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WOMENIA
The fabric edit: Choosing comfort without compromising on style
Silk has long been associated with Indian celebrations, but modern wedding fashion is seeing a rise in silk blends that offer the richness of silk with improved wearability.

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NEW GENERATIONAL
job opportunities for Gen Z
India is heading towards "Viksit Bharat@2047," but achieving this ambitious goal in a short timeframe depends on persistent reforms, the correction of macroeconomic imbalances, and the management of geopolitical challenges.

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BUSINESS
Investors in two Telugu states eye equity boom
Of the 1.83 cr unique IPO applicants recorded nationally across 33 states and 785 towns, Telangana contributed 3.99 lakh (2.17%) and Andhra Pradesh 4.41 lakh (2.40%) — a combined 8.4 lakh investors already active in India's primary markets.

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YOUNG HANS
How students can prepare for marketing careers
For students aspiring to build a career in marketing, this evolution presents both an opportunity and a challenge. Employers are no longer hiring candidates based solely on academic qualifications or creative thinking.

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WINDOWS

Modi discusses West Asia crisis in key Cabinet meet

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) and held detailed discussions with senior ministers on the prevailing global security situation, with a focus on maintaining uninterrupted supply chains amid ongoing conflicts affecting key maritime routes such as the Strait of Hormuz, the Black Sea, the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. The meeting reviewed measures taken by various ministries and departments to safeguard India's energy security, fertiliser supplies, shipping operations and the interests of Indian citizens and the Indian community living abroad. The two-hour meeting at the Parliament House complex was attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, along with ministers handling petroleum, commerce, shipping and fertilisers.

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VANDE MATARAM BILL CLEARED

NEW DELHI: PARLIAMENT on Wednesday cleared a bill to make insult to the national song Vande Mataram a criminal offence, with the Lok Sabha passing the legislation amid din following a brief debate. The bill — The Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026 — had already been passed by the Rajya Sabha a day earlier. With its passage in the Lower House, the proposed amendment now moves closer to becoming law. In the Lok Sabha, the bill was taken up and passed

MOCKERY NO SUBSTITUTE

Academicians slam Priyanka over Kamakoti remarks



NEW DELHI: Academicians, in an open letter, have criticised Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's reported remark about IIT Madras director V Kamakoti in the Lok Sabha. They said the comment undermined academic discourse and could deter scholars from participating in public debate. More than 215 vice chancellors, former vice chancellors and academicians have come out in support of IIT Madras Director Prof V Kamakoti after Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra allegedly referred to him as a "cow urine expert" during a Lok Sabha debate, saying the remark undermines academic discourse and the dignity of India's scientific institutions.

Won't spare paper leak gangs, warns PM Modi

PARLIAMENT PASSES ANTI-PAPER LEAK BILL

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said a strong anti-paper leak bill had been passed by both Houses of Parliament as part of the government's efforts to tackle the menace that has threatened the future of children.

In a fresh video message on Instagram, Modi said paper leaks in various examinations have become a major challenge not only for students but also for the Centre and many states. Therefore, it had become necessary to bring comprehensive changes to the education system to deal with the problem, he said. "The Centre and many states have been facing the paper leak problem for several years," he said, adding that the government had been continuously working to es-



ablish an efficient examination system.

"We will not spare the paper leak gangs, paper leak mafia and those playing with the future of children," the Prime Minister said.

Highlighting the steps taken by the government, Modi said a task force had been constituted, fast-track courts were being set up, and suggestions were being taken from states to strengthen the examination process and prevent irregularities. He said the government was commit-

ted to ensuring that students get a fair opportunity.

"Paper leak incidents will not be allowed to continue unchecked. Our campaign against this menace will continue in future too," Modi said.

Anti-paper leak bill gets RS nod

Parliament on Thursday passed a bill to amend the anti-paper leak law to introduce stricter punishments, with the government expressing its commitment to go the extra mile to safeguard the interests of students, who are the country's future. The Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026, was cleared in the Rajya Sabha with a voice vote amid a walkout by several Opposition parties from the India bloc.

Centre defends ethanol blends

- ▶ Says no verified engine failures in over 20 cr vehicles
- ▶ Claims E20 petrol can reduce fuel economy by 2-6%



NEW DELHI: Amid the debate over ethanol-blended fuel, the government on Thursday said E20 offers a "higher-octane rating, superior anti-knock characteristics, cleaner combustion and smoother engine performance." More than 20 crore two-wheelers and over 3 crore petrol cars have been operating on ethanol-blended fuel without any verified evidence of widespread engine failure or vehicle breakdown attributable to ethanol blending, Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari told the Lok Sabha in a written reply. Gadkari said E20 improves acceleration and ride quality while reducing carbon emissions. "Laboratory studies, field validation and real-world operating experience have not established any adverse impact on vehicle performance due to E20 fuel. This is evident from the fact that E15 blended petrol has been in widespread use for over three-and-a-half years and E19-E20 fuel for over two-and-a-half years," he said.

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Puri holds talks with Team Bharat Group activist Tehseen Poonawalla arrested



Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri with Team Bharat activist Tehseen Poonawalla

NEW DELHI: Post the Jantar Mantar protests and clashes, the Narendra Modi government appears determined not to repeat the missteps that turned the recent student protests into a movement powerful enough to force Dharmendra Pradhan to step down as the Union education minister. With the Ethanol-Blended Petrol programme now drawing similar backlash, New Delhi is moving early.

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US launches 'heavy' strikes on Iran

DUBAI: The US military says it has completed a "heavy wave" of strikes against Iran in retaliation for Tuesday's attempted ballistic missile attacks on American forces.

Centcom said it hit "dozens" of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) targets in response to Iran's firing on US bases in Jordan and at ships in the Strait of Hormuz.

Iranian state media said the latest strikes had killed three people, including a two-year-old child, on Qeshm island, while other locations were also hit in the south and west of the country.

The latest hostilities come on a week that has seen the conflict expand, with the first publicly announced joint US-Saudi strikes targeting Iranian proxies in Iraq.

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FOREIGN STUDY TOURS FOR TG GOVT TEACHERS

CM urges teachers to build world-class education system

Blasts BRS' demand that he must relinquish education portfolio

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

CHIEF Minister A Revanth Reddy has blasted the Bharat Rashtra Samithi for its demand that he must relinquish education portfolio. The Chief Minister also castigated Prime Minister Narendra Modi for India's mounting debt burden.

Claiming that one lakh additional enrollments in government schools is testimony of the successful implementation of breakfast and mid-day meal schemes, the Chief Minister announced foreign study tours henceforth for government teachers every year.

Interacting with the delegates of Finland and Germany Exposure Programme



on Thursday, he questioned the BRS whether the party is aware of the initiatives of breakfast and mid-day meal schemes introduced in all schools and junior colleges. The enrollment of one lakh additional students this year is a great achievement in school education, Revanth

Reddy said and added that the government is spending Rs 1.08 lakh on each student whereas the parents spend only Rs 50,000 on children attending private schools.

The Chief Minister instructed the authorities to prepare a report by December outlining an action plan

for the upcoming academic year. The plans should be formulated by taking every mandal into a cluster. Further, he said that the state government would provide teachers with opportunities to go abroad for further studies. He asserted that the government has launched a slew of initiatives not for politics or votes but to provide quality education to the poor. "Let us transform our government educational institutions into world-class destinations", the Chief Minister observed and added: "We all should dedicate five years to society and to transform the future for generations to come and work with the goal of making Telangana a role model for the nation."

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CM plans social media blitz to counter Oppn

- ▶ REVANTH UNHAPPY WITH MINISTERS' UNSKILLED PR STAFF
- ▶ SPL TEAMS TO CREATE DIGITAL CONTENT

HANS NEWS SERVICE

HYDERABAD: With opposition parties aggressively going against the state government, and with all ministers failing to effectively put across the state government's developmental and welfare measures to create a positive impact among people, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has devised his own "Digital Campaign Strategy" to counter the Opposition's anti-government rhetoric and corner it on



social media platforms. The Chief Minister is said to be critical of the public relations (PR) staff of all ministers for lacking a strategy on the use of digital media.

Experienced political consultants, analysts and certain reputed organisations involved in PR have been hired to utilise their expertise in the campaign on government schemes

and digital media campaigns. Officials of the Chief Minister's Office (CMO), ministers' PR staff and the officials of the Information & Public Relations Department are already being provided regular training on the propagation of the government schemes through digital platforms aggressively.

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'PM MODI HAS NOT RESIGNED'

PIB DEBUNKS SOCIAL MEDIA REPORTS

NEW DELHI

THE Centre on Thursday rubbished social media reports claiming that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has resigned from his post. The viral posts on the internet had a copy of a letter, bearing the Ashok Chakra emblem and what appeared to be PM Modi's signature, stated that he was resigning as the prime minister citing "personal and political responsibility". Debunking the claim, the Fact Check unit of the Press Information Bureau (PIB) said "no



such letter has been issued by the Prime Minister". The fake resignation letter was shared by several users on social media sites, including Facebook, claiming that the prime minister has resigned. "A letter pur-

portedly signed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is being circulated on social media. No such letter has been issued by the Prime Minister, nor has it been signed by him," the PIB said in a social media post. It also warned internet users to verify any claims through official sources before sharing.

The fake letter comes days after the PIB debunked doctored videos circulating on social media that showed PM Modi making threatening remarks against the protestors at Jantar Mantar over the paper leaks.

Heavy rains lash several places in Telangana

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

HEAVY rains lashed many parts of Telangana on Thursday as the low-pressure area passing through Chhattisgarh state headed towards Telangana, in line with the Indian Meteorological Department's red alert on heavy to extremely heavy rainfall.

With heavy downpours in the districts, there was flooding in the Godavari and Krishna rivers and the water levels also increased in various reservoirs. Hopes of



Photo: Ch Prabhud Das

agriculture picking up in several villages also rose because of the torrential downpours. Very heavy rainfall occurred at many places over Komaram Bheem Asifabad,

at a few places over Mancherial, Jayashankar Bhupalpally and at isolated places over Adilabad, Jagtial, Mulugu and Peddapalli districts of Telangana. Heavy rainfall

RAINFALL DEFICIT DOWN

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) officials said that the rainfall, which was 34 per cent deficit during the month of June, has decreased to 10 per cent now after heavy rainfall in the state. However, still 13 districts, mostly in the southern part of the state, have received less than 20 per cent rainfall so far. The Yadadri Bhongir district registered 65 per cent deficit rainfall during this monsoon.

occurred at many places over Jagtial, Mulugu, Mancherial and at a few places across Karimnagar, Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Peddapalli and at isolated places in Adilabad,

Jayashankar Bhupalpally and Warangal districts of Telangana. The weather officials said that the Southwest Monsoon has been vigorous over Telangana. The IMD

had earlier issued a red alert (indicates extremely heavy rainfall with over 200 mm rainfall) for the districts of Adilabad, Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Nirmal, Jagtial; orange alert with heavy to very heavy rainfall in Nizamabad, Rajanna Sircilla, Karimnagar, Peddapalli, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Mulugu and Kamareddy districts; yellow alert for heavy rainfall very likely to occur at isolated places in Medak, Sangareddy, Jangaon, Hanumakonda, Mahabubabad, Warangal,

Vikarabad, Rangareddy, Hyderabad, Medchal-Malkajgiri, Siddipet and Bhadrachalam districts of Telangana. Strong surface winds up to (30-40 kmph) are very likely to prevail at isolated pockets in remaining districts of Telangana.

The IMD has also issued forecast for heavy rainfall or thunderstorms at isolated places in various parts of the state till August 3.

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Rains trigger massive traffic snarl across Hyderabad on 2nd day

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IRREGULAR by MANJUL
I don't believe he authorised the use of the pellet guns. They're for too mild for him