

lans india



Odissi dance enchants festival audience

As part of their 13th Annual Festival, the Our Sacred Space Environmental and Cultural Centre organised an entrancing evening of Odissi dance at Chaurah Auditorium, Secunderabad, recently.

Our future is in our own hands and right here

The idea that "a job is a man's defining characteristic" belongs to an older era. In today's modern age there's no need to give that saying any weight. What matters now is whether jobs are available to everyone — are people with education actually getting work?

Excise minister inspects wine shop, verifies brands

Prohibition and expise minister Kolla Rayding Company and Mary State of the Company and the Co Prohibition and excise minister rolla navinate constant surprise inspection at a wine shop located on Sambamurthy Road here on Tuesday. He was accompanied by excise commissioner Ch Sridhar.

Raising awareness about hand hygiene

Clean hands symbolize care, responsibility, and respect for others. As global health challenges continue to rise, adopting regular handwashing as a daily habit is one of the easiest and most effective ways to build a healthier, safer world for everyone.

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(F) WINDOWS

Top Maoist leader Mallojula surrenders in Maharashtra

60 other cadres also lay down arms along with him

GADCHIROLI: Senior Naxalite Mallojula Venugopal Rao alias Bhupathi surrendered before police along with 60 other cadres in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district, officials said on Tuesday. One of the influential strategists in the banned organisation, Bhupathi, a member of the central committee and politburo, carried a bounty of Rs 6 crore, the officials said. They said the Naxals turned themselves in before the police around 10 pm on Monday. The cadres were brought to the Gadchiroli police headquarters in police vehicles from Hodri village, where they surrendered with 54 weapons, the officials said. The seized weapons include seven AK-47s and nine INSAS rifles, the officials added. The surrendered cadres include a member of the central committee, three Dandkaranya Special Zonal Committee (DKSZC) members and 10 members of a

Trust, Reliability & Service Synonymous with Kapil Chits

divisional committee of the outlawed CPI-Maoist, the officials said. According to

sources, Venugopal, alias

Bhupathi alias Sonu, was

Maoist organisation and had long supervised pla-

toon operations along the Maharashtra-Chhattisgarh

border. Continued on Page 7

considered one of the most influential strategists in the



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Please carry the newspaper that says inflation has come down - we'll need to show it to the vegetable vendors!

GAMECHANGER FOR ANDHRA

- ▶ Google's biggest investment outside US
- Rs 1.33L cr investment will generate 6k direct jobs
- AdaniConneX will partner with Google, Airtel

Hans News Service Amaravati/New Delhi

IN a landmark development that would propel Andhra Pradesh onto the global technology map, tech giant Google announced on Tuesday that it would invest a whopping \$15 billion (nearly Rs 1.33 lakh crore) on setting up an AI infrastructure hub in Visakhapatnam, which would include a gigawatt-scale data centre in partnership with diversified Adani Group.

The game-changing project is likely to generate 5,000-6,000 direct jobs and 20,000-30,000 total jobs. The AI hub in the state's coastal city will be Google's largest outside the US and will include a data centre fuelled by clean energy and a fiber-optic network. Adani Group's AdaniConneX will partner with Google on the project, along with Bharti

Signs MoU with tech giant which will set up mega data centre with Adani in Vizag

AP gets Google's \$15-bn Al infra hub



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Google Cloud CEO Thomas Kurian and state IT Minister Nara Lokesh during an event where the state government signed an MoU with Google for the Google Al Hub in Visakhapatnam

Airtel, India's second largest mobile operator. The mega investment will be made over the next five years (2026-2030). The facility is expected to be operational by 2029. "It's the largest AI hub that we are going to be investing in anywhere in the world outside of the US," Google Cloud CEO Thomas Kurian said after signing the formal agreement with the AP government at Bharat AI Shakti, a Google-hosted event, in New Delhi. Continued on Page 7

Modi hails Google's Vizag investment

HANS NEWS SERVICE Amaravati

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday hailed the agreement for Google's Artificial Intelligence Hub in Visakhapatnam, calling it a major stride toward realizing the vision of Viksit Bharat.

In a post on X, the Prime Minister said, "Delighted by the launch of the Google AI Hub in the dynamic city of Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. This multi-faceted investment that includes gigawatt-scale data centre infrastructure aligns with our vision to build a Viksit \$15 billion over five years. Bharat. It will be a power-

ful force in democratizing technology, ensuring AI for All and securing India's place as a global technology leader." The announcement came as Google confirmed plans to establish India's first AI hub in Andhra Pradesh with an investment of

Continued on Page 7

Google's investment will make Visakhapatnam the world's next big digital powerhouse. This centre will serve as the foundation for India's first Al City and the largest data

outside the US **VIZAG AI HUB LANDMARK**

hub

SAYS PICHAI AMARAVATI: Google CEO

DEVELOPMENT,



AI hub in Visakhapatnam as a landmark development. In a post on X, he said, "Great to speak with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and to share our plans for the first-ever Google AI hub in Visakhapatnam, a landmark development. This hub combines gigawattscale compute capacity, a new international subsea

gateway, and large-scale

energy infrastructure."



moving bus catches fire in Jaisalmei

people died, and many oth ers were grievously injured fire in Rajasthan's Jaisalmer district on Tuesday. The bus carrying 57 passengers was passing by the vicinity of the army station when it caught fire. The flames immediately engulfed the entire vehicle turning it into a moving ball of fire Continued on Page 7

Munir 'favourite field marshal': Trump



US President Donald Trump played a balancing act at the Gaza Peace Summit in Egypt's Sharm el-Sheikh, Asim Munir "my favourite Minister Narendra Modi.



Continued on Page 7

Modi 'good friend',



calling Pakistani Army Chief marshal," while also praising his "very good friend," Prime

"Prime Minister Sharif of Pakistan and I have to say, my favourite Field Marshal from Pakistan, who is not here but the Prime Minister is here," said Trump, as he invited Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to address the historic Gaza Peace Summit.

OF CHEQUES

INTRODUCING



From now on,

banks will pass / return cheques on the same day. Customers will get credit on the same day.

From January 3, 2026,

banks will pass / return cheques within 3 hours. Customers will get credit in a few hours.

BIHAR ASSEMBLY POLLS

BJP drops Speaker, fields 2 Deputy CMs in first list

New Delhi/Patna

THE Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday announced its first list of 71 candidates for the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections, scheduled to be held in two phases on November 6 and 11.

The list features a mix of fresh and familiar faces, while also reflecting some bold choices, including the denial of ticket to Assembly



Speaker and seven-time Patna Sahib MLA Nand Kishore Yadav. In this first list, the BJP has retained 53 candidates and replaced nominees in 15 constituencies. Continued on Page 7

Vice-President to attend 100th birth anniversary of Sathya Sai Baba

AMARAVATI: Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust has invited Vice-President C P Radhakrishnan to participate in the centenary celebrations of Sri Sathya Sai Baba. R J Rathnakar, Managing Trustee of Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust, met the Vice-President in New Delhi on Tuesday and formally invited him to the centenary

celebrations Continued on Page 7

Security stepped up for PM's visit to Srisailam

Modi is scheduled to visit the temple town tomorrow

Narendra Kumar V Srisailam

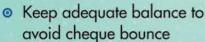
IN view of the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Srisailam on Thursday, the Police department has stepped up security with an elaborate, multi-layered deployment plan. Director General of Police Harish Kumar Gupta personally visited Srisailam on Tuesday and reviewed the arrangements at



DGP Harish Kumar Gupta inspecting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit arrangements at Srisailam on Tuesday

key locations, including the helipad, road routes, guest house, temple premises and Shivaji Inspiration Centre. He issued firm instructions to senior officials to ensure foolproof security arrangements for the high-profile visit. The DGP directed officers to maintain strict access control at all entry and exit points and to remain on high alert throughout the visit.

Continued on Page 7



Point to be noted

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NTR VAIDYA SEVA

NETWORK HOSPITALS' STRIKE ENTERS FIFTH DAY

- Strike, ongoing since Oct 10, halts services in private hospitals due to Rs 2,700 cr in pending dues, with Rs 650 cr approved but unpaid
- The strike reduces daily case registrations from 6,000-8,000 to about 2,000, limiting healthcare access to govt hospitals and medical colleges, affecting 80% of beneficiaries

Hans News Service Vijayawada

THE strike by NTR Vaidya Seva Network Hospitals, under the aegis of Andhra Pradesh Speciality Hospitals Association (ASHA), entered its fifth day as of Tuesday. Started on October 10, the strike has brought all services under the NTR Vaidya Seva scheme in private network hospitals across the state to a halt.

ASHA cited pending dues of approximately Rs 2,700

crore owed by the NTR Vaidya Seva Trust to network hospitals. Of the submitted bills, about Rs 650 crore have already been approved by the Trust's CEO. The association's key demands include the immediate release of the approved dues and a clear policy on the settlement of remaining payments. Despite repeated appeals, the state government has yet to respond.

The strike has severely affected healthcare access. Normally, 6,000 to 8,000



cases are registered daily under the scheme. Due to the suspension of services in network hospitals, only about 2,000 cases are curbeing registered, meaning roughly 80 per cent of the population is temporarily deprived of government medical aid. At present, NTR Vaidya Seva services are available only

medical colleges, explaining the drastic drop in case reg-

ASHA said that the protest has been peaceful, and critical patients continue to be referred to government facilities free of cost to prevent life-threatening situations. However, the association warned that if the government continues to remain unresponsive, the agitation will be intensified, with private medical colleges soon joining the strike.

Strike data shows a sharp decline in pre-authorisation requests, with counts dropping from 34,676 before the strike to 18,040 after, a 48 per cent overall reduction, highlighting the significant disruption in public healthcare services caused by the ongoing protest.

Three judges transferred to AP High Court

The new judges are from Allahabad, Calcutta and Gujarat High Courts

Hans News Service Vijayawada

THE Central government on Tuesday notified the transfer of three judges to the Andhra Pradesh High Court.

Justice Donadi Ramesh will move from the Allahabad High Court to Andhra Pradesh. Justice Subhendu Samanta has been transferred from the Calcutta High Court, while Justice Cheekati Manavendranath Roy will join from the Gujarat High Court.

Justice Cheekati Manavendranath Roy, a native of Parvathipuram, Vizianagaram district, was born on May 21, 1964. He studied law at MVP Law College, Visakhapatnam, and practiced as an

Conducted searches at several

Midhun Reddy in Hyderabad,

liquor scam

leaders.

already arrested

dy Midhun Reddy.

and Bengaluru.

properties linked to Peddireddy

Tirupati and Bengaluru as part of its

probe into the alleged Rs 3,200 cr

Midhun Reddy, arrested in July and

released on bail in Sept, claims

the case is politically motivated,

accusing the ruling coalition of

The SIT investigation uncovers

widespread irregularities in the

2019-24 liquor policy, alleging

a Rs 3,500 cr kickback network

involving 48 individuals, with 12

Hans News Service

Vijayawada

THE Andhra Pradesh Special Investigation

Team (SIT) which is probing the liquor scam

conducted searches on Tuesday at the premises

of YSRCP floor leader in Lok Sabha, Peddired-

SIT officials conducted searches at the hous-

the SIT searched the house

es of the Rajampet MP in Hyderabad, Tirupati

of YSRCP MP in Prashasan Nagar and Gayatri

Hills, Yousufguda. His office in the Kondapur

fabricating charges to target YSRCP

advocate in Parvathipuram from 1988 to 2002. Selected as District Sessions Judge (Grade-2) in 2002, he served in various judicial roles across the united AP and as Registrar General of the High Court from July 2015 to December 2018.

He was promoted to High Court judge on June 12, 2019, becoming the first judge appointed after the AP High Court's establishment in Amaravati, before being transferred to the Gujarat High Court on November 2, 2023.

Justice Donadi Ramesh, from Kammapalli, Madanapalle, Chittoor district, was born on June 27, 1965, and studied law at VR Law College, Nellore. He enrolled as

LIQUOR SCAM

SIT carries out searches at places

linked to MP Midhun Reddy

an advocate in 1990, served as government advocate in the united High Court (2000-04), and as standing counsel for AP Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in 2007. He became an AP High Court judge on January 13, 2020, before transferring to the Allahabad High Court on July 24, 2023. Justice Subhendu Saman-

ta, born on November 25, 1971, studied law at Hazra Campus, Kolkata University. He began practice at Tamluk District Court, served as a judicial officer and additional district and sessions judge in West Midnapore, and later as Chief Judge of Kolkata City Sessions Court. He took charge as an additional judge of the Calcutta High Court on May 18, 2022.

Midhun Reddy is one of the accused in the

Rs 3,200 crore liquor scam, which allegedly oc-

curred during the YSRCP rule. The Rajampet

MP, who was arrested on July 19, was released

After his release, Midhun Reddy alleged that

He accused the coalition government of re-

sorting to diversionary politics by filing fabri-

cated cases against YSRCP leaders. He stated

that the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) always

government to frighten opponents by filing

After the TDP-led NDA came to power last

year, a case was registered at the CID Police

Station in Mangalagiri under sections 409, 420,

120 (B), r/w 34 and 37 of IPC and section 7,

7A, 8, 12, 13 (1), (b), 13 (2) of the Prevention of

initially conducted an investigation following a

complaint by an official of the Excise Department. Later, the government constituted SIT,

headed by NTR district commissioner of police

fund misappropriation in the liquor policy im-

Investigators reportedly uncovered a kick-

There are allegations that the YSRCP leaders

The SIT has named 48 persons in the case, of

back network involving nearly Rs 3,500 crore

encouraged the new liquor policy, floated new

brands, received kickbacks from the distillery

companies, causing huge losses to the

S V Rajashekhar Babu, to probe the case. The SIT found large-scale irregularities and

The Crime Investigation Department (CID)

used such tactics whenever it came to power. He stated that the attempts by the coalition

on bail on September 30.

he was treated like a terrorist in jail.

false cases are an act of foolishness.

Corruption Act 1988.

plemented during 2019-24.

siphoned off over five years.

Dharmana warns TDP coalition against privatisation of medical colleges

GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

'e' Procurement Short Tender Notice No.1/2025-26/ EE-(PD-I)/DB/GVMC Dt.10-10-2025 **Tender Opening Date**

Tender Closing Date Note: Further details at https://www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.ir O/o. the EE(PD-I). Cell No.9848308824. For Commissioner, GVMC

RADESH POWER GENE PRPORATION LIMITED VIDYUT SOUDHA, VIJAYAWADA-520004

TENDER NOTICE NO.M100028968/P62/2025-2026/CE/ O&M/Dr.NTTPS/P2/Motors Supply of **6.6KV 560KW/750HP** Induction Motor for Coal Crusher & different types of LT motors through APGENCO e-procuremen platform. A) Tender Schedule available Date & Time: From 18.00 Hr on 15.10.2025 onwards. B) Schedule Closing Date & Time: At 13.00 Hrs on 05.11.2025. C) Bid submission closing Date & Time: At 14.00 Hrs on 05.11.2025 (for downloading/Uploading tender specification and Documents) D) For other details visit website:

https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in Ph.0866-2882614 DIPR R.O. No. 4496 PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22, Dt: 14-10-2



As per the orders of the Collector & District Magistrate Kurnool, the Environmental Public Hearing of M/s.Infinity Minerals for the proposed Mining of Silica Sand and Quartzite in an area of 4.5 Ha with a production quantity of Silica Sand - 13,403 TPA and Quartzite 1,13,930 TPA, (Govt Land) Block- 1 at Sy.No.214 of Bukkapuram Village. Veldhurty Mandal. Kurnool District was scheduled to be held on 15.10.2025 @11:00 A.M (as notified in the "Hans India" on

To,1.The Borrowers/Co-Obligant/Guarantors
1.Mrs.N.Umadevi, W/o M.Suresh, 7-194-1, Adarsh Nagar,

Anantapur - 515001, Andhra Pradesh. 2.Mrs.A C Anitha, 7-194-1, Adarsh Nagar, Anantapur - 515001,

Notice under Sec.13 (2) read with Sec.13 (3) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security

You the addressee No 1,2 herein have availed the following credit facil

ities from our Ashok Nagar Branch [14771] Branch and failed to pay the

dues/instalment/ interest / operate the accounts satisfactorily and

nence, in terms of the RBI guidelines as to the Income Recognition and

Prudential Accounting Norms, your account/s has/have been classified

as Non-Performing Asset as on 13-09-2025. As on 19-09-2025 a sun

of Rs. 78,26,614/- (Rupees Seventy eight lakhs twenty six thousand

The particulars of amount due to the Bank from No. 1,2 of you in respec

Un applied

interest

six hundred fourteen Only) is outstanding in your account/s.

76,59,857.00 1,58,882.00

Total Dues

nents on 02-12-2020 and created security interest by way of Mortgage of immovable property described herein below Security Details: Residential land and building in Plot No.28, Sy.No.337

To secure the repayment of the monies due or the monies that ma become due to the Bank, (Mrs.N.Umadevi) had /have executed docu

 AC. 4-00 paiki, AC.0.05, Or 0-0-20 Hs, bearing D.No.7-194-1, Adarst Nagar Extension, 7th ward, Anantapur Rural Panchayat, Andhra Pradesh belongs to Mrs.N.Umadevi.Bounded by: East: K.Rami Reddy

Land, West: Road, North: Plot No.29, South: Plot No.27.Measurements Admeasuring 241.11 Sq.yds, East:35 ft, West : 35 ft, South : 62 ft, North : 62 ft

Therefore You are hereby called upon in terms of section 13(2) of the

of Security Interest Act, 2002, to pay a sum of of Rs. 78,26,614/-(Rupees Seventy eight lakhs twenty six thousand six hundred four-

teen Only) as on 19-09-2025 together with further interest and charge

at the contractual rate as per the terms and conditions of loan docu

ments executed by you and discharge your liabilities in full within 60

days from the date of receipt of this notice, failing which, we shall be

constrained to enforce the aforesaid securities by exercising any or al

As per section 13 (13) of the Act, on receipt of this notice you ar

restrained /prevented from disposing of or dealing with the above securities without the consent of the bank.

Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the

SARFAESI in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets

Hypothecation of movable property described herein below

Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and enfor

of the aforesaid account/s are as under

of the rights given under the said Act.

Yours faithfully, Authorised Officer.

Outstanding

Place: Kurnool Date: 14.10.2025

Ref: SARFAESI

Type of Facility

HL001

Sd/- Environmental Engineer A.P. Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Kurnoo

Place: Ashok Nagar

Date:19.09.2025

Total

Dues

78,26,614

Rs.78,26,614/

Hans News Service Srikakulam

FORMER minister Dharmana Prasada Rao strongly criticised the coalition government for its decision to privatise government medical colleges, calling it an irresponsible and anti-people

Speaking at a press conference here on Tuesday, he warned that if the government does not withdraw this decision, there will be a widespread public agitation to force it to back down. He said that handing over the

healthcare system to private players is like sacrificing the poor at the altar of profit. He said that public health is the government's responsibility and accused the Chandrababu Naidu-led coalition of violating constitutional values by transferring medical education and public healthcare into private hands. He pointed out that the decision has created widespread anger among the people, who

Prasada Rao recalled that during YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's tenure, the state effectively fought the COV-

feel betrayed.

ID19 pandemic by providing free treatment through public hospitals, saving thousands of lives. He said the same system that protected the people during a global health crisis is now being dismantled for private gain.

He further said that the YSRCP government had initiated 17 new medical colleges, with seven already completed, each built at a cost of around Rs 500 crore with 50 acres of land.

These institutions were planned to make corporatelevel healthcare accessible to the poor.



on Tuesday. MP Kesineni Chinni and MLA Bonda Umamaheswara Rao are also seen.

Collector Dr G Lakshmisha addressing a review meeting at Government General Hospital in Vijayawada

MP Sivanath promises modern equipment to GGH DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SEC.13 (2) SARFAESI Act 2002

A review of the ongoing development works at Vijayawada Government Hospital was conducted

Hans News Service VIIAYAWADA

MP Kesineni Sivanath alias Chinni conducted a review of the ongoing development works at Vijayawada Government Hospital on Tuesday.

The meeting was attended by NTR district collector Dr G Lakshmisha, Vijayawada Central MLA and Government Whip Bonda Uma Maheswara Rao, East MLA Gadde Rammohan, and senior hospital officials.

The review focused on the hospital's progress, fund utilisation, and future requirements to enhance patient care.

Speaking at the meeting, MP Sivanath appreciated the hospital staff, noting that operations previously possible only in corporate private hospitals are now successfully performed at the government facility.

He said the government would provide modern equipment requested by the doctors and ensure the latest technologies are introduced gradually.

He added that once the new hospital building is completed, advanced services will be available for the public, particularly for the underprivileged.

MLA Bonda Umamaheswara Rao congratulated the doctors for their dedication, noting that all department heads participated in the review. He assured that the requested modern equipment would be provided soon.

GGH Superintendent Dr A Venkateswarlu expressed satisfaction over the support from the MP and Collector. He said the administration agreed to supply all required equipment, helping the hospital continue to provide timely and effective treatment.

area was also searched by the SIT officials. whom 12 have been arrested Bank pensioners seek GST exemption on group insurance

AIBPARC leader Kodali Balagangadhara Tilak points to a recent letter to finance minister urging implementation of Regulation 35(1) to align bank retirees' pensions with RBI pensioners'

> Hans News Service VIJAYAWADA

ALL India Bank Pensioners' and Retirees' Confederation (AIBPARC) national deputy general secretary Kodali Balagangadhara Tilak emphasised the importance of pension updation and demanded exemption of GST on the group medical insurance to the pensioners as the premium was borne by them.

He recalled the recent representations made to the Union Finance Minister. He was addressing the meeting of the Association of Retired IOB's Employees (ARISE), Vijayawada Region, here on Sunday.

Kommuru Nagaiah, who recently retired as deputy general manager from Indian Overseas Bank's nodal audit office in Ben-

galuru was the chief guest. Balagangadhara Tilak noted that NCBE general secretary L Chandrasekhar had written to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on September 30, 2025, seeking immediate implementation of Regulation 35(1) of the Bank Employees' Pension Regulations, 1995 (amended and gazetted in March 2003), to bring bank retirees' pensions on par with those of RBI pensioners. NCBE is among the largest constituents of the United Forum of Bank Unions (UFBU). ARISE assistant general secretary Kondaviti Venkateswara Rao outlined details regarding the renewal of the IBA Group Medical Insurance Scheme for retirees, with October 23 set as the last date for renewal.

The premium for a base policy of Rs 5.25 lakh for retired officers (retiree and spouse, without domiciliary cover) stands at Rs 47,473 including 18 percent GST.

During the event, 8 senior members aged 70 and above were felicitated. Uppalapati Srinivasa Rao, retired chief manager of IOB proposed a vote of thanks.



Kondaviti Venkateswara Rao, retired IOB officer, being felicitated by ARISE members KBG Tilak, Kommuru Nagaiah, S Gopalakrishna and GLKP Chandra Rao in Vijayawada

250 mobiles handed over to owners recovered and returned

Hans News Service Guntur

GUNTUR district SP Vakul Jindal handed over 250 recovered cell phones to their owners at a programme held at the DPO here on Tuesday. The value of cell phones he gave to the owners is Rs 50 lakh. Speaking on this occasion, he said police continue to stand by victims by tracing and returning lost and stolen mobile phones. So far, around 3,414 mobile phones worth Rs 6.82 crore have been to owners. He advised the public to immediately lodge complaints on the national cyber crime helpline 1930 if their phones are lost or stolen to prevent misuse. He emphasised that as financial transactions are conducted increasingly through mobile phones, public awareness about cybercrimes is essential. He urged citizens to report any suspicious or threatening calls to 1930.

"Many people face serithrough the CEIR website. ous inconvenience when

they lose their mobile phones or when they are stolen, as they often contain personal, banking, and confidential information which can be misused by criminals. Upon receiving complaints from victims, the police use advanced technical tools to trace the devices and return them," he said. He further advised citizens that if their phone is lost or stolen, they should immediately report it to the police helpline 8688831574 or lodge a complaint

SC certificates for Madasi Madari Kuruba community demanded

- The members of the community urges thousands of people from the community across the State have been waiting for SC caste certificates for years
- Alleges that due to negligence and lack of awareness among some local revenue officials, SC certificates are either delayed or incorrectly issued as Kuruba
- Brings to the Minister's attention the prolonged delays caused by the revenue department in processing applications despite repeated requests

Hans News Service Alur

MEMBERS of the Madasi Madari Kuruba community from Alur mandal submitted a representation to BC Welfare and Handlooms & Textiles Minister Savita and Alur TDP incharge Vaikuntham Jyothi at the R&B Guest House in Alur on Tuesday, urging immediate issuance of Scheduled Caste (SC) community certificates to eligible members.

They brought to the minister's attention the prolonged delays caused by the revenue department in processing applications despite repeated requests.

Speaking on the occasion, Taluka Convener
Kaudiki Raju and General Secretary Peddahyata
Mallayya stated that thousands of people from the
Madasi Madari Kuruba

community across several districts of the State have been waiting for SC caste certificates for years. Due to negligence and lack of awareness among some local revenue officials, SC certificates are either delayed or incorrectly issued as Kuruba (BC.B.11), depriving eligible individuals of their rightful benefits in



Members of the Madasi Madari Kuruba community giving representation to BC Welfare and Handlooms & Textiles Minister Savita and Alur TDP in-charge Vaikuntham Jyothi on Tuesday

leaders appealed to the State government to issue clear directives to revenue officials to resolve the issue without further delay.

They also requested that the matter be brought to the notice of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who will be visiting Kurnool on October 16, to ensure a decisive government-level resolution. The event was attended

by association honorary president Ranganna, Hanumappa Bellam Raju, Endi Halli Sarpanch Sudhakar, Sharan, former Sarpanch Devendrappa, Lingamurthy, and several other community leaders.

Complete all pending works by Dec, Sunitha tells babus

The MLA discusses the progress of BT roads, CC roads, Village Health Clinics, and Gram Sachivalayam (village secretariat) buildings under various funding schemes

Sunitha directed officials to expedite unfinished works, especially the 18 pending Village Health Clinics left incomplete by the previous government

 Reviews the construction of three new village secretariats in Vepakunta, Konapuram, and Narasampalli

Hans News Service Anantapur

RAPTADU MLA Paritala Sunitha on Tuesday instructed Panchayat Raj department officials to complete all pending devel-

Raptadu MLA Paritala Sunitha conducting a review meeting with Panchayat officials in Anantapur on Tuesday

opment works by Decem-

She held a detailed review meeting with Executive Engineers (EEs), Deputy Engineers (DEs), and Assistant Engineers (AEs) of the Panchayat Raj department at her camp office in Anantapur on Monday.

During the review, the MLA discussed the progress of BT roads, CC roads, Village Health Clinics, and Gram Sachivalayam (village secretariat) buildings under various funding schemes including World Bank, NAB-

ARD, NREGS, and the 15th Finance Commission.

Officials briefed that out of 22 BT road projects worth ⊠11 crore, works worth ⊠6 crore have been completed, while the remaining are in progress.

Similarly, CC road projects worth \(\text{M22.80} \) crore have achieved 98% completion, and new works worth \(\text{M3.19} \) crore have recently been sanctioned.

Sunitha directed officials to expedite unfinished works, especially the 18 pending Village Health Clinics left incomplete by the previous government.

She emphasized the need to make them operational at the earliest for public ben-

Under the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bhava scheme, five new clinics are being built at a cost of ⊠42 lakh each, while nine others are being constructed across Anantapur and Sri Sathya Sai districts under the 15th Finance Commission.

She also reviewed the construction of three new village secretariats in Vepakunta, Konapuram, and Narasampalli at \ampli 32 lakh each, and road works in Amidalakunta (\ampli 2.35 crore for 6 km) and Kamarupalli (\ampli 80 lakh for 1.9 km).

MLA Sunitha stressed that no project should remain pending beyond December, asserting that timely completion will significantly improve rural infrastructure and healthcare access in the constituency.

Awareness rally on Int'l Day of Girl Child held

education, employment,

and welfare schemes. The



Rally on Beti Bachao and Beti Padhao taken out in Kurnool on Tuesday

Hans News Service Kurnool

THE International Day of the Girl Child was observed in a spirited manner at the Zilla Parishad Girls High School in Kurnool on Tuesday.

The event was organised under the supervision of District Mass Media Officer Prakash Raju.

To mark the occasion, students actively participated in an awareness rally highlighting the importance of protecting and educating girl children under the theme "Beti Bachao – Beti Padhao." The rally also focused on promoting the im-

portance of nutrition among adolescent girls.

Speaking on the occasion, Prakash Raju said that weeklong awareness programmes are being conducted to spread the message of gender equality and women's empowerment. He underlined that gender

imbalance poses serious social challenges and urged everyone to support girl children in achieving their dreams. Education, he stressed, is

Education, he stressed, is the key to ensuring economic self-reliance and a secure future for girls.

Emphasizing gender equality, he said that women are on par with men in every sphere

among and should be given equal opportunities to grow and lead.

"Let us protect, educate, and empower girls to build a strong society," he said, calling upon the community to work y collectively toward this cause.

The programme was attended by Deputy DEMO Chandrasekhar Reddy, Legal Consultant Sumalatha, Deputy Health Education Officer Padmavathi, Health Worker Manasa, ASHA Worker Aruna, and Projectionist staff.

Officials and participants expressed their commitment to creating a safe, equal, and empowering environment for girls.

Essay writing competition on GST held

Hans News Service Gooty

AN essay writing competition on Goods and Services Tax (GST) was organised at Sri Sai Degree College, Gooty, under the jurisdiction of Sri Sai Campus CEO Sri Sriramulu, Sri Sai Degree College Principal Dr Venkateshwarlu Reddy, and PRR MBA College Principal Dr Prasanna Kumar (coordinator for GST programme).

The main objective of the competition was to enhance students' understanding of GST and its role in India's economic

system. A total of 200 students from various groups participated enthusiastically in the competition and expressed their insights on the significance, advantages, and implications of GST in the Indian economy.

After careful

evaluation, nine students who excelled in the competition were awarded prizes and certificates for their outstanding performance.

All other participants

received certificates of participation in appreciation of their efforts.



Collector inspects special sanitation campaign

Hans News Service Puttaparthi

AS part of the special sanitation drive, Sri Sathya Sai District Collector A Shyam Prasad visited Venkatagaripalli Gram Panchayat in Puttaparthi Mandal on Tuesday.

The district-wide campaign, being conducted from October 13 to 20, aims to promote cleanliness, environmental protection, waste management, and plastic-free awareness across all gram panchayats in the district.

During his visit, the Collector emphasized that maintaining cleanliness with active public participation can transform rural areas into healthier and more beautiful communities.

He urged gram panchayat officials, women's groups, and youth associations to work collectively through voluntary community service (Shramadanam) to keep their villages clean and hygienic.

The Collector personally inspected village streets,



Collector A Shyam Prasad inspecting the ongoing sanitation and cleanliness works in Puttaparthi on Tuesday

waste disposal centers, water tanks, and drainage systems, assessing the effectiveness of sanitation practices. He also interacted with villagers to gather feedback and suggestions for further improvement.

Speaking on the occasion Shyam Prasad said, "Cleanliness should become a community habit. When every individual contributes, villages can truly become models of health and harmony."

The drive also witnessed

the participation of District Panchayat Officer Y Samatha, Puttaparthi Mandal Development Officer, local public representatives, Panchayat Secretary, Secretariat staff, and women's self-help groups, who actively joined in the sanitation activities.

The drive has been receiving encouraging public response across the district, reflecting a growing awareness among rural communities toward maintaining a clean and sustainable environment.

Promotions for Panchayat Secys a festive gift: MLA Daggupati Prasad

Hans News Service Anantapur

THE Andhra Pradesh Government's decision to grant promotions to Panchayat Secretaries has been described as a Dussehra and Diwali gift to employees by Anantapur Urban MLA Daggupati Prasad.

He lauded the State Cabinet's approval for the restructuring and reclassification of Panchayats, calling it a long-awaited reform that fulfills a 48-year-old demand of the Panchayat Raj Department staff. Celebrating the announcement, Panchayat Secretaries gathered at the

MLA office in Anantapur, where they performed milk abhishekam to the portraits of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister & Panchayat Raj Minister Pawan Kalyan, expressing gratitude for the government's support.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Daggupati said the government has divided Panchayats into four grades Special (urban), Grade I, Grade II, and Grade III based on population and revenue, ensuring fair governance and better service delivery.

He noted that Panchayat Secretaries will now serve as



Panchayat Development Officers and MLA Daggupati Venkateswara Prasad performing milk abhishekam to the portraits of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Dy CM Pawan Kalyan in Anantapur on Tuesday

Panchayat Development Officers, marking a major administrative upgrade within the department.

He criticized the previous YSRCP government, alleging that it had ignored rural development and neglected

Panchayat Raj institutions during its tenure. In contrast, he said, the current coalition government is committed to strengthening village-level governance through infrastructural development like roads and drainage systems.

Hans News Service Puttaparthi

IN view of the upcoming Diwali festival, Sri Sathya Sai District Collector A Shyam Prasad and District Superintendent of Police S Satish Kumar issued stern warnings against unauthorized and illegal sale of firecrackers.

They emphasized that anyone violating government norms would face strict legal action.

action.

At a review meeting held at the Collectorate on Tuesday, the Collector, along with officials from Revenue, Police, Fire, Municipal, RDO, and Tahsildar departments, discussed safety measures to be implemented across all li-



'Strict enforcement on firecracker sales ahead of Diwali'

the meeting in Puttaparthi on Tuesday

censed firecracker outlets in the district. The officials were instructed to ensure that all shop owners strictly follow fire safety regulations, maintain sand and water for emergencies, and prevent overcrowding and open flames near storage or sales areas.

The Collector directed that shops must be set up with

thatched sheds, maintaining a safe distance between each outlet to avoid fire hazards.

Electrical wiring should be inspected to prevent short circuits, and continuous monitoring should be carried out until the festival concludes.

The SP announced a special police drive to inspect

whether traders are adhering to safety norms and holding valid licenses.

He also warned that sale of crackers in residential or crowded areas is strictly prohibited and must only be done at officially designated locations.

Authorities urged the public to report any illegal sales of firecrackers to Dial 112 or the nearest police station, assuring that the informant's identity will be kept confidential.

The officials reiterated that safety, legality, and public awareness must be the top priorities during the festive season to prevent accidents and ensure a safe Diwali for all.

Handri-Neeva tanks overflow, boosts Rayalaseema irrigation

Hans News Service Kurnool

IN a major push to strengthen irrigation in Rayalaseema, Water Resources Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu reviewed the filling of tanks under the Handri Neeva Sujala Sravanthi Project at the Kurnool CE office on

Tuesday.

The meeting brought together top officials, including Irrigation Advisor Venkateswara Rao, ENC Narasimha Murthy, Chief Engineers, Superintending

 Water Resources Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu reviews the filling of tanks under the Handri Neeva Sujala Sravanthi Project

 Reports that out of 517 tanks in the project area, 299 have already been filled, and active measures are underway to fill the remaining tanks

 Ramanaidu states that reservoirs with a total capacity of 961 TMC are currently holding 844 TMC, amounting to 87.86 percent of total capacity

Engineers, Executive Engineers, and other senior staff, to assess progress and streamline efforts for optimal water storage.

The minister reported that out of 517 tanks in the project area, 299 have already been filled, and active measures are underway to



Water Resources Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu reviewing a meeting on the filling of tanks under the Handri Neeva Sujala Sravanthi Project at the Kurnool CE office on Tuesday

fill the remaining tanks. Highlighting the state's

water storage achievements, Ramanaidu stated that reservoirs with a total capacity of 961 TMC are currently holding 844 TMC, amounting to 87.86 percent of total capacity. "Already, 93 percent of the reservoirs in the state are full," he added, attributing the success to the proactive water manage-

Naidu.

Minister Ramanaidu also emphasized infrastructure development for the project, noting that ⊠3,850 crore has been invested to channel Krishna waters

ment policies of Chief Min-

ister Nara Chandrababu

over 738 kilometers to remote areas.

He criticised former chief minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy for neglecting the Handri Neeva project, saying, "Despite claiming to be a son of Rayalaseema, he did not spend a single rupee on this lifeline project, nor cleared motor bills or desilted tanks."

Contrasting past and present governments' efforts, the minister stated, "What could not be achieved in five years under Jagan's regime, we completed in the first year of the coalition government."

He accused the previous government of electoral theatrics, releasing water using rented tanks before polls.

In a symbolic demonstration of progress, Chief Minister Naidu brought Krishna waters to Kuppam, filled the Paramasagaram tank, and conducted a boat ride, showcasing the administration's commitment to sustainable water supply and regional development.

₹531 cr JSW industrial park to come up at Vizianagaram

- Govt approved JSW's shift from an aluminium refinery complex to a MSME and industrial park across 1,166.43 acres
- SW Industrial Park Ltd is expected to create 45,000 jobs
- State approvals include Rs 3 lakh per acre subsidy, land conversion exemptions, and infrastructure support, aiming to boost industrialisation in north Andhra

Hans News Service Vijayawada

THE state government approved the establishment of a Private Mega Industrial Park by JSW Aluminium Ltd (now renamed JSW Industrial Park Ltd.) in Vizianagaram district, with an investment of Rs 531.36 crore and an employment potential of 45,000 persons.

The industries and commerce department issued orders on Tuesday, granting ISW permission to change

its line of activity from an aluminium refinery complex to a multi-sector MSME and industrial park on the already allocated 985.7 acre land. The total project will now cover 1,166.43 acre across Musidipalli, Cheedipalem, Chinakhandeapalli, MB Vara, and Kiltampalem villages of Shrungavarapukota Mandal in Vizianagaram district.

The government has also approved the change of name from JSW Aluminium Ltd. to JSW Industrial Park



Ltd., and extended eligibility for incentives under the Industrial Development Policy (IDP) 2023–27.

JSW Industrial Park Ltd sought facilities under the AP Private Parks Policy (4.0), 2024–29, including road and water connectivity, two 25 MW substations, removal of 273.74 acres from Section 22A for land allotment, royalty exemptions on site materials, water at Rs 25 per KL for 25 years, 50 per

cent CAPEX reimbursement

for CETP and STP, and subsidies for green energy and rainwater harvesting systems.

These proposals were reviewed by the State Investment Promotion Committee (SIPC) on October 7, 2025, and subsequently approved by the State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB) at its meeting on October 8, 2025.

The government approved a Rs 3 lakh per acre capital subsidy for JSW Industrial Park, along with full exemptions on land conversion and related fees.

APIIC will manage infrastructure, water allocation, and project publicity, while GVMC provides interim water and the revenue department clears 273.74 acres for allotment.

The project is expected to boost industrialization in North Andhra, attracting MSMEs and large units to Vizianagaram.



Palle Panduga 2.0 to change rural landscape: Pawan

 Deputy CM urges officials to design Palle Panduga 2.0 to build on the success of its earlier phase and transform the state's rural landscape

 The review meet emphasised comprehensive plans for urban-level infrastructure in villages, focusing on roads, cattle shelters, and improved sanitation through magic drains

Hans News Service Mangalagiri

DEPUTY Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan said that Palle Panduga 2.0 should be designed to sustain and build upon the success of the earlier phase of Palle Panduga, ensuring a complete transformation of the state's rural landscape.

Chairing a review meet-

ing with senior officials of the panchayat raj and rural development at his camp office on Tuesday, the Deputy CM reviewed preparations for the soon-to-be-launched Palle Panduga 2.0 initiative.

He directed officials to prepare comprehensive plans aimed at promoting urban-level infrastructure and facilities in villages. The review covered key focus areas such

as road development, new road construction, repair works, establishment of cattle shelters (Goshalas), and the creation of magic drains for improved sanitation. Senior officials including special chief secretary of Panchayati Raj and Rural Development, Shashi Bhushan Kumar, Commissioner Krishnateja, OSD Venkatakrishna, chief engineer (panchayat raj) Balu Navak, and other senior officials participated in the review meeting. Deputy CM reiterated that Palle Panduga 2.0 should serve as a catalyst for a vibrant and self-reliant rural Andhra Pradesh, setting a benchmark for holistic rural development.

190 new 108 ambulances to replace old ones

Ambulance colours changed as per National Ambulance Code

Hans News Service Guntur

THE state government is set to roll out 190 new 108 emergency ambulances across the state. This initiative will ensure that victims of road accidents and other emergencies are shifted to hospitals much faster than before.

According to the tender guidelines issued by the government, the new ambulances have been fully prepared and will soon be flagged off by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and health minister Y Satya Kumar Yadav.

with these new vehicles. As a result, patients will receive medical attention within the crucial 'Golden Hour', Satya Kumar Yadav said in an official statement. Unlike in the past, the new ambulances have been painted in colors specified under the 'National Ambulance Code'. During the previous YSRCP regime, the maintenance of 108 emergency ambulances deteriorated

The old, poorly maintained

ambulances which frequently

broke down and required re-

peated repairs will be replaced

severely.

After the coalition gov-

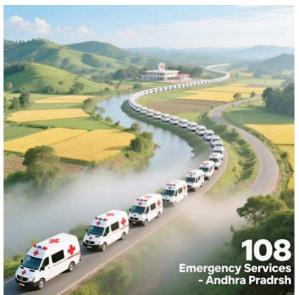
ernment assumed power, it awarded the 108 ambulance maintenance contract in April this year to Bhavya Health Services Pvt. Ltd., selected through a transparent tender process.

As per government regulations, the company spent about Rs.27 lakh per ambulance. The new fleet includes 56 advanced life support and 134 basic life support ambulances. The ALS ambulances are equipped with two ventilators and other critical medical devices, enabling the treatment of severely injured patients during transit.

The system is designed to ensure that emergency calls lead to hospital transfers within an hour, known as the 'Golden Hour'.

At present, 650 ambulances are operating across A.P.. With the addition of new vehicles and the removal of outdated ones, the total operational fleet will now reach 731 ambulances.

Following the Central government's national ambulance code, the new fleet adopts a white and red colour scheme, which is now mandatory for all 108 emergency ambulances across the country.



Govt to re-register 2,180 acres under Kakinada SEZ to farmers

Hans News Servic Vijayawada

THE state government has decided to re-register 2,180 acre land under the Kakinada Special Economic Zone (SEZ) without charging stamp and registration duties, benefiting over 1,550 farmers in the Tondangi and Uppada Kothapalli mandals along the Kakinada coast.

Deputy Chief Minister K Pawan Kalyan, who had promised during the last election to return the SEZ lands to farmers, took the initiative to resolve this long-standing issue. He held discussions with Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, following which the government approved the waiver of registration fees and stamp duty. "This move ensures that farmers regain their lands without any financial burden, fulfilling the promises made during the election," officials said.

The re-registration process will formalize land ownership, giving legal clarity and long-term security to the affected farmers.

Parakamani theft case back under scanner as CID steps in

CID officials seize crucial records in delayed probe following High Court rebuke

Pradeep Vennelakant Tirumala

THE Crime Investigation Department (CID) has reopened the high-profile Parakamani theft case at the Srivari temple in Tirumala, following stern criticism from the AP High Court over the prolonged inaction on its earlier directives.

A special CID team headed by director general Ravi Shankar Ayyanar visited the temple's Parakamani (the counting centre for devotees' offerings) on Tuesday and began a fresh round of evidence collection. Investigators seized crucial documents, including files from the Tirumala I Town police station, Lok Adalat records, and resolutions passed by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) board concerning the theft.

Briefing the media, Ayyanar said the CID was acting strictly in accordance with the High Court's orders. "We have taken custody of all related documents, CCTV footage, and TTD board resolutions. The collected material will be presented to the High Court in a sealed cover," he stated.

The intensified inquiry comes after the court, led by Justice Gannamaneni Ramakrishna Prasad, expressed dissatisfaction with the delay in implementing its Sep-



CID DGP Ravi Shankar Ayyannar speaking to the media at police guest house in Tirumala on Tuesdav

tember 16 order. The bench questioned why the CID had waited until October 8 to seek a modification of the directive instead of acting promptly.

The case first surfaced in March 2023 when an employee of Jeeyar Mutt, C Ravi Kumar, was caught stealing about \$ 920 from the Parakamani. However, later CCTV footage uncovered that the theft was much larger, allegedly involving foreign currency worth over 11,300 dollars hidden in his clothing during a separate incident in April 2023.

Initially, the case was closed following a Lok Adalat settlement in September 2023, under which Ravi Kumar reportedly agreed to surrender seven of his properties, valued at approximately Rs 40 crore, to the TTD.

to the TTD.

The board accepted the settlement and dropped the case, but a public petitioner challenged this move in the High Court, alleging that the compromise was irregular and

Google hub will generate ₹10,000 cr for AP: Pemmasani

that a full investigation had been bypassed.

Responding to the court's directions, the CID has now seized all case-related materials, including those from the Lok Adalat. The agency had earlier also requested permission for a senior officer to oversee the seizure process, citing the absence of an Inspector General in the department. Meanwhile, TTD Trust Board member and BJP leader G Bhanu Prakash Reddy met Avyanar on Tuesday and submitted documents and CCTV clips that he said could shed more light on the theft. He urged the CID to carry out an impartial investigation and ensure accountability at all

"We have faith in the police and the judicial system. Those involved in looting Lord Venkateswara's wealth, whether they planned it or benefited from it, will soon face justice. This will be a victory for the devotees, Bhanu Prakash said.

TTD board members allege that Ravi Kumar may have misappropriated foreign currency over a prolonged period, amassing properties worth more than Rs 100 crore. The CID has taken charge of all pertinent evidence and is expected to present a comprehensive report to the High Court soon.

Excise minister inspects wine shop, verifies brands • Ravindra verifies liquor authenticity and later holds a video deaths to liquor cases, citing

- conference with excise officials
 Accuses YSRCP leaders of spreading false propaganda, citing past incidents of fake liquor deaths under their rule, and
- highlights the NDA govt's transparent liquor policy reforms
 Warns against unauthorised belt shops, urges consumers to report suspicious activity, and vowed strict action against violators and those politicizing liquor-related issues

HANS NEWS SERVICE VIIAYAWADA

PROHIBITION and excise minister Kollu Ravindra conducted a surprise inspection at a wine shop located on Sambamurthy Road here on Tuesday. He was accompanied by excise commissioner Ch Sridhar. During the visit, the minister verified liquor brands using the AP Excise Suraksha app, which enables consumers to check whether a liquor brand is genuine or spurious. After completing the inspection, he held a review meeting with all excise officials and staff through video conference.

video conference.

Speaking to the media later, Ravindra accused YS-RCP leaders of attempting to defame the government by spreading false propaganda. He alleged that during the



Excise minister Kollu Ravindra verifying a liquor brand using the AP Excise Suraksha app at a wine shop in Vijayawada on Tuesday

previous YSRCP regime, several people had lost their lives due to the circulation of fake liquor. To prevent such incidents, the NDA coalition government introduced a new Liquor Policy and allotted wine shops in a transparent

manner, he said.

The minister said that one of the accused in the fake liquor scam, Janardhana Rao, had exposed the conspiracy behind the racket. Ravindra further criticised YSRCP leaders for linking unrelated

deaths to liquor cases, citing an example where a man who died of dehydration in Nellore was falsely associated with liquor consumption.

ment would probe every case thoroughly and take stern action against those involved, irrespective of their political or social background. Ravindra also warned wine shop owners against running unauthorized belt shops, cautioning that strict action would be taken against violators.

He urged consumers to buy liquor only from authorized outlets and to report any suspicious activity to excise officials. The Minister made it clear that those trying to politicize the fake liquor issue would not be spared.

Streamline urea distribution in rabi top priority: Agri director

- Manazir Jeelani Samoon, newly appointed director of agriculture, calls for smooth and transparent urea distribution for the upcoming rabi season
- Directs officials to enhance real-time monitoring of fertiliser stocks via the IFMS system and ensure RSKs are fully operational with verified access and biometric devices
- The director stresses adopting digital agriculture tools, precision farming, drone-based nano-fertiliser spraying, and strengthening FPOs to support farmers and improve data accuracy

Hans News Service Guntur

STREAMLINING the distribution of urea for the upcoming rabi season will be the top priority for the agriculture department, said newly-appointed director of agriculture, Dr Manazir Jeelani Samoon, after taking charge at the directorate of agriculture office in Mangalagiri on Tuesday.

Soon after taking charge, Dr Samoon held a comprehensive review meeting with additional directors, joint directors, and section heads to assess crop conditions, input availability — especially urea — and the status of ongoing Central and state agricultural schemes. He directed officials to prepare an action plan to ensure smooth and transparent urea distribution, prevent-



Director of agriculture Dr Manzir Jeelani Samoon addressing a meeting of additional directors, joint directors, and section heads at his office in Mangalagiri on Tuesday

ing the bottlenecks experienced during the previous season.

Dr Samoon reviewed the software system for urea distribution and instructed that real-time monitoring of fertilizer stocks through the IFMS system be strictly implemented. He emphasised

that Rythu Seva Kendras (RSKs) would play a key role in fertilizer supply, directing officials to verify login access, biometric devices, and operational readiness well before the Rabi season.

The meeting also discussed the Digital Agriculture Platform and the

implementation of applications like D-Krishi, e-Panta, AGILE, AP-AIMS 2.0, and APPS.

Dr Samoon stressed the need to adopt precision farming and drone-based spraying of nano-fertilizers and pesticides in selected pilot areas.

He underscored the importance of accurate crop area and yield data, directing that crop-cutting experiments under the Crop Insurance Scheme be conducted as per schedule. He also called for proactive measures to strengthen Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and ensure that farmers face no inconvenience during procure-

ment operations.

Officers from various wings of the department congratulated Dr. Samoon on assuming charge.

masani Chandrasekhar said on Tuesday.

Describing the project as a defining milestone in Swarandhra Pradesh's journey of progress and self-reliance, the Union minister said that the investment of approximately 15 billion US dollars over five years

New Delhi

THE upcoming 1-GW hyperscale Google

Data Centre in Visakhapatnam is expected

to generate approximately Rs 10,000 crore

in revenue for Andhra Pradesh, Union

minister of state for communications Pem-

(2026-2030) will create 5,000-6,000 direct jobs and 20,000-30,000 total jobs in the state, while bringing essential manpower, infrastructure, power, and cooling facilities to Visakhapatnam, generating a significant multiplier effect on the state's economy.

The minister was interacting with the media after the announcement about setting up the artificial intelligence (AI) hub in Visakhapatnam, during the Bharat AI Shakti event held in New Delhi. The project will include India's first gigawatt-scale data centre and Google's first AI hub in India.

Young Lans

THE FUTURE OF WORK THROUGH GEN Z EYES

THEN one looks at today's young Gen Z students, they see a fundamental shift in how careers are being imagined & pursued. For earlier generations, careers were often seen as financial anchors or pathways to security. You picked a profession, committed to it for decades, and it became the foundation of stability for the family. But for Gen Z, careers are deeply tied to identity, purpose lifestyle & not confined to the sense of security. This generation is rewriting the rulebook: careers are lifestyle choices, and lifestyle choices are career decisions. And they're not wrong.

The blending of work and

For Gen Z, the old concept of "work-life balance" outdated. Instead, they talk about "work-life integration."A career is now no longer about what you do between nine and five. Instead, it's an extension of who you are, what you care about, and the type of life you wish to live. If you're passionate about travel, you're drawn to careers in content creation, global consulting, or hospitality. If wellness is at the

A deep dive into how values, creativity, and freedom are shaping the next era of career choices

center of your life, careers in fitness, nutrition, or mental health appeal. The career is chosen to complement life & that's what is imperative in the long run.

The very approach is reshaping industries. Employees today understand that younger professionals desire flexibility, autonomy, and purpose. They are less inclined to take up jobs requiring personal sacrifice, and more inclined to go for businesses that align with their values: whether it is sustainability, diversity, or social responsibility.

The magnificent rise of purpose-driven careers

Probably, the most striking pattern here is how strongly Gen Z aligns career decisions with personal values. For instance, many students nowadays are choosing careers in renewable energy, social entrepreneurship, or something like impact con-



sulting: not merely because these fields are growing, but because they align with their aspirations of contributing to society. Similarly, even in technology, there's a visible shift towards aspirational careers. Educators are of immense importance in this scenario as they're responsible for helping students connect the dots between where they are & what they strive

Flexibility as a non-negotiable element

The pandemic accelerated trends that were already underway i.e., remote work, gig

opportunities & moonlighting as a career. Gen Z has imbibed this wholeheartedly. For them, a career shouldn't be confined to one employer or one role. They're comfortable with freelancing, side hustles & modern options like moonlighting. MBA students today are often seen running small e-commerce stores, freelancing as digital marketers, or creating YouTube channels alongside their studies. For this generation, income streams and career identities are increasingly fluid. These pursuits fit into the lifestyle they aspire to: creative, flexible, and selfdirected and that's what matters, ultimately.

Creating the future instead

of waiting for it Careers can draw a lot of fuel from Abraham Lincoln's famous ideology: "The best way to predict the future is to create it." When an educator applies this to career development, it translates to preparing students for the possibilities that don't yet exist. This is the only reason why we motivate students to view careers as growth paths. The values they maintain, the skills they gain, and the decisions they make should

life they desire for themselves. Most of the time, it is absolutely necessary for students to combine technical expertise with human skills.

all contribute to making the

If you're pursuing IT, understand how those tools affect people's lives. If you're in management, inculcate digital fluency. This integration makes them aligned with their lifestyle choices. After all, a fulfilling career is one that doesn't merely earn you a paycheck but enriches your way of living.

The role of educators & institutions

TODAY IS GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY

Raising awareness about hand hygiene

Marquee institutes have a responsibility to adapt. Traditional models of education revolving around academic knowledge have become outdated pretty quickly. In fact, we need to offer exposure to entrepreneurial thinking & that's super important. This way, students are prepared for life & not confined to the

9 to 5 hustle. Gen Z is Genz owing to their refusal to separate who they are from what they do. Their careers are extensions of their values, passions, and aspirations. They are unapologetic about choosing professions that let them

live the lives they want & that means prioritizing creativity, global mobility, sustainability & wellness combined into an offering. As educators and mentors, our role is not to fit them into old moulds but to give them the tools, exposure, and confidence to design their own. Because in the end, careers should serve both: economic reasons & lifestyle decisions. And this generation, more than any

(The author is Director General, Institute of Management Studies (IMS)

before, knows it best.



Equipping young with job-ready AI skills

N a major step to bridge the AI skills gap in India, EY and Microsoft launched the AI Skills Passport, a free online programme designed to provide young Indians with the tools and knowledge needed to thrive in an AI-driven economy.

The initiative, aimed at individuals aged 16 and above, offers equitable access to high-quality AI education, preparing early-career professionals and students with essential, job-ready AI skills.

The launch in India follows a global roll-out earlier this year, which has already seen over 40,000 participants enroll and more than 13,000 complete the programme

With NASSCOM reporting that only 31 per cent of professionals in India feel well-prepared to use AI tools, EY and Microsoft aim to empower youth to upskill and be future-ready in an increasingly digital landscape.

Monesh Dange, Partner and Leader, Alliances and Ecosystems, EY India, said, "In an era where AI is revolutionising work and redefining career paths, the launch of the AI Skills Passport addresses India's growing demand for skilled AI talent."

Free and inclusive learning: A fully online, free programme available in English and Hindi, ensuring broad accessibility across regions and backgrounds.

Practical, career-focused curriculum: Around 10 hours of content combining AI fundamentals, responsible AI, real-world applications, and career development support.

Verified credential for employability: Participants enhancing their job prospects and credibility in the Al-driven economy earn a verifiable digital badge, enhancing their job prospects and credibility in the Al-driven economy

"Many professionals remain unprepared to harness AI's full potential. Together with Microsoft, we're committed to ensuring this programme is not only free but impactful at scale, providing access for everyone to build essential AI skills," Dange added.

The AI Skills Passport is a fully online programme with approximately 10 hours of content, available in both English and Hindi to ensure broad accessibility.

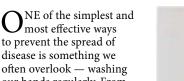
The programme combines modular video lessons, practical exercises, and asynchronous assessments, allowing learners to engage at their own pace.

It covers fundamentals of AI, responsible AI practices, and applications of AI across industries such as healthcare, finance, and

technology. Real-world case studies, hands-on exercises, and career guidance, including résumé building, interview preparation, and networking strategies, are integrated to help learners apply their skills and

enhance employability. Upon successful completion, participants receive a verifiable digital badge to strengthen their job profiles and career prospects in the AI-driven economy.

Bhaskar Basu, Enterprise Partnerships Leader, Microsoft India & amp; South Asia, said, "AI is transforming India's digital economy, with youth at its core. The AI Skills Passport, launched in partnership with EY, reflects our vision of 'AI for all' and our commitment to fostering future-ready talent."



disease is something we often overlook - washing our hands regularly. From classrooms and offices to hospitals and homes, proper hand hygiene is a powerful defense against germs, bacteria, and viruses that cause illness.

Every day, we touch countless surfaces doorknobs, phones, keyboards, money - all of which can harbor harmful we touch our eyes, nose, or mouth without washing our hands, these germs can easily enter our bodies, leading to infections such as the flu, common cold, food poisoning, or even more serious diseases.

Regular handwashing



with soap and clean water can reduce the risk of respiratory and diarrheal

infections by up to 40%. It's a simple habit with enormous health benefits

 one that protects not only you but also those around you. The key is to

wash your hands for at least 20 seconds, especially before eating, after using the restroom, after coughing or sneezing, and after touching public surfaces.

Raising awareness about hand hygiene is just as important as practicing it. Schools, workplaces, and communities can take small but meaningful steps like putting up posters, organizing awareness drives, or teaching children the right way to wash their hands.

Clean hands symbolize care, responsibility, and respect for others. As global health challenges continue to rise, adopting regular handwashing as a daily habit is one of the easiest and most effective ways to build a healthier, safer world for everyone.

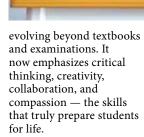
WORLD STUDENTS' DAY

CELEBRATING THE POWER, POTENTIAL, AND PROMISE OF YOUTH

 $E^{
m VERY}$ year on October 15, the world celebrates World Students' Day — a day dedicated to honouring the spirit of learning, creativity, and curiosity that defines students across the globe. The date marks the birth anniversary of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, India's former President, eminent scientist, and one of the most inspiring educators of our time. His life's message was simple yet powerful: "Dream, dream, dream. Dreams transform into thoughts and thoughts result in action."

World Students' Day is not merely a celebration; it's a reminder of the vital role students play in shaping the future.

In an era driven by rapid technological advancements, climate change, and global interconnectivity, today's learners are tomorrow's innovators, leaders, and problem-solvers. Their ideas have the power to redefine industries, influence societies, and build more inclusive and sustainable communities. Modern education is



The rise of AI, digital learning platforms, and experiential education has created new opportunities

for students to learn anytime, anywhere. However, with these opportunities come responsibilities — to use technology ethically, to think globally while acting locally, and to pursue learning not just for personal growth but for the

collective good. As we celebrate this day,

it's essential to reflect on the challenges students face today - academic pressure, mental health struggles, and the growing digital divide. Institutions, educators, and policymakers must work together to create environments that nurture curiosity and emotional well-being, ensuring that

learning remains a joyful, empowering experience.

World Students' Day also celebrates the spirit of resilience. Whether adapting to online learning, exploring entrepreneurship, or leading social impact projects, students continue to prove their ability to innovate even in uncertainty.

India's global reset: Rebuilding ties with Canada, US and the West

▼NDIA and Canada have agreed Lon an "ambitious roadmap" to restore and rebuild bilateral relations, which sharply deteriorated following the killing of a Khalistani Sikh extremist in the North American country in 2023. This is a pleasant surprise, as the then prime minister, Justin Trudeau's party, the Liberal Party, returned to power this year. It may be recalled that Trudeau played a pivotal role in souring Indo-Canadian relations. The objective of the new roadmap is to advance "cooperation in various domains, including trade, investment, agriculture, science and technology, civil nuclear collaboration, artificial intelligence, critical minerals, and energy," said External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar after meeting his Canadian counterpart Anita Anand in New Delhi. This should be seen as part of a major reset in India's engagement with the world: there is new urgency in boosting relations with other countries, especially the West. After months of bitterness over US President Donald Trump's peevish remarks about India, the two countries have also decided to hold trade negotiations this week. India has reportedly promised to import US energy and gas as it aims to placate Washington's concerns over the issue of Russian oil purchases.

Trump's conciliatory tone in his statements has played a part in ensuring this. British Prime Minister Keir Starmer's recent visit should also be viewed in the same light. It has helped widen engagements between the two nations in critical areas such as trade, technology,

defence, and security. His trip was preceded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to London in July, when the two countries signed a crucial comprehensive economic & trade agreement (CETA) that is currently awaiting ratification. Around the same time, the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), which India signed with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) in March 2024, came into effect. The EFTA, comprising Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein, is a vital bloc for India's export diversification strategy. EFTA nations have pledged substantial long-term investments in India's manufacturing and services sectors in return for tariff concessions, establishing a new model for future trade negotiations. India is also actively

negotiating a broader free trade agreement (FTA) with the European Union, its largest trading partner in goods. The growing economic interdependence, catalysed by Trump's aggressive tariffs, has created strong momentum for an ambitious FTA that could remove regulatory barriers, liberalise services, and enhance investment protections.

With more than 6,000 EU companies already operating in India, both sides see immense potential in expanding cooperation in sectors such as digital technologies, renewable energy, pharmaceuticals, and green mobility. These developments have also effected a shift in India's external engagement—from reactive diplomacy to a proactive and strategic recalibration of partnerships. The empha-

sis is on diversification, resilience, and technological collaboration. Whether it is through rebuilding trust with Canada, reviving trade talks with the US, strengthening strategic ties with the UK, or pursuing ambitious economic integration with Europe, India's foreign policy today reflects a confident, globally oriented vision. This transformation is being driven by both geopolitical and economic imperatives. In an era of fragmented global supply chains, energy insecurity, and technological competition, India's ability to maintain balanced relations with major powers while pursuing its developmental priorities is becoming its most valuable diplomatic asset. The new roadmap with Canada, therefore, is not an isolated event but part of a larger narrative.

Our future is in our own hands and right here



Ravulapati Seetaramarao

↑HE idea that "a job is a man's defining characteristic" longs to an older era. In today's modern age there's no need to give that saying any weight. What matters now is whether jobs are available to everyone — are people with education actually getting work?

That is the question we need to ask. Are jobs meant only for the educated lot? No. Eligibility should be judged only by job-related requirements cal fitness, education and skills, among others, must be taken into account. This piece is not meant to analyse job availability across the whole world. It is limited to understanding what the employment situation is like in

Health and education are inseparable. You can learn only if you are healthy. In the past, rural areas had more people in good health. Today, there is not much difference between villages and towns when it comes to protecting people's health

Previously there was less need for people in villages to search for jobs. Formal schooling was not a requirement for most village work. Agricultural labour, farm tasks and various trades were plentiful; people earned their livelihoods and did not struggle to put food on the table on an everyday basis. Simply put, illiteracy did not prevent people in villages from getting work and the migration to towns was much lower.

In the past, resources for education in villages were extremely limited. Village life revolved around temple scholars teaching basic lessons; there were only a few schools and no higher education institutions. Most village students studied only up to about the fifth grade. To study beyond that, they had to go to nearby towns or cities. Those engaged in farming and trade had only minimal financial resources, so higher education was virtually inaccessible to them.

Times have changed! The value of education is finally understood! The determination to study no matter what-regardless of being poor or rich—has become widespread. That is why village elders now routinely work hard to send their children to towns for higher education. The belief that "higher education means studying in America" has taken hold.

In the 1980s and '90s



The old proverb about distant mountains being shiny is finally making sense to Indians. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks after the visa incident must be taken seriously. His pointed comments-stressing that we must stand on our own feet—are something Indians, especially those who pin their hopes on overseas jobs, should take particular note of. We don't have to idolize America.

ing abroad became easier for students who had reached a certain level in life. Education loans were readily available in banks and villagers mortgaged their fields and property and sent their children overseas for further studies. While studying and working there, many sent their earnings back to their parents, which improved the financial standing of their respective families. When villagers became better off, they migrated to towns seeking a more comfortable life. Their children, who would visit occasionally, also preferred town life.

With the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act assuring at least 100 days of work (some kind of employment) for every adult in each village, a regular cash flow began to reach people alongside their livelihood. As a result, traditional manual and agricultural labour that young people used to do in the villages appeared bur-

The quest for urban life and luxury and people heading to the city, rang in drastic changes in village life. Agricultural work and field-level labour declined, as a result of which the rural agricultural system began to suffer. Unemployment figures began to increase in villages, while government schemes and welfare programs remained only on paper.

In fact, the culture of doing hard work for a livelihood disappeared from the

rural fabric. In this situation, ordinary B.A. and M.A. graduates and young people were subject to unemployment woes even in towns. Jobs matching their education were hard to find, and hiring of such people for low-level work steadily de-

Every incumbent government promises job calendars before elections, but those promises are just for namesake — there's no evidence of actual follow up. Outsourcing practices that treat workers like expendable pieces have created an unstable, uncertain life for youth. Under the guise of welfare schemes, governments are trying to buy votes in villages and towns — especially by pacifying young people — but it's unfortunate that they haven't been able to create government jobs and meaningfully address the unemployment issue. It's true that the recent policies announced by US President Donald Trump are hitting India hard. For new applicants (skilled non immigrants) the H 1B visa fee has surged to nearly six times the current fee making it much harder for those hoping to go to the U S for work.

Moreover, this approach will severely affect many long standing software companies in the United States in the coming years. Bringing in new workers under this visa has become risky Under the lottery system, until now roughly 85,000 people went each year; that number has reportedly plunged dramatically recently. There could be many difficulties ahead in hiring specialised workers.

The old proverb about distant mountains being shiny is finally making sense to Indians. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks after the visa incident must be taken seriously. His pointed comments-stressing that we must stand on our own feet-are something Indians, especially those who pin their hopes on overseas jobs, should take particular note of. We don't have to idolize America.

In fact, we must not forget that for many years India's youth-driven economic growth was largely due to progressive policies followed in the US. That said, given the current situation, Trump and others are firmly convinced that America's economic rebound is the result of its lighter, more permissive policies. Other countries don't have the right to dismiss that belief.

If we can develop our own products, jobs and skills without being intimidated by tariffs, even if the benefits don't come today, we can achieve the results we hope for tomorrow.

(The writer is a retired IPS officer, who has served as an Additional DGP of Andhra Pradesh)

LETTERS

Remembering Dr Kalam, the 'people's president'

THE 'World Students Day', instituted by the UN, is celebrated annually on October 15 to commemorate the birth anniversary of out former president Dr Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam. The day celebrates his extraordinary efforts in science, education and the military. Hailed as the "Missile Man of India" for his outstanding achievements in developing ballistic missiles and launch vehicle technology, and his commitment to education and his rapport with students led to the inception of this day. The 'World Students Day' focuses on encouraging students to become leaders and innovators and about how education can transform the mindset of individuals and help them shape a better future for all. India's 11th president had embarked on his avowed mission to transform India into a fully developed country by 2020, through the 'Lead India' campaign. Dr Kalam always spoke of a good society that can be built when students have knowledge and are proficient in their subjects, thanks to the pioneering role of teachers. The life of Bharat Ratna, popularly hailed as the 'people's president', stands as an inspiration to students and

Dr Burra Madhusudhan Reddy, Karimnagar

Kalam's life an inspiration to Gen Z

 $M^{\rm ANY}$ great Indian personalities have been born in October, including Mahatma Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri and Dr Homi Bhabha. We remember with reverence Dr APJ Abdul Kalam-scientist, 'Missile Man', Bharat Ratna and 'people's president'-every October 15, marking his birth anniversary. I recently reread Wings of Fire (Expanded Edition), which has sold over two million copies since its publication in 1999. The edition features a moving foreword by his private secretary, Harry Sheridan, and around 50 new photographs that bring alive his inspiring journey. In 2002, when persuaded to contest the presidential election, BJP's Pramod Mahajan asked him for an auspicious time to file his nomination. Kalam replied, "Any time is auspicious for me," explaining that for as long as the Earth rotates and orbits the Sun, every moment is blessed by science, not astrology. Whether politicians have honed scientific thinking or not, his words remain a timeless lesson in scientific thinking for Gen Z and generations be-

N Nagarajan, Hyderabad

Educate girls for their safety

THIS has reference to the article 'Didi shocks the na-▲ tion. Everyone knows the ground realities. As per the 2022 NCRB report, approximately 31,516 rape cases reported across the country. On an average 86 such cases are reported each day. Many girls stay in hostels to be safe when away from their family. Hostels and colleges are like home away from home. It is the responsibility of the principals to create rules that no inmate leaves the campus late evenings without permission. They must mention the reason for going out, the location and when they are likely to return. The security staff must call the girl's parents and inform them that their daughter is going out late evenings. Every girl must be educated about aspects needed to ensure their safety. Meanwhile, police and legal authorities need to punish culprits responsible for heinous crimes almost immediately. That is the only solution to deter the culprits from indulging in macabre crimes.

G Murali Mohana Rao, Secunderabad-11

Mamata must prioritise safety of girls

The recent incident of gang-rape of a medical student in Durgapur has sparked nationwide outrage. This reflects the deteriorating law and order situation in West Bengal It is shocking that Chief Minister Mamata Baneries has shifted the blame on the college authorities wondering how the girl had come out of the campus at midnight. Despite systematic sexual exploitation and reign of terror by the ruling party hooligans, the silence on the part of the government and police inaction against the perpetrators are a clear pointer that saving the goons was more important than rendering justice to victims. Even as the incident highlights the vulnerability and safety of women due to state's negligence, it is time the court intervenes and ensures the harshest retribution to the perpetrators.

K R Srinivasan, Secunderabad-3

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The voice within and the need for poetry

Every individual needs poetry in life- not just as written verses, but as the inner rhythm of thought



Dr Mylavaram CHANDRA SHEKAR

 ${f A}$ human being speaks — but not always from the heart. In today's ultra-connected world, dominated by artificial intelligence (AI) and instant messaging, our communications are often filtered through screens, algorithms, and trending nar-

When the heart wants to speak in its own rhythm, it takes the form of poetry.

A poem is born out of the urge to express what we truly feel. When we fail to convey our emotions directly — whether silenced by power imbalances in geopolitics or the high-pressure environments of business boardrooms - those emotions find their way through words.

Gentle, honest and rhythmic, poetry becomes not an ornament of language, but the purest reflection of the human mind, able to cut through the noise of propaganda, market sensationalism, and technological over-

load. Poetry is not just an emotional flow; it is also a courageous voice that seeks to unveil truth. In an era where deepfakes and misinformation shape public perception, poetry helps us distinguish between reality and illusion, allowing us to see things more clearly. Where news reveals facts, a poem adds a heartbeat to those facts, humanising headlines about conflict, recession, innovation, or migration. It is this pulse that links the lived experiences of people to unfolding events - and serves as a reminder to people in power of the human consequences beneath the

Over time, poetry has evolved:

Today's poet is not confined to flowers, the moon, rivers or nature. The modern poet writes about computer screens, smartphones, supply chains disrupted by conflict, and the human mind caught between economic volatility and the rapid pace of technological change. The poet observes how technology — from AI to blockchain — changes not only our surroundings but also our inner world, bringing with it questions of privacy, autonomy, and

identity. Poetry acts like a mirror — one that reflects our



In today's rapidly shifting geopolitical and economic landscape — where policy reversals, technological advances, and business disruptions are the norm - poetry teaches us that balance. It reminds us that victory is not about defeating others, but about overcoming the confusion within ourselves, and leading with vision and compassion

weaknesses, hopes, fears, and the most profound aspects of our consciousness. On the global stage, this mirror reflects the anxieties of societies facing job displacement due to automation or the divisiveness fuelled by social media echo chambers. Once we begin to see ourselves through this mirror, change starts within.

Every true poem asks a question: "Who are you really?" The search for this answer becomes a journey toward self-understanding, an inner resilience that is much needed in a time of rapid political, economic, and technological flux.

The fact is that poetry is also a form of knowledge

sharing. In business education, a lesson may fade from one's memory, but a poem about a leader's vision, an entrepreneur's struggle, or a worker's dream stays in the heart. Poetry teaches not just about what to think, but how to think — with empathy, with creativity and with an appreciation for complexity.

Through simple words, poetry sparks imagination and keeps erudition alive across generations, bridging the knowledge gap that often exists in the pursuit of innovation, policy and enterprise.

In society, differences of opinion are natural whether over trade policy, climate action or regulation of new technologies. Poetry builds bridges of understanding across those

A poet brings different perspectives onto the same page and encourages respect for each of them, much as successful global businesses and diplomatic initiatives navigate diverse viewpoints to reach a consensus. Poetry is not a voice of division; it is a song of connection, essential for collaboration and peaceful progress in our interconnected world.

Every individual needs poetry in life — not just as written verses, but as the inner rhythm of thought. A poem can offer courage when words fail, comfort when silence feels heavy, and clarity when the mind is restless, whether one is a policymaker, entrepreneur, student, or citizen seeking direction amid uncertainty.

Life is like a pair of horses pulling a chariot — it needs balance, patience, and direc-

tion to reach its destination. In today's rapidly shifting geopolitical and economic landscape — where policy reversals, technological advances, and business disruptions are the norm — poetry teaches us that balance. It reminds us that victory is not about defeating others, but about overcoming the confusion within ourselves, and leading with vision and compassion. The question "Why po-

etry?" may sound simple, but its answer is infinite. For every heart that feels deeply - especially in a world transformed by geopolitics, business cycles, and technology — a poem is already being written within. Poetry is the voice of that inner self a bridge between the silent heart and the speaking mind. It guides us gently toward understanding ourselves, and through that, understanding the world. This version weaves in the roles that policy, business, and technology play in shaping today's emotional and cultural landscapes, and highlights poetry's power as a counterbalance and guide in a complex, rapidly changing

Summary:

In a world of constant noise - from news feeds about global summits to the buzz of financial markets and relentless social media updates - poetry brings back silence. This silence helps us listen to our own hearts and regain perspective amid the turbulence of geopolitics and economic uncertainty.

> (The writer is Program Head - PGDM BFS, Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad)

BENGALURU ONLINE

TN man 'sends hoax bomb threat' to residences of CM, Dv CM

BENGALURU: A probe has been launched to trace a man from Tamil Nadu who allegedly sent a hoax email recently threatening to blow up the residences of Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief

Minister D K Shivakumar, police said on Tuesday. The emails were sent from a particular ID to the Tamil Nadu DGP on October 11, following which officials of the Karnataka police were immediately alerted and necessary precautionary measures were taken, they

The purported email from aarna.ashwinshekher@ outlook.com claimed that "four RDX devices and several IEDs" had been planted at the residences of both the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister and would be "detonated remotely."

As per protocol, precautionary measures were initiated, and the Bengaluru police carried out combing operations at both residences with the bomb detection and disposal squad. However, after thorough checks, the emails were declared a hoax, a senior police officer said. A case was registered by the police on their own against the sender of the purported email at Halasuru Gate police station under sections 351(4) (criminal intimidation) and 353(1)(b) (statements conducing to public mischief) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the officer said. "The particular email ID has been tracked to a man from Tamil Nadu and efforts are on to nab the culprit.

Read more at https://epaper.thehansindia.com

BIG TWIST IN HARYANA IPS OFFICER SUICIDE CASE

Another cop shoots self; accuses dead ADGP of graft

ROHTAK/CHANDIGARH

A Haryana cop in Rohtak has allegedly committed suicide, accusing the deceased officer, Y Puran Kumar, of corruption, police said on Tuesday. The deceased has been identified as Sandeep Lather, who was posted with the cyber cell of Rohtak Police.

In his final video, ASI Sandeep expressed support to former Rohtak SP Narendra Bijarnia who was shunted after the incident. In the video, Sandeep said that Bijarnia is an honest police officer. Police sources said that Sandeep played a role in the arrest of head constable Sushil Kumar, an aide of Puran Kumar.

"ASI Sandeep was a very hardworking and an honest person in our department. We received information that a body has been found after which we reached here,"



Rohtak Superintendent of Police S S Bhoria told reporters at the incident site. Asked about the video and

the note, he said, "To say anything at this stage is difficult. The forensic team is investigating." In a video recorded before his death, Sandeep levelled serious allegations against Puran Kumar, comparing his act to the sacrifices made by freedom fighter Bhagat Singh. He is heard saying that "the country will awaken when we sacrifice ourselves on the path of truth." Puran Kumar's name had recently surfaced in a bribery case.

A liquor contractor in

Rahul urges swift action over IPS officer's death

NEW DELHI: Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday strongly criticised the delay in action on the assurances given to the family of late IPS officer Y Puran Kumar by the Haryana government, urging it to allow his "final rites to take place peacefully, and end this drama".

Rohtak had accused head constable Sushil Kumar of demanding a bribe of Rs 2.5 lakh in Puran Kumar's name during his posting there, according to reports. Sushil Kumar was later arrested in connec-

VC urges officials to keep TUDA on top

TIRUPATI: TUDA Vice-Chairman Shubham Bansal called on officials to work hard to keep TUDA among the top Urban Development Authorities in the State. TUDA officials organised a grand farewell for him here on Tuesday as he is leaving on transfer. Speaking on the occasion, Bansal said there is great potential to increase in-

in TUDA layouts. He added that the revenue earned would help improve basic infrastructure in both urban and rural areas. TUDA secretary Dr N V Sreekanth Babu praised Joint Collector Shubham Bhansal for his effective service over the past four months as Vice-Chairman. SE Krishna Reddy, LAO Sujana, CPO Devi Kumari

2 YSRCP activists held for spreading false news in SM

Tirupati

ALIPIRI police arrested two YSRCP activists here late on Monday night for spreading false news on social media regarding fake liquor sales in the city.

Speaking to mediapersons, ASP Ravimanoharachari revealed the case details and said that on October 7, a video titled "Fake liquor in Tirupati - Where is public safety?" went viral on social media.

Tirupati Urban Prohibition and Excise CI Mandapalle Ramachandra noticed the video and filed a complaint at East Police Station, he said.

As per the directions of District SP L Subbarayudu, and under the supervision of DSP Bhaktavatsalam, a detailed inquiry was conducted. The team found that the video and similar posts shared on

Instagram and Facebook were fake and were made only to create confusion among the public. There were no cases of fake liquor in the city.

The arrested were identified as A1 Chandrasekhar Venkatesh (25), MLC Cipai Subramanyam PA, and A2 Brungi Naveen (38), YSRCP activist and member in social media team. Both were arrested and they confessed to recording, editing, and posting



and government, he added. During technical investigation, police confirmed through mobile call records and CCTV footage that both the accused worked together and circulated false content. ASP warned that strict legal

action will be taken against anyone creating or spreading false and misleading posts on social media.

A case has been registered and further investigation is in

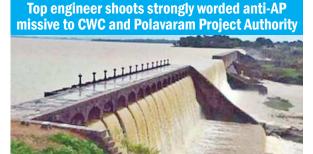
ponents of Polavaram pro-

TG writes to CWC, opposes Banakacherla

Hyderabad

IN its bid to register a strong protest against the Banakacherla project taken up by the Andhra Pradesh government before the Union government, the Telangana government has written a strongly worded letter to the Central Water Commission (CWC) and Polavaram Project Authority (PPA).

In his missive to the CWC Chairman, state Engineer-in-Chief (Irrigation) Mohd Amjad Hussain said the Telangana government has already raised several objections as regards the Polavaram-Banakacherla Link project (PBLP) that is



proposed by the AP government. He sought action as per the provisions of the AP Reorganization Act 2014. The official pointed out that the ministry of Jal Shakti has directed CWC to reject the pre-feasibility report and also

requested the union ministry of Environment and Forests not to undertake any appraisal of the Banakacherla proposal and outrightly reject grant of ToR in the upcoming meeting of EAC.

"Further, external agen-

cies like Polavaram Project Authority(PPA) and Godavari River Management Board(GRMB) have communicated the observations/remarks on the PFR and explicitly stated that the diversion of additional 200 TMof water is not part of the approved DPR of Polavaram Project and contravenes with the operation schedule of Polavaram dam as envisaged in Annexure-G of GWDTA 1980", Amjad Hussain has said in the letter

The state government also furnished the comments of the State on the PFR stating that the project proposal envisages extensive changes in the dimensional features of comject and reiterating that AP's PBLP proposal is in violation of APRA' 2014, GWDTA, PPA & EC and infringe water rights of Telangana besides creating adverse backwater and cascading submergence effects, He requested against undertaking any appraisal of the P-B link project. The officials brought to the attention of the central water agency that the AP Water Resources department had issued a tender notification for preparing Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Polavaram-Banakacherla link project although Telangana sought an outright rejection of the project.

come through the development and sale of flats and AO Sailaja were present. **WHAT SORT OF**

Cong jabs PM after Trump praises Pak's Munir

FRIENDSHIP IS THIS?'

New Delhi: The Congress on Tuesday attacked the government over US President Donald Trump's praise for Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir, saying what kind of signal is the American leader sending to India, in spite of PM Narendra Modi's "desperate attempts" to ingratiate himself with him. What sort of friendship is this between Trump and Modi, the opposition party asked, citing instances of Trump's praise for Munir and past meetings between the two. Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh

said Prime Minister Modi keeps calling President Trump his good friend and to be fair the American leader also keeps calling Modi his good friend. "But what sort of friendship is this? President Trump hosted Field Marshal Asim Munir to an unprecedented lunch in the White House on June 18, 2025. This was the Field Marshal whose inflammatory and communally poisonous remarks provided the backdrop to the Pahalgam terror attacks orchestrated by Pakistan on April 22, 2025," Ramesh

India to resume postal services to US from today

NEW DELHI: India Post will resume all international postal services to the US from Wednesday. This follows a suspension due to new US import regulations. India Post has now set up a system to collect customs duties upfront in India. This ensures faster clearance and seamless delivery for shipments to the USA. All postal categories are now available for booking. Postal services to the US were suspended on August 22 following new regulations announced by the US government that change how goods are shipped into the country. The Ministry of Communications said that India Post has now established a compliant mechanism for Delivery Duty Paid (DDP) processing after extensive system development, coordination with CBP-approved Qualified Parties, and successful operational trials in the Delhi and

Haryana DGP sent on leave

Chandigarh

THE Haryana government on Tuesday sent DGP Shatrujeet Kapur on leave amid Opposition's attack on the BJP dispensation over IPS officer Y Puran Kumar's alleged suicide, and demand by Kumar's family for action against the officers accused of harassing him.

The late night development came days after the state government transferred Narendra Bijarniya, the then Rohtak's Superintendent of Police.

Modi 'good friend', Munir 'favourite field marshal': Trump

Continued from P1

In his address, Sharif lavished praise on President Trump, calling him a "man of peace" and renominating him for the Nobel

The Pakistani Prime Minister also thanked the US President and his "wonderful team" for their intervention in the India-Pakistan conflict in May this year.

"Suffice to say, had it not been for this gentleman, who knows, India and Pakistan are both nuclear powers. Had he not intervened with his wonderful team during those four days, the war could've escalated to a level where no one would've lived to tell what happened," Sharif said.

In response, Trump jokingly said he didn't expect that from Sharif. "Wow! I didn't expect that. Let's go home, there's nothing more I have to say. Goodbye everybody. That was really beautiful and beautifully delivered, thank you very much," he quipped.

The US President then praised India and his "very good friend" Prime Minister Modi for doing a fantastic job. "I think Pakistan and India are going to live very nicely together," Trump said, while looking at Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who responded with a chuckle. Prime Minister Modi was also invited to the Summit but chose to skip it and deputed Minister of State Kirti Vardhan Singh

AP gets Google's \$15-bn AI infra hub

The historic agreement was Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman and Ashwini Vaishnaw, and IT Minister Nara Lokesh.

The Google's AI hub will serve as the foundation for what Chief Minister Naidu described as "India's first AI City", a massive ecosystem integrating cloud infrastructure, high speed connectivity, clean energy, and innovation hubs across key sectors such as healthcare, education, agriculture, manufacturing, and finance. The Visakhapatnam hub will also be linked via undersea cables to Singapore, Malaysia, and Australia, strengthening India's global digital backbone.

Speaking at the MoU signing ceremony, Naidu called the agreement "a truly historic and auspicious day, marking one of the biggest technology milestones for Andhra Pradesh and India." "Google's investment will make Visakhapatnam the world's next big digital powerhouse," he said. "This centre will serve as the foundation for India's first AI City and the largest AI and cable landing station, bringing the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam alive as India connects the world," he said.

Naidu thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman and Aswini Vaishnaw for their support, and credited IT Minister Nara Lokesh for his efforts in bringing the project to fruition. He revealed that Prime Min-

ister Modi, during discussions, expressed interest in organizing a global AI conference in February 2026 in India, further positioning the nation as a global technology leader. "Our goal is to make AI accessible to every household," Naidu said. "Through our One Family, One Entrepreneur mission, we aim to empower people with tools of innovation and data-driven governance."

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman described the project as a "turning point" for India's digital economy.

"The establishment of both a sea cable landing center and a Google data centre in Visakhapatnam is a major step

data hub outside the US. Addi- forward. Such visionary projects tionally, Vizag will host Google's are possible only under dynamic Andhra Pradesh," she said.

> Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said Google's investment reflects confidence in India's technology policies. "This decision will change lives across the country.

> Andhra Pradesh's proactive data center policy and tech-first governance make it the right place for such an investment," he said, adding that India is expanding digital links to Southeast Asia and the Northeast through new submarine cable systems.

> Google Cloud CEO Thomas Kurien called Visakhapatnam a "rising global connectivity hub". Twelve countries will be connected from Visakhapatnam through Google's sub-sea cable system, Kurien said.

"The center will host our full AI stack, including Gemini-AI, and serve as a launchpad for India's AI innovation. We see Visakhapatnam as a place that can produce world-class AI talent," he added. The Visakhapatnam hub will "serve not just India, but much of the world," he added.

Modi hails Google's Vizag investment

Continued from P1

"We are honoured to be building the engine to power India's AI revolution, providing the tools for our nation's brightest minds to solve complex challenges," said Gautam Adani, Chairman of Adani Group, in a post on X.

According to IT Minister Nara Lokesh, Andhra Pradesh is aiming to host 6 GW of data centre capacity by 2029-30. Data is the new oil and data centers are new refineries, he added.

Deputy Chief Minister K Pawan Kalyan described the project as a monumental leap that will transform the City of Destiny into a gateway of India's revolution. "Visakhapatnam securing the \$15 billion Google AI Data Centre and India's first AI City is a monumental leap," he wrote on X. This initiative guarantees that the power of AI for All is truly democratized, impacting the lives of our youth, farmers, doctors, fishermen, entrepreneurs, women, and students.



Top Maoist leader Mallojula surrenders in Maharashtra

Continued from P1

However, growing differences between him and the top Naxal leadership in the recent months led to an internal conflict.

Bhupathi had claimed that the armed struggle failed and appealed for a shift towards peace and dialogue, citing diminishing public support and the loss of hundreds of cadres. His stand was met with resistance from other senior cadres who decided to continue the fight under another leader, sources said. Under pressure from the central Naxal leadership, Bhupathi eventually agreed to lay down arms, announced his exit from the outfit, and surrendered with his followers before the Gadchiroli police.

Bhupathi's surrender, along with 60 Naxals, is considered a major setback for the Maoist movement in the state. Earlier this year, Bhupathi's wife, Tarakka, also surrendered. She was a member of the Dandkaranya special zonal committee of the outlawed movement.

During an event at the state police headquarters on October 3, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis stated that the Naxal movement in the state was on the verge of ending. "We are on the verge of finishing Maoism. In Maharashtra, it can be finished anytime," Fadnavis had said.

20 killed as moving bus catches fire in Jaisalmer

Continued from P1

According to an official report, 10 to 12 people have been confirmed dead although the toll may rise.

The injured passengers were rushed to hospitals. At least 16 people were referred to Jodhpur for treatment in a critical condition, they said.

The cause of fire was not yet ascertained, however, a short circuit could probably have caused the fire, an official said. The police, fire brigade sleuths and other agencies rushed to the spot for rescue work. District Collector Pratap Singh was supervising the rescue relief work. A group of army men was also assisting in the rescue operations.

Meanwhile, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma expressed shock over the tragic incident, and asked the officials concerned to make all efforts to assist the injured. He has also proceeded to Jaisalmer to take stock of the situa-

Vice-President to attend 100th birth anniversary of Sathya Sai Baba

Continued from P1

During the meeting, Rathnakar apprised the Vice President of the various humanitarian and spiritual activities undertaken by the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust.

According to Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust, Radhakrishnan responded positively and shared that his aunt has been a devotee of Sathya Sai Baba since 1966. He expressed his awareness of the immense good work being carried out and deeply appreciated the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust's efforts in carrying forward his teachings and legacy with

strength and dedication. Rathnakar was accompanied by Adi Moolam, a longstanding devotee of Sri Sathya Sai Baba and Managing Director of Dinamalar. The centenary birth anniversary celebrations of Sri Sathya Sai Baba are scheduled for November 22-23.

Elaborate arrangements are being made for the celebrations at Puttaparthi in the Sri Sathya Sai District of Andhra Pradesh. Puttaparthi is likely to witness a surge of over 10 lakh devotees from all over India and abroad, including VIPs and

BJP drops Speaker, fields 2 Dy CMs in first list

Continued from P1

The party is contesting 101 of the 243 seats as part of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and is expected to release its second list of 30 candidates soon. Among the key candidates is Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, who currently serves as a Member of the Legislative Council (MLC). He will contest from the Tarapur seat. His fellow Deputy CM, Vijay Kumar Sinha, has been fielded again from his stronghold, Lakhisarai. Another notable name is Mangal Pandey, also an MLC and a minister in the NDA government, who will

contest from Siwan.

The list also includes two former MPs: Ram Kripal Yadav, who lost to RJD's Misa

Bharti in the last general election, will contest from Danapur; and Sunil Kumar Pintu, an ex-JD(U) MP from Sitamarhi who recently rejoined the BJP, will contest from the same seat.

Other sitting MLAs who have been denied tickets include Arun Kumar Sinha (Kumhrar) and Amrendra Pratap Singh (Ara). Patna Sahib will now be contested by Ratnesh Kushwaha

The party has fielded nine women candidates in this list, including prominent names like Renu Devi, Gayatri Devi, Devanti Yadav, and Rama Nishad. Shooter-turned-politician Shreyasi Singh has been retained from Jamui.

A new entrant, IRS officer Sujit Kumar Singh, who resigned from civil service just a day before the announcement, has been given a ticket from Gaura Bauram-replacing his wife, Swarna Singh,

the sitting MLA. This announcement comes just days after the NDA finalised its seat-sharing arrangement: BJP and JD(U) will contest 101 seats each, while LJP (Ram Vilas) will contest 29, and HAM (Secular) and Rashtriya Lok Morcha will fight on six seats each.

Security stepped up for PM's visit to Srisailam

Continued from P1

He underlined the importance of realtime coordination and surveillance. Senior officials including Koya Praveen, DIG (Kurnool Range), Ake Ravi Krishna (Eagle Team IG), Sunil Sheran (SP Nandyal), Adiraj Singh Rana, ASP and Atmakur DSP Ramangi Naik accompanied the DGP during the inspection. The top brass also assessed preparedness at the

helipad and temple surroundings. Meanwhile, the Nandyal SP Sunil Sheoran deployed around 1,800 police personnel as part of a massive security operation. He conducted a security briefing with officers from Additional SP to SI rank and liaising officials. The entire area has been divided into 10 security sectors with senior officers designated

as sector in-charges. Rooftop teams equipped with binoculars have been positioned at key junctions, approach roads, and temple surroundings to maintain 24/7 surveillance. All vehicles entering Srisailam will be thoroughly checked, and the command control centre will continuously monitor camera feeds to detect any suspicious activity. To manage large crowds and prevent any untoward incidents, Quick Response Teams, rooftop forces, and special parties will be deployed at sensitive points. All police personnel will wear duty passes and ID cards, and revenue authorities will carefully verify access permissions. The SP underscored that the security cover for the Prime Minister will be uncompromising and of the highest standard.

Vonesia Odissi dance enchants the audience

An evening of sublime Odissi unfolded as part of the 13th annual festival organised by Our Sacred Space **Environmental and Cultural Centre. The performance featured the renowned Guru Sharmila Biswas and her disciple** Raaginni Hindocha, who captivated the audience with their artistry and emotional depth. Their presentation beautifully blended tradition, innovation, and devotion, offering a memorable celebration of classical dance

Anna Rao Gangavalli

S part of their 13th Annual Festival, the Our Sacred Space Environmental and Cultural Centre organised an entrancing evening of Odissi dance at Chaurah Auditorium, Secunderabad, recently.

Senior Guru Sharmila Biswas is a leading dancer, choreographer, and teacher of Odissi. A prominent disciple of the legend Kelucharan Mohapatra, she is the founder of the 'Odissi Vision and Movement Centre' in Kolkata, which has been instrumental in the research of traditional folk-art forms as well as the Mahari or Devadasi tradition of Odisha. She delves into these for innovation in her productions, which have been presented at dance festivals worldwide. Her creative changes in content, technique, and costumes are a considerable contribution, recognised by the conferment of the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award. Demanding excellence, dedication, and discipline from her students, she has been instrumental in grooming a talented younger generation

of Odissi dancers. Raaginni Hindocha is a budding disciple of Sharmila

Biswas and has performed in many festivals in India and abroad as part of her Guru's repertory. Two compositions were showcased by Raaginni and one by Sharmila Biswas. The 'aharya' of Raaginni was in electric blue, standing out well on the lit-up stage.

'Ramashtakam' in 'misra raga' was a treat with its lilting music. The young dancer entered the stage starting with her back to the audience in the characteristic stylized Odissi looping movements full of grace. The tempo built up with slow and steady movements flowing into vigorously agile 'angika abhinaya' as the attributes of Lord Rama were brought out. Raaginni's honed gestures were full of both delicacy and solidity, indicating an apt student who has imbibed the knowledge imparted meticulously by her Guru while inserting a considerable flair of her own. This was a tribute to Sharmila's considered opinion that a student must display originality without merely copying identically an age-old choreography.

After performing a 'Pranam', she went on to delineate, while being in precise synchrony with every trill of music, the refrain — salutations to Rama, to whose feet



all gods prostrate, born in the dynasty of the Sun, whose beautiful face is decorated by 'Chandan'. Then comes the young prince fixing his arrows to the bow to destroy the demon disturbers of the sages' sacrifices and the redeeming of Ahalya. The dainty fluttering of her hands exactly mirrored the exuberant footwork, creating a thrilling effect. Hara's bow broke in Rama's hands, and he went to the forest for the cause of truth and justice. The golden deer was brought down with a single arrow after the dancer depicted its bounding playful movements. The King of Eagles,

Jatayu, was given 'moksha' by the Lord, who slew Vali, the King of Monkeys. The peerless prince who controlled and had the ocean bridged, conquered Lanka by destroying Ravana and his armies —

is bowed down to in humble

The second piece, 'Gativilas' in 'jog raga', was full of exquisite 'nritta' movements and expressions where, one by one, several animals were brought to life by their natural interpretation through the strides which give the horse its power, the regal lion whose stamp is its majestic stance, the peacock with its glorious fantail who dances

effortlessly in its forenvironment, the cuckoo whose body reverberates with the powerful vibrance of its melodious singing, and the hawk whose telescopic gaze enables it to swoop down on its prey like

lightning. The finale was 'Vilasini' by Guru Sharmila Biswas herself. This piece was inspired by Sharmila's meeting with, and immense regard for, the last Maharis of the Jagannath Temple. Filled with overpowering 'abhinaya', it created a palimpsest of emotions where the artiste revelled in her own mastery of layers of intricate imagery to bring 'rasa' to the audience. The simple scene of an aged Mahari or temple dancer remembering the old days despite seeing her wrinkled reflection, being unable to control her urge to decorate herself and get dressed up in the morning — was turned into a masterpiece of imaginative choreographic crea-

Every minute movement, faithfully reproduced visually, built up the character in rich detail to a subtly picaresque perfection brimming with an earthly vitality in every pore. The sleeping dancer stirs and awakens; runs eagerly to the mirror she knots her hair into a to see and admire herself; it bun, fastening it with flowwas as though the artiste had ers, dots her forehead with vanished and a real Mahari 'Sindoor', places 'Kajal' in was on stage going her eyes. Earrings for her through her ears are fastened, a garland is toilette hung around her neck, fore-

border. Bangles and armlets are worn; feet gaily coloured red with 'Alta' and decked with anklets. Being peered upon, she uses the curious observers to have her

toe ring put on as cannot reach it herself. After her dressing

- a stunning 'trompe l'oeil' effect translated flawlessly to dance with surpassing skill. The conclusion witnessed the

appreciative applause of the spellbound



DEEPTI NAVAL DROPS A FOND MEMORY WITH HER FATHER FROM THEIR EUROPE GETAWAY

eteran actress Deep-Naval treated the netizens with a fond memory with her father from their getaway to Europe back in 1982. The photo showed the fatherside the camper. Remembering the time with her dad, the 'Saath Saath' actress penned on her Instagram, "Sharing a precious memory of my father - In a camper through Europe - Piti and I - 1982. (sic)'

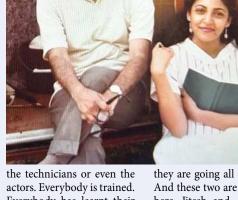
Adoring the throwback photo, an Insta user shared in the comment section, "This is one of the best n beautiful picture of the day, u look so much pretty girl in this very picture.Deep regards."

Another netizen penned,

"No words to describe the classic immaculate Indian beauty." The third comment read, "Proud daughter of a proud father".

Earlier, Deepti spoke about the monumental shift in the film industry over the years during an exclusive conversation.

Shedding light on the changes that she has witnessed in Hindi cinema from her era to the current times, Deepti told IANS, "Well today, there is a lot of visual finesse in our movies. So that is something that I like the most. Our films are at par with the international standards. In terms of world cinema, we are as good as them technically and visually. There are a lot of skills today among all. Whether it is



Everybody has learnt their craft. You don't just stroll into the film industry, and become an actor, like me, I didn't learn anything. Everybody brings training. They are very focused".

"The younger generation are so focused, and they believe in their dreams. And

they are going all out for it. And these two are examples here. Jitesh and Alankrita. I find them very inspiring. Both of them. And our director, he is also very inspiring as a person. Cinema has changed a lot from the time when we were working earlier years to now. A lot of changes, I would say," she

SUDOKU

Dia Mirza highlights India's vision for circular economy through deep-tech recycling initiative

OLLYWOOD actress Dia Mirza took to social media to celebrate took to social incula to a breakthrough in sustainable in-

In her post, the 'Sanju' actress mentioned how the startup transforms up to five tons of unrecyclable plastic waste per month into high-quality circular materials while providing waste workers with higher wages, health benefits, and dignity, reflecting a vision of inclusive innovation. Dia emphasizes that this is more than just technological innovation — it's inclusive innovation. The plant not only tackles plastic waste but also benefits the people involved in the recycling process, offering 2-3 times higher

Sharing a series of her photos, the 'Rehnaa Hai Terre Dil Mein' actress wrote, "A milestone for people and planet Thrilled to back Without, an impact-first deep-tech material science enterprise, as they launch their pioneering FOAK Demonstration Plant in Pune capable of transforming up to 5 tons/



month of "unrecyclable" plastic waste into high-quality, circular materials. This isn't just innovation — it's inclusive innovation. Cutting-edge recycling technology that gives waste workers 2-3x the salary, health insurance, paid leave, and above all, dignity and respect. At its heart lies systemic thinking and a vision of India leading the world in cir-

cular solutions." "The launch comes at the heels of a \$1.9 million Seed Funding round, supported by truly patient impact capital. I'm proud to join this journey as strategic advisor, investor, and advocate alongside partners who believe that science, justice, and sustainability can and must — go hand in hand."

"A powerful reminder that re larity includes people, not just materials. Here's to scaling this vision across India and beyond. Because when innovation meets inclusion, hope becomes action," she added. As an environmental advocate. Dia Mirza often shares posts to raise awareness about conservation and sustainability.

On the professional front, Dia was recently seen in the Netflix film "Nadaaniyan," directed by Shauna Gautam. The movie introduced a fresh lineup of actors, including Saif Ali Khan's son Ibrahim Ali Khan and Khushi Kapoor, alongside veteran performers Mahima Chaudhry, Suniel Shetty, and Jugal Hansraj. Dia portrayed Nandini, the mother of Ibrahim's character, Arjun.

CROSSWORD



22 In addition (3)

26 Vitality (3)

31 Japan (6)

32 Propagated (4)

23 Taken on to staff (5)

27 Husband's partner (4)

28 Having three cusps (9)

33 Andre ____: French writer,

34 Bond creator Fleming (3)

35 Stoppage of flow or

circulation (6)

Nobel laureate in 1947? (4)

24 Singer Cherry (5)

- 1 Breakwater (6) 5 Any of the heavenly bodies, as the sun or moon (3)
- 8 Bears, in Barcelona (4) 9 Republic in SW Asia (4)
- 10 European sea (6)
- 11 Befall, occur or happen (4,5) 13 Its capital is Vientiane (4)
- 15 Greek letter (3) 16 Clumsy chap (5)
- 17 Junkies (5)
- 20 Monetary unit of Romania (3)

- Speak incoherently (6) Observer (8)
 - Naval Off. In Charge (4) Guards of honour (7)
 - Bone prefix (5) Amitabh Bachchan of course (3,1)
 - Cowboy (7) 12 Frequency unit (3)
 - 14 Swing about (4)
 - 18 Fret and fume (4)
 - 19 Extinct small horse (8)
 - 20 Collection of books (7)
 - 21 Causes to remember (7)
 - 24 Barely defeat (3) 25 Federer's forte (6)
 - 26 Churchillian gesture (1-4)
 - 29 Basic monetary unit of Ghana (4) 30 Eat sparingly (4)



Solution to October 14

5 8 9 6 9 5 1 2 6 6 2 4 5 6 6 4 3 8 2 9 4 9 7 6 2 1 7

8	3	9	5	2	1	4	6	7
5	1	4	3	6	7	8	2	9
6	2	7	9	8	4	1	5	3
7	8	1	6	9	5	3	4	2
2	4	5	1	3	8	7	9	6
3	9	6	7	4	2	5	1	8
1	6	8	2	5	3	9	7	4
9	7	3	4	1	6	2	8	5
4	5	2	8	7	9	6	3	1

Solution to October 14

Naomi Watts says she suffers from imposter syndrome

RITISH actress Nao-Bin Watts has opened up on suffering from imposter syndrome. The 57-year-old actress made the confession as she was honoured with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in Los Angeles in honour of her career achievements in the movie industry with the Mulholland Drive star admitting the accolade came "out of the blue".

Speaking ahead of her star ceremony, she said, "I can't even believe it. It's interesting, because I have all kinds of imposter syndrome. I've always felt like I'm supposed to struggle, I'm supposed to keep proving myself, and this sort of just came out of the blue. It's really lovely".

During the star ceremony on Monday, Naomi paid tribute to her husband Billy Crudup for his "phenomenal love and support" as well as her son Sasha, 18, and daughter Kai, 16, from her mar-

riage to actor Liev Schreiber, and her step-son Will, reports 'Female First UK'. She told 'Variety', "I struggled for so long. I'm so familiar with that side of things more than this incredible good fortune, celebrations like this. It's wonderful".

During her speech, Naomi applauded Sasha for coming straight from classes at the University of Southern California to attend the ceremony, saying, "I'm so proud of my kids. My son Sasha, a freshman at USC, is here straight from class. He rolled in, and he's blossoming into the kindest, most charismatic young man".

Naomi called Kai "fierce and fearless" and applauded Will for "following in his father's footsteps" as he prepares for college graduation.

As per 'Female First UK', it comes after Billy, who married Naomi in 2023, opened up about how they support

each other in their marriage. He told 'People' magazine, "We've been doing this for a long time. "I think we have some idea of how each of us manages our careers, and so we do the best that we can to



portive of the other person's agenda".

The couple previously admitted it is "much easier" to attend Hollywood events to-

Hans India

-Bhavish Aggarwal, chairman, Ola Electric

Ola Electric may enter the energy storage market, which is expected to reach over \$30 bn by 2030. It could involve Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) for homes and businesses Physich Agranual shairman Cla Floating

BIZ BRIEFS

Kotak releases stock picks

Kotak Securities, a brokerage house, has released Top Stock Picks for Muhurat Trading on this Diwali. Indian markets have been lacklustre in Samvat-2081 and underperformed several global peers. The firm has recommended following stocks to buy during this season, Adani Port and SEZ (ADSEZ), Acutaas Chemical (ACUTAAS), Cummins India (KKC), Eternal, ICICI Bank (ICICIBC), Mahindra & Mahindra and Reliance Industries (RIL).

Malabar Gold opens showroom

Malabar Gold and Diamonds, a Jewellery retail chain, has opened its showroom at Vaishali Enclave, Pitampura, further strengthening its footprint in Delhi. The Pitampura showroom has relocated from NSP to Vaishali Enclave. Spanning across 9,500 sft., the showroom offers a more organized space and improved parking facilities. The showroom was inaugurated by Bollywood actor and brand ambassador Anil Kapoor and will showcase a range of jewellery in diverse designs and styles.

Noise launches new product

Noise, a leading connected lifestyle brand, announced the launch of Master Buds Max, India's first overear headphones under its flagship Master Series with Sound by Bose technology. Amit Khatri, Co-Founder of Noise said "Master Buds Max is a milestone in India's global audio journey. With Sound by Bose technolcategory-leading ANC, and dynamic EQ, we are delivering a product that sets new standards in its category. At the same time, we've ensured it remains acces sible, because we believe premium innovation should be experienced by

Jawa unveils festive offers

millions, not just a few."

TawaYezdi Motorcycles is helping its buyers improve their odds of getting a delivery of their favourite motorcycle during the festive period. Customers can now pre-book their preferred Jawa or Yezdi motorcycle online at just Rs999 with a benefit of reduced on-road prices. Sharad Agarwal, CBO, JawaYezdi Motorcycles, said: "The GST rate revision has meant most of our motorcycles now start from Rs 1.5 lakh."

Samsung logs record sales

Camsung, a consumer Selectronics brand, announced a strong start during the festive sales on a range of products including televisions and air conditioners. A Samsung India spokesperson, said: "Sales of Samsung's premium televisions jumped 2x as compared to the corresponding festive period last year on account of unmatched deals, extended warranties, GST rate cut, and increasing adoption of AI televisions in India. Furthermore, the sales of refrigerators, washing machines, and ACs posted 1.3x growth during the Navratri period."

Wholesale price inflation drifts lower to 0.13% in Sept

Wholesale price inflation was 0.52% in Aug, 1.91% in Sept last year

NEW DELHI: Wholesale price inflation (WPI) softened to 0.13 per cent in September on easing in prices of food articles and manufactured items, government data showed on Tuesday. WPIbased inflation was 0.52 per cent in August and 1.91 per cent in September last year.

"Positive rate of inflation in September 2025 is primarily due to an increase in prices of the manufacture of food products, other manufacturing, non-food articles, other transport equipment and textiles, etc," the Industry Ministry said in a statement.

According to WPI data, deflation in food articles was 5.22 per cent in September, compared to 3.06 per cent in August, with vegetables experiencing a decline in prices. Deflation in vegetables was 24.41 per cent in September, as against 14.18 per cent in August. In the case of manufactured products, inflation eased to 2.33 per cent, as against 2.55 per cent in August. Fuel and power witnessed a negative inflation or deflation of 2.58 per cent in September, as against



3.17 per cent in the previous

Barclays India Chief Economist Aastha Gudwani said that amid generally lower global commodity prices, WPI inflation is expected to stay subdued for longer. India Ratings and Research, Associate Director, Paras Jasrai, said core inflation rose to a 31-month high of 1.9 per cent in September 2025, driven by a record pace of jewellery price growth at 34.1

per cent year-over-year. "Wholesale inflation was flat at 0.02 per cent in the second quarter of FY26, reaching an eight-quarter low. This, along with record-low retail inflation, is expected to result in muted GDP deflator growth and will put pressure on corporate margins in 2QFY26. Looking ahead, a favorable base effect is expected to push the wholesale index back into deflation in October 2025.

UK NHS awards £1.2-bn contract to Infosys

Bengaluru

Infosys said it will develop a cutting-edge, data-driven workforce management solution that will replace the current Electronic Staff Record (ESR) system and continue to pay 1.9 million NHS employees in England and Wales over 55 billion pounds in payroll

"Delivering the Future Health Plan. The solution will go far beyond simply strategic enabler for build-Brodie, Chief Executive,

By working with Infosys, 'we're creating a modern, data-driven solution that will help the NHS better attract, retain and support its

IT bellwether Infosys on Tuesday said it has awarded a 1.2 billion pounds, 15-year contract by the UK's NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) to deliver the Future NHS Workforce Solution in England and Wales.

annually.

NHS Workforce Solution is a critical step in supporting the ambitions of the 10-Year replacing ESR -- it will be a ing a workforce that is fit for the future," said Michael NHSBSA.

people", he added.

ADANI GROUP LEADS INFRA RoA GLOBALLY

Return on assets at 16.5%; Its net debt-to-EBITDA ratio at 2.6x reflecting conservative leverage profile

Mega Capex Drive

- Group takes up \$100-bn capex for next 5 yrs
- Will self-fund a large share of i
- As part of reducing reliance on external markets

New Delhi

ADANI Group chairman Gautam Adani said the conglomerate's return on assets (ROA) rose to 16.5 per cent in the financial year 2024-25 -- placing it among the top performers in the global infrastructure sector. Speaking at the Group's annual Shantilal Adani Lecture Series, Adani attributed the performance to disciplined growth and efficient capital deployment.

"This figure demonstrates



Gautam Adani, chairman, Adani Group, with Thomas Kurian, CEO, Google Cloud

that our growth is profitable, our assets are productive, and our capital is working with precision," he said.

The Group's net debt-to-EBITDA ratio stood at 2.6x, reflecting a conservative leverage profile. With robust internal cash flows, Adani said the company expects to selffund a large share of its \$100 billion five-year capex plan,

reducing reliance on external markets.

"This high ROA does more than generate cash. It fortifies our credibility with lenders, deepens investor confidence, and underpins our ability to take bold bets while preserving balance sheet integrity. It is the invisible scaffolding that supports everything we

Citing a \$500 billion opportunity in India's electricity sector by 2032, Adani said the Group is targeting a 20 per cent share of that market. Looking ahead, Adani outlined a Two-Track Organization' model as part of the Group's next transformation phase, combining artificial intelligence with human judgment.

The Agentic Track will bring data-driven precision, while the Human Track will guide it with judgment and ethics," he said. He also highlighted finance transformation initiatives such as the Finance Control Tower - a real-time visibility platform - and a Global Capability Center that integrates AI-led workflows for greater efficiency. "Finance is no longer a back-office function. It is the cockpit of strategic control - where foresight meets discipline," Adani said.

Silver surges to

record high

of \$52.50/oz

MUMBAI: Silver prices

soared to an all-time high

above \$52.50 an ounce on

Tuesday, boosted by a his-

toric short squeeze in Lon-

don and strong demand for

safe-haven assets amid global

economic uncertainty. Spot

silver rose as much as 0.4

per cent to \$52.58 an ounce

in London, breaking the pre-

vious record set in January

1980 when the billionaire

Hunt brothers tried to corner

Gold prices also climbed

to a new record, marking

eight consecutive weeks of

gains, supported by rising

geopolitical tensions and ex-

pectations of US interest rate

the market.

ECONOMY



IMF raises FY26 GDP growth forecast to 6.6%

NEW DELHI: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Tuesday raised India's GDP growth forecast to 6.6 per cent for 2025-26 from 6.4 per cent earlier despite the punitive tariffs slapped by the US on the country's exports.

The upward revision was on 'carryover from a strong first quarter, more than offsetting the increase in the US effective tariff rate on imports from India since July', the IMF said in its World Economic Outlook.

In the April-June quarter of 2025-26, India grew at its fastest pace in at least a year, clocking a GDP growth rate of 7.8 per cent on the back of strong private consumption.

With the government rolling out sweeping GST reforms with tax rates reduced on consumer goods and services across the board, the domestic demand is expected to gain further momentum ahead. This is expected to offset the negative impact on external demand for Indian goods due to the US

Corporate India doubling capex to \$800 bn by 2030

An addl \$1 trn investment is expected during 2031-35 for advanced R&D: S&P

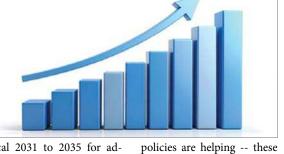
New Delhi

INDIA'S leading corporate companies may double spending and capital expenditure over the next five years, driven by rising revenues and profits, a report said on Tuesday. The report by ratings firm S&P Global Ratings noted similarities to China's corporate growth in the 2000s and India's corporate growth, highlighting that a huge revenue surge is expected for India's top companies.

porate capital spending to reach approximately \$800 billion from fiscal 2026 to fiscal 2030, largely driven by infrastructure investments. An additional \$1 trillion investment is expected from

fiscal 2031 to 2035 for advanced research and development, the report noted.

"Improving infrastructure, political stability, and lean rporate balance propelling large expansion plans that will widen revenue bases for Indian corporates," said S&P Global Ratings credit analyst Neel Gopalakrishnan. "Supportive government



include a focus on domestic self-sufficiency, more exports, and development of a supply-chain ecosystem," he

"Our baseline view is that India's growth momentum will stay strong, and its industrial base and supply chains will get deeper and more efficient," said Gopalakrishnan.

India's securitisation issuance at all-time high of ₹2.35 trn in FY25

MUMBAI: India's total securitisation issuance reached a record high of Rs2.35 trillion (\$27 bn) in fiscal 2025, with about 22 per cent allocated to residential mortgagebacked securities (RMBS), a report has said. The bulk of the RMBS issuance has been through bilateral assignments, according to the data compiled by S&P Global Ratings. Pass-through certificate structures form a significantly smaller segment of the RMBS market compared to their share in India's overall securitisation market.

"In our view, the first RMBS transaction announced by RMBS Development Co. Ltd. (RDCL) could improve investor confidence pave the way for further issuance based on passthrough certificates (over bilateral assignments), in line with typical structures in global securitisation markets," the report said.

It further emphasised



that India could draw more domestic and offshore investors into its mortgage securitisation market as the country has emerged as one of the fastest-growing global economies. It has favourable demographics, rapid urbanisation, and strong policy support to meet its growing

"This has propelled housing market growth. New residential mortgage origination volumes rose about 40 per cent between fiscal years 2020 and 2025 (years ended March 31)," the report said.

The rally in silver comes amid concerns over liquidity in the London market, which has triggered a worldwide rush to secure the metal. Prices in London are trad

ing at a rare premium compared to New York, prompting traders to fly silver bars across the Atlantic -- a costly move usually reserved for gold -- to benefit from higher



Tech M Q2 net falls 4.44% to ₹1,194.5 cr

MUMBAI: IT services company Tech Mahindra on Tuesday reported a 4.44 per cent decline in its September quarter net profit to Rs1,194.5 crore. The post-tax profit is lower than the Rs1,250 crore it had posted in the year-ago period and marginally higher than the Rs1,141 crore it reported in the preceding June quarter. Its revenue grew to Rs13,995 crore from Rs13,313 crore a year ago and Rs13,351 crore in the quarter-ago period, as per an exchange filing. Its managing director and chief executive Mohit Joshi said the Americas saw an over 2 per cent decline in revenues during the quarter, mainly due to macroeconomic issues.

RBI may not go for Repo cut in Dec: Yes Bank NEW DELHI: The wait-andgrowth conditions, the depth

watch policy of the RBI on the monetary policy is prudent, a report said on Tuesday, adding that the bank's dovish tone suggests further easing, but a December rate cut is not 'a done deal'.

While any further rate cut by the RBI will depend on

of further rate cuts may be extremely limited and hence the RBI may also want to retain the powder dry for now, the report from Yes Bank said. The report maintained that the tone of the policy remained dovish, which signalled further easing, possi-

bly as early as December. Despite the current inflation trending at less than the lower bound of the RBI tolerance level and expectations of a 2.6 per cent inflation for FY26, the RBI did not alter its monetary policy rate and stance at the last meeting in October.

Nifty forecast at 28,781 in next 12 mths

Domestic-oriented sectors to drive growth; PL Capital predicts

a 12.1% EPS CAGR for Nifty from FY25 to FY27

Mkts down for 2nd session on weak global cues

Muted start to ongoing Q2 results, weaker-than-expected inflation data raised concerns about slow demand, intensifying profit booking amid FII outflows

MUMBAI: Benchmark BSE Sensex fell by 297 points on Tuesday in its second straight day of losses due to selling in metal, select auto and pharma shares amid weak trends in Asian and European mar-

Reversing its early gains, the 30-share BSE Sensex declined 297.07 points or 0.36 per cent to settle at 82,029.98 as 23 of its constituents closed lower and seven with gains. During the day, it dropped 545.43 points or 0.66 per cent to 81,781.62. The 50-share NSE Nifty went lower by 81.85 points or 0.32 per cent to 25,145.50.

Stock markets started the day on a high note but failed to hold momentum due to weak global trends and trade-related concerns, analysts said, adding that foreign fund outflows also impacted the sentiment. Bajaj Finance



broad-based profit-booking

amid a lack of fresh domestic

triggers, as weak cues from

Asian and European peers

dampened investor senti-

ment. Renewed US-China

trade tensions reignited risk

aversion, prompting a shift

toward safe-haven assets

such as gold and US Treasury

bonds, while equities came

was the biggest loser among Sensex stocks, dropping by 1.8 per cent. Tata Motors, TCS, Tata Steel, Bharat Electronics, NTPC, Trent, Asian Paints and Axis Bank were also among the laggards. However, Tech Mahindra, ICICI Bank, Power Grid, Hindustan Unilever and Reliance Industries were among the gainers.

under pressure on concerns of escalating global trade uncertainty," Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, Ajit Mishra, SVP, Re-

search, Religare Broking Ltd, said: "Stock markets opened on a positive note but failed to sustain early gains, ending marginally lower as trade-related concerns overshadowed favorable domestic cues."

The BSE smallcap gauge dropped 0.95 per cent and midcap index declined 0.74 per cent. All sectoral indices ended lower. Telecommunication dropped the most by 1.39 per cent, followed by oil & gas (1.01 per cent), realty (0.96 per cent), metal (0.95 per cent) and services (0.87 per cent). As many as 2,870 stocks declined, 1,337 advanced and 127 remained unchanged on the BSE.

NEW DELHI: The market benchmark Nifty is expected to touch 28,781 in about 12 months, a report said on Tuesday, citing the remarkable resilience of India's

economy and equity markets

in the face of global challeng-

es, including US tariffs, H-1B

visa fee hikes, and geopoliti-

cal volatility. PL Capital forecasts a 12.1 per cent EPS compound annual growth rate for Nifty from FY25 to FY27, adding that domestic-oriented sectors like banks, autos and metals will lead growth.The brokerage said that with normal monsoons, a 100-basispoint cut in interest rates, rationalisation of GST rates,

and tax reductions an-

nounced in the FY26 Budget,

the conditions are now conducive for a strong revival in consumption. It also added that cement,



metals, oil and gas are sectors to lead FY26 earnings. India's Q1 FY26 GDP growth reaffirmed the economy's resilience, surpassing expectations at 7.8 per cent yearon-year, compared with 6.5 per cent in Q1 FY25 and 7.4 per cent in Q4FY25, the report said.

High-frequency indicators, including GST collections, e-way bills, services exports, and credit growth, indicate strong underlying domestic demand. The revival of demand will likely increase private sector capacity utilisation and private capex, which have been waiting on the sidelines, PL Capital predicted.

The broking firm noted that India's services exports are entering a new growth phase, led by digitally delivered, high-value knowledge services."By 2030, the country is projected to host around 2,200 Global Capability Centres (GCCs) generating over \$100 billion in revenue, with total services exports expected to reach \$500 billion," the firm noted.

The talent landscape is evolving rapidly, with rising demand in areas such as AI, cybersecurity, GenAI product engineering, and sustainability analytics - further strengthening India's position as a global innovation hub, it added.

Kushan Sarkar

New Delhi

VIRAT KOHLI and Rohit

Sharma are keen on play-

ing the 2027 ODI World

Cup but India head coach

Gautam Gambhir was non-

committal over the star duo's

future on Tuesday, saying the

ODI World Cup is still more

than two years away and "it

is important to stay in the

With Shubman Gill's ap-

pointment as the ODI skip-

per, the national selectors

have already hit the transi-

tion button in ODI cricket

and there is a lot of doubt

over the future of the age-

ing stalwarts who will be 39

(Kohli) and 40 (Rohit) re-

"The 50-over World Cup

is still two and a half years

away. It is very important to stay in the present. Obviously

they are quality players. They

are coming back. Their expe-

rience is going to be valuable

"Hopefully those two guys

can have a successful tour,

and more importantly, as

a team we can have a suc-

cessful series," Gambhir said

when asked about the future

spectively in 2027.

in Australia.

present".

Sports Nation

India's Mathew wins bronze in Para **Powerlifting World** C'ships

NEW DELHI: India's veteran para powerlifter Joby Mathew clinched a bronze medal at the Para Powerlifting World Championships in Cairo, Egypt. Mathew won bronze in Legend (Masters) category on Monday.

After his opening lift of 147kg was declared invalid, he took it as a personal challenge, increasing the weight to 148kg on his second attempt and executing it flawlessly. Building on that momentum, he raised the bar further to 152kg, successfully completing the lift to surpass his previous personal best of 150kg achieved two months ago in the Beijing World Cup.

The gold was won by Thailand's Phongsakon Chumchai who lifted 162kg, followed by Peru's Neil Gracia who lifted 161kg. This was Mathew's second World Championship medal, following his bronze in Dubai 2023, where he competed in the 59kg weight category.

India complete clean sweep

Rahul hits unbeaten 58 in seven-wicket over WI in 2nd Test of 2-match series

NEW DELHI: India needed exactly an hour on day five to complete a seven-wicket win over West Indies and seal a 2-0 series sweep at the Arun Jaitley Stadium on Tuesday. KL Rahul anchored the chase with an unbeaten 58 off 108 balls, hitting six fours and two sixes to help India easily hunt down 121.

The victory marks India's first Test series win under Shubman Gill's captaincy, following the drawn 2-2 result in England earlier this year. Though the margin suggests an easy victory, India were to earn it in New Delhi and defeat West Indies for the tenth straight time in

West Indies, asked to follow on, refused to fold easily, thanks to John Campbell and Shai Hope's twin centuries and a defiant last-wicket 79-run stand which led to the contest stretching to day



five. But once play resumed, India made quick work of the chase despite an early wobble and earn 12 valuable points to their World Test Championship tally, where they are still at number three and their points percentage now

at 61.9. It was a brave fight from the West Indies, who showed grit and character after a heavy innings deshackles by dancing down the pitch to loft Jomel Warrican through the line over mid-off for four. Though it was followed by

a bit of prodding and defending against Warrican and Khary Pierre, Rahul kept India steady by dancing down the pitch again - this time off Pierre - and loft over longon for six, before whipping the spinner off his wrists through mid-wicket for four more. (IANS)

playing out four maidens before the latter broke the

BRIEF SCORES:

India 518/5 dec and 124/3 in

The day began with KL Rahul and B Sai Sudharsan by seven wickets

35.2 overs (KL Rahul 58 not out, B Sai Sudharsan 39; Roston Chase 2-36, Jomel Warrican 1-39) beat West Indies 248 and 390 in 118.5 overs (John Campbell 115, Shai Hope 103; Jasprit Bumrah 3-44, Kuldeep Yadav 3-104)

str8bat launches str8bat Pro in Hyderabad: Next-gen smart tech for batting

Hyderabad

BUDDING young cricketers or professional cricketers, improve your cricketing skills and correct flaws in your batting with the help of India's leading sports tech innovator str8bat which has come up with first of its kind AI powered str8bat Pro, next-gen smart tech for batting.

Embedded with cuttingedge sensor technology and designed for elite-level precision, the product marks a breakthrough in how batting data is captured, interpreted, and applied-without altering the bat's feel or form. The ultra-thin, ultra-light product in the form of a bat sticker is str8bat's proprietary Gen-AI



technology that delivers realtime insights on bat speed, swing angles, impact zones, and more in a form that is invisible, intuitive, and fully customizable.

Budding cricketers such as Yashaswai Jaiswal, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and Riyan Parag have being playing with using this technology, as seen taking the popular

"PowerShot Challenge," while at Rajasthan Royals (source), showcasing how str8bat pro is being used to scout for talent by analysing data and not leaving it to guesswork.

Coinciding with its launch, str8bat announced its official expansion into 10 countries, focusing on emerging cricket markets including India, Canada, New Zealand,

sion, Str8bat aims to empower young athletes worldwide. Madhu Sudan, Co-Founder of str8bat, said, "Our goal has always been to democratise elite-level cricket ana-

insights accessible to every player. With the launch of the str8bat Classic and the nextgeneration str8bat Pro sticker, we've achieved just that. The Pro's ultra-light sensor, engineered over months, perfectly blends with the shape and weight of the bat that delivers unmatched accuracy without changing how the bat feels. From helping players at Rajasthan Royals refine their

feat in Ahmedabad. Yet, in

the end, India's depth and

composure, despite spend-

ing 200 overs on the field,

proved to be decisive, as

Rahul, Gill and Yashasvi

Jaiswal were amongst the

run-makers, while Kuldeep

Yadav picked eight wickets

on a pitch which was slow

the United States, Australia,

South Africa, the UK, and

Trinidad & Tobago, among

others. Through this expan-

lytics to make world-class

and docile.

power-hitting to being recognised by Cricket Australia as a benchmark for batting analysis, str8bat is changing how the game is understood. With over 20,000 units sold and our footprint now expanding globally, starting from our earliest success here in Hyderabad, this is just the beginning of how we're helping cricketers get better, faster, wherever they play."

The ultra-thin, ultra-light str8bat pro, available with an annual subscription also includes access to Masterclasses with Julian Wood, National Batting Coach for Sri Lanka and Nandan Phadnis, High Performance Coach at India's Centre of Excellence. The str8bat classic cost Rs 6,499 and Pro version cost Rs 7,999.

need to stay in present'

Gambhir on Rohit, Kohli's future

'ODI WC is still 2.5 yrs away,

It is believed that a lot will depend on how the duo plays in the nine ODIs in the next couple of months (3 vs Aus-

In the past one year, the Indian team has undergone transition across all formats under Gambhir's coaching.

tralia, 3 vs SA and 3 vs NZ).

When asked what are the attributes he is looking for when he wants to blood a player in the national team, Gambhir presented his checklist. "First and foremost, you look at talent. Then you look at the work ethic. You look at the characters in that dressing room, especially in red-ball cricket.

"You look at what they bring on the table, apart from the amount of runs and wickets they do, I think how hungry they are. And if you've got all those attributes, you will definitely have a successful Test career."

With so much of competition for slots, Gambhir feels that international cricket is an "insecure environment".

"For me, giving them a longer run is very, very important because as we all know that international cricket is a very insecure environment because only 15 players can go on to represent the country and there are so many people waiting for their opportunity.

"So make sure first you pick the right characters and then if you see that, try and give them a longer run so that they themselves should be content and happy that they've got a longer run rather than just chopping and changing as well."

Personally, Gambhir has an aversion towards the word "dropping" and he feels emotional when a worthy player misses out on a national team

"Sometimes it's difficult as a head coach and a team management where you will have to sometimes leave out players. I don't like using this word, dropping players because you don't drop players, you only select players."

"When a player is left out, the least a coach can do is be empathetic and not ruthless."

of the two former skippers. WOMEN'S WC: SL, NZ SPLIT POINTS

AFTER RAIN WASHES OUT MATCH

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka and New Zealand shared points as their Women's World Cup match was abandoned due to persistent rain after strong batting performance by the hosts here on Tuesday. Opting to bat, Nilakshika De Silva's belligerent fifty was the perfect antithesis to skipper Chamari Athapaththu's graceful half-century as Sri Lanka posted a challenging 258 for 6.

However, rain lashed the R Premadasa Sta-

dium just before New Zealand began their chase and the match could not resume from that point. After the washout, Sri Lanka continued to stay at the seventh place, having collected 2 points from four games while New Zealand, who now have 3 points, were static at number five on the table. This is the second World Cup game that has been washed out with Sri Lanka's fixture against Australia also abandoned last week because of rain.

What sort of friendship is this?: Cong jabs PM after Trump's praise of Munir

THE Congress on Tuesday attacked the government over US President Donald Trump's praise for Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir, saving what kind of signal is the American leader sending to India, in spite of PM Narendra Modi's "desperate attempts" to ingratiate himself with him.

What sort of friendship is this between Trump and Modi, the opposition party asked, citing instances of Trump's praise for Munir and the Field Marshal whose in- Marshal' and gives special

tary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said Prime Minister Modi keeps calling President Trump his good friend and to be fair the American leader also keeps calling Modi his good friend. "But what sort of friend-

ship is this? President Trump hosted Field Marshal Asim Munir to an unprecedented lunch in the White House on June 18, 2025. This was

past meetings between the flammatory and communally Congress general secrethe backdrop to the Pahalgam terror attacks orchestrated by Pakistan on April 22, 2025," Ramesh said on X.

Then President Trump met with the Field Marshal a second time in the White House on September 26, 2025, when the Field Marshal presented President Trump with a box of rare earths, he said.

"Now in Egypt yesterday, President Trump calls Asim Munir as 'my favourite Field place to the PM of Paki-President Trump sending to India, in spite of Mr. Modi's desperate attempts to ingratiate himself with the US President?" Ramesh said.

What sort of friendship is this, Ramesh asked.

Noting that Trump has called Munir his 'favourite', Congress MP Manickam Tagore said the same Munir has overseen terror plots and cross-border attacks against India.

"Under Modi's watch, 'strong leader' who said he the world is not standing with India it's now prai ing those who target India. This is not diplomacy — this is disaster. For years, Modi claimed 'India has never been stronger globally'. Yet today, even leaders like Trump are openly glorifying those responsible for terror against our nation - without a single word of protest from Modi," the Congress MP said.

"Where is the 56-inch diplomacy now? Where is the would isolate Pakistan inenemies are being endorsed and our PM remains silent, it's clear - Modi's foreign policy has collapsed. Loud on propaganda, mute on national pride," he said.

India deserves leadership that earns respect through principles, not photo-ops, Tagore said.

"Foreign policy isn't about hugs -- it's about standing firm for the nation's dignity," he said. (PTI)

Husband murders wife



Govind Pansare murder

Bombay HC grants bail

Shameful! WHO issues alert against Indian cough syrups

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) has issued an alert against three "substandard" oral cough syrups identified in India -- Coldrif, Respifresh TR and ReLife -- and urged national regulatory authorities worldwide to immediately notify it if these are detected in their country.

It has also advised healthcare professionals to report the detection of these substandard products and any incident of adverse effects, or lack of expected effects to their national regulatory authorities or National Pharmacovigilance Centre.

The alert comes after at least 22 children, mostly under the age of five, have died due to suspected kidney failure after being administered Coldrif in Madhya Pradesh. Besides, at least three children have allegedly died in Rajasthan after consuming cough syrup in different districts of the state.

The WHO has further



called for increased surveillance and diligence within the supply chains of countries and regions likely to be affected by these substandard products.

"Increased surveillance of the informal/unregulated market is also advised," the alert issued on Monday said. The affected products are oral liquid medicines containing active ingredients commonly used to relieve symptoms of common cold, flu, or cough According to the alert, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) of India reported to WHO the presence of Diethylene Glycol (DEG) in at least

three oral liquid medicines in October 8. This followed informa-

tion identified by WHO on September 30 of localised clusters of acute illness and child fatalities in India. The CDSCO informed WHO that the contaminated products were reportedly consumed by the affected children and confirmed that relevant state authorities have ordered an immediate halt to production at implicated manufacturing sites and have suspended product authorisations. In addition, a recall of the contaminated products has been initiated by relevant state authorities. (PTI)

Bihar polls: JD(U) MP Mandal to resign over ticket distribution

PATNA: JD(U)'s Bhagalpur MP Ajay Kumar Mandal sought to resign on Tuesday, stating that he was not consulted over the distribution of tickets for the Bihar assembly elections in his region. The Nitish Kumarled party is yet to comment on the letter, which Mandal shared on X.

"Despite being a member of parliament from Bhagalpur, the party has not reached out to me for advice regarding ticket distribution in the region. In that case, there is no point holding the MP post," he said in the letter, addressed to Kumar.

He said in his 20-25 years of service to the Bhagalpur region, as an MP and MLA, he has considered JD(U) as his family, but "decisions made in the past few months" do not augur well for the future of the party.

He alleged that the "prioritising outsiders" has "weakened the roots" of the JD(U), adding that "party workers are feeling sidelined". This, he said, reflects poor-

ly on the leadership of the

chief minister. (PTI)

for insurance money HAZARIBAGH: A man was arrested for murdering his newly married wife and making it appear like an accident to claim insurance money in Jharkhand's

Hazaribag district, police said on Tuesday. Padama Out Post (OP) in charge, Sanchit Kumar Dubey told PTI on Tuesday, that 30-yearold Mukesh Kumar Mehta had murdered his wife Sevanti Kumari (23), whom he had married four months back, on October 9 night

and staged it as a road mishap to

claim the insurance money of Rs

"We received a complaint from passersby on October 9 about a couple lying injured due to a road mishap along Padama-Itkhori stretch of NH-33. We rushed to the spot and brought the deceased Sevanti Kumari and her husband, who pretended to be unconscious to Sadar Hospital.

"While the wife was declared dead and the body was sent for post-mortem, the husband, who had sustained superficial injury, underwent treatment," the police officer said. However, locals suspected the husband's behaviour during the last rites of the wife.

"We received complaints from locals about the suspicious behav-



iour of the husband during the last rites of the wife. We started an investigation and found that he had applied for an accident insurance claim of Rs 30 lakh. We became suspicious and started interrogating the accused," added the police officer.

"During intense interrogation, he confessed to the crime for insurance money and said that on October 9 night he had brought his wife for treatment of stomach pain and beat her up with helmets leading to bleeding and then strangled her. He also laid the body on the road after inflicting damage to the bike and also to himself and lied on the road to make it appear like an accident," the police officer said.

The officer said the bike did not have damage as could have happened due to the impact of a mishap. Even his injuries were minor.

"We arrested him and sent him to judicial custody on Monday evening," said the police officer.



High Court on Tuesday granted bail to three perincluding prime accused Virendrasinh Tawade, arrested in connection with the killing of rationalist and author Govind

Pansare in 2015. Besides Tawade, Justice S G Dige of the HC's Kolhapur bench also granted bail to two other accused --Sharad Kalaskar and Amol

While Tawade and Kale will walk out of prison, Kalaskar will continue to remain in jail as he had been convicted in the 2013 case of rationalist Narendra Dabholkar's murder. His appeal against conviction is pending before the HC.

Justice Dige on Tuesday said he was granting bail to the three accused, and would pass a detailed order later. "The applications (filed by the accused for bail) are allowed. I will pass a detailed order later," he said. The bench refused to stay its order at the request of a lawyer appearing for



Pansare's family.

Pansare was shot at on February 16, 2015, in Maharashtra's Kolhapur and succumbed to his injuries a few days later on Febru-

ary 20. In January this year, six other accused - Sachin Andure, Ganesh Miskin, Amit Degvekar, Amit Baddi, Bharat Kurane and Vasudev Suryavanshi - were granted bail on the grounds of long incarceration and the fact that the trial is not likely to be completed in the near future.

Pansare and his wife were returning home from their morning walk in the Samrat Nagar area of Kolhapur when two motorbike-borne men fired multiple rounds at them before fleeing.

SC stays HC order disqualifying **Malur MLA**

BENGALURU: The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted an interim stay on the Karnataka High Court order that had annulled the election of Congress MLA K Y Nanjegowda from the Malur Assembly constituency in Kolar district. A bench comprising Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi, hearing Nanjegowda's special leave petition challenging the High Court's verdict, issued notices to the respondents and posted the matter for further hearing on November 24.

The apex court also directed the Election Commission of India (ECI) to conduct a recount of votes in the constituency and submit the results in a sealed cover. However, it instructed that the outcome must not be made public without prior permission from the court. The single-judge bench of the High Court had found merit in the allegations that vote counting was carried out in two separate rooms, violating the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 and guidelines of the Election Commission. The court had also directed the ECI to recount the votes within four weeks and declare the winner based on the fresh tally.

In his petition, Manjunath Gowda claimed that polling agents of several candidates were not given proper access to the counting process and that multiple irregularities had influenced the final result.

139 TV artistes duped in fake site deal

BENGALURU: In a shocking case of fraud, as many as 139 television actors and artists have allegedly been cheated of crores of rupees under the pretext of being allotted residential sites in Bengaluru. The accused reportedly collected money promising land, created fake layout plans and fabricated property documents, and defrauded members of the television fraternity. An FIR has been registered at the Rajarajeshwari Nagar Police Station against five people — builder Bhagiratha, Sanjeev Tagaduru, Guruprasad, Ravindra, and Umakant based on a complaint filed by Bhavana Belegere, a member of the Karnataka Television Association (KTVA). According to police sources, the fraud dates back to 2015, when Sanjeev Tagaduru, then a member of the KTVA Site Committee, along with builder Bhagiratha, had proposed to provide sites near Tavarekere. They allegedly collected huge sums of money from artistes, claiming to arrange genuine sale deeds. However, when the property registration process began, the documents were found to be fake, exposing the largescale scam. The complaint states that the accused created bogus layout maps and forged land documents, cheating artists of approximately ⊠1.6 Several well-known small-screen actors, including Bhavana Belegere, Sharath Chandra, and Rahul, are

Phoenix India light festival 2025

among the victims.

BENGALURU: Phoenix Mall of Asia, Bengaluru's premier destination for shopping, dining, and culture, proudly presents the India Light Festival 2.0 - Sitaro Ki Diwali - The Festival of Lights, Redefined. Launched this September with Navratri, the grand Diwali décor installation has transformed the Plaza into a vibrant festive hub, glowing with dazzling star-inspired elements and setting the tone for the season's celebrations.

Building on last year's success of programmatic light installations that became a city landmark, this year's Phoenix India Light Festival (ILF) 2025, themed "Rhythms of Reverie", takes the experience further. The mall is reimagined as a luminous sanctuary where art and technology come together, offering visitors an immersive journey of color, memory, and imagination.

TN man 'sends hoax bomb threat' to residences of CM, Dy CM

A probe has been launched to trace a man from Tamil Nadu who allegedly sent a hoax email recently threatening to blow up the residences of Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, police said on Tuesday.

The emails were sent from a particular ID to the Tamil Nadu DGP on October 11, following which officials of the Karnataka police were

immediately alerted and necessary precautionary measures were taken, they

The purported email from aarna.ashwinshekher@ outlook.com claimed that "four RDX devices and several IEDs" had been planted at the residences of both the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister and would be "detonated remotely."

As per protocol, precautionary measures were initiated, and the Bengaluru

police carried out combing operations at both residences with the bomb detection and disposal squad. However, after thorough checks, the emails were declared a hoax, a senior police officer said.

A case was registered by the police on their own against the sender of the purported email at Halasuru Gate police station under sections 351(4) (criminal intimidation) and 353(1) (b) (statements conducing to public mischief) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita

(BNS), the officer said. "The particular email ID has been tracked to a man from Tamil Nadu and efforts are on to nab the culprit. However, what we have observed is that in the past few months, we have repeatedly received such emails with similar threats and content, which later turn out to be hoax," he said. "A special investigation team has also been formed to trace those

behind such hoax emails.

Further investigation is

underway," he added.



Al cameras tighten traffic monitoring in Bengaluru

Record 87% of violations automatically

Hans News Service Bengaluru

MOTORISTS who thought they could break traffic rules unnoticed are in for a shock. The Bengaluru City Traffic Police have deployed advanced AI-powered cameras across major roads to automatically detect and record traffic violations, drastically reducing manual policing on the streets. According to official data, 87% of all traffic violations reported between January and July 2025 were captured through these AI cameras.

Of the 30 lakh total cases registered during this period, 11,800 violations were recorded daily by these automated systems, while police personnel manually registered only around 1,500 cases, mostly related to no-entry driving and illegal parking. The AI cameras, installed at nearly 75 key junctions, are capable of detecting a range of violations including riding without a helmet, pillion riders not wearing helmets, driving without seat belts, and jumping traffic signals.

Each infraction is auto-



matically recorded in both video and photographic formats, leaving no room for motorists to deny the offense. Officials say that this system not only ensures transparency and accuracy but also saves time for traffic personnel who can now focus on managing congestion rather than stopping vehicles

Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Karthik Reddy told that public awareness about traffic rules has improved significantly after the installation of AI surveillance cameras. He

conveniently check details of violations through the AS-TraM mobile app, designed for easy access to real-time traffic updates and penalty information. So far, the department has collected over №44 lakh in fines, accounting for nearly half of the total penalties imposed during this period.

The AI-driven enforcement system has been hailed as a success in improving compliance and accountability on Bengaluru's busy roads. However, challenges remain. Despite the technological progress, illegal parking and one-way violations continue to trouble the city traffic police. These offenses often occur in areas without camera coverage, forcing officers to intervene manually. Authorities plan to expand the network of AI cameras to additional hightraffic zones in the coming months to ensure comprehensive monitoring. With the integration of artificial intelligence into daily enforcement, Bengaluru is fast emerging as a model city for smart traffic management

in India.

Bengaluru's 'immortal' potholes spark clash between industrialists and govt

Hans News Service Bengaluru

THE city's never-ending pothole problem continues to haunt commuters and embarrass the government, despite repeated promises of action. The issue, which has frustrated citizens for years, has now reignited tensions between industrialists and the state government, after Biocon chief Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw raised her voice once again over Bengaluru's crumbling infrastructure.

Entrepreneurs had earlier warned that they might move their operations out of the city if conditions did not improve. Following criticism from the industry and the high command's reprimand, both Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM D. K. Shivakumar had personally intervened, issuing strict orders and deadlines to officials. Yet, potholes continue

to dominate Bengaluru's

In a social media post that went viral, Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw revealed that a visiting industrialist from China questioned her about the city's poor roads and garbage piles, asking whether the government truly supports investors. She tagged CM Siddaramaiah, DCM D. K. Shivakumar, and Minister Priyank Kharge in the post, drawing public attention to the issue once again.

Responding to her remarks, IT & BT Minister Priyank Kharge said, "Industrialists like Kiran Mazumdar have made valuable contributions to Bengaluru, and we welcome their inputs. But they can also reach out directly to us for discussions. Everyone must play their part-citizens must stop littering and take responsibility. Garbage doesn't fall from the sky." He also added that other states are naturally inviting entrepreneurs, noting humorously that "the Andhra IT Minister seems to be waiting like a hawk for opportunities."

Meanwhile, Large and Medium Industries Minister M. B. Patil took a balanced tone, acknowledging both the city's challenges and Shaw's role. "Kiran Mazumdar has contributed a lot to Bengaluru, and Bengaluru too has given her everything. Heavy rains have caused damage across the state, making it difficult to fix potholes immediately. Still, we are working to repair them. The number of people coming to Bengaluru continues to grow-hardly anyone is leaving," he said.

Despite the reassurances, residents and business leaders remain skeptical, as Bengaluru's potholes continue to outlive every deadline, turning into a symbol of the city's



EIGHTH SESSION OF ISAASSEMBLY IN INDIA FROM OCTOBER 27-30

BENGALURU

THE Eighth Session of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) Assembly, scheduled from October 27 to 30 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, will bring the world together under one Sun, one vision, and one shared commitment to solar energy.

Launched by India and

France at COP21 in Paris, ISA is the largest treatybased intergovernmental organisation from the Global South, bringing together 124 Member and Signatory Countries. This high-level ministerial gathering comes weeks ahead of COP30 in Brazil, shaping priorities for scaling solar energy, unlocking transformative finance, charting technology and policy roadmaps, and



building skill ecosystems to accelerate a just and inclusive energy transition.

At the curtain-raiser today Pralhad Joshi, Minister of New and Renewable Energy,

GoI, & President of the ISA Assembly, said, "Owing to its clear vision and the consistits renewable energy targets five years ahead of the schedule, crossing the 50% mark in overall installed electricity capacity from non-fossil resources. Today with approximately 125 GW of solar capacity, India is the world's third largest solar producer. This progress shows how the national ambition can translate to meaningful change at the local level. It is because our success story is more than just numbers; it is about the people. We have seen firsthand how decentralised solar transforms lives, bring light to rural homes, powers local health centres and gives new tools to our farmers. With PM Surya Ghar - Muft Bijli Yojana, more than 20 lakh households are benefiting from solar power."

Man arrested for cheating people with 'black magic' rituals

A 49-year-old man was arrested for allegedly cheating people by claiming to perform rituals to remove 'black magic' or 'retrieve hidden treasures', police said on Tuesday. With the arrest of the accused, identified as Dada Peer, who operated under multiple aliases, police said they recovered 485.4 grams of stolen gold orna-

ments worth Rs 53 lakh. The matter came to light on September 26, when Hulimavu police received a tip-off that a suspicious person was standing near Bannerghatta Main Road, police said. Acting on the information, the station staff rushed to the spot, detained the man, and found he was a native of Kolar. Upon inspection, gold ornaments were recovered from his possession.

When questioned about their source, he confessed to stealing the ornaments and searching for buyers to sell them, a senior police officer said. A case of theft was registered at Hulimavu police station, and the accused was formally arrested, police added.

During interrogation, the accused revealed that he deceived the public by claiming to perform rituals to 'remove black magic' or 'unearth hidden treasures' (nidhi). Gaining their trust, he would collect gold ornaments under the pretext of performing rituals or puja and then escape with them, the officer said.

He further confessed to committing a similar offence recently in Bhadravathi, Shivamogga district, Karnataka, the officer added. Police said half of the stolen gold ornaments were kept at his residence in Kolar, while the rest were pledged at jewellery shops in Nagpur, Maharashtra, and BTM Layout here.

Minister alleges threat calls for seeking ban on RSS activities in govt premises dangerous viRuSS."

MINISTER Priyank Kharge on Tuesday claimed that he has been receiving phone calls "filled with threats, intimidation and filthiest abuses" directed at him and his family, as he dared to question and restrain RSS activities in government schools, colleges and public institutions.

"For the past two days, my phone hasn't stopped ringing. Calls filled with threats, intimidation and the filthiest abuse directed at me and my family, simply because I dared to

activities in government schools, colleges and public institutions," Kharge said in a post on 'X'.

However, the Minister, who is the son of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, asserted that he was neither shaken nor surprised.

When the RSS didn't spare Mahatma Gandhi or Babasaheb Ambedkar, why would they spare me?" he remarked.

Reiterating his resolve, Kharge, who is Information Technology and Biotechnology Minister,



said, "If they (RSS) think threats and personal jibes will silence me, they are mistaken. This has just begun."

Calling for a more equitable and compassionate society, he added, "It is time to build a society founded on the principles of Buddha, Basavanna and Babasaheb, a society rooted in equality, reason and compassion, and purge this nation of the most

wrote to the Chief Minister Siddaramaiah requesting him to ban RSS activities in government schools and colleges and public places. "An organisation called the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has been conducting its shakhas in government and government-aided schools, as well as in public grounds, where slogans are shouted and negative ideas are instilled in the minds

The Minister recently

wrote in his letter. He claimed that such

of children and youth," he

practices go against India's unity and the spirit of the Constitution. Later speaking to reporters, Kharge said he had been in a similar situation when Basavaraj Bommai was the Chief Minister.

"The police officers who investigated the matter in the past had told me that the IP addresses of the calls are masked and no one can figure out from where the call has been made. They told me officially that they cannot do much. Even now the same has happened," he

According to Kharge,

whenever he spoke out against the system, he received such calls. "Let them make threat calls, I am not going to be intimidated." Addressing reporters, Siddaramaiah said he is not aware of threat calls to Priyank Kharge.

"I don't know about any such development. I will speak to Priyank Kharge," he said. The Chief Minister on Monday said he has forwarded Kharge's letter to the Chief Secretary to find out what the Tamil Nadu government has done to stop RSS activities in government and public properties.

Bigg Boss Telugu Season 9' losing credibility?

MOSTLY DUE TO POOR CONTESTANT PICKS

SuhasSistu

BIGG Boss Telugu has long thrived on controversy, charisma, and compelling personalities. But season 9, so far, is eroding that foundation — and it's not because of the host or the format. Though it came with the tagline 'Idi chadarangamkaadu, raanarangam' (It's not chess, it's war), the show is not showing the same fire it promised. It's the weak selection of contestants that's turning what should be a high-voltage reality show into a forgettable routine. Where's the spark?

Contestant lineups in earlier seasons felt rugged, unpredictable, and teeming with clashing egos. This year's cast, however, leans heavily into "safe" names and internet personas, many carrying baggage from past controversies. For instance, Sanjana Galrani entered the house with known legal issues, immediately shifting focus from the show itself to her personal drama. Flora Saini's entry also brought pre-existing controversies to the fore

before she even got a chance to perform. Rules break, respect fades

When viewers see contestants breaking fundamental rules—like the rule of speaking Telugu—without apparent consequences, it signals weak enforcement and less accountability. Bigg Boss himself had to scold contestants for repeatedly ignoring Telugu. That undermines the very structure that gives the show its gravity. Drama by default, not design

Elsewhere, the show is

running out of organic tension. Relationships and fights feel manufactured. Wildcard entries like DivyaNikitha, selected despite having low support in the Agnipariksha audition, suggest favoritism over fair competition. When eliminations feel rigged or in-

A show built on gamble, not formula

viewers lose trust.

Bigg Boss is supposed to be about raw human unpredictability. This season, it has become a predictable exercise

fluenced by off-screen factors,

in name value and past controversies. The result: a show that looks busy but lacks depth, and reinforces the idea that the franchise is banking more on spectacle than substance.

With the latest wildcard entries like Divvela Madhuri and Ramya Moksha, who recently made headlines for their controversial public statements, the makers seem to be attempting a last-minute rescue operation to revive audience interest. These contestants bring drama potential, but whether they can inject real momentum into

the show—or simply add more noise without substance—remains to be seen. All eyes are now on how these wildcard contestants will shake up the

house dynamics in the coming weeks. If these contestants also fade like the rest—season 9 risks becoming one of its most forgettable chapters.



'MeesaalaPilla' from 'MSVP Garu': Vintage melody with modern touch

ranjeevi joined forces for the first time with blockbuster filmmaker Anil Ravipudi for the muchawaited family entertainer Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu. Touted to be packed with family emotions, humor, and mass appeal in Ravipudi's signature style, the film is gearing up for a grand Sankranthi 2026 theatrical release.

The promotional campaign began on a powerful note with the launch of the first single 'MeesaalaPilla', whose promo dropped during the Dussehra festival. Within hours, the track went viral across social media platforms, trending with thousands of fan-made reels and edits celebrating Chiranjeevi's unmatched screen aura and the song's vibrant energy.

One of the biggest talking points from the promo is the refreshing on-screen chemistry between Chiranjeevi and Lady Superstar Nayanthara. The duo is seen portraying a grounded and



charming husband-wife pair, offering a blend of fun, warmth, and emotional relatability-something audiences are already loving.

The song boasts a melodious yet upbeat vibe brought to life by the soulful vocals of Udit Narayan and Shweta Mohan. BhaskaraBhatla's playful lyrics add a catchy

sCeciroleo's lively music makes "MeesaalaPilla" an instant chartbuster. Music lovers have already begun calling it one of the most addictive Telugu singles of

Produced by SahuGarapati and Sushmita Konidela under the Shine Screens and Gold Box Entertainment banners, the film has now set high expectations among audiences. With the first single making waves, all eyes are now on the next glimpse from Mana ShankaraVara Prasad Garu as excitement continues to build ahead of its festive release.

'Mithra Mandali' pre-release event sparks buzz

→HE upcoming buddy comedy Mithra Mandali is gearing up for a theatrical release on October 16, generating strong buzz among audiences. Produced under BV Works and presented by Bunny Vas and SaptaAshwa Media Works, the film features Priyadarshi and popular digital star Niharika NM in lead roles. Directed by Vijayender S, the film boasts a huge ensemble cast including

> comedy icons Brahmanandam, Vennela Kishore, Satya, VTV Ganesh, and others.

As part of promotions, a grand prerelease event was held on October 13, graced by actor Sree Vishnu as the chief guest. Speaking at the event, he praised the team's effort and said, "Mithra Mandali is full of heart and humor. It will make audiences leave the theatre with a smile." He also appreciated Priyadarshi's script choices and welcomed Niharika NM to Telugu cinema.

Priyadarshi expressed confidence in the film's entertainment value, saying, "If you don't like this movie, don't watch any of my future films!" Niharika NM added that she was delighted to officially

OPULAR actor Vishnu Vishal,

well known to Telugu audi-

and Ratsasan, is all set to return with

a gripping investigative thriller titled

Aryan. Directed by Praveen K and

teaser, which received an impressive re-

Continuing the promotional momentum,

the makers today unveiled a powerful single titled "I Am The Guy". The track, composed

viral on social media, further boosting expec-

Vikram, Amaran and Thug Life, Shresht Movies is planning a grand release across Andhra

The film features an impressive cast including

Selvaraghavan, Shraddha Srinath, and Manasa

Chowdhury in key roles, while Vishnu Vishal

sponse from viewers.

tations for the film.

Pradesh and Telangana.

enter Telugu films with a project rooted in friendship and emotion.

Producer Bunny Vas called Mithra Mandali a "clean family entertainer and an early Diwali gift", while assuring audiences that the film will deliver non-stop laughs. Director Vijayender thanked his team for their unwavering support and invited audiences to enjoy the emotional and humorous journey of friendship on screen.

With positive early buzz from trailers and songs, Mithra Mandali is set to entertain audiences starting October 16.

'Bison' trailer: Politically charged sports drama

▼ OUNG actor Dhruv Vikram, son of versatile star Chiyaan Vikram, is gearing up for what could be a defining moment in his career with his upcoming film Bison. Despite delivering strong performances in films like Adithya Varma and Mahaan, Dhruv is still awaiting that one big commercial breakthrough. Now, with acclaimed filmmaker Mari Selvaraj at the helm, Bison is generating strong expectations.

The trailer of the film, which released yesterday, has caught everyone's attention with its intense narrative and emotional depth. Staying true to his film-

making style, Mari Selvaraj once again chooses a socially grounded theme. The story follows Dhruv's character, a determined young man from a marginalised community whose life revolves around his passion for Kabaddi. The trailer opens with his



humble beginnings and turbulent journey, revealing the harsh oppression he faces from caste-based discrimination and societal prejudice.

Despite constant humiliation and setbacks, Dhruv's character refuses to surrender, instead rising with resilience to fight for identity, dignity, and the pride of his people. The trailer promises a raw, realistic sports drama layered with emotional intensity and strong social commentary—hallmarks of Mari Selvaraj's impactful storytelling.

Actresses Anupama Parameswaran and Rajisha Vijayan appear in strong rural roles, bringing authenticity to the village setting and emotional grounding to the story. Their rustic screen presence enhances the film's culturally rooted tone.

Backed by impactful visuals and a compelling narrative, Bison is set for release on October 17th, coinciding with Diwali. With a powerful theme, emotional depth, and Dhruv Vikram's intense performance, the film is being seen as a potential gamechanger in his career.



village comedy with a social twist

■HE upcoming web series Super Subbu brings a refreshing mix of humor, emotion, and social relevance to Indian storytelling. The plot follows the misadventures of a hapless young teacher who dreams of escaping his domineering father, only to end up with an unexpected assignment-teaching sex education in a conservative village. The biggest irony? He's a virgin himself, setting the stage for a comedy full of awkwardness, heartfelt moments, and selfdiscovery.

Director Mallik Ram explains the inspiration behind the series:"Super Subbu was born from the observation that sex education is still treated as a taboo subject in our society. Parents avoid it, schools skip it, and children grow up with confusion and myths. Through Subbu's journey, we use humor to break silence around a sensitive topic and make it accessible. The village of Maakhipur feels real and rooted, just like the people many of us grew up around. At its core, this story is about courage, community, and acceptance." Actress Mithila Palkar, who plays a key role, says,"It's a quirky yet meaningful story about dreams, relationships, and coming of age in unexpected ways. The characters feel so real, and the narrative is both funny and emotional. I'm excited for audiences to see me in a very different avatar." Actor Sundeep Kishan adds, "We're now telling stories that are brave and relatable. Super Subbu celebrates simple joys while addressing real issues through lovable characters and engaging writing." The series is expected to blend entertainment with a strong message, making

it one to watch out for

will be seen as a determined police officer unraveling a dark mystery. Supporting roles are Thakur, runway presence.

TAm The Guy ences through films like FIR song from 'Aryan' is energetic produced by Vishnu Vishal Studios, Shubra and Arvan Ramesh, the film has already sparked curiosity with its intense by Ghibran, features lyrics by Samrat and is sung energetically by Ghibran and Srikanth Hariharan. The high-octane song has gone Aryan is scheduled for a theatrical release on October 31. In the Telugu states, the film will be released by Sudhakar Reddy, father of hero Nithiin, under the Shresht Movies banner. Known for distributing blockbuster hits like

> played by Sai Ronak, TarakPonnappa, Mala Parvathi, Avinash, and Abhishek Joseph George.

The story is co-written by Manu Anand of FIR fame. Harish Kannan handles cinematography, San Lokesh is the editor, and Ghibran scores the music. The makers will soon announce updates on the trailer and audio launch events.

Mrunal Thakur sets the ramp on fire

gearing up for the release of her upcoming film Dacoit alongside AdiviSesh, made a stunning appearance at Lakmé Fash-ion Week, leaving fashion enthusiasts captivated with her bold and glamorous

Walking for ace designer duo Pankaj & Nidhi at Lakmé <u>Fashion</u> Week in partnership with FDCI, Mrunal embraced a powerful high-fashion avatar. She wore a shimmering golden sleeveless top paired with a sleek black skirt featuring a daring thigh-high slit, per-fectly blending elegance with drama. The look was elevated by statement golden earrings, adding just the right touch of opulence to her ensemble.

Interestingly, Mrunal opted for a minimalist styling approach, keeping her hands free of accessories and choosing classic black heels to maintain the focus on her striking outfit. Her makeup was sub-tle yet sharp, enhancing her natural beauty, while her hair was styled in a neat updo that highlighted her strong fea-

What truly stood out was her commanding runway at-titude. She skipped the usual smile and instead delivered intense, piercing expressions, locking eyes with the camera and exuding top-model confidence. Fans and fashion critics alike praised her fierce walk and bold aura, calling her one of the best celebrity showstop-pers of the season.

With every appearance, Mrunal Thakur continues to prove she's not just a rising star in cinema, but also a style icon who owns every frame—on screen and on the runway.