



US, Iran signal deal within reach

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has said a memorandum of understanding with the United States to end the war "has never been closer", stressing also that media speculation about the deal should cease "pending its finalisation". US President Donald Trump reposted the Iranian foreign minister's statement on his Truth Social platform after earlier blasting Iran for alleged leaks to state media regarding details of the memorandum, calling the reports "fake news". Shehbaz Sharif, prime minister of Pakistan,



which has mediated talks between Tehran and Washington, said the "final, agreed-upon text of the peace deal has been

reached", adding "next steps" still need to be finalised. Israeli attacks on Lebanon have continued, kill-

ing at least 3,711 people and injuring 11,483 others since March, including two paramedics wounded on Friday.

Modi Embarks on France, Slovakia Visit

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday left for a week-long visit to France and Slovakia, during which he will attend the G7 Summit and hold discussions with world leaders on a range of bilateral and global issues. In his departure statement, Modi said France occupies a special place in India's strategic vision while his visit to Slovakia -- the first by an Indian prime minister since the country's independence in 1993 -- marks a historic milestone and builds on the growing momentum in bilateral ties. "France occupies a special place in India's strategic vision. Earlier this year, President Macron visited India, and we elevated our relationship to a Special Global Strategic Partnership," Modi said. "When I meet President Macron in Nice, we will review the progress made since February, and chart the next steps in our cooperation. I look forward to our discussions on pressing global issues of mutual interest as well," he said.



reposed in the country by its partners and its growing global profile. "This is the eighth consecutive G7 Summit to which India has been invited. At the G7, India will not only speak for itself, but it will also give voice to the aspirations of the Global South," he said.

Modi said he was looking forward to holding discussions with Slovak President Peter Pellegrini and Prime Minister Robert Fico in Bratislava. The prime minister said India's participation in the G7 Summit in Evian, France, reflects the confidence

of the Global South," he said.

Rajnath Singh Urges Cadets to Be Future

Hyderabad: Calling upon young officers to prepare for the changing nature of warfare, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday urged graduating cadets of the Indian Air Force to remain technologically adept and mentally prepared for future conflicts, where battles are increasingly being fought through advanced systems rather than conventional troop deployments. Addressing the Combined Graduation Parade (CGP) of the 217th Course at the Air Force Academy (AFA), Dundigal, Rajnath Singh said modern warfare is being shaped by technologies such as drones, satellites, sensors, robotics and radar systems.



A total 231 of Flight Cadets graduated today, which included 194 men and 37 women and added 14 officers awarded with wings. "In today's wars, soldiers and weapons are often not visible on the battlefield. Modern conflicts are driven by technology. You must remain alert, adaptable and ready to recalibrate your responses according to

emerging technologies," he said. Emphasising the need for continuous learning, the Defence Minister advised the cadets to adapt, adopt and innovate to gain an operational edge. "Success in future warfare will require smart work backed by technology. Learning and training should continue throughout your careers," he said.



Pregnant Woman Dies by Suicide in Sangareddy

Sangareddy: A six-month pregnant woman died by suicide after allegedly jumping from a building in Zaheerabad mandal of Sangareddy district, police said. The incident occurred in Hothi (K) village, where the woman reportedly took the extreme step following a family dispute. Police shifted the body to the Zaheerabad Area Hospital for post-mortem. The deceased's husband and mother-in-law have been taken into custody and are being questioned. A case has been registered and further investigation is underway.



Bengal: Thousands Of EVMs Destroyed In Alipore Blaze

HYDERABAD: Around 4,000 electronic voting machines (EVMs) used in nearly 10 constituencies of South Bengal in the recent Assembly elections were destroyed in the fire that engulfed a government building in Alipore, triggering political controversy and demand for a detailed probe. According to sources, the fire gutted nearly 4,000 ballot units, 4,000 control units, and 4,000 VVPAT machines reportedly belonging to key constituencies, including Kasba, Jadavpur, Behala Purba, Behala Paschim, Metiaburuz, Satgachia and Diamond Harbour. Of these, the Trinamul Congress (TMC) had two and the BJP three. West Bengal minister Kaushik Chowdhury, after

visiting the site on Thursday, said the EVMs had been used in the recent elections. "It does not appear to be a normal fire. We are examining whether there was any sabotage. It is still not clear how the fire reached the ninth and tenth floors," he said. Kasba was won by the TMC's Ahmed Javed Khan, while Metiaburuz elected TMC's Abdul Khaleque Molla, and Diamond Harbour returned TMC's Panna Lal Halder. The BJP made major gains in south Kolkata by winning Jadavpur through Sarbari Mukherjee, Behala Purba through Sankar Sikder and Behala Paschim through Dr Indranil Khan.

Indian Air Force's AN-32 Transport Aircraft Crashes In Assam's Jorhat



An Indian Air Force (IAF) AN-32 transport aircraft crashed and caught fire at the Air Force Station in Assam's Jorhat on Saturday morning. According to initial reports, the AN-32 aircraft went down within the Air Force Station premises while landing, triggering a fire after the crash. Emergency response

teams were immediately deployed to the site to control the blaze and assess the situation. The cause of the crash is yet to be ascertained, and details regarding casualties or injuries, if any, remain unclear. The Indian Air Force confirmed the incident and said that further updates will be provided after the assessment of the situation



POCSO Case in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: The XII Additional Sessions Judge in Nampally sentenced a 19-year-old Gummula Nagaraju to 20 years rigorous imprisonment (RI) in connection with a POCSO Act case registered against him in 2019. The court has also imposed a fine of Rs. 16,000 on him. According to police, the 16 year-old victim girl, was acquainted with Nagaraju who promised to marry, visited her house and committed sexual intercourse several times. On February 25, 20219 the victim girl missed her periods and confirmed that she is pregnant for which the accused asked her to abort. On March 2, 2019 the ac-

Bhatti Tours Mancherial district, Lays Foundation for Temple Works

Mancherial: Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka visited Mancherial district on Saturday and laid the foundation stone for the reconstruction works of Sri Satyanarayana Swamy temple. He is also scheduled to lay foundation stones for development works in Gudem village of Dandepalli mandal. During the visit, the Deputy



CM will distribute compassionate appointment

letters to families of Singareni workers.

Bandi Sanjay Kumar Launches Swachha Pathashala in Karimnagar

Union minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar has initiated a special programme in Karimnagar Parliamentary constituency, marking the completion of 12 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rule in the country. He launched Swachha Pathashala as part of which all the government schools in the constitu-

ency would be cleaned. On Saturday morning, he immersed himself in the programme by cleaning the Kusuma Ramaiah ZP High School in Sircilla. He cleaned the classrooms with a broom and made them tidy with water, to match the cleanliness in private schools. The Union minister cleaned every nook and corner

with utmost care, which surprised the staff and students at the school. At the same time, Bandi promised to provide free bicycles to 10th Class students and also pay their examination fee from his salary. Responding to Bandi's call, the BJP activists, NGOs, and a few local people also joined the mission. They bought



buckets and brooms with their own money

and began cleaning the schools.

Naidu to Visit Singapore

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu will undertake a two-day visit to Singapore from June 15 to 16 to attract global investments and strengthen collaborations for the development of Amaravati and other key infrastructure projects. According to the schedule, the Chief Minister will depart from Bengaluru on June 14 and reach Singapore ahead of official engagements beginning June 15. During the visit, he will meet senior officials, global business leaders, and investors to promote Andhra Pradesh as an investment destination. Naidu is scheduled to



meet India's High Commissioner to Singapore Shilpak Ambule, participate in a roundtable with startup venture capitalists, and attend a luncheon meeting with UN-Habitat Executive Director Anaclaudia Rossbach. He will also hold discussions with Singapore Senior Minister of State Low Yen Ling and interact with industry leaders, including representatives from Google Cloud Asia-Pacific, GIC, YCH Group, and the National University of Singapore.

Monday, June 15, 2026

Sewing Machine - A Household Friendly Instrument

(On the occasion of "National Sewing Machine Day" on 13 June)

The invention of sewing machines made the process of sewing easier, faster and more streamlined. In addition, the manufacturing of sewing machine for household use meant that women who spent a majority of time sewing, stitching and mending clothes by hand could now do all these tasks in a matter of few hours instead of days and weeks. This gave them more time to seek paid employment. In this way, sewing machine had a huge role to play in the economic and social process of women around the globe. "National Sewing Machine Day: National Sewing Machine Day, observed on 13 June annually, is a celebration of one of the most revolutionary inventions in the world of fashion and textiles - the sewing machine. This day honours the impact that sewing machines have had on the efficiency and creativity of sewing, allowing for the mass production of clothing and the creation of intricate designs. It's time to appreciate the art of sewing and the innovation that continues to shape the fashion industry. Before its discovery, all clothing and textiles were made by hand, a process that was time consuming and labour-intensive. The sewing machine changed all of that, making it possible to produce garments quickly and with greater precision. Whether used by professionals, fashion designers, tailors, or hobbyists, the sewing machine has become an indescribable tool in the world of textiles. "History of Sewing Machine: National Sewing Machine Day honours an invention that has kept us in stitches for over 150 years. This Day is celebrated on 13 June which is associated with the invention of the sewing machine by French tailor Barthelemy Thimonnier in 1829, while American Elias Howe patented the first practical sewing machine on 10 September 1846. In 1851, Isaac Singer developed a sewing machine model that would endure, improved the design and started mass production. In 1874, William Newton Wilson found Saint's drawings in the London Patent Office. This day is celebrated by sewing something new, learning more about sewing, organising sewing machine shows, sharing the creative sewing products, and maintaining/thanking our own sewing machine. "Revolutionised the Textile Industry: Industrial use of the sewing machine reduced the burden placed upon housewives, moving clothing production from them and seamstresses to large-scale factories. This also resulted in reducing production time which caused the lower price of clothing. Today, many people are again becoming interested in the art of sewing and making their own clothing. Now, the sewing machines can be mechanical, electrical, or computerised versions. "Get ready to thread your needle and celebrate National Sewing Machine Day in style. This day offers a chance to embrace your creativity, hone your skills, and connect with fellow enthusiasts in the vibrant sewing community.

Dr Burra Madhusudhan Reddy

Lorry Engulfed in Flames in Nirmal, Driver Burnt Alive



Hyderabad: A lorry driver Jawhar Rajput was burnt alive in his vehicle after it caught fire in Nirmal early Thursday. His brother Ravath, however, escaped unhurt in the incident. A lorry loaded with jowar bags was heading to Hyderabad and at the same time another lorry driven by 40-year-old Rajput was on the way to Hyderabad with a load of potatoes. Minutes after reaching Metpally in Nirmal Rajput rammed

into the jowar loaded lorry from behind at high speed. As a result, flames engulfed the two lorries. As Rajput got stuck at the steering in the driver's cabin because of the speed at which he hit the lorry in front of him. He could not open the door in the cabin on the right side as it was completely damaged. He tried to escape but flames engulfed the vehicle making it difficult for him to come out of the cabin.

Centre Sanctions Rs 3,825.31 Crore for VB-G-Ram-G for Telangana

Hyderabad: Union agriculture minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has approved a Central share of Rs 3,825.31 crore for the VB-G-RAM-G scheme, the Centre's new rural employment programme that guarantees 125 days of work, up from 100 days under the earlier MGNREGS to rural households. Union coal minister G. Kishan Reddy told reporters after meeting minister Chouhan that the state government had not yet issued the required notification or allotted its 40 per cent share of funds. The scheme is to be implemented from July on a 60:40 Centre-state funding basis, he said, and sought swift action from the Telangana government to meet the launch timeline.

Kishan Reddy added that state officials must hold consultations with farmers and announce an agreed 60-day advance holiday period for agricultural operations so that VB-G-RAM-G works do not disrupt planting or harvest schedules. Central teams have been holding talks and reviews with state counterparts to ensure effective implementation, he said, and appealed to the state to complete prepara-



tory tasks promptly. Chouhan also informed that the Centre had sanctioned 8.5 crore workdays for the 2026-27 financial year under MGNREGS. As of July 9, Kishan Reddy said, 4.38 crore workdays across 11,684 works had been completed, with Central expenditure totalling Rs 1,163.64 crore. He noted that over the past 12 years, the Centre had provided 143.23 crore work-

days to rural workers and spent Rs 34,639.17 crore under the programme. Under VB-G-RAM-G, beneficiaries will receive rozgar guarantee cards and weekly wage payments. Wages delayed beyond 15 days will be paid with 0.5 per cent interest, and an unemployment allowance will be disbursed within 15 days if work is not provided.

Crackdown on Anganwadi Staff



Nagar kurnool Bureau:---(Voice of words:june 12)"In a bid to strengthen discipline in the functioning of Anganwadi centres, the district administration has initiated stringent action against erring staff. District Collector Hemanth Keshav Patil announced that the services of eight Anganwadi workers and helpers, who had remained absent from duty for prolonged periods, have been terminated in accordance with the provisions of G.O.Ms. No. 14 issued by the government. "The Collector stated that several employees working in different Anganwadi centres across the district had stayed away from duty for months and, in some cases, for years without obtaining permission, causing dis-

ruption in the functioning of the centres. Based on reports submitted by departmental officials and following due inquiry, disciplinary action was initiated and their services were terminated. "He emphasized that Anganwadi centres play a crucial role in providing nutritional support and healthcare services to pregnant women, lactating mothers and children. Therefore, the administration deemed it necessary to ensure that beneficiaries do not suffer due to negligence on the part of the staff. "According to official records, some Anganwadi workers and helpers under the Achampet, Balmur and Kollapur projects had remained absent during various periods between February 2023 and January 2026. After scrutiny by the concerned authorities, proposals for their removal were submitted and subsequently approved. "Those whose services were terminated include G. Venkatamma and S. Aruna from the Achampet Project; G. Sultanamma and J. Mahalakshmi from the Balmur Project; and C. Padmavathi, Niranjan Bell, Kashamma and Darji Bakkamma from the Kollapur Project. "Collector Hemanth Keshav Patil warned that all Anganwadi workers and helpers in the district must discharge their duties responsibly. He made it clear that there would be no leniency towards unauthorized absence or negligence in duty and that strict action would continue against those violating service norms. "He further stated that the administration accords top priority to transparency, accountability and discipline in the implementation of government services.

Four of a family goes missing in Kamareddy district

The disappearance of four members of the same family in the Kamareddy district headquarters has caused a stir. A mother and her three children went missing from the Gandhinagar area. Acting on a complaint filed by family members, the police have launched a search operation to locate the mother, Laya (31), her son Shiva (13), and her two daughters, Bindu (16) and Divija (8). The four had left home two days ago and failed to return. After failing to find them despite their own efforts, relatives lodged a complaint at the Kamareddy Town Police Station. The police have registered a missing person case and initiated an investigation, examining CCTV footage and phone call records.

HC seeks report on alleged illegal structures on Suryapet roads

Hyderabad: The Telangana High Court has directed the Government Pleader for Roads and Buildings to obtain formal instructions regarding the alleged illegal installation of structures and statues on public roads within Suryapet district. The directive was issued by a Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice Ghousa Meera Mohiuddin during a hearing on a Public Interest Litigation petition, which has now been adjourned for two weeks. The legal action was initiated by Banda Pulla Reddy, a local resident and freedom fighter, who moved the court to challenge the ostensible failure of municipal and engineering authorities to prevent unauthorised construction on public thoroughfares. The petitioner has specifically aggrieved the inaction of the district's superintendent engineer, deputy engineer, assistant engineer, and the panchayat officer, asserting that these officials failed to exercise their statutory duties to halt the ongoing erection of unauthorized statues and structures. In addition to the public obstructions, the petitioner is challenging the administrative inaction regarding an unsanctioned alteration of local road infrastructure. According to the petition, authorities failed to intervene when an illegal culvert opening and an altered "bell mouth" road junction were constructed along the stretch extending from the Miryalguda-Huzurnagar main road to the Ayyappa Swamy Temple. The petitioner contends that these modifications, which effectively opened the right side of the roadway while closing the left, directly contradict the government sanctioned alignment for the thoroughfare. Following submissions from both legal counsels, the Division Bench ordered the state's legal representative to secure precise instructions from the relevant departments.



New vascular treatment for leg ulcer prevention

Nagar Kurnool bureau:---(voice of word's:June 12)"Dr. Vinay Kumar, renowned vascular surgeon from Yashoda Hospitals, Secunderabad, revealed key details about modern treatment methods currently available for leg ulcers and varicose vein problems. He explained that chronic leg ulcers generally occur due to nerve damage caused by diabetes, and poor blood circulation in the lower leg and thigh area. He warned that if this problem is neglected, the condition can worsen and may even lead to the risk of leg amputation. "Dr. Vinay Kumar stated that through modern treatments like Peripheral Angioplasty, blood supply to the affected areas can be successfully restored. He advised patients not to worry and to consult a vascular surgeon before the condition becomes severe. "He mentioned that by identifying blockages in the leg blood vessels and restoring normal blood circulation through specialized procedures, ulcers heal quickly. He added that effective treatment is now possible with advanced medical techniques without the need for major surgeries. "Through these treatments, blood circulation improves and ulcers on the legs heal faster, allowing patients to return to normal life quickly. "Attendees Yashoda Hospitals Marketing Manager Sudarshan Reddy Raju and others participated in the program.



Hyderabad Voice

Monday, June 15, 2026

Revanth Wants Taskforce to Create Six Global Cities in India



Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday urged the Centre to establish an "M6 Cities Taskforce" to transform India's six metropolitan cities — Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru — into globally-competitive urban centres. Addressing the governing council meeting of Niti Aayog, chaired by Prime Minister

Narendra Modi, in Delhi, Revanth Reddy said these six cities housed nearly 10 per cent of India's population and contributed almost one-fourth of the nation's GDP, yet continued to lag behind leading global cities. He proposed a national task force empowered to act swiftly and sought an investment of ₹1 lakh crore

for each metropolis, describing it as an investment in infrastructure that would generate jobs, revenues and economic growth. The Chief Minister also sought the Centre's support for eight major projects in Telangana, which include the Regional Ring Road, a 12-lane expressway linking Bharat Future City with Machilipatnam Port, Hyderabad Metro Rail Phase-II, Musi River rejuvenation, recognition and funding for the 30,000-acre Bharat Future City project, assistance for the Palamuru-Rangareddy lift irrigation scheme, support under the India Semiconductor Mission, including APMP and OSAT facilities and a Micro-LED fabrication unit, and establishment of an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Hyderabad. Revanth Reddy presented a report titled "Inclusive Human Development - For Viksit Bharat @2047", outlining Telangana's strategy for inclusive growth through education, skill development and a knowledge-driven economy. The report drew on findings of the SEEP survey, which covered 3.55 crore people across 242 castes and nearly 97 per cent of households, revealing significant

educational disparities among social groups and underscoring the need for education-led social transformation. The report identified key shortcomings in the existing education system, including declining public confidence in government schools, lack of English-medium education, inadequate transport facilities, absence of pre-primary education and limited digital learning opportunities. To address these challenges, the government is establishing Telangana Public Schools offering education from pre-primary to Class XII on a single campus with transport, meals, laboratories, libraries and digital learning facilities. The government was also setting up one Young India Integrated Residential School in each of the state's 105 Assembly constituencies outside the capital at an estimated cost of ₹24,000 crore. Other initiatives include free electricity to over 26,000 educational institutions, strengthening of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, the Anna Akka Learning Initiative for AI and digital literacy, notification of over 11,000 teacher posts and formulation of a State Education Policy aligned with the National Education Policy 2020.

FGG seeks vigilance inquiry into MRO promotions in Telangana



Hyderabad: The Forum for Good Governance (FGG) has requested Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to order a vigilance inquiry into all temporary promotions and postings of Mandal Revenue Officers (MROs) during the last couple of months. In a letter addressed to the chief minister on Thursday, June 11, FGG president M Padmanabha Reddy raised serious concerns about the promotion of 12 MROs as Revenue Divisional Officers (RDOs) via government order no. 298, on May 27, without following rules. "While promoting MROs to the post of RDO, a selection committee needs to be constituted, and only after thorough verification of their records are promotions given. In the recent promotions, the set procedure has not been followed, and persons having serious Vigilance cases and ACB cases have been promoted," Reddy alleged. Padmanabha Reddy pointed out that some of the MROs facing serious disciplinary charges were promoted through a court order. "But the court only said to consider, not direct. There are many such cases where promotions were given by misinterpreting the court's order," the letter read. FGG flagged another serious irregularity in the postings. Seven of the 12 MROs have been promoted as District Revenue Officers (DROs). "The hierarchy in the Revenue Department is MRO, RDO, then DRO. In the absence of a Collector, the DRO reviews departmental meetings. After serving 6 to 8 years, an RDO is promoted to the selection grade and posted as DRO," Reddy remarked. FGG also pointed out that in 2015, ACB registered a case against MRO S Sandhya, then working in Andole-Jogipet. The case was registered with the Principal Special Judge for SPE and ACB Cases, Hyderabad. Interestingly, it took four years for the state government to accord permission to prosecute the trapped MRO. Finally, a chargesheet was filed in 2019.



Hyderabad CP warn public as banned company 'QNet' reemerges as 'Ignite'

Hyderabad CP Sajjanar stated that QNet, a company previously banned, has resurfaced under the new name 'Ignite'. He revealed that a massive fraud scheme worth approximately Rs 5,000 crore, orchestrated by the company, has been thwarted. The CP spoke at a press conference held on Thursday. He explained that this international network has been swindling innocent people for the past 25 years, operating under various names such as 'Gold Quest', 'QuestNet', and 'QNet', before rebranding itself as 'Ignite'. He noted that there are hundreds of thousands of victims across the country and advised the public to remain vigilant against such scams.

ASI duped of Rs 50,000 in fake RTA challan cyber fraud

Hyderabad: An Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) posted at Punjagutta police station reportedly fell victim to a cyber fraud and lost nearly Rs 50,000, after fraudsters sent him a fake RTA challan APK file. According to information available, the officer noticed multiple alerts on his phone on June 8 and later found unauthorised transactions from his bank account. He immediately reported the matter to the national cybercrime helpline number 1930. Cyber crime police have registered a case and are investigating. Officials have advised the public not to download APK files or click on suspicious links received purportedly as traffic challans or government services.

Coal Gasification to Help Hyderabad: Kishan Reddy

Hyderabad: Union coal minister G. Kishan Reddy said Hyderabad — which has emerged as the country's pharma capital — stood to gain significant business opportunities from the Centre's coal-gasification scheme, projected to attract investments of up to ₹3 lakh crore. He noted that key byproducts of coal gasification such as methanol, ammonia and hydrogen have direct applications in the pharmaceutical sector. The Centre has announced incentives worth Rs.46,000 crore to promote coal gasification projects. Speaking at the coal ministry's second roadshow here on Thursday, Kishan Reddy credited city-based research institutions and public enterprises, including BHEL and IIT, for producing new findings that have made coal gasification viable despite the high ash content of India's coal reserves. He added that the initiative is particularly beneficial for the state, given the substantial coal deposits in Singareni. Kishan Reddy



also announced that the Centre had approved coal-gasification projects worth Rs.37,500 crore within a month of the Union Cabinet's nod for the scheme. He said the programme will generate large-scale employment and spur a range of allied industries — fertilisers, chemicals, clean hydrogen production, synthetic natural gas, liquid fuels (diesel, petrol, jet fuel), steel and energy, while helping conserve foreign exchange. Highlighting the Modi government's broader development agenda, Kishan Reddy said India had safeguarded over Rs.4.3 lakh crore of national wealth by plugging leakages and weeding out bogus beneficiaries through reforms. He outlined achievements across infrastructure, energy, manufacturing and the start-up ecosystem over the past 12 years.

Transport Dept amps up fitness checks of school buses across TG

Hyderabad: With schools across the state set to reopen on June 15, the Transport Department authorities have intensified efforts to complete mandatory fitness inspections of school buses. As many as 5,496 school buses in the state are yet to obtain fitness certificates. The highest number of fitness certificates is pending in Ranga Reddy, Medchal - Malkajgiri districts and in Hyderabad over 200 buses lack fitness certificates. A significant number of vehicles are yet to undergo the mandatory fitness checks, raising concerns over student safety and compliance with transport regulations. According to official data, a total of 25,987 school and educational institution transport vehicles have been identified for fitness certification across the state. Of these, nearly 20,500 vehicles have completed the Fitness Certificate (FC) pro-



cess. However, as many as 5,496 buses are yet to obtain the mandatory clearance. A senior officer revealed that in Rangareddy, over 930 school buses are required inspections and Medchal Malkajgiri districts over 800 buses are pending with fitness certificates. In Hyderabad, out of around 1,270 school buses, only a 201 vehicles

required inspections. Transport Department officials have instructed schools to prevent overcrowding in buses, and hire only qualified and licensed drivers. They asked to maintain essential safety equipment - fire extinguishers, first-aid kits and emergency exits. Joint Transport Commissioner M Chandrasekhar Goud warned that strict action would be taken against institutions operating vehicles without valid fitness certificates. He emphasised that school managements must ensure their buses are properly maintained and that experienced drivers are employed. "We will seize buses and vans operating without fitness certificates," said Chandrasekhar. During a review meeting held earlier this week, the Transport Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar directed officials to ensure that all school buses and mini-vans transporting students possess valid fitness certificates.

Man, his two children feared drowned in Nizam Sagar

Sangareddy: A man and his two children were feared drowned in Nizam Sagar project on Thursday. The trio left their home in Nizampet mandal headquarters to Nizam Sagar project on a two-wheeler. However, they failed to return home even by evening. They were G Krishna (32), his son Rakshith (9) and daughter Ananya (6). Krishna had settled down in Patancheru a few years ago. However, he came to Nizampet to spend the summer holidays with his parents. Krishna took his children on a ride to Nizam Sagar on Thursday morning. He had lunch with his kids under the shade of a tree and clicked pictures with him. Later, he also took selfies with his kids while they were playing along the shores of the reservoir. He even sent the pictures to his wife and other family members. As he failed to return home even after evening, the family members reached the place.

Medak youth slips from moving train, dies at Masaipet station

Medak: In a tragic incident, a young man slipped from a moving train at Masaipet railway station and died on the spot as he came under the wheels of the train. The victim Dundigolla Das (28) of Islampur in Toopran mandal, came under the wheels while alighting from a moving train in the early hours of Thursday. His body was severed into two pieces. The incident left the family in shock. He is survived by his wife and two children. The railway police registered a case.

Bhatti Assures Fund Release For Completion of Projects in Khammam



Hyderabad: Irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Thursday directed officials to vigorously pursue and fast-track the environmental clearance process for the Sitaramasagar lift irrigation scheme. The directive came at a review meeting along with Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, ministers Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Tummala Nageswara Rao, Vakiti Srihari, MPs, MLAs and MLCs on major irrigation projects in the erstwhile Khammam district. Bhatti, who is also finance minister, assured full support and timely release of funds

for speedy completion of irrigation projects in the district. Uttam Kumar Reddy called on officials to step up work on land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement, forest and environmental clearances, and resolution of court cases. "Compile all pending requisitions immediately and submit them to district collectors and revenue divisional officers for time-bound action," he told the officials. On the Sitarama lift irrigation scheme, Uttam Kumar Reddy said pending environmental clearances should be expedited, and that procedural delays should not deprive farmers of

irrigation benefits. The government accords top priority, despite financial constraints arising from borrowings made by the previous government, to mobilising resources and completing all viable ongoing irrigation projects, he said. Following a proposal from Srinivas Reddy, the irrigation minister gave in-principle approval to lift water from Sitarama Lift Package-I to the Bayyaram upland tribal areas in Yellandu Assembly constituency, and directed officials to prepare the required proposals. He also said diverting Godavari waters from the Sitarama project to the Paleru balancing reservoir through the NSP Left Canal system should be accorded top priority. On the issue of submergence in Bhadrachalam division from the backwaters of Andhra Pradesh's Polavaram project, Uttam Kumar Reddy assured the meeting that the matter will be taken up with the Polavaram Project Authority. He also said he will undertake a comprehensive tour of irrigation projects in the erstwhile Khammam district within a fortnight to review progress on the ground.



TG Minister Directs Officials to Speed Up SLBC Works

Nalgonda: Roads and buildings minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy on Thursday directed officials to expedite works on the Alimineti Madhava Reddy Project-Srisailem Left Bank Canal (AMRP-SLBC) and complete as much of the canal lining as possible by July 13, ahead of water release for the monsoon crop season. Accompanied by irrigation department officials, he inspected lining works of the SLBC high-level canal at Madgulapally in Nalgonda district. The minister said canal lining would enable increased water release and improve irrigation for ayacut farmers. He stated that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had sanctioned ₹442 crore for the works, which would reduce seepage losses and enhance the canal's lifespan. He announced that the 136-km AMRP-SLBC canal stretch from Angadipet to the Musi project would also be taken up. The lining works are being undertaken after four decades of completion of the canal. He said

the works would improve structural efficiency and water conveyance, ensuring better irrigation support. He said the area under irrigation under the SLBC canal would increase to 2.5 lakh acres after completion of lining works. He added that farmers in tail-end areas were not receiving adequate irrigation due to the absence of canal lining. Later, the minister held a review meeting at the district collectorate in Nalgonda to discuss arrangements for the Chief Minister's visit on June 17. He said the Chief Minister would lay the foundation stone for Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) roads worth Rs 14,500 crore at Kanagal. A public meeting will be held at an open ground behind the Government Junior College in Kanagal on the occasion. The minister directed district collector B. Chandrasekhar and superintendent of police Sharath Chandra Pawar to identify a suitable location for the Chief Minister's helicopter landing.

HYDRAA maps long-term solution to IT corridor flood woes

Hyderabad: In a major step towards addressing recurring flooding issues in Hyderabad's IT Corridor, HYDRAA Commissioner AV Ranganath conducted a field inspection and directed officials to ensure that floodwater from the Ikea, Gachibowli, Durgam Cheruvu and Maithripur areas is diverted directly into Khajaguda lake. HYDRAA observed that inadequate storm water connectivity is causing rainwater to overflow onto roads instead of reaching designated water bodies. As a result, floodwater is flowing towards Malkam Cheruvu, leading to severe water logging and road submergence in several areas. During the inspection of flood canals leading to Khajaguda lake, Ranganath instructed municipal, irrigation and HYDRAA officials to immediately remove accumulated silt from drains and continue desilting operations throughout the rainy season.

BRS raises objection with ECI on Kavitha's TRS party name



Hyderabad: The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) has raised an objection with the Election Commission of India (ECI) to accepting the name of Kalvakuntla Kavitha's

newly established party, Telangana Rakshana Sena. Not just the BRS, reports stated that the Election Commission has received over 600 objections. In its complaint, BRS stated that the party has been associated with the name Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) since 2011, when it was launched by its chief and former chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR). "Though the name was changed from TRS to BRS in October 2022, the sentiments of the people were still strongly associated with TRS," the complaint read. The pink party claimed that Kavitha's Telangana Rakshana Sena, which uses the abbreviation "TRS", could confuse voters, particularly in rural areas, and affect the parent party's electoral prospects. In view of the objections raised by so many individuals and parties, it needs to be seen what decision will be taken by the ECI on Kavitha's TRS.

Cyberabad police arrest three Nepali nationals in Rs. 10 crore jewellery theft

Hyderabad: The jewellery heist at Hill Ridge Villas in Gachibowli could have been foiled had the security guards of the gated community alerted the police and handed over one of the suspects caught by a local resident. Cyberabad Commissioner of Police M Ramesh said that on June 6, when the arrested trio, Kamal Shahi, Vimla Shahi and Kalpani Shahi, were collecting valuables from the house of a businessman living in the gated community, Suresh Shahi, suspected to be the kingpin of the gang, was moving suspiciously outside the house. "One of the neighbours caught hold of Suresh and handed him over to the security guards of the colony. After detaining him for some time, they allowed him to leave without alerting the police."

Citizens map 672 trees at KBR Park to create database

HYDERABAD: In a citizen-led conservation initiative, residents have geo-tagged and mapped 672 trees on road medians surrounding KBR National Park, creating a publicly accessible database to strengthen protection of the city's urban green cover. The exercise followed the Supreme Court's May 18 stay order halting further tree felling in the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around the park. The order came after a petition filed by environmental conservationist Kaajal Maheshwari alleging continued tree cutting despite an earlier stay. The survey was led by development consultant Natasha Ramaratham.

GHMC Identifies 400 Dilapidated Buildings



Hyderabad: With the onset of the monsoon, municipal authorities in the Core Urban Region Economy (CURE) area have come under intense scrutiny for failing to act on dilapidated structures, illegal cellar excavations and unsafe temporary shelters in vulnerable locations across the city. The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has identified over 400 dilapidated structures in its jurisdiction. However, officials said the exercise has not been effectively carried out in the newly formed Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) and Malkajgiri Municipal Corporation (MMC) due to staff shortage. Some educational institutions have also been flagged. Aliya Government Junior College in Gunfoundary was found to be structurally unsafe, with vegetation growing on its walls at several places. Despite a ban on cellar excavation during the monsoon, violations have been reported. In Musheerabad circle, excavation activity led to the collapse of a retaining wall of an adjacent apartment. In GHMC limits, a majority of unsafe structures are located in the Rajendranagar zone, covering Chandrayangutta, Jangammet, Attapur and Rajendranagar circles. Officials said such structures are not confined to the Old City and its peripheries, but are also present in CMC areas such as Kukatpally, Kompally and Serilingampally. Many of these buildings are located in former village areas, including Narsingi, Hydershakote, Kompally and Medchal. In MMC limits, dozens of unsafe structures have been reported in Saroornagar, Alwal, Uppal, Moulali and Nagole. Officials said identification and issuance of notices have not been completed in CMC and MMC, while cellar excavation activity continues at multiple lo-

Revanth on a Spending Spree on Himself, School Kids Victims of His Corruption: Harish

Hyderabad: BRS senior leader T. Harish Rao on Thursday said the Congress government led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy was indulging in large-scale corruption in the education sector, reckless borrowing, and excessive spending on luxury projects. During an informal chat with reporters, Harish Rao claimed that the reason why the government had postponed the reopening of schools from June 12 to June 15 had nothing to do with the intervening weekend but had everything to do with a massive ₹2,000 crore scam. The postponement was because contracts related to uniforms, bags, notebooks, belts and other supplies were not finalised due to commission-related issues after a contract was issued to a Gujarat-based business, Harish Rao alleged. He also said that Revanth Reddy was indulging in "extravagant spending", allegedly constructing a Rs 100-crore luxury building, Bodhi Pavilion, in the MCRHRD campus for himself. "His family has been handpicking expensive furnishing and Italian furniture for the building. The project was to cost Rs 7 crore as a VVIP guest house. Now Rs 17 crore is being spent just on high security fencing of the building," Harish Rao said. The BRS deputy floor leader also questioned the need for a new helicopter which was allegedly being purchased for the Chief Minister, which he said would cost Rs 5 crore a month.



19 Breakaway MPs, Including Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar & Satabdi Roy, Seek Separate Seating In Lok Sabha



New Delhi: Amid intensifying internal rift within West Bengal's Trinamool Congress (TMC), a series of resignations and rebel assertions have fuelled uncertainty over the party's internal cohesion and possible merger. A major turmoil emerged within TMC, as 19 breakaway MPs, including senior leaders Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar and Satabdi Roy, submitted their names to the Lok Sabha Speaker's Office on May 18, according to sources on Friday. The list of MPs also includes Bapi Haldar, Dr. Sharmila Sarkar, Prasun Bandyopadhyay, Jagadish Barma Basunia, Asit Kumar Mal, Arup Chakraborty, Rachna Banerjee, Saayoni Ghosh, Khalilur Rahaman, Abu Taher Khan, Yusuf Pathan, Mitali Bag, Mala Roy, Kalipada Soren, Deepak Adhikari, June Malia, and Partha Bhowmick. Rebel TMC MP Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar confirmed that a group of 20 MPs has formally sought separate seating arrangements in the Lok Sabha, signalling an organisational split within the party's parliamentary ranks. This move comes amid growing internal tensions within the TMC following the party's underwhelming performance in the

recent West Bengal Assembly elections, which has reportedly led to a widening rift between the party veterans and the central leadership headed by Mamata Banerjee. On Thursday, TMC MP Prakash Chik Baraik, representing West Bengal in the Rajya Sabha, resigned from the Upper House. This is the third such resignation within a week. On June 10, Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Sushmita Dev resigned as a member of the Upper House. On June 8, Rajya Sabha MP Sukhendu Sekhar Ray resigned as a member of the Upper House of Parliament and from the primary membership of the TMC. Soon after resigning as a member of the Rajya Sabha amid the turmoil within Trinamool Congress, former TMC MP Prakash Chik Baraik on Thursday said that he has "accepted the opinion of the people" of West Bengal and then took the decision to resign from the Upper House. Earlier on Wednesday, Rebel TMC leader Ritabrata Banerjee categorically rejected speculation of any merger between the dissident faction and the Congress, asserting that the ongoing developments remain strictly internal to the organisation.

All three NDA candidates from Northeast elected to Rajya Sabha unopposed

GUWAHATI: Three NDA candidates from the Northeast were elected to the Rajya Sabha unopposed on Thursday. The winners were Manipur BJP president A Sharda Devi, Arunachal Pradesh BJP stalwart Tai Tagak and BJP ally National People's Party's (NPP) James Sangma in Meghalaya.

The three states have one Rajya Sabha seat each. Arunachal Chief Minister Pema Khandu said Tagak's victory was a proud moment for the state. "Having served the state with dedication over the years, he now carries the responsibility of representing the hopes, concerns, and aspirations of our people at the national level. His vast experience in public life will undoubtedly strengthen Arunachal's voice in Parliament," Khandu said. Congratulating Sharda Devi, Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh said her vast administrative and political experience would be a valuable asset in advancing women's empowerment, inclusive development, and good governance in the spirit of "Antyodaya" envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The state's home minister Konthoujam Govindas Singh and several BJP leaders were present when Sharda Devi collected her certificate of election.

PM tells Oppn CMs to work together for accelerating development journey



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi reportedly spent considerable time interacting with the chief ministers of Opposition-ruled states, such as he did with the CMs of BJP- and NDA-governed states, on the sidelines of NITI Aayog's 11th Governing Council meeting on Thursday. "Guided by the spirit of cooperative federalism, we are working together to accelerate India's development journey. The collective efforts of the Centre and states will play a pivotal role in realising our shared vision of Viksit Bharat," Modi said in a post after the meeting. Chaired by the PM, the meeting witnessed

deliberations on issues concerning the states. The CMs presented their states' priorities, seeking greater cooperation from the Centre. "Interactions between the PM and CMs of Opposition-ruled states reflected the spirit of federal coordination, which is essential if India is to achieve its goal of becoming a developed nation by 2047," a source said. Tamil Nadu CM Vijay met the Prime Minister and discussed his state's requirements and challenges. Dressed in a black blazer and matching trousers, Vijay apprised Modi of his state's needs and sought support from the Centre. According to sources, the PM listened attentively to the issues raised. Telangana CM Revanth Reddy presented Modi a silver memento depicting a decorated ox, symbolising Telangana's cultural heritage. He submitted documents and discussed about Telangana's problems and requirements. Sources said the PM warmly acknowledged the gesture and listened to Revanth Reddy's concerns. Karnataka Chief Minister D K Shivakumar presented the Prime Minister a wooden sculpture of Basavana, the 12th-century philosopher and founder of the Lingayat faith. Later, Shivakumar said in a post that he had a constructive discussion with the PM on Karnataka's development agenda. "Together, we can build a stronger Karnataka and contribute meaningfully to a stronger India," he said. Jammu and Kashmir CM Omar Abdullah and the PM discussed issues concerning the Union territory in a cordial atmosphere, sources said, adding that Omar appeared satisfied after the interaction.

India Must Focus On Its Priorities Despite West Asia Crisis: Niti Aayog

New Delhi: Niti Aayog vice-chairman Ashok Kumar Lahiri on Thursday said that India must continue focusing on human capital development and not allow the West Asia crisis to disrupt its long-term priorities. "The country can't be paralysed by external shocks," he told the media after the 11th Governing Council meeting of the NITI Aayog in New Delhi here. The vice chairman also said that during the meeting, energy security amid geopolitical uncertainty was discussed at length, but no chief minister sought specific assistance due to the West Asia crisis. "We can't change the wind, we can only trim the sails. India is playing its role during the West Asia crisis," Lahiri said. We are growing the fastest. We



have to keep doing our homework, which is the development of human capital. Because of the West Asia crisis, we can't be paralysed, we have to keep doing our work," he added. The theme of this year's Governing Council meeting, he said, was 'Inclusive Human Development for Viksit Bharat @2047', with discussions focused on education and broader human development goals. "A well-educated population is key to success," he said. During the briefing, Niti Aayog member

Rajiv Gauba also said that the situation in West Asia remained a concern in the background of discussions, but no chief minister specifically sought support from the Centre due to the geopolitical developments. "The West Asia situation is there on the back of everyone's mind. None of the chief ministers specifically asked for any assistance due to this situation. There was discussion on energy security and the need to expedite implementation of the schemes related to it," Gauba said.



Vizag Man Among 3 Indians Killed in US Air Strike on Oil Tanker off Oman

Visakhapatnam: A 44-year-old marine engineer from Visakhapatnam is among the three Indian crew members killed in a US military strike on a Palau-flagged oil tanker – The Settebello – off the Oman coast, family members and Andhra Pradesh Bhavan officials have confirmed on Thursday. According to AP Bhavan commissioner Arja Srikanth, the three are chief engineer Suresh Patnaala, deck cadet Aditya Sharma from Himachal Pradesh and engine fitter Shivanand Chaurasia of Uttar Pradesh. Suresh had been looking forward to celebrating his 15th marriage anniversary on June 24, his grieving widow Bhargavi said. The US Central Command has acknowledged the strike, saying the vessel violated the ongoing US blockade of Iranian ports by attempting to transport oil from Iran. "We four have now become three," Suresh's widow Bhargavi told reporters, describing the impact of the tragedy on the family. She said their two sons, aged 13 years and 10 years, have been inconsolable since learning about their father's death. According to the family, Suresh had already received his relieving letter and had been awaiting a replacement before returning home after nearly five months at sea. The Embassy of India in Oman is expected to coordinate with local authorities, the shipping company, and other relevant agencies to facilitate documentation, repatriation, and assistance to the affected family.

Jagan Is Ready To Become Cockroach


The former chief minister of Andhra Pradesh YS Jagan had an interesting reaction when asked to comment on the suddenly rising cockroach janta party in India. He had a very inclusive reaction to the same. Jagan said the youth of the country are clearly revolting against the existing system, and it is the responsibility of the government to cater to the m. He added that there is no point in denying the existence of this cockroach movement as it could backfire. "The youth of this country, particularly the Gen Z is revolting. If the government tries to separate them, then there will be a cock-



roach revolution, and Jagan might be a cockroach as well. If we have to fight for justice in this country, then so be it." Jagan said. Jagan said Chandrababu is trying to suppress the Gen Z aspirations in Andhra Pradesh and he will also have to face the consequences of this cockroach movement in the near future. Needless to say, this cockroach party movement, which originated after a group of online youngsters created a social media campaign has started to catch on quite aggressively how.

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Education

VOICE OF WORDS

Monday, June 15, 2026



Free Admission Process Begins At Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule Government Hostel For Backward Class Girls For 2026-27

The Social Justice Department has commenced the free admission process for the 2026-27 academic year at the Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule Government Hostel for Backward Class Girls in Panvel.

Application Window Announced

Eligible students have been urged to submit their applications within the prescribed deadlines. According to Hostel Superintendent Usha Shashikant Gujela, applications will be accepted from June 30 to July 15, with different deadlines based on the students' level of education.

Category-Wise Deadlines

The hostel, located at Plot No. 21, Sector 10, opposite Green Park Society in Kalamboli, provides accommodation to economically disadvantaged, deserving, and meritorious girls from backward class communities pursuing education from Class VIII onwards.

The last date for submission of applications for school students is June 30, 2026, while students seeking admission for Classes XI and XII, as well as non-professional courses, can apply until July 15, 2026.

Application forms are available at the hostel, and an online application facility has also been made available, Usha Gujela said. Authorities have appealed to eligible students to complete the admission process within the stipulated time.

Telangana BIE releases inter supplementary results, 49.29 pc students pass

Hyderabad: The intermediate public advanced supplementary examinations 2026 results were declared on Thursday, with 49.29 per cent students clearing the exams. As per the Telangana Board of Intermediate Education (TG BIE), a total of 1,31,128 general and vocational stream students appeared for the second year exams and 64,639 (49.29 per cent) passed. Results have been hosted on the website <https://tgbie.cgg.gov.in> or <https://results.cgg.gov.in>. Girls continued to outperform boys.

A total of 47,395 girls appeared and 52.56 per cent cleared, while 83,733 boys recorded a pass percentage of 47.45. As for the intermediate first year, 2,67,331 students took the exams and 68.84 per cent cleared. Here too 1,23,974 girls dominated the results, recording a pass percentage of 76.10, while 1,43,357 boys registered 62.57 per cent passes. Candidates who wish to apply for recounting and re-verification-cum-scanned copy of valued answer script have to pay Rs.100 and Rs.800 respectively per paper via the BIE website <https://tgbie.cgg.gov.in> between June 12 and 18. The Board asked students to download and take a colour printout of an online memorandum of marks from the website: <https://tgbie.cgg.gov.in> from Thursday (5 pm). Further, the BIE informed all the students, parents and principals that a physical copy of the memorandum of marks will not be supplied separately. Students should download and keep it as a record till the pass certificate is supplied by the Board.



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Sixteen IIT Bombay Deep-Tech Startups To Represent India At Bharat Innovates 2026 Global Showcase In Nice, France



Mumbai: Sixteen deep-tech startups incubated at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) will represent the institute at Bharat Innovates 2026, India's flagship global deep-tech innovation showcase, to be held in Nice, France, from June 14 to 16. **Elite Selection** The startups are among 120 ventures selected from premier higher education and research institutions across India to showcase cutting-edge technologies before global investors, innovation agencies, industry leaders and policymakers.

Organised by the Ministry of Education with guidance from the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, Bharat Innovates aims to position India's research-driven startups on the global stage and strengthen international partnerships in science, technology and entrepreneurship. IIT Bombay, the nodal institution for the initiative, has played a key role in coordinating the national programme and the startup selection process. The event is expected to provide Indian startups access to international venture capital, sovereign funds and collaboration opportunities.

High-Profile Attendance The opening session will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron, highlighting the growing India-France innovation partnership. Infosys founder N.R. Narayana Murthy is scheduled to deliver the keynote address, while leading investors and industry experts will participate in discussions on deep-tech innovation and entrepreneurship. The IIT Bombay contingent includes startups working in biotechnology, healthcare, space technology, semiconductors, advanced computing, clean energy and manufacturing. Participating ventures include AmyScan Healthcare, ImmunoAdoptive Cell Therapy, Bellatrix Aerospace, ideaForge Technology, Haystack Analytics, Atomberg Technologies and QuNU Labs, among others. Alongside the startups, IIT Bombay will showcase several research projects under its pavilion, including BharatGen, a multilingual foundational AI model for India, DhatuVerse, an AI-powered platform for mineral exploration, and next-generation tandem solar cell technology. The three-day event will feature startup exhibitions, investor meetings, innovation showcases, research-industry roundtables and partnership announcements. Through Bharat Innovates 2026, India aims to accelerate the commercialisation of indigenous technologies, attract global investment and strengthen its position as an emerging deep-tech innovation hub.

Telugu Student Wins Second Prize at U.S. National Innovation Competition

Tampa, Florida, USA: Telugu student Ishanvi Sabniveesu, a 10th-grade student at Steinbrenner High School, Florida, has achieved remarkable success at the prestigious Invention Convention U.S. Nationals, one of the largest innovation competitions in the United States. Competing against more than 300,000 students from 35 states, Ishanvi secured the Second Prize for her groundbreaking innovation, an AI-Enabled Smart Cane designed to help visually impaired individuals navigate independently and safely. The project, which is currently in the patent application stage, began its journey at regional competitions hosted by the University of South Florida and ultimately earned national recognition for its innovative approach and social impact. Key Features of the AI-Powered Smart Cane The Smart Cane incorporates advanced artificial intelligence technologies, including: Real-time AI-powered environmental analysis On-device Large Language



Model (LLM) processing Voice-guided navigation through Bluetooth earpieces Fully offline functionality without internet dependency Advanced obstacle detection system False detection suppression technology for improved accuracy One-touch emergency calling feature Designed to be effective even in rural and remote areas, the Smart Cane aims to enhance mobility, independence, and safety for people with visual impairments. Beyond this innovation, Ishanvi has also founded Chronic Connect, a non-profit community initiative dedicated to supporting individuals living with chronic illnesses. Speaking about her achievement, Ishanvi said, "This recognition is a proud moment for the global Telugu community and a motivation for young innovators to use technology for social good." The achievement has been widely appreciated by Telugu communities across the world, who regard her success as an inspiration for students and aspiring innovators in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and beyond. Hyderabad-Based Startup Played Key Role A significant contribution to the success of the project came from Quadric IT, a Hyderabad-based technology startup. The company provided AI mentorship, technical guidance, engineering support, and innovation mentoring, helping transform a promising idea into a practical, real-world solution. This achievement highlights the growing participation of young minds in artificial intelligence and engineering and demonstrates how collaboration between students, educators, and technology mentors can drive impactful innovation.

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TGSWREIS board clears AI courses, nine new CoEs

HYDERABAD: The Board of Governors of the Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TGSWREIS) on Thursday approved a series of academic, welfare, administrative and infrastructure reforms aimed at strengthening residential education for marginalised students. At a meeting chaired by Social Welfare Minister Adluri Laxman Kumar, the Board approved UGC pay scales for degree college faculty, introduction of Artificial Intelligence courses at the undergraduate level, establishment of nine additional Centres of Excellence for NEET and JEE coaching, and a Pharmacy College in Hyderabad. It also cleared laptops and financial assistance for eligible SC students pursuing higher education, the "Phone Mitra" facility to enable student-parent interaction, and a common nutritional menu across institutions. For staff welfare, Craft and Art Teachers will be recognised as Trained Graduate Teachers (TG Ts), while remuneration for part-time teachers will be enhanced. The Board also recommended permanent campuses for 133 institutions currently operating from rented premises.



University of Hyderabad's CDLTR Launches Innovative Online Certificate Courses in Malariology and Sanskrit Computational Tools

The Centre for Digital Learning Training and Resources (CDLTR) at the University of Hyderabad (UoH) has announced the upcoming launch of two groundbreaking online certificate courses designed to bridge critical gaps in traditional education and specialized scientific research. Beginning July 15, 2026, the university will officially offer: 1. Advanced Malariology: Biology of Parasitism and Drug Resistance (2 Credits) 2. Samsadhani-Pravesika: Learning Sanskrit using Computational Tools (4 Credits) Both programs are developed and taught by award-winning faculty members. In alignment with modern educational standards, these courses carry academic credits that are fully transferable across universities. Upon successful completion, candidates will be awarded a formal certificate from the University of Hyderabad. The newly introduced curriculum targets distinct, high-demand areas in both the humanities and sciences. "Schools and colleges do not provide enough training to read and understand Sanskrit literature; this course will fill that gap," said Prof. Salman Abdul Moiz, Director of CDLTR. Commenting on the scientific offering, he added, "The course on malariology will be highly beneficial for individuals seeking comprehensive insights into drug-resistance mechanisms and the latest technological advancements in molecular parasitology." The launch is part of a broader, aggressive push by the University of Hyderabad to expand its digital footprint and deliver flexible, high-quality education to global learners. The upcoming programs are designed to connect ambitious students and working professionals directly with domain experts.

VOICE OF WORDS

HEALTH

Struggling with high blood pressure?

Cardiologist points to 3 drinks you should stay away from



High blood pressure remains a major contributor to heart disease worldwide, but it is also highly manageable. Cardiologist Dr Jack Wolfson points to three common drinks that may be quietly impacting your health and explains why cutting them out can help. Heart disease still sits high on the list of global health concerns, and high blood pressure is a big reason why. The tricky part is how quietly it develops. No loud warning signs, nothing dramatic at first. It just builds over time and then suddenly becomes difficult to ignore.

There is some good news though. Blood pressure is one of the few risk factors you can actually influence with daily habits. In a recent Instagram video, cardiologist Dr Jack Wolfson, who has spent 16 years working with nutrition, lifestyle and natural therapies, pointed out three common drinks that can interfere with heart health and should ideally be avoided.

Alcohol : Alcohol comes first on the list. It might seem harmless in the moment, something to relax with, but the effects on the body are far from mild. As he puts it, "Number one, alcohol. Alcohol may taste good going down, but after a few minutes, it is extremely unhealthy. Leads to poor sleep, increases cortisol, epinephrine, nor-epinephrine – big problem with alcohol. Just stop drinking. You don't need it." In simple terms, it disrupts sleep patterns, pushes stress hormones up and keeps the body in a state of strain.

Artificial Beverages : Those bright, colourful drinks sitting on supermarket shelves might look fun and appealing, but they are mostly built from artificial ingredients. "Number two, of course, artificial beverages, artificial colours, flavours, sweeteners. Get rid of those," he says. These drinks are packed with synthetic additives that offer no real benefit and are not something the body needs on a regular basis.

Sugary Drinks : Then come sugar sweetened options. This includes colas, sodas and especially anything packaged in cans or plastic bottles. High amounts of added sugar can take a toll on overall health, including blood pressure. "And then, number three, make sure you avoid sugar-sweetened beverages. <

Colas, sodas, especially anything that comes inside of a can or a plastic bottle. Get rid of those," he explains. On top of the sugar content, there is also the added concern of microplastics from packaging, which may have further effects on the body. Keeping an eye on these everyday choices can go a long way. Nothing extreme, just a bit more awareness. Over time, that tends to matter more than anything else.

Sweet, salty or crunchy?

What your cravings are really telling you



Food cravings are not just about willpower but are influenced by brain chemistry, hormones and emotions. Experts explain why we crave sweet, salty or crunchy foods and how understanding these signals can help manage eating habits and improve overall health. There's a moment most of us recognise. It's late evening, you're not exactly hungry, but suddenly you want something specific. Maybe it's chocolate, maybe chips, maybe something crispy you can't quite name.

The idea of cravings is often seen as indulgence and a lack of control. But cravings are so much more than that. They are a combination of biology, emotions, and even lifestyle habits. Learning about cravings can completely alter the way you think about food. "Cravings are not random. They are signals from the body, often pointing to deeper biological or psychological needs,"

What is actually happening inside your body

Cravings are first triggered in the brain, in the reward centre. When you eat food, especially that containing high amounts of sugar, salt, or fat, your brain releases dopamine, a chemical associated with pleasure. This is why some food tastes

instantly good. The brain gets into a habit of associating these foods with pleasure. But there are other chemicals too, such as ghrelin and leptin, which control hunger and satisfaction. These chemicals are disrupted when you do not have proper sleep or eating habits, and you may crave food even when you don't need to.

Why do you crave sweet foods

The most common cravings are sweet cravings. These cravings usually happen when the blood glucose levels go down. When the levels go down, the body needs energy, and the fastest source of energy is sugar. But it is not just physical. Emotional triggers also play a role. "When you are stressed or tired, sugar can temporarily boost serotonin levels, which improves mood,". The catch is that frequent sugar consumption may cause insulin resistance over time, which may cause metabolic problems.

The real reason for your salty food cravings

If you experience salty cravings, your body may be telling you something else. Salty cravings may be caused by dehydration or an imbalance of electrolytes in the body, especially if you sweat excessively or drink insufficient fluids.

Stress may also cause salty cravings because of the effects of stress on the adrenal glands and the body's regulation of salt. Although salt is necessary for the body to maintain nerve and muscle functions, consuming too much of it may cause high blood pressure and heart problems.

Why crunchy foods are so satisfying

You may be surprised to know that your desire for crunchy foods may not be entirely about the taste. The texture may be playing a role in your desire for crunchy foods. Eating crunchy foods stimulates the brain in several areas. There is also the behavioural aspect. Chewing can have a calming effect, which is why people often reach for chips or snacks when they are bored or stressed. "Crunchy foods can provide a sense of relief, almost like a physical way to release tension,"

How to manage cravings without fighting them

- The key is not to ignore cravings, but to understand them.
- Stay hydrated, as dehydration can trigger false hunger signals
- Maintain regular meals to keep blood sugar stable
- Prioritise sleep to balance hunger hormones
- Manage stress through movement or mindfulness
- Pay attention to whether you are actually hungry or just craving something

When you start recognising the difference, cravings become easier to manage rather than resist. Cravings are not the enemy. They are cues. Once you understand what your body is asking for, you can respond more thoughtfully instead of reacting impulsively. Over time, this shift not only improves your relationship with food but also supports better overall health.

Did you know poor sleep can shrink your brain? Doctor highlights 5 facts about brain health

Simple daily patterns can impact brain function more than expected. Dr Kunal Sood highlights how sleep, stress, diet and hearing may influence cognitive health and long-term brain ageing. Brain health can sometimes feel like a distant concern. Something to think about later. But the reality is, it is shaped quietly by everyday habits, the kind most people barely notice.

1. Poor sleep can lead to brain shrinkage

Sleep is not just about feeling rested the next day. It is when the brain resets, repairs, clears out waste. When that process is disrupted, even briefly, there can be consequences. "Sleep deprivation is associated with reduced gray matter volume and hippocampal atrophy, key areas for memory and learning. Even short-term sleep loss can alter brain structure, while chronic poor sleep may accelerate brain ageing through impaired neurogenesis, synaptic disruption, and reduced clearance of metabolic waste like β -amyloid,".

2. Chronic stress can quietly affect your memory and focus

Stress tends to be normalised. A busy week, a rough patch, nothing



unusual. But when it becomes constant, the brain starts adapting in ways that are not ideal.

3. High blood sugar can speed up brain ageing

This is one of those things that often flies under the radar unless someone is already monitoring their health closely. "Chronic hyperglycaemia is linked to faster cognitive decline, smaller brain volumes, and microvascular brain injury. Mechanisms include oxidative stress, inflammation, insulin resistance in the brain, and damage to small cerebral vessels, leading to

impaired blood flow and neuronal function,".

4. Hearing loss can increase the risk of dementia

Hearing is more connected to brain health than it appears on the surface. It is not just about sound, it is about keeping the brain actively engaged.

"Longitudinal studies and meta-analyses show hearing loss is associated with higher dementia risk. Proposed mechanisms include increased cognitive load, reduced auditory stimulation leading to structural brain changes, and social isolation that reduces cognitive engagement," he pointed out.

5. Certain nutrients may help support brain function

There is no single fix when it comes to brain health, but some nutrients seem to play a supportive role. "Omega-3s support neuronal membrane integrity, synaptic function, and reduce neuroinflammation, with studies showing modest improvements in memory and cognition," Dr Sood explained. "Creatine supports brain energy metabolism by increasing phosphocreatine stores, helping maintain cognitive performance under stress or fatigue," he added.

VOICE OF WORDS

WOMEN

Teen acne vs adult acne



Acne is one of the most common skin concerns across age groups, yet not all acne is the same. There is a difference between teen acne and adult acne in terms of causes, triggers, and behavior, though they have been grouped together. The grouping of teen and adult acne is a cause for confusion, and more importantly, it can affect treatment decisions. Understanding these differences is key to managing acne effectively at any stage of life.

What drives teen acne : In adolescents, the main cause of acne is hormonal changes that occur at the time of puberty. The hormones, especially androgens, increase the activity of the sebaceous glands, leading to an excessive secretion of sebum. This, along with the proliferation of bacteria that cause acne, leads to blocked pores, blackheads, whiteheads, and inflammatory papules.

How adult acne presents differently : Adult acne, particularly in women, has a different pattern and set of triggers. It tends to occur in the lower face, along the jawline, chin and neck. Hormonal changes remain an essential factor, and polycystic ovary disease still remains an important cause in this age group, too. Adult patients may have late-onset acne or acne that persisted since adolescence and never fully went away. In addition, stress, sleep, and metabolic factors all contribute to this problem.

Hidden triggers you might be missing : Another important and often under-recognised cause of adult acne is medication-induced breakouts. Drugs such as corticosteroids, certain hormonal therapies, lithium, antiepileptics and even some vitamin supplements can trigger or worsen acne. "These eruptions may have a sudden onset and can be resistant to conventional acne treatments unless the underlying trigger is addressed."

The skincare mistakes that make acne worse : Another major issue is self-prescribed skincare. With the rise of social media trends and over-the-counter actives, many individuals unknowingly damage their skin barrier. Overuse of exfoliating acids, retinoids or harsh cleansers can lead to irritation, increased oil production and secondary acne. "What begins as an attempt to treat acne often ends up perpetuating it.". As a simple rule, acne-prone individuals should be cautious with certain ingredients that are known to trigger breakouts in susceptible skin. These include coconut oil, cocoa butter, isopropyl myristate, isopropyl palmitate, lanolin, certain algae extracts and heavy silicones in occlusive formulations. Fermented ingredients like galactomyces and caprylic or capric triglycerides in richer bases may also not suit everyone's skin type.

Pollution and Environment : Environmental factors are also important to consider. In a place like Mumbai, the air quality level is currently low. Pollution can thus affect the skin significantly. Pollutants and particulate matter get deposited on the skin surface and cause inflammation and oxidative stress. They can cause the pores to get blocked and the sebum to oxidize, which are the causes of acne formation.

What treatment usually involves : Treatment must always be individualised based on age, severity and underlying cause. In both teens and adults, topical therapies form the foundation, including retinoids, benzoyl peroxide and antibiotic combinations, along with gentle barrier-supporting moisturisers to maintain skin integrity.

Before you blame your shampoo, check your water

The hard water hair truth

In many Delhi-NCR dermatology clinics, there is one complaint that comes up almost every day. Someone has moved homes and suddenly, their hair fall seems to have increased overnight. The first instinct is to blame a new shampoo, stress or even diet. But dermatologists are increasingly pointing to a quieter, often overlooked factor, hard water. "Many times, the scalp is perfectly healthy, but the water is not," says Dr Akriti Gupta, founder and chief dermatologist at Jivisha Clinic, New Delhi. "When patients say their hair feels rough immediately after washing, we always ask about their water supply."

What hard water really does to your hair

Hard water contains high levels of minerals like calcium and magnesium. Those chalky white deposits you see on taps, buckets or bathroom tiles are often the first sign. While it sounds harmless, this mineral-heavy water can change the way your hair behaves. It leaves behind a residue that prevents proper cleansing, blocks moisture and makes hair feel dry, rough and difficult to manage.

Does hard water actually cause hair loss?

This is where most people get confused. Hard water does not directly cause permanent hair loss or baldness. It does not damage the hair follicle beneath the skin. What it does cause is breakage.

Mineral buildup coats the hair shaft, making strands brittle and prone to snapping during washing or combing. The result looks like hair fall,

even though the hair is breaking from the length. "People often think they are losing hair from the roots, but in many cases, it is just breakage," explains Dr Gupta. "It looks similar in the drain, which is why it causes panic." According to dermatology guidelines, losing around 50 to 100 strands of hair a day is normal. Sudden shedding can happen due to stress, hormonal changes, illness or weight loss. This temporary condition is known as telogen effluvium. Hard water does not cause this condition, but it can make the situation appear worse because already fragile hair breaks more easily.

Why urban homes are seeing this more

In cities like Delhi, many households depend on groundwater, which naturally contains higher mineral content. Over time, this affects both the scalp and hair.

"Hard water does not shut down the follicle, but it can irritate the scalp. Dryness leads to itching, and aggressive rubbing during washing increases breakage. Mineral buildup can also disturb the scalp's natural balance, making hair look dull, lifeless and harder to manage. "Chemically treated or coloured hair is even more vulnerable because the outer layer is already sensitive," she adds.

Signs your hair is reacting to hard water

- Hair feels rough or dry after washing
- Increased tangling



- Loss of shine
 - More breakage while combing
 - Scalp dryness or flakes
- "Think of it like washing clothes without rinsing properly," says Dr Malhotra. "The residue stays behind, and over time, it builds up."

What you can do about it

- The good news is that managing this does not require drastic measures.
 - Install a shower filter or water softener
 - Use a clarifying shampoo once a week
 - Avoid very hot water
 - Condition your hair regularly
- Be gentle while washing and drying "If your hair fall starts after shifting homes, check your water before investing in expensive treatments," advises. Hair fall is often a signal, not the problem itself. When you understand what your hair is responding to, whether it is stress, nutrition or even water quality, the solution becomes clearer. Sometimes, it is not about changing products, but about noticing what has quietly changed around you.

Heat-proof skincare

How to build a routine that survives Indian summers

Indian summers are not subtle. The heat is intense, the humidity is relentless, and UV exposure is far from forgiving. A routine that works in cooler months often starts to feel heavy, ineffective or even irritating once temperatures rise. The fix is not to add more products, but to make smarter swaps. Summer skin needs a little bit of consideration and care. Switch to gel-based or water-based moisturisers that hydrate without sitting heavily on the skin. Ingredients like hyaluronic acid, cica and niacinamide work well in heat, offering hydration while helping control excess oil.

Sunscreen is non-negotiable

In Indian conditions, SPF is not optional. It is the foundation of your routine. A broad-spectrum SPF 50 PA+++ is recommended, but application matters just as much as the formula. Most people underapply, which reduces effectiveness. Reapplying every two hours, especially when outdoors, is key.

Stick or powder sunscreens can make touch-ups easier and more convenient during the day.

Cleanse, but don't strip

Sweat and oil accumulation can prompt the use of more intense



cleansers during the summer.

However, intense cleansers can strip the skin, leading to more oil production.

Using a gentle cleanser twice a day should be enough to keep your skin clean.

Summer is not the time to overload your skin.

Using intense active ingredients like retinols and exfoliating acids can make your skin more sensitive, especially during harsh sun exposure.

Using antioxidants like Vitamin C and niacinamide can help control

sun damage.

Build in a midday reset

Sometimes, your skin just needs a pause. A chilled face mist, whether rose water or thermal water, can help calm heat-stressed skin and offer quick relief during the day. It is a simple addition, but one that makes a noticeable difference in how your skin feels.

Summer skincare is less about doing more and more and more about doing it right. A light routine, sun protection, and some restraint can do wonders for your skin as you navigate the season.



International News

VOICE OF WORDS

Monday, June 15, 2026

3rd Vessel With Indian Crew Attacked as 3 Killed in Earlier Strike

Another merchant vessel with Indian crew has come under attack by the US on Thursday, third attack in recent days. All crew members are safe so far, according to initial reports. Meanwhile, all three missing Indian seafarers have died after a U.S. military strike on a tanker in the Gulf of Oman, Indian Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said on Thursday. The U.S. said its military carried out a "precision" strike on the vessel that failed to follow its instructions and was carrying oil from Iran. Indian sources told reporters that New Delhi had summoned the U.S. deputy chief of mission after lodging a "strong protest" on the strike. The three Indian seafarers went missing after 21 other Indian mariners were rescued following an attack on their tanker off the coast of Oman. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Wednesday condemned the attack, saying 21 of the 24 Indian crew members onboard had



been rescued. "We condemn the attack on the commercial vessel Settebello off the coast of Oman, earlier today. Of the 24 Indian crew onboard, 21 Indians have been rescued thus far and 03 Indians are report-

edly missing. Our Embassy in Oman is closely monitoring the situation and proactively coordinating with the Omani authorities in the ongoing Search and Rescue operation," the MEA said in a statement.

Number of forcibly displaced people dips to 118 million: UN



GENEVA: The number of forcibly displaced people dropped for the first time in a decade last year, as more opted to return home despite often unsafe and unstable conditions, the UN said Thursday. At the end of 2025, 117.8 million people worldwide were forcibly displaced from their homes, marking a decline of 5.4 million compared to a year earlier, the UN refugee agency said. The agency said the number of people who had been forced to flee due to war, violence and persecution remained "unacceptably high", urging action to dramatically reduce long-term displacement over the next decade. In its annual report, UNHCR explained that the declining displacement number was linked to "a sharp increase" in the number of refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) returning home. In all, 14.7 million displaced people returned to their places of origin in 2025, said the report. They included 4.4 million refu-

gees who crossed back into their home countries, marking the second highest number of refugee returns since records began 60 years ago. UN refugee chief Barham Salih told reporters in Geneva that "more than 90 percent" of refugee returns last year were concentrated in Afghanistan, Sudan and Syria. But, he stressed, "many of these returns occurred not under conditions of safety and stability, but under pressure". They had gone back to "countries where insecurity persists, where infrastructure has been damaged, and where basic services and economic opportunities remain scarce", he warned. "Returns that are not safe... are not a solution," he insisted. "The risk becoming the beginning of a new displacement cycle." Among those displaced at the end of 2025, 41.6 million were considered refugees, including nearly 5.4 million people who fled across borders to become refugees in the course of the year, Thursday's report showed.

Nepal U-Turn? No Ban On Indian Mangoes, Kathmandu Clarifies Imports Allowed After Quality Checks

Nepal recently clarified that it has not imposed a ban on the import of Indian mangoes, indicating an apparent U-turn, days after reports suggested that consignments were being stopped over pesticide concerns and quarantine issues. The Nepal government has now stated that Indian mangoes are being allowed into the country in accordance with existing regulations and market demand. In a statement issued on Wednesday, Nepal's Ministry of Agriculture, Forest and Environment said there are no restrictions on importing mangoes from India. The clarification came after reports in local media and on social media claimed that the government had restricted Indian mango imports due to excessive pesticide residues and inadequate quarantine facilities in border regions, particularly Madhesh Province. The ministry's Plant Quarantine and Pesticide Management Centre said it had not imposed any ban and that permissions were being granted for mango imports after compliance with required procedures, as reported by PTL. Authorities stressed that imports continue to be regulated under established plant health and biosecurity norms.



At least 18 killed in southern Lebanon as Israel-Hezbollah clashes intensify

Beirut: At least 18 people were killed, and several others were injured in southern Lebanon as the cross-border fighting with Israel continues, according to civil defence and health authorities. The deadliest attack occurred in Tyre District's town of Tayr Debba, killing nine people and injuring seven others, according to a preliminary toll, reports Xinhua, quoting Lebanon's National News Agency. Hezbollah said on Wednesday (Local time) that it targeted gatherings of Israeli troops and vehicles in southern Lebanon's Qantara and Bayada. Meanwhile, the Israeli military said Wednesday it struck Hezbollah infrastructure sites and killed Hezbollah militants in Tyre and other areas in southern Lebanon over the past 24 hours. It also confirmed that Hezbollah launched a drone toward Israeli soldiers in southern Lebanon during the day, which it said was intercepted. Separately, Lebanese President Joseph Aoun said Wednesday that he will pursue negotiations "until the end," and that diplomacy offers the best path to restore Lebanon's sovereignty, according to a presidency state-

ment. "Wars achieve no results other than losses shared by everyone," he said, calling for an end to Israeli attacks and withdrawal of Israeli forces, among others, and saying no to foreign interference in Lebanon's internal affairs. Also on Wednesday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu released a video message addressed to the Lebanese people, asking them to join Israel against Hezbollah. He claimed that Israel has killed nearly 10,000 Hezbollah militants, adding, "no matter where they are, we'll find them." The developments came after a brief Israel-Iran flare-up triggered by Israeli airstrikes on Beirut on Sunday. Despite a ceasefire reached by Israel and Lebanon in mid-April, Israel has continued near-daily strikes in Lebanon, claiming to target Hezbollah positions and weapons, while Hezbollah has launched attacks on Israeli military positions. Lebanon's Public Health Emergency Operations Centre said on Wednesday that Israeli attacks since March 2 have killed 3,696 people in Lebanon and injured 11,413 others.

EAM S Jaishankar Calls For Forward-Looking India-Bulgaria Partnership, Highlights Shared Global Priorities In Sofia

Sofia: Emphasising the long-standing ties between India and Bulgaria, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar on Thursday said that the relationship should be reshaped into a more contemporary and forward-looking partnership, with both sides sharing similar political outlooks. Addressing a press conference following his meeting with Bulgaria's Foreign Minister Velislava Petrova in Sofia, EAM Jaishankar said, "Our discussions today had three dimensions. First, the bilateral cooperation between India and Bulgaria. Second, the partnership between India and the European Union. And third, what our two countries can do together for the world... That is largely what I came here to discuss." "Where India-Bulgaria ties are concerned, these are longstanding and very com-

fortable. Our task is to refashion that into a contemporary and forward-looking relationship. Politically, as our talks confirmed, we share many similar approaches and outlooks," he added. During the visit, EAM Jaishankar also called on Bulgaria's Prime Minister Rumen Radev and conveyed the personal greetings of PM Narendra Modi. On India-European Union relations, EAM Jaishankar highlighted recent agreements, including a free trade agreement, a security and defence partnership, and a mobility framework concluded between the two sides in January this year, saying these initiatives have the potential to significantly enhance cooperation. He noted that the current global situation is marked by heightened volatility and uncertainty, stressing the need to address disputes through peaceful means rather than confrontation.

Belfast Girds for More Anti-Immigration Violence After Stabbing Suspect Held



BELFAST: Northern Ireland braced Wednesday for a potential second night of violence directed at immigrants, following unrest that UK authorities say was stoked by far-right activists on social media after a brutal Belfast stabbing. The Northern Irish capital's centre

was largely deserted by late afternoon, with restaurants and shops shuttered and public transport poised to close amid fears of a repeat of Tuesday night's disorder. But the main flashpoints 24 hours earlier appeared quiet as evening approached, with some schools shutting early and police bolstering their presence on the city's riot-scarred streets. Earlier, a Sudanese man appeared in court over the knife attack that triggered the overnight unrest, which also spread to the Scottish city Glasgow. In Belfast, masked rioters torched vehicles and buildings and forced families to flee their homes. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer condemned the scenes as "shocking and completely unacceptable". Meanwhile the family of Stephen Ogilvie, the victim of Monday night's horrific stabbing warned against using the "terrible tragedy" to "divide people or fuel hostility". In a statement released on the Facebook page of a local politician, they appealed for calm. It comes with tensions already high across the UK. There were skirmishes in southern England last week over the police handling of the murder of a white student by a British Sikh man. Anselme Shima, originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo, and who has lived in Northern Ireland since 2013, called the situation "terrifying". "I have two children at home and this morning I am wondering, 'Can I send them to school?'" the 48-year-old told AFP. - Court appearance - At Belfast Magistrates' Court on Wednesday morning, Hadi Alodid, a

30-year-old refugee originally from Sudan, appeared briefly to face attempted murder and other charges following Monday's incident. He was remanded in custody and the case was adjourned to July 8. The court heard Ogilvie had lost an eye in the attack. He remains in hospital "with serious injuries", according to police. Footage of the stabbing -- which showed several people intervening, one wielding a hurling stick -- sparked widespread condemnation alongside anger. Despite pleas from authorities not to share the video, it went viral on social media. Numerous accounts linked to so-called "patriots" shared the footage, urging people to "protest against mass immigration into their communities". Northern Ireland police said three people had been arrested over the disorder, including 39-year-old and 42-year-old men who had been charged and were due to appear in court Wednesday. In Glasgow, there were also three arrests as two police officers and three members of the public were injured, Scotland's police force said. Worshippers at Glasgow's largest mosque were reportedly locked in as tensions flared. As calls for more protests circulated Wednesday, Northern Ireland police chief Jon Boucher said his force was looking to add a further 200 officers to the streets. Officers had to take a family that included a two-month-old baby to safety during Tuesday's violence.

VOICE OF WORDS

BUSINESS

Despite weak markets, SIP inflows remain strong



Despite volatile domestic equity markets, with benchmark indices losing 14% since January, and growing scepticism around investments through SIPs, mutual fund investors continue to repose faith in Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs). Data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India shows that investments through SIPs remained strong in May 2026 at Rs 30,954 crore, only marginally lower than Rs 31,115 crore in April 2026. SIP assets stood at Rs 17.12 lakh crore in May 2026, constituting 21% of the industry's assets under management (AUM). The number of contributing SIP accounts stood at 9,64,06,465 in May 2026. The month saw net inflows of Rs 22,900 crore into equity funds, lower than the Rs 38,440 crore recorded in April. Mid-cap and small-cap funds continued to remain popular among investors, attracting net inflows of Rs 4,385 crore and Rs 4,945 crore, respectively, in May. Equity funds have now recorded positive inflows for 63 consecutive months, beginning March 2021. Following the Prime Minister's call to

curb gold purchases, gold exchange-traded funds (ETFs) witnessed a net outflow of Rs 725 crore during the month, compared with a net inflow of Rs 3,040 crore in April. Several fund houses have also imposed temporary restrictions on investments in gold ETFs. HDFC Mutual Fund, ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund, Nippon India Mutual Fund and Tata Mutual Fund are among those that have restricted large lump-sum purchases of gold ETFs. Meanwhile, mutual fund AUM stood at Rs 81.58 lakh crore in May, compared with Rs 81.92 lakh crore in April. The decline in AUM was primarily due to net outflows of around Rs 97,000 crore from debt funds. Venkat Chalasani, Venkat Chalasani, chief executive of AMFI, said: "The mutual fund industry's AUM remained largely stable at Rs 81.58 lakh crore in May, witnessing a marginal contraction amid ongoing global uncertainties and commodity price volatility. With India's strong economic fundamentals, our focus remains on empowering investors with the knowledge to stay committed to their long-term financial goals."

SEBI Proposes Easing AMC Executive Pay Disclosure Norms, Seeks Public Feedback Until June 30

New Delhi, June 10: Markets regulator Sebi on Wednesday proposed easing executive remuneration disclosure requirements for asset management companies (AMCs) by replacing individual name-wise disclosures with consolidated disclosures, citing industry concerns over privacy and competitive disadvantages. "This would provide a holistic and structured view of senior management compensation, enabling unitholders to assess the overall quantum of remuneration at the senior management level, while aligning the level of disclosure with considerations of materiality and proportionality," Sebi said in its consultation paper. Currently, mutual fund AMCs are required to disclose on their websites the remuneration of chief executive officers (CEOs), chief investment officers (CIOs), chief operating officers (COOs), the top 10 highest-paid employees, and all employees earning at least Rs 1.02 crore annually or Rs 8.5 lakh per month if employed for part of the year. Sebi noted that while listed AMCs are already subject to detailed remuneration disclosures under the Sebi (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations and the Companies Act, unlisted AMCs operate under a different regulatory framework and ownership structure. "Disclosure requirements applicable to listed entities may not be directly comparable to those for unlisted AMCs," the regulator said. Under the proposed framework, AMCs would disclose consolidated remuneration figures along with the number of employees covered under various categories instead of publishing individual remuneration details.



The proposed format involves aggregate disclosures for CEOs, CIOs and COOs, the total remuneration paid to the top 10 employees, and the total remuneration paid to employees earning above the prescribed thresholds. Sebi said such disclosures would provide a structured view of senior management compensation, while ensuring the disclosure level remains proportionate and aligned with materiality and privacy considerations. The proposal follows feedback from the mutual fund industry, which argued that detailed employee-level remuneration disclosures are more relevant for listed companies with shareholders exercising ownership rights than for mutual funds, where investors are unitholders and do not have direct ownership of the AMC.

Global data centre electricity consumption to reach 565TWh in 2026, says Gartner



Global electricity consumption by data centres is expected to reach 565 terawatt hours (TWh) in 2026, up 26.4% from 447TWh in 2025, according to Gartner. The research firm said worldwide data centre power demand is projected to increase to 132 gigawatts (GW) in 2026 from 104GW in 2025. Demand is expected to reach 290GW by 2030. "Surging demand for compute-intensive AI workloads is driving unprecedented data center power growth, while AI capacity is now constrained by power availability, making data center power security the new battle ground for scaling and protecting margins in the global AI race," said Linglan Wang, Director Analyst at Gartner. Gartner said AI-optimised servers will account for 31% of data centre electricity consumption in 2026. Their power consumption is expected to exceed that of conventional servers in 2027. According to the firm's estimates, electricity consumption by AI-optimised servers will rise to 175TWh in 2026 from 95TWh in 2025.

Centre Extends Microfinance Credit Guarantee Scheme, Raises Loan Cap For Large MFIs To Rs 1,000 Crore

New Delhi, June 10, 2026: The Central Government has extended the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Microfinance Institutions-2.0 (CGSMFI-2.0) up to August 31, 2026, or till guarantees for an amount of Rs 20,000 crore are issued, whichever is earlier. The Government has also approved an increase in the maximum loan amount cap for large-sized NBFC-MFIs/MFIs from Rs 300 crore to Rs 1,000 crore under the overall ceiling of 20 per cent of Assets Under Management (AUM), according to a statement issued by the Finance Ministry on Wednesday. The extension of the scheme's validity and the increase in the maximum loan amount cap for large-sized NBFC-MFIs/MFIs are expected to result in better utilisation of the scheme and facilitate increased credit flow to the microfinance institutions sector. The Central Government introduced the CGSMFI-2.0 scheme on March 20, 2026. The scheme aims to provide guarantee cover to banks and financial institutions through the National

GOVT EXTENDS CREDIT GUARANTEE SCHEME FOR MICROFINANCE INSTITUTIONS

- Scheme extended up to August 31, 2026 or till ₹20,000 crore in guarantees are issued, whichever is earlier.
- Loan cap for large NBFC-MFIs/MFIs increased from ₹300 crore to ₹1,000 crore (within 20% of AUM).
- To boost credit flow to microfinance institutions and support small borrowers.



Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited (NCGTC) against expected losses on financial assistance extended by them to Non-Banking Financial Company-Microfinance Institutions (NBFC-MFIs) and MFIs for on-lending to small borrowers. As of date, loans totalling Rs 770 crore have been sanctioned under the scheme.

Those eligible for loans under the scheme include existing and new small borrowers within the regulatory definition of microfinance as prescribed by the RBI from time to time. The guarantee coverage extends to 80 per cent of the amount in default for small NBFC-MFIs/MFIs, 75 per cent

for medium NBFC-MFIs/MFIs, and 70 per cent for large NBFC-MFIs/MFIs. The guarantee fee under the scheme is 0.50 per cent per annum on the sanctioned amount for the first year and on the outstanding amount thereafter. The interest rate has been capped at EBLR or MCLR plus 2 per cent per annum on loans by MLIs to NBFC-MFIs or MFIs. While on-lending to small borrowers, these MFIs/NBFC-MFIs have to cap the interest rate at 1 per cent below the average lending rate during the previous six months, the Finance Ministry statement added.

Government slashes excise duty on ethanol-blended petrol

The Centre has waived excise duty on select variants of ethanol-blended petrol in a move aimed at encouraging cleaner fuel adoption and boosting the use of biofuels. According to a notification issued by the Finance Ministry, the duty waiver applies to E22, E25, E27 and E30 variants of petrol. In the notification, the ministry said excise duty will be 'nil' on petrol with 22 per cent, 25 per cent, 27 per cent and 30 per cent ethanol blend. The decision is aimed at incentivising consumers to shift towards higher ethanol-blended fuel variants as part of the government's broader push to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and crude oil imports. The move comes amid rising fuel prices, with petrol and diesel rates having increased by nearly Rs 7.50 per litre in the second half of May.

Bill Gates tells lawmakers meeting Epstein was a 'grave error in judgment' in closed-door hearing



WASHINGTON: Bill Gates said Wednesday that he made a "grave error in judgment" by ever meeting with Jeffrey Epstein as the Microsoft co-founder faced questions behind closed doors from lawmakers about his relationship with the disgraced financier. In an opening statement provided to The Associated Press, Gates said he "should never have met with Epstein in the first place," but that he "never witnessed nor had any indication that Epstein was engaged in ongoing criminal conduct." The tech billionaire became the latest powerful figure linked to Epstein to testify before the House Oversight Committee. As Gates arrived at the Capitol, he noted that he was there voluntarily and said he hoped his testimony would be useful. "I hope my testimony is helpful to the work, the important work, of the committee, to find justice for the victims," he said. The committee chairman, Republican U.S. Rep. James Comer, formally requested that Gates testify after he appeared multiple times in a trove of documents released by the Justice Department as part of its Epstein probe. Before the interview on Wednesday,

Comer told reporters that "no one's accusing Bill Gates of any wrongdoing." "This is about the survivors" of Epstein and his confidant Ghislaine Maxwell. "This is about trying to figure out how the government failed," Comer said. Gates said he was introduced to Epstein through people involved in his professional and philanthropic work and was drawn in by Epstein's claims that he could help raise billions of dollars for global health initiatives. Gates says he ended the relationship in 2014 after concluding Epstein could not deliver on those promises. Gates added that he never went to Epstein's island or his other infamous properties. "I have never victimized anyone. While he may have sought to foster a personal relationship, I was never interested in that and never reciprocated," Gates said. The remarks come as lawmakers review documents detailing Gates' interactions with Epstein. Included in the files are calendar entries for meetings between Gates and Epstein, email correspondence between the two about philanthropic projects and photos of Gates at events that Epstein also attended. Their relationship began in

2011, three years after Epstein pleaded guilty in Florida to soliciting prostitution from a minor, and continued until at least late 2014, according to the documents. Gates, who chairs the Gates Foundation, has not been accused of wrongdoing in connection with Epstein and has repeatedly denied any knowledge of Epstein's abuse of girls. He has said the two met only to discuss philanthropy and previously described the relationship as "a huge mistake." Both Gates and his ex-wife, Melinda French Gates, have said his association with Epstein created tension in their marriage. The foundation acknowledged in February that a small number of employees had met with Epstein based on his "claims that he could mobilize significant philanthropic resources for global health." They never created a charitable fund together, and the foundation made no payments to Epstein. Epstein was federally indicted in July 2019 on charges of sex trafficking of minors and conspiracy to commit sex trafficking of minors. The Justice Department alleged that Epstein formed a vast network of girls, some as young as 14, for him to sexually abuse between 2002 and 2005.

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VOICE OF WORDS SPORTS



Formula One Engines to Reduce Electric Power Over Next Two Years

Formula One teams and the International Automobile Federation (FIA) have reached an agreement to slightly reduce the electric component in the cars' hybrid engines in 2027 and 2028, the FIA announced on Wednesday. New technical regulations have radically transformed the cars this season, with engines that are almost half electric, requiring significant energy management that does not come naturally to the drivers. These new cars have been almost universally panned in the paddock, with four-time world champion Max Verstappen describing the 2026 cars as "Formula E on steroids" and hinting he might step away from F1 if it did not change. "The agreement follows discussions held since the opening races of the 2026 season, following concerns identified in relation to energy management under the new power unit framework," a statement read. The proposed changes are intended to address issues related to energy management and fuel energy flow characteristics and make qualifying more flat-out while not impacting the positive and exciting racing generated by the new regulations. "The ratio between the combustion and electric components of the engine, currently 53 percent to 47 percent, will rise to 58-42 in 2027 and then to 60-40 in 2028, the FIA revealed. After Guiding Club Back to Premier League "(The package) includes targeted adjustments to internal combustion engine output, fuel energy flow and energy recovery system deployment, together with increased flexibility in energy management," the federation added.



Srishti Kiran Tops Global Under-13 Tennis Rankings After 5 ITF Titles

Bengaluru's Srishti Kiran has become the world's No 1 in the Under-13 tennis player after winning five straight ITF junior titles and finishing runner-up at the ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors J100 Guatemala. The 13-year-old climbed to a career-high ITF junior ranking of No. 357, the highest among Under-13 players globally. She achieved the feat despite competing in only eight ranking events, two fewer than the maximum 10 tournaments used for rankings, making her ascent to the top of the Under-13 rankings even more noteworthy.

Sunit Chowrasia takes two-shot lead at DP World PGTI NexGen event



Hyderabad: The 31-year-old Sunit Chowrasia of Kolkata fired a bogey-free eight-under 62 to surge into a two-shot lead after round two of the inaugural Rs 25 lakh DP World PGTI NexGen Vijay Kumar Memorial being played at Lucknow Golf Club. Sunit (70-62), the nephew of Indian golfing legend SSP Chawrasia, who had shot an opening round of 70, climbed from tied 13th to the top of the leaderboard with a total score of eight-under 132. The Kolkata golfer, currently sixth on the DP World PGTI NexGen Order of Merit, produced the lowest round of the tournament with eight birdies and no bogeys on Wednesday. Overnight leader Abhishek Kumar (65-69) of Panchkula slipped to second place at six-under 134 after carding a second successive bogey-free round of one-under 69. Chowrasia, winner of the last NexGen event, the Alpha Sports Academy Golf Championship hosted by Patna Golf Club, started his round from the par-4 ninth in the shotgun format. He picked up three birdies on his opening nine before catching fire on his second nine, where he added five more birdies, including four consecutive gains from the third through the sixth hole. Sunit, now looking to win back-to-back titles on the NexGen Tour, said, "I got off to a steady start and was three-under through my first nine holes. The momentum really picked up on the second nine where I made four consecutive birdies from the third to the sixth," Sunit said. "I kept the ball in play, gave myself plenty of opportunities and was able to convert the chances I created." The 24-year-old Abhishek Kumar, who won the season-opening NexGen event in Faridabad, currently ranks fourth on the Order of Merit. Abhishek admitted patience was crucial on a day when he frequently had to recover from difficult positions. Forty-one-year-old Pawan Kumar of Delhi followed up his opening-round 67 with a two-under 68 to move into sole third place at five-under 135. No. 10's Bipin Mukhiya (70-67), the current NexGen Order of Merit leader, Lucknow's Rajesh Kumar Gautam (68-69), who currently ranks third on the NexGen standings, and fifteen-year-old Arjunveer Shishir (69-68) of Panchkula shared fourth place at three-under 137. Rishi Kumar of Lucknow was the other local player in the top 10 as he was placed tied seventh at two-under 138. The 36-hole cut fell at six-over 146, with 39 of the 71 players advancing to the final round. The winner of the 2026 DP World PGTI NexGen Order of Merit will earn an exemption on the main tour for the 2027 season.

Hyderabad to host second season of Archery Premier League this October

NEW DELHI: Hyderabad is set to become the center of the archery world this October as the Archery Premier League (APL) arrives in the City of Pearls for its second season. From October 8 to 18, People's Plaza on Necklace Road will host eleven days of elite competition, bringing together six franchise teams and many of the world's finest archers for a sporting spectacle. Initiated by the Archery Association of India (AAI), and backed by the Government of Telangana, Season 2 builds on the success of a landmark inaugural edition in New Delhi last year. The league will once again bring Olympic champions, world champions, world number ones, and some of the biggest names in archery to Indian shores, as Hyderabad prepares to host a world-class sporting spectacle. Leading Indian archers include former World No 1 and four-time Olympian Deepika Kumari, four-time Olympian Atanu Das, 2023 Compound World Champion gold medalist Ojas Deotale, top compound archers Jyoti Surekha, Abhishek Verma and Olympian Ankita Bhakat, alongside an elite field of international stars. Launched in 2025 with the objective of strengthening India's Olympic medal prospects in archery, the APL was conceived as a platform that enables Indian archers to compete in a high-performance environment. The league for the first time brings together recurve and compound archers both men and women shooting together in competitive conditions while introducing a unique 15-second shot clock, five seconds shorter than the 20-second limit used in Olympic and World Archery competitions.



placing an added premium on speed, composure and decision-making under pressure. "We are delighted to bring the Archery Premier League to Hyderabad for Season 2 and are grateful to the Government of Telangana for its support in making this possible. The city has a rich sporting culture, a deep appreciation for excellence, and the energy to host an event of this scale. The inaugural season demonstrated not only the immense potential of archery as a spectator sport but also the value of creating a platform

where Indian archers can compete alongside the world's best. As we build on that foundation, our focus remains on strengthening India's archery ecosystem, providing world-class competitive opportunities for athletes, and inspiring the next generation of talent. We are confident that Hyderabad will provide the perfect stage for a memorable second season," Anil Kamineni, APL director, said. The 11-day tournament will feature six franchises — Mighty Marathas, Rajputana Royals, Prithviraj Yodhas, Kakatiya Knights, Chero Archers and Chola Chiefs — with a total of 48 Indian and international archers competing across recurve and compound disciplines. Each team will field a mixed squad of eight archers, with the competition following a double round-robin format. The top four teams at the end of the league stage will advance to the semi-finals, culminating in the final on October 18.

Ja'Kobe Tharp smashes 110m hurdles world record at NCAA championships



LOS ANGELES: Ja'Kobe Tharp clocked 12.75sec to smash the 110m hurdles world record during heats at the NCAA collegiate athletics championships in Eugene, Oregon, on Wednesday. Tharp wiped out the long-standing previous record of 12.80sec set by fellow American Aries Merritt in Brussels on September 7, 2012. The performance, run with a legal tailwind of one meter per second, also shattered Grant Holloway's NCAA collegiate record of 12.98sec set in 2019. The 20-year-old Auburn University standout came into the meeting with a personal best of 13.01sec. He took more than a quarter of a second off that mark. "I knew I had that in my legs," Tharp told reporters. "But it wasn't on my bingo card before this meet, not at all." Tharp said he felt like he was "going pretty fast". "The last three hurdles were kind of iffy," he said. "I was like, 'Whoa, I'm coming up kind of fast'. "I thought maybe 12.97 or 12.98 and match the (NCAA) speed record. But to see that ... I'm speechless, seriously." While he did not have a world record in mind, Tharp said he "really wanted to make a statement". Having achieved that he can now focus on Friday's final, in which he'll try to become the first athlete since Olympic champion Holloway in 2019 to win a second straight NCAA crown in the event. "I'm trying to focus on what's here in front of me," he said. "I've still got to finish it in two days, so I'm still focused on that."

Indian shooting legend and Manu Bhaker's coach Jaspal Rana dies at 49



Jaspal Rana, the Asian Games gold medalist who later played a pivotal role in shaping India's shooting future as a coach, died on Thursday night in Delhi. He was 49. According to National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) president Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo, Rana breathed his last at a Delhi hospital after suffering health complications. Rana had reportedly fallen ill during the

Indian contingent's return flight from the ISSF World Cup in Munich, Germany. Upon arrival in New Delhi, he was hospitalised and underwent a medical procedure to have a stent fixed. He was serving as the high-performance coach for Indian pistol shooters and had recently been appointed by the NRAI as the high-performance coach for the 25m pistol discipline in February 2025. A decorated shooter during his competitive years, Rana won multiple medals for India, including an Asian Games gold, before transitioning into coaching and talent development.

India men's U19 cricket squads announced for Sri Lanka tour as Yashbardhan Singh Chauhan named captain

Hyderabad: The Junior Cricket Committee has selected the India Men's Under-19 squads for the upcoming tour of Sri Lanka. The tour will comprise three One-Day matches and two Multi-Day matches. India Men's U19 One-Day Squad: Sagar Virk, Lakshya Raichandani (VC), Yashbardhan Singh Chauhan (C), Vineeth V K, Arjun Rajput, Kushagra Ojha, Rajat Baghel (WK), Anvay Dravid (WK), Anmoljeet Singh, Vutkuri Yashveer Goud, Rohit Anil Yadav, Shavin V, Kavya Paresh Patel, Mohit Ulva, Ishan Sood India Men's U19 Multi-Day Squad: Sagar Virk, Lakshya Raichandani (VC), Yashbardhan Singh Chauhan (C), Patel Kush, Manal Chauhan, Kushagra Ojha, Manav Krishna (WK), Aryan Sandesh Sakpal (WK), Hemchudeshan J, BK Kishore, Rohit Anil Yadav, Kavya Paresh Patel, Priyanshu Singh, Pranav Raghvendra, Chigurupati Venkata



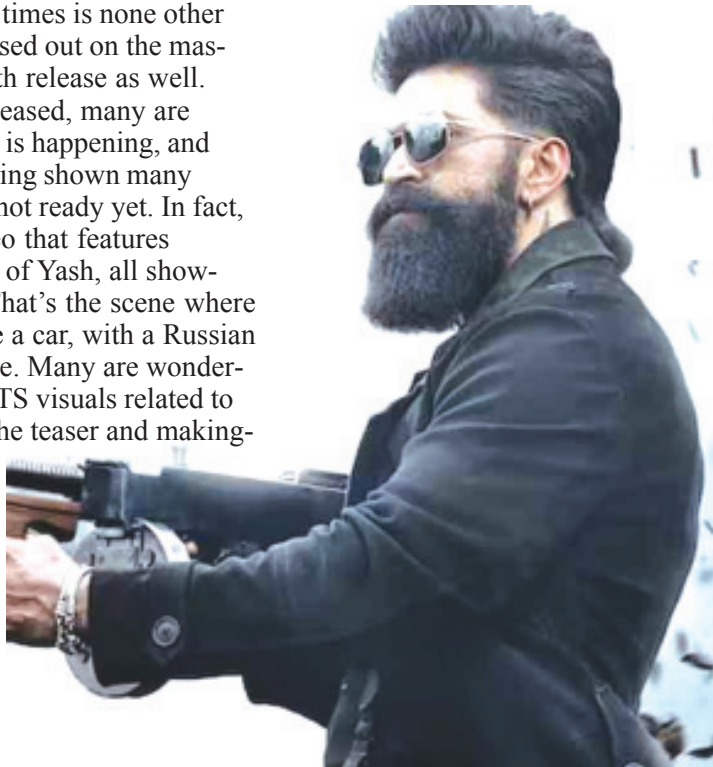
Allu Arjun Visits Pawan Kalyan, Avoids Publicity



Ever since the numero uno star Allu Arjun visited his friend's election campaign, thereby supporting a YSRCP candidate, the cracks between the Pushpa star and the mega family have grown bigger. Even after Pawan Kalyan became the Deputy CM of Andhra Pradesh, after a thumping majority for Janasena Party, somehow the cracks haven't been sealed. Other than the social-media-centric wishes, there is not much exchange of pleasantries between Allu Arjun and the rest of the mega family members. However, after surprising the movie lovers with his tweets for the Peddi movie the other day, where Allu Arjun praised Ram Charan's dedication and acting prowess, the Pushpa star has now gone to Pawan Kalyan's house. In the wake of Pawan undergoing surgery due to some health complications, even Prime Minister Narendra Modi has come to his Hyderabad residence for a special visit. Now, Allu Arjun is also said to have visited PK's house to wish him a speedy recovery. However, the actor hasn't taken his photography and PR team along, and has avoided all sorts of publicity as per the talk coming out. We have to see if Pawan Kalyan's office will post a tweet, thanking Allu Arjun on his arrival, like they have done with many celebs and other well-wishers earlier. However, people close to Allu Arjun also don't know that he is visiting Pawan Kalyan, and the whole meeting was kept under wraps for reasons unknown. Along with his family, the Pushpa star is said to have visited Pawan's house.

Oops! Toxic BTS Revolving Around That Scene Only

One of the most delayed films in recent times is none other than Yash's Toxic. The film already missed out on the massive March 19th release and the June 4th release as well. Though a new date has not yet been released, many are wondering why a 4-month release delay is happening, and especially with one particular scene getting shown many times, they are wondering if the film is not ready yet. In fact, whether the recently released BTS video that features director Geethu Mohandas or the teaser of Yash, all showcase only that church-fight sequence. That's the scene where Yash was projected as a dark guy inside a car, with a Russian model, and creating a bombing sequence. Many are wondering why this particular scene, and the BTS visuals related to that scene, are being projected in both the teaser and making-video as well. Why are other parts of the cinema being hidden? What's cooking inside Toxic is now raising eyebrows. Is this the only action sequence from the movie that was ready, and the other scenes are yet to get ready in terms of Visual Effects, is the major doubt now. Or the makers don't want to leak any other scene from the more than 2-hour film, other than his church-action-sequence, is another thing. Whatever it may be, director Geethu Mohandas must have surely cooked something shocking, but as the makers are delaying the release, it's turning out to be boring.



Varalaxmi Lands in Fresh Controversy in Tollywood



Varalaxmi Sarathkumar is one of the Tamil actors who rose to fame in Telugu. With a series of interesting roles, she became popular among the Telugu audiences where families also embraced her with open arms. However, she is the center of a new controversy in Tollywood. During the press meet of an upcoming Telugu film Police Complaint, the director complained that Varalaxmi is not extending her cooperation. The director

alleged that the actress gined up for a remuneration of 75 lakh rupees with her staff expenses covering upto 50K per day. She also signed up for attending promotional events but has given 40 minutes only. The director claims that she skipped the promotions and is non-cooperative. He also told that the film's dubbing was delayed because of the actor who intentionally avoided in the pretext of completing her directorial. Varalaxmi has also attracted a controversy during the promotions of her directorial S Saraswathi. Sai Madhav Burra reportedly provided the story of the film and he openly tweeted that the team raped his story by making changes and spoiling it totally.

Prabhas Has No Time For Aditya Dhar Anytime Soon?



The prospect of Prabhas teaming up with Dhurandhar director Aditya Dhar has generated excitement among fans,

but the collaboration appears to be a distant possibility at this stage. Recent reports suggest that Prabhas and Aditya Dhar met and exchanged a few ideas. However, no story discussions have taken place, and no project has been finalized. While the combination certainly carries massive pan-India box office potential, Prabhas' schedule is currently packed for the foreseeable future. The star is busy with Fauzi and Spirit, two major projects that demand significant time and commitment. In addition, Kalki 2 is expected to begin full-fledged shooting soon, making it another top priority in his lineup. There is also Salaar 2 waiting in the wings, a sequel that remains one of the most anticipated films among Rebel Star fans. Given the scale of these projects, finding room for a new collaboration anytime soon looks challenging. On the other hand, Aditya Dhar is also occupied with future commitments. Industry reports indicate that his next directorial venture is likely to feature Ranveer Singh as part of a Jio Studios production. As things stand, the idea of Prabhas and Aditya Dhar joining forces is exciting, but it remains a long-term possibility rather than an immediate reality.

Raja The Raja Tujhpe Fida Single: Delicious Feast

Raja The Raja produced by K. Niharika Dasari and directed by Annil Boyidapu has been gaining good buzz with its promotional material. Ruthvik and Vishakha Dhiman are playing the leading roles in this film and their pairing looks absolutely fresh and captivating. The makers have released first single, Tujhpe Fida and it is fantastic to hear. Mark K Robin has composed an addictive melody which becomes a delicious feast with Haricharan and Shakti Sree Gopalan vocals. Further the meaningful lyrics by Manoj Juloori make it an instant chartbuster. Ruthvik and Visakha are perfectly cast to-



gether. Their chemistry is so fun to watch and youthful that it feels like watching a couple video. Ruthvik's dance moves, his ease and body language elevate the impact further. The single increases the intrigue to watch the film on big screens building good impression.

Bandaru Supritha's Elegant Lehenga Look Redefines Modern Ethnic Fashion

In this radiant photograph, Bandaru Sheshayani Supritha dazzles in a vibrant lime-green and multi-colored traditional lehenga with intricate embroidery. Styled by @prasannayanumula_official, wearing an outfit from @aarambbridalstudio_official and jewellery by @devijewellersjubilee hills, captured beautifully by @valmikiramuphotography, she exudes grace, confidence, and ethnic charm. Bandaru Sheshayani Supritha is a rising Telugu actress and model who began her journey in fashion shows and modelling. She made her acting debut through short films, notably Money Minded Girlfriend (2019), before transitioning into feature films and digital content. Known for her striking screen presence, she has appeared in Telugu projects and continues to build her career with strong performances. She recently featured in the women-centric comedy-drama Mahila Lokam (2026), and has been part of projects like Bad Marriage. Supritha remains active with upcoming films and digital ventures, balancing traditional roles with modern appeal. This elegant look perfectly showcases her versatility and growing stardom in the South Indian entertainment industry.



Gen Z's Favourite 'Dude' Is Set to Return?



Pradeep Ranganathan's Dude turned out to be one of the surprise success stories in Tamil cinema, crossing the ₹100 crore mark and establishing debut director Keerthiswaran as a filmmaker to watch. The romantic entertainer, backed by Mythri Movie Makers, struck a chord with young audiences especially GenZ and further strengthened Pradeep's growing box-office pull thanks to Sai Abhyankar's Super hit Album. Now, fans have a fresh reason to get excited. Speaking recently, director Keerthiswaran revealed that he has already narrated a small idea for Dude 2 to Pradeep Ranganathan. According to the filmmaker, the actor liked the concept and the proposed continuation would pick up from the famous 'Come on, Dude' moment from the first film.