



**Rhea Chakraborty finds 'chaos' behind shoots 'magical'**  
Actress Rhea Chakraborty shared a sneak-peek into the behind-the-scenes world of shooting and tagged the experience as both chaotic and magical. Taking to Instagram, Rhea shared some BTS moments.

**P8**  
READER'S PULSE

#### Hindi, the golden foundation of self-reliant India

Hindi Diwas on September 14 marks the historic moment when, in 1949, the Constituent Assembly granted Hindi the prestigious status of the official language. The day is not just a celebration of our cultural heritage but a symbol of Hindi's.

**P6**  
KALEIDOSCOPE

#### Wars begin in the mind, so does peace

Looking at the situation of the world that we live in today, one factor that can be considered as the biggest cause of our downfall from an exalted stage of a divine being, is violence in all its forms. YES, it is violence that makes hell of heaven.

**P9**  
OTT GUIDE

#### Weekend OTT releases from blockbusters to quirky comedies

The second Friday of September brings a fresh line-up of films and web series across major OTT platforms, promising viewers a weekend packed with entertainment.

**P10**

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#### WINDOWS



#### Impose tariffs on countries buying Russian oil: US to G7

WASHINGTON: The United States has asked G7 countries to impose tariffs on countries purchasing oil from Russia, asserting that only "unified efforts" that cut off funding to Moscow's war machine at source can apply sufficient pressure to end "the senseless killing." US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and the United States Trade Representative Ambassador Jamieson Greer were on a call with G7 Finance Ministers on Friday when they reiterated President Donald Trump's call to the bloc's partners about imposing tariffs on countries purchasing oil from Russia. François-Philippe Champagne, Canada's Minister of Finance and National Revenue, chaired a meeting of G7 Finance Ministers to discuss further measures to increase pressure on Russia to end its war against Ukraine.

#### FIR over AI video by Congress on Modi, his mother



NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police on Saturday registered an FIR on a BJP worker's complaint over an AI-generated "deepfake" video posted by the Bihar Congress unit on its X handle that allegedly tarnished the image of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his late mother, an official said. The complaint was filed on Friday by Sanket Gupta, convenor of the BJP Delhi Election Cell, at the North Avenue Police Station, who alleged the video "maligned the Prime Minister's image, grossly violating law, morality and women's dignity". The clip was posted on the official X handle of the Indian National Congress, Bihar unit, on September 10, the complaint said.

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#### GOVT TRANSFERS 14 IPS OFFICERS ACROSS THE STATE

VIJAYAWADA: THE state government issues orders transferring and posting of 14 IPS officers effective immediately on Saturday. Chief secretary K Vijayanand issued GO No 1690 to this effect.

REPORT: PAGE 2

#### IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Revolutions don't happen every day — that's why I'd choose a Rajya Sabha nomination over the PM's post

# NE is India's growth engine: PM

## The Prime Minister said that the Northeast was earlier called a frontier state, now the region has become a front runner

AIZAWL

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that the Northeast region is a growth engine of India and it progressed a lot during the past 11 years.

Inaugurating the ambitious 51.38-km Bairabi-Sairang railway project, flagging off three new trains connecting Aizawl with Delhi, Kolkata and Guwahati and laying the foundation stone and inaugurating multiple development projects worth over Rs 9,000 crore, the Prime Minister



He said that through the Kaladan Multimodal Transit Project Mizoram and other Northeastern states of India would be connected with the Bay of Bengal

said that the Northeast was earlier called a frontier state, now the region has become a front runner. He said that through the

Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project Mizoram and other Northeastern states of India would be connected with the Bay of Bengal.

Continued on Page 4

## 3-hour pit stop is not compassion: Cong targets Modi's Manipur visit

NEW DELHI: Terming Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Manipur a "pit stop", the Congress on Saturday alleged that the trip is "tokenism" and a "grave insult" to the people of the state.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge accused Modi of organising a grand

welcome ceremony for himself and claimed that it "is a cruel prick" to the wounds of those still suffering. "In the words of your own... Where is your Rajdharma?" Kharge asked on X just before Modi's Manipur visit. "Narendra Modi ji, your 3-hour pit stop in Manipur is not compassion

-- it's farce, tokenism, and a grave insult to wounded people. Your so-called roadshow in Imphal and Churachandpur today, is nothing but a cowardly escape from hearing the cries of people in relief camps!" the Congress chief said in his post on X.

Continued on Page 4

## Want to make Manipur symbol of peace & prosperity, says Modi

People have chosen the path of peace and given priority to development: PM

CHURACHANDPUR:

Urging various outfits to shun violence, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday asserted that his government stood firmly with the people of Manipur and was working towards the goal of making the strife-torn state a symbol of peace and prosperity. Addressing a public meeting in Kuki-dominat-



ed Churachandpur district during his first visit to the state after ethnic violence broke out in May 2023, Modi hailed Manipur as the land of hope and aspiration, and said that "unfortunately, violence had cast its shadow on this beautiful region". "A short while ago, I met the affected people at a relief camp.

Continued on Page 4

## PM interacts with IDP Kukis, Meiteis

IMPHAL/CHURACHANDPUR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday interacted with a section of the people belonging to the two warring communities, Kuki and Meitei, who were displaced due to the ethnic violence in Manipur, officials said. Modi

listened to the concerns of the families of internally displaced persons (IDPs) at the historic Kangla Fort complex in Imphal and Peace Ground in Churachandpur, and assured them of the Centre's commitment to restore peace and normalcy in the state, they said.

## Over 6-cr Income Tax returns filed so far

NEW DELHI

MORE than six crore income tax returns for Assessment Year 2025-26 have been filed so far, the Income Tax department said on Saturday. The last date to file ITRs without penalty is September 15.

"Thank you taxpayers & tax professionals for helping us reach the milestone of 6 crore Income Tax Returns (ITRs) as of now and still counting," the I-T department said in a post on X. To assist taxpayers for ITR filing, tax payment and other related services, our helpdesk is functioning on a 24x7 basis, and the department is providing support through calls, live chats, WebEx sessions & Twitter/X, it added.

It also asked taxpayers who haven't filed ITR for AY 2025-26 to file at the earliest to avoid a last-minute rush. The Income Tax department in May announced an extension of the due date for filing ITRs for Assessment Year (AY) 2025-26 (for income earned in financial year 2024-25) by individuals, HUFs and entities who do not have to get their accounts audited from July 31 to September 15.



The Income Tax dept asked taxpayers who haven't filed ITR for AY 2025-26 to file at the earliest to avoid a last-minute rush

The extension was on account of "structural and content revisions" in the income tax return (ITR) forms, which was notified in late April and early May. The changes made in the ITR form for AY 2025-26 also need modifications to be made in ITR filing utilities and the back-end system. ITR filings have shown consistent growth over the years, reflecting rising compliance and the widening of the tax base. For AY 2024-25, a record 7.28 crore ITRs were filed up to July 31, 2024, compared to 6.77 crore in AY 2023-24, registering a 7.5 per cent year-on-year growth.

## Low-pressure area to trigger rains in AP

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

A low-pressure area over the west-central Bay of Bengal and adjoining north-west Bay of Bengal, along the North Andhra-South Odisha coasts, is expected to persist, says Prakhari Jain, Managing Director of the State Disaster Management Authority. According to him, this system is likely to

move west-northwestwards over South Odisha, North Andhra, and South Chhattisgarh in the next 48 hours. A trough is also extending from this system through Chhattisgarh and Vidarbha to South Maharashtra.

Under the influence of these weather systems, light to moderate rains accompanied by thunderstorms and lightning are expected in some parts of the state



on Sunday. Winds with speeds of 30-40 km/hr are also likely along the coast. So, Jain has advised people in low-lying areas to be

vigilant and warned against standing under trees.

On Sunday, Srikakulam, Konaseema, East Godavari, West Godavari, Eluru, Krishna, Guntur, Bapatla, Kurnool, and Nandyal districts are likely to experience light to moderate rain with thunderstorms and lightning. The remaining districts may receive light rainfall in a few places.

Continued on Page 4

## Karki is shining example of women empowerment: Modi



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday congratulated Nepal's interim PM Sushila Karki on assuming office, calling her appointment "a shining example of women empowerment". Addressing a rally in Manipur capital Imphal, Modi said India and Nepal have been close friends bound by shared history, faith and cultural ties, and New Delhi stood firmly with the people of the neighbouring country during its transitional phase.

Continued on Page 4

## UN congratulates new Nepal PM Sushila Karki

KATHMANDU: The United Nations on Saturday sent a congratulatory message to Nepal's newly-elected prime minister Sushila Karki who has been appointed to lead an interim government following a week of violent anti-government protests. Hanna Singer-Hamdy, UN Resident Coordinator in Nepal, said, "At this pivotal moment, the United Nations stands alongside the people of Nepal in their aspirations for peace, justice, transparency, accountability and progress."

Continued on Page 4

## LS Speaker to open women lawmakers' meet in Tirupati

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
TIRUPATI



Om Birla

LOK Sabha Speaker Om Birla will inaugurate a two-day national conference of the Committee on Empowerment of Women Parliament and State and Union Territory Legislatures scheduled here from September 14 (Today). Andhra Pradesh Governor S Abdul Nazeer, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and several others will attend the conference. "Lok Sabha Speaker will chair the inaugural and concluding sessions (of the conference)," said Andhra Pradesh Legislature Secretary General Prasanna Kumar Suryade-

vara in an official release. Following the deliberations, the two-day conference will culminate with a declaration on September 15.

According to Suryadevara, women's empowerment committee is a joint committee in Parliament, comprising 20 Lok Sabha members and 10 Rajya Sabha members.

Continued on Page 4

## DRUG CASE AT MAHINDRA UNIVERSITY

# 'STUDENTS USED THEIR POCKET MONEY FOR DRUGS'

HARISH ANGADI  
HYDERABAD

AS Mahindra University authorities continue to reel from the shock of a recent drug bust involving some of its students, fresh revelations from the Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TANB) point to a larger, more complex network operating across several premier institutions in the city. Senior officials involved in the probe told "The Hans India" that the case had "only scratched the surface of a city-wide racket".

It may be recalled that on August 27, four persons, including two students, were arrested for operating a drug racket inside the Mahindra University here. During a prior raid at Shivalayam Colony in Suraram, police officials seized 1.15 kg of ganja, 47 grams of high-grade OG weed, packaging material, a digital weighing machine and multiple mobile phones used for trafficking.

Officials probing the ramifications of the case said the racket had established a supply chain reaching



from inter-state suppliers to student peddlers on campus, with nearly 50 students now under investigation for consumption.

The officials revealed that the key accused, identified as a Nigerian national known as "Nick," is still absconding. "If we can get him, there

are many other major drug racket links we can uncover," said one senior officer, pointing to an international chain of operations. According to the TANB, several individuals from Nigeria, Somalia, and Sudan enter India on tourist or education visas but never return, slipping into illegal activities for survival. Only 10 out of 100 go back, he added.



The investigators highlighted the vulnerability of courier and parcel services, calling them the "most exploited platform", for narcotics trafficking. Unlike passenger screenings at airports, courier consignments often bypass verification processes. "There are no OTP authentications, proper address details, or digital verification. We spend days tracking



irregularly packed parcels that are divided into multiple compartments. "We have missed the right packages while scanning," the official admitted.


The TANB confirmed that drug use is not restricted to the Mahindra University campus. "We have identified cases in several premier private institutions, including Symbiosis and CBIT, he said. Students tend to misuse their pocket money for drugs, leading to dependency and reckless behavior."

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|  <b>Government of India</b><br><b>भारतसरकारपर्यावरण, वनएवंजलवायुपरिवर्तनमंत्रालय</b><br><b>MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &amp; CLIMATE CHANGE</b><br><b>Sub Office, Vijayawada of Regional Office, Chennai</b><br>Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road, Vijayawada-520010, Andhra Pradesh,<br>email: iro.vijayawada-mefcc@gov.in Regional Office, Chennai  |  |  |
| Online Proposal No.: FP/AP/OTHERS/454129/2023  | Dated: 19/08/2025  |   |
| To,<br>The Special Chief Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Room No.268, 1st Floor, 4th Block, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati Guntur District-522503.<br><b>Subject:</b> Proposal for diversion of 0.02 ha of forest land in Billagondipenta Chenchugudem Village, Compartment No.154, Markapur RF, Veerabadrapuram Beat, Y.Palem Range, Project Tiger Division, Markapur, Prakasam District for construction of 4G Telecom tower under 4G saturation Project in favour of DGM (Plg), M/s. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Guntur.   |  |   |
| Sir/Madam, I am directed to refer to the online proposal No.FP/AP/OTHERS/454129/2023 received on 14/12/2023 seeking prior approval in accordance with section' 2' of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The proposal was granted "In-Principle" (Stage-I) approval by the Central Government online on 06/03/2024. The Government of Andhra Pradesh have reported/submitted the complete compliance report on 14/08/2025 to the conditions stipulated in the "In-Principle" approval and requested for grant of final approval.<br>After careful consideration of the compliance report furnished by the Government of Andhra Pradesh online dated 14/08/2025, I am directed to convey the "Final approval" under section 2' of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for the proposal for diversion of 0.02 ha of forest land in Billagondipenta Chenchugudem Village, Compartment No.154, Markapur RF, Veerabadrapuram Beat, Y.Palem Range, Project Tiger Division, Markapur, Prakasam District for construction of 4G Telecom tower under 4G saturation Project in favour of DGM (Plg), M/s. BSNL, subject to the following conditions: |  |   |
| <b>1.General Conditions</b><br><b>Conditions</b>   |  |   |
| S.No   | Conditions   |   |
| 1.1  | Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged  |   |
| 1.2  | At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.  |   |
| 1.3  | The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favor of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.  |   |
| 1.4  | No additional or new paths will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.  |   |
| 1.5  | No labor camp shall be established on the forest land.   |   |
| 1.6  | The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the laborers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas   |   |
| 1.7  | The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.   |   |
| 1.8  | The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.   |   |
| 1.9  | The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.  |   |
| 1.10   | No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.  |   |
| 1.11   | The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.02 ha.   |   |
| 1.12   | The State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in terms of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted in accordance with the relevant guidelines issued by the MoEF&CC.   |   |
| 1.13   | The concerned Divisional Forest Officer will monitor and take necessary mitigate measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forest in the surrounding area.   |   |
| 1.14   | The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated Conditions to the State Government and Regional Office by the end of March every year.   |   |
| 1.15   | Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife.  |   |
| 1.16   | Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.  |   |
| <b>2.Standard Conditions</b><br><b>Conditions</b>  |  |   |
| S.No   | Conditions   |   |
| 2.1  | N/A  |   |
| <b>3.Specific Conditions</b><br><b>Conditions</b>  |  |   |
| S.No   | Conditions   |   |
| 3.1  | The State Government shall raise 100 saplings and maintain with the funds realized from user agency towards compensatory afforestation at the identified location.   |   |
| 3.2  | The KML file of the forest area to be diverted and CA area shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details and same shall be submitted along with GPS id.   |   |
| 3.3  | The State Govt./User Agency shall ensure that the conditions stipulated by SC-NBWL is strictly complied with.  |   |
| 3.4  | The User Agency has made payment Rs. 4,01,060/- towards CA and NPV (Rs.2,78,200/- towards CA, and Rs.1,22,860 /- towards NPV). The levies paid by the UA shall be utilized for the same as per the approved plan/scheme.   |   |
| 3.5  | The User Agency shall provide CA in NFL area for compensatory afforestation in lieu of the forest area diverted, if applicable, based on the final outcome in the WP No.1164/2023, which is currently pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The State Forest Department shall ensure that an undertaking from the user agency is obtained in this regard. |   |
| Your's faithfully<br>(Balaji Kari)<br>Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)   |  |   |

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|  <b>Government of India</b><br><b>भारतसरकारपर्यावरण, वनएवंजलवायुपरिवर्तनमंत्रालय</b><br><b>MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &amp; CLIMATE CHANGE</b><br><b>Sub Office, Vijayawada of Regional Office, Chennai</b><br>Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road, Vijayawada-520010, Andhra Pradesh,<br>email: iro.vijayawada-mefcc@gov.in Regional Office, Chennai   |  |  |
| Online Proposal No.: FP/AP/OTHERS/449729/2023   | Dated: 20/08/2025  |   |
| To,<br>The Special Chief Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Room No.268, 1st Floor, 4th Block, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati Guntur District-522503.<br><b>Subject:</b> Proposal for diversion of 0.02 ha of forest land in Compartment No. 19, Markapur RF, Peddamanthanala Beat, Korrapolu Range, Project Tiger Division, Markapur, Prakasam District for construction of 4G Telecom tower under 4G saturation Project in favour of DGM, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Guntur.   |  |   |
| Sir/Madam, I am directed to refer to the online proposal no.FP/AP/OTHERS/449729/2023 received on 14/12/2023 seeking prior approval in accordance with section' 2' of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The proposal was granted "In-Principle" (Stage-I) approval by the Central Government online on 01/11/2023. The Government of Andhra Pradesh have complete reported/submitted the compliance report on 14/08/2025 to the conditions stipulated in the "In-Principle" approval and requested for grant of final approval.<br>After careful consideration of the compliance report furnished by the Government of Andhra Pradesh online dated 14/08/2025, I am directed to convey the "Final approval" under section 2' of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for the proposal for diversion of 0.02 ha of forest land in Compartment No. 19, Markapur RF, Peddamanthanala Beat, Korrapolu Range, Project Tiger Division, Markapur, Prakasam District for construction of 4G Telecom tower under 4G saturation Project in favor of DGM, BSNL, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh subject to the following conditions: |  |   |
| <b>1.General Conditions</b><br><b>Conditions</b>  |  |   |
| S.No  | Conditions   |   |
| 1.1   | Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged  |   |
| 1.2   | At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.  |   |
| 1.3   | The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favor of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.  |   |
| 1.4   | No additional or new paths will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.  |   |
| 1.5   | No labor camp shall be established on the forest land.   |   |
| 1.6   | The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the laborers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas   |   |
| 1.7   | The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.   |   |
| 1.8   | The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.   |   |
| 1.9   | The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.  |   |
| 1.10  | No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.  |   |
| 1.11  | The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.02 ha.   |   |
| 1.12  | The concerned Divisional Forest Officer will monitor and take necessary mitigate measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forest in the surrounding area.   |   |
| 1.13  | The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government and Regional Office by the end of March every year.   |   |
| 1.14  | The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.   |   |
| 1.15  | Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife.  |   |
| 1.16  | The conditions required to be adhered under the Forests Right Act, 2006 as per the rules/guidelines issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 shall be strictly complied with.   |   |
| 1.17  | Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.  |   |
| <b>2.Standard Conditions</b><br><b>Conditions</b>   |  |   |
| S.No  | Conditions   |   |
| 2.1   | N/A  |   |
| <b>3.Specific Conditions</b><br><b>Conditions</b>   |  |   |
| S.No  | Conditions   |   |
| 3.1   | Compensatory afforestation for raising of 100 plants and maintenance shall be taken up by the State Government in the identified degraded forest land at the project cost.   |   |
| 3.2   | The User Agency has made payment Rs. 4,21,867/- towards CA and NPV (Rs.2,78,200/- towards CA and Rs.1,43,667/- towards NPV ). The levies paid by the UA shall be utilized for the same as per the approved plan/scheme.  |   |
| 3.3   | The User Agency shall provide CA in NFL area for compensatory afforestation in lieu of the forest area diverted, if applicable, based on the final outcome in the WP No.1164/2023, which is currently pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The State Forest Department shall ensure that an undertaking from the user agency is obtained in this regard. |   |
| Your's faithfully<br>(Balaji Kari)<br>Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)  |  |   |

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|  <b>STATE BANK OF INDIA</b><br><b>CHENCHUPET BRANCH-03253</b><br>Tenali, Guntur District-522202. E-mail : sbi.03253@sbi.co.in  |  |
| <b>POSSESSION NOTICE</b><br>(Under Rule 8(1) (For Immovable Property))  |  |
| NPA: SBI-HOME LOAN A/c No.32797946112, HOME TOP-UP LOAN A/c No.38329880627, SBI-SURAKSHA A/c No.3279795993<br>Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 20.06.2025 calling upon the Applicant Address.: Shri. Chakka Mahesh, S/o Chakka Subrahmanyam, D.No.16-20-19, Shorrof Bazar, Salipet, Tenali, Guntur District-522202. Co-Applicant Address.: Smt. Chakka Padmavathi, W/o Chakka Mahesh, D.No.16-20-19, Shorrof Bazar, Salipet, Tenali, Guntur District-522202 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.21,06,193/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Six Thousand One Hundred and Ninety Three Only) as on 20.06.2025 With further interest at contractual rate from 20.06.2025 and incidental expenses, costs, charges etc., within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.<br>The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Mortgagor in particular and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on this 09 <sup>th</sup> September 2025.<br>The Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India, Chenchupet Branch, Tenali, Guntur District for an amount Rs.21,06,193/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Six Thousand One Hundred and Ninety Three Only) as on 20.06.2025. Plus interest at contractual rate and incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.<br>The Borrower & Guarantor attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.<br><b>DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY</b><br>Property in the name of Shri. Chakka Mahesh, S/o Chakka Subrahmanyam and Smt. Chakka Padmavathi, W/o Chakka Mahesh vide Regd.Doc. No. 2329/2010 Dated 08-04-2010.<br>Guntur District, Tenali Sub District, Tenali Municipal Area, 4th ward, 5th Block, T. S. No.357, 358, 360 & 411, an extent of 147 Sq. Yards equivalent to 122.90 Sq. Meters, Dr. No.17-10-55 R. C. C. Roofed Residential Ground and First Floor House being Boundaries.: East : Municipal Bazaar by name Tadiparthi Veeraiah Sandu, 25'-0", South : Wall belonging to Ch. Satyavathi, 53'-0", West : Property belonging to Tadiparthi Parameswara Das, 25'-0", North : Property belonging to K. Jakraiah beyond compound wall in this property, 53'-0".<br>Within the above boundaries an extent of 147 Sq. Yards (or) 122.90 Sq. Meters. of R. C. C. Roofed Residential Ground and First Floor House only<br>Date : 09.09.2025 Sd/- Authorised Officer<br>Place : Tenali State Bank of India |  |

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|  <b>Union Bank of India</b><br>Asset Recovery Branch (79170), Vijayawada, Located at - 4th Floor, Andhra Bank Building, R. R. Apparao Street, Vijayawada, AP-520001.  |  |
| <b>POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable Property)</b><br>(Rule 8(1)) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002)  |  |
| Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized officer of Union Bank of India, Asset Recovery Branch (79170), under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Second) Act, 2002 (Act No.54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 02.07.2025 calling upon the Applicant: Mr. Mopidevi Naga Phaneendra Kumar, S/o M Rama Rao, D.No. 15/323-14-1, Devunicheruvu, Machavaram, Machilipatnam, Krishna Andhra Pradesh-521001. Co-Applicant: Mrs. Balagam Sri Vijaya Bhargavi, W/o MN Phaneendra Kumar, D.No. 15/323-14-1, Devunicheruvu, Machavaram, Machilipatnam, Krishna, Andhra Pradesh-521001 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 55,67,098.35 (Rupees Fifty Five Lakhs Sixty Seven Thousands and Ninety Eight and paise Thirty Five Only) as on 02.07.2025 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.<br>The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act, read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 12th day of September of the year 2025.<br>The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the UNION BANK OF INDIA for an amount Rs. 55,67,098.35/- (Rupees Fifty Five Lakhs Sixty Seven Thousands and Ninety Eight and paise Thirty Five Only) as on 02.07.2025 along with Interest and Other Charges) thereon.<br>The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to the borrower to redeem the secured assets.<br><b>DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY</b><br>Item No 1: EMD of residential Land and RCC Roofed Building nearby Door No. 15/323-14, Present 15/323-14-1, Municipal Ward No. 15, Devunicheruvu, Machavaram, Machilipatnam, Krishna District in an extent of 237 Square Yards, owned by Mr. Mopidevi Naga Phaneendra Kumar, S/o M Rama Rao & Bounded by Boundaries: East: Site of Annam Mounica 40 feet, West: House Site of Mohammad Fyjan 36 Feet, North: 15 Feet width of Joint Way-56 feet, South: Site of Veeranki Baby Sarojini and Parimkayala Srinivasa Rao and others-54 Feet.<br>Item No 2: EMD of residential Land and RCC Roofed Building nearby Door No. 15/323-14-1, Municipal Ward No. 15, Devunicheruvu, Machavaram, Machilipatnam, Krishna District in an extent of 29.61 Square Yards, owned by Mr. Mopidevi Naga Phaneendra Kumar, S/o M Rama Rao & Bounded by Boundaries: East: Kotaprolu Ramesh sold to others- 41 Feet, West: House and Site and compound wall of B Party Andraju Srinivasa Rao 41 Feet, North: Municipal Cement Road 6 feet, South: Mopidevi Naga Phaneendra Kumar site 7 Feet.<br>Date: 12.09.2025 Authorized Officer<br>Place: Vijayawada Union Bank of India |  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  <b>STATE BANK OF INDIA</b><br>Stressed Assets Recovery Branch, Administrative Office<br>Campus, Balaji Nagar, Siripuram, Visakhapatnam   |  |
| <b>NOTICE PRIOR TO SALE</b><br>(Issued Under Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Under the SARFAESI Act, 2002)   |  |
| To,<br><b>Borrower Address:</b> M/s. Sri Sai Namitha Bharat Gas Distributors, R.S. No.479/3, By Pass Road, Mylavaram, Krishna Dist, Andhra Pradesh. Sri Dontireddy Sri Ram Reddy (Prop), S/o. Chandrasekhar Reddy, Flat No.304, Vaishnavi Elite, Sunnapubattilu Centre, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. Smt. Palnati Sri Lakshmi (Guarantor), W/o. P. Srinivasa Reddy, Flat No.304, Vaishnavi Elite, Sunnapubattilu Centre, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.<br>Dear Sir / Madam,<br>The Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 04.08.2023, calling upon you to repay the amount of Rs.84,47,471/- (Rupees Eighty Four Lakhs Forty Seven Thousand Four Hundred and Seventy One Only) as on 04.08.2023. You are also liable to pay interest thereon from 05.08.2023 at the contractual rate on the aforesaid amount together with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.<br>You have failed to repay the amount the undersigned took possession of the property on 25.10.2023 mortgaged by you in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 8(1) of the Rules. The possession notice was also published in the newspapers (Sakshi: Vijayawada City (Telugu Language) and Hans India : Vijayawada Edition (English Language) on 31.10.2023) as required under Rules 8(2) of the Rules.<br>You are hereby informed that the property mortgaged to the Bank as described below will be sold in E-Auction /public auction by inviting tenders/quotations from the public in case the amount due to the Bank as demanded in the notice dated 04.08.2023, if not repaid within a period of 30 days from the date of this notice.<br><b>Description of the Immovable Property</b><br>1. Krishna District, Pamarru Sub Registry, Pamarru Gram Panchayat Area, Pamarru RS No.141/7, An extent of Ac.0.44 cents being Bounded by: East : Land of Dontireddy Veera Reddy, West : Land of Dontireddy Chandra Sekhar Reddy, North: Land of Bollareddy Udaya Lakshmi, South : Donka.<br>2. Krishna District, Pamarru Sub Registry, Pamarru Gram Panchayat Area, Pamarru RS No.141/7, An extent of Ac.0.24 cents being Bounded by: East : Land of Dontireddy Veera Reddy, West : Land of Dontireddy Chandra Sekhar Reddy, North: Land of Bollareddy Udaya Lakshmi, South : Donka.<br>3. Krishna District, Pamarru Sub Registry, Pamarru Gram Panchayat Area, Pamarru RS No.141/7, An extent of Ac.0.40 cents being Bounded by: East : Land of Dontireddy Koti Reddy, West : Land of Purna Chandra Reddy, North: Land of Chandra Sekhar Reddy, South : Donka.<br>4. Krishna District, Pamarru Sub Registry, Pamarru Gram Panchayat Area, Pamarru RS No.141/7, An extent of Ac.0.29 cents being Bounded by: East : Land of Dontireddy Koti Reddy, West : Land of Purna Chandra Reddy, North: Land of Chandra Sekhar Reddy, South : Donka.<br>Under the above mentioned 3 documents, a total extent of Ac.1.37 Cents of wet Land converted for Non Agricultural Land, Dontireddy Sri Ram Reddy son of Chandra Sekhar Reddy and Palnati Sri Lakshmi Wife of Srinivasa Reddy Represented by her General Power of Attorney Dontireddy Sri Ram Reddy.<br>Date : 11-09-2025 Sd/- Authorised Officer,<br>Place : Visakhapatnam STATE BANK OF INDIA |  |

# Pawan cautions people against falling prey to caste conspiracies

- Says attempts are being made on social media to sow discord between castes and religions, urging vigilance to avoid anger and confrontation that could achieve the provocateurs' goals
- Citing a recent Machilipatnam incident involving offensive language on a YouTube channel, Kalyan stresses on pursuing criminal cases under the law rather than conflict, and calls for complaints against those instigating such acts



HANS NEWS SERVICE  
MANGALAGIRI

desired outcomes."

DEPUTY Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan on Saturday warned citizens against falling for conspiracies designed to create discord and animosity within the state. He urged people in a statement here to remain vigilant against those who are sowing discord between different castes and religions, particularly through social media and YouTube channels.

"We have seen the nature of these individuals, who create unrest and insecurity through their deceitful tactics, for the past decade," Kalyan said in a statement. "Do not fall into their trap, give in to anger, or allow for a confrontational atmosphere. If you show anger, the conspirators will achieve their

Kalyan cited the recent events in Machilipatnam as an example. He noted that a person on a YouTube channel used offensive language, and argued that the malicious intent behind preparing and promoting such a person must be identified.

"We should proceed with criminal cases under the law," he stated. "Rushing into another path and engaging in conflict will only complicate the problem. Provocative leaders will emerge and spoil the harmonious atmosphere among the people."

The Deputy Chief Minister called for legal action against those who spread division. He urged Jana Sena and coalition leaders to file complaints to ensure that those who provoke and speak offensively,

whether on social media or in other forms, are brought to justice under the Indian Justice Code.

"Complaints must also be filed and cases registered against those who are behind them, systematically instigating these conspiracies," he added.

Kalyan also revealed that he has ordered an internal investigation by the party leadership into the Machilipatnam incident. He said notices would be served to those involved to seek an explanation.

"The public must be vigilant against the party and its leaders who have a malicious nature and engage in conspiracies," he said. "Let's counter their malicious propaganda democratically and legally."

## Govt transfers 14 IPS officers

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

THE state government issues orders transferring and posting of 14 IPS officers effective immediately on Saturday. Chief secretary K Vijayanand issued GO No 1690 to this effect. As per the order, Prakasam district SP A R Damodar has been transferred to Vizianagaram while Vizianagaram SP Vakul Jindal has been appointed as Guntur SP.

Annamayya district SP Vidhya Sagar Naidu has been relocated to the position of Krishna district SP and Dr BR Ambedkar Konaseema district SP B Krishna Rao has been reassigned to Palnadu district. Gun-takal railway SP Rahul Meena has been designated as the new Dr BR Ambedkar Konaseema District SP.

Other notable transfers include Tirupati Urban SP Harsha Vardhan Raju, who has been moved to Prakasam district SP.

Additionally, Visakhapatnam DCP (L & O) Ajitha Vejendra has been appointed as Nellore district SP, while Red Sanders Anti Smuggling Task Force, Tirupati SP L Subbarayudu has been appointed as Tirupati SP. Bapatla SP Tushar Dudi has been transferred and appointed as Chittoor district SP. Further, CID SP (admin) B Uma Maheswara Rao has been shifted to Bapatla, and Alluri Sitarama Raju district additional SP Dheeraj Kunubli has been transferred with a promotion to Annamayya district SP.

Intelligence SP Shelke Nachiketh Vishwanath has been posted as YSR Kadapa SP, Greyhounds Group Commander Suneel Sheoran has been reassigned as Nandyal district SP, and Guntur urban SP Sathish Kumar has been transferred and appointed as Sri Satya Sai district SP.

The GO indicated that posting orders for officers who have been transferred but have not yet received new assignments will be issued separately.

## YSRCP's med college plan will take 23 yrs to complete: Minister

Health minister Satya Kumar Yadav writes a letter to Jagan, in which he accuses the former CM of hypocrisy and failing to secure full admissions due to poor infrastructure in medical colleges



HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

HEALTH minister Y Satya Kumar Yadav criticised YSRC president Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy's approach to constructing 17 new medical colleges, stating that at the previous government's pace, it would take 23 years to complete them and provide the intended 150 student admissions per college. The minister's remarks came in a detailed, six-page letter to the former chief minister, in which he accused him of hypocrisy and spreading misinformation regard-

ing the new government's Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model for some of the colleges.

The minister said that while the previous government approved an estimated cost of Rs 8,480 crore for the 17 colleges, it only spent Rs 1,450 crore over four years. He calculated that at this rate, it would take 23 years to complete the projects and a minimum of 16 years to finish construction. "Did you expect people to wait for 23 years, Jagan?" the Minister questioned. He noted that Jagan's plan, which was supposed to start admissions for all 17 colleges by 2025-26, has been a complete failure. He accused Jagan Mohan Reddy of hypocrisy, recalling a news report in the former CM's own newspaper on August 8, which stated that the previous government had introduced a self-financing model to provide high-quality medical education without financial constraints.

Yadav's letter also addressed new National Medical Commission (NMC) regulations. He explained that while the previous government received approval for 150 seats in the first phase of five colleges, the Paderu college, which was supposed to get 150 seats for the 2024-25 academic year, was only granted 50 seats due to a lack of infrastructure. He blamed Jagan Mohan Reddy for the loss of 100 seats, as the previous administration was in power until June 2024 and was responsible for ensuring the necessary infrastructure was in place. "By your own admission in a press conference on September 10, even your prized Pulivendula Medical College has the infrastructure for 50 seats," the minister wrote, pointing out that Jagan had effectively conceded his own failure to build the necessary facilities for a full 150-seat capacity. Dismissing Jagan Mohan Reddy's threats to cancel the PPP projects if he returns to power, Yadav stated that with just 11 seats in the recent elections, the former CM's return to power is a "pipe dream."

"The PPP model is being adopted solely to expedite the completion of these 17 colleges that have been left in a dire state by the previous government," the minister concluded. "This initiative is for the greater good, and spreading misinformation about it is highly inappropriate."





# Dasara arrangements inspected at Kanaka Durga Temple

- The surprise inspection that began at Ghat Road lasted four hours, concluding at Rajagopuram atop Indrakeeladri
- Collector Lakshmisha directs temple authorities to ensure that the queue line sheds are raised and made more attractive
- “Dasara festivities should be conducted on a grand scale, reflecting culture, tradition and devotion”



NTR district collector G Lakshmisha holding discussions with Durga Temple Executive Officer VK Seena Naik and engineering officials at the top of Indrakeeladri in Vijayawada on Saturday

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

NTR district collector Dr G Lakshmisha conducted a surprise inspection of the Dasara Sarannavaratri festival arrangements in Vijayawada on Saturday. Accompanied by Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam Executive Officer and Special Grade Deputy Collector VK Seena Naik and engineering officials, the inspection began at 7 am from Ghat Road and continued for four hours up to the Rajagopuram atop Indrakeeladri. The collector reviewed preparations at Indrakeeladri, Kanaka Durga Nagar and surrounding areas, focusing on facilities for the large number of devotees expected during the festival from September 22 to October 2. He emphasised that no pilgrim should face inconvenience due to iron pipes and suggested that iron mesh along queue lines be covered with cloth for safety. Dr Lakshmisha personally inspected the queue lines, the Prasadam Potu, drinking water supply points, and special puja arrangements, giving officials specific instructions to ensure smooth conduct of festivities. He directed temple authorities and engineering officials to ensure that the queue line sheds are raised and made more attractive. Also, he suggested that adequate bathing ghats, toilets, and sanitation facilities be arranged with support from Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC). Continuous cleaning is maintained by appointing and monitoring sufficient

sanitation staff and drinking water, buttermilk, milk, and biscuits are supplied to devotees waiting in queues, he added. Speaking on the occasion, the collector said the Dasara festivities should be conducted on a grand scale, reflecting culture, tradition and devotion. He stressed that officials should be held responsible if devotees face difficulties due to lapses in arrangements.

He also instructed that entry and exit points for devotees be clearly planned and that the temple be beautifully decorated to enhance the spiritual atmosphere. Vijayawada West Zone Additional DCP G Ramakrishna, temple executive engineers KVS R Koteswara Rao, Ramakrishna, Durga Rao, and other officials joined the inspection.

EMERGING creative talents were prominently featured at the Lepakshi Handicrafts Design Competition & Masterpieces Exhibition held in Vijayawada on Saturday. During this event, 25 students from the National Institute of Design, Andhra Pradesh (NID-AP), located at Sakhamuru in Amaravati immersed themselves in the rich traditional crafts of the state. Specialising in Textile, Industrial, and Communication Design, the students examined the showcased handicrafts with a keen eye for detail—evaluating aspects such as product design, finishing, usability, and presentation. While many admired the craftsmanship on display, they also offered fresh design perspectives on how the products could be better positioned for modern markets without losing their cultural essence.

The initiative is part of collaboration between NID-AP and the Andhra Pradesh Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited member Swati Pandey Sinha accompanied the team, guiding discussions and facilitating analysis.

# NID-AP students bring fresh design perspectives

- 25 students from the National Institute of Design, Andhra Pradesh (NID-AP) immersed in rich traditional crafts of the state
- The initiative is part of collaboration between NID-AP and the Andhra Pradesh Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited



NID-AP: National Institute of Design, AP students interacting with an artisan at the Lepakshi Handicrafts Design Competition & Masterpieces Exhibition in Vijayawada on Saturday

The initiative is part of collaboration between NID-AP and the Andhra Pradesh Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited (APHDC), under the guidance of Lepakshi MD Vishwa Manoharan, aimed at bringing innovation and global relevance to Andhra Pradesh's handicrafts sector. During their visit, students interacted closely with artisans and visitors, sharing constructive ideas on design enhancements, contemporary packaging, and marketing strategies that could help extend the reach of local crafts to wider national and international audiences.

“This is not only a learning opportunity for us, but also a way to give back to the artisan community by contributing design inputs that can add value to their creations,” remarked one student. NID-AP faculty

organization termed ‘selective disclosure’ that undermines the spirit of transparency. The activists also pointed to a more serious legal violation, that the statutorily mandated Annual Report under Section 25 of the RTI Act has not been published since Andhra Pradesh's bifurcation in 2014, representing over a decade of non-compliance with legal requirements.

However, UFRTI-AP highlighted troubling contradictions in APIC's approach to openness. While hearings are broadcast live in the name of transparency, orders passed by some commissioners are uploaded to the official website while others are not, creating what the or-

ganization termed ‘selective disclosure’ that undermines the spirit of transparency. The activists also pointed to a more serious legal violation, that the statutorily mandated Annual Report under Section 25 of the RTI Act has not been published since Andhra Pradesh's bifurcation in 2014, representing over a decade of non-compliance with legal requirements.

# RTI activists demand transparency, reforms in APIC

NARESH NANDAM  
ONGOLE

While congratulating Andhra Pradesh state Governor S Abdul Nazeer and the Andhra Pradesh Information Commission (APIC) for launching live streaming of RTI complaint and appeal

hearings, the United Forum for RTI Campaign-Andhra Pradesh (UFRTI-AP) demanded more reforms in the commission to deepen transparency and build public confidence.

In a detailed letter to the Governor, the civil society organisation's co-conveners,

Chakradhar Budha and Emmanuel Dasari praised the groundbreaking initiative as setting a model for other states to emulate. They said that the citizens can now directly observe the Commission's functioning, marking a significant advancement in governmental transparency.

However, UFRTI-AP highlighted troubling contradictions in APIC's approach to openness. While hearings are broadcast live in the name of transparency, orders passed by some commissioners are uploaded to the official website while others are not, creating what the or-

### CHANGE OF SURNAME

I, **THANETI VEERAKUMARI** (Old name). Resident of D.No. 10-69, sr ramalayam street, kavitam, poduru mandal, West Godavari Dist AP. I have changed my name as **KOKKIRIPATI VEERA KUMARI** (New Name). Here after my name is **KOKKIRIPATI VEERA KUMARI** (New Name)

(TH\_SIVA PRASAD)

### CHANGE OF NAME

I, **PARALA SALMAN RAJU** S/o Someswararao, Resident of H.No. 12-2-341/6, Vijayadurga Apartment, Rajula Colony, Jangareddygudem, Eluru Dist., A.P. I have changed my name from Parala Salmon Raju (old Name) to **PARALA SALMAN RAJU** (New Name). Hence fourth I will be called as **PARALA SALMAN RAJU**.

(TH\_SIVA PRASAD)

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# Gandikota wins 'Most Promising New Destination' award at BLTM 2025

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI /VIJAYAWADA

ANDHRA Pradesh Tourism wins 'Most Promising New Destination' award for Gandikota at BLTM 2025. The award was received by Padmarani Seela, chief marketing officer and communication officer of APTA, at the Business Leisure Travel and MICE Exhibition (BLTM 2025) in New Delhi.

The state's tourism department showcased its diverse offerings, including heritage sites, pristine beach destinations, rural tourism experiences, and eco-tourism initiatives, at the event held from Friday to Sunday at Yashobhoomi, India International Convention Centre (IICC). Gandikota, known as



AP tourism representative receives award at Business Leisure Travel and MICE Exhibition

'India's Grand Canyon,' received the award in the 'Responsible Tourism Awards' category, supported by ICRT and the Ministry of Tourism,

Government of India. This recognition is expected to boost Gandikota's appeal to adventure-seeking tourists. During BLTM 2025,

Andhra Pradesh Tourism representatives participated in B2B speed networking sessions, building relationships with corporate buyers, MICE

planners, tour operators, destination management companies (DMCs), hospitality brands, and international tourism boards from countries like Sri Lanka, Israel, and St. Petersburg.

The Andhra Pradesh government aims to develop world-class MICE facilities in destinations like Visakhapatnam, Gandikota, and Suryalanka Beach, targeting conferences, corporate events, and incentive packages to become a leader in the MICE tourism segment.

The BLTM event, focused on business and MICE tourism in India, featured over 500 exhibitors and 15,000 pre-qualified buyers, showcasing Andhra Pradesh's tourism potential to a global audience.

## Bode demands ex-gratia to kin of deceased in Turakapalem

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
GUNTUR

BCY party president Bode Ramachandra Yadav demanded the government to announce ex-gratia for the families of those who died in Turakapalem due to diseases during the last two months. He visited Turakapalem on Saturday and consoled the kin of the deceased. He announced financial assistance of Rs 10,000 for each family. Speaking on the occasion, he expressed concern over the unnatural deaths occurring in the last 2-3 months. He demanded that all individuals who consumed alcohol between 2019 and 2024 undergo health check-ups. He said families were suffering due to the loss of breadwinners in middle age, and it is the government's responsibility to support them. He also urged the state to monitor the details of youth being admitted to hospitals.

## TTD Trust Board members take oath



Dr M Hari Jawahar Lal



Sudarshan Venu

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
TIRUMALA

ENDOWMENTS Department Secretary Dr Hari Jawahar Lal and Sudarshan Venu took oath as ex-Officio Member and as TTD Trust Board member respectively at Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple here on Saturday.

The oath was administered by TTD Additional

EO Ch Venkaiah Chowdary. Later, along with their family members, they had Lord Venkateswara darshan. Vedic scholars rendered Veda Asheervachanam at Rangamayakula Mandapam.

The Additional EO presented them with the portrait of Srivaru and Tirtha Prasadam.

Deputy EO Bhaskar and other officials were present.

## Karki is shining example of women empowerment: Modi

Continued from P1

"I want to congratulate Karki on behalf of 140 crore Indians. I am confident that she will pave the way for peace, stability, and prosperity in Nepal," the PM said.

Former Chief Justice Sushila Karki on Friday night became Nepal's first woman prime minister to lead an interim government.

"Karki occupying the top post of that country is an example of women's empowerment," Modi asserted.

Her appointment ended days of political uncertainty after the K P Sharma Oli dispensation was forced to quit in the face of a nationwide agitation triggered by a social media ban.

Karki was chosen to lead the interim government after a meeting between

President Paudel, Nepal's top military brass, and the youth protesters, who spearheaded the agitation.

The PM also lauded the resilience of the Nepali people, noting how citizens, especially young men and women, were taking part in cleaning and painting buildings in the past few days, amid political turbulence.

"I also want to congratulate the people of Nepal who, despite such turbulent times, have kept democratic values supreme," Modi said, drawing applause from the gathering.

Emphasising India's solidarity, the PM said both nations were "moving forward together", and reiterated New Delhi's commitment to support Nepal's democratic journey and its aspiration for stability.

## 3-hour pit stop is not compassion: Cong targets Modi's Manipur visit

Continued from P1

"864 days of violence:-- 300 lives lost, 67,000 displaced, 1,500 plus injured. You made 46 foreign trips since, but not a single visit to share two words of sympathy with your own citizens," Kharge said.

"Your last visit to Manipur? January 2022 for elections! Your 'Double Engine' has bulldozed the innocent lives of Manipur. You and Home Minister Amit Shah's gross incompetence and complicity in betraying all communities was shielded from scrutiny, by imposing President's Rule in the state. Violence

still continues," he said.

It is the BJP which was responsible for maintaining law and order in the state and it is now the Union government which is again dithering, he claimed.

"Not to forget, that is your government which is responsible for National Security and border patrol. This hush-hush pit stop isn't repentance. It's not even guilt. You are organising a grand welcome ceremony for yourself. It is a cruel prick to the wounds of those still suffering because of your own abdication of basic constitutional responsibilities!" Kharge

said.

Speaking with reporters in Wayanad, Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also hit out at the PM and said he should have visited the state long before.

"I am glad that he has decided, after two years, that it is worth visiting (Manipur). He should have gone long before. It is very unfortunate that he has allowed what is happening there to continue for so long and for so many people to be killed. That has not been the tradition of prime ministers in India," she said.

## CM Naidu urges SPs to focus on public safety

Continued from P1

He stressed that instilling fear in criminals is the best way to reduce crime, citing the example of how he brought an end to rowdiness in Vijayawada, which also helped Hyderabad become the brand it is today.

The Chief Minister asked police officers to take up the murder of YS Vivekananda Reddy as a case study. "A brutal murder was first called a heart attack, then a murder, and later was blamed on me," he said. He highlighted the numerous twists and turns in the case, calling it an "unprecedented" case study for police officials.

Naidu also brought up the recent death of a political worker named Singaiah, who was run over by a car belonging to a party leader. "The

incident was initially hidden from the police, and when it was exposed, the same party leaders manipulated the victim's family to speak against the government," he said. "You have to understand their criminal politics."

The Chief Minister advised the police to utilise technology to the hilt in investigations.

Naidu suggested a four-point strategy for police officials: React, Reach, Respond, and Result. React immediately to any serious incident and do not leave it to junior staff.

Reach the crime scene quickly to collect evidence and take necessary investigative steps. Respond to misinformation and fake news on social media by taking strict action against those spread-

ing it. Work towards a quick Result in every case.

Naidu instructed the SPs to be friendly with the public, while instilling fear in anti-social elements and controlling "social media psychos" who engage in character assassination. He emphasised that the alliance government's policy is to punish offenders, regardless of their political affiliation.

The Chief Minister warned against political parties' attempts to create unrest under the guise of protests. "I am not against protests, but I will not tolerate any illegal activities," he asserted.

"I have chosen you after a long process, considering all factors. Now, prove yourselves and deliver the best performance," he exhorted the SPs.

## Want to make Manipur symbol of peace & prosperity, says Modi

Continued from P1

After meeting them, I can say with confidence that a new dawn of hope and trust is rising in Manipur," he said.

"For development to take root anywhere, peace is essential.

In the last 11 years, many conflicts and disputes in the Northeast have been resolved. People have chosen the path of peace and given priority to development," he added.

The PM, who faced sharp criticisms from the opposition for not visiting the state despite the prolonged ethnic violence, underlined that the Centre's efforts were already yielding results. "We have seen that recently in the Hills and the Valley... negotiations have taken place for agreements with different groups.

These are part of the

efforts of the Government of India to establish peace while giving importance to dialogue, respect, and mutual understanding," he said.

"I would appeal to all organisations to move forward on the path of peace and fulfil their dreams.

I am with you... The Government of India is with the people of Manipur. We are working towards the goal of making Manipur a symbol of peace, prosperity and progress," he said.

Modi said the Centre is providing support to build 7,000 new houses for families who have been displaced by the violence. A special package of about Rs 3,000 crore has recently been approved, he said, adding that Rs 500 crore has been specifically allocated to assist the displaced people.

## 'Students used their pocket money for drugs'

Continued from P1

Supporting this statement, Neha Agarwal, psychologist and co-founder of InnerHeal Therapy, said, "Many of these students are simply trying to fill an emotional void—whether it's love, acceptance, or fear of abandonment. "The pain they want to escape can make drugs seem like an easy way out, offering a quick high and temporary thrill. Sadly, many do not realize that they are trapped until it is already too late to turn back.

Many students from well-off families use their pocket money in unhealthy ways, such as through substance abuse. Easy access to cash sometimes makes them feel

independent, but without real responsibility. Often, just to feel included and part of a group, students get pulled into these habits, creating a dangerous cycle that harms their studies and personal growth," she added. Officials stressed that strict surveillance is being paired with the rehabilitation of students. One of the students recently caught is currently undergoing regular blood tests and counselling. "We are also conducting regular awareness campaigns, in collaboration with universities like ICFAI, to sensitize students to the dangers of substance abuse," an anti-narcotics officer said.

Meanwhile, Mahindra University, in its official

statement, maintained that "any act that violates the law or endangers the safety of the student community will be dealt with severely." Vice-Chancellor Dr. Yajulu Meduri assured that the campus would ramp up preventive awareness, counselling, and partnerships with the law enforcement authorities.

Yet, as more institutions figure in the narcotics trail and as courier loopholes remain unaddressed, the case underscores a disturbing dual reality. While Hyderabad's private universities project themselves as global education hubs, they are also becoming fertile grounds for organized rackets feeding on the youth's vulnerabilities.

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| 1.   | Loan A/c. No(s). :<br>X0HLKAK00002038337 &<br>X0HLKAK00002643892<br>1. Venkatesh Siva Prasad Yeluri<br>2. SriLakshmi Yeluri<br>Add: 6-107, Harizan Peta, Gollalamidda, Pedapudi, Andhra Pradesh - 533344. Also At: N D No. 4-8, Rayuduvri Veedhi Gollalamidda, Near Suryanarayana Temple - 533344. Also At: 3-71, Sivenkatreddygariesteet G, Mamidda, Pedapudi, Andhra Pradesh - 533344. Also At: D No. 4-8, R. S. No. 527/4, 544/9 Block No. 4 Gollalamidda Village, Pedapudi Near Ramalayam - 533344 | RS. 38,91,181/- (Rupees Thirty-Eight Lakhs Ninety-One Thousand One Hundred and Eighty-One Only) due as on 18.11.2023 | Document No.1359/2016, All that piece and parcel of land along with site admeasuring Sq.yds.233.91 (total 2 items) bearing survey No. 527/4, Block No. 4, Near Door No. 4-8 of Gollala Mamidda, Pedapudi Mandal, Biccavolu Sub-Registrar, Gollala Mamidda Gram panchayat, East Godavari District Bounded as follows, 1 <sup>st</sup> Item: Sq.yds. 221.25, East: Ft 93.00, sites of Rayudu Veeraju and Aiyinaparthi Chandra Rao, West: Ft 84.06, 3, 4, 5 items, North: Ft 19.06, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Item South: Ft 26.00, site of Nallamilli china Satyalu, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Item: Sq.yds.12.66- East: Ft 06.00, sites of Rayudu Veeraju and Aiyinaparthi Chandra Rao, West: Ft 06.00, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Item, North: Ft 19.06, wall of Tetali Srinivasa Reddy, South: Ft 19.00, 1st item. Document No.1358/2016, All that piece and Parcel of land along with site admeasuring Sq.yds 61-16 (total 3 items) bearing Survey No. 544/9, Block No.3, Near Door No. 3-75 of Gollala Mamidda, Pedapudi Mandal, Biccavolu Sub-Registrar, Gollala Mamidda Gram Panchayat, East Godavari District Bounded as follows: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Item: Sq.yds.28- East: Ft 48.00, 1, 2 items, West: Ft 48.00, Site of Karri Satyanarayana Reddy, North: Ft 04.06, wall of Tetali Srinivass Reddy, South: Ft 06.00, 4 <sup>th</sup> Item: Sq.yds.21.29- East: Ft 28.09; 1 <sup>st</sup> Item, West: Ft 28.09; Site of Karri Satyanarayana Reddy, North: Ft 06.00; 3 <sup>rd</sup> Item, South: Ft 07.04; 5th Item, 5 <sup>th</sup> Item: Sq.yds.11.87 East: Ft 13.03; 1 <sup>st</sup> Item, West: Ft 13.03; Site of Karri Raja Reddy, North: Ft 07.04; 4 <sup>th</sup> Item, South: Ft 07.07; Site of Nallamilli Chakram Within the above total five items boundaries, Total extent of Sq.295.07 Yds with all common ways, water ways and all easementary rights. | CONSTRUCTIVE POSSESSION   | RS. 37,00,000/- (Rupees Thirty-Seven Lakhs Only)                   | 03.10.2025 from 02.00 P.M. to 04.00 A.M. (with automated extensions of 5 minutes each in terms of the Tender Document), |
| INSPECTION DATE & TIME : 29.09.2025, BETWEEN 11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.   |  |  |  |                           | MINIMUM BID INCREMENT AMOUNT : Rs. 10,000/-                        |   |
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## UN congratulates new Nepal PM Sushila Karki

Continued from P1

She also recognised the contributions of the president, the chief of army staff and 'Gen Z' youth leaders, noting that their efforts "helped make this transition possible". Karki was chosen to lead the interim government after a meeting between President Ram Chandra Paudel, Nepal's top military brass, and representatives of youth protesters. President Paudel administered the oath of office to former chief justice Karki, 73, on Friday three days after Oli resigned from the prime minister's post following the worst unrest that the Himalayan nation has witnessed in decades. Oli quit on Tuesday shortly after hundreds of agitators entered his office demanding his resignation for the death of at least 19 people in police action during Monday's protests.

## NE is India's growth engine: PM

Continued from P1

Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project is a joint India-Myanmar initiative to create a multi-modal transport corridor connecting India's eastern ports to India's Northeast through Myanmar, utilising waterways and roads to bypass the Siliguri Corridor.

The Prime Minister said: "After the Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project becomes operational, trade and tourism would be boosted a lot in the Northeast region. All these plans are part of India's Act East Policy."

He said that earlier the political parties were doing vote bank politics in Northeast and due to this attitude the entire region suffered greatly. "Our attitude, plans and vision are different. We want peace and development of the region. Rail, road, air, waterway connectivities were developed a lot in the region and these would be further

developed in the coming days," the Prime Minister said.

Referring to the GST reforms, he said that taxes were lowered substantially in many products making life easier for common people.

During 'Operation Sindoor', India's armed forces taught lessons to terrorists and the entire world witnessed the power of the country's armed forces and 'Made in India' weapons to help protect the country, the Prime Minister pointed out.

Saturday's visit is PM Modi's second trip to Mizoram since he became the Prime Minister in 2014. From Aizawl, the Prime Minister would fly to Manipur's Churachandpur and then to state capital Imphal. In both Churachandpur and Imphal, PM Modi would unveil a total of 31 projects worth Rs 8,500 crore for the state of Manipur and would address public gatherings in both the places.

## Low-pressure area to trigger rains in AP

Continued from P1

Jain also provided a summary of rainfall recorded as of 5:00 pm on Saturday.

Heavy rainfall was recorded in several areas, including Thallapudi in East Godavari district and Lingapalem in Eluru district (87.2 mm), Pedakakani in Guntur district (77.2 mm), Sattenapalli in Palnadu district (75 mm), Vallabhapuram in Guntur (74 mm), Guntur (72.2 mm), Nuzividu (71 mm), Thotlavalluru (70.7 mm), Kouthavaram (70.2 mm), and Darsi in Prakasam district (68.5 mm). More than 40 mm of rain was recorded in 47 other locations.



Vinod Kumar new collector of Bapatla

NARESH NANDAM  
BAPATLA

Dr Vinod Kumar took charge as the new district collector of Bapatla on Saturday, promising effective implementation of state government welfare schemes. The new collector brings prior administrative experience, having served as district collector of Anantapur district for 18 months before his current appointment. Speaking to the media after assuming office, Dr Vinod Kumar stated that welfare schemes provided by the state government would be implemented



Bapatla and Chirala MLAs V Narendra Varma and MM Kondaiah congratulating new collector Dr Vinod Kumar at collectorate in Bapatla on Saturday

efficiently. Chirala and Bapatla MLAs MM Kondaiah and V Narendra Varma, district officials from various departments, later met the new collector, presenting bouquets and extending their congratulations on his appointment as Bapatla Collector.

Kirti Chekuri takes charge as EG collector

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM

KIRTI Chekuri took charge as the new collector of East Godavari district on Saturday. Speaking to reporters after assuming office, she stated her commitment to resolving public issues and ensuring the successful implementation of the state government's welfare schemes and development programs. She emphasised that she will strive to make East Godavari a leading district by working in coordination with public representatives and officials. Collector Kirti also said that a comprehensive action plan is already being

prepared for the 2027 Godavari Maha Pushkaram. This plan will focus on creating necessary infrastructure and addressing any issues in advance. She sought the cooperation of all officials in guiding the district towards comprehensive development and making it a frontrunner. Earlier, upon her arrival at the Collectorate, Kirti Chekuri was welcomed by District Revenue Officer T Seetha Ramamurthy and Collectorate AO Ali. RDOs Rani Susmita and R Krishna Naik, DIPRO K Lakshmi Narayana, and Divisional PRO M Lakshmana Charyulu extended their congratulations to the new collector.



Kritika Shukla new collector of Palnadu

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
NARASARAOPET

PALNADU new district collector Kritika Shukla said, she will give top priority to resolve the problems of the people and accessible to them. Speaking on the occasion, she said, "I will implement the welfare schemes with the coordination of people's representatives and officials and strive for the development of Palnadu district."



Kritika Shukla taking charge as Palnadu district collector at Collectorate in Narasaraopet on Saturday

Raja Babu takes charge as Prakasam collector

NARESH NANDAM  
ONGOLE

P Raja Babu assumed office as the 39th district collector of Prakasam district on Saturday, pledging comprehensive development through coordination with people's representatives. Upon arrival at the NSP Guest House, Raja Babu received a warm welcome from Joint Collector R Gopalakrishna, DRO B Chinna Obulesu, Ongole RDO Lakshmi Prasanna, Kanigiri RDO Kesavardhan Reddy, and other revenue officials. Vedic scholars performed traditional welcome ceremonies with purna kumbham at Prakasam Bhavan. The new Collector took charge amid blessings from Hindu, Muslim, and Christian religious leaders. Speaking on the occasion, Raja Babu emphasized following Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu's directions and focusing on governance through coor-



P Raja Babu taking charge as the Prakasam district collector at Collectorate in Ongole on Saturday

dination with public representatives. He assured that no problem would remain unresolved and promised to prioritise public issues while remaining accessible to citizens. The collector highlighted his commitment to the prestigious Velugonda project and other infrastructure development initiatives in the district. District-level officials and employees later met the Collector, presenting bouquets and extending congratulations on his appointment.

MINISTER PARTHASARATHY DISTRIBUTES CMRF CHEQUES

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
NUZVID

MINISTER for Housing and Information & Public Relations (I&PR) Kolusu Parthasarathy said that the state government is committed to providing quality healthcare to the poor by extending both medical services and financial assistance. He noted that nearly 5 crore people are availing the services from the NTR Vaidya Seva scheme, while the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) continues to support patients during emergencies. On Saturday, the Minister distributed CMRF cheques worth Rs 24.49 lakh to 52 beneficiaries from Chatrai, Musunuru, Nuzvid Rural, Nuzvid Town, and other parts of Eluru district at his camp office in Nuzvid. He personally interacted with the beneficiaries and enquired about their health conditions.



Minister Parthasarathy presenting CMRF cheque to beneficiaries at his camp office in Nuzvid on Saturday

Speaking on the occasion, Sarathy said the NDA coalition government was spending crores of rupees on strengthening medical and health facilities across the state. He explained that patients receiving treatment in private hospitals could submit

their medical bills to avail financial support under the CM Relief Fund. He urged people to make full use of the scheme, stressing that the government was committed to ensuring that no one is deprived of healthcare due to financial constraints.

Heavy rains leave Machilipatnam inundated

- With no proper drainage system in place, rainwater stagnated in many areas, causing severe inconvenience to residents
- Locals express resentment against the Machilipatnam Municipal Corporation

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
MACHILIPATNAM

HEAVY rains battered Krishna district on Saturday, leaving several parts of the port city of Machilipatnam submerged. With no proper drainage system in place, rainwater stagnated in many areas, causing severe inconvenience to residents. The main road from Koneru Centre to Lakshmi



Rain water stagnated on the main road from Koneru Centre to Lakshmi Talkies in Machilipatnam Centre

Talkies Centre, including Godugupeta, Zilla Parishad Centre and surrounding localities, was completely waterlogged after nearly three to four hours of continuous rainfall. Vehicular movement

was badly disrupted, and residents struggled to reach workplaces and attend daily engagements. Locals expressed resentment against the Machilipatnam Municipal Corporation, accusing civic authorities

Call for collective fight against child marriages

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

NTR district collector Dr G Lakshmisha has directed that temple authorities must pay special attention to marriages held in temples and to ensure that every marriage is duly registered. He stressed that collective participation is essential to build a society free from child marriages. On Saturday, a special meeting of religious leaders

against child marriages was organised at the Pingali Venkaiah Meeting Hall on the collectorate premises in Vijayawada, in collaboration with Vasavya Mahila Mandali and Just Right for Children NGOs. As part of the programme, awareness posters with details for display in temples were unveiled by Dr Lakshmisha, along with NGO representatives and temple officials.

Speaking on the occasion, the collector directed that display boards should be set up in every temple to inform devotees about legal marriage age, mandatory age certificates, and relevant laws. Vasavya Mahila Mandali President Dr B Keerthi, Endowments Assistant Commissioner Shanmukha Natarajan, representatives of Just Right for Children, and others took part in the meeting.



Collector G Lakshmisha unveiling awareness posters with details for display in temples model at the collectorate in Vijayawada on Saturday

Medical college 'privatisation'

YSRCP to launch state-wide agitation

HAND NEWS SERVICE  
GUNTUR

YSR Congress Party state coordinator Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy held a Zoom meeting on Saturday with district party presidents, assembly coordinators, and senior leaders to discuss the coalition government's move to privatize 10 government medical colleges built under YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's leadership. The colleges identified for privatisation are in Parvathipuram, Narsipatnam,

Amalapuram, Palakollu, Bapatla, Markapuram, Madanapalle, Penukonda, Adoni, and Pulivendula. He condemned Chandrababu Naidu's attempt to hand over these institutions through PPP agreements, stating that while Naidu publicly claims "no loss," he cannot answer Jagan's direct questions. He directed leaders to take the issue widely into public debate involving retired employees, teachers, intellectuals, students, parents, and social organisations and conduct campaigns.

Ilaiyaraaja to perform live in Vij on Nov 8

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

VIJAYAWADA is set to witness a grand musical night as legendary maestro Ilaiyaraaja will perform live in the city for the first time. The highly anticipated concert will take place on November 8 at the Indira Gandhi Municipal Corporation (IGMC) Stadium, promising an unforgettable evening for music enthusiasts. The official concert poster was unveiled by Ilaiyaraaja himself, along with

Trensetters Events Organiser Sudhakar, in Chennai on Saturday, adding to the excitement surrounding the event. Presented by Trendsetters. live, the historic show will feature the maestro's timeless melodies performed in all their grandeur, offering fans a once-in-a-lifetime chance to experience his magical compositions. According to organisers, tickets are available exclusively on BookMyShow. For further details, contact +91-8801111125, they added.



Ilaiyaraaja unveiling the official concert poster, along with Trendsetters Events Sudhakar in Chennai

ACA appoints Gary Stead as Head Coach for Senior Men's Team

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

THE Andhra Cricket Association (ACA) has appointed internationally renowned coach Gary Stead as the Head Coach of the Senior Men's Team for the upcoming 2025-26 season. The announcement was made by ACA officials here on Saturday. Stead, who recently completed a successful stint with New Zealand Cricket is widely respected for his strategic acumen, player development skills, and proven ability to build high-performance teams across formats. ACA President and Vijayawada MP Kesineni Sivanath alias Chinni hailed Stead's arrival, describing him as "not just a coach, but a culture-builder."



Gary Stead

ACA Secretary and Rajya Sabha Member Sana Satish Babu described the appointment as a new chapter in Andhra cricket. Expressing his excitement, Gary Stead said, "I'm honoured to join the Andhra Cricket Association as Head Coach of the Senior Men's Team for the 2025-26 season."

Gowtham new YSRCP state booth committee general secretary

NARESH NANDAM  
ONGOLE

YSR Congress Party State Booth Committee President Sudhakar Reddy announced that, following the recommendation of the party president YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, he is appointing YV Gowtham of Ongole as the General Secretary of the state booth committee. Following the appointment, Gowtham met with the district YSRCP president, Dr Buchepalli Siva Prasad Reddy, and thanked him for the opportunity. Dr Reddy advised Gowtham to strengthen the party at the ground level and work for the welfare of the cadre. Gowtham extended his gratitude to YSRCP senior leaders, including former MP YV Subbareddy, former minister Kanu-



YSRCP State Booth Committee General Secretary YV Gowtham with Prakasam district YSRCP president Dr Buchepalli Siva Prasad Reddy in Ongole on Saturday

muri Nageswara Rao, ZP Chairperson Buchepalli Venkayamma, parliament constituency coordinator Chevireddy Bhaskar Reddy, district observer Battula Brahmananda Reddy, Ongole assembly coordinator Chunduri Ravi Babu, and others, for their support in his appointment. He announced that he will continue to strengthen the party and strive for the welfare of the party workers, with the support of the local leaders.

PB Siddhartha College celebrates 'Programmer's Day'

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
VIJAYAWADA

THE Department of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence of PB Siddhartha College of Arts & Science, Mogalrajapuram here celebrated Programmer's Day on Saturday through an international-themed event titled 'Festa Dell Codice'. The programme was co-ordinated by HoD Dr Kompalli Udaya Sri and Assistant Professor B Samitha Reddy. A series of contests such as Code Cascade, Algo Quest, and UNO Code were organized to enhance programming



PB Siddhartha College Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Department HOD Dr Udaya Sri, along with fellow faculty members and students, taking part in the 'Festa Dell Codice' programmer's Day event at the college in Vijayawada on Saturday

skills, algorithmic thinking, and logical problem-solving abilities among students. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Udaya Sri emphasised that the department is focused on skill development in coding and algorithm design, ena-

bling students to strengthen both their academic and practical knowledge. College Principal Dr M Ramesh, Director Vemuri Babu Rao, faculty members, and students participated in the event.

Vishnotsav 2K25 celebrated at Sri Vishnu Engg College

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
BHIMAVARAM

THE 8th Graduation Day - Vishnotsav 2K25 of Sri Vishnu Engineering College for Women here was celebrated on Sunday at its Vishnu Convention Centre of South Campus. About 670 engineering graduates of 2021-25 batch, 35 M.Tech students and 55 MBA students of 2023-25 batch were awarded degree certificates during the event. R Ravichandran, Vice-Chairman of Sri Vishnu



Educational Society who was the Chief Guest addressing the students encouraged them to aspire to become successful entrepreneurs rather than focusing solely on job opportunities. The Principal emphasised that students

should be self-motivated to face life's challenges and embrace happiness, particularly as women. He encouraged them to consider startups as a viable path to becoming successful entrepreneurs. About 760 students and about 2500+ parents have participated and made the event a grand success. Principal, Vice-Principal, Controller of Examinations, Deans, HODs, Faculty and students of Shri Vishnu Engineering College for Women were also present.



# Hindi, the golden foundation of self-reliant India

September 14 is Hindi Diwas Day

HINDI Diwas on September 14 marks the historic moment when, in 1949, the Constituent Assembly granted Hindi the prestigious status of the official language. The day is not just a celebration of our cultural heritage but a symbol of Hindi's dynamic power that is propelling India into a global superpower in the digital age. The cornerstone of innovation in education, healthcare, economy, and artificial intelligence (AI), Hindi empowers every Indian, bridging village gatherings to global platforms, and realizing the dream of a self-reliant India.

Hindi's strength lies in its inclusive nature, enabling every Indian to dream and achieve in their own language. In 2025, with over half of India's 90 crore internet users demanding Hindi digital content, it has democratized the digital world. A rural youth, once intimidated by English, now shares innovative farming techniques in Hindi on YouTube, reaching millions. Google's Hindi-supported AI models provide instant answers to a wide-range of queries from farmers.



The National Education Policy 2020 has elevated Hindi, and AI tools are bringing this vision to life. Tech Mahindra's Project Indus, a Hindi-focused Large Language Model, creates simplified learning materials for students. A rural child now understands "photosynthesis" in their mother tongue, sparking a passion for science. Interactive Hindi apps bring Premchand's stories to life through digital storytelling, making education inclusive and inspiring.

In healthcare, Hindi is

driving change. Post-Covid, Hindi has spread vaccination and health awareness to villages, making healthcare accessible.

Hindi is India's cultural heartbeat and a symbol of national unity, weaving the nation's diversity from north to south and east to west into a single thread.

MSMEs, contributing over 30 per cent to India's economy, draw strength from Hindi-speaking regions.

Interestingly, in 2025, Hindi is the heartbeat of AI. Models like Project Indus

and Nanda make Hindi the centre of innovation, providing farmers with information on "fertilizer subsidies" and accurate weather forecasts. Hindi is no longer bound by tradition but soars in progress. It is the language of science, commerce, and every Indian's heart. On Hindi Diwas 2025, let us pledge to take it to every laboratory, market, and heart. Hindi is not just India's voice but a rising sun on the global stage.

Prof R K Jain, Barwani (MP)

# Tribute to the Baharat Ratna who saved Hyd during 1908 Musi floods

Visvesvaraya's birth anniversary (Sept 15) marks 'Engineers Day'

DURING every rainy season, the streets of Hyderabad are flooded, largely due to the encroachment of tanks, nalas, and other water bodied stemming from a lack of a scientifically woven modern drainage system. Indeed, the pearl city fact had once boasted of a great and modern storm water protection and drainage system that was designed by a visionary civil engineer whose birthday on September 15, we celebrate as the Engineers Day. The engineer was none other than the legendary 'Bharat Ratna' Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya (popularly known as MV). He was a visionary because when the population of Hyderabad was about one lakh in 1908, he designed the system to cater to a population of about five lakh. It is a pity that the same drainage system has been in use for a population of about 1.1 crore now. So much for our present protection system!

The life story of this gifted engineer is an inspiration with myriad life lessons to our students.

Born on September 15, 1861, to Telugu speaking parents at a small village near Bangalore, Visvesvaraya was initially reluctant to go to school to eventually emerge as the favourite student of teachers at Mission High School in Bengaluru. While studying for his graduation, Visvesvaraya because the college principal's favourite, who gifted him an English dictionary and a pair of gold cuff links which Visvesvaraya treasured his entire life.

After completing his BA in distinction, Visvesvaraya won a gold medal and a government scholarship, with which he studied LCE in Pune. Having won the coveted James Berkley Gold medal for securing the first rank, thanks to the rules of those days when rankers were given a government job directly, Visvesvaraya joined the PWD of Bombay and posted at Nasik. Having proved his mettle time and again, the Indian government recognized him as a trouble shooter and assigned him many challenging and daunting tasks.

His solution to the problem of water supply to Sukkur, designing of automatic gates to ensure steady water supply to Pune, his imaginative plan to provide drinking water, a sewage system and sanitation to the port of Aden were some of his initial great achievements and that fetched all round approbation. Unable to digest and comprehend his extraordinary feats, the British officers compelled him to seek voluntary retirement.

He spent a remarkable retired life. When the Musi River floods killed about 15,000 people in Hyderabad in 1908, the Nizam sent message sought Visvesvaraya's services and guid-



ance to save the city. He meticulously worked on that and came up with the plan of constructing two dams, forming the two lakes of Osman Sagar and Himayat Sagar, and diverting the course of the Musi River to avoid floods in future, apart from a plan to ensure drinking water supply to the twin cities. He subsequently oversaw the construction of a dam at the Vizag port to protect it from sea erosion. The first serpentine ghat road from Tirupati to the Tirumala hills is another feather in his cap.

As the Chief Engineer of Mysore, Visvesvaraya contributed a lot to the development of his own State. The Krishna Raja Sagar Dam near Mysore, and the adjacent beautiful Brindavan Gardens are his brainchild. The Railways in Mysore rapidly developed during his tenure.

As the Diwan (Prime Minister-1912 to 1918) in the court of the Maharaja of Mysore his achievements ensured him a golden niche in the annals of Mysore history. Bangalore Agricultural University, State Bank of Mysore, HAL, Mysore Soap factory, Mysore Lamps and Mysore Iron and Steel Works were some of the great institutions Visvesvaraya founded during this six-year period.

Visvesvaraya the man was very honest, hardworking, and humble. He led a spartan life, ate frugal vegetarian food, loved to wear clean and simple clothes. Once he advised Mahatma Gandhi to wear good clothes to go to the Round Table Conferences. The Government of India honoured him with a Bharat Ratna. He died peacefully in his sleep in 1962, aged 101. Let us all pay our sincere tributes to the 'Modern Bhagiratha' on his birth anniversary.

M Somasekhar Prasad, Hyderabad-20

## Fee reimbursements and salaries

PROMOTERS of private colleges across Telangana, under the aegis of Federation of Associations of Telangana Higher Education (FATHI), are threatening to close their respective institutions if the government fails to clear fee reimbursements to the tune of Rs 8000 crore. They claim that the management has not been able to pay salaries to its professors and staff for many months. However, the larger picture shows that fee reimbursement is only a small portion of the total revenue these institutions manage to generate. They collect exorbitant fees and donations from most students who are not eligible for fee reimbursements. As a result, the cost of higher education is wiping away the savings of parents. The college owners lobby is powerful enough to have its way as they keep on increasing fees year after year.

P R Ravinder, Hyderabad.



## Role cut out for new V-P

THIS refers to the editorial 'As V-P Radhakrishnan must restore faith in office of RS Chairman'. There is a big responsibility on the shoulders of C P Radhakrishnan, particularly, in the wake of his predecessor, Jagdeep Dhankhar's exit, before he could complete the term. Dhankhar's tenure was marked by frequent confrontations, when the opposition demanded his impeachment. The Speaker's role is quite vital and essential in upholding the parliamentary democracy and the traditions of the House, playing an impartial role in the Rajya Sabha. But, one must mention in the same breath the role to be played out by the Opposition in upholding the decorum of the House, without resorting to wanton dramatics that is aimed at deliberate disruption in the name of freedom of expression. They need to introspect on this.

S Lakshmi, Hyderabad

## Neighbourly interactions essential in gated communities

The brutal murder of a 50-year-old woman in a gated apartment community is shocking, and a wake-up call for all residents. CCTV cameras and round-the-clock security are not enough. Living in an apartment, whether upscale or modest, comes with shared responsibilities. Having lived in apartments for over 35 years—from Banjara Hills to a small middle-class block—I've seen how safety improves when neighbours stay connected, share whereabouts, and look out for one another. Today, many neighbours rarely interact, don't greet each other, and remain unaware of who comes and goes. Keeping doors ajar, exchanging pleasantries, and checking on each other are simple but effective ways to build trust. Landlords and homeowners too must take informal steps, verify backgrounds and introduce new tenants—to ensure a safer and more responsible community living experience.

N Nagarajan, Hyderabad



## Save birds from dying

Bird populations in India are declining due to exposed electrical wires, mobile towers, and poor management. High-voltage lines and tower collisions pose lethal threats. Unlike in countries like Germany with underground wiring, India lacks

safeguards of any sorts. We must act—cover cables, regulate towers, and manage urban planning better. To save birds from near extinction, we must focus on habitat conservation, reducing threats like window collisions and pesticide use, and creating bird-friendly environments. This includes planting native species and providing food and water sources. Addressing climate change and supporting sustainable practices are equally critical and crucial.

Jubel D'Cruz, Mumbai

## Give physiotherapists their fair share of credit

THIS refers to the THI Sept 11 report "Sorry, physiotherapists can't use 'Dr' prefix, orders DGHS". While the order seeks to prevent confusion among patients, it is important not to overlook the immense value physiotherapists bring to healthcare. My elder sister is a physiotherapist, and I have seen her spending several hours studying, training and intensive patient care. Physiotherapists are the ones who restore mobility, dignity, and hope for many who are recovering from injuries, surgeries, or chronic conditions. To strip them of a title without offering an equally respectful alternative risks undervaluing their contribution.

Physiotherapists are not licensed medical practitioners, and they should not replace doctors in diagnosis or primary care, yes, but to deny them a dignified professional identity undermines their immense contribution to healthcare. Their role is not subordinate but complementary; they work alongside doctors, surgeons, and nurses to ensure holistic treatment. It is my hope that rather than reducing this debate to a simple ban on the "Dr" prefix, policymakers will consult professional bodies and arrive at a fair solution. Recognising physiotherapists with a clear, dignified title will protect patients, preserve transparency, and honour those who dedicate their lives to teaching the body how to heal itself.



Sukruti Paturi, Hyderabad

# China's incredulous change of heart

THE long-lasting hostility between India and China and Pakistan is quite well-known. India had fought wars with both the neighbouring nations in the past. While Pakistan has been India's bitterest enemy over the issue of Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) besides sponsoring terrorism, China has developed strained relations with India over Tibet and Arunachal Pradesh. In recent days, Shanghai shared the stage to initiate a new kind of amity between them. This has expectedly caused fear in the US President Donald Trump's camp. How he addresses the development will be known in the next few days.

Geographically, big nations Russia, China and India are the true enemies of

America. Trump considers India as his first and foremost enemy. This has resulted in levying a 50 per cent tax on imports to India, restricting student visa duration to four years and usurping several rights of Indian origin people working in the US. The US President has objected to the citizenship eligibility of children born to non-residents living in the US. Oblivious of the ground realities, Trump has ordered stop to the supply of crude oil from Russia to India, a move that has been objected by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He has also justifiably declined agricultural and dairy products being imported from the US into India. Russia is an old friend, while China has been a foe for decades together.

During Operation Sin-

door, China had shared the movements of Indian army personnel to Pakistan with the help of satellites. China has created several hardships to India and hence it is a challenge or a difficult task to believe China's credibility in terms of its amity. In a rare showing, Beijing condemned the Pahalgam massacre, which is indeed incredible. Russia and China have categorically opposed the business tactics of the US that are being exposed in the name of the dollar value.

Pakistan's power has been made redundant on the SCO stage. Hence, it is hard to believe that India and China, being sworn enemies, have displayed bonhomie on the SCO stage.

B H Indu Sekhar, Hyderabad

## Poor quality food in Adilabad school

THIS has reference to reports about insects-infested food being supplied to students of KGBV academic institute in Adilabad district. The district collector and police officials need to take strict action against the institute's administrators. This is more so as such instances are reported almost at regular intervals. If no action is initiated, students will be subject to more such sufferings.

Guidipati Shanti Priya, Secunderabad-11



## No sign of gas supply through pipes

A year ago, a gas agency sent their staff to install gas pipes and had assured that every house in the twin cities will get gas through these pipes. For the last one year the pipes are remaining as they are on the walls and kitchens and no one bothers to update the occupants supplying gas through these pipes. It is binding on the authorities to provide information and the schedule for supplying gas through pipes.

G Murali Mohan Rao, Secunderabad-11



## Modi's tribute to Bhagwat

THE reason why Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken great pains amidst his busy schedule to pen such a lengthy 'over-the-top' tribute to the RSS sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat on his 75th birthday is not far to seek. He is mending his fences (and currying favour) with the RSS, whose continued support he needs to be at the helm with a certain image. He cannot afford to break ranks with the RSS. By the stroke of his pen, he has successfully stymied the RSS chief from insisting on the retirement age of 75 for all. This will certainly appease and gladden Bhagwat as it comes from the Prime Minister and one who is not given to lavishly praising anyone as it will be seen as sharing the glory with that person. The glowing piece reads like a brief biography of Bhagwat and the subjectivity in it is ill-disguised. Modi has omitted to mention Bhagwat's inherited privileges and his 'divine right' to head the organisation. Modi commended Bhagwat's uncompromising commitment to "the core ideology" and left what exactly the core ideology is to the readers to grasp. He hailed him as a 'firm believer in India's diversity' who celebrates India's 'many different cultures and traditions'. It is good to hear from the Prime Minister that India is a multisource civilization and a composite culture, albeit in a different phraseology. Interestingly, the terms 'secularism' and 'social justice' did not occur even once in the article. One glaring flaw in the article is that 'Hindu revivalism' was equated with 'India's regeneration'. We hope that Mohan Bhawat reciprocates the compliment in kind on Modi's birthday on September 17. Reciprocal altruism is indeed a good idea!

G. David Milton, Maruthancode (TN)









# Innovative medical device offers hope for lymphedema patients

TWO CELEBRITY WOMAN SURGEONS INVENTED THE DEVICE

MV SYAM SUNDAR

Two visionary surgeons, Dr. Sumita Shankar, a plastic and reconstructive surgeon and Dr Kruthi Nanduri, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon have co-invented a groundbreaking medical device that could significantly benefit patients suffering from filarial lymphedema, a condition often referred to as “elephant leg” which is particularly prevalent in the Godavari districts.

Lymphedema is a chronic condition causing swelling from a buildup of lymph fluid in the body's tissues, most commonly in the arms or legs. It occurs when the lymphatic system—responsible for draining this fluid—is damaged or blocked. While it can't be cured, early treatment can help relieve symptoms and improve daily function.

Their invention, the ‘Limb Decongestion Sleeve Using Negative Pressure’, was recently awarded a patent by the Government of India. The design is protected under Designs Act, 2000, for ten years with the possibility of extension up to 15 years. This protection grants exclusive rights to the inventors to further develop and commercialise the device.

The device is a non-invasive, user-friendly, and cost-effective solution designed to address chronic limb swelling by using a



Dr. Kruti Nanduri

gentle negative pressure mechanism. This technology helps to draw out excess fluid, reduce congestion, and restore healthy blood and lymphatic circulation.

“Our goal was to create a device that not only alleviates physical discomfort but also improves the quality of life for patients, particularly in low-resource settings,” said Dr. Sumita Shankar. She explained that the device offers a new approach to treating swelling in limbs,

venous congestion, and even complex wounds.

This isn't the first time these two doctors have teamed up for a cause. Driven by a shared commitment to public service, they previously partnered with a local non-profit in Guntur to perform free cleft lip and palate surgeries for underprivileged children. This congenital deformity can impact a child's speech and lead to social stigma, but through their teamwork, many

children have benefited from these life-changing operations.

“It is deeply rewarding to support underprivileged

surgeon at Government General Hospital in Guntur. She is currently the Managing Director of Invictus Biocare Pvt. Ltd., a Guntur-

**Two trailblazing surgeons, Dr. Sumita Shankar and Dr. Kruthi Nanduri, have co-invented a patented medical device to aid patients suffering from lymphedema. Their innovative “Limb Decongestion Sleeve Using Negative Pressure” offers a non-invasive, affordable solution to chronic limb swelling. The duo, known for their compassionate public service, continue to combine medical expertise with social impact**

patients in accessing high-quality medical care. Empowering those children to overcome their social stigma and lead the best version of their lives is extremely fulfilling,” said Dr Nanduri. She had previously partnered with an American non-profit organisation ‘Reconstruct Together’ for providing free cleft lip and palate surgeries for underprivileged children in remote parts of Karnataka.

Meet the Inventors  
Dr. Kruthi Nanduri is an accomplished Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon with a fellowship in Facial Plastic Surgery from England. With over a decade of surgical experience, she previously served as a civil assistant

based pharmaceutical company she founded to provide affordable, holistic wellness products. Her company's offerings, which include products to enhance post-operative recovery and strengthen immunity, reflect her deep understanding of patient needs beyond the operating room.

Dr. Sumita Shankar is a distinguished Plastic Surgeon and Professor and Head of the Department of Plastic Surgery at Government General Hospital in Guntur. Her extensive academic and surgical expertise not only shapes the next generation of surgeons but also significantly advances reconstructive surgery in India.



Anuradha, Mohan Silaparasetty, R Ravi Kumar, Kk Maheshwari, Srinivas Garimella, Dr Tasneem Shariff at the opening of the workshop on AI for women at FTCCI

## AI for Women: FTCCI hosts power-packed workshop in Hyderabad

The Ladies Wing Committee of FTCCI organised a day-long workshop on Artificial Intelligence for Women, drawing over 200 participants eager to explore how AI can transform careers, businesses, and everyday life.

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI), Red Hills, Hyderabad, witnessed an overwhelming response on Friday as women professionals, entrepreneurs, and aspiring founders gathered for a full-day workshop on Artificial Intelligence (AI). Registrations had to be closed in advance due to high demand, reflecting the growing interest in AI literacy among women.

Welcoming participants, FTCCI President R. Ravi Kumar lightheartedly remarked, “Women are intelligent naturally. Why do you want to learn Artificial Intelligence? And that too from men?” He stressed FTCCI's commitment to gender equality, noting that “AI is no longer optional. The future belongs to Women



R Ravi Kumar president of FTCCI seen delivering the opening remarks at the opening of the workshop on ai for women. Also seen are the 200 plus participants

in AI.” Dr. Tasneem Shariff, Chairperson of the Ladies Wing and Women Empowerment Committee, highlighted the historical role of women in technology—from Ada Lovelace to Grace Hopper—while underlining the need for greater representation in leadership and innovation today.

Keynote speaker Ms. Anuradha A, Executive Partner at IBM, drew inspiration from Garry Kasparov's collaboration with IBM's Deep Blue. She encouraged participants to see AI as an “amplifier, not an enemy,” stressing that success lies in human-AI collaboration. She emphasized

that AI adoption can boost efficiency, quality, and creativity across industries.

The sessions featured hands-on demos, case studies, and insights into GenAI and agentic AI applications led by Mr. Mohan Silaparasetty, Founder of Trendwise Analytics. The discussions reinforced how AI can empower women in career growth, entrepreneurship, leadership, and daily life management.

The day concluded with Mr. KK Maheshwari, Sr Vice President of FTCCI, proposing a vote of thanks. Participants left AI-ready—equipped with toolkits, insights, and networks for the future.

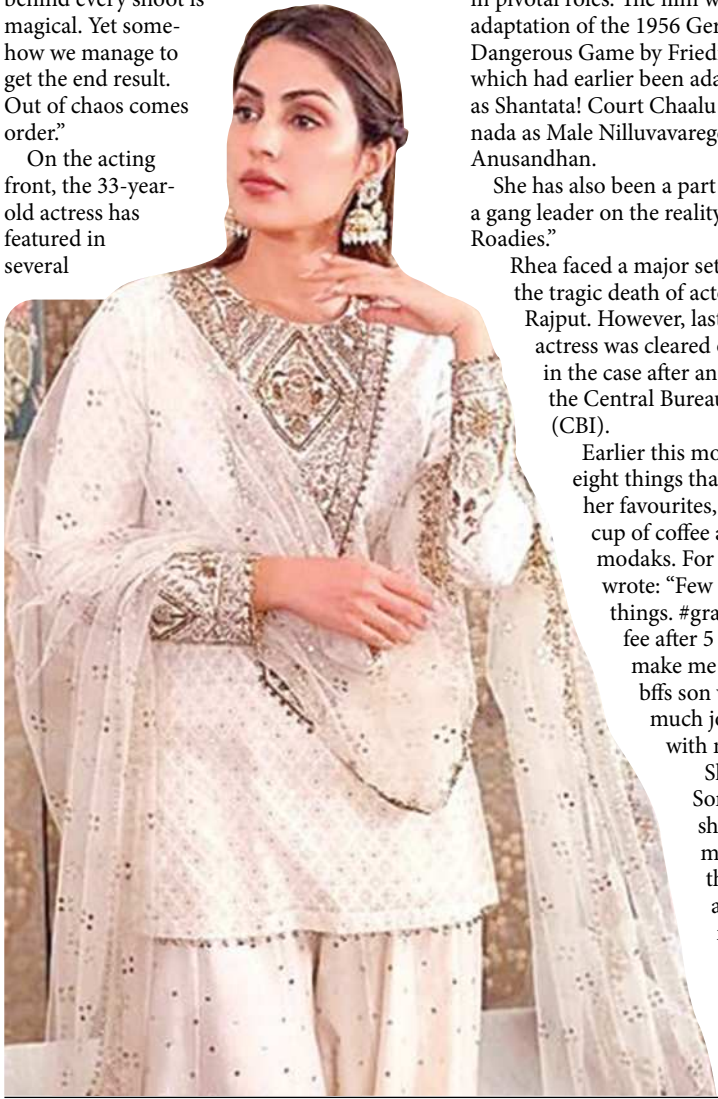
## Rhea Chakraborty finds ‘chaos’ behind shoots ‘magical’

Actress Rhea Chakraborty shared a sneak-peek into the behind-the-scenes world of shooting and tagged the experience as both chaotic and magical.

Taking to Instagram, Rhea shared some BTS moments. In the string of videos and photos, the actress was seen in different outfits and posing for pictures.

She wrote: “The chaos behind every shoot is magical. Yet somehow we manage to get the end result. Out of chaos comes order.”

On the acting front, the 33-year-old actress has featured in several



films such as ‘Sonali Cable,’ ‘Bank Chor,’ ‘Half Girlfriend,’ ‘Dobaara: See Your Evil,’ and ‘Jalebi.’ In 2024, she made a significant impact with her new ventures, including a podcast and her fashion label.

She was last seen on the big screen in “Chehre” (2021), a mystery thriller directed by Romy Jafry. The movie also featured Amitabh Bachchan and Emraan Hashmi in pivotal roles. The film was an uncredited adaptation of the 1956 German novel A Dangerous Game by Friedrich Dürrenmatt, which had earlier been adapted in Marathi as Shantata! Court Chalu Aahe, in Kannada as Male Nilluvavarege and in Bengali as Anusandhan.

She has also been a part of television as a gang leader on the reality show “MTV Roadies.”

Rhea faced a major setback following the tragic death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput. However, last month, the actress was cleared of any involvement in the case after an investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Earlier this month, she listed out eight things that she stated are her favourites, which included a cup of coffee after five years and modaks. For the caption, she wrote: “Few of my favourite things. #grateful 1. Cup of coffee after 5 years. 2. Modaks make me very happy. 3. My bffs son veer brings me so much joy. 4. Love hanging with my homegirls.” She added: “5. Sometimes those abs show (rarity). 6. Tell me a food better than paneer paratha and I’ll change my name. 7. Selfies while working out 8. Dancing backstage before going up is a stress buster.”

## OF STYLE AND LUXURY

The Colosseum's monthly edition of Curated Corridors gave visitors a glimpse of high fashion, superior craftsmanship and superb design

ARUNA CHANDARAJU

Walking through the rooms and corridors of The Colosseum with its very elegant and immaculate interiors, is an experience to cherish in itself besides of course, the thrill of shopping for world-renowned brands from around the world and Indian designer goods. The Colosseum in Hyderabad is India's largest luxury home-interiors destination. This multistoreyed complex is The place to visit in Hyderabad for those looking for world-class luxurious interiors and superior accessories; hence a must-visit for style-conscious HNIs, design enthusiasts, architects, and simply those who like to indulge in and celebrate the good life.

We were at the latest edition of Curated Corridors, a regular event presented by The Colosseum. The highlight was a Wardrobe Styling workshop by Darshana Tulshan where she shared her knowledge of how perfect wardrobe styling was an important element of luxury lifestyles. As she said to us: “I am delighted to share my insights with the visitors and many expressed that they gained interesting insights. The Colosseum allows our guests to see wardrobes not just as functional units, but as curated spaces that reflect who they are”

Another major draw for visitors was the Personal Styling workshop by Divisha Khaitan, founder of Cheese & Chase. “This is a wonderful opportunity and I love to see how my knowledge and tips help to enhance the appearance of people. It was a privilege to lead a workshop in a space of this kind that



celebrates individuality and design at such scale. The Colosseum itself embodies style and storytelling in every corner.”

Akshay Tulshan, Director, The Colosseum said: “I'm delighted to see so many connoisseurs here. The Colosseum is not just a store; it is a canvas for luxury experiences. As for our regular event, Curated Corridors, it has been about constantly pushing boundaries. We want to show that luxury is not confined to furniture and interiors but extends into every facet of life. With our luxury wardrobes, paired with styling workshops and curated pop-ups, we are bringing together all elements that define contemporary living.” These sentiments were echoed by Darshana, Managing Director, The Colosseum.

Also on show were curated pop-ups by Hypekicks (luxury sneakers and accessories by Rishi), Sheetal Zaveri by Vithaldas (bespoke jewellery by Sheetal Zaveri) and Design Era Pop Up (in collaboration with The Designer). The event brought expressive pop art to The

Colosseum with impressive works by over 150 emerging Indian and global artists, including pieces from



their Privé collection.

As for Rishi, Founder, Hypekicks, he told visitors: “At Hypekicks, our focus has always been on exclusive sneakers, belts, bags, and accessories that stand out as luxury statements. Our pop-up allowed guests to explore luxury streetwear alongside timeless interiors—a powerful combination.”

Designer Sheetal Zaveri revealed: “At Sheetal Zaveri by Vithaldas, we believe jewellery isn't merely an accessory—it reflects much more value as it carries heritage,

craftsmanship, and personality. Our sterling silver pieces, with their timeless motifs and contemporary finishes, are handcrafted by Hyderabad craftspeople, so every item tells its own story.”

Riya, the Co-founder, Love From Home told us that her brand is rooted in the heritage of Jaipur, where every piece of jewellery is handcrafted painstakingly and lovingly by craftspeople. She exclaimed: “Presenting our collection at The Colosseum allowed us to connect with women who truly

appreciate artistry as part of their lifestyle. The response was amazing and highly encouraging.”

Indeed, Curated Corridors, the monthly experiential event of The Colosseum, is an event to look forward to. It is more than an event; it offers an immersive experience and makes the store a cultural hub. The Colosseum stands at the intersection of superior design, fashion and craftsmanship. So, if you appreciate luxury and artistry, you know where to head to in Hyderabad.



# Wars begin in the mind, so does peace



RAJYOGI BRAHMA KUMAR NIKUNJ JI

Looking at the situation of the world that we live in today, one factor that can be considered as the biggest cause of our downfall from an exalted stage of a divine being, is violence in all its forms. YES, it is violence that makes hell of heaven. In other words, paradise is lost when violence, in the form of five vices and their offshoots, enters the human mind.

These vices are nothing but violence in its various forms which violates divinity as well as spiritual and natural laws. We must understand the fact that a soul, in its original state, is a being of purity, peace, power and bliss. So, in heaven, all humans are divine because they are totally pure, which means there is absence of violence of all types. This means that no one causes

harm to anyone in heaven and there is no dishonesty, greed, deceit, anger, selfishness or negativity of any other kind.

It is only when the soul comes under the influence of the vices does it start to act wrongly. Now, to see if all this is true, we only need to observe our state of mind when we have behaved badly with someone. This would make us realise that our behaviour was dictated by anger, ego, jealousy, hatred or some other vice. So, in short, all these vices cause pain to the self and make us inflict pain on others.

Such violence is a violation of divinity and it drags

us down from a divine status to that of an ordinary human being. After all, what is the difference between the deities and humans? The former are always full of virtues and totally free of vices whereas humans have vices in



varying degrees and are prone to come under the influence of vices.

So rare has virtue become today that if someone remains steadfast in even one virtue — say honesty — he stands out among his peers and is half-jokingly called a saint or a deity. On the contrary if the vices become predominant, they can turn a human being into a devil. Remember! divinity cannot stay where there is violence, light and darkness, nectar and poison, because divine and devilish traits cannot co-exist.

So, if we really want to bring peace to this world,

we have to first root out the vices from our minds. Without this effort no amount of political, social and economic efforts can ensure lasting peace. It is not a new idea. It was written into the preamble of the constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation that, "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed."

In fact, the battlefield is not outside but within us. The day we win over anger, ego, greed and jealousy inside, that very day the world outside will begin to change. Remember! True peace is not a gift handed down by governments or treaties, it is a conscious choice made by each individual.

When we return to our original qualities of purity, peace and love, we do not just transform ourselves, we become living instruments to transform the world. We only need to act upon it through spiritual effort.

*(Writer is a spiritual educator & popular columnist for publications across India, Nepal & UK. Till Date 8500+ Published Columns have been written by Him)*

# How letting go leads to happiness: Spiritual lessons for modern living



AIR ATMAN IN RAVI

LETTING go is an art in itself, an art we must master if we wish to be truly happy. From letting go of myths and superstitions, to releasing people and negative emotions, to eventually letting go of the ego, life continuously demands that we let go in order to be peaceful and joyful.

One of the main reasons we suffer is because we cling to past hurts and wrongs. We nurse, curse, and rehearse our pain, carrying grudges in our hearts. These grudges are joy-stealers. They weigh us down and give rise to anger, bitterness, and vengeance. To be free, we must forgive, forget, and move on. Similarly, we must let go of regrets. What is done cannot be undone. While we can make amends, holding on to regret only invites sadness into our lives.

Many of us live in the past. We replay memories, good or bad, over and over. But the past is history—it's over. Why sacrifice the joy of the present for what has already passed? Just as we must release the past, we must also let go of fears about the future. Worry robs us of peace and the joy of the moment. The only way to live is to live in the now, moment by moment.

We must also understand that what happens in life is the unfolding of our Karma. When we face circumstances beyond our control, we must accept them with grace. These are not accidents; they are the outcomes of our own past actions. As we sow, so shall we reap. In fact, we should rejoice knowing that our Karmic debt is being settled. The ABC Mantra serves as a powerful guide: Accept, do your Best, and Choose to surrender in Consciousness. We must do our duty without becoming attached to the outcomes of our actions.

Letting go is critical in relationships. Holding on



**Letting go is the key to true happiness. By releasing past hurts, future worries, and worldly attachments, we discover peace. The ultimate freedom comes from realising we are the Soul**

too tightly to people, being possessive in love, and forming strong attachments only leads to pain. Love deeply, but with detached attachment. Being possessive about people or things brings suffering. Reflect for a moment: did we bring anything or anyone with us when we were born? No. We came empty-handed, and we will leave the same way. Nothing belongs to us. Nobody belongs to us. Everything is transient.

In today's world, many are obsessed with money, fame, and success. Our desires never end—we want more and more. But as the Buddha said, desire is the root cause of suffering. Let go of desires, greed, and the pursuit of material things. Live with contentment and fulfillment. Enjoy life's pleasures, but receive them as Prasadam—Divine blessings.

So many of us live with negative emotions—stress, worry, fear, anger, jealousy. We must consciously let go of this negativity and instead choose positive emotions like love, courage, hope, faith, and trust. Negative energy is poison. Positive energy is

power. Choose to be happy. Tell yourself: I will be happy today no matter what comes my way! Practices such as meditation, Asana, Pranayama, contemplation, and silence can help calm the mind and add to our well-being.

The ultimate truth is that this world is an illusion—a cosmic drama, a show. We are actors who come and go. We are not the body, mind, or ego. We are the Soul, a Spark Of Unique Life, a part of the Divine. God is not a person, nor a saint, but a Supreme Immortal Power. Sadly, we remain ignorant of this truth. To live with happiness, we must let go of the myths, illusions, and false beliefs we hold, and instead realise who we are. We must transcend the body, mind, and ego—our lower self—and live as our higher self, the Divine Soul.

This is the ultimate act of letting go: letting go of the false identity of 'I' and realising that I am not 'I'. I am the Soul. This realisation leads to a life of eternal peace, love, and bliss.

*(Writer is a Happiness Ambassador and Spiritual Leader)*

# The arithmetic of life



Sadhguru

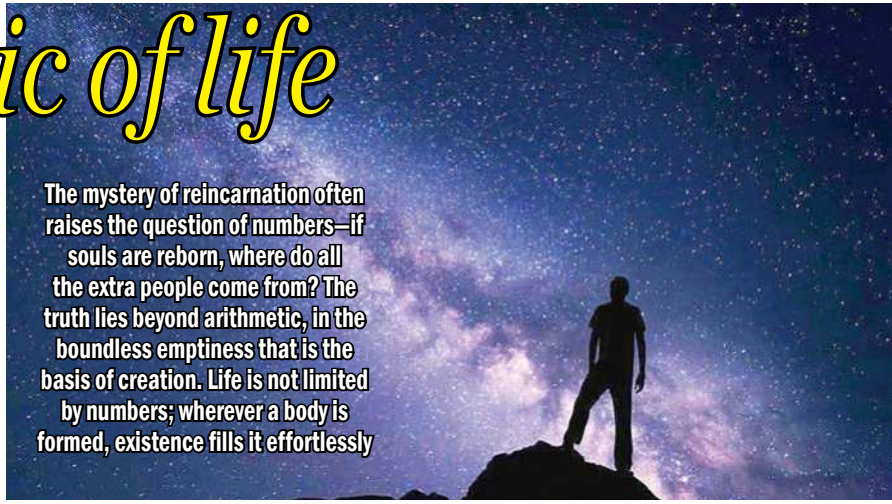
Sadhguru, I have a question about birth, rebirth and karma. If the total energy in the universe is constant, is the number of souls in the universe also a constant thing?

Sadhguru: You are asking about the arithmetic? This is a very ancient question that people have asked a million times over. The calculation is, today there are seven billion people. Let us say one thousand years ago there were only a billion people. If people are reincarnated

and born, where did they come? "Did all the monkeys become...?" Maybe! There aren't as many monkeys in the world as there used to be a thousand years ago. Does that not explain it to you?

The Boundless Emptiness But that is not how it is. The basis of creation is a boundless space of emptiness. Because there is so much emptiness, creation can happen in any scale. If there was no emptiness, there would be no possibility of creation. Without nothingness to accommodate something, where would something sit? Nothingness is the basis of all this "something."

There is no arithmetic for nothingness. Arithmetic is only for numbers – one, two, three, four belong to arithmetic. Zero does not, nor does the infinite belong to arithmetic. Suppose we formed a thousand bubbles that were floating around. If we wanted to form ten



**The mystery of reincarnation often raises the question of numbers—if souls are reborn, where do all the extra people come from? The truth lies beyond arithmetic, in the boundless emptiness that is the basis of creation. Life is not limited by numbers; wherever a body is formed, existence fills it effortlessly**

thousand bubbles, would we run out of air? It is still there, because it is not material – it is non-material. If it was material, you could count it and then wonder how these seven billion happened. "Okay, only two billion monkeys died, but there are one billion extras. Did the insects become this?" Even if you look at it that way, it still works because of the huge number of other creatures in the planet we have killed. Maybe all of them have crept themselves up into human form. "Okay, but where does

the karma come for these people. They are just empty bubbles." You can gather in a day the karma you need for ten lifetimes. In terms of the material world, can you not do something today that will buy you ten years of trouble? You are capable of that.

So, even if we reproduce and make these seven billion into twenty billion a hundred years from now, there will be no dearth for that substance which is the basis of life. There will never be a shortage. You create bodies, it will fill itself up. If you create a bubble, air

fills up. Similarly, if you create a body, it fills up. Wherever there is a suitable body, a crucible for life to go, it will go. There will be no such problem that, if there are too many pregnancies this year, there will not be enough life to get into all these new bodies!

*(Sadhguru is a Yogi, mystic, and Padma Vibhushan awardee, also known for his New York Times bestselling books. He founded Conscious Planet—Save Soil, the world's largest people's movement, impacting over 4 billion people)*

BEJAN DARUWALLA'S

HOROSCOPE

Aries

Ganesha says the situation is going to be excellent this week. These days are very suitable for strengthening your self-esteem and mental state. You will get an opportunity to recognise the energy within you and channel it in a positive direction. There will be clarity in your thoughts, which will also enable you to communicate better in relationships. There will be harmony in your personal relationships, and spending time with your loved ones will make you happy.

Taurus

Ganesha says this week can be full of some challenges. During this time, your emotions and mood may remain somewhat unstable, which can affect your personal relationships. You may feel the need to communicate more with your loved ones, but you need to avoid any kind of disagreement or confrontation. Try to remain emotionally strong. Practice introspection and self-sensitivity at this time, so that you can understand your feelings and express them in the right way.

Gemini

Ganesha says this week, Gemini people may have to face some challenges. Overall, this time is not favorable, and due to this, there may be confusion and turmoil in your mind. People around you may be unable to understand your feelings, which may make you feel a little lonely. However, you must use your communication skills. Try to express your thoughts clearly, as this may be your opportunity to improve the circumstances.

Cancer

Ganesha says this week is going to be full of perfection and positivity for Cancer people. At this time, your inner energy and sensitivity will be at their peak. You will feel emotionally strong, which will bring sweetness to your relationships. Time spent with family and friends will be even more enjoyable. Your little things and behavior will be successful in touching the hearts of others. Your empathy and understanding will deepen your relationship, which will strengthen mutual trust.

Leo

Ganesha says this week, the overall situation will be great for Leos. This week will infuse positivity and confidence in you. You will experience happiness and enthusiasm around you, which will also improve your relationships. Your confidence will have a positive impact on your conversations with your loved ones, which will deepen mutual understanding and bonding. A new shine will also be seen in your social life. This is the right time to spend time with friends and family, which will strengthen your emotional state.

Virgo

Ganesha says this week will be full of many experiences. During this time, your energy and enthusiasm will be normal, but some challenges may also come. Overall, the crises you face will force you to think more and plan. This is the time when you need to focus on your relationships. There may be tension in some relationships, so maintain clarity in conversation. If you are finding it difficult to express your feelings, listen to your conscience. Even small things can lead you to big problems. Your social life can also be a little disturbed.

Libra

Ganesha says this week, the experience of totality will be unique for Libra people. Your natural charm will make this time especially pleasant. You will be able to build great relationships with the people around you. This is the time when you will give a new dimension to the relationships important to you. Your presence in society will have a positive impact, which will attract people directly to you. If you have experienced some troubles in a relationship, then this is the time to find a solution.

Scorpio

Ganesha says this week, the general situation may remain a little challenging for Scorpios. You may feel some uncertainty and conflict in the currents of life. Ups and downs are possible in personal relationships, which may make you feel stressed. This is the time when communication with loved ones will have to become more important. Despite your efforts, some communication problems may arise, so it is important to maintain patience.

Sagittarius

Ganesha says this week, the overall experience for Sagittarius natives will be very wonderful. You will experience a lot of inner energy and confidence, which will make your mood even better. This is the time when you can establish harmony with the people around you. Your generosity and open-mindedness will strengthen your relationships. Friends and family will enjoy activities with you that will fill you with happiness.

Capricorn

Ganesha says this week, circumstances seem to be somewhat unfavorable for Capricorn natives. Some challenges may come in your life, for which you will need to keep yourself stable. This is the time for self-control and restraint, as you may have to face many pressures. There may be some turmoil in your relationships this week. There may be minor differences and misunderstandings, but you can resolve them with patience and communication.

Aquarius

Ganesha says this week will bring mixed experiences for Aquarius natives. During this time, you will see some conflicts and confusion in your life, which may cause you mental stress. It will be very important to maintain harmony at this time. According to the context, some problems may also arise in love relationships. Keep the conversation with your partner open and honest so that misunderstandings can be cleared. This week, your creativity and self-expression will be somewhat limited, but it can also allow you to organise your thoughts and think deeply.

Pisces

Ganesha says this week will be very positive. There will be a flow of new energy and inspiration in your life, which will help you understand the world around you better. This is the time for you to go deep within yourself and unleash your creativity. Your intuition can open new paths for you. You will also feel depth and stability in your relationships. This week symbolises harmony and understanding, which will make your relationship even stronger. Qualities like spontaneous communication, openness, and honesty will support you.

CHIRAG

DARUWALLA





# This week OTT releases From blockbusters to quirky comedies

The second Friday of September brings a fresh line-up of films and web series across major OTT platforms, promising viewers a weekend packed with entertainment. The genres range from romance and survival drama to horror, comedy, and true-crime documentaries. From Ahaan Panday and Aneet Padda's musical blockbuster Saiyaara to Tamannaah Bhatia and Diana Penty's quirky comedy Do You Wanna Partner, here's a detailed look at what's streaming today.

## Netflix

### Saiyaara- Sept 12

The highlight of this week's OTT slate is undoubtedly Saiyaara, directed by Mohit Suri. The Hindi musical romantic drama has already achieved blockbuster status in theaters and now arrives on Netflix to reach a wider audience. Starring debutants Ahaan Panday as Krish and Aneet Padda as Vaani, the film tells the soulful story of a struggling musician and a gifted lyricist who find love and purpose in each other's company. With its sweeping soundtrack and heartfelt performances, Saiyaara is positioned to be the streaming favorite of the week.

### Beauty and the Bester- Sept 12

True-crime enthusiasts can look forward to Beauty and the Bester, a three-part documentary that dives into one of South Africa's most scandalous stories. The series explores the controversial relationship between celebrity doctor Nandipha



Magudumana and convicted criminal Thabo Bester, focusing on Bester's shocking prison escape. With its mix of crime, scandal, and media frenzy, the series promises to be as gripping as it is disturbing.

### The Wrong Paris- Sept 12

Adding a dose of rom-com fun, The Wrong Paris follows Miranda Cosgrove as Dawn, an aspiring artist who mistakenly signs up for a dating reality show thinking it's set in Paris, France—only to end up in Paris, Texas. What begins as a disappointment soon changes when she crosses paths with Trey McAllen, played by Pierson Fodé, the show's charming bachelor. The film explores themes of mistaken expectations, serendipity, and love found in unexpected places, making it a breezy weekend watch.

in Kish-kindhapuri, already has another film out. Her latest release, Parada, directed by Praveen Kandregula, didn't perform as expected at the box office but has now made its way to OTT within just three weeks of release. The streaming rights were acquired by Amazon Prime Video, and the film is now available in Telugu and Malayalam, giving audiences another chance to catch it online.

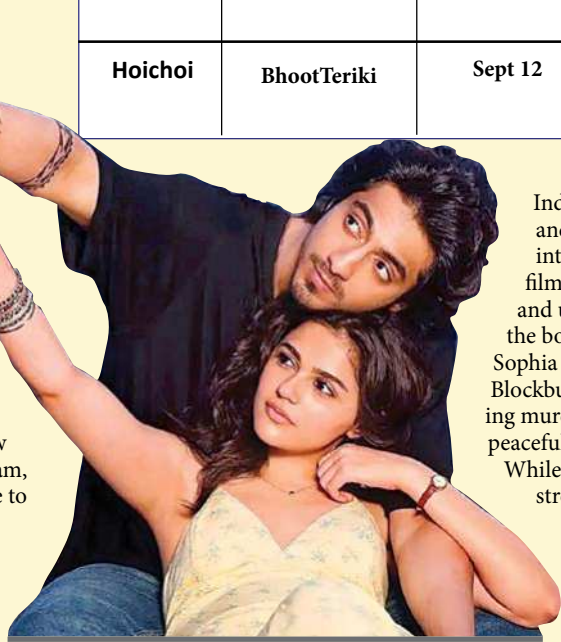
### Do You Wanna Partner- Sept 12

In the comedy-drama space, Tamannaah Bhatia and Diana Penty headline Do You Wanna Partner, produced by Karan Johar. The series follows two friends who take on the male-dominated craft beer industry by launching their own brand. Packed with humor, ambition, and the challenges of entrepreneurship, the show delivers both entertainment and a strong message about women breaking barriers. For fans of lighthearted dramas with a modern twist, this one is a must-watch.

### Sun NXT Meesha- Sept 12

Malayalam cinema continues to push boundaries with Meesha, a survival drama that throws three estranged friends together during a reunion in the wilderness. The story not only tests their physical endurance but also brings unresolved conflicts of friendship, betrayal,

| OTT RELEASES   |                       |              |   |
|----------------|-----------------------|--------------|---|
| Platform       | Title                 | Release Date | Details   |
| Netflix        | Saiyaara              | Sept 12      | Blockbuster starring Ahaan Panday & Aneet Padda, directed by Mohit Suri.  |
|                | Beauty and the Bester | Sept 12      | Explores scandalous story of Dr. Nandipha Magudumana & Thabo Bester.  |
|                | The Wrong Paris       | Sept 12      | Miranda Cosgrove lands in Paris, Texas instead of Paris, France, leading to unexpected romance.                   |
| JioHotstar     | Rambo in Love         | Sept 12      | Romantic drama about a bankrupt entrepreneur seeking help from his ex. Stars Abhinav Manikanta & Payal Chengappa. |
| Prime Video    | Parada                | Sept 12      | Anupama Parameswaran starrer, directed by Praveen Kandregula; now streaming in Telugu & Malayalam.                |
|                | Do You Wanna Partner  | Sept 12      | Tamannaah Bhatia & Diana Penty star in a story about women entrepreneurs in the craft beer industry.              |
| Sun NXT        | Meesha                | Sept 12      | Malayalam film about estranged friends confronting past issues during a forest reunion.                           |
| Lionsgate Play | Detective Ujjwalan    | Sept 12      | Dhyan Sreenivasan starrer about a murder disrupting a peaceful town. Dubbed in 4 languages.                       |
|                | The Ritual            | Sept 12      | Al Pacino & Dan Stevens star in exorcism drama based on 1928 Emma Schmidt possession.                             |
| Hoichoi        | BhootTeriki           | Sept 12      | Bengali web series about a film crew encountering three ghosts in a Kolkata palace.                               |



Indraneel Gopeekrishnan and Rahul G. Despite its intriguing premise, the film received mixed reviews and underperformed at the box office. Produced by Sophia Paul under Weekend Blockbusters, it follows a shocking murder that disrupts the peaceful town of Plaachikkaavu. While the Malayalam version streamed on Netflix in July, the dubbed Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, and Kannada versions are now available on Lionsgate Play.

### The Ritual- Sept 12

One of the most anticipated horror films of the year, The Ritual takes audiences back to 1928 Iowa. Starring Hollywood veteran Al Pacino as Father Theophilus Riesinger and Dan Stevens as Father Joseph Steiger, the film narrates the chilling true story of Emma Schmidt's possession. Played by Abigail Cowen, Emma becomes the subject of intense exorcisms that test the faith and courage of the priests involved. Combining historical accuracy with gripping supernatural storytelling, this film is set to be a spine-tingling experience for horror enthusiasts.

### Lionsgate Play Detective Ujjwalan- Sept 12

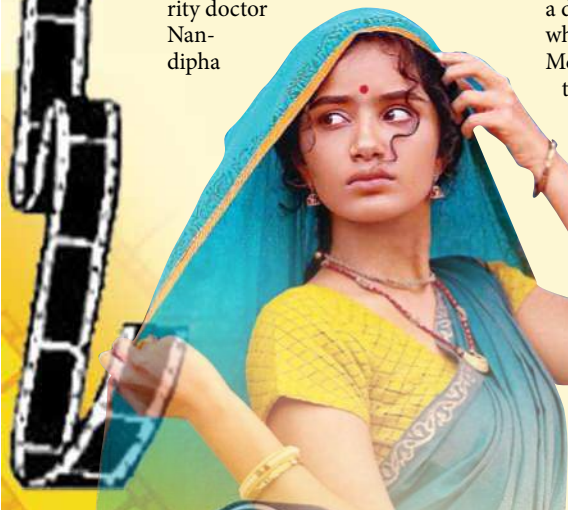
Malayalam mystery thriller Detective Ujjwalan, starring Dhyan Sreenivasan, Siju Wilson, and Rony David Raj, was directed by

laugh with BhootTeriki. Directed by Kaushik Hafizee with creative inputs from Anirban Bhattacharya, this horror-comedy centers on a film crew attempting to document the paranormal history of a Kolkata palace. Instead, they stumble into chaos with three resident ghosts, blending eerie moments with rib-tickling comedy. Hoichoi, known for its innovative regional content, once again delivers an offbeat story that appeals beyond the Bengali-speaking audience. This week's OTT line-up caters to every mood—whether it's the spine-chilling terror of The Ritual, the youthful romance of Saiyaara, the entrepreneurial zest of Do You Wanna Partner, or the quirky comedy of The Wrong Paris. Regional gems like Meesha and BhootTeriki further enrich the variety on offer. With such a wide spectrum of stories and genres, audiences across languages are guaranteed an entertaining weekend.



### Hoichoi BhootTeriki- Sept 12

Bengali audiences are in for a spooky



### Prime Video Parada- Sept 12

Young and talented actress Anupama Parameswaran, who recently appeared alongside Bellamkonda Sai Srinivas



## ‘Kammattam’ review: Fails to hit the mark

SUHAS SISTU

Zee5's first Malayalam original series, Kammattam, made noise even before release when director Shan Thulasidharan revealed it was shot in just 11 days. While this might sound like an impressive feat, unfortunately, the hurried production shows in almost every frame. The end product feels rushed, underdeveloped, and far from the gripping crime thriller it

aspires to be.

The show opens with Samuel Umman (Jeo Baby) riding his scooter before meeting with an accident. Inspector Antonio George (Sudev Nair) immediately concludes that this isn't just a mishap but something far more sinister. What follows is a fast-paced investigation into a cooperative bank-linked fraud. The problem, however, is that the pace works against the narrative. Plot points move too quickly,

characters are skimmed over, and viewers are given little time to absorb the gravity of the case.

Unlike well-crafted Malayalam crime dramas such as Kerala Crime Files, Kammattam avoids deeper character exploration. The police officers are portrayed merely as men in uniform with no personal arcs, making it hard for viewers to connect or care about their journey. The so-called "inspired by true events"

angle promises weight but ends up feeling like a lost opportunity. The potential of a cooperative bank fraud leading to multiple murders is never fully tapped, leaving the story fragmented and unsatisfying.

On the technical side, cinematographer Prakash Velayudhan and editor Ratheesh Mohanan maintain a brisk pace, but it feels like style over substance. The background score by 4 Musics occasionally elevates

the mood but often comes across as overwhelming. Performances by Sudev Nair and Jeo Baby are solid, yet the supporting cast fails to make an impression, weakening the overall impact.

Ultimately, Kammattam feels like a series more concerned with finishing quickly than telling a compelling story. Its rushed execution, lack of emotional depth, and uneven storytelling prevent it from standing out in a genre where Ma-

layalam cinema has already raised the bar.

Despite its promise, Kammattam is a half-baked thriller that leaves you questioning whether speed in production is worth sacrificing narrative quality. It's watchable only if you're curious, but it doesn't live up to the expectations set by Malayalam crime thrillers.

Rating: 1.5/5







BIZ BRIEFS

ITC Candyman's new campaign

ITC Candyman, a confectionery brand known, has unveiled a new initiative 'Once Upon a Time by Candyman.' Anuj Bansal, VP, ITC Limited, said: "With 'Once Upon a Time by Candyman,' our goal is to spark children's imagination and make reading storybooks an exciting, interactive experience. Kids often see others playing the hero's role, but this time the spotlight is on them and the story is all about their little adventures."

Esri, Dhruva Space in pact

Esri India, a leading provider of Geographic Information System (GIS) software and solutions in India, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hyderabad-based Dhruva Space, a full-stack space tech company, to enhance the availability and accessibility of satellite imagery in India through advanced GIS integration. Through this strategic partnership, Dhruva Space will leverage Esri India's advanced ArcGIS technology to enhance its Astra-View commercial satellite imagery service that aggregates data from a constellation network of more than 200 satellites, spanning optical, SAR, RF, and hyperspectral sensors.

No products from Relaxo

Relaxo Footwears Limited, a footwear manufacturer, has unveiled its stylish and innovative footwear range curated specially for the upcoming festive season. The extensive collection across its brands - Sparx, Flite, and Bahamas - is designed to cater to the everyday and occasion-wear needs of the entire family, blending comfort with fashion-forward appeal. The festive collection was introduced at Relaxo's Retailer Meet in Hyderabad recently, which brought together over 245 key trade partners from across the region.

Amazon Pay renews pact

AMAZON Pay and ICICI Bank announced the renewal of their long-term partnership for the Amazon Pay ICICI Bank Credit Card. Mayank Jain, Director, Amazon Pay India, said: "With these benefits, we're elevating India's most trusted co-branded credit card to new heights. Our over 5 million valuable customers have consistently enjoyed unlimited cashback, zero joining and annual fees, and seamless redemption. We remain dedicated to innovating on behalf of our customers and strengthening rewards."

Festive offers from Scoot

SCOOT, the low-cost subsidiary of Singapore Airlines, announced the launch of 'Scoot's Everywhere Sale' which will continue till September 14. It is offering attractive fares across its extensive network. Customers can book one-way economy class fares from India to Singapore starting at just Rs 5,900, with onward connections to popular destinations across the Asia-Pacific and beyond. Promotional fares are available for booking for travel between September 23, 2025, and August 31, 2026, covering exciting destinations such as Bangkok, Macau SAR, etc.

India, US must work toward a long-awaited trade agreement

GST 2.0 will boost domestic demand, capacity expansion and pvt investment

DR NARENDRA MAIRPADY

IN recent days, amidst the imposition of an additional 25 per cent tariff by the United States - on top of the earlier 25 per cent penalty imposed on India for purchasing Russian oil and defence equipment - Washington has argued that India is indirectly helping Russia fund the war in Ukraine.

India has strongly defended its position, calling the US action unfair, unreasonable, and unjustified, noting that oil purchases from Russia are in its national interest. New Delhi has also pointed out that singling out India is discriminatory, as China and several European countries continue to buy Russian oil. As a result, proposed trade negotiations and agreements with the United States have stalled.

This has put Indian exporters to the US in a difficult position, prompting calls for special government financial packages and incentives to help them maintain export levels. The government has been actively discussing alternatives with trade and export organizations, both to ease the immediate burden and to diversify exports by leveraging recent free trade agreements with the UK and other countries.

Although India has faced similar challenges before, the current situation is especially tricky, as it cannot afford to harm its long-standing strategic partnership with the US. For India, the US relationship remains of utmost importance - both strategically and economically. At



For India, relations with the US remain utmost importance - both strategically and economically. At the same time, in today's changing circumstances- where countries are increasingly prioritizing national interests over global cooperation, particularly under US President Donald Trump's "America First" policy, India must also strengthen ties with other partners.

the same time, in today's changing circumstances- where countries are increasingly prioritizing national interests over global cooperation, particularly under US President Donald Trump's "America First" policy- India must also strengthen ties with other partners. Many analysts believe that these tariffs are a temporary irritant and that both sides will eventually reach a mutually acceptable trade agreement.

In this context, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to China for the SCO Summit 2025 - his first in seven years- was significant. The meeting came despite ongoing border tensions between India and China, such as the Galwan clashes, which resulted in casualties on both sides. Modi's talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping marked a step toward easing tensions, with both leaders expressing a desire for partnership rather than rivalry. At the same summit, Modi also strengthened ties with

Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The SCO Summit, attended by more than 25 heads of state, attracted global attention, especially due to the trilateral presence of Modi, Putin, and Xi. Shortly after, US President Trump remarked: "Looks like we've lost India and Russia to deepest, darkest China. May they have a long and prosperous future together." In response, India reiterated that its relationship with the US is anchored in mutual respect, shared interests, and robust people-to-people ties.

MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal emphasized that the India-US partnership has weathered many transitions and challenges, adding that India's ties with any country must be seen on their own merit, not through the prism of a third party. However, US trade advisor Peter Navarro continued to criticize India, accusing it of being an "oil money laundromat for the Kremlin" and en-

gaging in "strategic freeloading." These comments have been firmly rejected by India as inaccurate and misleading.

Despite these tensions, India has responded with restraint, recognizing the importance of maintaining strong ties with Washington. Over the past two decades, India and the US have built a substantial strategic partnership in defence, security, trade, and technology. Modi himself, responding to Trump's "always be friends" remark, affirmed that India fully reciprocates those sentiments and remains committed to a positive and forward-looking partnership.

That said, Trump has repeatedly expressed dissatisfaction with India's oil imports from Russia, calling the trade relationship "a one-sided disaster." He argued that US businesses face high Indian tariffs while India benefits from significant access to US markets. Though he acknowledged recent Indian offers to cut

tariffs, he said they were "too late." Meanwhile, India has strengthened ties with Russia, with President Putin and Prime Minister Modi reaffirming their close relationship. Economically, India is better positioned to handle these challenges. Recent Q1 2026 GDP growth figures and an upgrade by S&P signal resilience. The government has also advanced reforms such as GST 2.0, reducing the previous four tax slabs to two (5 per cent and 18 per cent). This is expected to boost domestic demand, capacity expansion, and private sector investment, benefiting both farmers and MSMEs. While GST 2.0 is not a direct response to US tariffs, it will nonetheless support domestic manufacturing and consumption. Still, resuming trade talks with the US remains urgent. Both sides must work toward a long-awaited trade agreement that achieves an amicable settlement. Positive results, it is hoped, will come soon.

Key takeaways from Sebi's move to ease IPO norms

THE Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has approved several regulatory changes simplifying IPO norms and foreign portfolio investing rules, as well as making entry norms for advisory certifications easier.

The key takeaways from the Sebi's move are that large companies above Rs 50,000 crore market cap will now have more flexible listing norms, permitting them to have smaller float sizes- Rs 1,000 crore plus at least eight per cent of the post-issue market capitalisation.

Further, they have extended timelines of up to 10 years to fulfil the 25 per cent minimum public shareholding requirement. Similarly, companies of different market capitalisations received relaxations of varying proportions.

Anchor investor allocations in IPOs have increased to 40 per cent, now including



insurance and pension funds alongside mutual funds in the reserved quota. Sebi has reduced thresholds for related-party transactions, thereby lowering compliance burdens for large companies.

Further, a new accredited investor (AI)-only category in alternative investment funds has been approved. The minimum ticket size for Large Value Funds has been lowered to Rs 25 crore from Rs 70 crore. Sovereign wealth funds and pension funds will gain from the new SWAGAT-FI framework, which provides 10-year registrations, a single demat account, and exemptions from the FVCI rule requiring 66 per cent of corpus in unlisted equity.

FIMI for zero export duty on low-grade iron ore

MINERS' body FIMI has requested the government not to impose any export duty on low-grade iron ore, asserting that any such move would lead to resource wastage, severely impact mining operations, reduce employment, and cause environmental damage due to stockpiling of unusable fines at mine sites. In a recent letter to Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) said, "To have effective utilisation and monetisation of low-grade iron ore and enhanced availability of iron ore for the domestic steel industry, we humbly submit that no export duty be imposed on exports of low-grade iron ore."

FIMI stated that the do-

mestic steel industry currently consumes only high-grade iron ore (+62 per cent Fe), and there is virtually no demand for low-grade fines within India. The accumulated low-grade material, particularly fines generated during mining, remains stranded at mine heads or in old dumps. Limited quantities are consumed for pellet manufacturing, but the majority remains utilised. This situation not only poses environmental challenges but also restricts scientific and sustainable mining, as fines cannot be removed from mining lease areas unless exported. Exporting these fines is a win-win, as it supports scientific mining, avoids mine closures, preserves employment, and brings in foreign exchange.

Great AI Divide: Can technology bridge development gaps?

Regional cooperation frameworks like the African Union's Continental AI Strategy offers models for coordinated development

KRISHNA KUMAR & RAKSHITHA REDDY

ARTIFICIAL intelligence promises to revolutionize economies worldwide, but whether developing nations will benefit or fall further behind depends on choices being made today.

The African Union's historic Continental AI Strategy, adopted in July 2024, represents both unprecedented ambition and stark reality - while AI could add \$1.5 trillion to Africa's GDP by 2030, the continent currently captures just one per cent of global AI compute capacity despite housing 15 per cent of the world's population.

This paradox defines the central challenge facing underdeveloped countries, particularly across Africa and South America, as they navigate the AI revolution. With global AI investment reaching \$100-130 billion annually while African AI startups have raised only \$803 million over five years, the question isn't whether AI matters for development - it's whether these regions can harness its transformative potential before the window closes.

The stakes couldn't be higher. The same mobile revolution that enabled Kenya's M-Pesa to serve millions without traditional banking infrastructure now offers a template for AI leapfrogging. But unlike mobile phones, AI requires massive computational resources, reliable electricity, and specialized skills that remain scarce across much of the Global South.

**Africa awakens to AI's strategic importance**  
The momentum building across Africa challenges assumptions about AI relevance

in developing contexts. Sixteen African countries now have national AI strategies or policies in development, with Kenya launching its comprehensive 2025-2030 strategy in March and Zambia following suit in November 2024. This represents a 33 per cent increase in strategic planning over just two years, signaling that African leaders view AI not as a luxury but as essential infrastructure.

The African Union's Continental AI Strategy stands as the world's most comprehensive development-focused AI framework, projecting that optimal AI adoption could contribute six per cent of the continent's GDP by 2030. Unlike Western approaches emphasizing innovation for innovation's sake, Africa's strategy explicitly prioritizes agriculture, healthcare, education, and climate adaptation - sectors critical to the continent's 1.3 billion people.

"We're not trying to copy Silicon Valley," explains one senior AU official involved in the strategy's development. "We're building AI that serves African priorities." This Africa-centric approach emerges from harsh lessons learned during previous technology waves, when developing countries often became consumers rather than creators of digital solutions.

South America charts cooperative course

Latin America has taken a markedly different but equally strategic approach, leveraging existing regional integration mechanisms to coordinate AI development. The Santiago Declaration, signed by over 20 countries in October 2023, established the Regional Council on Artificial Intelligence, with Chile



The path to equitable AI lies not in accepting technological divides as inevitable, but in recognizing that developing nations hold the key to AI's most transformative applications and building the infrastructure to unlock that potential

emerging as the continental leader.

Chile ranks first in the 2024 Latin American Artificial Intelligence Index (ILIA), followed by Brazil and Uruguay as pioneer countries. This leadership reflects substantial investments - Chile committed \$26 billion in public investment for its 2021-2030 National AI Policy, while Brazil's 2024-2028 AI Plan allocates \$4.1 billion across 74 strategic actions.

Brazil's approach particularly demonstrates how developing countries can mobilize resources for AI transformation. The planned Santos Dumont supercomputer aims to become one of the world's five most powerful, while six Applied Centers for AI focus on agriculture, healthcare, and Industry 4.0 applications. This represents a fundamental shift from viewing AI as im-

ported technology to building indigenous capabilities.

Agriculture proves AI's development relevance

Critics questioning AI's relevance to underdeveloped economies need look no further than Hello Tractor's transformative impact across African agriculture. This Nigerian-founded 'Uber for tractors' platform uses AI for demand forecasting and fleet optimization, serving over 2 million smallholder farmers across over 20 countries. The results are striking: farmers increase incomes by 227 per cent, plant 40 times faster, and achieve three-fold yield improvements through precision timing.

Apollo Agriculture in Kenya and Zambia demonstrates how AI can address financial inclusion challenges that have plagued agricultural development for decades. Using machine learning for credit scoring and satellite data for precision recommendations, the company serves over 350,000 previously unbanked farmers with non-performing loan rates below 2 per cent - outperforming traditional banks while serving supposedly high-risk populations.

These aren't pilot projects

or development experiments. They're profitable businesses solving real problems with measurable impact.

Investment patterns reveal global disparities

The funding landscape starkly illustrates development challenges facing AI adoption. Global AI investment reached \$100-130 billion annually, while African AI startups raised \$803 million over five years total. Latin American venture capital investment fell to \$3.6 billion in 2024, the lowest in five years, with early-stage funding dominating 80 per cent of deals.

This investment concentration perpetuates technological dependence. The United States and China hold 60 per cent of all AI patents and produce one-third of global AI publications. 100 companies, mainly from these two countries, account for 40 per cent of global AI R&D spending, while 118 countries - mostly from the Global South remain absent from major AI governance discussions.

Risks of digital colonialism loom large

However, current trends suggest widening rather than narrowing divides. Tech giants Apple, Nvidia, and Mi-

crosoft have achieved \$3 trillion market values that rival entire African continent's GDP. This concentration of AI capabilities in a handful of corporations based in wealthy countries creates dependency relationships reminiscent of colonial-era resource extraction.

Digital colonialism emerges when developing countries become consumers rather than producers of AI systems. Most AI training occurs on Western datasets, creating cultural and linguistic biases that poorly serve non-Western populations. Search results in diverse countries like Brazil show predominantly white faces when searching for babies, reflecting training data biases.

Toward inclusive AI futures

The path forward requires acknowledging both AI's transformative potential and persistent barriers to equitable adoption. Infrastructure limitations, skills gaps, and funding disparities create formidable challenges, but successful implementations across agriculture and healthcare demonstrate achievable progress.

Regional cooperation frameworks like the African Union's Continental AI Strategy and Latin America's Santiago Declaration offer models for coordinated development that can compete with concentrated wealth and expertise of traditional tech centers. These approaches emphasize development priorities rather than pure technological advancement, potentially creating more inclusive AI ecosystems.

The mobile revolution precedent suggests optimism about leapfrogging possibilities, but success requires sus-

tained political commitment, adequate funding, and international cooperation. Countries that invest strategically in AI foundations while fostering indigenous innovation can position themselves to benefit from rather than be left behind by the AI transformation.

The global AI divide represents both the greatest risk and greatest opportunity facing international development in the 21st century. Whether AI bridges or widens global inequalities depends on choices being made today by governments, international organizations, and private sector actors. The stakes-measured in trillions of dollars of economic value and billions of lives affected - demand urgent, coordinated action to ensure AI serves human development rather than merely technological advancement.

The African farmer using Hello Tractor's AI platform to improve crop yields and the Brazilian patient receiving AI-enhanced diagnostic services demonstrate AI's development relevance. Whether such success stories become widespread or remain isolated examples depends on the policy foundations being laid across developing countries today. The AI revolution waits for no one - but its benefits need not be predetermined by geography or existing wealth. The window for inclusive AI development remains open, but it will not stay open forever.

(Krishna Kumar is a Technology Explorer & Strategist based in Austin, Texas, USA. Rakshitha Reddy is AI Engineer based in Atlanta, Georgia, USA)



Double delight for India

Lakshya, Satwik-Chirag enter Hong Kong final

HONG KONG

INDIA enjoyed a memorable day at the Hong Kong Open 2025 as Lakshya Sen stormed into the men's singles final while Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty ended their semifinal jinx to book a place in the men's doubles summit clash here on Saturday.

With both entries confirmed, India is assured of a strong presence in Sunday's final. For Sen, the semifinal win marked a return to the big stage after a two-year wait. The 24-year-old overcame Chinese Taipei's third seed Chou Tien Chen in straight games, 23-21, 22-20, in 56 minutes of high-intensity badminton. Showing nerves of steel in the closing stages of both games, Sen secured his first Super 500 final since 2023. He now faces World No. 4 Li Shi Feng of China in what promises to be a thrilling encounter. Significantly, Sen holds a 7-6 head-to-head advantage over the Chinese star, adding an extra edge to the contest.

Earlier in the day, Satwik and

Chirag finally broke through after a year of setbacks, reaching their first final since their Asian Games gold medal triumph in October 2023. The World No. 9 Indian pair dismissed Chinese Taipei's unseeded duo Bing-Wei Lin and Chen Cheng Kuan with authority, 21-17, 21-15, snapping a frustrating run of six consecutive semifinal defeats in 2025. Their next challenge is formidable: China's World No. 3 pair Liang Wei Keng and Wang Chang, who eased past compatriots Fang-Chih Lee and Fang-Jen Lee 21-19, 21-8. For the Indians, however, this final appearance comes as a huge morale boost after enduring a tough year riddled with injuries and personal struggles.

Satwik, 24, has battled a re-

World Boxing C'ships

Minakshi, Jaismine, Nupur storm into finals

LIVERPOOL

MINAKSHI (women's 48kg), Jaismine Lamboria (women's 57kg), and Nupur (women's 80kg) were at their dominant best in their respective semifinals to raise hope of multiple gold medals for India at the World Boxing Championships 2025 in Liverpool.

Minakshi defeated Altantsetseg Lutsaikhan of Mongolia 5:0, Jaismine hammered Omailyn Carolina Alcala Cegovia of Venezuela 5:0, and Nupur proved too good for Turkey's Seyma Duztas.

India has fielded a 20-member contingent at the inaugural World Championships being held under the aegis of the World Boxing, a recently

formed international governing body for boxing, and is hoping for a good showing in both men's and women's events. Pooja Rani (women's 80kg) is the fourth Indian boxer to reach the semifinals and will face Emily Asquith of England later in the day.

In the women's 48kg semi-

Women's Hockey Asia Cup

India qualify for final, to face China in Sunday final

HANGZHOU (CHINA): Indian women's hockey team qualified for the Asia Cup final despite playing out a 1-1 draw against Japan after hosts China beat Korea 1-0 in the last match of the Super 4 stage here on Saturday.

India will face China in the summit clash on Sunday, and the winning team will qualify for next year's World Cup in Belgium and the Netherlands.

After the 1-1 draw against defending champions Japan, India had to wait for the result of the match between Korea and China, who have already qualified for the final.

Korea needed to win by a margin of at least two goals to qualify for the final, but China's victory ensured that India, the third-place finisher in the 2022 edition, made it to the summit clash.

China topped the Super 4s table with nine points after three wins, while India ended at second with four points from one win, one draw and one loss. Korea secured just one point -- one draw and two losses -- to end at the bottom. Japan finished third with two points.

Against Japan, India took an early lead with Beauty Dung Dung putting them ahead in the seventh minute with a field goal.

ISSF World Cup

Esha wins women's air pistol gold

NINGBO (CHINA)

OLYMPIAN and reigning mixed team pistol world champion Esha Singh ended India's medal drought at the ISSF World Cup Rifle/Pistol, clinching gold in the women's 10m air pistol here on Saturday.

At the Ningbo Olympic Sports Centre, the 20-year-old edged out home favourite Yao Qianxun by 0.1 point in a tense final. Reigning Olympic champion Oh Yejin of South Korea took the bronze. This was Esha's maiden World Cup gold in the event and it helped India move to fifth spot in the medal standings, joining four other nations with a gold medal. Hosts China lead the standings with two gold, four silver and one bronze. India have fielded their fourth to sixth ranked shooters in each event at the tournament. "I am very happy as this is the first event that I started with and to win a

world cup gold in it...I am just happy that some of my goals are being reached," Singh said. On her mindset in the final, she said: "Yes I am aware of things like India has not won a medal yet and that there are great shooters in the field, but I have played many finals against these guys and its them all the time so I now know that the pistol is in my hand and the battle is with me so I try to enjoy the match as much as possible."

Esha and teammate Rhythm Sangwan had qualified for the final with identical

scores of 578, securing the last two available spots.

Yao topped qualification with 584, while India's Palak Gulia, competing for ranking points, shot 586. Surbhi Rao finished 25th with 568.

In the eight-shooter final, Rhythm began strongly, leading after the first series with Esha in second.

By the halfway mark, Esha moved into the lead while Rhythm slipped to fifth, where she eventually finished.

As eliminations progressed, both Indians maintained composure.

Rhythm briefly climbed to fourth with a 10.8 on her 15th shot but bowed out after the 18th. Esha, meanwhile, maintained her rhythm, producing two 10.7s at crucial stages to stave off Yao's late surge.

She sealed the gold with a final score of 242.6, just 0.1 clear of the Chinese shooter.

TVK chief Vijay's first poll campaign address lost in audio glitch



TIRUCHIRAPPALLI (TAMIL NADU)

TAMILAGA Vетtri Kazhagam chief Vijay's address from atop his campaign vehicle here on Saturday was marred by audio issues and out of his 20-minute speech, barely one to two minutes was audible

and clear. Cadres, fans and the people who had gathered in thousands chanted 'Vijay, Vijay' as his speech became almost incomprehensible barring some remarks, words and points.

"Will you vote for the DMK?" he asked after raising a number of questions seek-

ing to push the Chief Minister M K Stalin-led government to a tight corner. One of his key accusation was that the DMK government did not fulfill its assurances made ahead of the 2021 Assembly election. He also hit out at the DMK regime over the illegal kidney sale racket.

When Vijay began his speech by 3 PM, he outlined the significance of choosing Tiruchirappalli for his maiden rally. He said that it was here that Dravidian icon, DMK founder CN Annadurai decided in 1956 to enter the electoral race. It was here that AIADMK founder M G

Ramachandran held his first state conference in 1974 after launching his party in 1972.

Tiruchirappalli was renowned also for communal harmony and rationalist leader 'Periyar' EV Ramasamy lived here. During the days of yore, before going to battlefield, kings used to pray

to their family deities. Similarly, Vijay said he has visited Tiruchirappalli. Any political initiative, when started in Tiruchirappalli, would eventually become a turning point, he said.

Meanwhile, the party acknowledged that the technical glitch led to audio issues.

TVK said that the issue has been addressed and that the chief's speech could be hereafter heard clearly. Clad in white shirt, Vijay delivered his address from a raised platform-like structure on the top of the campaign bus and cadres continuously flung party flags at him.

Tripura: UCO bank cashier held in Rs 16 cr fraud case

AGARTALA

A cashier of a public sector bank in Tripura has been arrested for her alleged involvement in siphoning off Rs 16 crore from Agartala Municipal Corporation's (AMC) account using forged cheques, an official said on Saturday.

The accused, identified as Ramayani Shrimayi, a resident of Nagaon in Assam and posted as a cashier at the UCO Bank, will be produced before a court on Saturday, said sub-divisional police officer (SDPO), Sadar, DP Roy.

After confirming "unauthorised withdrawals" of Rs 16 crore, the bank lodged a complaint with West Agartala police station on September 5.

West Tripura SP Namit Pathak has constituted a Special Investigating Team (SIT) headed by additional SP Drubha Nath to probe the fraud.

"As part of the probe, we arrested Shrimayi for her alleged involvement in the scam on Friday night. She



will be produced before a local court later in the day", Roy said.

He said that altogether six cloned cheques were used to withdraw Rs 16 crore from August 5 to September 2.

Police have so far recovered Rs 7 crore of the defrauded money by tracing online transactions. (PTI)

Pigeons cause no harm, firecrackers can: Maneka

MUMBAI: Former Union minister and BJP leader Maneka Gandhi on Saturday expressed confidence that kabutarshanas (pigeon feeding spots) in the city will be reopened, saying that pigeons have not caused any harm, while firecrackers have contributed more to pollution.

Speaking to reporters here after attending an event, Gandhi said Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has constituted a committee to take a decision regarding kabutarshanas and the report will be favourable.

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation had banned feeding pigeons and closed some old kabutarshanas in the city last month, considering them to be a public health hazard.

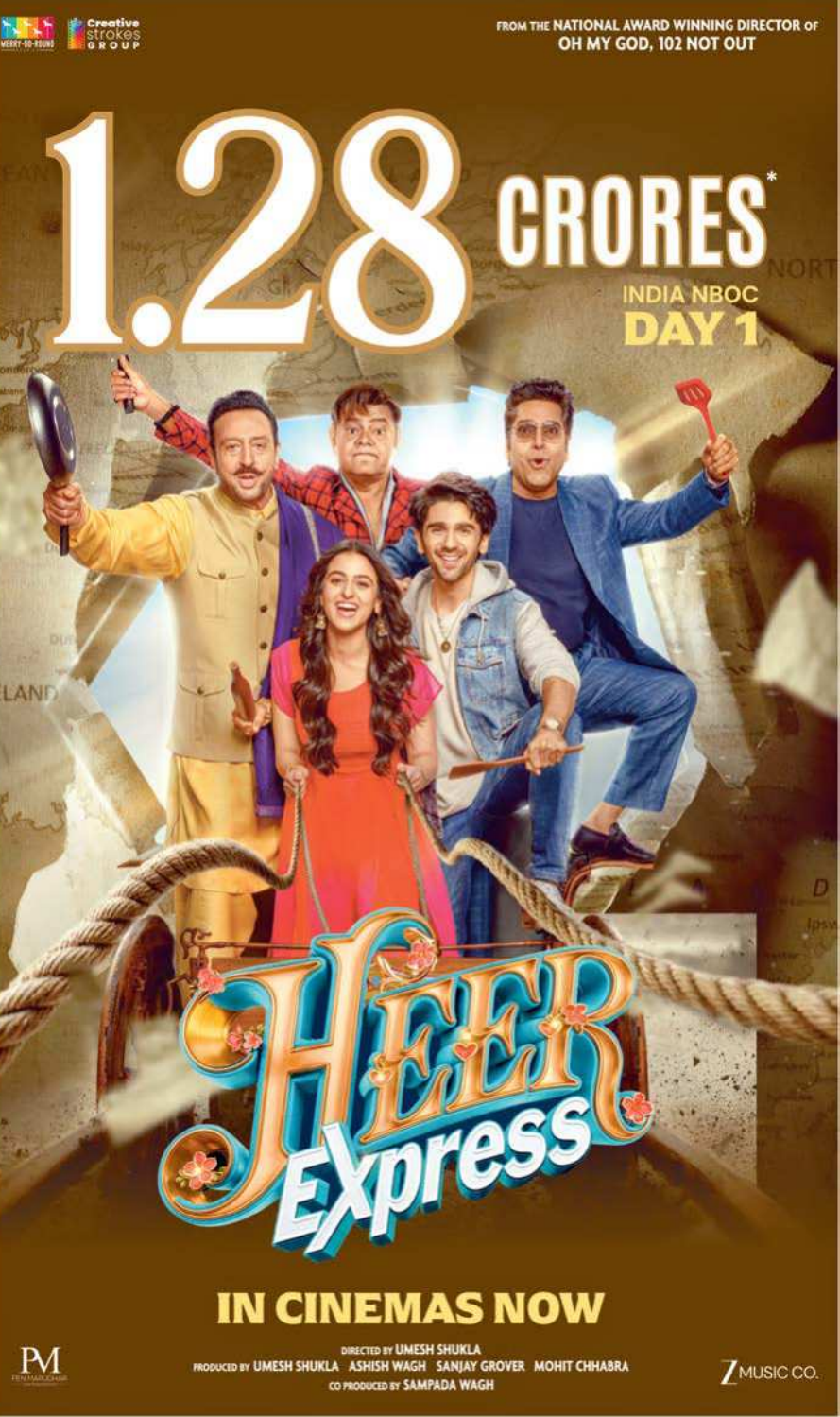
"India's foundation is about compassion; it is about living and letting others live. There is no example of anyone ever dying because of pigeons. Pigeons have caused no harm to anyone," Gandhi said.

She noted that there are 57 kabutarshanas in Mumbai, some of which have been closed.

"The chief minister has formed a committee to make a decision over it. It will take one month. Once the report is out, the kabutarshanas will be reopened. I am confident of it," she said.

"If pigeons are killed for spreading disease, firecrackers cause multifold pollution. Firecrackers did not exist during the time of Lord Ram and Sita. People would light diyas and share food. The time for firecrackers is now over. People can no longer breathe," the BJP leader said.

Maneka criticised India's approach towards tourism, saying unchecked deforestation and neglect of natural assets had diminished its appeal. (PTI)



Historic day for Mizoram as it enters country's railway map

AIZAWL

MIZORAM Chief Minister Lalduhoma on Saturday said it was a historic day as the state entered the country's railway map, which will have a far-reaching impact as it bridges the dreams and reality between the state and Bharat.

He was addressing a gathering as Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Mizoram's first railway line and flagged off the state's maiden Rajdhani Express, connecting Aizawl with Delhi.

"Today is a historic day for our state. It marks a new chapter in our journey towards progress...The railway projects are not just infrastructure; they are investments in our children's future, in the dignity of our citizens and in the economic resilience of our state. The impact of these projects will be far-reaching, bridging dreams and reality between Mizoram and Bharat," Lalduhoma said.

The chief minister said the 51.38 km-long railway line

was a technical marvel and stood as a testament to engineering excellence.

"This railway line is more than a feat of engineering, it is a symbol of inclusion, national integration and of the shared aspirations of our people. It brings Mizoram closure to the rest of India and India closure to the heart of Mizoram. The 51.38 km stretch includes some of the most difficult terrains in the country," Lalduhoma as-



sented.

He said the Prime Minister's presence in the state is a powerful symbol of his unwavering commitment to the development of the North East and inclusive, connected India.

"We are grateful for the inauguration of several other key projects that touched the hearts of our communities...We are proud to have worked closely with the Central government to bring this development to life...We place on record our sincere appreciation not only for the projects but also for the way you and your colleagues have consistently lent a listening ear to our concerns," he said.

The CM said, "Your willingness to understand our hearts has not gone unnoticed. It has strengthened our trust in cooperative federalism. Mizoram values this partnership built on empathy, responsiveness and mutual respect, and we look forward to nurturing it further in the years ahead," he emphasised.