



Drew Barrymore had breast cancer 'scare' post 'emergency biopsy'

Barrymore discussed the killer disease with comedian Tig Notaro, who underwent a double mastectomy in 2016 after being diagnosed with bilateral breast cancer.

P8

The decline of moral ethics and values in marital life

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.

P6

Clear pending land issues, complete projs on time: Collector

Dist Collector Dr S Venkateswar has directed officials to clear all pending land acquisition, construction works connected to key infrastructure projects within the stipulated deadlines. Reviewing the progress of various projects at a meeting held on Tuesday.

P3

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

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.

P4

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WINDOWS



Gopichand Hinduja passes away in London at 85

LONDON: Gopichand P Hinduja, the Hinduja Group Chairman, passed away in London on Tuesday. The business world veteran was 85 years old. Gopichand, a member of the Hinduja family's second generation, assumed the role of chairman after his older brother Srichand passed away in May 2023. He leaves behind his spouse Sunita, two sons Sanjay and Dheeraj, and a daughter Rita. Gopichand P Hinduja, commonly referred to as 'GP' amongst industry peers, served as the Chairman of both the Hinduja Group and Hinduja Automotive Ltd in the United Kingdom.

6 killed in Bilaspur train accident



BILASPUR: At least six persons were killed and several injured after a passenger train collided with a goods train near the Bilaspur railway station in Chhattisgarh on Tuesday. Bilaspur Collector Sanjay Agrawal said the total number of injured had not been compiled as some trapped under a coach were being taken out. He added that at least one person was critically injured. Around 4 pm, the MEMU passenger train was heading to Bilaspur from Gevra (in neighbouring Korba district) railway officials said. A police officer added that when the train was between Gatora and Bilaspur railway stations, the passenger train rammed into a goods train from behind, they said. The railway authorities have moved all the resources at the spot, and all measures are being taken to treat the injured persons, a railway spokesperson said.



Our opinion poll is the most accurate. We conducted it in Nirvachan Sadan

MODI SURE OF RECORD WIN FOR NDA IN BIHAR

Predicts people of 'Jungle Raj' will suffer their worst defeat

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.

Addressing rallies in Bihar, Modi said: "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."

Interacting with a BJP worker who said there is tre-



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

The Prime Minister 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. In his remarks, Modi said the NDA government is committed to improving the ease of living for women and empowering them.

Bihar will go to polls in two phases on November 6 and 11. The counting of votes will be taken up on November 14.

'10% of population controls Army'

AURANGABAD/NEW DELHI

- ▶ Rahul Gandhi's remark in Bihar sparks row
- ▶ Cong leader makes caste claim at Bihar rally
- ▶ Says 90% Indians are 'nowhere to be found'

CONGRESS leader and LoP in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday made a striking claim in Bihar, alleging that country's 10 per cent, referring to upper castes, "hold control over the Army." Addressing a poll rally in Aurangabad's Kutumba, Rahul said, "90 per cent of the people come from extremely backward, Dalit and Adivasi communities." Continued on Page 7



OPINION POLL

Polstrat predicts easy win for NDA

NEW DELHI: Contrary to recent findings of a tight contest between the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and Mahagathbandhan (RJD-Congress-Left), the Polstrat Opinion Poll has predicted a clear and comfortable victory for the ruling coalition in the high-stakes battle for Bihar. Another notable finding of the Polstrat poll survey is the emergence of new entrant Jan Suraj as a crucial player in the power matrix of Bihar, banking largely on the young voters in the range of 18-25 years. Polstrat, a leading polling agency, released its Opinion Poll for the Bihar Assembly elections 2025 on Tuesday, based on a sample size of 8.42 lakh respondents.

Continued on Page 7

Narayana showcases AP as future logistics hub

- ▶ Holds key meetings with global industrialists in Dubai
- ▶ Invites investors to CII Partnership Summit in Vizag

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

MUNICIPAL Administration and Urban Development Minister P Narayana has intensified efforts to attract global capital, holding a series of high-level meetings with industrialists in Dubai to showcase the state's expanding business potential. He invited industrialists and investors to the forthcoming CII Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam. Positioning Andhra Pradesh as India's



Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister P Narayana visits headquarters of logistics company Transworld Group in Dubai on Tuesday

most business-friendly destination, Narayana told Dubai-based industrial leaders that Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu's administration was

fully committed to supporting investors through transparent policies, robust infrastructure and swift approvals.

Continued on Page 7

CM for UK collaboration in higher education, tech

Meets Indian High Commissioner to UK in London

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

CHIEF Minister N Chandrababu Naidu held discussions with Indian High Commissioner to the UK Vikram Doraiswamy in London on strengthening academic and technological linkages between Andhra Pradesh and leading British universities. The talks focused on establishing partnerships across four key sectors, including life sciences, biogenetics, mineral extraction, and metals, with the aim of setting up joint research and innovation centres in Andhra Pradesh.

Continued on Page 7

Naidu mourns passing of Gopichand Hinduja

REPORT:
P7

Mamata leads SIR stir in Bengal

Warns NDA govt will fall if a single eligible voter is removed

KOLKATA

WEST Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday took to the streets of Kolkata, spearheading a massive rally against the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The Trinamool Congress, which she heads, has alleged that the revision drive amounts to a "silent, invisible rigging" orchestrated by the BJP-led central government in collusion with the Election Commission.

Continued on Page 7



West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee during a rally against process in Kolkata on Tuesday

INDIA bloc plans nationwide protest against SIR

NEW DELHI: The INDIA bloc has announced a nationwide protest campaign against the Election Commission's Special Summary Revision (SIR) of the voter list, coinciding with the start of the second phase of the revision exercise on Tuesday. The ongoing phase will run until December 4.

Continued on Page 7

EC BEGINS SIR 2.0 IN 9 STATES, 3 UTs

REPORT:
P7

Mild quake jolts Alluri district

Tremors also felt in Visakhapatnam district on Tuesday

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

A mild earthquake of magnitude 3.7 struck Alluri Sitharama Raju district and tremors were also felt in Visakhapatnam district on Tuesday morning. However, no casualties or property damage were reported. The tremors triggered panic among residents in some areas. People ran out



of their houses on hearing a loud sound. The tremors, which were experienced in Visakhapatnam from 4.16 am to 4.20 am, were felt in several parts of the city and its



outskirts, including Arilova, Adivivaram, Madhavadhara, Akkayyapalem, HB Colony, Allipuram, Endada, Bheemili, Simhachalam, and Pendurthi areas. Continued on Page 7

Mira Nair's son front-runner in NYC poll

Indian origin Mamdani promises free bus travel and free childcare

NEW YORK

NEW YORK City is all set to elect a new Mayor as the mayoral race enters its final lap, with Indian-descent Zohran Kwame Mamdani emerging as the front-runner to take up the top political post in America's biggest city.

Mamdani (34), the son of renowned Indian filmmaker Mira Nair and Mahmood Mamdani, a Ugandan author of Indian ancestry, born in Uganda and raised in New York

US goes to polls in crucial elections

All eyes on NYC mayoral candidate

NEW YORK: Polls opened on Tuesday morning across the US as the country headed to a crucial poll, with all eyes set on the important New York City mayoral election, where Democratic nominee Zohran Mamdani is emerging as a front-runner. November 4 is election day across the US, with polls opening from 6 am to 9 pm. This is the first national election in the second term of Donald Trump's presidency.

City, is a New York State Assembly member and democratic socialist running for Mayor. The Democratic nominee will face off against former

New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo, who is running as an independent candidate and the Republican nominee Curtis Sliva on the ballots. Cont'd on P7



Mira Nair with son Zohran Mamdani

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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

effectively use funds for the state's all-round development," he said.

Expressing gratitude to the Prime Minister for his cooperation, the Deputy CM added that Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu is personally monitoring the planning and utilisation of funds. "Our coalition government is fully committed to delivering better amenities to the people, and the administration must play a proactive role in achieving that goal," he added.

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.



BJP Andhra Pradesh president P V N Madhav

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.

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.

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 "swamiji's" 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 "swamiji's" 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 Mediant 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.

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 Karthik.

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 Mirjagada, 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 MOORTY

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 Bihari is that the individual nurtures a revolutionary temperament and speaks with a fearless mind.

Let's not forget, 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 travellers 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.

91.7% of Bhogapuram airport works completed, says Ram Mohan

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIZIAGANARAM

CIVIL aviation minister K Ram Mohan Naidu said on Tuesday that 91.7 per cent of the works of Bhogapuram International Airport here have been completed.

He exuded confidence in completing the project by June 2026 and dedicating it to the nation.

The minister on Tuesday visited the upcoming international airport and conducted a comprehensive field-level review of ongoing works. He posted on 'X' that he inspected key facilities, including the main terminal building, arrival and departure zones, and baggage handling systems.

Ram Mohan Naidu said he also shared architectural inputs to ensure the design reflects the rich ethos and cultural identity of the Uttaraandhra region.

"Held a detailed review meeting with GMR and L&T

- Minister says the project is on track for dedication by June 2026
- During his site visit, the minister reviewed key facilities like the terminal building and baggage systems, providing architectural inputs to reflect Uttaraandhra's cultural identity
- Directs GMR and L&T teams to expedite remaining works, emphasising world-class standards

teams, directing them to expedite the remaining works with utmost priority and ensure world-class standards in every aspect of construction and passenger convenience," he said.

"I am glad to share that the project has achieved 91.7 per cent completion. Once operational, Bhogapuram Airport



Civil aviation minister K Ram Mohan Naidu inspects progress of construction works at Bhogapuram International Airport near Vizianagaram on Tuesday

will emerge as a major economic hub in Utharandhra Region, significantly boosting regional connectivity, trade, and tourism," the Central minister added.

He also stated that under the visionary leadership of

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, they are committed to completing this prestigious project by June 2026 and dedicating it to the nation.

He was accompanied by

Vizianagaram MP Kalisetti Appala Naidu, Nellimarla MLA Lokam Madhavi, MLA Baggu Ramanamurthy, Markfed Chairman Bangaraju, district officials of Vizianagaram, and officers from GMR and L&T.

Provide homes to RBC families at Balaji Nagar: MLA

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TIRUPATI

CITY MLA Arani Srinivasulu requested TTD Executive Officer Anil Kumar Singhal to provide housing in Balaji Nagar for the people currently staying at the RBC Centre in Tirumala.

During a meeting with the TTD EO at the TTD Administrative Building here on Tuesday, the MLA discussed several local issues. He urged that instead of shifting the 84 residents of the RBC Centre to Tirupati, provide houses in Balaji Nagar. He said the RBC Centre families supported TTD in 1973 and deserve proper accommodation.

The MLA also reminded that during earlier elections, Chiranjeevi and Pawan Kalyan promised to help Balaji Nagar residents by completing slab works



City MLA Arani Srinivasulu speaking with TTD EO Anil Kumar Singhal in Tirupati on Tuesday. Greenery and Beautification Chairperson Sugunamma is also seen.

for their houses, and he requested quick action on this promise. Additionally, he asked the TTD to renew the Sri Venkateswara Natya Kala Parishad and release funds regularly for annual drama performances.

He further appealed to the EO to provide time-scale benefits, laddu cards, and Srivari darshan facility to the workers of the Sri Vakulamatha Annadana Trust.

EO assured the MLA that TTD would look into all the issues positively.

NAIDU MOURNS DEMISE OF GOPICHAND HINDUJA

HANS NEWS SERVICES
VIJAYAWADA

CHIEF Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday expressed deep sorrow over the demise of Gopichand P Hinduja, chairman of the Hinduja Group. Describing him as a visionary industrialist who transformed the group into a global conglomerate, Naidu recalled Hinduja's pivotal role in landmark achievements such as the acquisition of Gulf Oil in 1984 and the revival of Ashok Leyland.

He noted that Hinduja's leadership also guided the group's expansion into power and infrastructure sectors. Extending heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and associates, Naidu said Hinduja's legacy would continue to inspire generations.

Polstrat predicts easy win for NDA

Continued from P1

As per Polstrat survey findings, the BJP-led NDA is set to take a decisive advantage over the main RJD-led Opposition and looks poised to return to power with a clear majority. BJP-led NDA is seen fetching 44.80 per cent vote share while the grand alliance is trailing behind at 38.60 per cent.

The difference of 6 per cent vote share between the two rival alliances also resonates in the stark contrast in victory margin, as the NDA is expected to win 133-142 seats, while the grand alliance is likely to emerge victorious in 80-88 seats.

BJP is seen claiming victory in 70-72 seats, JD (U) in 53-56 seats, while the smaller alliance partners like LJP and HAM are expected to win 10-12 and 0-2 seats, respectively.

In the Mahagathbandhan, the power equation remains tilted towards RJD, much like the earlier electoral performances. RJD is seen emerging victorious in 69-72

seats while Congress could taste success in just 10-13 seats, as per the survey findings.

The Polstrat Opinion Poll has also delved into the voting percentage of the state's population, depending on their age. Its findings show a large chunk of young voters swaying towards Mahagathbandhan, almost in equal measure to the NDA.

In the 18-25 age bracket, the grand alliance is seen surging ahead of NDA with 40.73 vote share, while in the 26-40 age bracket, NDA is seen taking the lead with 43.18 per cent vote share.

For the middle-aged and senior citizens, NDA remains the favourable choice of voters, with over 47 per cent in the 41-59 age group and over 47 per cent in the senior citizen category opting for the BJP-led alliance. Prashant Kishor-led Jan Suraj is seen gaining notable support in the young voters category, with over 12 per cent voters opting for it in the 18-25 age category.

'10% of population controls Army'

Continued from P1

He went on to assert that these groups - forming the vast majority of India's population - remain largely excluded from power and privilege. "All the wealth goes to them, all the jobs go to them. Look at the judiciary - they have control there, and even in the Army," Rahul said, in one of his most direct attacks on the country's social and institutional hierarchy. He further said, "90 per cent of India's population is nowhere to be found," suggesting that marginalised communities have been systematically denied access to leadership and opportunity.

"We want the data. How many Dalits, OBCs (Other Backward Classes), women, minorities... are there. We are trying to protect the Constitution through this demand for a caste census. If 90 per cent people don't have participatory rights, the Constitution can't be protected," he said.

The BJP hit back at Rahul Gandhi over his remarks on the Army. Party spokesperson Suresh Nakhua, in a post on X, said, "Rahul Gandhi is now searching for caste in the Armed Forces and says 10% of people control it. In his hate for PM Modi, he has already crossed the line into hating India."

Directing his attack on the NDA government in Bihar, Rahul painted a picture of unemployment in the state, blaming the Nitish Kumar government for pushing its youth into low-paying, menial labour across the country. "The people of Bihar are doing manual labour across the entire country. In different parts of the country, people from Bihar are building large buildings, roads, tunnels, and factories," he said. Accusing the state government of failing its people, Rahul added, "In other words, the truth is this—that Nitish Kumar has wiped out employment here and turned the people of Bihar into the country's labourers.

Mira Nair's son front-runner in NYC poll

Continued from P1

Current New York City Mayor Eric Adams, whose administration has been plagued by scandals, dropped out of the mayoral race in September. The early voting period, which commenced on October 25, ended on Sunday. Mamdani upset Cuomo in the Democratic primary race for New York City Mayor and was declared victorious in June.

The Board of Elections has said that more than 735,000 people voted early in this election, which is about four times more than the number of ballots cast during the 2021 elections.

Mamdani has emerged as the front-runner in the NYC Mayoral election race and has promised to "lower costs and make life easier"

for New Yorkers as the city gets "too expensive."

Mamdani has vowed that as Mayor, he will immediately freeze the rent for all stabilised tenants and use every available resource to build the housing New Yorkers need and bring down the rent.

Promising fast, fare-free buses, his campaign said that as Mayor, he'll permanently eliminate the fare on every city bus – and make them faster by rapidly building priority lanes, expanding bus queue jump signals, and dedicated loading zones to keep double parkers out of the way. Mamdani would also implement free childcare for every New Yorker aged 6 weeks to 5 years, ensuring high-quality programming for all families.

Mild quake jolts Alluri district

Continued from P1

According to the National Center of Seismology, the epicentre of the earthquake was at G Madugula in Alluri Sitharama Raju district at a depth of 10 km. Located at latitude 18.02°N and longitude 82.58°E, the epicentre was 110 km from Visakhapatnam.

"A mild earthquake measuring 3.7 on the Richter scale was recorded in Alluri Sitharama Raju district on Tuesday morning, while the tremors were felt in a few places in Vizag," an official from Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA) said. The official said that the tremor was brief and local district disaster management teams have been alerted as a precautionary measure.

Meanwhile, experts described it as a shallow earthquake with a low intensity. They said there was no need for people to be worried as the tremors were mild due to structural adjustments. They pointed out that the region is considered tectonically stable.

Officials told to achieve targets under Swarnandhra

VIJAYAWADA: NTR District Collector Dr G Lakshminsha has directed officials to achieve the Key Progress Indicators targets under Swarnandhra Vision @ 2047 without fail.

He conducted a review meeting on the progress of various departments at the Collectorate here on Tuesday. Addressing the officials, the Collector said that some departments were still in B and C grades and must strive to reach A-grade performance levels.

SRKR wins national education excellence award

HANS NEWS SERVICE
BHIMAVARAM

SRKR Engineering College here has bagged the National Award for Overall Excellence in Education for its remarkable contribution to academic excellence, innovation, student empowerment, and leadership in higher education, announced the college's Secretary and Correspondent Sagi Ramakrishna Nishant Varma.

The award was presented during the Bharat Education Excellence Awards (BEEA-2025) ceremony organised by Brainovision on October 25 at T-Hub, Hyderabad. Sharing details with the media on Tuesday, Nishant Varma said AICTE Chief Coordinating Officer Buddha Chandrasekar and JNTUK Vice-Chancellor Dr CSRK Prasad presented the

awards.

Along with the college award, Principal Dr KV Muralikrishna Raju received the Bheeshmacharya Award for his outstanding leadership and efforts to promote innovation and student engagement in academics. Dr I Hemalatha, Senior Professor in the IT Department, was honoured with the Best Faculty Award for her initiatives in teaching innovations, hackathons.

College Director Dr M Jagapati Raju and Principal Dr Muralikrishna Raju stated that the national-level competition received over 3,000 nominations from 20 states, out of which 250 eminent institutions and individuals were selected for recognition. They also lauded Brainovision Pvt Solutions CEO Ganesh Nag for his efforts in organising the event.

Narayana showcases AP as future logistics hub

Continued from P1

He urged them to study the government's pro-investment framework and assured complete cooperation and facilitation for ventures in key growth sectors.

Narayana met Nilesh Ved, the Chairman of the Apparel Group, along with CEO Neeraj and CBO Kamal Kotak. The minister invited the company to explore investment opportunities in Andhra Pradesh's retail and manufacturing ecosystem. He emphasized that the state's rising consumer base and improving logistics infrastructure make it a prime location for new ventures.

The Minister also held talks with Ramesh Ramakrishnan, Chairman of Transworld Group, a global leader in shipping, logistics,

and maritime services. He explained Andhra Pradesh's strategic advantage with its 974-km coastline, growing port infrastructure and upcoming logistics and ship-building projects. "We are building Andhra Pradesh into a logistics hub of South Asia," Narayana said, citing recent government initiatives to modernise ports and integrate them with industrial corridors.

The Minister also met senior representatives of Burj Al Arab Health Care, discussing new reforms in the state's medical and healthcare ecosystem, and invited the group to participate in upcoming public-private partnerships in health infrastructure.

Narayana visited the headquarters of Tabreed, the world's largest district cooling

company. Meeting with CEO Khalid Abdullah Al Marzooqi and chief development officer Philippe Coquant, he studied the company's advanced cooling systems and put forth AP's proposal to establish similar district cooling centres in Amaravati and other urban clusters.

He also briefed investors on the upcoming Visakhapatnam Partnership Summit, to be held later this month, which will bring together global industry leaders to explore opportunities in Andhra Pradesh. He urged Dubai-based investors to participate and witness the State's evolving industrial landscape firsthand. CRDA Commissioner Kannababu and Municipal Administration Director Sampath Kumar accompanied the Minister.

CM for UK collaboration in higher education, tech

Continued from P1

Naidu proposed the establishment of university centres in collaboration with top UK institutions, enabling student and faculty exchange programmes and dual-degree pathways to enhance global academic exposure.

Both sides explored cooperation in emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, semiconductors, space technology, core engineering, and marine industry 4.0, aligning with the state's vision of building a future-ready innovation ecosystem.

Naidu emphasized that Andhra Pradesh, under his government's policy of sustainable industrialization and knowledge-driven growth, is keen to forge strategic joint ventures with international partners with the support of the central government.

The meeting took place as part of the Chief Minister's London engagement, where he also met several industry leaders and investors. Naidu extended an invitation to UK universities and business delegates to participate in the upcoming CII Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam, which is aimed at positioning the state as a global hub for education, innovation, and advanced technology.

VASTU HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LTD

Unit 203 & 204, 2nd Floor, "A" Wing, Navbharat Estate, Zakaria Bunder Road, Sewri (West), Mumbai 400015, Maharashtra. CIN No.: U65922MH2005PLC272501

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagee (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Limited. The same shall be referred herein after as Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Limited. The Secured Assets will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis through E-Auction. It is hereby informed to General public that we are going to conduct public E-Auction through website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net>

S N	Account No. and Name of borrower, co-borrower, Mortgagees	Date & Amount as per Demand Notice U/s 13(2) & Date of Physical Possession	Descriptions of the property/Properties	Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit (In Rs.)	E-Auction Date and Time, EMD Submission Last Date, Inspection Date
1	LP0000000071127 LP0000000127550 Bandi Vamsi (Borrower), Bandi Anusha (Co-Borrower),	Demand Notice Date 20-Jan-24 & Amt Rs.2192324 & Rs.869394 as on 16-Jan-24 + Interest Cost etc. & 15-Sep-2025	All that part and parcel of the immovable property situated at, Chedimala Korumetta Sy.no.712-747-2a35b, Assessment No.379, Chedimala Village, Tiklavaram G.p, Chilikur Mandai, Chilikur, Spsr Nellore Dist, Andhra Pradesh,524412, Area of Property: 480 Sq. Yard.	Rs.4000000/- Rs.4000000/-	06-Dec-25 Timings 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM, 05-Dec-25 up to 5:00 PM, 18-Nov-25

1. All Interested participants / bidders are requested to visit the website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net>. For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact M/S e-Procurement Technologies Pvt. Ltd. (Auctiontiger); Address : Head Office - B-705, Wall Street II, Opp. Orient Club, Near Gujarat College, Ellis Bridge, Ahmedabad - 380 006 Gujarat (India). Contact Person : Mr. Ram Sharma Contact number: 8000023297/9265562818/9265562821/079-6813 6842/6869. email id: ramprasad@auctiontiger.net, support@auctiontiger.net

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Date : 05.11.2025
Place : Nellore

Authorised officer
Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Ltd

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 broadcloth 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.



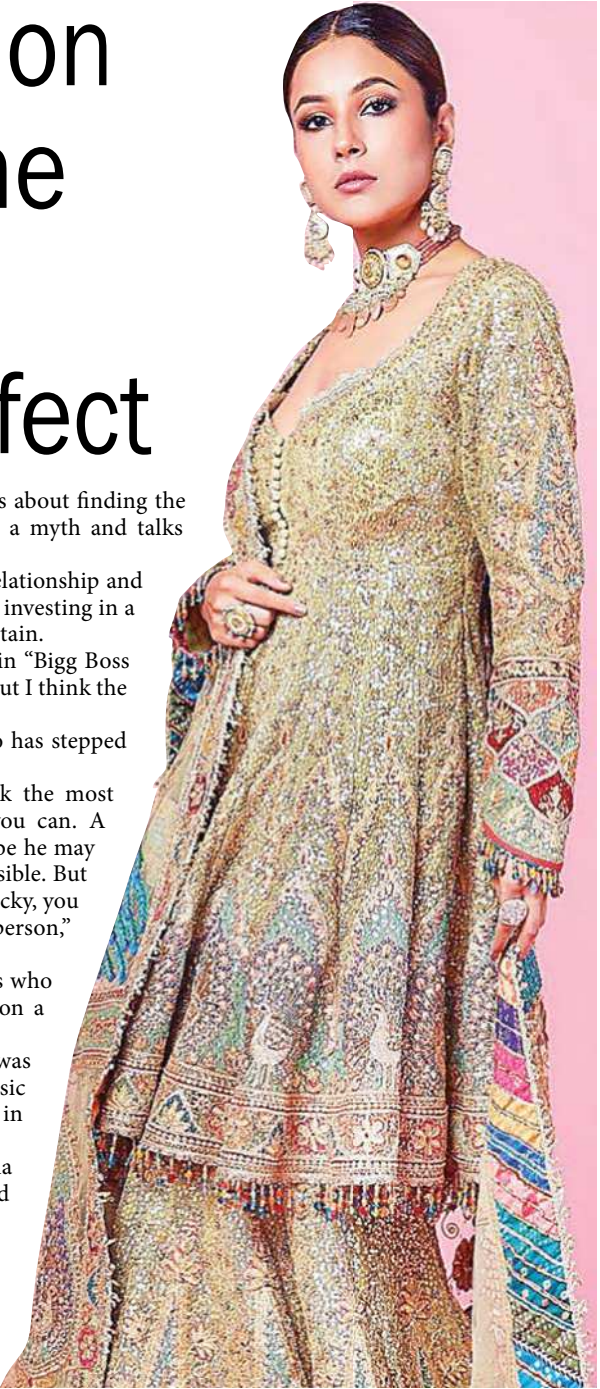
Drew Barrymore had breast cancer ‘scare’ post ‘emergency biopsy’



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)

SOLUTION TO NOVEMBER 4

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SOLUTION TO NOVEMBER 4

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 Shegill, Chunky Panday and Mouni Roy to name a few.

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 logistics, 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 Nagarahole

HANS NEWS SERVICE
MADIKERI

THE renovated building of the Maharshi Valmiki Tribal Residential School at Nagarahole, 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 Nagarahole 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.



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.

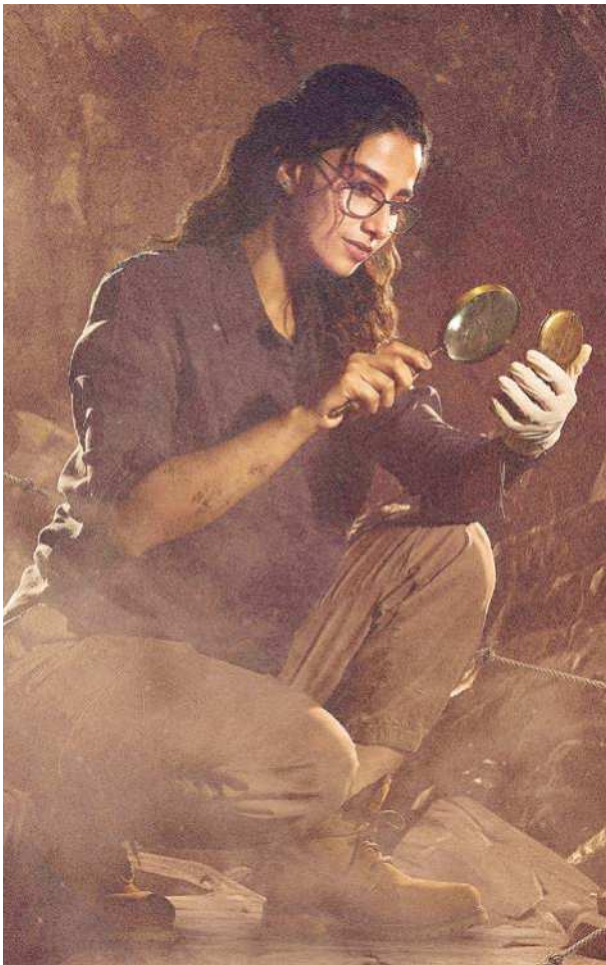
The latest update from the team reveals that a song shoot has begun today at Annapurna Studios, featuring Ravi Teja and actress Aashika Ranganath.

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 Pala, the film stars Nagarjuna Pala, Aadhy Reddy, and Bhawana Neelap in the lead roles. It is being produced by Soumya Chandini Pala 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 Pala 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 Pala 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.

