



Tejasvi Surya slams Metro for 'exorbitant' fare hike

BENGALURU: BJP leader and Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya on Tuesday raised serious concerns regarding the "exorbitant" fare hike implemented by the Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRL). He pointed out that ticket prices of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Nagpur Metro are approximately half for covering certain distances. During a review meeting held on Tuesday, Surya pointed out a major calculation error made by BMRL in determining the base year for maintenance and administrative costs, which forms the foundation of the Fare Fixation Committee's report, stated the official statement.

He pointed out that instead of considering the Maintenance and Administration cost of 2017-18, the BMRL, while requesting the hike before the FFC, calculated the M&A cost pertaining to 2016-17.

This incorrect computation has led to an unjustified increase in fares, resulting in commuters paying an estimated Rs 150 crore in excess since the fare revision. Surya also pointed out that even though the average fare increase remained 51.5 per cent, the most common journeys undertaken by commuters (falling in the 8-15 km slab) have seen an unjustified hike close to 70 per cent.

The same journeys in the Metros of Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and Nagpur cost approximately half the ticket price of Namma Metro, he pointed out. The MP has urged BMRL to immediately rectify the anomalies in the fare fixation and ensure that commuters are not burdened by flawed calculations.

He also sought a detailed clarification from BMRL on how the error occurred and whether any corrective measures have been initiated. BMRL officials assured the MP that a formal response on the issue will be shared shortly.

Surya reiterated that public transport must remain affordable, transparent, and accountable and that such lapses erode public confidence in vital urban mobility systems like Namma Metro.

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Delhi was 6th most polluted Indian city in Oct

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

DELHI was ranked the sixth most polluted city in the country in October, behind neighbouring Ghaziabad and Noida, according to a study.

Dharuhera in Haryana was ranked as the most polluted city in October, with a monthly average PM2.5 concentration of 123 µg/m³, according to

Dharuhera in Haryana was ranked as the most polluted city; the findings revealed a sharp deterioration in air quality across the country, with worsening conditions concentrated in the Indo-Gangetic Plain, particularly the National Capital Region

the Monthly Air Quality Snapshot released by the Centre for Research on



Energy and Clean Air (CREA) on Tuesday. It provided a

comprehensive analysis of India's air quality based on continuous ambient air

quality monitoring station (CAAQMS) data.

The findings revealed a sharp deterioration in air quality across the country, with worsening conditions concentrated in the Indo-Gangetic Plain (IGP), particularly the National Capital Region (NCR), an official statement said.

Delhi ranked sixth with an average concentration of 107 µg/m³, three times higher than its September average

of 36 µg/m³.

Despite stubble burning contributing less than 6 per cent of Delhi's PM2.5 levels in October, the sharp rise highlights the impact of year-round emission sources and the need for long-term mitigation plans beyond short seasonal measures like the Graded Response Action Plan, it noted.

Dharuhera was ranked as the most polluted city in October, with a monthly

average PM2.5 concentration of 123 µg/m³, breaching the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) limit on 77 per cent of the days.

It recorded two 'Severe' and nine 'Very Poor' days during the month. Following Dharuhera, the next most polluted cities were Rohtak, Ghaziabad, Noida, Ballabgarh, Delhi, Bhiwadi, Greater Noida, Hapur, and Gurgaon.

FIR filed against Union Minister

Rajiv Ranjan Singh landed in a fresh controversy following of a video in which he can be purportedly heard asking NDA supporters to intimidate the opponents on polling day

HANS NEWS SERVICE
PATNA

AN FIR was registered against Union minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan' on Tuesday for making a controversial statement against opposition leaders during campaigning for arrested JD(U) candidate Anant Singh in Bihar's Mokama, the Patna district administration said.

The Minister landed in a fresh controversy with the surfacing of a video in which he can be purportedly heard asking NDA supporters to intimidate the opponents on polling day.

"The video footage was examined by the District Administration, Patna. Following the investigation, an FIR has been registered against Lalan Singh alias Rajiv Ranjan Singh under the sections of the BNSS and the Representation of the People Act," the Patna district administration said in a post on X. The video is said to be of Mokama, which falls under Lalan's Munger Lok Sabha seat, where the former JD(U) president's defence of party candidate Anant



NDA to win 142 seats

As per Polstrat survey findings NDA is expected to win 133-142 seats, while the grand alliance is likely to emerge victorious in 80-88 seats.

Singh in a murder case has already drawn flak from the Opposition.

In the video, Lalan could be heard saying, in Magahi, that "There are some people out here whom you must not allow to venture out on polling day. Lock them up inside their homes. If they cajole you, accompany them to polling booths and ensure that they go home after casting their vote."

Lalan's latest video, the authenticity of which could not be independently verified by PTI, went viral on social

media.

Controversial former Bihar MLA, Anant Singh, who seeks to reclaim Mokama seat, along with his two other associates -- Manikant Thakur and Ranjeet Ram -- were arrested in the intervening night of Saturday and Sunday in connection with the murder of Jan Suraj Party supporter Dular Chand Yadav.

Yadav died while he was campaigning for Jan Suraj Party's candidate Piyush Priyadarshi in Mokama area last week.

PM wants youth to be addicted to reels: Rahul

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AURANGABAD

CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi wants the youth to remain busy in making social media reels, so that they stay distracted from pressing problems about education, health and employment.

Addressing back-to-back rallies in Bihar's Aurangabad and Gayaji, Gandhi charged the PM with promoting "addiction" to social media.

"Modi wants you to become addicted to making reels, Instagram, Facebook... This is the new high ('nasha') of the 21st century. He wants such a scenario because this



would ensure that the youth remain distracted, and do not hold his government accountable for their problems about education, health and employment," he alleged.

Gandhi also claimed that Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah "were indulging in 'vote chori' (vote theft) in Bihar, as they know the

103 ancient gold coins unearthed from TN temple

TIRUVANNAMALAI

OVER 100 ancient gold coins were unearthed from a temple which was under renovation near the Javvadu hills here, police said on Tuesday. As many as 103 antique gold coins were recovered from a mud pot that was discovered while the renovation work for the sanctum sanctorum of the main deity at the Sivan temple was underway on November 3 in neighbouring Kovilur. "Nearly 103 gold coins from a (mud) pot were discovered while the construction work was going on," a senior police official of the Polur Police Station told PTI on Tuesday.

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Mamata tears into BJP, EC over SIR

HANS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA

MOUNTING a blistering attack on the BJP and the EC, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday accused them of turning the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter lists into a political tool for a 'silent, invisible rigging' ahead of the 2026 Assembly polls.

SIR OF ELECTORAL ROLLS BEGINS IN BENGAL AMID TECH GLITCHES

She warned that the fall of the Narendra Modi government would be "inevitable" if even a single eligible voter was deleted from West Bengal's rolls during the SIR conducted by the Election Commission (EC) in the state.

Leading a massive anti-SIR rally through the heart of Kolkata, from Dharmatala to Jorasanko - the ancestral home of Rabindranath Tagore, the CM, accompanied by her nephew and TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee, alleged that the BJP and the EC were "colluding to erase voters from opposition-ruled states" while sparing the ones governed by the saffron party.

Will secure record win, 'jungle raj' will suffer worst defeat: PM

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday asserted that the people of Bihar have made up their mind to ensure that the NDA breaks the record of its scale of victory in the last 20 years, while the "jungle raj people" would suffer their worst defeat at the hustings in the state.

Modi said he is addressing rallies in Bihar and every rally is breaking the record of the previous one, with women coming in very large numbers.

"The women workers of the Bihar BJP are doing splendid work with the resolve of 'Mera Booth, Sabse Mazboot'," Modi said, interacting with women BJP-NDA workers in Bihar via NaMo App.

"I have been observing the polls closely and it is confirmed that the NDA is winning and it is winning big. So I have no questions about the victory but (I want) there should be more and more polling," the prime minister said.

Interacting with a BJP worker who said there is tremendous enthusiasm among the



The PM has been using the "jungle raj" analogy to attack the Mahagathbandhan. 'Jungle raj' is an apparent reference to the time when Bihar was under the rule of RJD chief Lalu Prasad and his wife Rabri Devi

people for the NDA, Modi said her words echo the feeling prevailing among the poor, Dalits, Maha Dalits, backward and extremely backward.

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IN BRIEF



Rajyotsava Award winner donates prize money to five institutions

BENGALURU: NRI entrepreneur and philanthropist Zacharia Jokatte, who was recently conferred the Karnataka Rajyotsava Award, has announced that he will donate the entire cash component of the award — ₹5 lakh — to five humanitarian organisations.

The beneficiaries include Sanidhya Residential School for the Mentally Challenged (Mangaluru), Snehaddeep HIV Home for Children (Bondel), Snehadaya De-addiction Centre (Talapady), Lady Goschen Karunya Project of M. Friends Charitable Trust, and the Hidaya Colony Centre for Specially Aabled Children (Kavalakatta). Each institution will receive ₹1 lakh.

The donations will be formally distributed at a civic felicitation ceremony being organised by the Zacharia Jokatte Fans' Association later this month. The award includes ₹5 lakh in cash, a 25-gram gold medal, a citation, and a memento.

Former minister H Y Meti dies

BENGALURU: Karnataka Congress MLA from Bagalkote and former minister H Y Meti died at a private hospital here on Tuesday, party and hospital sources said. He was 79 and was undergoing treatment for breathing issues and other age-related ailments, they said.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah visited the hospital to pay his last respects to Meti. Meti, who was chairman of the Bagalkote Urban Development Authority, is survived by two sons and two daughters.

The party sources said that his mortal remains will be taken to Bagalkote in the evening, and last rites are likely to be performed on Wednesday afternoon. Meti won elections from the Guledgudda Assembly constituency in 1989, 1994 and 2004 as a Janata Dal member.

After getting elected in 1994, he served as the forest minister. He was also elected as an MP from Bagalkote in 1996. After delimitation of constituencies, he had contested in 2008 from Bagalkote on a Congress ticket, but lost.

He won in 2013 and served as excise minister in the then Siddaramiah-led Congress government, but lost in 2018. He was considered to be among the close associates of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Expressing grief over Meti's death, the CM said, "I had visited the hospital last Thursday and inquired about his health. I was hopeful that he would recover and join us again. Both my hopes and wishes have been dashed."

"Meti, who was in public life for a long time, was a politician who was pro-people and only concerned about the development of the constituency.

The society has become poorer with his demise," he posted on 'X'.

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar too paid his last respects, and said, "Meti was close to me. He came to the party along with Siddaramaiah and served as an MLA and a minister.... May God give his family strength to deal with the loss."

Former Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda, several Congress leaders and ministers in the state government, former CMs B S Yediyurappa and Basavaraj Bommai, state BJP President B Y Vijayendra, among others, have expressed grief over Meti's demise.

Meeting held for Laksha Kantha Gita and Modi's visit to Udupi

HANS NEWS SERVICE
UDUPI

A preparatory meeting for the forthcoming Laksha Kantha Gita Mahayagna and the proposed visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi was held on Tuesday at the Geetha Mandira near the Udupi Sri Krishna Math, under the chairmanship of Paryaya Peetadhipathi Sri Sugunendra Teertha Swamiji of Puthige Math.

The meeting, attended by senior officials of the Udupi District Administration, Police Department, and elected representatives, discussed lo-

gistics, security, and organisational arrangements for the historic event.

In his address, Sri Sugunendra Teertha Swamiji said, "It is a matter of great fortune that the same Narendra Modi who visited Udupi as the Chief Minister of Gujarat during my previous Paryaya will now return as the Prime Minister. This sacred occasion must showcase Udupi's unique culture, hospitality, and spiritual heritage to the world. The Prime Minister's security and convenience will remain the top priority."

He added that the month-

long Geeta Mahotsava will include a Saints' Conclave, a Geeta Mahayaga, and an International Geeta Conference, with participation expected from Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, several Union Ministers, and dignitaries from India and abroad, including the United States.

MLA Yashpal Suvarna lauded the Swamiji's initiatives, noting that his previous Paryaya had contributed significantly to Udupi's development. He said the Prime Minister's upcoming visit would further strengthen the district's overall progress and

called for bipartisan cooperation to ensure the event's success. Deputy Commissioner Swaroopa T.K., SP Hari Ram Shankar, Kapu MLA Suresh Shetty Gurme, former minister Pramod Madhwaraj, and BJP district president Naveen Shetty also addressed the meeting. SP Shankar detailed the proposed security arrangements. The meeting was conducted by Diwan Nagaraja Acharya, and a vote of thanks was delivered by international Secretary Prasanna Acharya. Several prominent members of the Udupi Sri Krishna Math administration were present.



Sugarcane farmers' protest intensifies in Belagavi

VIJAYENDRA GIVES 5-HOUR ULTIMATUM TO SIDDARAMAIAH

HANS NEWS SERVICE
BELAGAVI

THE ongoing agitation by sugarcane farmers entered its sixth day on Monday, with BJP state president B.Y. Vijayendra joining the protest in solidarity. Addressing the farmers at Gurlapur village in Mudalagi taluk, Vijayendra declared that he would not leave the protest site until Chief Minister Siddaramaiah responded to the farmers' demands.

"I give the Chief Minister time till 5 pm today to make a decision. If he fails, I will continue to protest here tomorrow as well. Even though tomorrow is my birthday, I will stay here with you all," Vijayendra said amid cheers from the protesting farmers.

The BJP leader lashed out at the Congress government for its apathy toward farmers' plight. "For the last six days, these farmers have been sitting on the road demanding a fair price for sugarcane. Yet, the government has remained silent. I am not here as an MLA, but



as the son of a farmer and a protester — the son of B.S. Yediyurappa," he said.

He clarified that he was not siding with sugar factory owners but standing for farmers' justice. "Farmers in three districts are demanding fair compensation for their sugarcane crop. Self-respect has another name it is the farmer. No one can tolerate an attack on that self-respect," Vijayendra thundered.

The protest, which began with a few dozen growers, has now drawn widespread attention, with political leaders from various regions extending support. Farmers have accused the state of failing to ensure proper rates

for sugarcane procurement and demanded immediate intervention from the Chief Minister.

Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar responds

Reacting to the issue, Karnataka Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar said both farmers and factory owners should be treated fairly. "We are farmers too. Just because we own factories doesn't mean we don't understand farmers' struggles. No injustice will be allowed against farmers or mill owners," she stated.

Hebbalkar revealed that two meetings had already been held on the issue, and further consultations between farmers and factory

representatives are planned. "If discussions over prices are not handled carefully, things could escalate. We must ensure farmers get what they deserve," she added.

When asked about BJP's involvement in the protest, Hebbalkar remarked, "Let everyone join the farmers' fight beyond politics. The BJP's record in handling farmers' protests at the national level is well-known. If Vijayendra truly cares about farmers, let him show it through action."

Meanwhile, she also confirmed that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is expected to attend the Anganwadi Suvarna Mahotsava event in Bengaluru on November 19 or 20, depending on his schedule.

The sugarcane protest in Belagavi has now emerged as a major political flashpoint between the ruling Congress and the opposition BJP, with both sides trading barbs even as farmers continue their indefinite agitation for fair prices.

Bagalkot trader loses Rs 1.09 cr in online investment fraud

HANS NEWS SERVICE
BAGALKOT

IN yet another shocking case of cybercrime, a businessman from Bagalkot has fallen prey to a massive online investment scam, losing a staggering ₹1.09 crore to fraudsters operating under the fake name "Aastha Trade 903 Strategy Hub."

According to reports, the fraudsters approached the trader on August 12, luring him into joining a so-called online trading group that promised exceptionally high returns on investments.

The group first gained the trader's trust by offering small profits on initial investments, only to coax him into investing larger sums over time. Between September 24 and October 27, the trader transferred a total of ₹1,09,05,800 to the group's account, believing he was participating in legitimate stock trading. Initially, the scammers returned about ₹5 lakh, further strengthening his confidence. However, soon after receiving the bulk



of the funds, the group deleted its online presence and severed all communication with the victim. Realizing he had been duped, the businessman filed a complaint with the Cyber, Economic, and Narcotics (CEN) Police Station in Bagalkot. District Superintendent of Police Siddharth Goyal confirmed the incident and said that the fraudsters' bank accounts have been frozen. An investigation is underway to trace the accused, who are suspected to be part of an interstate cybercrime network.

SP Goyal cautioned citizens against trusting online trading groups or investment apps that promise unusually high profits. "Fraudsters are

using fake online trading platforms and social media groups to target unsuspecting investors. People must verify the authenticity of such platforms before transferring any money," he said.

Cybercrime officers also noted that cases of online financial fraud have been rising sharply across Karnataka, involving fake trading apps, KYC update scams, OTP frauds, and even "digital arrest" extortion rackets.

Authorities have once again urged citizens not to click on suspicious links, share bank details or OTPs with strangers, or engage in financial transactions through unknown online groups.

Varsity study finds anti-cancer potential in arecanut extracts

HANS NEWS SERVICE
MANGALURU



A new study by Yenepoya (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru, has brought encouraging news for arecanut growers, suggesting that arecanut extracts possess strong in vitro anti-cancer properties.

According to Kishore Kumar Kodgi, president of the multi state areca cooperative CAMPCO in a press conference today. The research found that these extracts can effectively inhibit the proliferation, migration, and invasion of cancer cells while remaining non-toxic to normal cells. The findings, according to the university, add to the growing scientific evidence supporting the potential health benefits of arecanut when properly processed and used. Welcoming the study, A Kishore Kumar Kodgi, President of the Central Arecanut and Cocoa Marketing and Processing Co-operative Ltd. (CAMPCO), commended Yenepoya University for undertaking this vital research. He said the study was particularly significant in light of the World Health Organization's recent classification of arecanut as carcinogenic, and noted that such evidence-based studies

from reputed institutions provide a balanced and scientific perspective on the issue.

It may be recalled that Nitte (Deemed to be University) and several other organisations had earlier conducted similar studies suggesting that arecanut may not be carcinogenic and could, in fact, possess cancer-curative properties — reaffirming the crop's traditional and cultural importance.

CAMPCO expressed confidence that scientific validation of this nature would help safeguard the livelihood of lakhs of arecanut growers and counter prevailing misconceptions about the crop. The cooperative also extended its appreciation to the researchers and administrators of Yenepoya University for their contribution to this important field of study.

Maharshi Valmiki tribal residential school building inaugurated at Nagarhole

HANS NEWS SERVICE
MADIKERI

THE renovated building of the Maharshi Valmiki Tribal Residential School at Nagarhole, constructed at a cost of ₹1.8 crore, was inaugurated on Friday by Kodagu District In-charge Minister N.S. Boseraju and Chief Minister's Legal Advisor and MLA A.S. Ponnanna. The project was undertaken jointly by the Kodagu District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, and the Department of Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

After the inauguration, Minister Boseraju interacted with the students and enquired about their learning environment, food quality, and facilities. He asked whether they were receiving eggs, bananas, and "chikki" as



per the weekly menu. When students replied that they had rice, sambar, and ragi balls for lunch, he further inquired about the type of sambar served. The students responded it was made of gram and vegetables, following which the minister advised them to study well and

make the best use of government facilities.

Inspecting dormitories and storage rooms, Boseraju said that several deficiencies in the school had been addressed through this renovation, which included new classrooms, solar power installation, playground de-

velopment, and construction of a protective railway barricade. He added that the Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) would provide additional funds for pending works.

MLA A.S. Ponnanna said efforts were being made to bring tribal students into the mainstream through better infrastructure and learning support. He urged authorities to expedite the remaining works, such as the teachers' quarters, playground facilities, and iron fencing along the railway boundary. He also appealed for the distribution of Forest Rights Certificates to unregularised tribal families in the Nagarhole region.

On the occasion, Minister Boseraju distributed sports materials to students. Several district and local officials were present.

Nobel Prize Dialogue India 2025

Nobel laureates, scientists and students converge at IISc

HANS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU

THE Nobel Prize Dialogue India 2025, held at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, brought together Nobel Laureates, leading scientists, thinkers, and students to explore the theme "The Future We Want." The event was organised in exclusive partnership with the Tata Trusts, focusing on the intersections of science, society, and youth.

Opening the dialogue, Siddharth Sharma, CEO of Tata Trusts, underlined the importance of empowering

India's youth and nurturing innovation. "Our collaboration with Nobel Prize Outreach was forged through a shared belief — that knowledge must be harnessed to serve humanity," he said.

Nobel Laureate David Macmillan (Chemistry 2021) inspired the audience with his talk on organocatalysis and its potential to tackle climate change. "We're one catalytic reaction away from solving it," he remarked, praising India's "bubbling confidence" and calling this "India's moment."

James Robinson, Laureate in Economic Sciences



(2024), stressed the importance of cross-cultural exchange, saying societies progress by "borrowing and

learning from each other."

Urban epidemiologist Tolullah Oni urged greater inclusion of youth

voices in reimagining the future, while Montek Singh Ahluwalia, former Deputy Chairman of the

Planning Commission, highlighted the complexities of global development challenges.

Microbiologist Gagandeep Kang spoke on health innovations and vaccine breakthroughs, while the closing panel — featuring Macmillan, Kang, and biotech entrepreneur Kush Parmar — explored how science and technology can promote both planetary and human well-being.

The sessions were moderated by Owen Gaffney of Nobel Prize Outreach and Jayaram Chengalur of TIFR. Hanna Stjärne, Executive

Director of the Nobel Foundation, lauded the day's exchanges, saying, "By reflecting on shared challenges and learning from one another, we create a dialogue that makes a difference."

Complementing the discussions was the 'Parag Art Wall', a collaborative artwork by 200 children from Bengaluru, Koppal, and Mumbai, depicting their visions of the future. The day concluded with performances by violinist Dr. L. Subramaniam and vocalist Kavita Krishnamurti, celebrating India's fusion of art and science.

IN BRIEF

Notice to govt over 'bribes' taken from dead woman's father

NEW DELHI: The NHRC has sought a report within two weeks from the Karnataka government and state police chief over the alleged collection of bribes from a grieving 64-year-old father of a woman who died after a brain haemorrhage, an official said on Tuesday.

The alleged harassment of the man started after the death of his daughter, an IIT Madras and IIM Ahmedabad graduate working in Bengaluru, who suffered a brain haemorrhage on September 18. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has taken suo motu cognisance of a media report that, while mourning the death of his only daughter, the elderly man was made to pay bribes at every step, including an ambulance driver, police, crematorium staff and civic officials in Bengaluru.

According to the media report, carried on October 30, what should have been a solemn farewell turned into a nightmare of corruption, bureaucracy and inhumanity. The Commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, raise serious issues of violation of human rights.

Therefore, it has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Karnataka, calling for a detailed report on the matter within two weeks.

When the father called an ambulance after the death of his daughter, the ambulance driver apparently overcharged for the services. When he reported his daughter's death to the police, they not only displayed a lack of empathy but also gave copies of the FIR and post-mortem report only after a bribe was paid.

According to the media report, the deceased's family donated the girl's eyes before cremation. Money was again demanded at the crematorium, which the father paid.

There was also a considerable delay in issuing a death certificate from the Mahadevapura Municipal authorities. Despite intervention by a senior officer, the certificate was issued only after the father paid a bribe.

Earlier, the NHRC asked 19 state governments and 4 UT Administrations to take pre-emptive steps and implement relief measures for vulnerable people ahead of the upcoming winter season.

The Commission directed the State and UT governments to protect newborns, children, infants, poor, elderly, homeless, destitutes and people involved in beggary, who are at risk of exposure to cold waves due to lack of shelter and resources, said a statement.

Woman complains of sexual harassment during morning walk

BENGALURU: A 33-year-old woman was allegedly sexually harassed and subjected to public indecency while walking her dog here, police said on Tuesday. The incident occurred in Indiranagar here on November 1, they said.

According to the complaint filed by the victim, around 11:57 a m, when she was walking her pet, suddenly when an unknown man, believed to be in his 30s, called out 'Madam' to get her attention. When she turned, he allegedly began to publicly expose himself and masturbate. The complainant stated that the man intentionally targeted her to outrage her modesty. Shocked by the act, she ran home with her dog and later informed her sister and her friend about the incident.

A case has been registered against the unidentified man for sexual harassment under section 75 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and investigation is underway to identify and

Engineers given weekly targets to demolish illegal buildings



HANS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU

THE drive to remove unauthorized constructions in Bengaluru is picking up pace once again. The Bengaluru East Municipal Zone has set a weekly target for engineers to demolish eight illegal buildings as part of a

renewed crackdown on unauthorized structures.

Following the formation of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), the city's civic officials have intensified their focus on illegal construction activities. Bengaluru East Zonal Commissioner Lokhande Snehal Sudhakar recently convened a coordination meeting with municipal engineers, directing them to implement the demolition plan with strict timelines.

Under the East Zone's jurisdiction, there are 8 divisions, 24 sub-divisions, and 50 wards. Officials have been instructed to compile and maintain complete data related to construction activities in their respective areas within a week.

As per the directive, each division must remove at least one illegal building per week, resulting in a total of eight demolitions weekly across the East Zone. The Commissioner emphasized the need for decisive and lawful action against unauthorized structures, warning engineers against any negligence or delay.

The intensified demolition drive is not limited to the East Zone alone — similar operations are expected to begin across all city zones in the coming weeks under the Greater Bengaluru Authority's oversight.

With civic officials gearing up for large-scale action, all eyes are now on how effectively the city's long-standing issue of illegal constructions will finally be addressed.

HANS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU

THE Halasuru Gate police have busted a major fake currency racket that duped innocent people by promising to "make money rain" using demonetized ₹2000 notes. Acting on a complaint filed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the police arrested 10 accused who were running a well-organized interstate network of fraudsters.

The arrested have been identified as Mohan K, Srinivas Murthy, Raju, Basavaraj, Munishamappa, Mallikarjun, Ramakrishna, Palli Muralidhar, Ramachandra, and Mubarak. According to police sources, the gang used demonetized ₹2000 currency notes whose serial numbers had been tampered with, and circulated them through various banks using unsuspecting intermediaries.

The racket came to light when the RBI detected around 70

10 arrested for cheating people with demonetised ₹2000 notes



fake ₹2000 notes that had been deposited in a local bank. The serial numbers on these notes were found to be tampered versions of genuine old notes that had already been withdrawn from circulation. Based on the RBI manager's complaint, the Halasuru Gate police began an investigation, tracing the source of the deposits.

During interrogation, one of the suspects confessed that he had deposited the notes in exchange for a commission. Further inquiry revealed an elaborate scam in which a few members of the gang posed as "swamijis" or godmen. These fake holy men met gullible victims and promised them a ritual that would miraculously multiply money.

The gang convinced victims that certain ₹2000 notes from specific serial series—such as

the 2018 HS series—had special properties that could generate large sums during a ritual. Mubarak, one of the accused, allegedly handled the task of tampering with the serial numbers on genuine demonetized notes to make them appear authentic.

Victims, lured by greed and superstition, were told to bring cash and meet the "swamijis" alone near rivers or lakes for the ritual. During the ceremony, the fake godmen instructed victims to dip into the water holding the notes, claiming it would activate the magic. By the time the victims resurfaced, the fraudsters had fled with the money.

The police have recovered demonetized ₹2000 notes worth ₹18 lakh from the accused.



Metro phase-3 civil works to begin from JP Nagar

Deadline set for 2031

HANS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU

THE long-awaited Phase 3 of Namma Metro is finally moving forward, with the civil works from JP Nagar 4th Phase to Kempapura in Hebbal set to begin soon. The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has initiated preparations to invite tenders for the project, marking a major milestone in the city's expanding metro network.

The 28.4 km stretch between JP Nagar 4th Phase and Kempapura received Central Government approval over a year ago, but tender calls were delayed due to planning for a double-decker structure along the route. Now, the BMRCL has decided to invite tenders in 10 separate packages for viaduct, station, and depot construction

to facilitate smooth execution.

The Karnataka Government had approved the project back in 2022, and two years later, the Central Government sanctioned the ₹15,611 crore project. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) will extend a loan of ₹7,577 crore, which will also cover the purchase of metro trains.

In addition to the JP Nagar-Kempapura stretch, the Magadi Road-Hosahalli to Kadabagere corridor (8.6 km) will also be developed, bringing the total length of the double-decker line to 37.12 km. The estimated cost of this segment alone is ₹9,700 crore, approved by the State Cabinet in September. Funding for the project will be shared among the State Government (50%), BBMP (10%), and borrowed funds (40%). However, officials

anticipate a 5% increase in total project costs, following the trend seen in previous phases. The first phase cost rose from ₹6,395 crore to ₹14,133 crore, while the second phase saw an escalation from ₹26,405 crore to ₹40,614 crore.

The Phase 3 expansion will include 30 stations, with 7 interchange points, enhancing connectivity across major urban zones. Initially, commercial operations were targeted for 2029, but with delays in tendering and groundwork, the revised completion deadline is now 2031.

The upcoming metro line is expected to ease traffic congestion in South and North Bengaluru, especially along key corridors like JP Nagar, Hebbal, and Outer Ring Road — transforming city mobility once again.

Indian Pharma Fair 14th Edition from Nov 7

BENGALURU

THE 14th edition of the Indian Pharma Fair, South India's biggest pharmaceutical exhibition, will be held at Palace Grounds, Gate No. 9, Princess Shrine, Bengaluru. The event will be inaugurated

by Sri Raghunath Reddy R, President, and A.K. Jeevan, General Secretary, Karnataka Chemists and Druggists Association (KCDA), which also supports the exhibition. The two-day fair will feature over 70 leading pharmaceutical manufacturing

and marketing companies from across India, including Medican Group, Psychocare Health, Zee Laboratories, Medicef Pharma, Matteo Formulations, Kedar Drugs & Pharmaceutical, Elkos Healthcare, Xieon Lifesciences and many others.

City to host 30th European Union Film Festival

HANS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU

THE European Union Film Festival (EUFF) returns with its milestone 30th edition, celebrating three decades of cinematic, cultural, and artistic exchange between Europe and India. The festival which started in Delhi on last Friday will travel to Bengaluru with its biggest and finest curation yet - 24 contemporary European films in 25 languages to be screened from November 7-15, before moving on to Hyderabad. Through this vibrant showcase of European cinema, the festival continues to foster Indo-European cultural collaboration, offering audiences a window into Europe - its people, its stories, and its spirit.

Bengaluru audiences can enjoy the festival across three iconic venues: Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Bangalore, Alliance française de Bangalore and Suchitra Film Society. Organised by the Delegation of the European Union to India, in collaboration with the Embassies of EU Member States and regional partners, EUFF 2025 Bengaluru edition offers Indian audiences a rare opportunity to experience Europe's most celebrated films on the big screen. The festival's curated selection highlights stories of resilience, hope, identity, and creativity, reflecting the shared human experiences that unite audiences across cultures.

Toshiba invites innovators to shape the future of IoT

BENGALURU

TOSHIBA Digital Solutions Corporation, together with Toshiba Software India Pvt. Ltd., is pleased to announce the first ever GridDB Cloud IoT Hackathon, a two-day, in-person event that will take place in Bengaluru, India from January 31 to February 1, 2026. The hackathon invites startups, students, and developers to take on the challenge of developing real-time IoT applications using GridDB® Cloud, Toshiba's fully managed time-series database available on Microsoft Azure Marketplace.

Bajaj Finance records 27% surge in festive loan volume

BENGALURU

BAJAJ Finance Ltd., India's largest private sector non-bank lender and part of Bajaj Finserv, today said it had seen a surge in consumption finance during the festive season, disbursing a record number of consumer loans, higher by 27% in volume and 29% in value as compared to the same period last year.

The rise in consumption credit, represented by loans for consumer goods, reflects the positive outcome of the government's next generation GST reforms and changes in personal income tax, aimed at increasing consumers' purchasing power.

HANS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU

KNOWN across India for its traffic congestion, pothole-ridden roads, and broken footpaths, Bengaluru rarely evokes an image of urban perfection. Yet, in a surprising revelation, a recent viral post has showcased a part of the city that looks nothing short of a modern-day paradise — Bharatiya City in North Bengaluru.

A video shared by the social media account IndianGems has taken the internet by storm, showing clean roads, wide pedestrian pathways, and lush greenery within the privately developed 200-acre township. The user expressed amazement at the meticulous planning and maintenance of the area.

"I was in Bengaluru and stumbled upon this 200-acre private area. I was shocked to see how beautifully it's maintained. The roads were free of potholes and dust, and the footpaths had gardens

and trees. What's stopping our government from maintaining our public roads like this?" the caption read.

The visuals show Bharatiya City's well-paved roads, sprawling parks, cycling-friendly pathways, and towering residential complexes — some rising over 50 floors. The clean and calm environment has left many viewers wondering if this is truly Bengaluru.

The post, uploaded on November 2, has already garnered over 500,000 views, sparking a debate on urban infrastructure and privatisation. One user commented, "Private development is the only way forward if we want clean and well-maintained cities." Another called Bharatiya City "Bengaluru's living paradise."

Spread across 125 acres near Thanisandra, Bharatiya City has been hailed as one of the most well-planned urban developments in the country, setting a new benchmark for sustainable



and livable city design.

The viral post has reignited conversations about the need for better urban planning and maintenance

across Bengaluru — a reminder that a cleaner, greener city is not impossible, but it might just need the right kind of management.



Now, new smart attendance system introduced to curb late reporting by cops has already yielded encouraging results

HANS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU

THE Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) has rolled out a new Artificial Intelligence

(AI)-powered attendance system to ensure its personnel report to duty on time and at the right locations. The department has integrated a geo-tagged e-

attendance feature into its Aastram mobile application, replacing the older biometric machines.

Under the new system, police officers must now mark their attendance using their smart phones. At the start of each shift, they are required to take a selfie with geotag and timestamp, which the AI then cross-verifies with their Aadhaar-linked photograph. This ensures both the identity of the officer and their physical

presence at the designated junction.

A key element of the system is geo-fencing — attendance will only be accepted if the officer is within a 50-square-meter radius of the assigned junction. If they attempt to check in from outside this zone, the system automatically rejects their attendance.

Explaining the move, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Karthik Reddy said, "We have over 1,000

junctions and two shifts — 7 am to 2 pm and 2 pm to 10 pm. Earlier, there was no mechanism to confirm whether an officer was actually present at their assigned location. With this new feature, we can now monitor when and where each officer is stationed."

The system enforces strict punctuality. Officers must check in between 7:00 am and 7:15 am for the morning shift. Those who arrive between 7:15 and 7:30 am are

marked as late, while anyone logging in after 7:30 am is automatically recorded as absent.

According to officials, the system has already yielded encouraging results. With daily deployment across 800 to 1,000 junctions, absenteeism among traffic police personnel has significantly dropped since the introduction of e-attendance. Previously, absenteeism was a persistent issue, but now only one to three officers fail

to report each day.

Additionally, the AI-based monitoring provides real-time alerts to senior officers about patterns of late arrivals or early departures, helping enhance accountability, transparency, and discipline across the force.

Officials believe the move represents a major step forward in modernizing Bengaluru's traffic management system — ensuring that the guardians of road discipline follow discipline themselves.

Rulers, departments ignored early warnings of Montha, complain locals

OFFICIALS OPEN GOPALAPUR LAKE SLUICE GATES USING JCB MACHINES

- Residents say lack of coordination among officials turned into a curse for city
- They say damage occurred because sluice gates of Gopalapur lake were not opened on time
- Citizens express anger over negligence of govt, officials

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HANUMAKONDA

LAST week, the Montha cyclone submerged the city of Hanumakonda. Locals allege that due to the negligence of the Municipal Corporation and Irrigation officials, the drainage canal was not opened, and 100 ft of road canals were blocked, causing water to enter several colonies, causing damage to the people and the government. Finally, on Tuesday, the authorities are taking action on a war footing to



Photo: G Shyam Kumar

drain the flood water. People allege that the public representatives and officials of Warangal and Hanumakonda districts ignored cyclone warnings and failed to take preventive measures, leading to massive losses to crops, lives and property across cities, towns and villages.

After a week of continuous

rainfall subsided, on Tuesday, the irrigation and municipal officials finally opened the Gopalapur lake sluice gates using JCB machines. Locals are furious that this was done too late.

Residents say if the sluice gates and drainage channels had been opened earlier that same day, such large-scale

destruction could have been avoided.

They complain that despite repeated calls and pleas, officials did not respond; their negligence led to flood havoc in Warangal city. Even after a week, people sarcastically remarked that the “officials finally woke up.”

People across the region are criticising the authorities, saying the flood destruction, property loss, and deaths were mainly due to: encroachments on lakes, ponds and drainage channels; lack of coordination and negligence among departments; absence of effective supervision by the rulers.

They say this “curse” has continued from past governments to the present, as lakes and drainage systems were encroached and luxurious buildings were constructed on them. This reduced their capacity, causing floodwaters to overflow onto roads and into houses every monsoon.

Because of the lack of a strong underground drainage system and properly designed main roads, people continue to suffer severe losses each rainy season. They are demanding the government take immediate action — especially since Warangal is called the second capital after Hyderabad. They urge strict measures against long-standing encroachments, demolition of illegal constructions, punishment of offenders and construction of robust underground drainage and main roads.

A week ago, heavy rain and floods caused by Montha resulted in crop, property and human losses.

Citizens are requesting the government quickly collect details through officials and provide compensation to the victims — including financial aid, housing (Indiramma houses) for those who lost their homes, and relief for farmers who lost their crops.



One more RTC bus accident!

PASSENGERS INJURED AS BUS HITS A TRACTOR IN KARIMNAGAR

- The RTC bus from Metpally depot was coming from Hyderabad
- It hit a tractor carrying paddy on the outskirts of Renikunta
- Tractor driver and 15 Bus passengers seriously injured

HANS NEWS SERVICE
KARIMNAGAR

IT hasn't even been a day after the terrible accident of an RTC bus with a lorry in Chevella, another accident occurred; this time in Karimnagar. Passengers in the bus were seriously injured after the road ac-

cident that took place on the Rajiv Rahadari in Renikunta village of Thimmapur mandal in Karimnagar district on Tuesday morning 4.30 am.

The RTC bus (TS21 Z 0116) belonging to Metpally depot coming from Hyderabad and going towards Karimnagar hit a tractor carrying paddy from behind on the outskirts of Renikunta. In this accident, the tractor driver and 15 passengers in the bus were seriously injured.

Meanwhile, after receiving information, the LMD police reached the spot and with the help of locals, shifted the injured to Karimnagar Govern-

ment Hospital for treatment and regulated traffic. It is learnt that the accident happened as the bus driver was sleepy. The grain bags in the tractor fell on the road due to the accident. Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar expressed shock over the accident. The Minister, who is on a visit to Manipur, spoke to the Karimnagar District Collector, doctors of the government hospital and asked them to ensure better medical treatment for the injured.

Bandi expressed concern about the series of road accidents in the state and asked the government to pay special attention to the safety of passengers.

Karimnagar celebrates women’s World Cup win

From students to coaches, to private employees to homemakers – everyone’s basking in the glow of the Indian women’s team lifting the World Cup trophy. It’s a strong message about ‘yes, women can!’ for the sports arena and everyone’s here for it

THIRUNAGARI
VENKATESHWARA SWAMY
KARIMNAGAR

THE town of Karimnagar was filled with joy with the slogan of “Jai Ho Bharat” over Women’s Cricket World Cup win over South Africa by 52 runs.

Sharing pleasure over the victory with The Hans India, Karimnagar District Cricket Association President V Agam Rao said that he felt truly delighted and fortunate to have witnessed the match live at DY Patil Stadium.

He said after their incredible performance in the semifinals, he simply could not afford to miss the match at any cost. “Indian cricket is currently experiencing one of its finest eras, and I believe much of the credit goes to passionate fans like us who have supported the game through every phase. I’m confident that Indian women’s cricket will now reach even greater heights from here on,” Rao said. Kota Manasa, a PG student, said, “It



Chinthoju Bhasker, social activist



Anaberi Nithisha, private employee



V Agam Rao, Karimnagar District Cricket Association President

is very inspiring for women, especially Jemimah Rodrigues. When it comes to the 2025 Women’s World Cup, the first thing that comes to mind for every Indian fan is Jemimah.”

“This batter made such an indelible impression in the tournament. A single innings took her to heights. Jemimah’s name is now being remembered in Indian cricket. If it wasn’t for her fight in the semi-final, India’s story would have been different. No one expected



India to break the world record target against Australia. Jemimah’s amazing century (127 not out) made the home team do the impossible,” she said.

A private employee, Anaberi Nithisha added an emotional note, “The moment the women’s team lifted the World Cup, it wasn’t just about cricket — it was about every sleepless night, every silent tear, every unspoken promise they made to themselves and this nation.”

“This victory speaks of resilience of girls who practiced under fading lights, of women who were once underestimated but never gave up on their worth. They didn’t just play a game; they played for respect, for recognition, for every little girl waiting for her chance to be seen.”

“Today, they wear not just medals, but the pride of a billion hearts. The Indian Women’s Cricket Team has

proven that the world doesn’t hand you your place — you earn it, one brave inning at a time. This is not just their triumph; it’s India’s awakening,” Nithisha said.

“For years, women in cricket fought not only opponents on the field but also stereotypes off it. Every run they scored carried the weight of expectations, every boundary broke another barrier. And today, as they stand at the world’s top, they’ve shown that dreams don’t need permission — they only need determination,” said social worker Chinthoju Bhasker.

“To me, this victory is not just about cricket; it’s about confidence, courage, and change. These women didn’t just bring home a trophy — they brought home hope. Hope for every little girl who dares to pick up a bat, and every parent who now says, “Yes, my daughter can,” Bhasker said.

UTKOOOR RAILWAY STATION TO BE UPGRADED AS CROSSING STATION

HANS NEWS SERVICE
MAHABUBNAGAR

ANIMAL Husbandry and Fisheries Minister Vakiti Srihari has announced that Utkoor Railway Station will soon be upgraded to a crossing station, fulfilling a long-pending dream of residents from the region.

The Minister met with South Central Railway (SVR) General Manager Sanjay Kumar Srivastava in Hyderabad on Tuesday and discussed the proposal in detail.

During the meeting, he emphasized that the project would greatly benefit the people of Makthal, Narayanpet, and Vikarabad regions, along with 30 nearby villages, improving transport and employment opportunities



Vakiti Srihari meeting with South Central Railway General Manager Sanjay Kumar Srivastava in Hyderabad on Tuesday

for nearly 60,000 residents. Srihari said the Telangana State Cabinet has already sanctioned Rs 438 crore for land acquisition under the Vikarabad-Krishna new railway line project, which has been a

long-cherished aspiration of the people of the area. The 122-km line will connect Krishna-Makthal-Narayanpet-Damaragidda-Balampet-Doulthabad-Kodan-gal-Parigi-Vikarabad, with Utkoor being one of the key

stations along the route.

He explained that once Utkoor is upgraded to a crossing station, it will make travel and daily commuting easier for thousands who depend on nearby cities for livelihood. “This upgrade will mark a new chapter in rural connectivity and economic development for the entire region,” the Minister said.

Responding to the Minister’s appeal, Srivastava assured that the upgradation process would be taken up soon.

The meeting was also attended by SCR Deputy General Manager Kotla Uday Nath, Railway Secretary Srinivas, Utkoor Congress Party President Yagneshwar Reddy, Shiva, and other local representatives.

COTTON FARMERS CRY!



Photos : G Shyam Kumar



Farmers agitated as cotton in Warangal’s Enumamula market yard gets soaked due to rain on Tuesday.

Town submerged as heavy rains lash Nagarkurnool

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NAGARKURNOOL

UNDER the influence of a deep depression, Nagarkurnool town experienced heavy downpours accompanied by thunder and lightning for nearly two hours on Tuesday evening. The sudden cloudburst turned several colonies into waterlogged zones, severely disrupting traffic and normal life.

Major junctions such as the Telephone Exchange area and Ambedkar Chowrasta were inundated, leaving several vehicles stranded in floodwaters. Residents were taken by surprise as the unseasonal rains wreaked havoc across the town.

Locals expressed concern that the erratic weather pattern — with unusually heavy rains at the onset of winter — is causing serious inconvenience. Tanks, ponds, and local streams are overflowing due to the relentless showers, leaving several low-lying areas submerged.



Centre allocates ₹2,000 cr for rural roads in state

- Centre sanctions funds under SASCI
- Deputy CM Pawan directs officials to prioritise quality, durability and repairs to damaged panchayat raj roads
- Says funds were secured with PM's support and CM Naidu's guidance
- Stresses that there should be no compromise on engineering norms, multiple quality checks, personal field inspections

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

THE Central government sanctioned Rs 2,000 crore under the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) scheme for improving rural roads across the state. Deputy Chief Minister and minister for panchayat raj and rural development Pawan Kalyan directed officials to make the best use of these funds to provide durable roads to the people. Chairing a review with senior panchayat raj and engineering officials on Tuesday, Pawan Kalyan said that there should be no compromise on quality standards in road construction. "The responsibility for maintaining quality lies entirely with the administrative machinery," he said. The Deputy CM instructed officials to

give priority to repairing the most damaged panchayat raj roads across villages and ensure that construction is carried out strictly in accordance with engineering norms. He noted that these funds were made possible with the support of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and under the guidance of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, marking yet another step forward in strengthening rural infrastructure. "Every rupee must translate into tangible benefits for the people," he asserted. Pawan said that multiple quality checks would be conducted from the construction stage till completion. He warned contractors and officials that any deviation from prescribed standards would invite action. "Neither negligence nor irregularities will



be tolerated. I, along with experts, will personally inspect road works at the field level," he said. As part of the SASCI fund allocation, the government has decided to spend Rs 35 crore on strengthening Panchayat Raj roads in Puttaparthi, in view of the centenary celebrations of Sri Sathya Sai Baba, as part of infrastructure development works. "The coalition government, with consistent support from the Centre, is determined to secure and

Kolleru Lake Management Authority formed for sustainable conservation

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

THE state government constituted the Kolleru Lake Management Authority (KLMA) for the sustainable management and development of the Kolleru Wildlife Sanctuary. The order, issued by principal secretary for environment, forests, science and technology Kantilal Dande, follows the recommendation of the National Board for Wildlife's (NBWL) Standing Committee and aligns with the approved management plan of Kolleru Wildlife Sanctuary. The newly-formed authority will be chaired by the chief secretary of Andhra Pradesh, with the principal secretary (EFS&T) as vice-chairman. Senior officials from revenue, fisheries, agriculture, panchayat raj and water resources departments will serve as members. The principal chief conservator of forests (wildlife) will act as the member-convenor. The authority will serve as a neutral coordinating agency to balance competing ecological and developmental interests. Its mandate includes preparing



- The state govt constitutes the body to ensure sustainable management and development of the Kolleru Wildlife Sanctuary
- The authority, chaired by the CS, will coordinate multiple departments to balance ecological protection with developmental needs
- KLMA will prepare an Integrated Management Plan, oversee pollution control, biodiversity conservation and promote sustainable livelihoods and ecotourism

an Integrated Management Plan for the Kolleru Lake, restoring hydrological regimes, improving water quality, controlling pollution, managing siltation, conserving biodiversity, and promoting sustainable fisheries and ecotourism. It will also execute multi-disciplinary projects, promote alternate livelihood opportunities, and collaborate with state, national and international institutions.

The authority is empowered to acquire movable and immovable property as needed for lake conservation without ecological harm. Meetings of the Kolleru Lake Management Authority will be held at least once every three months, with provisions for special meetings in case of urgent matters. Half the members, including the chairman, will constitute a quorum for decision-making.

SIT GETS CUSTODY OF 7 IN SPURIOUS LIQUOR CASE

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

THE Sixth Additional Judicial Magistrate of the First Class on Tuesday ordered five-day SIT custody for seven accused in the spurious liquor case. Those remanded were Ravi (A4), Badhal Das (A7), Pradeep Das (A8), Srinivas Reddy (A11), Kalyan (A12), Ramesh Babu (A15), and Allah-bakshi (A16). All were previously lodged in Vijayawada district jail. The police had also arrested former minister Jogi Ramesh on Sunday in connection with the same case. He is currently in Nellore Central Jail. With the court granting SIT custody, investigators expect major leads on the network behind the adulterated liquor racket and hope to make progress in related cases registered at Mulakalacheruvu and Ibrahimpatnam. SIT officials have already questioned Janardhan Rao and Jagan Mohan Rao earlier in the same investigation.

Ensuring permanent livelihoods to BCs is govt's aim: Savitha

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

BC, EWS welfare, handlooms and textiles minister S Savitha on Tuesday said that the coalition government is committed to providing permanent livelihood opportunities to caste-based and traditional artisans by supplying them with modern equipment. She said that the government's priority is to strengthen backward classes economically and socially through schemes like Aadarna 3.0. Speaking at an interaction with chairpersons and directors of seven BC corporations at the BC Bhavan in Gollapudi here, the minister said the government would not only allocate funds to these corporations but also enhance the dignity and responsibilities of their board members. As part of Aadarna 3.0, she collected feedback from corporation heads on the types of tools and machinery required for their respective caste-based professions. Savitha recalled that it was the TDP that first gave political, economic and social recognition to BC communities, beginning with N T Rama Rao and now continued by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu. She highlighted initiatives



BC welfare minister S Savitha addressing chairpersons and directors of seven BC corporations at BC Bhavan in

- BC welfare minister says that coalition govt is striving to providing permanent livelihoods for caste-based artisans via modern equipment under Aadarna 3.0, with Rs 1,000 cr allocated
- Gathers feedback on required tools/machinery from BC corporation heads, pledges enhanced funding, dignity and responsibilities for board members

such as installing inverters, CCTV cameras and RO plants in BC hostels and gurukul schools, supplying sports kits and track suits to students, and offering free coaching for DSC and civil services for unemployed BC youth. The minister said Rs 1,000 crore has been earmarked for Aadarna 3.0 to modernise traditional occupations and ensure sustainable income for artisans. A survey has already been conducted to

identify profession-wise equipment needs, and a final report will be submitted to the Chief Minister after incorporating inputs from corporation chairpersons, she said. Savitha urged corporation boards to take government welfare schemes to the grassroots and counter misconceptions spread during the previous regime. Senior BC welfare officials and corporation chairpersons attended the meeting.

150 YEARS OF VANDE MATARAM

BJP to conduct statewide programmes

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

IN connection with the completion of 150 years of the patriotic song Vande Mataram, Andhra Pradesh BJP president P V N Madhav called for special programmes to be held across the state on November 7. Addressing a teleconference with BJP MPs, MLCs, MLAs, and state-level leaders on Tuesday, Madhav announced that BJP SC Morcha state president Panthal Suresh would serve as the state in-charge for the anniversary programmes. He said the Vande Mataram song, written by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, played a pivotal role in the Indian freedom struggle and united people from Kashmir to Kanyakumari under one patriotic spirit. Madhav recalled that in Vinukonda, people were fired upon by the British for singing Vande Mataram, while in Rajamahendravaram, youth were inspired by the song to launch a local freedom movement. He emphasized that the song also played a major role in opposing the partition of Bengal. The BJP leader pointed out that Vande Mataram was shortened at the 1923 Congress session held in Kakinada, and only a portion of it is sung today. "As we commemorate 150 years of Vande Mataram, we must sing the full version of this national song," he said. Madhav added that the main event of the anniversary celebrations would be held in Kakinada on November 7, with simultaneous programmes planned in all districts in the state.



BJP Andhra Pradesh president P V N Madhav

Kollu urges granite units to end strike, forms committee



Ministers Kollu Ravindra, Gottipati Ravi Kumar and Dola Balaveeranjane Swamy meet representatives of the Granite Cutting and Polishing Units Associations at the Secretariat on Tuesday

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

MINES and excise minister Kollu Ravindra on Tuesday urged owners of granite cutting and polishing units to immediately withdraw their strike and resume operations, stressing that the workers dependent on the industry were suffering due to the shutdown. Addressing representatives of the Granite Cutting and Polishing Units Associations from the erstwhile Guntur and Prakasam districts at the Secretariat, the minister assured that all legitimate issues raised by the industry would be addressed without delay. Ministers Gottipati Ravikumar and Dola Balaveeranjane Swamy, along with MLAs Eluri Sambasiva Rao and B N Vijay Kumar, were present at the meeting.

- Mines minister urges granite unit owners in Guntur and Prakasam districts to end their strike, stressing the impact on workers' livelihoods
- The govt forms a high-level committee to review issues like the uniform sintering fee and suggest solutions within a week

The association representatives highlighted the financial burden caused by the uniform sintering fee levied on all grades of raw material, requesting the government to rationalize the system. They said that while industries were committed to fulfilling obligations to the government, the current structure was rendering op-

erations unviable. In response, Ravindra announced the formation of a high-level committee comprising the joint director (mining), the district DMGO, a representative from the seigniorage collection agency and two members from each association to study and resolve key issues faced by the units. The minister directed the committee to hold consultations with stakeholders and submit a detailed report within one week. The minister reiterated that the government was committed to protecting both industry interests and the livelihood of workers. "All concerns will be examined and resolved fairly. There should be no disruption to production," he said, urging entrepreneurs to restore normalcy immediately.

Jagan slams TDP's 'anti-farmer' policies

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AAKUMARRU (KRISHNA DISTRICT)

YSRCP president YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on Tuesday criticised the ruling coalition government that it has failed to protect farmers affected by recent cyclones and weakened the state's farmer welfare framework. He urged the government to immediately clear pending crop insurance claims and warned that the YSRCP would launch protests if the demand was not met. After visiting cyclone-hit fields and interacting with farmers, Jagan said that many cultivators had suffered extensive crop loss but were yet to receive compensation. He blamed Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu for discontinuing the earlier crop insurance scheme, claiming this has left lakhs of farmers without support. He

- Demands immediate crop insurance payout
- Accuses the ruling coalition of neglecting cyclone-hit farmers and failing to clear pending crop insurance dues of about Rs 600 cr
- Blames CM for ending the earlier insurance scheme, alleging that thousands of farmers were left without relief

demand payment of pending arrears, including Rs 600 crore, and urged the government to bear the premium for the upcoming Rabi season. He alleged that the enumeration of crop damage was rushed and inaccurate, with officials asked to finish the process in a single day, leading to underreporting of losses. According to him, farmers in several districts complained that no official had inspected their fields. He also claimed that those who applied for insurance were being discouraged by restricting paddy procurement.

Jagan accused the government of failing to provide timely help despite multiple natural calamities in the last 18 months. He said promises of an input subsidy of Rs 20,000 per farmer were not fulfilled. He contrasted this with the YSRCP's previous term, stating that input subsidies, crop insurance payments, and Minimum Support Price guarantees were delivered promptly. He also alleged irregularities in crop loss data, citing discrepancies in e-cropping records, and demanded immediate full compensation for all affected farmers.



YSRCP president Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy inspects rain-damaged paddy crop at Aakumarru in Krishna district on Tuesday

State turned is under 'criminal regime': Sajjala

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TADEPALLI

YSRCP state coordinator Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy on Monday criticised the ruling coalition, alleging that governance in the state had become what he described as a "criminalised political regime." Speaking at the party headquarters here, he said that institutions meant to safeguard rights and democratic processes have weakened since June 2024. Ramakrishna Reddy cited the arrest of former minister Jogi Ramesh as an instance of what he called politically motivated action. He claimed the government was using law enforcement agencies to target opposition leaders while protecting those aligned with it. According to him, "arrests are being made first, while evidence is arranged later," and police officials unwilling to cooperate

- YSRCP leader accuses coalition govt of weakening democratic institutions and using police to target opposition leaders like Jogi Ramesh with 'fabricated evidence'
- Alleges large-scale illegal liquor operations under official protection, citing Tamballapalle case and belt shops, claiming QR codes fail to address the issue

are sidelined. He also alleged large-scale illegal liquor operations in the state, referring to the Tamballapalle case and claiming that unauthorised liquor units and belt shops were operating with official protection. He said the government's introduction of QR codes for liquor did not address the core issue and accused the administration of shielding those involved. Referring to several cases including those of spurious liquor case accused A Janardhan Rao, social media activist Savindra and the Tuni minor case, Ramakrishna Reddy alleged that

fabricated evidence and misuse of criminal laws were being used to harass critics and political opponents. He also held the government responsible for the Kasibugga temple stampede, stating that advance warnings were ignored. The YSRCP leader accused Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and TDP national general secretary Nara Lokesh of running a governance model driven by political vendetta. He appealed to the media and civil society to "protect democratic values" and warned that the situation could deteriorate further if not addressed.

Intense battle on in Bengaluru for a ‘new’ Congress CM

THE penultimate month of 2025 has begun in an unexpectedly turbulent manner in Karnataka. After all, the struggle for the pinnacle of power in the south-western state of India – the CM post – had been set in motion right from the day Congress assumed power in May 2023. While it is still unclear whether it had the backing of the high command or not, it seemed like there was an undeclared agreement between the top two leaders – Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D K Shivakumar – that the two would trade places at the midpoint of the five-year government, which happens to be this month. As the deadline drew near, the pulls and pressures from both

lobbies started impacting the political atmosphere in the state for some weeks now. While the CM, who has survived similar power struggles throughout his long career, emphatically denied existence of any such power-sharing arrangement and asserted that he would last the full term, the Deputy CM, also the state unit chief, was not openly contradicting it yet had enough backers within the state Congress unit and government to raise a call in his favour. After having joined the Congress nearly 20 years back, Siddaramaiah has proved to be more useful and effective to the New Delhi power lobby.

His smart usage of the potent minority and backward caste cards

have kept his detractors a little wary of what his next moves could be and presumably, a better candidate for remaining at the top of the helm. In contrast, a life-long Congressman, Shivakumar, has been feted for his crisis management dexterity and ability to raise funds for various political wheeling-dealing in States where Congress is in power. Yet, he has been deprived of the CM chair as he doesn't have the aggregating influence of his arch-rival, who has survived vicious criticism from Opposition parties who have targeted him for his appeasement and conciliatory politics with caste groups and a defiant anti-Hindutva streak in most of his actions. Shivakumar has also not earned much apprecia-

tion for his ‘friendly’ attitude with the Opposition (read BJP) which has added to the former's problems by extending a welcoming approach if ever he decides to switch sides. That may not happen as DKS, as he is popularly known, has exhibited unflinching loyalty to the GOP high command and is unlikely to do something catastrophic as joining hands with his political foes.

Yet, vested interests on both sides keep loading the media with their sensational observations, the latest being that of Yathindra, son of the incumbent CM, who had predicted that his father may not be seen in active politics for long and speculated that a minister from Belagavi may be his replacement. Divided

that the Congress party is in the state, no one is now bothered to cover themselves with ambivalent statements or comments and freely express their opinions about whom they want as the next CM, provided the ‘November revolution’ takes effect. Bengaluru is awash with speculation and intense rumours on the power struggle drama once again as it has been in the past month or so. Bihar election results are awaited by Congress, which senses that they may be in with a chance to dislodge NDA and silence dissent in party units by announcing cabinet reshuffles or appeasing rebels with a post or two. The battle has just taken a pause, but it has not come to a grinding halt, for sure.

LETTERS

Guru Nanak Jayanthi today

GURU Nanak Gurburab holds profound significance as a day to honour the holy Guru and embody his teachings, encouraging followers to fight the five vices-lust, greed, attachment, anger and pride. His teachings are embedded in the Guru Granth Sahib, the holy book of Sikhs. Guru Nanak Jayanthi, also known as Gurburab, which is being celebrated on Wednesday (Nov 5) is a momentous occasion for the Sikh community worldwide. It marks the birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, the revered founder of Sikhism. According to Sikh tradition, this celebration takes place on the full moon day of the Indian lunar month of Kartik.

C K Subramaniam, Navi Mumbai

Chevella horror: HC must take suo motu cognizance

IT'S heartbreaking that three college-going sisters from the same family died in a road accident at Chevella that killed 19 people on Monday. The impact was devastating - the truck, overloaded with small stones, left passengers half-buried under the debris. Who has the courage to console the victims' families, and who will take responsibility for the potholes that led to the collision? The High Court of Telangana should take suo motu cognizance of the accident and hold the Telangana government accountable for the poor maintenance of Hyderabad's roads.

Ganti Venkata Sudhir, Secunderabad

Highway roads turn deathtraps

THE bus-truck collision on the National Highway near Mirjaguda, which claimed 19 lives, is a grim reminder of the quality of roads on the National Highway and the apathy of the state transport department. The accident was caused due to a pothole on the road that the truck driver tried to avoid and ended up colliding with the bus. Huge loans are taken from the World Bank to build National Highways, and the citizens also pay toll tax and yet the condition of roads remain pathetic and risky. Will the Minister of Highways and State Minister of Transport own responsibility for the mishap?

P R Ravinder, Hyderabad

Punish errant drivers

THE gruesome accident near Chevella, involving a tipper truck and TGSRTC bus which collided head-on resulting in the death of 19 people was heart-wrenching. Some deaths were due to gravel being thrown on the passengers much like a shrapnel in a bomb blast; and burying the unwary travellers. Over speeding seems to be the cause for the accident. Rash and negligent driving must be strictly curbed on highways, which can be done by way of severe punishment and heavy penalties.

S Lakshmi, Hyderabad

Don't malign women players

MANY self-styled cricket lovers celebrate players one day and trash them the next. Even as praise poured in for the Indian women's team after their historic World Cup win, an ugly post targeted one of the key players, who helped India cross the final hurdle. The troll mocked her saying her “God was on holiday” — a cheap and disgraceful remark. Such venom shows how shallow and reactionary our fandom has become. Sport is about respect, not ridicule. True supporters stand by their players through both triumph and trial. It's time we learn to cheer with dignity, not spew hate when things don't go our way.

N Nagarajan, Hyderabad

Mazumdar displayed Chak De! spirit

A MOL Muzumdar, the unsung hero of Indian cricket, displays the spirit of coach Kabir Khan in Chak De! India. He never played for India but coached our women to the 2025 World Cup glory. With calm resolve and fierce faith, he united warriors and shattered barriers. His mantra is ‘believe, build, conquer’.

TS Karthik, Chennai-10

Women empowerment in Indian sport

A PROPOS ‘Harman's angels cast a spell for ages’ (THI, Nov 4), close on the heels of the men in blue winning the Asia Cup, the women in blue won the coveted ICC Women's World Cup for the first time. Surely this achievement will not only bolster women empowerment in Indian sport but also instil gender parity in the same. Indian women players displayed their abilities to match their male counterparts in every department of the game, an apt representation of sport in India, where cricket is almost a religion and cricketers' demigods.

Dr George Jacob, Kochi

thehansreader@gmail.com

BENGALURU ONLINE

Engineers given weekly targets to demolish illegal buildings

BENGALURU: The drive to remove unauthorized constructions in Bengaluru is picking up pace once again. The Bengaluru East Municipal Zone has set a weekly target for engineers to demolish eight illegal buildings as part of a renewed crackdown on unauthorized structures. Following the formation of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), the city's civic officials have intensified their focus on illegal construction activities.

Bengaluru East Zonal Commissioner Lokhande Snehal Sudhakar recently convened a coordination meeting with municipal engineers, directing them to implement the demolition plan with strict timelines. Under the East Zone's jurisdiction, there are 8 divisions, 24 sub-divisions, and 50 wards. Officials have been instructed to compile and maintain complete data related to construction activities in their respective areas within a week. As per the directive, each division must remove at least one illegal building per week, resulting in a total of eight demolitions weekly across the East Zone.

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

The decline of moral ethics and values in marital life



TADAKAMALLA MURALIDHAR

In Hindu tradition, marriage is considered a sacrament that unites two souls and two families. However, the present marriage system in India, whether arranged or love, is undergoing significant pressure and witnessing a transformation because of declining values within the families.

Spouses shift their responsibility and accountability for their own actions, which is known as the “blame game” resulting in misunderstandings, quarrels and fights and lack of happiness in marital life. The harmony between the spouses is damaged and a bitter experience is left between the two families of the married couple.

Thus, there is a possibility of breaking of the marital bond. The mind turns towards wrong thoughts about the spouse. One of the reasons is the absence of elders in the family to guide the younger ones and there are not as many joint families as there used to be earlier.

The ego of “me, mine” distances the couple from the idea of “we, ours”. Like adding fuel to the fire, the instigation of parents also causes damage to the system.

In today's system, extra-marital affairs in the name of civilization are destroy-

ing marital life. Thus, situations arise in which the spouses do not want to live together.

The Union Government brought the Family Courts Act in 1984 as a viable measure to resolve rifts, misunderstandings and conflicts between the husband and wife through mediation, keeping them together without going in for a divorce, and providing speedy justice.

In Telangana State, three Family Courts were established for the first time in 1994 at the level of District Judge. Today, there is one Family Court in each district headquarters apart from two in the Hyderabad City limits, one in Secunderabad limits, three in NTR Nagar in Rangareddy district limits and one each in Malkajigiri and Kukatpally.

Approximately 2,000 to 2,500 cases are pending in each Family Court and each presiding judge calls about a hundred cases for hearing every day. Keeping in mind the increasing number of cases, unlike other courts, Family Courts are hearing cases even on Saturdays.

The presiding judges are working under a lot of pressure and carrying an unbearable burden because of the huge number of cases piled up before them.

Dispensation of justice by the presiding judges as desired by the divorcing couple is not an easy task. The two sides throw mud at each other with accusations, stubbornness, jealousy and hatred and sometimes quarrels in the courtroom itself. Filing of cases with false accusations with a malicious intention and trying to hurt the op-



The two sides throw mud at each other with accusations, stubbornness, jealousy and hatred and sometimes quarrels in the courtroom itself. Filing of cases with false accusations with a malicious intention and trying to hurt the opponent in some way, intentional violation of court orders, and even accusations against the judge for any delay in issuing orders or for not delivering the expected order are not uncommon.

ponent in some way, intentional violation of court orders, and even accusations against the judge for any delay in issuing orders or for not delivering the expected order are not uncommon.

Before the advent of the Family Courts Act, 1984 three judges, namely District Judge, Senior Civil Judge, and Magistrate, used to deal with matters pertaining to estranged spouses with different duties. However, after the enactment of this Act, all those duties are tacked to the Family Court Judge. The main duty of the Fam-

ily Court Judge is to first bridge the gap between the couple through mediation and overcome the problems and keep them together, and only as a last resort, grant order of divorce by dissolution of marriage.

Apart from these, restitution of conjugal rights, judicial separation for six months as provided by the law, declaration of marriage as nullity, custody of children, property disputes between husband and wife, temporary and permanent maintenance and domestic abuse cases are all dealt with by the Family Courts.

A significant portion

of divorce cases involve young couples with good income. There has been a large increase in two types of cases i.e., cases of divorce sought by mutual consent after one year of marriage under Section 13-B and cases where the spouses seek declaration of annulment of marriage within a month of marriage under Section 12.

In cases instituted under Section 13-B, the most common reason cited by the estranged couples for divorce is that their differences were irreconcilable and they are unable to get along in life. Once the mar-

Bihar-The seat of ancient Indian civilisation

DR HYMA MOORTHY

Bihar, the region known historically as Magadha, Anga and Mithila has over the years evolved and transformed itself into a developing state, which makes for a laudable development.

In keeping with its rising status, this month's Assembly elections in the State has become a prestigious issue for several key players, especially to all political contenders in the fray as also the stakeholders and the people across the national firmament.

A unique feature of Bihar is that the more you try to understand the entire gamut of its politics, the more likely that it slips away like sand through your fingers. Not surprisingly, the upcoming elections are generating significant interest across the country, more so because the eventual outcome will have a significant bearing on national politics.

As things stand, the electoral dynamics of one of the largest states in India that are characterised by complex caste equations and high-stake battles make it a closely watched event.

What I gathered from television channels and pod-

casts is that people at the nukkads, tea stalls and village court yards, with their spirited conversations show that they keep track of the State's politics, and display their preferred ideas or parties. This shows that they are politically mature. The characteristic of every Bihar is that the individual nurtures a revolutionary temperament and speaks with a fearless mind.

Lest one forgets, this is the land of Gautama Buddha, Vardhamana Mahavira- the last Jain Tirthankara, and Chanakya. It is this very land that was once ruled by the Great Mauryan Empire, which unified a large part of the Indian sub-continent.

The Gupta Empire, often referred to as India's Golden Era, for its advancements in art, science and philosophy flourished in this region with Pataliputra (the present day Patna) as their capital.

Going deeper, Bihar was the seat of prestigious ancient Universities like Nalanda, Vikramshila, Odantapuri and Telhara, which figures prominently in the travel accounts of Chinese traveller HiuenTsang, and Mithila University, which were major centres of learning with a global reputation.



They once symbolized the grandeur of ancient Indian Civilization.

Overtime, Bihar gradually lost its lustre and its rich heritage, glorious past and pioneering intellectual traditions. It has been observed that people from Bihar often hesitate to identify themselves as Biharis due to the negative connotations associated with the term. Historically, the word “Bihari” has evolved from a neutral geographical identifier to a derogatory label, symbolizing backwardness, poverty and lack of sophistication. It is such extremes that films and even the media often portray Biharis in a negative light, reinforcing stereotypes

and stigmatising the community.

However, of late, there is a growing movement to reclaim the term “Bihari” and challenge these negative perceptions. Many people from Bihar proudly declare their roots, using phrases like “Bihari hoon, garv hai” (I am a Bihari, and I am proud of it) to promote a positive identity to counter stereotypes.

One should not forget that Biharis are well represented in civil services, engineering and medical fields due to several factors. The State has a rich tradition of prioritising education with many students excelling in competitive exams at all

Historically, the word “Bihari” has evolved from a neutral geographical identifier to a derogatory label, symbolizing backwardness, poverty and lack of sophistication. It is such extremes that films and even the media often portray Biharis in a negative light, reinforcing stereotypes and stigmatising the community. However, of late, there is a growing movement to reclaim the term “Bihari” and challenge these negative perceptions.

India level. One can come across countless quality technical and medical institutions, thanks to the initiatives launched by the State government.

Bihari culture places high value on merit and hard work, which together drive students to excel academically and secure prestigious jobs and be assured of a prosperous future.

Bihar elections are crucial for all the parties as their reputation and leadership is being tested. At the end of the day, the real winners should be the people of Bihar. It's crucial for the elected representatives to

prioritise the State's development, progress and welfare of the people. Bihar has immense potential. A pro-people government can tap it to the fullest and also open up opportunities for its citizens, to eventually propel growth and prosperity.

One hopes that the focus of the contenders will be on key issues like infrastructure, education, and healthcare and job creation to ultimately improve the quality of life for the people of Bihar. All said and done, Bihar, especially its people, deserves leaders who will work tirelessly and strive for all-round betterment.

Residents share tremor experiences on social media

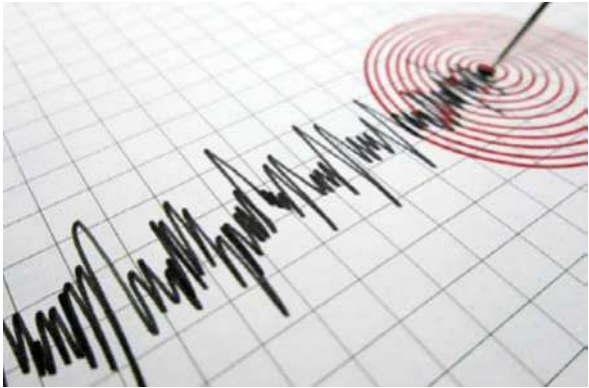
- Several parts of Vizag experienced mild tremors in the wee hours of Tuesday
- Early risers, however, were quick enough to sense the vibrations
- People shared their experiences through social media platforms

RANI DEVALLA
VISAKHAPATNAM

THE sound of clinking glasses woke Mohan Krishna up at around 4.20 am on Tuesday.

Initially, he thought it was just another dream but soon he realised that the sound was emanating from the glasses kept a little close to his cot.

“For a split second I felt the tremor too. But then I thought it’s just the usual early morning giddiness I feel at times as soon as I get out of the bed,” the resident



Visakhapatnam experienced mild tremors on Tuesday



of Gopalapatnam reasoned.

It’s only when his mobile phone began receiving alerts on social media platforms, his worst fears have been confirmed.

Even as many were asleep, several parts of Visakhapatnam witnessed tremors that lasted for a few seconds in the early hours of Tuesday.

K Satish Babu, an entrepreneur, sensed a mild jerk when he woke up to

get ready for a yoga session.

“As soon as I woke up, I literally felt a mild jerk and assumed that it was just my imagination,” the resident of Gajuwaka recalled.

Officials confirmed that Visakhapatnam recorded a mild earthquake with low intensity on November 4 at about 4.20 am. Along with Visakhapatnam, they said, neighbouring districts also recorded tremors.

While the epicenter

ECoR to focus on infra, development initiatives

- MPs appreciate the developmental initiatives undertaken by the Waltair Division
- Key discussions focused on the construction of Amrit Bharat stations
- Introduction of new train services from Araku, Koraput, Jagdalpur, Raygada and Srikakulam to various destinations

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VISAKHAPATNAM



MPs and ECoR officials discussing at the meeting held in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday

MPs from Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh shared constructive insights and recommendations aimed at enhancing railway infrastructure and passenger amenities across the division.

At a meeting of the Divisional Committee of Members of Parliament (MPs) of Waltair Division, East Coast Railway (ECoR), convened here on Tuesday, they appreciated the developmental initiatives undertaken by the Waltair Division, while also highlighting various concerns regarding train services, stoppages, and onboard facilities.

Raygada and Srikakulam to various destinations, increased frequency of trains to busy destinations such as Chennai, Bangalore, and Tirupati, extension of existing services, capacity augmentation projects, including new lines, doubling, tripling, and construction of a fourth line, infra projects like new Road Under Bridges (RUBs) and Road Over Bridges (ROBs), commencement of Raygada division, South Coast Railway, etc.

structure.

General Manager of ECoR, Parmeshwar Funkwal shared updates on the zone’s operational performance, major infrastructure initiatives, and ongoing improvements in passenger services.

Divisional Railway Manager of Waltair Lalit Bohra made a detailed presentation on the division’s developmental activities, financial year performance, progress of Amrit Bharat Station projects and infrastructure enhancement measures.

Cops detain two for supplying mule accounts through betting apps

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VISAKHAPATNAM

VISAKHAPATNAM Police arrested two persons Madhava and Srikanth from Madhavahara and Venkoji Palem in Visakhapatnam city who were involved in online cricket betting through Reddyanna, Sprinters, Mahadev Book, Stake786 platforms and through mule accounts.

Money mule accounts are purposefully created by setting up a fake company and opening current accounts in the name of the firm and selling that account to cyber criminals. Visakhapatnam Cyber Crime police arrested the accused and sent them to remand.

Since betting gangs need a huge number of bank accounts for money dealings, the police increased their surveillance on Visakhapatnam-based accused Madhava and Srikanth. Based on reliable information, the police probed into the case with technical evidence and detained the accused.

During the investigation, the police found that Madhava and Srikanth opened about 35 bank accounts and supplied the mule accounts to platforms like Reddyanna, Sprinters, Mahadev Book, Stake786.

For this, they received a huge amount in the form of commission. All the accounts were opened in Karur Vysya Bank, APGVB Bank, Karnataka Bank and Indian Overseas Bank. The account details were transferred to a person Prem of Bhilai in Chhattisgarh and from there the details were sent to Delhi.

RTA conducts traffic awareness for educational institutions

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VISAKHAPATNAM

IN times of emergency, the Road Transport Authority and traffic officials explained how to handle the situation and rescue the children.

At an awareness programme organised jointly by the Road Transport Authority (RTA) and city traffic police at the transport department office for managements of educational institutions and vehicle drivers here on Tuesday, they spoke about the safety aspects to be followed by the school bus drivers. In the wake of the recent fatal bus accident that left 19 dead, the awareness session was held to alert the institution managements to stay alert, work swiftly in times of any contingency and save lives. As per the instructions of the Andhra Pradesh State Transport Commissioner Manish Kumar Sinha, the representatives of educational institutions and vehi-



RTA and city traffic police jointly organising an awareness session in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday

cle drivers were made aware about the emergency door, vehicle speed limit, and fire alarm systems. Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Transport Commissioner RCH Srinivasa Rao suggested the school managements give appropriate instructions to the vehicle drivers at regular intervals to follow norms.

He mentioned that a person who is above 60 years of

A Two-day-long ‘AP MSME Export Convention’ on Nov 9

HANS NEWS SERVICE
ANAKAPALLI

THE Andhra Pradesh MSME Export Convention will be organised by the State Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Department (AP MSME) on November 9 and 10, informed District Collector Vijaya Krishnan.

Engineering goods, electronics and electrical components, drugs and pharmaceuticals, textiles and apparel, automobiles and auto components, agro and food processing, chemicals and chemical products, and marine products sectors will showcase their products during the conference, the District Collector mentioned.

Buyers from Japan, Sri Lanka, Russia, New Zealand, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Hungary, and Costa Rica will participate in the conference, Vijaya



District Collector Vijaya Krishnan

Krishnan added. The District Collector suggested that the industrialists in the district should utilise the platform, exhibit their products and expand their market globally.

AMRIT SAROVAR WORKS INSPECTED

GUNTUR: Guntur district collector A Thameem Ansariya inspected the development works of the Model Amrit Sarovar at Vengalayapalem on Tuesday.

The village tank at Vengalayapalem in Guntur Rural Mandal is being developed under the Model Amrit Sarovar scheme.

Arrangements are being made to organise the National Watershed Programme at Vengalayapalem on November 11. The district collector reviewed the progress and instructed officials to speed up the works.

Additional commissioner of Rural Development department CP Reddy, directors YVK Shanmukha Kumar and M Shiva Prasad, Project Director of District Water Management Agency V Shankar, MPDO Srinivas were present.

SGF inter-district wrestling tourney begins

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

INSPECTOR of Physical Education (IPE) Dr Sk Mahaboob Bhasha said that students who excel in sports along with academics have the opportunity to secure government jobs without any written test. He cited the recent Mega DSC 2025 recruitment as an example, in which 421 outstanding sports persons who won medals at national and international levels were appointed as teachers directly based on their sports achievements.

The School Games Federation of Andhra Pradesh (SGFAP) has initiated the Under-14 and Under-17 Inter-District Wrestling Competitions for both boys and girls. This three-day event is being held at Zilla Parishad High School in Nunna, organised by the School Education Department and Samagra Shiksha. Approximately 750 participants, including wrestlers, coaches, and team managers from various districts across the state, are taking part in the tournament.

Dr Mahaboob Bhasha inaugurated the Inter-District School Games Wrestling Tournament



Inspector of Physical Education, Dr Sk Mahaboob Bhasha, together with PACS President Srinivas Reddy, SMC Chairman Kumar, HM Ravi Prasad, and other dignitaries, inaugurating the SGF Inter-District Under-14 and Under-17 Boys and Girls Wrestling Tournament by lighting the lamp in Nunna, near Vijayawada, on Tuesday

by lighting the lamp. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Bhasha advised students to take sports seriously from the school level and strive for excellence, as the state government is giving high priority to athletes’ development and welfare. He said that under the leadership of Minister for Human Resources and IT Nara Lokesh, the government has enhanced the standards of school-level sports and is providing necessary facilities to players competing at state and national levels. He appreciated the organisers for installing LED screens at the venue, noting that such an arrangement is rare in school-level competitions anywhere in the

country. Additionally, he commended that matches are being conducted on the international standard mats.

The event was presided over by ZP High School, Nunna Headmaster Surapaneni Ravi Prasad, and Tournament Observer Chitikina Ramesh, Nunna PACS President Kalakoti Srinivasa Reddy, SMC Chairman Gaddam Kumar, Andhra Pradesh Wrestling Association President G Bhusanam, Technical in-charge S Anand, Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh (SAAP) Wrestling Coach K Manohar, SGF NTR District Secretary T Srilatha, High School First Assistant Gopinadh, PD T Vijaya Varma, and several officials and coaches participated.

‘Margasira Masotasvam’ to commence from Nov 21

- Collector MN Harendhira Prasad directs officials concerned to ensure hassle-free arrangements for it
- The Vedic committee members were exhorted to reconsider the practice of devotees performing ‘abhishekam’ themselves
- Collector underlines that special measures should be taken to ensure that the devotees do not face any difficulty at the Devasthanam

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VISAKHAPATNAM

A month-long ‘Margasira Masotasvam’ is all set to commence from November 21 and continue till December 19 at Sri Kanaka Mahalakshmi Devasthanam



District Collector MN Harendhira Prasad, Devasthanam EO K Shobharani, among others, unveiling the poster of the festival in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday

located at Burujupeta.

Unveiling the poster of the festival in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday at the coordination committee meeting, District Collector MN Harendhira Prasad directed the officials concerned to ensure hassle-free arrangements for it.

Given the increased

turnout during the annual festival, the Vedic committee members were exhorted to reconsider the practice of devotees performing ‘abhishekam’ themselves during the ‘masotasvam’.

The Collector underlined that special measures should be taken to ensure that the devotees do not

face any difficulty at the Devasthanam. He suggested that the police should be deployed, traffic control measures should be taken to streamline the movement, and parking facilities need to be provided for vehicles.

Keeping the rush in view, Harendhira Prasad mentioned that adequate

queue lines, drinking water facilities and medical camps should be set up so that the devotees do not face any inconvenience.

The temple authorities were instructed to install CCTV cameras at necessary areas as per the instructions of the police department.

Further, the Collector directed the officials to facilitate signboards for the devotees so that they could follow them without any confusion.

A control room is set to be arranged for the festival. Support from NGOs, NSS volunteers and NCC cadets would be taken to manage the crowd.

Executive Officer of the Devasthanam K Shobharani informed that the devotees could avail special darshan by purchasing tickets for Rs.500, Rs. 200, and Rs. 100.

The Ethereal Beauty of ‘Basanta Raas’ Illuminates Hyderabad

In an enchanting evening of classical artistry, Hyderabad witnessed the rare grace of Manipuri dance at the Raw Mango Showroom’s baithak last weekend. Presented by the renowned troupe ‘Manipuri Jagoi Marup’, the performance brought alive the spiritual elegance of ‘Basanta Raas’. With its lyrical movements, divine themes, and mesmerising costumes, the recital transported the audience to the serene world of Radha and Krishna

ANNA RAO GANGAVALLI

The ‘baithak’ at the Raw Mango Showroom last weekend featured a dance form rarely seen in Hyderabad — ‘Manipuri’, originating from the state of Manipur. It is characterised by graceful, lyrical, and fluid movements, subtle facial expressions, and deep spiritual themes rooted in ‘Vaishnavism.’ ‘Manipuri Jagoi Marup’, a leading troupe founded

by the late Guru Padmashri Amubi Singh, is dedicated to the rejuvenation and development of Manipuri dance. Of the many dance dramas, ballets, and group performances in their repertoire, ‘Basanta Raas’ — considered the high-light — was the selection presented. This delicate dance, deeply integrated with rituals and festivals and often performed as a devotional offering, won the hearts of the audience with its

theme, movements, costumes, and music. Tracing its origins to ancient times, with the ‘Lai Haraoba’ festival being its earliest form, Manipuri developed significantly under royal patronage and evolved into a sophisticated theatrical art form from its indigenous tribal origins. The twenty-minute-long piece was imbued with the devotional themes of ‘Madhura Raas’ of Radha and Krishna, containing gentle eye expressions and soft,

peaceful body movements. It portrays the divine dance of love between Krishna, Radha, and the cowherd damsels (gopis) of Vrindavan. On the full moon night of Chaitra (March–April), Krishna comes to the appointed grove (kunj) for a rendezvous. The gopis, led by Radha, respond to the call of his melodious flute, and they dance together. They play Holi with coloured ‘gulal’, and the performance reaches a climactic peak in a moment

of union — the ‘Sambhoga Shringar Rasa’. This piece was often performed in the temples of Manipur. The unusual doll-like costumes (‘Potloi’) were particularly attractive. An elaborately decorated, barrel-shaped cylindrical long skirt is stiffened at the bottom and closed at the top. Decorations on its surface include gold and silver embroidery, small mirror pieces, and floral motif prints. Radha wears green while the ‘gopis’ wear

red. The faces were adorned with the ‘Gaudiya Vaishnava tilak’ on the forehead. This symmetrical, translucent dress makes the artistes appear as though they were floating on stage — like beings from another world! A cap covering the head with a transparent thin veil symbolically marks elusiveness. Krishna wore a golden headdress with wired peacock feathers. A brilliantly coloured broad-cloth of yellow-orange was pleated, wrapped, and tied

at the waist, allowing freedom for leg movements. Unlike in other dance styles, ankle bells are not worn; instead, anklets and foot ornaments are used. To live orchestra and vocals — Sanasam Sanahanbi (vocals), Ningombam Joychandra (on the pung drum), and Irom Joychandra (flute) — the dancers, Gotimayum Asharani Devi as Krishna, Radha played by Athoibi, and gopis Rina, Reepa, Rashi, Roshni, and Rita, went through mesmerising, slow, elegant,

wave-like movements that dissolved into each other like the waves of an ocean. The rounded, soft footwork of the ‘gopis’ contrasted beautifully with the occasional fast steps of Krishna. It was altogether surreal to see the circular patterns created by the dancers merging into one another, evoking serenity and calm in the audience — who were delighted by the experience and responded with warm applause at the conclusion.



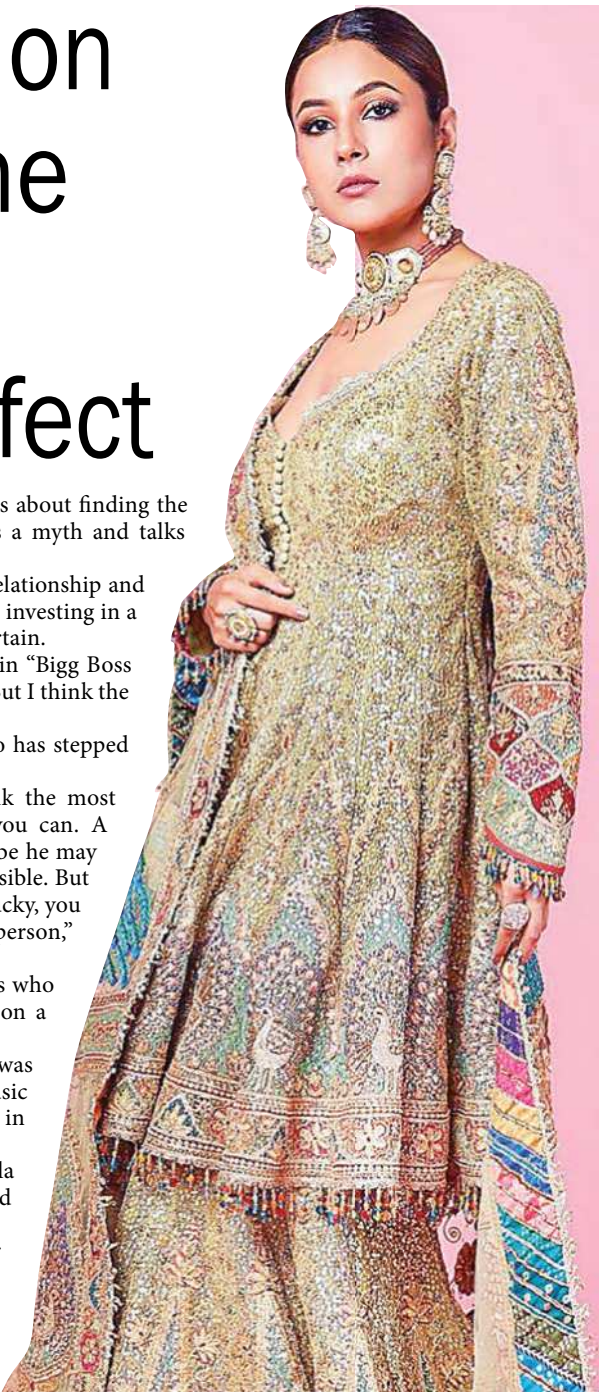
Drew Barrymore had breast cancer ‘scare’ post ‘emergency biopsy’



Actress Drew Barrymore shared that she recently had an “emergency biopsy” following a “bad mammogram”. Barrymore discussed the killer disease with comedian Tig Notaro, who underwent a double mastectomy in 2016 after being diagnosed with bilateral breast cancer. Speaking on The Drew Barrymore Show, the actress said: “This is the thing I’ve wanted to risk talking about on this show because - I recently had a scare. I’m completely fine, but I did get a bad mammogram and I got taken into that room and then I had an emergency biopsy and I waited those five days.” Barrymore said she was touched by Notaro’s recent documentary Come See Me in the Good Light, which follows celebrated poets Andrea Gibson and her wife Megan Falley as they navigate life following the former’s terminal ovarian cancer diagnosis. She said: “I have been wanting to discuss a certain subject on this show, and I did not know how. It is a very tough one to approach. But, having seen your documentary, I feel like I might be able to start scratching the surface here because of what you guys were brave enough, bold enough and smart enough to put out into the world, which is clearly being embraced, so I think that also gives us a little more confidence.” Barrymore added: “This documentary also gives you such an intimate portrait not only of these people’s lives, but what the journey of going through cancer is like, and it is not heavy. There’s confidence, courage, strength, reality, and humanity.” Meanwhile, Barrymore turned 50 earlier this year and revealed that she does not plan to have any cosmetic surgery, reports people.com. The star said: “I haven’t done anything and I want to try and stay that way... but I also am like, do whatever works for you. The only thing I do know is don’t judge other people because they do things differently.” “We’re all on our own path and we have to support each other. I see a lot of turkey neck or I have a lot of other time where I’m like, ‘Oh Wow, we’re there now.’”

Shehnaaz Gill on love, finding the right partner: Nothing is perfect

Actress Shehnaaz Gill, whose latest release “Ikk Kudi” is about finding the right partner, feels that perfection in relationships is a myth and talks about what really matters is the effort one puts in. Asked what she feels is the mantra to a perfect marriage, relationship and a perfect partner, Shehnaaz shared her two cents and said that investing in a relationship is essential, even though the future remains uncertain. Shehnaaz, whose chemistry with late star Sidharth Shukla in “Bigg Boss 13” was loved by all, told: “Nothing is perfect; it’s not perfect. But I think the more perfect you can be in things, the better.” Nurturing the relationship is essential, feels Shehnaaz, who has stepped into producing films with her latest release. “Invest in your relationship... It’s very important. I think the most important thing is to search for things. Do as much as you can. A relationship you don’t know how it will be in the future; maybe he may show his true self once the marriage is done... That is also possible. But you should be as safe as you can... it’s your fate. If you are unlucky, you will meet a bad person; if you are lucky, you will meet a good person,” Shehnaaz expressed. “Ikk Kudi” follows a woman from a family of broken hearts who starts doubting her arranged marriage match and embarks on a quest to uncover her fiancé’s mysterious past. Shehnaaz gained stardom after her stint in “Bigg Boss 13”. It was in 2015, when Shehnaaz began her modelling career with a music video titled ‘Shiv Di Kitaab’. In 2017, she marked her debut in Punjabi film ‘Sat Shri Akaal England’. The actress’ filmography also includes names such as ‘Kala Shah Kala’, ‘Daaka’, ‘Honsla Rakh’, ‘Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan’, and ‘Thank You for Coming’ to her credit. Shehnaaz has appeared in several music videos titled-- ‘Maar Kar Gayi’, ‘Pindaan Diyaan Kudiyaan’, ‘Je Haan Ni Karni’, ‘Putt Sardaran De’, ‘Lakh Laanhta’, ‘Viah Da Chaa’, ‘Jatt Jaan Vaarda’, ‘Gusse Ho Ke Nahiyo Sarna’, ‘Jatti Hadd Sekhdi’, ‘Gunday Ik Vaar Fer’, ‘Peg Paun Wele’, ‘Gedi Route’, ‘Shona Shona’, and ‘Habit’. She also has ‘Sab First Class’ in the pipeline.



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ACROSS

1 Hot water spring (6)

7 Minor - legally speaking (8)

8 Denomination (4)

10 Young ones of cows (6)

11 Finds repugnant (6)

14 Feel sick (3)

16 Back streets (5)

17 Judicial garment (4)

19 Venetian Magistrates (5)

21 Retract (5)

22 No bid (1,4)

23 Prefix for wine (4)

26 Employees (5)

28 Towboat (3)

29 Be ambitious (6)

30 One of the Jacksons (2,4)

31 Catch dropper's remark (4)

32 Toasting (8)

33 Surgeon's thread (6)

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Mrunal Thakur showcases hilarious post eye make-up struggles

Bollywood actress Mrunal Thakur showcased a very relatable make-up struggle and added a sprinkle of humour to it. Mrunal took to Instagram, where she shared a video of herself standing in front of a mirror after doing her make-up for a shot. As she’s called to set, the actress absentmindedly rubs her eye, only to realise the grave mistake she’s made. She quickly tries to fix her eye make-up, but all in vain. Mrunal wrote as the caption: “Eye tried my best!” The actress is gearing up for the release of her upcoming film ‘Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai’, which is now set to release on June 5, 2026. The film also stars Varun Dhawan and Pooja Hegde in pivotal roles. For those who do not know, ‘Hai Jawani Toh Pyaar Hona Hai’ is a hit song from David Dhawan’s film ‘Biwi No 1’, featuring Salman Khan, Karisma Kapoor, and Sushmita Sen. The name of the forthcoming drama is believed to have been inspired from this popular track. Touted to be a blend of a lighthearted narrative with romantic elements, “Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai” reportedly shares a tale of a guy who was rejected by several women, but ends up getting help from God. It was on October 31, when the makers of the upcoming David Dhawan’s directorial

“Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai” announced the new release date. The film was earlier scheduled to release on April 10, 2026. The film’s production banner Tips Films on Friday morning took to Instagram and shared a vibrant announcement poster. Varun took to his Instagram stories and shared the film, which also stars Manish Paul, Jimmy Sheirgill, Chunky Panday and Mouni Roy to name a few.

Work-integrated learning: Building a future-ready through skills and experience

Education must do more than prepare students about the world of work – it must prepare them for it

GAURAV BHAGAT

For decades, India's education system has prepared students about the world of work, not for it. The traditional path of completing school, earning a degree, and then hoping to find a job is proving increasingly out of date in a fast changing economy. Industry data paints a clear picture, while millions of students graduate every year, fewer come out as employable.

The gap that must be closed

According to the India Skills Report 2025, the country's graduate employability rate currently stands at 54.8 percent. In some technical and vocational streams, the numbers are even lower. Meanwhile, about 75 percent of employers now turn apprentices into full time roles, showing the growing success of work based learning models. In other words, while academic credentials still matter, employers are prioritising hands on experience, adaptability and problem solving skills more than ever before. The mismatch between education and work has become one of the key challenges of India's young population. And around the world, countries that are leading the way, from Germany to Singapore, are



those that weave vocational and work integrated learning directly into their school to career pathways.

Why work integrated and vocational learning must take centre stage

1. Industry demands job ready talent

Employers are increasingly looking for people who can hit the ground running. The 'learn for four years, then work it out' model no longer works. Work integrated approaches, from internships and apprenticeships to live industry projects, are closing this gap by turning education into a launch pad for careers. As highlighted by QS

Quacquarelli Symonds and NSN analyses, India's education ecosystem must move from knowledge centric to being career centric.

2. Vocational education builds inclusivity

Vocational education is no longer a second class option; it's a parallel and vital pathway to employability. India currently has more than 14,000 Industrial Training Institutes ITIs and 127 vocational awarding bodies, yet just 4.1 percent of people aged between 15 - 59 have had formal vocational training. With focused investment and social acceptance, vocational

learning could open up opportunities for millions, especially in tier 2 and tier 3 cities, where hands-on skills can help boost regional growth and jobs. Work integrated models deliver real outcomes. Apprenticeship trends prove their worth. The India Employer Forum reports that sectors such as hospitality and manufacturing have seen a Net Apprenticeship Outlook of nearly 79 percent, and more than three quarters of apprentices are taken on into permanent roles. The message is loud and clear: when students are exposed to real world environments, both they and the employers benefit. An



example from the field IIT Delhi's practical learning initiative A recent training session hosted at the IIT Delhi campus for students aged 14-17 years showed how early exposure to experiential learning can prepare students for what is to come. The workshop focused on problem solving, product prototyping and business ideas, giving participants the chance to work directly on real world challenges under the guidance of industry mentors.

Bridging gender, geography and the "missing millions"

The skilling ecosystem must now expand its focus beyond metros and elite institutions.

- Women learners: About 44 percent of employers plan to increase women's participation in appren-

ticeship programmes at this year's India employer forum.

- Tier 2 and tier 3 cities: These regions have untapped potential but need flexible, locally integrated training models.

Alternative pathways:

Short format vocational modules and microcredentials offer quicker, cost effective routes to meaningful employment or entrepreneurship, especially for youth who cannot commit to long duration degree programmes. Programmes should be co-created with employers, using live projects, internships and mentorship. Curriculums must be aligned with actual job roles and changing skill needs rather than static syllabi. Institutions should track employability, internship

The future of education lies in connection – between classrooms and companies, theory and practice, ambition and opportunity. Vocational and work-integrated learning models are helping students gain the skills employers actually need, from digital innovation to real-world problem solving. As apprenticeships grow, institutions modernize, and young people seek alternative pathways, India's next generation has a chance to learn by doing – and build a more inclusive, employable, and resilient workforce for tomorrow

conversions and entrepreneurial ventures to measure real impact.

Why now the cost of delay:

India's demographic advantage depends on turning its young population into a job ready workforce. With industries being reshaped by AI, automation and sustainability, the skills gap is widening faster than traditional education can adapt. The Union Budget 2024-25, which allocated Rs 1.48 lakh crore for education, employment and skilling, signals government awareness of this urgency. The national conversation has shifted, being 'educated' is no longer enough; being 'employable' is what matters.

The way forward:

- For learners: Choose programmes that provide practical exposure and mentorship alongside theory.
- For training providers: Design industry aligned, inclusive pathways that empower women and youth beyond metros.
- For industry: Invest in apprenticeships and early career talent partnerships.
- For policymakers: Incentivise outcome driven training and prioritise skill quality over quantity.

Conclusion

The IIT Delhi experience is just one example of how work integrated learning can inspire a new generation to think, build and lead. When students move seamlessly from school to hands-on environments, they begin to see themselves not just as learners but as problem solvers. Vocational and work integrated learning are not alternatives, they are the future. The faster India embraces this frontier, the sooner it will unlock its full potential, a confident, skilled and employable generation ready to power the country's next decade of growth. The author is Founder, Gaurav Bhagat Academy.



HackWave 2025 – 24 hours of national-level innovation organised

The Career Development Center (CDC) of SNIST organised HackWave 2025, a 24-hour national-level hackathon that brought together some of India's brightest innovators, developers, and problem-solvers. The event celebrated creativity and technology-driven solutions designed to tackle real-world challenges.

HackWave 2025 reflected SNIST's commitment to fostering innovation and excellence under the leadership of Abhijit Rao Kati-

kaneni, CEO, SNIST. Over the course of 24 hours, participant teams collaborated to design and develop prototypes in diverse domains, including FinTech, Healthcare, Education, and Open Innovation, while receiving mentorship from leading industry professionals.

The hackathon featured a distinguished panel of judges, including Om Ashish Mishra (Product Scientist, Deloitte), Sonu Kumar (Co-founder, Sporo Health), Kalyan Prasad (Senior

Advisor, Kaggle), and Vikas Katragadda (Founder, Naandi Ventures; BITS Pilani alumnus).

The event was graced by Chief Guest Anjani Prabhakar, Executive Director at Hexagon Capability Center, along with Dr. Ramesh Kanneganti and Vasudeva Rao Yellapu, Group Directors, CDC, SNIST and Sreenidhi University. They emphasized the importance of innovation, collaboration, and lifelong learning in shaping future technologists and entrepreneurs. Participants

from across India showcased their talent and problem-solving abilities, competing for cash prizes worth ₹1 lakh. The hackathon provided an invaluable platform for students to gain hands-on experience, interact with mentors, and explore career opportunities in cutting-edge technology domains.

HackWave 2025 concluded with the prize distribution ceremony, recognizing top-performing teams and encouraging all participants to continue innovating for real-world impact.

TODAY IS NATIONAL HEALTHY EATING DAY

The student guide to healthy living

In today's fast-paced academic world, students often find themselves juggling classes, deadlines, and social commitments — leaving little time to think about their health. Yet, building healthy habits during student life is one of the most valuable investments for the future. Prioritizing good nutrition, regular exercise, and a heart-healthy lifestyle not only strengthens the body but also sharpens the mind, boosts energy, and improves overall academic performance.



Eating smart for a strong start

A balanced diet fuels both body and brain. Students should aim to include whole grains, fruits, vegetables, lean proteins, and healthy fats in their daily meals. Skipping breakfast or relying on processed snacks and sugary drinks can lead to fatigue and lack of concentration. Staying hydrated and choosing nutrient-dense foods — like nuts, yogurt, and fresh fruit — can make a big difference in energy levels and focus throughout the day.

Move more, stress less

Regular physical activity is one of the best ways to protect heart health and relieve academic stress. Whether it's a brisk walk around campus, cycling, dancing, or playing a sport, even 30 minutes of moderate exercise a day can strengthen the heart, improve mood, and enhance sleep quality. Universities and colleges can promote physical wellbeing by organizing fitness challenges, yoga sessions, or active breaks between lectures.

Building lifelong habits

A heart-healthy lifestyle isn't just about food and exercise — it's about balance. Managing stress, getting adequate sleep, and avoiding smoking or excessive caffeine also play crucial roles in long-term wellness. Creating supportive environments — from offering healthy cafeteria options to encouraging peer wellness groups — helps students stay on track.

By taking small, consistent steps, students can build habits that last well beyond college life. A healthy heart fuels a healthy mind — empowering young people to thrive, achieve, and lead with vitality in every aspect of life.

Today is National Stress Awareness Day

Mind matters: Overcoming stress and strengthening your wellbeing

In today's demanding world, maintaining good mental wellbeing is just as important as taking care of your physical health. Whether you're juggling deadlines at work, facing exams at school or college, or managing life's everyday pressures, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. The good news is that with small, consistent changes, you can build stronger mental resilience and feel more in control of your emotions and mindset.

1. Recognize the signs and take action

The first step toward improving mental wellbeing is awareness. Feeling tired, irritable, or demotivated for long periods can be a sign that your mind needs attention. Ignoring these signals often leads to burnout or emotional exhaustion. Acknowledging that you need support — whether through rest, conversation, or professional help — is a sign of strength, not weakness.

2. Create healthy boundaries

Whether you're in the office, classroom, or at home, boundaries protect your mental space. Overworking, overcommitting, or constantly being online can drain your energy. Learn to say no when necessary, take short breaks during the day, and separate work or study time from personal time. Setting clear limits allows your mind to recharge, improving productivity and emotional balance.

3. Practice mindfulness and stress management

Mindfulness — the practice of staying present — can greatly reduce anxiety and stress. Simple activities such as deep breathing, meditation, or mindful walking can calm your thoughts and lower stress hormones. Apps like Headspace or Calm make it

easy to start, even if you only have five minutes a day. Over time, mindfulness improves focus, patience, and self-awareness.

4. Stay physically active

Exercise is one of the most effective ways to boost mental health. It releases endorphins, the brain's natural mood-lifters, and reduces symptoms of depression and anxiety. You don't need to spend hours at the gym — a brisk walk, a dance class, or yoga session can make a big difference. Physical activity also improves sleep, which plays a vital role in emotional stability.

5. Build positive connections

Social connection is essential for mental wellbeing. Surround yourself with people who support and uplift you. Talk openly with trusted friends, family members, or mentors about what you're going through. If you're at school or university, join clubs or groups that align with your interests.

At work, connect with colleagues outside formal settings — small moments of laughter and shared experiences can strengthen your sense of belonging.

6. Develop a growth mindset

Challenges and setbacks are part of life, but how you view them shapes your mental health. A growth mindset — believing you can learn and improve through effort — helps you stay motivated and optimistic. Instead of fearing mistakes, treat them as learning opportunities. This mindset reduces stress and builds confidence over time.

7. Seek professional support when needed

If you're struggling to cope, talking to a counselor, therapist, or mental health professional can make a huge



difference. Many workplaces, schools, and universities offer confidential wellbeing services. Seeking help is not a sign of failure — it's a proactive step toward healing and self-improvement.

Final thoughts

Improving your mental wellbeing doesn't require drastic changes. It's about small, consistent actions — taking a walk, breathing deeply, connecting with others, or simply being kind to yourself. Whether you're managing the stress of exams, the pressures of work, or the ups and downs of daily life, remember: your mental health matters. With awareness, support, and self-care, you can overcome challenges and build a stronger, happier, and more resilient you.

Mandhana concedes top spot to Wolvaardt

DUBAI

SMRITI Mandhana dropped a rung to second but Jemimah Rodrigues scaled nine positions to be 10th in the latest ICC women's ODI rankings after India's title-winning World Cup performance.

South Africa captain Laura Wolvaardt has moved up two positions to the No.1 spot in the latest list. Wolvaardt overtook Mandhana after her incredible effort of striking hundreds in both the semifinal and final.

The two innings took Wolvaardt to 571 runs, the most in a single edition of the tournament, and the run was rewarded with a career-high rating of 814.

Mandhana, who held the top spot for the entirety of the World Cup, was named

JEMIMAH IN TOP-10



in the Team of the Tournament alongside Wolvaardt. India defeated South Africa by 52 runs in the final on Sunday.

Rodrigues' match-winning hundred against the Australians in the semifinal in Navi Mumbai meant the 25-year-old entered the top-10, while Phoebe Litchfield made a 13-spot jump to a career-high 13th (637) thanks to a century in the same match.

Australia's Ellyse Perry moved to seventh, sharing the spot with New Zealand's Sophie Devine, who has announced her retirement from the format.

India captain Harmanpreet Kaur also rose four spots to 14th in the updated list.

There was marked movement in the bowling rankings, with South Africa's Marizanne Kapp now the closest to knock Sophie Ecclestone off the top spot thanks to her 5/20 against England in the other World Cup semifinal.

Kapp moved two spots to a rating of 712, with Australians Annabel Sutherland (sixth) and Kim Garth (seventh) making one-spot moves in the top 10.

World Cup's Player of the Tournament Deepti Sharma cemented her credentials with seven wickets and 82 runs across the semifinal and final at the tournament. As a result, she gained a spot to fourth in the all-rounder rankings, overtaking Sutherland (388)

Smriti, Jemimah, Deepti named in ICC Women's WC team of tournament

DUBAI

THE title-winning Indian stars expectedly dominated the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup Team of the Tournament with Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues and Deepti Sharma making it to the line-up announced on Tuesday.

The Indian trio played a stellar role in the team's maiden World Cup triumph. India defeated South Africa by 52 runs in the summit clash on Sunday.

Runners-up South Africa also have three of their players in the side, with skipper Laura Wolvaardt chosen to captain the Team of the Tournament following her sensational efforts with the bat where she amassed a whopping 571 runs at an average of 71.37 to break the record for the most runs at any single edition of the Women's World Cup.

Annabel Sutherland, Ash Gardner and leg-spinner Alana King feature from the Australian team that reached the semi-finals, with standout wicket-keeper Sidra Nawaz of Pakistan the only player named in a side to miss out on the final four,

stated an ICC press release.

England's Sophie Ecclestone was also included following some strong efforts that helped her side reach the semi-finals, while compatriot Nat Sciver-Brunt is named as the 12th player.

Opening batter Mandhana scored 434 runs at an average of 54.25 with one century and two fifties.

A model of consistency at the top of the batting order for India, Mandhana finished as the second-leading run-scorer at the tournament behind only Wolvaardt.

Her 109 against New Zealand in Navi Mumbai

was the highlight for the left-hander, while consecutive scores of 80 and 88 against Australia and England prior to that century displayed Mandhana's ability to perform well against the best teams. Rodrigues, on her part, made 292 runs at an average of 58.40 with the help of one century and one fifty. Her stunning innings of 127 not out against Australia in the semi-finals was the major reason behind her inclusion in the side, though the India No.3 also produced a string of other good scores throughout the tournament.

An unbeaten 76 against



New Zealand was of vital importance in India's run to the semifinals, while Rodrigues' knock of 24 helped alongside Shafali Verma's fireworks in the final against South Africa.

With the bat, Deepti scored 215 runs at an average of 30.71 with one century and three fifties. She also took 22 wickets at an average of 20.40.

Named Player of the Tournament, Deepti was instrumental in India's title-winning campaign. She finished as the leading wicket-taker and scored crucial runs across the tournament. (PTI)

ICC Women's World Cup Team of Tournament:

1. Smriti Mandhana (India); 2. Laura Wolvaardt (c) (South Africa); 3. Jemimah Rodrigues (India); 4. Marizanne Kapp (South Africa); 5. Ash Gardner (Australia); 6. Deepti Sharma (India); 7. Annabel Sutherland (Australia); 8. Nadine de Klerk (South Africa); 9. Sidra Nawaz (wk) (Pakistan); 10. Alana King (Australia); 11. Sophie Ecclestone (England); 12th Player: Nat Sciver-Brunt (England).

TELANGANA SPORTS MINISTER UNVEILS TPL POSTER

League will feature 600 teams from two Telugu states; Tournament prize money is Rs 80 lakh

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

Telangana Sports Minister Vakiti Srihari unveiled the poster of the Telugu Premier League (TPL) cricket competitions. Representatives of Zuper LED, which organizes TPL, formally met the minister at his office and explained the features of the league.

Srihari said that sports have the power to make the youth not addicted to drugs and make them disciplined athletes and responsible citizens. Youth should opt any one sport and try to excel in that event, he added. He wished the success of this TPL, which is being organized to take the 'Say No to' drug campaign into the youth.

Later, O. Ramesh, Director of the league's organizing company, Zuper LED, said that this league is not just organized for entertainment but to raise awareness about healthy life fitness and sports in the society. He said that Zuper LED is organising these competitions with its CSR funds. These competitions are being organised with 600 teams, at nearly 60 venues in the two Telugu states, he added. Four teams from Telangana and four from Andhra Pradesh will be selected for the knockout competitions.

He said that their idea is also to provide an opportunity to rural cricketers to play cricket on big platform. The total prize money of this tournament is Rs. 80 lakhs, he added.



Minister SriHari unveils TPL poster

Asia Cup row: Surya fined 30%, Rauf banned for two matches

DUBAI

INDIA'S T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav and Pakistan pacer Haris Rauf were on Tuesday found guilty of breaching the ICC code of conduct at the Asia Cup in the UAE and were slapped with sanctions for their actions.

Rauf copped two financial penalties of 30 percent each for two separate incidents during matches against India, leading to a two-match ban in the upcoming ODI series against South Africa on November 4 and 6.

India skipper Suryakumar has also been fined 30 percent of his match fees for "bringing the game to disrepute" for his comments supporting the Indian armed forces and showing solidarity with victims of Pahalgalam terror attack.

In the September 14 game, Rauf was found guilty of the same offence and fined 30 per cent of his match fee, resulting in two demerit points.

Then, in another game against India, Rauf was again found guilty of a breach of Article 2.21 and was fined 30 per cent of his match fee and received two additional demerit points.

Jasprit Bumrah copped one demerit point while Arshdeep Singh and Sahibzada Farhan were also let off without any penalty. (PTI)

'Crimes against women 'skyrocketed uncontrollably' under BJP-JD(U) in Bihar'

NEW DELHI

THE Congress on Tuesday alleged that crimes against women have "skyrocketed uncontrollably" under the BJP-JD(U) rule in Bihar and posed questions to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the alleged "neglect" of women's safety, health, and dignity in the last 20 years.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge slammed the BJP-JD(U) over the security situation for women and asserted that the Mahagathbandhan is fully committed to their empowerment and economic upliftment.

Kharge said the Congress' promises are not just to garner votes during elections or right before them, but rather, they are the same promises that the party will fulfil.

Congress general secretary in charge of communications, Jairam Ramesh, alleged that for the 20 years under the BJP-JD(U) government in Bihar, there has been a "consistent neglect" of women's safety, health, and dignity. The prime minister didn't remember to check on Bihar's women for an entire decade, and now, at election time, a sham digital outreach is being staged for votes, Ramesh said.

In a post in Hindi on X, Kharge said, "The BJP-JDU government in Bihar has been in power for 20 years. If even today, Modi ji has to say that in Bihar 'daughters-in-law and daughters are not safe', then this is his self-admission that in 20 years, they have not made Bihar safe!."

He alleged that the situation of women and children in the state is extremely alarming.

Citing data from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), Kharge claimed that 70 per cent of children in the state were afflicted with anaemia and 40 per cent were victims of malnutrition. Only 11 per cent of infants receive adequate nutrition, he said.

The Mahagathbandhan is fully committed to the empowerment and economic upliftment of half the population, he said, referring to women.

Listing the promises made to women by the Mahagathbandhan, Kharge said they will be given an assistance of Rs 2,500 per month if the opposition alliance comes to power. A monthly pension of Rs 1,500-Rs 3,000 would be given to the elderly, widows, and disabled, while Jeevika Didis will be given official status, he said.

"Our promises are not just to garner votes during elections or right before them, but rather, they are the same promises that we will fulfil and we have already fulfilled them in Congress-ruled states," he said.

"That's why today we're asking three direct questions: Crimes against women have skyrocketed uncontrollably under the BJP-JD(U) rule: A 336 per cent increase in crimes against women -- compared to before, now 20,222 crimes every year, with a total of 2,80,000 women victimised so far," he said in a post in Hindi on X. (PTI)



Security forces bust Maoist arms factory in Sukma

SECURITY forces have destroyed a weapons manufacturing facility of Maoists located in dense forest in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district, and seized 17 firearms along with a huge cache of equipment used in production, a police official said on Tuesday.

A team of the District Reserve Guard (DRG) on Monday recovered 17 weapons, including a Barrel Grenade Rocket Launcher (BGL), six Barrel Grenade Launchers (BGLs),

Recover 17 Weapons



six 12-bore rifles, three single-shot rifles, and one country-made pistol after busting the makeshift factory in the Gomguda forest area.

The seizure includes two 12-bore rifle barrels, 2 single-shot rifle barrels, one large hand-drum machine, 17 bench vises, three BGL barrels, two BGL body covers, electric wire, iron pipes, and other materials used in manufacturing firearms.

"The objective of operations by security forces is not only to dismantle Naxal infrastructure but to establish lasting peace and development in the region. Those who wish to give up arms and return to society will be assured of a dignified life under the government's rehabilitation policy," said Sukma Superintendent of Police Kiran Chavan.

The action comes amid a string of surrenders by Naxalites in Chhattisgarh in response to widespread operations launched by security forces to eliminate the Naxal menace by March 31, 2026. (PTI)

Couple in live-in relationship jumps to death in Palghar

PALGHAR: A couple in a live-in relationship allegedly committed suicide by jumping from the fourth floor of a residential building in Maharashtra's Palghar district, police said on Tuesday.

The incident occurred in the Hanuman Nagar area of Nallasopara East in the wee hours of Sunday, an official said.

As per preliminary inquiries, the victims, Deepak Jogadia and Kanchan Solanki, both aged 35, were in a live-in relationship, and had been residing in the building for some time, he said.

The official said residents of the building alerted authorities after hearing a loud thud and discovering the couple lying in a pool of blood near the premises.

No suicide note was found at the spot, and the exact reason for the extreme step remains unclear, he said.

The duo was rushed to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared them dead, the official said, adding that an accidental death report has been registered. (PTI)

EC must act on voters' list irregularities: Maha Congress

MUMBAI

THE Maharashtra Congress on Tuesday said the Election Commission should take immediate cognisance of the demand of the Opposition parties to rectify "irregularities" in the voters' lists ahead of the local body polls, citing that leaders from the ruling dispensation had made similar claims.

Maharashtra Congress general secretary Sachin Sawant said political parties are an essential part of democracy, and the electoral process is incomplete without them.

"When all Opposition parties are together demanding a clean and error-free electoral roll, it is the EC's duty to act. Now, even ruling party leaders, including the chief minister and state BJP president Chandrashekhar Bawankule, have said that the voters' list must be cancelled. If the ruling party is saying the same thing, what's the problem now?" Sawant wrote in a post on X. Maharashtra minister Ashish Shelar on Monday accused Shiv Sena (UBT) chief

Uddhav Thackeray and MNS head Raj Thackeray of engaging in appeasement politics and conspiring to pressure government staff ahead of the local body polls in the state.

He charged that the Opposition was attempting to create a "fake narrative," with its claim about the voters' list, alleging that multiple entries of people from the Muslim community and other minority groups were ignored, but they (the Thackeray cousins) only talk about Hindus, Dalits, and Marathi people.

Referring to BJP leaders' statements, Sawant said,

"Earlier, Anurag Thakur had exposed the BJP, and now Ashish Shelar has admitted to vote theft, again exposing his own party. Will the chief electoral officer of Maharashtra now ask Shelar to file an affidavit?"

He further claimed that the BJP is being branded as "vote thieves" across the country.

"The so-called superpower that attacks the Constitution is being challenged and exposed by none other than Rahul Gandhi. Lies cannot sustain for long — BJP leaders should rather worry about their future," Sawant said in his post.

'No progress in Munde murder probe, woman doctor's suicide; will meet Shah'

MUMBAI: NCP (SP) leader Supriya Sule on Tuesday expressed concern over the lack of progress in the investigations into the murder of Mahadev Munde in Beed and the suicide of a woman doctor in Phaltan, and said she would meet Union Home Minister Amit Shah to seek justice for the grieving families.

Sule said that despite the formation of a special investigation team (SIT) three months ago to probe Munde's murder in Beed, there has been "no visible progress".

Mahadev Munde, a resident of Parli, was abducted on October 19, 2023, and was found dead three days later.

"The police have not shared any details of the investigation with the victim's family. Even after repeatedly approaching the government, the Munde family continues to be denied justice," she said in a statement.

The Baramati MP further said those in power were making contradictory statements regarding the suicide of a 28-year-old woman doctor in Phaltan town of Satara district.





Ravi Teja begins shooting of a dance number in Annapurna Studios for ‘RT76’



Mass Maharaja Ravi Teja is all set to entertain audiences once again with his upcoming film #RT76, directed by Kishore Tirumala. The movie, produced by Sudhakar Cherukuri under the SLV Cinemas banner, is being crafted as a grand family entertainer filled with fun, emotion, and Ravi Teja's signature mass appeal.

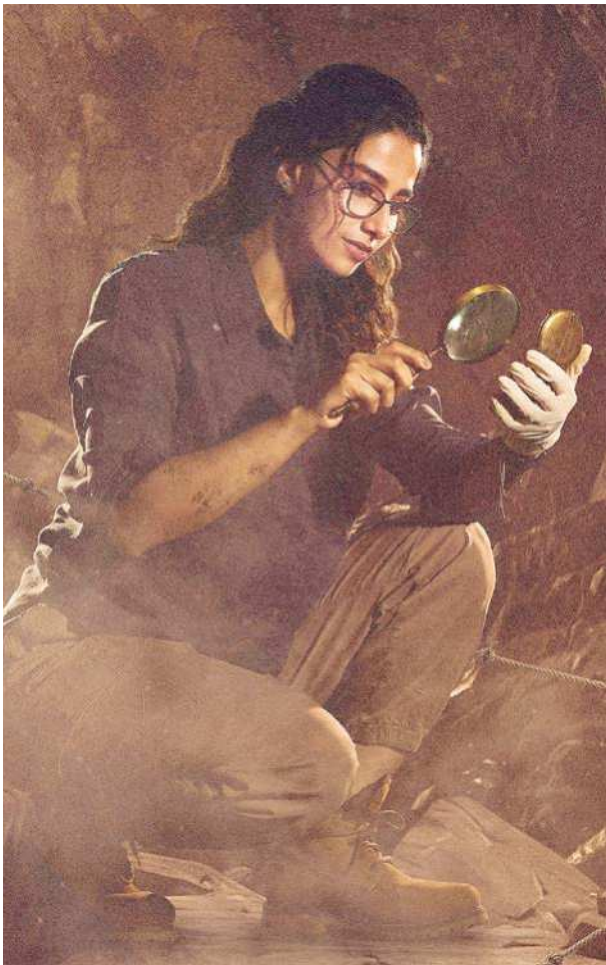
The latest update from the team reveals that a song shoot has begun today at Annapurna Studios, featuring Ravi Teja and actress Aashika Ranganath.

A specially designed set has been erected for the song, which is choreo-

graphed by Shekhar Master and promises to be a vibrant dance number that will surely thrill fans.

Known for his boundless energy, Ravi Teja will be seen in a stylish new avatar for this project. Director Kishore Tirumala, who is known for his emotionally rich narratives, is said to be blending family sentiments, humor, and mass elements to appeal to a wide audience.

The film's technical crew includes Bheems Ceciroleo as the music composer, Prasad Moorella handling cinematography, National Award winner Sreekar Prasad as the editor, and AS Prakash serving as the art director.



Meenakshi Chaudhary's first look as 'Daksha' from 'NC24' unveiled

After the massive success of Thandel, Yuva Samrat Naga Chaitanya is gearing up for an exciting new chapter with #NC24, a mythical thriller directed by Virupaksha fame Karthik Dandu. The film is being produced on a lavish scale under Sri Venkateswara Cine Chitra LLP (SVCC) and Sukumar Writings, with BVSN Prasad and Sukumar producing, and Bapineedu presenting the project.

The makers recently unveiled the first look of Meenakshi Chaudhary, who plays the female lead Daksha, an archaeologist with an adventurous spirit. Set against the backdrop of a rugged cave, the poster shows Meenakshi examining ancient artifacts—her look complete with gloves and glasses, exuding mystery and intellectual allure. Her character reflects courage, curiosity, and determination, making Daksha a vital force in the film's storyline.

This role marks a major milestone in Meenakshi's career, offering her the chance to portray a blend of strength and emotion.

Naga Chaitanya, meanwhile, will be seen in a brave and dynamic role, sporting a never-before-seen look that has already generated huge buzz.

The film also stars Sparsh Shrivastava of Laapataa Ladies fame. Ragul D Herian handles cinematography, Ajaneesh B Loknath composes the music, Sri Nagendra Tangala is the Production Designer, and Naveen Nooli takes care of editing.

The shoot is currently underway in Hyderabad, with major action sequences being filmed.

'Santhana Prapthirasthu' title track creates buzz with catchy rhythm



Ooru Palleteeru, Ticket Ye Konakunda, and Sufiyana, the talented singer once again brings his trademark energy and emotion to this lively number.

The song, composed by Sunil Kashyap with lyrics by Kasarla Shyam, humorously captures the lifestyle and struggles of modern married youth. Blending wit and warmth, it explores the emotional ups and downs faced by couples navigating the early stages of parenthood. Its catchy rhythm and relatable lyrics make it both entertaining and heartfelt.

Starring Vikranth and Chandini Chowdary in lead roles, Santhana Prapthirasthu is directed by Sanjeev Reddy and produced by Madhura Sreedhar Reddy and Nirbi Hariprasad Reddy under the Madhura Entertainment and Nirvi Arts banners. The screenplay is penned by Sheikh Dawood G.

With all the lyrical songs and promotional material already receiving an enthusiastic response, the film is gearing up for a grand theatrical release on November 14. Fans are eagerly awaiting this fun yet emotional family entertainer.

Whenever Ram Miriyala lends his voice, it almost guarantees a chartbuster, and his latest offering—the title song of Santhana Prapthirasthu—is no exception. Known for hits like Chitti, DJ Tillu, Chamkeela Angelesi,

Vijay Sethupathi's son Surya debuts as hero in 'Phoenix'; Telugu release set for Nov 7



Phoenix, the action-packed entertainer that marks the debut of Surya Sethupathi, son of Makkal Selvan Vijay Sethupathi, is all set to release in Telugu on November 7. Directed by ace stunt master Anal Arasu and produced by Rajalakshmi Arasu under AK Braveman Pictures, the film has already turned into a blockbuster in Tamil.

A grand pre-release event was held ahead of its Telugu release, graced by Vijay Sethupathi, Varalaxmi Sarathkumar, Gopichand Malineni, and the film's team.

Speaking at the event, Vijay Sethupathi shared his pride in his son's debut, saying, "Surya has always loved mass action films. Doing such a movie was his dream, and I'm glad he achieved it through Anal Ar-

asu sir's direction." He also thanked lyricist Bhashyasri for the Telugu dialogues and humorously promised to speak fluent Telugu soon.

Director Gopichand Malineni praised the film's action choreography and said, "Phoenix has both emotion and adrenaline. It will surely connect with audiences across languages."

Actress Varalaxmi Sarathkumar expressed her excitement, calling herself a fan of Vijay Sethupathi and wishing Surya success.

Director Anal Arasu and producer Rajalakshmi Arasu thanked the team and audience for their support, expressing confidence that Phoenix would repeat its Tamil success in Telugu theaters on November 7.

'Pithapuramlo' promises a blend of love and family emotions



After delivering memorable films like Preyasi Raave, Aayodhya Ramayya, and Joruga Husharuga, acclaimed director Mahesh Chandra is back with his latest venture, Pithapuramlo, subtitled Ala Modalindi. The film, produced under Mahesh Chandra Productions by Dundigalla Balakrishna, Akula Suresh Patel, and FM Murali (Godari Kittayya), has completed its shooting and entered the post-production phase.

Featuring an impressive cast including 'Natakireeti' Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Prudhviraj, Kedar Shankar, Mani Chandana, Jayavahini, and Annapurnamma, the film explores the intertwining love stories of three couples while highlighting the emotional gaps caused by the upbringing of three fathers.

Speaking about the project, Mahesh Chandra shared, "Pithapuramlo

is a love story infused with family emotions. Audiences will relate to its themes and characters. The film is set entirely in the backdrop of Pithapuram, showcasing its transformation."

The movie was shot extensively for 28 days in and around Pithapuram, 15 days in Hyderabad, and 6 days in Goa. It features three melodious songs, filmed across scenic locations in Goa, Hyderabad, and Surampalem.

Mahesh Chandra, inspired by the legendary D. Ramanaidu, stated that he made the film with complete conviction and without any wastage. The release date of Pithapuramlo: Ala Modalindi will be announced soon.

Anup Rubens wishes good luck to 'Rolugunta Suri' team; launches first single



The upcoming realistic emotional drama 'Rolugunta Suri' is creating quite a stir in Tollywood for its raw storytelling and village-based setting. Directed by Anil Kumar Palla, the film stars Nagarjuna Palla, Aadhy Reddy, and Bhawana Neelap in the lead roles. It is being produced by Soumya Chandini Palla under the Tapaswi Art Creations banner. The film's first song was launched by popular music direc-

tor Anup Rubens, who praised the project for its strong emotional appeal and musical depth. He shared, "When songs are good, audiences come to theatres. If both story and music strike the right chord, the film becomes a blockbuster. Rolugunta Suri is that kind of film — powerful in story and music. My best wishes to the team."

Director Anil Kumar Palla expressed his gratitude, stating, "It's an honor that Anup Rubens garu launched our first song and appreciated our work. We're confident the story and songs will resonate with everyone."

Producer Soumya Chandini Palla added, "Rolugunta Suri is a meaningful Telugu film that captures real-life emotions through a village backdrop. Our team worked passionately to ensure quality at every level."

The makers believe Rolugunta Suri will stand out as a unique, emotion-filled rural drama that leaves a lasting impact on audiences.

Nuveksha spices up in stunning saree look

Actress Nuveksha, who was last seen in Roti Kapda Romance alongside Harsha Narra, hasn't yet scored a major hit. While the film didn't make much noise at the box office, her latest photos have certainly turned heads and sparked fresh interest in her career.

In the pictures, Nuveksha looks effortlessly graceful in a black saree adorned with delicate golden sequin stripes, paired with a sleeveless blouse. She accessorised minimally with gold bangles and dangly earrings, completing the look with loose hair and a tiny bindi. The overall vibe—soft yet confident—has left fans praising her poise and beauty.

Social media is abuzz with comments suggesting that Nuveksha deserves more attention and bigger opportunities. Many believe

she has the charm and screen presence to carry a film on her own if given the right role.

Though 2025 hasn't seen any releases from her, it might just be the calm before the storm. With talent, elegance, and growing popularity on her side, industry watchers feel 2026 could be Nuveksha's breakthrough year—the one where she finally claims her place in the spotlight.

