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NO TEXTBOOKS YET CBSE asks schools to start teaching 3rd language in 7 days

NEW DELHI: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has made the introduction of a third language (R3) in Class 6 mandatory from the 2026-27 academic session, directing all affiliated schools to comply within seven days, according to an official circular issued on Thursday. Calling the move "urgent and mandatory", the board said all schools must begin implementation immediately, even if textbooks are not yet available. "It has been learnt that many schools have already initiated the implementation of R3... All remaining schools are hereby directed to ensure compliance within 7 days from the date of issuance of this circular," the CBSE said in its notice. Schools have also been asked to start teaching the third language right away, using locally available material until official textbooks are released.

Air India flight makes 'pan pan' call after engine stalls mid-air

MUMBAI: An Air India aircraft makes a 'pan pan' alert while enroute Bengaluru on Thursday. The incident took place on flight AI 2812, an A320 Neo aircraft. The flight, originally to take off at 2.05am, took off at around 2.15am. The aircraft returned to the Mumbai airport at around 2.35am. According to officials the passengers reported soaked during takeoff. One of the officials said, "According to the official information available, there was a sound heard and sparks seen while takeoff. The pilot declared 'pan pan' and returned to the airport a few minutes after takeoff." "It was later known that its engine 2 had stalled," the official added.



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Will Amaravati dent Hyderabad realty?

Telangana's Registration & Stamps Dept starts studying Amaravati's impact on TG realty, including Hyd

Revenue from TG property registrations fell to Rs 14,214 cr in FY25 from Rs 14,588 cr in FY24
Hyd realty in slow

lane for last 3 years due to various reasons

TG officials fear AP's boost to Amaravati may adversely affect



HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

ANDHRA Pradesh's Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and his son and IT & HRD Minister N Lokesh have gone on record a couple of times that AP's Amaravati, capital city in the making,

will outclass Hyderabad in due course. People who have seen Hyderabad's IT boom under the watch of Naidu as undivided AP's Chief Minister, will not look askance at those statements. Leave alone the arena for competitive growth in IT and other sec-

tors; Amaravati has already gained traction enough to dent Hyderabad's real estate sector, going by the hard talk in certain informed quarters.

But will Amaravati really affect the trajectory of the Telangana realty? The

Telangana government too, concerned over this aspect, is studying the ramifications of AP's new Greenfield capital city, which is being developed at a cost of over Rs 70,000 crore, on Telangana's land prices, construction activity,

and investments in realty in the new financial year. The Telangana Registration & Stamps Department has begun analysing the data relating to registration of properties following the recent announcement of

Amaravati as the sole capital of AP. For, already, revenue from registrations in TG decreased to Rs 14,214 crore in the financial year 2024-2025. It was Rs 14,588 crore in FY24. Although the state government expected huge revenue from property registrations in the 2025-2026 financial year; it remained low in the last financial year too. Given this trend, attributed to Amaravati factor, government officials have started raising doubts over the feasibility of achieving the target relating to revenue

from property registration in the new financial year i.e. FY27. The officials said that the government set a target of Rs 19,540 crore, which is Rs 3,000 crore higher than that of last year. A major challenge for the state government is that some real estate developers in Hyderabad are said to be shifting their focus to Amaravati. Some of these developers have already held meetings with officials in Amaravati to gauge the potential of real estate growth in the new capital in the coming years. **Continued on Page 7**

Excess paddy, rice stocks haunt TG govt

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE Telangana government is worried over excess paddy and rice stocks in the wake of increasing production! Taking serious note of it, State Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy requested Union Food Minister Pralhad Joshi to increase procurement targets of boiled rice targets by 5 LMT for Rabi 2024-25 by reducing the Food Corporation of India's (FCI) raw rice target.

In a letter to the Union Minister, Uttam brought to the notice of the Centre that there was a mismatch between the state's boom-

STATE REQUESTS CENTRE TO PROCURE 20 LMT BOILED RICE MORE

ing paddy production and the Centre's shrinking procurement allocations. Currently, 8.45 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of rice are yet to be delivered. The original deadline of February 28 has already passed, and the state has sought a 60-day extension.

The Minister noted that Telangana paddy's superior grain characteristics and lower moisture levels make it ideal for boiled (parboiled)



rice conversion. Rice millers have agreed in principle to supply with only 5 per cent broken rice, offering a practical solution, he added.

He sought enhancement of the boiled rice target by 20.00

LMT for the entire KMS 2025-26 (covering both Kharif and Rabi seasons).

Uttam also stressed the need for further extension of two months for Rabi 2024-25 deliveries. The state procures paddy on behalf of the union government under the Decentralised Procurement Scheme to ensure Minimum Support Price (MSP) for farmers and prevent distress sales. However, the Centre's

policy of reducing Custom Milled Rice (CMR) and boiled rice targets has left Telangana struggling with excess stocks, storage costs, milling expenses, and interest liabilities.

Telangana has seen exponential growth in paddy output post-2023 due to improved irrigation and farmer-centric policies, the Minister emphasised, adding that continued procurement is essential to safeguard interests of lakhs of farmers, but the state can't indefinitely bear the financial strain of excess paddy without adequate central support in the form of higher boiled rice allocations and timely extensions.

'REGIME CHANGE' VS 'BJP BUYING VOTES'

Modi, Mamata trade barbs at election rallies in Bengal

KOLKATA



PRIME Minister Narendra Modi and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee traded barbs at separate poll rallies on Thursday ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections.

While PM accused the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) of 'cruelty', Banerjee alleged that the Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) deleted names of more than 90 lakh people from the state's voter lists.

At an election rally in Asansol, Modi said that a re-

gime change in West Bengal was inevitable, as the TMC's "repository of sins" has become full. "A regime change in Bengal is now cast in stone and sought by the people of Bengal. TMC's repository of sins is now full. Asansol is being ruled by syndicate raj, coal and sand mafia," the prime minister said.

Continued on Page 7



US-Iran truce strains amid Lebanon strikes

TEHRAN: A two-week ceasefire between the United States and Iran is teetering on the brink of collapse just days after its announcement, as escalating Israeli military operations in Lebanon expose a critical loophole in the agreement.

While the truce was intended to pause a month of regional hostilities, both Washington and Jerusalem have explicitly confirmed that the deal excludes operations against Hezbollah in Lebanon. **Cont'd on Page 7**

US READY FOR NEXT CONQUEST: TRUMP

WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump said on Wednesday that US military forces will remain deployed in and around Iran until Tehran fully complies with the "real agreement," warning that any breach would trigger a military response larger than anything seen before.

Continued on Page 7

NETANYAHU DIRECTS PEACE TALKS WITH LEBANON SOON

TEL AVIV: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Thursday said he has directed his government to initiate peace talks with Lebanon, with a key focus on the disarming of Hezbollah and establishing normal ties between the two countries. "In light of Lebanon's repeated requests to open direct negotiations with Israel, I instructed the cabinet yesterday to begin talks with Lebanon at the earliest," Netanyahu said in a statement.



Heavy turnout marks high-stakes voting day in Assam, Kerala and Puducherry

NEW DELHI: A surge in voter enthusiasm marked the high-stakes Assembly elections on Thursday, with turnout figures by 3 pm touching a striking 85.64% in Assam, 78.71% in Kerala and 89.87% in Puducherry.

Over 5.3 crore electors turned out in large numbers, reflecting robust participation as they cast their votes to shape the political future of the two states and the union Territory.

Polling commenced at 7 am and is set to continue until evening across 140 constituencies in Kerala, 126 in Assam and 30 in Puducherry.

Officials said elaborate arrangements, including heightened security deployment, extensive webcasting and drone surveillance in sensitive areas, were put in place to ensure free and fair elections.

Continued on Page 7

IMD predicts heat wave for next 3 days in TG

STAY HYDRATED, WEAR COTTON, AVOID GOING OUT AT NOON

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE Health Department on Thursday issued an advisory to the people of the state to take precautions in the wake of Indian Meteorological Department predicting heat wave for the next three days.

The IMD's Hyderabad unit has forecast gradual rise in the maximum temperature by 2-3°C during the next three days in Telangana. In this regard, the Health Department has issued dos and don'ts for the citizens of Telangana. Under do's the Health Depart-



ment has asked the citizens to stay hydrated by drinking sufficient water as and when possible, even if they are not thirsty. Use oral rehydration solution (ORS) and consume homemade drinks like lemon water, buttermilk /

fruit juices / salt-sugar solution (Homemade ORS: one litre of drinking water, six level teaspoons of sugar and half level teaspoon of salt; stir well until all components are dissolved). Citizens have been asked to carry water during travelling time, eat seasonal fruits and vegetables with high water content like watermelon, muskmelon, oranges, grapes,

pineapples, cucumbers or any other locally available fruits and vegetables.

Citizens have been asked to wear thin loose cotton garments preferably light coloured ones. Cover the head by using the umbrella/hat/cap/towel or any other traditional head-gears during exposure to the direct sunlight. Wear shoes or chappals while going out in the sun. Stay to the extent possible in well-ventilated areas and in cool premises.

Continued on Page 7

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Shaikpet-Masab Tank corridor set for major traffic revamp

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

WITH an aim to ease traffic congestion, enhance road safety and provide seamless connectivity for citizens, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation allocated Rs 120 crore for traffic management in the city.

Hyderabad city police, along with GHMC officials,

on Thursday conducted a field inspection of the Model Corridor development from Shaikpet flyover to Masab Tank to resolve traffic issues and improve road infrastructure.

The authorities inspected the entire stretch; also identifying water-logging points and the officials concerned were instructed to remove obstructions on the main road to speed up the Model Corridor

Field inspection identifies key choke points, works to begin on priority

works.

Hyderabad Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar and GHMC Commissioner RV Karnan, along with other senior officials, conducted a field inspection by bus. Several key decisions were taken to resolve traffic issues and improve road infrastructure between Masab Tank and Shaikpet stretch.

Sajjanar stated that the traffic bottlenecks have been identified, categorising them into 'Doable' (immediate) and long-term plans. Karnan announced an allocation of Rs 120 crore (Rs 20 crore per zone) for traffic improvement and confirmed that pending works at KBR Park would be completed within one to two years.

During the inspection, they discussed the construction of a new foot-over-bridge (FoB) at SD Eye Hospital and at Brindavan Colony Road No 1 Tolichowki and installation of Pelican signals and zebra crossings at Shaikpet nala. Instructions were issued to remove obstructions on the main road to speed up the Model Corridor works.

Furthermore, the fixation of drainage leakages at Tolichowki 'U' turn and Al-Hanath Colony, construction of CC Road from Ice Magic Par-lour to Brindavan Colony and

installation of a bus shelter at Majestic Function Hall and translocation of three trees near Shah Ghouse Hotel.

In order to facilitate smoother traffic flow, the officials have decided to reduce the width of the rotary at Nana Nagar Junction and widen the road.

From Rethibowli Junction to Nana Nagar – the widening of the road by removing the central median and trees, removal of Ramalayam Arch at Nana Nagar bus stop, Bod-du Rayi at Golf Club Road, and tombs at Shaikpet Nala to ensure smooth traffic flow and removal of three trees and electric poles for a free left from Balika Bhavan towards Tolichowki.

The works in Masab Tank include - reducing the width of the Sulabh Complex and shifting the bus shelter, land acquisition at NMDC and Dell Store (opposite S.D. Eye Hospital) for road widening as per the Master Plan, installation of height restriction barriers and warning boards on both sides of Masab Tank Flyover and shifting the electrical transformer at the Mehdiptan end of the flyover. And also, development of a slip road connecting - Pochamma Basti directly to Road No. 12.



Health Minister Damodar Raja Narsimha speaking to the media in Hyderabad on Thursday

TG eyes robust emergency care with new trauma policy

- Damodar Raja Narsimha announces 31 trauma care blocks
- Nine completed;
- 21 under construction
- All blocks to be operational by year-end
- Foundation laid for 100-bed critical care block in Kondapur
- 109 trauma care centres planned along highways

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

HEALTH Minister Damodar Raja Narsimha on Thursday said the government is establishing 31 trauma care blocks in the state. Of these, nine have

been completed, while 21 are under construction and are expected to be operational by the end of this year.

The Minister on Thursday laid the foundation stone for the construction of a 100-bed critical care block in Kondapur.

Speaking to the media, the minister said that the government had launched a comprehensive trauma care policy aimed at saving lives by ensuring the immediate transport of victims to hospitals during road accidents and other emergency situations.

As part of this initiative, the government was establishing 109 Trauma Care Centres equipped with all necessary facilities along national and state highways across the state. "We are strengthening the emergency response system to ensure that assistance reaches the scene of a road ac-

cident or other emergency within 10 minutes of its occurrence," said Raja Narsimha.

The minister further said that in furtherance of this effort, the government was increasing the number of 108 ambulances. "We are establishing 31 critical care blocks across the state. Critical care blocks have already been inaugurated in Nizamabad, Nalgonda, Karimnagar, Mahabubabad, Jagtial, Sangareddy, Narayanpet and Adilabad.

The construction of another 21 critical care blocks (CCBs) was currently underway; we aim to make all of them operational by the end of this year," he said adding, today, he had laid the foundation stone for the construction of a 100-bed critical care block in Kondapur, at an estimated cost of Rs 41 crore.

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION				
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER-II, KHAIRATABAD ZONE, HYDERABAD				
Short NIT No.01/EE-II/CIRCLE-39/KHAIRATABAD ZONE/GHMC/2026-27 Dt: 08.04.2026				
Sr. No.	NIT No.	Name of Work	Estimated Amount/ECV	Name & Address of the Officer
01/EE-II/Circle-39/KZ/GHMC/2026-27		Civil works	Rs. 5.20 Lakhs	Executive Engineer-II, KZ, GHMC.
For Works at Sl.No.01 to 02				
09-04-2026@12:00 PM to 13-04-2026 upto 12:00 PM Only				
Further details can be seen at e-procurement @ https://www.tender.eprocurement.gov.in				
e-mail address: ee39.ameerpet@gmail.com , Mobile No: 9063836121				
DIPR R.O. No. 388-PP/CL/ADVT/2026-27 Date: 09-04-26				

MALKAJGIRI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION				
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, MALKAJGIRI ZONE				
e Procurement Notice				
Sr. No.	NIT No.	Name of Work	Estimated amount (Rs. in lakhs)	Name & Address of Officer Cell No.
1	05/SE(M)/Malkajgiri Zone/MMC/2025-26	03 Works	162.00	SE, Malkajgiri Zone, MMC, Call No: 9154796465
Bid Submission Start Date & Time		09.04.2026 @ 4:00PM		
Bid Submission Closing Date & Time		16.04.2026 @ 4:00PM		
Further details can be seen at https://www.tender.telangana.gov.in				
DIPR.R.O.No.: 385-PP/CL/ADVT/2026-27 Date: 09-04-26				

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA				
IRRIGATION & CAD DEPARTMENT				
Office of the Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Department, Bhongir				
Work bid invited below schedule				
Sr. No.	NIT No.	Name of Work	Estimated amount (Rs. in lakhs)	Name & Address of Officer Cell No.
1	05/SE(M)/Irrigation Department/Bhongir	03 Works	162.00	SE, Irrigation Department, Bhongir, Call No: 9154796465
Bid Submission Start Date & Time		09.04.2026 @ 4:00PM		
Bid Submission Closing Date & Time		16.04.2026 @ 4:00PM		
Further details can be seen at e-procurement Market https://tender.telangana.gov.in				
Note: For further details, contact Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Department, Bhongir during office Working hours Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District.				
Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Department office of Bhongir				
DIPR R.O. No. 441-PP/CL/ADVT/2026-27 Date: 09/04/26				

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Venkat Reddy Singid Prop. of M/s Sri Venkateshwara, Agency, R/o: D.No-4-1-78/1, Alampally Road Near Canara Bank, Vikarabad, Telangana has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR/CC No.: 463/2021, U/s: 138/142 NI Act, P.S. Anand Parbat, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Venkat Reddy Singid cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Venkat Reddy Singid has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Venkat Reddy Singid of P.S. Anand Parbat, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 11.06.2026.

By Order
Sh. Vikas Madaan
JMFC-07, West Dist., Room No. 02,
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi
DP/4123/CD/2026

Loan No	Customer Name	Date of Loan	Overdue Amount ₹	Branch Name
59322387	Sofya Begum	23-12-2024	57651	Hyderabad-Attapur
73878736	Mohammed Nusrathqureshil Shahbaz	07-11-2025	23282	Hyderabad-Attapur
71129445	Tanguti Harinand	19-09-2025	12540	Hyderabad-Srinagar
74142311	Vema Swamy	20-11-2025	42690	Hyderabad-Srinagar Colony
65323660	Alavath Rajendar	12-05-2025	6863	Hyderabad-Abids
73951677	Gopikhar Sakshi	11-11-2025	21216	Hyderabad-Dilsukhnagar
52424278	Anusha Yerramsetti	07-08-2024	86918	Hyderabad-Kukatpally
61465707	M Mahindar	14-02-2025	17925	Hyderabad-Kukatpally
62617702	Rajkumar Reddy Thirupathi	14-03-2025	20092	Hyderabad-Kukatpally
74096651	Boddu Srinivas	18-11-2025	37544	Hyderabad-Kukatpally
72264892	Battu Srinivas Goud	13-10-2025	19074	Hyderabad-Rtc X Road
74111241	N A Abhishek	19-11-2025	29895	Hyderabad-Uppal
68873572	Rodda Pushpalatha	30-07-2025	22513	Hyderabad-Vanasthalipuram
73727327	Vaditya Latchiram	04-11-2025	9694	Hyderabad-Vanasthalipuram
73995994	Kethavath Bujji	13-11-2025	54154	Hyderabad-Vanasthalipuram
73860020	Sana Begum	07-11-2025	22074	Hyderabad-Vanasthalipuram
72109660	Kanakati Manideep	08-10-2025	28668	Suryapet
74127354	Mudavath Lakshman	19-11-2025	30016	Suryapet
74103824	Shaikh Rehana	18-11-2025	14856	Suryapet
73883407	Somireddy Sureshreddy	08-11-2025	38217	Suryapet
46801601	Shek Naseer	26-03-2024	183351	Suryapet
65710759	Thangella Manoj Kumar	20-05-2025	37522	Warangal

The borrower(s) (whose details are provided in the table herein below), in particular, and the public, in general, are hereby informed that the below mentioned accounts are overdue, and the borrowers/account holders have not responded/complied with the communication, and notice send by HDB Financial Services Limited (the "Company") requesting the borrower to clear his/her/their dues as per the documents in respect of the below mentioned loan signed/accepted by the borrower(s) (such documents, collectively "loan agreement") and therefore defaulted in terms thereof. The Company has in exercise of its rights as a pledgee, decided to enforce the pledge and therefore hold a public auction of the gold ornaments pledged to the company as security for the loan for the purpose of selling the same and realizing/recovering the dues owned by the borrower(s) to the company. The auction will be conducted on/after 18-04-2026 at the below mentioned local branch of HDB Financial Services Limited from 11.00 am onwards on the date and branches mentioned in the below table:-

Loan No	Customer Name	Date of Loan	Overdue Amount ₹	Branch Name
59322387	Sofya Begum	23-12-2024	57651	Hyderabad-Attapur
73878736	Mohammed Nusrathqureshil Shahbaz	07-11-2025	23282	Hyderabad-Attapur
71129445	Tanguti Harinand	19-09-2025	12540	Hyderabad-Srinagar
74142311	Vema Swamy	20-11-2025	42690	Hyderabad-Srinagar Colony
65323660	Alavath Rajendar	12-05-2025	6863	Hyderabad-Abids
73951677	Gopikhar Sakshi	11-11-2025	21216	Hyderabad-Dilsukhnagar
52424278	Anusha Yerramsetti	07-08-2024	86918	Hyderabad-Kukatpally
61465707	M Mahindar	14-02-2025	17925	Hyderabad-Kukatpally
62617702	Rajkumar Reddy Thirupathi	14-03-2025	20092	Hyderabad-Kukatpally
74096651	Boddu Srinivas	18-11-2025	37544	Hyderabad-Kukatpally
72264892	Battu Srinivas Goud	13-10-2025	19074	Hyderabad-Rtc X Road
74111241	N A Abhishek	19-11-2025	29895	Hyderabad-Uppal
68873572	Rodda Pushpalatha	30-07-2025	22513	Hyderabad-Vanasthalipuram
73727327	Vaditya Latchiram	04-11-2025	9694	Hyderabad-Vanasthalipuram
73995994	Kethavath Bujji	13-11-2025	54154	Hyderabad-Vanasthalipuram
73860020	Sana Begum	07-11-2025	22074	Hyderabad-Vanasthalipuram
72109660	Kanakati Manideep	08-10-2025	28668	Suryapet
74127354	Mudavath Lakshman	19-11-2025	30016	Suryapet
74103824	Shaikh Rehana	18-11-2025	14856	Suryapet
73883407	Somireddy Sureshreddy	08-11-2025	38217	Suryapet
46801601	Shek Naseer	26-03-2024	183351	Suryapet
65710759	Thangella Manoj Kumar	20-05-2025	37522	Warangal

The auction shall be conducted on an "AS IS WHERE" and "AS IS WHAT IT" basis and the Company is not making and shall not make any representation or warranties as regards the quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. It shall be the sole and absolute responsibility of the potential purchaser to verify, examine and satisfy themselves about the quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments prior to placing their bid and for such purpose it shall be open to potential purchasers to examine, at their sole cost and expense, and at the address set out herein above, the gold ornaments whether with or without expert advice 45 minutes prior to the time stipulated for the conduct of the auction. All the bid shall be subjected to such minimum reserve price as the company may deem fit to fix in this regard. The auction process and sale (if any) pursuant to such auction shall be subjected to such further terms and condition as the company may at sole discretion deem fit to impose.

If the borrower(s) mentioned above pays the amount due to the Company in terms of the loan agreement in his individual loan account in full before the auction as mentioned above, the pledged ornaments securing the said loan may be withdrawn from the said auction without further notice. Please note that it is the absolute discretionary power of the authorized officer of the company, either to postpone or to cancel the auction proceeding without prior notice and without assigning any reason thereof and to reject any or all the bids or offer without assigning any reason for the same.

Place: TELANGANA Authorised Officer
Date: 10-04-2026 (HDB Financial Services Ltd)



Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar and GHMC Commissioner RV Karnan, along with senior officials, conducts a field inspection for Model Corridor development from Shaikpet flyover to Masab Tank in Hyderabad on Thursday

FORM NO.14 [See Regulation 33(2)]				
OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II				
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT 2)				
1st Floor, Triveni Complex, Abids, Hyderabad-500 001.				
DEMAND NOTICE				
NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.				
RC/945/2025	Punjab National Bank	02-03-2026		
Versus				
SRI PALLAPOTHU VENGALA RAO				
To, (C) 1 Sri Pallapothu Vengala Rao S/o Sri P. Kondalal, R/o H. No. 4-9-523/4, P. No. 49, Road No. 6, RTC Colony, Vinayaka Nagar, Phase 2, Hayathnagar, R R District-501 505.				
This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal Hyderabad (DRT 2) in OA/101/2025 an amount of Rs.87,28,977.11 (Rupees Eighty Seven Lakhs Twenty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Seven and Paise Eighty One) along with pendente lite and future interest @ 8.65 % Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 23/01/2025 till realization and costs of Rs.1,32,868/- (Rupees One Lakh Thirty Two Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Eight Only) has become due against you (Jointly and severally) Fully/Limited.				
2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.				
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of your assets on or before the next date of hearing.				
4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 20/04/2026 at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.				
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay: (a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/ execution proceedings. (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.				
Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: 02/03/2026.				
Sd/- Recovery Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal, Hyderabad (DRT 2)				

Regional Office, Nizamabad.				
H.No. 3-4-198, 1st Floor, Above Canara Bank Shivajinagar Branch, Kotagally, Varni Road, Nizamabad-503 001. Ph: 08462-234402, 234401.				
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE				
Date & Time of E-Auction: 29-04-2026, 11:30 Am to 12:30 Pm (With Unlimited Extension of 5 Minutes duration each till the concluding of the sale)				
Last date of deposit of EMD is 28.04.2026 at 5.00 pm.				
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties 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 (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the secured Creditor, the Constructive/Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Canara Bank Branch are mentioned below will be Sold on "As is Where is", "As is what is", and Whatever there is" for recovery of dues to the Canara Bank plus unapplied interest and bank charges there on as mentioned below.				
1) SANGAREDDY BRANCH: Borrowers: 1) Smt. Sheshgari Roopa Rani W/O S Ravinder Rao (Borrower & Mortgagee), Flat No. 210, Happy Home Nariman Apts, Rajampet, Near Chawan Function Hall, Sangareddy Town & Mandal, Sangareddy District - 502001, Mobile: 8978727855. Rs.21,05,048.20 (Rupees Twenty One Lakh Five Thousand Forty Eight and Paise Twenty Only), along with an applied interest and Bank Charges, expenses, costs from 02.04.2026. The amounts remitted after issuance of Demand notice are duly accounted.				
Details and full description of the property: All that Part and parcel of Flat bearing No.210, in the Second floor, with builtup area of 905 Sft, and Car Parking No. 46, and Including Common Area and in Residential Complex Venture named as "HAPPY HOME NARIMAN" together with proportionate undivided share of land 35 Sq. Yds, out of the total extent of land 484 Sq. Yds, in premises of Open Land in Survey No. 410/AA, 410/AA1, 410/AA2 and 461/AA/1, Situated at Near Chawan Function Hall, Rajampet, Sangareddy Municipal Limits of Sangareddy Town, Mandal and District. Owned by Smt. Sheshgari Roopa Rani W/O S Ravinder Rao.				
Bounded By : North: Open to Sky, South: Open to Sky & Lift, East : Open to Sky, West: 10' Wide Corridor.				
Reserve Price: Rs. 23,50,000/- Earnest money Deposit (EMD) Rs. 2,35,000/- For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com)				
Date: 10.04.2026, NIZAMABAD Sd/- Authorised Officer, Canara Bank				

No compromise on safety, pollution, CMC tells developers

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

IN a strong move to ensure orderly urban growth and environmental sustainability, the Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) has intensified its focus on strict compliance and responsible construction practices.

A high level meeting was held on April 9 under the chairmanship of the Commissioner bringing together key stakeholders from leading builder associations, including National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO), Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI), and the Telangana Developers Association, along with several individual developers.

The meeting centered on reinforcing adherence

to construction norms, environmental standards, and regulatory frameworks across all ongoing and upcoming projects within CMC limits, Commissioner Dr G Srijana issued clear and firm directives to ensure that development aligns with approved guidelines and public safety priorities.

Builders were instructed to implement robust safety measures at construction sites, ensuring worker protection and minimising on-site risks. Strict measures were also emphasised for controlling dust and air pollution, along with compliance with noise pollution norms to reduce the impact on surrounding communities.

Highlighting regulatory discipline, the Commissioner reiterated that partial Occupancy Certificates (OCs) must only be sought after full

completion of projects as per sanctioned plans, in line with G.O.Ms (Government Order Miscellaneous) No. 168. Developers were also directed to ensure proper debris management by handing over construction waste to authorised agencies, preventing illegal dumping and environmental harm.

Furthermore, strict adherence to buffer zone development as per approved layouts was mandated, along with full cooperation with civic authorities during inspections and OC processing.

The meeting underscored a unified vision of safe, sustainable, and compliant construction practices. The Commissioner concluded by stressing that responsible development is essential for building a cleaner, safer, and well planned Cyberabad.

GHMC worker killed in accident

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

A GHMC sanitation worker was killed after a speeding RTC bus rammmed into her at Amberpet on Thursday. Following the incident, the GHMC workers protested by blocking the road and demanded action against the bus driver.

The victim, M Pushpa, was crossing the road and an RTC bus hit and ran over the victim. The woman died on the spot due to the severe injuries.

Following the death, the GHMC workers sat on the road and blocked the thoroughfare for an hour, demanding action against the bus driver and compensation to the victim.

Police from Amberpet reached the spot soon after receiving information. A case has been registered. Investigation is underway to determine the exact cause of the accident.

From lakes to lanes: Cyberabad Commissioner reviews civic gaps

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

EMPHASISING cleanliness, public safety and sustainable urban management, Commissioner of the Cyberabad Municipal Corporation G Srijana carried out a sanitation inspection on Thursday, across key locations in Kompally Circle. The visit resulted in a series of directives aimed at improving sanitation, restoring water bodies, and enhancing civic infrastructure.

During the inspection, the Commissioner interacted with local stakeholders and issued strict instructions to shopkeepers to maintain cleanliness by placing dustbins within their premises, reinforcing the importance of responsible waste management at the source.

A major highlight of the visit was the inspection of Fox Sagar lake, where the Commissioner directed officials to complete the removal of water hyacinth within 10 days. This move is expected to significantly improve the ecological health of the lake and restore its natural balance.

The Commissioner also reviewed water logging issues in Jayabheri Col-



Cyberabad Municipal Corporation G Srijana carries out a sanitation inspection at Kompally Circle on Thursday

ony and instructed engineering teams to prepare detailed proposals to address the problem effectively, ensuring long-term solutions to recurring civic challenges.

Attention was also drawn to



Union Minister G Kishan Reddy presents a bouquet to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu in New Delhi on Thursday. Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu is all smiles

Joint OLS survey for Adilabad airport to be conducted on April 17

Adilabad project gains momentum with Centre-State coordination

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

A final decision on the Adilabad airport project will take off after a joint survey by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the Ministry of Defence, and the State Government to conduct an on-site Obstacle Limitation Survey (OLS) on April 17.

Following this survey, a final decision on the runway's orientation will be made, and following that field visit—and after obtaining clearance from the Defence Ministry—approval will be granted for the master plan.

Subsequently, steps will be taken to plan for the foundation-laying ceremony.

These details were disclosed by the Union Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu following a high-level meeting on the issue of approval for the Adilabad airport in the national capital on Wednesday.

Joined by the Union Minister G Kishan Reddy, they announced the Centre's readiness to give a boost to Telangana's aviation infrastructure with Warangal and Adilabad airports. Kishan Reddy highlighted that Adilabad, which already hosts a defence airstrip, has been

in demand for a civilian airport for years.

He confirmed that discussions with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu have led to a breakthrough, with the Defence Ministry agreeing to construct the airport, while the Airport Authority of India will build a civil terminal for passenger services.

Rammohan Naidu said that Telangana currently has only one airport—Hyderabad and expanding aviation facilities is a priority under the Prime Minister's vision. He announced that the foundation stone for the Warangal airport will be laid within three months, while Adilabad's project will move forward after the completion of the Obstacle Limitation Survey (OLS) on April 17. The Adilabad airport will require an additional 450 acres of land, for which the Telangana Government has responded positively to acquisition requests. Local representatives, including Adilabad MP Nagesh and MLA Payal Shankar, assured that there are no hurdles in land acquisition.

Officials from Civil Aviation, Defence, and the state administration participated in the meeting, which con-

cluded on a highly positive note. The ministers emphasised that Adilabad's strategic location makes it an ideal hub for tourism and commerce, with the potential to evolve into a major commercial centre.

This marks a significant step in decentralising aviation infrastructure in Telangana, ensuring that regions beyond Hyderabad gain access to air connectivity and economic opportunities, he added.

However, in the case of a proposal for an airport in Peddapalli, the State Government has submitted a proposal identifying a specific site and "our feasibility report also indicated favourable conditions for this location."

Naidu said further steps on this project will be taken once we receive a formal written response from the State Government, and that it will require about 600 to 700 acres. Further, "If large-scale airports are to be developed with a view to the future, at least 1,200 acres of land are required," he added.

However, regarding Kothagudem, the land allocated by the State Government is not feasible, and this was conveyed to the State Government, he clarified.

It would have been better if AICC had directly intervened in Jeevan Reddy's issue: Jagga Reddy

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

It would have been better if the AICC leadership had directly intervened and resolved the issue regarding T Jeevan Reddy, said TPCC working president T Jagga Reddy.

In a media chit-chat, he responded to Congress senior leader Jeevan Reddy leaving the party, saying "it is unfortunate that a senior Congress leader like Jeevan Reddy has left the party. In his case what was happening internally should have been reviewed at the AICC level. It would have been better if the Delhi leadership had directly stepped in and resolved the issue."

However, Reddy clarified, "this is my personal opinion. MLAs and leaders switching parties is common in present-day politics. The reasons behind

- In a media chit-chat, Jagga Reddy responds to Jeevan Reddy's resignation
- Says it's unfortunate that a senior Cong leader like Jeevan Reddy has left the party
- This is my personal opinion, says Jagga Reddy
- We will discuss his leaving the party internally

Jeevan Reddy changing the party cannot be discussed openly with the media; we will discuss them internally within the party."

He said, "It is indeed unfortunate that Jeevan Reddy, who has been loyal to Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi's family, and the



Congress, has moved away from the party. Jeevan Reddy is a very senior leader in the Congress. He served as an MLA in 2014 and was later made an MLC for four districts. He is a big personality in the

Congress party" The senior party stated that "based on media reports, it appears that Jeevan Reddy has distanced himself from the Congress. In my personal opinion, it would have been better

if the Delhi leadership had intervened in Jeevan Reddy's issue. It would have been good if Jeevan Reddy had been called to Delhi and consulted.

Why Jeevan Reddy changed the party is his personal opinion. In the past, during MLC elections, I had requested the high command to give importance to Jeevan Reddy."

"In any case, the absence of a leader like Jeevan Reddy in the Congress is something to think about. We will discuss his leaving the party internally; we cannot speak about it publicly. Whatever is happening internally should have been reviewed at the AICC level. I cannot comment now on what Jeevan Reddy has said. In my view, the Delhi leadership should have directly stepped in and resolved this issue," he pointed out.

KTR invites Jeevan Reddy to join BRS, decision likely soon

Says experienced leaders key for Telangana's growth; move could boost BRS strength

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

BRS Working President KT Rama Rao on Thursday visited the residence of veteran Congress leader T Jeevan Reddy in Jagtial to invite him to join the BRS on behalf of party president K Chandrashekar Rao.

Several party leaders and public representatives accompanied him during the visit. Talking to the media, Rama Rao said that Jeevan Reddy responded positively to the invitation. He said that Jeevan Reddy acknowledged his long-standing personal association with KCR and expressed happiness over the visit, adding that he would meet KCR soon and announce his decision within a couple of days. KTR emphasised that for farmers and the poor in the state to regain stability and happiness, KCR must return as Chief Minister. He said experienced leaders like Jeevan Reddy are essential for rebuilding Telangana's growth trajectory. Highlighting Jeevan Red-



BRS Working President KT Rama Rao drapes a shawl over former Congress leader T Jeevan Reddy, inviting him to join the BRS in Jagtial on Thursday.

dy's political journey, KTR noted that he has served the Congress party for over four decades with commitment. He also recalled that KCR had invited him to join BRS even before the 2014 elections, but he continued in Congress at the time due to his loyalty to the party. KTR elaborated on the long-standing personal bond between KCR and Jeevan Reddy, built over four decades of mutual respect.

Recalling that during KCR's first official tour of Karimnagar district as Chief Minister in 2014, development works requested by Jeevan Reddy, despite being in

the opposition, were immediately sanctioned—reflecting statesmanship beyond party lines.

He also highlighted Jeevan Reddy's strong advocacy for farmers in the Assembly and his consistent fight on issues like Nizam Sugars. KTR recalled that KCR had even offered to support the revival of the sugar factory under a co-operative model, inspired by Maharashtra, with financial backing and leadership responsibility to Jeevan Reddy if he wished. KTR thanked the Jagtial district leadership for proactively supporting the initiative and inviting

Jeevan Reddy into the party fold. He appreciated their commitment to strengthening the party and working towards bringing BRS back to power, stating that Jeevan Reddy's entry would significantly strengthen the party.

KTR strongly condemned remarks made by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, stating that such comments were inappropriate and unbecoming of a person holding the highest office in the state. He accused the Chief Minister of using language that insults the dignity of women and goes against Telangana's cultural values.

HMWSSB tightens tanker monitoring to ensure timely water supply

HYDERABAD: In a move aimed at strengthening water supply management and addressing rising demand, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board has intensified its monitoring of tanker operations across the city. A comprehensive inspection was carried out by Joint Managing Director Mayank Mittal at the O&M Division-6 in SR Nagar, focusing on key filling stations in high-demand areas. During the visit, the JMD inspected stations at Jubilee Hills and Venkata Giri, which cater to areas with significant requirements. He reviewed critical operational parameters, including daily bookings and delivery performance, while assessing pending requests. At the Venkata Giri station, detailed observations were made regarding water flow rates and supply quantities to evaluate whether current infrastructure can effectively meet growing needs. The inspection highlighted the importance of maintaining a consistent supply to avoid disruptions. Emphasising efficiency and accountability, the JMD directed officials to ensure all pending tanker requests are cleared without delay.

Murmu hails Green India Challenge

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

PRESIDENT Droupadi Murmu was presented Vriksha Vedam 2.0, a landmark book authored by Green India Challenge founder and former MP J Santosh Kumar in New Delhi on Thursday. In a deeply moving moment, the President described the present era as both a golden age of opportunity and an age of crisis.

She warned that humanity stands on the edge of greed, forgetting the sacred reality of the Pancha Bhutas, the five foundational elements of existence. Quoting the book, she noted that life flourishes only when the Earth is green.

She expressed hope that the Green India Challenge would continue its transformative impact across the nation. Murmu commended the movement for its remarkable journey of planting approximately 19.6 crore saplings across diverse regions over eight years to ensure a sustainable future for all.



President Droupadi Murmu receives Vriksha Vedam 2.0, a landmark book authored by Green India Challenge founder and former MP J Santosh Kumar in New Delhi on Thursday

RYTHU SANGHAM CALLS FOR STATEWIDE EVENTS TO MARK KISAN SABHA MILESTONE

HYDERABAD: Telangana Rythu Sangham leaders Sagar and Sarampalli unveiled a poster marking the ninetieth anniversary celebrations of the All India Kisan Sabha on Thursday. They called for the observance of this milestone across Telangana, with events planned at district headquarters, mandal centres, and villages on 11 April. The leaders recalled that the Sabha, the largest farmers' organisation in India, was established in 1936 in Lucknow under the leadership of Swami Sahajanand Saraswati. Since its inception, the organisation has played a pivotal role in resisting British imperialism, advocating the abolition of the Zamindari system, securing debt relief, and defending the rights of farmers.

Highlighting contemporary challenges, Sagar and Sarampalli criticised the Central Government for entering into trade agreements that they argued risk handing over the agricultural sector to foreign corporate interests. They warned that such policies could allow American and British imperialist forces to infiltrate the Indian farming landscape and accused the government of failing to deliver on promises.

Kavitha credits Jagruthi struggle for women's reservation bill

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

TELANGANA Jagruthi president Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Thursday asserted that the national momentum for the Women's Reservation Bill was a direct result of the relentless struggle spearheaded by Jagruthi. While acknowledging the introduction of the bill as a milestone, she condemned the current implementation framework of the central government as deceptive and a post-dated cheque that fails to deliver immediate justice.

Kavitha highlighted that the efforts of Jagruthi activists illuminated the path toward legislative progress. She noted that coordinated protests in Delhi united 18 political parties, exerting the pressure necessary to force the bill onto the national agenda. She stated that through strategic coordination, MPs across party lines raised their voices in Parliament, making it impossible for the Centre to ignore the demand any longer.

Despite the passage of the bill, Kavitha expressed grave concerns regarding its ex-



ecution. By linking the legislation to the delimitation process, she argued that the government effectively denied women their rights in recent elections. She strongly condemned the proposal to use 2011 Census data, describing it as a disservice to the current population reality. Kavitha insisted that reservations must only be announced following the completion of the 2027 Census.

Furthermore, she demanded that the upcoming census include specific data on Backward Classes to facilitate a mandatory sub-quota for BC women. This role of Jagruthi remains vital in ensuring that the legislative promise translates into actual representation for all sections of society.

Harish flays Ponguleti: Calls him arrogant and bombastic

HANS NEWS SERVICE
WANAPARTHY

FORMER minister and party deputy floor leader T Harish Rao criticised Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, saying that when corruption was exposed, Ponguleti resorted to abusive language, insults, and made-up stories in defence. "Ponguleti himself admitted that the CM and all ministers are corrupt," said Rao, challenging him to accept his mistake and apologise to the public.

Speaking at a press meet in Nagapur village of Revalli mandal on Thursday, he fired at Reddy. "We heard Ponguleti's arrogant words even in the highly sacred Secretariat. Despite being near the Ambedkar statue, Birla Mandir, temple, mosque, and church, he spoke only lies, instead of truth. His frustration is evident."

"Ponguleti has gone into defence mode. He spoke not as a State minister, but like the head of Raghava Constructions. He is trying to protect his son. He thought he could escape by telling fabricated stories. He himself concluded that not only he, but all ministers are corrupt," said Rao. "The CM himself said that corruption in Raghava Constructions was identified by officials and fines were imposed.

BHATTI DISTRIBUTES BICYCLES TO SCHOOLCHILDREN

HANS NEWS SERVICE
KHAMMAM

EMPHASISING that education is the strongest tool for progress and social transformation, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu said the government is committed to ensuring access to quality education for every child.

Speaking at a bicycle distribution programme organised by the Amma Foundation for students of government schools and colleges at Bonakal and Errupalem mandal headquarters in Madhira constituency of Khammam district on Thursday, he said, "Education is the true weapon for progress. Only through education can we build an equal and ideal society without disparities. Highlighting the government's focus on education, he said recent socio-economic, educational, employment and caste surveys indicate that sustainable development is possible only through strengthening the education sector.

The Deputy Chief Minister announced that the government will soon roll out a breakfast scheme benefiting around 20 lakh students in government schools from June 2, noting that "No child should attend school on an



Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu distributing bicycles to schoolchildren in Madhira on Thursday

empty stomach as it affects their ability to learn." He further said that free mid-day meals will also be extended to Intermediate students from the next academic year.

Stressing that the government is investing heavily in education, he said every child in the state should be provided opportunities to study as far as they wish and develop into high-quality human resources. He added that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is giving special emphasis to improving educational infra-

structure and facilities. Outlining key initiatives, Vikramarka said the government aims to ensure universal access to education by removing financial barriers and providing free, high-standard education comparable to corporate institutions.

He said construction of 100 "Young India Integrated Residential Schools" with international standards has been initiated, each with an estimated investment of Rs 100 crore across 20-25 acres, equipped with English-medi-

um instruction, digital learning tools, sports infrastructure and residential facilities for staff.

In addition, the government plans to establish one "Telangana Public School" in each constituency from the upcoming academic year, totalling 119 schools. These semi-residential institutions will offer free transport, breakfast, nutritious supplements such as milk and ragi malt, mid-day meals, digital education, sports facilities and evening drop-offs for students. "These schools will be better than private institutions and help reduce the financial burden on poor and middle-class families," he said.

At Errupalem, the Deputy Chief Minister said the state has allocated about 13.5 per cent of its budget to education, underlining the importance of students as the future of Telangana. He also noted that diet charges for students have been increased by 40 per cent and cosmetic charges by 200 per cent after the present government came to power.

He said the government would not hesitate to invest necessary resources to transform both natural and human capital into productive assets and called upon students to utilise the opportunities provided to excel in their studies.

HYDERABAD: The Cyberabad Cyber Crime Police detected seven cybercrime cases in a week between April 1 and 7, leading to the arrest of 10 individuals from various states.

The investigation exposed a widespread network of cybercrime activity across the country. The investigation revealed the pan-India spread of cybercriminal networks, with offenders from different states. According to Cybercrime, of the 10 arrested, four each were linked to trading frauds and part time jobs fraud, and one each in loan and digital art

10 arrested in week-long cybercrime crackdown

fraud. The important case of this week - the part-time job fraud in which a victim was cheated of Rs 33,44,000 by fraudsters through WhatsApp and a fraudulent online trading platform.

Police arrested four accused Konduru Venu, Parasanaboina Vamshi, A Hari

Kumar, and Malagunda Naresh of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh for knowingly creating and providing bank accounts to cyber fraudsters for receiving and routing cheated money, in return for commission.

Moreover, the Cybercrime Police obtained 258 refund orders from the court

in 46 cases, securing a total amount of Rs 78,28,744 to be returned to those affected. Citizens have been advised to remain vigilant, particularly against online trading schemes promising high returns. The police urged the public to verify financial transactions, be cautious with personal information such as Aadhaar numbers, bank details, or OTPs, and avoid clicking suspicious links shared via messaging apps or emails. Cybercrime advised citizens that the suspicious calls and messages should be reported immediately by calling 1930 or visiting www.cybercrime.gov.in.



CM draws action plan for repairs of 3 barrages at Kaleshwaram

- Repairs of 3 barrage works of Kaleshwaram will start soon
CM Revanth Reddy instructs officials take up works expeditiously

CHIEF Minister A Revanth Reddy directed Irrigation officials to carry out repairs on the three barrages of the Kaleshwaram project expeditiously and resume operations of the barrages at the earliest. The officials were ordered to take up repairs and complete them as per the guidelines prescribed by the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA).

On Thursday, the CM accompanied by Irrigation Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy held a review of status of 2 barrages - Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla in Kaleshwaram project. The Chief Minister instructed the authorities to formulate a specific action plan for the repairs and to ensure continuous monitoring of the work progress. All the agencies involved should also be alert, the Chief Minister made it clear that the tests and sample collection currently being conducted under the aegis of the Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS) must be completed before the

onset of the monsoon season. A dedicated team comprising representatives from the Irrigation department, CWPRS, barrage construction agencies, and design consultants would also be created. The members of the Central Water Commission (CWC) will be involved in every stage of the work.

Engineers brought to the Chief Minister's attention the necessity of conducting a comprehensive study of the entire 1.6-kilometer barrage at Medigadda and not merely the specific piers which got damaged. The Chief Minister directed officials to prepare a special action plan for drilling 500 bore wells near Medigadda and procure necessary machinery for this purpose. The designs for the required repairs should be prepared and a detailed schedule outlining the completion of the works till December should be prepared.

Revanth Reddy warned that delay in the execution of works will not be tolerated. The Chief Minister assured that required funds would be provided and suggested establishing a base camp at Medigadda. The CM would visit the site once the works commenced. Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao, Irrigation Secretary Sridhar, CM's Secretary Manik Raj, and other senior officials from the Irrigation Department were also present.

Hans India Classifieds header with logo and decorative elements.

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SANTHYA S spouse of Army No. 15820399X Sep. LATE SARAVANAN B, R/o. VIII and Post: Nimmiyampattu, Taluk: Vaniyambadi, Dist: Vellore, Tamilnadu-614620 have changed my name from SANTHYA S to SANDHYA S vide affidavit dt:9-4-2026 before 1 Spl Judicial Magistrate, Medchal Malkajigiri Dist at L.B.Nagar (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, N BIYALAXMI REDDY spouse of Service No. 648607/L N NILAPU NAGESWAR REDDY, Residing at Vill:Korapalli, Post:Narayapur, Dist:Ganjam, Odisha -761002 have changed my name & DOB from N BIYALAXMI REDDY, DOB:03-03-1990 to N BIJAYA REDDY, DOB:01-03-1990 vide affidavit dt:09-04-2026 before G.Ramchander, Advocate and Notary, Secunderabad (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SPILIGUNU RAHUL S/O. SPILIGUNU RAJ KUMAR R/O. 1-1-300/47/2, FLAT 4006 RISING LYRICS CRAFTED HOMES, ASHOK NAGAR HIMAYATH NAGAR 500029 TS Changed My Name As SIPLIGUNU RAHUL S/O. SIPLIGUNU RAJ KUMAR (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, N BIYALAXMI REDDY spouse of Service No. 648607/L N NILAPU NAGESWAR REDDY, Residing at Vill:Korapalli, Post:Narayapur, Dist:Ganjam, Odisha -761002 have changed my name & DOB from N BIYALAXMI REDDY, DOB:03-03-1990 to N BIJAYA REDDY, DOB:01-03-1990 vide affidavit dt:09-04-2026 before G.Ramchander, Advocate and Notary, Secunderabad (TH_34150)

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CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, N 14651482 W, Hav, Bhupendra Singh, R/O, Dist: Betemeta, Chhattisgarh, changed my Mother's name from Nandni Bai to Nandani Singh vide Affidavit No. 466254 dt. 07.04.2026, before Medchal-Malkajigiri Court, Telangana. (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, GUDURI GANESH, S/o. LATE. GUDURI SRINIVASA CHAKRAVARTHY R/O: 8-3-896/30/A, Vijaya towers, Flat No: 203, Yellareddyguda, Amepet, Hyderabad-73. My names G SREE GANESH & GUDURI GANESH both names belongs to me only. I shall henceforth be known as GUDURI SREE GANESH for all purposes. (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SPILIGUNU RAHUL S/O. SPILIGUNU RAJ KUMAR R/O. 1-1-300/47/2, FLAT 4006 RISING LYRICS CRAFTED HOMES, ASHOK NAGAR HIMAYATH NAGAR 500029 TS Changed My Name As SIPLIGUNU RAJ KUMAR S/O. SIPLIGUNU PENTAIHA (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, N 14652731W, Hav, Arjun Sarma, R/O, Dist: Dibrugarh, Assam, changed my Son's name from Krish Sharma to Krish Sarma vide Affidavit No. 466263 dt. 07.04.2026 before Medchal-Malkajigiri Court, Telangana. (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, HITHERTO known as P Hanumantha Rao alias Pandrakola Smilen Mario S/o Venkaiha R/O 3-150/2, Banapuram Village, Mudigonda Mandalam, Banapuram, Telangana-507169 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Pandrakola Smilen Mario (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SPILIGUNU RAHUL S/O. SPILIGUNU RAJ KUMAR R/O. 1-1-300/47/2, FLAT 4006 RISING LYRICS CRAFTED HOMES, ASHOK NAGAR HIMAYATH NAGAR 500029 TS Changed My Name As SIPLIGUNU RAJ KUMAR S/O. SIPLIGUNU PENTAIHA (TH_34150)

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CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, R ANU W/O C Kiran Kumar, R/O Nacharam, Hyderabad-500076, Would henceforth my correct name is ANU RAJAGOPALAN, as in my Aadhaar & Voter ID, for reissue of passport&all record purpose. (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SPILIGUNU RAHUL S/O. SPILIGUNU RAJ KUMAR R/O. 1-1-300/47/2, FLAT 4006 RISING LYRICS CRAFTED HOMES, ASHOK NAGAR HIMAYATH NAGAR 500029 TS Changed My Name As SIPLIGUNU RAJ KUMAR S/O. SIPLIGUNU PENTAIHA (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, N 14652731W, Hav, Arjun Sarma, R/O, Dist: Dibrugarh, Assam, changed my Son's name from Krish Sharma to Krish Sarma vide Affidavit No. 466263 dt. 07.04.2026 before Medchal-Malkajigiri Court, Telangana. (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, M HANMANTHARAO, S/O, Muttjoju Srihari, R/O, H.NO.2-2-185/24/301, Mallikarjuna Nagar, Zindatelsmath, Amberpet, Hyderabad, Telangana, -500013, Have Changed My New Name As Muttjoju Hanmanth Rao, S/O, Muttjoju Srihari, for All purposes (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SPILIGUNU RAHUL S/O. SPILIGUNU RAJ KUMAR R/O. 1-1-300/47/2, FLAT 4006 RISING LYRICS CRAFTED HOMES, ASHOK NAGAR HIMAYATH NAGAR 500029 TS Changed My Name As SIPLIGUNU RAJ KUMAR S/O. SIPLIGUNU PENTAIHA (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, N 14652731W, Hav, Arjun Sarma, R/O, Dist: Dibrugarh, Assam, changed my Son's name from Krish Sharma to Krish Sarma vide Affidavit No. 466263 dt. 07.04.2026 before Medchal-Malkajigiri Court, Telangana. (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SAKINA W/O. KAIDE ZOHER CHAPPIWALA R/O. P.NO-92/1 & 93, FAKHRI MAKAAN, F.NO-101/FF, DURGA VIHAR COLONY Trimulgherry Secbad Hyd-500015. TS changed My Name to SAKINA CHAPPIWALA (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SPILIGUNU RAHUL S/O. SPILIGUNU RAJ KUMAR R/O. 1-1-300/47/2, FLAT 4006 RISING LYRICS CRAFTED HOMES, ASHOK NAGAR HIMAYATH NAGAR 500029 TS Changed My Name As SIPLIGUNU RAJ KUMAR S/O. SIPLIGUNU PENTAIHA (TH_34150)

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CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, ZOHER SAIFUDDIN KAIDE S/O. SAIFUDDIN P.NO-92/1 & 93, FAKHRI MAKAAN, F.NO-101/FF, DURGA VIHAR COLONY, Trimulgherry Secbad Hyd-500015. TS changed My Name to KAIDE ZOHER CHAPPIWALA (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SPILIGUNU RAHUL S/O. SPILIGUNU RAJ KUMAR R/O. 1-1-300/47/2, FLAT 4006 RISING LYRICS CRAFTED HOMES, ASHOK NAGAR HIMAYATH NAGAR 500029 TS Changed My Name As SIPLIGUNU RAJ KUMAR S/O. SIPLIGUNU PENTAIHA (TH_34150)

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CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, ELLANDULA NITHIN R/O. P.No.11-7-155, H.No-8/65, Rd.No-9, HUDA COLONY, Kothapet Hyd, RCK-R.R Dist. 500035, TS Changed My Name As ELLANDULA NITHIN S/O. ELLANDULA VIJAY KUMAR (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SPILIGUNU RAHUL S/O. SPILIGUNU RAJ KUMAR R/O. 1-1-300/47/2, FLAT 4006 RISING LYRICS CRAFTED HOMES, ASHOK NAGAR HIMAYATH NAGAR 500029 TS Changed My Name As SIPLIGUNU RAJ KUMAR S/O. SIPLIGUNU PENTAIHA (TH_34150)

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CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, EACHRAJ KAWAR R/O.H.No.1-10-11/213/P/3, Madhura Nagar, St. No.1, Kushaguda, Medchal-500062-Telangana, India, I have Changed my name to RANI SINGH RATHOD W/O RAM KUMAR SINGH RATHOD. (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SPILIGUNU RAHUL S/O. SPILIGUNU RAJ KUMAR R/O. 1-1-300/47/2, FLAT 4006 RISING LYRICS CRAFTED HOMES, ASHOK NAGAR HIMAYATH NAGAR 500029 TS Changed My Name As SIPLIGUNU RAJ KUMAR S/O. SIPLIGUNU PENTAIHA (TH_34150)

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NOTICE: Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns. THE HANS INDIA, (Hyderabad Media House PVT Ltd) does not vouch for any claims made by the advertisers. Hyderabad Media House PVT Ltd. shall not be held responsible/liable for any consequences in case such claims are found to be false.

IN THE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL JUNIOR CIVIL JUDGE-CUM-XI ADDL. JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE OF FIRST CLASS MEDCHAL MALKAJIGIRI DT AT KUTAPALLI HYDERABAD O.S. No. 335 of 2024 Between: Bank of India, Balanagar, Rep. by its Chief Manager GPA Holder, Medchal - Malkajigiri Dist., T.S. ...Plaintiff and M/s. V.R. Tech, a Proprietorship firm Rep. by its Proprietor & another ...Defendants

SUIT SUMMONS TO DEFENDANTS To, 1. M/s. V.R. Tech, A Proprietor Sri Venkatesanaidu Laxminaidu Mantrapudi, at H.No. 22-281, Plot No. DP 75, Block No. 22, Phase III, IDA, Jeedimetla, Outhubullapur, Medchal Malkajigiri Dist., Telangana-500055.

2. Sri Venkatesanaidu Laxminaidu Mantrapudi, H.No. 21-97-EWS 17, TIIC Colony, Jeedimetla, Outhubullapur, Medchal Malkajigiri Dist., Telangana-500055.

Please take notice that the above mentioned plaintiff filed money suit for recovery of Rs. 18,48,442.39 PS + interest from the date of suit against you. The Hon'ble Court posted the suit on 22.04.2026 at 10.30 am. for your appearance either in person or through an advocate, failing which the suit will be heard and determined ex parte.

(By Order of the Court) Sd/- K.V. Nageswara Rao, Advocate Counselor for Plaintiff

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: SUNITHA DEVI GANDHI W/O SANJA RAJ GANDHI H.NO 1-1-808 FLAT NO 401, B-BLOCK KESARIVA MANSION, BEHIND GCHC SWIMMING POOL, SECUNDERABAD PO SECUNDERABAD HYDERABAD, (D) T.S.PIN CODE 500003 CHANGED MY NAME AS SUNITHA GANDHI W/O SAJAN RAJ GANDHI (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, BHOSALE RAMESH DNYOB, Father of No. 17006839M, NK, Bhosale Sapan Rao Ramesh, R/O, Dist: Latur, Maharashtra, changed my name from Bhosale Ramesh Dnyoba to Ramesh Dnyobanob Bhosale vide Affidavit No. 466280 dt. 08.04.2026 before Medchal-Malkajigiri Court, Telangana. (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, BHOSALE SHEKHALA RAMESH, Mother of No. 17006839M, NK, Bhosale Sapan Rao Ramesh, R/O, Dist: Latur, Maharashtra, changed my name from Bhosale Shekhala Ramesh to Shashikala Bai Ramakant Bhosale, vide Affidavit No. 466282 dt. 08.04.2026 before Medchal-Malkajigiri Court, Telangana. (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, BINGI PANDURANGA S/O. BINGI NARAYANA R/O. 2-3-512/155/1, BAPU NAGAR, AMBERPET, HYDERABAD-500013, TS changed my name from BINGI PANDU RANGA GOUD to BINGI PANDURANGA S/O. BINGI NARAYANA for all purposes (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, SUDHAMANI MUPPURI (old name) H NO 17-1-388/P/14 1ST FLOOR POORANDAYA COLONY (W) SAIDABAD (DIST) HYDERABAD, T. G. I have changed my name as GUDUGUNTLA SUDHAKIRAN W/O GUDUGUNTLA KIRAN KUMAR (new name) (TH_34150)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, S R L Kumari Alias Siddavatam R. Kumari D/O Siddavatam Venkata Subbaha Sharma W/O Vamsi Gadiyaram R/O Flat No. 302, Third Floor, Pamandhi Petals, Saiiram Enclave, Road No.3, Near Padmavathi School, Ameenpur, Dist: Sangareddy, Telangana-502032 have changed my name to Siddavatam Ramya Lalitha Kumari. (TH_AANCHAL)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, Veera Venkata Mantravadi Prasad Alias V V Prasad Mantravadi S/O Nagamani Mantravadi R/O 10-4/2, Sai Residency, F-1, Vikas School Opp, Prasadampadu, Vijayawada (Rural), Po: Ramavarappadu, Krishna, Andhra Pradesh-521108 have changed my name to Prasad V V Mantravadi. (TH_AANCHAL)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, Dhandu Rajashakar S/O Dhandu Bhoomiah R/O H No 4-127/2 Borganp Nizamabad Mandalam, Nizamabad, Telangana-503230 have changed name of my minor son Dandu Anvith aged 07 years to Dhandu Anvith Ishaan. (TH_AANCHAL)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, Dhandu Rajashakar S/O Dhandu Bhoomiah R/O H No 4-127/2 Borganp Nizamabad Mandalam, Nizamabad, Telangana-503230 have changed name of my minor son Dandu Anvith aged 10 years to Dhandu Aryan Hrishikesh. (TH_AANCHAL)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, Pallele Rajamallu S/O Baliah R/O 1-19, Rajapoor, Bhudhavarampet G.P. Ladhapur, Karimnagar, Telangana-505212 declare that name of mine is wrongly written as Kandaula Chandraiah in my Service Records. Actual name of mine is Pallele Rajamallu. (TH_AANCHAL)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, Gowaram Narasimha S/O Gowaram Chandraiah R/O 4-118/4, Pragathi Nagar, Near Vasundra Nursing Home, Moosapet, Balanagar, District: K.V. Rangareddy, Telangana-500018 have changed my name to Gowaram Narsi Reddy. (TH_AANCHAL)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, Aerpula Rajesh Alias A Rajesh S/O Yadaiah Aerpula R/O 6-3-1240/143/B, Raj Bhavan Road, M.S. Maktha, Khairatnagar, Somajiguda, Hyderabad, Telangana-500082 have changed my name to Rajesh Aerpula. (TH_AANCHAL)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, Borra Venkata Lavinsrikanth S/O Borra Simhachalam R/O 50-93-8/4, Madhura Nagar, Santhipuram, Akkayyapalem, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh -530016 have changed my name to Borra Lavin. (TH_AANCHAL)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, Sumisha jahangir s/o Allen rayan jahangir (minor) R/O 12-5-43/1 vijayapuri colony, tanaka, Hyderabad intending to change name from Allen rayan jahangir to ALLEN RAYAN ELYON. (TH_00384)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, Abid Hussain S/o.Mohammed Ashfaq Hussain R/O. 1-4-554/38/A/1, Tajir Nagar, Bholakpur, Musheerabad, Hyderabad-20. TG. Have changed my Father name from Ashfaq Hussain to Mohammed Ashfaq Hussain. (TH_03311)

PUBLIC NOTICE The General Public are hereby informed that Mrs. Anpally Jayasree D/o Anpally Mallesham is intending to purchase All that the North facing Residential Flat on first floor Flat No.101 adjoining 2400 sq.ft carpet area balconies common area along with 35 sq.yards 1050 out of 360 sq.yards or 100 sq.yards and one car parking out of 4 car parking Situated at Navodaya Colony Yellareddyguda Hyderabad from Smt Swetha D/o GV Prathap Reddy and Sri GV Dinesh Reddy S/o GVP Prathap Reddy both R/O.H.No.281IM Road No.10-8 Jubilee Hills Hyderabad Telangana 500033 And approached State Bank of India Head Office Secunderabad and the State Bank of India Hyderabad. It is stated that the Original link documents bearing Sale Deed Nos. 1756/1984 dated 13/08/1984 and Doc. No.1051/1994 dated 09/03/1994 both registered before Sub-Registrar Khairatabad/Banjara Hills is lost/misplaced A Certificate dated 13/11/2017 is issued by Police Station. Parugutta

Any person has any objections or claims in respect of the above subject, they may contact the undersigned with all relevant documents and objections in writing within 10 [Ten] days from the date of the publication. In case, if no objections are received, it is deemed that No claim has been made and if any claims made thereafter, the same shall not be considered. The Bank shall proceed with the Sanction of Loan. Sd/- DEVIKAR, P. ADVOCATE Plot No. 180P, Road No.4, Mahendra Hills, Secunderabad-28. Call: 98490 23380

PUBLIC NOTICE My general public are hereby informed that Sri Chandra Narsing Rao S/o. Lata C.Satyavandana, R/o.H.No.6-3-175, Flat No.101 Lotus View Apartment Near Boudhga Secunderabad-500080 is intending to purchase All that the Flat No.101 bearing separate Municipal No.6-3-175/101 P/TN No.116002223 on Ground floor bearing MCH No.6-3-175/101 Lotus View Apartments adjoining 980 sq.ft along with undivided share of land measuring 41 sq.yards Situated at Raj Nagar Colony New Boudhga Secunderabad and he approached Mrs Indira Overseas Bank for a loan. It is stated that the original the above property was purchased by Smt. Raveena Urmia Begum W/o Sri M.Sadula Hussain by virtue of sale deed doc. No.857796 dated 22/07/1998 Registered before Sri Registrar Secunderabad and the said document is tampered and not traceable rigors of his said efforts Sri Raveena Urmia Begum W/o Sri M.Sadula Hussain signed before him the said deed No.1 Sri M.Sadula Hussain Husband;2Smt Sara begum daughter; 3) Sri Mohd Barkathullah Hussain, 4) Sri Mohd Ali; 5) Sri Mohd Saadullah Hussain and 6) Sri. Muzaffar Hussain as legal heirs. If any person has any objection or other information in respect of the above property, they may contact the undersigned with all relevant documents and objections in writing within (seven) days from the date of the Publication. In case, if no objections are received, it is deemed that No claim has been made, and if any claims made thereafter, the same shall not be considered. The Bank shall proceed with the Sanction of Loan. Sd/- DEVIKAR, P. ADVOCATE Plot No. 180P, Road No.4, Mahendra Hills, Secunderabad-28. Call: 98490 23380

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, KASTHURI THULASAMA, W/O. LAKKARAJU RAM KUMAR, Resident of Flat No: 102, Sasidhar Arcade, Madhapur Hills, Sesadri Marg, Kondapur, Serilingampally, KV Rangareddy, Telangana -500084. I have Changed My Name From Tulasi Lakkuraju (Old Name) to Kasthuri Thulasama (New Name) For All Records Purpose (TH_3107)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, KASTHURI THULASAMA, W/O. LAKKARAJU RAM KUMAR, Resident of Flat No: 102, Sasidhar Arcade, Madhapur Hills, Sesadri Marg, Kondapur, Serilingampally, KV Rangareddy, Telangana -500084. I have Changed My Name From Tulasi Lakkuraju (Old Name) to Kasthuri Thulasama (New Name) For All Records Purpose (TH_3107)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, KASTHURI THULASAMA, W/O. LAKKARAJU RAM KUMAR, Resident of Flat No: 102, Sasidhar Arcade, Madhapur Hills, Sesadri Marg, Kondapur, Serilingampally, KV Rangareddy, Telangana -500084. I have Changed My Name From Tulasi Lakkuraju (Old Name) to Kasthuri Thulasama (New Name) For All Records Purpose (TH_3107)

CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I, KASTHURI THULASAMA, W/O. LAKKARAJU RAM KUMAR, Resident of Flat No: 102, Sasidhar Arcade, Madhapur Hills, Sesadri Marg, Kondapur, Serilingampally, KV Rangareddy, Telangana -500084. I have Changed My Name From Tulasi Lakkuraju (Old Name) to Kasthuri Thulasama (New Name) For All Records Purpose (TH_3107)

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CHANGE OF NAME advertisement: I,



Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar interacts with Border Security Force personnel in Kashmir on Thursday

Bandi Sanjay lauds BSF services in snow-clad mountains of Kashmir

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

UNION Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar lauded the Border Security Force (BSF) personnel for their magnificent services in the snow-clad mountains of Kashmir.

During his visit on Thursday, he described their valour during 'Operation Sindoor' as unparalleled and a source of immense pride for the nation. Stressing that the safety of BSF jawans is the foremost priority, he assured full-scale support and co-operation from the Central Government.

During his visit to the BSF campus (SHQ) in Srinagar, the Minister met with IG Ashok Yadav and senior officials. A detailed presentation highlighted the services rendered by BSF jawans, their operational challenges, and their pivotal role in 'Operation Sindoor'.

Video footage showcased jawans performing duties at altitudes of 15,500 feet, braving blizzards and extreme cold. Officials emphasised

- Says your valour in 'Operation Sindoor' is unparalleled
- The safety of BSF jawans is our foremost priority
- Kashmir witnesses peace and stability due to vigilance of soldiers
- Region emerging as a prominent tourist destination
- Minister inaugurates newly built barracks in Baramulla

that the operation's success was solely due to the courage and dedication of BSF personnel, who continue to serve despite limited amenities.

Earlier, the minister visited the Tulip Garden in Srinagar, which attracts nearly a million tourists annually during its one-month bloom. He toured the premises, observed the vibrant floral displays, and learned about the garden's 75-year history.

Later, amidst tight secu-

urity, he enjoyed a brief boat ride on Dal Lake, symbolising Kashmir's growing appeal as a tourist destination.

On the first day of his visit, Bandi Sanjay Kumar inaugurated two newly constructed BSF barracks in Baramulla after paying tribute at the martyrs' memorial.

He noted Baramulla's historic role as one of the earliest BSF sectors, with battalions guarding sensitive stretches of the Line of Control and patrolling treacherous terrains in Uri and Nowgam, often navigating through 20-25 feet of snow.

He remarked that Kashmir is entering a new era of peace and development, with tourism flourishing and infrastructure steadily expanding. This transformation, he said, has been made possible by the unwavering vigilance of BSF personnel, whose discipline, courage, and patriotism remain an inspiration to the nation.

The minister pledged continuous efforts to ensure the welfare of jawans while strengthening India's security and progress.

Ponguleti dishing out 'concocted lies' to camouflage misdeeds: Harish Rao

WORDY DUEL TAKES A BITTER TURN...

Spoke like builder, not Minister,' says BRS leader

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

BRS deputy leader T Harish Rao on Thursday said that Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has gone on the defensive and spoke not like a minister, but like the owner of Raghava Constructions.

Harish Rao launched a scathing attack on Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, accusing him of trying to divert attention from serious corruption and illegal mining allegations through abusive language and fabricated explanations.

Speaking to the media at Nagapur village, he said the minister's remarks inside the Assembly had only further exposed the Congress government's desperation and moral bankruptcy.

Ponguleti did not speak as a responsible cabinet minister, but as the head of Raghava Constructions, clearly trying to protect his own family and business interests. When people have no facts, no answers, and no defence, they resort to abuse, distractions and emotional drama, he alleged.

Harish Rao said that in trying to defend himself, Ponguleti ended up exposing the broader corruption in the Congress government. "In the process of defending himself, he has virtually admitted that not just he, but several ministers in this government are tainted," he said.

He pointed out that by referring to the names of senior ministers and the Chief Minister, Ponguleti had opened the door to wider scrutiny



BRS deputy leader T Harish Rao addresses the media on Thursday

over corruption allegations within the government. The most important point was that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy had admitted on the floor of the House that irregularities in Raghava Constructions had been detected by government officials, and that a penalty had been imposed.

Rao said that officials from Revenue, Electricity, Pollution Control Board and Mining Departments had jointly inspected the site and confirmed illegal mining activities.

"So who is lying?" Harish Rao asked. "Is Ponguleti right, or are the officials right? Is the Chief Minister wrong? Is the Mining Minister wrong? Or are all of them speaking the truth, and only Ponguleti is denying it?" Harish Rao questioned.

Harish Rao also addressed Ponguleti's comments on the Nadargul land issue, and said the BRS government had in fact protected those lands as government property. He said it was the BRS government that included the land in the prohibited list, fought the case in the High Court, and secured

Dasoju disses Ponguleti for throwing weight behind land dispute in RR dist

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

BRS MLC Dasoju Sravan accused Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy of misusing his office to further private real estate interests, claiming victims of these disputes are increasingly approaching the BRS office. He ridiculed the claims of the Minister and criticised him for spreading false narratives. Detailing a case involving Satish Shah and Pallavi Shah on Thursday, Sravan said the family owns 27 acres across Survey Numbers 169, 244, and 245 at Vattinagulapally in Ranga Reddy district. He



noted that multiple surveys and HMDA compensation had previously established clear ownership.

Sravan stated the issue began only after the son of the Minister, Harsha Reddy, entered into a development agreement with a neighbouring landowner. He alleged that attempts were made to pressure the family into parting with

land. In October 2025, a forced survey was reportedly conducted, though the High Court later struck down the report. Despite this, Sravan alleged the situation escalated with the demolition of a boundary wall and the use of bulldozers. He claimed that even after FIRs and court injunctions, enforcement remained weak due to ministerial pressure on police and revenue authorities. Dasoju Sravan demanded an immediate halt to such high-handedness, asserting that the state administration should protect citizens rather than facilitate land grabs for those in power.

orders that action should be taken against those who sold and purchased ceiling-surplus lands illegally.

He questioned why the Congress government was now trying to suppress these facts. He questioned whether

there were links between Shilpa, Raghava and AQ Square, and asked why the government is not coming clean on these relationships.

Rao demanded that if the government was sincere, it should immediately

act against the encroachers, send HYDRAA to the site, and prove its honesty through action rather than statements. He said Ponguleti's attempts at creating noise and drama have failed to bury the facts.

BJP chief pays tributes to tiger Narendra on his death anniversary

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

BJP state chief N Ramachander Rao paid floral tributes to Tiger Ale Narendra on his twelfth death anniversary on Thursday. He stated that as a senior BJP leader, former MP, former MLA, and a prominent figure in the Telangana movement, Narendra fought tirelessly for the statehood cause.

He later served with distinction as a Member of Parliament and a Union Minister. Rao noted that Narendra will always be remembered for his leading role in the regional movement and his work as a trade union leader. Under his guidance,



BJP state chief N Ramachander Rao pays floral tributes to Tiger Ale Narendra on his death anniversary in Hyderabad on Thursday

the Kagaznagar Mills and Sirpur Mills saw resolute struggles for the rights and welfare of workers. The BJP Chief recalled that during times

of heightened communal tensions in Hyderabad, when the Congress party allegedly encouraged the MIM, Narendra stood firmly by the people

in the Old City.

Even today, the ideals and aspirations of Narendra continue to inspire thousands of karyakartas across Hyderabad who carry forward the work of the party with conviction. Rao asked every party worker to emulate the qualities of courage and fighting spirit exhibited by the late leader. He described Narendra as a leader who dedicated his life to the nation, the protection of Dharma, and the rights of the community. The gathering observed that his legacy remains a source of strength for the cadre, serving as a reminder of the commitment required to serve the public interest and uphold cultural values in the face of political challenges.

Tripartite agreement signed to strengthen agri-biotech innovation

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE Tripartite Agreement Signing Ceremony under the BioNEST Co-Incubation Programme was successfully held at ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, marking a pivotal step in strengthening the agri-biotech ecosystem of India. The agreement was signed on Thursday between a-IDEA, which is the agri-business incubator of ICAR-NAARM, the ICAR-Indian Institute

of Rice Research, and the selected incubates including Ventas Biosolutions LLP and individual entrepreneur Lakshmi VSDS Rudraraju. The event commenced with a welcome address by Ranjit Kumar, CEO of a-IDEA and Principal Scientist at ICAR-NAARM, who outlined the vision of the programme to nurture cutting-edge agri-biotech ventures. Kalyani M Barbadikar, Senior Scientist at ICAR-IIRR, detailed the rigorous evaluation process that

identified promising startups for incubation. Gopal Lal, Director of ICAR-NAARM and President of a-IDEA, highlighted in his keynote address the importance of innovation-driven entrepreneurship and institutional support in accelerating the agri-startup ecosystem. Complementing this, R Meenakshi Sundaram, Director of ICAR-IIRR, emphasised the role of research-backed incubation in advancing sustainable agriculture.

BEAT THE HEAT WITH ICE APPLES



A vendor sells thaati munjal (ice apples) by the roadside in Secunderabad. The summer fruit, sourced from palm trees, is prized for its sweet, tender flesh and refreshing water.

Photos: Ch Prabhu Das

Vizag man held for abusive post against actress Renu Desai

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

A man from Visakhapatnam was arrested by the Cyberabad Cybercrime Police for posting an offensive and abusive comment on a social media reel shared by actress Renu Desai. The accused was identified as Idadasu Apparao, a resident of

Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. According to the police, Apparao frequently watched Instagram reels during his free time. Recently, after watching a reel posted by the actress, the accused allegedly used a fake Instagram account he had created to post an abusive and derogatory comment. Cybercrime officials apprehended him in

Visakhapatnam and brought him to the Cybercrime Police Station in Gachibowli for further investigation. During the verification process, the mobile phone used to post the offensive content was produced and seized by the authorities.

The police have advised social media users to maintain responsible online be-

haviour and strictly avoid posting abusive, defamatory, or offensive comments. They emphasised that sharing objectionable content on digital platforms can lead to severe legal action under relevant provisions of the law. Citizens are encouraged to use digital spaces responsibly and report any cyber offences to the nearest police station or via the 1930 helpline. Recently, Renu Desai issued a strong warning against trolling and obscene comments, stating that such behaviour would not be tolerated.

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Tepid campus hiring reflects changing contours of IT industry

CAMPUS hiring of engineering graduates has been moving at a snail's pace in recent years. One of the major employers, which are Indian IT firms— are altogether missing or hiring very low numbers. According to HR consultancy firm- Xpheno, fresher hiring in India's IT sector has fallen from a peak of 600,000 in FY22 to about 120,000 in FY25. Many analysts see no change in the overall numbers for FY26, which will be known in a few weeks.

Such tepid hiring trend is driven by a combination of factors. Firstly, demand environment in the IT industry remains subdued. With geopolitical situation remaining volatile owing to Russia-Ukraine war, Iran versus US & Israel conflict and Trump tariffs; enterprises

are cautious in their technology spend since last financial year.

Especially, the US government's decision to impose tariffs on its trading partners has created an uncertainty in several sectors. Though deal pipeline remained robust for most Indian IT companies, the implementation rate of those projects was low. That is the reason that freshers are not required in large numbers as they used to be in earlier years. Second and the most important change has been driven by adoption of AI (artificial intelligence)-powered solutions in the industry.

Many of the entry-level works are getting automated through agentic AI tools. It means companies no longer require as many fresh engineering graduates as

compared to previous years. Such fundamental shift is driving the recruitment trend in engineering colleges. For three decades, Indian IT industry's operational model has been focussed heavily on hiring of new engineering graduates from college campuses.

In a project, freshers and junior employees with 2-3 years of experience comprise the bulk of the man power. Such employee pyramid has helped IT services companies to keep their employee cost lower as entry level salaries remain low for the industry as whole. However, such established operating model is going through a shift as of now. Many L1 & L2 work loads are being handled by agentic AI tools in recent quarters.

In a way, these AI tools should

be seen as responsible for replacing new engineering graduates in India for now. Do these factors make engineering graduates redundant in the evolving landscape? Answer to this question is still not known to the industry. Because Accen- world's biggest IT services & consulting company- recently added headcount by hiring freshers.

The CEO of Accenture has said during analyst call that AI will create more jobs for freshers with new roles emerging under the AI domain. This is in contrast to the popular narrative given by analysts, company management and other stakeholders for the last two years. So, no body exactly knows how fresher hiring landscape will evolve in the coming quarters.

But one view that has started

rolling out from HR experts in recent months is that AI is creating demand for new kind of roles. Job roles like prompt engineer, AI ethics analyst, AI data scientist, AI Product Manager, AI product developer, AI data curator, AI integration consultant and others are getting created with the development of AI. It means new job roles are getting created for which young graduates need to be trained for leading in the future. Therefore, the demand for freshers may have come down temporarily but is likely to continue in the wake of new technology developments. Moreover, Indian IT industry's whole operating model revolves around hiring freshers and any pivot from such established way will take time to evolve.

When global fragility becomes everyone's burden

APURVA RAKESH PANDEY

SEARCH FOR STABILITY IN AN UNEQUAL GLOBAL ORDER

WHEN fuel prices surge on the streets of Colombo, fertilisers slip beyond the reach of African farmers, and Asian governments exhaust fiscal space to hold down subsidies, the reflex explanation is domestic mismanagement. That diagnosis is convenient—and often wrong. The drivers of these crises are frequently located far from national capitals, embedded in strategic decisions taken by a handful of power centres whose economic aftershocks travel effortlessly across borders. Contemporary conflicts may be geographically contained, but their costs are anything but.

This asymmetry—between where decisions are made and where consequences are felt—has become a defining feature of the global order. Power is concentrated; risk is globalised. Energy markets, shipping routes, insurance premia, and capital flows no longer merely reflect economic fundamentals. They have become transmission belts for geopolitics, carrying strategic intent into household budgets, food prices, and balance sheets across the developing world.

History makes this pattern unmistakable. The oil shocks of the 1970s did not remain an OPEC-West confrontation; they translated into 10-15 per cent inflation and debt crises across much of the Global South. The 1991 Gulf War and the sanctions regime that followed erased nearly half of Iraq's GDP, but their secondary effects reverberated through energy markets and regional

economies. The lesson was clear even then: when conflict intersects with global systems, its radius expands dramatically.

Globalisation was supposed to temper such outcomes. Interdependence, it was argued, would raise the cost of conflict and therefore restrain it. In practice, interdependence has done something else—it has accelerated the export of conflict-related costs. The Russia-Ukraine war of 2022-23 offers a textbook illustration. Wheat prices rose by 35-40 per cent; fertiliser exports were disrupted by 20-25 per cent. For low- and middle-income countries, this translated into food inflation of 8-12 per cent, fiscal stress, and renewed balance-of-payments pressures. The war did not have to be global to destabilise global livelihoods.

The problem intensifies when conflict threatens strategic chokepoints. The Strait of Hormuz, through which roughly a quarter of the world's seaborne oil trade—and significant volumes of LNG and LPG—passes, has once again become a pressure point amid escalating tensions involving the United States, Israel, and Iran. Even limited disruption here sends oil prices swinging and insurance costs soaring, with immediate consequences for transport, manufacturing, and household energy bills far beyond West Asia. Geography, in such cases, becomes a multiplier of instability.

What emerges is a consistent sequence. Strategic choices are taken first, often



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with narrow security or political objectives. Economic consequences follow later, diffusing through global markets. Advanced economies, cushioned by deeper capital markets and institutional buffers, absorb part of the shock. States with limited fiscal capacity and high import dependence absorb far more. When Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister James Marape remarked that countries like his are forced to pay for conflicts in which they have no role, he was not making a moral appeal; he was describing a structural reality.

This is why the prevailing international order increasingly looks less like a system that resolves imbalances and more like one that manages them—often poorly. It reacts

to crises after costs have already been socialised across vulnerable economies, rather than preventing those costs from being externalised in the first place.

It is in this context that India's contemporary diplomacy merits attention. Its shift from Cold War non-alignment to present-day multi-alignment is not rhetorical flexibility; it is strategic realism. India's engagement with the Global South has focused less on symbolism and more on stabilisation—through vaccine diplomacy, food and fertiliser assistance, and diversified energy sourcing. Securing permanent membership for the African Union in the G20 was not merely an act of inclusion; it linked representation to agenda-setting

in the world's premier economic forum.

Yet stabilisation cannot rest on ad hoc measures alone. The next phase demands institutional ballast. Groupings such as BRICS and the wider Global South offer part of the answer, not as ideological counterweights but as shock absorbers. Instruments like the Contingent Reserve Arrangement and the New Development Bank, combined with local-currency trade and cross-border payment systems, can reduce exposure to volatile capital flows and dollar liquidity cycles. Their promise, however, depends on political discipline—on whether members can place collective resilience above bilateral competition. Still, alternative platforms are not substitutes for systemic reform. The architecture of global governance itself must be recalibrated to internalise the costs it currently externalises. Sanctions regimes need clearer economic impact assessments; trade rules must become more flexible in the face of supply-chain disruptions; financial systems require mechanisms that prioritise crisis liquidity for vulnerable economies.

Coordinated responses through the United Nations could strengthen multilateral crisis management, while the World Trade Organisation needs the mandate and agility to keep trade flowing during geopolitical shocks. In parallel, the United Nations Security Council must become more representative

and more accountable, particularly when sanctions and interventions impose diffuse economic costs far beyond their intended targets.

Representation alone, however, is insufficient without accountability. Emerging powers must deploy their growing economic weight not just to expand markets, but to shape rules. Rule-making, not rule-following, is where lasting stability is built.

None of this assumes an end to power politics. Competition will persist; rivalry is intrinsic to international life. The challenge is not to abolish it, but to contain it within frameworks that dampen volatility rather than amplify it. If that effort fails, global fragility will cease to be episodic and become structural—a permanent condition rather than a recurring crisis.

A more inclusive and accountable decision-making order would not eliminate conflict, but it could prevent its costs from being indiscriminately exported. Stability, then, would no longer be a privilege enjoyed by a few resilient economies, but a shared global public good. The question confronting the international system is stark: will competition be allowed to slide into cascading instability, or will it be balanced by cooperation capable of sustaining a more predictable world?

(The writer is an alumnus of the University of Allahabad and writes on International Relations and Strategic Affairs)

BR Ambedkar: A national thinker and reformist beyond misconceptions

DR KIRAN KUMAR GOLLA

BR AMBEDKAR, whose birth anniversary is celebrated on April 14, is often misunderstood, seen narrowly as a Dalit leader or as a critic of Hinduism. The fact is that he was neither anti-Hindu nor anti-national. He was a reformer who challenged social injustice, not religion itself, and a patriot who sought to strengthen India's unity through justice and fraternity. His writings and books reveal a thinker deeply committed to building a modern, democratic India.

Ambedkar's intellectual legacy is preserved in his books, which show the breadth of his concerns. In *The Problem of the Rupee: Its Origin and Its Solution* (1923), his doctoral thesis at the London School of Economics, he analysed India's monetary system and argued for a managed currency. This was not a sectional concern but a national economic vision, anticipating debates that would later shape India's financial policy. In *Annihilation of Caste* (1936), perhaps his most famous work, Ambedkar evaluated caste as a social system, not Hinduism as a faith. He argued that caste was incompatible with democracy and justice, and importantly, appealed to Hindu reformers to reinterpret scriptures in ways that aligned with equality.

His *Thoughts on Linguistic States* (1955) examined how India should reorganize states based on language, showing his concern for national integration and federal stability. Finally, *The Buddha and His Dhamma* (1957), published posthumously, outlined his interpretation of Buddhism as a rational, ethical, and egalitarian philosophy. His turn to Buddhism was not anti-Hindu but a reaffirmation of India's plural spiritual heritage.

Ambedkar's take on caste was often misread as hostility toward Hinduism. In An-



nihilation of Caste, he wrote: "The Hindu society must be reorganized on a religious basis which would recognize the principles of liberty, equality and fraternity."

This shows he was not rejecting Hinduism but urging reform so that its ethical core could shine through. His challenge was to social practices, not to faith itself. He believed that religion, when aligned with justice, could be a force for national unity.

Ambedkar's nationalism was pragmatic and ethical. In *Thoughts on Linguistic States*, he warned that ignoring linguistic identities could weaken India; however, his solution was not separatism. Instead, he proposed a federal structure that respected diversity while preserving unity. Similarly, his role in drafting the Constitution was a patriotic act, as he embedded safeguards for minorities and fundamental rights to strengthen the country's democratic fabric.

In his final speech to the Constituent Assembly, Ambedkar cautioned against hero worship and authoritarianism, saying democracy in India must rest on "constitutional morality." Such warnings were not anti-national; they were protective of India's demo-

In *Annihilation of Caste*, he wrote: "The Hindu society must be reorganized on a religious basis which would recognize the principles of liberty, equality and fraternity." This shows he was not rejecting Hinduism but urging reform so that its ethical core could shine through. His challenge was to social practices, not to faith itself. He believed that religion, when aligned with justice, could be a force for national unity. His nationalism was pragmatic and ethical.

cratic experiment. His economic writings reveal his concern for national development. In *The Problem of the Rupee*, Ambedkar argued for stability in currency to protect India's economy. He also wrote on agricultural reforms, advocating redistribution of land to ensure productivity and fairness. These were not sectional demands, but national policies aimed at uplifting all Indians. His economic vision was about creating a fair system for all, ensuring that India's modernization did not leave its rural majority behind.

Ambedkar's embrace of Buddhism was a reclamation of an Indian tradition that embodied rationality and compassion.

In *The Buddha and His Dhamma*, he presented Buddhism as a philosophy of equality and ethics. His choice was not a rejection of India's heritage but a reaffirmation of its pluralism. He sought a spiritual foundation for modern India within its own civilizational resources. By turning to Buddhism, Ambedkar was not abandoning the country's traditions but reinterpreting them to meet contempo-

rary needs. Ambedkar's vision of democracy went beyond institutions. He insisted democracy must be a social ethic, respect for dignity, equality of opportunity, and fraternity. His writings and speeches consistently warned that political democracy could not survive without social democracy. This was a profoundly nationalist concern, as he wanted India's democracy to endure and flourish. His insistence on fraternity was not divisive but integrative, binding India together across caste, religion, and language.

Examples of his national spirit abound. In the Constitution, Ambedkar ensured fundamental rights and affirmative action were enshrined in law, not to divide but to integrate India.

His work on currency and agriculture addressed national stability and growth. His ideas on linguistic states balanced diversity with unity. His call to reinterpret Hindu scriptures was aimed at strengthening India's moral foundation. Each of these contributions shows a thinker deeply invested in India's future, not an adversary of its traditions or unity.

Ambedkar was not anti-Hindu or anti-national. He was a reformer who sought to purify religion of social distortions and a patriot who worked tirelessly to build a just and united India. His books—*Annihilation of Caste*, *The Problem of the Rupee*, *Thoughts on Linguistic States*, and *The Buddha and His Dhamma* illustrate his breadth as a thinker.

His legacy is one of integration, bringing together India's ancient values and modern aspirations. To honour Ambedkar is to recognize him as a national visionary whose ideas belong to all Indians.

(The writer is Asst. Professor, EFLU, Hyderabad)

LETTERS

Defining moment for Indian democracy

WITH reference to the article published in The Hans India newspaper on April 9, the call to push forward women's reservation marks a defining moment in India's democratic journey. The essence of the article is to bring out the urgency of stepping up women's participation in legislative bodies and to carry forward the long-pending vision of equality rooted in our Constitution. The origin of this initiative can be traced back to decades of debates, draft bills, and committees that sought to carve out space for women but could not see it through. Now, with renewed political will, the nation is set to take this reform forward and turn it into a transformative force. It seeks to reach out to women from all walks of life: rural homemakers, urban professionals, tribal women, and those from marginalized communities thereby opening up equal opportunities. Women from both rural and urban areas will benefit as the policy aims to break down structural barriers and bring them into the mainstream. Language, too, should not stand in the way, as empowerment cuts across linguistic divides and builds on shared aspirations. Only when institutions and citizens come together can this initiative truly turn into a nationwide movement that lifts up women and strengthens democracy.

Raju Kolluru, Kakinada

Is Pakistan the new 'Vishwa Guru'?

THE proposed ceasefire for two weeks between Iran and the USA was indeed a welcome move. The entire world was looking forward to freedom from war's repercussions namely the energy crisis and crippling of the world economy. Pakistan taking the aid of China took the initiative of arranging a meet of warring nations in Islamabad. Pakistan, despite its record of sheltering the terrorist groups, seems to succeed in assuming a 'Vishwa Guru' facade.

P R Ravinder, Hyderabad

II

THOUGH fragile, the two week US-Iran truce is crucial for stopping a high casualty, 39-day regional conflict, reopening of critical Strait of Hormuz to stabilize global oil prices, and creating a temporary diplomatic window to manage nuclear tensions. The temporary truce has helped global markets react positively with falling oil prices and rising stocks, while regional sectors seek stability amid continued yet restricted military threats. A lasting truce could ease global supply chain pressures and reduce shipping insurance premium. Despite the truce, deep disrupt persists with reports of continued violation in Lebanon and potential for a swift return to a conflict if negotiations fail. Anyway, President Trump's acceptance of Pakistan's proposal for a two week ceasefire in the war with Iran is a welcome move, since the truce has brought a sigh of relief to the international community especially to the Indians.

P Victor Selvaraj, Tirunelveli

III

THE terrorist country like Pakistan is not a "credible player" in the ongoing Iran-US diplomatic process, even as Islamabad has been involved in facilitation efforts. United States is using Pakistan's role for its own strategic reasons. Under President Donald Trump has given importance to Pakistan by trusting them and sidelining the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and has back stabbed him in the name of bogus friendship which is humiliation and insult to Modi in the eyes of the world countries.

Bhagwan Thadani, Mumbai

Sooryavanshi, the man of the moment

V AIBHAV Sooryavanshi is making waves in the cricket world with his explosive batting style. The 15-year-old sensation is known for his fearless approach, as evident from his record-breaking performances in the IPL and Youth ODIs. He smashed a 35-ball century in the IPL, the fastest by an Indian, and a 52-ball hundred in the Youth ODI series against England U-19. His fearless way of hitting sixes came to view when he hit Jasprit Bumrah for a first ball six. His deft placements and sound defence add to his repertoire as a class batsman in the top order. Moreover he is confidence personified and would like to become top star in the days to come.

Gundu C K Maniam, Tiruchi

thehansreader@gmail.com

BENGALURU ONLINE

Despite losing mother during exams, student tops state

MANGALURU: In an extraordinary story of courage and determination, Disha, a student of Alva's College in Moodbidri, has emerged as the state topper in the Commerce stream of the Second PUC examinations—despite losing her mother in the middle of her exams. A Commerce stream student from Moodbidri, Disha secured the first rank in the state by scoring a perfect 600 out of 600 marks. Alva's PU College authorities and lecturers congratulated Disha on her outstanding achievement. Disha, daughter of Dinesh and Savita from Puttige Padavu near Vidyagiri, was preparing for her board examinations when tragedy struck. Her mother suffered a sudden fall on the eve of her Mathematics exam and passed away just a day before her Economics paper.

Even as she grappled with profound grief, Disha chose to continue writing her exams, refusing to let the setback derail years of hard work. Her disciplined preparation played a crucial role. She had been waking up as early as 3.30 am daily to study and had completed her syllabus well in advance through rigorous internal assessments conducted by her college. In her darkest hour, support came from her lecturer Veena, who not only comforted her but also provided her a place to stay, ensuring she could attend the examinations without interruption.

"I was slightly worried about scoring full marks in English, but my teachers' guidance helped me overcome that," Disha said. She credits the student-friendly teaching approach, timely syllabus completion, and continuous evaluation system at her college for her success.

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

Economic democracy must complement political democracy: Justice Sudarshan Reddy

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

FORMER Supreme Court Judge Justice B Sudarshan Reddy stated that economic democracy must be achieved alongside political democracy while inaugurating a two-day national seminar on Economic Reforms and the Indian Constitution: Conflicts and Future Directions at Dr BR Ambedkar Open University on Thursday.

The seminar was jointly organised by the Department of Economics at BRAOU and the Government Degree College, Chanchalguda, as part of Social Empowerment Week. Justice Reddy recalled that BR Ambedkar was not only the architect of the Constitution but also a distinguished economist. He noted that socialism is embedded in the Constitution, particularly in the emphasis of the Preamble on equality and justice.

Referring to the Karachi Resolution, he said it laid the foundation for the recognition of socio-economic rights in India. He highlighted milestones such as the abolition of the Zamindari system and agrarian struggles while

SOCIAL JUSTICE KEY TO POLICY-MAKING, SAY SPEAKERS



warning against the rise of new forms of fascism.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Ghanta Chakrapani presided over the event, stressing the need to safeguard public education. He expressed concern about the proliferation of private universities and the decline in UGC funding, warning that higher education is

becoming inaccessible to ordinary citizens. He urged collective efforts to strengthen public universities and uphold constitutional values in education.

Keynote speaker Prof Prabhat Patnaik from Jawaharlal Nehru University argued that governments must retain control over key sectors to ensure public

welfare. He recalled the 1948 Industrial Policy, which prioritised nationalisation and the public sector. Highlighting rising inequality, he noted that wealth is concentrated among the top one per cent and advocated measures such as wealth and inheritance taxes, alongside recognition of fundamental economic rights, to transform India into a welfare state.

Guest of Honour Prof Pushpa Chakrapani underlined the importance of social justice in shaping public policy, noting that economic justice gained renewed focus after the 1991 reforms. Seminar Director Prof P Venkateswarlu emphasised the relevance of the 1948 Industrial Policy in strengthening the public sector and insisted that reforms must remain grounded in constitutional principles. The speakers concluded that a balanced approach is necessary to ensure that market-driven policies do not undermine the egalitarian goals established by the founding fathers of the nation.

TSUTF leaders demand enhanced house rent allowance for employees

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

THE Telangana State United Teachers' Federation leadership met with the Chairman of the Second Pay Revision Commission, Shivashankar, and member A Ramaiah, to press for enhanced House Rent Allowance for employees in newly upgraded urban areas. State President Chava Ravi, General Secretary A Venkat, and Treasurer T Lakshma Reddy submitted a memorandum requesting that a 17 per cent HRA be recommended for municipal corporations and a 13 per cent HRA for municipalities. This proposal specifically includes villages located within an eight-kilometre radius of the city outskirts. During the meeting, PRC Chairman Shivashankar clarified that recommendations would be based on the status



prevailing as of 1 July 2023. However, he assured that the Commission would suggest to the government that HRA be granted directly to cities and towns upgraded after that date, using population criteria as the guiding factor for the disbursements.

The delegation emphasised that employees working in newly upgraded corporations face rising living costs and deserve parity with those in established urban centres. They argued that enhanced HRA is essential to ensure fairness and to reflect the current realities of rapid urban

expansion across the state. Following the meeting, the delegation also submitted a memorandum to the Principal Secretary of the Finance Department at the Secretariat. They urged the immediate sanction of enhanced HRA for eligible areas, citing Government Order 53 of the previous PRC as a precedent. The leaders reiterated their commitment to securing improved allowances, stressing that the issue affects the welfare of thousands of workers. They called upon the government to act swiftly to implement these essential recommendations.

Will continue to strike Hezbollah wherever necessary: Netanyahu

TEL AVIV: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says Israel "will continue to strike Hezbollah wherever necessary" after the IDF announced it had assassinated Ali Yusuf Harshi, the secretary of Hezbollah leader Naim Qassem. "Our message is clear: whoever acts against Israeli civilians will be targeted. We will continue to strike Hezbollah wherever necessary, until we restore full security to the residents of the north," Netanyahu writes in a Hebrew-language post on X. In addition to assassinating Harashi, "the IDF struck a series of terror infrastructures in southern Lebanon: crossing points used to transfer thousands of weapons, rockets and launchers, as well as weapons depots, launch sites, and Hezbollah command centers," Netanyahu adds, sharing IDF footage of the attacks.

TRADE DEAL

Indian team to visit US this month to ink deal

NEW DELHI: United States Ambassador to India Sergio Gor said on Thursday that an Indian delegation will be heading to Washington later this month as part of talks on a trade deal between India and the US. Taking to X, the US envoy stated that he held a "highly productive" meeting with trade representative Jamieson Greer on how to advance President Donald Trump's trade priorities in South and Central Asia.

"The United States and India have previously agreed to a trade deal, and we look forward to welcoming an Indian delegation to Washington later this month," he added.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was slated to be part of the delegation, however, the BJP leader will be skipping the US visit. Sitharaman will be attending the Parliament sessions for the introduction of bills to fast-track the implementation of 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies India and the US announced a bilateral trade deal on February 2, 2026, after months of negotiations between the two delegations. While both leaders - Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi - hailed the deal as "historic," the deal with Washington received backlash from the Opposition.

Iran publishes chart showing sea mines in Hormuz

DUBAI: Semi-official news agencies in Iran published a chart Thursday suggesting the country's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard put sea mines into the Strait of Hormuz during the war, in a message that may be intended to pressure the US as uncertainty hangs over a days-old two-week ceasefire and further negotiations are expected in Pakistan.

The shaky ceasefire has been largely holding between the US, Israel and Iran, although Tehran and Washington have offered vastly different explanations of the initial terms. Israel insists the agreement does not apply to their war against Hezbollah militants in Lebanon and have escalated deadly strikes there, leading Iran to claim it is violating the deal.

Meanwhile, Iran said it had won agree-

ment that it would control the Strait of Hormuz, charge tolls and enrich uranium - while Trump said the deal called for the strait to be reopened and Iran to hand over its uranium stockpile. The chart of the Strait of Hormuz was released by the ISNA news agency, as well as Tasnim, which is believed to be close to the Guard. "They showed a large circle marked 'danger zone' in Farsi over the Traffic Separation Scheme, which was the route ships take through the strait, the narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf through which 20 per cent of all oil and natural gas traded once passed. The chart suggested ships travel further north through waters closer to Iran's mainland near Larak Island, a route that some ships were observed taking during the war."

TRUMP SEEKS EUROPE'S HELP ON HORMUZ

WASHINGTON: United States President Donald Trump has stepped up pressure on his European allies to commit military forces in the Strait of Hormuz, ahead of talks with Iran on Friday. This comes even as the White House is considering the withdrawal of US troops out of NATO countries. According to two diplomats, NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte has informed European leaders that the US President is expecting concrete commitments for Hormuz regarding the deployment of warships or other military capabilities from Europe in the next few days. This was followed by Trump's post on Truth Social, wherein he stated that NATO would not "understand anything" without pressure upon them. "None of these people, including our own, very disappointing, NATO, understood anything unless they have pressure placed upon them!!!" Trump said on Truth Social.

15 SHIPS A DAY Curbs remain on Hormuz

TEHRAN: Shipping traffic at the Strait of Hormuz remained at a virtual standstill amid Iranian regulation, despite the ceasefire, on Thursday, with little movement.

Several reports said Iran will allow no more than 15 vessels to pass per day, with Iran's deputy minister earlier saying that ships will need to obtain consent from the military. One oil product tanker and five separate dry bulk carriers reportedly sailed through the Strait of Hormuz in the past 24 hours on Thursday, Reuters reported. Two Iranian-flagged tankers also sailed through Hormuz.

Iran will allow no more than 15 vessels per day to pass through the Hormuz under the ceasefire agreement, Russia's TASS news agency reported, citing Iranian official sources.

US-Iran truce strains amid Lebanon strikes

Continued from P1

Following a massive wave of Israeli strikes that killed at least 254 people and injured over 1,100 across Lebanon, Tehran declared that it views the ongoing bombardment as a direct breach of the spirit of the ceasefire.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi stated that Washington must now choose between a comprehensive ceasefire or continued war by proxy, warning that the current status is unsustainable.

The instability has immediate consequences for global energy security. In response to what it terms an Israeli violation of the ceasefire, the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) has maintained a closure of the Strait of Hormuz, a vital artery for global oil shipments. Shipping executives remain in a state of high alert as they attempt to navigate the uncertainty, while oil prices have reacted sharply to the supply risk. Brent crude futures rose 2.1% to \$96.75 a barrel, and West Texas Intermediate surged 2.6% to \$96.89, reflecting market anxiety over the potential for long-term supply chain disruptions. Despite the deteriorating

situation, US and Iranian delegations are still scheduled to meet in Islamabad this weekend to finalize the terms of the truce. However, the diplomatic path forward is fraught with obstacles.

President Donald Trump has issued a stern warning, stating that US military assets will remain in place around Iran until a real, fully compliant agreement is established.

Meanwhile, the cancellation of social media posts by Iranian diplomats regarding the upcoming talks has fuelled speculation that the negotiations could be delayed or abandoned entirely.

The market's optimism following the initial ceasefire announcement appears to have been premature, as the structural reality of the deal—specifically its exclusion of Lebanon—guarantees continued volatility. By allowing Israel to maintain military operations on a secondary front, the agreement fails to address the core security demands of the Iranian leadership, effectively ensuring that the Strait of Hormuz remains a tool for economic leverage rather than a secure passage for global commerce.

Will Amaravati dent Hyderabad realty?

Continued from P1

"If the investors in Hyderabad shift to AP, Telangana state will face a big jolt, particularly in terms of revenue generation from the property registrations," an official said.

Officials of the Registration & Stamps Department also concede that growth in real estate has not gained traction in the last three years due to various factors, including HYDRABAD impact, economic slowdown, and certain political reasons.

Now, the AP government is drawing big plans to promote Amaravati as a destination for investments. Major realty companies which had announced high rise projects in Hyderabad may shift some of them to the neighbouring state if the Andhra government announces, in the coming days, comparatively better incentives to promote construction. Officials warned: "It may not be an easy task to convince real estate developers to stay in Hyderabad and develop their ventures at this critical juncture". The state government would do well to hold a meeting with representatives of the realty soon to discuss the issues involved in the context of planned investments in the city, they added.

Heavy turnout marks high-stakes voting day in Assam, Kerala and Puducherry

Continued from P1

"All necessary steps have been taken to facilitate smooth voting and ensure transparency," an Election Commission official said, adding that special provisions were made for senior citizens, persons with disabilities and first-time voters. The elections come after an intense campaign that concluded earlier this week, with political parties making last-minute appeals to voters. The results will be declared on May 4 along with outcomes from West Bengal and Tamil Nadu, where polling is being held in multiple phases.

In Assam, the contest is largely bipolar, with the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance seeking a third consecutive term under Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma. The Congress-led opposition, spearheaded by Gaurav Gogoi, is aiming to return to power after ten years, while regional players such as the

All India United Democratic Front, Rajior Dal and Assam Jatiya Parishad are expected to influence outcomes in several seats. The state has over 2.5 crore voters and 722 candidates contesting across more than 31,000 polling stations.

Kerala is witnessing a tightly fought battle among 883 candidates, with 2.71 crore voters deciding the fate of the ruling Left Democratic Front, led by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, which is seeking an unprecedented third straight term. The Congress-led United Democratic Front is banking on anti-incumbency to stage a comeback, while the BJP-led NDA is attempting to expand its footprint in the state.

The electoral buzz was further heightened by participation from film personalities, both as voters and candidates. Actors Ramesh Pisharody, Anjali Nair and Major Ravi are among at least eight celeb-

rities contesting the polls.

In Puducherry, a multi-cornered contest is underway between the NDA, the Congress-DMK alliance and actor Vijay's newly formed Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam. Over 10 lakh voters are choosing from 294 candidates across 1,099 polling stations spread across Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam. Meanwhile, by-elections are being held in parts of Karnataka, Nagaland and Tripura. Turnout trends around 3 PM showed steady participation, with officials expressing confidence in peaceful polling. Bagalkot in Karnataka recorded 54.82% voting and Davanagere 49.66%. In Nagaland's Koridang constituency, voting crossed 75%, while Tripura's Dharmanagar seat recorded over 70% turnout. The Koridang bypoll was necessitated following the death of sitting BJP MLA Imkong L Imchen in November 2025.

Modi, Mamata trade barbs at election rallies in Bengal

Continued from P1

He alleged that Mamata Banerjee's TMC has only inflicted 'nirmamta' (cruelty) on Bengal, while the BJP has developed Asansol despite obstacles posed by the ruling party.

The PM also highlighted a downward trend in the state's economy and its contribution to national gross domestic product (GDP). He said, "Bengal's contribution to the national GDP has slid to mere five per cent from 12 per cent earlier." However, he said, a regime change would ensure that West Bengal scales new heights.

"Investment has taken flight from the once-thriving

industrial belt of Asansol. Only the BJP's double-engine can rectify it," he added, noting that the Centre has allocated ₹45,000 crore for the revival of the industries in Asansol.

In another rally in Haldia, PM Modi said that it is essential to remove the TMC's 'Niram sarkar' to usher 'Viksit Bengal'. He also announced "six Modi guarantees" for the people.

The TMC supremo, meanwhile, accused the BJP of deleting names of more than 90 lakh people from the voter lists to grab power in the state, asserting that her party will win the upcoming Assembly polls.

Speaking at a public rally in North 24 Paraganas' Minakhan, Banerjee said that TMC would approach the court to ensure that all the deleted names are reinstated in the electoral rolls, referring to the special intensive revision exercise in the state. "You deleted names of over 90 lakh people to grab power in Bengal, but we will win," she said.

The TMC chief accused the BJP of "paying money to buy votes," alleging that the party is bringing "outsiders from UP, Bihar to manipulate polling". She further said that the BJP is "destroying the federal structure of the country" by threatening officers.

US ready for next conquest: Trump

Continued from P1

"All US ships, aircraft, and military personnel...will remain in place in, and around, Iran, until such time as the REAL AGREEMENT reached is fully complied with," Trump wrote on Truth Social. "If for any reason it is not...the 'Shootin' Starts,' bigger, and better, and stronger than anyone has ever seen before."

Trump reiterated that it was agreed that Iran will not develop nuclear weapons, and the Strait of Hormuz will be open and safe for commercial shipping. "In the meantime our great Military is Loading Up and Resting, looking forward, actually, to its next Conquest," Trump added. He ended the post, which was published near midnight, with a declaration: "AMERICA IS BACK!"

The statement came a day after Washington and Tehran agreed to a two-week ceasefire brokered by Pakistan, which halted six weeks of fighting and sparked a brief relief rally in global markets amid growing optimism that energy flows may resume in the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran said safe passage through the strait would be possible but subject to coordination

with its armed forces. But much remained unclear in the ceasefire agreement, with the US and Iran appearing far apart in demands. Tehran had rejected the 15-point proposal from Washington and reportedly presented a 10-point plan of its own to end the conflict, including an end to Israeli strikes against Hezbollah in Lebanon and the lifting of all sanctions.

In a separate social media post earlier on Wednesday, Trump described the 10-point plan reported by the New York Times and CNN as "totally fake."

Israel supported Trump's decision to suspend strikes against Iran but insisted that the ceasefire doesn't extend to Lebanon, unleashing its harshest offensives on the country since the war broke out in February, killing at least 182 people on Wednesday.

The deadly attacks prompted a threat from Iran, which suggested that it would be "unreasonable" to proceed with talks to seek a permanent peace deal with the US, underscoring the fragility of the ceasefire. The US and Iran are expected to meet for a round of negotiations in Islamabad on Friday.

IMD predicts heat wave for next 3 days in TG

Continued from P1

Keep the windows and the curtains closed during the day, especially on the sunny side of your house. Open them up at night to let the cool air in. Limit outdoor activity to the cooler times of the day i.e., morning and evening.

Under the don'ts category, citizens have been advised to avoid going out in the sun, especially between 12 noon and 3 pm, avoid strenuous activities in the afternoon, not to go out barfoot, avoid cooking during the peak hours, avoid consuming alcohol, tea, coffee and carbonated soft drinks or drinks with large amount of sugar as these actually lead to loss of more body-fluid or may cause stomach cramps, avoid high-protein, salty, spicy and oily food. Do not

eat stale food.

The heat wave danger signs include nausea and vomiting, hot, red and dry skin, body temperature ≥ 40 °C or 104 °F, throbbing headache, anxiety, dizziness and fainting, muscle weakness or cramps, rapid heartbeat, rapid, shallow breathing, altered mental sensorium with disorientation: confusion, agitation, irritability, ataxia, seizure, and coma.

The Director of Public Health Dr B Ravinder Naik said that as a part of precautionary measures, the government has made elaborate arrangements by providing the special beds, IV fluids, essential medicines at all the public health facilities and ORS sachets are made available with ANMs /ASHAs / Anganwadi workers to meet any exigencies.

The current instability has sent shockwaves through the global system. Shockwaves that have disrupted supply chains, erupted geopolitical tensions. At the same time, energy markets have been fundamentally affected, it is in this environment where energy is our backbone

-Jyotiraditya Scindia, Union Minister

BIZ BRIEFS

Whirlpool's new products

Whirlpool of India Limited launched new refrigerators range in the single door category, designed to address one of the most common challenges faced by users which is the hassle of manual defrosting. With the introduction of its VitamagicPro and IMPRO PLUS ranges, Whirlpool launched the largest range of Automatic Defrost refrigerators in the single door category, offering consumers a more convenient and stress-free refrigeration experience.

Offer from Paragon

Paragon unveiled a cashback offer on its women's footwear collection, as part of a key initiative to encourage purchase among women consumers. Under the offer, consumers receive an assured Rs 30 instant cashback through a simple QR-based process. Each product comes with a scratch-enabled QR code on the tag, which can be scanned to access the cashback page.

UltraTech's CSR activity

UltraTech Cement Limited's integrated manufacturing unit Andhra Pradesh Cement Works (APCW) diverted over 800 metric tons of banana pseudostem waste from landfill through a unique model that enables sustainable waste management. To tackle the dual challenges of landfill burden and open-air burning of banana waste in Tadipatri, the unit undertook Project Uday which enhanced livelihoods for 500 farmers and 100 local women entrepreneurs by helping them convert agricultural residue into marketable eco-friendly products.

Antony Waste, JFE in pact

Antony Waste Handling Cell Limited, an integrated waste management company, announced a strategic partnership with Japan-based JFE Engineering Corporation for two waste-to-energy plants in Andhra Pradesh. This marks the first Japanese FDI into India's waste-to-energy (WTE) sector and JFE Engineering Corporation's entry into India's waste management market. As part of the partnership, JFE Engineering will invest 750 million Japanese yen to acquire a 25 per cent equity stake in Antony Waste's two special purpose vehicles (SPVs).

XLRI Delhi-NCR's convocation

XLRI Delhi-NCR successfully concluded its 5th Annual Convocation at its Delhi-NCR campus. A total of 207 students graduated this year, including 178 students from the Business Management (BM) program and 30 students from the Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Venture Development (IEV) program, marking another milestone in the institution's growth journey. The ceremony reflected XLRI's continued commitment to nurturing responsible leaders equipped to contribute meaningfully to business and society. The graduating cohort benefited from robust placement outcomes with 576 domestic and 2 international offers.

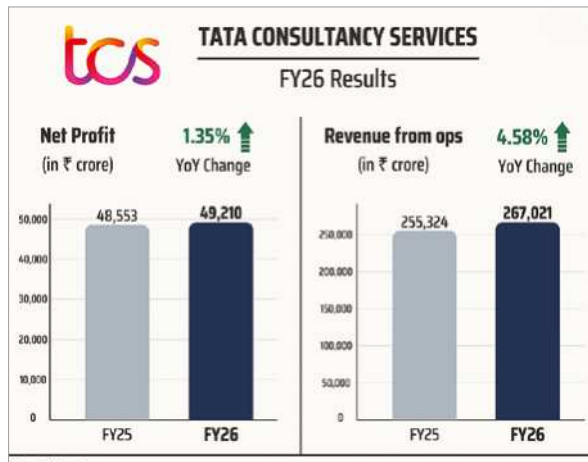
TCS Q4 net profit jumps to ₹13,718 cr

MUMBAI

COUNTRY'S largest IT services company TCS on Thursday reported a net profit of Rs12,224 crore in the January-March period last year and Rs10,657 crore in the preceding December quarter.

The Tata Group company reported a net profit of Rs12,224 crore in the January-March period last year and Rs10,657 crore in the preceding December quarter. For fiscal year 2025-26, TCS' PAT inched up 1.35 per cent to Rs49,210 crore, as against Rs48,553 crore in FY25. From a headcount perspective, the company added 2,356 jobs in Q4 to take the overall number of employees to 5,84,519 as on March 31, 2026, marking the first quarter of net addition after two consecutive quarters of a fall. The company's employee base declined by 23,460 in FY26, a year in which it began an exercise to cut 12,000 jobs because of changes in the technology landscape.

TCS is the first company in the \$315 billion Indian IT sector to report its earnings for



the fiscal year 2025-26, which saw a deepening of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies and subsequent concerns on the employee intensity in the sector which produces one of the best quality jobs in the economy.

In the reporting quarter, its revenue from operations jumped 9.64 per cent to Rs 70,698 crore from the Rs64,479 crore in the year-ago period, while the same for the full fiscal jumped 4.58 per cent to Rs 2.67 lakh crore.

The operating profit margin expanded to 25.3 per cent in the March quarter, up from 24.2 per cent in the year-ago period. Its chief executive and managing director K Krithivasan said this is the third consecutive quarter of sequential growth and added that the momentum was broad based across major markets and industries.

"While the macro-economic headwinds continue, we see sustained customer conviction in technology investments, which positions us well for the opportunities ahead," he said.

It signed new deals of \$12 billion in the three months, led by North America at \$5.4 billion and the banking, financial services and insurance business at \$2.8 billion.

The voluntary attrition stood at 13.7 per cent at the end of the quarter, and the company's chief human resources officer Sudeep Kunnal said it will be reverting to implementing salary hikes across the organisation from April 1 onwards.

Strong buffers to shield India from oil volatility: World Bank

Growth seen at 6.6% in FY27 despite Middle East-driven oil risks

WHY INDIA IS RESILIENT

- India has strong buffers: Forex reserves, fiscal space, low inflation
- FY26 growth seen at 7.6%, driven by demand and exports
- India remains fastest-growing major economy despite tariffs

NEW DELHI

THE World Bank on Thursday said India is well placed to weather the ongoing global energy shock, supported by strong macroeconomic buffers such as high foreign exchange reserves, fiscal space and low inflation.

Addressing a conference a day after raising India's GDP growth projection for FY27 to 6.6 per cent, World Bank officials said the country entered the current Middle East-driven oil market volatility from a position of strength. India had already demon-



strated resilience in the face of global trade turbulence in the previous fiscal. World Bank Regional Practice Director for South Asia, Sebastian Eckardt, highlighted that India's strong policy buffers and growth momentum provide room for policy support if required. He noted that structural reforms, including trade agreements and labour initiatives, are reinforcing the country's growth trajectory.

According to the World Bank's latest South Asia Economic Update, India's growth is estimated to have accelerated from 7.1 per cent in FY25 to 7.6 per cent in FY26, driven by robust domestic demand and resilient exports. Growth is projected to moderate to 6.6 per cent in FY27, slightly higher than earlier estimates.

World Bank Lead Econo-

mist for India, Aurelien Kruse, said India remained the fastest-growing large economy in FY26 despite facing high global tariffs. He credited income tax cuts and GST rate reductions for supporting consumption, while exports and investment performed better than expected.

The report described the current scenario as a "major trade shock" with risks tilted to the downside, particularly due to oil price volatility. The World Bank assumes crude oil prices at USD 90-100 per barrel for FY27.

It also commended the government's handling of the energy crisis, noting that authorities balanced supply management with price stability, avoiding extreme measures such as rationing while cushioning consumers from sharp price spikes.

Blue Star expects 20% volume growth this year

KOLKATA: Air-conditioning and commercial refrigeration major Blue Star Limited expects around 20 per cent growth in volumes and about 25 per cent revenue growth this year, its managing director B Thiagarajan said on Thursday.

He said the air-conditioning industry is currently facing a total cost impact of around 13 per cent, comprising 5 per cent from revised energy labelling norms and about 8 per cent due to higher raw material prices.

"Out of this, the industry has already passed on about 5-6 per cent to consumers, and another 5-7 per cent increase is expected in April to offset the remaining impact," Girish Hingorani, Vice President (Marketing - Unitary Cooling Products), said.

Thiagarajan added that margins, which typically stand at around 8.5 per cent for the business, have been squeezed recently due to cost pressures, with the company focused on pushing sales.

India Pharma Expo in Hyd from April 23

HANS BUSINESS HYDERABAD

THE India Pharma Expo 2026 is set to emerge as one of the most influential pharmaceutical industry gatherings in India, bringing together the entire pharma ecosystem under one roof. To be held from April 23-25, 2026, at the HITEX Exhibition Centre, Hyderabad, the event will convene industry leaders, policymakers, innovators, researchers, and technology providers to explore the next phase of growth in pharmaceuticals and life sciences. With the theme "India's Pharma Power - Building Global Bridges in Life Sciences & Innovation," the expo will spotlight India's expanding role in global drug manufacturing, vaccine production, biotechnology research, and pharmaceutical exports. Co-located with the NextGen Pharma Summit & Awards, the event creates a dynamic platform where policy, innovation, and business converge. It offers a unique ecosystem where knowledge meets networking, enabling insights to translate into actionable strategies. The event is being hosted under the leadership of Chief Guest, Shri Duddilla Sridhar Babu, Hon'ble Minister for IT,



Electronics & Communication, Industries & Commerce, and Legislative Affairs, Government of Telangana, and Shri C. Damodar Raja Narasimha, Hon'ble Minister for Health, Medical & Family Welfare, Government of Telangana. It will also feature a distinguished lineup of industry leaders, including Sarvesh Singh, CEO & Director, Telangana Lifesciences; Chakravarthi AVPS, Chairman, FOPE (Telangana & Andhra Pradesh) and Global Ambassador, World Packaging Organisation; K Raja Bhanu, Director General, Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India; Sudarshan Jain, Secretary General, Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance; and Dr. Jitendra Sharma, MD & CEO, AMTZ, among many other eminent speakers shaping the future of the pharmaceutical and life sciences sector.

Chhattisgarh electricity department bags spl award

HANS BUSINESS HYDERABAD

CHHATTISGARH State Power Generation Company Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Thermal Power Station (DSPM) Korba East achieved the third position at the national level with an outstanding performance in the financial year 2025-26. For this achievement, Secretary of Energy and Chairman of Power Generation and Distribution Company Dr Rohit Yadav has congratulated all the officers/employees of Generation Company.

SK Katiyar, Managing Director, Chhattisgarh State Power Generation Company, said "Our plants have performed excellently, with DSPM Korba East performing the best and bagging the third position at the national level. It is the result of our efficient management and regular maintenance of the plants that our plant has achieved this record at the national level by performing much higher than



the prescribed parameters. Power units of both (2x250 MW) capacity of DSPM have achieved 91 per cent PLF (Plant Load Factor) in 2025-26. DSPM has increased the pride of Chhattisgarh State Power Generation Company by achieving 91 per cent PLF more than the target of 85 per cent set by CEA (Central Electricity Authority) and CSERC (Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission).

Apart from this, Chhattisgarh State Power Generation Company has achieved another achievement. The overall performance of the Chhattisgarh State Power Generation in the annual



evaluation of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has also been good, in which the Chhattisgarh State Power Generation Company ranks third among the 33 institutions and ranks in the top three category. Shri SK Katiyar expressed happiness over the excellent performance of the Power Generation Company and said that with this achievement, Chhattisgarh State Power Generation Company has got a stronger recognition on the energy production platform of the country. We will continue to give our best presentation and strive for the company's progress. Information of DSPM.

Silver, gold rally falters as West Asia tensions resurface

NEW DELHI: Silver prices declined by Rs 7,800 to Rs 2.43 lakh per kilogram in the national capital on Thursday while gold fell to Rs 1.54 lakh per 10 grams as investors booked profits amid concerns over the durability of the fragile ceasefire in West Asia. According to the All India Sarafa Association, the white metal depreciated by Rs 7,800, or 3.10 per cent, to Rs 2,43,200 per kg (inclusive of all taxes) from Wednesday's closing level of Rs 2,51,000 per kg.

Gold of 99.9 per cent purity also decreased by Rs 1,500, or nearly 1 per cent, to Rs 1,54,900 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes). The yellow metal had finished at Rs 1,56,400 per 10 grams in the previous market session. Analysts said precious metals witnessed selling pressure as uncertainty around the ceasefire between the US and Iran weighed on investors' sentiment. "Gold prices declined on Thursday, reversing most of the previous session's gains as investors reassessed the fragile ceasefire in West Asia," Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst of Commodities at HDFC Securities, said.

STOCK MARKETS SLIDE AS CEASEFIRE HOPES DIMINISH

Rising crude prices and Strait of Hormuz tensions dent investor sentiment

Factors that pulled markets

- Fading ceasefire optimism: Renewed tensions involving Iran and Israel dented investor confidence
- Strait of Hormuz disruption fears: Iran's move heightened worries over global oil supply

MUMBAI

EQUITY benchmark indices ended lower on Thursday, with the Sensex tumbling 931 points after a spectacular rally in the previous session, as renewed tensions in West Asia faded the ceasefire-led optimism. The ceasefire deal appeared to be at risk after Iran closed the Strait of Hormuz again in response to Israeli attacks on Lebanon.

Weak trends in Asian and



European markets, a jump in crude oil prices and uninterrupted foreign fund outflows also made investors jittery in the domestic market. The 30-share BSE Sensex dropped 931.25 points or 1.20 per cent to settle at 76,631.65. During the day, it dived 1,215 points or 1.56 per cent to 76,347.90. The 50-share NSE Nifty declined 222.25 points or 0.93 per cent to end at 23,775.10. From the

30-Sensex firms, InterGlobe Aviation, Larsen & Toubro, Eternal, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank were among the major laggards. Bharat Electronics, Power Grid, NTPC and Tata Consultancy Services were among the gainers. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, jumped 3.27 per cent to \$97.85 per barrel. "Ceasefire-led optimism faded as renewed US-Iran tensions and ongoing restric-

tions at the Strait of Hormuz pushed crude back up, reviving concerns around India's inflation. Domestically, profit-booking, rising 10-year bond yields, and rupee weakness reduced near-term risk appetite. Financials led the decline after the previous session's sharp rally amid sustained FII selling, while broader markets held relatively steady," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited, said. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs2,811.97 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data.

Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs), however, bought stocks worth Rs4,168.17 crore. US markets ended significantly higher on Wednesday. "Indian markets witnessed a pullback, snapping the recent five-session gaining streak as sentiment turned cautious amid fading confidence around the US-Iran ceasefire.

Morgan Stanley sees bull run in market, says will hit 95k mark

Earnings cycle revival, cheap valuations and strong domestic demand underpin bullish outlook

MUMBAI

GLOBAL brokerage firm Morgan Stanley on Thursday said that Indian markets are poised for a strong rally with Sensex likely to touch 95,000 level by December 2026.

In its latest India Equity Strategy Playbook report, the brokerage firm said that the current combination of depressed valuations, improving earnings momentum and cautious investor positioning reflects conditions typically seen near the end of market downturns.

In the base case, the headline index Sensex is expected to touch the 95,000 mark by December 2026, implying an upside potential of 22 per cent from Wednesday's closing, according to the brokerage. It noted that downside risks appear limited compared to potential gains, describing the present phase as an attractive entry point for long-term investors.

The brokerage also pointed out that India's trailing



market performance over the past year is close to historic lows, while relative valuations have declined sharply.

However, underlying fundamentals remain strong, supported by robust domestic demand, policy stability and a recovery in capital expenditure. A major factor behind its bullish outlook is the revival in the earnings cycle. High-frequency indicators point to strengthening trends across consumption, investment and services, even as market expectations remain subdued, the brokerage noted.

Analysts also noted that India's share of global corpo-

rate profits now exceeds its index weight by the widest margin on record.

The brokerage has expected positive earnings revisions going forward and said it remains ahead of consensus estimates. Foreign investor positioning -- which has weakened in recent months -- could further support an upside surprise if earnings momentum continues to improve. On valuations, Morgan Stanley pointed out that the Sensex is currently trading at its cheapest level when measured against gold, a long-term indicator often associated with major market turning points.



Young Hans

Scholarships

Scholarship Name 1:	IDRBT Summer Internship Programme (ISIP) 2026
Description:	IDRBT Summer Internship Programme (ISIP) 2026 is being offered by the Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT). It is an opportunity for graduate and postgraduate students willing to undertake projects in the field of technology.
Eligibility:	Application is open to students, who are about to complete either of the following programs: postgraduate programs in technology or management (with a background in IT or related fields), or four-year undergraduate programs in IT and related domains.
Prizes & Rewards:	A monthly stipend of ₹14,000 with other benefits.
Last Date to Apply:	15-04-2026
Application mode:	Online applications only
Short Url:	www.b4s.in/hans/IDS12
QR Code:	https://d1e9eg0t055l3.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/idrbt-summer-internship-programme-isip-20261775480352.png
Scholarship Name 2:	The Cadence/Invecas Scholarship program 2026-27
Description:	The Cadence/Invecas Scholarship program 2026-27, launched by Cadence Design Systems and Concern India Foundation, supports underprivileged students in Delhi-NCR, Bangalore, Pune, Ahmedabad, and Hyderabad. Since 2016, it has empowered students in fields like B.Tech, MBBS, BDS, B.Pharma, and B.Sc., providing financial aid for educational expenses and career growth.
Eligibility:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have successfully passed 12th class with a minimum overall score of 80%. Pursuing 12th can also apply on the basis of their previous record. Comes from a lower-income group. Currently reside and study in Delhi NCR, Bangalore, Pune, Ahmedabad & Hyderabad only. (Applications from outside these regions will not be considered.) STEM-related courses and females will be given preference. Selected students will receive financial support for key educational expenses.
Prizes & Rewards:	Selected students will receive financial support for key educational expenses.
Last Date to Apply:	10-05-2026
Application mode:	Online applications only
Short Url:	www.b4s.in/hans/TCSP6
QR Code:	https://d1e9eg0t055l3.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/the-cadence-invecas-scholarship-program-2026-271775480209.png
Scholarship Name 3:	SBI Youth for India Fellowship
Description:	SBI Youth for India Fellowship is being offered by the State Bank of India (SBI) Foundation in partnership with various reputed NGOs to graduate students. It empowers graduates to tackle pressing rural developmental challenges by living and working alongside communities while promoting a transformative leadership journey.
Eligibility:	Application is open to citizens of India/Nepal/Bhutan or Overseas Citizens of India (OCI). Applicants must be between 21 and 32 years old as of the date of commencement of the program. They must have completed a Bachelor's degree before October 1, 2025.
Prizes & Rewards:	₹16,000 monthly stipend and other benefits.
Last Date to Apply:	30-04-2026
Application mode:	Online applications only
Short Url:	www.b4s.in/hans/SYFI5
QR Code:	https://d1e9eg0t055l3.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/sbi-youth-for-india-fellowship1775480276.png
Scholarship Name 4:	Masters' Union: Scholarship Aptitude Test 2026
Description:	Masters' Union: Scholarship Aptitude Test 2026 is specifically designed for high-merit, high-potential candidates pursuing careers in Tech & Business Management, Psychology & Marketing, Finance & Economics, Design, Sustainability, Data Science & Artificial Intelligence by providing financial assistance and direct admission opportunities, along with tuition fee scholarships.
Eligibility:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants must be currently enrolled in Class 12 (any recognised education boards) or have completed it in 2025. Must be aiming to pursue a full-time undergraduate programme in Business Management, Technology, Leadership, Data Science & AI, Design, Sustainability, Finance & Economics, Marketing or related fields. Assessment Requirement: All applicants must appear for the Masters' Union Scholarship Aptitude Test (MUSAT) or qualify for an approved alternate test.
programme:	Alternate Eligibility for Data Science & Artificial Intelligence
Note:	• JEE percentile above 90%
Prizes & Rewards:	• MUSAT score above 35/45
Last Date to Apply:	• SAT score above 1500/1600
Application mode:	check Masters' Union official website to ensure accuracy on eligibility
Short Url:	Scholarships offering 10% to 80% tuition fee waivers
QR Code:	13-05-2026
	Online applications only
	www.b4s.in/hans/MUSCASP1
	https://d1e9eg0t055l3.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/masters-union-scholarship-aptitude-test-20261773114910.png
Scholarship Name 5:	Kiran Pratibha Scholarship 2026
Description:	The Kiran Pratibha Scholarship 2026 is being provided by the Kiran Foundation to highly talented underprivileged students, who have passed the 8th standard and are at least 14 years old.
Eligibility:	The application is open to students who have passed Class 8 and are at least 14 years old. Applicants must belong to a family with a monthly income not exceeding ₹20,000. They must not be receiving any other government scholarships.
Prizes & Rewards:	Tuition fee and other benefits.
Last Date to Apply:	30-04-2026
Application mode:	Online applications only
Short Url:	www.b4s.in/hans/KRPS1
QR Code:	https://d1e9eg0t055l3.cloudfront.net/static/images/scho-media/20261773726816.png

Why early career guidance matters for youth

Aligning passion with purpose, early career guidance can help students make informed choices and build a future-ready workforce



GAUTAM RAJGARHIA

“Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.” This timeless thought by Confucius continues to hold relevance, especially for young students stepping into an increasingly complex and evolving job market. Today, careers are no longer just about earning a livelihood—they are about purpose, fulfilment, and impact.

For India, with one of the world's youngest populations, this conversation is particularly important. Classrooms across the country are filled with potential, yet many students still face uncertainty when transitioning from education to employment. Career deci-

sions are often influenced by societal expectations rather than personal interests, with traditional fields like engineering, medicine, and civil services dominating choices.

However, the modern economy offers far more diverse opportunities—from technology and design to entrepreneurship and social sciences. Early career guidance plays a critical role in helping students navigate these options with clarity and confidence.

When introduced at the school level, career guidance helps students understand their strengths, interests, and aspirations. It encourages them to make choices based on self-awareness rather than external pressure. Exposure to different career

paths, through mentorship and real-world interactions, broadens their perspective and allows them to explore possibilities beyond conventional routes.

Schools can play a central role by integrating career guidance into the education system. Counselling sessions, aptitude assessments, and mentorship programmes can help students build clarity over time. Interactions with industry professionals, career fairs, and workshops on emerging fields such as artificial intelligence and sustainability can further expand their understanding of the evolving job landscape.

Equally important is the development of essential life skills. Communication, teamwork, problem-solving,



- **Self-awareness first:** Early guidance helps students identify strengths and interests.
- **Beyond traditional careers:** Exposure to diverse fields expands career possibilities.
- **Skill development matters:** Communication, critical thinking, and adaptability are essential.
- **Informed decision-making:** Guidance reduces confusion and societal pressure.
- **Stronger workforce:** Aligned careers lead to innovation, productivity, and national growth

and adaptability are now as critical as academic knowledge. Co-curricular activities—debates, sports, and creative pursuits—often serve as platforms where students discover hidden talents that can shape their future careers.

The impact of early career guidance extends beyond individual success. It contributes to building a workforce that is skilled, diverse, and adaptable. Students who pursue careers aligned with their interests are more likely to innovate, perform better, and contribute meaningfully to society.

Moreover, structured guidance helps prepare them for global opportunities, making them competitive in an interconnected world.

India's demographic advantage can only translate into long-term growth if its youth are equipped with direction and purpose. Schools must act as enablers, ensuring that education is not just about academic achievement but also about preparing students for life beyond classrooms.

As students step into the professional world, their choices will shape not only their own futures but also the nation's progress. With the right guidance at the right time, careers become more than just jobs—they become meaningful journeys driven by passion and purpose.

(The author is Pro Vice Chairman, DPS).

Today is International Kids Yoga Day



Building healthy habits early

Yoga is increasingly being recognised as an important practice for promoting children's overall health and well-being. In today's fast-paced and technology-driven world, children are often exposed to long hours of screen time, reduced physical activity, and rising levels of stress. Introducing yoga at an early age can help address these challenges by encouraging both physical fitness and mental balance.

Yoga is not just a form of exercise; it is a holistic practice that integrates movement, breathing, and mindfulness. For children, simple yoga postures improve flexibility, strength, and posture, while breathing techniques enhance lung capacity and focus. Regular practice can also help in improving concentration, which is essential for academic performance.

Beyond physical benefits, yoga plays a key role in supporting emotional well-being. It helps children manage stress, anxiety, and restlessness by promoting

relaxation and self-awareness. In school settings, yoga sessions have been shown to create a calmer learning environment, improving behaviour and attention spans.

Another important aspect of yoga is that it encourages discipline and routine. Practising regularly helps children develop healthy habits that can stay with them into adulthood. It also fosters a sense of balance between body and mind, which is crucial for overall development.

Creating awareness about yoga among parents, teachers, and students is essential to ensure its wider adoption. Schools can incorporate short yoga sessions into daily schedules, while families can encourage simple practices at home.

As children grow in an increasingly demanding world, yoga offers a simple yet effective way to support their physical health, mental clarity, and emotional resilience—laying the foundation for a healthier future.

Pact to enhance practical learning & international exposure for aviation students

Chennai Amrita International Aviation College has entered into an academic collaboration with University College of Aviation Malaysia to strengthen practical training and global exposure for students pursuing careers in aviation. An MoU formalising the partnership was signed between the two institutions in the presence of academic leaders and representatives from the aviation training ecosystem. The initiative is aimed at aligning student training with evolving global industry requirements.

As part of the collaboration, the college hosted a four-day international training programme from April 6 to 9, featuring sessions by aviation professionals and

alumni. The programme covered emerging areas such as digital transformation in aviation, the role of artificial intelligence, airport operations, and new career pathways within the sector.

According to officials, the partnership introduces a structured academic pathway for students enrolled in aviation degree and diploma programmes. Under this model, students will complete the initial phase of their studies in Chennai, followed by advanced training and internships in Malaysia. The final year includes academic sessions at UniCAM along with hands-on experience at Malaysian airports.

The collaboration reflects a broader focus on experiential learning, with institutions increasingly integrating classroom

teaching with industry exposure. Facilities such as simulation environments and practical training modules are being emphasised to prepare students for real-world aviation roles.

Industry projections indicate a growing demand for skilled professionals in aviation, including pilots, cabin crew, engineers, and ground staff, over the next decade. Educational partnerships of this nature are expected to play a role in addressing skill gaps by providing students with international exposure and industry-relevant training.

The development highlights a continuing trend in higher education, where cross-border collaborations are being used to expand learning opportunities and align academic programmes with global workforce needs.





Nani's 'Aaya Sher' from 'The Paradise' sets new record; crosses 100 million views

NAURAL Star Nani's much-awaited film *The Paradise*, directed by Srikanth Odela, is already creating massive buzz even before its release. The film has been generating strong excitement with its glimpse, posters, and especially the first single "Aaya Sher," which has turned into a sensational chartbuster.

Composed by Rockstar Anirudh Ravichander, the high-energy track has captured the attention of audiences across platforms. Since its release, the song has been trending continuously on YouTube and social media, achieving an impressive milestone of over 101 million views. Notably, "Aaya Sher" has become the fastest song featuring Nani to cross the 100-million mark, making it a record-setting moment in the actor's career. It is also the first Nani song to reach this milestone even before the film's theatrical release.



A major factor behind the song's viral success is Nani's electrifying screen presence. His energetic dance moves, intense attitude, and catchy hook step quickly went viral, inspiring fans worldwide to recreate the steps. Instagram reels and YouTube dance covers featuring the track have further boosted its popularity.

Produced by Sudhakar Cherukuri under the SLV Cinemas banner, *The Paradise* is slated for a worldwide theatrical release on August 21, with expectations continuing to rise.

The makers also ensured

INCA announces first awards winners; Naga Chaitanya, Mirai and Anil Ravipudi shine

THE Indian National Cine Academy (INCA) has officially announced the winners of its first-ever INCA Awards, recognizing outstanding achievements across Indian cinema. Representing twelve languages and twelve film industries, the academy revealed winners in 25 categories, celebrating excellence among actors, filmmakers, and technicians.

In the Telugu category, Naga Chaitanya won Best Actor for his performance in *Thandel*, while Mirai Super Yodha, produced by People Media Factory, was named Best Telugu Film. Popular filmmaker Anil Ravipudi secured the Best Director award for *Sankranthiki Vasthunnam*.

Among the Hindi winners, Ranveer Singh



took home Best Actor for Dhurandhar, while Chhaava, produced by Dinesh Vijan and Maddock Films, won Best Film. Meanwhile, Kannada cinema dominated with *Kantara: A Legend - Chapter 1*, earning multiple honours including Best Actor and Best Director for



Rishab Shetty. The awards also recognised technical achievements such as cinematography, music, editing, choreography, and production design. Winners were chosen by a distinguished jury comprising experienced members from the Indian



film industry. The inaugural INCA Awards ceremony will be held on April 16 in Mumbai, where leading directors, actors, technicians, and producers from across India are expected to attend. The event is set to become a significant annual platform

celebrating the diversity and creative excellence of Indian cinema. The INCA Awards aim to create a comprehensive national platform celebrating talent across multiple regional industries, reflecting the diversity and creative strength of Indian cinema.

'Sarkar Bai' launched with grand pooja ceremony

THE upcoming Telugu film *Sarkar Bai*, set against a Telangana social backdrop, was formally launched with a grand pooja ceremony at the Secunderabad Ganesh Temple in Hyderabad.

The film features Sriram Nirmala and Sai Keerthana in the lead roles and is being directed by Lara. During the muhurtham ceremony, producer Tummalapalli Prafull Ram Reddy switched on the camera, while director Lara directed the first shot. Telangana Income Tax officer Dasya Nayak gave the ceremonial clap for the muhurtham scene, and guests extended their best wishes to the film's team.

Speaking at the event, director Lara revealed that the film is inspired by real



incidents from 1985, focusing on issues such as water disputes and caste discrimination. She said the story reflects the struggles and realities of people and aims to highlight socially

relevant themes.

The film also features actors Baahubali Prabhakar, Naga Mahesh, Dil Ramesh, Chalaki Chanti, Chittibabu, Shivani Reddy and Nupur Mukherjee in key roles.

Filmmaker Prem Raj, who attended the event, encouraged audiences to support films rooted in Telangana culture. The makers announced that the remaining cast will be finalized soon and shooting is expected to begin later this month.

'Diamond Decoyit' set for release; special free shows announced for women

THE much-talked-about Telugu family emotional drama *Diamond Decoyit* is gearing up for a grand theatrical release across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana on April 10. Ahead of the release, the film's pre-release event was held at the Telugu Film Chamber of Commerce, where the team shared key details about the project.

One of the major highlights announced by the makers is a special initiative for women audiences. The team revealed that four shows of the film will be screened free of cost for women in theatres across the Telugu states, inviting them to watch the movie in large numbers.

The film features Partha Gopal as the lead actor, who has also produced the project, while Meghana Reddy plays the female lead. Directed by Surya G. Yadav, the movie is described as a family emotional drama filled with strong sentiments and heartfelt moments. The makers believe the film's powerful climax will leave a lasting impact on audiences.



The promotional content has already received encouraging responses. Veteran filmmaker K. Raghavendra Rao appreciated the trailer after watching it, and several film personalities who attended preview screenings reportedly praised the film.

Another notable aspect is that the movie was shot across more than 60 picturesque locations in Kadapa district, offering fresh visuals. With its emotional narrative and family-oriented theme, the team is confident the film will connect with audiences of all age groups.

ARJUN AMBATI'S 'PARAMAPADA SOPANAM' LOCKS APRIL 24 RELEASE DATE

ACTOR Arjun Ambati, who gained recognition with diverse films like *Ardhanari*, *Theppa Samudram*, and *Wedding Diaries*, is gearing up for the release of his latest film *Paramapada Sopanam*. The actor, who also became popular among family audiences through the reality show *Bigg Boss*, is currently playing a key role in Ram Charan's upcoming pan-India film *Peddi*.

In *Paramapada Sopanam*, Arjun Ambati plays the lead role alongside actress Jennifer Emmanuel. The film is presented by Ganaparthi Swetha and produced under the Swayambhu Creations banner by Ganaparthi Narayana Rao and Telaprolu Prasanna Anjaneyulu, with Pulagam Supriya serving as co-producer.

The film is written and directed by Naga Siva, a former assistant director to Puri Jagannadh. He has also handled the story, screenplay, and dialogues, crafting the film as an engaging entertainer aimed at appealing to audiences across dif-



ferent sections. Music for the film is composed by Davzand, who previously gained recognition for his work in the film *Eagle*. As part of the promotions, lyrical songs like "Chinni Chinni Tappulevo" and "Boom Boom," along with the teaser, have received a positive response from audiences.

With post-production work now completed, the makers have officially announced that *Paramapada Sopanam* will hit theatres on April 24. The recently released poster featuring Arjun Ambati in an intense look has also garnered considerable attention online.



Priyanka Mohan captivates with striking photoshoot

ACTRESS Priyanka Mohan made a strong impression in Tamil cinema with her breakout performance in *Doctor* alongside Sivakarthikeyan. The film became a massive success, and Priyanka's charm, natural acting, and confident screen presence quickly won over audiences. With such a powerful debut, many expected the young actress to rapidly rise as one of the leading faces of South Indian cinema.

However, after the success of *Doctor*, Priyanka has been waiting for another major project that can match the scale and impact of her debut. Although she has continued to appear in several films, fans believe she deserves a stronger, more impactful role that can fully showcase her talent and bring her back into the spotlight in a big way.

Despite the wait for a major blockbuster, Priyanka is keeping the spotlight firmly on herself through her growing presence on social media. The actress recently grabbed attention with a striking new photoshoot that quickly went viral online.

In the pictures, Priyanka dazzles in a stylish black embellished spaghetti-strap midi dress paired with a flowing pink organza cape and elegant black heels. Her smoky eye makeup, confident posture, and graceful presence have impressed fans, who flooded the comments section with praise.

The glamorous look has once again reminded audiences of her strong screen appeal and star potential. While fans continue to wait for her next big film announcement, Priyanka Mohan's latest photos prove that she remains a captivating presence both on and off the screen.

Thiruveer, Aishwarya Rajesh's 'Oh..! Sukumari' wraps filming

YOUNG actor Thiruveer and talented actress Aishwarya Rajesh have teamed up for the upcoming village-based entertainer *Oh..! Sukumari*, which has now completed its entire shooting schedule. The film is directed by debutant Bharath Darshan and produced by Maheshwara Reddy Mooli under the Ganga Entertainment banner.

Both Thiruveer and Aishwarya Rajesh are currently riding high on the success of their previous films, and their collaboration has already generated considerable interest among audiences. The film

marks the second project from Ganga Entertainment after the critically acclaimed *Shivam Bhaje*. Earlier released first-look posters received a positive response, raising expectations around the film.

To celebrate the completion of the shoot, the makers shared a special photograph featuring Thiruveer and the entire team, capturing a cheerful moment as they marked the milestone together.

The film boasts a strong technical crew. Cinematographer C.H. Kushender, known for his work in *Razakar* and *Polimera*, is handling the

camera. Music for the film is composed by Bharath Manchiraju, a disciple of legendary composer M. M. Keeravani. Tirumala M. Tirupati of Balagam fame serves as the art director, while Sri Varaprasad is the editor. Costume design is handled by Anu Reddy Akkati, and popular lyricist Poornachari has penned the songs.

The makers have also announced that *Oh..! Sukumari* will release in multiple languages including Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, and Hindi, aiming to reach a wider audience across India.





Turning adverse circumstances into opportunities

Now earning Rs 1 lakh a month, she is not only financially independent but also creating employment opportunities in her village.

In the quiet village of Bandapalli in Wanaparthi district, 30-year-old Computer Science graduate Peddhabudi Vanaja is redefining what success looks like. At a time when

A Computer Science graduate from Wanaparthi district, Peddhabudi Vanaja chose entrepreneurship over a conventional job, building a thriving construction support business

many chase conventional engineering jobs, Vanaja chose a different path—one that not only brought her financial independ-

ence but also created livelihoods for others in her community.

"Despite completing my Computer Science Engineering, I didn't want to sit and wait endlessly for a job. I wanted to build something on my own and create opportunities right here in my village," says Vanaja.

Her journey took a decisive turn through initiatives led by the Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), under the guidance of Minister Danasari Anasuya and SERP CEO Divya Devarajan. In collaboration with the National Academy of Construction, the programme introduced women to non-conventional sectors like centring units and construction technologies.

"The training complete-

ly changed my perspective. I realised there is huge demand in construction and very few women are part of it. That gave me the confidence to step in," she explains.

The programme equipped her with technical knowledge—from materials like steel and aluminium to understanding design drawings and managing workflows—along with essential business skills.

"It wasn't just about learning a skill. We were trained on how to run a business—how to plan manpower, manage materials, and execute work properly," she adds.

With institutional support, Vanaja secured a Rs20 lakh loan under the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme, which enabled her to establish her enterprise. She aligned her business with the growing demand under the Indiramma Housing Scheme.

"Today, I operate three centring units in my village. Each unit supports

construction work, and there is steady demand because of the housing projects," she says.

Now earning close to Rs 1 lakh per month, Vanaja has not only achieved financial stability but also created jobs locally.

"This journey has changed my life. I am earning well, but more importantly, I am able to provide employment to others. People now see that women can succeed even in sectors like construction," she notes.

Vanaja is among 772 women trained under this initiative across the State. So far, 154 have established centring units, while 16 have applied for assistance under PMEGP, with Detailed Project Reports already sent to districts for further support.

"There are so many opportunities if we are willing to step out of our comfort zones. With the right training and support, women can achieve much more than they imagine," she says, summing up her journey.



Mamta Kulkarni says Indian women are not health conscious

THEIR LIVES REVOLVE AROUND THEIR HUSBANDS & CHILDREN

Actress Mamta Kulkarni has opened up about her perspective on how she feels that Indian families, especially the women in Indian families, do not take care of their health and are absolutely zero health conscious.

In a video shared by her on her own social media account, Mamta also said that the lives of most Indian women revolve around their families and taking care of their husbands and children, which is why they do not focus on their own health, stating that is absolutely wrong.

"I have noticed that some Indian families, especially women often do not focus on workouts. They dedicate their lives to their children and husbands, which sometimes leads to poor health. The same applies to men and children, they are often not very health conscious."

The actress also stated that she has seen even men and children in India coming to health clubs but just chit chat and do nothing about their health.

Further, she was seen expressing how important it is for each one to take care of their health.

Citing example of citizens of other countries, Mamta said that from kids to elders, everybody is very health conscious. From vitamin D to gymming, everybody takes care of their health, which is why they are so well built and fitter than Indians.

"Our body needs everything, including



vitamin D. People often laugh at foreigners wearing bikinis, but they don't realise how much vitamin D they are getting. That contributes to better growth and fitness. You will notice that many of them are taller and remain active even in their 80s, running in gyms and staying fit. Even small children are active, they swim, dive, and play."

She also cited her own example and said how she takes care of herself. "I now make it a point to spend time near the sea at least once or twice a week, usually on Saturdays, Sundays, or Mondays. This has been my process for many years, both physically and spiritually. Our body is made up of five elements: earth, water, fire, air, and sky."

She added, "I visit the beach once a week or once in two weeks. What do I do there? I walk barefoot on the sand. It is believed that walking barefoot on the beach can help cure many ailments. When I cannot go to the beach, I visit the health club instead. I go to the pool two to three times a week. I usually go around 2 pm, swim for an hour, and then spend at least another hour or two sunbathing."

She added, "I take sunbaths for two to three hours. I also swim, chat, and spend two to three hours here, sometimes from 1 pm to 5:30 or 6 pm. I also take steam and then, if possible, walk barefoot on the beach. When I was in Dubai, I used to walk barefoot on JBR beach. On Fridays or Saturdays, I would spend time there and walk on the sand for an hour under the sun."

Speaking about the benefits of walking bare feet on sand, Mamta said, "It is believed that the salt in the sand draws out impurities from the body. Some even say that people with paralysis can benefit from this practice if done consistently for a few months."

She concluded, "You should spend time in the sun and in nature to stay healthy. Breathe deeply as I am doing now and meditate. I often meditate while looking at the sun for hours. Come closer to nature, enjoy your food and life, but remember: if you are healthy, you are truly alive. You are your world. Jai Maa Bhavani."

EAT SMART THIS SUMMER WITH THIS PROTEIN-PACKED DIET

Summer has arrived early, and with beach trips on the horizon, now is the perfect time to kickstart your fitness routine. While gym sessions are essential, diet plays an equally vital role in sculpting and maintaining a healthy body weight. Ritika Samaddar, Regional Head of Dietetics at Max Healthcare - New Delhi, recommends this straightforward, protein-rich plan featuring California Almonds, Greek Yoghurt, and Salmon.



Morning Kickstart: California Almonds and Boiled Eggs

Begin your day with a few California Almonds. Rich in protein, healthy fats, vitamin E, and magnesium, they help sustain energy levels without sudden spikes. They are an excellent addition to any fitness-

Lunch: Grilled Chicken Breast Salad

Opt for grilled chicken breast tossed with mixed greens, cherry tomatoes, and cucumber. This meal delivers lean protein, fibre, and hydration from veggies, keeping you light yet satisfied through the afternoon.

Evening Snack: Greek Yoghurt with Chia Seeds

Recharge in the late afternoon with Greek yoghurt topped with a teaspoon of chia seeds. This snack delivers probiotics for gut health, sustained energy, and a refreshing, cooling effect.

Dinner: Baked Salmon with Quinoa

End your day with a baked salmon fillet served alongside cooked quinoa and steamed broccoli. This nutrient-rich

plate offers omega-3 fatty acids for skin health, anti-inflammatory benefits, and complete proteins to support overnight muscle repair. This simple routine emphasises supporting muscle building, controlling hunger, and aiding weight management. Avoid heavy carbs in the afternoons as they are difficult to digest. Aim for portion control, good hydration and light exercise. These easy, practical tips can help you stay fit and energised during the summer heat.

Alaya F makes 150 attempts to get a pose right: Know how much to push yourself

Actress Alaya F loves to stay on top of her fitness game. Through her latest so-

cial media post, the 'Jawaani Jaaneman' actress shared that she took 150 attempts to get a pose she saw on Instagram right. Posting a clip of herself attempting the post, Alaya revealed that the exercise left her with peeled elbows and nausea.

"Here's a short glimpse of some of the 150+ attempts, peeled elbows and no stop nausea it took me to successfully do a pose I saw on Instagram (sic)," she captioned the post.

The 'Freddy' actress further stressed that she is not encouraging anyone to push their physical limit beyond the necessary point.

Alaya said that it is always crucial to listen to one's body.

"PS: this is not me advocating for pushing your body even when it feels completely done. It's always super important to listen to your body because everyone is different! so please be rest assured, I know how much to push myself and when to stop but out of all the things my teachers call me, 'stubborn' is my favourite! Thank you for always making sure than my stubbornness is never at the cost of my safety haha @sunpreet_sing", she went on to write. Talking about her

professional commitments, Alaya will soon be a part of Hrithik Roshan-produced thriller series 'Storm'.

The much-discussed drama will have Parvathy Thiruvothu, Sriшти Shrivastava, Rrama Sharma, and Saba Azad playing key characters, along with others.

Suvinder Pal Vicky, Ashish Vidyarthi, Rajit Kapur, Ashok Pathak, Gautam Rode, Priyanka Setia, and Ranjan Raj have also been roped in as the ancillary cast.

Talking about his next, Hrithik had shared, "What drew me to 'Storm' was the compelling world that Ajitpal has created. The story is raw, layered, and powerful, with unforgettable characters which will be essayed by incredibly talented actors."



CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 3 Cooking aids (5)
 - 8 Thick slices (5)
 - 10 A ___ being: one of us? (5)
 - 11 ___ roll: having a long spell of success (2,1)
 - 12 Mechanical man (5)
 - 13 Distorted (7)
 - 15 Extremely small (5)
 - 18 Embrace (3)
 - 19 Horse's gait (6)
 - 21 Grades (7)
 - 22 Tinted (4)
 - 23 Gaming stake (4)
 - 24 Mao ___: thoughtful Chinese
 - chairman? (3,4)
 - 26 Figures of speech, figurative usages of words (6)
 - 29 Azidothymidine; a drug that improves the symptoms of aids (3)
 - 31 Lhasa is its capital (5)
 - 32 Usefulness (7)
 - 34 Form (5)
 - 35 Prefix for "dermis" or "center" (3)
 - 36 Hollywood great ___ Davis (5)
 - 37 Norse giant (5)
 - 38 Mining for valuable minerals (5)

DOWN

- 1 Causes air currents (5)
- 2 Stricken with shame (7)
- 4 Goad (4)
- 5 Inventor ___ Alva Edison (6)
- 6 Former Force India driver (5)
- 7 Egyptian capital (5)
- 9 Black bird (3)
- 12 Move backward (7)
- 14 Pull hard (3)
- 16 Hold on to (5)
- 17 Chose or selected (5)
- 19 Develop slowly (7)
- 20 Noted film maker Mahesh ___ (5)
- 21 Discharge from the army (5)
- 23 Horns (7)
- 24 Tie up (6)
- 25 Israeli submachine gun (3)
- 27 Metal pin (5)
- 28 Pasta sauce - "poets" anagram? (5)
- 30 Like those waters that run deep (5)
- 32 ___ arms: riled? (2,2)
- 33 BSE deal (3)



Solution to April 9

SUDOKU



Solution to April 9

"The IPL has started exactly how I expected it to, with flatter pitches and high-scoring games. As always, it's interesting to see how the old school superstars like Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli perform, but I think this youngster for Rajasthan Royals, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, is the one to watch in the opening few weeks." - Graeme Smith, South African batting great

Asian Boxing C'ships

Indian women top medal charts with 4 gold

Ulaanbaatar(Mongolia): The Indian women's team delivered a historic performance at the Asian Boxing Championships 2026, finishing on top of the medal charts with a total of 10 medals, including four gold, two silver, and four bronze, underlining their dominance at the continental stage.

Under the stewardship of head coach Santiago Nieva, every member of the women's team returned home with a medal, stamping their authority on the continental competition. With Boxing Federation of India President Ajay Singh in attendance, Minakshi Hooda (48kg) got



things going by claiming the first gold of the day with a commanding 5-0 victory over Mongolia's Nomundari Enkh-Amgalan. Preeti (54kg) continued her sensational run, defeating Chinese Taipei's Huang Hsiao-wen, a three-time world champion and Tokyo 2020 Olympic bronze medallist, by a unanimous 5-0 decision to secure

the top podium finish.

Priya (60kg) added to India's gold tally with a clinical 3-0 win over North Korea's Won Un-gyong in the final. Arundhati (70kg) also impressed, registering a 4:1 victory against Kazakhstan's Bakyt Seidish to clinch gold in her category.

India added two silver medals to its tally, with Jais-

mine (57kg) finishing runner-up after a strong campaign, while Alfiyan Pathan (80+kg) also secured silver following her final bout.

Earlier in the week, two-time world champion Nikhat Zareen (54kg), Ankushita Boro (65kg), Lovlina (75kg) and Pooja (80kg) had settled for bronze medals after semifinal exits. Having confirmed 16 medals, the most of any nation in this edition, India will be looking to finish the tournament strongly, with two men's boxers - Vishwanath Suresh (48kg) and Sachin Siwach (60kg) - in their respective finals on Friday.

TG finishes runner-up in national gymnastics

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE Telangana gymnastics team delivered an impressive performance to secure second place overall at the Level-wise Boys & Girls National Gymnastics Competition 2026 held in Delhi at The Gymnastic Academy. The team clinched a remarkable tally of 25 silver medals and 2 bronze medals across events, including table vault, uneven bars, balance beam, and floor exercise.

In Level 1, gymnasts Hiya Yadav, Pranavi Shah, Anshul Yadav, and Adwaith Akula showcased strong performances. Level 2 saw notable contributions from Manvi Reddy,



Myra Mandava, and Chokkarapu Loukya Virat, while higher levels featured standout efforts from Inara Rukmini, Simone Pestonji, and Khushi Rai.

The team was felicitated in Hyderabad in the presence of Priyanka, an international gymnast, national champion, and judge.

Dist chess selections from April 11

HYDERABAD: The Telangana State Chess Association will conduct Hyderabad and Rangareddy district Under-7 and Under-11 boys and girls selection tournaments on April 11 and 12 at Lal Bahadur Stadium, Hyderabad. The tournaments will shortlist players for the state championship.

Details are available at www.chesstelangana.com or contact 7337578899 and 7337399299, said General Secretary A Jayachandra.

Mukul guides LSG to thrilling 3-wkt win over KKR

KOLKATA

MUKUL Choudhary stood against all the odds and remained unbeaten at 54 off just 27 balls as Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) chased down the target of 182 runs on the final ball of the match and registered a three-wicket win over Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Thursday.

Earlier, captain Ajinkya Rahane and young batter Angkrish Raghuvanshi played key knocks, while Rovman Powell provided a late boost as Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) posted 181/4 in 20 overs.

Chasing a challenging total on a slow surface, LSG got off to a strong start with Aiden Markram and Mitchell Marsh scoring freely at

over 10 runs per over. The pair took the team to 41 in just four overs.

However, KKR bounced back in the fifth over through Vaibhav Arora, who dismissed Markram for 22 and Marsh for 15 in the same over. Captain Rishabh Pant tried to stabilise the innings alongside Ayush Badoni, but struggled for rhythm and was dismissed by Cameron Green for 10. Nicholas Pooran also failed to make an impact, scoring 13 before getting out in the 12th over, while Abdul Samad departed cheaply.

With wickets falling at the other end, Badoni held the innings together and scored a well-made 54 off 34 balls, hitting seven fours and two sixes. However, he was dismissed soon after reaching his half-century.

After Badoni's departure,



Mukul took charge of the chase. He played aggressively, hitting multiple sixes and keeping LSG in the hunt. In the final over, LSG needed 14 runs, and Mukul held his nerve, smashing two sixes before completing the winning run on the last ball. He brought up his fifty in just 26 balls and remained unbeaten on 54. Earlier, after being asked to bat first, Kolkata Knight Riders had a steady but cautious start, with Mohammed Shami conceding

just six runs in the opening over. The early breakthrough came when Finn Allen was dismissed for nine, caught off Prince Yadav. Following the setback, Ajinkya Rahane and Angkrish Raghuvanshi rebuilt the innings with a composed partnership.

BRIEF SCORES: Kolkata Knight Riders 181/4 in 20 overs (Angkrish Raghuvanshi 45, Ajinkya Rahane 41, Rovman Powell 39; Digvesh Rathi 1-25, Manimaran Siddharth 1-34) lost to Lucknow Super Giants 182/7 in 20 overs (Mukul Choudhary 54*, Ayush Badoni 54; Anukul Roy 3-32, Vaibhav Arora 2-38) by 3 wickets.

In Action today
Rajasthan Royals vs Royal Challengers Bengaluru at 7.30 pm.

Siva powers Golkonda Hotel into final

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

RIDING on T Siva's swash-buckling unbeaten 82, favourites Golkonda Hotel crushed Radisson Blu Plaza by 63 runs to storm into the final of the 10th edition of the Hotels & Restaurants Association of Telangana State T20 Cricket Tournament 2026, played at the New Madies Cricket Grounds on Wednesday.

Golkonda Hotel, appearing in the final for the first time, will now face The Leela Hotel in the title clash.

BRIEF SCORES:



Golkonda Hotel: 175/6 in 20 overs (T. Siva 82*, Pankaj 33; Anil Kumar 2/29) beat Radisson Blu Plaza: 112 all

out in 16.4 overs (Babu 41; Pankaj 3/17, Praneeth 2/22, Shiva Kumar 2/11) by 63 runs.

BADMINTON ASIA C'SHIPS
Ayush enters quarters; Sindhu, Prannoy bow out

NINGBO: Ayush Shetty continued his fine form at the Badminton Asia Championships as he entered the quarterfinals after beating Chin Yu Jen of Taipei in straight games here on Thursday, while two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu and HS Prannoy concluded their campaigns with their re-

spective second-round losses.

Ayush, the US Open 2025 champion, registered a comfortable 21-16, 21-12 win over the Taipei shuttler in a match that lasted for 41 minutes.

Ayush started off his campaign with a stunning win over world No. 7 and fifth seed Li Shi Feng of China, 21-13, 21-16,

in the opening round. He will look to carry the momentum in the quarterfinal when he faces third seed Jonatan Christie of Indonesia. Meanwhile, two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu and former world championship medallist H. S. Prannoy bowed out after losing their respective second-round matches.

TFA mourns demise of former national footballer Nithyasheelan

HYDERABAD: The Telangana Football Association (TFA) expressed deep grief over the untimely demise of former national football player Nithyasheelan, at the age of 57. He had represented at the Sub-Junior National Championship in 1988 held in Dhanbad.

As a mark of respect, two minutes of silence were observed on Thursday morning at the Gymkhana Football Ground during the ongoing U-20 camp. Similar tributes were paid before the C Division Football League matches. A condolence meeting was also held at 5 pm at the TFA office, attended by coaches, referees, and office bearers, who paid homage to his contributions to the sport. Nithyasheelan is survived by his wife, two sons, and a daughter. The TFA conveyed heartfelt condolences to his family, remembering his dedication and lasting contribution to football.



Women's Reservation Bill

Stalin backs 33% quota, raises suspicion on poll-timed bill

CHENNAI: Chief Minister M K Stalin on Thursday alleged that the proposed amendment to ensure 33 per cent reservation for women in the midst of polls in states including Tamil Nadu appeared to be yet another political manoeuvre aimed at shaping electoral narratives. Stalin alleged the timing for the proposed amendment led to serious suspicion.

"Why push such a far-reaching decision in the middle of state elections. This appears to be yet another political manoeuvre aimed at shaping electoral narratives, much like earlier attempts to influence women voters ahead of the 2024 Parliament elections," he alleged in a statement titled "This is not reform, this is reengineering power." Further, he said: "Let me be unequivocal: we strongly support 33 per cent reservation for women. Our support is absolute. But it must be implemented without increasing seats and without punishing states that acted responsibly. If the intent is genuine, nothing prevents immediate implementation within the existing framework."

Demanding fair delimitation, he alleged there was complete opacity on the basis for delimitation and



asked would the exercise rely on 1971 figures from a pre-population control era or the 2021 Census. "Conflicting signals and vague assurances only deepen suspicion." This move would also impose a massive financial burden on states, forcing them to expand or rebuild Legislative Assemblies, all without proper consultation.

"This is a direct assault on cooperative federalism. This is not reform, it is a unilateral, politically driven exercise designed to concentrate power, weaken Parliament, marginalise the South, and undermine social justice," he alleged. "The nation deserves answers: why this undue haste, why shift the goalposts, and who truly stands to benefit?" The NDA government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi is systematically eroding the very foundations

of Parliament, he alleged.

The Dravidian party chief claimed: "What should be a vibrant forum for debate and accountability is being reduced to a hollow ritual, a stage where members may not even get fair time to speak or represent their people. This proposal to increase seats is a direct contradiction of their own slogan of minimum government, maximum governance. It will only inflate expenditure, burden taxpayers, and dilute the quality of parliamentary functioning."

This also went against the spirit of Article 1 of the Constitution, which defines India as a Union of States. Ignoring the voices of states and bypassing meaningful consultation is not democratic - it is unitary overreach that undermines the country's federal and plural character.

Kerala polling sees minor protests over bogus votes

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Assembly polling across Kerala progressed largely peacefully, but protests were reported at several booths on Thursday over allegations of bogus voting. A minor scuffle broke out between Congress and BJP activists at Manalur in Thrissur district after UDF candidate T N Prathapan arrived in the area.

According to police, BJP activists prevented people accompanying Prathapan from entering the booth premises, leading to the scuffle.

In Wadakkanchery, also in Thrissur district, a voter, Sajeev, was unable to cast his vote after election officials informed him that his vote had already been recorded as a postal ballot. This triggered protests by BJP activists, prompting police intervention.

Although election officials offered to allow him to cast a tender vote, he declined. BJP candidate T S Ullas Babu later arrived at the booth and staged a protest.

A similar incident occurred in Kuttiady, Kozhikode district, where a woman was denied the right to vote after it was found that her vote had already been cast as a postal ballot.

At Malampuzha and Shoranur in Palakkad district, Thrikkaripur in Kasaragod, and Vattiyorkavu in Thiruvananthapuram, complaints emerged that votes had been cast in the names of original voters, leading to protests.

The affected voters were later permitted to cast tender votes.

Bengal political row over Kabir video

KOLKATA

A political controversy erupted in West Bengal on Thursday after an alleged video of Humayun Kabir surfaced on social media, purportedly showing him claiming links with senior BJP leaders and efforts to defeat Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in the upcoming Assembly elections.

At a press meet, the Tri-

namool Congress shared the purported video and demanded an Enforcement Directorate probe into Kabir's alleged claims of proximity with Leader of Opposition in West Bengal Assembly, Suvendu Adhikari, Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and the Prime Minister's Office as part of a multi-core plan to defeat Banerjee in the polls.

In the video, which could

not be independently verified by PTI, Kabir is allegedly heard saying he is willing to go to "any extent" to unseat Banerjee and has been in touch with senior BJP leaders, including Adhikari.

Kabir termed the video as AI-generated and aimed at maligning him and threatened to take legal action. Kabir, who founded the Aam Janata Unnayan Party days after he was suspended by the

TMC late last year, is also purportedly heard claiming that he had communication with the PMO and was advised to coordinate with leaders from other BJP-ruled states.

The video further purportedly captures Kabir stating that his strategy revolves around diverting minority votes away from the ruling Trinamool Congress, suggesting that such a shift could benefit the BJP electorally.

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