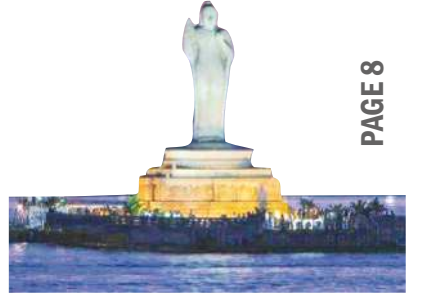




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Prime Minister Narendra Modi with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio in New Delhi on Saturday

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.

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.

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.

Continued on Page 4



'FUTURE CITY UNSTOPPABLE'

BRS has no future: Ponguleti

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

TAKING exception to Bharat Rashtra 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.

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.

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.



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 come 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

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



Cong gov't won't tolerate attempts to derail devpt, warns Sridhar Babu

Slams BRS leaders over threats to scrap 'Bharat Future City'

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

TELANGANA IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu on Saturday accused leaders of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) of indulging in

SAYS THE PINK PART IS RESORTING TO 'BLACKMAIL & DIVERSION POLITICS' AGAINST THE 'FUTURE CITY' PROJECT

"blackmail politics" and attempting to obstruct the State government's developmental initiatives, particularly the proposed "Bharat Future City" project.

Addressing a press conference at the CLP Media Hall in Hyderabad, Sridhar Babu said opposition parties should engage in constructive criticism instead of pursuing "destructive politics" that hinder the State's progress.

The Minister alleged that senior BRS leaders, including T Harish Rao and KT Rama Rao, were unable to accept the party's electoral setbacks and were continuing to indulge in "cheap politics, diversion politics and blackmail politics."

Referring to Harish Rao's recent remarks during his

visit to the United States, Sridhar Babu said the BRS leader was "daydreaming" about returning to power and threatening to cancel the "Bharat Future City" project if the party came back to office.

"The people removed the BRS from power in the Assembly elections and gave the party zero seats in the Parliament elections. Yet they have failed to learn any lesson," he remarked.

The Minister accused the BRS of earlier trying to obstruct the Musi River rejuvenation project and now conspiring against the Future City initiative. He asserted that the Congress government was moving ahead in line with the aspirations of the people and would not tolerate attempts to derail development.

16 die due to heatwave in State

Four persons died in Jayashankar Bhupalpally district, followed by three each in Warangal Urban, Karimnagar and Nizamabad and one each in Jogulamba Gadwal, Ranga Reddy and Suryapet

HYDERABAD

AS many as 16 people died due to heatwave conditions prevailing in the State during the current summer, informed Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy here on Saturday.

The Minister who held a meeting with officials on the situation arising out of the heatwave, said the 16 deaths took place in seven districts of the State. Quoting reports received from district Collectors, he said four persons died in Jayashankar Bhupalpally district, followed by three each in Warangal Urban, Karimnagar and Nizamabad and one each in Jogulamba Gadwal, Ranga Reddy and Suryapet.

The government would provide an ex-gratia of Rs four lakh each to the kin of the deceased persons, he said, according to an official



Government will provide an ex-gratia of ₹4 lakh each to the kin of the deceased persons

release. The revenue minister directed officials to identify villages recording very high temperatures and send alerts about the heat through media, social media and other means to those villages. He said drinking water, butter milk, ORS packets should be made available at bus stations, markets, major roads and places where workers work in large numbers. Steps should be taken to prevent loss of life due to the heat, he said.

The minister urged that senior citizens, pregnant

women, children and unhealthy people should not venture out of their homes between 11 am and 4 pm. He instructed district Collectors to specially monitor heatwave conditions and government employees from mandal to village level should be on the field as part of heat-relief measures. Along with human life, the administration should arrange drinking water for animals and birds in the villages, he said. Citing reports from the Met department, Reddy said Karimnagar, Peddapally, Bhupalpally, Mulugu, Khammam, Nalgonda, Suryapet, Mahabubnagar, Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy district would witness severe heat conditions till May 26. He urged the district Collectors to take measures to provide relief to the people.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public, banks, and all financial institutions that one Sri Gandhari Pranav Anandh Swamy S/o Kallidas Chari, has approached my client, TRUHOME FINANCE LIMITED, Nizamabad Branch, for availing a Purchase Loan facility.

In this connection, he has produced all relevant title deeds, including both primary and link documents. However, during the verification process, it was found that one of the link documents, namely the Registered Sale Deed bearing Document No. 5136/2012, Dated 12-09-2012, is reported to be missing from its custody. The said missing document pertains to the following schedule property:

Schedule of Property:
The Existing Open Place bearing G.P. No. 8-87/1, Situated at NAVIPET VILLAGE, Mandal Navipet, District Nizamabad, measuring (121.00) Sq. Yards or (101.17) Sq. Meters, within the Grampanchayat limits of Navipet Village, Registration Sub-District Nizamabad Rural and Registration District Nizamabad.

Boundaries:
North: Open Place of Sindula Gangaram.
South: Grampanchayat Road **East:** Grampanchayat, **West:** House of Kallidas. Hence, the general public, banks, and financial institutions are hereby informed that if any person(s) have any claim, right, title, interest, or objection whatsoever over the above-mentioned property covered by the said document, they are requested to submit their claims along with supporting documentary evidence to the undersigned within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice.

Failing which, it shall be presumed that there are no such claims or objections, and any claims made thereafter shall not be entertained.

Date: 22-05-2026. Nizamabad
R. Sri Rama Goud,
Advocate,
3-3-198, Maisamma Street,
Kotagalli, Nizamabad.
Cell No. 9848850088.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public in General are notified that Sri Sandeep V. S/o. Venam Venkateswamy has got purchased below mentioned scheduled property from its previous owner Sri. Munja Ramesh S/o Mogli, and accordingly entered into an Agreement of Sale dated 02-05-2026 and paid part of the sale consideration and approached the State Bank of India, Huzarabad Branch for the sake of Loan on the schedule property. He has informed that the said Sri. Munja Ramesh S/o Mogli, got purchased the schedule property from its previous owners 1. Valupadasi Vijay Kumar and 1. Valupadasi Ravi Kumar sons of Late Valupalaiah through registered sale deed doc. No. 488/2026 of SRO Warangal (R.O.) and the said owners 1. Valupadasi Vijay Kumar and 1. Valupadasi Ravi Kumar sons of Late Valupalaiah have acquired the said schedule property from their mother Valupadasi Chandrakala W/o Late Uppalaiah through registered Gift Settlement deed doc. No. 1439/2012 and 1440/2012 dt: 08-02-2012 respectively. That previously their father Valupadasi Uppalaiah got purchased the said schedule property vide registered sale deed doc. No. 4569/1992 of SRO Warangal (R.O.) from its previous owners 1. Theotreddy Punashotham Reddy S/o Late Ramachandra Reddy, 2. Smt. Theotreddy Soundarya Devi W/o Sri. Punashotham Reddy, 3. Theotreddy Gopali Reddy S/o Punashotham Reddy, and their third are Ribi through their registered G.P.A Holders and that the said original registered link document No. 4569/1992 was lost as such they have issued public notices in Sakshi and Andhra Times News papers on 09-11-2025 and 08-11-2025 respectively and that they have also made complaint before SHO Janagan, accordingly the concerned police also issued certificate No. 150311224402268 dt: 09-01-2026. They could not find the same. SHUDULE PROPERTY. All that open plot No.13 to an extent of 240.00 Sq. Yds or equivalent to 200.86 Sq. Meters, out of Sy. No. 1051 (Vidya KUDA Layout) OF SRO Warangal (R.O.) may approach under mentioned address or SBI Huzarabad branch or below the address with all necessary documents within 7 days from the date of this notice otherwise the bank will initiate loan proceedings after stipulated time.

GOSKULA SRINIVAS, Advocate
20-431/1, Vidyanagar, Huzarabad,
Dist. Karimnagar. Cell: 9440350466.



BRS leader brutally murdered in Suryapet

HANS NEWS SERVICE
SURYAPET

POLITICAL tensions flared in Yarkaram village of Suryapet here on Saturday after BRS leader and former sarpanch's husband Chintalapati Madhu was allegedly murdered by unidentified assailants. According to locals, the attackers killed him, packed the body in a gunny bag, and dumped it near Yarkaram stage area before fleeing the spot.

The incident came to light after locals noticed the suspicious bag and alerted the police. Officers rushed to the scene, took custody of the body, and shifted it to Suryapet General

Hospital for postmortem examination.

The deceased's wife alleged that her husband was murdered due to political rivalry and personal enmity. Following the incident, tension prevailed in the village, prompting authorities to deploy heavy police security to maintain law and order.

Sources said that Madhu was previously an accused in two murder cases. However, police are continuing their investigation, and further details regarding the murder are yet to be officially confirmed.

Meanwhile, former minister and MLA G Jagadish Reddy alleged that the Congress party is encouraging murder politics in the state. Speaking to the media after paying tributes to slain leader in Suryapet, he claimed that the murder was a result of the Congress government's failure and questioned the role of the police in the incident.

Jagadish Reddy accused Congress leaders and police officials of harassing BRS workers and weakening earlier murder cases involving party leaders. He also criticised the sudden change of the public prosecutor in a previous case.

The BRS leader assured support to Madhu's family, stating that the party would take responsibility for the education of his two daughters and help in supporting the family financially.



File photo of deceased Madhu

COOLING BATH'



With temperatures soaring to 47 degrees, the staff at the Balasamudram power substation in Hanumakonda are covering transformers with gunny bags and spraying them with water to cool it down. Officials remain on high alert to avert the risk of explosions of transformers and ensuring a stable power supply in the city.
Photos: G Shyam Kumar

Inter suppli exam rescheduled to May 29

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

THE Telangana Board of Intermediate Education (TGBIE) has announced a change in the schedule for the Intermediate Public Advanced Supplementary Examinations (IPASE), May/June 2026 session. The adjustment follows the State government's declaration of May 28 (Thursday) as a public holiday on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha (Bakrid).

A TGBIE statement said on Saturday, the Environmental Education examination, originally slated for May 28, will now be held on May 29 (Friday) from 10 am to 1 pm. The rest of the examination schedule remains unchanged.

The decision was made in accordance with G.O.Rt. No.718, issued by the General Administration (Spl.E) Department on May 22, 2026, which modified an earlier order that had declared May 27 as the

holiday. The Board stated that the rescheduling aims to avoid inconvenience to students and examination administrators.

All principals of government, aided, private, and residential junior colleges have been instructed to inform students immediately and ensure wide publicity of the revised date.

Students are advised to take note of the change and attend the examination accordingly.

Mahesh rules out PCC leadership change

Some people unable to digest coordination between me and CM Revanth Reddy

Names of TPCC working presidents sent to AICC, announcement soon: Mahesh Kumar Goud

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

REACTING on a malicious campaign launched by a TV channel targeting him, PCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud on Saturday ruled out change in leadership of the Telangana Congress unit.

He asserted that any such decision rests solely with the All India Congress Committee (AICC), while dismissing criticism and media speculation against him.

Speaking during an informal interaction with the media in Gandhi Bhavan on Saturday, Mahesh Goud said party workers and the AICC leadership were the



appropriate authorities to assess his performance as TPCC chief.

"The high command has the final authority on any changes in PCC leadership. I was appointed PCC chief because the party believed I was the right person for the responsibility," he said.

Claiming that the AICC leadership has confidence in him, Mahesh Goud stated that Congress general

secretary KC Venugopal had congratulated him on several occasions for his work.

The TPCC chief alleged that some individuals were uncomfortable with the coordination between him and Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy.

"I will not be intimidated simply because a particular TV channel expresses its opinion. One channel



running a campaign against me does not make it the ultimate truth," he remarked, while reiterating his respect for press freedom.

On party affairs, the TPCC chief revealed that the names of proposed working presidents had already been sent to the AICC and that appointments would be announced soon.

He also clarified that the proposed Telangana Cabinet expansion would be handled directly by the Chief Minister and that he would have no role in the process.

Mahesh Goud also clarified that Gandhi Bhavan belonged to the party trust and dismissed reports and rumours targeting him, saying he would not waste time responding to "trivial matters."

On the proposed "Future City" project, the TPCC chief defended the Congress

government's vision, stating that the project would become a model for the entire country. He accused the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) of lacking foresight and failing to expand Hyderabad during its tenure.

"Development happens only when a city expands. Is Harish Rao suggesting that Hyderabad does not require further development," he asked, criticising senior BRS leader T Harish Rao for opposing the initiative.

Mahesh Goud further alleged that the Central government was adopting a "step-motherly attitude" towards Telangana. At the same time, he said the Congress government was continuing welfare schemes introduced by the previous administration, drawing a comparison with Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin.

Cong leaders urged to strengthen party at grassroots level

HANS NEWS SERVICE
SHADNAGAR

RANGAREDDY district Congress president Narasimha Reddy called upon newly appointed party presidents to work unitedly under the leadership of Veerlapalli Shankar and strengthen the Congress party across the constituency.

Addressing a meeting held at the MLA camp office in Shadnagar town, Narasimha Reddy, along with MLA Veerlapalli Shankar, handed over appointment letters to the newly elected municipal and mandal Congress presidents.

He said the Congress party follows a systematic organisational structure and changes party presidents once every four years as per the decisions of national leaders Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi.

He stated that the selection of new presidents in municipalities and mandals across the State was carried out under the leadership of PCC president Mahesh

Kumar Goud and AICC in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan.

He praised Veerlapalli Shankar for actively participating in several programmes across the district and working tirelessly to enhance the party's image. Stating that the MLA has been carrying the party's responsibilities almost single-handedly, Narasimha Reddy urged the newly appointed presidents to share the burden and work collectively for the party's growth. He also appreciated former presidents for playing a key role in the Congress party's electoral victory.

The DCC president alleged that the BJP was attempting to manipulate voter lists and called upon party leaders to effectively counter any such conspiracies.

He said BLOs were being prepared through the party to closely monitor voter-related issues and prevent deletion of opposition votes. He opined that safeguarding votes would be crucial for the Congress party's success in future elections.

SARASWATI ANTYA PUSHKARALU

Thousands take holy dip, perform pujas at Kaleshwaram

Acharya Samvidananda Saraswati Maharaj visits Sri Kaleshwar Mukteshwar Swami temple

HANS NEWS SERVICE
JAYASHANKAR BHUPALPALLY

ACHARYA Samvidananda Saraswati Maharaj visited the Sri Kaleshwar Mukteshwar Swami temple in Kaleshwar of Jayashankar Bhupalpally district on the occasion of the Saraswati Antya Pushkaralu and performed special pujas on Saturday.

After taking a holy dip in the Saraswati River in the morning, the Maharaj reached the temple where priests accorded him a traditional welcome with Purnakumbha Swagatam amid the chanting of Vedic hymns.

Special abhishekas and archanas were later performed to the presiding deity, and the Maharaj had a special darshan of Sri Kaleshwar Mukteshwar Swami. He also visited the Parvati Devi temple, popularly known as Shubhananda Devi temple, and offered special prayers.



Following the rituals, the Maharaj delivered spiritual messages and blessings to priests and devotees at the ashvachanamandapam.

Temple authorities honoured him by presenting the ceremonial robes of the deity. A large number of



devotees participated in the programme along with temple chairman Mohan Sharma, RJC Ramakrishna, EO Mahesh, temple officials

and Vedic scholars. Later, the Maharaj visited MahaSaraswati Amma temple and performed additional special pujas.

Telangana rice millers seek immediate govt relief amid paddy procurement

- Association demands waiver of 25 per cent penalty and pending dues clearance
- Millers warn procurement disruptions could impact farmers and rice supply chain

HANS NEWS SERVICE
WARANGAL

THE Telangana Rice Millers Association urged the State government to immediately address the problems faced by rice millers while paddy procurement continued at a rapid pace across Telangana.

Speaking to the media in Warangal on Saturday, Association president Padi Ganapathi Reddy appealed to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and cabinet ministers to prioritise the issues of rice millers during the cabinet meeting scheduled for the day.

He said that despite the government actively procuring paddy, rice millers were facing severe difficulties due to delayed payments, lack of adequate storage facilities and increasing transportation costs.

He stated that these issues were affecting the day-to-day operations of rice



mills in several districts. Ganapathi Reddy said the government had fixed a target of procuring 90 lakh metric tonnes of paddy during the current Rabi (Yasangi) season and established thousands of procurement centres across the State.

However, he alleged that the infrastructure and support systems required for millers had not been strengthened accordingly.

He warned that the fast pace of procurement was placing additional pressure on milling capacity and said that any disruption in the process could adversely affect both farmers and millers, leading to disturbances in the rice supply chain.

The Association de-

mandated that the government waive the 25 per cent penalty imposed on rice millers along with the interest charged on it.

It also sought immediate clearance of pending bills, expansion of storage facilities and subsidies to support the milling sector.

Ganapathi Reddy further urged the government to introduce suitable amendments to the Custom Milling Rice (CMR) policy to reflect the practical difficulties faced by millers at the ground level.

He reiterated that resolving the issues of rice millers at the earliest was essential to ensure smooth procurement operations and protect the interests of farmers and all stakeholders connected to the rice industry.

Collectors direct officials to expedite Ursu Cheruvu bund development works

Hanumakonda and Warangal District Collectors inspect ongoing beautification project, stress on quality and timely completion

HANS NEWS SERVICE
WARANGAL

HANUMAKONDA District Collector Chahat Bajpai and Warangal District Collector Dr Satya Sharada on Saturday inspected the ongoing beautification and development works at the Ursugutta-Rangasamudram (Ursu Cheruvu) lake bund, which are being carried out under the supervision of the Public Health Department.

During the inspection, the Collectors reviewed the progress and quality of the works with officials and instructed them to accelerate the execution to ensure completion of the project within the stipulated time-frame. They emphasised that all works should strictly adhere to the prescribed



quality standards and must be undertaken in a manner beneficial to the public.

The Collectors also directed officials to focus on enhancing the overall appearance of the lake bund area and to ensure a cleaner and more pleasant environ-

ment for visitors and local residents.

Municipal Engineer Santosh Babu, City Planner Ravindra Radekar, Tahsildar Iqbal and officials from various concerned departments were present during the inspection.

Discipline shapes future alongside education: IPS officer Giridhar

- Discipline and hard work are essential for long-term success says, IPS officer Giridhar
- 196 students receive Gampa Vajramma Educational Awards with gold medals and cash incentives
- Venkat Foundation programme witnesses participation of around 700 attendees

HANS NEWS SERVICE
KARIMNAGAR

STRESSING that discipline plays an equally important role alongside education, Ravula Giridhar said students can achieve greater success only by combining academic excellence with strong values and responsibility.

Addressing a programme organised by Venkat Foundation at V Convention in Karimnagar on Saturday, Giridhar advised students not to become complacent after securing high marks. He said real satisfaction comes through consistent hard work and achieving long-term goals. He also urged students to understand their responsibilities towards society, parents and their own future by remaining disciplined and focused.

As many as 196 Class 10 students of the 2025-26 academic year received the Gampa Vajramma Educational Award along with a



gold medal and a cash incentive of Rs 3,000 each. School headmasters were also felicitated for guiding the students.

Income Tax Principal Commissioner S. Murali Mohan attended as the chief guest and distributed gold medals and certificates. He appreciated the Foundation for supporting underprivileged students and promoting education, while encouraging students to work with determination until they achieved their goals. The Y. Raghunatham Excellence Award, presented for the past three years, was conferred on Konda Venu Murthy. The selection was made by Lions Club and Eye Hospital, Karimnagar. Murthy praised the Foundation's contribution towards education and social service. Venkateswara Rao lauded Foundation chairman Gampa Venkat for his commitment to social service and said contributing to society reflected true humanitarian spirit.

Parents appreciated the initiative, stating that such encouragement at an early stage motivates children to aim higher and build a strong future. Around 700 people attended the programme.

Golden Oak School student secures state rank 1 in TS POLYCET 2026

Namala Lokesh brings laurels to Warangal with outstanding performance in entrance examination



WARANGAL: In a moment of pride for Warangal, Namala Lokesh, a student of Golden Oak School in Shivanagar, secured the first rank in the Telangana POLYCET 2026 examination, the results of which were announced on Saturday.

Namala Lokesh emerged as the state topper in the highly competitive entrance examination and brought recognition to both his school and the city through his exceptional achievement. His success drew appreciation from teachers, students and local residents. His parents attributed the achieve-

ment to the strong academic support, systematic preparation and continuous guidance provided by the school, along with Lokesh's dedication and hard work. They expressed gratitude to the school management and teaching staff for supporting him throughout his preparation. The management and faculty members of Golden Oak School congratulated Lokesh and expressed confidence that he would continue to achieve greater milestones in his academic career.

Zee Telugu News honours Dr Rajender Reddy with Healthcare Excellence Award

- Dr Hanumandla Rajender Reddy receives Healthcare Excellence Award 2026 for outstanding medical and social service
- Prestigious honour presented by Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla in Hyderabad

SADANANDAM SRIMALLE
HANUMAKONDA

INTERNATIONALLY renowned interventional cardiologist Dr Hanumandla Rajender Reddy, popularly known as "Happy Reddy", has been honoured with the Healthcare Excellence Award 2026 by Zee Telugu News in recognition of his exceptional contribution to medicine, humanitarian service and rural development.

The prestigious award was presented during the grand Healthcare Excellence Awards 2026 ceremony held at the Radisson Blu Hotel in



Banjara Hills, Hyderabad. The event brought together distinguished personalities from the healthcare sector to honour medical professionals who have made remarkable contributions to society.

As Dr Rajender Reddy is currently in the United States, the award was received on his behalf by his wife and TPCC Vice-President Jhansi Rajender Reddy from Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla amid loud applause from the audience.

Dr Rajender Reddy, a native of Cherlapalem village in Mahabubabad district of

Telangana, has earned global recognition as a leading interventional cardiologist in the United States. Having moved to America nearly four decades ago after completing his medical education at Osmania Medical College, he established himself as a respected specialist in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Disease.

Currently based in Hanford, California, Dr Rajender Reddy has been associated with reputed medical institutions including Adventist Health Hanford and Kaweah Health Medical Center. He is widely recognised for his



expertise in complex cardiac procedures such as angioplasty, stent implantation and pacemaker treatments.

Apart from his achievements in medicine, Dr Rajender Reddy has also gained admiration for his extensive social service activities. Through the Hanumandla Rajender-Jhansi Reddy Foundation, he and his wife have undertaken several developmental initiatives in Telangana, particularly in their native village Cherlapalem.

The couple contributed towards rural infrastructure development by donat-

ing land for 2BHK housing, constructing a Gram Panchayat office and improving facilities in government schools. His efforts towards transforming the village into a model rural community have earned widespread appreciation.

Dr Rajender Reddy has also been actively supporting education and employment opportunities for underprivileged youth. He has provided scholarships to financially weak students and established the Hanumandla Laxamma Skill Development Centre to offer vocational training and encour-

age self-employment among rural youth and women.

His humanitarian efforts have extended beyond India as well. In 2006, the Reddy family donated one million dollars towards the construction of a student health centre at University of California, Merced, a contribution that received appreciation in the United States.

Speaking after receiving the award, Jhansi Rajender Reddy said the honour was a proud moment for their family and reflected Dr Rajender Reddy's lifelong commitment to treating medical service as humanitarian service rather than merely a profession.

She also praised Zee Telugu News for recognising individuals serving society through healthcare.

The Healthcare Excellence Award 2026 has further elevated Dr Rajender Reddy's stature as a globally respected medical professional and philanthropist, bringing pride to Telangana and particularly the people of the erstwhile Warangal district.

Hans India Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME

I BABA KHAN (Old name) H.No:5-11-750, Yellammagutta, Nizamabad. Hence changed my name as **HUSSAIN KHAN S/O NABI KHAN** (New name) (TH_Malli-Nzb) (TH_34250)

I, Army with service No :14847529H, Jeevan kumar Velpula (old name), Designation :Naik, H.No:2-79, Mirzapur (V), Husband (M), Siddipet District, state of telangana, Shall hence forth be known as **Velpula Jeevan kumar** (new name) (TH_34250)

LAXMIPURAM RAJUBAI s/o LAXMIPURAM RAJANNA R/o H.No.3-7 Janakampet (V) Velpur (M) Nzb (D) have changed my name as **LAXMAPURAM RAJUBAI S/O LAXMAPURAM RAJANNA** (TH_34250)

LAXMIPURAM LAXMIBAI w/o LAXMIPURAM RAMULOO R/o H.No.3-7 Janakampet (V) Velpur (M) Nzb (D) have changed my name as **LAXMAPURAM LAXMIBAI W/O LAXMAPURAM RAMULU** (TH_34250)

LAXMIPURAM RAMULOO S/O LAXMIPURAM RAJANNA R/o H.No.3-7 Janakampet (V) Velpur (M) Nzb (D) have changed my name as **LAXMAPURAM RAMULU S/O LAXMAPURAM RAJANNA** (TH_34250)

LAXMIPURAM RAJANNA S/O LAXMIPURAM RAMULOO R/o H.No.3-7 Janakampet (V) Velpur (M) Nzb (D) have changed my name as **KODURI ABHIRAM S/O Koduri Sadanandam** (New name) (TH_34250)

I, KODURI SADANANDAM, R/o H.No.2-33/1, Peddabonkur, Peddapalli Under signed that my son name as **KODURI PAVAN KUMAR** (old name) changed my son name as **KODURI ABHIRAM S/O Koduri Sadanandam** (New name) (TH_34250)

I KUSANGI PUSHPA LATHA (Old name) H/O: 3-8, Nyavanandi, Sirikonda, Nizamabad. • **KUSHANGI PUSHPA LATHA W/O KUSHANGI RAVI REDDY** (New name) (TH_34250)

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ASHWINI NARAYAN RAO GUTTEDAR (Old Name) H.No:6-2-37/1, Kakaji Colony, Hanumakonda, T.G. have changed my name from ASHWINI NARAYAN RAO GUTTEDAR to **ASHWINI NARAYAN GUTTEDAR** (New Name), W/O.SREEDHAR ARUKONDA in all my Records (TH_34250)

I, ASHWINI GUTTEDAR (Old Name) H.No:6-2-37/1, Kakaji Colony, Hanumakonda, T.G. have changed my name from ASHWINI GUTTEDAR to **ASHWINI NARAYAN GUTTEDAR** (New Name), W/O.SREEDHAR ARUKONDA in all my Records (TH_34250)

I, KOTHA PADMAJA, W/o. KOTHA DAYAKAR, R/o. 10-4-166/6/A, Vavilalappally, Karimnagar, TS, Have changed my name as **DEETI PADMAJA, W/o. KOTHA DAYAKAR** (TH_34250)

CHANGE OF NAME

ARIYAKSHETRIYA RAJU S/O GANGARAM ARIYAKSHETRIYA (old name) H. NO:-1-12-120/2, Sree Nagar colony, Vinayak Nagar, Nizamabad pin 503001, INDIA. I have changed my name as **JADHAU RAAZU PATIL S/O JADHAU GANGARAM PATIL** (New Name) (TH_Mallikarjune-Nzb)

CHANGE OF NAME

I Syed Zameer Ahmed Change My Daughter Name Syeda Naafia Zoreza (09) (Old Name) R/o. H.No. 4-3-19/79/1, Housing Board Colony, Aneesa Nagar, Bodhan, Nizamabad, T.G. Have Changed My Daughter Name as **SYEDA MYSHA ZUBI (NEW NAME)**, D/o. Syed Zameer Ahmed. (TH_34250)

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తెలంగాణ రాజపత్రం
The Telangana Gazette
PART-1 EXTRAORDINARY PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY
 District Gazette No.A3/42/2026 Dated:20.05.2026

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
OFFICE OF THE SUB-COLLECTOR, KALLURU
PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION
FORM-VI
 (See sub rule (1) of rule 19 and Section -11(1) of the Act-30/2013)
 Collector File No. G1/76169/2024 Date: 16.05.2026
 LAO/Sub-Collector, Kalluru File No.A/1598/2025 Date: 08.05.2026

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/Collector that a total of Acs 22.38 1/2 Gts. Land is required in Bayyannagudem Village of Penuballi Mandal Khammam District for public purpose, namely, SRLLP (Seetha Rama Lift Irrigation Project) requisition submitted by the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division No.1 Kothagudem. In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 10A(b) in chapter III.A of the RFTLA, R&R (Telangana Amendment), 2016 (Act No. 21 of 2017), the Government of Telangana vide G.O.Ms.No.38 Irrigation & CAD (LA.R&R/A2), Dated: 30.06.2017 hereby, exempt the Seetha Rama Lift Irrigation Project from application of the provisions of chapter II and III of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Additional Collector (Revenue), Khammam is appointed as Project Administrator for the purpose of Rehabilitation and Resettlement of the affected families vide proceedings no. G1/76169/2024, Dated. 09.12.2024.

Therefore it is notified that for the above said project in the Bayyannagudem Village of Penuballi Mandal Khammam District land measuring more or less Acs 22.38 1/2 gts of standard measurement whose detail description is as following is proposed for acquisition:

SCHEDULE
 Village: Bayyannagudem Mandal: Penuballi District:Khammam

Sl. No.	Sd/No. of Title of Land	Type of Land	Area under acquisition in Acgts.	Name and address of the interested person	Boundaries				Trees & Structure
					East	West	South	North	
1	126/1/8	Govt Dry	0.09	Gugulothu Bodaiah S/o Thavu	126	126	126	126	Current Pole-1 Palm Trees-14, Under Ground Drip
2	126/1/8	Govt Dry	0.04	Gugulothu Venkateswarlu S/o Dharmiah	126	126	126	126	Euclyptus-40, Mango Tree-1, Open Well-1
3	126/1/8	Govt Dry	0.19	Pinnameti Srinivasa Rao S/o Nageswara Rao	126	126	126	126	Srigandham Tree-3, Neem Trees-12, Borewell-1 Fencing Stones-90, Under Ground Drip, Palm Trees-32
4	126/1/8	Govt Dry	0.00	Koppula Venkateswara Rao S/o Ragavulu	126	126	126	126	Neem Trees-2
5	126/1/8	Govt Dry	0.17	Koppula Krishnaiah S/o Ragavulu	126	126	126	126	Palm Trees-26
6	126/1/8	Govt Dry	0.03	Boddupalli Iaxmji rao S/o Ramdas	126	126	126	126	Mango Trees-3
7	126/1/8	Govt Dry	0.02	Koppula Chittamma w/o Koppula satyam	126	126	126	126	Moringa Trees-70
Total:					1.16				
8	126/1/9	Govt Dry	0.01	Boddupalli Iaxmji rao S/o Ramdas	126	126	126	126	Mango Trees-2
9	126/1/9	Govt Dry	0.01	Koppula chittamma w/o koppula satyam	126	126	126	126	Moringa Trees-30
10	126/1/9	Govt Dry	0.08	Channu Ramamahia S/o Nagaiiah	126	126	126	126	Mango Trees-20, Toddi Trees-10
11	126/1/9	Govt Dry	0.07	Channu Srinivasa Rao S/o Appalaih	126	126	126	126	Mango Trees-4
12	126/1/9	Govt Dry	0.04	Channu HariKrishna S/o Bazar	126	126	126	126	Mango Trees-6
13	126/1/9	Govt Dry	0.03	Channu Narishima Rao S/o Bazar	126	126	126	126	Mango Trees-6
14	126/1/9	Govt Dry	0.16	Channu Satyanarayana S/o Pullaiiah	126	126	126	126	Palm Trees-25
15	126/1/9	Govt Dry	0.00	Nagubandi Rama Rao S/o Pullaiiah	126	126	126	126	Nil
Total:					1.02				
16	126/1/10	Govt Dry	0.09	Nagubandi Rama Rao S/o Pullaiiah	126	126	126	126	Nil
17	126/1/10	Govt Dry	0.16	Popuri Ankinideedu S/o Subbarao	126	126	126	126	Palm Trees-45
18	126/1/10	Govt Dry	0.22	Nagubandi Rama Rao S/o Pullaiiah	126	126	126	126	Nil
Total:					1.07				
19	126/1/11	Govt Dry	0.07	Nagubandi Rama Rao S/o Pullaiiah	126	126	126	126	Nil
20	126/1/11	Govt Dry	0.02	Road	126	126	126	126	Coconut Trees-5
21	126/1/11	Govt Dry	0.00	Deveneni Satyam S/o Seethaiah	126	126	126	126	Nil
22	126/1/11	Govt Dry	0.00	Dodda Srinu S/o Suryanarayana	126	126	126	126	Nil
Total:					1.10				
23	126/1/12	Govt Dry	0.36	Chittineni Brahmananda rao S/o Venkateswarao	126	126	126	126	Nil
24	126/1/12	Govt Dry	0.06	Moda Ghandi Mohan S/o Ramulu	126	126	126	126	Nil
Total:					1.02				
25	127/2/Patta	Dry	0.09	Chittineni Brahmananda rao S/o Venkateswarao	126	129	126	128	Nil
26	127/2/Patta	Dry	0.06	Mutham Satyanarayana S/o Venkaiah	126	129	126	128	Nil
27	127/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Seethamma W/o Picharao	126	129	126	128	Mango Trees-6
Total:					0.17				
28	128/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Chittineni Brahmananda rao S/o Venkateswarao	126	129	127	126	Nil
29	128/2/Patta	Dry	0.04	Mutham Satyanarayana S/o Venkaiah	126	129	127	126	Nil
30	128/2/Patta	Dry	0.12	Seethamma W/o Picharao	126	129	127	126	Mango Trees-6
Total:					0.07				
31	129/2/Patta	Dry	0.29	Seethamma & Picha Rao	128	129	129	129	Mango Trees-120
Total:					0.29				
32	130/2/Patta	Dry	0.00	Mutham Anitha W/o Vishnu	130	137	131	130	Nil
33	130/2/Patta	Dry	0.00	Seethamma W/o Picharao	130	137	131	130	Mango Trees-3
34	130/2/Patta	Dry	0.31	Vakhadhani Nagamani W/o Govindhu	130	137	131	130	Mango Trees-14
35	130/2/Patta	Dry	0.02	Alla Suri S/o Kotaliah	130	137	131	130	Palm Trees-4
Total:					0.34				
36	131/2/Patta	Dry	0.02	Alla Suri S/o Kotaliah	126	135	132	130	Palm Trees-4
Total:					0.02				
37	135/3/2/Patta	Dry	0.00	Vakhadhani Nagamani W/o Govindhu	126	135	132	130	Mango Trees-1
38	135/3/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Alla Suri S/o Kotaliah	126	135	132	130	Palm Trees-2
39	135/3/2/Patta	Dry	0.00	Mutham Anitha W/o Vishnu	126	135	132	130	Nil
Total:					0.02				
40	141/2/Patta	Dry	0.11	Kothapalli Srinivasa Rao S/o Narayana	145	143	144	142	VB of Karaiia gud em
41	141/2/Patta	Dry	0.07	Vankyalapati Chanti S/o Kasulu	145	143	144	142	VB of Karaiia gud em
42	141/2/Patta	Dry	0.05	Vanama Kishor Kumar S/o Pichaiah	145	143	144	142	VB of Karaiia gud em
Total:					0.24				
43	139/2/Patta	Dry	0.02	Vanama Kishor Kumar S/o Pichaiah	139	139	138	140	Mango Trees-5
44	139/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Mittapalli Satynarayana S/o Ramarao	139	139	138	140	Mango Trees-5
Total:					0.03				

45	144/2/Patta	Dry	0.00	Vanama Kishor Kumar S/o Pichaiah	138	143	146	145	VB of Karaiia gud em
46	144/2/Patta	Dry	0.16	Mittapalli Satynarayana S/o Ramarao	138	143	146	145	VB of Karaiia gud em
47	144/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Chillamuntha RamaKrishna S/o Veera swami	138	143	146	145	VB of Karaiia gud em
Total:					0.19				
48	145/2/Patta	Dry	0.06	Chillamuntha RamaKrishna S/o Veera swami	138	146	136	144	Nil
Total:					0.06				
49	138/2/Patta	Dry	0.04	Road	129	145	137	139	Nil
50	138/2/Patta	Dry	0.09	Devarapalli Narishma Rao S/o Rama Rao	129	145	137	139	Neem Trees-2, Tomb-1, Drip Pipe
Total:					0.13				
51	132/2/Patta	Dry	0.02	Vaggu Pakira Reddy S/o Basivi Reddy	132	132	133	135	Eucalyptus-100
52	132/2/Patta	Dry	0.02	Road	132	132	133	135	131
53	132/2/Patta	Dry	0.07	Alla Ramakotaiah S/o China narasiah	132	132	133	135	Bore-1, Concut Trees-20
Total:					0.12				
54	135/2/Patta	Dry	0.04	Gosu Naresh S/o Venkateswararao	135	135	132	130	Mango Trees-5
55	135/2/Patta	Dry	0.09	Palakurti Ramesh S/o Krishnaiah	135	135	132	130	Tody-12
56	135/2/Patta	Dry	0.16	Repakula Swamy S/o Redda Musalaiah	135	135	132	130	Mango Trees-10, Bore-1, Pipe Line
Total:					0.29				
57	134/2/Patta	Dry	0.31	Bhimreddy Janaki Devi W/o Prasad Reddy	133	154	78	153	Mango Trees-60
58	134/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Road	133	154	78	153	136
Total:					0.32				
59	154/2/Patta	Dry	0.26	Uppu Rama Krishna S/o Venkata Satyam	134	155	78	153	Palm Trees-36, Mango Trees-3
60	154/2/Patta	Dry	0.00	Uppu Sudha W/o Rama Krishna	134	155	78	153	Subline, Pipe Line Main-1
61	154/2/Patta	Dry	0.04	Uppu Sudhakar Rao S/o Venkatasatyam	134	155	78	153	Palm Trees-5
Total:					0.30				
62	153/2/Patta	Dry	0.07	Uppu Sudhakar Rao S/o Venkatasatyam	136	158	154	152	Palm Trees-10, Neem 2, Teak-1
63	153/2/Patta	Dry	0.13	Uppu Satyanarayana S/o Narishma Swamy Uppu Kasiah W/o Narashima swamy	136	158	154	152	Neem-4, Tody-6, Teak-1
Total:					0.20				
64	158/2/Patta	Dry	0.21	Mukkira Bhupal Reddy S/o Veerabrahma Reddy	158	158	157	151	Mango Trees-4
65	158/2/Patta	Dry	0.17	Vallapuneni Venkata ramarao S/o Mandaiah	158	158	157	151	Mango Trees-4
Total:					0.39				
66	151/2/Patta	Dry	0.13	Maridhu Venkat Rao S/o Venkat Satyam	152	163	158	150	Mango Trees-10, Bore-1, Teak-8
67	151/2/Patta	Dry	0.25	Kondapalli Srinu S/o Krishnaiah	152	163	158	150	Nil
Total:					0.39				
68	163/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Road	151	162	160	164	Nil
69	163/2/Patta	Dry	0.15	Koppuvarapu Balarama Rao S/o Venkateswara Rao	151	162	160	164	Nil
70	163/2/Patta	Dry	0.05	Donthu Madhav Rao S/o Subbarao	151	162	160	164	Mango Trees-7
Total:					0.23				
71	162/2/Patta	Dry	0.06	Donthu Madhav Rao S/o Subbarao	163	162	162	164	Mango Trees-8
72	162/2/Patta	Dry	0.35	Koppuvarapu Balaram S/o Venkateswara Rao	163	162	162	164	1
73	162/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Donthu Manemma W/o Nageswarao	163	162	162	164	Nil
Total:					1.03				
74	164/2/Patta	Dry	0.14	Koppuvarapu Balaram S/o Venkateswara Rao	164	164	162	165	Nil
75	164/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Donthu Manemma W/o Nageswarao	164	164	162	165	Nil
76	164/2/Patta	Dry	0.31	Elurui Purna hchandra Rao S/o Raghavaiah	164	164	162	165	Palm Trees-36, Drip, Pipe Line
Total:					1.07				
77	165/2/Patta	Dry	0.09	Elurui Purna hchandra Rao S/o Raghavaiah	165	165	165	165	Palm Trees-14
78	165/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Motopothula Narishma Rao S/o Sheshaiah	165	165	165	165	Teak-10
79	165/2/Patta	Dry	0.03	Maridhu Suresh S/o Mareswarao	165	165	165	165	Lemon Trees-20
Total:					0.14				
80	166/2/Patta	Dry	0.04	Elurui Purna hchandra Rao S/o Raghavaiah	165	167	166	168	Palm Trees-10
81	166/2/Patta	Dry	0.02	Motopothula Narishma Rao S/o Sheshaiah	165	167	166	168	Teak Trees-20
82	166/2/Patta	Dry	0.07	Maridhu Suresh S/o Mareswarao	165	167	166	168	Lemon Trees-40
83	166/2/Patta	Dry	1.13	Kandhimalla Padmanabha Rao S/o Nagaiiah	165	167	166	168	Palm Trees-70
84	166/2/Patta	Dry	0.00	Kandhimalla Ravi Kiran S/o Padmanabha Rao	165	167	166	168	Nil
85	166/2/Patta	Dry	0.02	Perumalla Rama Rao S/o Mutyalu	165	167	166	168	Palm Trees-6
Total:					1.29				
86	173/2/Patta	Dry	0.00	Kandhimalla Padmanabha Rao S/o Nagaiiah	164	172	174	166	Nil
87	173/2/Patta	Dry	0.00	Kandhimalla Ravi Kiran S/o Padmanabha Rao	164	172	174	166	Nil
88	173/2/Patta	Dry	0.24	Perumalla Rama Rao S/o Mutyalu	164	172	174	166	Palm Trees-32, Gate Wall, Pipe Line
89	173/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Uyyuri Prasad S/o Venkateswara Rao	164	172	174	166	Palm Trees-3
Total:					0.26				
90	172/2/Patta	Dry	0.22	Uyyuri Prasad S/o Venkateswara Rao	172	172	175	166	Palm Trees-30, Moringa Trees-400, Compost Shed-1, Chendiga Trees-8
91	172/2/Patta	Dry	0.01	Road	172	172	175	166	Nil
92	172/2/Patta	Dry	0.00	Kandhimalla Ravi Kiran S/o Padmanabharao	172	172	175	166	Fish Pond-1
Total:					0.23				
93	171/2/Patta	Dry	0.10	Kandhimalla Ravi Kiran S/o Padmanabharao	171				



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.

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.

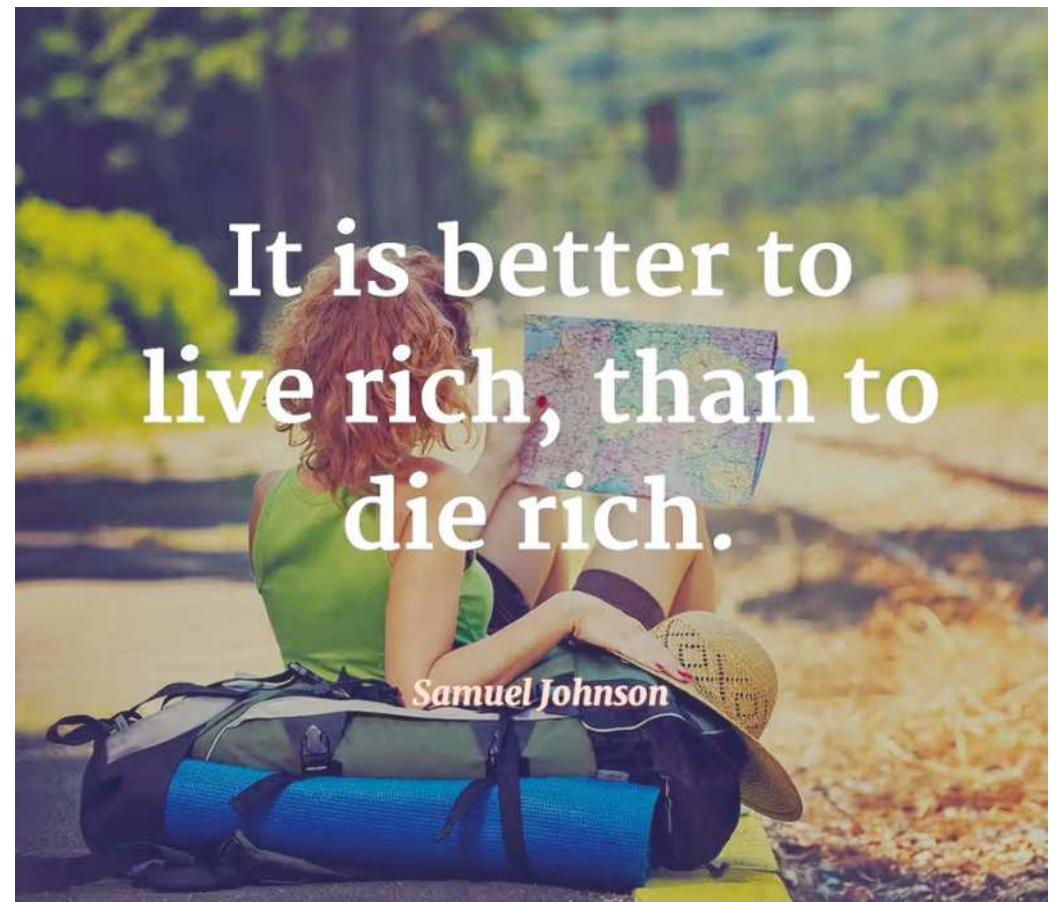
One such example of the

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 Utlal 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.

Dr Soumya's hour of glory gets subdued media attention

LETTER OF THE WEEK



nathan are the first Indian father-daughter duo to get the FRS and Soumya is the

HEARTY congratulations to the Indian scientist Dr Soumya Swaminathan, who has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS), the world's oldest scientific academy in continuous existence. Soumya and Bharat Ratna MS Swami-

second Indian woman to get the honour. Soumya has now entered a privileged league of exceptional scientists. Soumya's role as chief scientist in the World Health Organization (WHO) helped understand the Covid situation better during the pandemic. Alas Indian newspapers did not give as much page 1 prominence as her achievement deserved.

S Sankaranarayanan, Chennai 40

DON'T IGNORE SOLAR POWER

EVERYONE knows that summer temperatures will be extremely high. I remember that during our childhood days, Vijayawada used to be called as 'Blazewada' due to the scorching heat. Ironically nature continues to be peaceful and cheerful irrespective of the season. We must be thankful that nature is giving us free solar power. We should make appropriate use of this bountiful. The government and private authorities must utilise the abundant solar power. With solar powered panels, we can obtain and reap the benefits of

an overwhelming power availability that can be used to maximum levels.

G Murali Mohan Rao, Secunderabad-11.

Better late than never

THE state government of Telangana had taken the right forward step by enhancing minimum wages that have remained stagnant for the past 12 years. Indeed, the decision was prompted by the ongoing writ petition filed in the High Court by members belong-



ing to the working class. It is a paradox of civil administration that while government employees are entitled to DA, yearly increments and a hefty pay revision every ten years together with accrual of arrears, the working class in the unorganised and MSME sectors are denied a regular minimum wage revision. Hope this move will usher in better days for the perennially deprived class.

P R Ravinder, Hyderabad

A Melody moment in Italy

THE gesture of Prime Minister Narendra Modi gifting a packet of Melody chocolates to his Italian counterpart Giorgia Meloni took India by storm. It contagiously went viral on social media and grabbed the attention of millions of viewers. The picture postcard of the pair at the iconic Colosseum was bubbling under and, understandably so, given their glamour and charisma. It was fortuitous that the names blended so well to form the coinage - Meloni + Modi = Melody. Both the leaders exuded exuberance and smiled radiantly without detectable simulation. While a packet of eye-catching Melody may have warmed the cockles of the heart of the Italian Prime Minister and established a close rapport with her, it is hard to quantify how much it has contributed to strengthening, as against 'sweetening', the relations between the two countries. Still, it is certainly indicative of greater cooperation and collaboration that both the countries are keen on having. Leaders too are human

like the rest of us, and they are quite within their rights to give a personal touch to their diplomatic encounters if they choose to. However, it becomes farcical when it is done to make reels for the consumption of supporters. The thought of how Modi's predecessor Dr Manmohan Singh would have conducted himself while meeting another head of government springs to mind. The Opposition has dubbed it "Toffee diplomacy" and faulted him for handing out candies as a token of intimacy in Italy when India is faced with the prospect of an economic crisis.

G David Milton, Maruthancode (TN)

It's more than an amusing market anecdote

With reference to the news report "Wrong Parle Stock jumps 5% after Modi-Meloni video," (THI, May 21), the episode of investors rushing to buy Parle Industries Ltd — an entirely unrelated listed company —



simply because its name resembled Parle Products, the maker of Melody toffees, is more than an amusing market anecdote. It exposes a serious and persistent problem with retail investor behaviour in India. A significant section of market participants continues to make buying decisions

based on social media videos and name recognition rather than any basic due diligence. SEBI has repeatedly flagged this concern, yet the pattern recurs. Stock exchanges and brokers must strengthen real-time investor alerts when trading surges in scrips with no visible fundamental

trigger. Financial literacy campaigns need to move beyond awareness posters and reach investors at the point of transaction, before uninformed decisions cause avoidable losses.

A Myilsami, Suler (P O)-641402

Modi must pursue diplomatic goals

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Italy seems more glamorous than achieving an economic breakthrough out of trade deals between the nations. The 'Melody' and Meloni rhyming and Modi gifting Re one iconic toffee to Giorgia Meloni, his Italian counterpart, became an amusing meme creating an internet viral moment. The expensive foreign trips of the PM need to pursue diplomatic goals, such as regarding the Iran-US and Ukraine-Russia war as well as to ink deals bringing capital/technology inflows into India.

P R Ravinder, Hyderabad.

Restoring trust in Indian exams

ABHINANDAN BHATIA

FOR a student, on examination day, all the hard work, teachers' relentless efforts and parents' expectations — are all at stake. Underlying every competitive examination is a tacit public trust that the system is fair, cannot be gamed, and rewards purely on merit. However, such confidence erodes due to episodes like the recent NEET paper leak, which reflects the deep-rooted systemic complacency of our institutions.

The vulnerabilities in the current method of conducting the NEET examination are evident: too many human points of failure in the channel — from officials engaged in the examination process and question paper setting to the printing press employees and logistics intermediaries. These create enormous financial incentives for organised



"exam mafias" to cultivate networks of insider access.

More concerning, however, is the continued complacency and lack of urgent corrective action by the concerned authorities after the 2024 NEET exam leak. Why were the relevant agencies and departments so slow — nearly two years after the report's submission — to adopt the recommendations of the expert committee led by Dr K Radhakrishnan?

The major recommendations included introduction of Computer Based Testing (CBT) for secure and paperless conduct of the examination across multiple shifts; equipping rural areas and each district with CBT infrastructure; utilising the infrastructure of Kendriya Vidyalayas as well as Central and State Universities; and deploying appropriate normalisation techniques for multi-session examinations.

Infrastructure will remain a challenge in ensuring accessibility to rural candidates. Apart from this, we cannot ignore the contentious normalisation methods used to equate varying difficulty levels across multiple exam shifts.

Nonetheless, we would have a more secure and credible examination system.

It is time decisive and proactive measures are taken by policymakers and public authorities towards restoring public confidence in the integrity of our examination systems.

It is the call of the hour to take stringent action against the perpetrators who desecrate the sanctity of our examinations for private gain and, in doing so, jeopardise the futures of millions of students.

(The writer is a research student at Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi-NCR)



Make Antya Pushkar devotee-friendly

THIS refers to the news report "Sri Kaleshwara Mukteshwar temple is Greater than Prayag: Priest," (THI, May 21). The Antya Pushkaras at the Triveni Sangam of the Saraswati River is a significant religious event, and the arrangements made for hundreds of thousands of devotees are commendable. Large gatherings of this nature, however, require equally serious attention to crowd management, sanitation, medical facilities, and

river cleanliness. The spiritual importance of the occasion must be matched by administrative preparedness. Authorities must ensure that the sacred experience for pilgrims is not undermined by inadequate infrastructure or pollution of the very waters in which devotees seek to bathe and be cleansed. Proper planning today will preserve the sanctity of such events for future generations.

S P Suganya Devi, Coimbatore

Co-op banks must boost governance

THIS refers to "High yields, tight liquidity: Wake-up call for cooperative banks" (THI, May 22). The article rightly highlights the growing pressure on cooperative banks in a period of rising bond yields and uneven liquidity conditions. These institutions remain vital for rural borrowers, small traders and agricultural communities, yet many continue to function with weak risk management systems and excessive dependence on wholesale funding. Instead of merely increasing lending rates, cooperative banks must strengthen governance, improve deposit mobilisation and invest in professional treasury management. Greater financial literacy among customers and timely regulatory guidance from the RBI can also improve resilience. Cooperative banking is not only about profitability; it is equally about sustaining trust and ensuring stable credit access for vulnerable sections of society.

Swathi Senthilkumar, Coimbatore

IMD move a blessing for farmers

THIS refers to the THI article "Weather forecasting blends two models to sharpen accuracy." The IMD's initiative to blend two forecasting models for improved monsoon accuracy is a welcome and overdue step. For Indian farmers, weather unpredictability is not an inconvenience but a direct threat to their livelihood. A missed forecast can mean delayed sowing, wasted inputs, or crop failure. The real test, however, lies in last-mile delivery. Block-level forecasts are only useful if they reach farmers in their local language,



through channels they use like mobile alerts, local radio, or panchayat networks. Technology at the top must translate into actionable information at the field level, or its potential remains largely unrealised.

M Barathi, Bengaluru-560076



Disturbed biodiversity is bad news

ENVIRONMENT is the second home of both animate and inanimate matter. Air pollution, biodiversity, ecosystem restoration and earth care are all issues that are closely associated with maintenance of a clean and sustainable environment. Destruction of wildlife habitats, deforestation, expanding populations and adverse climate changes allow easy passages for viral infections from animal to man. The cycle is: deforestation—loss of habitat—increased human and animal interaction—viral transmission. In the last five decades, the rich natural resources of the globe have declined by at least half. Overpopulation, global warming and wildlife sustainability have, therefore, been primary topics of global interest.

Dr Ganapathi Bhat, Akola

Each of us should swear by austerity

IN times of economic challenge, the strength of a nation lies in the collective discipline of its people and its leaders. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has outlined key austerity measures that every citizen should embrace as a measure of one's national duty.

Austerity measures for citizens:

1. Postpone gold purchases: Delay buying gold by at least one year. Gold imports drain foreign exchange. Preserving our forex reserves is critical for national stability today.
2. Conserve fuel: Save petrol and diesel. Carpool whenever possible and choose alternative transport des like electric vehicles (EVs).
3. Harness solar power: India is blessed with abundant sunshine. We delayed adopting solar energy. At least now go in for rooftop solar panels and generate your own electricity.
4. Reduce edible oil use:



Prime Minister Narendra Modi Urges The Nation To Reduce The Impact Of War Avoid Buying Gold. Bring Back Work-From-Home Culture Save Petrol And Diesel! Reduce Foreign Trips And Destination Weddings Cut Down On Imported Foreign Products

Cut consumption by at least 10 per cent to save on money and improve health.

5. Embrace gold-coated jewellery: Women can lead by choosing gold-coated jewellery over real gold, reducing import burden without losing tradition.

Meanwhile, official convoys can be reduced by half. Courts should immediately

expand virtual hearings. Patronise online transactions.

Austerity measures for governments:

1. Public Representatives: Salaries and pensions for public representatives should be revised. A specially constituted committee can decide the amount of honorarium.
2. Downsize official quar-

ters: Where possible, reduce the size and cost of government housing, and vehicle repairs to prevent waste.

3. Digital shift: Exams should gradually move online. All government services that can be done virtually should make the shift on priority basis.

4. Vote by mobile: Software engineers should develop secure ways for citizens to cast votes using mobile phones.

Citizens, government employees, banks and corporates must all understand austerity and spend only on what is necessary. I suggest a dedicated committee to prepare comprehensive austerity guidelines for all departments, including Parliament.

Our long-term goal must be clear. We must move from a deficit budget to a balanced budget where revenue equals expenditure. It is tough, but not impossible to achieve. This is our moment. Let us rise to the occasion.

K Lakshman Rao, Bangalore

An ode to Alfred Rose, the golden voice of Goa

THERE are voices that simply entertain, and then there are voices that become woven into the fabric of people's lives. Alfred Rose belonged firmly to the latter. For generations of Goans and admirers of Konkani music across the globe, his songs were never just melodies—they were living narratives, filled with emotion, humour, and the rhythms of everyday life. Born in 1932, Alfred shot to prominence when Konkani music was still striving for

wider recognition. Through sheer talent and dedication, he transformed it into a powerful medium of cultural expression. With his distinctive baritone voice, sharp lyrical wit, and remarkable storytelling ability, he created compositions that explored love, satire, social concerns, and the ordinary yet meaningful experiences of Goan society. His songs often carried subtle messages, addressing issues like migration, identity, and community values, all

while remaining deeply engaging and accessible. What truly set him apart was his ability to connect. His music resonated with both the local Goan community and the diaspora, preserving the Konkani language and identity during times when cultural erosion was a genuine concern. He didn't just sing songs; he safeguarded a heritage.

Beyond his musical achievements, Alfred Rose also made significant contri-



butions to Konkani cinema. His appearance in the film Boglantt, alongside his wife Rita Rose, highlighted his versatility as an artist. The couple became an iconic duo for their shared commitment to promote Konkani art and culture.

Even today, his music continues to endure. His songs are still played at family gatherings, cultural events, and celebrations. Older generations revisit them with nostalgia, while

younger listeners discover them with fresh appreciation. In a rapidly changing world, his work remains timeless—bridging generations and keeping traditions alive. Remembering Alfred Rose is not merely about honouring a legendary musician; it is about celebrating a legacy that continues to inspire, unite, and define a community. Alfred Rose will always remain the golden voice of Goa.

Jubel D'Cruz, Mumbai

BENGALURU ONLINE

Upcoming Anekal cricket stadium to accommodate 80,000 spectators

BENGALURU: A major milestone in Karnataka's sports infrastructure development was marked on Saturday as Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar jointly laid the foundation stone for a massive international cricket stadium at Indlawadi village in Anekal taluk on the outskirts of Bengaluru.

The proposed stadium, which is being developed at an estimated cost of Rs 900 crore, is expected to become the second-largest international cricket stadium in the country with a seating capacity of nearly 80,000 spectators. The ambitious project is being undertaken by the Karnataka Housing Board across nearly 100 acres of land and is expected to be completed within the next two to three years. The groundbreaking ceremony was held amid much fanfare, with thousands of people and party workers gathering at the venue. Local MLA Anekal Shivanna welcomed the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister by presenting them with a symbolic silver mace as a mark of honour and appreciation. The dignitaries were also greeted with massive apple garlands, traditional folk performances and ceremonial 'Poorna Kumbha' processions by women. Several senior political leaders and officials attended the event, including Home Minister G. Parameshwara, MLA K.M. Shivalingegowda, CPM's legal advisor A.S. Ponnanna and MLA Krishnappa.

Officials said the upcoming sports complex will feature world-class indoor, outdoor and aquatic facilities. The indoor sports arena will accommodate 11 major disciplines including badminton, basketball, volleyball, handball, table tennis, squash, kabaddi, kho-kho, judo, taekwondo, wrestling, fencing and weightlifting. The project will also include an Olympic-size swimming pool, a high-diving pool, a separate practice pool, synthetic athletic tracks and courts for tennis, basketball and volleyball. Dedicated arenas for emerging sports like padel and pickleball are also planned.

Apart from sports facilities, the stadium complex will feature multilevel parking for more than 500 vehicles, commercial and retail outlets, sports equipment stores, food courts and modern accommodation facilities for players, coaches and staff. A helipad, public plaza and a large green zone are also part of the master plan.

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

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

Different Strokes

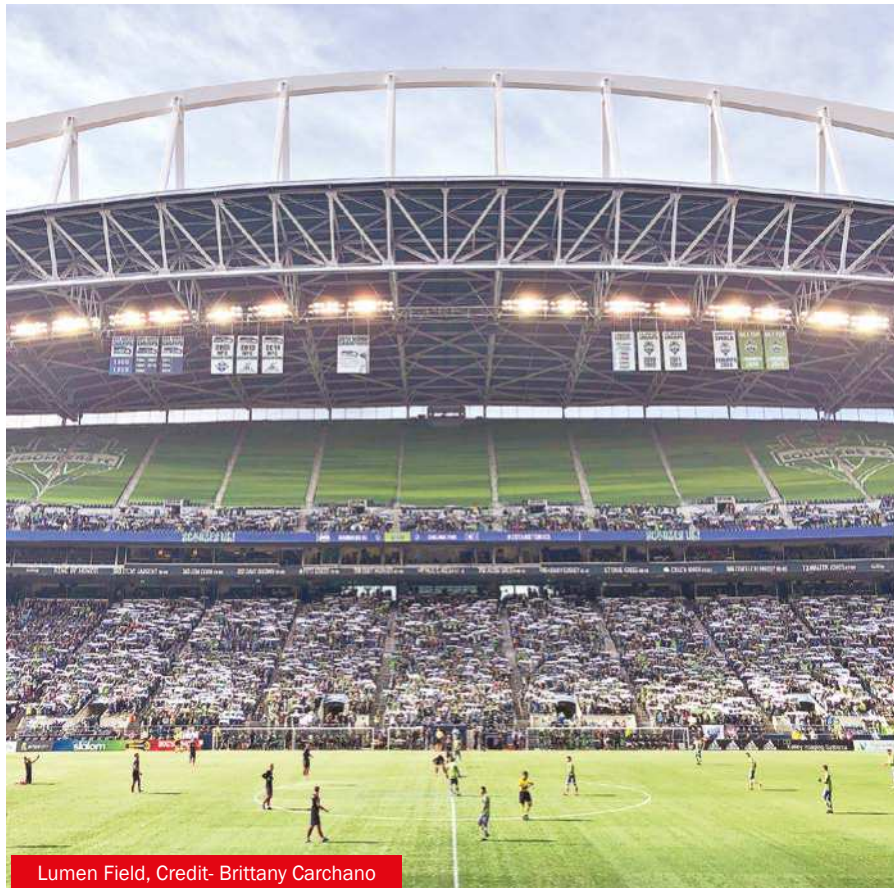
A guide to exploring Seattle during FIFA 2026: Sports, culture and sightseeing



City, Credit- David Newman



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



Lumen Field, Credit- Brittany Carchano

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

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

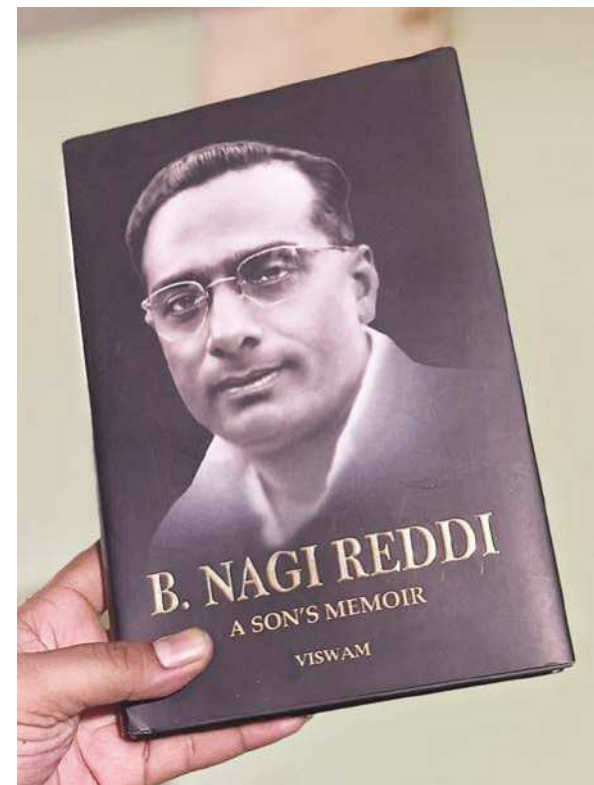
SUHAS SISTU

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 saangeet 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 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,



Chennai, Marina Beach

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, Hyderabadis are 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



Hyderabad, Tank Bund

the airport, train stations, and business areas such as Aalandur 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 cherishable, relishable or 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?

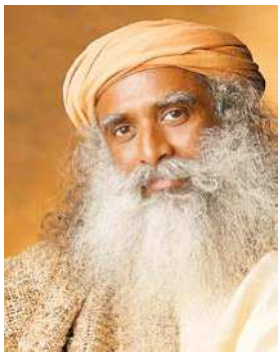
Today, what makes the world-situation peaceless is that mankind has not yet been able to realise the truth that the factors that lead nations to race for military superiority build-up of weapons and subjugation of other people and their territories are religious bigotry, scramble for power or spirit 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 demonic 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, and choose stability over 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



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 uncut 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.



Dance in key roles.

named Brutal Dharma.

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

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, Tejaswini Prakash, Rizwan Sajan, Satish and Tabinda Sanpal, Alizey and Lailli Mirza, along with Pamela Serena.

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

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

RELEASES		
Platform	Title	Description
Netflix & JioHotstar	Dhurandhar - Part 1 (Raw & Undekha)	The blockbuster spy thriller is streaming in a new "Raw & Undekha" version featuring uncut dialogues, raw action sequences, and darker visuals. The film stars Ranveer Singh, Akshaye Khanna, Sanjay Dutt, R. Madhavan, and Arjun Rampal.
Netflix	Ladies First	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.
	Desi Bling Season 1	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	Gaayapadda Simham	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.
	Sathi Leelavathi	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.
	System	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	Uttutta Herolu	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	Memu Coplam	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

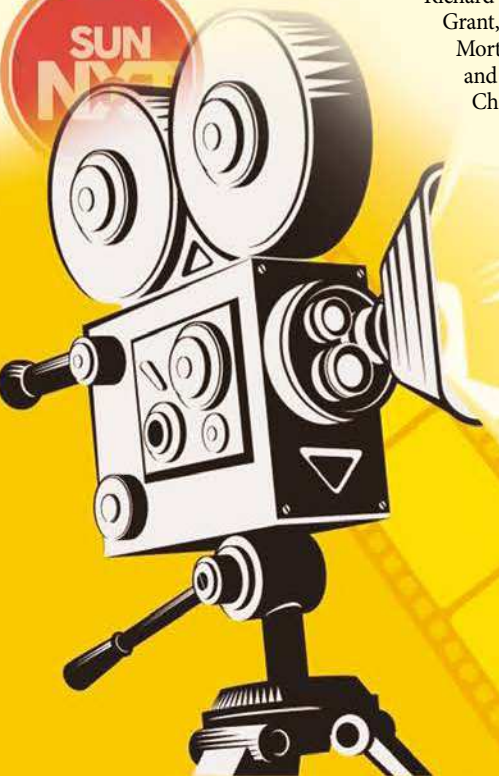
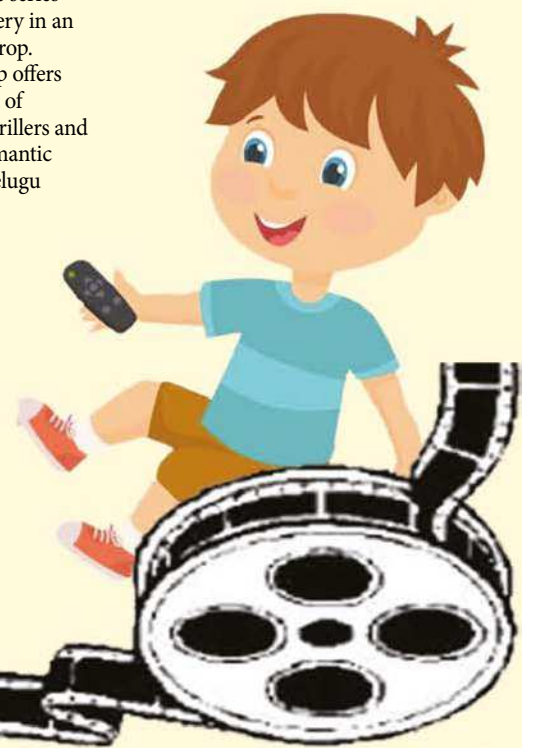


consists of six episodes and stars Naga Babu, Getup Srinu, and Ravi Teja Nannimala in key roles. The rural comedy-mystery revolves around two clueless village police constables who are assigned to investigate the strange disappearance of a prized fighting rooster named "Salaar Raju." Filled with hilarious misunderstandings, quirky village characters, and chaotic investigations, the series blends comedy and mystery in an entertaining rustic backdrop.



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.

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.



'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.





BIZ BRIEFS

BharathCloud, BDIA in pact

BharathCloud engaged in discussions at Bharat Digital Samvad, the inaugural national forum organised by the Bharath Digital Infrastructure Association (BDIA), in New Delhi. The summit brought together policymakers, cloud infrastructure leaders, regulators, enterprises, and technology stakeholders to discuss India's digital sovereignty, AI infrastructure readiness, and the future of domestic cloud ecosystems. The event also initiated the official launch of BDIA as an association of not-for-profit industry dedicated to developing and improving India's digital infrastructure.

Classic Legends' new initiative

Classic Legends has announced the launch of the 9-day "Legends' Care Camp", a nationwide service initiative across its authorised Jawa, Yezdi and BSA dealership network from May 23 to May 31, 2026, reinforcing the company's continued focus on customer satisfaction and after-sales experience. The service camp will be organised across multiple cities and will offer customers comprehensive vehicle health check-ups along with exclusive benefits on service, spare parts, labour and genuine accessories. As part of the initiative, trained technicians will conduct a detailed 72-point motorcycle inspection.

Bajaj Finserv AMC's report

In its latest outlook, Bajaj Finserv AMC believes global markets are entering a more challenging phase marked by moderating growth, elevated inflation, and heightened geopolitical uncertainty. According to the latest IMF projections, global growth is expected to slow to 3.1 per cent in 2026 from 3.4 per cent last year, while inflation is projected to rise to 4.4 per cent, largely due to elevated energy prices and supply-side disruptions.

ITC focuses on biodiversity

As the world marks International Day for Biological Diversity, under the theme 'Acting Locally for Global Impact', ITC's large-scale and integrated biodiversity conservation initiatives demonstrate how grassroots action can deliver impactful ecological outcomes, build climate resilience and support livelihoods creation, the company said. ITC's biodiversity programme in collaboration with State Governments cumulatively covers nearly 7.8 lakh acres across 10 states in India till date and the aim is to cover 1 million acres under the initiative by 2030.

BLSe releases FY26 results

BLSE-Services Limited (BLSe), a technology-enabled digital service provider, announced its consolidated audited financial results for the quarter and full year period ended March 31, 2026. The company's total income increased to Rs. 1,142.8 crore in FY26 as compared to Rs 545 crore in FY25, up by 109.7 per cent YoY. EBITDA of the company increased to Rs. 99.9 crores from Rs. 86.1 crore in FY25. PAT rose to Rs. 69.3 crore as compared to Rs 58.8 crore in FY25.

When oil and rain conspire against your wallet

Rising fuel prices, El Niño, weakening rupee, and constrained govt spending create a squeeze on real incomes

CHOLLETT

HERE is a number worth pausing over: 6.7 per cent. That is how fast India Ratings and Research - one of the country's most credible independent credit rating and economic research agencies, affiliated with the global Fitch Group - expects the Indian economy to grow in the financial year 2026-27. Not a bad number by global standards. But it represents a meaningful deceleration from the 7.6 per cent growth recorded in FY26, and the reasons behind that deceleration matter enormously to the ordinary Indian household navigating the crosscurrents of rising prices, a weakening rupee, and a world that seems perpetually on the edge of the next crisis.

Let us translate the economics into plain language - because this forecast is not an abstraction. It will show up in your petrol bill, your grocery basket, your EMI, and your savings account.

The Oil Problem — And Why It Is Your Problem

The single biggest villain in this economic story is crude oil. India imports roughly 85 per cent of its petroleum needs, making it one of the world's most oil-import-dependent large economies. When global oil prices rise - driven, as they currently are, by the ongoing West Asia conflict - the impact on India is swift, broad, and deeply personal.

India Ratings has built its base-case forecast on oil averaging USD 95 per barrel across FY27, with higher prices assumed in the first half of the year before moderating. Under this assumption, GDP growth comes in at 6.7 per cent. But here is the sensitivity analysis that should make policymakers and citizens alike sit up: every USD 10 per barrel increase in crude prices reduces India's GDP growth by 44 basis points - nearly half a percentage point. If oil averages USD 120 per



barrel - not an inconceivable scenario if the West Asia situation deteriorates - growth could fall to 5.6 per cent. That is a significant economic setback.

For the middle-class family, this translates into the cost of a litre of petrol and diesel. The government has already raised retail petrol and diesel prices by Rs. 3 per litre and compressed natural gas prices by Rs. 2 per kg in May 2026, following earlier hikes in March and April. Another round of increases - Rs. 5 more per litre in the first quarter of FY27 under India Ratings' assumptions - is anticipated. The household budget that has been absorbing one inflation shock after another is being asked to absorb yet another. Every additional rupee per litre of petrol is not merely a transport cost - it is a multiplier that raises the price of every good that travels on Indian roads, which means virtually everything you buy.

El Niño - The Weather Risk Nobody is Talking About Enough

The second major headwind is something less amenable to policy intervention: the weather. India Ratings specifically flags the likely emergence of El Niño weather patterns from mid-2026 as a significant risk to agricultural output and food prices. El Niño - a periodic warming of the Pacific Ocean surface temperature - historically



disrupts the Indian monsoon, reducing rainfall below normal levels and damaging crop production.

Agriculture still employs approximately 45 per cent of India's workforce, even as its share of GDP has declined. A bad monsoon does not merely reduce farm incomes - it reduces rural consumption spending, which in turn slows the entire demand-driven economy. India Ratings has assumed rainfall at 92 per cent of the long-period average - already below normal - and projects agricultural GDP growth of only 2.1 per cent in FY27. If El Niño is more severe, even this modest projection could prove optimistic.

For the urban middle-class consumer, the connection is direct: food inflation. Retail inflation is already projected to rise to 4.4 per cent in FY27 from 2.1 per cent in FY26. Wholesale inflation, which is a leading indicator of future retail prices, has already jumped to a 42-month high of 8.3 per cent in May 2026. Vegetables, cereals, pulses, and dairy - already subject to supply pressures - will be



crude oil, fertilisers, electronic components, and the hundreds of goods whose production chains run through imported inputs. For the family that is already absorbing higher petrol prices, a weakening rupee compounds the problem by making the underlying dollar cost of energy even more expensive in domestic currency terms.

Further squeezed by the monsoon disappointments. The government has already shown how sensitive it is to food price pressures: import duties on gold were raised to contain the current account deficit, and milk brands like Amul and Mother Dairy have already raised prices by Rs. 2 per litre each. This is only the beginning of what could be a difficult food price environment through the year.

The Rupee - Quietly Losing Ground

There is another tax that falls on every Indian who buys anything imported - and that includes fuel, electronics, edible oils, and medicines among many other goods. It is called currency depreciation, and it is working silently and continuously against the Indian household.

India Ratings projects the rupee-dollar exchange rate to average Rs. 94.28 to the dollar in FY27 - a depreciation of 6.7 per cent from the FY26 average of Rs. 88.35. A weaker rupee makes every import more expensive in rupee terms. It directly inflates the cost of

the trade deficit - the gap between what India imports and exports - is projected to widen to USD 421.2 billion in FY27, the highest since FY13. India's current account deficit (the broader measure of the country's external balance) is expected to deteriorate to 2.6 per cent of GDP. This is manageable but uncomfortable, and it places continued downward pressure on the rupee.

The Government's Balancing Act - And Its Limits

The government is attempting to navigate these pressures through a combination of fiscal prudence and targeted support. The fiscal deficit target for FY27 is 4.3 per cent of GDP - tighter than last year's 4.4 per cent. A fiscal stabilisation fund of Rs. 1 trillion created in FY26 will provide some cushion. The Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme 5.0 (ECLGS) has been activated for MSMEs and other borrowers facing liquidity stress from the West Asia-driven disruptions.

Every additional rupee per litre of petrol is not merely a transport cost - it is a multiplier that raises the price of every good that travels on Indian roads, which means virtually everything you buy

But the government's room for manoeuvre is genuinely constrained. Fuel subsidies, fertiliser subsidies, and the need to support El Niño relief measures - if the monsoon disappoints - will all press against the fiscal deficit target. India Ratings notes that Niti Aayog has recommended deferring major construction activities for two years to reduce fiscal pressure - a significant recommendation that, if accepted, would slow government capital expenditure and reduce infrastructure investment precisely when private investment remains below its potential. A 10 per cent reduction in government capital expenditure, the report notes, would reduce GFCF (Gross Fixed Capital Formation - a measure of investment in the economy) growth from its current trajectory and pull GDP growth down to 6.0 per cent. This is the capex dilemma at the heart of Indian economic management today: the government needs to invest to sustain growth momentum, but it also needs to consolidate fiscally to maintain credibility with investors and ratings agencies. Threading that needle in a year of high oil prices and potentially poor rainfall will test policymakers considerably.

What This Means for You
At 6.7 per cent, the Indian

economy is still growing faster than almost any other major economy in the world. The structural story - demographics, digital infrastructure, manufacturing expansion, services exports - remains broadly intact. These are not trivial advantages, and they provide genuine reason for medium-term optimism.

But growth at the aggregate level and the experience of growth at the household level are different things. The combination of rising fuel prices, potential food inflation from El Niño, a weakening rupee, and constrained government spending creates a squeeze on real incomes - particularly for salaried and self-employed middle-class families whose nominal incomes are not rising fast enough to offset these pressures.

The practical implication is straightforward: this is a year to be financially conservative. High consumer price inflation, rising borrowing costs, and currency weakness argue for reducing discretionary spending where possible, building a liquidity buffer in household finances, and being cautious about taking on new floating-rate debt. The RBI's tolerance band for inflation (2-6 per cent) means the central bank will not cut rates aggressively in this environment - which means EMIs are unlikely to get cheaper any time soon.

India's economy is resilient and its long-term trajectory is positive. But the year ahead will test that resilience - and the households best positioned to navigate it will be those that see the headwinds clearly rather than those who assume that 6.7 per cent GDP growth means that everything is comfortably fine. It is not, for everyone, and it is important to say so.

(The author is with the Chollet BlackRobe Chambers, Hyderabad, and writes on economy, politics and law)

BUILDING YOUR LINKEDIN PROFILE: A GUIDE FOR EVERY STAGE

Whether you are just starting out or already climbing - your profile must speak the right language



SHILLA SHREE R

A LinkedIn profile is not a one-size-fits-all document. Just as the clothes you wear to a campus interview differ from what you wear to a boardroom, the way you present yourself on LinkedIn must reflect exactly where you are in your career - and where you are headed. Over the past few weeks, we have talked about resumes, interviews, and first impressions. Today, let us go deeper into one of the most powerful tools you carry with you every single day: your LinkedIn profile. And let us talk about it honestly, for three very different kinds of professionals.

For the First-Timer: You Have More to Say Than You Think

If you are a fresher starting at a blank LinkedIn profile and wondering what on earth you have to offer, stop. You have more than you realise - you simply have not learned to frame it yet.

Begin with your headline. Do not write "Fresher"



or "Looking for Opportunities" - these are the two most common mistakes I see, and they immediately signal a lack of confidence. Instead, write what you are: "B.Tech Graduate | Aspiring Data Analyst | Python & SQL Enthusiast" or "Commerce Graduate | Passionate About Finance & Auditing." Lead with identity, follow with direction.

Your About section is where you tell your story. Write three to four sentences about what you studied, what excites you professionally, and what kind of work you are looking for. Mention a college project, an internship, a competition you participated in, or a skill you taught yourself.

Recruiters hiring freshers are not looking for experience - they are looking for curiosity, initiative, and the potential to grow. Show them that. Add your education, any internships, certifications from platforms like Coursera or LinkedIn Learning, and at least five relevant skills. Ask a professor or

internship manager for a recommendation. Even one genuine recommendation on a fresher profile is worth a hundred self-descriptions.

For the One-to-Two Year Professional: Move From Potential to Proof

You have crossed the first milestone. You have real experience now - projects completed, problems solved, lessons learned. Yet many professionals at this stage still carry a LinkedIn profile that looks like it was set up in college and never touched again. That is a missed opportunity.

At this stage, your profile must shift from potential to proof. Update every role with specific achievements, not just responsibilities. There is a critical difference between "Handled social media accounts" and "Grew Instagram engagement by 40 per cent in six months through targeted content strategy." Numbers, results, and outcomes are what make recruiters lean forward.

Revisit your headline. You are no longer an aspir-

Today, let us go deeper into one of the most powerful tools you carry with you every single day: your LinkedIn profile. And let us talk about it honestly, for three very different kinds of professionals

ing professional - you are a working one. "Digital Marketing Executive | SEO & Content Strategy | Driving Organic Growth for B2B Brands" is a headline that commands attention. Your About section should now open with your professional identity, describe your area of expertise, highlight a key result from your work, and close with what kind of next step you are looking for.

For the Mid-Level Professional: Your Profile Must Lead, Not Follow

At four to six years of experience, you are entering the most competitive and most exciting phase of your career. You are no longer being judged purely on skills - you are being evaluated on leadership, judgement, and vision. Your LinkedIn profile must reflect that shift completely.

At this level, your headline should position you as a specialist or a leader in your domain. "Supply Chain Manager | End-to-End Logistics Optimisation | Delivered 20% Cost Reduction Across 3 Plants" is a headline that opens doors. Your About section should read like a professional manifesto - what you stand for, what you have built, and where you are taking your career next.

At this stage, activity on LinkedIn carries real weight. Share your professional perspective on industry developments. Write a short post about a challenge you solved at work. Comment meaningfully on articles by leaders in your field. Mid-level professionals who are visible on LinkedIn are consistently the ones who receive the best unsolicited opportunities - because they have built a reputation, not just a resume. Remember: at this stage of your career, recruiters are not just reading your profile. They are watching how you think.

Wherever you are in your journey - start today. Open your profile, read it as a stranger would, and ask yourself honestly: does this person sound like someone I would want to hire? If the answer is not an immediate yes, you know what to do.

(The writer is the Founder of Search Partners)

Kadamba gets 2026 Monde Selection Gold Medal

Kadamba Indian single-malt whisky from Goa-based luxury spirits conglomerate valued at Rs1,200 crore Cheers group led by Dr Mohan Krishna Balivada, received 2026 Monde Selection Gold Medal recently. And, receiving Monde Selection Gold medals continuously year on year is a significant achievement that serves as a powerful testament to 'Kadamba Indian Single-malt' brand's commitment to sustained quality and excellence. Since 1961, the Brussels-based International Institute for Quality Selections has provided this independent, expert-driven evaluation, often referred to as the "Olympics of Food Products".

The 65 year-old Monde Selection is one of the oldest and most respected international quality institute, that evaluates products using over 120 independent experts - including Michelin-starred chefs, chemists, and oenologists - across over 30 criteria, including sensory evaluation, taste, packaging, and composition. A yearly, consecutive award means the product has repeatedly passed these strict international standards. It is a powerful "360° Quality" validation, indeed.

"We are thrilled to announce a monumental milestone for Kadamba Single-malt whisky, team and for our dedicated community of consumers and Single-malt global enthusiasts. Our flagship



Kadamba has been officially granted the prestigious Gold Quality Award at the 2026 World Selection by Monde Selection" says Ashwin Balivada CEO of Cheers Group and alumnus of Cambridge University Business Management graduate school.

Kadamba Indian Single Malt whisky continues its winning streak, earning the prestigious 2026 Monde Selection Gold Medal and being crowned "Best World Whisky" at the 2026 John Barleycorn Awards in the USA. It has Pan-India presence and expanding internationally to USA, Canada, Europe, UAE, Asia, and is currently expanding on high demand its Goa distillery into a carbon-neutral facility with international visitor centre to pop up Goa tourism.

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 Khamkhanov 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

PANZHUIHUA (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 Moganandharam 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 Harleem 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 Moganandharam (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.

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 outlasted 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.

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), Vijayendra 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 Agraal (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.

THREE ARMS SUPPLIERS ARRESTED



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.



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.

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.