



# THE Hans India



**WOMENIA**  
**Aishwarya Sakhuja takes to social media to create awareness about diabetes**  
 The television star asks people around a diabetic to be conscious of hypoglycemia and not confuse it with drunkenness.

**INDIA**  
**India needs a political culture where facts should matter not propaganda**  
 With Assembly elections due in UP and Punjab in 2027, this trend has become even more evident. Rather than pursuing facts to their logical conclusion, almost every party appears focused on scoring political points.

**REALTY**  
**Homeowners flag structural, safety lapses in Jain Constructions project in Hyderabad**  
 The society has engaged engineers and chartered accountants specialising in certifying completed projects after the issue of the Occupation Certificate.

**SPORTS**  
**French jinx haunts Morocco**  
 The Atlas Lions' best chance came when midfielder Azzedine Ounahi had a shot from the edge of the box but goalkeeper Mike Maignan made a diving stop, knocking the ball away and, essentially, ending the hopes of Morocco.

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## WINDOWS



### Litigant forcibly removed from SC after abusing judges

**NEW DELHI:** In a dramatic turn of events, a litigant appearing in person was forcibly removed from the Supreme Court on Friday after he allegedly hurled abuses and threw his legal papers during the hearing of his petition challenging an Allahabad High Court order. The incident occurred before a partial working day bench comprising justices K V Viswanathan and Alok Aradhe. At the outset, the litigant adopted an unusually confrontational tone. "Mr judicial servant. I order you to order the registration of an FIR against the ACP Lucknow," the litigant, who was wearing a black coat without a lawyer's band, said while addressing the bench.

### HC bars EC from notifying bypolls in five seats in TN

**CHENNAI:** The Madras High Court on Friday restrained the EC till July 31 from notifying bye-polls to the five constituencies in Tamil Nadu where the winning candidates resigned soon after getting elected in the assembly polls held on April 23 this year. The five segments includes Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay's Tiruchirappalli (East) assembly constituency. The First Bench comprising Chief Justice S A Dharmadhikari and Justice G Arulmurugan passed the interim order and posted to July 31, further hearing of a Public Interest Litigation filed by advocate K Venkatachalapathy. The bench directed Vijay and others to file their comprehensive counter-affidavits with all factual and legal assertions within three weeks.

### IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Our numbers match. Let's sign the treaty

# Cong will win 2029 polls with 117 seats: Revanth

- ▶ Says next Assembly polls will be held in 2029, not in 2028
- ▶ TG 'Assembly seats will be increased from 119 to 182'
- ▶ Lok Sabha seats will go up to 26 from 17

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

**CHIEF** Minister Revanth Reddy surmised on Friday that, as the Bharatiya Janata Party is making efforts to pass the Delimitation Bill during the upcoming Parliament session, the state's Assembly elections would not be held in December 2028. He said the number of Assembly constituencies would increase from 119 to 182 and the Lok Sabha seats



Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy taking part in a programme on release of Rythu Bharosa funds to farmers at a meeting in Khammam on Friday

from 17 to 26, with the Assembly elections likely to be held in May-June 2029. Revanth Reddy asserted, swearing by Lord Rama of Bhadrachalam, that the Congress would win more than 117 of the 182 Assembly seats. The Chief Minister ap-

pealed to people to ensure the Congress wins 20 of the 26 Lok Sabha seats from Telangana in the next parliamentary elections and urged them to support the party's efforts to make Rahul Gandhi the Prime Minister. Revanth Reddy was addressing a public meeting

at Jagannadhapuram in the Madhira constituency of Khammam district during the distribution of the final instalment of the 'Rythu Bharosa', investment support for farmers. On the occasion, he launched a sharp attack on former chief minister K Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), the Bharat Rashtra Samithi and the BJP. Declaring that Congress workers would not rest until the 'Kalvakuntla family' was driven out of Telangana's political landscape, Revanth Reddy said: "During the last elections, I said that, regardless of BRS' tactics, the Congress would win 65 seats. We secured 64 seats in the Assembly elections and won two more in the by-elections.

Continued on Page 7

# One Nation, One Election rollout likely by '29: Panel

### A parliamentary committee is actively working to establish a mechanism for implementing the 'ONOE' reform

NEW DELHI

**THE** joint committee of Parliament examining the bills on simultaneous elections is working to create a mechanism that could make the 'One Nation, One Election' reform fully operational by the 2029 general elections, its chairperson said on Friday.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the panel's two-day meeting in Goa, JPC chairperson PP Chaudhary claimed that nearly 99 per cent of civil society stakeholders consulted so far have backed the proposal, which aims to curb an estimated Rs 7 lakh crore economic loss caused by frequent polls. The committee began its deliberations in Goa on the Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill, 2024, with



The reform seeks to prevent an estimated Rs 7 lakh crore economic loss caused by frequent, separate elections across the country

an interaction with Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and members of his cabinet, seeking their views on the challenges involved in implementing simultaneous elections and

ways to address them. "We had an informal interaction with the chief minister and cabinet ministers, who represent the people of Goa. We discussed how 'One Nation, One Election' can be implemented, what challenges exist and how they can be mitigated while maintaining a fine balance acceptable to all," Chaudhary said. **Continued on Page 7**



Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrives in New Zealand on Friday

# Modi lands in New Zealand on final leg of three-nation tour

### First visit by an Indian PM in 40 years

**Modi** was received by Luxon at the airport, where the two leaders exchanged a warm hug

AUCKLAND

**PRIME** Minister Narendra Modi on Friday arrived in New Zealand on the final leg of his three-nation visit, during which he will hold talks with his counterpart Christopher Luxon and address the Indian diaspora. This is the first visit to New Zealand by an Indian prime minister in 40 years. Modi was received by Luxon at the airport, where the two leaders exchanged a warm hug. "Reached Auckland a short while ago. Thankful to Prime Minister Luxon for the welcome at the airport," Modi said in a post on X. "This visit is historic, being the first Prime Ministerial visit to New Zealand in four decades. I look forward to holding talks with Prime Minister Luxon and discussing the complete range of the India-NZ friendship." **Continued on Page 7**

### Rajpal Yadav to go to jail as court upholds conviction



**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi High Court on Friday upheld the conviction of Bollywood actor Rajpal Yadav in multiple cheque bounce cases, affirming the trial court's judgment and refusing to extend the benefit of probation in view of his conduct during the proceedings. Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma dismissed Yadav's revision petitions and upheld the sentence awarded by the trial court under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act.

The High Court directed that the amount of Rs 2.25 crore already deposited before the Court and released to the complainant shall be adjusted while computing the liability payable by Yadav. **Continued on Page 7**

# Mystery strikes hit Iran after US ends attacks

### Questions raised over who launched them

DUBAI

**A** series of mysterious, unclaimed airstrikes that hit Iran after the US said it finished its attacks have again raised questions of who else may be targeting the Islamic Republic. The strikes Thursday, just as Iran prepared to bury the late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, hit areas across southern Iran. The country's theocracy hasn't directly blamed anyone for the strikes, though one lawmaker issued a warning to the United Arab Emirates over allegedly providing support to the United States in its campaign against Iran. Gulf Arab states, which



Iran's theocracy hasn't directly blamed anyone for the strikes repeatedly have been targeted by Iran since the war began February 28, did not immediately respond to requests for comment Friday over the strikes. **Continued on Page 7**



### Iran hatched fresh plot to kill Trump, Israel alerts US

**TEL AVIV:** Israel has shared fresh intelligence with the United States alleging that Iran recently developed a new plan to assassinate President Donald Trump, according to multiple media reports. The Wall Street Journal reported that Israel passed the intelligence to US officials this week. **Continued on Page 7**



### SC to hear pleas for probe into Ram temple donation row on Monday

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court would hear a batch of pleas seeking a fair and time-bound probe into the alleged embezzlement of donations at the Ram temple in Ayodhya on July 13. On July 7, an Ayodhya court granted one-day police remand for three of the eight accused -- Anukul Mishra, Lavkush Mishra and Karunesh Pandey -- arrested in connection with the alleged theft of donations at the Ram temple. On June 29, a local court had sent all the eight accused to 14-day judicial custody. According to the Supreme Court website, a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and justices Joymyalya Bagchi and V Mohana will hear as many as three petitions filed on the issue when the apex court reopens on Monday.

# May be put behind bars or bumped off, says Hasina

### Former Bangla PM Sheikh Hasina plans to end Indian exile and return to Dhaka in Dec

**NEW DELHI:** Bangladesh's former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has announced that she, alongside other exiled leaders of the Awami League, intends to return to Bangladesh voluntarily around December, despite facing the stark prospect of arrest or death upon her arrival. In an interview with a



news agency, the 78-year-old leader, who moved to India following a

student-led uprising that unseated her administration in August 2024, stated that she plans to surrender before the judicial courts upon her return. She further clarified that there has been no communication with the current authorities in Dhaka concerning the scheduled homecoming. **Continued on Page 7**

# After Nabin and Nadda, Amit Shah set to visit Telangana



Union Minister Amit Shah

**HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD**  
**▶▶ Shah's visit his significant amid BJP's intensified focus on TG**  
**▶▶ He is likely to focus on BJP's multi-pronged approach**

**AFTER** BJP chief Nitin Nabin and former party chief JP Nadda's visit to Telangana, Union Home Minister Amit Shah is set to embark on a key visit to Telangana. According to party sources, the visit is likely to take place after the winter session of Parliament, by which time the state party has been tasked with completing the booth-level cadre meetings. "The state party leadership is currently focusing on all the booths where it stood in the second place during the Parliament and the state Assembly elections," said a senior party leader. Besides, the state party is tasked with proactive participation in the ongoing SIR process, similar to West Bengal, which played a key role in weeding out ineligible voters. Besides, the booth level committees and agents are being strengthened to ensure the party puts in place a robust organisational structure within the three civic bodies in the GHMC area, he added. The visit of the party chief, Nitin Nabin, focused on outreach to the booth level chiefs. **Continued on Page 7**

## CEO DEFENDS SIR PROCESS

# 'No submission of enumeration forms, no voting right'

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

**CHIEF** Electoral Officer (CEO) C Sudharshan Reddy said on Thursday that the voters who do not submit their enumeration forms during the SIR process will not get the voting right.

The CEO also clarified that the Rohingyas living in the city would also be given the enumeration forms and issued notices. The EROs will be asked to be extra

- ▶▶ Rohingyas will receive enumeration forms and notices for review
- ▶▶ Electors must submit forms by July 26
- ▶▶ Educated voters can apply online

cautious while dealing with these cases. The CEO made these comments while



Chief Electoral Officer C Sudharshan Reddy participating in the 'Meet the Press' organised by the Press Club in Hyderabad on Friday

participating in the 'Meet the Press' organised by the Press Club, Hyderabad on Friday. Sudharshan Reddy said awareness about SIR was essential in both urban

and rural areas. Voters who had not received enumeration forms should immediately contact their BLOs. He reiterated that deletion of a voter's name was not an easy process and that it can be done only after following all prescribed parameters, issuing notices, and recording valid reasons. Aggrieved voters can also appeal before the District Collector. SIR is a comprehensive exercise involving the prep-

aration of fresh electoral rolls and is aimed at ensuring a clean and accurate voters' list by removing the names of deceased, shifted, and ineligible voters, and not at deleting the names of genuine electors, he explained. The CEO said that enumeration forms were being distributed to all voters enrolled up to July 26, and acknowledgements were being issued upon submission. **Continued on Page 7**





Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju chaired a review meeting with senior officials of the Industries and Commerce Department at the Secretariat in Hyderabad on Friday

## Govt fast-tracks mega industrial projects to attract global investments

**CS Sanjay Jaju reviews Bharat Future City, Zaheerabad Industrial City and Kakatiya Mega Textile Park progress**

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE Telangana Government has decided to develop investor friendly infrastructure at Bharat Future City, Zaheerabad Industrial City, Zaheerabad Industrial City and the Kakatiya Mega Textile Park aiming to invite global investments and accelerate industrial growth.

Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju on Friday instructed the TGICC to expedite the process to develop industrial infrastructure. He convened a review meeting with senior officials of the Industries and Commerce Department to assess the progress of key industrial infrastructure projects being developed across the state.

The Chief Secretary focused on accelerating industrial growth, attracting investments and creating large-scale employment opportunities in the state.

He took stock of the progress of major projects being implemented by the Telangana Industrial Infrastruc-

ture Corporation (TGIIC), including the Bharat Future City, Zaheerabad Industrial City, Kakatiya Mega Textile Park and other strategic industrial infrastructure initiatives.

MD TGIIC Shashanka briefed him on the present status of these projects, the infrastructure being created, investment prospects and the timelines for their completion.

The Chief Secretary stressed that the primary objective of the department should be to position Telangana as a preferred investment destination by facilitating industries with world-class infrastructure and a business-friendly ecosystem.

He said that attracting both domestic and global investments is essential for sustaining the state's economic growth and generating large-scale employment opportunities for the youth.

Sanjay Jaju directed the officials to work with a clear focus on achieving the goals

envisioned by the government. He emphasised that all departments and implementing agencies should function in close coordination to ensure the timely execution of industrial projects without delays.

He also instructed the officials to regularly monitor the progress of ongoing projects, identify bottlenecks at an early stage and resolve them through effective inter-departmental coordination.

The Chief Secretary noted that flagship projects such as Bharat Future City, Zaheerabad Industrial City and the Kakatiya Mega Textile Park have the potential to transform Telangana's industrial landscape by attracting significant investments and promoting balanced regional development. He asked the officials to adopt a proactive approach in providing necessary infrastructure and investor facilitation services to ensure the successful implementation of these projects.

# Govt launches 'Bill One' for easier municipal transactions

**Citizens in ULBs can now pay property tax, water charges and trade licence fees in a single transaction**

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE citizens in the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) other than the CURE areas (GHMC, MMC and CMC) can now pay all their bills, including property tax, water charges, trade licence fees, together in one transaction 'Bill One' eliminating the need for separate payments.

MAUD secretary TK Sreedevi launched the 'Bill One' service for unified municipal payments with a more convenient and citizen-friendly mechanism. The Bill One service enables citizens to pay multiple municipal dues through a single platform.

Under this initiative, citizens can pay property



CDMA Commissioner TK Sreedevi launches the 'Bill One' service in Hyderabad on Friday

tax, water charges, and trade licence fees together in one transaction, eliminating the need for separate payments.

A key feature of the service it generates consolidated demand notice for all the municipal services assigned

to the PTIN no. i.e., property tax, water charges and trade licence.

Even if a person has multiple properties same are shown in a single demand notice instead of raising multiple demand notices. It also reduces the burden on the municipality to generate multiple demand notices for various services viz., water charges and trade licence.

The multiple visits to collect different taxes and fees will also be reduced with this initiative. It allows the tax payers to pay in part land also in instalments based on their convenience, thereby providing greater financial flexibility while ensuring timely payment of municipal dues.

The service is available through Handheld Devices

(HHDs) used by municipal ward officers/bill collectors and is also accessible through the official online municipal portal <https://emunicipal.telangana.gov.in/>, enabling citizens to make payments anytime and from anywhere.

The CDMA officials said that the launch of the Bill One service reflects the Government of Telangana's commitment to leverage technology for improved public service delivery, enhancing ease of payment, and promoting greater transparency and convenience in municipal governance.

Citizens are encouraged to make use of this new facility for seamless, secure, and hassle-free payment of their municipal dues.

## Mahesh Goud takes potshots at Harish Rao's '3-month water fix' claim

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

TPCC chief Mahesh Kumar Goud on Friday responded to remarks made by former BRS minister and Siddipet MLA T Harish Rao, who claimed that he could resolve the state's water crisis if given an opportunity to serve as Irrigation Minister for three months.

Speaking to the media, Goud said that if Harish Rao genuinely wished to join the Congress party, the matter would be discussed internally. He added that a decision on whether to induct Harish Rao into the party would be taken after deliberations in the Political Affairs Committee (PAC).

Questioning Harish Rao's claim, Mahesh Kumar Goud said that a person who could not achieve significant results during 10 years in power could not be expected to accomplish much in three months. He said the present government was working to address the debts and mistakes inherited from the previous administration.

"What did Harish Rao achieve during his 10-year tenure as a minister? A project constructed while he was the Irrigation Minister collapsed—what does he have to say about that? What did



**TPCC chief questions BRS irrigation record, asks why issues remained unresolved during its 10-year rule**

he do during those 10 years? Why ask for another three months?" Goud questioned.

Responding to comments made by Telangana Jagruthi president K. Kavitha regarding BRS party funds, Mahesh Kumar Goud said, "There is truth in the allegations made by Kavitha regarding BRS party funds. How did a regional party come to possess Rs 1,400 crore? he said.

On internal issues within the Congress party, Goud said differences of opinion were natural in any organi-

sation. He assured that the issues involving Minister Konda Surekha, MLA Kadiyam Srihari, and the situation in Tungaturthi would be resolved after hearing the concerns of all sides.

He emphasised that all party members were equal and said two senior leaders had been appointed to resolve internal disputes as the Disciplinary Committee Chairman was occupied with other responsibilities. He clarified that suspension was not the only way to address differences within the party.

Recalling earlier political developments, Goud said 10 MLAs had supported the Congress government when attempts were allegedly made to destabilise it. He also alleged that Eatela Rajender was a minister when the alleged irregularities in water resource management took place.

## BRS urges ECI for 'One Person, One Vote' system

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

BRS leaders on Friday urged the Election Commission of India to implement the 'one person one vote' across the country and linking Aadhaar with voter ID. A delegation of BRS leaders led by Parliamentary Party Vaddiraju Ravichandra met Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar in New Delhi on Friday. Bringing to the notice of the CEC about suspected duplicate and multiple voter registrations identified during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR)-2026, the BRS leaders wanted together with certain other connected issues requiring immediate consideration.

The BRS leaders requested the Election Commission to utilise all available scientific and technological tools, including Aadhaar-enabled verification wherever legally permissible, de-duplication software, Artificial Intelligence-assisted matching, facial recognition-assisted verification, GIS-based verification and other advanced technological solutions together with field verification through the statutory machinery, for effective identification and elimination of duplicate and multiple voter registrations.

Ensure that no genuine elector is deprived of his or her valuable constitutional and statutory right to vote on account of any procedural deficiency, inadvertent error, incomplete verification or mistaken identity.

The party leaders further urged the ECI to continue to conduct the SIR in a transparent, fair, participative, scientific and legally sustainable manner so as to ensure preparation of a pure, accurate, error-free and credible electoral roll.

Such an integrated approach would substantially strengthen the accuracy, purity, transparency and credi-

bility of the electoral rolls and reinforce public confidence in the electoral process.

The BRS leaders said that the Commission should verify and delete duplicate and multiple voter registrations strictly in accordance with law after conducting due verification.

Utilise all available scientific and technological tools, including Aadhaar-enabled verification wherever legally permissible, de-duplication software, Artificial Intelligence-assisted matching, facial recognition-assisted verification, GIS-based verification and other advanced technological solutions together with field verification through the statutory machinery, for effective identification and elimination of duplicate and multiple voter registrations.

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## CMC clears 488 footpath encroachments in 'Walk Free' drive

HYDERABAD: The Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) on Friday conducted a large-scale 'Walk Free - Footpath Encroachment Removal Drive' across its three zones, clearing 488 encroachments from 22.28 km of footpaths to improve pedestrian safety and restore public walkways.

The drive was carried out simultaneously in the Serilingampally, Kukatpally and Quthbullapur zones under the directions of the Commissioner.

Zonal Commissioners, along with officials from the Town Planning, Engineering and Enforcement wings, participated in the special operation to remove encroachments obstructing pedestrian movement. In the Serilingampally zone, officials covered five road stretches spanning 9.86 km and removed 193 encroachments.

The Kukatpally zone covered three road stretches over 3.50 km, where 89 encroachments were cleared. In the Quthbullapur zone,

seven road stretches measuring 8.92 km were taken up, resulting in the removal of 206 encroachments.

Overall, the corporation covered 15 road stretches and reclaimed 22.28 km of footpaths during the drive. The Commissioner said that footpaths are meant exclusively for pedestrians and reiterated the corporation's commitment to keeping public walkways free from encroachments.

The Commissioner added that similar enforcement drives would be conducted regularly to ensure safe, accessible and pedestrian-friendly public spaces across Cyberabad.

# Expired food, dirty kitchens: Food safety raids expose major violations

**Seven establishments face action over unsafe ingredients, poor hygiene and improper storage practices**

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

A series of raids by the Food Safety Department in Hyderabad uncovered multiple food safety violations at seven food establishments, from the use of expired food ingredients and unhygienic kitchen conditions to improper storage practices. Authorities disposed of unsafe food items, temporary suspension of operations and action to suspend an FSSAI licence to the hotel in Gachibowli.

On Friday, at Rebel Foods Private Limited (Cloud Kitchen) in Kondapur, which operates brands, including Oven Story, Behrouz, Faasos, Sweet Truth, Wendy's and LunchBox, inspectors found expired curd packets and expired Indian gravy stored on the premises.

Officials also found mint chaas prepared using expired curd, while the wash area was unhygienic. Medical fitness certificates of food handlers were suspected to have been altered and did not reflect actual medical test results.



Unhygienic kitchen conditions observed during Food Safety Department inspections at food establishments



Food Safety Department officials found cut vegetables that were not fresh during inspections at a Hyderabad food outlet as part of a citywide safety drive.

During the inspection of Burger King at Puppalaguda, officials observed oil leakage from kitchen equipment, poorly cleaned storage crates and the absence of food testing reports and packaging records.

At KFC in Alkapur Township, Manikonda, inspectors reported water stagnation

and foul odour in the wash area. Four packs of cut lettuce that were found to be not fresh were discarded immediately. The outlet has been served with directions to rectify the deficiencies through an improvement notice.

The inspection at Fire Water Neo Bar & Kitchen

in Nanakramguda revealed several serious violations, including unlabelled raw food items, an expired pack of mushrooms, unsupported shelf-life declarations for prepared food, absence of water testing for cooking and beverage ice. Unlabelled food items were discarded on the spot, and an improve-

ment notice will be issued.

Earlier on Thursday, at Alsaba Restaurant in Gachibowli, inspectors found meat stored under improper freezer conditions, water stagnation in the wash area, unhygienic worker washrooms, lack of hot-water sanitisation of utensils, rumali roti being prepared adjacent to unclean washrooms with fly infestation and an unhygienic slaughtering area.

Authorities initiated action to suspend the restaurant's FSSAI licence and directed the establishment to remain closed until all violations are rectified and compliance is verified.

The inspection of Zepto at Narsingi found poor overall hygiene, with dirt accumulation on racks, crates, flooring, walls and ceilings. Officials also noted improper positioning of the Pest-o-Flash unit in the fruits and vegetables section, food bags stored without pallets, food waste scattered on racks and floors, improper segregation of food and non-food items, non-display of the FSSAI licence and unclean air curtains.

## Kavitha's ₹1,400-cr charge exposes Kaleshwaram's inside story: Min Uttam

**MINISTER ALLEGES CONTRACTOR-POLITICIAN LINKS LED TO QUALITY COMPROMISES IN THE KALESHWARAM PROJECT**

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

IRRIGATION and Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Friday alleged that the structural failures in the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme owed to poor-quality construction, arbitrary deviations from the approved design and above all a contractor-politician nexus.

Citing BRS chief, KCR's daughter K Kavitha's allegation that Rs 1,400 crore was received from Kaleshwaram contractors by the BRS, he claimed the "inside story" behind the project explained why Medigadda collapsed and why Annaram and Sundilla were also in a precarious condition.

The Minister further alleged that two of the Kaleshwaram barrages were constructed nearly five kilometres away from the location approved in



the Detailed Project Report (DPR), calling it a glaring example of engineering deviations that had endangered the project's structural integrity.

"When the former Chief Minister's daughter says that Rs 1,400 crore was received from Kaleshwaram contractors, the BRS leadership owed an explanation to the people of Telangana," Uttam Kumar Reddy said.

ruling party and the project contractors compromised engineering standards, construction quality and public safety.

"When money is allegedly received from contractors on a quid pro quo basis, what quality of construction can the people expect?" the Minister asked.

Uttam Kumar Reddy said Kavitha's allegation assumed greater significance in the backdrop of the partial collapse of the Medigadda Barrage and the serious structural and foundation-related problems subsequently identified at Annaram and Sundilla.

He alleged that the failure of Medigadda and the precarious condition of the other two barrages were the consequences of poor design, substandard construction, weak supervision and the neglect of sound engineering principles during the BRS government.

Vasan Eye Care opens new facility in AS Rao Nagar

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD



VASAN Eye Care Hospital, a unit of ASG Hospitals Private Limited, has inaugurated its new eye care facility at AS Rao Nagar, Hyderabad, expanding access to advanced and affordable ophthalmic services for residents in the area.

gical infrastructure, the centre offers comprehensive treatment for cataract, glaucoma, retinal disorders, corneal diseases, paediatric eye conditions, refractive errors and diabetic eye diseases.

Amisha Budhiraja and Dr Manoj Phulari highlighted the importance of early detection, noting that many eye disorders progress silently.

Medigadda row: Eatala pushes for water lifting, slams political delays

BJP LEADER WARNS OF CRISIS IF IRRIGATION CONCERNS ARE IGNORED

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD



Malkajgiri MP Eatala Rajender addressing the media in Hyderabad on Friday

MALKAJGIRI MP Eatala Rajender on Friday demanded that the State government lift Godavari water without storing it at Medigadda and urged Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy to set aside political differences and take constructive steps to address water-related issues.

Addressing the media, Rajender said, "I am a son of Telangana soil and an activist; that is my identity. I will not remain silent when the people of Telangana suffer due to political issues. I will question those responsible."

Rejecting allegations that he was speaking at someone's behest, the BJP leader said, "I do not speak because someone prompts me, gives me a script or to please anyone. I have no need to respond to those making such baseless allegations."

Rajender said he was not interested in criticising the Congress or any other political party but would question those responsible for protecting the interests of Telangana.

He said there was no balancing reservoir for the Devudula Lift Irrigation Scheme, yet water was

being pumped without one. "I am not asking for water to be stored at Medigadda. I am asking the government to lift the water that is flowing downstream," he said.

Warning the government against delaying irrigation measures for political reasons, Rajender said any decision affecting farmers would have serious consequences.

The MP claimed that Hyderabad was already facing a water supply deficit of 107 MGD and questioned how the city would cope if a severe water crisis emerged. He

warned that such a situation could put people in Hyderabad, North Telangana, Khammam and Nalgonda in difficulty.

Taking a dig at Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, Rajender said the government would understand the public mood if a water crisis occurred.

"Even KCR was sent home by the people, and the Chief Minister will meet the same fate if the government ignores public concerns," he cautioned.

He urged the State government

to consult irrigation experts and engineers and focus on solutions instead of engaging in political blame games.

Rajender clarified that the BJP had no objection to the recommendations of the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) and appealed to the government not to make baseless allegations.

"For the BJP, it is Nation first, Party next and Individual last. Since I am a son of Telangana soil, for me, it is Telangana first, Party next and Individual last," he said.

Hans India Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME icons and text

I, Surukanti Satyanarayana S/o Chandra Reddy Emp ID 2519341 R/o Flat no 401, Sri Sai Balaji Homes, before Pearson School, Kompally, Hyderabad Telangana, India, declare that name of mine wrongly written as surukanti Satyanarayana in my educational certificates and in my service records. The actual name of mine is Surakanti Satyanarayana Reddy which may be amended accordingly (TH\_3371)

I, KOLAKOTLA RAJINI, R/o 30-265/21/56 Flat no 112, Akshita Heights-3, Geetha nagar sainathpura, As Rao Nagar, Malkajgiri, 500062, Changed my name as KOLAKOTLA GANESHWAR RAO RAJINI (K G RAJINI) D/o KOLAKOTLA GANESHWAR RAO vide affidavit dated 10th July 2026 (TH\_04871)

I, B. Chennakesava (old name) Employee id 2519345 S/o B. Hanumanthappa R/o H.No 3-12-29 /50/51 Flat no 202, Laxmi Nilayam, SriLaxmi Nagar Colony, Street No 1, LB nagar Hyderabad 500068 RR District, Telangana State, India, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as B. Chennakesava in my educational certificates and in my service records. The actual name of mine is Bommireddy Chennakesava Reddy S/o Hanumantha Reddy which may be amended accordingly (TH\_3372)

I, MAHENDHAR RAMESH CHOUHARY R/o-14-1-211/531/3, PARVATH NAGAR, ALLAPUR, MOOSAPET, CYBBERPURA-500018, TS. CHANGED MY NAME AS MAHENDHAR CHOUHARY S/O RAMESH KUMAR CHOUHARY. (TH\_34249)

I, BHAGARAM RAMESH KUMAR CHOUHARY R/o-14-1-211/531/3, PARVATH NAGAR, ALLAPUR, MOOSAPET, BALANAGAR, CYBERPURA - 500018, TS. CHANGED MY NAME AS RAMESH KUMAR CHOUHARY S/O. BHAGARAM CHOUHARY. (TH\_34249)

I, CHASINI R/o- 1-6-212/65/107/87/A, GANGA PUTRA COLONY, PARSIGUTTA, MUSHEERABAD Mid, HYD -500020 T.S. CHANGED MY NAME AS CHILUKA HASINI D/O. CHILUKA VIJAYANAND. CHILUKA SWAPNA (MOTHER) (TH\_34249)

I, NIZAR ALI BUDHWANI (New Name) R/o- 5-8-42, FNO.104, C-BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR, NANDANAM APPTS, NAMPALLY, HYD-500015. Changed My Name From NIZARALI JANNAHAD BUDHWANI (Old Name) to NIZAR ALI BUDHWANI (New Name) S/o JAAN MOHAMMED BUDHWANI. FOR ALL PURPOSES (TH\_34249)

I, SHELINA NIZAR BUDHWANI (New Name) R/O 5-8-42, FNO.104 C-BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR, NANDANAM APPTS, NAMPALLY, HYD-500015. Changed My Name From SHELINA NIZARALI BUDHWANI (Old Name) to SHELINA NIZAR BUDHWANI (New Name) W/O NIZAR ALI BUDHWANI FOR ALL PURPOSES (TH\_34249)

I, GANVOTI DIVYA W/O. GANDHAMALA PHANINDRA R/O- 18-7-62/2, HANUMAN NAGAR, UPPUGUDA, HYD-53, TS am the mother of GANDHAMALA SRIVANSHI known as GANDHAMALA SRIVANSHA. I have changed my child name and shall hereafter be known as GANDHAMALA SRIVANSHA (TH\_34249)

I, MARY ROZARIO, R/o-8-7-83/3, Anand Nagar Colony, Near MMR Garden, Old Bowenpally, Tirumalagiri, Hyderabad have changed my name from MARY ROZARIO to MOSES SAGAYA SHEELA MARY for all purposes (TH\_34249)

I, GADIGEVA MANTESH MATAGI spouse of Army personnel, SERVICE NO 15815758W L/NK RAMESH SHIVAPUTRAPPA BETAGERI, R/o Village & Post: Kolavi, Tehsil: Gokak, District: Belagavi, State Karnataka - 591344, hereby state that my name has been changed from GADIGEVA MANTESH MATAGI to GADIGEVA BETAGERI vide Affidavit dated 10 JULY 2026 (TH\_34249)

I, SERVICE NO 6949226W NK K GUNASEKARAN, of Adm Bn, AOC Centre, Secunderabad, Telangana, hereby state that my father's name changed from KRISHNAN to KRISHNAN M and my mother's name changed from K LAKSHMI to LAKSHMI KRISHNAN vide Affidavit dated 10 JULY 2026. (TH\_34249)

I, NALAM SAGARIKA W/o.MACHA NAGA VENKATA PAVAN KUMAR, R/o. H.No.11-58, Pragathi nagar, Near More Super Market, Dilukhnagar, Gaddamaram, P&T Colony, Sub District, Sa roomnagar, K.V. Rangareddy-500060, I have changed my name from SAGARIKA MACHA to NALAM SAGARIKA, for all Purpose (TH\_34249)

I, Sudha Bhushan, W/o, JC 771281X, Sub, Indradeo Kumar Bhushan, R/o, Dist: Khagaria, Bihar, changed my name from Sudha Bhushan to Sudha Kumar, vide Affidavit dt. 09.07.2026, before Notary Advocate at Khagaria. (TH\_34249)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, my clients 1. Koturi Srinivas S/o Late Eshwariah. 2. Veeramalli Kishore S/o Late Krishnamurthy. 3. Gajawada Raghuvver S/o Late Satyanarayana. 4. Kasireddi Sukanya Reddy W/o Narendar Reddy. All are residents of Medak Town, who are in possession of the RCC Shop, have entered into an Agreement of Sale in respect of the RCC Shop bearing Municipal No. 1-6-81/3, situated at J.N. Road Chowrasta, Medak Town, and paid the earnest amount, with the owner Veeramalli Sridevi W/o Veeramalli Shiva Kumar, originally resident of Haveli Ghanpur Village & Mandal, Medak Dist. Now, residing at Kurmannapalem, Duvvada, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. Persons having any claims or objections may approach my office with title documents within a week, failing which the formalities of sale will be completed. Place: Medak Date: 10.07.2026 Sd/- C. POCHAIHAH B.Com, LL.B, Advocate, Medak Contact: 9392021410

PUBLIC NOTICE

CANCELLATION / REVOCATION OF GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY Notice is hereby given on behalf of my client Smt. Kanthayapalem Roja SriLatha, W/o Sri K. Om Prakash, R/o House No. 3-6-782/7, Flat No. 7, Road No. 14, Banjara Hills, Sadan Complex, Himayathnagar, Hyderabad, Telangana, the absolute owner of the property described in the Schedule below, that: My client has executed a General Power of Attorney bearing Document No. 609 of 2023, Book-I, dated 25-03-2023, registered in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Secunderabad, in favour of (1) Sri Damodar Lal Tapariya, S/o Sri Balachandrapariya, and (2) Sri Krishna Agarwal, S/o Sri Guru Govind Agarwal, in respect of the Schedule Property. My client has REVOKED, CANCELLED AND WITHDRAWN the said General Power of Attorney in its entirety, with immediate effect, and has withdrawn all powers, authority and discretion conferred upon the said attorneys thereunder. The said attorneys are no longer authorised to act, represent, sell, transfer, mortgage, lease, alienate, encumber, deliver possession of, enter into any agreement in respect of, or in any manner deal with the Schedule Property, or to hold themselves out as the attorneys or agents of my client. The general public is hereby cautioned NOT to enter into any transaction, dealing or agreement of any nature whatsoever with the said attorneys, or with any person claiming through or under them, in respect of the Schedule Property, and expressly reserves all his rights and remedies in respect of any document, deed or transaction purported to have been executed concerning the Schedule Property without her knowledge and consent. SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY All that the Flat No. 305 bearing GHMC Assessed No. 6-4-20/305, Third Floor, in the complex known as 'Jaya Laxmi Towers', admeasuring 2597.80 sq. ft. built-up area (including common areas and two car parking areas), together with an undivided share of land of 60.00 sq. yards out of 5211 sq. yards, in premises bearing Municipal House No. 6-4-20, situated at Bhopalpur, Secunderabad, Telangana (PTIN: 1300613351); bounded - North: Open Sky; South: Sky; Flat No. 304; East: Flat No. 306; West: Open to Sky.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Jagarlapudi Surya Venkata Srikanth S/O Jagarlapudi Surya Sudhakar Sastry R/O 303, Madhav Towers, Aditya Nagar, Near Vijaya High School, Kapra, Dist. Secunderabad, Hyderabad, (Telangana) - 500062 have changed the name of my minor son Jagarlapudi Surya Subrahmanya Prakash Abhiram aged 15 years and he shall hereafter be known as Jagarlapudi Surya Abhiram. (TH\_TM\_RAO)

LOST OF DOCUMENT

I, AMETI R. MALATHI W/O RAJENDER Aged about 52 Yrs. Occ: House Wife, R/O. H.No.5-1-16/D/3, Shanthi Nagar, Sangareddy Town& Dist., Telangana State-502001. have Lost My Sale Deed Document No. 839/1997 of Book -I, Dated: 14-05-1997, Registered at S.R.O.-Sadashivapet. While Shifting home Old Bustand area to New Bus stand at Shanthi Nagar on 15-06-2026. In spite of my best efforts I am unable to trace it. If anyone Found Pls Contact this No: 9440081148 (TH\_34249)

LOST MY DOCUMENT

I, YACHAM VISHWAS S/O YACHAM VENKATESH, Aged about: 47 years, Occ: Business, R/o H.No.8-17, Ayyappa Temple, Nandigama Village & Mandal, Rangareddy District, Telangana, have lost my original Link Document bearing No. 1753/1990 belong to my own House bearing No-8-66/4 (Old), 8-17 (New), Sy. No. 1946/P, 1947/P, 1935/P. Plot No.-3, extent 170.00 Sq.yards, Ayyappa Temple, Nandigama Village & Mandal, Rangareddy District on 08.07.2026 while travelling from Vijayanagar Colony to the Sub-Registrar office, Sadarnagar, Ranga Reddy District on my bike. If anyone finds the said Document they are requested to contact the under signed at the address mentioned Above. Yacham Vishwas Cell No. 9666356099 (TH\_3376)

LOST OF PASSPORT

I, CHEVELLA SAMSON, S/o. SAMUEL CHEVELLA, P/O. H. No. 12-12-77/8, Kimthi Colony, Opp. Pure Natural Fruits Shop, Tarnaka, Secunderabad-500017, Telangana, do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as follows: I am the deponent herein as such I am well acquainted with the facts of this affidavit. I submit that I have lost my Original Passport bearing No. M7842650, Date of issue 23-03-2015, issued by Regional Passport Office, Hyderabad, at the time of House shifting Sreenathalmamdi to Kimthi Colony, Tarnaka, of my house hold belongings to a new rent house. Despite making a thorough search, spite of best efforts I could not trace it and it is lost beyond recovery. The facts stated above are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. 10th July, 2026. If anyone found Please Contact: 9014557413 (TH\_34249)

LOST OF DOCUMENT

I am Mohammed Azam, I have lost my HDFC Bank ID Card (ID No. 250945189800029) on 02.07.2026 near Kalapathar Road, Hyderabad. If found, please contact: 9700810381. (TH\_1784)

NOTICE

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VJIT hosts National Robotics Hackathon ROBOAUTO 2026

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

VIDYAJYOTHI Institute of Technology (VJIT), in association with the IEEE Student Branch Chapter and Robotics and Automation Society (RAS), organised ROBOAUTO 2026, a national-level 24-hour robotics hackathon, on July 9.

The event provided engineering students a platform to design, develop and demonstrate innovative robotic and automation solutions for real-world challenges. The inaugural ceremony was attended by Dr N Venkatesh, Secretary, IEEE Hyderabad Section and Senior Director - Engineering, Silicon Labs, as Chief Guest, along with Dr Punit Badeka, Founder, Eon Space Labs, and other dignitaries.

Students competed in challenges including line following, obstacle avoidance, material transport and smart automation, showcasing their technical skills, creativity and problem-solving abilities. Teams from leading engineering institutions across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh participated in the hackathon. The organisers said ROBOAUTO 2026 reflects VJIT's commitment to experiential learning, innovation, industry collaboration and nurturing future robotics professionals.

Chamala slams KTR's 'CM dream', says TG backing Cong

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

HYDERABAD: Bhongir MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy on Friday launched a scathing attack on BRS working president KT Rama Rao (KTR), alleging that the former ruling party was "day-dreaming" about returning to power despite losing public confidence. Addressing the media at Gandhi Bhavan, Chamala said KTR was behaving as if elections had already been announced and the BRS had already secured victory. He claimed that the Congress was receiving positive feedback in surveys related to the Jubilee Hills by-election and recalled KTR's earlier prediction of a 50,000-vote victory margin for the BRS. However, Chamala said the BRS suffered defeats in the Lok Sabha elections and lost its sitting seats in Jubilee Hills and Cantonment. He asserted that people of Telangana had rejected the BRS and were supporting the Congress government's 'Praja Palana' initiative. Targeting former Chief Minister K

₹3.5-cr film offer fails to take off, director booked

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

THE Cyberabad Economic Offences Wing (EOW) has registered a cheating case against Telugu film director G Ashok Babu over allegations that he collected Rs 3.5 crore from a family after promising to launch their son as a hero in the Telugu film industry.

According to the complaint filed by Hanumantha Rao, the director allegedly received the amount in multiple instalments from him and his family after assuring them that their son would be introduced as the

lead actor in a Telugu film. The complainant alleged that the payments, totalling Rs 3.5 crore, were made at different stages based on the director's assurances.

The family alleged that despite receiving the money, the promised film project never materialised. They further claimed that repeated requests for the return of the amount went unanswered, leaving them with no option but to approach the police.

Based on the complaint, the Cyberabad EOW registered a case under relevant sections and initiated an investigation into the al-

legations. Police officials have summoned the director for questioning and are examining the financial transactions between the parties, along with the circumstances under which the money was allegedly collected.

Police also verifying the documentary evidence including financial records and other material submitted by the complainant to establish the sequence of events.

Police said the investigation is in progress, and further action will be taken based on the findings of the probe.

Kisan Shopping Mall opens 12th branch in Biranguda

MLA Dhanpal Suryanarayana Gupta and actress Meenakshi Chaudhary hail brand's legacy of quality, affordability and trust

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

HYDERABAD: Kisan Shopping Mall, a name synonymous with quality textiles, has expanded its presence with the inauguration of its 12th branch at Biranguda, Hyderabad. Nizamabad Urban MLA Dhanpal Suryanarayana Gupta and popular actress Meenakshi Chaudhary inaugurated the new showroom on Thursday.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Dhanpal Suryanarayana Gupta said Kisan Shopping Mall entered the textile sector in 1959 and has earned the trust of customers through quality products and affordable prices. He said the opening of the new branch in Hyderabad was made possible due to the continued support and encouragement from customers.



He highlighted that quality, reasonable pricing and customer trust remain the core principles of Kisan Shopping Mall. The brand already has a strong presence through quality products and affordable prices. He said the opening of the new branch in Hyderabad was made possible due to the continued support and encouragement from customers.

She appreciated Kisan Shopping Mall for offering a wide range of clothing options at affordable prices, especially for women customers. She said the brand has built a strong reputation among customers in Telangana and Maharashtra and praised its commitment to quality. Kisan Shopping Mall representatives Dhanpal Uday, Dhanpal Pranay, Dr Dhanpal Vinay.

TONI & GUY HAIRDRESSING 15% OFF BEAUTY SERVICES MONSOON OFFER





Hyderabad City Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar chairs a high-level multi-departmental meeting at TGICCC on Friday to discuss road safety measures, including AI-based electronic enforcement on the Outer Ring Road

# AI-based enforcement system planned for ORR to curb mishaps

### POLICE IDENTIFY 80 CRITICAL SPOTS, TARGET REPEAT OFFENDERS AND STEP UP SAFETY MEASURES ACROSS THE CORRIDOR

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

HYDERABAD City Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar stated that over 80 critical accident-prone spots have been identified across the stretch at Outer Ring Road (ORR) encircling the twin cities, and enforcement has already been strengthened at several locations.

During a high-level multi-departmental coordination meeting conducted on Friday, the Commissioner revealed that the administration is actively exploring the implementation of an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based Electronic Enforcement System on the ORR.

In a meeting held at Telangana State Integrated Command and Control Centre (TGICCC), Sajjanar said that this advanced technology will enable seamless identification of diverse traffic violations and help clamp down heavily on chronic, habitual

offenders. Expressing concern over the behavioural pattern of drivers, he pointed out that analysis shows nearly 99 per cent of the flagged vehicles are repeat offenders, emphasizing the urgent need for extensive public awareness campaigns to instil discipline.

HMDA Commissioner Sarfaraz Ahmad, and HMDA Urban Forestry Director Rohit Gopidi, along with top representatives from NHAI, GHMC, HGCL, IRB Infra, as well as Traffic DCPs and Additional DCPs from Hyderabad, Cyberabad, and Malkajigiri commissionerates were also present.

Addressing vehicle breakdowns - the Commissioner highlighted that stationary and broken-down vehicles on the ORR pose an extreme hazard and have often led to fatal accidents.

He directed the patrolling teams and infrastructure partners to ensure immedi-

ate removal of broken-down vehicles to designated safe zones without delay. He strictly warned against parking or stopping vehicles on the main carriage-way and urged commuters to immediately dial the toll-free helpline number 14449 for swift assistance if their vehicle breaks down.

Sarfaraz assured that HMDA will continue to provide all necessary infrastructural upgrades, install appropriate warning signage, and systematically eliminate identified black spots in close coordination with all stakeholder departments to ensure a safer transit experience.

Additional CP Tafseer Iqbal, Joint CPs Joel Davis and Sunpreet Singh, JTC Chandrasekhar Goud, IRB Senior GM Chand Basha, NH Hyderabad EE, Shravan Prakash, ORR Project Head M Girishwar, Traffic DCPs, Addl DCPs and others were present.

# Govt to digitise medical equipment procurement system for govt hospitals

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

HEALTH Minister C Damodar Raja Narasimha on Friday directed TGMSIDC officials to further strengthen the procurement system to ensure the speedy and transparent supply of quality medical equipment to government hospitals.

During a review meeting held on Friday at the TGMSIDC office in Koti, the Minister reviewed various aspects, including medical equipment procurement, the tender process, the operational status of equipment, and maintenance.

The Minister emphasised that every part of medical equipment installed in government hospitals must be of high quality and made available within the stipulated timeframe.

He instructed officials to prepare proposals for a new system that prioritises transparency and digitalisation. He also suggested taking measures to ensure that all



future procurements are conducted according to standardised procedures.

The Minister ordered the complete digitalisation of the procurement process. He directed the implementation of an end-to-end digital tool for procurement and the creation of a system capable of tracking every stage online from the initial indent to final installation at the hospital. He noted that this would enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the procurement process.

The Minister also directed the establishment of a robust monitoring system to ensure the continuous functionality of medical equipment installed in hospitals.

It was proposed to set up a centralised dashboard to monitor the performance of equipment in all government hospitals across the state. Instructions were issued to review this dashboard at the senior management level every fortnight and take immediate, necessary action.

The Minister suggested reviewing the existing Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (CAMC) agreements and amending the rules to impose strict penalties on vendors who fail to adhere to Service Level Agreements (SLAs).

He emphasised the need to ensure there was absolutely no room for negligence in equipment maintenance. He ordered the appointment of eight biomedical engineers to monitor the performance of medical equipment at the field level across the state. He directed that four engineers be assigned to the Hyderabad region and one each to the East, West, South, and North zones to further strengthen equipment monitoring.

# Corporation posts up for grabs as Congress begins selection process

### Party high command approval likely after discussions between CM, TPCC chief and state in-charge

VENKATESHWARLU KOLISHETTY HYDERABAD

THE Congress leadership is expected to finalise the names for corporation chairperson posts after July 15 following discussions between Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, AICC Telangana in-charge general secretary Meenakshi Natarajan, and TPCC chief B Mahesh Kumar Goud. The tenure of all 37 corporation chairpersons has already ended.

It is learnt that the final list of leaders selected for the corporation posts will be sent to the party high command

for approval. After receiving approval, the party and the state government are likely to officially announce the appointments.

Meenakshi Natarajan is expected to arrive in Hyderabad on July 13 or 14. A meeting with the Chief Minister and TPCC chief has been scheduled for July 15 to discuss and finalise the names for the corporation posts.

Speaking on Friday, TPCC chief B Mahesh Kumar Goud said, "We will take a decision regarding corporation posts on July 15 after discussing the matter with CM Revanth Reddy and Meenakshi Natarajan."

Meanwhile, discussions at Gandhi Bhavan indicate that the party leadership is considering whether to renew the appointments of existing

chairpersons or adopt a new strategy in selecting corporation heads.

Instead of reappointing those who held the posts during the first term, the leadership is reportedly considering giving opportunities to loyal party workers who contributed to the Congress but missed out earlier. However, it is learnt that some of the existing chairpersons are likely to get renewed terms.

Sources said the State Congress in-charge, TPCC Chief, and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy are expected to hold discussions over the appointments on July 14. After reaching a preliminary deci-

sion, the leadership is likely to consult senior state leaders to build consensus before announcing the names.

There are also indications that those who served as corporation chairpersons during the previous term may be accommodated with key responsibilities within the party if they are not reappointed.

Political observers said it remains to be seen whether the Congress leadership will provide opportunities to new faces, retain existing chairpersons to avoid internal complications, or adopt a different approach in the final selection process.



# Historic Golconda Fort set for grand Bonalu celebrations

### Minister Konda Surekha directs departments to ensure foolproof arrangements for Telangana's iconic Ashada festival

HYDERABAD: The state festival of Ashada Masam Bonalu will commence on July 16 with the traditional offering of the first 'Bonam' to Goddess Shri Jagadambika Ammavaru at the historic Golconda Fort. The celebrations will continue through August 13, attracting lakhs of devotees from across Telangana and neighbouring states.

A coordination meeting was held at the Jagadambika Ammavari Temple inside Golconda Fort under the leadership of Endowments Minister Konda Surekha to review arrangements for the festival. The Minister directed officials from various departments to work in close coordination and ensure a smooth and safe experience for devotees.

Highlighting the historical importance of Golconda Bonalu, Surekha said it is a long-standing tradition to

offer the first Bonam to Goddess Jagadambika Mahankali during the Ashada Bonalu celebrations. She instructed officials to complete all preparations well in advance for key events, including the Bonam offering, Thottelu procession, chariot procession and Metla Puja.

The Minister directed authorities to focus on traffic regulation, parking facilities, queue management, barricading, drinking water supply, sanitation, electricity arrangements, medical services, fire safety and special bus services.

Officials were instructed to ensure cleanliness in and around the temple premises, provide mobile toilets, medical camps, 108 ambulance services and adequate drinking water points. Departments were also asked to improve roads, staircases, lighting facilities, signage and temporary sheds inside

the Fort area for the convenience of devotees.

Surekha stressed that there should be no compromise on the safety and comfort of devotees. She directed officials to remain alert, display awareness posters featuring photographs of suspects and take necessary security measures during the celebrations.

She also instructed the Electricity Department to ensure safe wiring arrangements and asked GHMC officials to complete civic works within the stipulated timelines.

Describing Golconda Bonalu as a symbol of Telangana's culture and traditions, the Minister said the government was committed to providing the best possible facilities for devotees. She, along with officials and public representatives, unveiled the Ashada Bonalu festival poster and brochure.



# Kandou AI brings global chip innovation to Hyderabad

HYDERABAD

### India headquarters to accelerate AI infrastructure development and semiconductor research

KANDOU AI on Friday announced the inauguration of its India Chip Design headquarters in Hyderabad, marking a significant milestone in the company's global engineering expansion and its efforts to strengthen AI infrastructure development.

The new Hyderabad headquarters will serve as a strategic engineering hub for advanced semiconductor design, high-speed connectivity and next-generation AI system development.

With AI workloads expanding rapidly, the technology sector faces increasing demand for faster data movement, improved bandwidth and greater energy efficiency. From data centres to high-performance computing platforms, advanced connectivity has emerged as a critical component. Kandou AI's semiconductor solutions are designed to address these challenges by improving bandwidth, reducing latency and enhancing energy efficiency across modern computing architectures.

The new centre is expected to foster closer collaboration,

accelerate innovation and support Kandou AI's customers worldwide.

The headquarters was inaugurated in the presence of employees, customers, partners, industry leaders and government representatives. The event featured a traditional diya-lighting ceremony, a fireside chat and demonstrations of Kandou AI's next-generation AI infrastructure technologies, followed by a networking reception.

The inauguration was attended by BRS working president KT Rama Rao and hosted by Kandou AI CEO and Co-Founder Srujan Linga.

KTR said Hyderabad's success has been built on its strong talent pool, industry collaboration and technology-driven growth vision.

"Kandou AI's decision to establish its India headquarters here is another testament to Hyderabad's emergence as a globally recognised semiconductor and deep technology hub. I congratulate the Kandou AI team and look forward to seeing the company contribute to innovation, high-value employment and the continued growth of Telangana's semiconductor ecosystem," he said.

# Water war escalates: Harish Rao questions govt's Godavari strategy

### Former irrigation minister alleges Kaleshwaram project is being targeted to hide government failures

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

BRS Deputy Leader T Harish Rao launched a sharp attack on Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, accusing the Congress government of deliberately allowing Telangana's Godavari waters to flow into Andhra Pradesh while farmers across the state suffer due to water scarcity.

Harish Rao said that while the Chief Minister may be accustomed to breaking promises and changing political positions, his own 25-year political career stands as proof of consistency and commitment.

"Breaking promises and switching parties may be your political culture, Revanth Reddy. It is certainly not mine. Your 20-year po-



litical career and my 25-year political journey speak for themselves. Unlike you, I do not make one promise under oath and another without it," he said.

Questioning the CM over the farm loan waiver promise made in the name of Lord

Sri Rama at Bhadrachalam, Harish Rao asked whether even farmers in Khammam district where Revanth Reddy addressed a public meeting had received complete loan waiver benefits.

He also questioned why the Chief Minister continued to display anger and political aggression in every public meeting despite repeatedly claiming that politics could wait until the final year of the government's term.

Harish Rao alleged that the Congress government was attempting to cover up its failure to lift irrigation water from Kannapalli through misinformation and false propaganda against the Kaleshwaram project.

He pointed out that the Medigadda, Annaram and

Sundilla barrages withstood floods of nearly 28 lakh cusecs in the past, and questioned why the government was now attempting to create fear when the present flood flow was only about one lakh cusecs.

He demanded that the government immediately utilise the existing Kannapalli Pump House to lift water through Annaram and Sundilla into Yellampalli Reservoir instead of allowing valuable Godavari water to flow downstream.

Drawing a comparison with Andhra Pradesh, Harish Rao said the neighbouring state had already utilised more than 60 TMC of Godavari water through Pattiseema, Tadipudi, Purushothapatnam and Pushkara Lift Irrigation Schemes by

operating its pumping systems continuously.

While Andhra Pradesh has been operating all 24 Pattiseema pumps round-the-clock, Telangana has kept its high-capacity Babubali pumps idle despite having sufficient water availability, he alleged. He questioned whether there existed any "hidden understanding" behind the government's refusal to operate the Kannapalli pumps.

Harish Rao urged the Congress government to immediately operate the Kannapalli Pump House and also demanded to urgently fill Yellampalli, Annapurna Reservoir, Ranganayaka Sagar, Mallanna Sagar and all other reservoirs by fully utilising available Godavari waters.

# Konda Surekha meets Sachin Sawant behind closed doors

### Cong leadership focuses on resolving differences among senior leaders

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

ENDOWMENTS and Environment and Forests Minister Konda Surekha met AICC secretary in-charge Sachin Sawant at Praja Bhavan instead of Gandhi Bhavan on Friday, according to sources. It is learnt that the party high command advised Konda Surekha to remain silent and assured her that the party would take care of the remaining issues.

Sources said Sachin Sawant is expected to discuss the concerns related to Kadiyam Srihari next. The meeting between Konda Surekha and Sachin Sawant was kept private by both the party and the minister.

After the meeting, Konda Surekha reportedly received a phone call from Delhi advising her to remain silent and continue her work as



usual and assuring her that the party would handle the matter.

It may be recalled that TPCC Chief B. Mahesh Kumar Goud had earlier said that Sachin Sawant and Jagga Reddy would gather information regarding the issues involving Kadiyam Srihari, Konda Surekha, and the Tungathurthi constituency and submit a report to the party. He said further action would be taken based on the report.

Mahesh Kumar Goud had stated that two senior leaders were appointed as observers to examine the issues. According to him, Sachin Sawant would look into the concerns involving Konda Surekha and Kadiyam Srihari, while Jagga Reddy would examine the Tungathurthi issue on Saturday.

Meanwhile, it is learnt that Minister Konda Surekha had raised objections over a review meeting conducted with Endowments officials at Bogulakunta. She reportedly expressed displeasure over Kadiyam Srihari conducting a similar meeting with officials from portfolios handled by other ministers.

Sources said Konda Surekha suspected that the meeting with Endowments officials by Kadiyam Srihari had a hidden agenda and hence she took the issue seriously.

## The executive, not judiciary, must crackdown on illegal structures

THE Supreme Court has rightly pulled up civic authorities over illegal and unsafe buildings in Delhi-NCR. Slamming the attitude of local officials, a bench of Justices A Manu and Justice R Mahadevan pointed out on Thursday that "only face-saving exercises are being done" to check the menace. The apex court warned officials that it would "attach personal responsibility" on all officials who fail to act against illegal buildings and their owners despite repeated judicial directions. It ordered the personal appearance of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi commissioner and the vice-chairman of the Gurugram Metropolitan Develop-

ment Authority (GMDA) in court. These orders may drill some sense of propriety in the hearts and minds of bureaucrats. It also constituted a team comprising two senior IIT professors, two draftsmen, and MCD officials to assess unauthorised constructions in Delhi's Saket, Lajpat Nagar, and Malviya Nagar localities. The panel has also been directed to submit its report to the court. So far, so good, but there are limits that the judiciary can and should travel. The kind of localities where people live, what kind of land that should be, what rules and regulations should govern that land, and so on are matters that the executive should take a call. More importantly,

if there are any violations, the wrongdoers must be dealt with accordingly. It is not the job of the judiciary to crack down on the land sharks, and illegal colonisers, among others. Evidently, our governance system has completely broken down, at least in the matter of colonising and housing. Instead of stopping unauthorised constructions that are mushrooming by the day, local officials are sometimes found to be in glove with the violators. For instance, a newspaper report showed that around 93 per cent of establishments inspected in Gurugram's ongoing fire safety drive were found deficient in mandatory fire safety measures. While judicial intervention may yield good

dividends, it cannot offer a long-term solution to the widespread problem. The judiciary cannot substitute for the executive; courts can issue directions, fix accountability, and ensure that authorities perform their statutory duties, but they cannot and should not directly undertake urban planning, enforcement, and governance. Sustainable reform requires civic agencies, development authorities, and state governments to act with integrity, efficiency, and transparency. Building regulations must be enforced uniformly, without political interference or selective implementation. The need of the hour is a mechanism which ensures that the

officials, who deliberately ignore violations or collude with builders, are penalised, and even thrown behind bars. At the same time, approval processes should be made more transparent and technology-driven so that illegal constructions can be detected at an early stage through satellite mapping, digital records, and regular inspections. Public awareness is also important; people shouldn't knowingly purchase unauthorised buildings. Judicial monitoring may serve as a catalyst for reform, but lasting change will come only when governance institutions function honestly, efficiently, and in accordance with law, ensuring that public safety is never compromised.

## LETTERS

### Preparing careers for the AI era

THE article "Future of management careers in the era of AI" clearly brings out the objective of preparing students for lifelong learning, adaptability, resilience, and continuous learning in a rapidly changing technological environment. The experiences shared by graduates reveal that success depends not merely on academic qualifications but on the willingness to take on challenges, keep up with technological advancements, and be in pursuit of knowledge and professional excellence. The IT departments of organisations must step up by rolling out AI-driven training programmes, setting up innovation centres, carrying out ethical AI practices, and bringing in technologies that enhance productivity while protecting human dignity. IT firms should come up with flexible career pathways, back up employees through regular reskilling, mentorship, mental wellness initiatives, and transparent performance systems so that professionals can move ahead with confidence instead of fearing automation. Employees should reach out to mentors and industry experts to remain competitive in the evolving job market. Students must make the most of internships, research projects, hackathons, certifications, and networking opportunities, build up strong portfolios, and take part in collaborative learning to excel in the AI-driven IT sector. Both the government and IT firms should join hands to assure job security by expanding digital skill missions, strengthening industry-academia partnerships, providing AI transition support, and opening up new employment opportunities to bolster one's confidence levels.

Raju Kolluru, Kakinada

### Govt must support US-based desi techies

APROPOS "Tight job mkt, salary cuts put US-returned desi techies in a spot" (THI July 10). It's no more a Sunday afternoon walk in the park for US-based desi techies, who're forced to return home due to AI-driven job layoffs, unfriendly US visa requirements, and unappetizing emoluments offered even by US-affiliated Global Capability Centers. The onus is on the Indian government to cushion the struggle of these unfortunates, who are mostly youngsters, and have been contributing to the national economy through remittances in their better days. The US-returned techies are ideally appointed without much red-tape, and the deserving offered promotions and salary hikes. Governmental support for startup firms should also ease the pain considerably for US-returned techies, who can contribute through expertise and experience.

Dr George Jacob, Kochi

### Make it easy for techies heading home

THIS is further to "Tight job mkt, salary cuts put US-returned desi techies in a spot". The unpredictability of US immigration policy is the real problem here, more than any single rule change. Professionals plan years around visa timelines, mortgages and children's schooling, only to see the ground shift with a policy update. India cannot control American immigration decisions, but it can reduce the impact by making it easier for skilled professionals to reintegrate quickly, through faster credential recognition and streamlined re-entry into provident fund and tax systems. Reducing friction on return would at least soften the disruption these sudden policy shifts keep causing.

K Palaniyappan Muthukumar, Chennai-53

### Displaced techies must eye emerging roles

THIS has reference to "Tight job mkt, salary cuts put US-returned desi techies in a spot". It is worth noting that this churn isn't only about visas; AI-led efficiency drives are genuinely shrinking headcount at major tech firms. Oracle, Cisco and Google's layoffs point to a structural shift, not a temporary slowdown. Indian professionals in the US and back home need to treat AI fluency as a core skill now, not an optional add-on. Companies and industry bodies should expand practical reskilling programmes so displaced techies can move into emerging roles like AI implementation and data governance, rather than competing for a shrinking pool of traditional coding jobs.

M Barathi, Bengaluru-560076

### Drug racket through post offices is worrisome

THE recent bust of an inter-state drug network operating through post offices is seriously worrisome. Criminals are misusing public services to transport illegal substances across states. Such activities endanger the youth and threaten public safety. The police deserve appreciation for uncovering the racket. Authorities should strengthen parcel screening and monitoring systems to prevent similar incidents. Public awareness and cooperation are also essential in combating drug trafficking. If drugs travel freely, the future of our youth is held hostage.

Pranathi Krishna, Hyderabad

thehansreader@gmail.com

## BENGALURU ONLINE

### Footpath clearance drive to continue across B'loru: CM

BENGALURU: Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Friday said the ongoing footpath encroachment clearance drive will continue across all five civic zones of Bengaluru, adding that nearly 435 km of footpaths have been reclaimed since the campaign began on July 1. After inspecting the encroachment removal drive at various locations in the city along with Urban Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda, the Chief Minister addressed the media near Ashoka Pillar in Jayanagar. Shivakumar said authorities have removed 9,878 encroachments so far. The operation included the clearance of 1,340 shops, around 1,800 pushcarts, 2,267 metal sheet extensions, 2,300 steps and ramps, 2,662 pillars and signboards, and 2,247 sheds that had occupied pedestrian pathways. He added that debris has been cleared and repair works on damaged footpaths are also being taken up simultaneously. The Chief Minister assured street vendors that the government was not against them and would provide designated spaces for their livelihood.

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

## India needs a political culture where facts should matter not propaganda



INDIA'S political system is both unique and complicated. Until the early 1990s, Parliament and state legislatures were known for serious debates, policy alternatives and constructive criticism. Over the years, however, political discourse has increasingly shifted from governance to controversy-driven campaigns. Instead of using issues to push for institutional reforms, political parties now use them primarily as electoral weapons.

With Assembly elections due in Uttar Pradesh and Punjab in 2027, this trend has become even more evident. Rather than pursuing facts to their logical conclusion, almost every party appears focused on scoring political points. They raise an issue, embarrass the opponent and move on without ensuring lasting accountability.

The controversy surrounding Satluj, originally titled Punjab 95, has acquired political significance because Punjab goes to polls next year. The film is based on the life of human rights activist Jaswant Singh Khaira, who documented the alleged illegal cremations and extrajudicial killings during Punjab's insurgency in the late 1980s and early 1990s. The censor board did not clear the film as its producers refused to implement 127 cuts the board had suggested and instead it was screened on OTT platforms using the legal loopholes. Now on the directions of the government, it has been taken off from OTT platforms.

Enraged over this, the Shiromani Akali Dal has announced statewide screenings,

### ELECTION SEASON; OUTRAGE SEASON

arguing that younger generations should know Punjab's history. Critics, however, contend that the film presents only one side of a deeply traumatic period. While it highlights alleged human rights violations by the police, it gives relatively little attention to the brutal violence unleashed by Khalistani militants.

Thousands of civilians, police personnel, public servants and political leaders were killed during the insurgency. Equally significant was the role of Punjab police officers such as K P S Gill, whose counter-insurgency campaign is widely credited with restoring normalcy. A historical narrative that omits either state excesses or terrorist violence cannot claim to present the complete truth.

As expected, every political party has adopted a position shaped more by electoral calculations than historical balance.

The Akali Dal backs the film enthusiastically, seeing an opportunity to challenge the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government if it tries to stop the screening of the film. At the same time, it accuses the Centre of restricting its release. The AAP government has permitted private screenings but criticised attempts to remove the film from OTT platforms.

The Congress, uncomfortable because the events occurred largely during its tenure, has avoided endorsing statewide screenings and instead questioned the political use of the film. The BJP has opposed attempts to turn the film into an election campaign while accusing its rivals of presenting a selective interpretation of history.

Similarly, the alleged theft of donation money at the Ram Janmabhoomi temple in Ayodhya offers another example of how India's political class has



As Uttar Pradesh and Punjab head towards Assembly elections, political parties are weaponising controversies instead of addressing governance. Whether it is "Chanda Chori" or the Satluj debate, accountability has become selective while controversies are amplified and pressing concerns of ordinary citizens are sidelined.

perfected the art of converting every public issue into an election narrative.

The Ram Janmabhoomi temple donation controversy, popularly dubbed "Chanda Chori", is a classic example.

The Samajwadi Party quickly transformed allegations of theft into a political attack on the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP), the RSS, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It succeeded because the temple administration failed the first test of crisis management—speed and transparency.

Instead of responding decisively, the VHP initially stood firmly behind Ram Janmabhoomi Trust General Secretary Champat Rai and Trustee Anil Mishra despite mounting allegations. Although reports suggested that both had offered to resign, the organisation delayed accepting their

resignations, citing procedural formalities. The explanation convinced few.

In the digital era, emergency meetings can be convened within hours, if need be, virtually. A trust administering one of the country's most important religious institutions could easily have done the same. Every day's delay strengthened the opposition's allegation that damage control had taken precedence over accountability.

The investigation raised uncomfortable questions. The delay in registering an FIR, the absence of senior trust members among the accused despite prolonged questioning and the slow pace of visible action fuelled public suspicion.

The FIR was reportedly filed only after the Special Investigation Team (SIT) submitted its preliminary findings.

The SIT has since arrested eight persons, recovered cash,

jewellery, gold and a vehicle, frozen multiple bank accounts and begun investigating whether stolen money was invested in the stock market. Investigators claim that nearly 70 instances of alleged theft took place within about 40 days. They also identified major violations of standard operating procedures, including inadequate frisking and poor CCTV surveillance.

Eventually, the trust accepted the resignations of Champat Rai and Anil Mishra and appointed a professional Chief Executive Officer. The VHP acknowledged serious lapses and promised institutional reforms. Yet the most important question remains unanswered: how much money has actually disappeared? Opposition estimates range from ₹200 crore to ₹2,000 crore, prompting demands for a CBI investigation under Supreme Court supervision. Politically, the controversy has undoubtedly dented the credibility of organisations associated with the Ram Temple movement. Whether it significantly affects the BJP's electoral prospects in Uttar Pradesh remains uncertain, but the opposition has already secured a powerful campaign issue.

If opposition parties genuinely believed financial irregularities had continued for years, why did they become vocal only as elections approached? Accountability loses much of its credibility when it follows the electoral calendar rather than public interest.

The same selective outrage is likely to surface in another controversy that the BJP is expected to use as a political counterattack. The Indo-Islamic Cultural Foundation, established after the Supreme Court's 2019 Ayodhya judgment to build the new Babri Masjid along with a hospital, library and com-

munity kitchen, has collected donations for several years. Allegations regarding financial irregularities have surfaced periodically, yet no official investigation or FIR has followed.

The BJP is expected to highlight these allegations to blunt the impact of "Chanda Chori". The opposition, meanwhile, is unlikely to demand a court-monitored probe for fear of alienating sections of its political support base. This is not accountability; it is competitive hypocrisy.

One side demands transparency only from institutions associated with its opponents, while the other discovers concern for financial propriety only when politically convenient. Public trust becomes the biggest casualty.

The larger tragedy is that controversies over donations, films and historical narratives are likely to receive far greater attention during election campaigns than unemployment, education, healthcare, inflation, agriculture, investment or job creation. Electoral politics increasingly rewards emotional mobilisation rather than policy debate. India's democracy does not suffer from a shortage of controversies; it suffers from a shortage of consistency. Political parties demand transparency only from their opponents, defend institutions aligned with themselves and rediscover moral outrage whenever elections approach. Until this culture changes, controversies will continue to dominate campaigns while governance recedes into the background.

Ultimately, it is for the voter to judge governments and oppositions alike by the same standards rather than by the volume of their election-time rhetoric.

(The author is former Chief Editor of The Hans India)

## Preserving TG's tribal glory, the Adya Kala way

DR MUCHUKOTA SURESH BABU

TELANGANA is home to a rich and diverse tribal heritage that has been preserved for centuries through music, dance, storytelling, handicrafts, and oral traditions. Communities such as Gonds, Koyas, Chenchus, Lambadas, and Thotis have nurtured unique cultural practices that reflect their close relationship with nature and their collective wisdom. However, rapid urbanisation, changing lifestyles, and the influence of modern entertainment have placed many of these traditions at extinction risk.

To preserve this invaluable heritage, eminent folklorist and cultural researcher Prof Jayadhir Thirumala Rao established Adya Kala, a unique museum and cultural initiative dedicated to documenting and showcasing Telangana's tribal and folk traditions. Built on more than four decades of field research, Adya Kala serves as a living archive of indigenous culture and a reminder of the importance of safeguarding cultural diversity.

The museum houses a remarkable collection of tribal and folk artifacts, including rare musical instruments, leather puppets, ancient manuscripts, handicrafts, ritual objects, agricultural tools, and household items. These exhibits offer insights into the everyday lives,

beliefs, and artistic expressions of tribal communities across Telangana. More importantly, they preserve traditions that are gradually fading from public memory.

One of the most significant components of Adya Kala is Adi Dhvani, a special exhibition dedicated to tribal and folk musical instruments. Combining live performances with rare instrument displays, the exhibition celebrates the musical heritage of indigenous communities and highlights the craftsmanship involved in creating these instruments.

Among the rare instruments showcased is the Kinnera, a multi-stringed folk veena traditionally made from bamboo and dried gourds. For generations, it was used by wandering bards to narrate community histories and folklore. The exhibition also features Thudum, a percussion instrument central to the musical traditions of the Gond and Koya tribes, and the Runja, an indigenous instrument associated with storytelling performances. Another important exhibit is the Kikri, a violin-like string instrument played by the Thoti community during rituals and devotional events.

These instruments are more than musical tools; they represent centuries of indigenous knowledge, artistic skill, and cultural identity. Crafted from



The significance of Adya Kala has been recognized nationally. Artifacts from its collection have been displayed at prestigious venues, including the Salar Jung Museum in Hyderabad and Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. "Janjatiya Darpan", a gallery developed by IGNCA, celebrates the shared cultural traditions of India's tribal communities. The inclusion of artifacts from Adya Kala highlights the national importance of Telangana's indigenous heritage. Adya Kala is not merely a museum; it is a cultural movement dedicated to preserving the voices, memories, and artistic traditions of tribal communities.

natural materials such as bamboo, gourds, wood, and animal hide, they reflect the deep ecological understanding of tribal artisans.

Telangana's tribal heritage extends beyond music. Traditional performances such as the Gussadi dance of the Raj Gonds, the Jamba Puranam accompanied by Kinnera, and Dakkali Kathas preserve history, mythology, and social

memory through oral storytelling. These art forms have long served as vehicles for transmitting knowledge and strengthening community bonds.

Despite their cultural significance, many of these traditions are in decline. Younger generations often seek alternative livelihoods because traditional arts no longer provide sustainable income. The availability of natural materials required for

instrument-making has also diminished due to environmental changes and urban expansion. In addition, television, cinema, and digital media have gradually replaced many traditional forms of entertainment, reducing opportunities for folk artists and storytellers.

Against this backdrop, Prof Thirumala Rao's work assumes immense significance. Over the past 45 years, he has travelled extensively through remote villages and tribal settlements, documenting oral traditions, collecting rare artifacts, and preserving endangered musical instruments. His efforts have ensured that invaluable aspects of Telangana's cultural heritage are not lost forever.

The significance of Adya Kala has been recognized nationally. Artifacts from its collection have been displayed at prestigious venues, including the Salar Jung Museum in Hyderabad and Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. A notable moment came when President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the "Janjatiya Darpan" Gallery at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Developed by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), the gallery celebrates the shared cultural traditions of India's tribal communities. The inclusion of artifacts from Adya Kala in this prestigious space highlights the national importance of Telangana's indigenous heritage.

## CM Revanth should step down, demand student leaders

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

STUDENT union leaders announced that the state-wide shutdown of educational institutions, organised on Friday to protest the Congress government's stance, which has pushed the state's education sector into a severe crisis, was successful. Students across the state participated in the shutdown in large numbers, responding to the call given by student organisations including SFI, AIFS, PDSU, AIDSO, AIFDS, AISB, and AIPSU.

During the protest, student union leaders and activists laid siege to the ministers' residential complex in Hyderabad. A scuffle ensued when the police obstructed the students who were protesting peacefully. Leaders alleged that the police assaulted several students by punching them and arrested them forcibly. They criticised the government, stating that the use of coercive measures against students seeking democratic solutions to their problems reflects the government's attitude towards democracy.

Leaders from various state student organisations participated and spoke on the occasion, including T. Nagaraju (SFI State Secretary), Putta Lakshman (AIFS State Secretary), S. Anil (PDSU State Secretary), P. Mahesh and Podapangi Nagaraju (PDSU State President and Secretary), Nitish (AIDSO State Joint Secretary), Palle Murali (AIFDS State President), Naveed Hakim (AISB State Secretary), and Gopal (AIPSU State Leader).

They pointed out that although the Congress government has been in power for nearly two years, the failure to appoint a full-time Education Minister reveals the government's negligence towards the education sector. They noted

that government schools and colleges are struggling with numerous issues due to the lack of leadership in the Education Department.

The protesters criticised the government for indirectly paving the way for the merger and closure of government schools under the guise of 'Young India Schools' and 'International Schools'. They expressed concern that the government—which ought to be strengthening public education—is instead adopting policies that jeopardise the very existence of government schools.

They further alleged that the Congress government is hindering the higher education of thousands of poor students by failing to release scholarship funds and fee reimbursement arrears totalling approximately Rs 10,814 crore, which have been pending for 6 years. They stated that the Congress government, which speaks of social justice, has jeopardised the education of poor students.

Besides, they alleged that education in the state has turned into a commercial venture because the government has failed to enact a fee regulation act to curb private and corporate educational institutions from arbitrarily hiking fees.

Furthermore, they pointed out the government's failure to provide even basic necessities—such as notebooks, textbooks, uniforms, and mid-day meals—in government schools in a timely and quality manner. They demanded immediate government action to fill teacher vacancies, create infrastructure, and strengthen the public education system.

Student union leaders warned that if the government does not immediately take steps to resolve issues in the education sector, they would launch a more widespread, united student movement across the state.

## B TECH STUDENT'S DEATH

# HC seeks progress report on police investigation

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD

THE Telangana High Court division bench of Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice Ghouse Meera Mohiuddin on Friday heard a writ seeking a CBI probe into the alleged kidnap and murder of a 21-year-old engineering student.

The petition, filed by Ankam Rajeshwar of Ailapur in Jagtial district, challenges the alleged inaction of the Kacheguda police (Telangana) and the Singarayakonda police (AP). He contends that failure to conduct a coordinated, fair and effective investigation into the death of his son Ankam Rahul violates Articles 14 and 21.

According to the petitioner, Rahul was a B Tech student at Matrusri Engineering College, Hyderabad. He went missing from the Kacheguda station on May 27 after a friend dropped him.

The Kacheguda police registered a missing person re-



port under FIR 287 on May 31. On May 30, the Singarayakonda police (Prakasam district of AP) found an unidentified body tied to a boulder in a well, subsequently registering a case under Section 194 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita.

The petitioner's counsel Malugari Sudarshan argued the victim was lured, kidnapped and brutally murdered as part of a well-planned conspiracy following a dispute related to a college campus recruitment practice programme. He presented electronic transcripts of telephonic conversations involv-

ing several named suspects, asserting that the family had been running from pillar to post for 45 days seeking justice.

The bench noted the profound anxiety of the parents given the sensitive nature of the case, which spans two separate State jurisdictions. The court emphasised a structured sequence of events must be established through case diary entries to verify diligence of the probe.

The bench directed the State counsels for both Telangana and AP to obtain detailed instructions and file a formal progress report by next week. The report must explicitly detail progress of the investigation, entries made in case diaries, and mechanism of inter-State coordination between the two police agencies. The case was adjourned to next Thursday.

The State counsel (Home department) submitted that

## DEO issues show cause notices to 3 EROs over slow pace of digitisation

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD

ACTING on the directions of Election Commission of India (ECI), the District Election Officer (DEO), Hyderabad, issued show cause notices to the Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) of Sanath Nagar, Musheerabad and Secunderabad Cantonment Assembly constituencies over the slow pace of digitisation in an ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR). The directions were issued during a video conference on Friday conducted by the Election Commission with all DEOs and SIR observers across the country. The Commission instructed officials to speed up the digitisation of Enumeration

Forms and take disciplinary action, including issuing show cause notices, against EROs lagging in the process.

Following the ECI's instructions, the GHMC Commissioner and Hyderabad DEO RV Karnan held a comprehensive review meeting with all EROs and election officials to assess the progress of the SIR. The meeting reviewed the status of data digitisation, timely completion of Enumeration Forms and compliance with the Election Commission's prescribed timelines.

During the review, the DEO found that the progress of SIR data digitisation in Sanath Nagar, Musheerabad and Secunderabad Cantonment Assembly Constituencies was

unsatisfactory and significantly below the expected standards. Expressing serious concern over the slow progress, the Commissioner issued show cause notices to the concerned EROs and warned all low-performing officers to improve their performance without delay. The DEO directed all EROs to personally monitor the digitisation process, ensure the accuracy of uploaded data, clear pending Enumeration Forms within the stipulated schedule and maintain daily progress reports. Karnan stressed that any negligence or delay in implementing the SIR exercise would be viewed seriously and appropriate action would be taken against the officials responsible.

## Free Pushpak AC connectivity boosts Hyd-Bengaluru bus bookings

HANS NEWS SERVICE

HYDERABAD: Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) has reported a sharp rise in passenger bookings on its Hyderabad - Bengaluru route following the introduction of free Pushpak AC bus local connectivity for travellers heading to Bengaluru. The transport corporation said the innovative initiative has been well received by IT professionals, business travellers and other passengers, resulting in a steady increase in reservations. Under the new offer, passengers holding a valid TGSRTC ticket to Bengaluru can travel free on Pushpak e-City (Pushpak AC) buses operating between various parts of Hyderabad and Shamshabad Airport.

## E20 petrol may cut mileage by 5%: Govt

But it offers cleaner combustion, energy security benefits: OilMin

NEW DELHI



PETROL blended with 20 per cent ethanol (E20) can reduce fuel economy by 3-5 per cent in some vehicles, the Oil Ministry said on Friday, but argued the impact is outweighed by benefits, including a higher octane rating, superior anti-knock characteristics, faster combustion, better pickup, smoother acceleration, cleaner engine operation, and lower lifecycle carbon emissions.

In a detailed question-and-answer document issued to counter criticism of the Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas said E20 was a "cleaner, higher-quality and more efficient fuel" than E10 or pure petrol and had been rolled out only after years of scientific testing, consultations with automobile manufacturers and the expansion of domestic ethanol pro-

duction. The ministry rejected concerns that the programme had been implemented too quickly, saying India's ethanol blending initiative dates back to pilot projects launched in 2001, with 5 per cent blending introduced in parts of the country by 2006. While ethanol blending remained around 1.5 per cent until 2014, the government accelerated production after introducing the National Policy on Biofuels in 2018 and expanding feedstocks beyond sugarcane.

## Modi lands in New Zealand on final leg of three-nation tour

Continued from P1

I will also be addressing a community programme tomorrow in Auckland," he said. In a post on X, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said, "This historic visit is set to strengthen bilateral ties and unlock new avenues of cooperation across several areas especially trade, defence, sports, culture, education, and people-to-people exchanges." Calling it a "special welcome in Auckland!", the MEA in another post on X said the iconic Sky Tower was illuminated to mark Modi's visit to New Zealand, "symbolising the friendship between our two countries." In his departure statement in New Delhi, the prime minister had said that his visit would "meaningfully build" upon the strong momentum in India-New Zealand ties pursuant to Luxon's visit to India in March 2025.

## Mystery strikes hit Iran after US ends attacks

Continued from P1

The attacks come as they and the US insist the Strait of Hormuz must be open and free to ships to transit. Iran insists the strait, through which about a fifth of all oil and natural gas passes, must now be under its sole control and that vessels should begin to pay fees to Tehran - even though the world for decades has considered it an international waterway. Iran's grip on the strait during the conflict led to a global energy crisis, though oil prices have sharply dropped since wartime highs of USD 120 a barrel. Israel, which took part in the Iran war, also has not claimed any recent attacks on Iran.

## May be put behind bars or bumped off, says Hasina

Continued from P1

"They may arrest me on my return, they may even kill me," Sheikh Hasina told the news agency. "Still, I have to go." Expressing deep concern over the ongoing situation of her political supporters back home, the former Prime Minister emphasised her resolve to face the consequences on her home soil.

"My party leaders and workers are being subjected to tremendous repression. If death comes, I want it to

come on my own soil, where my parents are buried and where their blood was shed," she added. The high-stakes announcement follows a ruling by Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal, which sentenced her to death after convicting her of crimes against humanity.

The charges were tied to the state crackdown on the 2024 student-led demonstrations that ultimately led to the fall of the Awami League government, with the tribunal holding her ac-

countable for ordering or failing to stop the fatalities of demonstrators during the political unrest.

In the same verdict, the tribunal handed a death sentence to former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal and a five-year prison sentence to former Inspector General of Police Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun. The judicial body additionally directed the state to confiscate the properties of both Sheikh Hasina and Kamal.

## After Nabin and Nadda, Amit Shah set to visit Telangana

Continued from P1

This was followed by JP Nadda's outreach programme with the state leadership during his recent visit to the city.

The state leadership was told that the focus should be on "energising the party workers, strengthening local leadership, and sharpening the party's grassroots machinery. During every meeting the model cited is the exemplary role played by party cadre from the grassroots in West Bengal and party making unprecedented gains with the strengthening the organisational structure in most adverse circumstances," said a member of the state party executive.

The state party chief N. Ramachander Rao said Telangana is very much in the party national leadership's focus. Union Minister Amit Shah had called on him right in the middle of his West

## Iran hatched fresh plot to kill Trump, Israel alerts US

Continued from P1

Concurrently, CNN, citing two sources familiar with the matter, reported that the warning referred to a specific alleged plot.

While the exact details of the purported plan remain unclear, CNN reported that US agencies had not independently verified the intelligence or been tracking the alleged plot before Israel's warning. According to CNN, some US officials believe the Israeli intelligence may also be part of a broader effort by Israel to influence Trump's decision on whether to intensify American military action against Iran.

One source told the broadcaster that US intelligence has been monitoring a steady flow of threats against Trump in recent weeks, but described the Israeli warning as new because it referred to a specific alleged plan.

## 'NO SUBMISSION OF ENUMERATION FORMS, NO VOTING RIGHT'

Continued from P1

Voters may furnish details available in the 2002 electoral rolls, but even those who do not possess information about their forefathers can submit the forms. Those who submit the forms will be included in the draft electoral roll, while persons whose names are omitted can apply through Form 6 for fresh enrolment and Form 8 for corrections or inclusion.

Stressing that there was no need for confusion, the CEO said filling up the enumeration form was mandatory.

Responding to complaints

that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) were not visiting several localities in Hyderabad, he attributed the issue to difficulties arising from non-uniform addresses and frequent migration of residents. He said municipal staff has been asked to assist BLOs in completing the exercise. Educated voters can also submit their forms online, he said.

The CEO said that applicants whose names do not appear in the rolls despite submission will receive notices and be given an opportunity to furnish the required details. Stating that they have re-

quested for permitting Urdu forms in Hyderabad and Nizamabad, the CEO said if approved by ECI, Urdu forms will be supplied.

The CEO further said duplicate entries would be identified using Demographic Similar Entries (DSE) applications, after which voters would be asked to indicate their preferred constituency. He said all BLOs belong to Group-C services and complaints regarding their functioning can be brought to the notice of supervisors or Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), who will be instructed to address such issues.

Voters whose names were omitted due to migration or other reasons may apply through Form 8, while first-time applicants should submit Form 6. He noted that 59 per cent of voters in Komaram Bheem Asifabad district had already submitted enumeration forms. The response in Hyderabad's Old City was also satisfactory.

Replying to a question, the CEO said any decision on extending the SIR deadline rests with the ECI, though the State would make suitable representations if required.

## One Nation, One Election rollout likely by '29: Panel

Continued from P1

He said that the committee has visited several states, including Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana and Delhi, where it interacted with constitutional experts, civil society organisations, educationists and other stakeholders.

An overwhelming majority of those consulted have supported the idea of simultaneous elections, said the BJP MP from Pali in Rajasthan.

"We have found that almost 99 per cent of stakeholders, particularly from civil society and various organisations, favour simultaneous elections. The effort now is to evolve a mechanism that is acceptable to all political parties," he said.

Asked about the timeline for implementation, he said the committee was examin-

ing various options, indicating that the reform could become operational by the time the next general elections are due in 2029.

He said there is also a possibility of bringing some states into alignment before that if political parties and the chief ministers voluntarily agree to synchronise their electoral cycles.

Highlighting the economic rationale behind the proposal, Chaudhary cited findings placed before the high-level committee headed by former President of India Ram Nath Kovind.

He said that an economic study submitted to the Kovind committee estimated that holding elections separately across the country results in an economic loss of nearly Rs 7 lakh crore, while synchronised elections could generate equivalent gains for the national economy.

## Rajpal Yadav to go to jail as court upholds conviction

Continued from P1

The Court further ordered that the actor shall undergo three months' imprisonment in each of the seven cheque bounce cases, with all the sentences running concurrently. It also directed him to pay the fine imposed by the trial court, observing that failure to pay the fine would entail six months' imprisonment. The Court granted Yadav two months' time to either comply with the judgment or avail of legal remedies before the appropriate forum.

## Deeply moved by warm welcome from Indian community in New Zealand: PM

Continued from P1

"The love and affection of the New Zealand's Indian community touched me deeply. They have waited four decades for the visit of an Indian Prime Minister and their extraordinary enthusiasm and warmth were visible today. Their bond with India remains unwavering."

PM Modi arrived in Auckland Friday evening, local time, for the third and final leg of his three-nation visit. In a special gesture, New Zealand Prime

Minister Christopher Luxon received PM Modi at the airport. This marks the first official visit of an Indian Prime Minister to New Zealand in 40 years. The iconic Sky Tower in Auckland was illuminated in the Indian tricolour as a special gesture to mark Prime Minister Modi's visit to New Zealand. While sharing a picture of the Sky Tower on X, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated, "A special welcome in Auckland!"



# Homeowners flag structural, safety lapses in Jain Constructions project in Hyderabad

**HOMEOWNERS OF JAINS BALAJI NILAYAM CASA WATERSIDE ALLEGE CONSTRUCTION DEFECTS, MISSING FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS AND FINANCIAL IRREGULARITIES**

MALOTH KARTHIK  
HYDERABAD

MEMBERS of the JBN Casa Waterside Flat Owners Mutually Aided Cooperative Maintenance Society Limited, comprising 520 families at the Jains Balaji Nilayam Casa Waterside project in Safilguda, Malkajgiri, are up in arms against alleged defects in the Jain Constructions project (RERA Project Regn. No. P0220002329), citing "unresolved construction defects, critical fire, lift and electrical safety risks, and substantial unpaid financial dues."

Mathew Jacob, a member of the society, has raised serious concerns over multiple construction defects, critical fire, lift and electrical safety risks, and substantial financial dues allegedly pending from Jain Constructions. He alleged that the society and several individual purchasers have sent repeated letters and notices, but the builder has taken no action. Therefore, the residents have brought the matter to the public's attention.

The society has engaged engineers and chartered accountants specialising in certifying completed projects after the issue of the Occupation Certificate. They have reportedly corroborated the claims, citing alleged non-compliance with the terms of the Agreement of Sale, the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016, and the National Building Code of India.



The most serious concerns, according to the society, relate to life-safety systems that remain incomplete nearly three years after the issue of the Occupation Certificate. The society alleges that 65 fire-rated doors were not installed at critical exit points between the corridors and stairwells. This missing work, valued at approximately Rs 50 lakh, could affect safe evacuation during a fire and may require inspection and recertification by the concerned authorities.

The society further alleges that surge protection devices (SPD kits) for all 22 lifts were removed from the Bill of Materials. It estimates the value of these devices at Rs 7 lakh and says their absence exposes lift systems, including ARD systems, to malfunction during power surges, increasing the risk of residents being trapped during emergencies.

The society also alleges that the corpus belonging to homeowners has been withheld by the builder without justification. According to the society's latest notice sent to the builder under RERA provisions, Jain Constructions is required to pay an accumulated total of Rs 2.92 crore, in addition to a chartered engineer's rectification assessment of Rs 1.35 crore, with interest continuing to accrue until final settlement.

It is further alleged that the builder retained the corpus of Rs 4.94 crore for more than two years and three months after the Occupation Certificate without depositing it in a separate escrow account, as required. Jacob said that although most of the principal amount was returned after repeated follow-up, the remaining amount, along with statutory interest under RERA, calculated at SBI MCLR plus 2 per cent,

remains unpaid.

The society claims that the builder collected 12 months of prepaid maintenance charges but provided maintenance services for only 11 months. The remaining unutilised amount for one month should be refunded to the flat owners. This claim is based on an audit of the builder's expenses during the 11-month period, which found certain expenses to be inadmissible and inconsistent with the Agreement of Sale.

The society also noted that the final waterproofing work on all block terraces was left incomplete, resulting in continuous water leakage and seepage into the corridors below during rains. It further alleges that the structural expansion joints were not completed according to industry standards, leading to water leakage in the basement. The auditors have as-

sessed and certified the cost of rectifying these and other civil and structural defects at Rs 1.35 crore.

Gowri, the signatory to a complaint letter addressed to the builder, said, "Ours is the top-most 13th floor, which has continuous leakage due to incomplete terrace work left by the builder. We are NRIs settled in the USA, and we periodically come to India and stay here, sometimes working from home during longer visits. We are highly disappointed as the builder doesn't respond to or attend to these structural defects despite repeated follow-up."

"The safety and security of our families cannot be compromised. For more than two years, we have been living with the constant threat of fire and lift safety risks because of the builder's negligence," said Jacob.

Jacob expressed hope that the builder would take these issues seriously and resolve them.

Otherwise, he said, the society would have no option but to initiate legal proceedings before the Telangana Real Estate Regulatory Authority (TG RERA), the Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission and other appropriate judicial forums to enforce its rights and ensure residents' safety. Repeated attempts by *The Hans India* to reach the management of Jain Constructions did not yield any response. The management did not respond to calls or text messages.

# Luxury demand keeps housing sales afloat; affordable segment slips

NEW DELHI

HOUSING sales rose slightly by 0.7 per cent to 1.71 lakh units during January-June 2026 across eight major cities as demand stabilised after four years of strong growth post-COVID pandemic, according to Knight Frank.

Premium homes, costing more than Rs 1 crore each, dominated the overall sales with 54 per cent, while the share of mid-income and affordable housing shrank to 46 per cent.

At a virtual press conference on Thursday, real estate consultant Knight Frank India released the housing sales data for January-June 2026, which showed that sales grew slightly to 1,71,471 units from 1,70,201 units in the year-ago period. Mumbai, Delhi-NCR, Bengaluru, Pune, Hyderabad, Chennai, Ahmedabad, and Kolkata are the eight primary residential markets tracked by the consultant.

Elaborating on the data, Knight Frank said that sales rose in all cities except Delhi-NCR, which saw a 7 per cent



decline annually.

Further, the consultant pointed out that the sales of affordable homes (below Rs 50 lakh) declined 15 per cent to 32,063 units during January-June from 37,796 units in the year-ago period. The affordable homes category accounted for 19 per cent of the overall sales. In the Rs 50 lakh to Rs 1 crore price bracket, the sales dipped 5 per cent to 46,490 units. The mid-income segment contributed 27 per cent to the total sales. Fresh supply (launches) of housing units rose 4 per cent to 1,87,350 units in the first six months of this year. "Following four years of broad-based recovery from the pandemic-induced trough of 2020, the near-flat sales

trajectory indicates that the dominant dynamic is now stabilisation rather than growth," the consultant observed. New supply at lower price points has remained constrained, resulting in a fall in sales of affordable and mid-income homes, Knight Frank said. "While growth has reduced following a steep recovery from pandemic lows, the market's underlying fundamentals remain firmly intact. Premium homes now account for more than half of all residential sales, reflecting rising household incomes, evolving buyer aspirations and growing confidence in long-term homeownership," said Shishir Bajjal, International Partner, CMD, Knight Frank India.

# Hyderabad's office market leasing volume rises 29% in H1-2026: Knight Frank India

HANS BUSINESS  
HYDERABAD

HYDERABAD'S office market has recorded the highest first-half leasing volumes of 7.5 mn sft during H1 2026, according to Knight Frank India's latest report, India RealEstate: Residential and Office (January-June 2026) H1 2026. The leasing volumes increased 29 per cent YoY from 5.9 mn sft in H1 2025. The city logged average transacted rent increased



by 7 per cent to Rs80/sft per month. Global Capability Centres (GCCs) remained the largest occupier group, with space absorption of 3.4 mn sft, accounting for 45 per cent of total office leasing, up from 40 per cent a year ago. Office completions recorded a strong

supply of 3.0 mn sft, despite the substantial supply infusion, vacancy levels continued to tighten, declining by 296 basis points YoY to 11.5 per cent, reflecting city's healthy demand-supply dynamics.

The residential market also maintained a stable performance, with housing sales standing at 19,249 units, registering a modest 1 per cent YoY growth, while launches declined marginally by 2 per cent YoY to 20,466 units.

## BIZ BRIEFS

### WHISKAS expands cat food portfolio

WHISKAS, a cat food brand, unveiled its all-new Indian Fish Range, inspired by Rohu and Catla. The brand has also launched a campaign featuring Bollywood actress Mrunal Thakur using her voice for introducing WHISKAS first-of-its-kind range. Ayesha Huda, CMO, Mars Pet Nutrition, said: "Indian pet parenting is evolving rapidly, but many feeding habits are still shaped by what families have traditionally believed cats enjoy."

### Chuppspots with PGBA

Chuppspots footwear, a D2C Open footwear brand, announced a year-long partnership with the P. Gopichand Badminton Academy (PGBA), a badminton institution, as its official footwear recovery partner. Pallela Gopichand, said: "Recovery is an essential part of every athlete's journey, yet it often doesn't receive the attention it deserves. Comfortable, supportive footwear plays a meaningful role in helping athletes recover between training sessions."

### Sparx launches Chunky sole sandals

Sparx, a footwear brand introduced the new Sparx Chunky Sole Sandals—a collection designed for young consumers. To introduce the collection, Sparx has partnered with actor Chunky Pandey in a campaign. The collection pairs sculpted soles with construction, durable materials and versatile colourways. It features adjustable straps for enhanced cushioning and lightweight engineering make the sandals comfortable.

### IKS Health strengthens US play with TruBridge buyout

HANS BUSINESS  
HYDERABAD

IKS Health, a care enablement solutions provider, announced the completion of its previously announced acquisition of TruBridge Inc., a provider of healthcare technology including an electronic health record (EHR) and revenue cycle management solutions for rural and community hospitals.

Sachin K Gupta, Founder, IKS Health, said: "Through this market expansion, we are uniting capabilities that move us further toward our goal of a combined system of record and system of action workflow that uses explainable AI-driven and human-in-the-loop solutions to reduce administrative friction, ease financial pressures, and close critical gaps in patient care."

Chris Fowler, CEO of TruBridge, said: "We are pleased to partner with IKS Health, as we share a deep, long-term commitment to helping healthcare organizations run efficiently, strengthen their financial health, and empower clinicians to practice at the top of their license."

# IT stocks shine as upbeat TCS outlook drives market higher

Improved demand outlook lift tech shares; Reliance and banks add momentum

MUMBAI

BENCHMARK equity indices extended gains for a second straight session on Friday, with the Sensex rising 827 points and the Nifty climbing over 1 per cent, driven by strong buying in IT, banking and heavy-weight stocks amid easing crude oil prices and positive global cues. The 30-share BSE Sensex advanced 827.57 points, or 1.08 per cent, to close at 77,569.39, while the NSE Nifty gained 244.10 points, or 1.02 per cent, to settle at 24,206.90.

Heavyweights Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, Tech Mahindra, Infosys, Bharat Electronics, Axis Bank and Tata Steel led the rally. Investor sentiment improved after TCS reported a 4.61 per cent rise in June-



quarter net profit to Rs 13,349 crore and indicated that demand, affected by the West Asia crisis, is expected to improve in the current quarter.

Market participants were also encouraged by easing crude oil prices, with Brent crude shipping to around \$76 per barrel, reducing concerns over inflation and import costs. All sectoral indices ended in positive territory. Realty gained 3.4 per cent, followed by PSU Banks (3.26 per cent), IT (2.01 per cent), Metals (1.55 per cent)

and Services (1.5 per cent). Broader markets also remained firm, with midcap and smallcap indices rising up to 1.7 per cent.

Analysts said steady earnings, lower crude prices and stability in the rupee supported buying, though investors remain watchful of geopolitical developments and global market trends.

Market breadth was positive, with 2,883 stocks advancing against 1,377 declines on the BSE. Despite the two-day rebound, bench-

### TCS earnings cheer boosts Infosys, HCL Tech, Wipro and TechM

NEW DELHI: Shares of TCS ended 1 per cent higher on Friday after the country's largest IT services company reported a 4.61 per cent increase in its June-quarter net profit, and guided towards an improvement in demand impacted by the West Asia crisis, returning in the ongoing quarter. The bellwether IT stock ended at Rs 2,069.05, up 1.04 per cent on the BSE. During the day, it jumped 4.11 per cent to Rs 2,132. At the NSE, shares of the firm ended 0.95 per cent higher at Rs 2,069. Intraday, shares of the company climbed 4 per cent to Rs 2,133.30. The company's market valuation climbed Rs 7,706.53 crore to Rs 7,48,600.40 crore. TCS on Thursday reported a 4.61 per cent increase in its June-quarter net profit to Rs 13,349 crore. Other IT stocks -- Infosys, HCL Tech, Tech Mahindra and Wipro -- also ended in positive territory, adding significantly to the market's rally. The BSE IT index jumped 2.01 per cent to end at 27,211.93.

mark indices ended the week marginally lower. The Sensex declined 194.52 points (0.25 per cent) during the week, while the Nifty slipped 63.95

points (0.26 per cent). Foreign institutional investors remained net sellers, offloading equities worth Rs 532.86 crore on Thursday.

# Retail investors power MF growth as SIPs scale new peak

NEW DELHI

EQUITY-oriented mutual fund schemes attracted Rs 28,973 crore in June, a sharp surge of 26.5 per cent from the preceding month, driven by easing geopolitical tensions, expectations of supportive domestic macroeconomic conditions, and strong retail participation.

With this, net inflow into equity schemes reached to Rs 1.81 lakh crore in the first half of 2026, up 12 per cent from the Rs 1.61 lakh

crore garnered in the same period of 2025.

Moreover, monthly SIP contributions rose to Rs 31,781 crore during the month under review, up from Rs 30,954 crore in May, according to data released by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) on Friday.

Overall, the mutual fund industry's net outflow narrowed to Rs 52,949 crore in June from an outflow of Rs 64,131 crore in the preceding month. Consequently,

the industry's asset base rose to Rs 82.22 lakh crore at the end of June from Rs 81.6 lakh crore a month earlier.

According to the data, net inflows into equity schemes stood at Rs 28,973 crore in June, compared with Rs 22,908 crore in May, which was the lowest level in a year. The rebound indicates that investor confidence remains resilient despite ongoing global uncertainties and periodic market volatility.

# Kiwi Indians power \$37.3 bn boost to NZ economy

NEW DELHI: INDIANS living in New Zealand made an outsized contribution to the country's economy equivalent to 8.6 per cent of gross domestic product in the year to March 2025, a report has said.

Indians added an estimated \$37.3 billion to the New Zealand GDP during the period, the report from New Zealand-based RNZ said, citing figures revealed by the Waitakere Indian Association. The study, supported by the Ministry of Ethnic Communities and the Indian High Commission, found the community supported 2,20,910 full time equivalent jobs during the



period. Nearly three quarters of the community's measured economic contribution came through Indian owned businesses. The defining characteristics of the Indian community - relatively young with higher qualification levels and a growing number who are self-employed - suggested its

economic contribution to the country will continue to grow.

Census and administrative data showed that 2,92,092 people of Indian heritage in New Zealand in 2023, made Indians the country's third largest ethnic group, constituting almost 6 per cent of the population. The small population share suggested Kiwi Indians make an outsized economic contribution relative to their population share.

"Kiwi Indian households contribute a further quarter through their consumption, while Indian international students and Indian visitors together make up the remain-

ing 2 percent," the report said, adding that only 34,000 Kiwi Indian businesses were present in FY24.

The Indian community contributed an estimated \$10 billion to the country's economy in 2019, which was roughly 3.3 per cent of total GDP at the time.

Pratima Namasivayam, chief executive of the Ministry of Ethnic Communities, said the findings showed a growing, highly qualified Indian community which is becoming increasingly entrepreneurial and making a significant impact across New Zealand's economy.



## Writing gave me a voice: Teen author on turning challenges into conquests

Author, youth advocate and India Book of Records achiever Debadrita Sarkar reflects on her journey from childhood struggles to becoming a published writer using literature to address issues that matter to young people.

### Hans INTERVIEW

ARTI ADKE

At just 17, Debadrita Sarkar has emerged as a young author and social advocate, using the power of words to raise awareness about issues ranging from mental health and environmental conservation to disability inclusion, girl child rights and Indian heritage. An India Book of Records achiever, she has authored and co-authored nine ISBN-registered books and seen her work published in nearly 20 periodicals across six countries. Her journey, however, has not been without challenges. From facing bullying and self-doubt in childhood to finding confidence through writing, Debadrita has transformed personal struggles into a platform for advocacy and inspiration.

As she prepares her profile for the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2026, she speaks to The Hans India about overcoming setbacks, writing with purpose, the achievement she values most, and why she believes age should never be a barrier to creating meaningful change.

**Q. Your journey began with bullying and self-doubt. What helped you transform those experiences into motivation to become an author and advocate?**

As a child, I was often ridiculed and called "fool" or "stupid." My mother would encourage me by calling me "Fool Kalidasa," reminding me of the legendary scholar who overcame adversity through learning.



Debadrita Sarkar

That thought stayed with me.

I began writing in Bengali during the COVID-19 lockdown after being inspired by nature. Initially, very few people believed in my writing, but my grandfather encouraged me to continue.

Later, I started writing in English, even while dealing

with anxiety, academic pressure and self-doubt. Writing became my way of expressing emotions and finding peace.

When my article Marks Mania was published in The Hindu, followed by my story in The Statesman, I realised my voice could reach people and create an impact.

**Q. Among all your achievements, which one means the most to you and why?**

My India Book of Records recognition is the achievement I value the most. While writing books is itself challenging, this recognition was unique because it acknowledged

my publications in nearly 20 periodicals across six countries within a single year.

For me, it represents the acceptance of my work by editors around the world. It showed that meaningful writing can connect with readers beyond borders and encouraged me to continue writing with greater confidence.

**Q. Many of your books focus on environmental conservation, mental health, disability inclusion and girl child rights. What inspired you to write about these issues?**

Most of my books are inspired by real-life experiences and issues that matter to me.

My own struggles with mental health encouraged me to write poetry that helps young people understand and express their emotions.

My love for nature inspired books on environmental conservation, while the achievements of para-

archer Sheetal Devi motivated me to write about disability inclusion. As a girl, I also felt strongly about education and equal opportunities for girls. Through my stories, I want to highlight the challenges many girls continue to face and encourage society to support their dreams.

I have also written about Indian history and culture because I believe many inspiring stories deserve wider recognition among young readers.

**Q. What impact do you hope your books, blogs, magazine and campaigns will create?**

I hope they inspire young people to believe in themselves and contribute positively to society. Whether it is protecting the environment, supporting mental well-being, preserving our culture or standing up for equality, every young person can make a difference.

If my work motivates even a few students to pursue their passion or start an initiative for social

good, I will consider it a success.

**Q. As a candidate for the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2026, what message would you like to share with students across India?**

Things are never easy, and everyone faces setbacks. I have faced rejection, self-doubt and criticism, but I never stopped writing. You don't need the best resources to begin. I wrote my books without a computer or laptop, using only my phone. More important than resources are consistency, patience and the willingness to keep learning. Most importantly, don't compare yourself with others. Everyone grows at their own pace. Age should never stop you from chasing your dreams. You don't have to wait until adulthood to write a book, launch a project or create positive change. Believe in yourself, keep improving every day, and your efforts will eventually make a difference.

## UoH faculty and research scholar awarded prestigious royal society international exchange fellowship

HYDERABAD

The University of Hyderabad (UoH), an Institution of Eminence (IoE), has strengthened its global research profile with Dr. Pratap Kollu, Assistant Professor at the Centre for Advanced Studies in Electronics Science and Technology (CASEST), School of Physics, receiving the prestigious Visiting Fellowship from the Royal Society, UK.

The fellowship recognises promising researchers and promotes international scientific collaboration by enabling scholars to work with leading global institutions. As part of the programme, Dr. Kollu, accompanied by his PhD research scholar Prajakta Dange, completed a 10-day academic exchange visit to the University of Glasgow, where he also served as an



(From L to right): Prof. Duncan H. Gregory, University of Glasgow with Prajakta Dange and Dr. Pratap Kollu, University of Hyderabad

Honorary Faculty Member.

During the visit, the University of Hyderabad team collaborated with Prof. Duncan H. Gregory, Chair in Inorganic Materials at the School of Chemistry, University of Glasgow. The researchers engaged in discussions and explored collaborative opportunities in several emerg-

ing areas of science and technology, including advanced functional materials, smart instrumentation systems, and next-generation energy storage technologies.

These research areas are considered critical for addressing future challenges in sustainable energy, advanced manufacturing and

high-performance materials. The exchange provided both institutions with an opportunity to share expertise, discuss ongoing research and identify areas for future collaboration.

The fellowship is supported by the Yusuf and Farida Hamied Foundation, established by noted scientist and philanthropist Dr. Yusuf Hamied, Chairman of Cipla. The foundation supports international research partnerships aimed at advancing scientific solutions in areas such as clean energy, healthcare and advanced materials by fostering collaboration between researchers in India and the United Kingdom.

According to the university, the visit has laid the groundwork for long-term academic cooperation between UoH and the University of Glasgow. Both institutions are expected to explore

joint research proposals, collaborative publications, faculty interactions and bilateral exchange programmes for students and researchers.

University officials said such collaborations provide valuable exposure to cutting-edge scientific research and help strengthen interdisciplinary learning while creating opportunities for young researchers to engage with global experts.

The fellowship also reflects the increasing participation of Indian universities in international research initiatives. By building partnerships with globally recognised institutions, UoH continues to expand its research network and contribute to scientific advancements with potential applications in energy, materials science and other technology-driven sectors.

## Students to showcase mental math skills at regional prodigy championship 2026



HYDERABAD

More than 3,200 students aged between 4 and 14 years from across Telangana will participate in the 22nd Telangana Regional Prodigy Championship 2026 on July 12 at Classic Convention Three, Shamshabad, highlighting the role of mental arithmetic and cognitive skills in children's learning. Will be organising by SIP Abacus, the annual championship will feature competitions in mental arithmetic, memory, concentration, visualization, speed and accuracy. Participants will solve mathematical problems mentally without using calculators, paper or electronic devices. One of the key attractions of the event will be the Concentration Round, where students will attempt mental arithmetic problems

while loud music plays in the background.

The activity is designed to assess children's ability to remain focused and accurate despite distractions, a skill considered increasingly important in today's technology-driven environment.

The competition will bring together children from different age groups, including participants as young as five years old, who will demonstrate mental calculation techniques developed through structured abacus and mental math training.

According to the organisers, the championship aims to encourage children to view mathematics as an engaging and enjoyable subject while helping them develop cognitive abilities such as attention, memory, logical thinking and problem-solving.

The event will be attended by GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan, V.P. Gautham, Special Secretary to the Government of Telangana in the Housing Department, and Pannuru Prabhakar, Principal of ARCA Global International School.

The Regional Prodigy Championship is SIP Abacus' flagship annual event and is expected to attract students, parents, educators and child development experts from across the state.

With increasing emphasis on skills such as critical thinking, concentration and analytical ability in the age of artificial intelligence, the championship seeks to provide young learners with an opportunity to demonstrate how mental math training can contribute to overall cognitive development beyond classroom learning.

## How small acts of kindness can renew hope

In today's fast-paced world, loneliness often goes unnoticed. While students are busy balancing academics, extracurricular activities and social media, many people around them—including classmates, neighbours, grandparents or relatives—may be silently struggling with isolation. Taking a few moments to reach out can make a meaningful difference in someone's life.

Cheering up someone who feels lonely does not require grand gestures. A simple phone call, a thoughtful text message, a short visit or even asking, "How are you doing?" can brighten another person's day. These small acts of kindness remind people that they



are valued, heard and remembered. For students, practising empathy is as important as academic success. Reaching out to someone who may

be feeling left out helps develop emotional intelligence, communication skills and compassion—qualities that contribute to personal growth

and stronger communities. Students can write letters to senior citizens, spend time with elderly neighbours, check in on friends who seem

withdrawn or volunteer with local organisations supporting vulnerable groups.

Research has consistently shown that social connections improve emotional well-being and reduce feelings of stress and anxiety. Equally important, those who offer support often experience greater happiness and a stronger sense of purpose themselves. Kindness is contagious. One thoughtful action can inspire others to do the same, creating a ripple effect of positivity throughout schools and neighbourhoods. In an increasingly digital world, genuine human connection remains one of the most valuable gifts we can offer.

"Again, it was a disappointing one. Definitely, 158 wasn't the perfect total on the board. And eventually we saw how quickly they chased down (4th T20I against England). So I think we fell a bit short in terms of our execution. And, yeah, we saw that when we were changing the pace, when we were trying something else, they scored off those loose balls," - Shreyas Iyer



FIFA World Quarterfinals

# French jinx haunts Morocco

Atlas Lions knocked out of WC for second time in row

FOXBOROUGH (US)

FRANCE did it to Morocco again at the World Cup.

For the second straight tournament, Morocco was ousted by the French 2-0 — this time in the quarterfinals at Gillette Stadium, four years after losing by the same score in the semifinals. With this win France marched into third successive Fifa World Cup last 4.

With very few attacking chances on Thursday, Morocco landed only one shot on goal, and that came in the 82nd minute while already trailing by two goals.

It was the same ending as in Qatar, when the Atlas Lions be-

came the first African team to reach the semifinals at a World Cup. "The future will be bright if we continue like this, but that doesn't mean we didn't want to win today. Of course, we wanted to win today," Morocco coach Mohamed Ouahbi said through a translator.

"We did everything we could to win, but we faced a very difficult opponent. It's a disappointment, of course, but we'll keep working for the future."

The Atlas Lions' best chance came when midfielder Azzedine Ounahi had a shot from the edge of the box but goalkeeper Mike Maignan made a diving stop, knocking the ball away and, essentially, ending the hopes of Morocco.

"They had no real forwards using their

speed in the wide areas," France coach Didier Deschamps said.

"We were possessing the ball, they had no way to be dangerous to us."

It wasn't like Morocco didn't make a hard push at this year's World Cup. They recruited talented 18-year-old Ayyoub Bouaddi, who could have been playing with France's youth teams. He was born in Senlis, an hour north of Paris, and after representing France in every age group possible, he switched allegiance.

"We know we represent more than just one country," Ouahbi said.

"We represent the Moroccan people, and many countries across Asia and Africa. Many people see themselves in this team, and we'll keep working to win titles in the future."

Morocco's best opportunity in the opening half came just before the halftime whistle when Achraf Hakimi sent a free kick from just outside the box past the right post. (AP)

Morocco's Achraf Hakimi is being consoled by France's Desire Doue after the former lost their World Cup quarterfinal match.



All-time WC top scorers

- Lionel Messi (Argentina), 21
- Kylian Mbappé (France), 20
- Miroslav Klose (Germany), 16
- Ronaldo (Brazil), 15
- Harry Kane (England), 14
- Gerd Müller (Germany), 14
- Just Fontaine (France), 13
- Pelé (Brazil), 12
- Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal), 11
- Jürgen Klinsmann (Germany), 11

# Mbappe rewrites World Cup history

27-yr-old becomes youngest to 20 matches, fastest to 20 goals

FOXBOROUGH

FRANCE talisman Kylian Mbappe has carved his name deeper into football history, becoming the youngest player to feature in 20 FIFA World Cup matches and the fastest to reach the milestone of 20 World Cup appearances with 30, Mbappe has become France's first-most capped player in the competition with 20 appearances. He is level with Hugo Lloris and ahead of Antoine Griezmann, Olivier Giroud and Raphael Varane.

With his eighth goal of the ongoing 2026 tournament,

the 27-year-old achieved the historic feat during France's 2-0 quarter-final victory over Morocco at the Boston Stadium, where he recovered from a first-half penalty miss to score in the 60th minute before setting up teammate Ousmane Dembele for the second. While Argentina's Lionel Messi is the outright record holder for FIFA World

Cup appearances with 30, Mbappe has now taken his overall World Cup tally to 20 goals in just 20 appearances across three editions (2018, 2022, and 2026), just one goal shy of equalling Messi (21) for the most goals scored in the history of the competition.

France's all-time leading goalscorer Kylian Mbappe has cemented his place among the greatest players in FIFA World Cup history across his appearances at three edi-

over Sweden at World Cup 2026, the 27-year-old Frenchman became the French player with the most wins in the tournament's history (15). His 16th triumph, against Paraguay, saw him draw level with Brazil's Cafu on the all-time list. Against Morocco in the quarter-final, he levelled with Miroslav Klose with 17 wins. Only Lionel Messi (20 wins) remains ahead of him.

With eight knockout-stage goals to his name before the 2026 tournament, Mbappe was level with Brazil's Leoni-das and Ronaldo. His brace against Sweden in France's 3-0 win in New Jersey took him clear at the top of the all-time ranking,

tions of the tournament.

He features prominently in numerous all-time rankings and boasts an impressive collection of individual records.

After France's 3-0 victory

before he extended the record to 11 goals with another against Paraguay and to 12 against Morocco.



# Khammam end Hyderabad's run, storm into final

HYDERABAD

ANVITA Khammam Aces booked their place in the final of the Hyderabad Cricket Association's TG20 with a thrilling 10-run victory over Hyderabad E-Champions in Qualifier 1 at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Hyderabad on Thursday.

Powered by Mickil Jaiswal's unbeaten 76 and a disciplined bowling effort led by Sahendra Mallu (3/31) as well as Harshith Sai's disciplined final over, the Aces successfully defended 200 to hand Hyderabad E-Champions their first defeat of the tournament, ending

the league leaders' unbeaten run.

While Anvita Khammam Aces advance directly to the final to be held on Sunday, Hyderabad E-Champions will have another opportunity to qualify when they face E IPL & evele Karimnagar Diamonds in Qualifier 2 on Friday, July 10, after the Diamonds defeated Ranga Reddy Risers by 75 runs in Thursday's Eliminator.

The unbeaten Mickil Jaiswal finished on 76 off 34, anchoring the innings with seven sixes and four boundaries, as the late assault helped the Aces pile on 113 runs in the final 10

overs to finish with a formidable 200/6.

For E-Champions Vaishnav fought till the very end, striking a six off Sahendra Mallu before adding a boundary in the final over off Harshith Sai. Akhil Rathod remained unbeaten on 8 off 4 and chipped in with a six in the closing stages. But E-Champions could only reach 190/8, falling 10 runs short despite Vaishnav's unbeaten effort.

Brief scores: Anvita Khammam Aces 200/6 in 20 overs (Mickil Jaiswal 76\*, G Sai Krishna Reddy 40, Paras Raj 32, Akhil Rathod 2/33, Pranav Varma 1/32) beat Hy-



derabad E-Champions 190/8 in 20 overs (Sai Vikas Reddy 69, Ganesh Gadugu 27, Pranav Varma 26, Ved Reddy 2/33, Sahendra Mallu 3/31) by 10 runs.

# NMDC Hyd Marathon earns World Athletics' Silver Sustainability Award

HYDERABAD: The NMDC Hyderabad Marathon 2025, organised by the Hyderabad Runners Society, has become the first marathon in India to receive the prestigious World Athletics - Athletics for a Better World (ABW) Silver Standard. Valid for three years, this international recognition honours sporting events that create a meaningful positive impact on the environment, communities and society. In a significant global recognition, the NMDC Hyderabad Marathon 2025 has earned a place alongside some of the world's most prestigious athletics events for its sustainability initiatives. The marathon now stands in distinguished company with the Boston Marathon (USA), Generali Berliner Half Marathon (Germany), Golden Gala (Italy), Wanda Diamond League Xiamen (China), and BAUHAUS-Galan (Sweden)—events renowned not only for sporting excellence but also for their commitment to environmental responsibility. This achievement places Hyderabad on the global sustainability map of athletics and reinforces India's growing leadership in organising world-class sporting events that balance performance, community engagement and environmental stewardship. From Boston to Berlin, Rome to Hyderabad, the NMDC Hyderabad Marathon has demonstrated that Indian events can match global benchmarks in sustainability and responsible event management.



# 4th T20I: England bring India to knees, clinch series 3-0

BRISTOL: Captain Harry Brook produced a scintillating 79 not out off just 35 balls while Phil Salt remained unbeaten on 59 off 42 deliveries as England thrashed India by nine wickets with 37 balls to spare in the fourth T20I at the County Ground in Bristol, to clinch the five-match series 3-0 with one game to spare.

Chasing a modest target of 159, England lost Jos Buttler early, but thereafter India had no answers as Brook and Salt stitched together an unbroken 151-run stand for the second wicket. Brook dominated the attack with a flurry of boundaries and sixes, while Salt played the perfect supporting role as England raced to 159/1 in just 13.5 overs, winning with 37 balls to spare.

Earlier, India once again endured a batting collapse before skipper Shreyas Iyer rescued the innings with a fighting 80 off 49 balls. Walking in after the fall of early wickets, Iyer anchored the innings almost single-handedly, striking four fours and five sixes. Shivam Dube chipped in with 22, but no other Indian batter managed to make a significant contribution as the visitors finished on 158/7 in 20 overs.

The victory gives England an unassailable lead in the five-match series, continuing India's disappointing tour in which their batting has repeatedly depended on skipper Iyer. At the same time, the bowling attack has struggled to contain England's aggressive batting lineup. After the first match was abandoned, England won the next three.

BRIEF SCORES

India 158/7 in 20 overs (Shreyas Iyer 80\*, Shivam Dube 22, Jofra Archer 2-20, Josh Tongue 2-36) lost to England 159/1 in 13.5 overs (Harry Brook 79\*, Phil Salt 59\*) by 9 wickets

# Doctor assault case

# Shiv Sena corporator sent to police custody

A political colour has been given to this matter: Ramesh Mhatre's lawyer

KALYAN

A Kalyan court on Friday sent Shiv Sena Corporator Ramesh Mhatre to police custody till July 13 in connection with the case involving the assault on doctors and nurses at Dombivli's Shastri Nagar Hospital.

He was produced before the Kalyan Sessions Court earlier on Friday after being discharged from Thane Civil Hospital, where doctors declared him medically stable and fit for discharge.

Ramesh Mhatre's lawyer, MK Qazi, said, "A political



colour has been given to this matter. The police had sought five days' police custody, but we objected to it. The court has granted police custody till 13th July. We had filed an application stating that Ramesh Mhatre is a 73-year-old man

surviving on one Kidney, so he needs to be given medical treatment every 6 hours. The court has considered this application and directed the police to make medical treatment available to him if he experiences illness."

Mhatre was arrested on Wednesday under Sections 132 and 121(1) in connection with a case registered at Vishnunagar Police Station in Dombivli. Police said four accused have been arrested in the case so far.

On Thursday, a Kalyan court rejected Mhatre's plea seeking to be produced before the court through video conferencing. The court held that his appearance through video conferencing would not suffice, effectively requiring his physical production before the court for further proceedings.

# When will ED freeze Ram temple funds: Derek O'Brien

AAP to launch signature campaign seeking strict punishment to culprits

NEW DELHI

TRINAMOOL Congress Rajya Sabha leader Derek O'Brien on Friday questioned the Enforcement Directorate freezing three bank accounts of the party, asking when it would freeze "temple funds", in an apparent reference to the alleged embezzlement of donations at the Ram temple in Ayodhya. "ED freezes TMC's 3 bank accounts with HDFC. When will ED freeze temple funds," O'Brien, Trinamool's national joint secretary, said in a post on X. The remarks came amid the opposition's demand for a judicial probe into the alleged financial irregularities in the Ram temple's donation manage-



ment system. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday said it has frozen three bank accounts of the Trinamool Congress (TMC), with deposits worth Rs 440 crore, under the anti-money laundering law following searches in an alleged funds misappropriation case. The central agency said in a statement that the orders were issued under Section 17 (1A) of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). AAP national convener

Arvind Kejriwal on Friday said the party will launch a nation-wide signature campaign seeking strict punishment for the culprits in the Ram temple donations theft controversy, saying people have to come together and raise their voice in the matter. Kejriwal also accused the Centre of protecting those responsible for the alleged theft of donations at Ram temple in Ayodhya. "It is the duty of every Sanatan follower to ensure strict punishment for those responsible for donations theft at the Ram temple. We will launch a signature campaign in which every citizen will sign a letter addressed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi stating their appeal," Kejriwal said.



# Mumbai-Pune rail disruption: 30 trains cancelled till July 17

MUMBAI: Rail connectivity on the Mumbai-Pune corridor will remain crippled till July 17, as the Central Railway has cancelled 30 long-distance and intercity trains, following landslides on the Bhor Ghat section, officials said on Friday.

Heavy, torrential downpours on July 6 triggered multiple landslides between Karjat and Lonavala stations, severely damaging all three railway lines. The landslides mainly occurred at the Thakurwadi and Monkey Hill cabins on the ghat section. While restoration work is underway on a war footing, difficult terrain and dangerous working conditions are delaying the full resumption of normal services, officials said. The Central Railway, in a release, said that it has cancelled 30 train services, including 14 daily trains, eight services on specified dates and eight special trains.

It announced the temporary cancellation of daily trains, including the Deccan Queen, Deccan Express, Intercity Express services between Mumbai and Pune, the CSMT-Hyderabad Express, Chennai Egmore Superfast Mail and the Hubballi-Dadar Express, from July 10 to July 17.



that granted him protection from coercive action.

# HC orders Abhishek to give voice sample

KOLKATA

THE Calcutta High Court on Friday directed Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee to give his voice sample to a judicial magistrate on July 15 in a case over alleged

intimidatory statements he made during the West Bengal assembly election campaign.

Justice Saugata Bhattacharya expressed his displeasure over Banerjee's delay in providing his voice sample and warned of advancing the

hearing of his plea seeking quashing of proceedings in the matter and recalling an order granting the MP protection from coercive action.

The court directed police authorities to ensure that Banerjee is not subjected to

egg-pelting or any other harassment when he appears before the jurisdictional court or the investigating agency. Justice Bhattacharya said Banerjee's revision petition against a Bidhananagar court directing him to give his

voice sample before a magistrate in connection with the probe into the speech case was "dismissed as prayer" in view of the prayer by the MP's counsel.

The court directed the Lok Sabha MP to appear before

the judicial magistrate on July 15 at noon to record his voice sample. He was directed to cooperate with the probe and comply with notices by the investigating officer as mentioned in the high court's May 21 order



## MONSOON SKINCARE TIPS FOR BABIES



SHAHNAZ HUSAIN

HAVE you noticed that your baby's skin folds are reddish? If you have, there is no need to panic. The monsoon season is an aggravating time for several reasons; the air is moist, and there is more humidity than usual. Your baby's skin is delicate and needs more care than an adult's. That is why rashes, prickly heat, redness in the skin folds, and dryness are common in the rainy season. Since their bodies are not fully grown, their immunity is low, which makes them more vulnerable to infections. The best way to care for your baby's skin is by using a good skincare regime and products that offer protection and nourishment. Let us look at how you can take care of your baby's skin during the

rainy season with the best baby cream and skincare products.

### Tips to take care of your baby's skin during rainy season

#### How to bathe your new born

Bathing a new born can be challenging, especially in the initial days. However, it becomes easy with time. You must never over-bathe your baby. Bathing too often can deplete the natural oils from the skin, leaving it dry. A normal adult's skin is thick and can withstand frequent hot baths. However, the newborn's skin is thin and delicate and, therefore, needs extra care.

#### Bathing schedule:

- Newborn (up to 2 months): 2-3 times a week
- Older babies: Once a day (if sweaty)

Using a regular soap can also damage the natural oils in the skin. Therefore, it is best to use a mild and unscented body wash instead. Furthermore, you should not allow a bath to last longer than ten minutes. It is not necessary to give your baby a bath every day. In fact, a

night-time bath just before sleeping can be more helpful. You should also wait for an hour before giving a bath to a baby after feeding to avoid discomfort such as vomiting. Lukewarm water is best, and you should never use extremely hot or cold water for your baby. A non-slippery mat will also help avoid slips. A regular bath schedule can also promote better sleep in your baby.

#### What to wear for your baby

Your baby's clothes must be made of breathable cotton fabric. Avoid using tight clothes as much as possible. Furthermore, you must never dress your baby in too many clothes because that will make them more sweaty. Sweaty skin can become irritated and lead to rashes.

#### In addition:

- Change your baby's clothes if they get sweaty, especially during rainy days.
- Avoid using synthetic fiber as much as possible.
- Make sure the clothing is dry before putting it on your baby.
- Wash the clothes in sunlight as much as possible.

It is best to use cotton

clothes during the rainy season because it is softer and gentler on the skin. Always avoid keeping your baby in wet clothes or dirty diapers for a long time. Make sure you change the baby's diaper regularly to avoid rashes. Using more absorbent diapers can also help reduce irritation. It is best to carry an extra set of clothes when you are outside.

#### What to look for in baby creams and skincare products

Make sure to buy skincare products that are free from harmful chemicals, fragrance, and other harmful additives. Always check what goes into the product before buying it. Some of the best ingredients for baby skincare products include aloe vera, shea butter, coconut oil, almond oil, cocoa butter, and milk cream. These ingredients can help nourish the delicate skin of your baby. It is best to use doctor-recommended creams and lotions that are safe for the skin. Always make sure to purchase the best baby care products.

#### Organic or gentle baby



#### skincare products

A newborn's skin is still growing, and it is important to nourish and moisturize it until they reach the age of three. Most parents prefer organic or herbal products because they do not cause irritation to the delicate skin. When purchasing products for your baby, make sure to purchase items that are dermatologist-approved.

Look for baby skincare products that are dermatologist-tested and free from harmful chemicals and suitable for sensitive skin. It is important to choose the best

skincare products to avoid irritation and rashes on the baby's delicate skin.

#### Protection from sun rays

Even during the monsoon season, it is important to ensure that your baby is protected from the sun's harmful UV rays. It is best to keep your baby indoors between 10 am and 4 pm. This is the time when the sun's rays are the strongest.

If you have to take your baby out, it is best to do so in the early morning or late evening. When outside, make sure your baby is dressed in

light-colored clothes that cover most of their body. You can also use a wide-brimmed hat to protect their face, ears, and neck from the sun's radiation. Using a stroller with a canopy or even an umbrella can also help keep your baby protected.

Most sunscreens are not safe for use in children below six months. You can, however, use them for older children after talking to your pediatrician. It is best to avoid using insect repellent in children below two months.

Taking care of your baby's skin during the rainy season

is paramount. You should always use gentle and safe products and use proper skincare regimes to ensure their skin is well-maintained. Making sure their clothes are clean, dry, and made of cotton is also important. You should also try to avoid exposing your baby to the sun as much as possible. The tips discussed above will go a long way in helping you take care of your baby's skin during the rainy season.

*(The author is an internationally famous beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India)*

## Adrija Roy speaks on acceptance of women-centric roles on small screen



Anupama actress Adrija Roy opens up on female characters are being given more dimension these days. Speaking on it, the actress said: "I think things have changed for the better. Women are getting more layered and meaningful roles now. There is still scope for improvement, but the audience is accepting women-centric shows, which is a good sign for the TV industry."

While talking about being typecast as a certain character if one delivers a successful performance, she said: "If a character becomes successful, people start thinking that you are only suitable for that role because you have aced it. I can't fault them for that. As an actor, I would want to surprise people by taking up diverse roles. I wouldn't want to get stuck doing the same kind of roles because every character has something unique to offer. It should surprise you as well as the audience."

"When you have a choice, of course, every actor wants to pick and choose the role that they want to play in their career. But

sometimes, a good production house offers you a project that is not exactly what you were looking for. In such a situation, I feel it is important to take a step back and look at the bigger picture.

Assess the team and the project because there isn't a right or wrong answer when it comes to taking up a role or not. It all depends on the actor's decision and what he/she feels is right for them at that point of time."

Adrija Roy also said that she walked away from a few projects as well because she wasn't comfortable with the character she was being offered.

"I have turned down a few projects because I didn't connect with the characters they wanted me to play. If I don't connect with the character, it will be hard for me to deliver a good performance. It is important for me to do something I connect to on screen," she added.

At present, Anupama actress Adrija Roy is playing the role of Rahi Kapadia, a sister to lead actress Rupali Ganguly's character, in the daily soap.

## Aishwarya Sakhuja takes to social media to create awareness about diabetes

Actress Aishwarya Sakhuja taken to social media to spread awareness about type 1 diabetes and to create understanding about the day to day life of people struggling with it. She shares a post on Instagram telling on what it's like to have it.

On the post, the actress speaks about the feeling one undergoes when they are facing hypoglycemia.

The television star asks people around a diabetic to be conscious of hypoglycemia and not confuse it with drunkenness.

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan has launched out a video addressing the wrong notions and myths of diabetes. The actress clarifies that in case of hypoglycemia she asks people around to not give insulin to her but to give her sugar, glucose tablets, candy, or eat carbs with her. The actress also dispels several myths about diabetes.

Aishwarya says that diabetes is an autoimmune disease, and it is not a lifestyle disease, as most people believe.

She explains that it is tough to have that disease as people living with the disease have to carry insulin, glucose, tablets, meters, sensors, and healthy snacks with them because everything in their lives revolves around diabetes.

Moreover, even their vacations, workouts, parties, and food are planned around the disease.

The actress also narrates that she was diagnosed with it in 2018 after undergoing harsh medication, which in turn got side-effects and affected her pancreas. At the time, she had no idea what the disease was or why she was getting it. She adds that it was hard to admit the fact that she would never be able to live a normal life like other people. However,

the actress says it took her a while before she adjusted to the 'new normal' brought about by the illness but emphasizes that being on medication changed her life for the better. In the video, Aishwarya adds that life with diabetes requires weighing every carb and working out to balance it. She encourages people living with the disease not to give up on their dreams just because they have the condition. According to Sakhuja, people living with Type 1 diabetes should be able to do whatever they want as long as they are willing to put in the effort required.

Aishwarya's recent note about Type 1 diabetes, which has been going viral on social media, has created a massive sensation.



### CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Tiffs (5)
  - "Ivanhoe" author (5)
  - Raise (5)
  - \_\_\_ bad way: Ill (2,1)
  - A poison (5)
  - \_\_\_ from : nowhere close to in quality, etc. (1,3,3)
  - Goes up (5)
  - Three as a prefix (3)
  - Accompany (6)
  - A formation flight at low altitude over spectators ? (3,4)
  - Scottish hillside (4)
  - Wooden barrels (4)
  - Larger or bigger (7)
  - Stallone role Rocky \_\_\_ (6)
  - Place (3)
  - Sour - "brace" anagram ? (5)
  - Myths and \_\_\_ : folklore ? (7)
  - Does as told (5)
  - Scrap of cloth (3)
  - Electrical conductor (5)
  - Recorded (5)
  - Postpone (5)

### DOWN

- Clarke or Asimov's literary genre? (5)
- Surprise (7)
- Stratagem (4)
- Yeaming - not necessarily for water ? (6)
- To do with sound (5)
- Theatre attendant (5)
- \_\_\_ roll: having a long spell of success (2,1)
- North Eastern state of India (7)
- Shed tears (3)
- Of the sun (5)
- Hide or store for safekeeping (5)
- Runs away (7)
- Ethiopian capital Addis \_\_\_ (5)
- Legend (5)
- Old hand (7)
- Eat very quickly (6)
- To pull hard (3)
- Land measures (5)
- Not narrow (5)
- Borders (5)
- An old harp-like instrument (4)
- A short sleep (3)

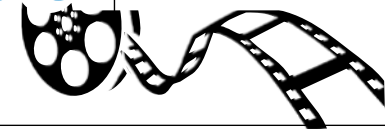


Solution to July 10

### SUDOKU



Solution to July 10



## 'Lenin' review: A gripping rural drama

SUHAS SISTU

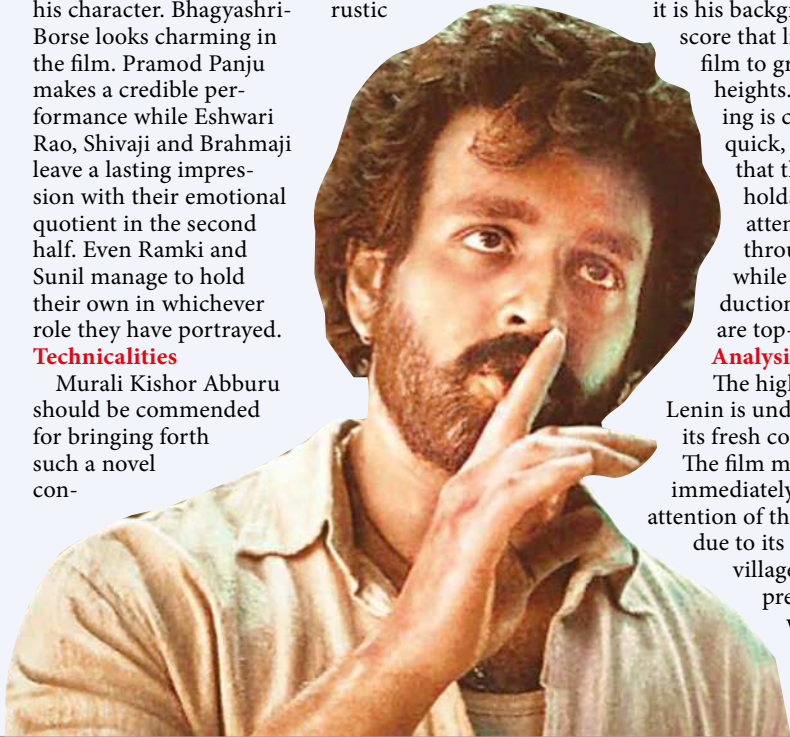
LENIN marks an important milestone in the career of Akhil Akkineni as it reunites the young hero with director Murali Kishor Abburu and comes backed by ManamEnterprises LLP and Sithara Entertainments. Now let us see what Lenin delivers at box-office.

**Story**  
Set in Bharathamma Mitta, a village in Andhra Pradesh's Chittoor district, which has a belief that when blood falls on this region's sacred soil, it brings terrible drought to the place. The story revolves around Lenin who navigates through the lives of love, friendship, relations, sacrifices, betrayal and more as several mysteries unravel giving him a chance to overcome all odds and reassert his values.

**Performances**  
Akhil Akkineni turns

in a career best performance as the rustic youth of the story. He is simply on fire throughout as one sees his body language, speech mannerisms and expressions ooze out of his character. Bhagyashri-Borse looks charming in the film. Pramod Panju makes a credible performance while Eshwari Rao, Shivaji and Brahmaji leave a lasting impression with their emotional quotient in the second half. Even Ramki and Sunil manage to hold their own in whichever role they have portrayed.

**Technicalities**  
Murali Kishor Abburu should be commended for bringing forth such a novel concept based on mythology and folklore as it certainly sets Lenin apart from the usual potboilers one tends to see in Tollywood. Leon Britto captures the rustic



**RATING: 3/5**

charm of the village in all its glory with his stupendous camerawork while Thaman S's music blends in quite nicely. However, it is his background score that lifts the film to greater heights. The editing is crisp and quick, ensuring that the film holds one's attention throughout while the production values are top-notch.

**Analysis**  
The highlight of Lenin is undoubtedly its fresh concept. The film manages to immediately grab the attention of the viewer due to its unique village-centric premise which in itself ignites curios-

ity to delve deeper into the story being told.

The second half is without a doubt the best part of the film as it manages to keep the intrigue going with some interesting twists and turns while also showcasing a number of well-made emotional scenes and high-octane action sequences that keep the audience engrossed. The pre-climax and climax sequences are particularly noteworthy due to the sheer performances on screen as well as the effective make-up and Thaman S's rousing background score. Overall, Lenin is indeed a treat for the viewers as it manages to offer a befitting blend of performances, emotional quotient and mass appeal. Being a family entertainer, it is a must-watch for all audiences, especially those who enjoy watching commercial flicks in the Telugu language.

## Dulquer Salmaan, Pooja Hegde's romantic entertainer locks 'Sri Sri' as title

THE makers of Dulquer Salmaan's highly anticipated romantic entertainer have revealed the film's title - Sri Sri along with an adorable first-look poster, which immediately fetched hearts of the movie buffs. Directed by a rookie filmmaker Ravi Nelakuditi, the romantic entertainer is produced by Sudhakar Cherukuri under his SLV Cinemas banner as their 10th production (SLV10) with Ishan Saksena as the co-producer.

With the tagline "Love Will Spark Again", Sri Sri narrates a charming tale of love and laughter that revolves around Dulquer Salmaan and Pooja Hegde's characters, who share screen space for the first time.

Both the actors are seen sitting on the compound wall having laughs in uniform, radiating nostalgia as it reflects the innocence of friendship with a touch of romance. Their cute on-screen sizzling chemistry has already gone viral.

The film also lays claim to a brilliant technical team comprising Anay Om Goswamy, GV Prakash Kumar, and AvinashKolla, who bring their creative minds to the table as the cinematographer, music composer, and production designer. In the meanwhile, Sri Sri is all set to hit the Pan India screens as it is gearing up to release in Telugu, Tamil, Hindi, Kannada, and Malayalam languages, promising to be one of the most awaited romantic entertainers this year.



## Aadi Sai Kumar's 'Sairabanu' first schedule wrapped

ON the back of a blockbuster hit Shambala, actor Aadi Sai Kumar announces his next venture titled Sairabanu that promises to be a fun-filled romantic entertainer. Produced by RazeshaDanda and directed by Phani Krishna Siriki, film's first schedule wraps successfully.

Presented by KrishnakanthParuchuri as the movie's co-producer and under the banner of Hasya Movies, the film stars Bandhavi Sridhar as the lead heroine was tagged with the caption "A Fun Filled Journey of Love, Faith & Destiny"

The film narrates an out-of-box love story between a Hindu and a Muslim girl that witnesses its shooting schedule in the beautiful locales of Hyderabad and

Rajahmundry. The recently concluded 15-day schedule went on floors in Hyderabad and was mostly shot in a soft-ware office set featuring Aadi Sai Kumar, Bandhavi Sridhar, Vennela Kishore and the rest of the cast.

Further, the makers also released a behind-the-scenes video, a glimpse of which indicates the excitement of the cast and crew as they shot some of the lively scenes of the film. With an array of talented technical crewmembers including cinematographer Raam Reddy, music composer Shekar Chandra, editor Chota K. Prasad and production designer Brahma Kadali, the film Sairabanu is now set to roll into its next shooting schedule and mark yet another exciting venture in Aadi Sai Kumar's career.



## Roshan Kanakala's sci-fi entertainer gets a grand launch

ASCI-fi fantasy entertainer starring Roshan Kanakala and Gahazy had its grand pooja ceremony at Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple at Kakatiya hills recently. The film directed by debutant Vijay K Kamisetty, story

by legendary filmmaker VI Anand, who is known to roll out unique fantasy and sci-fi flicks.

Presented by Balaji Gutta, Koushik Reddy of Gutta productions in association with Kamalakar Film corporation. Hero Nikhil sound-

ed the clapboard for the muhurtham shot, while ace cameraman KK Senthil Kumar mounted the camera. VI Anand presented the script.

Besides Roshan Kanakala and Gahazy, the film stars Satya, Sudarshan, Ravi TejaNannimala, in promi-

nent roles. The music is composed by Sekhar Chandra, cinematography by AnveshVarla, editing by Chota K Prasad and Brahma Kadali has designed the production.

As the pre-production activities are picking up momentum, the regular shootings are awaited to start soon. The film's title, first look, and other related updates will be out soon, which surely will open a new window for the Telugu cinema audience.

## Jayadeep Reddy Neerubavi: Tirupati software engineer makes it to Hollywood cinematography ranks

AN intriguing journey from Tirupati to Hollywood is keeping cinematographer Jayadeep Reddy Neerubavi in the limelight. This young Indo-American had given up a promising career in the software industry during the COVID-19 pandemic with no assurance of any job in the film industry.

Little did he know that his zeal and devotion would earn him a place in the American Society of Cinematographers' (ASC) Awards in 2025 and 2026. Jayadeep enrolled at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, to pursue a Master of Fine Arts in Cinematography. He opted shifting his career to cinematography.

The young and energetic cinematographer has since been working as the Director of Photography (DOP) for narrative, documentary, commercial, and music video films in and around Los Angeles.

Jayadeep Reddy has added multiple projects to his portfolio. Among them are the festival favorite short film The Goodbye, the bilingual action-comedy Kuttay Ki Dum, the adventure drama The Slayers, and the upcoming documentary, Project Life, which is produced by Homeboy Industries and the California Innocence Project.

Further, Jayadeep Reddy had the tremendous opportunity to work alongside renowned cinematographers Autumn DurandArkapaw, Darius Khondji, and Jessica Lee Gagné, as well as receive mentorship from visual effects and cinematography professional Amy Vincent, ASC, and cinematographer Scott Cunningham, ASC.

From being a small-time software engineer in Tirupati to making a name for himself in Hollywood, Jayadeep Reddy's journey is quite inspiring.



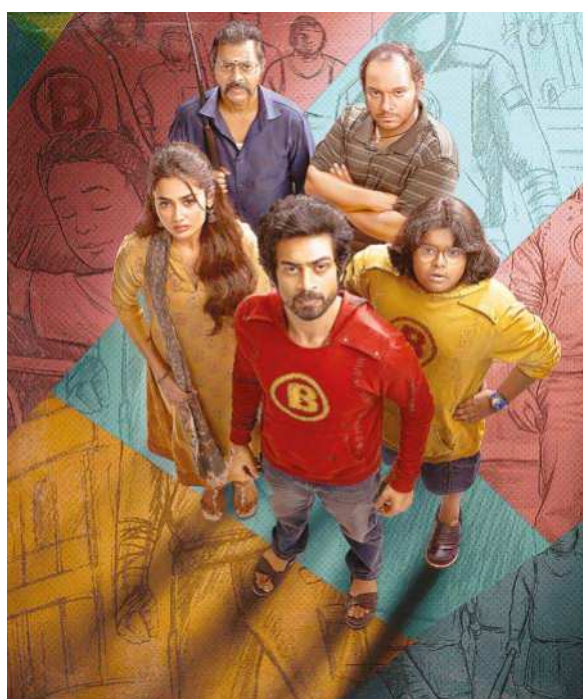
## Super Hero Babu: Arjun Das' bilingual comes with fresh concept

SUPER Hero Babu, is one of the most awaited bilingual entertainers these days as the first-look character posters of the film went viral on social media. The first-look posters revealed a fresh concept and a new genre that would keep the audiences of all ages glued to their seats.

Arjun Das, who was seen in the rage of Telugu audiences with They Call Him OG makes his comeback as a hero after playing negative roles in multiple films. The film also stars Teju Ashwini as the lead heroine, while comedian Sandy Master plays the comic role

alongside him. Vignesh Venugopal, who makes his directorial debut with this film, mentored by a National Award-winning filmmaker and producer KS Sinish. The film is produced by Soldiers Film Factory, under the banner of Shanjan G of Redacted Studios, known for venturing into uncharted territory.

Furthermore, music composer Hesham Abdul Wahab has been hired to compose music for the film. The film is poised to deliver a treat to the viewers with its entertaining content, and offer a new perspective on the superhero genre.



## 'The India Story' team comes with powerful new poster

THE India Story team members gears up for the promo tour with the latest poster of the film that spotlights the socially relevant issue and a gripping courtroom drama. The movie, presented by Zee Studios in association with MIG Production & Studios, features Kajal Aggarwal and Shreyas Talpade, and releases worldwide on July 24, 2026, in Hindi, Telugu, and Tamil.

The new poster captures the lead pair in a chaotic vegetable market, as an an-

gry mob surrounds them pelting vegetables, as they unveil the truth onscreen. As they look visibly shaken by the situation, so does the angry mob. With the tagline "Slow Poison in Progress...", it underlines the film's central theme - the peril of pesticide farming and the danger it poses to the public at large. According to the director Chettan DK, who helmed The India Story, the poster represents the price the protagonist pays for unmasking the system of lies. "It is important to ques-

tion what we eat and what we believe in," he says on the film's social relevance.

Reportedly written and produced by Sagar B. Shinde, The India Story also boasts of an impressive technical team that includes cinematographer Nishant Bhagwat, music composer Mangesh Dhakde, editor Ashish Mhatre, lyricist Shakeel Azami and sound designer Anmol Bhawe. Thanks to its timely theme and engaging narrative, the film has been gaining much attention prior to its release.