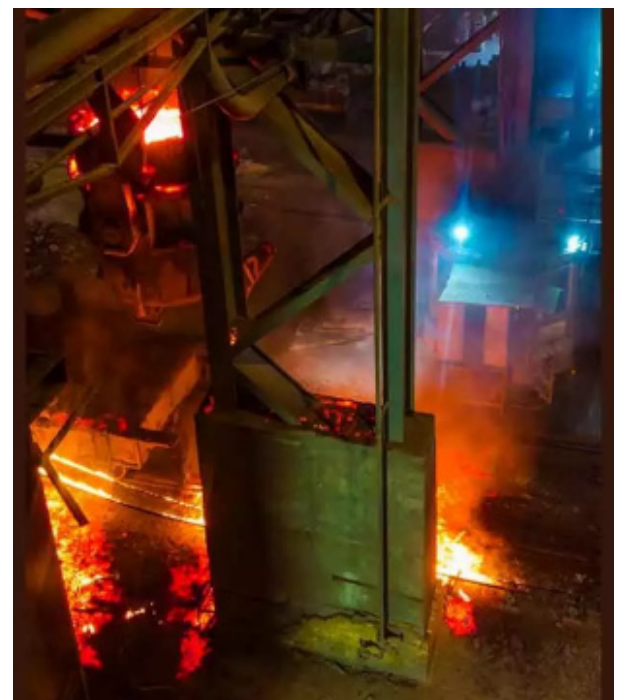


## Eight killed as ladle carrying molten steel explodes in Vizag Steel Plant

**Visakhapatnam(king Reporter)**A tragic ladle explosion at the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant has resulted in eight deaths and six injuries. Authorities have launched an investigation into the industrial accident. Eight workers died, and six others were injured after a ladle carrying molten steel exploded at the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant on Monday. The accident occurred when a large quantity of molten steel leaked following the explosion of the ladle, which was carrying steel at a very high temperature. The disaster occurred when molten steel was being lifted at the SMS-2 and STC-3 heat facility of the steel plant around 4.15 p.m. According to officials, molten iron was extremely hot at about 1,500 degrees Celsius. The explosion triggered panic in the plant, forcing workers and employees to scramble for safety.

Steel plant personnel, police and fire-fighting personnel began efforts to bring the fire under control. The deceased included six employees of the plant and two contract workers. Five of the deceased were identified as Appa Rao, Prabhakar Rao, Krishna, Ramana and Trinath. Also Read - Four workers die after inhaling toxic gas during tank cleaning at jewellery unit in Surat Advertisement Visakhapatnam district Collector M. Abhishek Kishor said six workers were injured. Three were admitted to KIMS Hospital, and three others were shifted to Seven Hills Hospital. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu expressed shock over the accident. The Chief Minister spoke to officials regarding the incident and conveyed deep sorrow over the deaths of the workers. Offi-

cial briefed Chandrababu Naidu on the current situation and the relief measures being undertaken. The Chief Minister directed officials to take supportive measures in coordination with all departments to assist those affected by the accident. "The accident at the Visakha Steel Plant has left me deeply shocked. I am distressed to learn that several workers have lost their lives in this accident. I have spoken to the concerned officials and directed them to undertake relief measures in coordination with all government departments," the Chief Minister posted on X. Also Read - Subhasis Sengupta assumes charge as RINL Director (Operations) Discover more Politics Telangana News App Local News Updates Union Minister of State for Heavy Industries & Steel, Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma, said the cause of the accident would be known only after a thorough investigation. "Deeply saddened and shocked by the tragic ladle blast accident at the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (RINL) this evening. My heart goes out to the families of the brave workers who lost their lives in this accident. I have spoken to



the plant management and local authorities; we are closely monitoring the situation on the ground. Every possible medical assistance is being extended to those affected. Praying for the speedy recovery of the injured. Industrial safety remains our utmost priority, and we stand firmly with the workforce and their families in this hour of grief," he said in a social media post.

## Andhra Pradesh CM expresses grief over death of three pilgrims in Bihar accident

**Vijayawada (king Reporter)**A tragic bus accident on NH-19 in Bihar's Aurangabad district has claimed the lives of three pilgrims from Andhra Pradesh and left over 20 injured. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has expressed his condolences and directed officials to coordinate with the Bihar administration for immediate relief and transportation of the victims. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu on Monday expressed grief over the accident involving a tourist bus carrying pilgrims from the state's Nellore district to Varanasi, leaving three dead. Naidu described the death of three individuals in the accident near Bihar's Aurangabad on late Sunday as deeply distressing and conveyed his condolences to the bereaved families. He spoke with officials regarding the incident and inquired about the medical treatment being provided to the injured, an official release said. Officials informed him that the bus, carrying 46 pilgrims from Nellore, had collided with another vehicle near Aurangabad. They reported that three people died on the spot and 15 others sustained injuries. The Chief Minister directed officials to coordinate with the Bihar government to ensure assistance reaches the victims and instructed them to take measures to bring the surviving pilgrims back to their hometowns. Also Read - 15 injured in road accident in J&K's Rajouri Advertisement Discover more Andhra Pradesh News Technology Updates Service News Subscription Service Following the CM's directives, Andhra Pradesh officials are in constant communication with senior officials and the local administration in Bihar. Passengers who sustained severe injuries have been shifted to the Anugrah Narayan Magadh Medical College and Hospital in Gaya. Officials stated that all the victims currently undergoing treatment at the hospital are stable. Officials are holding consultations with the Bihar government regarding the transportation of



travellers to their home state. According to reports, three people were killed, and 20 were injured after the tourist bus collided with a truck-trailer on National Highway 19 in Aurangabad district on Sunday night. The bus was on its way from Bodh Gaya to Kashi (Varanasi), carrying pilgrims from Andhra Pradesh on a trip to various religious sites. The collision occurred between Bhediya and Dev Mor in the Mufassil police station area. According to eye-witnesses, the accident took place while the bus driver was attempting to overtake a vehicle.

### Cyberabad Police Commissioner reviews Gachibowli flyover, road-widening works

**Hyderabad (king Reporter)** Cyberabad Police Commissioner M Ramesh on Tuesday inspected the ongoing road widening and flyover construction works between IIIT Junction and DLF Junction in Gachibowli. Accompanied by civic authorities, the Commissioner reviewed the progress of the project and directed officials to ensure timely completion of the works. During the inspection, discussions were held on traffic management measures, alternative routes and steps to minimise inconvenience to commuters during the construction period. The commissioner instructed officials to implement a special traffic advisory and diversions over the next three months. He further requested motorists to follow traffic police instructions and use designated alternate routes.

## WAMS 2026 begins at BVRIT with pre-conference workshop



**Medak:** The Wireless, Antennas and Microwave Symposium (WAMS-2026), hosted by BV Raju Institute of Technology (BVRIT), Narsapur, commenced on Tuesday with a pre-conference workshop and IEEE Distinguished Lecturer Talks. The fifth symposium of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) is scheduled to be held from June 10 to 13. The pre-conference workshop witnessed participation from internationally acclaimed scientists, researchers, academicians and industry experts from across the globe, a press release claimed. Speaking on the occasion, Principal of BVRIT Dr Sanjay Dubey said it was a matter of great pride that globally renowned experts in antenna and wireless

technologies had visited the campus to participate in the WAMS 2026 pre-conference workshop. He said such interactions with experts would provide invaluable exposure to BVRIT students and faculty. Director of BVRIT Dr K Lakshmi Prasad said that the event would offer a unique opportunity for students, faculty members and young engineers to gain first-hand knowledge of the latest technological advancements and interact with leading experts in the field. The symposium will serve as a platform for the exchange of knowledge, collaborative research discussions and technological innovation in the fields of wireless communications, antennas and microwave engineering.

## IMD Hyderabad issues 48-hour heavy rainfall alert for Telangana districts

**Hyderabad(king Reporter):** The India Meteorological Department (IMD), Hyderabad, on Tuesday issued a heavy rainfall alert for Rangareddy, Vikarabad, Sangareddy, Medak, Kamareddy, Mahabubnagar, Narayanpet and Jogulamba Gadwal districts for the next 48 hours, up to Thursday. Apart from the heavy rainfall warning, which ranges from 64.5 mm to 115.5 mm of rainfall, the IMD, Hyderabad, has also issued a thunderstorm warning along with lightning and gusty winds (40 kmph to 50 kmph) for Adilabad, Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Nirmal, Nizamabad, Jagityal, Rajanna Sirsilla, Karimnagar, Peddapally, Jayashankar Bhupalapally, Mulugu, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Khammam, Nalgonda, Suryapet, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Hanamkonda, Jangaon, Siddipet, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Rangareddy, Hyderabad, Medchal Malkajgiri, Vikarabad, Sangareddy, Medak, Kamareddy, Mahabubnagar and Nagarkurnool districts. The Hyderabad weather department has also issued a thunderstorm, lightning and gusty winds alert for all districts from Thursday to Saturday.





## Of fathers, sons and supreme sacrifices

Explore the profound contrast between the filial sacrifices of Sri Rama and Bhishma. This analysis delves into how their respective vows shaped their legacies, the differences between moral clarity and austerity, and what these iconic figures reveal about the nature of duty in Indian epic traditions. India News Portal The two great Indian epics, Ramayana and the Mahabharata, present two extraordinary examples of filial sacrifice reflecting the profound relationship between fathers and sons. Two towering figures immediately come to mind — Sri Rama and Bhishma. At first glance, both appear similar. Both willingly sacrificed personal happiness for the sake of their fathers. Both renounce power and subordinate personal life to duty. Yet their stories unfold very differently. Let us begin with Rama. King Dasaratha had three wives. The youngest, Kaikeyi, once saved him in a battle, and the grateful king promised her two boons whenever she desired. Years later, on the eve of Rama's coronation, Kaikeyi — at Manthara's prodding — claimed her reward. She demanded that Rama be banished to the forest and that her son Bharata be crowned king instead. The tragedy lies not merely in the demand itself, but in the irony of it. Kaikeyi was Dasaratha's most beloved wife. Rama was his most beloved son. The Ramayana portrays Dasaratha not as a majestic king calmly enforcing dharma, but as a broken old father trapped by his own promise. He pleads with Kaikeyi. Never in his life could he have imagined such humiliation and grief. Perhaps the most heart-breaking moment comes when Rama is summoned. Dasaratha cannot even raise his eyes to look at his son. Only the father's grief tells Rama that something terrible has happened. What follows is one of the noblest moments in world literature. Rama does not protest. He does not accuse Kaikeyi of any wrongdoing. Calmly he accepts exile. That serenity in sacrifice is what makes him Maryada Purushottama. Yet the true depth of Rama's resolve becomes visible only later. Soon after he leaves for exile, Dasaratha dies grieving for his beloved son. Bharata, enraged by his mother's actions, rushes to the forest and implores Rama to return and assume the throne. At this point, Rama could easily have returned. Dasaratha was dead, Bharata had renounced the throne, and no injustice would have resulted had Rama accepted kingship. Yet Rama refuses. He insists that a father's word, once accepted, must be fulfilled completely. To understand Bhishma, one must first understand the strange circumstances of his birth. King Shantanu falls deeply in love with the mysterious and beautiful Ganga. She agrees to marry him on one condition: he must never question or oppose any of her actions. Madly infatuated, the king agrees without foreseeing the terrible consequences. A son is born to them. The delighted king dreams of an heir to his throne. But Ganga immediately takes the child and drowns him in the river. Shantanu is horrified. Yet, remembering his promise, he restrains himself. The horrifying cycle repeats itself seven times. Seven sons perish before the helpless eyes of their father. One can scarcely imagine the torment of Shantanu — a father repeatedly losing children, an heirless monarch, and a man imprisoned by his own word. At last, when the eighth child is born, the king can endure no more.

## Hyderabad fish prasadam: till now 38,000 tokens issues and expects surge in crowds today

Hyderabad: Fish prasadam distribution continued in Hyderabad with a heavy turnout, with officials of the Fisheries Department stating that till now 38,000 tokens had been issued. T Srinivas, deputy director, Fisheries Department, Telangana, said the department kept 1.30 lakh murrel fish seed ready for fish prasadam distribution. "More people are expected to arrive today for fish prasadam, which will be concluded on Tuesday. Tokens were issued through special counters at the exhibition grounds on Monday and continued on Tuesday until fish prasadam closed up to 9 pm," T Srinivas, deputy director, Fisheries Department, Telangana, told Telangana Today. Bathini family members, who were also organisers of the event, said that they anticipated higher footfall as the event continued on the second day, today.



## Movement of elephants triggers panic among farmers in Maharashtra, Telangana

Kumram Bheem Asifabad: An unusual movement of a herd of around 30 elephants through farms triggered panic among locals in Sawali Taluq in Chandrapur district on Monday, raising fresh concerns among farmers who were already wary of elephant incursions. The fear stems from a tragic incident, where a pachyderm killed two people in Kagaznagar forest division two years ago. Residents spotted the herd wandering at a lake near Sawali town early in the morning. They recorded the videos of the animals on their mobile phones. They shared the videos on social media platforms. They expressed concern over their safety following the roaming of the tuskers. They urged the Forest officials to take steps to divert the animals into dense forests and to avoid casualties. On receiving information, Forest officials rushed to the farms and began efforts to drive away the jumbos into the wild. They claimed that they were monitoring the movement of the elephants with the help of experts. They said that they were tracking the movement of the pachyderms and steps were being taken to avoid human loss. Elephants inhabiting Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh are apparently exploring forests of Maharashtra following increased mining activity in the two states. They often migrate to Gadchiroli district of neighboring Maharashtra in search of food and water. They then enter the forests of Chandrapur district. They frequently damage



crops such as maize and paddy crops by crushing. Some of them turn aggressive resulting in human fatalities. In 2024, a lone elephant separated from its herd and then drifted towards the wild of Telangana by crossing Pranahita river. It eventually trampled Alluri Shankar (50) at Burepalli village in Chintalamanepalli mandal before killing Karu Posham (65) at Kondapalli village in Penchikalpet mandal before being successfully driven back to Maharashtra. Although no further elephant-man conflicts have occurred since, the memory of the killings continues to haunt farmers. With herds now migrating into neighboring Chandrapur, locals remain anxious about their safety and future of their livelihoods.

## Three Telangana workers among the dead in Dubai fatal road mishap

Dubai: A devastating road accident on Dubai's busiest road claimed seven lives including three from Telangana after a speeding minibus crashed into a truck on busiest Emirates Road on Monday. Among the injured, five sustained serious injuries while other four including from a Telangana suffered moderate wounds. The deceased persons were identified as Abdul Rafiq of Metpalli Mandal, Sayed Saleem of Kodimial Mandal and Gajula Tirupati of Mallial Mandal, all three from Jagtial district. Mohammed Sayeed of Hyderabad city is among the injured who are out of danger and being treated at a local hospital, according to sources. More details awaited. All of them were working

for an aluminum glass and door frame industry based in Sharjah and owned by an Indian entrepreneur hailing from Kerala.

According to Dubai Police, the truck had come to a halt in the middle of the road following a sudden technical failure. Preliminary investigations suggest the minibus driver failed to maintain a safe distance and could not stop in time, resulting in a deadly collision. The police said that the bus driver reportedly failed to pay attention. The Indian consulate plunged into action and contacted the bereaved families and also a team of officials visited hospital and met with survivors to enquire about the incident.

## Tension prevails as forest officials, farmers clash over podu lands in Asifabad

Kumram Bheem Asifabad: Mild tension prevailed for a while when Forest officials along with police prevented farmers from tilling disputed podu lands on the outskirts of Dimda village in Chintalamanepalli mandal on Tuesday. Farmers from the village were reading the lands to sow seeds in this agriculture season. On receiving information about the farmers' attempt, the officials escorted by the policemen arrived in the lands carrying vehicles to stop the farmers from tilling the lands. The farmers confronted the officials. They picked up an argument with the officials.

Despite strong opposition from the farmers, the officials tried to shift the

farmers from the lands. Some of the farmers protested against the move of the officials. They staged a sit-in criticizing the officials for preventing them from growing crops. They raised slogans against the officials, resulting in tension. However, police pacified the two warring groups. For the unversed, farmers of this village have been staging different protests against Forest officials for digging trenches around the lands allegedly situated in the forests.

The officials argued that the encroachment of the forest cover by the farmers was hindering conservation of wild animals. Various political parties including BRS extended solidarity to the farmers.

## ACB searches R&B Engineer-in-Chief's properties

Hyderabad: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) officials on Tuesday conducted simultaneous searches at properties linked to Roads and Buildings (R&B) Engineer-in-Chief J Mohan Naik. The raids began early in the morning and were continuing at the time of reporting. According to sources, ACB teams carried out searches at around 11 locations, including Mohan Naik's residence in Madhapur, following information regarding alleged disproportionate assets. As per information available, Mohan Naik has faced allegations in the past of collecting commissions from contractors involved in road and infrastructure projects. He is also accused of favouring select contractors in the award of works, allegedly in violation of tender norms, and amassing substantial assets through corrupt practices. It is alleged that the officer wielded considerable influence over project approvals and contract execution across the State. It is learnt that the latest searches are aimed at verifying assets, financial transactions and property holdings linked to him and his associates. Both movable and immovable assets are being gathered and assessed. Given the reported scale of the properties under scrutiny, the verification process is expected to take considerable time, sources said and may continue till late in the day. Meanwhile, the ACB is yet to issue an official statement on the value of assets detected during the searches. Further details are expected once the searches are completed.

## Telangana set to introduce e-Cabinet system for paperless governance

Hyderabad: The Telangana government is poised to follow in the footsteps of Andhra Pradesh and several other States, with preparations underway to introduce an e-Cabinet system for the State Cabinet. The paperless governance system was first launched in Himachal Pradesh, followed by several other States, including Andhra Pradesh. Sources said Chief Secretary K Rama Krishna Rao recently reviewed the progress of the e-Cabinet project with officials of the General Administration and Information Technology departments. Efforts are underway to make the system ready for the upcoming Cabinet meeting. Officials have reportedly decided to procure the latest iPads/tablets for Ministers and others who participate in Cabinet meetings, while the National Informatics Centre (NIC) will provide

software support. The e-Cabinet platform digitises the entire Cabinet decision-making process, enabling Ministers to access, review and approve agenda notes electronically. The move is expected to reduce paper consumption, improve administrative efficiency and accelerate decision-making. Andhra Pradesh is among the States that have already implemented the NIC-developed e-Cabinet framework, alongside Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Tripura, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh, among others. Telangana's adoption of the system marks a shift towards digital governance and aligns the State with a broader national trend of paperless administration. Officials said the necessary hardware and software infrastructure is being put in place to ensure a seamless rollout of the system for future Cabinet meetings.

## BRS questions Congress government's school rationalisation plans

Hyderabad: BRS leader Ravula Sridhar Reddy on Tuesday criticised the Congress government's education policies, alleging that the sector was suffering due to poor planning and inconsistent decision-making, despite Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy himself holding the portfolio. Speaking to mediapersons at Telangana Bhavan on Tuesday, Sridhar Reddy questioned Revanth Reddy's reported proposal to reduce the number of government schools from 27,000 to 4,000, while simultaneously speaking about establishing integrated and public schools. AP News Updates

He argued that rationalisation should not be equated with reducing the number of schools and warned that such measures could adversely affect access



to education in villages, tribal hamlets and remote areas. He also questioned whether the proposals were in line with

the Right to Education Act and stated that they would ultimately benefit private and corporate educational institutions. The BRS leader said the government had failed to implement promises such as the breakfast scheme for students and had sidelined initiatives launched during the previous BRS regime, including the Mana Ooru-Mana Badi programme. He also cited the resignation of Education Commission chairman Akunuri Murali as evidence of shortcomings in the government's education policy.

## Man dies by suicide days after wife's death in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: In a tragic incident, a man allegedly died by suicide just days after performing the last rites of his wife, who had taken her own life earlier this month in Shamshabad. According to police, A.S. Srikanth (37) and his wife Swapna (34), natives of Gollapalli, were living separately as Srikanth had moved to Dubai two years ago for employment. Swapna, who was staying alone, died by suicide at her residence on June 2 after report-

edly becoming upset with life. After learning about her death, Srikanth rushed back from Dubai and completed the funeral rituals on Sunday. Family members said he was deeply distressed by the personal loss and was struggling to cope with her memories. Later, he allegedly died by suicide by hanging on Monday, in the same room where his wife had ended her life. Shamshabad police have registered a case and are investigating.

## Woman ends life due to harassment by stalker in Jagtial

Jagtial: Unable to tolerate alleged harassment by a stalker, a 20 year-old woman Saidu Srilatha died by suicide in Anantharam of Jagtial rural mandal. She committed suicide by hanging herself in the home on Monday. According to police, both Srilatha and Ankathi Raju from Sangampalli of the same mandal studied up to Class X in a school. While Srilatha is staying at home after completion of graduation, Raju is pur-

suing engineering third year. Raju was allegedly harassing Srilatha in the name of love during the last three years. Unable to tolerate harassment, she already made a suicide attempt some time ago. Family members and village elders warned Raju. Raju, who stayed away from her for some time, again started it recently. On Monday, he threatened the victim over the phone. Upset over the incident, she took an extreme step.

## Parliamentary panel invites stakeholder feedback on Corporate laws Amendment Bill



New Delhi: The joint committee on Corporate Law (Amendment) Bill, 2026 on Tuesday invited views and suggestions on it from various stakeholders and experts. The committee headed by BJP MP Sudheer Gupta is examining the Corporate Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026. The parliamentary panel has sought views on the specific clauses of the Bill from experts, industry associations, organisations and other stakeholders. Introduced in March this year, the legislation proposes compre-

hensive amendments to both the Companies Act, 2013, and the Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) Act, 2008. It is designed to enhance the ease of doing business, decriminalise minor procedural defaults, and modernise India's corporate governance architecture. Those desirous of sending their suggestions can send two copies of their suggestions in English/Hindi to Director (JCL), Lok Sabha Secretariat, or e-mail the same to [jcl.cell@lss.sansad.in](mailto:jcl.cell@lss.sansad.in) by June 22, the Lok Sabha Secretariat said in a statement.

## SC flags 40-year delay in Allahabad HC murder appeal, seeks ways to cut backlog

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has expressed concern over the extraordinary delay by the Allahabad High Court in disposing of a 40-year-old criminal appeal filed by a murder accused challenging his conviction. A partial working day (PWD) bench comprising Justices Prashant Kumar Mishra and A S Chandurkar, on Monday, described the situation as disturbing and questioned what innovative measures could be adopted to address the mounting pendency that continues to clog the justice delivery system in the Allahabad High Court. The case pertained to Vijay Singh who was 28 years old when he was arrested in November 1983 for allegedly shooting his brother dead. A sessions court at Kanpur convicted him of murder and sentenced him to life imprisonment in December 1985. Singh challenged the verdict before the Allahabad High Court. However, his appeal remained pending for nearly 41 years before being dismissed by the high court through a 20-page judgment delivered on February 9 this year. During the hearing, the top court noted that Singh had spent only about three months in custody and remained on bail for almost 43 years while awaiting the outcome of his appeal. The court decided to continue his bail during the pendency of proceedings before it. The bench voiced concern over the recurring issue of prolonged delays in the Allahabad High Court, observing



that litigants frequently approach the top court seeking directions for expeditious hearings because of heavy pendency. Justice Mishra sought suggestions from senior advocate Siddharth Dave and advocate Zoheb Hossain on possible measures to accelerate the disposal of old cases. Dave suggested that prosecution appeals pending for more than three decades could be dismissed to reduce the backlog. The bench, however, rejected the idea, observing that fundamental principles of adjudication do not permit dismissal of cases solely on account of prolonged pendency. The bench cautioned that such an approach could adversely affect public interest and deprive parties of an opportunity to present their case. In his appeal before the top court, Singh highlighted the prolonged delay, stating that he is now 72 years old and has spent his youth, middle age and old age under the shadow of a criminal conviction.

## Neredmet police probe loan app harassment angle in woman's suicide

Hyderabad: The Neredmet Police are investigating a suspected loan app harassment angle in the suicide of Shivadanapu Devanandini (25), which was reported earlier this week. Devanandini, a native of Krishna district, had married T Revanth Kumar of Eluru district in 2022. The

couple had been living in JJ Nagar for the past three years and were employed in private jobs. According to police, Devanandini was found hanging in her bedroom on June 7 after her husband returned home and discovered her body. Initially, the police started investi-

gating other angles, including work stress or marital issues and financial problems. However, preliminary examination of her mobile phone revealed that she had allegedly borrowed money through a loan app and was being repeatedly contacted by recovery agents

over delayed repayments. On the other hand, the victim's father, Venkata Reddy, has alleged that the circumstances surrounding her death warrant a thorough investigation and urged police to also examine whether her husband had any role in the incident.

## Nizamabad farmers protest against app-based urea booking system



Nizamabad: After Kamareddy ryots, now Nizamabad farmers are demanding the Congress government to abolish the app-based urea booking system, citing technical challenges in using the app. On Monday, several farmers in Yellareddy constituency had demanded the government to abolish the system. Similarly on Tuesday, their counterparts from Armoor mandal staged a rasta roko on National Highway 63 at Ankapur. Raising slogans

against the government, the farmers wanted the manual system to be reintroduced. They said many were unable to book the bags in the app due to digital illiteracy and challenges in handling smart phones, besides mobile network issues. Due to farmers' protest, traffic on the Nizamabad-Armoor was affected. After learning about the protest, police rushed to the location and convinced the farmers to give up their agitation.

## Passport applicant cheated by gang in Hyderabad; Four arrested

Hyderabad: A gang allegedly cheating passport applicants by promising to clear pending passport applications within a day has been arrested by the Malkajgiri Special Operations Team (SOT) and Monda Market Police. The suspects were identified as Shivaratri Siddulu, T Venkatesh, V Ashwin Kumar, all residents of Addagutta, and P Deepak of Alwal. According to police, the group operated near the Secunderabad Passport Office, targeting applicants and falsely claiming to have contacts with officials who could expedite pending applications. The case came to light after an applicant Shaheen Sultana, approached the passport office regarding a passport application filed for her grandson in June last year that was still pending. During this, Siddulu allegedly introduced himself as a passport broker and assured her that the issue would be resolved within a day.



He reportedly collected Rs 6,000 from her but failed to get the work done. When Sultana contacted him again on June 4, Siddulu allegedly demanded more money and threatened that the passport would not be issued if she refused to pay. Realising she had been cheated, she lodged a complaint with the Monda Market Police. Based on the complaint, Malkajgiri SOT nabbed the gang members and handed over to Monda Market Police, who are probing whether there are any other victims.

## Nepali couple allegedly burgled a businessman's house in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: A major burglary was reported, where gold ornaments weighing nearly 1 kg was allegedly stolen from the residence of a businessman in Gachibowli. According to information available, a Nepali couple employed as domestic helps at the house about a month ago is believed to be involved, which the police are now investigating. The businessman's family had recently travelled to Mumbai and returned on Monday, and found the couple was missing. Initially, family members assumed the workers had left without in-

forming them, as there were no signs of forced entry or broken locks. However, suspicion arose after a gold chain adorning an idol in the puja room was found missing. When their checked other places and almirah in the house, several other gold ornaments had been missing. Based on a complaint, the Gachibowli police booked a case and took up investigation. Officers are examining CCTV footage from the area and collecting other evidence. Meanwhile, special teams have been deployed to trace and nab the suspects and recover the stolen jewellery.

## Bachupally flyover opens, to ease traffic between Miyapur and Gandhi Maisamma

Hyderabad: The six-lane Bachupally flyover at Bachupally X Roads under Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) limits was thrown open for commuters on Monday. The Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) completed the construction of the flyover at Bachupally X Roads to facilitate smooth traffic movement between Miyapur X Road and Gandhi Maisamma. The project was designed to reduce congestion, minimise travel time, improve safety, and provide efficient connectivity in the rapidly developing IT corridor. The flyover is 1.30 km long and has 19 piers



and abutments. It also includes 1.30 km of two-lane slip roads. The project was completed at a cost of Rs 65.53 crore.

## CPI(M) leader slams Revanth's Hitler remark, says he mixed Marvel with history

New Delhi: Slamming Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy over his remarks involving Hitler, CPI(M) general secretary MA Baby on Monday said the Congress leader appears to "have mixed up Marvel Cinematic Universe storylines with history" and condemned the "veneration" displayed for the Nazi leader. Baby also accused the Congress government led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy of pursuing "bulldozer politics" in the state and further accused him of echoing "ideological fascinations of the Sangh Parivar". The CPI(M) leader was responding to remarks made by Reddy at a recent event in Bengaluru where, while explaining the naming of the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA), the chief minister said he had drawn inspiration from Adolf Hitler and referred to "Hydra" as Hitler's favourite word and the name of a team that could "assassinate anyone". "Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy appears to have mixed up Marvel Cinematic Universe storylines with history, but the veneration he displayed is unmistakable," Baby said. "By hailing Adolf Hitler and his genocidal death squads and gleefully revelling in the destruction unleashed by his own enforcement agency, he is undoubtedly echoing the ideological fascinations of the Sangh Parivar, with which he has a history," he added. Baby also criticised demolition drives carried out by HYDRAA, alleging that they disproportionately targeted the poor and marginalised and were being carried out without regard for legal procedures. "The demolitions carried out by the Congress government in Telangana under the garb of anti-encroachment



drives are disproportionately targeted at the poor and the marginalised, and are executed illegally without any regard for the law of the land," he said. He alleged that several eviction drives had been undertaken despite court orders directing maintenance of status quo and without advance notice being given to affected residents. Referring to opposition parties' criticism of demolition drives in BJP-ruled states, Baby asked how the Congress could justify the actions of the Telangana government. "When the secular democratic parties in the INDIA bloc are raising opposition to the bulldozer politics unleashed on hapless people by Yogi Adityanath and his ilk, how can the Congress rationally explain the words and actions of Revanth Reddy and his government? You owe an explanation to the people of India," he said. Reddy's remarks had sparked a controversy, with critics pointing out that he appeared to have confused historical references with the fictional HYDRA organisation featured in Marvel comics and films. The controversy has also brought renewed attention to HYDRAA's anti-encroachment drives in and around Hyderabad. The Telangana government has defended the agency's actions as necessary to remove encroachments on lakes, water bodies and government land.

## Fish prasadam distribution begins amid massive rush at Nampally Exhibition Grounds

Hyderabad: The annual distribution of the famous 'fish prasadam' for asthma patients, coinciding with Mrigasira Karthi, commenced at the Nampally Exhibition Grounds on Monday night. Administered by the



renowned Bathini family of Hyderabad, the two-day event drew thousands of people from various parts of the country seeking relief from respiratory ailments. This year, the auspicious 'muhurat' to start fish prasadam administration fell at 9 pm Monday, prompting the administration to deploy round-the-clock security and overnight civic amenities. A massive rush was witnessed as the 23-acre exhibition grounds quickly filled to over 80 per cent capacity. By Monday 2 pm, all queue lines were packed. Around 25,000 patients waited in designated queues across the grounds, while another 15,000 took shelter inside the permanent Numaish stall structures. The members of the Bathini family, who were manning the counters, administered the herbal formulation along with the live murrel fingerlings, which were supplied by the Fisheries Department. To reassure the massive gathering, the family put up banners at prominent locations stating that ample quantities of the formulation had been prepared. For smooth conduct of the annual event, the district administration undertook massive efforts. Extensive arrangements, including heavy police deployment, public address system in multiple languages, free drinking water and toilet facilities, were taken-up by multiple government departments. Horse-mounted police were deployed for

crowd control at the exhibition grounds to control the large crowd that had gathered. Rope parties were deployed at the queue lines to control the heavy rush. Several NGOs took the lead in catering to the patients and their attendants, serving free meals, fruits, biscuits, tea, and juices. A large number of organizations also displayed flex boards detailing the dietary guidelines patients must follow after taking the prasadam. Meanwhile, the local ragpickers turned enterprising vendors, capitalising on the rush by selling small plastic containers for Rs 10 each. Desperate patients eagerly snapped them up to secure their murrel fingerlings while waiting in the long queues. "For the first time, I came to Hyderabad for this purpose. I have been suffering from asthma for the past several years, though I have been medicated, but not cured. Through some Nepalis who are in the city, I came to know that asthma can be cured through fish prasadam," said Jagat Bahadur Sunar (75), who travelled from Nepal to Hyderabad to receive fish prasadam for asthma. A homemaker, Savitha, from Beed in Maharashtra came to Hyderabad with her relatives for the fish prasadam. She said, "For the first time, I came for fish prasadam. One of my relatives got some relief from asthma due to fish prasadam. I hope I will also be cured of asthma."

## Jason Momoa exits Sony Pictures' 'Helldivers'

Los Angeles: Hollywood star Jason Momoa has reportedly quit PlayStation Productions and Sony Pictures' upcoming film adaptation of the acclaimed video games "Helldivers". According to the entertainment news outlet Deadline, Sony Pictures is searching for another actor to take on Momoa's role in the film, based on Arrowhead Game Studios' video game franchise. There is no information on the reason for Momoa's exit. The film is directed by Justin Lin and is set



to release on November 10, 2027. The plot details are kept under wraps. The game released in 2015. As part of the elite unit called the Helldivers, players must work together to protect Super Earth and defeat the enemies in an intense intergalactic war. The sequel, "Helldivers 2", released in 2024 and sold over 12 million units across PlayStation 5 and PC after the launch. "Helldivers" is produced by Hutch Parker alongside PlayStation Productions' Asad Qizilbash and Lin under his banner Perfect Storm Entertainment. The film was announced in 2025.

## Kareena Kapoor calls Sonam Kapoor her 'veere' in sweet birthday wish

Mumbai: Kareena Kapoor Khan, on Tuesday, took to social media to share a warm birthday message for Sonam Kapoor. Calling her "veere" in an affectionate post, the 'Jab We Met' actress expressed her love and fondness for Sonam. Taking to her Instagram stories, Kareena posted a throwback monochrome picture of them and wrote, "Happy birthday Veere... Love you... have the bestest one @sonam kapoor." In the image, Kareena and Sonam dressed in stylish outfits could be seen posing together. Kareena and Sonam share a strong bond of friendship both on-screen and off-screen. The two actors have worked together in the film "Veere Di Wedding," which was directed by Shashanka Ghosh. Produced by Rhea Kapoor, Ekta Kapoor, and Nikhil Dwivedi, the film also stars Swara Bhaskar, Shikha Talsania, Sumeet Vyas, Vishwas Kini, Neena Gupta, and others. Notably, Sonam Kapoor has often said that she is a big fan of Kareena Kapoor, while Bebo has also guided and supported Sonam like a mentor. Their bond was also evident when they appeared together on talk shows like "Koffee with Karan." Sonam Kapoor turned 41 on June 9, and she received heartwarming birthday wishes from her family and close ones on social media. Her actor father, Anil Kapoor, penned a sweet note for his daughter stating that her smile lights



up every room and his whole heart. Sharing a series of images, Anil wrote, "Happy Birthday, Sonam. So much has been said about you, but none of it can truly capture just how precious, beautiful and deeply loved you are... Your smile lights up every room (and my whole heart), and your warmth touches everyone fortunate enough to know you."

"Not just on your special day, but every single day, I simply want to wish you all the happiness your heart can hold. May life, and everyone you hold close continue to shower you with love, laughter and countless beautiful moments – the kind of moments that make a life unbearably beautiful! Love you so much beta!" the doting father added.

## Kangana Speaks on Women's Objectification

Kangana Ranaut says women face objectification beyond the film industry during the Peddi controversy. The latest controversy on the movie, Peddi, has caused an extremely big debate about the way women have been portrayed in the film. Kangana Ranaut, an actress as well as a politician, has also shared her thoughts on this issue while promoting her upcoming movie as well. The statements she has given have become a major topic in Bollywood news. The controversy started when some viewers noticed how Janhvi Kapoor's character in the movie was presented in the whole movie. It was more like that the makers had made sure to focus on her appearance instead. This led to a big discussion of objectification of women in the Indian cinema. National Politics Updates When Kangana was questioned about this situation, she simply stated that such behavior is not only in the film industry, it is also filled in out whole country. She said that women in India usually face objectification in every single day of their life, no matter if they're traveling on local trains, buses etc. According to her, this issue is a bigger and wider social issue than just something that exists in films. According to Kangana's statements, she also said that if an actor feels uncomfortable with how their character is being portrayed in a movie, then they should express their concerns about it. Open communication between the actors and the filmmakers is really important and can also help in making such issues disappear.



## Harsh Varrdhan Kapoor shares why he has not been seen much on screen

Mumbai: Actor Harsh Varrdhan Kapoor has clarified that he has not taken a break from acting and is actively working on a new film. Responding to a fan's query on X, he shared that he has been deeply involved in the project for the past few years, which he is also producing. Harsh also explained that his films often take longer due to their unique and unconventional nature. He added that his upcoming project is shaping up to be his most special work yet. Tagging the actor, the fan shared a poster of Harsh's film 'Bhavesh Joshi' and tweeted, "@Harsh Kapoor\_ I've been wondering why you've stepped back from acting. You're genuinely a talented actor even if the films didn't become big blockbusters, your performances were widely praised. Why stop now? Keep hustling, bhai. And if you ever need a role model, you don't have." In his reply, Anil Kapoor's son said, "I haven't stepped back at all been working on a new one since the day that released it took 5 years to get that made .. it took many years for vikram to make bhavesh and its taken me 2-3 years now to finish this film ok working on which I finish filming on June 30 th.. I'm also pro-



ducing it .. I guess people are used to actors doing multiple films a year .. if you want films like bhavesh and thar and Ak vs Ak/ Ray it's not gonna happen once or twice a year that's just the reality .. but thank you and the new film is the best one yet 100 percent its extremely unique." For the unversed, Harsh Varrdhan Kapoor began his acting career with the romantic drama "Mirzya," which released in 2016. He then appeared in action-oriented films, including "Bhavesh Joshi Superhero" and "Thar." He also appeared in one of the episodes of the Netflix anthology series "Ray."

## Shilpa Shinde indirectly asks Hina Khan to support Khan Sir instead of writing lengthy English notes against her

Mumbai: The war of words between television stars Shilpa Shinde and Hina Khan appears far from over. In a latest video shared on social media, Shilpa was seen taking an indirect dig at Hina's recent statements and lengthy social media notes against her. She was seen urging the actress to instead use her influence to support educator



Khan Sir amid the controversy surrounding him. Beginning the video with a sarcastic reference to her own English-speaking abilities and Hina's long English notes, Shilpa said she preferred speaking directly rather than posting long messages online. "Hi guys, main Shilpa Shinde hoon aur main phir se wapas aa gayi hoon. Haan, meri English itni achhi nahi hai. Waise bhi itni achhi English ka kya fayda, mujhe nahi pata. Sorry. Mujhe itni lambi-lambi English mein likh kar post karna nahi aata. Isse behtar hai ki main saamne aa jaaun." (Hi guys, I am Shilpa Shinde and I am back once again. Yes, my English isn't very good. Anyway, I don't know what the use of such great English is. Sorry. I don't know how to write long posts in English. It's better that I come forward and speak directly) The actress then shifted focus to Khan Sir and appealed to Hina to stand up for him instead of targeting her. Shilpa said, "Main yeh kehne aayi hoon ki mujhe insaaf milne ke baad bhi chalega. Jo jo mujhe saza dilwana chahte hain aur jo producer se insaaf maang rahe hain, unse main kehna chahti hoon ki free mein kuch kharch nahi hoga. Ab waqt aa gaya hai ki sahi insaan ke liye lada jaaye. Khan Sir ke liye." (I want to say that I can wait for justice for myself. To those who want me punished and those seeking justice from the producer, I want to say that it won't cost anything to speak up. The time has come to fight for the right person — Khan Sir) Backing Khan Sir, Shilpa further added that his work and contribution had earned him the support of people across the country. "Aaiye, main bhi aapke saath hoon. Pehle unhe insaaf dilaiye, uske baad mujhe saza dijiye. Unhe mera saalam. Unka kaam hi aisa hai ki uspar koi sawaal nahi uthta. Puri duniya unke saath khadi hai. Main bhi unke saath hoon. Aap

bhi unke saath khade ho jaiye." (Come forward, I am with you too. First get justice for him and then punish me if you want. My salutations to him. His work speaks for itself and cannot be questioned. The whole world is standing with him. I am standing with him too. You should stand with him as well) Continuing her appeal, the actress urged Hina to raise her voice for Khan Sir, claiming that her support could bring greater attention to the issue. "Aap bolenge toh kitna asar padega. Saara media aapko cover karega. Hai na? Aaiye, aaiye. Aur mere liye jo do shabd bole gaye hain, chahe woh toote-phoote hi kyon na ho, iss baar aap unke liye zaroor boliyega. Aaiye. Mujhe pata hai aap unke liye insaaf ki maang zaroor karengi. Aur iss baar main bhi aapke saath hoon.

Uske baad aap mujhe saza de dena. Main aisi nahi hoon. Aaiye." (If you speak up, it will make a difference. The entire media will cover it, right? Come forward. And for the few words that were spoken against me, however broken they may have been, this time please speak for him. I know you will definitely appeal for justice for him. This time I am with you too. After that, you can punish me if you want. I am not that kind of person. Come forward) The latest video of Shilpa, comes a few days after Hina Khan urged her followers not to indulge in trolling or personal attacks while supporting her. Talking about the latest remarks come amid the controversy surrounding educator Khan Sir, who has found himself at the centre of a political and legal storm following a violent incident outside his coaching institute in Patna. Politics Recently, an FIR was registered in connection with a firing and vandalism case near the institute, with Khan Sir's name also figuring in the investigation.

## Karimnagar cricketer selected for TG 20 tournament

Karimnagar: A youngster from the district, Yellala Vidhyananda Reddy, has been selected for the TG 20 cricket tournament. He has been selected to represent the Khammam team. The Khammam team management signed him for Rs 1.7 lakh. A native of Paruvelli village in Ganneruvaram mandal, Vidhyananda Reddy is currently undergoing cricket coaching in Hyderabad. People from the village expressed happiness over his selection for the TG 20 tournament.



## Women's T20 World Cup 2026: Bharti Fulmalli, Shreyanka Patil shine as India beat West Indies by 26 runs in warm-up clash

Cardiff: An unbeaten half-century from Bharti Fulmalli and a dominant display from spinners Radha Yadav and Shreyanka Patil powered India to a convincing 26-run victory over the West Indies in their opening warm-up match of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 in Cardiff on Monday. Carrying the momentum from their historic ODI World Cup victory earlier this year, a clinical performance saw the Women in Blue launch their T20 World Cup preparations on a high note. India posted a commanding 179 for 8 before restricting the West Indies to 153 for 8. Fulmalli anchored the innings with a stellar, unbeaten 56 off 40 deliveries, while Shreyanka and Radha dismantled the Caribbean run chase by sharing seven wickets between them. Invited to bat, India's openers Smriti Mandhana and Shafali Verma forged a rapid 59-run partnership. Mandhana led the charge with a 29-ball 39, smashing eight boundaries after exploiting a wayward, rhythm-less opening spell from the West Indian pacers. Despite losing Mandhana, India raced to a formidable 70 for 1 by the end of the Powerplay.

However, a slight middle-order wobble saw India lose three wickets in quick succession, forcing Fulmalli and Yastika Bhatia to consolidate with a solid 60-run stand for the fifth wicket. Bhatia, looking in good touch, eventually retired out after scoring 26 off 21 balls to allow the lower order some game time. The strategy briefly stalled momentum as Richa Ghosh and Radha Yadav fell within the space of the same over. Nevertheless, Fulmalli took charge in the death overs, smashing six boundaries and a six to guide India to a strong total. Leg-spinner



Afy Fletcher was the lone shining light for a lackluster West Indies attack, returning exceptional figures of 4 for 23 from her four overs. In reply, West Indies' Deandra Dottin and Shemaine Campbelle offered stiff resistance early on. However, their 63-run partnership lacked urgency, yielding just 37 runs in the Powerplay and leaving them far behind the required run rate. The turning point arrived with the dismissal of Campbelle, which triggered a severe middle-order collapse. India's spinners quickly turned a steady start into a struggling 103 for 6. Shreyanka led the wreckage with brilliant figures of 4 for 36, while Radha extracted sharp turn to claim an equally impressive 3 for 25. Dottin threatened to keep the chase alive with a gritty 49 off 41 balls, but fell agonizingly close to her half-century. Late cameos from Aliyah Alleyne and Shawnisha Hector gave the scoreline a respectable look, but the Caribbean side never truly threatened India's total.

### Brief Scores:

India Women: 179/8 in 20 overs (Bharti Fulmalli 56\*, Smriti Mandhana 39; Afy Fletcher 4/23, Aliyah Alleyne 1/17)

West Indies Women: 153/8 in 20 overs (Deandra Dottin 49, Shemaine Campbelle 25; Shreyanka Patil 4/36, Radha Yadav 3/25)

Result: India Women won by 26 runs.

## India vs Afghanistan: Sitanshu Kotak credits BCCI domestic pipeline after Manav Suthar's dream 7-wicket Test debut



New Chandigarh: India batting coach Sitanshu Kotak hailed debutant Manav Suthar's outstanding performance against Afghanistan, saying the left-arm spinner's rise was a reflection of the robust domestic and developmental structure in Indian cricket. Suthar made a dream international debut, taking 7 for 62 to claim the Player of the Match award as India crushed Afghanistan by an innings and 300 runs in the one-off Test at New Chandigarh on Monday. The 22-year-old spinner played a pivotal role in India's clinical victory. He helped bundle Afghanistan out for a paltry 152 in the first innings and triggered another collapse after the visitors were asked to follow on. He also chipped in with useful runs lower down the order, impressing the team management with his all-round capabilities.

Reflecting on Suthar's stellar performance, Kotak noted that the youngster's success came from years of systematic development. "He has been playing for two or three years—India A, India Emerging, and all. It was a great opportunity for him. He bowled really well and also batted effectively, which is very satisfying," Kotak added. "The structure of the BCCI is such that players move from age-group cricket to the Ranji Trophy, then to the Emerging team, onto India A, and eventually to the national side. The IPL also provides great exposure for all these players."

India amassed a mammoth first-innings total before bowling Afghanistan out cheaply. Despite the searing heat, India opted to enforce the follow-on, a choice Kotak explained was part of preparing the bowling unit for tougher future challenges. "If they had batted until the second session, then maybe we would have batted again. But since we scored so many runs and they got out for 152, everyone thought that if they got out before lunch, we should enforce

the follow-on and bowl again." He continued, "There will be times when we have to bowl 100 or 120 overs in one innings or across two innings. It's not just about practicing batting; we also need to work on bowling longer spells of spin." While Suthar stole the spotlight on debut, Washington Sundar also delivered a significant all-round performance, scoring a resilient half-century in the first innings and registering figures of 4 for 36 in the second. Kotak praised Sundar's maturity and versatility, noting how his time through the ranks has molded him into a reliable asset. "Usually, he bats at seven or eight. In the previous Test, due to the pitch conditions and strategic left-right batting combinations, he batted higher up. But he has been part of the system since India A. He was part of the first series I did in 2019. He is exceptionally mature." "In red-ball cricket, he contributes with both bat and ball. He is a highly useful player with the right temperament. Whether he gets the opportunity to bowl or bat, his work ethic and behavior stay consistent."

"There are players who feel disappointed [at times]. But if you keep working hard for six, seven, or eight years and continue to mature, I believe you will perform," Kotak stated. Although the one-off Test does not count toward the World Test Championship (WTC) standings, Kotak viewed it as a crucial stepping stone to address the red-ball issues encountered during their previous tour of South Africa. "We discussed that the IPL just finished, and the challenge was to quickly switch back to red-ball cricket within four or five practice sessions. We talked about certain areas, especially the batting unit, during our camp in Guwahati, and revisited those topics." "In England, our batters did really well against fast bowlers. In the South Africa series, we could have performed better against spin. Many people say our batters struggle against spin; I don't agree with that," Kotak concluded.

## Arun Thapa cancels out Susheel's early opener for JJ Nagar Club before Super



Hyderabad: Super Strikers scored a hard-fought 6-5 win via tie-breaker against JJ Nagar Club in the Bolarum Challenge Cup football tournament at Bolarum here on Monday. It was JJNC which took the lead through Susheel in the 9th min and later Super Strikers equalis

ed in 23rd min through Arun Thapa. Venu, Yash, Sunny, Arun and L. Yash were the scorers for the winners while Arvind, Susheel, Akshay and Nickson were on target for the losers in the shoot-out after the teams failed to break the deadlock in full-time.

## Manav Suthar reflects on dream Test debut against Afghanistan

Hyderabad: The 23-year-old Manav Suthar made a dream Test debut, returning figures of 6/33 against Afghanistan in New Chandigarh. Speaking on JioStar's 'Cricket Live', Suthar opened up about his emotions after receiving his debut cap, his bowling plans on the New Chandigarh surface, and the challenge of switching from white-ball to red-ball cricket in such a short span of time. "Gautam sir and the skipper informed me that I would be making my debut. It was a very proud moment because, ever since I started playing, it had been my dream, my father's dream, and everyone's dream for me to play Test cricket for India," Suthar said. "From the very first day I started playing and as I progressed through the ranks, red-ball cricket meant everything to me. It is the pinnacle of the sport. So, whether I was playing U-19 cricket or the Ranji Trophy, the goal was always to play Test cricket for India. Kuldeep bhai's speech while presenting me with the cap was very motivating. Everyone encouraged and motivated me a lot, so it felt really special," he explained. On the conditions in New Chandigarh and his approach, Suthar said: "When they were bowling, a few deliveries were turning. When I was batting, the odd ball was holding up. So, I felt there might be some assistance for the spinners on that track." "As soon as I bowled my first over, the ball was turning, so I tried to bowl my stock ball as much as possible on that wicket. Obviously, I didn't want to get carried away, but my focus was on consistently putting the ball in the right area," he said. "Since the beginning, I have focused on spot-bowling, and whatever consistency I have today is because of that. My favourite wicket was obviously the first one, my debut wicket. It will always remain my favourite. There was a good battle going on, so my focus was simply to keep bowling consistently in the same area," Suthar said. On the short turnaround between the TATA IPL and the Test match, the left-arm spinner said: "When my name came up in the team, I was practising with the red ball during the IPL as well, thinking about how I would approach things if given the opportunity." "After coming here, I had three or four long practice sessions. With bowling, it's not really about how many hours you put in. If you enjoy bowling, you can bowl 20-25 overs without even realising it. So, the key is to keep bowling as much as you can," Suthar said.



## Dasoju Sravan alleges Congress targeting Balka Suman

Hyderabad: BRS MLC Dasoju Sravan alleged that the Congress government was targeting former MP and Mancherial BRS district president Balka Suman with fabricated cases for exposing a Rs 15,000-crore scam in Singareni Collieries Company Limited. He said the government had invoked serious non-bailable charges against Suman as part of a deliberate attempt to suppress dissent. BRS leaders led by Sravan met Balka Suman in Chanchalguda Jail on Tuesday, extending solidarity to the former legislator and assuring him of the party's legal and political support. They said that despite his incarceration, Suman remained resolute and committed to continuing public struggles. Speaking on the occasion, Sravan launched a broadside against Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, accusing the government of misusing law enforcement agencies against opposition leaders while ignoring complaints against Congress leaders. He questioned the selective application of laws and stated that critics of the government were being targeted through criminal cases. The BRS MLC demanded a judicial inquiry into alleged irregularities in Singareni, including the disappearance of 40 lakh tonnes of coal,



the Naini coal block issue, overburdened excavation contracts and procurement practices. He also alleged large-scale corruption in diesel, gelatin stick and mining-related contracts. Sravan accused the government of neglecting workers' interests, stating that no fresh medical board-based compassionate appointments had been made in Singareni since the Congress assumed office. He also criticised attempts to deprive workers of land-related benefits previously extended under the BRS regime. Calling Singareni a vital public asset, Sravan urged the Centre and the State government to protect the coal major and conduct a comprehensive probe into the allegations raised by his party. He asserted that the arrest of Balka Suman would not deter the BRS from pursuing what it described as a fight against corruption in Singareni.

## Three of family from Hyderabad drown in Godavari near Basar

Nirmal: Three persons from a family in Hyderabad drowned in the Godavari river while taking a dip near Basar on Tuesday. Police said that Chandrashekhar (38), Ramchandar (36) and Mallesh Kumar, all members of a family from Chappal Bazar in Kachiguda, drowned while attempting to rescue one another. They are suspected to have been washed away by the strong current. Police launched a search opera-

tion to trace the bodies of the three by deploying personnel of the State Disaster Response Force. The trio were on a pilgrimage to Basar and were taking a holy dip when the mishap took place. The police informed the parents and family members of the three about the tragic incident over mobile phones. Family members of the victims were on their way to Basar. Further details are awaited.

## 31-year-old labourer dies after falling from moving train at Secunderabad Railway Station

Hyderabad: A 31-year-old labourer from Jharkhand died after falling while attempting to board the moving Jaipur Express at Platform No 8 of Secunderabad Railway Station on Monday night. The victim, identified as Mohd Azad Ansari, had slipped and fallen from Train No 12720 around 10 pm. He suffered multiple griev-

ous injuries and died on the spot. The Government Railway Police are investigating. Preliminary findings indicate the death was accidental. The deceased was identified through an Aadhaar card found with him, and his family has been informed, police said.

## Congress taking credit for BRS projects, alleges KP Vivekananda

Hyderabad: BRS Legislature Party Whip and KP Vivekananda said the newly opened Bachupally flyover was a result of the previous BRS government's efforts. He accused the Congress government of merely inaugurating projects initiated during the BRS regime and taking credit for them. After inspecting the flyover at CMC Nizampet Circle on Tuesday, Vivekananda said the project was executed under plans conceived and launched by the erstwhile BRS government. He alleged that the Congress government had not initiated any major new infrastructure project during its tenure and was instead taking credit for works that were already underway or completed.



The BRS leader said repeated pressure from his party, including raising the issue in the Assembly, had helped expedite the completion and opening of the flyover. He also criticised Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy for inaugurating the project virtually from Miyapur, calling it an insult to the people of Quthbullapur. Vivekananda stated that the government had only renamed projects

executed under the Strategic Nala Development Programme (SNDP) and Strategic Road Development Programme (SRDP), while neglecting Hyderabad's existing infrastructure needs. He cited delays in the Suchitra-Kompally flyover project and accused the government of focusing on proposed future developments while overlooking current urban requirements.

## Cash shortage in rural Telangana banks hits farmers hard

Sangareddy: Due to a lack of cash availability in banks, several banks, particularly Telangana Grameena Bank (TGB) and branches of other banks that have a majority of farmers' accounts in rural parts of Telangana, have put a cap on cash withdrawals in most branches. While some banks have capped cash withdrawals at Rs 10,000 per day, some others are allowing customers to withdraw Rs 20,000 to Rs 25,000 in cash. However, there are no fresh restrictions on UPI payments or payments through net banking. However, not many farmers in rural parts of the State own smartphones. A good number of them cannot make payments through UPI and net banking even though they have smartphones. Illiterate farmers are struggling more than anyone else due to the lack of cash availability. The government has procured paddy so far, for which it has deposited money into the accounts of farmers, though a significant portion of the payments is still pending. Apart from paddy, farmers have also received payments into their bank accounts after selling jowar, maize, sunflower, cotton and other crops. As the southwest monsoon has already arrived in



Telangana, farmers are busy tilling their lands and purchasing seeds, fertilisers and pesticides. Speaking to Telangana Today, a farmer from Chegunta, B Shankar, said that they need cash in hand to make payments to labourers and for hiring tractors and bullocks. Even moneylenders who lent money to them before the beginning of the previous season are insisting on repayments in cash and are declining to accept online payments.

A bank employee in a branch in Siddipet district told Telangana Today, on condition of anonymity, that they were receiving just Rs 10 lakh in cash against a demand of Rs one crore per day, which reflects the prevailing situation. The cash flow has reportedly dried up due to a lack of deposits in banks and excessive withdrawals during the summer.

## Beyond Hormuz: A four-pillar strategy for India's energy security



New Delhi: The possibility of disruption in the Strait of Hormuz due to rising tensions in West Asia should not be viewed merely as an external crisis. It should be treated as a strategic warning. For decades, India has depended heavily on imported oil and gas moving through vulnerable maritime routes. Any prolonged disruption can affect transportation, agriculture, industry, inflation and overall economic stability. China recognised this vulnerability years ago and diversified its energy sources through renewable energy, electric mobility, strategic reserves, domestic production and alternative supply networks. India faces a similar challenge today but does not have the luxury of another decade to prepare. The answer lies not only in finding alternative suppliers but in fundamentally reimagining India's energy ecosystem. India's greatest overlooked energy resource is not hidden underground. It is visible in every village, town and city. Mountains of municipal waste, agricultural residue, animal waste, food waste and organic matter continue to accumulate daily. Much of it is burnt, dumped or left untreated, creating pollution and environmental damage. This waste should be treated as a strategic national resource. India needs a National Waste to Energy Mission operating from Panchayats to the national level. The objective should be simple: every kilogram of waste should generate energy, fertiliser or revenue. India's waste challenge can become India's energy opportunity. The biggest mistake would be to assume that waste to energy can only be achieved through large industrial projects. India requires a multi-layer model. At the village level, cattle waste, agricultural residue and household organic waste can be converted into biogas through community plants. Panchayats should become local energy producers.

At the district level, clusters of vil-

lages can operate bio methane and compressed biogas units supplying fuel for transport and local industries. At the city level, municipal corporations should establish integrated waste processing facilities producing electricity, gas and recyclable materials. At the national level, large waste processing parks should be developed with industry participation. Such a decentralised approach creates thousands of energy generation points rather than dependence on a few large facilities. India's biggest strength is not its resources but its talent. The Government should launch a National Waste Innovation Challenge involving IITs, NITs, universities, engineering colleges, schools and start-ups. Every year, thousands of students develop innovative projects that rarely move beyond laboratories.

This talent should be directed towards solving the waste challenge. Special awards, incubation grants and commercialisation support should be provided for innovations in waste collection, segregation, transportation, methane capture, recycling and waste-based electricity generation. Students should compete to create the world's most efficient and affordable waste to energy technologies. A mission comparable to India's space and digital revolutions can unleash extraordinary creativity while promoting indigenous solutions. India should become a global leader in applying artificial intelligence to waste management. AI can identify waste generation patterns, optimise collection routes, reduce transportation costs and improve segregation efficiency. Smart bins, sensor-based systems and predictive management models can significantly improve productivity. Municipalities can use AI platforms to determine where waste is generated, what type of waste is produced and which conversion technology is most suitable.

# From Uri to Operation Sindoor: Security doctrine that shaped Modi's record-breaking tenure

New Delhi: On June 10, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who first took oath of office on May 26, 2014, will complete 4,399 consecutive days in office, surpassing India's first PM Jawaharlal Nehru's record of 4,398 days and becoming the country's longest-serving elected Prime Minister. Some of the toughest decisions among several changes in terms of policy taken by the Modi government were in the realm of national security. Under its watch, home-grown terror groups such as the Indian Mujahideen were dismantled. With the threat from homegrown terror largely eliminated, the focus shifted to Jammu and Kashmir. During the initial days in office, PM Modi held a series of meetings with top national security officials and emphasised giving security forces operational freedom. The initial focus was on separatists and the Jammu and Kashmir-based terror group Hizbul Mujahideen. As part of the crackdown on separatists in J&K, the agencies traced financial networks and found that funds had been flowing for years through Pakistan-backed channels. Investigators found that while 20 to 30 per cent of the money was used to fuel violence in Kashmir, the rest of the amount had allegedly gone into their pockets.

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Enforcement Directorate (ED) exposed financial networks that revealed a significant portion of the funds was being used to support the separatists' lavish lifestyles. The probe proved crucial

and, as funding channels dried up, separatism in J&K died a gradual death. At the same time, Indian security forces drew up lists of top terrorist commanders. Burhan Wani had emerged as a poster boy for terrorism, and under his influence, the Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) stepped up recruitment. His death in an encounter triggered a series of operations that led to the elimination of several top terrorist commanders, leaving the outfit largely dysfunctional. While going on the offensive against terrorists and separatists, the Modi government also undertook several programmes to reach out to the people.

Another key milestone was the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, which brought Jammu and Kashmir fully under the ambit of the Indian Constitution. Following the move, central laws, including criminal laws applicable across the rest of India, were extended to the Union Territory. While the decision initially triggered protests, the gradual weakening of terror networks helped improve the security situation over time. This, in turn, boosted tourism and provided much-needed economic relief to the people, who had long borne the brunt of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism. On September 18, 2016, four heavily armed terrorists attacked an Army brigade headquarters in J&K's Uri, killing 19 soldiers. The Modi government responded swiftly. Within 11 days, on September 29, teams from the Indian Army's Para (Special Forces) crossed the Line of Control



(LoC) into Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and targeted multiple terror launch pads. Seven launch pads were destroyed, and around 40 terrorists were killed in the operation, which came to be known as the Uri Surgical Strikes. Another major challenge confronted the Modi government when a Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) suicide bomber carried out an attack in Pulwama on February 14, 2019, leading to the martyrdom of 40 CRPF personnel. The audacious attack shocked the nation and triggered widespread outrage. The government responded firmly by authorising an aerial strike on a Jaish training facility in Balakot, destroying the camp in the operation.

"The Modi government's actions have been decisive. But the government also took care to ensure that such actions do not escalate into a full-blown war with Pakistan," an official said. As tourism began to boom in the Valley, Pakistan tested India's patience again on April 22, 2025. Heavily armed terrorists of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) / The Resistance Front stormed the Baisaran Valley meadow in Pahalgam and killed 26 innocent tourists from different parts of the country. Each of these men was killed in front of their family members. What made the attack even more horrific was that, before shooting the tourists at point-blank range, the terrorists asked them about their religious identity. An Intelligence Bureau official said the situa-

tion was extremely tense in the aftermath of the Pahalgam attack. Public anger was running high, raising concerns about possible communal unrest in several parts of the country. The Prime Minister was under considerable pressure to respond, but officials felt that any action had to be carefully planned, decisive and capable of imposing a high cost on Pakistan.

The first indication that a major response was being prepared came when India announced a shift in its doctrine. The government declared that any future terror attack sponsored by Pakistan would no longer be viewed merely as cross-border terrorism, but as an act of war against India. On the night of May 7-9, 2025, the Indian armed forces launched Operation Sindoor. Using precision-guided missiles, they struck and destroyed nine terror training facilities located in Pakistan and PoK. Among the groups hit hardest were JeM and LeT. The Jaish headquarters in Bahawalpur, which investigators have linked to the planning of the Pulwama attack and several other terror strikes against India, was reduced to rubble. The next big hit was at Muridke, which houses the primary training facility of the Lashkar. This facility, where terrorists who undertook the Mumbai 26/11 attacks were destroyed. An official said that while the Modi government has taken several tough decisions to ensure that Jammu and Kashmir remains prosperous and peaceful, Operation Sindoor changed India's security doctrine. He was under a lot of pressure but displayed immense patience to ensure that the action had to be decisive and should convey a strong message, not just to Pakistan but to the rest of the world, that India would not take things lying down. "Operation Sindoor not just inflicted damage on Pakistan's terror infrastructure, but also called out Pakistan's nuclear bluff," the official said.

## Opposition slams cut in Ujjwala LPG subsidy refills, calls it 'andhkaar scheme'

New Delhi: Opposition leaders on Tuesday criticised the government's decision to reduce the number of subsidised LPG cylinder refills available under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) from nine per year to four, with some quipping that it should now be renamed the "Andhkaar Scheme". Talking to IANS, Congress leader Sandeep Dikshit said the decision reflected the government's failure to sustain welfare support for citizens. "What this means is that PM Modi first took over Congress-era schemes, under which we used to provide almost unlimited subsidies. Later, the number was reduced to around eight or nine cylinders, and then it was rebranded as the Ujjwala scheme. Now, however, this scheme should be called the 'Andhkaar Scheme'," he said. Dikshit argued that the government could have continued providing subsidies on at least six to nine cylinders annually. "The government often claims that the work done in the last 12 years surpasses what was achieved in 70 years. If previous governments could provide a 100 per cent subsidy on gas, how has it now been reduced to just three or four cylinders? This suggests that the economy has deteriorated rather than improved," he remarked. He further alleged that subsidies across several sectors had been reduced or withdrawn. "The subsidy has not only been reduced on LPG cylinders but also on petrol and diesel. Subsidies on fertilisers and irrigation have also been curtailed. Even road construction, which was once funded through public resources, now involves various charges. If you buy a car, you pay road tax. When you go to a cinema hall, you pay multiple taxes. Such measures are



seen when a government is facing financial distress, and the reality of this government's economic condition will become evident very soon," he added. RJD MP Manoj Kumar Jha also criticised the decision, saying: "Earlier, people received subsidies on 12 cylinders, which was later reduced to nine, and now it has come down to just four. This government has failed on multiple fronts. Why do people elect a government if it cannot fulfil its responsibilities?" He further accused the media of ignoring the difficulties faced by ordinary citizens. "The media ecosystem may continue praising the government, but it overlooks the hardships being faced by the middle class and lower-income groups. They should step out and assess the ground reality instead of merely discussing 'Mann Ki Baat.' There should be genuine two-way communication with the people to understand their condition," Jha said. The decision comes at a time when the cost of supplying domestic liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) has risen sharply. The cost of providing a single domestic LPG cylinder has reportedly crossed Rs 1,600, while oil marketing companies are currently incurring losses of around Rs 700 on every cylinder sold.

## Indians travel abroad with greater confidence, stronger sense of pride: Jaishankar on 12 years of Modi govt

New Delhi: Hailing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar said on Tuesday that the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and India's foreign policy have undergone a transformation in the past 12 years and highlighted the initiatives introduced by the government. EAM Jaishankar stated that passport issuance and attestation of documents have become a seamless experience for people, and the MEA has provided full support to Indians living abroad through Embassies and increased use of the Indian Community Welfare Fund. He mentioned that digital platforms for grievance redressal and feedback have been set up. The EAM noted that India has effectively responded to crisis situations in the world, including the evacuation of Indians from conflict-hit Ukraine, Afghanistan, Sudan and Israel. According to the External Affairs Minister, the MEA has facilitated Indians accessing the global workplace and mentioned that 21 mobility partnerships have been made to date. He stated that Indian businesses have been supported in getting market access abroad and enhancing exports. In the statement posted on X, EAM Jaishankar stated, "Enabled entry of Indian products and services into new markets through development projects. Instituted welfare measures for Indian students abroad. Promoted Indian culture and enhanced appreciation of our heritage and traditions in other nations." "Opened 44 Embassies and Consulates to address the needs of Indians living and going abroad. Indian diplomacy works 24/7 for the nation. Indians travel



abroad today with greater confidence and a stronger sense of pride," he added. "Indian diplomacy works 24/7 for the nation. Indians travel abroad today with greater confidence and a stronger sense of pride," EAM Jaishankar added. PM Modi is set to complete 12 years at the helm of the Union government on June 10. From his first swearing-in ceremony in 2014 to securing successive mandates in 2019 and a historic third consecutive term in 2024, PM Modi has emerged as one of India's longest-serving leaders. On June 10, PM Modi will surpass independent India's first PM, Jawaharlal Nehru, to become India's longest-serving continuously elected Prime Minister with 4,399 days. Nehru was first elected to the post in 1952 (his previous stint from 1947-52 was as head of an interim government, as elections were yet to be institutionalised and held). Indira Gandhi had a fractured tenure totalling 14 years. PM Modi has an unbroken tenure of 12 years as the PM, and still has three more years to go for the current tenure.