



THE Hans India



'Navarasa': A mesmerising journey through the nine emotions of Bharatanatyam
An entrancing 'Baithak' or chamber concert at the Raw Mango Showroom in Banjara Hills recently featured the Bharatanatyam ballet 'Navarasa', created by Padma Shri Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant. **P8**

The new criminal law is compelling disclosure of sources
All rules under the Data Act (DPDPA), including questions, apprehensions and queries revolving around pre-censorship that curbs freedom of press are taking one back in time to the dark days of Emergency. **P6**

YSRCP turned AP into a dump yard, says Pattabhiram
Swachh Andhra Corporation Chairman K Pattabhiram has accused the previous YSRCP government of leaving the State buried under heaps of unprocessed waste, claiming that nearly 85 lakh metric tonnes of garbage. **P3**

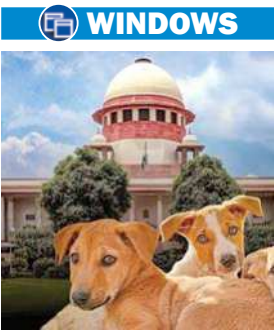
Companies reap profits while farmers get pittance
The crop insurance schemes introduced by the Central government, projected as a safety net for farmers facing natural calamities, have instead become a source of windfall profits for private insurance companies. **P4**

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SC cracks down on stray dog menace

Summons top officials, allows victims to testify

NEW DELHI: In a major hearing on the nationwide stray dog menace, the Supreme Court has taken states and Union Territories to task for inaction, with Amicus Curiae Gaurav Agrawal assisting the court. The Apex court has summoned the Chief Secretaries of all states and Union Territories to answer 'why their compliances have not been filed'. In a significant move, the court has allowed dog bite victims to intervene in the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) without submitting the fees required from NGOs. The court is compiling comprehensive data from every state and UT on the number of stray dogs, dog bite cases, and the status of sterilisation and shelter homes. It has also indicated that it will pass directions regarding the feeding of dogs within institutional premises and will monitor the issue continuously, taking suggestions from all parties involved. A bench of justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta and NV Anjaria said, "We will be issuing directions with respect to government institutions and public sector undertakings where employees are feeding the dogs and supporting and encouraging stray dogs in the area." The court's remark was well-timed as Chief Secretaries of all states and Union Territories - except West Bengal, Telangana and Kerala - were present in the courtroom pursuant to an order of October 27 directing their personal presence for non-compliance of its earlier order.

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CII PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT AP WILL INK MoUs WORTH ₹9.8 LAKH CRORE: LOKESH

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

IT and HRD Minister Nara Lokesh on Monday announced that 410 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) are expected to be signed at the CII Partnership Summit on November 14-15 in Visakhapatnam, unlocking Rs 9.8 lakh crore in investment commitments with a potential to generate 7.5 lakh jobs across the state. Addressing the media at his camp office in Undavalli, Lokesh said the Summit will embody a three-way partnership between the people, the government, and corporates, aligning growth with opportunity and shared prosperity reminding that the summit was named a Partnership Summit and not an investors' summit.

Terming the summit as a catalyst for inclusive growth, the IT Minister positioned the event as a curtain raiser to Andhra Pradesh's mis-

- 410 investment commitments span across various sectors
- The two-day summit is scheduled for Nov 14, 15 in Vizag
- It will host 300 overseas delegates from 45 countries
- 72 international speakers, 48 business sessions



IT and HRD Minister Nara Lokesh addressing the media at his camp office in Undavalli on Monday

sion of creating 20 lakh jobs and decentralising development across every region of the state. He emphasised that every investment is ultimately about empowering youth. He unveiled the tagline 'Companies that choose

speed, choose Andhra Pradesh.'

He further said: "This Summit is a partnership among our people, our government, and forward-looking corporates."

Continued on Page 7

Brookfield's AP projects get ₹7,500-cr REC boost

HANS NEWS SERVICES
AMARAVATI

IN a major development, the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) sanctioned a record Rs 7,500 crore in funding for Brookfield's hybrid renewable energy project at Kurnool, comprising 640 MW of wind and 400 MW of solar capacity.

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19 killed in Chevella truck-RTC bus smash

A bizarre coincidence of the horrific Kurnool bus mishap 10 days ago

HARISH ANGADI
HYDERABAD

TEN days after the horrific Kurnool bus fire mishap that claimed 19 lives, Telangana woke up to the news of yet another grisly accident that, in a bizarre coincidence, claimed 19 lives on Monday at around 6:15 AM near Indirareddy Nagar on the Chevella Road, when a speeding tipper truck carrying gravel violently slammed head-on into a TG-SRTC bus traveling from Tandur to Hyderabad. At least 22 other passengers of the bus were injured, including those who were buried completely or partially in loads of gravel that overshot from the tipper into the mangled bus due to the impact of the mishap. The collision was reported



Road accident involving a gravel-laden tipper and a TGSRTC bus near Khanapur in Chevella Mandal on Monday.

Photo: Adula Krishna

edly caused by reckless overtaking and dangerous driving by the tipper.

The ill-fated bus, bearing registration TS 34 TA 6354 and driven by 37-year-old

Dastagiri, was carrying 72 passengers, including three sisters of the same family, housewives, and daily commuters.

Continued on Page 7

UNBEARABLE HEARTBREAK Three sisters from Tandur die in mishap

REPORT: **P7**



VOTER LIST CLEANUP IN 12 STATES BEGINS TODAY

NEW DELHI

SPECIAL Intensive Revision (SIR), the Election Commission's voters' list cleanup exercise, will commence in nine states and three Union Territories from Tuesday. SIR in these states and Union Territories with 51-crore voters will conclude on February 7, 2026, with the publication of the final electoral roll.

After Bihar, this is the second round of SIR. The State's final voter list with nearly 7.42 crore names was published on September 30. The 12 states and Union territo-



SIR 2.0 will be conducted in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal

ries where the second round of SIR will be conducted are the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat,

Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal.

Continued on Page 7

PM sees RJD-Cong plot to alter demographic balance in Bihar

PATNA/KATIHAH

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi has turned Bihar's election battlefield into a debate on national security, accusing the RJD and Congress of engineering a deliberate demographic shift in the Seemanchal region by enabling illegal infiltration for vote bank gains.

Speaking in Katihar, Modi said the Opposition was "playing with the future of Bihar" and risking cultural identity, law and order, and welfare resources meant for the poor. He warned that the plot to change the population balance in districts like



PM Narendra Modi being felicitated with a foxnut (makhana) garland during a rally ahead of the Bihar Assembly elections, in Saharsa

Araria and Purnea was not just political strategy, but a "direct threat to national security". Modi said the real victims of this "vote bank

conspiracy" would be Mahadalits and the poorest families, whose benefits would be diverted to infiltrators.

Continued on Page 7

'WHAT MODI IS SAYING IS A LIE'

Kharge refutes PM's 'katta' remark



Narendra Modi's allegation that Rashtriya Janata Dal forced Congress to announce Tejashwi Yadav as Mahagathbandhan's pick for Bihar's chief minister's post.

"All of this is a lie. He has nothing else to say. I will answer this today in Bihar. What he is saying is a lie."

Continued on Page 7

Hinduja Group set to invest ₹20k cr in AP

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

IN a significant development, the Andhra Pradesh government on Monday signed a landmark investment agreement with the Hinduja Group, paving the way for a Rs 20,000-crore phased investment across power generation, renewable energy, and electric mobility sectors. The memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed in London in the presence of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, marking a major step in the state's bid to attract

global capital and accelerate industrial growth.

During his meeting at The Langley, Buckinghamshire, the Chief Minister engaged with Ashok P Hinduja, Chairman of the Hinduja Group, Prakash Hinduja, Chairman of Hinduja Group Europe, and Vivek Nanda, CEO of Hinduja Investments and Project Services Ltd. Naidu outlined Andhra Pradesh's infrastructure readiness, ease of doing business and policy incentives designed to position the state as a leading industrial destination in India.

Under the MoU, the Hin-

CM seals landmark pact with Hinduja in London
Diversified group will invest in power, EV sectors
Naidu meets several global industry leaders



Hinduja Group top executives and officials of AP government exchanging copies of the MoU signed for investments in the state in the presence of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu in London on Monday

duja Group will expand its existing 1,050 MW thermal power plant in Visakhapatnam by adding an additional 1,600 MW (2x800 MW) units. In parallel, the group will invest in largescale solar and wind energy projects across Rayalaseema, strengthening Andhra Pradesh's clean energy base. In the mobility sector, Hinduja will establish a state-of-the-art electric vehicle manufacturing unit at Mallavalli, Krishna district, focusing on electric buses and light commercial vehicles.

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Pakistan is testing nukes, claims Trump

Justifies US' decision to resume N-tests



WASHINGTON

PAKISTAN is among the countries that are actively testing nuclear weapons, according to US President Donald Trump. The Republican leader's remarks came amid buzz of the US resuming the testing of its nuclear weapons.

Trump noted the move was necessary as several nations, including Russia, China, North Korea and Pakistan, are conducting nuclear tests, and it's also appropriate that the US also does it.

"Russia's testing and China's testing, but they don't talk about it. We're an open society. We're different. We talk about it. We have to talk about it because otherwise you people are going to report. They don't have reporters that are going to be writing about it," Trump said while talking to CBS

News. "We're going to test because they test and others test. And certainly North Korea's been testing. Pakistan's been testing," he added.

Trump claimed the US does not "necessarily know" where these "powerful" nations that are testing nuclear weapons are but asserted the testing is being done. "They-- they test way under-- underground where people don't know exactly what's happening with the test. You feel a little bit of a vibration. They test and we don't test. We have to test," he said. Trump made these remarks when he was asked about his decision of "detonating nuclear weapons" after more than 30 years following Russia's recent trials of advanced nuclear-capable systems, including a Poseidon underwater drone.

Mumbai Police arrest fake BARC scientist after 30 yrs

MUMBAI

THE Mumbai Crime Branch has arrested Akhtar Hussain Qutubuddin Ahmed (60), who allegedly posed as a scientist at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) for the past 30 years, leveraging this false identity to travel abroad and secure international funding.

Preliminary investigations reveal that Ahmed made 40 foreign trips, including visits to Iran, Saudi Arabia, Russia, Thailand, and the United States.

Authorities discovered multiple bank accounts un-

der Ahmed and his brother Adil Hussain, containing records of substantial international transactions. One key private bank account showed significant foreign deposits dating back to 2001.

Investigators estimate that since 1996, Ahmed had been receiving regular funding from countries including the US, Iran, and Iraq, though the exact sources of these funds remain unidentified.

During interrogation, Ahmed claimed to possess



BARC maps and other sensitive technical information, which he allegedly used to solicit foreign funds. The

police have seized the suspects' phones, laptops, and all fraudulent documents. Adil Hussain faces separate

legal proceedings in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh.

Experts say the case highlights serious concerns regarding financial security and the misuse of international funding channels. By exploiting a fake scientific identity, Ahmed reportedly facilitated the structured inflow of foreign capital and maintained its circulation through banking networks.

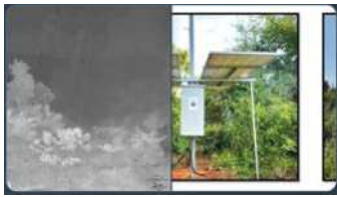
Financial forensics are critical in such cases to determine whether these funds were diverted toward illicit

activities or the trading of sensitive technological information.

Security and policy concerns

Beyond financial misuse, the case underscores potential national security risks. Unauthorized access to sensitive scientific data and unmonitored international funding pathways could amplify threats related to terrorism or other unlawful activities. Security specialists emphasize that a combined cyber and financial intelligence approach is essential to prevent similar incidents in the future.

Deploying AI to curb human—elephant conflict: Pawan



HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

DEPUTY Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan said Andhra Pradesh is using artificial intelligence to protect both people and wildlife, calling it a new step toward sustainable coexistence. He stated that the state is “showing the way from elephants to artificial intelligence” in minimising human—

wildlife conflict.

In a social media post, Pawan Kalyan explained that an AI-based monitoring system has been introduced on a pilot basis in Chittoor district to track elephant movement near forest-bordering villages.

Powered by solar energy, the system detects elephant activity and generates mild deterrent signals to guide the animals back into the forest. The mechanism also alerts forest department officials in real time, allowing immediate response to potential threats. He recalled that four trained ‘Kunki’ elephants were earlier brought from Karnataka to assist in driving away wild herds safely. The Kunki teams, he said,

have already succeeded in diverting elephants that entered human settlements on several occasions. Pawan said that the latest system combines artificial intelligence with machine learning to continuously monitor sensitive zones within a range of 60 to 120 metre. The initiative aims to prevent crop damage, reduce economic losses, and enhance community safety while ensuring ecological balance.

He added that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Andhra Pradesh is advancing toward sustainable development goals through technology-driven wildlife protection.

All issues would be resolved quickly: CMD Lotheti

First session of APSDCIL ‘Dial Your CMD’ programme held

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI



APSDCIL CMD Sivasankar Lotheti participating in ‘Dial Your CMD’ programme in Tirupati on Monday

senior officers including Chief General Managers or General Manager as nodal officers for each of the nine districts. These officers will coordinate with local officials and monitor the issues until they are resolved. He added that the initiative would help improve the performance of staff from linemen (ILMs) to Superintending Engineers, ensuring faster service to consumers.

CMD Lotheti also warned that strict action would be taken against any employees showing negligence in handling complaints. Consumers can also register their complaints through the department’s toll-free numbers 1912 or 1800 425 155333, or by sending WhatsApp messages to 91333 31912. Directors Ayub Khan (Projects & IT), Gura-vaiah (Technical & HRD), Rammohan Rao (Finance - FAC), Chief General Managers Janakiram, Ramana Devi, Adiseshaiah, Umapati, Murali Kumar were present.

The CMD said the purpose of the programme is to directly understand and address consumer grievances. He assured that all issues would be resolved quickly, considering local technical aspects. To make the process more effective, APSDCIL appointed



Vanamamalai Mutt Jeer offers prayers

Sri Vanamamali Jeeyar Swamy of Sri Vanamamali Mutt, Nanguneri, offering prayers to Lord Venkateswara Swamy in Tirumala on Monday. TTD EO Anil Kumar Singhal, temple Deputy EO Lokanadham, Peishkars Ramakrishna, Munirathanam, Parpatheyadar Himathgiri, priests and others are also present.

Panic in Tirupati suburb as leopard kills pet dog

After being alerted by residents of Bhupal colony, forest dept personnel rush to the spot and launch a search operation

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI

TENSION prevailed in Bhupal Housing Colony near Mangalam on the outskirts of Tirupati after a leopard strayed into the neighbourhood early Monday and mauled a pet dog to death, sending shock waves among the residents.

The distressing incident came to light when the owners of the house found their dog missing at daybreak. On checking the CCTV footage, they were startled to see a leopard dragging the animal away after attacking it in front of the house. The footage confirmed that the big cat had entered the colony from the nearby forest fringes during the pre-dawn hours.

Alerted by the residents, forest department personnel rushed to the spot and launched a search operation. Officials later confirmed that

they had found pugmarks and traces suggesting the leopard’s movement from the Mangalam forest belt into the residential area. Authorities have since installed camera traps at several vulnerable locations to monitor the animal’s path and are prepared to deploy cages if the leopard continues to frequent the area. “Our teams are on constant patrol, and measures are in place to prevent any danger to residents,” forest officials assured. Residents have been cautioned to stay indoors at night and to avoid leaving pets or cattle outside. The incident has reignited fears in the temple city, which has witnessed a series of leopard sightings in recent months — particularly around SV University and adjoining localities — highlighting the growing challenge of human—wildlife encounters near forested zones surrounding Tirupati.

YSRCP leader attacked



Former Minister Kakani Govardhan Reddy visiting YSRCP leader B Gopal at a private hospital in Nellore on Monday

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NELLORE

Nellore city, where his condition was stated to be out of danger.

Former Minister Kakani Govardhan Reddy visited the hospital and enquired the doctor over the health condition of Gopal and appealed the medical staff to provide better treatment.

Later speaking to reporters, Kakani alleged that unable to digest the activities taken up by YSRCP leader Gopal against the government, local TDP functionaries hatched a conspiracy to murder him. Venkatachalam police registered a case and are investigating.

Locals immediately shifted him to a private hospital in

5-DAY STEM TRAINING BEGINS AT SPMVV

TIRUPATI: A five-day training programme, ‘STEM training programme with simulation and practical demonstration for school students’ began on Monday under the auspices of Women Biotech Incubation Facility (WBIF), Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam (SPMVV), as part of PM-USHA (MERU) Activity—31.

Addressing the inaugural session, Dean, School of Social Sciences Prof C Vani highlighted the objectives of PM-USHA MERU initiative and underlined the importance of STEM-based education, scientific skill development, and fostering a research-oriented mindset among students. She urged participants to make effective use of technology in their learning process. PM-USHA (MERU) committee members, Prof M Vidyavathi (IPT) and Dr Shobharani Tunga (C&I), spoke about the vast opportunities in STEM fields and the value of practical learning. Students received hands-on demonstrations on laboratory safety, simulation-based STEM concepts, spectrophotometry, microvolume analysis, centrifugation, rotavapor operation, and basic chemistry experiments.

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

REGISTERED OFFICE: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 website : www.shriramfinance.me Branch Office : D.No.42/107-1, OBUL REDDY COMPLEX, APSARA CIRCLE, JAYANAGAR COLONEY, KADAPA.

DEMAND NOTICE

We , M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 and branch office at **KADAPA-2"** (hereinafter referred as Company/ Lender)

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD. We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD. under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers /guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices.

The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's 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.

Names & Addresses of the Borrowers, Co-Borrowers & Guarantor

- 1. Neelam Nagendra Kumar**, S/O Neelam Subbaramaiah, D.No.3/11, Main Bazar, Kamalapuram (V &T&P), Kadapa(Dist).
- 2. Neelam Vijaya Lakshmi**, w/o. Neelam Nagendra Kumar, D.No:3/11, Main Bazar, Kamalapuram (V &T&P), Kadapa(Dist).
- 3. Pasupuleti Venkata Ramesh**, S/O Venkata Ramana, D.No:2/145-1, Gaddangi Street, Kamalapuram, Kadapa(Dist)

NPA DATE: 07.08.2023 Date Of Demand Notice: 22.10.2025
Loan Amount : Rs.18,00,000/-(-In words Rupees Eighteen Lakhs only).
Agreement no : CUDP4TF2011300002
OUTSTANDING AMOUNT : Rs. 21,05,450/- (Rupees Twenty one Lakhs Five Thousand Four Hundred and Fifty only)

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

Kadapa District, Proddatur Registration District, Kamalapuram Sub-District, Kamalapuram Mandal, Kamalapuram Gram Panchayath and Village Accounts, Survey No.404/11A1, Main Bazar, Segment-1, Door No. 3/9, site measuring East to West 90 ft or 27.4 mts, and North to South 15 ft or 4.5 mts. Total extent of 150.sq.yards in that East to West 87 ft or 26.5 mts, and North to South 15 ft or 4.5 mts, total extent of 1305 sq. ft RCC Building with all doors, door frames Windows, electrical wiring, fittings, HSC No.0113 with all deposits, tap connection, half share in the north and south walls, with all easementary rights, bounded on: East : Sandu Rastha, West : Public Road, North : Joint Wall and house of Reddy Suresh bearing D.no.3/8-1, South :Joint Wall and house of Neelam Lakshmi Devi bearing D.No.3/10.

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13(13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Place : Kadapa Dated : 03.11.2025

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Shriram Finance Limited

SHRIRAM FINANCE LIMITED

REGISTERED OFFICE: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 website : www.shriramfinance.me Branch Office : D.No. 4-1-796-11, Upstairs of State Bank of India, Near HP Petrol Bunk, Ashok Nagar, Nellore Road, Badvel-516 227, Kadapa (Dist)

DEMAND NOTICE

We , M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 and branch office at **BADVEL** (hereinafter referred as Company/ Lender)

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD. We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD. under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers /guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices.

The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's 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.

Names & Addresses of the Borrowers, Co-Borrowers & Guarantor

- 1. Besthamalla Siva Sankar**, S/O B.Subbarayudu, D.No:10/382, Ashok Nagar, Badvel, Kadapa(Dist).
- 2. Besthamalla Swathi**, W/O.Besthamalla Siva Sankar,D.No:10/382, Ashok Nagar, Badvel, Kadapa(Dist).
- 3.Obulasetty Veerabhadra Rao**, S/O.Veeraiiah, D.No:3-1-220, Ashok Nagar, Badvel, Kadapa(Dist).

NPA DATE: 31.05.2021 Date Of Demand Notice: 08.10.2025
Loan Amount : Rs.18,00,000/-(-In words Rupees Eighteen Lakhs only).
Agreement no : BADVLTF2001310004
OUTSTANDING AMOUNT : Rs.38,04,187/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Lakhs Four Thousand One Hundred and Eighty Seven only)

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

Property is in the name of **BESTHAMALLA SIVA SANKAR** vide document no.609/2020 : YSR Kadapa District, Proddatur Registration District,Badvel Sub-District, Badvel Mandal, Ward No. 10, Ashok Nagar Commercial Area, Badvel- Nellore National Highway Road, Badvel Village accounts, Circular Dry, D.No.1207/1A1, a total extent of Ac.32.38 cents and in it an extent of 102.19 sq.yards of site and in it constructed ACC and RCC building bearing old D.No:10/382, Municipal D.No.3-1-214, bounded on: East : Building of Besthamalla Venkateswarlu; West: Building of Madallapalli Chandrasekhar; North : Municipal Cement Road; South :Badvel- Nellore Main Road; Within these site admeasuring East to West 10.3 ft. or 3.12 mts and North to South 89.3 ft. or 27.05 mts comprising a total extent of 112.19 sq.yards of site and in it constructed ACC sheet building admeasuring East to West 10.3 ft. or 3.12 mts and North to South 73 ft. or 22.11 mts comprising a total extent of 751.9 sq.ft and RCC bath room admeasuring east to west 10.3 ft or 3.12mts and north to south 16.3 ft or 4.93 mts comprising a total extent of 167.89 sq.ft along with all fixtures and appurtenance therein including all easementary rights.

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13(13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Place : Kadapa Dated : 03.11.2025

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Shriram Finance Limited

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REGISTERED OFFICE: Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 website : www.shriramfinance.me Branch Office : D.No. 4-1-796-11, Upstairs of State Bank of India, Near HP Petrol Bunk, Ashok Nagar, Nellore Road, Badvel-516 227, Kadapa (Dist)

DEMAND NOTICE

We , M/s. Shriram Finance Limited (formerly known as "Shriram City Union finance Limited" amalgamated with Shriram Transport Finance limited and converted as Shriram Transport Finance Limited as per the orders of NCLT Bench-II Chennai dated 09.11.2022) and thereafter obtained the approval to rename as Shriram Finance Ltd (Ministry of Corporate Finance letter dated 30.11.2022), is a company registered under the Companies Act, 2013 and also registered with RBI to do Non-Banking Finance business having its registered office at Sri Towers, Plot No.14A, South Phase, Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032 and branch office at **Proddatur** (hereinafter referred as Company/ Lender)

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD. We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM FINANCE LTD. under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers /guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices.

The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same. The borrower's 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.

Names & Addresses of the Borrowers, Co-Borrowers & Guarantor

- 1.M.VEERA PRATHAP REDDY**, S/O M.Rami Reddy, D.No:141-196, Virat Nagar, Gopavaram, Proddatur,Kadapa(Dist).
- 2. G.Krishna Mohan Reddy**, S/O G.Chenna Reddy, D.No:1/12, Sarva Raju Peta (V), Veerapanunyanipalli(M), Kadapa(Dist).
- 3.K.Veera Reddy**, S/O K.Narayana Reddy, D.No:7-826, YMR Colony, Proddatur, Kadapa(Dist)

NPA DATE: 30.11.2013 Date Of Demand Notice: 22.10.2025
Loan Amount : Rs.10,00,000/-(-In words Rupees Ten Lakhs only). & **Rs.10,00,000/-** (-In words Rupees Ten Lakhs only).
Agreement no : PRDTRTF07050013 & PRDTRTF1205310023
OUTSTANDING AMOUNT : To Pay an Amount of Rs.28,27,815/- (Twenty Eight lakhs Seventy Seven Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifteen Rupees Only) + **Rs.24,44,977/-** (Twenty Four lakhs Forty Four Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy Seven Rupees Only) **I.e total due of Rs.53,22,792/-** (Fifty Three Lakhs Twenty Two Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Two Rupees Only)

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

THE SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY BELONGS TO Mr. G.KRISHNA MOHAN REDDY Kadapa District, Proddatur Regn, District, Proddatur Sub-District, Gopavaram Panchayath, Ward No.17, Proddatur Village Accounts, Kalluva Katta Area Sy.No: 262/2an Extent of Ac.0.02 cents or 300 sq. Links Site Measuring East to West including half road 100 Links or 20.100 mts. North to South 23 Links of 4.623 mts..111.3sq.yards, Bounded By: East : 30 links wide road; South : Plot No.22 site; West : Site of Savithri; North : Site of Mettupalle Venkata Saba Reddy;

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13(13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Place : Kadapa Dated : 03.11.2025

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Shriram Finance Limited



YSRCP turned AP into a dump yard, says Pattabhiram

- Swachh Andhra Corporation Chairman claims 85 lakh metric tonnes of garbage left unattended; promises total clean-up drive
- A new mobile app soon to integrate ragpickers, recyclers and scrap dealers

HANS NEWS SERVICE
CHITTOOR

SWACHH Andhra Corporation Chairman K Pattabhiram has accused the previous YSRCP government of leaving the State buried under heaps of unprocessed waste, claiming that nearly 85 lakh metric tonnes of garbage had been left unattended across AP. He said that under Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu's leadership, efforts were underway to transform AP into a dumping yard-free State and a national model for cleanliness.

Pattabhiram, along with



Swachh Andhra Corporation Chairman K Pattabhiram felicitating a sanitation worker in Chittoor on Monday. MLA G Jagannathan, CHUDA chairperson K Hemalatha, Mayor S Amuda and Commissioner Narasimha Prasad are seen.

Chittoor MLA G Jagannathan, reviewed sanitation activities with municipal officials at Chittoor Municipal Corporation on Monday. Addressing the media, he said Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu personally leads Swachh Andhra - Swarnandhra campaign every third Saturday of the month to promote public awareness on cleanliness and civic responsibility.

Criticising the former

regime, Pattabhiram said the YSRCP government 'completely ignored waste management despite collecting sanitation taxes', resulting in massive waste accumulation across the State. In Chittoor, he said, about 16 acres of garbage mounds are now being cleared at a cost of Rs 13 crore. The project is set for completion by December 31, after which the reclaimed site will be turned into a public park by January, in

coordination with the AP Greenery and Beautification Corporation.

Highlighting new initiatives, Pattabhiram announced that 65 tonnes of daily waste generated in Chittoor will be processed and recycled on the same day, positioning the city as a model for sustainable waste management. He said the Corporation would soon supply 50 electric garbage transport vehicles, compactors, and sweeping machines to the city, reducing fuel dependency and improving efficiency.

The Chairman also outlined plans to develop Chittoor as the Gateway of Andhra Pradesh, supported by major infrastructure projects. He urged officials to strictly enforce the ban on single-use plastics and promote biodegradable and cloth bags through coordination with MEPMA and DWCR women's groups.

He further revealed that a digital initiative inte-

grating ragpickers, scrap dealers, and recycling units through a mobile app will soon be launched to streamline door-to-door waste collection. The state will also pioneer the use of electric vehicles for garbage transport, starting from Hindupur.

Pattabhiram commended sanitation workers for their service during the pandemic and natural disasters, announcing Rs 20 lakh insurance coverage for each worker. He called on municipal officials to aim for a top-five state ranking and a top-100 national position in next year's Swachh Survekshan. Municipal Commissioner P Narasimha Prasad and Health Officer Dr Lokesh presented updates on ongoing initiatives. On this occasion, Pattabhiram and MLA Jagannathan felicitated sanitation workers for their dedicated service. Mayor S Amuda, CHUDA chairperson K Hemalatha and others were present.

'VPR Netra' launched in Ramapuram

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NELLORE

Vijayaramireddy, former ZP Chairman Chenchalababu Babu Yadav, Kethamreddy Vinod Reddy and others were present.



MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy, MLAs V Prashanthi Reddy and Kakarla Suresh and others launching VPR Netra in Ramapuram village on Monday

NELLORE MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy, Kovur constituency MLA and his wife V Prashanthi Reddy and Udayagiri MLA Kakarla Suresh inaugurated VPR Netra in Ramapuram village of Udayagiri constituency on Monday.

Medical staff conducted eye tests for elderly people and women and distributed eyeglasses on the spot.

VPR Foundation Speaking on the occasion, MP Prabhakar Reddy said VPR Foundation has designed VPR Netra programme, after seeing the plight of an elderly person, who met him.

Many people in rural areas neglect their eyesight due to lack of awareness about eye problems, he added. He said, this programme was successful with the support of Udayagiri MLA Kakarla Suresh and Dr Krishna Prasad.

The MP said Somasila High Level Canal will be completed soon and they will take the responsibility of bringing water from Velugonda project.

Deputy Mayor Roopkumar Yadav, former Udayagiri MLA Kambham

MITs students get HDFC Bank Parivartan scholarships

HANS NEWS SERVICE
MADANAPALLE

THIRTY-four students of MITs Deemed to be University got scholarships under HDFC Bank Parivartan ECSS Programme 2025-26, announced Vice-Chancellor Dr C Yuvaraj here on Monday. The initiative supports meritorious students from economically weaker backgrounds.

Under the scheme, 32 MCA and MBA students received Rs 75,000 each, while two BTech students received



Rs 50,000 each, totaling Rs 25 lakh in scholarships.

Founder and Chancellor Dr N Vijaya Bhaskar Choudary, Pro Chancellor

N Dwarakanth, Executive Director Keerthi Nadella along with faculty members congratulated scholarship recipients and felicitated.

Jungle clearance and boundary works begin at Settipalli lands

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI

TIRUPATI Urban Development Authority (TUDA) Chairman and TTD Ex-officio Member Divakar Reddy has launched jungle clearance and boundary marking works at Settipalli lands under TUDA limits here on Monday.

With the efforts of TUDA Chairman Divakar Reddy, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has provided a permanent solution to the long-pending Settipalli land issue.

Divakar Reddy performed puja and for-



mally started the works. These works mark the first step towards the proposed township project planned in the area. The jungle clearance and boundary identification works are expected to play a key role in resolving Settipalli land issues.

Hans India Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SURESH KUMAR REDDY, S/o S. Siva Reddy, D. No. 2/71, Nallacheruvupalli Village & Post, Vemula Mandal, Ysr Kadapa Dist, A. P. - 516421. I Worked as SPR and My Army No.16111574K. In My Service Records & PPO No. 222202100191, My son Name Mentioned as S. Lalith Adithya Reddy instead of SIRIGEDDY LALITH ADITHYA REDDY as per aadhaar.

(TH_2522)

CHANGE OF NAME

I, GAGGUTURU KULAY BASHA (OLD NAME) D.NO. 58/284-15-23-1, AKKAYAPALLI, NEAR ANJANEASWAMY TEMPLE, KADAPA CITY, YSR DIST AP. HERE CHANGE MY NAME AS GAGGUTURU USMAN (NEW NAME) S/O GAGGUTURU KULLAYAPPA

(TH_HEERALAL)

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Vipparthi Venkata Karthika, D/o V. Narendra, R/o D.No.3-62/2, Srinivasa Puram, Padmavathi Puram, Tirupati Rural, Tirupati Dist, A.P. hereby state that my name Vipparthi Venkata Karthika and Vipparthi Venkata Nagakalyani (as recorded in HDFC Life Insurance Policy No. 10338612) refer to one and the same person, i.e., myself only.

(TH_RJP)

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Shaik Mohammed Saleem, S/O S.khadar Basha, residing at no-25-2-303A, 3rd Street, New Military Colony, Nellore M&DT, A.P. I was changed my name as Shaik Mohamad Saleem. Henceforth I known as Shaik Mohamad Saleem.

(TH_RJP)

CHANGE OF NAME

I Suresh Pavana Samhitha (old Name) daughter of Suresh Kumar R/o Door No. 8-5-280, Sai Nagar, Sullurpet, Tirupati dist. A.P. Pin 524121. I changed my name to Keerthi Pavana Samhitha (New Name) henceforth I shall be known as Keerthi Pavana Samhitha.

(TH_MADAN)

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CROP INSURANCE

Companies reap profits while farmers get pittance

- Private insurance companies collected Rs 5,850 cr in premiums over three years but paid only Rs 930 cr to farmers, retaining 85% as profits
- Under weather-based schemes, Rs 1,567 cr in premiums yielded zero compensation to farmers despite cyclones, floods and droughts
- Enrolment is high (e.g., 25.28 lakh in 2022 kharif), but payouts reach few (e.g., only 3.43 lakh compensated), with tenant farmers demanding direct government intervention

DASARI SRINIVASA RAO
VIJAYAWADA



Paddy crop, which was damaged during the recent Cyclone Montha in Pedana in Krishna district
(File Photo)

THE crop insurance schemes introduced by the Central government, projected as a safety net for farmers facing natural calamities, have instead become a source of windfall profits for private insurance companies. Data from the past three years reveals a shocking imbalance, while insurance firms collected nearly Rs 5,850 crore in premiums, the compensation paid to farmers amounts to a mere Rs 930 crore. This means that 85 per cent of the funds went into corporate coffers rather than reaching the distressed cultivators.

Under both the Pradhan Mantri

Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Weather-Based Insurance Schemes, farmers from the state, along with the state and Central governments, contributed large sums since the 2022 kharif season to the 2024 rabi. Yet, despite natural disasters such as cyclones, floods and droughts during this period, the compensation flow to farmers has been negligible. Out of Rs 1,567 crore collected under weather insurance alone, not a single rupee was paid to any farmer.

When the YSRCP government came to power in 2019, it initially replaced the Central scheme with a free crop insurance model, which

directly benefited farmers without intermediaries.

However, after pressure from the Centre, the State rejoined the Central insurance programmes from the 2022 Kharif. Since then, private companies have regained control—marking the return of old problems like delayed settlements, rejected claims, and massive profit accumulation.

Participation figures further expose the disparity. In 2022 kharif, 25.28 lakh farmers enrolled, but only 3.43 lakh received compensation, while in rabi 64,000 farmers received insurance out of 15.22 lakh

enrolled. In Kharif 2023, 98,000 farmers got claims out of 22.68 lakh insured, and in rabi that year, 1.43 lakh people out of 12.92 lakh people got compensation. Even after the TDP-led NDA coalition government promised free crop insurance in kharif 2024, only 82,000 farmers received a meagre Rs 8.53 crore in compensation.

In contrast, under the Weather-Based Insurance Scheme, crores in premiums were collected in multiple seasons — 2023 kharif, 2023 Rabi, 2024 Kharif and 2024 rabi — but not a single claim has been settled so far. These figures paint a grim picture: crop insurance, instead of being a shield for the farmer, has become a lucrative avenue for private companies, leaving the food producers of the nation empty-handed.

P Jamalaiah, state general secretary of the Andhra Pradesh Koulu Rythula (Tenant Farmers) Association, told 'The Hans India' that the government must ensure prompt insurance payments to farmers affected by natural calamities. He criticised successive governments for neglecting farmers' interests and allowing insurance companies to impose harsh conditions.

Jamalaiah urged that during cyclones and disasters, the government should personally intervene to guarantee compensation for farmers' crop losses without bureaucratic delays.

Narayana invites Dubai investors to CII summit

- The Minister highlights Andhra Pradesh's investment-friendly policies.
- Holds meetings with Shobha Group, KEF Holdings and Indian consulate officials, seeking investments in urban infrastructure and healthcare sectors
- Stresses the state's single-desk clearance system and rapid development reforms under Chandrababu Naidu to attract global investors

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA



Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister P Narayana with officials of KEF Holdings at its headquarters in Dubai on Monday

development and its investor-friendly ecosystem.

He held discussions with Vikram Dutta, senior vice-president of Shobha Group. Narayana invited the company to invest in urban infrastructure projects in Andhra Pradesh, noting that the state aims to become a premier investment destination through the upcoming partnership summit. Sobha Group has reportedly shown interest in exploring investment possibilities in the state.

Narayana also met Indian Consul General Satish Siwan, explaining that the state is adopting a speed of doing business approach through a single-desk clearance system to fast-track industrial approvals. He urged the consulate to encourage Dubai-

based investors to explore opportunities in Andhra Pradesh.

The minister in the evening met Faizal Kottikollon, chairman of KEF Holdings, at the company's Dubai headquarters. The group, which has a global presence in infrastructure, healthcare and technology, was urged to invest in the healthcare sector in Andhra Pradesh.

Narayana briefed the chairman on reforms being introduced under Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu to transform the medical sector and invited KEF Holdings to visit Andhra Pradesh during the summit. He was accompanied by AP CRDA commissioner Kannababu and MAUD director Sampath Kumar during the visit.

Textiles MoUs to be signed at Partnership Summit

- Minister Savitha announces that multiple agreements in textiles will be signed at Visakhapatnam summit on Nov 14-15, with two exclusive stalls
- Review meeting with officials focuses on inviting interested investors and details of proposed units and investment scales
- AP Pavilion to feature ODOP award-winning products in one stall and handloom fabrics for sale in the other

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA



Textiles and handlooms minister S Savitha holds a review with senior officials of department at her chamber in Secretariat on Monday

summit. Savitha instructed officials to ensure that investors who have already shown interest in investing in the textiles sector in Andhra Pradesh are brought to the Visakhapatnam summit. She also enquired about the regions where investors are planning to set up units and the scale of investment proposed.

As part of the summit, an AP Pavilion will be set up, the minister said. Of the two stalls planned in the pavilion, one will showcase award-winning products and artworks under the 'One District One Product (ODOP)' initiative, while the other will be dedicated to the sale of a wide range of handloom fabrics.

Senior officials from the handlooms and textiles department participated in the meeting.

MINISTER for handlooms and textiles S Savitha has announced that several Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) in the textiles sector will be signed during the Partnership Summit scheduled to be held in Visakhapatnam on the November 14 and 15. She said that two exclusive stalls will also be set up at the summit.

The minister held a review on Monday at her chamber in the Secretariat, attended by handlooms and textiles department principal secretary R P Sisodia, commissioner Rekharani, and industries secretary N Yuvaraj. She stated that a special slot has been allotted for MoU exchanges related to the textiles sector during the

Minister vows strict measures to curb mishaps

- Ramprasad Reddy informs that private travel bus drivers will be provided with tips and training as part of the measures
- Inaugurates Rs 1.92 cr APSRTC dispensary at Alipiri, pledges better healthcare for employees
- Says law will take its own course in fake liquor case

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI

TRANSPORT minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy said that stringent measures are being taken to prevent private bus accidents in the state. For this, tips and training are required for the drivers which will be provided soon. The minister inaugurated the newly built APSRTC dispensary at Alipiri on Monday.

Speaking on the occasion, he rejected criticism that former minister and YSRCP leader Jogi Ramesh was arrested as part of vindictive politics. Law will take its own course in the fake liquor probe and any arrests are

part of the probe only.

He said that the new dispensary will provide better healthcare facilities to employees and their families. The government is committed to ensuring the welfare of APSRTC employees. The initiative was taken under the guidance of APSRTC Vice Chairman and managing director M Dwaraka Tirumala Rao and chief medical officer Dr B Venkata Ramana.

Built at a cost of Rs 1.92 crore, the dispensary is spread across 0.12 acre land and is equipped with advanced medical infrastructure. It includes four consultation rooms, two inpatient wards, a general ward, nursing and pharmacy units,



Transport Minister M Ramprasad Reddy inaugurating RTC dispensary in Tirupati on Monday. APSRTC chairman K Narayana Rao, MLA Arani Srinivasulu, TUDA chairman C Divakar Reddy and others are also seen.

laboratory, X-ray, and diagnostic sections, providing comprehensive healthcare facilities for RTC staff.

With this new facility, the RTC aims to serve nearly 6,000 employees and their families in the Tirupati district. The dispensary will operate with a team of 100 medical professionals, including 30 doctors, nurses, and paramedical staff.

Ramprasad Reddy said

that the government is determined to safeguard the health and welfare of RTC employees. He added that the new dispensary will not only serve the employees but also ensure access to quality healthcare for their dependents. The APSRTC management expressed gratitude to the government for extending continuous support to its welfare initiatives.

The inauguration cer-

emony was attended by RTC chairman Konakalla Narayana Rao, vice-chairman P S Munirathnam, MLA Arani Srinivasulu, TUDA chairman C Divakar Reddy, deputy mayor R C Munikrishna, transport secretary Siva Sankar, regional manager E M Reddy and deputy chief traffic manager P Viswanath, several senior officials and employees of the corporation.

FIVE DIE IN TWO SEPARATE ROAD ACCIDENTS

- Four persons killed when the car they were travelling collide with a truck at Satyavatipet in which in Bapatla district
- One dies as a mini-lorry overturns on Nadendla-Timmapuram road in Palnadu district

HANS NEWS SERVICE
GUNTUR

FIVE persons were killed and two others injured in

two separate road accidents in the state in the early hours of Monday.

Four people died when a car in which they were trav-

elling collided with a truck in Bapatla district.

The accident occurred around 1 am in Satyavatipet in Karlapalem mandal.

The deceased were identified as B Balarama Raju (65), B Lakshmi (60), G Pushpavati (60) and M Srinivasa Raju (54). Two boys aged 11 and 13 were injured, and both were admitted to a hos-

pital. Their condition is stated to be out of danger.

The victims were from Karlapalem and were returning home after attending the sangate ceremony of Bapatla MLA Narendra Verma's son.

Overspeeding is suspected to be the cause of the accident. Police registered a case and took up an in-

vestigation. In another accident in Palnadu district, a man died when a mini lorry overturned. The accident occurred on the Nadendla-Timmapuram road when the mini lorry suffered a tyre burst.

The driver lost control of the vehicle, resulting in the accident. The deceased was identified as Babu Malik, a

worker from Odisha.

The accident revealed that the mini lorry was being used to divert rice meant for distribution under the Public Distribution System.

Police registered a case and began an investigation. The civil supplies department also launched an investigation into PDS rice diversion.

Officials told to focus on infra in MSME Parks

- Minister Kondapalli directs officials to prioritize basic infrastructure like water, roads, and electricity in 175 new MSME parks across Andhra Pradesh.
- Urges expediting approvals, encouraging new entrepreneurs to utilise govt incentives and creating a clear action plan for the state's new industrial policies
- Reviews ongoing infrastructure development, stressed timely completion and called for aligning policies with global and national best practices to build a business-friendly ecosystem

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

MINISTER for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME), rural poverty eradication and NRI empowerment Kondapalli Srinivas directed officials to prioritise the development of basic infrastructure in the 175 MSME parks being set up across the state.

Chairing a review with officials of the MSME department and APIIC at the Secretariat on Friday, the minister

stressed the need for expediting the provision of essential facilities such as water supply, roads and electricity in all the proposed industrial parks. He said the government's new industrial policies were aimed at accelerating MSME growth and called for a clear action plan to implement them effectively.

Srinivas instructed officials to encourage new industrial entrepreneurs and ensure that they are able to make effective use of the incentives being offered by the government. He cautioned against delays in issuing mandatory approvals and permits required for setting up new units.

He also reviewed the status of buildings and infrastructure being developed in the new industrial estates and issued directions for timely completion. The minister emphasised that Andhra Pradesh must align its industrial policy with the best models being followed globally and in other Indian states and create a business-friendly ecosystem through necessary reforms.

Industries department secretary N Yuvaraj, MSME Development Corporation CEO Viswa Manoharan and senior APIIC officials attended the meeting.

Saap seeks major boost for AP sports under Khelo India

- Chairman Ravi Naidu submits proposals for 56 project worth Rs 676 cr in New Delhi to Khelo India joint secretary
- Key proposals include modernising Vijayawada's IGMC Stadium, setting up district sports centres and establishing national centres of excellence in Kakinada and Guntur
- A special request of Rs 170 cr was made for rebuilding BR Stadium in Guntur, with the Centre reportedly responding positively to the proposals

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

IN a push to upgrade sports infrastructure across the state, Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh (Saap)

chairman Animini Ravi Naidu sought Central approval for 56 project proposals worth Rs 676 crore under the Khelo India scheme. The proposals were personally submitted in New Delhi on

Monday to Vineel Krishna, joint secretary of Khelo India.

Ravi Naidu briefed the official on the state's sports development roadmap and requested swift sanction of the pending projects, which cover infrastructure creation, stadium upgrades, talent development facilities and district-level sports centres.

Among the key proposals, Saap sought approval for the modernisation of the Indira Gandhi Municipal Corporation (IGMC) stadium in Vijayawada, aiming to transform it into an international-standard arena. The chairman also urged the Centre to establish Khelo India district sports centres in all districts, ensuring wider access to

training facilities for young athletes.

The state has further proposed the setting up of national centres of excellence (NCOE) in Kakinada and Guntur, along with residential centres for athletics and taekwondo in the Rayalseema region and Tirupati to nurture talent from rural and semi-urban areas.

A special request for Rs 170 crore funding for the reconstruction of BR Stadium in Guntur was also placed before the ministry.

Ravi Naidu said the Chandrababu Naidu-led government is prioritising sports as a tool for youth empowerment and aims to position Andhra Pradesh prominently in the national sports landscape with the support



Saap chairman Animini Ravi Naidu submitting key sports development proposals to Khelo India joint secretary Vineel Krishna in New Delhi on Monday

of Khelo India. Joint secretary Vineel Krishna is learnt to have responded positively,

assuring due examination and necessary action on the proposals.



IN BRIEF

Bengali domestic help alleges brutal assault by police

BENGALURU: A shocking allegation has surfaced against the Varthur police, with a Bengali woman claiming that she was brutally assaulted in custody, including on her private parts. The victim, identified as Sundari Bibi (34), has accused the police of inhuman treatment that left her with severe injuries and unable to walk properly. According to reports, Sundari Bibi worked as a domestic help in an apartment within the Varthur police limits. She allegedly found some money lying in a house where she worked and went to return it to her employer. The house owner, after checking CCTV footage, accused her of theft, assaulted her, and handed her over to the police.

However, what followed at the station has drawn outrage. The woman has alleged that Varthur police officers beat her mercilessly — targeting her head, back, hands, legs, and even her private areas. The assault reportedly caused internal bleeding and swelling, leaving her bedridden.

The case has now taken on political dimensions, after the victim's family brought the matter to the attention of West Bengal Rajya Sabha MP and chairman of the West Bengal Migrant Workers Welfare Board, Samir UL. Following this, the West Bengal Chief Minister's Office was informed of the incident and has reportedly expressed serious displeasure over the conduct of Bengaluru police.

Officials from Bengal are said to be seeking a detailed report from Karnataka authorities regarding the alleged police brutality. The incident has reignited debate over the treatment of migrant workers, particularly domestic help, in metropolitan cities like Bengaluru. Civil rights groups have demanded a high-level probe into the alleged custodial violence, calling for action against those responsible.

Share details of tunnel project, but first fix potholes: BJP

BENGALURU: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday demanded that the Congress-led Karnataka government share complete details of the proposed Bengaluru tunnel road project, while questioning its feasibility and financial viability.

Leader of the Opposition R. Ashoka accused the state government of withholding key information from the public and mocked it for announcing mega infrastructure plans without addressing the city's persistent civic issues. "The Congress government has not given any information to the people of Bengaluru about the tunnel road project. First, they should answer the public's questions," Ashoka said while speaking to reporters here.

He said that when he sought clarification from officials, he was told that approval from 124 departments was required for the project. "To prove they have the expertise to execute such a project, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar should first fill the potholes on the roads. How can those who can't fill potholes build a tunnel? And where is the money for it?" Ashoka questioned.

Nearly 30 Bengalureans participated in a symbolic circular walk through Lalbagh on Rajyotsava weekend, highlighting the city's growing citizen movement to protect its rapidly vanishing green heritage

HANS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU

MARKING the Karnataka Rajyotsava weekend, around 30 citizens gathered at Lalbagh, Bengaluru's iconic botanical garden, to take part in a symbolic 'Parikrama of Nature' — a circular walk expressing reverence for the environment and solidarity with the city's natural heritage. The walk was organized by Bengaluru Town Hall under the banner Lalbagh Nature Walk – Parikrama/Pradakshine.

Participants — including heritage enthusiasts, urban ecologists, students, and long-time residents — began their walk from the East Gate of Lalbagh, moving through its tree-lined pathways towards the historic Peninsular Gneiss Rock and Kempegowda's Watch Tower before completing the circle back at the starting point. The route was chosen to represent the unity of nature, heritage, and civic consciousness.

Speaking to the media, several participants expressed

Citizens undertake 'Parikrama of Nature' march at Lalbagh to reaffirm commitment to ecology



concern over increasing environmental degradation and large-scale infrastructure projects threatening the city's green spaces. "It is unimaginable that decisions could endanger what remains of Bengaluru's natural heritage," said one participant. Others stressed the need for sustained civic engagement to protect the city's lakes, trees, and biodiversity.

Organisers described the Parikrama as both a tribute and a reminder — urging citizens to reconnect with Bengaluru's ecological and cultural roots.

They highlighted that Lalbagh, first developed in the 18th century under Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan, remains one of the few surviving lungs of the city.

The walk concluded with participants taking a collective pledge to support efforts for conservation, signalling a quiet but determined stand for a greener, more sustainable Bengaluru. Lalbagh, spread over 240 acres, houses more than 1,800 species of flora and continues to be central to the city's identity as the "Garden City."

'DeepTech Decade'

State announces Rs 600-cr fund to boost startups

BENGALURU

MINISTER Priyank Kharge on Monday announced the launch of the 'DeepTech Decade' initiative, under which the state government will introduce a 'DeepTech Elevate Policy' with a funding out-lay of Rs 600 crore to boost startups in emerging technologies.

"The next 10 years will be the 'DeepTech Decade'. We will leverage DeepTech with an investment of Rs 600 crore," said Kharge, who holds the Information Technology and Biotechnology portfolios, addressing a press conference here.

Announcing the 28th edition of the Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS-2025), scheduled from November 18 to 20 at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Kharge said the state will also host the Future Makers Conclave (FMC)—a first-of-its-kind event and a key highlight of this year's summit.

The FMC, to be held on November



20, will bring together over 10,000 founders, entrepreneurs, investors, mentors, and industry leaders, serving as a platform to showcase India's most promising AI and DeepTech startups. The event will feature show-and-tell sessions, keynote speeches by unicorn founders, investors, and industry captains.

"This initiative reflects our vision to create a robust DeepTech pipeline supporting entrepreneurs working on technologies such as AI, Machine learning, quantum computing, advanced manufacturing, robotics, and sustainability-driven

innovation," Kharge said, adding that the move is aimed at positioning "Karnataka as the DeepTech Capital of India."

He also said the state government is in discussions with leading venture capital firms to create a joint fund of up to Rs 1,000 crore dedicated to DeepTech and AI startups. "Our blueprint is ready, and we are serious about being global players in the technology landscape," he added.

Outlining the investment plan, Kharge said Rs 150 crore will go to the DeepTech Elevate Fund with a focus on AI and frontier technologies. He said

Rs 80 crore will be allocated under the El-evate Beyond Bengaluru Fund to support startups in Mysuru, Mangaluru, Hubballi-Dharwad, and Kalaburagi.

Additionally, Rs 75 crore will be provided through the KITVIN Fund for equity-based investments in DeepTech and AI startups, with funding ranging between Rs 50 lakh and Rs 2 crore.

Additionally, Rs 48 crore will be allocated for new incubators and accelerators in Dharwad and Kalaburagi, while Rs 110 crore will be earmarked for business incubators in higher education institutions to nurture early-stage innovation and entrepreneurship across 11 institutions already cleared by the Cabinet.

Kharge said the government will also explore fund-of-funds and co-investment models with the venture capital ecosystem to ensure sustained capital flow and scalability across the DeepTech value chain.

JD(S) slams DKS over promise of land to Bihar association

HANS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU

THE Janata Dal (Secular) has launched a sharp attack on Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar after he promised to allot land in Bengaluru to the Bihar Association. Calling the move "vote bank appeasement politics," the JDS accused the Congress government of "betraying Kannadigas for electoral gains."

In a fiery post on its official X handle, the JDS wrote, "Congress leaders who shout 'Our taxes, our rights' — what should we call your hypocrisy now? Shame on you for trying to gift land belonging to Kannadigas to migrants just for votes."

The post went on to allege that the Congress is prioritizing "high command slavery" over protecting the interests of local citizens. "Instead of safeguarding Kannadigas, you are indulging in appeasement politics for the sake of Hindi-speaking voters."

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM Shi-



vakumar once accused Biharis of snatching jobs from local youth. Now, to win Bihar elections, you promise them land in Bengaluru — a symbol of Congress's double standards," the JDS statement read.

The controversy stems from DK Shivakumar's recent assurance during an interaction with members of the Bihar community in Bengaluru. The Deputy CM said, "If not for Biharis, Bengaluru wouldn't have its finest buildings. Hence, land will be allotted to the Bihar Association in the city."

Shivakumar also urged construction firms and contractors to grant three days' leave to Bihar workers so

they could return home and vote in the upcoming Bihar elections.

The JDS has accused the Congress of using Karnataka's resources and taxpayers' money to run its "vote bank politics." The party alleged that the Congress leadership was "bending over backwards" to please non-Kannadiga communities for political benefit, instead of focusing on employment and development for local youth.

The statement has sparked intense political debate across Karnataka, with opposition parties framing it as yet another example of Congress's "appeasement politics" ahead of key elections.

Woman arrested for killing pet dog in apartment lift

BENGALURU

A woman has been arrested for allegedly killing a pet dog by banging it against the floor of an apartment lift here, police said on Monday. The incident, which took place on November 1, was captured on CCTV installed inside the lift, they said.

In the footage, the woman—identified as Pushpalatha—is seen entering the lift with the pet dog. As the doors closed, she allegedly banged the animal against the floor, killing it on the spot, police said. According to the complaint filed by a 23-year-old woman, she had hired Pushpalatha to take care of her four-year-old dog, Goofy,

on a monthly salary of Rs 23,000 from September 11.

"On November 1, my dog died. When I asked Pushpalatha how the dog had died, she said she did not know. Later, upon checking the CCTV footage, it was found that near the lift, she had lifted the dog and thrown it onto the ground, causing its death," the complainant alleged.

A case has been registered under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and Section 325 (mis-chief by killing or maiming an animal) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita at Bagalur police station. Pushpalatha was arrested on Sunday in connection with the incident, a senior police officer said.

Metro Pinkline to become operational by May

BENGALURU

KARNATAKA Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Monday announced that the Metro pink line will be operational by May 2026. In a post on X, he said the 13.76 km stretch from Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara will ease traffic.

"Our commitment to better connectivity continues! Namma Metro Pink Line connecting Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara will be operational by May 2026," Shivakumar said. "This 13.76 km stretch will ease traffic and strengthen north-south connectivity across Bengaluru," he added.

'Karnataka controlled by two mediocre sons'

BENGALURU

BJP MP Lahar Singh Siroya on Monday attacked Minister Priyank Kharge and Congress MLC Yathindra Siddaramaiah, alleging that the state was being "controlled by two mediocre sons" who "stoke needless controversy" and "ride roughshod over all seniors" in their party and in the government.

He alleged that despite being "arrogant" and violating their own high command's guidelines, they are tolerated. "One is not sure if the two act independently or are mouthpieces of their fathers? From my many political interactions, I have learnt that the two sons are intensely disliked by their own partymen. They are being tolerated because their fathers are in power. The moment their fathers step down, I am told, the reality for these two sons may become very different. If one son now acts like a super Congress President, the other acts like a super Chief Minister," Siroya said in a

post on X.

Priyank Kharge is the son of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, while Yathindra is the son of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. The BJP MP claimed that, despite all the controversies, both their fathers don't seem to have the ability to stop them or correct them.

"Perhaps they secretly enjoy their dominance in the party and government, and use them as tools to communicate and accomplish what they cannot say or do directly," he said.

Taking a dig at Priyank Kharge, the BJP MP said the minister constantly makes ideological statements on the RSS and BJP, which is more in tune with Rahul Gandhi's "hate-filled" language.

"This indirectly earns brownie points for Kharge Senior with the Nehru-Gandhi family and helps him survive in Delhi. Kharge Junior has become a kind of guru to the Siddaramaiah government on ideological matters," he alleged.

Akshayakalpa Organic launches high-protein milk

BENGALURU

AKSHAYAKALPA Organic on Monday launched high-protein milk, further expanding its portfolio that includes high-protein paneer, peanut and ragi-based snacks. The new variant is part of the company's ongoing efforts to make clean, functional nutrition accessible to Indian consumers, it said in a statement.

The high-protein milk will be available across Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Chennai, and can be ordered through the Akshayakalpa App and on Swiggy throughout November,



the company said. Produced from fresh organic cow milk and developed using ultrafiltration technology, the new high-protein milk delivers 25 grams of protein per 250 ml serving and is lactose-free. The milk is also free from antibiotic

preservatives, and added hormones, it said.

"It is designed to be gentle on the gut and easy to digest, offering consumers a healthy option that can be consumed directly from the pack or used in smoothies, cereals, and beverages," the company said. Shashi Kumar, Founder and CEO of Akshayakalpa Organic, said, "Protein is one of the most critical nutrients for long-term health, yet most Indian diets do not provide enough of it. With the launch of our high-protein milk, we are strengthening our commitment to clean, functional nutrition."

NEW DELHI

INDIA'S white-collar job market in October 2025 showed notable strength in education, accounting and finance, BPO/ITES, and specialised tech roles despite a slowdown in recruitment during the Diwali-Dussehra holidays, a report said on Monday. The report from recruitment platform

India's white collar hiring strong in October

Naukri said that India's white-collar hiring experienced a 3 per cent year-on-year growth when adjusted for the 'holiday effect' from the festive calendar shift. The Naukri JobSpeak Index recorded 2,480 points dur-

ing the month, marking a 9 per cent year-on-year dip, as the Diwali-Dussehra festive cluster temporarily slowed recruitment momentum. While the festive season led to a broad-based slowdown, sectors such as accounting and finance (up 15 per cent YoY), education (up 13 per cent), and BPO/ITES (up 6 per cent) defied the trend with positive growth.

FAN MURDER CASE

Court frames charges against Darshan, 16 others

BENGALURU

Accused plead innocence

A Karnataka court on Monday framed the charges against jailed Kannada superstar Darshan, his partner Pavithra Gowda, and 15 other accused in the sensational fan murder case.

Darshan and all other accused denied all charges against them in the case of the gruesome murder of his fan Renukaswamy here on June 8, 2024. Renukaswamy was kidnapped from his hometown, Chitradurga, brought to Bengaluru, kept

in a shed, and tortured to death.

After the murder, his body was thrown into a canal. The incident came to light after the security personnel of a private apartment building saw the body being dragged by a pack of dogs.

Judge Erappanna Pavadi Naik read out the charges against Darshan, Pavithra Gowda, and the other accused and sought their response. The court also asked

them to confirm whether they were able to hear the charges clearly.

Subsequently, the judge announced that the date for the trial would be fixed on November 10 and adjourned the matter. The jail authorities had produced Darshan, Pavithra Gowda and other accused before the court. Tight security arrangements were made in the premises of the 64th CCH Court, with additional police force de-



puted. Initially, the judge directed that the advocates concerned with the case should only be present, or he would adjourn the matter, questioning where he would make the 17 accused persons stand while beginning the process of framing of charges. He had also directed the lawyers overcrowding the court hall to step out.

Darshan is facing the charge of murder under IPC Section 302, while he has been booked for causing fatal injuries under Section 355, under Section 120-b for

criminal conspiracy, Section 204 for attempting to destroy evidence, and Section 359 for kidnapping. He is also booked under Sections 143, 147, 148 and 149 for illegal gathering and other charges.

Darshan was released from prison on October 30, 2024, after spending 131 days in custody.

Following the appeal by Karnataka Police, the Supreme Court has cancelled the bail and Darshan, his partner Pavithra Gowda, and others were re-arrested.

CALL it a superstition or by any other name, number 13 is generally presumed to be an unlucky number. But to the Indian women cricketers it was the 13th edition of the ICC Women's World Cup 2025 that provided the icing on the cake; the realisation of a decades-long dream. In many ways, the crème-la-la-crème was much like the historic day (June 25, 1983) when Kapil Dev's 'nowhere in the hunt' unsung team gave a major push to cricket back home with a stunning showing that propelled India into the big league. It is likewise with November 2, 2025, which will go down in history as a momentous day for Indian cricket, thanks to the stunning exploits of Harman's Angels (we can't think of a better sobriquet to Kapil's Devils). It was the providential third time lucky

Harman's Angels cast a spell for ages

for Indian women. Poetic justice was rendered in Navi Mumbai on a magnificent Sunday after the 'so near so far' syndrome had jinxed the team twice over in the 2005 and 2017 finals of the Women's World Cup. Meanwhile, unlike the men, Indian women had to fight two adversaries --their opponents and the naysayers. Their coming on top in the first category will hopefully silence the naysayers and the prophets of doom, once and for all.

Based on past performances vis-à-vis World Cup outings, India had the psychological edge while going into the championship clash considering that their opponents South Africa were in the finals for the first time and India was playing its third

and that too on home soil. Now that Indian women have proved that they are second to none, including in the game's shorter version, and once the euphoria sinks in, the players must start regrouping themselves rather than basking in the new-found glory. After all, uneasy lies the head that wears the crown. Towards this, they must hit the ground after they are through with a well-deserved break. It is quite ironic that the team began to blossom somewhere in the middle of the championship and peaked in the matches that mattered the most, the semifinals and the championship clash in which they came up with a clinical performance that dashed the last hurrah hopes

of South African captain Laura Wolvaardt and took India to the pinnacle of glory.

Meanwhile, the BCCI has done well by announcing an overwhelming Rs 51 crore to Harmanpreet and her girls for lifting cricket's most cherished trophy. Beginning tomorrow, the nation will be baffled to notice how opportunistically calculating can men players, celebrities and politicians be. The very people who shunned women cricketers all these years will go all out to be 'seen' with them and be captured in photographs with the newly crowned queens. A redeeming feature was at the DY Patil stadium that was packed to capacity. However, barring former India

captains Sachin Tendulkar and Rohit Sharma, there was no celebrity worth the name to cheer for the Indian gladiators among the audience. It was only Sunil Gavaskar who pepped up the team's morale while assuring a jamming session with the star of the semifinal conquest of defending champion Australia, Jemimah Rodrigues if India wins their maiden World Cup. A touching moment in the post-match event was Harmanpreet's thanksgiving bow to coach Amol Majumdar. Having scripted a new chapter after breaking the barrier, the girls must concentrate on consolidating their position hereafter. Diana Eduljee, was undoubtedly speaking for millions, with her remark, "I've waited for this since 2017... This is the 1983 moment for us..." Hope springs eternal.

LETTERS

Road mishaps expose systemic negligence

The tragic road accident in Rangareddy district that claimed 19 lives, coming barely weeks after the Kurnool accident which killed 19, is deeply unfortunate and distressing. Road accidents and the resultant loss of precious lives are becoming disturbingly frequent across the country. Ironically, despite repeated fatalities, authorities have failed to take effective measures to curb the road menace. Enforcement of traffic rules remain dismal and compliance among motorists is alarmingly low. Over speeding, reckless driving, and disregard for basic safety norms continue unabated as there is no appropriate check mechanism. It is imperative that stringent actions be initiated—strong law enforcement, awareness campaigns, and improved infrastructure—to ensure road safety.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, Bengaluru-56

A ghastly road accident

WITHIN a short gap, two ghastly road accidents have occurred in the two Telugu states. Around 19 persons died near Kurnool city when the bus they were travelling in caught fire on October 24. The second one that also claimed 19 lives happened early Monday morning at Mir-jaguda in Rangareddy district. This apparently occurred after a TGSRTC bus was rammed into by gravel-laden truck. Wherever the road accidents occur, the reasons generally attributed as over speed, overload, drunk and drive, pathetic roads, invisible sign boards, driving under stress or when feeling drowsy. Sadly, the governments which are in hurry to announce ex gratia never focus on coming up with corrective measures.

Pratapa Reddy Yaramala, Tiruvuru (AP)

Decades of toil bears fruit

Indian women's maiden ODI World Cup triumph is not only a stupendous achievement but also historic coming as it did after several decades of toiling and grooming. This cup of joy should remain in India forever as there is no dearth of talent in our country. Previously nepotism played a crucial role in the selection of the team. Things changed after the NDA assumed office in 2014. Slowly but surely the team gelled well and reached its goal rather easily. In fact the emphatic win against Australia in the semifinal, cemented our team's chances. Institutional encouragement and support from the government did the trick in building the players' confidence. The standout performance in the final was from Shafali Verma. The women cricketers did India proud. Hearty congratulations to the team and India!

Govardhana Myneedu, Vijayawada

A shot in the arm for women's cricket in India

CONGRATULATIONS to the Indian women's cricket team for winning the Women's World Cup 2025 after beating South Africa by 52 Runs. It was an emphatic victory for the Women in Blue. The journey to the final was quite inspirational as they defeated title favourite Australia in the semifinals. Shafali Verma and Smriti Mandhana stood with their partnership. Verma also came good with the ball while scalping two batters. Deepti Sharma was quite sensational with the bat and ball. It was a night filled with excitement and drama. The DY Patil stadium in Navi Mumbai had a capacity crowd which was cheering every shot played by the host players. Our team's incredible is testimony to the progress made by the team over the years. This win will change the future of women's cricket in India.

Parimala G Tadas, Hyderabad-50

Magnificent Indian women

IN a great show, 11 Indian women rewrote history by winning their maiden ICC Women's World Cup by defeating South Africa by 52 runs in Sunday's final. They made tryst with destiny, so to say. November 2, 2025, will be written in golden letters in the history of India. Much alike June 25, 1983, when Kapil's Devils won the first ODI World Cup for India. Shafali Verma won the 'player of the final match' award for her quickfire 87 runs (in 78 balls) and two wickets. Equally outstanding was South African captain Wolvaardt's century.

PVP Madhu Nivriti, Secunderabad-61

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BENGALURU ONLINE

'Two mediocre sons control K'taka'

BENGALURU: BJP MP Lahar Singh Siroya on Monday attacked Minister Priyank Kharge and Congress MLC Yathindra Siddaramaiah, alleging that the state was being "controlled by two mediocre sons" who "stoke needless controversy" and "ride roughshod over all seniors" in their party and in the government.

He alleged that despite being "arrogant" and violating their own high command's guidelines, they are tolerated. "One is not sure if the two act independently or are mouthpieces of their fathers? From my many political interactions, I have learnt that the two sons are intensely disliked by their own partymen. They are being tolerated because their fathers are in power. The moment their fathers step down, I am told, the reality for these two sons may become very different. If one son now acts like a super Congress President, the other acts like a super Chief Minister," Siroya said in a post on 'X'.

Priyank Kharge is the son of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, while Yathindra is the son of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. The BJP MP claimed that, despite all the controversies, both their fathers don't seem to have the ability to stop them or correct them.

"Perhaps they secretly enjoy their dominance in the party and government, and use them as tools to communicate and accomplish what they cannot say or do directly," he said. Taking a dig at Priyank Kharge, the BJP MP said the minister constantly makes ideological statements on the RSS and BJP, which is more in tune with Rahul Gandhi's "hate-filled" language. "This indirectly earns brownie points for Kharge Senior with the Nehru-Gandhi family and helps him survive in Delhi. Kharge Junior has become a kind of guru to the Siddaramaiah government on ideological matters," he alleged.

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

The new criminal law is compelling disclosure of sources



DR MADABHUSHI SRIDHAR ACHARYULU

All rules under the Data Act (DPDPA), including questions, apprehensions and queries revolving around pre-censorship that curbs freedom of press are taking one back in time to the dark days of Emergency. As things stand, the Centre, the ministry, its officers and staff pose a threat to Article 19(1)(a) in particular, and to the Constitution of India, in general.

New pre-censorship: Blocking news site

A journalist body rights contends "Repeated non-compliance can ultimately attract blocking under the IT Act, read with Section 37 DPDPA (blocking for data-protection reasons). Will MEITY commit to seeking prior judicial authorisation before any news site is disabled?

Secondly, journalists can forget public interest reporting and kill small newsrooms. What is the quantifiable threshold of non-compliances before blocking action is initiated? When deciding penalties, Section 33 directs the Board to consider factors such as the "nature, gravity and duration" of the breach. Given that honest public-interest reporting may involve leaked data, how will proportionality be guaranteed so fines do not have a chilling effect on smaller

newsrooms and individuals engaged in journalistic activity?

Third points to killing journalism through two enactments: MEITY obtaining DPDPA's consent and meeting requirements with statutory privileges under the Press and Registration of Periodicals Act and the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) Act remain a source for debate.

The fourth point is about getting attacked in the name of the Information Technology Act. Given that the Central Government has been empowered to block information/content under Section 69A of the IT Act, what is the purpose behind including Section 37(1)(b) that creates another parallel blocking regime that further empowers the Central Government to issue blocking directions under the DP-DPA framework?

Scribes cannot pay heavy penalty:

Every rule is dangerous due to the penalty clause. The society should realise that a real threat is from the proposed penalty clause of Rs 250 crore, which can go up to Rs 500 crore against an individual or entity if the DPDPA Board appointed by the government deems fit. This effectively can close the gates of information, journalism and freedom of speech and expression. In short, it will kill a significant part of the Constitution.

Child 'Data Act':

There is a 'child data' law, though adults suffer. Implementation of the 'child data' law can be draconian. Generally, rules under a statute (an Act) should not create substantive legal problems. They are expected to help ease the difficulties in understanding and implemen-

tation of the law.

But then, Draft Rule 10(1) forces outlets to obtain age-verified parental consent before processing a child's data. How should people involved in journalistic activity or media organisations cover issues affecting minors in real-time without breaching this rule?

Revealing sources:

Media has always debated about protecting resources of reporting. It is not just an ethical question but a serious criminal point. The flashpoint is in 'revealing sources' and it gives sweeping powers to the Union Government. Journalist bodies and activists fear that clauses granting the government broad powers could be misused to unmask confidential sources. Besides pre-censorship, together with 'compelling the resource of reporting the news' will be more draconian than the '1975 Emergency' phase.

Since ages 'revealing sources' were protected as ethical and legal principles in democracies. Exceptions can only be in some compelling legal situations. Journalists' sources are revealed when their identities are exposed, either through their own voluntary disclosure or by being forced by legal authorities, which can happen in court if the information pertains to a crime or other legal proceedings. Sources are revealed when legal protections are absent, or when a journalist cannot or will not use legal or technological methods to keep them anonymous. Source protection is vital, as without it, people would be deterred from sharing public interest information with journalists.

Members from the Press Club of India (PCI) and the Indian Women Press Corps



The society should realise that a real threat is from the proposed penalty clause of Rs 250 crore, which can go up to Rs 500 crore against an individual or entity if the DPDPA Board appointed by the government deems fit. This effectively can close the gates of information, journalism and freedom of speech and expression. In short, it will kill a significant part of the Constitution.

(IWPC) have raised worries over the consequences of the Digital Personal Data Privacy (DPDP) Act, 2023, and the rules thereof. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeiTy) is yet to reply to media representations and the serious apprehensions. This is how threats to journalism emanate from the Data Act. The press bodies' pointed out: Clause (c) of sub-section (7) under Section 28 and Section 36 give the Data Protection Board and the Central Government sweeping powers to call for "any data, book, document, register, and book of account or any other document."

Now, investigative journalism largely relies on "source-based information" or leads provided by whistleblowers. Given the wide range of powers that have been vested in the Data Protection Board, it can very well demand a person involved in journalistic activity or media organisation to reveal the "source".

In that case, what are the protections available to a person involved in journalistic activity and media organisations from revealing a

"source" under the Act?

No editorial independence?

Draft Rule 6(g) demands "appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure effective observance of security safeguards" and can be enforced by the Board. What limits will be set so that inspections do not morph into newsroom searches, jeopardising editorial independence remains unknown?

Whistle-blower and a bleak future!

Draft Rule 7 obliges a data fiduciary to alert every affected person after a leak. If a whistle-blower leaks wrongdoing inside a company, PSU, government department, etc., must the person involved in journalistic activity or the newsroom notify the very officials under investigation, thereby exposing its source?

Consent management:

The draft rules allow the Board to suspend or cancel a consent manager's registration and compel information disclosure. If a media-run consent tool is

de-registered, is there an appeal platform, and how will the ongoing subscriptions be maintained?

Draft Rule 6 requires encryption, extensive logging and one-year log retention. What financial or technical assistance will be offered to small, independent outlets that cannot afford enterprise-grade infrastructure?

Section 7(b) allows data processing by the state to provide state benefits. Rule 5 explicitly lets the State reuse personal data to deliver subsidies without consent, subject only to minimal standards. What safeguards will prevent such "lawful" data-sharing from being repurposed to identify or retaliate against critical journalists?

Why is it only in India?

"Worldwide, such laws exempt journalists, and our endeavour is also to ensure that this Act also exempts the professional work of journalists. We are hoping to seek an appointment with the minister concerned for a meeting at the earliest to take forward the joint decisions taken at the open meeting on the matter," stated Gautam Lahiri, president of PCI, on X. The Press Club of India and 21 media organisations have submitted a joint memorandum to Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, urging the exclusion of journalistic work from the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act. In addition, the civil society should study the detailed press notes of PCI and IWPC, which seek the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeiTy) to address the serious problems stemming from the DPDP Act.

(The writer is a former Central Information Commissioner, and presently Professor, School of Law, Mahindra University, Hyderabad)

Air pollution: Cloud seeding is not the solution



DR SRIDARALA RAMU

CLOUD seeding is the Cprocess of artificially inducing rainfall. To provide relief from air pollution in Delhi after Diwali, the Delhi government, in collaboration with IIT-Kanpur, conducted cloud seeding on October 28. Due to atmospheric heat, water from oceans, rivers, lakes, and other water bodies evaporates into vapor. The process of converting vapor into liquid droplets is called condensation while the direct transformation of vapor into a solid is called deposition. Condensation occurs with the help of tiny particles suspended in the air. Examples include dust particles, other small particles, or volcanic ash. These tiny particles act as condensation nuclei. Water vapor gathers around these particles (condensation nu-

clei) and transforms into liquid droplets or ice crystals.

When many such liquid droplets or ice crystals accumulate, a cloud is formed. As the size and weight of these droplets or ice crystals increase, they fall to the earth as rain. This is how natural rainfall occurs.

Cloud seeding:

Clouds can naturally produce rain. But not all clouds result in rainfall. In cloud seeding, chemicals like silver iodide, dry ice, or salt act as artificial condensation nuclei. These substances are released into moisture-laden clouds using aircraft, rockets, or ground-based generators. The nuclei help form sufficient liquid droplets or ice crystals, increasing their size and weight, thereby inducing artificial rainfall.

Like a car with a working engine and fuel that may not start due to a weak battery and needs a push, cloud seeding works when clouds and sufficient moisture are present, but rain does not occur naturally.

Clouds may not always produce rain:

Cloud seeding does not



work under clear skies. Insufficient number of condensation nuclei to convert water vapor into droplets or ice crystals. Cloud seeding aims to address such critical issues.

How can human activities affect clouds?

Research shows that aerosols released into the atmosphere due to air pollution affect cloud formation and can inhibit rainfall. Aerosols prevent water droplets in clouds from merging into larger, heavier droplets. As a result, the droplets remain very small and continue to float in the atmosphere. Thus, air

pollution from urban and industrial activities significantly impacts rainfall patterns.

Why the experiment failed in Delhi?

Cloud seeding works only when clouds have around 50 per cent or more humidity. However, in the Delhi experiment, the targeted clouds had only 15-20 per cent humidity, according to Manindra Agrawal, Director of IIT, Kanpur, which partnered with the government for the project. He stated that a chemical mixture of common salt, rock salt, and silver iodide was used.

According to the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, although cloud seeding trials are usually conducted for drought management, this was the first indigenous attempt to use the method for air pollution control, Agrawal noted.

Where has cloud seeding worked?

Over 50 countries, including Saudi Arabia, the United States, Israel, Indonesia, and Australia, have conducted cloud seeding projects at some point. Some achieved good results, while others saw little or no success.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is noted as one of the most successful countries in cloud seeding. It conducts operations annually to increase rainfall and combat severe water scarcity. Reports indicate rainfall increased by 10 to 30 per cent in some areas.

China's success:

During the 2008 Beijing Olympics, China successfully used cloud seeding to create favourable weather conditions. To prevent rain during the opening and closing ceremonies, clouds were

"emptied" in advance. China launched over 1,100 rockets from several locations, using silver iodide for cloud seeding. This subsequently delayed rainfall in Beijing and resulted in clear skies.

Adverse effects:

Cloud seeding can interfere with naturally occurring rainfall. The chemicals used may alter the concentration of other atmospheric gases. Artificially inducing rain in one area can disrupt weather balance in nearby regions, potentially reducing rainfall nearby. In some cases, cloud seeding has led to sudden heavy rainfall, resulting in floods.

Scientists warn that cloud seeding is not a permanent solution to Delhi's air pollution. While it may provide short-term relief, it does not address the root causes of pollution. Even if artificial rain is successful, it may clear the air for only a few hours or days—a temporary fix. Therefore, it is important to implement long-term strategies to tackle air pollution.

(The writer is a Chemistry and Environmental Sciences faculty)

Harassment allegations rock SV University

- Four girl students accuse Psychology prof, campus erupts in protest
- Student unions storm rector's chamber demanding action
- V-C assures suspension of prof after protest turns tense

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI

TENSION prevailed on Sri Venkateswara University (SVU) campus after four girl students from the Department of Psychology lodged a complaint with registrar Prof M Bhupathi Naidu, alleging that Prof S Viswanatha Reddy had been harassing them and encouraging senior students to rag them.

According to reports, attempts were initially made to resolve the matter quietly by involving the wardens of the ladies' hostel to medi-



Students protesting in SVU rector's chamber on Monday. Rector Prof Ch Appa Rao and registrar Prof M Bhupathi Naidu are also seen.

ate a compromise. However, when student organisations learned of the incident, they staged a protest in front of the Registrar's office demanding immediate action.

Amid the unrest, Rector Prof Ch Appa Rao allegedly called the victims to his chamber on Monday and tried to persuade them to reconcile with the profes-

sor, which further enraged student groups. The protesters reportedly broke open the doors of the Rector's chamber and confronted the officials. Following discussions with student leaders, the registrar and rector suspended the senior students involved and assured further action. The registrar also informed that vice-chancellor, currently in Delhi, had been apprised of the matter and agreed to set up an inquiry committee to investigate the allegations. Police were called to the spot as the protest intensified, resulting in minor injuries to several student leaders during scuffles. The protest was called off after the administration promised to suspend Prof Viswanatha Reddy once the vice-chancellor returns on Wednesday.

Leaders from SFI, AISE, NSUI, NLSA, GNS, and JBSF took part in the agitation.

AP WILL INK MOUS WORTH ₹9.8 LAKH CRORE: LOKESH

Continued from P1

Every MoU is a commitment to the dreams of our youth. Choosing AP means choosing speed, trust, and opportunity grounded in Telugu pride and built for global leadership."

The Minister said the upcoming summit will mark a new phase in the state's industrial growth, bringing together 300 global industrial leaders from 45 countries, 72 international speakers, 48 business sessions, and 22 technical sessions. He noted that Andhra

Pradesh has attracted Rs 10 lakh crore investments in the past 16 months, driven by "the speed of doing business, visionary leadership, and double-engine governance." Major global corporations, including Google, ArcelorMittal, TCS, Cognizant, Premier Energy, and BPCL, have confirmed large-scale investments, with Google lining up the largest FDI investment in India's history and ArcelorMittal pledging Rs 1.5 lakh crore. BPCL is set to invest Rs 1 lakh crore in

Nellore district, he pointed out. The Chief Minister and senior ministers are visiting several counties to meet top executives and government officials to showcase Andhra Pradesh's development initiatives and invite global participation in the summit. The government has initiated comprehensive coordination across departments to ensure the success of the event, which is expected to reaffirm Andhra Pradesh's leadership in India's industrial and investment landscape.

PM sees RJD-Cong plot to alter demographic balance in Bihar

Continued from P1

He alleged that the RJD and the Congress are putting the future of Bihar at risk and endangering "your children, including daughters".

Modi alleged that the two parties were evidently fond of "kattar panthis" (extremists) and "kattas" (country-made pistols).

"But the people must decide whether they can let the infiltrators demand a share in their entitlements," he said.

Hinduja Group set to invest ₹20k cr in AP

Continued from P1

To complement EV manufacturing, a statewide EV charging network will be developed to accelerate green transportation. The company is also exploring the development of an electric mobility hub in Anantapur, Kurnool, and Amaravati, integrating manufacturing, logistics, and research and development capabilities.

CM Naidu welcomed the Hinduja Group's initiative, calling it a "transformative partnership" that aligns with the government's vision of sustainable industrialization. "This collaboration will generate thousands of jobs and position Andhra Pradesh as India's green energy and EV hub," Naidu said, announcing the creation of a fast-track approval window for Hinduja's projects.

In a statement on social media, Naidu wrote, "Delighted to announce the signing of an MoU between Andhra Pradesh and the Hinduja Group, marking a cumulative investment of Rs 20,000 crore to accelerate our state's industrial and clean energy growth."

The Chief Minister's Lon-

don visit also included a series of high-level meetings with global industry leaders. He met Nikki Grady-Smith, Group chief transformation officer of Rolls-Royce, to explore partnerships in aerospace manufacturing, Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facilities, and small modular reactor-based energy solutions for data centers and defense infrastructure.

Naidu also discussed renewable energy, data analytics, and smart grid collaboration with Chris Fitzgerald, Group director of international affairs, Octopus Energy. Further meetings were held with Shailesh Hiranandani, Chairman of SRAM & MRAM Group, and Sampath Kumar Mallaya, Chairman of Samco Holding Ltd., who expressed interest in setting up semiconductor fabrication, advanced packaging, and battery energy storage units in Andhra Pradesh.

The Chief Minister emphasized that Andhra Pradesh's visionary leadership, proactive governance, and industrial infrastructure have positioned it as a preferred destination for global investors.

VOTER LIST CLEANUP IN 12 STATES BEGINS TODAY

Continued from P1

Among these, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala, and West Bengal will go to the polls in 2026. In Assam, another state where polls are due in 2026, the revision of electoral rolls will be announced separately as a Supreme Court-supervised exercise to verify citizenship is underway in the state.

Also, a separate provision of the Citizenship Act applied to Assam. "Under the Citizenship Act, there are separate provisions for citizenship in Assam. Under the supervision of the Supreme Court, the exercise of checking citizenship is about to be completed.

The June 24 SIR order

was for the entire country. Under such circumstances, this would not have applied to Assam," Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar said on October 27 while announcing the latest phase of SIR. "So, there will be separate revision orders issued for Assam, and a separate SIR date will be announced," he said. SIR will begin on November 4 with the enumeration stage and continue till December 4.

The EC will release the draft electoral rolls on December 9, and the final electoral rolls will be published on February 7.

The ongoing SIR is the ninth such exercise since independence, with the last one conducted in 2002-04.

Brookfield's AP projects get ₹7,500-cr REC boost

Continued from P1

The total projected cost is estimated at Rs 9,910 crore, marking the single largest REC sanction ever extended to a private-sector project.

"REC has sanctioned a record Rs 7,500 crore funding for Brookfield's 1,040 MW hybrid renewable energy project at Kurnool, comprising 640 MW of wind and 400 MW of solar capacity," a TDP statement said.

The project is being developed by Evren, a clean-energy platform jointly launched by Brookfield and Axis Energy. Evren has already lined up over 3 GW of renewable power projects across Kurnool and Anantapur, as part of Brookfield's broader 8,000 MW pipeline in Andhra Pradesh involving a total investment of Rs 50,000 crore.

Reacting to the development, IT Minister Nara Lokesh said the state is fast emerging as a renewable energy hub. "Andhra Pradesh is rapidly emerging as India's renewable energy hub. We are delighted to partner with global leaders like Brookfield in building the next generation of sustainable infrastructure that creates jobs, drives industrial growth, and strengthens our energy security," Lokesh said.



IT and HRD Minister Nara Lokesh with Brookfield Global President Connor Teskey in London in August 2025 (File photo)

Let Jagan also take oath before Goddess: Lokesh

HANS NEWS SERVICE
UNDAVALLI

REFERRING to the oath taken by former minister and YSRCP leader Jogi Ramesh at the abode of Goddess Kanakadurga, minister Nara Lokesh said that he was also ready to take oath provided former chief minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy also

takes oath in the presence of Goddess.

Addressing the media at his camp office here on Monday, Lokesh said, "The opposition leaders are seeking action against Kasibugga temple trustee, who is 94-year-old gentleman. He profusely apologised for the mishap and said that he never anticipated such large

turnout of devotees. What is the point in punishing him by putting him in jail?"

"The government acted immediately and a number of ministers including me went and presented ex gratia cheques to the bereaved families," he recalled.

The previous government caused enormous loss to the exchequer and to the

consumers by revoking the power purchase agreements, he recalled. "No sane person would cancel the PPAs," he opined stating that the government was still struggling to overcome that crisis. He said that it was a point of pride that the government reduced the tariff by 13 paise which was done by no other state government.

19 killed in Chevella truck-RTC bus smash

Continued from P1

The tipper, driven by Kamle Akash from Maharashtra, was found to be speeding after overtaking multiple vehicles before veering into the bus's lane, resulting in the ghastly impact. The drivers of both the vehicles, apart from 17 passengers, died on the spot.

The gravity of the collision was such that half the bus was filled with gravel, trapping passengers inside. The authorities deployed heavy earth-moving equipment to extricate passengers and clear the wreckage of the ill-fated bus. Eyewitnesses at the chaotic scene described passengers trapped amid loads of gravel, with screams filling the air as they struggled to get help.

The rescue teams immediately began performing CPR and moving the critically wounded to the Vikarabad Government Hospital and PMR Hospitals, where the medical staff continued the emergency treatment. Chevella Inspector Sridhar sustained minor injuries during the rescue operation after an excavator ran over his leg, a police official said.

A doctor at the government hospital in Chevella said the accident victims suffered fractures, facial, abdominal and leg injuries. The injured passengers are undergoing treatment, including administration of IV fluid and TT injections, while some have been referred to major state-run hospitals in Hyderabad.

Recalling the horrific incident, a survivor said he was dozing in the bus when a loud thud jolted him awake, leaving him half-buried in gravel. "Several people were buried under the gravel. The tipper lorry came from the opposite direction. I was seated on the left side of the bus. We managed to climb out, but those who were sitting behind the driver couldn't make it — some of them died. I was seated three rows behind the conductor," he said. He

further said he opened a window and escaped, with six others following. Later, another person broke the windowpanes to free more passengers.

The confirmed names of the deceased are: Dasyam Nagamani, 55, from Karnataka; Tara Bai, 45, housewife from Vikarabad; Thabusam Jahan, 38 from Tandur; Gurralla Akhila, 22, student from Laxminagarapur Village; Panugula Kalpana, 45, from - Nallagandla - Hyderabad; Hanmanthu, 35 from Doulthabad, Gogula Gunamma, 60, from Hyderabad, Shaik Khalid Hussain, 76, from Tandur; Taliya Begum from Tandur; a 10-month-old baby girl; Nandini, 18, student from Tandur; Sai Priya, MBA student from Tandur; Thanusha, degree final year student from Tandur; Muskan from Tandur; and Kudugunta Bandappa, 42, from Vikarabad, aside from the drivers of the two vehicles. Most of the passengers were from Tandur.

Cyberabad Police Commissioner Avinash Mahanti confirmed that the bus driver Dastagiri (37) and the tipper driver Kamle Akash died in the crash. Noting that a head-on collision occurs when one of the vehicles is on the wrong side, he said the cause of the accident would be known after the inquiry.

The bus conductor, Radha, sustained injuries.

Commissioner Mahanti highlighted that technical issues on the road due to ongoing construction work may have contributed to the accident. The bodies of the deceased have been dispatched to their respective native places after postmortem.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the tipper's dangerous overtaking manoeuvres at high speed primarily caused the collision. The accident site remains sealed off as forensic teams are gathering evidence and the authorities are working to identify any lapses in traffic management.

UNBEARABLE HEARTBREAK

Three sisters from Tandur die in mishap

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD



YELLAIAH Goud, who saw off his three daughters at the Tandur bus station early on Monday, never knew that it would be his final farewell to them, as the bus they boarded for Hyderabad met with a fatal accident near Chevella on the way, killing all of them on the spot.

The three sisters - Tanusha, Saipriya and Nandini - who were staying in Hyderabad, were among the 19 killed after the ill-fated bus collided with a gravel-laden tipper. Saipriya was a third year BSc student and Nandini first year BCom, while Tanusha completed her graduation and was doing a part-time job. Goud, who works as a driver, said the three sisters came to attend a wedding in Tandur.

"I told my wife not to call the children for the wedding. However, she called them without my knowledge," he said, crying inconsolably. The family conducted their elder daughter's marriage on October 17. The

trio attended the sister's marriage and returned to Hyderabad.

Again, they came back to Tandur to attend a wedding of a family friend, he said. Goud's wife, Ambika, was looking devastated at the government hospital at Chevella where the bodies were brought in following the accident.

A large number of people gathered at their house in Gandhinagar in Tandur and consoled the family members after the news of the three sisters' untimely demise broke out.

A neighbour of Goud said that the sisters were very bright students. Veeranari Chakali Iamma Women's University Principal Loka Pavani told reporters that three students of the institute died in the accident. Besides Saipriya and Nandini, another student Muskan, a BSc student, was killed in the ghastly accident.

India backing high-risk R&D projects: PM

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched a Rs 1 lakh crore fund to spur private sector investment in research and development and announced that his government was now supporting high-risk and high-impact projects, as India aims to emerge as a science and technology powerhouse.

Inaugurating the first-ever Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC), the annual flagship event involving policymakers, innovators and global visionaries, Modi said his government has introduced significant reforms for a modern ecosystem of innovation to flourish in the country.

The Prime Minister said the world was witnessing a new shift in the global order and

the pace of change was exponential. "In this time of the 21st century, there is a great need for experts from all over the world to come together to brainstorm on emerging science, technology and innovation, and together they should show the direction," said Modi, giving the reasons for hosting the Conclave, which will be an annual feature.

At the conclave, the Prime Minister also launched the Rs 1 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation Fund to spur private sector investment in the domain. "This significant investment is aimed at benefiting the public and unlocking new avenues of opportunity. Our goal is to foster a culture of research and development within the private sector as well," he said.

SC to deal digital arrests with an iron hand

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday expressed shock over the fact that victims across India have collectively lost nearly Rs 3,000 crore to the digital arrests scam.

Hearing a suo motu case initiated to curb the surge in online scams and impersonation rackets, a Bench comprising Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi described the situation as "shocking" and stressed the need for urgent and stringent judicial intervention.

"It's shocking that almost Rs 3,000 crores have been collected from victims in

our country alone. If we ignore it right now and are not able to pass harsh and stringent orders, the problem will magnify. We are determined to deal with it with iron hands," Justice Kant observed after pursuing the sealed cover notes submitted by investigating agencies.

The court was apprised that these scams often involve cybercriminals posing as law enforcement officers, coercing victims, particularly senior citizens, into transferring large sums of money under false pretexts of criminal charges or investigations.

From Kadapa to the World Cup: The inspiring journey of Sree Charani

- Only woman cricketer from AP to represent India in the World Cup 2025
- Poverty couldn't stop her; grit, passion and hard work made her a world champion

HANS NEWS SERVICE
KADAPA



ther, Chandrasekhar Reddy, worked as a junior employee at the Rayalaseema Thermal Power Project financial struggles and initial family opposition posed major hurdles. Yet, with the support of her uncle Kishore Kumar Reddy, she stayed focused on her dream.

Initially drawn to badminton, kabaddi, and athletics, Sree Charani took up cricket seriously only at the age of 16. She began as a fast bowler but later transitioned into a

left-arm orthodox spinner, a move that changed her destiny.

Within just two years, her impressive performances in the Women's Premier League (WPL) earned her a spot on the national team. From dusty grounds in Kadapa to the grand pitches of the World Cup, Sree Charani's journey proves that dreams backed by courage and hard work can indeed rewrite history inspiring millions across India.

‘Navarasa’: A mesmerising journey through the nine emotions of Bharatanatyam



ANNA RAO GANGAVALLI

An entrancing ‘Baithak’ or chamber concert at the Raw Mango Showroom in Banjara Hills recently featured the Bharatanatyam ballet ‘Navarasa’, created by Padma Shri Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant.

Rasa is an emotion felt by the audience — an experience they undergo when they watch a performance, painting, or any form of art. These rasas are classified into nine, as per Indian aesthetic theory. In the ‘Natyashastra’ of Bharata Muni, each of these emotions is associated with a particular colour — ‘Roudra’ (red), ‘Bhayanaka’ (black), ‘Adbhuta’ (yellow), ‘Bhishatsa’ (dark blue), ‘Veera’ (orange), ‘Karuna’ (grey), ‘Shringara’ (green), and ‘Shanta’ (colourless). These form the basic tenets of Indian art — whether dance, music, or painting.

Usually, in a dance recital, the emotions are anchored to the lyrics or storyline. However, if the story is unfamiliar, the audience may not be able to grasp the emotion. Sometimes, an event is not

strictly necessary to trigger a mood — it could be spontaneous laughter, anger, or tears. The challenge of conveying these rasas without a storyline inspired Ananda in envisioning this production. This was the genesis of the idea behind the ballet.

When the lyrics or ‘sahityam’ are omitted, pure music alone remains. The grammar of Bharatanatyam — pure ‘nritta’ — was explored through group dynamics to create visual framing that expressed emotions not limited to ‘abhinaya’ but encompassing the entire body as an instrument. The dancers began in pure white costumes, serving as a blank canvas on which various colours were projected using light. This visual imagery was masterfully designed by Surya Rao, creating a spectacular feat of lighting and imagination.

The Shankarananda Kalakshetra ensemble, led by Dr Ananda Shankar, included her disciples Sneha Magapu, Poojitha Namburi, Neha Sathanapalli, Srividya Sripathi, and Shreenidhi Ramaswamy.

The order of emotions was slightly altered, as



An intimate Baithak at the Raw Mango Showroom in Banjara Hills recently came alive with ‘Navarasa’, a Bharatanatyam ballet conceived and choreographed by Padma Shri Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant. Exploring the essence of nine human emotions as described in the ‘Natyashastra’, the performance was a vivid interplay of light, movement, and expression. Through pure dance and innovative visual imagery, Dr Ananda and her ensemble transformed rasa theory into an evocative experience for the audience

Ananda felt that anger, rather than love, is a more immediate and striking emotion. Thus, ‘Roudra Rasa’ in ‘Atana’ raga began the performance with a powerful start. Using ‘Shikhara’ and ‘Pataka’ hastas, the dancers moved strongly. A fiery red glow bathed the stage — evoking images of a mob in riot, with pulling, pushing, and tugging movements symbolising collective fury.

‘Bhayanaka Rasa’ in ‘Lavangi’ depicted fear as experienced differently by each person. The dancers were instructed to respond to imagined fears — some appearing stunned, others seeking to escape — creating a vivid tapestry of reactions through slow movements and expressive ‘abhinaya’.

‘Adbhuta Rasa’ or wonder was portrayed as a feeling of awe through buoyant, jumpy movements, where each dancer expressed individual astonishment that merged into a collective illusion of amazement.

‘Bhishatsa Rasa’ in ‘Varali’ followed, expressing disgust. The dancers moved as though navigating through dirty water after a monsoon

shower — carefully placing their steps, drawing their hands back with caution to avoid being sullied. The depiction captured the visceral essence of revulsion with grace and restraint.

‘Veera Rasa’ in ‘Amritavarshini’ showcased valour through grand, determined movements. Large, elaborate, and firm marching steps were performed both singly and in unison, giving the impression of a heroic procession, radiating courage and strength.

‘Karuna Rasa’ in ‘Dwi-jawanthi’ brought forth grief and sorrow. This emotion, difficult to portray convincingly, was visualised as a contagious wave of sadness moving from one dancer to another — expressed through circular turns and tender interactions. The scene captured the depth of human empathy and shared loss.

‘Hasya Rasa’ in ‘Kathanakuthohalam’ lightened the mood with humour. Through ‘adavus’ involving bends and stretches that contrasted each other, the dancers created comic effects without slipping into caricature. A delightful vignette featuring pup-

pets troubling their master added charm and wit to this segment.

‘Shringara Rasa’ in ‘Megh Malhar’ illustrated love — the state of being in love and the act of adornment. The dancers evoked subtle imagery of birds, bees, and blossoming joy, expressing tenderness and harmony without overemphasis, letting the emotion speak through graceful gestures and glances.

Finally, ‘Shanta Rasa’ in ‘Revati’ embodied peace and spiritual tranquillity. This concluding piece reflected meditative calmness, drawing the audience into stillness and introspection.

The music throughout served as a screen upon which the ‘nritta’ was projected, achieving the intended emotional impact to vivid applause. At the end of the performance, each saree used to signify the colour of a particular rasa was hung on a rack — the hanger holding all nine sarees, now a visual testament to the journey through emotion and art, standing as a symbol of completion and harmony. The music was composed by Prema Ramamurthy.

Saiyami Kher has tears of joy after women’s cricket team’s historic WC win

Actress Saiyami Kher was seen in tears of joy as the Women’s Indian Cricket Team brought the World Cup trophy home on the 2nd of November, 2025.

The actress shared a series of photos and videos on her social media, straight from the stadium where the match was held. Penning a detailed emotional caption, Kher wrote, “My love story with cricket began as an 8-year-old girl. I sat in front of the TV with my dad watching the Master bat. I was obsessed and completely consumed. But in a world of boys with bats, whenever I told them I wanted to play with them, I was laughed at. Their laughter stopped when I’d pick up the ball and bowl them out, one after another.

“Years later, in rooms full of men, when I spoke of cover drives and reverse swing, I saw that same smirk that silently said, ‘Oh. What do you know about cricket?’ From there to last night, in a packed DY Patil stadium where chants echoed for every girl in blue, I saw tears in the eyes of those same grown-up men who’d smirk. Our girls wrote the history of a battle that started in 1978 when we hosted the first WC.



experience at DY Patil.” Kher further wrote, “Our girls have shown us that the game belongs to everyone who loves it. Last night, ‘Chak De’ and ‘Maa Tujhe Salaam’ hit harder than any other time because these songs, these chants, weren’t just for the team. They were for every little girl who has said to herself, ‘Someday, I’ll play too.’

For the uninitiated, the Indian women’s cricket team created history by securing their maiden World Cup title after a nail-biting win against South Africa in the final match held at the Dr DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai.”

Celebrities from the film fraternity, including Priyanka Chopra, Kareena Kapoor Khan, Hrithik Roshan, Abhishek Bachchan, Samantha Ruth Prabhu, and

Anushka Sharma, among others, took to their respective social media accounts to praise the team’s incredible feat, describing it as a moment of immense pride for the country.

Talking about Ghoomer, the 2023 sports drama starred Saiyami Kher and Abhishek Bachchan and told the story of Anina Dixit, essayed by Kher, a young cricketer whose dreams are shattered after she loses her arm in an accident. Further, refusing to give in and braving all odds, Dixit is then mentored by her mentor, who helps her reinvent herself as a bowler, further mastering a unique style of bowling, ‘Ghoomer’. The film is important in the context of the recent World Cup win and how in sports, it’s a bit more difficult for some players.

Sonali Kulkarni embarks on a 3-day biking expedition to reconnect with herself on her birthday

Actress Sonali Kulkarni chose a unique way to celebrate her birthday this year by fulfilling a long-cherished dream.

Taking a short break from her busy schedule, the ‘Hello Knock Knock Kaun Hai’ actress set out on a three-day biking expedition, describing it as a journey to reconnect with herself and embrace the joy of freedom on the open road. Taking to her Instagram handle, Sonali shared a series of her photos riding a bike. The images also feature her striking different poses while sitting on the bike.



For the caption, Kulkarni wrote, “This is how my birthday is looking. Living my dream Biking 3day expedition.. Taking some time off to reconnect with myself - Much needed! Thanks so much for your best wishes and love everyone Much love right back to you all Please pardon if I miss answering /replying..#biking #bikeexpedition #birthdayspecial #adventure.”

Speaking of her work front, the National Film Award winning actress has appeared in over 70 films, spanning both mainstream and experimental cinema, as well as a few international projects.

Sonali began her acting journey with the Hindi film ‘Cheluvi’ and soon made her Marathi debut with Mukta. Her performances

in “Doghi”, “Daayraa”, and “Gharabahr” earned her widespread critical acclaim. Over the years, she became a familiar face in Hindi cinema with notable roles in “Mission Kashmir”, “Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar”, “Pyaar Tune Kya Kiya”, “Dil Chahta Hai”, “Taxi No. 9211”, and “Singham.”

In a past interview with IANS, Sonali Kulkarni reflected on her recent projects, sharing insights into the differences and

similarities she has noticed while working across them. She highlighted how each project brings its own challenges and learning experiences. “More than differences, I notice similarities. As an actor, I feel grateful that I am doing so much work and receiving so much feedback from the audience. I don’t like to boast about compliments, as it might sound selfish, but I do get very positive responses.”

CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

1 On high (5)

6 Landing pier (5)

9 Remain longer (7)

10 Advertisement ? (5)

11 Arranged in banded areas (5)

12 Hungarian composer (5)

13 Coastal region of SW India (7)

15 Mafia boss (3)

17 Military group (4)

18 Cotton cloth (6)

19 Part of the large intestine (5)

20 Bamboo lovers (6)

22 Flying pest (4)

24 European airline (3)

25 Tolerate (7)

26 Camping shelters (5)

27 Actress Samantha (5)

28 Combine as one (5)

29 West Indian song (7)

30 Folds or pleats (5)

31 Hard as ___ (1,4)

DOWN

2 “Ali nil” anagram for a girl’s name ? (6)

3 Lay-out, arrangement (6)

4 Place to soak (3)

5 On the move (5)

6 Brubeck or Monk? (7)

7 River island ? (4)

8 Aztec god of rain (6)

12 Former capital of Nigeria (5)

13 A contagious viral disease (5)

14 Powerful animals (5)

15 Singer Ross (5)

16 Compass point (5)

18 Young male horses (5)

19 Photographer’s equipment (7)

21 Canton in N Switzerland (6)

22 Key of Mozart’s Symphony No. 25 (1-5)

23 Acid in vinegar (6)

25 Remains or resides in a place or condition (5)

26 Short nail (4)

28 North American nation (3)

B	G	G	A	U	S	S
W	A	G	O	N	A	C
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Solution to November 3

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6	8	2	3	7	1	4	9	5
9	2	7	1	8	3	5	4	6
4	3	8	5	6	2	9	7	1
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Solution to November 3

IN BRIEF



India's First DIY electrolyser for lab-grown diamonds

MANGALURU: Move over, imported tech—Mangaluru's HYDGEN is stealing the spotlight! This weekend, the startup celebrated a massive milestone by dispatching its first-ever indigenously built electrolyser, tailor-made for the booming lab-grown diamond scene. The big reveal happened on November 2 at the Sahyadri Campus, with Dakshina Kanadana MP Capt. Brijesh Chowta cutting the ribbon on the shiny new HYDGEN DIA-S 5 kW PEM electrolyser. This little powerhouse churns out super-pure hydrogen (99.9995% pure!) at 1 Nm³ per hour, perfect for Surat's diamond factories using Chemical Vapor Deposition (CVD). It's a game-changer for India's \$12 billion lab-grown diamond industry, where the country ranks as the world's second-largest producer. And guess what? It's all green energy, baby—lining up with India's plan to pump out 5 million tonnes of green hydrogen by 2030! Behind this cool innovation are co-founders Dr. Manipaddy Krishna Kumar and Dr. Ramya Krishnakumar, who traded Singapore labs for Mangaluru vibes. With a fresh \$5 million in their pockets, they're scaling up their anion exchange membrane (AEM) tech to make hydrogen cheap and eco-friendly. Capt. Chowta couldn't stop raving, saying, "These guys are proof Mangaluru can be the next big innovation hub—let's get more talent #BackToOoru!" From R&D to real-world action, HYDGEN is showing the world that India can ditch pricey foreign tech and lead the green revolution.

12 school students hospitalised due to 'food poisoning'

BELAGAVI: Twelve students of a residential school in Belagavi district fell ill due to suspected food poisoning, police said on Monday. According to police, the students of the Morarji Desai Residential School at Hirekodi village of Chikkodi taluk, complained of vomiting and stomach pain after dinner on Sunday and were immediately shifted to a nearby hospital for treatment. Their condition is stated to be stable. The incident occurred just days after a local judge had visited the same institution and reprimanded the warden and staff over hygiene and management issues, sources said. A case has been registered and investigation is on.

HANS NEWS SERVICE
UDUPI

ADI Udupi APMC yard lessees have brazenly chopped down trees and razed government-funded interlock pavements to erect storage facilities on four plots, claims Vijay Kodavoor, head of APMC Rakshana Samithi, igniting fresh outrage over alleged administrative malfeasance.

In a media interaction, Kodavoor alleged that officials illicitly doled out 54 cents of prime yard real

estate on a lease-cum-sale basis at a paltry ₹1.65 lakh per cent, versus prevailing ₹10 lakh valuations, bypassing the elected board's sole prerogative for such allocations. The controversy traces to 2023, when the parcel was subdivided into 11 plots amid protests and assigned to bidders despite outcries.

"This is a blatant undervaluation, especially in land-scarce Udupi where public tracts are scarce," Kodavoor fumed, urging retribution of government holdings over hasty handovers.



On October 27, traders allegedly felled foliage and demolished pavements laid via state grants, ignoring a prior alert to Udupi Range Forest Officer (RFO) and APMC on October 21. "No equipment seizure by forestry; it's a free pass for destruction," he lamented, noting a pending suit contesting the allotments.

Kodavoor vowed to petition Udupi SP for enforcement against violators and stage demonstrations, extending the Samithi's 2 years 8 months resistance

to perceived favouritism. The episode amplifies longstanding gripes over APMC mismanagement, where officials allegedly prioritise private gains over public utility, eroding rural market infrastructure in a district with limited state-owned expenses.

As the court battle looms, the fallout threatens broader trader accountability, with calls for probes into undervalued deals mirroring encroachments cleared elsewhere in Udupi, like Kodavoor beach in March 2025.

CM vexed by queries on Shivakumar succession

MYSURU

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday expressed visible anger when a group of reporters repeatedly questioned him about deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar potentially replacing him as the head of the state government, terming the speculation as media-driven.

CM Siddaramaiah, responding to queries about leaders of the Bihari community in Bengaluru expressing a desire to see Shivakumar as the next Chief Minister, retorted sharply, asking the reporter if there was no other subject to discuss.

"It does not matter what people say. Anyone may say anything. Tell me, who is the high command?" he said in an irritated tone.

"It is Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, and AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge. Have they said anything on this? Then why raise it? You (media) are dragging the matter and bringing it up again and again. It is not what people say, it is you in the media who are giving it attention,"

Cabinet reshuffle likely after Bihar polls



he retorted. "What was the need to raise this question? The decision rests with the high command. No other remark carries any weight," he said. This marks the second instance in recent weeks where the Chief Minister has shown irritation over questions regarding a potential leadership change as the Congress government approaches the halfway mark of its term, amid persistent infighting within the state unit.

Regarding a possible Cabinet reshuffle, Siddaramaiah confirmed that he would

discuss the matter with party leaders immediately after the conclusion of the Bihar elections, scheduled to be held in two phases on November 6 and 11. The exchange follows Shivakumar's public appeal to Biharis in Bengaluru on Sunday to vote for the Mahagathbandhan in the upcoming Bihar elections. Speaking to reporters after addressing the Bihar Association at Coffee Board Layout in North Bengaluru, he remarked that although many had said he deserved a larger role, what mattered more to him was their support for the alliance

in Bihar. He observed that Nitish Kumar was nearing the end of his political career and noted that Tejashwi Yadav had already been named the coalition's chief ministerial candidate.

On October 30, Siddaramaiah lost his temper when questioned about the prospect of Shivakumar succeeding him. When asked whether a change in leadership might take place in November as the Congress government completes half its term, he appeared irritated and asked who had made such statements and where they had been recorded.

When reporters pointed to media reports, he challenged them to identify the publication, stating that he reads all newspapers.

Earlier in the day, Siddaramaiah refused to comment on the deadline for filling Bengaluru's potholes, which lapses at midnight on Friday, and directed journalists to approach Shivakumar, who heads the Bengaluru Development portfolio. The CM's remarks come at a time when talk of internal discord within the Congress continues.

Two wild elephants electrocuted in Khanapur taluk, farmer arrested

HANS NEWS SERVICE
BELAGAVI

IN a tragic incident highlighting the growing human-wildlife conflict in Karnataka, two wild elephants were electrocuted after coming into contact with a live electric fence near Sulegali village in Khanapur taluk of Belagavi district on Sunday afternoon. According to forest officials, the elephants — a male and a female — died instantly after touching an illegally electrified fence installed around a farm.

Preliminary investigations revealed that Ganapati Sateri Gurav, a local farmer, had drawn a power connection from his house to the fence in an attempt to prevent wild animals from entering his agricultural land. Forest officials arrested Ganapati Gurav for violating wildlife protection laws and causing the deaths of the elephants. He has been remanded to judicial custody, while his son Shivaji Gurav, who was also allegedly involved, is currently absconding.

Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre expressed strong displeasure over the incident and directed officials to conduct a thorough probe. He has instructed the department to submit a detailed report within five days. A team led by RFO Shivanand visited the site, collected evidence, and initiated an in-depth investigation.

The carcasses of the elephants were subjected to post-mortem examination this morning, following which the forest department conducted the cremation as per protocol. Authorities have also issued notices to concerned power department officials, citing negligence that may have contributed to the illegal



Rogue elephant caught after two-day operation

KARKALA

AN elephant that had killed two farmers in the Kerekatte area of Kudremukh National Park was successfully captured on Sunday after a two-day operation by the Forest Department.

The tusker, which had taken shelter in the forest near Bhagavathi Nature Camp, was tranquilised and captured under the supervision of officers from the Mangaluru Forest Division and Kudremukh Wildlife Range. Expert teams and five trained elephants from Sakrebail (Shivamogga), Dubare (Kodagu), and Nagarhole camps assisted in the effort.

To track the elephant in the hilly and dense forest terrain, officials used drones to conduct extensive surveillance. The animal was spotted



ted early in the morning near the Bhagavathi camp and was captured by evening after a coordinated effort involving more than 50 forest personnel.

The elephant had recently attacked and killed two farmers — Harish Shetty (44) and Umesh (48) — near Kerekatte in Kerekatte, leading to widespread protests by local residents demanding its capture and adequate compensation for the victims' families. According to forest officials, the elephant will receive necessary medical care before a decision is taken regarding its relocation to a suitable habitat.

electrification of the fence.

The deaths have reignited debate over the growing man-elephant conflict in Karnataka, particularly in forest fringe areas like Belagavi, Chikkamagaluru, and Kodagu. Environmentalists have demanded stricter enforcement of wildlife protection norms and stronger coordination between forest and energy departments to prevent such tragedies.

Locals claim that crop raids by elephants have

been increasing in the region, prompting farmers to resort to illegal electric fencing for protection. Forest officials, however, have warned that such actions are punishable under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, and pose a serious risk to both animals and humans. The tragic deaths in Sulegali once again underscore the urgent need for sustainable mitigation measures to balance human safety and wildlife conservation.

Reduce safari activities in forest areas of Mysuru: CM

MYSURU

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday said he has directed officials to scale down safari activities in the forest areas of Mysuru following the deaths of three farmers in October within a span of two weeks. He said the growing human activity in forest zones and the search for water and food have been driving wild animals into human settlements. "What

has happened is that people's movement in the forest region has increased, and resorts are coming up," Siddaramaiah told reporters here.

"Further, safari activities have increased—that's one reason. Then, they (wild animals) come for water and food to the villages," he added. "Yesterday, there was a meeting with forest officials. I will convene another soon. We will take action against illegal resorts, and



I have directed officials to reduce safari activities in the forest," the chief minister further said.

SC stays HC order asking multiplexes to maintain records of tickets

NEW DELHI

THE Supreme Court on Monday stayed the Karnataka High Court's order asking multiplexes to maintain a comprehensive and auditable record for every movie ticket sold. The high court's division bench had passed the direction on September 30 while hearing a plea against an order of its single judge that had granted an interim stay on the Karnataka Cinemas (Regulation) (Amendment) Rules, 2025, which sought to cap cinema ticket prices at Rs 200.

A plea challenging the division bench order came up for hearing on Monday before a bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta. "This should be fixed," the bench said, while observing that multiplexes were charging Rs 100 for a water bottle.

"As it is, the cinema is declining. Make it more reasonable for people to come and enjoy. Otherwise, the halls are empty," the bench said, adding, "We are with the division bench that it should be Rs 200." The bench agreed to hear the plea filed by Multiplex Association of India and others.



It issued notice to the Karnataka State Film Chamber of Commerce and others seeking their responses on the plea within four weeks. "In the meantime, the effect and operation of the impugned order shall remain stayed," the bench said.

The top court said it would be open for the single judge to proceed with the matter. The single judge had passed

the order on September 23 on the pleas challenging the Karnataka Cinemas (Regulation) (Amendment) Rules, 2025, which capped the ticket price at Rs 200.

The single judge had granted an interim stay on the amendment until further orders. When the matter came up before the division bench, it said an interim arrangement was required to be made to protect the

financial interests of all concerned, pending final adjudication of the petition.

It passed directions, including that multiplexes would maintain comprehensive and auditable records for every ticket sold and the records must include the date and time of sale, mode of booking, mode of payment, amount collected and the GST component.

"Digitally traceable receipts must be issued for all cash transactions, and daily cash registers must be countersigned by the manager-in-charge of the multiplex," it said. The division bench said that for cash-based ticket sales, multiplexes must issue numbered, time-stamped receipts to the consumers. It posted the matter for further hearing on November 25.

"Monkey Fever"

Health Minister chairs meeting to address forest disease outbreak

HANS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU

KARNATAKA Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao on Saturday chaired a high-level meeting to address the rising incidence of Kyasanur Forest Disease (KFD), also known as "monkey fever", in the districts of Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga, and Uttara Kanad. The meeting focused on implementing measures to control the spread of the tick-borne viral disease and gathering input from officials and public representatives.

According to the minister, a total of 4,080 samples have been tested, with 103 individuals confirmed positive for KFD. Tragically, two people have succumbed to the disease. The meeting outlined several guidelines to manage the situation in the affected districts, including strengthened human and monkey death reporting, enhanced tick surveillance, and the recruitment of staff on a contract basis to address shortages in the health department.

Other measures include the release of daily bulletins detailing KFD tests, positive cases, discharges, and deaths. Designated referral hospitals—KFC Manipal, SIMS Shivamogga, and KRIMS Karwar—have been identified to handle cases. Immediate hospitalisation of confirmed KFD cases is mandatory, with free treatment provided under the ABARK scheme. Additional support includes free ambulance services for patient transfers, adequate stocking of IV infusions and IV paracet-



amol at primary health centres and hospitals, and the extension of tele-facilities for KFD patients. The public is also receiving free distribution of DEPA, a tick repellent, to reduce exposure. Administrative responsibilities for controlling KFD have been delegated to the DCMO-VDL Shivamogga, who will oversee efforts across all affected districts. The minister highlighted ongoing discussions with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Indian Immunologists to pursue full-time research aimed at developing a permanent vaccine. Although no specific treatment exists for KFD, authorities are closely monitoring the situation and remain optimistic about curbing its spread.

District in-charge ministers and officials participated in the meeting, which was documented through photographs showing the attendees at the discussion table. The measures reflect a coordinated effort to manage the disease, which remains a public health challenge in the Western Ghats region.

- Mithali Raj

“Before announcing doles for Bihar during elections, Modi and Amit Shah should



Pension handling arm of the DoT, Controller General of Communication Accounts (CGCA) has started a month-long campaign to provide support for digital life certificates, which help in verifying themselves online, to employees

BIZ BRIEFS

Kisna expands presence in TG

Kisna Diamond and Gold Jewellery announced the opening of its 5th exclusive showroom in Telangana at Karimnagar located at Gourishetty Complex. Ghanishyam Dholakia, Founder & MD, Hari Krishna Group inaugurated the outlet. Ghanishyam Dholakia, said: "Telangana has been a strong and growing market for us. With our 5th exclusive showroom in the state, KISNA continues its focused retail expansion strategy, ensuring our presence in every key region across India."

Solex collaborates with ISC Konstanz

Solex Energy Ltd, a solar manufacturer, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ISC Konstanz-Germany, for advanced R&D and technological collaboration in solar cell manufacturing. Dr. Chetan Shah, Managing Director, Solex Energy, said: "This partnership marks a defining chapter in Solex's journey toward technological excellence and global leadership. Under our Vision 2030, we are committed to transforming India into a hub of solar innovation."

Zeiss launches QEC in Hyd

Zeiss, an optical and measurement solutions, inaugurated its seventh Quality Excellence Center (QEC) in Hyderabad. The QEC showcases the latest in precision measurement and quality assurance technologies. Aveen-Padmaprabha, Business Head, Zeiss India, said: "Automation and Industry 4.0 go hand in hand that is where the future of manufacturing lies. Hyderabad has always been a strategic hub for ZEISS, given its strong aerospace base and the rapidly growing medical device manufacturing industry in neighboring regions."

Black Gold buys stake in Reteck

Black Gold Recycling, a Hyderabad-based circular economy startup, has acquired a majority stake in Reteck Enviro-tech Pvt Ltd, an Indian subsidiary of Hong Kong and US-based Li Tong Group, a reverse supply chain management and electronics lifecycle solutions. Prabhu Ram, CEO, Black Gold Recycling, said: "Our mission is to make sustainability scalable- by design, not by chance. This acquisition brings together Reteck's global operational expertise and our technology-led recovery platform."

Reliance General's surety bond

Reliance General Insurance, a private general insurance company, has announced the launch of its Surety Insurance- Bid Bond a solution designed to provide contractors with an efficient cost-effective and non-collateral-based alternative to traditional bank guarantees in project bidding. Rakesh Jain, CEO, Reliance General, said: "Our Surety Insurance Bid Bond product is a powerful enabler for India's contracting community by reducing reliance on traditional bank guarantees we are freeing up vital working capital enhancing EODB."

Mehli Mistry moves Charity Commissioner to guard seat as Tata rift widens

Ex-trustee contests non-renewal; internal split over life trusteeship and Tata Sons board nominations clouds group governance

BOARDROOM BATTLE

- Tata Trusts board in Oct rejected Mistry's renewal for life trusteeship
- Office holders Venu Srinivasan, Noel Tata, Vijay Singh opposing Mistry
- Noel Tata leads philanthropic trust
- Vijay Singh, Venu Srinivasan are vice chairmen

MUMBAI: MEHLI Mistry, a former trustee of Tata Trusts, whose term was not renewed last week, has reportedly filed a caveat before the Maharashtra Charity Commissioner for his right to be heard before his ouster from Tata Trusts.

According to the rules, Tata Trusts must implement



board changes approved by the Commissioner within 90 days. Mehli Mistry wants to contest his ouster before the Commissioner of philanthropic organisations pointing to the October 2024 resolution on life trusteeship at renewal, according to multiple media reports.

The Tata Trusts board had in October rejected Mistry's renewal for life trusteeship, with office holders Venu Srinivasan, Noel Tata, and Vijay Singh opposing his continuation. Noel Tata leads the philanthropic trust, with Vijay Singh and Venu Srinivasan as vice chairmen, according to reports.

Mistry's challenge to oust-

er is based on a resolution from October 2024 that reportedly grants life terms on renewal to current trustees.

"The Trustees recognise that they are all equally responsible, charged with public duty and specifically tasked by Ratan N Tata. To this end, they resolve that on the expiry of tenure of any Trustee, that Trustee will be reappointed by the concerned Trust without any limit being attached to the period of tenure of such re-appointment, and in accordance with law," the resolution said.

Tata Trusts has been embroiled in an internal conflict over the nomination of a director to the Tata Sons board. Analyst said that the rift at Tata Trusts would impact strategic decisions at Tata Sons.

Tata Trusts -- the charitable arm that controls about 66 per cent of Tata Sons -- has been recently mired in internal disagreements.

Tata AutoComp showcases rail solutions

HANS BUSINESS HYDERABAD

TATA AutoComp Systems Limited, provider of automotive and mobility component solutions, showcased its products at the International Railway Equipment Exhibition (IREE) 2025, held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The company's participation marked a significant milestone in its journey of diversification into the railway mobility sector.

The company booth was inaugurated by State Minister of Railways, Ravneet Singh, and BEML Chairman & MD Shantanu Roy. The booth received an exceptional response from visitors, including distinguished dignitaries from the Railway Ministry, Metro and Urban Transport (MoUD), and prominent industry leaders. The company booth attracted significant attention from a broad spectrum of the railway industry for the company's innovative propulsion systems, lightweight composite components, seating solutions, and HVAC technologies—all engineered to enhance performance, energy efficiency, and passenger comfort.

Leaders from the Ministry of Railways and various Central and Zonal Railway authorities visited.

ED attaches Anil Ambani's ₹3K-cr worth assets

MUMBAI: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached properties worth about Rs3,084 crore linked to entities of the Reliance Anil Ambani Group over alleged diversion and laundering of public funds.

The attached assets include the residence at Pali Hill, Bandra (West), Mumbai, the Reliance Centre property in New Delhi, and multiple assets across Delhi, Noida, Ghaziabad, Mumbai, Pune, Thane, Hyderabad, Chennai (including Kancheepuram) and East Godavari.

These assets include office



premises, residential units and land parcels. The aggregate attached value across the four orders is approximately Rs3,084 crore.

The orders were issued on October 31, 2025 under Section 5(1) of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The case concerns the diversion and laundering of public funds raised by Reliance Home Finance

CtrlS Datacenters, NTPC Green team up for 2-GW RE projects

NEW DELHI: CtrlS Datacenters on Monday said it has signed a strategic memorandum of understanding with NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL) to jointly establish grid-connected renewable energy projects with a capacity of up to 2 GW or more.

The MoU was signed between CtrlS Founder & CEO Sridhar Pinnareddy and NGEL CEO Sarit Maheshwari.

"As part of the MoU, CtrlS and NGEL aim to jointly establish grid-connected renewable energy projects/assets with a capacity of up to 2 GW or more through greenfield development and/or acquisitions, for the supply of renewable power to CtrlS for its captive consumption on mutual agreement or any other business as may be mutually decided between the parties.

HYD LEADS HIRING IN EDUCATION SECTOR

Clocks 47% jump in recruitment followed by Chennai, Bengaluru; Momentum continues in post Diwali-Dussehra season

RISING RECRUITMENT

- Hiring in accounting, fin rose 15%
- Recruitment in education up 13%
- 6% growth in BPO/ITeS
- 30- 62% growth in hiring for engineers, medical billers/coders

NEW DELHI: India's white-collar job market in October 2025 showed notable strength in education, accounting and finance, BPO/ITES, and specialised tech roles despite a slowdown in recruitment during the Diwali-Dussehra holidays,



a report by Naukri said on Monday.

The report from the recruitment platform said that India's white-collar hiring experienced a 3 per cent year-on-year growth when adjusted for the 'holiday effect' from the festive calendar shift. The Naukri JobSpeak Index recorded 2,480 points during the month, marking a 9 per cent year-on-year dip, as the Diwali-Dussehra

festive cluster temporarily slowed recruitment momentum.

While the festive season led to a broad-based slowdown, sectors such as accounting and finance (up 15 per cent YoY), education (up 13 per cent), and BPO/ITES (up 6 per cent) defied the trend with positive growth.

The hiring in the education sector was driven by robust performances in Hy-

derabad (up 47 per cent), Chennai, and Bengaluru.

The education sector saw a notable 25 per cent increase in hiring for freshers with less than three years of experience. Furthermore, hiring by startups in the education space surged by an exceptional 77 per cent compared to the same month last year, the report noted.

Naukri's data revealed pockets of strength within the technology domain. The emerging technologies sub-sector, which includes companies working on blockchain and cryptocurrency, registered a remarkable 60 per cent YoY growth, showcasing sustained investment in future-forward skills.

Further, hiring activity within IT unicorns remained stable during the month, the release said.

India's smartphone shipments up 5%

NEW DELHI: India's smartphone market continued its recovery in the July-September quarter of 2025, growing five per cent year-on-year (YoY) by volume and 18 per cent by value, its highest-ever quarterly value, a new report showed on Monday.

The growth was fueled by strong festive demand, attractive discounts, and rising interest in premium phones, according to Counterpoint Research.

Analysts said the market's focus is shifting from volume

growth to value growth, as more consumers upgrade to higher-end smartphones.

Apple led the premium market with a 28 per cent value share, driven by strong demand for its iPhone 16 and 15 series. The newly launched iPhone 17 series also received a strong response, with early demand exceeding that of previous models.

Samsung followed with a 23 per cent value share, supported by its Galaxy S and A series and record sales of its foldable phones.



26 per cent rise in volume quarter-on-quarter," it said.

Year-on-year, deal volumes grew 64 per cent, while total M&A value expanded 32 per cent, supported by active domestic consolidation and renewed cross-border interest, it said.

India clocks 999 deals worth \$44.3 bn in Sept qtr

NEW DELHI: India recorded 999 deals worth \$44.3 billion in July-September period of 2025, up 13 pr cent in volume and 64 per cent over the preceding quarter, according to PwC India's latest Deals at a Glance report released on Monday.

In the second quarter of calendar 2025, there were 887 deals worth \$27 billion.

India's deal market sustained its growth momentum through Q3 CY25, registering its strongest quarterly performance in the past six quarters, the report said.

"Mergers and acquisitions (M&A) continued to drive market activity, accounting for 518 transactions valued at \$28.4 billion, marking an 80 per cent increase in value and

Markets edge up in lacklustre session

Profit taking at higher levels due to the absence of fresh domestic trigger and foreign fund outflows kept the market rangebound

Renewed Optimism

- BSE Sensex rose 39.78pts (+0.05%) to 83,978.49
- NSE Nifty surged 41.25pts (+0.16%) to 25,763.35
- FII's offloaded Rs6,769.34 cr; DII's bought Rs7,068.44 cr

MUMBAI: Benchmark Sensex edged up nearly 40 points, while Nifty ended above 25,750 points in a lackadaisical trade on Monday, snapping the two-day declining streak on buying in select auto and banking shares.

The 30-share BSE Sensex inched up by 39.78 points or 0.05 per cent to settle at 83,978.49 as 14 of its constituents advanced and 16 declined. During the day, it hit a high of 84,127 and a low of 83,609.54. The 50-share NSE Nifty eked out a marginal gain of 41.25 points or 0.16 per cent to end at 25,763.35. Profit taking at higher levels



due to the absence of fresh domestic trigger and foreign fund outflows kept the market rangebound, analysts said. Among Sensex firms, Mahindra & Mahindra was the biggest gainer, gaining 1.7 per cent after the October sales data. Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles (TMPV) rose by 1.69 per cent. Eternal, State Bank of India, Bharti Airtel and Kotak Mahindra Bank were also among the major gainers. However, Maruti Suzuki dropped the most by 3.37 per cent. ITC, Tata Consultancy Services,

Larsen & Toubro, Bharat Electronics and Titan were the major laggards.

"The domestic market ended on a marginal positive note as profit-booking was visible at the higher levels due to the absence of fresh domestic triggers. While the broader market outperformed since the quarterly earnings are steering investors' preference to take a short- to medium-term view," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited, said. The PSU Banking index remained a preferred bet for

investors, driven by healthy earnings and improving asset quality. In contrast, IT stocks declined amid fading expectations of a US Fed rate cut, while a trade truce between the US and China eased the demand for safe-haven assets, Nair added.

The BSE smallcap gauge climbed 0.71 per cent and midcap index went up by 0.62 per cent. Telecommunication jumped the most by 2.90 per cent, followed by realty (2.26 per cent), healthcare (1.14 per cent), oil & gas (0.96 per cent), financial services (0.62 per cent) and bankex (0.61 per cent). Utilities, consumer durables, IT and BSE Focused IT were the laggards.

Markets held steady on Monday, with the Nifty-50 closing nearly flat at 25,763.35, indicating continued consolidation after a strong October rally. The index opened on a subdued note and remained range-bound throughout the session amid mixed global cues," Ajit Mishra – SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said.

India's solar capacity to touch 216 GW in FY28: Report

NEW DELHI

INDIA is expected to have around 216 GW of solar capacity generating 305 billion units by FY28, driven by strong responses to applications under the Production Linked Incentive scheme, a report said on Monday.

The PLI scheme is enabling rapid capacity expansion, while efficiency gains -- where 1,700-2,200 panels (at 500 watts peak) are typically deployed for every 1 MW of solar power -- are reinforcing scale advantages in project execution, said the report from CareEdge Advisory, a subsidiary of ratings agency CareEdge Ratings.

CareEdge Advisory noted India's installed solar base surged to 127.3 GW as of September 2025, up from 3.9 GW in FY15, and contributed about 25.7 per cent of total installed capacity.

India's exports of solar photovoltaic (PV) products have surged by more than 10 times between FY19 and FY25, primarily to the US, the report said.



Government initiatives like PLI, Basic Customs Duty (BCD), and Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) have helped expand domestic solar module capacity to 100 GW, placing the country in fourth position worldwide.

India's module manufacturing capacity is expected to add additional capacity of 100 GWP by the end of FY28, nearly three to four times the average annual module demand of 50-60 GWP over the next three years, the report said.

Domestic cell manufacturing capacity is projected to reach 100 GWP during the same period, with capex exceeding Rs 55,000 crore,

driven by backward integration efforts, the advisory noted.

CareEdge Advisory expects that by FY28, India will require an estimated 36-47 crore solar panels (at 500 Wp) to achieve its targeted solar capacity of 215 to 220 GW.

The advisory expects module production to increasingly rely on exports, even as cell production is also likely to eclipse domestic demand in the medium term. This indicates that in the coming years, India's module and cell output will exceed domestic requirements, positioning exports as the key growth driver for the sector.



Chiranjeevi's 'Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu' stylish climax shoot



Megastar Chiranjeevi's most-awaited wholesome entertainer, 'Mana Shankara Vara Prasad

Garu,' directed by hit-machine Anil Ravipudi, also features Victory Venkatesh in a pivotal role. Venkatesh recently joined the team

and received a warm welcome from Chiranjeevi on set. Produced by Sahu Garapati and Sushmita Konidela under Shine Screens

and Gold Box Entertainments, the presented by Smt. Archana. Meanwhile, the team has begun filming a stylish climax action sequence featuring Chiranjeevi and a group of fighters in Hyderabad. Unlike a typical action scene, this sequence is designed with a unique and visually captivating approach to impress audiences across the board. Renowned choreographer Venkat Master is supervising the action, ensuring every moment exudes precision. With Chiranjeevi's unmatched charisma and grace, combined with Anil Ravipudi's signature touch, the film promises a perfect and memorable ending. Production work is progressing at a brisk pace.

Nayanthara plays the leading lady in the film, which also features an ensemble cast with VTV Ganesh in a crucial role. Music sensation Bheems Ceciroleo provides the music, with the first single 'Meesala Pilla' trending nationwide. Sameer Reddy handles cinematography, Tamiraju is the editor, and AS Prakash serves as the art director. The story is co-written by S. Krishna and G. Adi Narayana, with S. Krishna also serving as the executive producer. 'Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu' is gearing up to be one of the biggest attractions for Sankranthi 2026.

Priyadarshi's 'Premante' teaser unveiled

Priyadarshi, known for his strong performances in content-driven films, is back with 'Premante', a refreshing romantic comedy that takes a witty and heartfelt look at love and marriage. Directed by debutant Navaneeth Sriram, the film stars Anandhi as the female lead, alongside Suma Kanakala in a key role. Produced by Puskur Ram Mohan Rao and Jhanvi Narang under the prestigious Sree Venkateswara Cinemas LLP (SVCLLP) banner, 'Premante' is proudly presented by Rana Daggubati's Spirit Media. The film also stands as a tribute to the legacy of the late Narayan Das Narang, with Adithya Merugu joining as co-producer. The teaser has been unveiled today.

The teaser paints an amusing and heartwarming picture of newly married life—where the fairy-tale romance of forever love quickly collides with the everyday madness of reality. Priyadarshi and Anandhi step into the shoes of a young couple whose picture-perfect marriage dream soon turns into a laugh riot, filled with petty squabbles, playful misunderstandings, and moments every couple will find relatable.

Just when their domestic drama seems to settle into a routine, Suma Kanakala enters as a police head constable, a character who unexpectedly stirs up more chaos in their already topsy-turvy relationship. Her arrival adds a refreshing twist, infusing the narrative with humor and curiosity about her true role in their love story. Director Navaneeth Sriram infuses the film



with situational humor and emotional warmth, blending relatable conflicts with sharp writing. The teaser brilliantly captures the contrast between dreamy expectations of love and the everyday realities of living together, making it instantly connect with today's audience.

Priyadarshi and Anandhi share endearing chemistry, portraying the innocence, confusion, and evolution of a couple learning to love beyond fantasy. Suma Kanakala's presence adds gravitas, while Vennela Kishore brings his signature comic timing.

The technical crew adds immense value to 'Premante'. Cinematographer Vishwanath Reddy, winner of the Gaddar Award for

Gaami, brings a vibrant, colorful visual palette that perfectly suits the film's romantic-comedy tone. Leon James, who recently delivered chartbuster tracks for Dragon, adds rhythm and emotion with his lively score. Editor Raghavendra Thirun ensures the narrative flows with engaging pace, while production designer Aravind Mule crafts a lively and relatable world for the characters. Dialogues by Karthik Thupurani and Rajkumar bring humor and heart in equal measure.

With its quirky tagline "Thrill-U Prapthirasthu!" and a vibrant blend of laughter, love, and life, 'Premante' promises a refreshing cinematic experience. The film is set to hit theatres on November 21st.

Director Ramachandra Vattikuti's 'Mutton Soup' impresses

'Mutton Soup' is a film directed by Ramachandra Vattikuti and produced by Mallikarjuna Erika (Gopal), Arun Chandra Vattikuti, and Ramakrishna Sanapala under the banners of Aluka Studios, Sri Varahi Arts, and Bhavishya Vihar. The film, starring Raman, Varsha Vishwanath, and Gemini Suresh in the lead roles, was released on October 10 and received positive reviews. Among the four films released that week, 'Mutton Soup' stood out with an impressive response from audiences and critics alike,

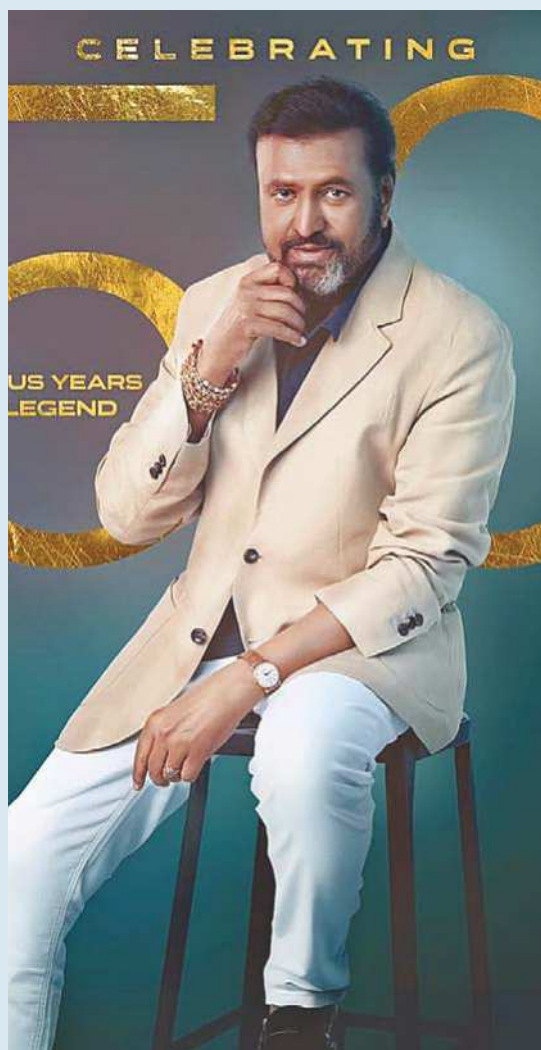


who praised its unique narrative and execution.

At a time when the popularity of short films is on the decline, audiences continue

to value films that dare to be different. In that category, 'Mutton Soup' emerges as a refreshing crime thriller. The director skillfully weaves a story inspired by true events, filled with unexpected twists and a gripping screenplay that keeps viewers on edge.

The film is set to reach a wider audience soon through an OTT release. Director Ramachandra Vattikuti, who made 'Mutton Soup' on a very low budget, is already preparing to begin his next project, once again promising a story with diverse and innovative content.



Mohan Babu's 'MB50' tribute announced

The year 2025 marks a monumental milestone in Indian cinema, as Dr. M Mohan Babu — the legendary actor, producer, educationist, and Padma Shri awardee — celebrates 50 glorious years in the film industry. To honour this extraordinary journey, a grand event titled 'MB50 – A Pearl White Tribute' will be held on November 22, 2025, celebrating the iconic actor and his enduring contributions to Indian cinema. The entire celebration is being curated by his son Vishnu Manchu, ensuring every element reflects the grandeur and elegance of this historic milestone.

Over five decades, Dr. Mohan Babu has built a legacy that transcends generations. Renowned for his powerful performances, iconic dialogue delivery, and larger-than-life screen presence, he stands as a pillar of Telugu cinema and an inspiration to countless artists. With

over 600 films to his credit, his career embodies versatility, discipline, and unwavering passion for the craft.

'MB50' will not only celebrate his cinematic achievements but also honour his lifelong commitment to art, education, and philanthropy. The tribute aims to capture the essence of his remarkable journey — from humble beginnings to becoming a revered icon whose influence continues to shape Indian cinema.

As Dr. Mohan Babu reaches this golden jubilee, the celebration will serve as a heartfelt homage to a man whose artistry continues to inspire, whose voice commands respect, and whose dedication defines excellence.

Further details about the event will be revealed in the coming weeks. 'MB50 – A Pearl White Tribute' promises to be a spectacular celebration of a legend who has not only lived cinema but has become an inseparable part of its soul.

Dheekshith Shetty: 'The Girlfriend' is the best film of my career

National crush Rashmika Mandanna and talented actor Dheekshith Shetty are uniting for the emotional love story 'The Girlfriend', directed by Rahul Ravindran and produced by Dheeraj Mogilineni and Vidya Koppineedi under Geetha Arts and Dheeraj Mogilineni Entertainment, with presentation by Allu Aravind. The film releases in Hindi and Telugu on November 7, followed by Tamil, Malayalam, and Kannada versions on November 14.

In an exclusive conversation, Dheekshith opened up about his journey, chemistry with Rashmika, and why 'The Girlfriend' holds a special place in his heart.

"After 'Dasara', this was the next major opportunity that came my way," Dheekshith began. "Director Rahul



Ravindran approached me for 'The Girlfriend'. He told me Rashmika was playing the female lead and wanted me as the boyfriend. He had watched my Dasara interviews and felt I would fit perfectly. Once I read the script, I knew exactly why. Stories like 'The Girlfriend' are rare—that's why I had to do it."

Talking about his director's clarity, Dheekshith said, "Rahul had a very clear vision of how the character of Vikram should be—his behaviour, body language, even his tone. Because of that, it was easier to perform. Vikram has many layers. Some may think he's a toxic boyfriend after watching the trailer, but Rahul made sure he didn't come across as negative. Coming from a stage and film school background, I prepared deeply. For me, a film must connect personally through its story—that's what matters most."

Reflecting on the film's message, he added, "Usually, love stories are told in a certain way, but 'The Girlfriend' explores romance from a fresh perspective. It's not just entertainment—it lingers long after you leave the theater. Larger-than-life films are fun, but this one feels real.

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Praising his co-star, Dheekshith shared, "After watching Rashmika's performance, I genuinely felt no one else could have done justice to Bhuma's character. Even when 'Anima' became a blockbuster during our shoot, she stayed grounded and approachable. You won't see Rashmika—you'll see Bhuma."

On the film's appeal, he said, "This isn't just for youth—families will relate too. It explores emotions and forms of toxicity we don't usually talk about. Rahul Ravindran is a kind director who brings out the best in everyone."

Rashmika even said that if she had watched a film like this years ago, her outlook on life would have changed. I believe audiences between 18 and 25 will find something meaningful in it."

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'Krishna Leela': Story is the hero

Young actor Devan takes on a double responsibility as both hero and director in the upcoming supernatural love story 'Krishna Leela', which carries the intriguing tagline 'Trigochina Kaalam'. Starring Dhanya Balakrishnan as the female lead, the film is produced by Jyotsna Ji under Mahasen Visuals and presented by Baby Vaishnavi. With story and dialogues by Anil Kiran Kumar Ji, 'Krishna Leela' is set for a grand release on November 7. The film's teaser and trailer have already received an enthusiastic response from audiences.

Recalling how the journey began, Devan shared, "I was working as a software engineer while trying to make my mark

in films and had already acted in two movies. When I was waiting for new opportunities, producer Jyotsna Ji and writer Anil narrated this story to me. After listening to it for a week, I made some changes to suit today's generation and gave it a unique screenplay. They instantly loved the idea."

When it came to choosing a director, Devan took everyone by surprise. "Though I had no prior experience in direction, I've always had a strong understanding of story and screenplay," he said. "With that confidence, I approached DOP Chota K Naidu garu. After listening to the story, he was very impressed and promised his full support. That's how 'Krishna Leela' came to life."



Explaining the film's concept, Devan said, "Krishna Leela' means Time Returned. Leela means play—it's about how Krishna plays a love story. Man cannot bring back time, but what if time itself returns with divine power? That's the

essence of our story, presented in an intriguing way." The actor-director added that the film carries deep philosophical undertones. "Every action has destiny. Everyone we meet in this life has a past connection with us. The Bhagavad Gita teaches us to love them without expectation. We've tried to depict that beautifully through this story," he explained. On incorporating Krishna's philosophy, Devan shared, "It's a vast subject. I often listened to Gangadhar Shastri's lectures and even consulted him during script development. He clarified my doubts and helped me bring depth to the story. What we visualized on paper has come alive with honesty and emotion."

'Gummadi Narsaiah' motion poster impresses

Bringing a real-life story to the big screen is never an easy task, especially when it's about a political leader known for his integrity, simplicity, and lifelong commitment to the people. Portraying such a leader's journey on screen is truly a bold endeavour, and that challenge has been taken up by young director Parameshwar Hivrale. Standing firmly behind him is producer N. Suresh Reddy, under the banner of Pravallika Arts Creations. In the titular role of 'Gummadi Narsaiah', Karunada Chakravarthy Dr Shiva Rajkumar will be seen in a powerful new avatar.

A few days ago, the motion poster of 'Gummadi Narsaiah' was released, and it quickly became the talk of the town. Everyone was curious to see how Shiva Rajkumar would appear in this iconic role and whether he could truly embody the spirit of the leader. But the actor exceeded all expectations. It's evident that Shiva Rajkumar has breathed life into the role of Gummadi

Narsaiah, perfectly adapting his look and demeanour to fit the character.

Even with a short motion poster, director Parameshwar showcased his talent and creative vision. After watching it, Shyamala Devi was all praise for the filmmaker, showering him with compliments.

Speaking about the motion poster, Shyamala Devi said: "The motion poster is excellent. You can already sense how impactful the film is going to be just by watching it. It looks like a film destined for multiple awards. Shiva Rajkumar truly breathes life into the role of Gummadi Narsaiah. I wish the entire team all the best." Producer N Suresh Reddy is reportedly sparing no expense in bringing this ambitious biographical drama to life. The technical crew includes cinematographer Satish Muthyala, music director Suresh Bobbili, and editor Satya Giduturi. The filmmakers will soon reveal details about the rest of the cast and crew.

