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Prime Minister Narendra Modi with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio in New Delhi on Saturday

## PM gets WH invite as he talks trade & security with Rubio

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday held crucial talks on security and trade with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who in turn extended him an invitation to the White House on behalf of Donald Trump.

The three-day visit to India by Rubio comes at a time when ties between India and the US under Trump 2.0 have continued to fluctuate amid trade and energy tensions, which have only deepened amid the Iran conflict.

US envoy Sergio Gor, who joined Rubio for the meeting with PM Modi, said the talks

also spanned the Indo-Pacific, where China has sought to assert its strength. India has always been viewed by the US as a counterbalance to China in the crucial region.

"We had a productive discussion on ways to deepen US-India cooperation across security, trade, and critical technologies... India is a vital partner to the United States!" Gor tweeted. He also said that PM Modi was invited to the White House in the "near future". In the meeting, Rubio also pitched for US energy products, saying it had the potential to diversify India's energy supply.

Continued on Page 4

## Cabinet okays 1L houses for poor, middle class in CURE

► House-warming ceremonies to take place for nearly 100,000 first phase Indiramma houses by June 2

► Telangana to become "a model free from huts state"

► State to implement central power reforms without installing smart meters

► Mid-day meal scheme in all Junior Colleges from this academic year, apart from breakfast and milk

► Rs 1,000 cr cleared for 2027 Godavari Pushkaralu

► 'Next Generation Life Sciences Policy 2026-30' okayed to attract \$25 billion investment and create 500,000 jobs over the next five years



Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Raddy briefing the media after the Cabinet meeting at the Secretariat in Hyderabad on Saturday

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE state government has announced a massive housing scheme of constructing one lakh houses for the poor and middle classes in the Core Urban Region (CURE) areas of the three Municipal Corporations viz. Greater Hyderabad, Malkajgiri and Cyberabad this year.

In a significant move, the state cabinet approved the proposal to join the RDSS (Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme).

Briefing the media after the Cabinet meeting at the Secretariat on Saturday,

State Information and Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Raddy said that the Cabinet approved the sanctioning of the second phase of Indiramma houses within the state. The Cabinet gave its approval for the construction of Indiramma houses for a total of 2,50,000 poor families. It was decided to sanction 2,000 houses for each legislative constituency.

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy will launch the second phase the housing scheme at Kothari village, Kerameri Mandal, in the Komaram Bheem Asifabad district on June 1st.

The Cabinet also re-

solved to complete those Indiramma houses whose construction began under the Congress government in the erstwhile undivided AP state but remain stalled at the wall or roof-slab stage. Financial assistance of Rs 3 lakhs will be provided for houses where the foundations are complete but walls and roof-slabs are yet to be built, and Rs 2 lakhs will be provided for houses where the walls are complete but roof-slabs are pending. To facilitate the completion of these unfinished Indiramma houses, the Cabinet passed a resolution allocating funds for 500 such houses per constituency.

By June 2nd, house-warming ceremonies are scheduled to take place for approximately 100,000 Indiramma houses, the construction of which commenced during the first phase. The Cabinet has decided to construct and hand over 100,000 houses for low-income groups (LIG) across the 24 constituencies falling within the limits of the Hyderabad metropolitan area.

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## 'FUTURE CITY UNSTOPPABLE'

### BRS has no future: Ponguleti

Minister asks Harish to first secure his 'political future'

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

TAKING exception to Bharat Rashtia Samithi leader Harish Rao's recent remarks against the state government's Bharat Future City project, Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy commented that in fact it is the BRS that has no future, while "the Future City is unstoppable". In a strongly worded post in his handle on social media X, Ponguleti questioned Harish Rao's political standing within the BRS, alleging that the former finance minister was uncertain about his future in the party. Referring to Harish



Rao's recent comments made in the United States that the BRS, if voted to power, would scrap the Future City project and restore the Pharma City project envisaged by the erstwhile government, Ponguleti accused him of attempting to obstruct the Congress government's developmental initiatives by scaring potential investors.

Continued on Page 4

## US tightens green card rules

APPLICANTS MAY NOW HAVE TO RETURN HOME TO APPLY

WASHINGTON

IN a major shift in US immigration policy, the administration of President Donald Trump has announced that many foreign nationals seeking permanent residency, or green cards, may now have to leave the United States and apply from their home countries.

The new policy, issued by the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), marks one of the biggest changes to the green card process in more than six decades. The move has drawn criticism from immigration lawyers, aid organisations and policy analysts, who warn



that it could disrupt the lives of millions of immigrants and their families. Until now, many immigrants legally staying in the US could apply for a green card without leaving the country through a process known as "adjustment of status". Under the revised policy, USCIS officers have been instructed to decide on applications on a

case-by-case basis and grant exceptions only in extraordinary circumstances. DHS said the new approach was intended to prevent misuse of immigration loopholes. "An alien who is in the US temporarily and wants a Green Card must return to their home country to apply," the department said in a statement. Continued on Page 4

## 'America First' visa tool for India announced

NEW DELHI: US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has introduced an 'America First' visa scheduling tool as a broader push to upgrade how American consulates operate. While on his high-profile four-day diplomatic tour to India, Rubio spoke about the visa tool that gives priority to business professionals and people whose travel directly strengthens economic and strategic links with the United States.

Rubio pointed to the foundation of the US-India relationship and how it has been growing in ways that don't always make headlines.

Continued on Page 4

## US, Iran close to extending ceasefire by 60 days

Tehran

THE ceasefire between US and Iran is likely to be extended by two more months, according to reports, citing mediators. The ceasefire has been in place since April 8 and reports of extending the truce comes amid fresh diplomatic push after mediator Pakistan's Army Chief Asim Munir met top Iranian leadership in Tehran over the weekend.

Earlier Asim Munir in Iran met with the top leadership, including President Masoud Pezeshkian, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and top Iranian negotiator and parliament speaker Mohammad



Bagher Ghalibaf.

Pakistan army in a statement on Saturday said that Field Marshal Asim Munir concluded a short but highly productive tour of Iran, Reuters reported.

Meanwhile, US secretary of State Marco Rubio on Saturday hinted that Iran could

agree to a peace deal as soon as today. His remarks indicating progress in diplomatic efforts to end the war came at a time when Pakistan army chief Asim Munir met top Iranian leadership in Tehran as Pakistan has positioned itself as a mediator in the peace talks between Iran and US.

## Tulsi Gabbard quits as director of US nat'l intelligence

WASHINGTON: Tulsi Gabbard resigned as President Donald Trump's director of national intelligence on Friday, saying she needed to step away as her husband battles cancer. She is the fourth Cabinet official to depart during Trump's second term. In her resignation letter, which she posted on social media, Gabbard said she told Trump she would leave office on June 30. She said her husband had recently been diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer and "faces major challenges in the coming weeks and months."



### YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PUSH

## PM DISTRIBUTES OVER 51K APPOINTMENT LETTERS

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday distributed more than 51,000 appointment letters to newly inducted recruits at the 19th Rozgar Mela via video conferencing, as part of the government's broader push to boost employment generation.

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said that since the Rozgar Mela series was initiated by PM Modi on October 22, 2023, the number of

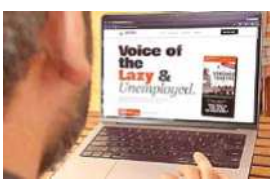


appointments in government jobs has increased, transparency has been brought into the recruitment system, and candidates' confidence has grown. He added that the discipline of timelines and dead-

lines has also increased in the recruitment process, and the merit of candidates appointed through the Rozgar Mela has been superior. Inspired by Modi's initiative, several state governments have also started organising similar job fairs. More than 5.5 to 6 lakh jobs have been created through job fairs in states including Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Assam, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Odisha, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Tripura. Continued on Page 4

## Cockroach party website taken down

FOUNDER SLAMS GOVT'S 'DICTATORIAL BEHAVIOUR'



NEW DELHI: The official website of the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) has been taken down in the recent crackdown against the youth and Gen Z-led online movement after the party's official X handle was withheld. Continued on Page 4

## Petro prices hiked again

NEW DELHI: Petrol and diesel prices were increased again on Saturday, marking the third hike in less than 10 days as global crude oil prices continue to surge amid the ongoing West Asia conflict and disruptions around the Strait of Hormuz. Petrol prices were raised by up to 87 paise per litre, while diesel prices increased by as much as 91 paise per litre across major cities. In Delhi, petrol now costs Rs 99.51 per litre, up from Rs

98.64, while diesel prices rose from Rs 91.58 to Rs 92.49 per litre. Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) prices were also increased by Re 1 per kg, marking the third hike in less than 10 days. With the latest revision coming into effect immediately, CNG in Delhi will now cost Rs 81.09 per kg. Prices in Noida, Greater Noida and Ghaziabad have risen to Rs 89.70 per kg, while Gurugram will see CNG priced at Rs 86.12 per kg. Continued on Page 4

## 90 killed in China coal mine blast

BEIJING: Ninety miners were killed in a gas explosion in a coal mine in north China, official media in Beijing reported on Saturday, adding that 201 miners have so far been rescued. The gas explosion occurred at the Liushenyu coal mine on Friday (May 22, 2026) evening. Rescue efforts are ongoing. China's Ministry of Emergency Management has sent 345 personnel from six rescue teams to help with the operation. State media said the rescue operation had encountered difficulties as water has built up near the explosion site, preventing access to certain areas, while blueprints provided by the mine did not match the actual conditions.

# CBSE's diktat on 3-language study sparks debate

► CBSE Class XII results (2026) reveal fewer than 500 students across south India opted for their state languages

► Kerala leads with 367 Malayalam candidates, while Tamil Nadu, despite its linguistic pride, saw only 52 Tamil examinees

► Students lament language switching pressures, shifting between Hindi, Tamil, and Sanskrit due to policy reversals

► Experts warn of a looming threat to south Indian languages, as globalisation and AI and pan-English language skills overshadow mother tongue learning

SRITA VEMURI HYDERABAD

IN the context of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) mandating the three-language formula from this academic year, the latest Class XII results reveal a troubling picture of language learning in south India. While the policy aims to balance national integration with regional identity, the numbers of those making choices among the languages suggest that learning of south Indian languages is being given the go-by not by others but by students themselves. The CBSE Class XII results



show that only three students wrote the Telugu exam, five the Kannada exam, and 52 the Tamil exam. Kerala stands out with 367 students opting for

Malayalam, but even this figure is modest given the hundreds of CBSE-affiliated schools in the region. Altogether, fewer than 500 students across Andhra

Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Puducherry, and Kerala chose to take their state language in the final board exam.

For context, the CBSE has made the study of three languages compulsory for students from Class ninth beginning from the first of July this year. In a statement, CBSE said that at least two of the three languages must be native Indian languages, in line with the National Education Policy 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework for School Education 2023. It was clarified that there will be no board examination for the third

language (R3) in Class tenth and that all assessments for R3 will be entirely school-based and internal. Further, the board said, the performance of students in R3 will be duly reflected in the CBSE certificate.

No student will be barred from appearing in the Class tenth Board Examinations due to R3, it added.

Students themselves admit that language choice is often strategic. "I am a child of a Telugu-speaking couple who grew up in Hyderabad; so, Hindi was chosen as my second language, and Tamil became my inevitable third," shared one student.

Continued on Page 4



# Revanth lays foundation for TG's largest Vedic school

The Vedic school, estimated to cost Rs 43.80 crore and spread across 15 acres, will provide traditional Gurukul-style Vedic education with residential facilities for 300 students. The complex will also include special halls for conducting homams and yagnas, along with a goshala

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
YADAGIRIGUTTA

IN a massive undertaking, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy performed Bhoomi Puja along with Kanchi Kamakoti Peethadhipathi Jagadguru Sri Shankara Vijayendra Saraswati Swamy for the construction of the largest Vedic school complex in Telangana within the Yadagirigutta Temple premises.

Foundation stones for

## Foundation stones laid for transforming Yadagirigutta infra on the lines of TTD

development works worth Rs 99.55 crore were also laid at the temple. During his visit on Saturday, Revanth offered special prayers to Lord Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy. Temple chief priests, Vedic scholars, and archakas later blessed him, while the Endowments Principal Secretary, Commissioner, and temple Executive Officer presented him with a portrait of the deity.

Along with the Vedic school, foundation stones were laid for several temple-related development works aimed at developing Yadagirigutta Temple City on the lines of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams.

The Vedic school, estimated at Rs 43.80 crore and spread across 15 acres, will provide traditional Gurukul-style Vedic education with residential facilities for



Chief Minister Revanth Reddy along with Sri Shankara Vijayendra Saraswati Swamy performing puja at Yadagirigutta

300 students. The complex will also include special halls for conducting homams and yagnas, along with a goshala.

The Chief Minister also laid foundation stones for dormitory halls and accommodation facilities for devotees at a cost of Rs 43.12 crore, a grand Kalyana Man-

dapam worth Rs 9.87 crore for conducting daily celestial weddings of the deity, a protective roof over the stairway from Vaikuntha Dwaram to the hilltop at a cost of Rs 1.41 crore, and new stairway construction connecting Mada streets near Rathashala at an esti-

ated cost of Rs 1.35 crore.

However, controversy arose as no district officials were reportedly present to receive the Chief Minister when his helicopter landed at Peddagutta for the Vedic school foundation ceremony. Due to this, the Chief Minister and other ministers had to wait inside the helicopter for nearly 15 minutes before proceeding with the programme.

The event was attended by Legislative Council Chairman Gutha Sukender Reddy, Ministers Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Konda Surekha, and Adhuri Laxman Kumar, along with Rajya Sabha MP V Narender Reddy, MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, Government Whips Beerla Ilaiah and Anil Kumar Reddy, District Collector Anurag Jayanti, and senior officials.

## Nagarkurnool girl, Vanmai tops State in POLYCET

She achieved a perfect score of 120 out of 120

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
NAGARKURNOOL

VANMAI Reddy, student of CNR Educational Institution from Nagarkurnool district, brought pride to the district by securing the State First Rank in the Telangana POLYCET 2026 results. In the results announced on Saturday, she achieved a perfect score of 120 out of 120 and emerged as the State Topper.

The student's parents, Sridhar Reddy and Swa-



Vanmai Reddy, student of CNR Educational Institution, expressed her happiness over the achievement. Institution founders Bhaskar

Rao and Chandrakala stated that students can reach great heights through discipline and dedication. They said Vanmai Reddy's success would serve as an inspiration to other students.

On the occasion, Syed Fasiuddin, Venkateswara Rao, Hajira, and the teaching staff congratulated the student on her success. Celebrations were held at the school following the announcement of the State Topper's achievement.

## SCCL becomes proactive ahead of monsoon

Takes measures to prevent rain disruption in coal production

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD/KOTHAGUDEM

STATE-owned coal mining major Singareni Collieries Company Limited has initiated precautionary measures to ensure uninterrupted coal production and supply during the ensuing southwest monsoon season, company officials said on Saturday.

Chairman and Managing Director Dr Buddhaprakash Jyoti conducted a comprehensive review meeting with General Managers of all mining areas and directed officials to immediately implement advance monsoon preparedness plans to avoid disruptions in production activities. According to company officials, nearly 95 per cent of Singareni's coal production presently comes from open cast mines, where heavy rainfall often leads to water accumulation and hampers mining operations.

To tackle the issue, the company has already deployed more than 100 heavy-duty pumps and motors across various open cast mines for dewatering operations. The CMD



SCCL Chairman and Managing Director Buddhaprakash Jyoti

instructed officials to arrange additional company-owned and private pumps wherever necessary and ensure that no water stagnation occurs near overburden and coal benches. He also directed officials to strengthen haul roads and complete all necessary arrangements well in advance. Corporate office General Managers concerned were asked to initiate tender-related processes immediately to ensure the availability of additional pumping equipment during the rainy season.

During the meeting, mine-wise monsoon preparedness

plans and proposals were reviewed in detail. The CMD instructed area officials to closely monitor weather advisories issued by the Meteorological Department and remain especially vigilant in mines that had suffered major production losses due to heavy rains in the past two years. Referring to rising power demand in the backdrop of international developments, Dr. Buddhaprakash Jyoti stressed the need to maintain uninterrupted coal supply to thermal power stations having Fuel Supply Agreements (FSAs) with Singareni.

## Families hail Raghuram over CMRF assistance

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
KHAMMAM

FAMILIES of CMRF beneficiaries hailed MP Ramasahayam Raghuram Reddy after he distributed Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) cheques worth Rs 44 lakh to 150 beneficiaries from seven Assembly constituencies in Khammam and Bhadradi Kothagudem district.

The cheques were distributed at the MP's camp office near Gattayya Centre in Khammam city in the presence of several Congress leaders and public representatives.

Beneficiaries and their family members expressed gratitude to Ramasahayam Raghuram Reddy for facilitating financial assistance for medical treatment through the CMRF scheme. Many of them said the support had come as a major relief at a



time when they were struggling to meet rising healthcare expenses in private and corporate hospitals.

Speaking on the occasion, the MP said the Congress government in Telangana was committed to extending healthcare support to poor and needy families and ensuring that deserving beneficiaries receive assistance without delay.

He stated that special efforts were being made to expedite the scrutiny of applications and sanction relief funds

quickly for those facing medical emergencies.

Later, the MP also distributed khaki shirts to around 100 auto drivers belonging to different auto unions in the city and assured continued support to workers in the transport sector.

State Warehousing Corporation Chairman Rayala Nagewara Rao, SUDA Chairman Puvvalla Durgaprasad, TPCC General Secretary Maddineni Swarnakumari and several Congress leaders attended the programme.

## Winfield student secures State rank in POLYCET

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
KHAMMAM

MANNE Akshith Kumar, a student of Winfield School, achieved State Rank 62 with 118 out of 120 marks in the POLYCET results announced on Saturday. He had earlier excelled

in the SSC examinations by securing 589 marks. On the occasion, school management members Manne Kishore Kumar, Gadde Pulla Rao, Polavarapu Srikanth, and teachers congratulated the student for his achievement.



## Komatireddy's birthday celebrated across Nalgonda

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
NALGONDA

BIRTHDAY celebrations of Roads, Buildings and Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy were held at the Minister's camp office in Srinagar Colony of Nalgonda on Saturday. The programme was organised under the leadership of Town Congress President Gummula Mohan Reddy, MLC Kethavathi Shankar, Mayor Burri Chaitanya Srinivas Reddy, Deputy Mayor Mohammed Ashraf Ali Ameer participated and cut a cake during the



Mayor Burri Chaitanya Srinivas Reddy along with Congress Town President Gummula Mohan Reddy cutting a cake to mark the occasion

celebrations. Speaking on the occasion, the leaders praised the Minister for his continuous efforts towards the welfare of poor people and appreciated his services for the development of the district. As part of the

celebrations, corporators, supporters, and members of the Fruit Association distributed fruits and bedsheets to patients. Birthday celebrations were also held in several villages across the Nalgonda constituency.

## Students feted for POLYCET performance

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
KHAMMAM

STUDENTS of Triveni achieved results in the POLYCET-2026 results. School Director Dr Gollapudi Veerendra Chowdary congratulated the students for securing state ranks. Sai Deekshith secured State 35th rank with 118 marks out of 120, while Gopalakrishna secured 116th rank with 114 marks.

The management informed that eight students scored above 100 marks, 16 students secured above 90 marks and 20 students achieved ranks below 5,000.



Principal Rajendra Prasad said the school is committed to preparing students for top results in all competitive examinations. The success-

ful students were felicitated with bouquets and sweets in the presence of school management, teachers and staff members.



## Gitanjali students excel in POLYCET

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
KHAMMAM

STUDENTS of Gitanjali achieved state ranks in the POLYCET entrance examination with Navadeep securing the State 38th rank in MBIPC with 116.5/120 marks and State 54th rank in MPC with 118/120 marks.

In the MBIPC stream, J Satvik, M Yashaswitha, Sk Asif, U Vedasri, S Shanvitha, and Ch Venkatalakshmi secured ranks below 1m000. The management, including Correspondent TV Appa Rao, Directors T Padma and T Arun, congratulated the students and staff on their achievement.

## 'Human and AI intelligence to advance sports industry'

Expert from Japan addresses seminar on 'Global Collaboration & Academic Exchange'

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
MAHABUBNAGAR

"MODERN AI research focuses on analysing human experience, observation skills, and strategic thinking in sports," explained Professor Dr Akira Yamanaka from Ehime University, Japan. "Technologies, such as Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Computer Vision, and Data Analytics are being used to study player movements, game situations, and tactical decisions," he said.

cal decisions," he said.

"AI-based systems are already being tested in sports like football, cricket, basketball, and tennis to assist coaches in making faster and more accurate decisions during matches," he added.

Prof Yamanaka was addressing a seminar on 'Global Collaboration & Academic Exchange' at Jaya Prakash Narayan College of Engineering (JPNC), Mahabubnagar during which he delivered a presentation



on 'Tacit Knowledge' and explained how Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being used to replicate decision-making abilities of sports

coaches. "AI would not replace human coaches but would serve as a scientific support system to enhance decision-

making abilities," explained the professor. He added that the combination of human intelligence and Artificial Intelligence would bring significant advancements to the sports industry in the future.

Addressing the gathering, JPNC Chairman KS Ravi Kumar described the occasion as a historic day for the institution. He announced that 569 job offer letters had been secured through campus placements this year. Students selected by Infosys

and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) were specially felicitated during the event.

National Institute of Technology Raipur Director Dr NV Ramana Rao praised JPNC for providing quality education and achieving strong placement results. Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad CSE Head Dr C Krishna Mohan emphasized that long-term collaboration with international universities would greatly benefit research and academic development.

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| <b>Hans India Classifieds</b><br><b>CHANGE OF NAME</b><br>I, Fayaza Fatima W/O Mohammed Azher Hussain, R/o H-No: 1-1-77/1, moti Nagar, Gol Banglow, Mahabubnagar town and Dist.State Telangana., do hereby declare that my Daughter's name was changed from ZUNAIRAH FATHIMA (Old Name) to <b>ZUNAIRAH FATIMA</b> (Th_Venkat Mungi) |  | <b>CHANGE OF NAME</b><br>I, LAVUDI LACHU NAIK son of PULYA, R/o 8-142, Jagram Thanda, Miryalaguda, Lavudi Thanda, Thunga pahad PO, Nalgonda dt, Telangana-508207, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as <b>LAVUDI AKHIL</b> (TH_34250)                                                                                                                        |
| <b>CHANGE OF NAME</b><br>I, BOGGULA YALAPPA son of NARASIMULU, R/o 2-32/1, Kamsan pally village, Damaragidda mandal, Mahabubnagar dt, Telangana-509407, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as <b>BOGGULA YUVRAJ</b> . (TH_34250)                                                                                     |  | <b>NOTICE:</b><br>Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries while responding to advertisements in these columns.<br><b>THE HANS INDIA</b> (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. |

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|--------|-------|-------|-----|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 46     | 144/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.00 3/4 | Vanama Kishor Kumar S/o Pichaiiah                                     | 138 13 9     | 143 13       | 146 145     | VB of Karaiagudem | Mango Tree-1                                                                      |
| 47     | 144/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.16 3/4 | Mittapalli Satyanarayana S/o Ramarao                                  | 138 139      | 143 139      | 146 145     | VB of Karaiagudem | Bore-1, Mango Trees-10                                                            |
| 48     | 144/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.01 1/2 | Chillamuntha Ramakrishna S/o Veera swami                              | 138 139      | 143 139      | 146 145     | VB of Karaiagudem | Nil                                                                               |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.19     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 49     | 145/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.06     | Chillamuntha RamaKrishna S/o Veera swami                              | 138          | 146          | 136 144     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.06     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 50     | 138/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.04     | Road                                                                  | 129          | 145 130      | 137 139     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 51     | 138/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.09     | Devarapalli Narishma Rao S/o Rama Rao                                 | 129          | 145 130      | 137 139     |                   | N neem Trees-2, Tomb-1, Drip Pipe                                                 |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.13     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 52     | 132/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.02 3/4 | Vaggu Pakira Reddy S/o Basivi Reddy                                   | 132 1        | 132 1        | 133 131     |                   | Eculaptus-100                                                                     |
| 53     | 132/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.02 1/2 | Road                                                                  | 132 1        | 132 1        | 133 131     |                   |                                                                                   |
| 54     | 132/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.07     | Alla Ramakotaiah S/o China narasiah                                   | 132 131      | 132 131      | 133 131     |                   | Bore-1, Coconut Trees-2, Co-                                                      |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.12 1/2 |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 55     | 135/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.04 1/2 | Gosu Naresh S/o Venkateswwarao                                        | 135 1        | 135 1        | 132 130     |                   | Mango Trees-5                                                                     |
| 56     | 135/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.09     | Palakurti Ramesh S/o Krishnaiah                                       | 135 1        | 135 1        | 132 130     |                   | Tody -12                                                                          |
| 57     | 135/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.16     | Repakula Swamy S/o Pedda Musalaiah                                    | 135 1        | 135 1        | 132 130     |                   | Mango Trees-10, Bore-1, Pipe Line                                                 |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.29 1/2 |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 58     | 134/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.31 1/2 | Bhimireddy Janaki Devi W/o Prasad Reddy                               | 133 132, 135 | 154 132, 135 | 78 153, 136 |                   | Mango Trees-60                                                                    |
| 59     | 134/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.01     | Road                                                                  | 133 132, 135 | 154 132, 135 | 78 153, 136 |                   |                                                                                   |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.32 1/2 |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 60     | 154/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.26     | Uppu Rama Krishna S/o Venkata Satyam                                  | 134 1        | 155 156      | 78 156, 155 |                   | Palm Trees-36, Mango Trees-3                                                      |
| 61     | 154/2 | Patta | Dry |          | Uppu Sudha W/o Rama Krishna                                           | 134 1        | 155 156      | 78 156, 155 |                   | Subline, Pipe Line Main-1                                                         |
| 62     | 154/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.04     | Uppu Sudhakar Rao S/o Venkatasatyam                                   | 134 1        | 155 156      | 78 156, 155 |                   | Palm Trees-5                                                                      |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.30     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 63     | 153/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.07     | Uppu Sudhakar Rao S/o Venkatasatyam                                   | 136 1        | 158 1        | 154 134     |                   | Palm Trees-10, Neem 2, Teak-1                                                     |
| 64     | 153/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.13     | Uppu Satyanarayana S/o Narishma Swamy Uppu Kasiba W/o Narashima swamy | 136 1        | 158 1        | 154 134     |                   | Neem-4, Tody-6, Teak-1                                                            |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.20     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 65     | 158/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.21 1/2 | Mukki B Bhupal Reddy S/o Veer-abraham Reddy                           | 158 1        | 158 1        | 157 156     |                   | Mango Trees-4                                                                     |
| 66     | 158/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.17 1/2 | Vallapuneni Venkata ramarao S/o Maandiah                              | 158 1        | 158 1        | 157 156     |                   | Mango Trees-4                                                                     |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.39     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 67     | 151/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.13 1/2 | Maridhu Venkat Rao S/o Venkat Satyam                                  | 152 1        | 163 163      | 158 150     |                   | Mango Trees-10, Bore-1, Teak-8                                                    |
| 68     | 151/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.25 1/2 | Kondapalli Sirinu S/o Krishnaiah                                      | 152 1        | 163 163      | 158 150     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.39     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 69     | 163/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.01 1/2 | Road                                                                  | 151 150      | 162 160      | 160 164     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 70     | 163/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.15 3/4 | Koppuravaru Balaram S/o Venkateswara Rao                              | 151 1        | 162 160      | 160 164     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 71     | 163/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.05 3/4 | Donthu Madhav Rao S/o Subba rao                                       | 151 150      | 162 160      | 160 164     |                   | Mango Trees-7                                                                     |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.23     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 72     | 162/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.06 1/2 | Donthu Madhav Rao S/o Subba rao                                       | 163 1        | 162 1        | 162 164     |                   | Mango Trees-8                                                                     |
| 73     | 162/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.35     | Koppuravaru Balaram S/o Venkateswara Rao                              | 163 1        | 162 162      | 162 164     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 74     | 162/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.01 1/2 | Donthu Manemma W/o Nageswararo                                        | 163 1        | 162 162      | 162 164     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| Total: |       |       |     | 1.03     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 75     | 164/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.14 1/2 | Koppuravaru Balaram S/o Venkateswara Rao                              | 164 1        | 164 162      | 162 165     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 76     | 164/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.01 1/2 | Donthu Manemma W/o Nageswararo                                        | 164 1        | 164 162      | 162 165     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 77     | 164/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.31     | Eluru Purna hchandra Rao S/o Raghavaiah                               | 164 1        | 164 162      | 162 165     |                   | Palm Trees-36, Drip, Pipe Line                                                    |
| Total: |       |       |     | 1.07     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 78     | 165/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.09     | Eluru Purna hchandra Rao S/o Raghavaiah                               | 165 1        | 165 1        | 165 165     |                   | Palm Trees-14                                                                     |
| 79     | 165/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.01     | Motopothula Narishma Rao S/o Sheshaiah                                | 165 1        | 165 1        | 165 165     |                   | Teak-10                                                                           |
| 80     | 165/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.03 1/2 | Maridu Suresh S/o Mareswararo                                         | 165 1        | 165 1        | 165 165     |                   | Lemon Trees-20                                                                    |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.14     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 81     | 166/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.04     | Eluru Purnah chandhra Rao S/o Raghavaiah                              | 165 1        | 167 1        | 166 168     |                   | Palm Trees-10                                                                     |
| 82     | 166/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.02     | Motopothula Narishma Rao S/o Sheshaiah                                | 165 1        | 167 1        | 166 168     |                   | Teak Trees-20                                                                     |
| 83     | 166/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.07     | Maridu Suresh S/o Mareswararo                                         | 165 1        | 167 1        | 166 168     |                   | Lemon Trees-40                                                                    |
| 84     | 166/2 | Patta | Dry | 1.13 1/2 | Kandhimalla Padhmanabha Rao S/o Nagaiah                               | 165 1        | 167 1        | 166 168     |                   | Palm Trees-70                                                                     |
| 85     | 166/2 | Patta | Dry |          | Kandhimalla Ravi Kiran S/o Padhmananbha Rao                           | 165 1        | 167 1        | 166 168     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 86     | 166/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.02 1/2 | Perumalla Rama Rao S/o Mutyulu                                        | 165 1        | 167 1        | 166 168     |                   | Palm Trees-6                                                                      |
| Total: |       |       |     | 1.29     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 87     | 173/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.00 1/2 | Kandhimalla Padhmanabha Rao S/o Nagaiah                               | 164 172      | 172 174      | 166 166     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 88     | 173/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.24     | Kandhimalla Ravi Kiran S/o Padhmanabha Rao                            | 164 172      | 172 174      | 166 166     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 89     | 173/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.01 1/2 | Perumalla Rama Rao S/o Mutyulu                                        | 164 172      | 172 174      | 166 166     |                   | Palm Trees-32, Gate Wall, Pipe Line                                               |
| 90     | 172/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.22     | Uyyuri Prasad S/o Venkateswara Rao                                    | 164 172      | 172 174      | 166 166     |                   | Palm Trees-3                                                                      |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.26     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 91     | 172/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.01     | Uyyuri Prasad S/o Venkateswara Rao                                    | 172 1        | 172 1        | 175 166     |                   | Palm Trees-30, Moringa Trees-400, Mango Trees-2, Compost Shed-1, Chenduga Trees-8 |
| 92     | 172/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.00 1/2 | Road                                                                  | 172 1        | 172 1        | 175 166     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 93     | 172/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.00 1/2 | Kandimalla Ravi Kiran S/o Padmanabharao                               | 172 1        | 172 1        | 175 166     |                   | Fish Pond-1                                                                       |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.23 1/2 |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 94     | 171/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.10 1/2 | Kandimalla Ravi Kiran S/o Padmanabharao                               | 171 1        | 171 1        | 171 171     |                   | Fish Pond                                                                         |
| 95     | 171/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.10     | Kandhimalla Padhmanabha Rao S/o Nagaiah                               | 171 1        | 171 1        | 171 171     |                   | Palm Trees-10                                                                     |
| 96     | 171/2 | Patta | Dry |          | Kandhimalla Ravi Kiran S/o Padhmanabha rao                            | 171 1        | 171 1        | 171 171     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 97     | 171/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.06 3/4 | Maridhu Venkates wara Rao S/o Gopaiah                                 | 171 1        | 171 1        | 171 171     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 98     | 171/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.06 3/4 | Maridhu Satyam S/o Gopaiah                                            | 171 1        | 171 1        | 171 171     |                   | Mango Trees-10                                                                    |
| 99     | 171/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.12 1/2 | Uyyuru Venkataiah S/o Chandrala                                       | 171 1        | 171 1        | 171 171     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 100    | 171/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.11 3/2 | Vemula Alekya D/o Venkata Venkata Ramarao                             | 171 1        | 171 1        | 171 171     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| Total: |       |       |     | 1.18     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |
| 101    | 170/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.15 1/4 | Vemula Alekya D/o Vemula Venkata Ramarao                              | 170 1        | 170 1        | 170 170     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 102    | 170/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.00 1/4 | Bayyaganti Survaiah S/o Narayana                                      | 170 1        | 170 1        | 170 170     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| 103    | 170/2 | Patta | Dry | 0.00 1/2 | Vemula Alekya D/o Vemula Venkata Ramarao                              | 170 1        | 170 1        | 170 170     |                   | Nil                                                                               |
| Total: |       |       |     | 0.16     |                                                                       |              |              |             |                   |                                                                                   |

regional and global peace and security were also discussed, indicating that the Iran conflict was among the topics that came up. The timing is crucial amid reports that Trump was considering relaunching strikes on Iran after talks for a peace deal, which is being mediated by Pakistan, failed to bear any fruit. "We discussed sustained progress in the India-US Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement and issues related to regional and global peace and security," PM Modi tweeted. "India and the United States will continue to work closely for the global good," he further said.



## Ayurveda and yoga restore balance

ASKARI JAFFER

In an age dominated by stress, overstimulation, and lifestyle disorders, yoga expert, speaker, and author Anita Dua believes the world is gradually returning to an ancient truth — wellness cannot exist in fragments. For her, true health is the harmony of body, mind, and spirit, a balance that both Ayurveda and Yoga have advocated for centuries.

With over three decades of experience practising and teaching Yoga, Anita Dua has emerged as a strong voice for integrating traditional wisdom into modern life. A disciple of legendary yogacharya B K S Iyengar, she trained at the prestigious Ramamani Iyengar Memorial Yoga Institute in the early 1990s. Her work today combines the therapeutic precision of Iyengar Yoga with the holistic principles of Ayurveda, encouraging people to rethink wellness beyond temporary fixes and fitness trends.

Her latest book, 'Power of Ayurveda and Yoga,' comes at a time when conversations around mental health, preventive healthcare, mindfulness, and holistic living are finding greater relevance across generations. According to Anita, the inspiration behind the book emerged from both personal experience and years of observing how disconnected people have become from their own natural rhythms.

"My yoga and pranayama practice of more than three decades has led me to a medicine-free life with a tranquil mind most of the time," she says. "It proves that Yoga and Ayurvedic practices are not merely wellness tools — they are complete, time-tested systems of healthy living."

For Anita, one of the greatest misconceptions surrounding these disciplines is the tendency to separate them. Yoga, she says, is often reduced to physical exercise, while Ayurveda is seen merely as herbal medicine. In reality, the two sciences complement one another deeply.

"Ayurveda is the science of life and longevity, while Yoga is the science of the

**Yoga expert and author Anita Dua believes Ayurveda and Yoga are not separate wellness practices but deeply connected sciences of balanced living. In a fast-paced, overstimulated world, she advocates returning to natural rhythms, mindful discipline, and holistic healing for lasting well-being**



mind," she explains. "One prepares the body and lifestyle for balance, while the other steadies consciousness and emotional well-being."

Drawing from the teachings of Sage Patanjali, Anita frequently refers to the Yoga Sutras to explain how Yoga was always intended to go far beyond physical postures.

**Yogah citta-vritti-nirodhah**

The sutra, she explains, describes Yoga as the calming of the fluctuations of the mind. According to Anita, the real transformation brought by Yoga and pranayama is gradual but deeply transformative. Better immunity, emotional stability, improved digestion, and mental clarity are simply natural outcomes of consistent practice.

"These are not quick-fix solutions. They require patience, discipline, and persistence," she says

Anita also believes the

growing interest in Ayurveda and Yoga among younger audiences reflects a larger cultural shift, particularly after the pandemic. Increasingly, people are becoming aware of the importance of sleep, digestion, emotional balance, and daily routine.

"There is a visible shift towards natural living," she says. "Young people today are more conscious about gut health, mindfulness, and reconnecting with nature."

She points out that Ayurveda has always emphasized rhythm — waking early, eating meals at regular times, spending time outdoors, and maintaining balance between activity and rest. These practices, she believes, are becoming increasingly relevant in a world driven by speed and constant stimulation. One of the central themes in her book is the Ayurvedic understanding of disease as Prajnaparadha, or "a mistake of the intellect."

Anita believes the concept



Anita Dua

perfectly describes modern lifestyles.

"We know what is unhealthy, yet we continue doing it. We sleep late scrolling through screens, eat irregularly, live under constant stress, and disconnect ourselves from nature," she says.

According to Ayurveda, these repeated choices disturb the body's balance, particularly Vata dosha, which governs the nervous system and mental activity. Over time, this imbalance manifests as anxiety, fatigue, digestive disorders, sleep disturbances, and chronic disease.

For Anita, healing begins not through extreme changes, but through conscious awareness and discipline.

"To wake up with the sun, eat mindfully, breathe deeply, move consciously, and create moments of silence — this is where healing begins," she says.

Discipline, she believes, is where most people struggle today. Modern life constantly encourages distraction, overstimulation, and instant gratification, making consistency difficult even when awareness exists.

"We already know what creates imbalance. "The real challenge is maintaining discipline in everyday

life," Anita explains. Yet she insists transformation does not require dramatic lifestyle overhauls. Small, sustainable practices — a few minutes of pranayama, timely meals, reducing screen exposure before sleep, spending time in nature — can gradually restore equilibrium.

"Yoga and Ayurveda are not asking us to withdraw from modern life. They are teaching us how to remain centred within it," she says.

At the heart of Anita Dua's philosophy is the belief that balance is humanity's natural state. The body, mind, and emotions are designed to function in harmony, but modern lifestyles continuously pull individuals away from that alignment.

"Either we consciously slow down and reconnect with nature's rhythm or eventually nature forces us to slow down through disease," she says.

In many ways, 'Power of Ayurveda and Yoga' is not simply a book about wellness practices. It is an invitation to return to simplicity, rhythm, and self-awareness — ancient principles that Anita Dua believes may hold the answers to many of modern life's deepest struggles.

## Cruelty-free haircare: The rising demand for natural henna creams



CLELIA CECILIA ANGELON

Hair colouring decisions used to be fairly simple for most people. If the shade looked good and covered greys properly, that was enough. Very few consumers paid attention to ingredient lists or thought much about how frequently those products were being used. That has slowly started changing.

When the use of a particular product becomes routine, certain things start coming to light, such as irritation of the scalp or dryness of the hair after prolonged usage. This rising consciousness about choices related to daily haircare practices is one reason why natural henna creams are gaining more room within contemporary hair care regimes.

### Cruelty-Free Beauty Is Becoming More Visible

Cruelty-free beauty is no longer something associated only with niche or alternative beauty spaces. People nowadays are much more conscious about how the products are manufactured, the testing methods used to produce those products, and the philosophy behind the brand itself.

Natural henna hair creams that combine Ayurveda with the biome of Brazilian plants blend naturally into this shift because they are rooted in plant-based ingredients and gentler-feeling haircare routines. Ingredients such as henna, aloe vera, hibiscus, and amla already feel familiar to many consumers looking for more balanced beauty choices. The addition of Brazilian botanical ingredients like guarana, açai, Brazilian nuts, and babassu oil further strengthens this combination by bringing together traditional Ayurvedic knowledge with the richness of Brazil's natural biodiversity. These ingredients are increasingly associated with nourishment, scalp comfort, hydration, and softer-feeling hair, making them appealing for consumers seeking more mindful and long-term haircare solutions.

For most people, these changes are gradual. They are



not trying to build perfect routines overnight. They simply want products that feel better suited for long-term use.

### People Are Getting Tired of Overly Harsh Haircare

A lot of consumers who colour their hair regularly eventually notice small changes. Hair starts feeling rougher than before. The scalp becomes uncomfortable more easily. Even washing routines begin feeling different after repeated colouring sessions. That experience is pushing many people towards gentler options.

Henna creams are increasingly becoming part of those conversations because they feel easier to include within long-term routines. Cream formats, especially, appeal to consumers who want convenience along with softer-feeling haircare. Conventional henna powder takes more effort to prepare, unlike creams, which are quicker and easier to use.

There is also familiarity attached to plant-based ingredients now. Henna, aloe vera, hibiscus, amla, and coconut-derived ingredients are no longer viewed as old-fashioned ingredients sitting quietly in traditional beauty spaces. They have become part of modern haircare discussions too.

Consumers today often prefer products that feel balanced rather than extremely aggressive. That does not mean they expect natural products to completely transform their hair overnight. Most people are simply looking for routines that feel easier to maintain

consistently.

### Ingredient Awareness Is Quietly Changing the Industry

One interesting shift happening across beauty categories is how carefully consumers now read ingredient labels. Earlier, most people ignored formulation details unless they had severe scalp sensitivity. Today, ingredient awareness has become much more common. This is especially true for products people use again and again over long periods of time.

Many consumers now actively look for brands with formulations that avoid ammonia and related chemicals such as ethanalamine, diethanolamine, and triethanolamine, which are often associated with faster and stronger colour processing. Many brands are also becoming more selective about their ingredient choices, avoiding large numbers of substances that do not fit within their overall formulation approach.

What is interesting is that this shift often comes from experience more than trends. People notice when their scalp feels irritated repeatedly. They notice when hair starts feeling excessively dry after regular colouring. Eventually, those experiences influence purchasing decisions.

Haircare today feels less rushed than before. Consumers still want good colour results, of course, but they are thinking more carefully about what comes with those results too.

*(The writer is a founder & CEO of Surya Brasil)*

## Shivaleeka Oberoi documents her pregnancy journey: '9 months in a blink of an eye'

Actress Shivaleeka Oberoi, who welcomed her first bundle of joy in April, shared a glimpse into her pregnancy journey through a heartfelt video montage.

Shivaleeka shared a video, which began with the words "Growing my greatest love." The clip captured her baby bump's evolution from five weeks to 38 weeks.

The video then showed her bump slowly growing as she documented her pregnancy journey with text overlays that read: "5 weeks, 8 weeks, 11 weeks, 20 weeks, 28 weeks, 38 weeks."

She captioned the clip: "9 months in a blink of an eye. I was creating a life while life recreated me!"

On May 19, Shivaleeka and her filmmaker husband Abhishek Pathak revealed that they have named their newborn daughter Aarika, which symbolises grace, abundance, prosperity, and divine beauty.

Shivaleeka and Abhishek shared two pictures of themselves along with their "greatest blessing" in a collaborative post on Instagram.

The post was captioned: "Introducing our greatest blessing Aarika Pathak.

Aarika carries the essence of Goddess Lakshmi — symbolising grace, abundance, prosperity, and divine beauty."

The post further read: "Born on 19.04.2026 the auspicious day of Akshaya Tritiya, it all feels so beautifully and divinely connected — as if the universe planned it this way all along. She is everything we ever dreamed of and more. Grateful, blessed, and completely in love...all over again!"

The couple had announced in December last year that they are set to become parents for the first time on a post on social media, which read: "Our love story has found its sweetest verse — a tiny blessing is joining our universe (Baby angel, evil eye and Dizzy emojis) (sic)."

Abhishek and Shivaleeka first met during the shoot of their 2020 film "Khuda Hafiz", which stars Vidhut Jammwal. They exchanged rings in July 2022 and finally got married in February 2023.

The couple got married in a private ceremony in Goa in the presence of their family and close friends, including actor Ajay Devgn.



## Triptii Dimri says 'Maa Behen' reminded her of two women unfairly judged by society

Bollywood actress Triptii Dimri opened up about the emotional connection she felt with 'Maa Behen', revealing how two women, who were "unfairly judged" by society, from her childhood society, inspired her character.

The actress said during the trailer launch of the upcoming film "Maa Behen", that the women were judged for being single and independent.

Triptii said at the trailer launch: "When sir narrated the story to me, I told him that there were two women in my society who were single, didn't have parents, and were considered a little fashionable for those times. People would call them names."

"As kids, we were told, 'You can't go to them, don't be friends with them, don't go near their house, it's dangerous.' That stayed with me somewhere. When 'Maa Behen' came along, it was the image of those two girls that I had in my mind."

She added: "I was like, 'I have to be a part of this film,' because society judged them for no reason. If I could get a chance to apologise to them, I think this is my chance."

On Saturday, she shared a string of images of herself from the trailer launch and showcased the whole "Maa Behen" drama.

"It was all smiles, fun and a whole lot of Maa Behen drama #MaaBehen trailer out now," Triptii captioned the images on Instagram.

The chaotic crime-comedy 'Maa Behen' also stars Madhuri Dixit Nene. It will release on June 4 on Netflix.



Along with Triptii and Madhuri, the film also Dharna Durgaa, and Ravi Kishan in pivotal roles. They are joined by Geetanjali Kulkarni, Arunoday Singh, and Shardul Bhardwaj.

Premiering on June 4, at the heart of "Maa Behen" is Rekha, a mother

who's already juggling enough until life throws her the ultimate curveball, a dead body in her kitchen. With her two daughters, Jaya, the responsible one, and Sushma, the wild card, this trio must think fast, lie faster, and somehow keep their nosy neighbors from sniffing out the truth.

# Wealth without well-being: the paradox of India’s elderly

Tej Singh Kardam

IN India, senior citizens often find themselves in a paradoxical situation. Indians born in the pre-liberalisation era grew up in a time of scarcity and limited economic opportunities. In this situation their upbringing instilled a deep-seated habit of saving and an aversion to spending. For them, wealth accumulation was not just about financial security but also a means of pacifying their fears about their unknown future needs.

Despite possessing significant assets and savings, many lead frugal lives, unwilling to enjoy the wealth they have painstakingly accumulated. This has resulted in them ‘dying rich but not living rich’. This is particularly prevalent among older generations, who, despite being financially sound, feel insecure and choose to live with a cautious, conservative approach. While the younger generation is moving away from traditional investments like real estate and gold, the elderly remain emotionally attached to these assets.

Possible reasons as to why senior citizens tend to die rich rather than living rich:

**Living modestly despite wealth:**

Many senior citizens in India continue to live modestly despite being financially sound. They often prioritise frugality and self-denial, driven by concerns about potential medical expenses, longevity, and the need to support their children or grandchildren. This conservative approach can lead to an unnecessarily restricted lifestyle, where seniors deny themselves the comforts and experiences they could easily afford. The fear of outliving their

The biggest gift seniors can give their children is not a house or a gold chain but life well-lived. The irony is that many senior citizens live frugally, sacrificing pleasures, only to die wealthy. They were in a way, poor in life but rich in death. There is a need for senior citizens to focus on personal well-being and happiness.

savings, or the possibility of an unexpected medical emergency wiping out their wealth, often looms large in their minds.

**Emotional factors:**

Senior citizens have retained their emotional attachment to traditional investments. They often see real estate and gold as tangible assets that provide a sense of security, stability and returns in the form of rent. These assets hold sentimental value and are associated with memories and legacy. The older generation grew up in an era when these investments were the primary wealth-building tools, making it harder for them to break away from this mindset. In addition to emotional attachment, they tend to invest heavily in traditional assets - real estate and gold, viewing them as symbols of security and legacy. However, this emotional attachment makes these assets illiquid, leaving them unable to generate regular income for day-to-day comfort.

**Invisible burdens-Inflation, healthcare and over-giving:**

Beyond emotional letdowns, there is the real challenge of rising costs. Medical inflation in India is growing faster than general inflation. A single health emergency can wipe out years

of savings. Many senior citizens also deplete their retirement funds supporting their children’s education, business or weddings. While done with love, it can leave them financially vulnerable later in life.

**Generational shift:**

Younger generations today value mobility over inheritance, convenience over nostalgia. They are choosing apartments near work, rental flexibility and minimalist living over ancestral homes. The generational shift in financial thinking leaves many senior citizens feeling disconnected and even disappointed.

**Changing trends and priorities:**

The younger generation, in contrast to their elders, prefer simplicity and minimalism. The next generation are witnessing a significant shift in their investment preferences as well. They are moving away from traditional investments, which were once considered safe and reliable. Instead, they are exploring new avenues such as stock, mutual funds, income plans and even cryptocurrency. This shift can be attributed to various factors, including the desire for higher returns, ease of diversification and the influence of global investment trends.

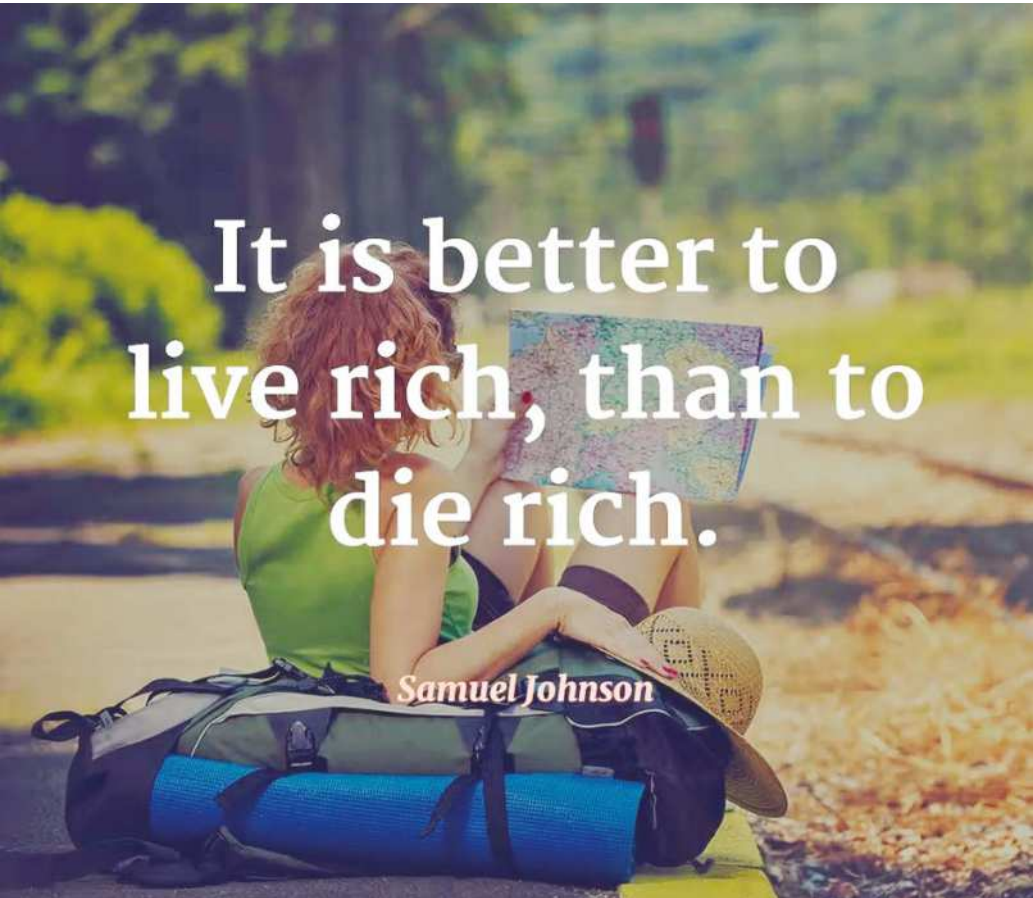
One such example of the

younger generation not being interested in traditional assets is of one senior citizen, who died aged 85. His wife had predeceased him. One son lives in London and the other in New Zealand. They have the nationality of those countries. Neither was interested in the house their father had built in his prime age.

The father had written a will before his death to give all the property equally to both his children. The sons did not have time to get all the property in their names and then sell it. Both made a power of attorney to sell the property in someone’s name. Thereafter the proceeds from the sale of the property were sent to their home country.

**Benefits of financial planning:**

It is important that senior citizens live life to the fullest and explore the reasons behind their emotional investments. It is high time they understand the changing taste and priorities of the younger generation and the rising costs faced by senior citizens. There is a need for the senior citizens to utilise a portion of their wealth for their own comfort and happiness. Going for financial planning like having a well-structured retirement plan can ensure that they have enough funds set-aside for emergencies and long-term



care, while allocating money for travel, leisure and other personal interests. The seniors should explore annuity plans; systematic withdrawal plans from mutual funds with a steady income stream without depleting their core assets. Ultimately, Indian senior citizens need to prioritise their own well-being and happiness, breaking free from the cycle of living economically to make the next generation rich.

**Self-care and setting an example:**

Retirement should be about fulfilment. Senior citizens should travel, pursue hobbies, attend cultural events, or just

enjoy quiet time with friends. These are not luxuries but are essential to a rich life. They should not forget the power of community like joining clubs, senior networks for emotional support, to combat loneliness and foster a sense of belonging. By prioritising their own well-being, embracing change, and spending meaningfully, they can rewrite what ageing looks like. They can prove that it’s possible to live rich - not just financially but emotionally and spiritually. The biggest gift seniors can give their children is not a house or a gold chain but life well-lived.

The irony is that many senior

citizens live frugally, sacrificing pleasures, only to die wealthy. They were in a way, poor in life but rich in death.

There is a need for senior citizens to focus on personal well-being and happiness, diversification into annuities, mutual funds, and income plans to balance financial security with comfort and enjoyment, in addition to balancing the children’s education etc.

Further they should break free from the habit of extreme thrift, enjoy the fruits of their hard work, and “live rich” rather than merely “die rich”.

(The writer is a retired IFS officer)

# Homage to K S Gopal, the architect of sustainable development and agricultural innovation

## His pioneering SWAR irrigation framework earned UNESCO laurels

VANAM JWALA  
NARASIMHA RAO

DURING the 1990s, while serving as a faculty member at the Dr MCR HRD Institute, I was tasked with planning a training program on the ‘Role of NGOs in Rural Development.’ The singular, exceptional expert who immediately came to my mind, and whom numerous professional colleagues strongly recommended was KS Gopal. By then, he was steering the Hyderabad-based Centre for Environment Concerns (CEC).

Established in 1984 by a visionary group of activists, the CEC was dedicated to pioneering innovations, fresh ideas, and ‘next practices’ in the development sector. The broad areas of their operations encompassed poverty alleviation, rural development, environmental sustainability, and inclusive markets to enhance livelihoods.

Through these pillars, they aimed to regenerate natural resources in rain-fed, agriculturally backward dry land areas. The process they envisaged was driven by multi-disciplinary action research, field-level pilots, and a strategic mix of policy and practice advocacy. Against this dynamic backdrop, Gopal joined CEC as its director in 1993. Since joining, he spearheaded initiatives in participatory forest development, foreign funding research in erstwhile Andhra Pradesh, later in Telangana, and local cereal-based community grain banks. His expertise included environmental hotspots, civil society advocacy, soil en-

richment, organic agriculture, chemical-free forestry pest management etc. He also worked extensively on optimal utilisation of River Godavari waters.

Though he passed away at the age of 72 years, his vibrant energy remained undiminished until about six months prior to the tragic day. Since our first meeting, we have enjoyed a lifelong friendship. He was always the life of small gatherings with like-minded friends. He thoroughly enjoyed a social drink and a smoke, generously sharing joyful, unreserved moments with his closest companions.

Gopal left an indelible mark on everyone he touched, and his profound influence will stay with his friends, including me, forever.

Upon hearing the news of his passing on May 16, I visited his residence, offered condolences to his wife, before paying my last respects at the crematorium. Our bond was deeply academic. We shared ideas. Whenever we met, whether at Dr Utla Balaji’s house, my flat, Dr AP Ranga Rao’s residence (later Dr Bharat’s), or Sashi’s home, our discussions were invariably intense yet stimulating. They ranged broadly from politics to development, driven by Gopal’s passion.

We shared an intellectual ‘common ground,’ where Gopal was the undisputed leader. However, the ‘actual physical ground’ he chose once, for his groundbreaking ‘System of Water for Agriculture Rejuvenation (SWAR)’ irrigation experiment was a 1000-square-yard mini-farm near the Chilkoor Balaji temple. His pri-



**He foresaw generic commodities transforming into branded ‘Farm-to-Fork’ (Farm-to-Table) products, moving directly, or with minimal steps, from a local farm to the consumer’s plate. However, he warned that this transformation would be aggressively driven by big players with deep pockets, smart information and communications technology systems, and remote management tools. He remarked that whoever commands the marketplace will ultimately dictate the future of our rural economy. Gopal cautioned that a handful of mega-corporations often end up controlling the entire value chain, squeezing farmers, intermediaries, and consumers alike**

mary focus was always irrigation water efficiency, which he firmly believed was structurally linked to soil and plant root health.

The core concept was delivering water directly to the root zone with minimal waste.

As a first-of-its-kind system, SWAR provided measured moisture to the

roots, cutting water use by 50 per cent compared to standard drip irrigation for horticulture and agroforestry crops. He advocated precise moisture delivery tailored to different soils and crop cycles. When he casually mentioned this seven years ago, I offered our mini farm. Gopal self-funded the entire project, covering all installation and fertilizer expenses.

While I was working with Telangana’s first Chief Minister, K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR’s), as his CPRO, Gopal in July 2019 discussed with me a CEC study on the effective use of water for Telangana’s prosperous agriculture. This coincided with KCR’s massive re-engineering of irrigation projects to ensure state-wide water supply. Gopal’s insights directly complemented KCR government’s plans to establish specialized crop colonies for efficient, high-quality agricultural service delivery.

In that context, Gopal presented a distinctive proposal: the Kharif season should focus on pulses, coarse cereals, millets, and fodder, boosting productivity through quality seeds, protective irrigation, and sustainable farming practices. Conversely, during Rabi, canal-fed flood irrigation could support crops like paddy, wheat, and cotton. Additionally, he favoured agro forestry to simultaneously enhance farmer incomes and restore local ecology.

Again, in June 2020, aligning with KCR’s initiatives, Gopal proposed the framework of ‘Right Interventions for Regulatory Farming.’

This concept emerged against the backdrop of 24/7 quality power supply, unprecedented paddy harvests, and landmark agricultural welfare schemes like Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima. During this period, KCR suggested strategically converging MGNREGS with core farming operations to directly support landowners while simultaneously securing employment for agricultural labour.

Gopal, who contributed significantly to the evolution of MGNREGS, analysed that the Indian agricultural ecosystem was undergoing deep, structural shifts. These changes spanned procurement models, crop diversification, urban dietary demands, mechanization, and modern supply chains. In this rapidly evolving landscape, he focused on how to social-engineer and unleash human creativity toward building a more equitable rural economy. For him, the pathways and opportunities were always plenty.

He shared an insightful perspective regarding the Research and Innovation Circle Hyderabad (RICH). He envisioned RICH, designed to take lab research from Telangana’s top scientific institutions to the market, as a potent force multiplier. For him, this ecosystem could empower a vast number of young people to secure meaningful livelihoods while remaining deeply connected, with their feet and hearts, to the soil.

The strategic suggestions made by Gopal, which we so deeply debated, did not remain confined to our private conversations. Beyond

bringing his visionary ideas directly to the notice of the Chief Minister, who responded with a highly positive, considerate, and accommodating approach, I also documented them from time to time, extensively in detailed articles published across mainstream platforms to ensure they reached a wider audience.

When major agricultural reforms, including the ‘One Nation, One Market’ framework, amendments to the Essential Commodities Act, contract farming, and public-private partnerships for storage infrastructure were proposed in July 2020 under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, Gopal observed that the sector was on the cusp of a structural shift. He noted that traditional peasantry farming was rapidly giving way to corporate agri-business.

He opined that farmers could no longer rely on Minimum Support Price (MSP) or assured government procurement. Instead, the sector would transition into an era of customized production, dynamic price discovery, and nationally integrated markets dominated by large corporations, food chains, and exporters. He foresaw generic commodities transforming into branded ‘Farm-to-Fork’ (Farm-to-Table) products, moving directly, or with minimal steps, from a local farm to the consumer’s plate.

However, he warned that this transformation would be aggressively driven by big players with deep pockets, smart information and communications technology systems, and remote management

tools. He remarked that whoever commands the marketplace will ultimately dictate the future of our rural economy. Gopal cautioned that a handful of mega-corporations often end up controlling the entire value chain, squeezing farmers, intermediaries, and consumers alike.

He often said, ‘Markets are brutal, fierce battlegrounds. Their architecture decides who thrives, who benefits, and who is ultimately subjugated or decimated.’

To illustrate this grim reality, he shared a striking real-life story he personally encountered. In the academic and corporate realms, Gopal was a highly qualified management specialist, with MBA and a Diploma in International Trade. He shared his vast practical knowledge as a faculty member at ASCI and a ‘Scholar-in-Residence’ at TISS, eventually delivering guest lectures at world-renowned institutions like Oxford and York.

Gopal served on the EPTRI Governing Council and NIRD Research Council. He founded the IDL Rural Development Trust, co-founded the Deccan Development Society (DDS), and promoted communal harmony in Hyderabad. His pioneering SWAR irrigation framework won international accolades, including from UNESCO, leading to his frequent participation in high-level forums convened by the World Bank, UN, UNEP and FAO.

Gopal’s loss leaves a deep void. His revolutionary practical ideas nurture our soil.





It is the essence of genius to  
make use of the simplest ideas  
— Charles Péguy

# Different Strokes

## A guide to exploring Seattle during FIFA 2026: Sports, culture and sightseeing



City, Credit- David Newman



Waterfront Park Seattle-Photo by Hannah Te courtesy Friends of Waterfront Park

Seattle is set to experience a landmark year in 2026 as it becomes one of the host cities for FIFA World Cup 26™, transforming the city into a global hub of football, culture, and celebration. Known for its vibrant sports culture and walkable urban core, Seattle offers visitors a unique blend of high-energy matches, iconic landmarks, and immersive local experiences.

At the heart of the action is Lumen Field, known during events as Seattle Stadium. The venue will host six World Cup matches between June and July, including four group-stage fixtures featuring top international

teams such as the USA vs Australia on June 19 and Iran vs Egypt on June 26. The stadium sits in the city center, making it easily accessible for fans and turning the surrounding district into a festival-like atmosphere throughout the tournament.

Beyond the matches, Seattle will come alive with official fan celebration zones across locations like Seattle Center, Pacific Place, Waterfront Park, and SoDo's Victory Hall. These free public spaces will feature live match screenings, food stalls, entertainment, and community events starting June 11, creating a citywide festival of football.

Seattle's sports identity



Lumen Field, Credit- Brittany Carchano

extends well beyond the World Cup. The city is home to teams like the Seahawks (NFL), Sounders FC, and Reign FC, with Seattle Mariners representing Major League Baseball at nearby T-Mobile Park. Game days across the city are marked by lively sports bars such as Flatstick Pub, Atlantic Crossing, and The George & Dragon Pub, where fans gather to watch global and local matches in a spirited atmosphere.

Between matches, visitors can explore the city's most iconic attractions. A must-visit is Pike Place Market, where fresh produce, artisan stalls, and historic charm define Seattle's food culture. Nearby, the

revitalized waterfront offers scenic views, public art, and attractions like the Seattle Great Wheel and immersive experiences along Overlook Walk.

At the cultural core of downtown lies Seattle Center, home to major landmarks including the Space Needle, the futuristic Chihuly Garden and Glass, and the interactive Museum of Pop Culture (MOPOP). Together, these sites showcase Seattle's mix of innovation, creativity, and entertainment.

For dining and nightlife, Pioneer Square offers refined options such as modern Indian cuisine and contemporary Pacific Northwest dining, along with theaters, concerts, and

performances at venues like Climate Pledge Arena and McCaw Hall.

Additional experiences include panoramic city views from Smith Tower, historical insights at the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, and cultural exploration at the Wing Luke Museum in Chinatown-International District. For a quieter escape, Capitol Hill offers Volunteer Park, the historic Water Tower observation deck, and the Seattle Asian Art Museum.

With its combination of world-class football, cultural depth, and scenic urban exploration, Seattle in 2026 promises an unforgettable experience for sports fans and travellers alike.

## ‘B Nagi Reddi: A Son’s Memoir’ – A heartfelt tribute to a visionary legend

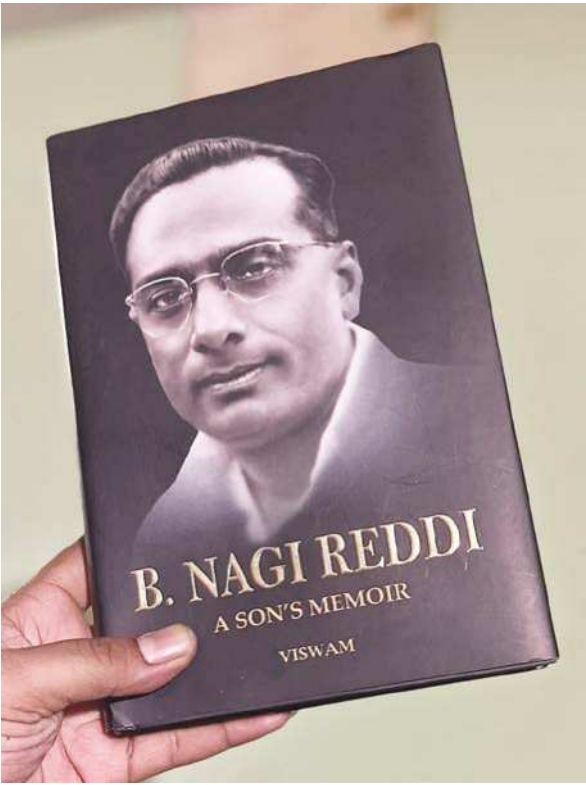
SUHAS SISTU

B Nagi Reddi: A Son's Memoir is far more than a conventional biography. Written by B. Viswanatha Reddi, popularly known as Viswam, the book offers an emotionally rich and deeply researched account of the life of legendary filmmaker, publisher, and philanthropist B. Nagi Reddi. Instead of glorifying the icon with exaggerated mythology, the memoir focuses on presenting a grounded and authentic portrait of a man who played a monumental role in shaping Indian cinema, publishing, and healthcare.

Structured across 37 chapters, the book traces Nagi Reddi's inspiring journey from a small village in Andhra Pradesh to becoming one of the most respected names in South Indian cinema. His story unfolds like one of the magical tales from Chandamama, the beloved children's magazine he co-founded alongside Chakrapani. The memoir beautifully captures how traditional values, discipline, and compassion became the foundation of his remarkable life.

One of the strongest aspects of the book is the way it expands beyond cinema. While readers get fascinating insights into the making of iconic films and the establishment of Vijaya Studios, the narrative also highlights Nagi Reddi's achievements as the founder of Vijaya Hospital and a pioneering force in Indian publishing. The book reveals how he successfully balanced creativity, entrepreneurship, and philanthropy without ever losing his humility.

The memoir also serves as an important historical document, chronicling the growth of Chennai and the South Indian film industry



during the second half of the 20th century. Through anecdotes shared by colleagues, employees, and close associates, readers gain a rare behind-the-scenes look at the evolution of filmmaking, magazine publishing, and business culture during that era.

Viswam's writing style remains crisp, factual, and emotionally sincere throughout the book. Rather than relying on dramatic embellishments, he allows real incidents and personal memories to speak for themselves. This restrained storytelling approach adds credibility and emotional depth to the narrative. The book consistently portrays Nagi Reddi as a "karma yogi" — a man who never claimed personal credit for his achievements and always acknowledged the contribution of his team members.

Another compelling

element is the insight into Viswam's own legacy. As the longtime publisher of Chandamama, he expanded the magazine into multiple languages, including Braille editions, helping generations of children connect with storytelling and culture. His contributions to publishing, social welfare, and public service further strengthen the memoir's emotional authenticity.

What makes B. Nagi Reddi: A Son's Memoir truly engaging is its ability to combine personal emotion with historical importance. It is not merely a tribute from a son to his father, but a valuable record of an extraordinary personality who left an unforgettable mark on Indian society. For readers interested in Indian cinema history, publishing, philanthropy, and inspiring real-life journeys, this memoir stands out as a must-read and deeply rewarding experience.

## Magical fingers on the harmonium



Pandit Ratan Sharma with son Govind, granddaughters Jyothi and Devika

JAYWANT NAIDU

Pandit Ratan Sharma, lovingly known in music circles as the "Harmonium Master," carries a legacy that blends tradition, devotion, and generations of musical excellence. A proud mentor to his granddaughters Jyothi Sharma and Devika Sharma—both rising stars in the world of Indian music—he finds his greatest joy not in accolades, but in their achievements.

Recalling his formative years, Ratan Sharma speaks with reverence about his gurus. "My teacher in Ujjain, Guru Kaluram, was a Sarangi player who always said, 'Khane ke saath daal hona aur sanget ke saath taal hona'—there should be daal in food and rhythm in music," he reflects. Later, his journey took him to Mumbai, where he trained under Guru Mohan Singh, a respected name in the Hindi film recording circuit. "If my fingers move on the harmonium at this breathtaking speed, it is all due to his blessings," he



Pandit Ratan Sharma on his 70 year old Harmonium

says humbly. His vintage harmonium, first played in 1955, remains his most cherished companion. With visible wear on its wooden keys, it stands as a silent witness to decades of dedication. "Yeh mera saathi hai," he says fondly—this is my partner.

For Ratan Sharma, his greatest pride is his family's musical ascent. Jyothi Sharma has already made a mark as a finalist on Suron Ka Eklavya 22 (DD National), winner of the 6th edition Khazana Ghazal Festival,

recipient of the Yuva Pratibha Singing Talent Hunt 2023 by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, and finalist of the Asha Ki Asha International Talent Hunt. Her sister Devika Sharma is also emerging as a promising young artist with a bright future ahead.

The family's musical thread is further strengthened by his son Govind Sharma, a tabla player who also manages the performances and schedules of the young artistes, ensuring their talents reach wider audiences. Ratan Sharma's journey has also placed him alongside legends, having shared musical spaces with ghazal maestro Ghulam Ali and Vithal Rao. Today, he continues to dedicate his time to teaching students at his home near Kabutar Khana in Hyderabad. "It is my duty to teach the younger generation as a tribute to my gurus who gave me everything about music and life," he says, embodying the spirit of a true custodian of tradition—where every note played is a continuation of a timeless legacy.

## Jasmine and Jetstreams: The calm of Chennai, the energy of Hyderabad

JYOTSNA HARISH

Here's a unique tale of two South Indian cities—Chennai and Hyderabad. Both attract talent and investments. Comparing them helps you see which city aligns with your vibes and supports your academic, career, and lifestyle goals.

The educational landscape of Chennai is built on tradition. It features prominent institutions such as IIT Madras, Anna University, Madras Christian College, and Ethiraj College for Women. These provide a strong base in engineering, arts, and research. Over 30 deemed universities add to this strength. The city has led in medical education through CMC Vellore, AIIMS, and private universities like SRM and VIT. Most schools follow the CBSE or a state board. There is a strong focus on coaching for JEE and NEET exams.

Meanwhile, Hyderabad has quickly closed the gap with Chennai. Institutions like IIT Hyderabad, BITS Pilani Hyderabad, IIIT Hyderabad, and ISB support research and startups. Mahindra, Woxsen, and NMIMS universities add to the city's educational landscape. IB, IGCSE, and CBSE International and national board schools are common in busy areas like HiTech City, Gachibowli, and Miyapur. These schools serve many IT families.

While Chennai still leads in research output,



Hyderabad has made inroads, particularly with industry-linked programs. Turning to healthcare and culture, Chennai stands out for hospitals such as Apollo, Fortis, GH, and Stanley, making it the city with the most hospitals in India. It attracts almost 45 per cent of India's medical tourists. Low-cost health care in facilities for heart, cancer, and transplant care is boosting the healthcare sector's popularity.

The city is also known for its beaches like Marina, Akkarai, and Besant Nagar. Chennai's classical arts scene is strong, thanks to sabhas that promote Carnatic music and Bharatanatyam dance. However, the city is less welcoming to speakers of other languages than Hyderabad, and languages such as Telugu, Malayalam, Hindi, Gujarati, and Bengali are mostly found in small areas. However, Chennai faces persistent urban challenges. These include flooding during the monsoon, water shortages in summer, and ageing drainage systems. Poor garbage segregation worsens these issues. The city's waste

management is inconsistent. This is seen in dump yards at Perungudi in the south and Kodungaiyur in the north.

Compared to Chennai, the city of pearls stands out for its efficient roads and cost-effectiveness. Commuting is easier thanks to the Outer Ring Road and wide main roads. Its water supply, sourced from the Godavari-Krishna projects, is more reliable than Chennai's, although certain areas in the Old City and northern suburbs still face pressure issues. Healthcare infrastructure is expanding, with major hospitals such as AIG, Yashoda, and KIMS.

Compared to residents of many other Indian cities, Hyderabad is generally more welcoming to speakers of other languages. One can hear Hindi, Telugu, Urdu, and English widely spoken. However, lake encroachment and traffic jams in HiTech City are becoming increasingly serious.

Looking more closely at transport, the Chennai Metro covers 54.1 km. It has two main lines, Blue and Green, and 41 stations. These connect the city to its suburbs, including



the airport, train stations, and business areas such as Alandur and Koyambedu. Phase II, a 118.9-km expansion, is underway but slow, causing traffic and road issues. Metro ridership is currently about 2.6 lakh daily, which is low for a big city.

Compared to Chennai and other major Indian cities, Hyderabad Metro Phase 1 runs on a 69.2 km network. It links key residential, business, and IT areas through three elevated lines: Red, Blue, and Green. It is India's largest public-private partnership metro. The metro serves about 4.7 lakh riders daily, making it a strong public transport option. Its main drawback is that it does not connect to the airport or the Old City.

Beyond infrastructure, the good mornings of Chennai are threaded with small rituals. Office-goers pause at roadside temples to touch brass bells and offer a quick prayer; flower vendors cluster near bus stops and railway stations, exchanging jasmine garlands for a few rupees; women tuck blooms into their hair, and men buy garlands for home altars. These gestures slow the city's

pace and bind people to place.

In contrast, Hyderabad's mornings emphasise efficiency, unlike more leisurely cities. People grab quick coffees, go for runs along the Outer Ring Road, and take the fast metro or shuttle to workplaces. While temples and flower sellers are present, most commuters focus on their schedules and reaching their destinations quickly. Unlike in some other cities, ritual stops are less common.

Bringing these aspects together, Chennai offers long-standing educational institutions, a strong healthcare system, and rich cultural traditions, but faces ongoing infrastructure and environmental challenges. In comparison, Hyderabad offers a dynamic, fast-growing environment in these areas, but each city has its trade-offs.

Each city will influence your daily routines, from how you start your morning to the small, meaningful habits you keep—like putting jasmine in your hair at sunrise or giving a quick nod to a colleague on the metro as the city moves around you.

# The real battle is within



RAJYOGI BRAHMA KUMAR  
NIKUNJ JI

In the present world many people consider survival and security as prime values. They argue that if a person does not survive, then what value the other values have for him. In a similar vein, they further argue that if a person lives in a state of constant insecurity and fear, then what is the charm, the joy, the fun or the zest in living? Because the quality of life of a man in fear is like that of a man in a state of suspended animation and it's not at all cherish able, relishable, enjoyable or valuable. On the other hand, there are other people who question the contention of the former kind of people. The questions they raise are that 'after all what is the purpose of survival?' & 'what is the goal of life?'. Further they ask 'what do we want to achieve by living or while living?'. They argue

that the difference between a human being and an animal is narrowed down to zero if man also, like other animals, is concerned primarily and mainly about his physical survival only. They feel that there should be some higher and nobler aim of human existence & that there should be something more worthy for humans to be achieved. Arguing thus, they ask: If personal survival is the main value, then why do military men endanger their own survival or sacrifice their life at the battle-front in order to keep intact the sovereignty of the nation? Again, why did the heroes of Indian Freedom Struggle happily embraced death for the sake of independence of their motherland? Why did kings in the olden times, give up their palaces and bodyguards and go to the forest in pursuit of truth, endangering their life, knowing well that there were tigers and lions there? With these questions in mind, they further argue that why should man have fear if he has moral and spiritual strength and has good relations with all the human beings? Because fear, they assert, arises from guilt-consciousness, suspicion or enmity. So, man should be free from these negativities rather than have additional negative tendencies or emotion, namely fear

**Survival as the basic human value is contrasted with the need for higher moral and spiritual goals in life. It emphasizes overcoming fear and negativity through ethical living, self-control, and universal brotherhood to achieve true peace and happiness**

because one's survival should normally be an assured thing if one's actions are in harmony with other beings, with the environment and with the moral and physical laws. Each one of us must understand a fact that our life and death, or survival and happiness, are governed by the law of Karma and if our karma is good, why should we fear? Because death will surely come to all on one fixed day; why should then we not sleep well night after night?

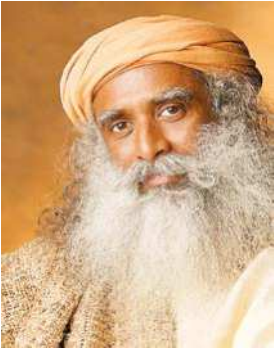
Today, what makes the world-situation peaceless is that mankind has not yet been able to realise the truth that the factors that lead nations to race for military superiority build-up of weapons and subjugation of other people and their territories are religious bigotry, scramble for power or spirit of revenge. Because of his lust for power, man cheats himself of happiness. It is a pity that he easily

forgets that the power of arms or money without the power to rule one's own mind is worse than evil. Also, man does not realise that the political power without the power to rule one's physical senses and without the intent to use power for human good, leads to turmoil. Remember! lasting happiness of the human race depends not on power to dominate others but on his mastery over his demoniac traits. So, the rub of the matter is that man needs to be reminded in an effective manner that if he does not kill the demons of hate, anger and war with the weapons of love and universal brotherhood, the demons would kill mankind.

*(Writer is a spiritual educator and popular columnist for publications across India, USA, UK, Australia, South Africa, Canada & Mauritius. 9500+ Published Columns have been written by Him.)*



## Envy and compassion



SADHGURU

The fundamental nature of jealousy or envy is that you feel inadequate. Envy is: somebody has something that you would like to have or somebody has something more than what you have. If you are very blissful you would not be envious of anybody. Right now, somebody seems to have or you assume that they have something more than you and you feel less than them. So, envy can exist only if somebody else is there who is better than you. If you are here by yourself, envy cannot happen. But compassion is not like that. Compassion can happen even if nobody is here. Let us take away this understanding that compassion is some kind of sympathy or empathy or pity. Passion means total involvement with something. When we say passion, people are only thinking man-woman passion. No. When you are passionately involved with something, nothing else exists for you. Passion means unbridled involvement with something. It could be anything; you can sing passionately, you can dance passionately, you can do your gardening passionately, you can read a book passionately, or you can just walk passionately. So, it does not mean any specific activity as such nor does it mean any particular area of life. It is just that you have deep sense of involvement. Compassion means it is an all-encompassing passion. That means your passion is no more

**Envy arises from comparison and a sense of inadequacy, which disappears in the absence of others to compare with. It contrasts this with compassion, described as a deep, all-encompassing, and non-discriminatory state of passionate involvement with all aspects of life**



discriminatory. Whatever is in touch with you right now, you are deeply passionate with that. Whatever it is, if you look at something you are not just casually looking at anything; there is nothing like casual in your life. Everything is with total passion. You breathe with passion, you walk with passion, you live with passion; your very existence is with absolute involvement with everything. This is compassion. This has got nothing to do with anybody. Even if nobody is here you can live in great compassion. But if nobody is here, you cannot live enviously. You need somebody to cause that for you – you need help. So, you are sympathetic with them when they have fallen down but when they stand up you do not like it. It is from this basis that all

charity has come. Do not try to handle sympathy and compassion and all these things. Just develop unbridled passion towards everything. Do not understand passion as this person. Understand passion as anything that is in touch with you right now. The very cloth that you wear, the very air that you breathe, the very food that you eat, the very earth that you walk upon, just practice some passion. Just be passionate about everything. When it is unbridled, it is not entangling any more. *(Sadhguru is a Yogi, mystic, and Padma Vibhushan awardee, also known for his New York Times bestselling books. He founded Conscious Planet- Save Soil, the world's largest people's movement, impacting over 4 billion people)*

## The world is not enough when courage has no limits



SHIV RAJVANSHI

In every era of human history, progress has belonged to those who possessed the courage to challenge limits. Empires were built, discoveries were made, revolutions were ignited, and impossible dreams became reality because someone, somewhere, decided not to surrender to fear. The phrase “The World Is Not Enough If You Have the Courage” perfectly captures this spirit of limitless ambition and fearless determination. It is not simply a motivational line; it is a philosophy that defines the difference between those who merely exist and those who truly create impact. Courage is one of the rarest qualities in the modern world. In an age where people constantly seek comfort, security, and validation, courage demands something different the willingness to take risks, embrace uncertainty, and move forward despite fear. Most people wait for perfect timing, guaranteed success, or universal approval before taking action. Courageous individuals understand that perfect moments rarely exist. They create opportunities through belief, resilience, and action. The world often teaches people to think within boundaries. From childhood, individuals are conditioned to follow safe paths, avoid failure, and choose stability over passion. Society celebrates achievement but frequently discourages risk-taking. Yet, every extraordinary success story has emerged from someone refusing to



accept ordinary limitations. Whether it was inventors changing technology, entrepreneurs disrupting industries, athletes breaking records, or artists redefining creativity, courage has always been the driving force behind transformation. True courage is not the absence of fear. Fear is natural. Fear accompanies every major decision, every new beginning, and every uncertain journey. Courage simply means refusing to let fear control destiny. Some of the most successful people in the world have openly admitted that they faced rejection, uncertainty, and setbacks repeatedly. What separated them from others was their ability to continue moving forward when others stopped. Today's generation has access to opportunities unlike any previous era. Digital platforms, global connectivity, artificial intelligence, entrepreneurship, and innovation have opened doors that were unimaginable decades ago. A student from a small town can build a global business. A creator with a smartphone can influence millions. An entrepreneur with an idea can disrupt billion-dollar industries. Yet, despite these opportunities, many still hesitate because fear remains stronger than

ambition. The reality is that success has never belonged only to the most talented people. Talent without courage often remains hidden. Intelligence without action produces no impact. Courage transforms potential into achievement. A person willing to fail, learn, and rise again will always move ahead of someone who remains trapped in self-doubt. In professional life, courage has become more important than ever. Industries are evolving rapidly, careers are changing, and competition is global. Companies that succeed are led by individuals who are willing to innovate and take bold decisions. Startups that become industry leaders are founded by people who dared to challenge established systems. Leadership itself requires courage the courage to make difficult choices, stand by values, and lead through uncertainty. The same principle applies to personal growth. Many people spend years living according to societal expectations rather than their own aspirations. They suppress dreams because they fear judgment or failure. However, real fulfillment begins when individuals gather the courage to pursue authenticity. Courage allows people to embrace

who they truly are instead of becoming what society expects them to be. Some of the greatest battles are not fought publicly but internally. Self-doubt, insecurity, fear of rejection, and fear of failure silently prevent countless individuals from reaching their true potential. A courageous person is not someone who never struggles but someone who refuses to surrender to those struggles. Mental resilience, emotional strength, and self-belief are forms of courage that shape extraordinary lives. India today provides a powerful example of how courage can transform a nation's future. Across industries, Indian entrepreneurs, creators, athletes, and innovators are competing on global platforms with confidence and ambition. Young Indians are no longer confined by geographical or societal limitations. They are building startups, leading multinational companies, influencing digital culture, and creating worldwide recognition. This transformation is fueled not only by talent but by the courage to dream bigger. The rise of India's startup ecosystem itself is a story of courage. Thousands of young founders have chosen uncertain entrepreneurial journeys over traditional career security. Many failed

initially, yet continued building until success arrived. Their journeys prove that courage often matters more than immediate results. Every failure becomes a lesson, every setback becomes preparation, and every challenge becomes a stepping stone. Courage also has the power to inspire others. One brave decision can create a ripple effect that motivates entire communities. A teacher inspiring student to think independently, a social entrepreneur solving grassroots problems, or a public figure speaking honestly about challenges — all of these acts influence society positively. Courage is contagious. When people witness fearless action, they begin to believe in their own potential. Importantly, courage must be balanced with purpose. Fearless ambition without values can become destructive. True courage is not recklessness; it is purposeful determination guided by integrity and vision. It is about creating meaningful impact rather than chasing hollow success. The individuals who leave lasting legacies are those who combine boldness with responsibility. The phrase “The World Is Not Enough If You Have the Courage” ultimately reflects the limitless nature of human potential. A courageous mind cannot be confined by geography, circumstances, criticism, or temporary failure. The world itself becomes too small for individuals who dare to think beyond conventional boundaries. At the end of life, people rarely regret the risks they took. More often, they regret the opportunities they ignored, the dreams they postponed, and the fears they allowed to control them. Courage is what transforms life from ordinary existence into meaningful experience. Because in the end, the world does not belong to those who wait it belongs to those who dare.



# Weekend OTT blast: Here's what is streaming across platforms

SUHAS SISTU

N

prime  
video

JioHotstar

ZEE5

SONY  
liv

ETV  
WIN



SUN  
NXT



The OTT space continues to deliver an exciting mix of action thrillers, courtroom dramas, reality entertainment, and quirky comedies this week. Major streaming platforms including Netflix, JioHotstar, Amazon Prime Video, ETV WIN, and ZEE5 have rolled out fresh releases catering to audiences of every genre. From the unfiltered version of the blockbuster spy thriller *Dhurandhar* to the rustic Telugu comedy series *Memu Coplam*, viewers have plenty of binge-worthy options this weekend.

## Netflix & Jio Hotstar

### *Dhurandhar- Part 1 (Raw & Undekha)*

The blockbuster spy-thriller *Dhurandhar* (Part 1) is now streaming in a brand-new "Raw & Undekha" version on both Netflix and JioHotstar. After its initial OTT premiere on Netflix in January 2026, the makers unveiled the uncut and unfiltered edition offering audiences a more intense cinematic experience. The latest version features unmutted dialogues, raw action sequences, and a darker presentation compared to the previously edited release. Fans can stream the film in Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu audio options. The film boasts a stellar ensemble cast featuring Ranveer Singh, Akshaye Khanna, Sanjay Dutt, R. Madhavan, and Arjun Rampal.

## Netflix

### *Ladies First*

The satirical comedy *Ladies First* is now streaming exclusively on Netflix. Directed by Thea Sharrock, the film follows Damien Sachs, played by Sacha Baron Cohen, a wealthy and chauvinistic businessman who wakes up in a parallel universe ruled by women. As he struggles to survive in a matriarchal society, the film delivers sharp satire on gender roles and power dynamics. The movie also stars Rosamund Pike, Richard E. Grant, Emily Mortimer, and Charles



Dance in key roles.

### *Desi Bling Season 1*

*Desi Bling* Season 1 is now streaming exclusively on Netflix. The lifestyle reality series serves as the official Indian spin-off of Dubai Bling and showcases the glamorous lives of wealthy Indian expats and billionaires living in Dubai. Packed with luxury yachts, designer fashion, lavish parties, and high-society rivalries, the show offers a peek into the extravagant lifestyles of the elite. Season 1 features 7-8 episodes and is available in Hindi, English, Tamil, and Telugu audio options. The cast includes Karan Kundrra, Tejasswi Prakash, Rizwan Sajjan, Satish and Tabinda Sanpal, Alizey and Lailli Mirza, along with Pamela Serena.

## Amazon Prime Video

### *Gaayapadda Simham*

The Telugu action-comedy drama *Gaayapadda Simham* is now streaming on Amazon Prime Video with multiple regional language options. Directed by Kasyap Sreenivas, the film stars Tharun Bhascker, Faria Abdullah, Maanasa Choudhary, and J. D. Chakravarthy, with an extended cameo by Sree Vishnu. Released on May 22, 2026, the satirical entertainer follows Darahas, a man deported from the United States within hours due to sudden immigration policy changes. Furious over his shattered dreams, he launches a bizarre revenge mission that leads to hilarious chaos involving cops and a feared mafia don

named Brutal Dharma.

### *Sathi Leelavathi*

The romantic comedy *Sathi Leelavathi* is currently streaming in Prime Video. Starring Lavanya Tripathi and Dev Mohan in lead roles, the film revolves around Leelavathi, a successful filmmaker whose life takes an unexpected turn when her husband asks for a divorce. Determined to save her marriage, she creates a series of funny and emotional situations, leading to a light-hearted yet heartwarming journey filled with romance, misunderstandings, and humor. The film has been appreciated for its entertaining narrative and charming performances.

### *System*

The intense courtroom drama *System* is now streaming on Amazon Prime Video. Directed by Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari and produced by Baweja Studios, the film stars Sonakshi Sinha as ambitious prosecutor Neha Rajvansh, alongside Jyothika as Sarika Rawat and Ashutosh Gowariker in a pivotal role. The story follows Neha's mission to win ten consecutive cases to secure a partnership at her father's law firm, but her alliance with a street-smart courtroom stenographer uncovers deep-rooted

| RELEASES             |                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Platform             | Title                                          | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Netflix & JioHotstar | <i>Dhurandhar – Part 1 (Raw &amp; Undekha)</i> | The blockbuster spy thriller is streaming in a new "Raw & Undekha" version featuring unmutted dialogues, raw action sequences, and darker visuals. The film stars Ranveer Singh, Akshaye Khanna, Sanjay Dutt, R. Madhavan, and Arjun Rampal. |
| Netflix              | <i>Ladies First</i>                            | A satirical comedy directed by Thea Sharrock, following a chauvinistic businessman who wakes up in a parallel universe ruled by women, leading to humorous and socially relevant situations.                                                 |
|                      | <i>Desi Bling Season 1</i>                     | The Indian spin-off of Dubai Bling showcasing the lavish lifestyles, luxury parties, designer fashion, and rivalries among wealthy Indian expats living in Dubai.                                                                            |
| Amazon Prime Video   | <i>Gaayapadda Simham</i>                       | A Telugu action-comedy drama about a deported man whose shattered American dream pushes him into a bizarre revenge mission involving cops and a feared mafia don.                                                                            |
|                      | <i>Sathi Leelavathi</i>                        | A romantic comedy revolving around a successful filmmaker trying to save her marriage after her husband asks for a divorce, resulting in emotional and humorous situations.                                                                  |
|                      | <i>System</i>                                  | A courtroom drama about an ambitious prosecutor who uncovers corruption and moral conflicts within the legal system while fighting to establish her career.                                                                                  |
| ETV Win              | <i>Uttutta Herolu</i>                          | A Telugu crime-comedy thriller about four aspiring actors who resort to kidnapping for money and end up facing dangerous consequences involving a faction leader.                                                                            |
| ZEE5                 | <i>Memu Coplam</i>                             | A rural Telugu crime-comedy web series about two clueless constables investigating the disappearance of a prized fighting rooster named "Salaar Raju."                                                                                       |

corruption and moral dilemmas within the legal system. The film is available in Hindi with regional dubbed versions, including Telugu.

## ETV WIN

### *Uttutta Herolu*

The Telugu crime comedy thriller *Uttutta Herolu* is currently streaming on ETV WIN. Directed by Harsha Kodali, the film stars Mahesh Vitta, Thanu Konidela, Hara Srinivas, Walter Vinay, and Praveena Sony in key roles. The crime comedy follows four friends from the "Cult Gang" who dream of becoming film heroes. When their movie shoot gets stalled due to financial issues, they turn to kidnapping for quick money, only to land in bigger trouble after crossing paths with a dangerous faction leader named Rami Reddy. Packed with humor, crime, and chaotic twists, the film offers an entertaining thriller experience.

## Zee5

### *Memu Coplam*

The Telugu crime-comedy web series *Memu Coplam* is now streaming officially on ZEE5. The series



consists of six episodes and stars Naga Babu, Getup Srinu, and Ravi Teja Nannimala in key roles. The rural comedy-mystery revolves around two clueless village police constables who are assigned to investigate the strange disappearance of a prized fighting rooster named "Salaar Raju." Filled with hilarious misunderstandings, quirky village characters, and chaotic investigations, the series blends comedy and mystery in an entertaining rustic backdrop. This week's OTT lineup offers something for every kind of viewer, from gritty spy thrillers and courtroom dramas to romantic entertainers and rustic Telugu comedies. While *Dhurandhar – Part 1 (Raw & Undekha)* stands out as the biggest attraction with its darker and more intense presentation, films like *Gaayapadda Simham*, *System*, and *Sathi Leelavathi* add variety across genres.



Meanwhile, shows like *Desi Bling* and *Memu Coplam* cater to audiences looking for reality drama and comedy-filled binge sessions. With major platforms competing aggressively through diverse content, OTT viewers are once again spoiled for choice this weekend.



## 'The Boroughs' Season 1 review: Slow and overstretched

The science-fiction mystery series *The Boroughs* attempts to blend emotional drama with supernatural suspense but ultimately ends up as a slow, exhausting watch that struggles to justify its eight-episode runtime. Despite featuring an impressive cast and backing from the creators of *Stranger Things*, the show never fully delivers on its intriguing premise and often gets trapped in repetitive storytelling and sluggish pacing. Set inside a retirement township in New Mexico, the series follows

Samuel Cooper, played by Alfred Molina, a grieving widower trying to rebuild his life after losing his wife. Soon, mysterious incidents begin disturbing the elderly residents, leading to strange theories, paranoia, and supernatural clues. While the setup initially appears promising, the narrative quickly loses momentum as the show spends far too much time on character conversations and emotional monologues without moving the mystery forward in a meaningful way. The biggest problem with *The*

*Boroughs* is its pacing. Several middle episodes feel unnecessarily stretched and overloaded with filler scenes that add very little to the central mystery. Instead of building suspense, the show repeatedly circles around the same emotional conflicts, making the viewing experience frustrating rather than engaging. The mystery surrounding the strange creature and cryptic clues like "The owl is in the wall" sounds interesting on paper, but the execution lacks tension and payoff. The series also struggles tonally,

It wants to be a gripping sci-fi thriller while simultaneously exploring themes of ageing, loneliness, regret, and mortality. Unfortunately, neither aspect feels fully satisfying. The emotional drama becomes overly heavy-handed at times, while the science-fiction elements never become exciting enough to compensate for the slow storytelling. The heavy inspiration from *Stranger Things* is obvious throughout the series, but *The Boroughs* lacks the energy, emotional impact, and gripping

momentum that made that show successful. The performances are perhaps the only redeeming aspect. Alfred Molina delivers a restrained and believable performance, while Geena Davis, Alfre Woodard, and Denis O'Hare do their best to elevate weak material. However, even strong performances cannot



completely save a series weighed down by uneven writing and repetitive scenes. In the end, *The Boroughs* feels like a missed opportunity. What could have been a fresh and emotionally layered sci-fi mystery instead turns into a tedious and overlong drama that rarely manages to hold attention consistently.

Rating: 2/5

Indian single malt whiskies are rapidly transforming India from a historical whisky consumer into a premium global exporter. Premium liquor exports generate over \$400 million. By earning foreign exchange and beating global giants, distilleries are proving that "Made in India" premium spirits hold commanding power internationally, the company said.



It is an encouraging performance by our Greco-Roman wrestlers to finish the opening day with five medals. The wrestlers showed great determination and discipline on the mat, and this performance reflects the steady progress Indian Greco-Roman wrestling has been making at the continental level

- Sanjay Singh, President of WFI

## U23 ASIAN WRESTLING C'SHIP Suraj, Sagar win silver as India bag 5 Greco-Roman medals

NEW DELHI: Suraj Singh and Sagar Singh led the charge with silver medals as India made an impressive start to its campaign in the U23 Asian Wrestling Championships by securing five medals in the Greco-Roman category on the opening day of the competition at the Tien Son Sport Center in Da Nang, Vietnam, on Saturday.

While Suraj Singh and Sagar Singh claimed silver medals in their respective weight categories, Kumar Sachin, Rohit, and Hardeep added to the tally with bronze medals in their respective weight categories.

Suraj Singh impressed in the 60kg category with a solid run to the final before going down 0-4 against Kazakhstan's Aibek Aitbekov in the gold medal bout to finish with silver.

In the 67kg category,



Sagar Singh also produced a commendable performance throughout the tournament. However, he suffered a 0-9 defeat by technical superiority against Uzbekistan's Aytjan Khalmakhanov in the final and settled for the silver medal.

Kumar Sachin added a bronze medal in the 77kg category despite going down 3-10 against Kazakhstan's Alikhan Dursunov, while Rohit narrowly missed out after suffering a hard-fought 3-5 defeat against Uzbekistan's Bekhruz Barnoev in the 97kg division. Hardeep also fell short in the 130kg bout, going down 0-4 against Kazakhstan's Jokhar Uzarov.

## 4 Indians enter Asian Jr Individual Squash finals

PANZHIHUA (CHINA)

ARYAVEER Dewan (boys' U-19), Shiven Agarwal (boys' U-17), Anika Dubey (girls' U-17), and Amarya Bajaj (boys' U-13) advanced to the finals in their respective categories at the 33rd Asian Junior Individual Squash Championships in Panzhihua, China, on Saturday. Aryaveer, seeded 3/4, defeated Malaysian top seed Nickhileswar Moganasundharam in four games in the semifinals and will meet either Md Alnasafan (KSA) or Jonghyeok Lee (Kor) for the crown. Aryaveer had beaten the Malaysian for the U-17 title last year.

Meanwhile, Shiven, seeded 5/8, beat fellow Indian Squash Academy trainee Lokesh Subramani in a close four-game semifinal and will take on Pakistan's 9/16 seed Nauman Khan for the U-17 title. Anika, seeded 3/4 and



bronze medallist in this age group last year, will battle with Malaysian top seed Harlecin Tan for the U-17 crown after her semifinal opponent retired midway through their match.

Amarya, seeded 3/4 and bronze medallist in the boys' U-13 category last year, beat Malaysian second seed Muhammad Sharhan Mohd Saiful in four close games in the semifinals. He will take on top seed Leung Ngo San of Hong Kong in the U-13 final.

Results involving Indians (semifinals):  
U-19 Boys: 3/4-Aryaveer Dewan bt 1-Nickhileswar Moganasundharam (Mas) 11-

6, 11-4, 3-11, 11-6.  
U-17 — Boys: 5/8-Shiven Agarwal bt 5/8-Lokesh Subramani 4-11, 11-9, 11-8, 11-9. Girls: 3/4-Anika Dubey bt 2-Jinoreeka Ning Manivannan (Mas) 9-11, 3-2 ret'd.

U-13 —Boys: 1-Leung Ngo San (HK) bt 3/4-Abhyuday Arora 11-8, 8-11, 11-8, 8-11, 11-4; 3/4-Amarya Bajaj bt 2-Muhammad Sharhan Mohd Saiful (Mas) 11-9, 11-8, 6-11, 11-8. Girls: 1-Kareena Sashikumar (Sgp) bt 3/4-Shanaya Parasrampuria 11-5, 11-6, 13-11; 3/4-Rio Yoshino (Jpn) bt 2-Divyanshi Jain 11-8, 7-11, 11-6, 4-11, 12-10.

## Super Chess Classic: Pragg draws with Vachier-Lagrave

BUCHAREST (ROMANIA): Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa missed a few winning attempts and was held to a draw by Maxime Vachier-Lagrave of France even as the race for the title tightened at the end of the penultimate round of the Super Chess Classic here.

On what turned out to be another excitement-filled day, the clash between overnight leaders Fabiano Caruana of United States and Vincent Keymer of Germany ended in a draw while world championship challenger Javokhir Sindarov of Uzbekistan scored his second victory on the trot over Dutchman Jorden Van Foreest Friday night.

It was not a day the two Dutch GMs would like to remember as Anish Giri went down to lowest ranked Deac Bogdan-Daniel of Romania.

## 76th Jr National Basketball C'ship

## TN off to flying start; Kerala, K'taka continue winning run

PUDUCHERRY

REIGNING champions Tamil Nadu launched their campaigns on a triumphant note, securing dominant victories in both the men's and women's categories on the opening night of the 76th Junior National Basketball Championship at the Rajiv Gandhi Indoor Stadium in Puducherry.

In a late-night fixture on Friday, the Tamil Nadu men's team outclassed Delhi 54-37, powered by a stellar 16-point performance from Yadesh Kumar, well-supported by 10-point contributions each from Sumanesh V, Manish R M, and Vishal V. Delhi's resistance was led by Mohamed SainGauri and Gagin Atri, who scored 10 points apiece.

In the women's division, Tamil Nadu registered an equally emphatic 74-36 victory over Punjab. M Kaviya spearheaded the attack with 16 points, while Sumitha Devi (12), Shanjana P K (10), and Dheivithya S (10) ensured a balanced team effort to overshadow Punjab's Tishmeet Kaur, who fought hard for her 17 points.

In Group B matches, The prestigious eight-day mega sporting event is being organised by the Pondicherry Basketball Association under the aegis of the Basketball Federation of India (BFI).

The second day of the championship witnessed high-voltage drama as powerhouse teams consolidated their positions. In Group A of the men's section, Kerala survived a nerve-wracking encounter to scrape past Uttar Pradesh 57-55 in a see-saw battle that saw multiple lead changes.

Milen Jose Mathew led the charge for Kerala with 16 points, aided by Abhishek R Pradeep (14) and Adwaid A S

(11), narrowly neutralizing a fierce 16-point performance by UP's Raj Sibgh. The quarter-wise scoreline of 17-12, 10-13, 17-12, and 13-18 reflected the razor-thin margins of the contest.

Meanwhile, in Men's Group B, Karnataka cruised to their second consecutive victory with a commanding 87-46 demolition of Rajasthan, courtesy of a scoring blitz from Samath Manur (26 points), Vijayeendra Vedanthi (20 points), and Harshan Yatish (11 points). Rajasthan's offense was limited to scattered efforts by Muhammad Raza Khan (12) and Manish Kumar Maal (10).

The women's fixtures on day two delivered equally thrilling action, highlighted by a down-to-the-wire Group A clash where Haryana edged past Punjab 68-63. Kanika and Jahnavi Sheoran notched 15 points each, while Myrah Sabbar chipped in with 10 to help Haryana withstand a potent Punjab attack led by Vanshika Kaur (19), Priya (17), Tishmeet Kaur (11), and Pawanpreet Kaur (10).

In Group B matches, Uttar Pradesh displayed strong offensive depth to defeat Gujarat 85-69, riding on Neha's brilliant 22-point game, with Anshika Sharma (15) and Pragya Singh (11) playing crucial supporting roles against Gujarat's Dinal Viththani (13) and Nithya Agral (10). In the same group, Kerala maintained their perfect start by convincingly beat Maharashtra 81-59. Kerala's multi-pronged attack featured Aritha K (17), Vaigha T (16), and Liya Maria (15), which ultimately overwhelmed Maharashtra despite a spectacular, game-high 29-point lone crusade by Aarya Phatangare.

## RR play for playoff spot, MI for pride

MUMBAI: Before the start of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026, neither the Mumbai Indians nor the Rajasthan Royals would have imagined that their last match of the preliminary round at the Wankhede Stadium on Sunday would turn out to be so crucial not only for them but for the entire league.

Both teams have everything to play for -- RR for the playoff spot, MI for their pride, and to avoid finishing at the bottom of the pile.

The outcome of the match will decide the fourth spot in the playoffs -- if Rajasthan Royals, who are on 14 points, win the match, they will move to 16 and beyond the reach of Punjab Kings, who are on 13 and at



maximum move to 15 points at most by winning their last league match against Lucknow Super Giants.

Winning the match will also help five-time champions Mumbai Indians avoid the wooden spoon as they are currently tied with Lucknow Super Giants on eight points and have a better Net Run Rate.

So, the last day of league action in the IPL 2026 will start with a make-or-break afternoon for Rajasthan Royals, who will be getting into it with their fortunes in their hands, with the two teams engaging in the final

day game of the season.

The winner of the inaugural edition of IPL has had an up-and-down season so far and are coming into Sunday's encounter after ending a three-match losing streak with a win over bottom-placed LSG. They had started their campaign with four wins, but then lost their way, posting indifferent results due to inconsistent performances.

In contrast, the Mumbai Indians, meanwhile, have endured a season to forget. They made history by winning their season opener for the first time in 14 years, but things went downhill soon after as they lost matches in clusters.

IN ACTION TODAY

MI vs RR at 3.30 pm in Mumbai  
KKR vs DC at 7.30 pm in Kolkata

## TG20 unveils franchise owners for Telangana Cricket League

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

IN a major boost to cricket in Telangana, the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) on Saturday announced the founding franchise owners for the inaugural edition of TG20, the State's first franchise-based T20 cricket league. The announcement was made during the "TG20 Origins – Shape the Future" event held at ITC Kakatiya in Hyderabad.

The league will feature eight teams representing different regions of Telangana. M/S Ushodaya Enterprises Pvt Ltd secured the Hyderabad franchise with the highest bid of ₹7.5 crore, while Boorugu Infra/Pranava won the Ranga Reddy franchise for



₹7.2 crore. Other franchises include Warangal, Medak, Nalgonda, Karimnagar, Mahabubnagar and Khammam. TG20 aims to provide a structured platform for emerging cricketers from Telangana and strengthen grassroots cricket in the State. The league will feature local talent alongside established domestic players and experienced coaching staff.

The organisers said discussions are underway

with JioStar for live telecast on Star Sports Telugu and streaming on JioHotstar. Marriott Hotels will host teams and officials during the tournament. HCA Secretary M. Jeevan Reddy described TG20 as a "defining moment" for Telangana cricket, while TG20 Governing Council Chairman V Agam Rao said the league would combine sporting excellence, entertainment and commercial growth.

## 132 NCC cadets stranded in Manipur airlifted to Assam

IMPHAL

IN view of the prevailing situation in Manipur, 132 NCC cadets were evacuated to Guwahati and Jorhat in Assam by the Indian Air Force (IAF) on Saturday, officials said.

A senior official said that in the true spirit of jointmanship and commitment towards the safety and welfare of youths, 132 NCC cadets who attended the NCC North Eastern Region (NER) Flying Camp in Imphal from May 11 to May 20, 2026, are undergoing emergency evacuation to Guwahati and Jorhat by the IAF amid the prevailing security situation and restrictions on road movement in Manipur.

"The evacuation has been planned by the NCC NER Directorate in consultation with the Headquarters Director General NCC and in coordination with the Headquarters Eastern Air Command," the official said.

He said that the swift and timely action ensured that the cadets safely reached their destinations in time for their examinations, bringing immense relief and happiness to their parents and family members. "The NCC cadets have also conveyed their heartfelt gratitude for the care, support and timely assistance extended to them. Special thanks have been extended to the Defence Minister, the Ministry of Defence and the Indian Air Force for their unwavering support," the official added.

# Chinese-made weapons seized in Mumbai

MUMBAI

IN a major crackdown, the Anti-Extortion Cell of the Mumbai Crime Branch has arrested three alleged criminals who had reportedly arrived in the city to sell illegal foreign-made weapons, officials said on Saturday.

They added that the accused, all from outside Maharashtra, were apprehended during a late-night operation carried out on the basis of specific Intelligence inputs.

According to police officials, credible information was received indicating that certain individuals carrying weapons were on their way to Mumbai.



Acting swiftly on the tip-off, the Crime Branch laid a trap near a public toilet located on P D Mello Road close to St. George Hospital. Around 10:45 P.M. on Friday, the three accused were caught red-handed

during the operation.

Police recovered three firearms, magazines and 45 live cartridges from the possession of the accused. Officials said the ammunition and weapons bore the inscription

'Made in China'. However, investigators are now trying to determine the actual source and route through which the weapons entered the country, making the origin of the Chinese-marked arms a key aspect of the ongoing probe.

The arrested accused have been identified as 24-year-old Jashanpreet Mangal Singh and 24-year-old Sukhwinder Singh, both residents of Patiala in Punjab, and Arbaz, a resident of Jhalawar in Rajasthan, officials mentioned.

They said all three have serious criminal backgrounds and multiple cases registered against them.

Investigators further

revealed that two of the accused had allegedly been absconding since 2022 in connection with a murder case and had been on the radar of law enforcement agencies for a long time. Arbaz alone is stated to have as many as 19 criminal cases registered against him.

According to preliminary investigations, the accused were allegedly planning to supply and sell the weapons to local criminals operating in Mumbai and nearby areas.

Following the arrests, a case under relevant sections of the Arms Act has been registered against them at Mumbai's M R A Marg Police Station.

Further investigation into the case is currently underway.

## Miscreants vandalise Kolkata school, probe on

KOLKATA: A group of miscreants allegedly went on a rampage inside a girls' school in south Kolkata in the early hours of Saturday, prompting a police probe.

The incident took place around 4.30 a.m. at Kamala Chatterjee Girls' High School under the jurisdiction of Gariahat Police Station. Acting on a complaint, the police have initiated an investigation.

The school authorities said that one of their buildings is not their own; rather, it is a rented premise where classes for the primary and secondary sections are held.



They claimed that the act of vandalism was specifically carried out within this particular building.

The school is equipped with surveillance cameras, which captured a group of youths scaling the main gate in the early hours of Saturday morning to gain entry into the school premises. Subsequently, they proceeded to vandalise the building. School

Headmistress Debjani Das said, "When I arrived at the school in the morning today, I saw that everything had been damaged. Everything was recorded on the CCTV camera. A complaint has been filed with the police as well as the district school inspector."

According to sources in the District School Education Department, the next step will be taken after speaking to the headmistress next Monday. The vandalism inside a school in Kolkata has raised questions about the safety and security in educational institutions.

## Encounter breaks out in Rajouri during search ops

JAMMU: An encounter started on Saturday between terrorists and the security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district.

Officials said on Saturday that an encounter had started between terrorists and security forces in Dorimal forests of Rajouri in Jammu and Kashmir.

"At least 2-3 Pakistani terrorists are believed to be trapped, operation is underway", officials said. Following specific Intelligence inputs about the presence of terrorists in Dorimal forest area of Rajouri, security forces

started a cordon and search operation.

"As the security forces closed in on the hiding terrorists, they opened fire, after which an encounter started which is now going on.

"Reinforcements have been rushed in to plug all exit points of the hiding terrorists", an official said.

The two border districts of Rajouri and Poonch have witnessed a significant surge in counter-terror operations and encounters since the area has served as the primary infiltration and revival corridor for terrorists in the past.



## COIMBATORE GIRL'S MURDER SHOCKS TN

## CM Vijay promises justice; two accused arrested

COIMBATORE

A wave of grief and outrage swept across Tamil Nadu after the brutal abduction and murder of a 10-year-old girl in Coimbatore, triggering renewed concerns over the safety of women and children.

As the incident sent shockwaves across the state, Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay expressed deep anguish over the tragedy and assured strict action against those responsible.

In a statement issued on Saturday, the Chief Minister described the incident as an "inhuman and unforgivable criminal act" that has caused immense pain and shock. He said such barbaric acts can never be tolerated in a civilised society and extended his deepest condolences to the grieving family of the child.

"I offer my heartfelt condolences to the family that is suffering the unbearable loss of their beloved daughter. The government stands with them in this difficult time," CM Vijay said.

The case took a major turn after police arrested two persons identified as Karthik (33), a native of Nagapattinam who had been residing at Pallapalayam near Coimbatore, and his associate Mohanraj in connection with the crime.

Police sources said the accused were known to the victim's family and are suspected to have abducted the child before allegedly murdering her.

Investigators revealed that Karthik sustained injuries while attempting to escape from police custody. According to officials, he suffered fractures to his leg and hand during the escape attempt.

The injured accused was later secured and brought under police custody for further investigation.

Meanwhile, Mohanraj was produced before Judicial Magistrate Arun Kumar at the Suler Judicial Magistrate Court on Saturday. The court ordered that he be remanded to judicial custody until May 27. Chief Minister Vijay stated that he had directed police authorities to carry out a thorough and time-bound investigation and take all necessary steps to ensure the immediate filing of the chargesheet.

"The Tamil Nadu government will act firmly to ensure severe punishment under the law for those who commit heinous crimes against women and children. All immediate and necessary actions will be taken," CM Vijay said. Police officials said the investigation is continuing and more details are expected to emerge in the coming days.