the tribal regions where airstrikes and artillery are being used against "suspected militants", but killing civilians instead.

These incidents highlight the devastating consequences when a state turns its military power within.

The worst such incident was reported in 1971 when Islamabad unleashed "Operation Searchlight" in East Pakistan with tanks, artillery, and airstrikes to suppress Bengali nationalist movements after the Awami League's electoral victory.

Widespread atrocities by

the Army and those supporting the operation included mass killings, rape, and targeting of intellectuals.

The number of casualties estimated from the carnage totals several lakhs of civilians killed over nine months, and the country, since independence, still commemorates March 25 as "Genocide Day".

And well over the past decade, Pakistan's military has conducted repeated airstrikes in the tribal areas, again, against alleged Taliban and Al-Qaeda militants.

However, civilian casualties are frequently reported, with villages bombed under suspicion of harbouring insurgents.

Human rights groups have criticised the indiscriminate



nature of these strikes, which killed scores and displaced thousands. Instead of sitting at the negotiating table, the bombings further fuel insurgency, deepen ethnic divides,

and destabilise regions.

Additionally, there are records establishing Pakistan's military using villages and civilian settlements as firing positions during wars against

India in 1965 and 1971, and continues along the Line of Control in Kashmir.

With this, Islamabad chooses to blur the line between civilian and military zones, exposing non-combatants to retaliatory fire.

The Geneva Conventions explicitly prohibit the use of civilian areas for military purposes, so that civilians are protected from becoming targets in armed conflicts.

In recent times, Pakistan has targeted Afghan territories with airstrikes, drawing condemnation.

Carried out again under the garb of targeting terrorists, such bombings have killed several innocent Afghan, destroyed homes, and uprooted

hundreds of families.

Civilised states avoid such brutality because it destroys legitimacy, violates international norms, and leaves scars that last generations.

Perhaps the closest example of such action in the region comes from Myanmar, where airstrikes on civilians are documented by UN investigators and released on Tuesday.

It reflects the devastation caused to homes, schools, hospitals, and displacement camps, killing innocents under the guise of fighting "terrorists".

Incidentally, in the final phase of its civil war around 2009, Sri Lanka's government forces, too, had allegedly shelled civilian zones, spark-

ing allegations of war crimes.

Meanwhile, in Myanmar's Rakhine State alone, 20 civilians were killed in a single month of airstrikes, say reports.

"Expanded military operations include indiscriminate attacks on civilians through airstrikes, with the junta targeting schools, hospitals, religious sites, as well as displaced person camps. The military has also made use of drones, as well as motorised paragliders, used to drop bombs," the United States Committee for Refugees and Immigrants noted earlier this year. This is terror from above, designed to break a country's own communities and silence dissent.



ioMart Quick
Announces
Independence
Sale

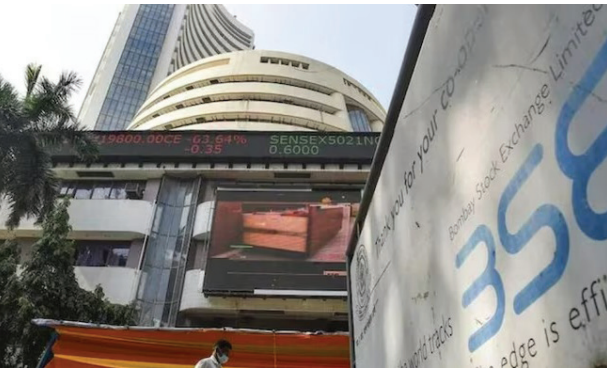
MUMBAI, AUGUST 12,
2026:

JioMart Quick has announced its Grand Independence Sale, offering discounts of up to 80% across groceries, daily essentials, electronics, fashion and festive products. The five-day sale will run from August 12 to August 16 on the JioMart app and website, with customers able to access products through quick delivery. Shoppers can also benefit from exclusive Independence Day deals and additional bank discounts on select payment options. The festive sale combines significant savings with the convenience of quick commerce, giving customers an opportunity to shop for both everyday essentials and special occasion needs at attractive prices.

Sensex, Nifty fall in early trade as
rising crude keeps investors cautious

Hindalco Industries was the biggest gainer among Nifty 50 stocks, rising 3.67% to Rs 1,087.65. Tech Mahindra gained 0.77% to Rs 1,655.70, while Bajaj Auto rose 0.67% to Rs 11,796.

Benchmark indices were trading lower in early trade on Wednesday, with the Sensex down over 200 points and the Nifty hovering around 24,400. The BSE Sensex was at 77,942.17, down 212.08 points or 0.27%, at 9:21 am. The index had opened at 78,154.25 and touched an early high of 78,155.62 before slipping to a low of 77,865.60. The Nifty 50 was at 24,415.10, down 56.60 points or 0.23%. It opened at 24,472.45 and moved between an early high of 24,473.30 and low of 24,390.60. Hindalco Industries was the biggest gainer among Nifty 50 stocks, rising



3.67% to Rs 1,087.65. Tech Mahindra gained 0.77% to Rs 1,655.70, while Bajaj Auto rose 0.67% to Rs 11,796. Nestle India was up 1.27% at Rs 1,512.20. Grasim Industries gained 0.73%, while ONGC, State Bank of India and Tata Steel also traded higher. Financial stocks were among the key drags. Bajaj Finserv fell 1.15%, while Max Healthcare declined 1.11%. Kotak Mahindra Bank fell 0.92%, SBI Life Insurance declined 0.85% and Bajaj Finance was down 0.50%. Among major banks, HDFC Bank was down 0.55% at Rs 725, ICICI Bank fell 0.50% to Rs 1,422.40 and Axis Bank declined 0.28% to Rs 1,226.30. stocks were largely under pressure. TCS fell 0.56% to Rs 2,432.10, while Infosys declined 0.48% to Rs 1,185. HCLTech was almost flat at Rs 1,365, while Tech Mahindra bucked the trend with a 0.77% gain. Among other major stocks, Mahindra

& Mahindra fell 0.53%, Larsen & Toubro declined 0.50% and Reliance Industries was down 0.32%.

Dr VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Investments Limited, said the market was “defying a breakout on the upside” and moving sideways, with rising crude prices emerging as the principal factor restraining a rally. “The principal factor restraining a rally is the strengthening Brent crude which has again moved above \$89 level,” Vijayakumar said.

He pointed to the continuing US-Iran tensions, including the latest attack by the US military on a Panama-flagged container ship, and said Iran appeared to be hardening its stance on the opening of the Strait of Hormuz.

“This might keep crude prices elevated constraining a rally in the market,” he said. However, Vijayakumar said

India's growth outlook was improving, providing a positive factor for equities.

“On the positive side, India's growth resilience is getting better,” he said, citing an SBI report that projects FY27 GDP growth at 8%, compared with the RBI's 6.7% estimate.

“This optimism is based on the trends in most leading indicators. If this turns out to be true, corporate earnings for FY27 will be much better-than-expected. This is a bullish factor,” he said.

Vijayakumar also pointed to heightened activity in the mid- and small-cap segments.

“A significant trend in the market is the hyper activity in the mid and small-cap segments where stocks are responding to results and news,” he said.

The market was still in the opening phase of trading at 9:21 am, so the early moves remained subject to change.

Tata Stocks Slide,
Rs.68,000 Cr Wiped Out

MUMBAI, AUG 12



Shares of Tata Group companies came under broad selling pressure on Wednesday after N. Chandrababu Naidu decided not to seek reappointment as chairman of Tata Sons, wiping out more than Rs 68,000 crore in combined market capitalisation despite gains in a handful of group stocks. The combined market capitalisation of the group's 17 listed companies fell by Rs 68,119 crore to Rs 26.32 lakh crore from nearly Rs 27 lakh crore in the previous session. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) accounted for the largest share of the market value erosion. The IT major's market capitalisation declined by Rs 42,440 crore to Rs 8.40 lakh crore after its shares fell 4.79 per cent to Rs 2,323.30. Titan emerged as the second-largest drag on the group's valuation, with its market capitalisation shrinking by Rs 9,304 crore as the stock declined nearly 2 per cent. Other major contributors to the decline included Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles, which saw its market value fall by Rs 4,898 crore, and Tata Steel, which lost Rs 4,745 crore in market capitalisation. Tata Consumer Products shed Rs 3,098 crore, while Tata Power and Indian Hotels lost Rs 1,598 crore and Rs 1,566 crore, respectively. Several other Tata companies also closed lower. Tata Communications lost Rs 812 crore

in market value, Tata Elxsi declined by Rs 606 crore, Trent by Rs 907 crore, Tata Investment Corporation by Rs 508 crore and Tejas Networks by Rs 265 crore. Tata Teleservices (Maharashtra) also registered a decline in market capitalisation. Not all Tata Group stocks participated in the sell-off. Tata Motors added Rs 1,786 crore to its market value, while Tata Capital gained Rs 700 crore. Tata Chemicals and Voltas also ended with modest gains, adding Rs 167 crore and Rs 66 crore, respectively. The selling pressure followed Chandrababu Naidu's decision not to seek an extension of his tenure as chairman after a board member opposed the proposal for his reappointment. According to Chandrababu Naidu, the prolonged uncertainty surrounding the issue made it necessary for the board to move forward with succession planning. In a statement, Chandrababu Naidu said he had completed four decades of professional life within the Tata Group and described his nearly ten-year stint as chairman of Tata Sons as both a privilege and a significant responsibility.

27-Year-Old Tribal Patient Undergoes
Complex Cancer Surgery at MRNH

Hyderabad: For a 27-year-old man from the remote tribal village of Konam in Anakapalli district, the journey to advanced cancer care in Hyderabad became a story of courage, hope and recovery. Coming from a hilly region where access to specialised healthcare is limited, the young patient travelled with his family to Hyderabad after being diagnosed with a serious cancer condition. The patient was diagnosed with a mediastinal germ cell tumour and was referred to Malla Reddy Narayana Multispecialty Hospital (MRNH) for comprehensive evaluation and multidisciplinary treatment. He had already completed chemotherapy, following which a PET-CT scan showed a significant reduction in the tumour. However, a predominantly necrotic residual mass remained, requiring further treatment. After detailed clinical evaluation, the hospital's Surgical Oncology team planned a sternotomy with excision of the residual mediastinal tumour. The procedure was considered technically challenging because of the tumour's location near vital organs and major blood vessels. The surgery was successfully performed on 29 July 2026 by Dr. Harish Dara, Senior Consultant Surgical Oncologist, Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeon, and Dr. Mahesh Bejjam, Consultant Surgical Oncologist,

Advanced cancer treatment and expert surgical care bring new hope to a young patient from a remote tribal region



with the support of the hospital's multidisciplinary medical and surgical team. Following the procedure, the patient received comprehensive post-operative care and recovered steadily. He was discharged in stable condition on 3 August 2026. For the patient and his family, the successful treatment brought relief after months of uncertainty. The case also highlighted the importance of ensuring access to specialised cancer treatment for patients from remote and underserved communities. Speaking about the case, Dr. Harish Dara and Dr. Mahesh Bejjam said patients from tribal and remote regions often face additional challenges in reaching specialist healthcare. They noted that the patient's good response to chemotherapy made it possible to proceed with surgery and remove the residual tumour. They emphasised that every patient deserves timely access to specialised treatment, regardless of geographical location. MRNH provides comprehensive

cancer care through a multidisciplinary approach involving advanced diagnostics, surgical oncology, medical oncology, critical care and personalised treatment planning. The hospital offers open, laparoscopic and robotic-assisted procedures, with the surgical method selected according to each patient's condition. Sri Ch. Bhadra Reddy, Chairman, Malla Reddy Vishwavidyapeeth, said quality healthcare should not be defined by distance and reaffirmed the institution's commitment to making advanced medical care accessible to patients in need. Dr. Preeti Reddy, Vice Chairperson, Malla Reddy Vishwavidyapeeth, stressed the importance of combining medical expertise with compassionate, patient-centred care. Dr. Rakesh Prabhu, CEO, Malla Reddy Narayana Multispecialty Hospital, said the successful outcome reflected the strength of the hospital's multidisciplinary team and its commitment to advanced cancer care. The case demonstrates how specialised medical expertise, timely treatment and coordinated care can help patients from even the most remote regions access complex cancer treatment and return home with renewed hope.

AIG Hospitals Brings
AI Surgery to the OR

to Shape the Next Generation of Surgical Care.. Implementation of Polyphonic™ Surgery marks a step towards connected, collaborative and surgical care

Hyderabad, 12 August 2026: AIG Hospitals has announced a collaboration with Johnson & Johnson to implement Polyphonic™ Surgery, the flagship solution within the Polyphonic digital ecosystem for surgery, designed to support secure surgical video recording, review, collaboration, learning, and knowledge-sharing across surgical teams. AIG Hospitals will be among the early centres in not just in India but entire Asia-Pacific to implement such a digital ecosystem for surgical procedures, marking an important step towards the future of surgical intelligence. The platform is designed to bring surgical video, case-based review, team collaboration, learning resources, and structured feedback into one centralized environment. Through hands-on use and ongoing collaboration with surgeons, operating room teams, residents, information technology professionals and hospital leadership, AIG Hospitals will help evaluate how connected digital technologies can support clinical excellence and operational effectiveness.



Speaking on the collaboration, Dr. GV Rao, Director & Chief of Surgery, AIG Hospitals, said “Surgery today is no longer confined to the operating room alone. It begins with planning, continues through coordinated execution, and must be followed by careful review, learning, and improvement. By implementing Polyphonic™ Surgery, we are taking an important step towards building a more connected and intelligent surgical ecosystem. The true value of this technology lies in how it can help our teams communicate better, learn faster, train more effectively and ultimately deliver, more precise and more consistent care to our patients.” The collaboration also aligns with AIG Hospitals' larger vision of integrating clinical

excellence with academics, research, digital innovation and AI-enabled healthcare solutions. As part of the program, participating users at AIG Hospitals will provide feedback on usability, workflow integration and clinical connectivity, helping inform future applications across surgical specialties and hospital systems. AIG Hospitals has consistently invested in technologies and institutional systems that enhance quality of care, strengthen medical training and support evidence-based clinical practice. The introduction of Polyphonic™ Surgery adds a new dimension to this journey by bringing digital intelligence, collaborative learning and surgical innovation directly into the operating room.



Sprint Diagnostics
Marks 4th Anniversary

Wellness Family Card launched at Jubilee Hills anniversary celebration

Hyderabad, August 12, 2026: Sprint Diagnostics, Jubilee Hills, marked its fourth anniversary with a special celebration attended by prominent dignitaries from the healthcare, political and entertainment sectors. Jubilee Hills MLA Mr. Naveen Yadav was the Chief Guest, while actor Dr. Madala Ravi attended as the Guest of Honour and popular actor Mr. Sai Kumar graced the occasion as the Special Guest.

The celebrations also marked the launch of the Sprint Diagnostics Wellness Family Card, an initiative aimed at making preventive healthcare and quality diagnostic services more accessible to families.

Chief Guest Mr. Naveen Yadav said:

Accessible and quality diagnostic services are an important part of a strong healthcare system. Sprint Diagnostics has completed four successful years by earning the trust of the community. I congratulate the entire team and wish Sprint Diagnostics continued growth and success in the years ahead.”

Special Guest Mr. Sai Kumar said:

“Good health is the foundation of a happy life, and regular health check-ups should become a part of everyone's routine. I am delighted to be part of Sprint Diagnostics' fourth anniversary celebrations. I congratulate the team on this milestone and wish them greater success in serving the community.”

Dr. Bharat Reddy D., Managing Director and Consultant Interventional Cardiologist, Sprint Diagnostics, said:

“Our vision is to deliver accurate, advanced and dependable diagnostic services while keeping patient needs at the centre of everything we do. Completing four years is an important milestone for us, and we are grateful to our patients, doctors, partners and well-wishers for their continued trust and support.” The event was attended by doctors, healthcare professionals, staff members, guests and well-wishers, who joined the Sprint Diagnostics team in celebrating the milestone.

Vantara Expands Elephant
Welfare Outreach Globally

Beginning with Gauri, the first elephant rescued by Vantara, the initiative has grown into a broader mission to improve elephant welfare, support elephant caregivers, foster knowledge exchange, and advance elephant conservation efforts in India and around the world.

Jamnagar (Gujarat), 12 August 2026: Vantara, founded by Anant Ambani, today marked World Elephant Day by highlighting its ongoing work across elephant welfare, conservation education and international collaboration, reflecting its commitment to strengthening elephant protection and welfare in India and around the world. Home to more than 260 Asian elephants, Vantara has become one of the world's leading centres for elephant welfare. Elephants hold a special place in Vantara's story and reflect its broader commitment to providing rescued animals with specialised care and a dignified life. Gauri, the first ele-

phant rescued by Anant Ambani, marked the beginning of a journey that has since grown into Vantara. Anant Ambani, Founder, Vantara, said: “Elephants have always held a very special place in my heart and in Vantara's journey. Every elephant we care for has a unique story, and every rescue reminds us of the responsibility we have towards their welfare. What began with the rescue of Gauri has grown into a wider commitment to improving elephant welfare, supporting the people who care for them, sharing knowledge and learning with partners, and contributing to elephant conservation in India and around the world. On World Elephant Day, we celebrate these magnificent animals and reaffirm our commitment to working together to secure a better future for them.” Strengthening Elephant Welfare at Hathi Gaon, Jaipur On the occasion of World Elephant Day, Sanjay Sharma, Minister for Forest, Environment and Climate

Change, Government of Rajasthan, announced a collaboration with Vantara to strengthen the care and quality of life of elephants at Hathi Gaon, Jaipur. The initiative will include a state-of-the-art Elephant Treatment & Care Facility, comprising an advanced hospital, nutrition centre and hydrotherapy facility, along with a dedicated Retirement & Care Centre for elderly elephants. Bringing together the experience of the Rajasthan Forest Department and Vantara, the collaboration will support these elephants through every stage of their lives, helping ensure that their individual needs are better understood and addressed, and creating a happier, more comfortable and compassionate future for the elephants of Hathi Gaon. National Elephant Welfare Outreach Programme Vantara has recently completed a large-scale Elephant Welfare Outreach Programme in partnership with State Forest Departments across eight loca-

tions in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Bringing together the experience and expertise of teams working with elephants on the ground, the programme focused on knowledge sharing and the exchange of best practices to support the health and welfare of 182 elephants, while engaging 242 mahouts. The collaboration included preventive veterinary care and practical sessions covering elephant health, humane handling, first aid and musth management. Veterinary and welfare kits, along with nutritional support, were also provided as part of the programme. Through these partnerships, Vantara aims to foster continued exchange among elephant-care professionals, promote best practices and strengthen collaborative approaches to improving elephant welfare. “My Friend Leelavati” Vantara has launched My Friend Leelavati, a social media campaign for children promoting empathy and compassion through the sto-

ry of Leelavati, an elephant who was separated from her mother as a calf, spent years in a circus, and later suffered extensive burn injuries when a circus tent caught fire. Leelavati has become one of Vantara's most beloved elephants, and her story helps children understand that every elephant deserves kindness, compassionate care and a life of dignity. As part of the campaign, children are invited to solve a themed puzzle and write a message for Leelavati. Winners will receive a Leelavati gift hamper and the opportunity to visit Vantara, meet Leelavati and her caregiver, and learn firsthand about elephant rescue and lifelong care.

Supporting Global Action on Human-Elephant Conflict

To strengthen international cooperation on human-elephant conflict, Vantara is providing a grant to the Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI) Foundation to support the participation of experts, practitioners and youth representatives from Asian and African elephant range states

at the 1st Global Human-Elephant Conflict Summit and the 2nd International Conference on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence, to be held in Bangkok in March 2027. The grant will support delegates from all 13 Asian elephant range states, at least five African elephant range states working with the EPI Foundation, and youth representatives from both regions. It will also enable the expansion of the EPI Youth Ambassadors Programme into India for the first time, creating opportunities for practitioners and young conservationists to share experiences, learn from approaches across Africa and Asia, and strengthen collaboration on human-elephant conflict mitigation and coexistence. On the ground, Vantara continues to deploy rapid-response veterinary teams, thermal drone surveillance and community engagement programmes to respond to human-elephant conflict, provide veterinary support to injured elephants and promote long-term coexistence between people and elephants.

CAG: CPSEs Not Penalised
for SEBI Non-Compliance

NEW DELHI: (AUG 12)

Administrative ministries and the Department of Public Enterprises did not deduct marks from the MoU score of CPSEs despite non-compliance of Sebi Regulations on Corporate Governance, a CAG report revealed on Wednesday.

The review of corporate governance by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India covered 65 CPSEs, whose

shares/bonds were listed on stock exchanges and 36 CPSEs, including four statutory corporations, whose bonds/debentures were listed on the bourses as on March 31, 2024.

In seven central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) the number of non-executive directors were found to be less than 50 per cent of the board strength during the whole/part period of 2023-24, the report found.

A New Age of Space Science

Black Holes, Solar Mysteries and the Search for New Worlds

Humanity is entering an extraordinary period in the exploration of space. From increasingly detailed observations of the Sun to the discovery of distant black holes and the continuing search for planets beyond our solar system, modern astronomy is revealing a universe far more dynamic and complex than scientists once imagined. The rapid development of space telescopes, advanced observatories, artificial intelligence and sophisticated computer simulations has transformed the way scientists study the cosmos. Objects that were once too distant or too faint to examine in detail can now be investigated with remarkable precision. The year 2026 is proving particularly exciting for astronomy. Scientists are studying the behaviour of the Sun in unprecedented detail, investigating the violent activity surrounding black holes and using powerful instruments such as the James Webb Space Telescope to examine distant planets and galaxies. These discoveries are not simply about understanding distant objects in space. They are helping scientists answer some of humanity's oldest questions: How did the universe begin? How do stars and planets form? Could life exist elsewhere? And what will Earth's future look like as our understanding of the Sun and the wider cosmos improves?

The Sun Under a Scientific Microscope

The Sun has been observed by humans for thousands of years, but scientists are still discovering new details about our nearest star. Modern solar observatories are allowing researchers to examine its surface and atmosphere at extraordinary levels of detail. The Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope, one of the world's most powerful solar telescopes, is providing scientists with highly detailed views of the Sun's surface. Its observations reveal complex patterns of magnetic fields, plasma movements and structures associated with solar activity. These observations are important because the Sun is not a quiet ball of gas. It is a constantly changing environment powered by enormous magnetic forces. Solar flares and coronal mass ejections can release huge quantities of

energy and charged particles into space. When these particles reach Earth, they can produce spectacular auroras. But powerful solar storms can also interfere with satellites, radio communication, navigation systems and electrical infrastructure. As modern society becomes increasingly dependent on satellites and space-based technologies, understanding solar activity has become more important than ever. Scientists are therefore working to improve their ability to predict solar storms before they reach Earth. Better observations of the Sun could eventually lead to improved space-weather forecasting, giving satellite operators, airlines, power companies and communication networks more time to prepare for major solar events.



A Black Hole Hidden in Our Galactic Neighbourhood

While scientists continue to study the Sun, they are also looking in the opposite direction — towards some of the most mysterious objects in the universe. Black holes are regions of space where gravity is so powerful that nothing, not even light, can escape once it crosses the event horizon. Although black holes themselves cannot be directly seen in the conventional sense, scientists can detect their presence through their effects on nearby matter and stars. Recent observations have provided evidence of a supermassive black hole located thousands of light-years from the centre of the Milky Way. The object was identified through the extraordinary destruction of a star. When a star passes too close to a massive black hole, the black hole's gravitational force can stretch and tear the star apart. This phenomenon is known as a tidal disruption event. Such events provide scientists with a rare opportunity to study black holes. The light produced by the destroyed star can reveal information about the black hole's mass, environment and gravitational influence. The discovery is significant because black holes are among the most extreme laboratories in nature. They allow scientists to test theories of gravity under conditions that cannot be reproduced on Earth. Studying them could also help scientists understand how galaxies evolve, because supermassive black holes are closely connected with the development and behaviour of the galaxies in which they reside.

James Webb Telescope Opens

New Possibilities

Another major development in modern astronomy is the continuing work of the James Webb Space Telescope. Launched to study the universe primarily in infrared wavelengths, Webb has transformed observations of distant galaxies, stars and planetary systems. Its ability to detect faint infrared light allows scientists to investigate objects that are difficult or impossible to observe using visible-light telescopes alone. One of the most exciting areas of Webb's research is the study of exoplanets — planets orbiting stars beyond the Sun. Astronomers are particularly interested in rocky planets that could potentially have conditions suitable for life. Scientists can examine the atmospheres of some distant planets by analysing how their light interacts with gases surrounding them. The search is challenging. Detecting possible signs of life from enormous distances requires extremely sensitive instruments and careful scientific analysis. A chemical detected in an atmosphere does not automatically prove the existence of life. Scientists must consider multiple explanations and seek independent evidence before reaching a conclusion. Nevertheless, every improvement in telescope technology brings humanity closer to answering one of the most profound questions in science: Is Earth the only place where life exists?

The Search for Habitable Worlds

Thousands of planets have already been confirmed outside our solar system, but scientists believe there are likely to be billions more

throughout the Milky Way. The challenge is identifying which of these worlds might have environments capable of supporting life. Scientists generally pay particular attention to planets located in the so-called habitable zone around their stars. This is the region where temperatures could potentially allow liquid water to exist on a planet's surface, assuming suitable atmospheric conditions. But habitability is far more complicated than simply finding a planet at the right distance from its star. A planet's atmosphere, magnetic field, geological activity, chemical composition and relationship with its parent star can all influence whether life could survive. Future space missions are therefore expected to focus increasingly on characterising the atmospheres and surfaces of potentially habitable worlds. Some proposed missions could examine nearby stars and their planets in unprecedented detail. Such projects represent a major shift in astronomy — from simply discovering planets to investigating whether they possess the conditions necessary for life.

Asteroids: From Threats to Resources

Asteroids have traditionally been viewed primarily as objects that could potentially threaten Earth. But scientists are increasingly consid-

ering another possibility: asteroids could become valuable resources for future space exploration. Some asteroids contain metals and other materials that could potentially be used by future space industries. Instead of transporting every material from Earth, future spacecraft or robotic mining systems could theoretically obtain resources from asteroids and use them to

Mars and the Future of Human Exploration

Mars remains one of humanity's most important destinations beyond Earth. Robotic spacecraft have already provided scientists with extensive information about the planet's geology, atmosphere and ancient environment. Evidence suggests that Mars was once significantly wetter and may have possessed rivers, lakes and other environments capable of supporting microbial life. The next major question is whether life ever actually existed there. Future missions could search for chemical and geological evidence of ancient life. Human exploration would take the investigation much further, allowing astronauts to examine locations that are difficult for robotic systems to reach. However, sending humans to Mars presents enormous challenges. Astronauts would face radiation exposure, isolation, limited medical support and the difficulty of surviving in an environment with a thin atmosphere and extremely low temperatures. Scientists are therefore studying technologies that could support future crews, including advanced habitats, recycling systems, energy generation and methods for producing resources locally.

construct equipment or infrastructure in space. This idea remains technologically and economically challenging. Extracting material from an asteroid requires sophisticated spacecraft, robotics, navigation systems and processing technology. However, the

concept could become increasingly important if humanity establishes permanent facilities on the Moon or begins preparing for long-duration missions to Mars. Space resources could eventually reduce the amount of material that must be launched from Earth, potentially making large-scale exploration more practical.

A New Era of Light and Photonics

Space exploration is not the only field experiencing rapid scientific progress. Researchers are also investigating new ways of controlling light. Emerging work involving photonic systems could eventually influence communications, computing and sensing technologies. Light already plays an essential role in modern telecommunications. Fibre-optic networks carry enormous quantities of information across continents and under oceans. Future advances in photonics could make these systems faster and more efficient. They may also contribute to new forms of optical computing and highly sensitive scientific instruments. The connection between fundamental physics and practical technology is one of the most important features of modern science. Discoveries that initially appear highly theoretical can eventually become the foundation for tech-

nologies used in everyday life.

August's Extraordinary Sky

The excitement surrounding astronomy is especially strong this month because August 12 brings one of the year's major celestial events: a total solar eclipse visible along a path crossing parts of the North Atlantic region, including Greenland, Iceland and Spain. During a total solar eclipse, the Moon passes directly between Earth and the Sun and temporarily blocks the Sun's bright surface. For observers located within the narrow path of totality, the daytime sky can become dramatically darker while the Sun's outer atmosphere, or corona, becomes visible. Solar eclipses have been scientifically important for centuries. They provide opportunities to study the solar corona and have historically helped scientists test fundamental theories of physics. Today, eclipses remain scientifically valuable even though spacecraft and advanced telescopes can observe the Sun throughout the year. For millions of people, however, the eclipse will be more than a scientific experiment. It will be a reminder of the remarkable alignment of Earth, the Moon and the Sun.

The Universe Is Becoming More Accessible

Perhaps the most important development in modern astronomy is not a single discovery but the growing ability of scientists to observe the universe across different wavelengths and from different locations. Ground-based telescopes, space telescopes, planetary spacecraft and sophisticated computer models are increasingly working together. Artificial intelligence is also becoming an important scientific tool.

Looking Beyond Earth

The next decades could transform our understanding of space. Better solar observatories may improve our ability to predict dangerous space weather. More powerful telescopes may reveal Earth-sized planets around nearby stars. Robotic missions may investigate asteroids and Mars in greater detail. New technologies could eventually allow humans to establish a permanent presence beyond Earth. Each discovery raises new questions. Every answer reveals another mystery. The universe remains vast, but our ability to explore it is expanding rapidly. From the violent power of black holes to the delicate search for atmospheric clues on distant planets, modern science is turning the night sky into a vast laboratory. The new age of space science is therefore not simply about travelling farther. It is about seeing deeper, measuring more precisely and understanding our place in a universe that continues to surprise us. For humanity, the greatest scientific journey may have only just begun.



135th Durand Cup: Indian Army FT seal QF berth with dramatic late win over Mohammedan SC

KOLKATA

Indian Army Football Team produced a spirited second-half comeback to defeat Mohammedan Sporting Club 2-1 in the final Group B fixture of the 135th Durand Cup at the Kishore Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata on Wednesday.

A dramatic stoppage-time winner from Shafeel P.P. completed the turnaround after P. Christopher Kamei had cancelled out Lalthankima's stunning first-half strike, ensuring the Services side finished atop Group B with a perfect nine points from three matches to secure a place in the quarterfinals.

Heading into the decisive encounter, Indian Army required only a point to confirm top spot, while Mohammedan SC needed victory to keep their knock-out hopes alive. The Black and White Brigade started brightly and looked the more adventurous side in the opening exchanges. Israfil Dewan delivered an inviting cross from the left inside the opening two minutes, but there was nobody in the box to apply the finishing touch. Moments later, Lalthankima produced a delightful cross to the far post where F. Lalremsanga struck the upright, before Bhabindra Malla Thakuri was called into action to parry away another long-range effort from Lalthankima.

Mohammedan continued to dominate possession and nearly capitalised on another quick transition in the 12th minute, only for Indian Army goalkeeper and captain Bhabindra Malla Thakuri to race off his line and deny Lalremsanga with an excellent piece of anticipation.

The Army side gradually settled into the contest and created their first meaningful openings through Chris-



topher Kamei. The midfielder floated a dangerous ball into the penalty area that forced Juwel Ahmed Mazumder into conceding a corner before testing goalkeeper Shubhadip Pandit with a fierce long-range effort. The Services side continued to grow into the game, with Christopher Kamei orchestrating attacks from midfield. A well-worked move involving Shubham Rana and Shafeel P.P. created another opening in the 23rd minute, but Kamei failed to keep his effort on target after a clever cutback. Mohammedan responded with some fluent attacking football of their own. Lalremsanga produced a moment of brilliance before Lalngaihsaka fired over from the edge of the area, while right-back Rahul Naskar impressed with a series of crucial defensive interventions.

Indian Army came close to breaking the deadlock just before the half-hour mark when Samir Murmu failed to redirect the ball goalwards after the Mohammedan goalkeeper had come off his line to disrupt the initial attack.

The breakthrough finally arrived in the 34th minute, and it was worth the wait. Lalthankima picked up possession on the left flank, drifted infield with dazzling footwork and unleashed a magnificent right-footed strike into the top-left corner, leaving Thakuri with no chance and giving Mohammedan a deserved lead.

The Black and White Brigade remained composed for the remainder of the half, controlling possession while denying Indian Army FT any clear-cut opportunities. Samir Murmu tried his luck from distance deep into stoppage

time, while Lalngaihsaka tested the defence from a tight angle, but Mohammedan carried a 1-0 advantage into the interval. Indian Army emerged after the restart with greater urgency, but Mohammedan's defensive unit, marshalled by Arpit Chhetri, continued to frustrate the Services side.

The equaliser finally came in the 59th minute through a slice of fortune. Christopher Kamei unleashed a powerful strike from distance that took a decisive deflection off Mohammedan defender Pukhrambam Dinesh Meitei before striking the post and rolling into the net beyond the helpless Shubhadip Pandit. The goal shifted the momentum firmly in the Indian Army's favour. Pawar Abhishek Shankar nearly completed the turnaround after breaking into the box, only for Rahul Naskar and Shubhadip Pandit to combine brilliantly and deny him from a difficult angle. The Services side continued to push for a winner, with substitute Liton Shil combining neatly with Abhishek Shankar before the latter's effort lacked the power to trouble the goalkeeper. Samir Murmu also fired high after a long throw as Indian Army enjoyed sustained spells of possession.

Mohammedan remained dangerous on the counter and nearly regained the lead in the 81st minute when substitute Maharabam Maxion raced through on goal. Thakuri charged off his line bravely, colliding with both the forward and his own defender to avert the danger. Indian Army kept pressing in search of the decisive goal. Substitute Abhi S. Biju won a corner after an energetic run down the right, while Alan Thapa's ambitious long-range effort sailed over as both teams battled fiercely in midfield.

Historic campaign for Indian origin quartet in PGA's FedEx Cup play-offs

MEMPHIS (USA)

Akshay Bhatia, Aaron Rai, Sa-hith Theegala, and rookie Sudarshan Yellamaraju will lead a historic Indian-origin campaign at the 2026 FedEx Cup Playoffs opening round, beginning at TPC Southwind in Memphis, Tennessee. For the first time in PGA Tour history, four players of Indian heritage have qualified for the post-season playoffs together.

The quartet will feature in the high-profile 70-man field at the \$ 20 million FedEx St. Jude Championship. To advance to the next playoff stage, which is the BMW Championship, they must finish the week safely within the top 50 of the updated FedExCup standings. Following that, only the Top-30 will get to the Tour Championship. The eyes will be on the two top players in the world rankings, Scottie Scheffler and Rory McIlroy, but with the best 70 on display, it can be anybody's week. Bhatia, who is backed by Hero, enters the postseason as the highest-ranked Indian-origin player in the field at 14th in the FedEx Cup standings. Bhatia has enjoyed a stellar regular season, highlighted by an emotional, high-profile victory at the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

The aggressive ball-striker is also very creative in shot-making. The 24-year-old left-hander rested during the



regular-season finale to guarantee he peaked physically for the grinding playoff stretch.

The TPC Southwind's tight fairways will test his accuracy off the tee, but his current form positions him as a legitimate threat to make the season-ending Tour Championship field.

England's Rai enters Memphis backed by a historic breakthrough year. Rai etched his name into golf history earlier this season by capturing the PGA Championship, making him the first player of Indian heritage to win a men's major golf championship. Known as one of the most precise iron players on the PGA Tour, Rai's approach game fits the statistical profile needed to succeed at TPC Southwind, where hitting greens-in-regulation is paramount. He locked up his playoff spot comfortably after a solid regular-season run that included grinding out a T-29

finish at the Wyndham Championship. He was ranked 35th on the FedEx Cup list.

Theegala, also supported by Hero, is ranked 44th in the FedEx Cup. He is a big Indo-American fan favourite, and he has engineered a remarkable bounce-back campaign in 2026. After an injury-plagued 2025 season that forced him to miss the playoffs for the first time in his career, Theegala returned with an adjusted swing and renewed confidence.

His regular season featured impressive top-10 finishes at marquee events like the Farmers Insurance Open and the Arnold Palmer Invitational. Paired with former FedExCup champion Patrick Cantlay for his opening round, Theegala's elite short game and ability to scramble out of trouble will be heavily tested by Memphis's hazardous water features.

Punjab Kings kick off five-day off-season camp

NEW CHANDIGARH

Two-time Indian Premier League (IPL) runners-up Punjab Kings have commenced a five-day off-season training camp at the New International Cricket Stadium in New Chandigarh, with an aim to hone individual player skills ahead of the 2027 season of the ten-team tournament.

The camp, which started on August 11, is focused purely on skill development, providing players dedicated time to work on specific aspects of their game away from match-day pressure. The players attending the

camp include wicketkeeper-batter Prabhsimran Singh, batting all-rounder Shashank Singh, left-arm spin bowling all-rounder Harpreet Brar, batting all-rounder Pyla Avinash, leg-spinner Praveen Dubey, and middle-order batter Nehal Wadhwa.

The training is being conducted under the supervision of the franchise's coaching staff, with assistant coach Trevor Gonsalves overseeing the daily drills at the stadium. The setup gives the support staff an opportunity to work closely with players at different stages of their careers.

This initial stint is the first in a series of off-season camps planned by the franchise management to keep the squad sharp and game-ready well in advance. More camps targeting different sets of players, with a dual focus on skill fine-tuning and fitness conditioning, will be rolled out over the coming months as the franchise looks to build a strong foundation for the next IPL season.

In IPL 2026, with six wins and one no result, Shreyas Iyer-led PBKS stayed unbeaten in their first seven matches before losing their next six games. Despite winning their final

league game over Lucknow Super Giants, PBKS missed out on a playoff spot and finished in fifth place in the points table.

A couple of other franchises are also organising off-season camps for their players. 2008 champions Rajasthan Royals got some of their players to train at their High-Performance Centre in Talegaon, while 2016 winners Sunrisers Hyderabad had a short skill and fitness camp in Chennai. IPL 2020 runners-up Delhi Capitals had a camp for its domestic players at the Just Cricket Academy in Bengaluru, where trials also happened.

BENGALURU

Ridhima Dilawari, who seemed to be searching for her 'A' game after the three wins in the first six legs of the Women's Pro Golf Tour 2026, came out with flying colours in the opening round of Leg 12 at the Prestige Golfshire in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

Ridhima shot a 5-under 67 to open up a handy three-shot lead over the field. The Gurugram golfer, who turned 28 last month, had six birdies against one solitary bogey in her round. Three players, including amateur Keerthana Rajeev, Mannat



Brar and Vidhatri Urs, winner of the 10th Leg, were three behind in second place following cards of 2-under 70 each. Keerthana had four birdies against two bogeys, while Mannat had three birdies against one bogey on the 18th, and Vidhatri had one

bogey on the opening hole and three birdies, all on the front nine of the course. Four players, including the experienced trio of Amandeep Drall, Neha Tripathi and Shweta Mansingh, were in tied fifth place alongside Anaggha Venkatesh, with all of them shooting even par 72 each as only eight players shot even par or better during the day. There was another big bunch of five players, Heena Kang, Durga Nittur, Oviya Reddi, amateur Anushka Gupta and Jasmine Shekar, in tied ninth place with scores of 1-over 73 each.



CRICKET

Root scraps curfew for Test series against Pakistan, urges England



LONDON: In his second spell as England's Test captain, Joe Root has done away with the midnight curfew imposed on his side and has urged players to behave like 'grown adults' as they prepare for the upcoming series against Pakistan, starting at Headingley on August 19. The decision marks a clear departure from the ECB's player behaviour guidelines introduced in July following a string of off-field alcohol-related incidents -- like former captain Ben Stokes and Gus Atkinson were out past a midnight curfew after England won the first Test against New Zealand at Lord's.

"There's not going to be a curfew. I don't think this needs to be a big deal, to be honest. My view on the curfew is that the players are doing their work, and if you want guys to take responsibility on the field, they've got to feel like they can be grown adults and make good, strong decisions off it. "That's for us as a team to manage well, and police well for me and (new head coach) Stephen Fleming.

NRAI hosts international ISSF EST course in New Delhi for Asian officials

NEW DELHI

The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Electronic Scoring Target (EST) Course commenced at Crowne Plaza, New Delhi. The initiative aims to strengthen technical expertise and build a pool of highly skilled EST officials in shooting sport. The five-day course hosted by the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) is taking place from August 10 to August 14. It is being conducted by Jadranka Strukic of Croatia, with Robert Ferencak of Slovenia and Dhiraj Kumar Singh of India assisting as instructors. A total of 28 participants from four countries are attending the course. Technical officials from India, Japan, South Korea and Saudi Arabia have gathered to enhance their expertise in electronic target systems and international match standards.

Jr Women's Nationals: Hockey Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand shine in Pune

PUNE



Teams from Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand were off to effortless starts in their group in Divisions 'B' and 'C', respectively, in the 16th Hockey India Junior Women National Championship 2026 at the Major Dhyan Chand Hockey Stadium in Pune on Wednesday. The tournament, being hosted by Hockey Maharashtra, got off to a rollicking start with matches played out in both Divisions 'B' and 'C' The initial action saw some top teams make a winning start.

In Division 'B', Hockey Rajasthan made a strong start with a 7-3 win over Dadra & Nagar Haveli Daman & Diu Hockey in a Pool 'A' encounter. Similarly, in the same (Division 'B') division, Hockey Uttarakhand delivered a commanding 5-0 victory over Goans Hockey in a Pool 'B' match.

Later, in Division 'C', Hockey Jammu & Kashmir secured a 4-1 victory over Hockey Gujarat in a Pool 'B' match.

In Division 'C' Pool A, Hockey Rajasthan got off to a strong start with a convincing 7-3 victory over Dadra & Nagar Haveli Daman & Diu Hockey. Rajasthan led 3-1 at half-time and maintained their attacking momentum throughout the second half. Mahavar Gayatri scored twice in the 18th and 58th minutes, while Ruchi Gupta also found the net twice in the 22nd and 47th minutes.

Kanwar Pushpa scored in the 22nd and 42nd minutes, while Lamoria Salini added another in the 37th minute. For Dadra & Nagar Haveli Daman & Diu

Klaasen, Miller join Gulf Giants in pre-auction signings

DUBAI



"We are delighted to welcome David and Heinrich to the Gulf Giants family while bringing back Azmatullah and Blessing. They are world-class players and proven match-winners who add tremendous quality and depth to our squad. We've built a

strong foundation, and the Player Auction gives us another opportunity to complete our squad as we prepare for Season 5."

One of world cricket's most accomplished finishers, Miller brings a wealth of experience, having played

571 T20 matches and scored more than 12,000 runs across international and franchise cricket. He also played a pivotal role in the Gujarat Titans' Indian Premier League (IPL) title-winning campaign in 2022.

Compatriot Klaasen arrives with an equally formidable reputation. The explosive wicketkeeper-batter has amassed more than 6,900 runs in 294 T20 matches and will make his DP World ILT20 debut in Season 5. Omarzai impressed in his debut Gulf Giants campaign last season, scoring 233 runs and taking 12 wickets in 10 matches to earn his return for Season 5. Muzarabani returns after missing last season through injury. Since joining Gulf Giants in 2023, the Zimbabwe pacer has claimed 22 wickets in 17 matches, including a team-leading 16 wickets in 10 matches during the 2024-25 campaign.

Gujarat Dy CM launches 'Shaktidoot 2.0' with up to Rs 50 lakh annual support for 500 athletes

GANDHINAGAR

Gujarat Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi on Wednesday launched the revamped 'Shaktidoot 2.0' scheme in Gandhinagar, expanding direct support for athletes and setting a 10-year target of helping the state's sportspersons compete successfully at national and international levels.

The scheme raises the annual training assistance available to an athlete to up to Rs 50 lakh and includes dedicated provisions for para-athletes.

The scheme was launched at Mahatma Mandir as part of the state government's 'Ramshe Gujarat, Jitshe Gujarat' initiative. The event also saw the inauguration and foundation stone-laying of around 37 sports complexes, libraries and other facilities worth more than Rs 388 crore across Gujarat.

A total of 799 athletes were honoured with the Eklavya Award, Sardar Patel Award and Jaydeepsinhi Award for their sporting achievements.

Sanghavi said the government was committed to providing young athletes with the support required to pursue their sporting ambitions.

"Shaktidoot 2.0, launched under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, would provide Gujarat's athletes with a stronger platform to bring recognition to India and the state over the next decade," he said.

Since 2015, the Shaktidoot scheme has supported 1,740 athletes, including 777 international athletes, who



have won medals in various sports. Under the revised scheme, assistance that was earlier available to 64 athletes will be extended directly to 500 athletes.

Each athlete can receive up to Rs 50 lakh annually for world-class training, equivalent to an average of about Rs 4.25 lakh a month. The scheme also reserves 50 places for para-athletes.

Athletes can apply through the portal throughout the year, with selection based on their medals and performance. The revised framework also seeks to extend opportunities to para, deaf, visually impaired and other Divyang athletes.

Sanghavi said Gujarat would establish what he described as the country's No. 1 sports science and medicine recovery facility to support athletes recovering from injuries.

"Financial constraints or training requirements should not prevent athletes from pursuing their careers, adding that the state would take responsibility if an athlete required specialised coaching or technical training anywhere in India or abroad," he emphasised.



Tamil Audience & Telugu Director?



Ahead of Suriya's Vishwanath And Sons re-release on August 14 in Tamil and Telugu, the one question that is being discussed now is Will the Tamil audience accept a film from a Telugu director Venky Atluri on a big scale? Telugu audiences have generally shown strong interest in films from different industries. If the content connects, language and industry background have not been major barriers. The situation is slightly different in Tamil Nadu compared to the Telugu states. However, Tamil audiences have been a little more selective when Tamil stars work with directors from

other industries. There are examples like Suriya's 24 and Dhanush's Vaathi (Sir in Telugu) and Kuberaa, where the films performed moderately well in Tamil Nadu but did not become as successful as in Telugu. That makes Vishwanath And Sons an interesting test. Venky Atluri is a Telugu filmmaker, while Suriya has a strong following in Tamil Nadu. The film is also positioned as an emotional family entertainer, which could help it connect with a wider audience. The biggest question is whether Tamil audiences will accept the film purely as a Suriya film and judge it on its content, or whether the Telugu director factor will have

some impact. If Vishwanath And Sons gets strong word of mouth, the language and director's background may not matter much. But if the film receives only an average response, it could once again raise questions about how much Tamil audiences are willing to embrace Tamil stars working with filmmakers from outside the industry. As the film opens this weekend, the all eyes are on Tamil Nadu's BO numbers. The real test is not just whether Vishwanath And Sons performs well in Tamil Nadu, but whether Tamil collections can make a big difference and give the VAS a strong home-market advantage.

Lokesh to Promote DC in Telugu: Too Late to the Party!



DC opened last week to rave reviews and an excellent response from audiences. The hard-hitting action thriller, backed by strong content and Anirudh Ravichander's terrific background score, has connected particularly well with Telugu audiences. Interestingly, DC performed even stronger in the Telugu states than Tamil Nadu for a few days, which was quite unexpected. With better promotions, the film could have achieved a monstrous result, but the distribution team failed to capitalize on the momentum. Despite being Lokesh Kanagaraj's acting debut, DC didn't have promotional interviews and media interactions in Telugu. This affected the opening. However, strong word-of-mouth helped the film attract Telugu audiences. Positive reviews and social media buzz also made a solid impact, even with limited pre-release promotions across the Telugu states. Now when the film is entering the second week, Lokesh Kanagaraj is reportedly set to visit theatres across the Telugu states today to promote the film. While his presence could give the movie a boost, it comes a little too late from the distribution team's side. Lokesh Kanagaraj and Anirudh Ravichander could have participated in a few Telugu promotional activities before the release. Telugu is a crucial market for Lokesh, while Anirudh also enjoys strong popularity among Telugu audiences. Now, all eyes are on how the film grows in the coming days as this week is going to see Suriya and Venky Atluri's Vishwanath and Sons releasing. Also last week's Korean Kanakaraju is doing decently well in theatres. All this giving us a sense that is Lokesh Kanagaraj's theatre visit comes too late for DC?

Romanchakam Title Track: A Soothing Youthful Song

Cult filmmaker Sandeep Reddy Vanga is presenting the upcoming film Romanchakam which marks the directorial debut of Venu Gopal Reddy. Sandeep's brother Pranay Reddy is bankrolling the film under home production Bhadrakali Pictures. The youthful romance stars Sumanth Prabhass, Ananthika Sanilkumar in the lead roles. Romanchakam's title track, composed and sung by Vasuki Vaibhav, has been unveiled. The title song is mighty impressive catering to youth. It features the lead pair and their chemistry. The song is breezy. The energy and the mood is maintained throughout the song. Chandrabose's lyrics added a fine touch to the song. Sumanth and Ananthika are easy on the eyes in this romantic number. The visuals are pleasant. On the whole, the title song of Romanchakam is appealing. Romanchakam is creating curiosity among audiences as it is coming



from Sandeep Reddy Vanga's team. The film is slated for a theatrical release on September 3, 2026.

Anupama Compares Toxic Ex BF to Aparichithudu

Anupama Parameswaran has opened up about her past relationship, making striking remarks about the behaviour she experienced during the time she was dating Young tamil hero. In a recent interview, the Premam actress described the relationship as toxic and narcissistic. Without directly naming the person, Anupama described her former partner as narcissistic and said his attitude was the same as the main lead in Anniyan (Aparichithudu), who has a split personality. Anupama states that there were days when he would behave af-

fectionately and romantically, while on other days he would become aggressive. She also said that he would later return and apologise, surprising her altogether. Anupama further reveals that her then partner and his family were even ready to discuss marriage just three months into the relationship. The early pressure surrounding marriage, combined with the emotional ups and downs, made the relationship increasingly difficult for her, she adds. The comments have gone viral among fans and the general public. The example of Anniyan is even more ironic. This unexpected connection has added even more intrigue and discussion to the topic, giving the entire episode an interesting twist. To date, only Anupama has been vocal about her relationship, but a section also wants the other party to open up and speak about what they went

HIGH: Krithi Shetty Adds Spark To Fanaa

The musical buzz around HIGH is getting a fresh boost, thanks to actress Krithi Shetty. The film marks the directorial debut of S Krishna, a longtime associate of filmmaker Anil Ravipudi. Harish Peddi, S Krishna, and Sekhar Divvela are producing the movie under Imagespark Entertainment and Myra Creations. Following the encouraging response to the teaser, the makers have shifted their focus to the music. The first single, Fanaa, has already caught the attention of music lovers and is gaining momentum. Krithi Shetty has now added her own flavour to the song by featuring in a reel. She is seen enjoying the track, playfully hinting at her love interest and ending the video by inviting viewers to create their own versions. Her fun-filled reel brings a new dimension to the song's promotions and is likely to help Fanaa connect with an even wider audience. Krithi's screen presence also adds a distinct spark to the track. She indeed appears more beautiful and charming than her recent movies. The film HIGH revolves around influencers, which makes its social media-driven promotional strategy all the more significant. As part of the campaign, around 300 well-known influencers came together to launch the first single, Fanaa, giving the song a massive digital push. More importantly, the makers are going all out with their social media promotions, strategically leveraging the influencer community to create greater visibility and buzz around the film. The makers will announce the film's release date soon.



Geeta Sisodia made her name in the cinema world with her excellent acting



Geeta Sisodia, born in 1988 in Porsa of Bhind district, came in contact with filmmakers after performing well on stage. Since childhood, she acted in songs and music, school children's meetings and later on the college stage and made her name famous. he was married in an elite family, she started living in Gwalior with her family, while fulfilling the responsibilities of the family, she kept on honing her artistic talent. Her husband, who is a teacher, saw her immense interest in art. Her husband and two children supported and cooperated with her immensely. She came in contact with

the artists of Gwalior, from here she decided to achieve a position in the field of acting. In 2009, he acted in the plays Bandho Mutthi Behna, *Agarbatti organized by the Women and Child Development Department in Gwalior and Bhopal. In this, he was highly appreciated and also received respect. After this, he acted in more than half a hundred street plays under the direction of renowned theater artist and filmmaker Aamir Khan. After coming in contact with filmmaker Vishal Batham, he got the opportunity to play an important role of famous film actor Sanjay Mishra, neighbor of famous film actress Neena Gupta, in

the feature film Vadh being shot in Gwalior. He was encouraged by the praise for his excellent acting in this film, Feature Film *Locket, Karamchand, Indian-2, Babar Aap Badarpur, *Love Marriage Arranged Marriage, T.V. Show-Crime A Conspiracy, Web Series -C. *Has acted in more than a dozen shot movies including C.I., Berojgari Band, Shot Movie Devta, Ek Sapna Aisa Bhi, Atma Shanti. Currently she is signed to act in two feature films and one web series. One special thing is important to be written about her, Geeta Sisodia has acted in films under production in Gwalior, Datia, Jhansi, Shivpuri, Morena, Bhind.