



THE Hans 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?

Network hospitals' strike enters fifth day
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.

Excise minister inspects wine shop, verifies brands
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.

Simultaneously published from Hyderabad | Warangal | Tirupati | Vijayawada | Visakhapatnam | Khammam | Kurnool | Delhi

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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 divisional committee of the outlawed CPI-Maoist, the officials said. According to sources, Venugopal, alias Bhupathi alias Sonu, was considered one of the most influential strategists in the Maoist organisation and had long supervised platoon operations along the Maharashtra-Chhattisgarh border. **Continued on Page 7**

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SMALL SAVINGS GROW BIG WITH KAPIL

IRREGULAR by MANJUL

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

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

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



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 AI 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 Bharat. It will be a powerful 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 \$15 billion over five years.

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 AI City and the largest AI and data hub outside the US

VIZAG AI HUB LANDMARK DEVELOPMENT, SAYS PICHA

AMARAVATI: Google CEO Sundar Pichai described Google 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 gigawatt-scale compute capacity, a new international subsea gateway, and large-scale energy infrastructure."

20 killed as moving bus catches fire in Jaisalmer

JAISALMER: Around 20 people died, and many others were grievously injured after a moving bus caught 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

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



SHARM EL-SHEIKH

US President Donald Trump played a balancing act at the Gaza Peace Summit in Egypt's Sharm el-Sheikh, calling Pakistani Army Chief Asim Munir "my favourite marshal," while also praising his "very good friend," Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"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.

Continued on Page 7

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 Nand Kishore Yadav

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 Srisaillam

Modi is scheduled to visit the temple town tomorrow

NARENDRA KUMAR V
SRISAILLAM

IN view of the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Srisaillam 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 Srisaillam on Tuesday and reviewed the arrangements at



DGP Harish Kumar Gupta inspecting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit arrangements at Srisaillam 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 fool-proof 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

INTRODUCING

FASTER CLEARING OF CHEQUES

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.

What this means?

- Faster Fund Availability
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- Reduced Delays

Point to be noted

- Keep adequate balance to avoid cheque bounce

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For feedback, write to rbikeptahai@rbi.org.in

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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

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the general public that Mr. M. Lokesh, in connection with the loan purpose of his wife Mrs. Rajasree, has approached the State Bank of India, SME Branch, Tirupati, for financial assistance. Further, as per the Will executed by Mrs. M. Nagamani, wife of Mr. M. Narasimulu, the property described in the Schedule below stands in her possession and enjoyment. Therefore, any person or persons having any claim, right, title, interest, lien, or objection whatsoever in respect of the said property are hereby requested to submit their claims or objections in writing to the undersigned within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. If no such claim or objection is received within the said period, it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all encumbrances, and the Bank will proceed further with the loan process accordingly.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY: Situated at Tirupati Sub-Registration District, Tirupati Mandal, Tirupati Town, Old Ward No. 15, New Ward No. 14, T.P. Area, Town Survey No. 4462, Tippun Survey No. 4652, Plot No. 141, Municipal No. 193. Boundaries: **East:** Vacant site belonging to Sri TV. Narasimulu **West:** Property sold by Vallivedu Krishna Reddy & others (Door No. 14-2-192) **North:** Municipal Scavenger Lane, **South:** Tirupati Railway Station to Tiruchanur Road. East 30 feet 9.144 mtr. North south 103 feet 31.089 mtr. Extent: 3,090.64 sq. ft. (approximately 343.50 sq. yards)

For and on behalf of
STATE BANK OF INDIA
Assistant General Manager, SBI, SME Branch, Tirupati.

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



ills, 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 currently being registered, meaning roughly 80 per cent of the population is temporarily deprived of government medical aid. At present, NTR Vaidya Seva ser-

vices are available only in government hospitals and medical colleges, explaining the drastic drop in case registrations.

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

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 Kammappalli, Madanapalle, Chittoor district, was born on June 27, 1965, and studied law at VR Law College, Nellore. He enrolled as

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 Samanta, 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.

LIQUOR SCAM

SIT carries out searches at places linked to MP Midhun Reddy

- Conducted searches at several properties linked to Peddireddy Midhun Reddy in Hyderabad, Tirupati and Bengaluru as part of its probe into the alleged Rs 3,200 cr liquor scam
- Midhun Reddy, arrested in July and released on bail in Sept, claims the case is politically motivated, accusing the ruling coalition of fabricating charges to target YSRCP leaders.
- 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 already arrested

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, Peddireddy Midhun Reddy.

SIT officials conducted searches at the houses of the Rajampet MP in Hyderabad, Tirupati and Bengaluru.

In Hyderabad, the SIT searched the houses of YSRCP MP in Prashasan Nagar and Gayatri Hills, Yousufguda. His office in the Kondapur area was also searched by the SIT officials.



Collector Dr G Lakshmiisha addressing a review meeting at Government General Hospital in Vijayawada on Tuesday. MP Kesineni Chinni and MLA Bonda Umamaheswara Rao are also seen.

MP Sivanath promises modern equipment to GGH

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

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

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 Lakshmiisha, 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.

Dharmana warns TDP coalition against privatisation of medical colleges

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 move.

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 feel betrayed.

Prasada Rao recalled that during YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's tenure, the state effectively fought the COVID19 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 corporate-level healthcare accessible to the poor.

Bank of Baroda
R.S.ROAD BRANCH, KADAPA
Dwaraka Nagar, R.S.Road, Kadapa-516004. Ph : 9154285302
Date: 03.09.2025

BY REGISTERED POST WITH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT DUE WITHOUT PREJUDICE
ANNEXURE-1

To,
1. R Victoria Nirmala, W/o. Shaik Abdul Hameed, # 42/405, NGO Colony, Sankarapuram, Kadapa-516002.
2. Shaik Abdul Ruksana, D/o. Shaik Abdul Hameed, # 42/705-2, NGO Colony, Chinna Chowk, Kadapa-516002
Dear Sir / Madam,

SUBJECT: NOTICE DEMANDING OVERDUE OF YOUR LOAN AMOUNT

Loan A/c No.	Nature of Facility	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)	Overdue amount (Rs.)	Overdue w.e.f. Date
81270600005742	Car Loan	Rs.10,00,000/-	Rs.20,155.71	10-08-2025

We refer to above loan availed by you and inform you that there is overdue as given above in your captioned loan account. The Bank issued Demand notice on 03.09.2025 calling upon you to repay the outstanding amount of above mentioned. The notice was sent to you by Regd post has been returned unreserved. Therefore, this paper publication has been issued.

We advise you to kindly regularize your account by deposit of overdue amount within 15 days from date of receipt of this letter. In case of non-clearance of overdue amount within 15 days from date of receipt of this letter, we will be entitled to recall the loan and constrained to initiate appropriate legal action including appointment of enforcement / Seizure agency, for seizing the vehicle hypothecated at your responsibility.

Date: 03.09.2025, Place : Cuddapah Sd/- Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda

ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE, KURNOOL, Parjavarana Bhavan, Labour Colony, VR Colony, Kurnool - 518003
Ph: 08518-235800, email: roknk-ee1@appcb.gov.in

POSTPONEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC CONSULTATION

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 13.09.2025,) is Postponed indefinitely due to unavoidable reasons.

Place: Kurnool Sd/- Environmental Engineer,
Date : 14.10.2025 A.P. Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Kurnool

POSSESSION NOTICE
(for immovable property)

Whereas,
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED (CIN:L65922DL2005PLC136029)** (formerly known as **INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED**) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice dated 28.06.2025 calling upon the Borrower(s) **PUTTURU SRINIVASULU and PUTHURU RAJESWARAMMA** to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being Rs. 24,37,119.40 (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Thirty Seven Thousand One Hundred Nineteen And Paise Forty Only) against Loan Account No. **HHLNLE00448589** as on 20.06.2025 and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

The Borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, Notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on 10.10.2025.

The Borrower(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED** (formerly known as **INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED**) for an amount of Rs. 24,37,119.40 (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Thirty Seven Thousand One Hundred Nineteen And Paise Forty Only) as on 20.06.2025 and interest thereon.

The Borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act in respect of time available, to redeem the Secured Assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

SRI POTTI SRIRAMULU NELLORE DISTRICT, GUDUR REGISTRATIONS DISTRICT, SULLURUPETA SUB-REGISTRAR OFFICE, TADA REVENUE MANDAL, GRADDAGUNTA GRAM PANCHAYATH, GRADDAGUNTA VILLAGE, COMPRISED, IN PATTA NO.195, DRY LAND, SURVEY NO. 26/1, HAVING AN EXTENT, OF AC.3-12 CENTS, LAID INTO RESIDENTIAL PLOTS, IN THE NAME AND STYLE, OF KVV-SREE CITY TOWNSHIP, (EXTENSION), AND APPROVED BY THE GRADDAGUNTA GRAM PANCHAYAT, VIDE LR.NO.03/2016, DT.28/01/2016, AND THE DIRECTOR OF TOWN, AND COUNTRY PLANNING, GUNTUR VIDE C.NO.1102/2015/G3, CONFIRMED TLP NO.1/2016/GNT, DT.15.02.2016, PLOT BEARING NO.40, AND RCC HOUSE BOUNDED BY:-
EAST : VACANT SITE OF PLOT NO.27
WEST : LAYOUT ROAD
NORTH : VACANT SITE OF PLOT NO.39
SOUTH : VACANT SITE OF PLOT NO.41
WITHIN THESE BOUNDARIES, AN EXTENT OF 1320 SQ. FT, OR 146.66 SQ. YARDS, OR 122.613 SQ. MTS, OR 18 ANKANAMS 24 SQ. FT, OF VACANT SITE, ALONG WITH 1093 SQ. FT, OF RCC HOUSE, WITH ALL FIXTURES LIKE TEAK WOOD DOORS, WINDOWS, VENTILATORS, CUPBOARDS, STEPS, BATHROOM, LATRINE, SEPTIC TANK, ELECTRICAL ARRANGES, BORE, MOTOR, PIPELINES, ETC., INCLUDING ALL ITS EASEMENT RIGHTS,

Sd/-
Date : 10.10.2025 Authorised Officer
Place : NELLORE SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED)

Bank pensioners seek GST exemption on group insurance

- AIBPARC leader Kodali Balangangadhara 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 Balangangadhara 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. Balangangadhara Tilak noted that NCBCE 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. NCBCE 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

Workshop on 'Zoning Regulations- Energy Efficiency Study' held

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI

MUNICIPAL Corporation Narapureddy Mourya announced that a workshop and awareness programme on 'Zoning Regulations and Energy Efficiency Study' will be held on October 28 at Kachhapi Auditorium,

Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner said that the event is being organised under the AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) scheme in association with the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA), Vijayawada. The SPA has completed a study titled "Energy Efficiency Considerations in Zoning Regulations –

A Study of Tirupati", supported by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

The study focuses on how zoning rules in Tirupati affect electricity usage and suggests ways to reduce power consumption through urban planning changes.

The results of this project will guide future energy-efficient planning policies. The SPA team carried out surveys, data analysis, and computer-based studies to prepare the final recommendations. These findings will be shared during the workshop, she added.

SPA Vijayawada Additional Professor Janamejaya, deputy city planner Khan and assistant city planner Murthy were present.

Chittoor mango farmers receive Rs 146.84 crore subsidy

31929 eligible farmers get subsidy of Rs 4 per kilo through DBT: Collector Sumit Kumar

HANS NEWS SERVICE
CHITTOOR

THE State government has credited Rs 146.84 crore in subsidy directly into the bank accounts of 31,929 mango farmers in Chittoor district, fulfilling its promise to support mango growers, District Collector Sumit Kumar announced on Tuesday.

Addressing the media, the Collector said the subsidy was disbursed under the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system for 3.67 lakh metric tonnes of mangoes produced during the season. District Horticulture Officer Madhusudan Reddy also attended the press meet.

"As per the State Government's decision to provide a subsidy of Rs 4 per kilogram to mango farmers, Rs 146.84 crore has been credited to the accounts of 31,929 eligi-



District Collector Sumit Kumar speaking to the media in Chittoor on Tuesday

ble farmers. The highest disbursement was recorded in Bangarupalem mandal," the Collector said.

He added that, unlike Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh is the only state providing both subsidies and minimum support prices for mango growers. "On behalf of the mango farmers, I express gratitude

to the State government for standing by them," he noted.

The Collector explained that eligibility was determined after thorough verification through e-Crop booking and field inspections. Farmers who have not yet received the amount but meet the eligibility criteria need not worry, he said.

"They can submit their

grievances to RSK (Rythu Seva Kendras), or to mandal and district-level horticulture officials by October 30. Their eligibility will be verified within 48 hours," he assured.

He also mentioned that 21 farmers are eligible for subsidies exceeding Rs 5 lakh each, and their cases are under review before final payment. Referring to the food processing units in Gudipala, Punganur, and Bangarupalem, the Collector said units that fail to offer government-declared prices to farmers will not receive any support from the Industries Department.

"Agro-based industries should not operate solely for commercial or political interests, but must also consider the welfare of the farming community," the Collector added.



Elocution competition for girl students held at Arts College

HANS NEWS SERVICE
KADAPA

AN elocution competition for girl students was organised at the local Arts College by the LIC Shramik Mahila Division and the Women Empowerment Wing here on Tuesday.

Inaugurating the event, Dr G Ravindranath, Principal of Arts College, urged students to make effective use of government schemes like Start-up India, Make in India, and Beti Bachao Beti Padhao for women empowerment. He advised young women to focus on education, skills, and health to achieve success.

Dr Sulochana and Dr Y Savithri highlighted that empowering one woman uplifts an entire generation. Ac-

cording to Raghunath Reddy, General Secretary of LIC Union, and Vasuprada, Women's Convener, the event was part of the AIIEA Platinum Jubilee celebrations, and winners will be felicitated at the upcoming Shramik Mahila conference on October 18 in Kadapa.

In the competition themed "Opportunities and challenges before educated young women," Syed Tahseen, Khushi Mohammed, and Salika secured the top three positions, while Sameena, Maheshwari, and Bhagyalakshmi received consolation prizes. Faculty members Kalpana, Anitha, and Shaheen served as judges. LIC Union members Raju, Srivani, and Srikrishna also participated.

SBI opens new branch at Cherlopally

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI

THE State Bank of India (SBI) inaugurated a new branch at Cherlopally, Tirupati on Tuesday, further expanding its banking network to serve the local community.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Rajesh Kumar Patel, Chief General Man-

ager, LHO Amaravati Circle, along with Amarendra Kumar Suman, General Manager, Dinesh Gulati, Deputy General Manager, and S. Venkateswara Rao, Regional Manager.

Speaking on the occasion, Rajesh Kumar Patel reaffirmed SBI's commitment to enhancing customer service and supporting financial inclusion across the region.

Protection of girls a social responsibility: Collector

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NELLORE

DISTRICT Collector Himanshu Shukla has flagged off a rally organized by Women & Child Welfare department at DKW College in the city on Tuesday.

The rally which was started at DKW College proceeded through district police office, KVR Petrol Bunk, and concluded at Government General Hospital.

Speaking on the occasion, the collector has said that government has been implementing several welfare programmes for protecting the interest of girls.

He said that and at the same time, people should extend their cooperation by considering the

protection of girls as social responsibility. Later, a programme was organised at Government General Hospital in the city. District Child Welfare Officer(DCWO) B Hena Sujan who attended as chief guest said that following directions of the government the district administration has been organizing several programmes from 11th to 18th October in the district.

She appealed to the people to extend the cooperation to the government over the protection of girls' interest related to prevention of Child Marriages, Sexual abuse against, social stigma, etc by encouraging the girls to pursue studies.

Deputy Director Social Welfare Sobharani,

Flags off a rally held by Women & Child Welfare Dept



District Collector Himanshu Shukla flags off a rally on the occasion of the International Girls Day at DKW College in the city on Tuesday.

District BC Welfare
Officer VijayakumarReddy, and others were
present.

Keep drains free from waste:Commissioner



Municipal Corporation Commissioner Narapureddy Mourya inspecting the sanitation works in Tirupati on Tuesda

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI

MUNICIPAL Corporation Commissioner Narapureddy Mourya instructed officials to regularly clean the sewage drains to ensure the drains remain free from waste.

The Commissioner along with health and engineering officials inspected sanitation works in 44 and 35 wards here on Tuesday.

During the inspection, she directed the officials to remove all garbage from the drains and asked the officials to prepare plans for repairing any damaged drains.

She said residents near CPR apartments complained about difficulty in vehicle movement due to a narrow road. A survey is underway, and steps will be taken to widen the road as early as possible.

Pushpayagam in Srivari temple on Oct 30

TIRUMALA

THE annual Pushpayagam will be performed with religious fervour at Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple, Tirumala on October 30.

As part of this, Ankurapanam will be conducted on October 29 between 8 pm and 9 pm.

On the day of Pushpayagam, after the Second Archana, Second Bell and

Naivedyam, the processional deities Sri Malayappa Swamy along with His consorts Sri Devi and Bhudevi will be taken to the Kalyana Mandapam at the Sampangi Prakaram, where Snapana

Tirumanjanam will be performed.

From 1 pm to 5 pm, the grand Pushpayagam will be conducted, using various types of flowers and holy leaves.

National seminar brochure released

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI

THE brochure for the upcoming national seminar to be held on December 13 and 14 at Ambedkar Global Law College was released by Aluru Ramireddy, Member

of the Bar Council of India and senior academician here on Tuesday. Speaking on the occasion, Ramireddy emphasised the importance of the seminar and urged students to make the best use of the opportunity.

College Director Dr.



Tippra Reddy stated that the seminar would greatly ben-

efit students and those in the legal profession.

Dinakar defends public private partnership in medical education

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI

CHAIRMAN of the 20-point programme implementation committee, Lanka Dinakar criticised former Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy, saying that while the present coalition government is attracting global companies like Google to the State, during Jagan's rule, companies left the State.

Addressing the media in Tirupati on Tuesday, he questioned who would believe Jagan's alleged false propaganda about the coalition government's efforts to establish new medical colleges.

In support of Public Private Partnership (PPP), Dinakar compared various State health schemes, under Y S Rajasekhara Reddy, NTR Vaidya Seva during N Chandrababu Naidu's earlier term, YS Jagan Mo-



Chairman of the 20 point programme implementation committee Lanka Dinakar addressing the media in Tirupati on Tuesday. BJP district president Samanchi Srinivas and others are also seen

han Reddy, and the revived NTR Vaidya Seva under the current coalition.

He said all these programmes were designed under PPP models to deliver quality healthcare to the poor. He noted that even the Chief Minister's Relief Fund and emergency services such as 104, 108, and the "Thalli-Bidda Express" operate effectively through government-private collaboration.

Dinakar accused Jagan of misleading people by opposing PPP participation in constructing and running new medical colleges, claiming that such criticism reflected Jagan's wish to see the projects fail. He said government medical colleges serve both healthcare and education needs, and policy changes under the current government would not harm students' interests.

Later in the evening, after the Sahasra Deepalankara Seva, Sri Malayappa Swamy will bless the devotees with a procession along the four mada streets.

Cancellation of Arjitha Sevas due to Ankurapanam on October 29, the Sahasra Deepalankara

Seva in the evening has been cancelled by TTD. On October 30, the day of Pushpayagam Tiruppavada Seva, Kalyanotsavam, Unjal Seva and Arjitha Brahmotsavam sevas are cancelled. The Tomala Seva and Archana will be performed in Ekantam.

Hans India Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KALYANI ATAOLLA KHAN** (Old Name), R/o. D.No. 33/108-A-2-2, Alimabad Street, Rayachoty Town & Mandal, Annamayya Dist., A.P. -516269, have changed my name as **KALYANI ATHAULLA KHAN S/O. KALYANI AZIS KHAN** (New Name)
(TH_33100)

DOCUMENT LOST
I, **GURIJALA VENKATA CHALAPATHI RAO S/o. ANJANEYULLU**, Residing at D. No.9-9-4, RI Road, RK College, Allurupeta, Alluru (M), SPSR Nellore District, AP. I have lost my Original link Document from Annam Lavanya bearing No. **186/1967**, While I was travelling from Alluru peta to Alluru, Nellore District, taking xerox purpose. If anyone found please inform at the above address.
(TH_MADAN)

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GUMMALA SREENIVASULU, S/o G. Subbanna**, resident of 1/58-a, Pedda Gopavaram Village, Gopavaram Post & Mandal, Ysr Kadapa Dist, Pin-516233, I Worked as NK (TS), Service No. 14494574M, In My Army & PPO records, My Wife Name Mentioned as **G. Satyavathi** (Old Name) Instead of **G. SATYAVATHAMMA** (New Name) as per aadhar.
(TH_2508)

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHAIK MOHAMMAD SHAFE** (Old Name), S/o S. MOHAMMAD GOUSE, R/at D.No. 2-147, Eguva Veedhi, Bus Stand, Kallur (V), Pulicherla (M), Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh, have changed my name to **SHAIK MOHAMMAD SHAFEE** (New Name). Henceforth, I shall be known as **SHAIK MOHAMMAD SHAFEE** for all purposes.
(TH_33100)

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **VEEGETHA** (existing name of spouse as per Service Record) is legally wedded spouse of No. 2591425H, Rank: Ex Sepoy, **CHALICHEEMALA MURALI**, presently residing at # 3-1, Chalicheemala Palle Village, 197 Ramapuram Post, Gudipala Mandal, Chittoor District, AP-517403 have changed my name from **VEEGETHA** (existing name of spouse per Service Record) to **C. GEETHA** (Proposed New Name of Spouse)
(TH_6319)

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LOSS OF PASSPORT
I, **NANDIMANDALAM KHALANDAR S/O N. MAHABOOB SAHEB R/O VASANTHAPETA PRODDATUR TOWN & MANDAL YSR KADAPA DIST AP. I LOST MY DAUGHTER ORIGINAL PASSPORT (NO: J0231928) HER NAME AS NANDIMANDALAM RIDA FATIMA. IF ANY ONE FOUND PLEASE CONTACT THIS NO: 9949056130**
(TH_HEERALAL)

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KAKERI CHENGAGIAH R/o, 2/64, Sadhuvari Palli (vi), Puttanavari Palli (Po), Pullampet, (MI) Annamayya (Dt).** My Son Name **KAKERI SESI PREETHAM** (Old Name) to change **KAKERI SASI PREETHAM** (New Name) Passport No: M6844040 for All purposes.
(TH_33100)

PASSPORT LOST
I, **YARRADODDI MOUNIKA D/o. Yarradoddi Reddy Mal Reddy, R/o D.No 16/34, Vaddepalli, VTC Mallur Kothapalli village, Chinnamandem Mandal, Annamayya District -516214, A.P. I have lost my Passport bearing No: P0193584 near Xerox shop at Chinnamandem, missing date 10/08/25, If anyone found please Contact :9346464653**
(TH_33100)

PASSPORT LOST
I, **SHAIK DASTAGIRI S/o.SHAIK ISMAIL**, Residing at Mamidipudi Village, Muthukur Mandal, SPSR Nellore Dt, AP. I have lost my Passport bearing No. H9819392, While I was Travelling from Muthukur to Mamidipudi. If anyone found please inform at the above address.
(TH_MADAN)

₹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

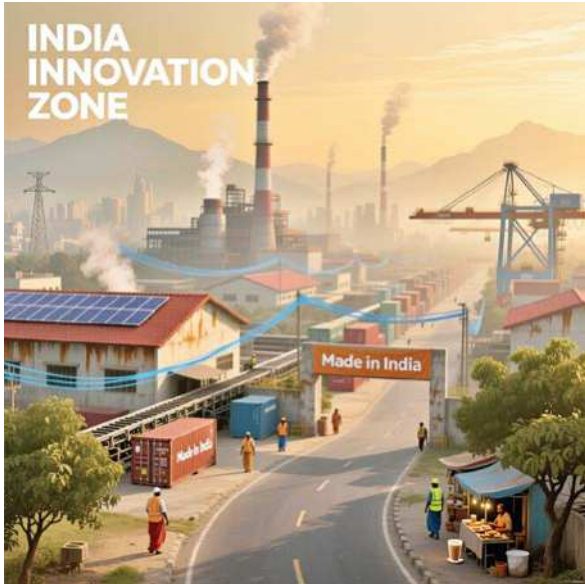
HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

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 JSW 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 Shringavarapukota 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 Nayak, 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.

The old, poorly maintained ambulances which frequently broke down and required repeated repairs will be replaced 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 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 SERVICE
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 VENNELAKANTI
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 Ayyanar speaking to the media at police guest house in Tirumala on Tuesday

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.

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

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 Ayyanar 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 levels.

"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 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
VIJAYAWADA

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.

Speaking to the media later, Ravindra accused YSRCP 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.

He assured that the government 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 Manazir 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 Organizations (FPOs) and ensure that farmers face no inconvenience during procurement operations.

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

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

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 Pemmasani 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

(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.

Comedy actor Raju Talikote passes away

BENGALURU: Popular Kannada comedian and theatre veteran Raju Talikote breathed his last at a private hospital in Udupi on Monday following a cardiac arrest. He was 58. Talikote was in Udupi for the shooting of an upcoming Shine Shetty-starrer when he developed chest pain around midnight on Sunday. “He was brought to our emergency unit in critical condition. Despite our efforts, he succumbed at 5.30 pm,” doctors at the Manipal hospital said. His family circles told that the family would perform the final rites in his hometown. “His body will be brought to Chikka Sindagi and the funeral will be held in his vineyard, as per his wishes,” they informed. Known for his impeccable comic timing, Talikote gained fame through Yogaraj Bhat’s Manasaare and acted in more than 35 films, including Jackie, Sugreeva and Myna. A Rangayana Dharwad director and founder of the Khaskateshwara Natya Sangha, he had been a prominent face in Karnataka’s theatre scene. Winner of several honours including the Filmfare Award (2011) and Rajyotsava Popular Award (2015), Talikote is survived by his wives and children.

Passenger held with hydroponic ganja at Mangaluru airport

MANGALURU: In a co-ordinated operation, CISF officials at Mangaluru International Airport detained a domestic passenger arriving from Mumbai for allegedly smuggling 512 grams of hydroponic ganja, a high-grade variety of cannabis cultivated using water-based methods.

The accused, Shankar Narayan Poddar, an Indian national (Passport No. AG 430883), arrived on IndiGo flight 6E-841 around 6:10 p.m. on October 13. Acting on prior intelligence, the Crime and Intelligence Wing (CIW) of CISF intercepted the passenger upon arrival. A search of his checked-in baggage revealed the narcotic substance concealed within his belongings.

Authorities immediately alerted the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Bengaluru, and the Bajpe Police. The seized contraband and the accused were later handed over to the Bajpe Police Station for further investigation under relevant sections of the NDPS Act. Officials said the operation highlights CISF’s vigilance in curbing narcotics smuggling through domestic routes, as traffickers increasingly exploit smaller airports to avoid detection.

My body no longer supports the game: Saina

UDUPI: Olympic medallist and Padma Bhushan awardee Saina Nehwal announced that she has formally stepped away from competitive badminton, saying her body no longer allows her to play at the desired level. Speaking at a press conference in Manipal, Nehwal said, “I am quitting badminton with a heavy heart. The enthusiasm remains, but my body doesn’t respond anymore.”

The former world number one clarified that she has no plans to enter coaching. “Coaching is tougher than playing. It demands long hours of standing and constant engagement. My husband Parupalli Kashyap is already assisting Gopi Sir (Pullela Gopichand) at his Hyderabad academy. I prefer to motivate children to take up sports rather than get into coaching right now,” she said. Nehwal urged youngsters to move away from social media and embrace physical activity. On politics, Nehwal clarified, “I am not interested in politics. I admire Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s leadership and occasionally attend his events, but politics is not easy. She also hailed Prakash Padukone as a legend of Indian badminton. “Coming to his hometown, Udupi, makes me proud. He inspired both Gopi Sir and me,” she said, adding that Chirag Shetty and Satwik Shetty represent India’s bright badminton future.

WHO to revise global tuberculosis guidelines based on study by Mangaluru docs

MANGALURU

A pioneering study by Mangaluru-based doctors Dr. Anurag Bhargav and Dr. Madhavi Bhargav, published in the prestigious medical journal The Lancet, has led the World Health Organization (WHO) to revise its global tuberculosis (TB)

treatment guidelines.

The couple’s work, part of the RATIONS (Reducing Activation of Tuberculosis by Improvement of Nutritional Status) trial, provided the first large-scale evidence that nutritional support sharply lowers TB mortality and infection rates among patients

and their families. The new WHO 2025 guidelines now formally recommend food assistance as a standard component of TB care, a major policy shift worldwide.

Conducted over three years across 2,800 households in Jharkhand, the study found that food baskets containing

cereals and pulses reduced new TB cases by 48 percent and deaths by 35 percent. In their Lancet paper, the authors wrote: “Undernutrition is the strongest driver of tuberculosis in India and other developing nations. Addressing nutritional deficiencies is therefore a vital preventive and thera-

peutic strategy.” They added that “food supplementation should be integrated into national TB control programmes as an essential, not optional, intervention.” Published in both The Lancet and The Lancet Global Health, the study has also influenced India’s Nikshay Poshan and



Nikshay Mitra initiatives under the National TB Elimination Programme. Experts say the Mangaluru doctors’

findings have now bridged a critical gap between clinical treatment and public health nutrition.

Mega job fair in Mysuru to open new doors for state youth

HANS NEWS SERVICE
MYSURU

JOB fairs are not just platforms for finding employment—they are powerful opportunities for individuals to enhance their skills and grow in their professional journey. In Karnataka, the Karnataka Skill Development Corporation (KSDC) along with several government and private organizations has been playing a vital role in this mission. Now, the state government is gearing up to empower the dreams of Karnataka’s youth by organizing a mega job fair in Mysuru.

The event, organized by KSDC in collaboration with the Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood, will be held under the leadership of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar. It aims to connect thousands of job seekers with leading companies, offering direct employment opportunities.

According to Mysuru Zilla Panchayat CEO S. Yukesh Kumar, more than 200 reputed companies from various sectors will participate in the fair, conducting direct interviews for multiple



More than 200 reputed companies from various sectors will participate in the fair, conducting direct interviews for multiple job roles

job roles. He urged youth across the region to attend the event in large numbers, emphasizing that this is a rare opportunity to secure employment in a single day through face-to-face interaction with employers. The mega job fair will take place at the historic Maharaja’s Ground in Mysuru on October 17, 2025, in collabora-

tion with the Mysuru Zilla Panchayat. Anyone who has completed SSLC, PUC, Degree, Post-Graduation, ITI, or Diploma qualifications is eligible to attend.

Participants will get the chance to interact directly with company representatives, understand the skills and experience they are looking for, and identify the gap between their own abilities and industry expectations. This understanding will help them plan future training and skill enhancement. Participation in the job fair requires prior registration. Eligible candidates can register online at udyogamela.ksdkarnataka.com. For

any queries, candidates can contact the helpline number 9606494308 for assistance. Participants are advised to carry multiple copies of their updated resume for interviews.

Officials have also directed that candidates registered under the Yuva Nidhi Scheme be given priority during the recruitment process. This initiative by the Karnataka government marks a major step towards reducing unemployment in the state by bridging the gap between job seekers and employers. It also reflects the state’s commitment to nurturing a skilled, employable, and future-ready workforce.

Shiv Sena invites Yatnal to join party, signals possible Hindutva alliance

HANS NEWS SERVICE
RAICHUR

THE political landscape in Karnataka is heating up with reports that the Shiv Sena (Shinde faction) has extended an open invitation to expelled BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, who is said to be preparing to launch a new Hindutva-based political party.

Speaking to a media, Siddalinga Swamiji, the Shiv Sena (Shinde faction)’s Karnataka state president, confirmed the outreach, saying, “If Yatnal decides to join the Shiv Sena, we will roll out the red carpet for him. If he is committed to the Hindutva cause, we are ready to work together.”

Swamiji added that he had shared the stage with Yatnal during a recent event in Afzalpur, though no election-related discussions took place at that time. “Our ultimate goal is to establish a Hindutva-driven government. There is still time before the next election, and we are open to further discussions on political alignment,” he said.

He also clarified that just as the Shiv Sena in Maha-



rashtra operates within the NDA alliance, the party’s activities in Karnataka would also be guided by directives from the central leadership.

Accusing the Congress government in Karnataka of being “anti-Hindu,” Swamiji asserted that his party would take all necessary steps to “unite Hindu votes and bring down the current government.”

The developments have sparked speculation about a new Hindutva front taking shape in Karnataka politics. Since his expulsion from

the BJP, Yatnal has been increasingly active in the political scene. During the recent Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations, he toured several districts across northern Karnataka, drawing large gatherings of Hindu supporters.

His efforts to mobilise Hindu activists have reportedly gained significant momentum, and now, with the Shiv Sena extending an offer to join hands, political observers are closely watching whether this marks the beginning of a new saffron alliance in the state.

DHARMASTHALA HANDS OVER 666TH VATSALYA HOME HERALDS CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO RURAL UPLIFT

HANS NEWS SERVICE
UJIRE

THE Shree Kshetra Dharmasthala Rural Development Project celebrated a landmark achievement on October 13, by presenting its 666th Vatsalya Home to beneficiaries in Ujire, advancing its mission to transform lives across Karnataka.

The event, held at Amruthavarshini Sabha Bhavan in Dharmasthala, saw the presence of Vidushekhara Bharati Swamiji of Sringeri Peeth, who offered blessings and extolled the virtues of selfless service in bolstering both spiritual and social well-being.

Speaking to attendees, Swamiji outlined four human archetypes, those who give without expectation, those driven by self-interest, those who harm for gain, and those who cause harm pointlessly. He urged the adoption of righteous company, acts of kindness, and spiritual routines such as reciting the Bhagavad Gita and chanting divine names.



Lauding the Heggade family’s enduring social contributions, Swamiji hailed the Vatsalya Home program as an exemplary act of compassion, acknowledging the obstacles inherent in such noble pursuits and wishing for Dharmasthala’s legacy as a hub of humanitarian and

spiritual excellence to thrive.

Executive Director of the Rural Development Project, Anil Kumar S S highlighted the project’s far-reaching impact, empowering over 53 lakh families with economic self-sufficiency. The initiative has distributed 2,094 nutritional kits and equipped

18,500 needy families with essentials like bedding and kitchenware. With ₹10.14 crore invested in constructing 781 homes, the project aims to reach a target of 1,000, significantly improving living standards for Karnataka’s underprivileged.

Notable attendees at the

event included Hemavati V Heggade, D Harshendra Kumar, Sonia Yashovarm, board member Shyam Bhat K, regional director Manoj Meneses, and Dr. Sridhar Bhat of SDM College, Ujire, all gathered to honour this pivotal step in rural development and community support.

DIPLOMAT CALL



Dy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar with Singapore Consul-General Edgar Pang during a meeting in Bengaluru on Tuesday

‘Green cheer’ at Kadri Park from October 17

HANS NEWS SERVICE
MANGALURU

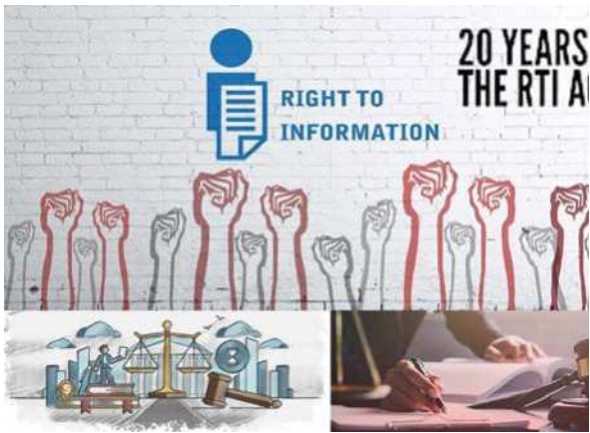
THE city’s Kadri Park will host a three-day Kadri Sasyotsava – Raitha Mela from October 17 to 19, celebrating sustainable farming, plant culture, and green living. The event, led by the Raitha Kudla Foundation, will be open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. with free public entry. Deputy Commissioner Darshan K.V. will inaugurate the festival on

Thursday. Foundation president Bharath Raj Sorke will chair the event, while Zilla Panchayat CEO Narwade Vinayak Karbhari will confer the Raitha Kudla Honour on farmer John Montero of Bantwal for his innovative water conservation practices. Visitors can explore a wide variety of ornamental, fruit, and vegetable plants, along with organic fertilisers, seeds, gardening tools, and grow bags.

Guv urges digitisation, simplification of RTI on 20th anniversary

BENGALURU

GOVERNOR Thaawarchand Gehlot on Tuesday emphasised the need to digitise and simplify the RTI process to boost transparency and strengthen governance. Addressing an event marking 20 years of the Right to Information Act, Gehlot said, “The need of the hour is to completely digitise and simplify the Right to Information (RTI) process, enhance the independence and efficiency



of Information Commissions, and, most importantly, nurture transparency as a moral value in governance.”

He stressed increasing the use of Information Technology at all levels of governance. “Increasing the use of Information Technology at all levels of governance will automatically lead to transparency,” he added.

Highlighting challenges in implementing the RTI Act, the governor said that misuse of the Act, the rising burden

on public offices, and a lack of public awareness remain major issues. “It is essential to understand the true power of the RTI Act, prevent its misuse, and ensure that every citizen can effectively exercise this right,” Gehlot said.

He noted that greater use of technology in administration will enhance transparency and public awareness, empowering citizens to recognise RTI as their own right. “The RTI Act is a people’s right that strengthens the very

spirit of democracy. It lays the foundation for accountability, transparency, and mutual trust between the government and the citizens. The RTI Act is not just a legal provision—it is a democratic instrument that bridges the gap between citizens and the government,” the governor said.

Stressing citizen awareness, he added, “When citizens are aware, the administration becomes accountable. The Right to Information is the cornerstone of this awareness—it

empowers citizens and ensures administrative responsibility.”

Gehlot said that over the past two decades, the RTI Act has transformed governance by promoting transparency, curbing corruption, enhancing citizen participation, and driving administrative reforms. Calling for collective efforts to strengthen the Act, he said, “There is a need to hold a thoughtful dialogue on how to reinforce this right in the days to come.”

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

INDIA and Canada have agreed on 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

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?

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 — physical 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 India.

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, go-



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 burdensome.

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 declined.

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 US 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. Un-

der 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 the global youth.

Dr Burra Madhusudhan Reddy, Karimnagar

Kalam’s life an inspiration to Gen Z

MANY 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 beyond.

N Nagarajan, Hyderabad

Educate girls for their safety

THIS has reference to the article ‘Didi shocks the nation’. 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 Banerjee 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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BENGALURU ONLINE

TN man ‘sends hoax bomb threat’ to residences of CM, Dy 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 said.

The purported email from aarna.ashwineshkh@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>

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

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 narratives.

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 statistics.

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 divides.

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 direction 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 poetry?” 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 world.

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)

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,"



Sandeep Lather and Puran Kumar

Rohtak Superintendent of Police S S Bhorla 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 connection with the case.

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 income through the development and sale of flats

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 and AO Sailaja were present.

2 YSRCP activists held for spreading false news in SM

HANS NEWS SERVICE 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 Tiru-

pati - 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



the fake videos with an intention to mislead the public and blame the Excise Department 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 progress.

TG writes to CWC, opposes Banakacherla

HANS NEWS SERVICE 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

Top engineer shoots strongly worded anti-AP missive to CWC and Polavaram Project Authority



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 com-

ponents of Polavaram project 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.

‘WHAT SORT OF FRIENDSHIP IS THIS?’

Cong jabs PM after Trump praises Pak's Munir

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 said on X.

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 up-front 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 Maharashtra Circles.

Haryana DGP sent on leave

CHANDIGARH

THE Haryana government on Tuesday sent DGP Shatruejt 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 Peace Prize.

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 deputised Minister of State Kirti Vardhan Singh in his place.

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

Continued from P1

The historic agreement was signed in the presence of Chief 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

data hub outside the US. Additionally, Vizag will host Google's 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 Minister 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

forward. Such visionary projects are possible only under dynamic leadership at the Centre and in 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.

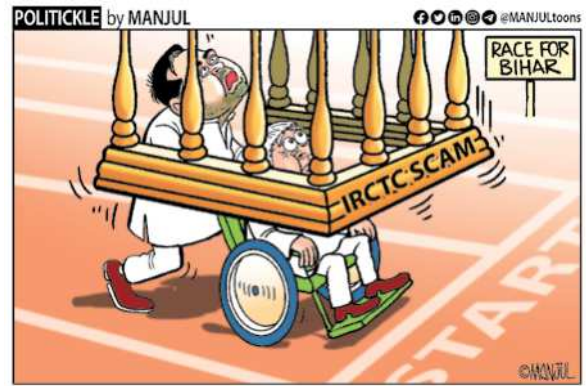
Modi hails Google's Vizag investment

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 AI 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 situation.

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 long-standing 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 VVIPs.

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 Srisaillam

Continued from P1

He underlined the importance of real-time 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 Srisaillam 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.

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

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.

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 Sang-eet 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 reverence.

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 forest environment, 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 creativity.

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; she knots her hair into a bun, fastening it with flowers, dots her forehead with 'Sindoor', places 'Kajal' in her eyes. Earrings for her ears are fastened, a garland is hung around her neck, forehead and body daubed with 'Chandan'. A brocade jacket covers her chest; adorned with necklaces, she wears a saree with a temple motif 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 she cannot reach it herself. After her dressing up is finished,

she runs eagerly to the mirror to see and admire herself; it was as though the artiste had vanished and a real Mahari was on stage going through her toilette

— a stunning 'trompe l'oeil' effect translated flawlessly to dance with surpassing skill. The conclusion witnessed the appreciative applause of the spellbound audience.



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

Veteran actress Deepthi Naval treated the netizens with a fond memory with her father from their getaway to Europe back in 1982. The photo showed the father-daughter duo posing outside 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)"

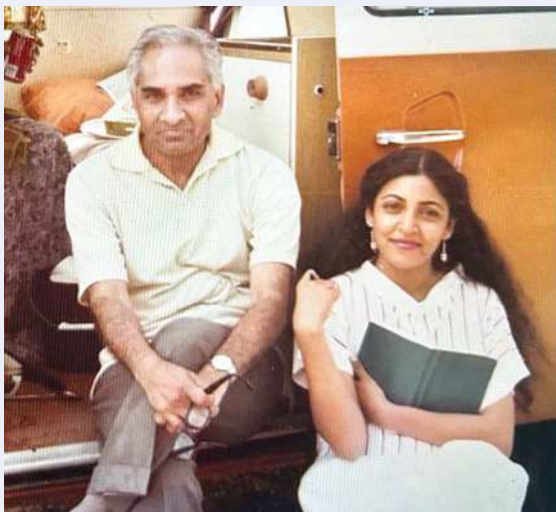
Adoring the throwback photo, an Insta user shared in the comment section, "This is one of the best beautiful picture of the day, u look so much pretty girl in this very picture. Deep regards."

Another netizen penned,

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

Earlier, Deepthi 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, Deepthi 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



the technicians or even the actors. Everybody is trained. 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 added.

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

BOLLYWOOD actress Dia Mirza took to social media to celebrate a breakthrough in sustainable innovation.

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 salaries.

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 circular solutions."

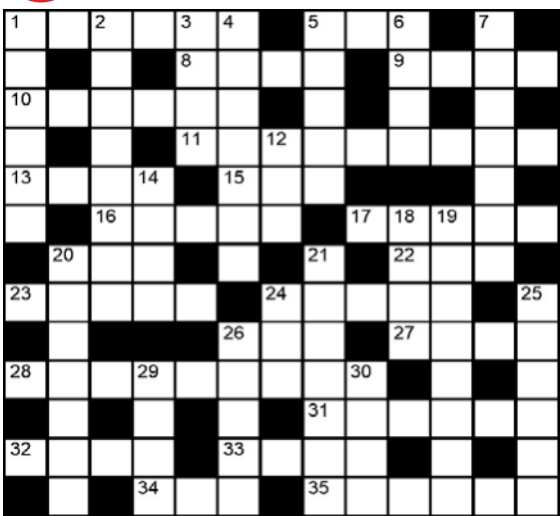
"The launch comes at the heels of a

\$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 real circularity 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 "Nadaan" 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



ACROSS

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

- In addition (3)
- Taken on to staff (5)
- Singer Cherry (5)
- Vitality (3)
- Husband's partner (4)
- Having three cusps (9)
- Japan (6)
- Propagated (4)
- Andre ____ : French writer, Nobel laureate in 1947 ? (4)
- Bond creator Fleming (3)
- Stoppage of flow or circulation (6)

DOWN

- 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)
- Frequency unit (3)
- Swing about (4)
- Fret and fume (4)
- Extinct small horse (8)
- Collection of books (7)
- Causes to remember (7)
- Barely defeat (3)
- Federer's forte (6)
- Churchillian gesture (1-4)
- Basic monetary unit of Ghana (4)
- Eat sparingly (4)



Solution to October 14

SUDOKU



Solution to October 14

Naomi Watts says she suffers from imposter syndrome

BRITISH actress Naomi 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



just be supportive of the other person's agenda".

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

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 Nanjengowda from the Malur Assembly constituency in Kolar district. A bench comprising Justices Surya Kant and Joy-malya Bagchi, hearing Nanjengowda'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 large-scale scam. The complaint states that the accused created bogus layout maps and forged land documents, cheating artists of approximately ₹1.6 crore. Several well-known small-screen actors, including Bhavana Belegere, Sharath Chandra, and Rahul, are among the victims.

Phoenix India light festival 2025

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

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 said.

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.



AI 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 for checks.

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

added that citizens can now 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 tech-

nological 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 high-traffic 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 roads.

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 chronic civic neglect.



EIGHTH SESSION OF ISA ASSEMBLY IN INDIA FROM OCTOBER 27-30

HANS NEWS SERVICE 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 treaty-based 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 consist-

ent policies, India achieved its 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

BENGALURU

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 ornaments 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

BENGALURU

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

question and restrain RSS 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

dangerous viRuSS.”

The Minister recently 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 of children and youth,” he wrote in his letter.

He claimed that such

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 said.

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.

-Gautam Gambhir,

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.

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

-Bhavish Aggarwal, chairman, Ola Electric

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), Eterna, ICICI Bank (ICICIB), 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 sq.ft., 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 over-ear 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 technology, category-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 accessible, because we believe premium innovation should be experienced by millions, not just a few."

Jawa unveils festive offers

JawaYezdi 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

Samsung, a consumer electronics 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. WPI-based 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 month.

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

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.

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 annually.

"Delivering the Future NHS Workforce Solution is a critical step in supporting the ambitions of the 10-Year Health Plan. The solution will go far beyond simply replacing ESR -- it will be a strategic enabler for building a workforce that is fit for the future," said Michael Brodie, Chief Executive, NHSBSA.

By working with Infosys, "we're creating a modern, data-driven solution that will help the NHS better attract, retain and support its 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 it
- 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 self-fund 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 build," he said.

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.



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 tariff hike.

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.

S&P projected India's corporate 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 corporate balance sheets are propelling large expansion plans that will widen revenue bases for Indian corporates," said S&P Global Ratings credit analyst Neel Gopalakrishnan.

"Supportive government

policies are helping -- these include a focus on domestic self-sufficiency, more exports, and development of a supply-chain ecosystem," he added.

"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.

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-and-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

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 mortgage-backed 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 and pave the way for further issuance based on passing-through 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 housing demand.

"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.

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 markets.

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

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," Ponnudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, said.

Ajit Mishra, SVP, Research, 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.

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

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 challenges, including US tariffs, H-1B visa fee hikes, and geopolitical 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-basis-point cut in interest rates, rationalisation of GST rates, and tax reductions announced 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 year-on-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 reviv-

al 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.



‘Bigg Boss Telugu Season 9’ losing credibility?

MOSTLY DUE TO POOR CONTESTANT PICKS

SUHAS SISTU

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 Divya Nikitha, selected despite having low support in the Agnipariksha audition, suggest favoritism over fair competition. When eliminations feel rigged or influenced by off-screen factors, viewers lose trust. **A show built on gamble, not formula** Bigg Boss is supposed to be about raw human unpredictability. This season, it has become a predictable exercise

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

MEGASTAR Chiranjeevi has joined forces for the first time with blockbuster filmmaker Anil Ravipudi for the much-awaited 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 Sankranti 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. Bhaskara Bhatla’s playful lyrics add a catchy

local flavor, while Bheem-sCeciroleo’s lively music makes “MeesaalaPilla” an instant chartbuster. Music lovers have already begun calling it one of the most addictive Telugu singles of the season. Produced by SahuGara-pati 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 Shankara Vara Prasad Garu as excitement continues to build ahead of its festive release.



‘Mithra Mandali’ pre-release event sparks buzz

THE 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 pre-release 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

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

YOUNG 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 game-changer in his career.



‘Super Subbu’ promises bold humor in a village comedy with a social twist

THE 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 self-discovery.

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



POPULAR actor Vishnu Vishal, well known to Telugu audiences through films like FIR and Ratsasan, is all set to return with a gripping investigative thriller titled Aryan. Directed by Praveen K and produced by Vishnu Vishal Studios, Shubra and Aryan Ramesh, the film has already sparked curiosity with its intense teaser, which received an impressive response from viewers.

Continuing the promotional momentum, the makers today unveiled a powerful single titled “I Am The Guy”. The track, composed by Ghibran, features lyrics by Samrat and is sung energetically by Ghibran and Srikanth Hariharan. The high-octane song has gone viral on social media, further boosting expectations for the film. 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 Vikram, Amaran and Thug Life, Shresht Movies is planning a grand release across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

The film features an impressive cast including Selvaraghavan, Shraddha Srinath, and Manasa Chowdhury in key roles, while Vishnu Vishal will be seen as a determined police officer unraveling a dark mystery. Supporting roles are

‘I Am The Guy’ song from ‘Aryan’ is energetic



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

Actress Mrunal Thakur, who is gearing up for the release of her upcoming film Dacoit alongside Aditi Sesh, made a stunning appearance at Lakmé Fashion Week, leaving fashion enthusiasts captivated with her bold and glamorous runway presence. Walking for ace designer duo Pankaj & Nidhi at Lakmé Fashion Week in partnership with FDCI, Mrunal embraced a powerful high-fashion avatar. She wore a shimmering gold-

en sleeveless top paired with a sleek black skirt featuring a daring thigh-high slit, perfectly 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 subtle yet sharp, enhancing her natural beauty, while her hair was styled in a neat updo that highlighted her strong fea-

tures. What truly stood out was her commanding runway attitude. 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 showstoppers 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.