

IN BRIEF



Westside Launches new game-changer programme

BENGALURU: Westside, one of India's leading fashion retail brands, part of Trent Ltd., unveiled its Young Game-changer (YNG) programme, an inspiring initiative designed to celebrate and nurture India's next generation of fashion creators.

For its debut edition, Westside collaborated with NIFT, inviting students to reimagine two of its most-loved in-house labels, Bombay Paisley and ETA. Under the new YNG label, a bold and Gen Z-inspired collection had been showcased. The first look of YNG was revealed at Westside's Media Day on 11th September, an intimate celebration of creativity that brought together members of the press, content creators, potential partners, and Westside's own community of customers. Alongside the YNG capsule collections, the event also featured Westside's seasonal fashion showcase, offering audiences a glimpse into the brand's evolving creative direction.

With YNG, Westside has created a dynamic stage for young designers, stylists, models, influencers, photographers, videographers, and hair and make-up artists to express their talent in a professional fashion environment. "As a lifestyle brand, Westside has always been committed to creating meaningful spaces where young voices can thrive," said Shailina, COO, Westside. "Through YNG, we gave emerging talent the opportunity to design for real brands, build strong portfolios, and gain valuable industry experience while being rewarded for their work. It was truly a celebration of creativity, collaboration, and the entrepreneurial spirit of Gen Z."

Goods vehicle runs over woman

BENGALURU: A 45-year-old woman pedestrian was killed when a goods vehicle ran over her in Cottonpete area of Bengaluru, police said on Saturday. The deceased Anjaveji, a resident of Cottonpete area, was walking on the Mill Road in Bengaluru's Cottonpete along with another woman at around 5.30 pm on Friday when a speeding goods vehicle came from behind and ran over her. A CCTV camera has recorded the scene, police added. Another woman who was accompanying the deceased had a miraculous escape with minor injuries, a senior police officer said. After running over the woman, the goods vehicle rammed seven other vehicles. Four bikes and three cars got damaged in this, said the officer. A case was registered at the Chamarajapete Traffic police station and the driver of the goods vehicle was arrested, police said.

Shivakumar is second richest minister in India: ADR report

HANS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU

KARNATAKA Deputy Chief Minister and Bangalore Development Minister D K Shivakumar has emerged as the second richest minister in the country, with declared assets of over ₹1,413 crore, according to a report released by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).

The report highlights Karnataka's prominence in wealth concentration within politics, with eight of its cabinet members qualifying

as billionaires, the highest among all states. Andhra Pradesh follows with six billionaire ministers, while Maharashtra has four.

The richest minister in India is Dr Chandrasekhar Pemmasani of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), a doctor-turned-politician who represents Guntur in the 18th Lok Sabha and serves as Minister of State for Rural Development and Communications. Pemmasani has declared assets exceeding ₹5,705 crore.

Another prominent name from Karnataka is Urban

Development Minister Byrathi Suresh, representing Hebbal constituency, who ranks fifth on the national list with assets worth ₹648 crore. Among chief ministers, Andhra Pradesh's N Chandrababu Naidu tops the chart with declared assets of ₹931 crore, making him the wealthiest serving CM.

The ADR study also lists other high-net-worth ministers, including Narayana Ponguru and Nara Lokesh from Andhra Pradesh, Gaddam Vivekanand and Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy



from Telangana, Suresh B S from Karnataka, Mangal Prabhat Lodha from Maharashtra, and Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia.

Party-wise, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) accounts for the highest number of billionaire ministers — 14, representing 4% of its ministerial strength. The Congress comes second, with 11 billionaire ministers out of 61 (18%), followed by the TDP, which has six such ministers, constituting 26% of its council. Other parties including the Aam Aadmi Party, Jana Sena

Party, JD(S), NCP, and Shiv Sena also feature in the list. The ADR's analysis covered 643 ministers across state assemblies, Union territories, and the Union cabinet. Of these, 36 ministers, or about 6%, declared assets exceeding ₹100 crore. Collectively, ministers across the country hold assets valued at around ₹23,929 crore. The findings are likely to renew discussions about wealth accumulation in politics and the growing disparity between public representatives and the citizens they serve.

Won't let any injustice happen in Hemavati project: Govt

BENGALURU

FOLLOWING the violence and stiff opposition from the BJP and local farmers, the Congress-led government in Karnataka has assured that the government will ensure no injustice in controversial Hemavati Link Canal.

Earlier, violence erupted in May and June 2025 during protests against the Hemavati Express Link Canal Project in Gubbi taluk, Tumakuru district, Karnataka, where an estimated 20,000 farmers, along with BJP and JD (S) legislators and seers, clashed with police, blocked highways, damaged property, and engaged in stone-pelting bringing the work at the Hemavati Link Canal Project to a halt. After inspecting the Hemavati Link Canal work site near Sunkapur in Tumakuru, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who is also the Water Resources Minister, spoke to the media and made a statement in this regard on Friday. "I have inspected the work site of the Hemavati Link Canal project and held discussions with officials to ensure that no one is subjected to injustice," assured Shivakumar. "No farmer should be worried about this matter. I will discuss with officials in Bengaluru and make decisions to safeguard the interests of the farmers in Tumakuru district. It is not just Kunigal, but all constituencies that matter to us. Let us all work together within the framework of the law. What-



ever your problem is, I will resolve it," he said confidently.

"I have come here to inspect the Hemavati Link Canal project site based on the advice of Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti V. Somanna and legislators. I am not limited to one constituency. I am the Water Resources Minister of Karnataka state. The development of all constituencies in Tumakuru district is our responsibility. The people of Tumakuru have always cooperated with us calmly in every situation," he added. "This project was initiated when Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy was the CM and I was the Water Resources Minister.

Later, the BJP government halted the project. As a result, the project cost of Rs 600 crore has now increased to Rs 1,000 crore. This struggle has been ongoing since the time of late prominent politician Y.K. Ramayya. We have decided to ensure justice. Work has already begun, and we have released Rs 400 crore for pipe

procurement and construction. This work is expected to be completed within 4-5 months," he said.

"From the Cauvery, 177 TMC of water must be released to Tamil Nadu. So far, 220 TMC of water has already been released this year from Hemavati, Harangi, Kabini, and KRS reservoirs. With the possibility of more rainfall in the next 4-5 months, around 200 TMC of water is expected to reach the sea. We must prevent this and help our farmers by channeling the water through canals. This project has been introduced to use the excess water only when available. All taluks are equally important to us," he said.

"I have inspected the work site. Under no circumstances will the water be allowed to flow below canal levels. We will maintain a consistent height and use SCADA technology to monitor the water flow. We must not allow disputes like the Cauvery water dispute with Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra to arise within our own

state," Shivakumar stated. "We have taken up a project under Ettinahole to supply drinking water to Kolar and Chikkaballapur, and when excess water is available, we will fill the tanks in these districts. We could have designed the project solely for drinking water purposes, excluding filling tanks, but we chose not to waste any surplus water. We are spending Rs 20,000 crore on this project. Through it, we are addressing groundwater depletion," he stated.

When asked about locals' demand that the water should flow through the main canals, he said, "It is not possible to change the plan I already decided. We will ensure there are no obstructions to water meant for other taluks. We will provide only the designated water share to Kunigal. There is no question of reducing water for you and giving more to them. During water scarcity, water will be distributed equally to all. Equal rights for everyone."

11 policemen suspended over 'nexus' with drug peddlers



BENGALURU

IN a shocking and concerning development, 11 policemen attached to two police stations, including a police inspector, have been suspended, pending departmental inquiry, on charges of colluding with a drug peddler in Bengaluru on Saturday.

According to police, the accused officers were hand in glove with a gang of peddlers selling drugs used as sedatives. The suspended personnel include Police Inspector, Head Constable, Assistant Sub-Inspector and police constables attached to Chamarajpet and JJ Nagar police stations.

The suspended officers allegedly collected protection money from the peddlers every month in exchange for allowing them to sell tablets as sedatives.

The racket was busted when RR Nagar Police arrested a group of six peddlers, including Salman, Nayaz Ullah, Nayaz Khan, and Taher Patel, on August 22. The accused were caught red-handed while selling narcotic tablets to customers, who were students and young employees. The police seized 1,000 tablets from them. During the investigation, police found that the accused were in regular contact with officers from Chamarajpet and JJ Nagar police stations. The nexus came to light when the accused persons' mobile phones were examined. It was found that the drug peddlers were in direct contact with the accused officers, exchanging audio messages and regular messages regarding financial transactions.

Investigating officers also found that the cops were

partying with the accused persons.

The matter was brought to the notice of ACP Kengeri Gate Bharath Reddy, who submitted a detailed report to the DCP West after thorough investigation. The case was later handed over to Vijayanagar ACP Chandan for further detailed probe.

The investigation revealed that the police were colluding with the peddlers, receiving protection money, and socialising with them. The accused officers allegedly used to collect between Rs 1.5 lakh and Rs 2 lakh from the peddlers.

The accused sold tidal tablets, which are not for sale without a doctor's prescription. The drug peddling nexus operated in the western part of the city, especially in Chamarajpet, JJ Nagar, and RR Nagar, for over a year.

Women's cricket World Cup in city



Former cricketers Mithali Raj and Dinesh Karthik during ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 trophy unveiling event in Bengaluru on Saturday

Notification issued to fix cinema ticket prices at Rs 200 in state

BENGALURU

THE Karnataka government on Friday issued notification, amending the Karnataka Cinema (Control) Rules, 2014 and fix ticket price in all theatres in the state, including multiplexes, at Rs 200, exclusive of all taxes.

However, multi-screen cinemas with premium facilities of 75 seats or less are exempted from the maximum ticket price limit of Rs 200. In July, the state government exercising the powers conferred by Section 19 of the Karnataka Cinema (Control) Act, 1964 (Karnataka Act No 23 of 1964) had made the draft rules to fur-



ther amend the Karnataka Cinema (Control) Rules, 2014. The government had invited feedback from the stakeholders within 15 days.

After thoroughly reviewing objections and suggestions, the Karnataka gov-

ernment finalised the rules. According to the notification, Karnataka Cinemas (Regulation) (Amendment) Rules, 2025 will come into force from the date of their final publication in the Official Gazette.

Two killed as canter rams into auto & car

BENGALURU

TWO people, including a woman, were killed in an accident on Saturday morning after a canter vehicle rammed into the auto at the busy Sumanahalli Junction Road in Bengaluru. The passengers travelling in the car have sustained major injuries.

The incident was reported from Kamakshipalya Traffic Police Station. It occurred after the driver of the canter vehicle lost control and collided with an auto and a car. A female passenger travelling in the auto, along with the male driver, was killed on the spot.

The deceased were identified as D. Yeshu and Jennifer.

'Raise Shivajinagar Metro Station renaming issue with Centre'

BENGALURU

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday asked his Maharashtra counterpart Devendra Fadnavis to take up with the central government any objections regarding the proposal to name the upcoming metro station near Shivajinagar in the city after St Mary.

The chief minister was responding to Fadnavis' objection to the Karnataka government's plan, which he termed "an insult to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj." "Let him (Fadnavis)

speak to the Government of India. We will send (recommendation on naming) to them (Centre); let him speak to them," Siddaramaiah told reporters here in response to a question.

Siddaramaiah's positive response earlier this month to the proposal has elicited objections from some sections, including the opposition BJP, which has termed the move as appeasement.

Participating in the inauguration of the annual feast at St Mary's Basilica on September 8, Siddaramaiah said his government would

recommend the naming to the Centre. The metro station is part of the under-construction Pink Line in the city.

Reacting to Fadnavis' remarks, state Home Minister G Parameshwara on Friday asked, "Why is Fadnavis interested in Karnataka and Bengaluru's matter all of a sudden? I don't know." He added, "Decision regarding naming metro stations will be taken by the in-charge of Bengaluru development and Deputy Chief Minister (D K Shivakumar), as it is a matter related to Bengaluru."

Accusing the Congress government of "appeasement politics," Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy on Thursday said the naming should not be based on religion and that his party would oppose it.

"Will they remove the name Shivajinagar? They should not go beyond the limits to please someone. Appeasement has become the first choice of the Congress party.

Because of appeasement, the party has gone to the

dogs now; still, they are doing appeasement politics. It will not work. We will not allow it," the BJP leader told reporters.

There have also been objections on social media to the naming on religious grounds, with some demanding that metro stations should be named after the locality or notable personalities. Some have suggested naming the station after the late Kannada actor Shankar Nag, who is credited with envisioning Bengaluru's rapid transit system in the 1980s.

