



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.

EDIT
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.



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



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



HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

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-

paration 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

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA

FORM - VI PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION (See Sub-rule (1) of rule-19 and Section-11(1) of the Act-30/2013) Special Deputy Collector (LA) R&R Irrigation Projects...

Whereas it appears to the District Collector, Bhadradi, Kothagudem District that a total of Ac.24-04 1/2 gts Acres land is required in the Gumpena Village of Annapureddypally Mandal, Bhadradi Kothagudem District for public purpose, namely acquisition of land for Distributory canal - 11R Package No.2 from Km. 1.505 to 4.975 in Gumpena Village of Annapureddypally Mandal under Sita Rama Lift Irrigation Project.

The families are likely to be displace due to the land acquisition is nil. The Additional Collector (Revenue), Bhadradi Kothagudem is appointed as Administrator for the purpose of Rehabilitation and Resettlement of the affected families. Therefore it is notified that for the above said project in the Gumpena Village of Annapureddypally Mandal, Bhadradi Kothagudem District a piece of land measuring, more or less Ac. 24-04 1/2 gts Acres of standard measurement, whose detail description is as follows, is under acquisition.

SCHEDULE Village:Gumpena Mandal: Annapureddypally District:Bhadradi Kothagudem

Table with columns: Sl. No., Sy. No., As per Sub Division, As per Panchayat, As per Bhubharal, Type of Title, Name of the Possessor, Name of the Employer, Boundaries, Trees, Structures, etc.

TELANGANA AIMS TO BECOME \$3-TRILLION ECONOMY: BHATTI

Farmers' welfare and women's empowerment top priorities

- Agriculture is not merely an occupation but the foundation of the State's culture
Govt Spending around Rs 14,000 cr annually towards providing free electricity to the agriculture sector



HANS NEWS SERVICE KHAMMAM

DEPUTY Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Friday said the Congress government was committed to transforming Telangana into a \$3-trillion economy by 2047, while simultaneously strengthening agriculture, empowering women and ensuring transparent governance.

Addressing the Rythu Ashirvada Sabha at Jagannathapuram in Chinthakani Mandal of Khammam district, Bhatti said the government's vision extended beyond welfare programmes and focused on making Telangana globally competitive through sustained investments in agriculture, infrastructure, education and social development.

He said the government transferred Rs 9,000 crore under the Rythu Bharosa scheme into farmers' bank accounts within nine days, describing the exercise as a reflection of its commitment to the farming community. Agriculture, he said, was not merely an occupation but

an integral part of Telangana's culture and way of life, adding that expenditure on farmers should be viewed as an investment in economic growth rather than as a subsidy. The Deputy Chief Minister said the State has spent over Rs 1.67 lakh crore on agriculture sector during the last two-and-a-half years. As many as 16.81 lakh farmers has been benefited from the latest round of investment support.

The government continued to provide free electricity to the agriculture sector by bearing an annual subsidy of around Rs 14,000 crore.

Highlighting the government's focus on women's empowerment, Bhatti said interest-free loans worth Rs 67,000 crore has already been extended to women's self-help groups, while the credit ceiling had been enhanced from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 10 lakh.

He said the government

was encouraging women entrepreneurs by providing opportunities in setting up petrol pumps, canteens and power projects, with the long-term objective of improving their economic independence.

He said the government increased diet charges in government educational institutions by 40 per cent and cosmetic charges by 200 per cent, while work was underway to establish 100 Young India Integrated Residential Schools with an estimated investment of Rs 200 crore. The government has also introduced a mid-day meal programme for intermediate students, he added.

Launching a political attack on the previous BRS government, Bhatti alleged that it pushed Telangana into a debt burden of Rs 8.21 lakh crore and criticised its handling of irrigation projects, particularly the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. He claimed that the

project's cost had escalated significantly and alleged financial irregularities in its execution.

The Deputy Chief Minister contrasted Kaleshwaram with irrigation projects such as Nagarjuna Sagar, Srisailem, Jurala, Sriram Sagar and Sripada Yellampalli, stating that projects built during Congress governments continued to benefit farmers for decades.

He also accused opposition leaders of spreading misinformation against the government through sections of the media and social media, and urged people not to be misled by what he described as false propaganda.

Reiterating the government's long-term vision, Bhatti said the Congress administration would continue to protect public resources, maintain fiscal discipline and pursue inclusive development under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy.

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 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 organisation. He assured that the issues involving Minister Konda Surekha, MLA Kadiyama 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 ad-

Pebbair police conduct special drive against vehicles sans number plates

HANS NEWS SERVICE WANAPARTHY

ACTING on orders from the SP, the police conducted a special inspection drive targeting vehicles without numberplates in the Pebbair municipal area. Officers inspected vehicles in front of the local police station and at Subhash Crossroads, identifying over 70 operating without numberplates. They moved them to the station.

Subsequently, the police educated vehicle-owners about road safety and regulations of the Motor Vehicles Act. The vehicles were released only after new num-

berplates were fixed in compliance with rules and their importance was explained. Fines amounting to Rs 50,000 were imposed on motorists for various violations.

SI Venkateswarlu Goud stated that driving vehicles without numberplates is illegal. Such vehicles are often susceptible to use in criminal activities. He emphasised that numberplates play a crucial role in investigation of thefts and other crimes. Strict action would be taken against those riding two-wheelers without helmets. Vehicles violating regulations would be seized and cases registered under the MV Act.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Notice is hereby given to the general public that this public notice is being issued on behalf of our client T. Ramadevi, wife of Late D. Srinivas, residing at H.No. 2-3-103/D, Vepurugudi, Mahabubnagar. It is informed that the original link documents pertaining to the self-acquired property of her late husband D. Srinivas, situated at H.No. 7-5-100/F/1/A, Flat No. 4, First Floor, Vijaya Vandana Apartments, Venkateswara Colony, Mahabubnagar Town, bearing Document Nos. 2704/2004 and 175/2010, have been lost.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL - YELLAREDDY Tender Notice No-12/1/EI/Yellareddy Municipality/2026-27, Dt. 10.07.2026 E-Procurement Tender - Notice (1st-Call) S.no Name of Work Est Cost (Lakhs) Administrative Sanction Details

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II 1st Floor, Triveni Complex, Abids, At: Hyderabad O.A. No. 259 OF 2026 BANK OF MAHARASHTRA ...APPLICANT and VANGAVETI JYOTHI AND ANOTHER ...DEFENDANTS SUMMONS BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

All farmers will get 'Bhoodhar' Card in two years: Ponguleti

As part of a pilot project, land surveys in Mulgumad revenue village in Madhira Assembly constituency has been completed and 476 farmers have been issued Bhoodhar cards with survey maps

HANS NEWS SERVICE
KHAMMAM

REVENUE Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Friday said every farmer in the state would be issued a 'Bhoodhar' land card along with a scientifically prepared survey map within the next two years under the government's flagship Bhu Bharati land records reform programme.

Addressing the Rythu Ashirvada Sabha at Jagannathapuram in Chinthakani mandal of Khammam district, the Minister said the initiative would ensure comprehensive survey of all agricultural lands and bring greater transparency and accuracy to land records.

The initiative will ensure comprehensive survey of all agricultural lands and bring greater transparency and accuracy to land records



Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Cabinet colleagues and public representatives attended the programme, during which the state government released Rs 9,000 crore under the Rythu Bharosa scheme for farmers. Ponguleti said survey

under the Bhu Bharati programme was progressing in 70 villages in every district. As part of a pilot project, land surveys in Mulgumad revenue village in Madhira Assembly constituency had been completed and 476 farmers were issued Bhoodhar cards with survey maps. The Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister distributed the cards to beneficiaries at the meeting.

The Minister said the government filled 71,000 government posts during its first two years in office and would shortly issue notifications for another 17,000 to 20,000 posts. Highlighting the government's welfare initiatives, he said Rs 63,000 crore had been extended as interest-free financial assistance to

women's self-help groups with the objective of economically empowering nearly one crore women.

Targeting the Opposition, Ponguleti alleged that they are attempting to blame the present administration for their failures in the past and reiterated allegations of corruption in the execution of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. He said the government was committed to transparent governance and implementation of welfare programmes.

The Minister also reiterated the government's commitment to providing houses to all eligible poor families under the Indiramma Housing Scheme, adding that the second phase of house-site distribution has been completed and the remaining phases would be implemented at the earliest.

Five Singareni mines earn prestigious 5-Star national rating

Marks the company's best-ever performance in the national assessment

PV SATYANARAYANA
KOTHAGUDEM

FIVE mines operated by The Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) have secured the prestigious 5-Star Rating under the Ministry of Coal's National Coal Mine Rating Programme, registering the company's highest-ever performance in the national assessment.

The Ministry of Coal has recognised RK Newtech and RK-6 mines in the Srirampur Area, JVR OC-II in the Sathupalli Area, Khairguda Open Cast in the Bellampalli Area, and RG OC-I in the Ramagundam-III Area as 5-Star rated mines for the assessment year 2024-25.

Of the 382 coal mines that participated in the nationwide evaluation, only 50 mines achieved the coveted 5-Star rating, with SCCL accounting for five of them. The achievement surpasses the company's previous best of four 5-Star mines recorded last year, making it the strongest performance in its history.

The annual rating exercise, conducted by the Ministry of Coal through the Coal Controller Organisation (CCO), evaluates mines across seven categories encompassing 50 performance parameters. These include scientific mining practices, adoption of advanced mining technology, mine safety, environmental management, employee welfare, occupational health, financial performance, and development of mine-affected communities.

Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Energy Bhatti Vikramarka congratulated the management, officers, employees and workers



of the award-winning mines, describing the recognition as a reflection of SCCL's commitment to operational excellence, mine safety, employee welfare and environmental stewardship. He urged other mines in the company to adopt similar best practices and expressed confidence that more Singareni mines would achieve 5-Star status in the coming years.

In addition to the five top-rated mines, 17 other SCCL mines received the 4-Star Rating after scoring between 80 and 90 per cent, reflecting a consistently high standard of performance across the company's mining operations.

SCCL officials said the national recognition underscores the company's sustained focus on safe, efficient and environmentally responsible coal production while contributing to the country's energy security.

Deputy Mayor MSR's birthday celebrated

Mark the event with notebook distribution to students



HANS NEWS SERVICE
MAHABUBNAGAR

MARKING the birthday of Mahabubnagar Municipal Corporation Deputy Mayor Marepalli Surender Reddy (MSR), the NSUI organised a free notebook distribution programme for students at Ramnagar High School in the One Town area on Thursday.

Marepalli Mahathi Reddy himself distributed notebooks to students. The NSUI leaders said

that such initiatives encourage students in their academic pursuits and demonstrate MSR's dedication to educational development and public service. The programme was appreciated by students, teachers, and local residents.

The event was attended by NSUI leaders Naresh Yadav, former councillor Jajimogga Narasimhulu, CM Chandramouli, Erupula Nagaraju, school staff, and others.

'INCLUDE OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES UNDER AAROgyASRI'

Doctors highlight the need for better healthcare protection for fishermen and other traditional occupational workers

HANS NEWS SERVICE
KHAMMAM



HIGHLIGHTING the need for better healthcare protection for fishermen and other traditional occupational workers, the doctors have appealed to the government to recognize and include occupational diseases in the Aarogyasri health scheme.

A special awareness and felicitation programme was organised to mark National Fishermen's Day at the Integrated Veg and Non-Veg Market under the Khammam Municipal Corporation limits on Friday, with speakers highlighting the need for better

healthcare protection for fishermen and other traditional occupational workers.

The programme was organised by the Sriraksha Health Services Team, led by Sriraksha Hospital Chairman Dr. Gongura Venkateswarlu (G.V.), along with senior physician Dr. Shaik Yedukondalu and members of the organisation.

Fishermen's representatives were felicitated during the event in recognition of their contribution to food security, nutrition and the economy.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Gongura Venkateswarlu

said fishermen play a vital role in ensuring food security and generating livelihoods, and called for greater societal recognition of their contribution. He urged the government to recognise occupational diseases affecting fishermen and other traditional workers and include them under the Aarogyasri health insurance scheme.

He said the Sriraksha Health Services Team had been conducting a sustained public campaign seeking healthcare protection for workers engaged in traditional occupations, many of whom

are exposed to long-term occupational hazards. He appealed to fishermen, occupational workers and the public to support the initiative.

Senior physician Dr. Shaik Yedukondalu created awareness about common health issues faced by fishermen and fish vendors, including skin ailments, respiratory illnesses, joint and back pain, infections and other conditions associated with prolonged exposure to water and strenuous physical work. He stressed the importance of personal hygiene, periodic health check-ups, preventive measures and balanced nutrition in reducing occupational health risks.

The programme concluded with National Fishermen's Day greetings to the fishing community and a renewed call for policy measures to strengthen occupational healthcare and welfare for traditional workers.

JPNCE celebrates 30th anniversary



HANS NEWS SERVICE
MAHABUBNAGAR

AS part of the 30th anniversary celebrations of Jayaprakash Narayan College of Engineering (JPNCE), five alumni from the 2005 B.Tech Mechanical Engineering batch, who are now settled in the United States, visited their alma mater and interacted with students, sharing their professional experiences and inspiring them to pursue excellence.

Chairman K.S. Ravi Ku-

mar also expressed his happiness over the visit of the alumni, stating that their success and continued association with the institution would inspire the younger generation. He urged students to chart their own path with dedication, discipline, and perseverance.

The programme was attended by Polytechnic Principal Dr. V. Chandrasekhar, NCC ANO Lt. Dr. K. Guru Raghavendra Reddy, heads of various departments, faculty members, and students.

Undertaken devt works worth Rs 2,147 cr in 30 months: Megha Reddy

HANS NEWS SERVICE
WANAPARTHY

MLA Tudi Megha Reddy stated on Friday that development works worth Rs 2,147 crore have been undertaken in his constituency over the past 30 months, ensuring both development and welfare in tandem.

He noted that since assuming power, the government has been continuously striving to ensure benefits of welfare schemes reach every poor family.

Reddy participated in the 17th phase distribution of Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) and Kalyana Lakshmi-Shaadi Mubarak



cheques at his camp office. He distributed cheques to the beneficiaries.

The MLA said he serves the constituency like a dedicated public servant, striving for comprehensive development of both villages and

towns while ensuring every eligible family receives benefits.

The MLA highlighted the Congress glorious history of making sacrifices for the nation and the State. The party's role in both achievement and

statehood and subsequent development is unforgettable. He criticised the previous administration for 'dictatorial' governance in the district, noting it had made difficult for public representatives, party activists and citizens to meet leaders. He emphasised that people favour public representatives who remain accessible to them.

Alleging that the previous regime had burdened Telangana with massive debt, he stated that the Congress government—under the leadership of CM Revanth Reddy—is steering the State towards progress by balancing fiscal discipline with welfare and development.

DC calls for strict implementation of 'Dry Day'



HANS NEWS SERVICE
WANAPARTHY

DISTRICT collector Adarsh Surabhi on Friday called for the strict implementation of the 'Dry Day' programme—conducted every Friday to prevent spread of seasonal diseases during the monsoon—with active participation of the public. He joined the 'Dry Day' in the 26th ward (Teachers Colony) here.

Surabhi inspected how the health staff, ASHA workers and Anganwadi staff were conducting door-to-door outreach to raise public awareness about hygiene, mosquito prevention, measures to avoid water stagnation and fever prevention.

He directed officials to expedite fever surveys during the season, promptly identify individuals showing symptoms of fever and provide medicare; to ensure proper sanitation and garbage removal in villages and colonies, to take steps to eliminate stagnant water, and create

widespread awareness regarding hygiene. He instructed them to undertake anti-larval measures to curb mosquito-breeding; emphasised the need to educate the public on hygiene practices to prevent dengue, malaria and typhoid.

Surabhi held a review meeting with the booth-level officers regarding the Special Intensive Revision. He directed officers to register every eligible voter, verify details of deceased voters and collect/submit relevant records on time; to examine every application in accordance with rules to ensure the voter list is completely accurate.

Officials are to visit voters and raise awareness among those unable to fill forms, assisting them in the process and to promptly collect the completed forms.

DMHO Dr. Sainath Reddy, tahsildar Ramesh Reddy, health officials, local public representatives, officials from relevant departments, BLOs attended.

Examines implementation of the exercise to prevent spread of seasonal diseases during the monsoon

Mandal Cong presidents won't be changed: MLA Mandula Samuel

HANS NEWS SERVICE
TUNGATURTHI (SURYAPET)

AMID the ongoing factional differences within the Tungaturthi Congress party, MLA Mandula Samuel made significant remarks, asserting that the nine mandal Congress presidents announced by PCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud will continue in their positions and that there will be no change to their appointments. Addressing a press conference at his camp office in Tungaturthi on Friday, under the chairmanship of Mandal Congress



president Regati Ravi, the MLA said, "as long as there is life in me, there will be no changes in the announced mandal presidents. There is no question of bowing to anyone's pressure." Samuel said the selection of mandal presidents was made while

maintaining social balance and representation. He urged party leaders and workers to set aside personal differences and work together to strengthen the Congress party. He noted that minor disagreements among colleagues are natural and advised the newly appointed presidents to resolve such issues while taking everyone along. The MLA emphasized that there should be no distinction between old and new members in the constituency and called for united efforts to further strengthen the Congress Party and lead it back onto a victorious path.

Hans India Classifieds

CHANGE OF NAME
I, MALI SREENIVASAREDDY, S/o.MALI SOMI REDDY, R/o.3-68,Near bus stand, Vemulapally, Nalgonda,TS, Have changed my name as MALI SRINIVAS REDDY, S/o. MALI SOMI REDDY (Th_34250)
I, Saleha Sultan R/o. H no-5-8-427/1, Madeena Colony, Near Diet College NALGONDA town Dist,TS,Have Changed my name as *Saleha Begum* (New Name) W/o. Mohammed Moin Pasha (Th_34250)

CHANGE OF NAME
I, JANGILI RITHIKA, D/o Ex TSNK, Army No. 15414828K, KISHOR KUMAR JANGILI, R/o H.No.13-1/305, Flat No. 305, RL Homes, Opp. Ganesh Township, Yellandu Road, Raghunadhapalem, Khammam - 507002, I,have changed my name from VICTORIA RANI to JANGILI VICTORIA RANI vide Affidavit dated 09-07-2026. Both names are pertaining one and the same (Th-TM RAO)

CHANGE OF NAME
I,JANGILI VICTORIA RANI W/O Ex TSNK, Army No. 15414828K, KISHOR KUMAR JANGILI, R/o H.No.13-1/305, Flat No. 305, RL Homes, Opp. Ganesh Township, Yellandu Road, Raghunadhapalem, Khammam - 507002, I,have changed my name from VICTORIA RANI to JANGILI VICTORIA RANI vide Affidavit dated 09-07-2026. both names are pertaining one and same (Th-TM RAO)

CHANGE OF NAME
It is for general information that I, Mohammad Abdul Khuddus S/O Mohammad Farook R/O 13-4-74/5, Dwaraka Nagar, Bhadrachalam, P. O. Bhadrachalam, Dist. - Bhadrachal, Kothagudem, Telangana - 507111 declare that names of mine and my father have been wrongly written as Md. Abdul Khuddus and Md. Farook in my 10th Class Certificate. The actual names of mine and my father are Mohammad Abdul Khuddus and Mohammad Farook respectively. (Th-TM RAO)

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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 development

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

THE Telangana Government has decided to develop investor friendly infrastructure at Bharat Future 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.

Govt to digitise medical equipment procurement system for Govt Hospitals

HANS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD

HEALTH Minister C Damaraju 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 absolute 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 Puppulaguda, 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.

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 political 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 Bahubali 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.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA

FORM - VI PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION (See Sub-rule (1) of rule-19 and Section-11(1) of the Act-30(2013))

Special Deputy Collector (LA) R&R Irrigation Projects SRIP, Unit-I, Palvancha R.C. No. C/12/2025 Dated: 02-07-2026

Whereas it appears to the District Collector, Bhadradi, Kothagudem District that a total of Ac.42-27 1/2 gts Acres land is required in the Ganugapadu Village of Chandrugonda Mandal, BhadradiKothagudem District for public purpose...

SCHEDULE

Village:: Ganugapadu Mandal :: Chandrugonda District :: Bhadradi Kothagudem

Table with columns: S.No., Area, Type of Land, Name of the Particular, Name of the Employer, etc. containing land acquisition details.

Main table with columns: S.No., Area, Type of Land, Name of the Particular, Name of the Employer, etc. containing land acquisition details.

Table with columns: S.No., Area, Type of Land, Name of the Particular, Name of the Employer, etc. containing land acquisition details.

This notification is made under the provisions of Section - 11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (Act No. 30(2013), to all whom it may concern...

Sd/- Special Deputy Collector (LA), R&R Irrigation Projects, SRIP, Unit-I, Palvancha Bhadradi Kothagudem Dist. Dpr No.449/LA/PP/ADVT/PUB/2026-27

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 hand 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’luru: 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 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.

'BRS gov't's corruption, negligence responsible for Kaleshwaram crisis'

Project's construction was driven by commissions rather than public interest: Uttam

HANS NEWS SERVICE HUZURNAGAR

IRRIGATION Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy alleged that corruption and negligence by the previous BRS government are responsible for the current condition of the Kaleshwaram Project.

Speaking to the media on Friday after inspecting several development works in Huzurnagar, the Minister said decisions during the project's construction were driven by commissions rather than public interest. He further alleged that even the decision to remove Dr BR Ambedkar's name from the project and rename it as the Kaleshwaram Project was motivated by the same intention.

He also referred to allegations made by former BRS MLC K Kavitha regarding alleged commissions worth Rs 1,400 crore. Uttam criticised former Irrigation Minister T. Harish Rao, stating that even his own party leadership had sidelined him. Although the Thummi-



dihatti Project was initiated, it was never completed.

The Minister alleged that the Kaleshwaram Project is facing serious problems because construction was carried out on sandy terrain without giving due importance to soil tests and the recommendations of technical experts.

He claimed that despite repeated warnings from officials of the National Dam Safety Authority and other

engineering experts, the previous government ignored them. According to him, construction was undertaken at a location different from the one recommended by experts solely due to commission-related interests.

He further said that while experts have now advised against storing water in the dam, BRS leaders are misleading the public with false statements. Clarifying the irrigation situation, he

stated that Suryapet district is currently receiving water through the SRSP Stage-II project and not from the Kaleshwaram Project.

The Minister pointed out that since the Congress government assumed office, not a single release of water has been made from the Kaleshwaram Project. He accused the previous BRS government of burdening Telangana with massive debts, failing to complete major irrigation

projects, and deceiving the people. He said it was inappropriate for the BRS to criticize the present Congress government under such circumstances.

Uttam Kumar Reddy assured that based on the recommendations of the Dam Safety Authority, the government would conduct the necessary soil investigations and undertake all required works in accordance with technical standards.



Strengthening Congress at grassroots is our primary goal: DCC chief

HANS NEWS SERVICE HANUMAKONDA

HANUMAKONDA District Congress Committee (DCC) president Enagala Venkatram Reddy said that strengthening the Congress party from the grassroots level remains the party's top priority. Addressing a key organisational meeting held at the DCC office in Hanumakonda on Saturday, he reviewed the party's or-

ganisational strengthening, grassroots-level activities, and the submission of reports to the AICC and TPCC as per the directions of the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC).

He urged party leaders and workers at every mandal and division to remain actively connected with the people and ensure the successful implementation of party programmes. He instructed them to carry out the ac-

tivities assigned by the party leadership responsibly and submit the required reports within the stipulated time. Stressing the importance of party discipline, Venkatram Reddy warned that disciplinary action would be taken against those who failed to follow the party's directives. Later, the party leaders and workers enthusiastically participated in the 'Charaka' programme organised after the meeting.



BJP state spokesperson Dr Chennamaneni Vikas on Friday paid a courtesy call on Uttar Pradesh Cabinet Minister for Jal Shakti and Flood Control (Irrigation), Swatantra Dev Singh in Hyderabad on Friday.

Chaderghat inferno: Warehouse blaze reduces several huts to ashes

- Seven fire engines battle blaze near Musi River
- No casualties reported

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

A major fire broke out at a decoration warehouse near the Musi River in Chaderghat on Friday, triggering panic among residents as thick black smoke spread across the area. The blaze fuelled by highly combustible materials such as plastic and thermocol stored inside the warehouse.

According to the fire department, the fire erupted sudden-



A massive fire engulfs a decoration warehouse near the Musi River in Chaderghat, Hyderabad, on Friday. Firefighters battled for hours to control the blaze that spread to nearby structures

ly inside the warehouse and quickly spread to the adjacent several motor mechanic workshops, and other commercial establishments. It also spreads in makeshift dwellings, reduc-

ing several huts to ashes before firefighters could contain the blaze. However, no injuries or casualties were reported.

Officials said upon receiving information, as many as 7

fire engines were rushed to the spot. Fire personnel launched an intensive firefighting operation to bring the blaze under control. The operation continued for several hours as firefighters battled the flames.

Police personnel also reached the spot and assisted in evacuating people from nearby areas while regulating traffic and supporting rescue efforts. T Venkanna, DFO Hyderabad, said the exact cause of the fire is yet to be determined. A detailed investigation will be carried out. Authorities are also expected to conduct an assessment of the damage caused to the warehouse and the huts destroyed in the incident.

Cong will win 2029 polls with 117 seats: Revanth

Continued from P1

At the Chevella meeting, I predicted that the BRS would draw a blank in the Lok Sabha elections. In every election, the people delivered a verdict exactly as I had predicted. We defeated that 'Paapaala Bhairavudu' and confined him to his farmhouse. We will wipe out the 'Kaurava clan' from the soil of Telangana. Mark my words, KCR - we will defeat you, your relatives and your surveys. We will work 18 hours a day to ensure your defeat." Revanth Reddy dismissed claims based on political surveys predicting the party's defeat. He questioned the credibility of such surveys when neither the election schedule nor the revised reservation policy had been finalised. Alluding to remarks allegedly made

by BRS working president KT Rama Rao's sister, the Chief Minister claimed that even members of the BRS leadership had spoken about the party's possible merger with the BJP and had accused party leaders of accepting money from Andhra Pradesh-based contractors. Claiming that the BJP was trying to weaken regional parties, Revanth Reddy said, "Narendra Modi and Amit Shah are attempting to subjugate other parties. They have already split the Trinamool Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party. They are making every effort to bring other parties to heel and push through the Delimitation Bill by any means necessary. There is a possibility that they might succeed in this endeavour."

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.

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-

'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.

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!



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



Anupamaa 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, Anupamaa 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.

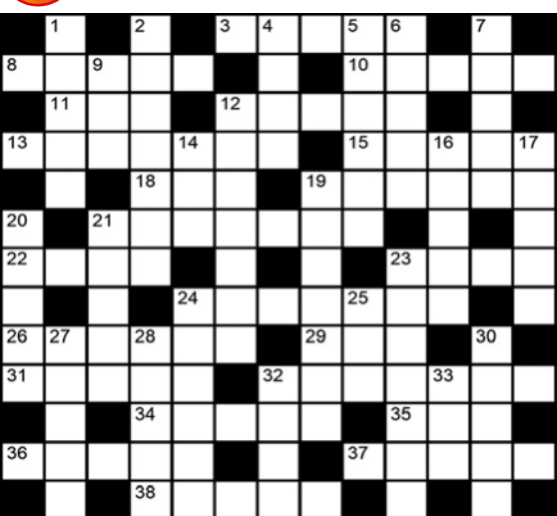
The actress also narrates that she was diagnosed with it in 2018 after undergoing harsh medication, which in turn got side-effects and affected her pancreas. At the time, she had no idea what the disease was or why she was getting it. She adds that it was hard to admit the fact that she would never be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

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, Malkajigiri, 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 Namasiyayam, 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.

"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."

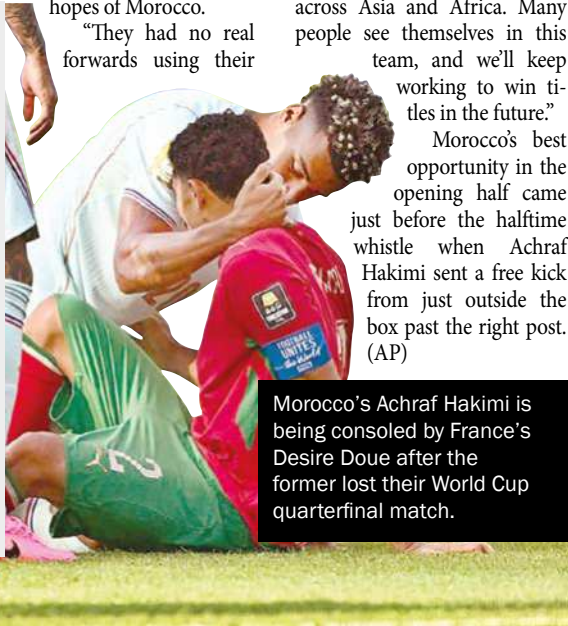
It wasn't like Morocco didn't make a hard push at this year's World Cup. They recruited talented 18-year-old Ayyoub Bouaddi, who could have been playing with France's youth teams. He was born in Senlis, an hour north of Paris, and after representing France in every age group possible, he switched allegiance.

"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.

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 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,

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-

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

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,

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 & Eevee 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.

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.

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 Bhattacharyya 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 Bhattacharyya 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 prayed" 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



that granted him protection from coercive action.

Atchanna assures ample fertiliser supply for kharif

- Says 3.70 lakh MT urea and 0.90 lakh MT of DAP available; buffer stocks maintained across districts
- Dismisses shortage rumours, says daily monitoring will ensure uninterrupted supply to farmers



place to prevent any shortages for farmers.

By July 10, the state had 3.70 lakh metric tonnes of urea and 0.90 lakh metric tonnes of DAP available. The minister said in a statement district-wise buffer stocks have been stored in Markfed warehouses, with officials monitoring supplies daily and moving additional

fertiliser wherever needed. Currently, 3,69,646 metric tonnes of urea are in stock, covering nearly 85% of seasonal demand, while 85,683 metric tonnes of DAP meet about 64% of requirements. Fresh consignments continue to arrive, ensuring uninterrupted distribution.

Atchanna also addressed a recent incident at Sankili Rythu Seva Kendra in Vizianagaram district. He explained that while initial demand was for 811 bags of urea, extra demand arose when farmers gathered in large numbers.

The government immediately arranged 444 additional bags from a nearby centre the same day. Distribution was streamlined with

token and queue systems, he added.

The minister said Vizianagaram district currently holds 9,987 metric tonnes of urea, including 4,850 tonnes as buffer stock.

He dismissed rumours of shortages as false propaganda driven by vested interests, urging farmers not to believe such claims.

"The government is fully alert. Farmers will not face any difficulties. Supplies are being monitored daily, and stocks are moved instantly wherever needed," Atchanna assured.

He reiterated that the administration is committed to farmer welfare and will continue transparent, timely fertiliser distribution across the state.

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

AGRICULTURE minister K Atchanna on Friday said the government has ensured abundant fertiliser supplies for the ongoing kharif season, with buffer stocks in

YSRCP seeks one-month extension of SIR

- Party MLC Appi Reddy demands extension of the Special Intensive Revision, citing delays and procedural glitches
- Alleges that TDP leaders are pressuring officials and BLOs to upload voter data to the MyTDP app before submitting it to the EC
- Says his party has complained to the EC, plans legal action and seeks a probe into alleged irregularities and bogus voters



YSRCP MLC Lella Appi Reddy told media persons at the party central office in Tadepalli on Friday that the leaders of TDP are forcing the officials to first upload the data in the MyTDP app before sending it to the Election Commission office, and every effort is being put to heckle democracy, making the Election Commission redundant in the state.

He claimed that elected representatives, ministers and even personal assistants of the ruling party leaders are threatening Booth Level Officials (BLOs) to first upload the data in their party app before sending it to the Election Office, and when a BLO went to lodge a complaint at a police station, it was not accepted, and there was pressure not to go ahead with the complaint.

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

YSRCP demanded that Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the state be extended by one month.

The main opposition party cited glitches in the SIR to demand its extension by one month.

It also alleged that the coalition government is mounting pressure on officials and collecting data in advance.

"We have complained to the Election Commission on the irregularities and will again give a representation besides exploring legal options as well," he said.

The YSRCP leader said that the enumeration process has many irregularities which came to light at Atmakur, Tantalapalle and other places, and the official statement boasting of figures stands no ground.

"As our leader Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy had pointed out, every eligible voter should be given the opportunity to exercise the franchise, and as the process has been going on at a slow pace and the work at the ground level is not complete, we demand that the process be extended by one more month," said Appi Reddy.

The YSRCP MLC also demanded that the Election Commission use its discretionary powers and check the irregularities. TDP and Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu have been trying to use every opportunity for political gain even at the cost of democratic values, he alleged.

There are many duplicate votes to be weeded out, and the information is that in Kuppam (Chandrababu Naidu's constituency) itself there are 30,000 bogus votes, he added.

CII urges industry to tap FTA boom for global growth

- Says FTAs now drive trade, investment, digital commerce and global supply chains beyond traditional market access
- Experts urge Indian businesses, especially MSMEs, to leverage FTAs with the UAE, UK, EU, Australia and other key markets to boost exports



from India's expanding network of FTAs.

Sumanta Chaudhary said that with the multilateral trading system facing increasing challenges, FTAs have become the primary drivers of market access and international business expansion. He stressed that Indian businesses should understand the provisions and benefits of these agreements to enhance exports, improve competitiveness and integrate into global value chains.

The seminar focused on creating awareness among industry stakeholders on effectively utilising India's FTAs to tap international markets.

Experts noted that India's trade strategy has evolved from regional trade arrangements to comprehensive economic partnerships with countries across Europe, the Middle East and Oceania, covering not only trade in goods but also services, investments, digital commerce and sustainable supply chains.

In his opening remarks, Abhinav Kotagiri, chairman, CII Vijayawada Zone, said India is steadily expanding its trade partnerships with major global

economies. He noted that the country's recent and ongoing FTAs with the UAE, Australia, the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), the UK, the European Union and other key markets reflect India's growing confidence and ambition in international trade.

Dr Murali Kallummal of the Centre for WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, highlighted that India's trade agreements with the UK, the European Union, UAE, Oman, Australia and New Zealand offer unprecedented opportunities for Indian businesses to diversify exports and access new markets.

Dr Anand Gopal, deputy director, Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), spoke of Andhra Pradesh's vast export potential, particularly in marine products. He said the state's long coastline, world-class ports and robust seafood processing ecosystem have positioned Andhra Pradesh as one of India's leading export hubs.

CII Vijayawada chapter chairman Abhinav Kotagiri addressing a seminar on FTAs in Vijayawada on Friday

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

FREE Trade Agreements (FTAs) have evolved beyond conventional trade arrangements into strategic economic partnerships that encompass goods, services, investments, digital trade, sustainability, technology and resilient supply chains, and Indian industry must fully leverage them to expand its global footprint, said Sumanta Chaudhary, principal advisor, International Trade Policy, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

He was addressing a seminar on 'Growing Opportunities from Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)' organised by CII Vijayawada Zone on Friday.

The event brought together exporters, representatives of export promotion organisations, industry leaders, MSMEs, logistics service providers, trade professionals and policymakers to deliberate on the opportunities emerging

RAMAYAPATNAM PORT GETS SECOND EXTENSION

- Project completion deadline pushed to Dec 30 this year
- No penalty imposed on contractor despite second extension
- Land delays, cyclones and infrastructure hurdles cited for setback

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

THE state government granted a second extension of time (EoT) for the completion of the Rs 4,923-crore Ramayapatnam port project, pushing the deadline to December 30, 2026, without

levying liquidated damages on the contractor.

The project, entrusted to the joint venture of Nava-yuga Engineering Company Ltd (NECL) and Aurobindo Realty Ltd (ARIPL), was originally scheduled for completion by June 23, 2025.

A first extension had already been allowed until April 27, 2026. The latest decision followed a proposal from the Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board (APMB) chief executive, based on requests from the Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor.

Special chief secretary (infrastructure & investment) M T Krishna Babu issued the government order (GO) on Friday, clarifying that no additional financial

burden would be entertained for granting the extension. The GO noted that revised administrative sanction for the port was accorded in February 2024, while technical sanction dates back to November 2020.

The contractor cited several reasons for delay, including non-handover of 38 acres of land critical for stackyard, internal roads, railway connectivity and utilities.

Other factors included delays in external infrastructure works such as power transmission and railway links, unforeseen dredging conditions, change in dredge disposal location, and local hindrances in Karlapalem and Salipeta villages. Force majeure condi-



tions (clause in contract that absolves both parties from liability in case of an extraordinary event like war or natural disaster) were also pointed to, including severe cyclones during the construction period and disruptions in fuel supply chains due to geopolitical tensions in West Asia.

The Tender Evaluation and EPC Committee

reviewed the submission and recommended the second extension, acknowledging delays in land acquisition and force majeure events.

The government accepted the recommendation, allowing the contractor time until December 2026 to complete the greenfield port project in Prakasam district, a key maritime gateway for Andhra Pradesh.

RTI lapses won't be tolerated, warns AP CIC

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

STATE chief information commissioner Sajja Srinivasa Rao made it clear that the provisions of Section 4(1)(b) of the Right to Information (RTI) Act must be implemented in every government office without exception, warning that any negligence in enforcing the law will not be tolerated.

He conducted surprise inspections at several government offices in Gollapudi in Vijayawada Rural on Friday to review the implementation of the RTI Act. He visited the office of the commissioner of the endowments department, Gollapudi gram panchayat office, Directorate of Prosecutions and the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC) office on Bandar Road.

During the inspections, he reviewed the implementation of RTI provisions, examined RTI registers, records, and the information systems maintained for citizens, and issued necessary instructions to the officials concerned.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief information commissioner said the inspections were aimed at assessing how effectively the RTI Act is being implemented in government offices.



State chief information commissioner Sajja Srinivasa Rao at the endowments commissioner office in Vijayawada on Friday

He noted that the commission has been receiving a large number of complaints in recent months alleging poor implementation of RTI rules in various government departments across the state. Among the common deficiencies identified were the absence of display boards carrying the details of Public Information Officers (PIOs) and First Appellate Authorities, and the failure to display job charts and citizen charters.

To address these shortcomings, the State Information Commission has launched a special monitoring drive. As part of the initiative, each

Information Commissioner has been assigned responsibility for two districts and directed to conduct surprise inspections of government offices.

Srinivasa Rao said the primary objective of these inspections is to improve awareness of the RTI Act and ensure its transparent and effective implementation. He warned that strict action would be taken under the law against officials if inspections reveal negligence, dereliction of duty, or violations of RTI provisions.

Endowments commissioner K Ramachandra Mohan briefed the chief information commissioner on the implementation of the RTI Act in the endowments department.

After examining the records and information presented by officials of the Gollapudi gram panchayat, Directorate of Prosecutions and APPSC, the chief information commissioner expressed satisfaction with the overall implementation.

APPSC chairman Prof C Shashidhar, secretary Pattamsetti Ravi Subhash, Gollapudi panchayat secretary Chintalamma, public information officer V V S K Prasad of the endowments department, joint commissioner Ratna Raju and officials from the concerned departments were present during the inspections.

Mahendragiri all set to be inducted into Indian Navy

- The stealth frigate features advanced features, enhanced survivability, a high degree of automation
- The warship showcases India's increasing expertise in indigenous warship design and construction
- Its commissioning marks another significant milestone in the eventful execution of the Project 17A programme

RANI DEVALLA
VISAKHAPATNAM

DEFENCE Minister Rajnath Singh will commission INS Mahendragiri (F38), the Indian Navy's sixth Nilgiri class (Project 17A) stealth frigate, at the naval dockyard on July 11 (Saturday).

Designed by the Indian Navy's Warship Design



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh being received by District Collector M Abhishikh Kishore upon his arrival in Visakhapatnam on Friday

Bureau (WDB) and built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDSL), Mahendragiri features advanced stealth features, enhanced survivability, a high degree of automation and a reduced radar signature. This is the fourth ship of the class built at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited.

Living up to her motto 'mighty-majestic-matchless', Living up to her motto 'mighty-majestic-matchless', INS Mahendragiri reflects the spirit of the Aatmanirb-

har Bharat initiative, boasting over 75 percent domestic content with substantial systems and equipment sourced from Indian industries.

Equipped to undertake anti-air-surface-submarine operations, the warship is also suited for maritime security, power projection and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, search and rescue and sustained presence missions.

Considered as a major leap in indigenous shipbuilding, the commission-



INS Mahendragiri to be commissioned into the Indian Navy in Visakhapatnam

ing of Mahendragiri marks another significant milestone in the eventful execution of the Project 17A programme.

Project 17A frigates are versatile multi-mission platforms made to address emerging challenges in the maritime domain.

Named after the imposing Mahendragiri Mountain in Eastern Ghats, the state-of-the-art frigate showcases a quantum leap in firepower, automation and survivability. The construction of seven

warships has been taken up by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers and MDSL.

Powered by a modern Combined Diesel or Gas propulsion system, the warship showcases India's increasing expertise in indigenous warship design and construction.

On Friday, the Defence Minister reached Visakhapatnam to attend the commissioning of the warship scheduled on Saturday at the Naval Dockyard.

Gates Foundation to support Amaravati Cancer Hospital

- Archana Vyas reviews construction of Basavatarakam Cancer Hospital at Thullur

HANS NEWS SERVICE
AMARAVATI

GATES Foundation India Country Director Archana Vyas visited the construction site of the upcoming Basavatarakam Indo American Cancer Hospital at Thullur in the Amaravati capital region on Friday to review the progress of the project. Archana Vyas was accompanied by Ravi Srinivasa Rao, chief operating officer of the Basavatarakam Indo American Cancer Hospital & Research Institute (BIACH&RI). During the visit, Srinivasa Rao and Balasubrahmanyam, chief general manager (projects), briefed her on the status of construction and the key features of the upcoming cancer care facility.

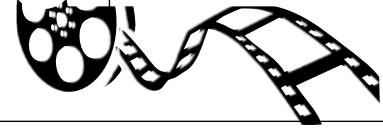


Gates Foundation India Country Director Archana Vyas at the construction site of the upcoming Basavatarakam Indo American Cancer Hospital at Thullur in Amaravati on Friday

Archana Vyas appreciated the exceptional services rendered by the Basavatarakam Institute through its Hyderabad facility, which has been providing quality treatment to thousands of cancer patients. She also congratulated the institution's chairman, Nandamuri Balakrishna, for his leadership and commitment to strengthening cancer care services. During the interaction, representatives of the hospital requested the Gates Foundation to support the Amaravati cancer hospital project. Responding positively,

Archana Vyas expressed her willingness to explore ways in which the Foundation could extend its support to the initiative.

The proposed Basavatarakam Cancer Hospital in Amaravati is expected to significantly enhance access to advanced oncology treatment and research facilities for patients across Andhra Pradesh and neighbouring states. It is being developed as a state-of-the-art cancer care institution to complement the renowned services offered by the Hyderabad-based hospital.



'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 RazesDanda 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.



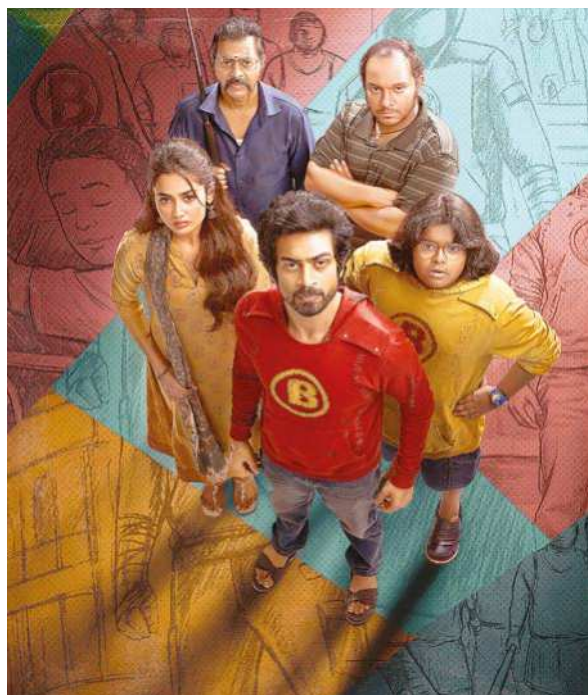
Super Hero Babu: Arjun Das' bilingual comes with fresh concept

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 angry 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 Bhav. Thanks to its timely theme and engaging narrative, the film has been gaining much attention prior to its release.