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## Revanth Wants Taskforce to Create Six Global Cities in India

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday urged the Centre to establish an "M6 Cities Taskforce" to transform India's six metropolitan cities — Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru — into globally-competitive urban centres.

Addressing the governing council meeting of Niti Aayog, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in Delhi, Revanth Reddy said these six cities housed nearly 10 per cent of India's population and contributed almost one-fourth of the nation's GDP, yet continued to lag behind leading global cities.

He proposed a national task force empowered to act swiftly and sought an investment of `1 lakh crore for each metropolis, describing it as an investment in infrastructure that would generate jobs, revenues and economic growth.

The Chief Minister also sought the Centre's support for eight major projects in Telangana, which include the Regional Ring Road, a 12-lane expressway linking Bharat Future City with Machilipatnam Port, Hyderabad Metro Rail Phase-II, Musi River rejuvenation, recognition and funding for the 30,000-acre Bharat Future City project, assistance for the Palamuru-Rangareddy lift irrigation scheme, support under the India Semiconductor Mission, including APMP and OSAT facilities and a Micro-LED fabrication unit, and establishment of an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in



Hyderabad.

Revanth Reddy presented a report titled "Inclusive Human Development - For Viksit Bharat @2047", outlining Telangana's strategy for inclusive growth through education, skill development and a knowledge-driven economy.

The report drew on findings of the SEEPSC survey, which covered 3.55 crore people across 242 castes and nearly 97 per cent of households, revealing significant educational disparities among social groups and underscoring the need for education-led social transformation.

The report identified key shortcomings in the existing education system, including declining public confidence in government schools, lack of English-medium education, inadequate transport facilities, absence of pre-primary education and limited digital learning opportunities. To address these challenges, the government is establishing Telangana Public Schools offering education from pre-primary to Class XII on a single campus with transport, meals, laboratories, libraries and digital learning facilities.

The government was also setting up one Young India Integrated Residential School in each of the state's 105 Assembly constituencies outside the capital at an estimated cost of `24,000 crore. Other initiatives include free electricity to over 26,000 educational institutions, strengthening of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, the Anna Akka Learning Initiative for AI and digital literacy, notification of over 11,000 teacher posts and formulation of a State Education Policy aligned with the National Education Policy 2020.

The report highlighted Telangana's focus on skill development through the Young India Skills University and the transformation of 65 ITIs into Advanced Technology Centres in partnership with Tata Technologies. Through TOMCOM, the state is also preparing youth for overseas employment opportunities. Revanth Reddy said Telangana aims to become a \$1-trillion economy by 2034 and achieve a \$3-trillion GSDP by 2047 through a development model built on urban, peri-urban and rural growth.

## India Must Focus On Its Priorities Despite West Asia Crisis: Niti Aayog

New Delhi: Niti Aayog vice-chairman Ashok Kumar Lahiri on Thursday said that India must continue focusing on human capital development and not allow the West Asia crisis to disrupt its long-term priorities. "The country can't be paralysed by external shocks," he told the media after the 11th Governing Council meeting of the NITI Aayog in New Delhi here. The vice chairman also said that during the meeting, energy security amid geopolitical uncertainty was discussed at length, but no chief minister sought specific assistance due to the West Asia crisis. "We can't change the wind, we can only trim the sails. India is playing its role during the West Asia crisis," Lahiri said.

"We are growing the fastest. We have to keep doing our homework,



which is the development of human capital. Because of the West Asia crisis, we can't be paralysed, we have to keep doing our work," he added. The theme of this year's Governing Council meeting, he said, was 'Inclusive Human Development for Viksit Bharat @2047', with discussions focused on educa-

tion and broader human development goals. "A well-educated population is key to success," he said.

During the briefing, Niti Aayog member Rajiv Gauba also said that the situation in West Asia remained a concern in the background of discussions, but no chief minister specifically sought support from the Centre

due to the geopolitical developments. "The West Asia situation is there on the back of everyone's mind. None of the chief ministers specifically asked for any assistance due to this situation. There was discussion on energy security and the need to expedite implementation of the schemes related to it," Gauba said.

## TN CM Vijay To Raise Key Issues At NITI Aayog Meeting

New Delhi: All eyes are now set on Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay, who will be delivering his maiden address at a national forum by speaking at the 11th Governing Council meeting of the NITI Aayog at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre. CM Vijay is likely to raise issues regarding central fund allocation and voice regional concerns at the NITI Aayog meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which commenced here on Thursday.

Vijay is also likely to demand the allocation of funds for key infrastructure projects. Earlier, upon his arrival at the Tamil Nadu House, he was received by Chief Secretary M Saikumar and Tamil Nadu Resident Commissioner R Jaya.

The NITI Aayog meeting will discuss measures to promote entrepreneurship, enhance skills, and create sustainable employment opportunities nationwide. Discussions will also focus on collectively charting an implementation roadmap that leverages key enablers, including governance, digital public infrastructure, and partnerships, while ensuring accountability and measurable impact. The theme of this year's



meeting is "Inclusive Human Development for Viksit Bharat @2047."

The meeting has brought together Chief Ministers and Lieutenant Governors from across the country to discuss the Inclusive Human Development Framework.

## Future City Gains Traction Among People

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's Future City project on the outskirts of Hyderabad has received a major expansion, with 37 more villages in Rangareddy district seeking merger with the project area, taking the number of villages associated with Future City to 93. The development comes in addition to the 56 villages that were included in the project under an earlier government notification.

The state government had asked gram panchayats to pass resolutions seeking merger with Future City and submit them to the government for approval. Responding swiftly to public

demand, Revanth Reddy approved the inclusion of the additional villages after local representatives and residents sought their merger with the Future City Development Authority (FCDA) limits.

The decision was taken on Wednesday after the Chief Minister inaugurated the FCDA headquarters at Mirakhanpet in Kandukur mandal. The eco-friendly office complex, constructed for `20 crore, is equipped with solar power facilities and bio-sewage treatment plants. Following the inauguration, the Chief Minister held discussions with ministers and later attended a public meeting.



During the meeting, locals displayed placards demanding that their villages be brought under the Future City project. Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, while addressing the

gathering, also urged the Chief Minister to consider the request and announce the merger in the Legislative Assembly. Reacting immediately, Revanth Reddy signed the petitions submitted by

the villagers and directed officials to include the respective villages in Future City.

With the latest expansion, 28 villages in Maheshwaram mandal

and nine villages in Kandukur mandal will become part of the project. The move was welcomed by local public representatives and residents, who expressed happiness over the Chief Minister's prompt response to their demands.

The state government had earlier issued a gazette notification for the merger of 56 village panchayats from Kandukur, Maheshwaram, Ibrahimpatnam, Manchala, Yacharam and Kadtal mandals into the FCDA limits. Subsequently, public representatives from Kandukur and Maheshwaram mandals in

Maheshwaram Assembly constituency passed resolutions seeking the inclusion of additional villages.

The villages proposed from Kandukur mandal include Nedunur, Bachupalli, Jaitwaram, Pulimamidi, Dhannaram, Chippalapalli and Muralinagar. From Maheshwaram mandal, the villages are Pendmala, Subhanpur, Uppugadda Thanda, Thuprakurdu, Kolla Padkal, Mansanpally, Ramchandraguda, Gangaram and Enditanda. These resolutions were endorsed by local elected representatives and submitted to the government.

Friday 12, June, 2026

### VIZAG STEEL PLANT TRAGEDY — ADDRESS LOOPHOLES IN SAFETY STANDARDS

The death of nine workers at the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) due to the malfunction of a ladle carrying molten metal came as a grim reminder of the loopholes in the safety standards at India's first shore-based integrated public sector steel plant. The workers were engulfed in a torrent of liquid steel at 1,500–1,600 degrees Celsius following the explosion. It was a preventable tragedy. Experts suspect that inadequate maintenance of the plant could have led to the accident. The ladle must be periodically inspected before operation. There is a shortage of experienced people to run a critical unit like the Steel Melt Shop (SMS) where the tragedy occurred. Unfortunately, no lessons were learned from past mistakes. One feels a grim sense of déjà vu whenever an industrial mishap occurs. The patterns are disturbingly familiar. As are the responses that follow. Ex gratia is announced, a probe is ordered, and a few officials are suspended amid a political blame game. It's business as usual until the next tragedy strikes. Apart from the investigation initiated by Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), which runs the plant, the Union Steel Ministry has constituted a three-member external inquiry, headed by the Director-in-Charge, Bokaro Steel Plant, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), to conduct an independent inquiry. Monday's tragedy was not an isolated incident in the history of the steel plant, fully operational since 1992. It is the latest in a long record of preventable accidents.

The worst-ever mishap took place on June 14, 2012, when 19 workers, including some officers, were burnt alive in a massive explosion in the oxygen plant. In the immediate aftermath, trade union leaders made a damning allegation that routine maintenance at the plant had been neglected for more than 12 months. After every major accident at VSP, inquiry committees came to the same conclusion that 'no human error was involved' in the incidents. This raises serious questions about safety protocols. For the record, the VSP, with a capacity of 7.3 million tonnes per annum, conducts an external safety audit every year and internal inspections every three months through the plant's safety engineering department. There is a need for an independent probe as the inquiry committees led by officials from sister public sector undertakings — however competent the members may be — cannot substitute for a genuinely independent forensic investigation. It is also time to critically assess the operational efficiency of ageing equipment, as the plant has seen capacity expansions in 2015 and 2017. Rigorous life-cycle assessments of critical equipment — ladles, cranes, refractory linings, oxygen supply systems — must be conducted. While India is the second-largest steel producer globally, safety remains a critical concern. According to the Directorate General of Mines Safety, over 4,500 industrial accidents occur annually in India, with a significant share from the steel sector.

## This is why farmers in Telangana are disinclined to practise crop diversification

Farmers' organisations say monkey and wild animal attacks remain a major obstacle to crop diversification in Telangana. While commercial and horticultural crops offer opportunities, recurring crop damage and the high cost of solar fencing continue to push cultivators towards paddy cultivation. *Telangana Travel Guide*

Hyderabad: Even as the Congress government is stepping up efforts to promote crop diversification in Telangana, farmers' organisations say damage caused by monkeys and wild animals remains one of the major obstacles in shifting away from paddy cultivation.

Farmers continue to prefer paddy because of its relatively lower input costs, lesser labour, assured procurement, Minimum Support Price (MSP) and the bonus announced by the State government.

Cultivation of commercial, horticultural and vegetable crops presents several challenges. Among the biggest concerns is the threat posed by monkeys and wild animals.

Farmers growing groundnut, vegetables, fruits and other crops often suffer losses due to raids by monkeys, wild boars, peacocks and spotted deer, which damage standing crops, said Rythu Swarajya Vedika leader Kanneganti Ravi.

Some farmers have installed solar fencing to protect their fields and reported positive results. However, the high installation cost remains a deterrent. Setting up solar fencing costs around Rs.35,000 per acre, making it unaffordable for many farmers.



Rythu Swarajya Vedika and several NGOs approached companies to support farmers through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives.

As part of these efforts, around 10 to 15 farmers in Turkapally of Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district installed solar fencing with financial assistance.

"If the government is serious about crop diversification, it should help farmers install solar fencing through subsidies to protect their fields," Ravi said. He suggested that the government launch a pilot project in selected areas before expanding the initiative.

The financial burden is even greater for tenant farmers. Apart from cultivation expenses, they have to bear rising lease costs. According to the Tenant Farmers Recognition Struggle Committee, lease rates have increased sharply and have touched Rs.53,000 per acre in some cases. The average lease rate stands at Rs.14,936 per acre.

The report noted that shrinking returns have forced many small tenant farmers to lease larger extents of land to make farming economically viable.

Farmers also point out that unlike paddy, many commercial and horticultural crops are more vulnerable to heavy rainfall. Combined with crop damage caused by animals, these risks continue to push cultivators towards paddy.

Despite repeated complaints to gram panchayats and forest officials about the monkey menace and wild animal incursions, farmers say little action has been taken.

Forest officials charge between Rs.500 and Rs.1,000 to capture and relocate a monkey. However, many gram panchayats are unable to undertake such measures because of limited funds.

## India, US Exploring Possibility of Modi-Trump Meeting on Margins of G7 Summit in France

New Delhi: India and the US are learnt to be exploring the possibility of a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump on the margins of the G7 summit in France next week. There is no clarity yet on whether the two leaders will be able to meet as it will depend on many factors including the schedule of the two leaders, people familiar with the matter said. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has already announced that Modi will undertake a week-long visit to France and Slovakia beginning Saturday.

The G7 summit will be held in France's Evian town from June 15 to 17. The people cited above said both New Delhi and Washington are looking at the possibility of a short meeting between Modi and Trump. There is no clarity yet on it, they said. Following US Secretary of State Marco Rubio's visit to India last month, the two sides are now looking at rebuilding the bilateral ties. The relations witnessed a major downturn after Washington imposed punitive tariffs on India and President Donald Trump made controversial assertions regarding his role in de-escalating the India-Pakistan military clashes last May.

Rubio, during his meeting with the prime minister, invited him on behalf of President Trump to visit the White House in the "near future". The top American diplomat described India as the "cornerstone" of Washington's approach towards the



Indo-Pacific. PM Modi will first travel to the French port city of Nice for a bilateral meeting with President Emmanuel Macron on June 14. From Nice, Modi will then travel to Slovakia for a state visit during June 14-16.

The prime minister will return to France to attend the outreach sessions of the G7 summit from June 16-17. During the summit, he will exchange views with G7 leaders, and those from invited partner countries and international organisations, the MEA said. On the sidelines of the summit, PM Modi will also hold bilateral meetings with several world leaders, it said without elaborating. The prime minister's presence at the G7 reflects India's standing as a leading voice of the Global South and a key partner in addressing global challenges, the MEA said. In the final leg of the visit, Modi will visit Paris on June 18 for further bilateral engagements, and to attend the VivaTech Summit, Europe's largest technology and startup event.

## RAJNATH ON 2-DAY VISIT TO HYDERABAD

ON JUNE 13, SINGH WILL SERVE AS REVIEWING OFFICER FOR THE COMBINED GRADUATION PARADE OF THE 217TH COURSE AT THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY, DUNDIGAL.

Hyderabad: Union defence minister Rajnath Singh will visit Hyderabad on June 12 and 13. As part of the BJP's outreach to intellectuals, he is scheduled to attend an 'intellectual meet' in Secunderabad as chief guest. The interaction is aimed at expanding the party's engagement with the intelligentsia in Telangana.

On June 13, Singh will serve as reviewing officer for the Combined Graduation Parade of the 217th course at the Air Force Academy, Dundigal. The event marks the completion of pre-commissioning training for flight cadets of the Indian Air Force.

He will confer the President's Commission on graduating trainees and award 'Wings' and 'Brevets' to cadets and officers, including those from the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard.

Meanwhile, BJP national president Nitin Nabin is expected to visit the State from June 17 for three days. He is likely to attend a state executive meeting and hold virtual interactions with party functionaries, including district presidents.

## Harish Rao demands filling of all 19,000 vacant police posts

BRS leader T Harish Rao accused the Congress government of failing unemployed youth and demanded recruitment to all 19,000 vacant police posts. He also sought restoration of previous age limits and objected to changes in physical eligibility criteria



Hyderabad: BRS Deputy Floor Leader T Harish Rao on Thursday accused the Congress government of deceiving unemployed youth and demanded that it issue a notification to fill all 19,000 vacant police posts in the State instead of limiting recruitment to 5,000 posts.

A group of unemployed youngsters preparing for police recruitment met the former Minister here and submitted a representation alleging injustice in the government's recruitment plans.

After hearing their concerns, Harish Rao criticised the Congress government for failing to fulfil its promises on employment.

He recalled that the Congress had promised to provide two lakh jobs every year if voted to power. However, even after two-and-a-half years in office, the government had failed to provide even 20,000 jobs, he alleged.

Harish Rao said restricting recruitment to 5,000 police posts would disadvantage candidates from rural areas. He claimed that nearly 2,000 of the proposed vacancies would be allocated to the Hyderabad region. With reservations applied to the remaining posts, candidates from several categories in rural districts may end up with little or no opportunity for selection.

Citing the Director General of Police's statement that 19,000 police posts remain vacant, he termed the government's reported plan to recruit only 5,000 personnel as a betrayal of unemployed youth.

He demanded that the government should issue a single notification to fill all vacant police posts. The BRS leader also sought restoration of the upper age limits that were in force during the previous BRS government. He demanded that the maximum age be fixed at 36 years for constable posts and 38 years for Sub-Inspector posts.

Harish Rao further objected to changes made to the physical eligibility tests. He said that during the BRS regime, candidates were required to qualify in three out of five events. Under the current rules, the standards for events such as the long jump and shot put have been increased, and candidates are required to qualify in all three prescribed events, he said.

Describing the changes as unfair, he said they had made the recruitment process more difficult for aspirants.

He also accused the Congress government of going back on its promise to waive job application fees. Instead of providing relief to unemployed youth, the government was collecting substantial fees from applicants, placing an additional financial burden on them, he alleged.

Harish Rao demanded that police recruitment applications be accepted without charging any fee.



The visits are part of the party's organisational and outreach activities in Telangana.

## Jupally Donates 4 Acres for Mini Stadium in Kollapur Constituency

Hyderabad: Fulfilling a promise he had made to local sportspersons, the Prohibition and Excise Minister Jupally Krishna Rao donated his own four acres of land, valued at approximately Rs. 1.50 crore, for the construction of a mini stadium.

On Wednesday, the Minister personally signed the digital land transfer documents at the Kodair Mandal Tahsildar (MRO) Office, formally transferring his land located at Veepanagandla Mandal headquarters in Kollapur constituency for the development of a sports ground.

During an earlier visit to Veepanagandla Mandal, the Minister had assured local youth and sportspersons that he would provide his own land for the establishment of a mini stadium. Honouring that commitment, he transferred four acres of patta land registered in his name, located in Survey No. 532/A at Veepanagandla Mandal headquarters, to the government.

The official land transfer process was completed through the Veepanagandla MRO's digital login system at the Kodair Tahsildar Office, allocating the land for the proposed mini stadium.



Serving as official witnesses to this historic land transfer were Congress leader Munigonda Gopi from Veepanagandla Mandal headquarters and Nagarkurnool District Tourism Officer Kalvarala Narasimha, who also provided their digital signatures.

Many people have praised Krishna Rao for donating land worth crores of rupees for the promotion of sports and for securing a better future for underprivileged rural youth. Local residents and sportspersons have expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the Minister for this generous and visionary contribution.

## TG Minister Directs Officials to Speed Up SLBC Works

Nalgonda: Roads and buildings minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy on Thursday directed officials to expedite works on the Alimineti Madhava Reddy Project-Srisailam Left Bank Canal (AMRP-SLBC) and complete as much of the canal lining as possible by July 13, ahead of water release for the monsoon crop season.

Accompanied by irrigation department officials, he inspected lining works of the SLBC high-level canal at Madgulapally in Nalgonda district.

The minister said canal lining would enable increased water release and improve irrigation for ayacut farmers. He stated that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had sanctioned ₹442 crore for the works, which would reduce seepage losses and enhance the canal's lifespan.

He announced that



the 136-km AMRP-SLBC canal stretch from Angadipet to the Musi project would also be taken up. The lining works are being undertaken after four decades of completion of the canal. He said the works would improve structural efficiency and water conveyance, ensuring better irrigation support.

He said the area under irrigation under the SLBC canal would increase to 2.5 lakh acres after completion of lining works. He added that farmers in tail-end areas were not receiving adequate irrigation due to the absence of canal lining.

Later, the minister held a review meeting at the district collectorate in Nalgonda to discuss arrangements for the Chief Minister's visit on June 17. He said the Chief Minister would lay the foundation stone for Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) roads worth ₹14,500 crore at Kanagal.

A public meeting will be held at an open ground behind the Government Junior College in Kanagal on the occasion. The minister directed district collector B. Chandrasekhar and superintendent of police Sharath Chandra Pawar to identify a suitable location for the Chief Minister's helicopter landing.

## KTR BLAMES REVANTH REDDY GOVT FOR HYDERABAD'S RAIN CHAOS

Hyderabad: BRS working president KT Rama Rao held Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy responsible for the widespread disruption caused by the season's first major rainfall in Hyderabad on Tuesday evening. He said the State government's inability to manage the situation indicated administrative failure and poor preparedness.

In a statement here on Wednesday, Rama Rao said it was shocking to see the Chief Minister, who also holds the Municipal Administration portfolio, neglecting his duty and openly acknowledging the city's vulnerability to rains. He said many people were stranded on roads for nearly four hours, while the Congress government failed to respond adequately to the situation.

He said commuters, particularly women returning home after work, faced severe hardship as traffic came to a standstill across several parts of the city. "Despite having the entire State administration under his control, Revanth Reddy failed to fulfil his duty and left people to fend for themselves. The Chief Minister should be ashamed to acknowledge it openly," he said.

The BRS working president remarked that the Congress government had abandoned the practice of taking preventive measures ahead of the monsoon sea-

son. He recalled that the previous government conducted regular reviews and undertook advance works to prepare the city for heavy rains.

However, he said that under the current Congress administration, there had been no serious review of Hyderabad's preparedness and no visible efforts to clean clogged drains and stormwater channels.

Rama Rao said the lack of pre-monsoon planning resulted in severe waterlogging and traffic congestion even after a relatively small spell of rain. He also accused the government of reversing the gains made through initiatives such as the Strategic Nala Development Programme (SNDP) and Strategic Road Development Programme (SRDP), which were implemented during the previous BRS regime to improve urban infrastructure and reduce flooding.

He criticised the Congress government over reported power outages and deaths due to electrocution during the rains, calling the government's response indifferent to public suffering.

Asserting that Hyderabad, the economic engine of Telangana, was being neglected, Rama Rao said the Congress government was focused on land-related issues rather than civic administration.



## After 'vote chori' and 'sarkar chori', Rahul alleges BJP's 'seat chori' in Rajya Sabha polls

Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi accused the BJP and Election Commission of "seat chori" after Congress candidate Meenakshi Natarajan's Rajya Sabha nomination was rejected in Madhya Pradesh. The BJP dismissed the charge, blaming Congress for procedural lapses

New Delhi: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday alleged that after "vote chori" and "sarkar chori", the BJP was involved in "seat chori" in the Rajya Sabha elections, and the ruling party's "jugalbandi" with the Election Commission finished the contest even before it started.

Gandhi's attack came after the Election Commission (EC) rejected the nomination of Meenakshi Natarajan, the Congress Rajya Sabha candidate in Madhya Pradesh. "After 'vote chori' and 'sarkar chori', the BJP-EC jugalbandi has finished the contest before it has even begun with 'seat chori'," Gandhi said in a post on X.

"Look at what happened in the Rajya Sabha elections. Congress candidate Meenakshi Natarajan ji submitted every document. No pending cases. The EC cancelled her nomination on BJP's frivolous objection," he said.

Citing the case of Parimal Nathwani, the BJP-backed Independent Rajya Sabha nominee in Jharkhand, Gandhi said he got his own name wrong on the form and skipped multiple mandatory disclosures, "yet the EC gave him an extension to fix everything". "Same Election Commission. Two candidates. One was disqualified without even a hearing. The other was rewarded despite not following the rules," the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha alleged.



"When the Congress sought a meeting, the EC first tried to evade us. When we finally met, they did not say one word. Expect to see much more of this – because for the BJP, it is far easier to fix the election than to win it," Gandhi said.

The Congress first petitioned the EC, and after failing to get any respite, it moved the Supreme Court, which will hear the petition on Friday.

Hitting back, BJP leader Pradeep Bhandari said the Congress should first identify the "insider" within the party who is working against it.

"It was the Congress Party itself that allegedly caused its candidate, Meenakshi Natarajan, to submit her nomination papers incorrectly. Information was deliberately withheld. Today, the Congress Party is trying to play the victim card.

"The party has several prominent lawyers, and they are aware of a 2013 judgment by a three-judge bench of the Supreme Court of India headed by Justice P. Sathasivam, which clearly states that if information is intentionally withheld, even in relation to a pending criminal case, it amounts to a substantial defect. On that basis, a nomination can be cancelled."

Bhandari said the important point is that Telangana is also a Congress-ruled state and the party should reflect on who leaked this information from Telangana in the first place.

## Ponnam Orders Drainage Plan for Husnabad Bus Station

Hyderabad: Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Thursday directed officials to prepare plans to address water stagnation at the Husnabad bus station, which is prone to inundation during heavy rain. During a visit to the depot, the minister interacted with passengers and reviewed bus services and amenities. Around 35,000 passengers use the facility daily and commuters face inconvenience during the monsoon due to flooding.

He instructed engineers and RTC officials to design an underground drain linking the storm-water channel behind the bus station to the roadside drainage system to prevent water accumulation within the premises. "The bus station earns substantial revenue and we plan to develop it further. A special plan is being prepared for the 2027 Godavari Pushkaralu," the minister said.

He said plans were being prepared to resolve issues such as water stagnation and passenger inconvenience, adding that funds would be utilised judiciously. He noted that the station ranks high in terms of passenger footfall and revenue. "We are developing the RTC bus sta-



tion in line with the town's growth, driven by the industrial corridor and upcoming engineering, tourism and medical facilities," he said.

The minister added that Husnabad, which is connected by four-lane roads to four district headquarters, would see further development, including upgrades to the drainage system. "We will develop the Husnabad bus station with modern facilities and infrastructure, on the lines of a large shopping mall," he said.

RTC MD Nagi Reddy, municipal chairperson Dandi Lakshmi, vice-chairperson Chitteri Padma, councillors, RTC officials and local leaders were present.

## TGPCB Warns Failing to Segregate Waste at Source Could Invite Action

Hyderabad: Cybercrime continued to be the single largest contributor to overall crime in the Cyberabad police commissionerate in 2025, even as the total number of cognisable offences recorded a marginal decline compared to the previous year, according to data released at the annual press meet.

Briefing mediapersons on Tuesday, Cyberabad police commissioner Avinash Mohanty said the commissionerate registered 37,243 cognisable offences in 2025, a slight decline of 1.2 per cent from 37,689 cases in 2024. Despite the overall decrease, cybercrime remained the dominant crime head, accounting for 7,636 cases, though this represented a sharp 35.9 per cent decline from 11,914 cases in 2024.

While the number of cybercrime cases fell significantly, the financial impact remained substantial. The total amount lost to cyber frauds in 2025 stood at ₹404.61 crore, a reduction of nearly 49 per cent from ₹793.18 crore recorded in 2024. Police interventions helped prevent further losses, with ₹54.67 crore secured through proactive intervention (PoH), while ₹20.75 crore was refunded to victims during the year.

A modus operandi-wise analysis showed part-time

job fraud to be the most reported category, accounting for 2,079 cases, followed by trading fraud (1,256 cases) and smishing fraud (689 cases). One of the most notable trends was the sharp fall in digital arrest fraud, where cases dropped from 1,002 in 2024 to 117 in 2025, a decline of over 88 per cent, though losses in such cases still crossed ₹15 crore.

Beyond cyber offences, property-related crimes increased their share from 12 per cent in 2024 to 15 per cent in 2025, emerging as the second-largest crime category. Bodily offences also rose from six per cent to eight per cent, while crime against women recorded a one percentage point increase, rising from eight per cent in 2024 to 9 per cent in 2025.

The economic offences wing registered 95 cases in 2025, marginally higher than 90 cases in 2024. While the value of property attached more than doubled to ₹11.50 crore, the amount frozen declined to ₹26.17 crore from ₹30.77 crore, and arrests dropped from 203 to 111, indicating a mixed enforcement outcome. Several high-value investment frauds involving real estate and stock-market schemes were detected, leading to arrests and large-scale asset attachment proceedings.

# Naidu Unveils Swarna Andhra 2047 Vision at NITI Aayog Meet

Vijayawada: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday unveiled the state's ambitious Swarna Andhra @2047 vision at the 11th governing council meeting of Niti Aayog in New Delhi.

He presented a comprehensive roadmap to transform the state into a "prosperous, inclusive and globally competitive" economy in line with the national objective of Viksit Bharat @2047.

Addressing the high-level council, Naidu outlined a development strategy centred on human capital, technology-driven governance and sustainable economic growth. The vision aims to achieve zero poverty, create large-scale employ-

ment opportunities, strengthen skilling initiatives, ensure water and energy security, and accelerate growth through the integration of Agri-Tech, logistics and deep technologies.

The Chief Minister highlighted AP's growing reputation as a technology-enabled state, citing the successful implementation of the Real Time Governance Society, Artificial Intelligence-powered analytics, real-time monitoring systems and predictive governance tools such as AWARE.

These initiatives, he said, are helping improve administrative efficiency, strengthen evidence-based decision-making and enhance delivery of public services.

Naidu informed the council that govern-



parent policies and a business-friendly ecosystem had helped AP attract investments worth more than Rs.23 lakh crore over the past two years. These investments, he said, are expected to generate substantial employment and contribute significantly to

the state's economic expansion.

Stressing the need for sustainable industrial growth, the CM urged states to focus on improving infrastructure, maintaining policy stability and expediting approvals and clearances rather than competing through un-

sustainable incentives to attract investments.

Reaffirming the government's commitment to inclusive development, Naidu said every family in the state should have access to seven necessities — housing, sanitation, tap water, clean

cooking fuel, electricity, digital connectivity and direct benefit transfers. These, he said, form the foundation of social and economic empowerment.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the innovative P4-MBK 10-20 initiative, which en-

courages the top 10 per cent of society to support the bottom 20 per cent through philanthropy, mentorship and community participation, thereby fostering equitable and inclusive growth.

In the healthcare sector, AP is implementing Project Sanjeevani, a digitally connected healthcare ecosystem focused on preventive care, integrated digital health records and improved access to quality medical services across urban and rural areas.

Naidu said the state is undertaking major education reforms through AI-enabled learning systems, industry-integrated higher education, flexible lifelong learning pathways and advanced skilling

programmes in emerging fields such as Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Technologies.

Drawing attention to the state's fertility rate of below 1.5, he called for greater national focus on demographic sustainability. He outlined the state's population management policy aimed at addressing future workforce shortages, ageing-related challenges and long-term economic sustainability.

Reiterating AP's commitment to cooperative federalism, Naidu said the state would continue working closely with the central government and Niti Aayog to achieve the shared vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 and ensure inclusive growth and prosperity for all citizens.

## Alliance Nominees Elected Unanimously to Rajya Sabha



Vijayawada: The ruling NDA alliance in Andhra Pradesh secured all four Rajya Sabha seats from the state unopposed, with candidates Sana Satish, Chintakayala Vijay, Bhashyam Ramakrishna and Lingamaneni Ramesh elected unanimously on Thursday.

The Election Commission confirmed their election after the deadline for withdrawal of nominations expired and no additional candidates entered the fray. With only four nominations filed for the four vacancies, the returning officer declared all four candidates elected.

Under the seat-sharing arrangement within the alliance, three Rajya Sabha seats were allotted to the Telugu Desam and one to the Jana Sena. The nominations process concluded on Monday and scrutiny was done on Tuesday. Wednesday was the final date for withdrawal.

Sana Satish, a leader from Kakinada, had earlier been elected to the Rajya Sabha in a by-election following the resignation of Mopidevi Venkata Ramana Rao in December 2024. Since his tenure was relatively short, the alliance leadership gave him a fresh chance, taking social representation factors into account.

Chairman of the Bhashyam educational institutions, Bhashyam Ramakrishna, was rewarded for his longstanding support to the TD, particularly during the period when the party was in opposition. Party leaders noted that he continued to contribute to organisational strengthening and training programmes even after the alliance came to power in 2024.

Although he had aspired for, but not got, the Guntur Lok Sabha ticket in the 2024 elections, he remained committed to the party.

The selection of Chintakayala Vijay reflects the alliance's emphasis on encouraging young leadership while providing representation to the backward community. Vijay, son of assembly speaker Chintakayala Ayyanna Patrudu, had sought the Anakapalli Lok Sabha ticket in 2024 but missed out. His contributions to the party during its years in opposition strengthened his candidature.

For the Jana Sena, Lingamaneni Ramesh was chosen as the Rajya Sabha nominee. JS political secretary Hariprasada Ramesh had been associated with the Jana Sena since 2015 and was inspired by party president Pawan Kalyan's vision for AP's development.

He noted that Ramesh remained loyal to the party even after its disappointing performance in the 2019 elections and described his nomination as recognition of long-standing commitment and perseverance.

## PM Surya Ghar Scheme Rolled Out in Addanki Villages; Minister Assures Solar Units for Eligible Households

NELLORE: Energy minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar on Thursday launched the PM Surya Ghar scheme in Jammalamadaka and Kotha Jammalamadaka SC colonies under Velamavaripalem panchayat in Addanki constituency, assuring rooftop solar units for all eligible households.

The minister said nearly 200 families in three villages have already received free rooftop solar units under the scheme. He said more households were showing interest after witnessing the benefits and noted that wider adoption of solar energy would help reduce electricity bills while supporting the state's clean energy goals.

During his visit to Addanki constituency, Ravi Kumar also inaugurated a BT road constructed at a cost of Rs 6 crore connecting Kopperapadu, Jammalamadaka, Kothuru and Velamavaripalem, fulfilling an election commitment. He further dedicated CC roads and side-drainage works worth Rs 40 lakh in Kothuru village.

The minister said power infrastructure in Velamavaripalem, Pedda Jammalamadaka and Kothuru villages had been strengthened under the



RDSS scheme with an investment of ₹2.33 crore. The works included the installation of 752 electricity poles and seven transformers to address power interruptions and low-voltage issues.

Ravi Kumar said the coalition government led by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu was committed to welfare and infrastructure development. He later received public grievances and directed officials to ensure their prompt resolution.

## Crackdown on Non-Duty Paid Liquor Boosts Revenue, Says Kollu Ravindra

Tirupati: Excise minister Kollu Ravindra on Thursday said intensified enforcement against the smuggling and sale of non-duty paid liquor in border districts had led to a significant increase in revenue collections.

Addressing a press conference after reviewing the functioning of the Excise Department with officials from Annamayya, Chittoor and Tirupati districts at Madanapalle, the minister said border areas had long been affected by the illegal movement and sale of liquor brought from neighbouring states without payment of duties.

He said the government had strengthened enforcement, increased surveillance and intensified inspections to curb the sale of non-duty paid li-



quor, resulting in improved regulation and higher revenue collections.

Ravindra said the government was promoting transparency in liquor sales through digital payments. At present, 60 to 70 per cent of transactions are being made digitally and efforts are underway to increase the share further, he added.

The minister directed officials to take strict action against illegal liquor sales,

belt shops and ganja transportation. He said continuous monitoring was being carried out on liquor quality, pricing, MRP violations and adherence to prescribed sale timings.

Announcing financial assistance to the family of an excise employee who died while in service, Ravindra said Rs 10 lakh would be provided, with Rs 5 lakh contributed by the excise employees' association and Rs 5 lakh by

the state government. He added that steps were being taken to provide a compassionate appointment to the employee's wife.

Reviewing the mining sector, the minister said minerals such as Madanapalle White, Iskon White and colour granite from Annamayya district were witnessing strong demand. He said quarry inspections were being conducted to ensure compliance with safety standards and mining regulations, and warned that strict action would be taken against violations.

Ravindra said mining activity had gained momentum after the coalition government addressed several pending issues, contributing to a rise in government revenue.

## Andhra Pradesh Pushes In-Line Chlorination to Scale Safe Drinking Water

Vijayawada: The Government of Andhra Pradesh, in collaboration with Evidence Action India, organised a State Conclave on Safe Water Through In-Line Chlorination (ILC) in Vijayawada, reaffirming its commitment to ensuring safe drinking water across rural areas. The conclave, held at the Andhra Pradesh State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (APSIRD&PR), brought together senior officials, engineers, development partners, and community representatives to accelerate the implementation of ILC systems across the state.

Officials highlighted the state's plan to scale ILC across all feasible Single Village Schemes under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0. The initiative aims to strengthen water quality through chlorination, real-time monitor-



ing, and improved implementation at all levels. Shri K. Venkata Krishna, Officer on Special Duty to the Deputy Chief Minister, stressed the need for habitation-specific action plans and coordinated efforts to ensure safe and sustainable drinking water access for all.

A compendium titled "Safe Water that Transforms Lives" was released during the event, showcasing community impact stories. A LIVE ILC dashboard for real-time monitoring of water systems was also launched. Senior officials from the Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Department and partner organisations participated in panel discussions on policy, financing, and implementation strategies. As part of the initiative, around 400 ILC devices are set to be installed across the state, with a broader roadmap being developed to expand the technology statewide.

# Quality Must Be the Priority in Development Works: Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil

Nagar kurnool : District Collector Hemanta Keshav Patil conducted a surprise inspection of various development works and welfare programmes in Kalwakurthy Municipality limits on Thursday and directed officials to ensure quality, transparency and timely completion of all works.



The Collector emphasized that providing better infrastructure and quality services to the public should be the priority and instructed officials not to compromise on quality standards in any development project.

During the inspection, the Collector visited the shopping complex constructed under the SC Corporation, the under-construction 100-bed government hospital, and the cattle market. He reviewed the progress of the works and instructed officials to complete all public utility projects as per prescribed quality standards.

At the SC Corporation shopping complex, the Collector reviewed the shop allocation process, utilization status and available facilities. He directed municipal officials to allot vacant shops to eligible beneficiaries as per corporation guidelines at the earliest and ensure that the complex benefits local youth and small traders by creating employment opportunities.

Later, the Collector inspected the construction works of the 100-bed government hospital. He instructed engineers to speed up the works while strictly maintaining construction quality. He said that once completed, the hospital would provide improved medical services to the people of Kalwakurthy constituency. He advised officials to increase manpower and construction materials if required to complete the project within the stipulated time.

During his visit to the cattle market, the Collector reviewed the facilities and directed officials to provide necessary infrastructure for farmers and traders visiting the market. He stressed maintaining cleanliness and ensuring drinking water facilities, electricity supply and proper sanitation arrangements.

The Collector stated that quality, transparency and timely execution are essential for development works to bring visible changes in people's lives. He instructed officials to complete all government-funded works responsibly and ensure better services reach the public.

Municipal Chairperson Ratnamala, Municipal Commissioner Ahmed, councillors, officials from Agriculture Marketing, IKP, Housing Department and other public representatives and staff accompanied the Collector.

# National Lok Adalat Preparations Underway; Opportunity to Settle Cases with Reduced Penalties

"No Need to Keep Visiting Courts... Lok Adalat Offers an Easy Way to Resolve Cases!"

Manuguru, June 11 : The Manuguru Police have issued an important announcement to residents of Manuguru town and surrounding villages regarding the upcoming National Lok Adalat scheduled to be held on June 20.

Police officials stated that individuals involved in compoundable cases can make use of this special opportunity to settle their cases through the Lok Adalat process.

In particular, persons facing petty cases and Drunk and Drive cases can resolve their pending matters by paying a reduced fine, making the process quicker and more convenient.

Officials informed that from June 12 to June 20, concerned individuals may appear before the respective court on any working day, pay the prescribed fine, and get their cases disposed of through the Lok Adalat.

The Manuguru Police have urged the public to take advantage of this special initiative and settle their pending cases without unnecessary delays

**కోర్టు చుట్టూ తిరగొద్దు.. లోక్ అదాలత్ కేసులకు సులువుగా ముగింపు!**

**జాతీయ లోక్ అదాలత్**  
జూన్ 20, 2025

తక్కువ జరిమానాతో కేసుల పరిష్కారం

జూన్ 20న జాతీయ లోక్ అదాలత్ దర్శనం

రాష్ట్ర దళిత కేసులకు ప్రత్యేక అవకాశం

డ్రంక్ అండ్ డ్రైవ్, సర్టి కేసులకు తగ్గిన జరిమానా

ప్రజలు ఈ అదాలత్ను వినియోగించుకోవాలి

ఈ నెల 12వ తేదీ నుండి 20వ తేదీ వరకు సీ రోజ్లలో సంబంధిత కోర్టుకు వెళ్లి అదాలత్ వినియోగించుకోవాలి

మరిన్ని వివరాల కోసం 98496 71682  
కోర్టు కార్యదర్శిని సంప్రదించండి 87126 82092

జాతీయ లోక్ అదాలత్ను వినియోగించుకోండి.. సమయం, డబ్బు, శ్రమ అలా వేసుకోండి!

# Midnight Police Raids in Bhadrachalam..!

Surprise Inspections at 62 Lodges and Bus Stand; Search for Suspects

Bhadrachalam : Police conducted large-scale surprise inspections across Bhadrachalam town from midnight till early morning. Acting on the directions of the Superintendent of Police (SP), Bhadradi Kothagudem district, special checks were carried out at lodges and the bus stand area from 12:30 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. on Thursday.

The inspections were led by DSP Arun Kumar with the objective of identifying suspicious individuals and preventing unlawful activities that could disturb public peace and security. Police thoroughly checked all 62 lodges in the town and conducted intensive searches in and around the bus stand.

With the assistance of fingerprint equipment and dog squad teams, police inspected every lodge and collected details of owners, managers, and staff members. They also examined the functioning of CCTV cameras and directed lodge managements to preserve footage for at least two months.

Officials instructed lodge operators to position CCTV cameras in such a way that vehicle movements on nearby roads are clearly recorded. Police stated that such surprise inspections would continue regularly to ensure public safety and maintain law and order.

The public has been urged to immediately inform the police if they notice any suspicious persons or



activities. The operation was attended by Bhadrachalam Town CI Madipalli Nagaraju, Sub-Inspectors, Special Party personnel, women police officers, and other staff members.

# Attack on Democracy Dharmapuri Sanjay Fires at BJP Over Meenakshi Natarajan Nomination Rejection :

Nizamabad June 11, 2026 : Former Nizamabad Mayor Dharmapuri Sanjay criticized the BJP and the Central Government over the rejection of Congress leader Meenakshi Natarajan's Rajya Sabha nomination in Madhya Pradesh.



Reacting strongly, Sanjay said the rejection was not merely against an individual but an attack on democratic principles. He alleged that irrelevant issues were intentionally used to block the nomination of a leader known for her clean

image and Gandhian ideology. He described Meenakshi Natarajan as an honest public servant, respected educationist, and corruption-free political leader who has dedicated her life to serv-

ing people with sincerity and transparency.

Dharmapuri Sanjay accused the Modi Government of targeting opposition leaders through misuse of authority and called the incident a "black mark on democracy." He appealed to the Election Commission to take immediate notice of the matter and ensure fair justice to Meenakshi Natarajan.

He further stated that democracy becomes weak when sincere and principled leaders are denied equal political opportunity.

# MLA Payam Extends Support to Pagididda Raju Temple

Borewell and Hand Pump Installed as Promised – Devotees Appreciate the Initiative

Gundala Correspondent | June 11: Pinapaka MLA Payam Venkateswarlu has once again earned public appreciation by fulfilling a promise made to devotees. He continues to extend support for the development of Sri Pagididda Raju Temple, the revered deity of tribal communities, located near Yapalagadda village in Gundala mandal of Bhadradi Kothagudem district.



During last year's temple fair (Jatara), the MLA had assured devotees that a borewell would be installed to provide safe drinking water facilities at the temple premises. Fulfilling that commitment, borewell drilling works were taken up on Thursday under his directions. Arrangements are also being made to install a hand pump immediately so that devotees can conveniently access drinking water.

Earlier, MLA Payam Venkateswarlu had extended financial assistance during the construction of the temple and also facilitated the construction of a CC road from the R&B road to the temple, making travel easier for devotees. The latest initiative of providing drinking water facilities further reflects his commitment towards the temple's development and the welfare of devotees.

The programme was organized under the leadership of District Congress Party Vice President Pomboyina Muthayya and District

Congress Party Secretary S.K. Khadeer.

Speaking on the occasion, temple committee members and members of the Arem community stated that despite approaching several leaders during previous governments, their issues remained unresolved. They appreciated MLA Payam Venkateswarlu for consistently fulfilling his promises and showing special interest in the development of the temple. They also thanked him for respecting and promoting tribal traditions and beliefs.

The programme was attended by Mandal Youth Congress President Dara Ashok, former MPP Chatla Padma, local leaders, temple committee members, village elders, devotees, Congress party workers and several residents.

# BJP Hails PM Modi's 12 Years of Governance, Highlights Welfare and Development

SANGAREDDY: BJP Sangareddy District President Godavari stated that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has provided corruption-free and transparent governance over the past 12 years, with the welfare of the poor as the central focus of his administration.



Addressing a press conference at the BJP district office in Sangareddy on Thursday, organized to mark the completion of 12 years of Narendra Modi's tenure as Prime Minister, Godavari said Modi has created a new record as one of the longest-serving leaders dedicated to public service. She said that under

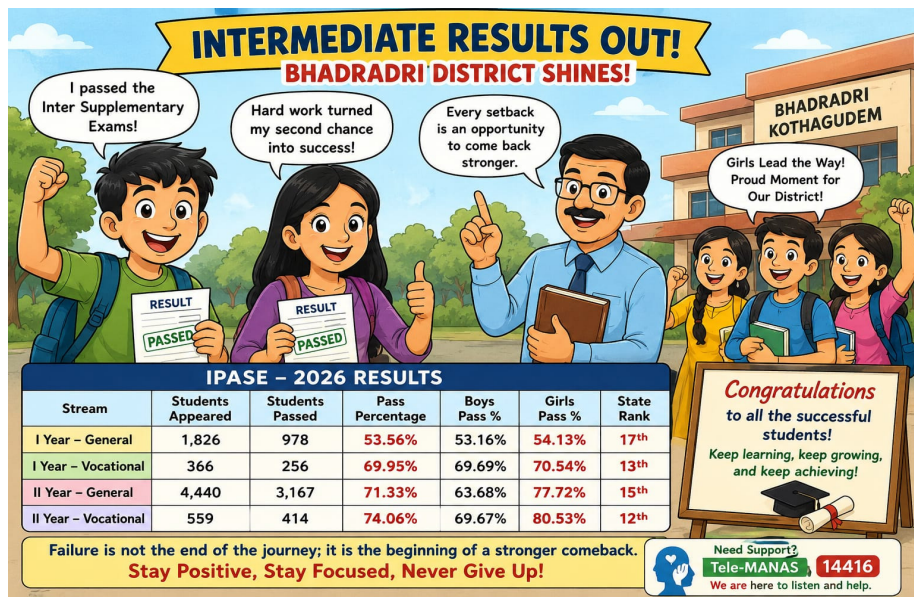
Modi's leadership, India has witnessed significant progress across various sectors, ranging from the implementation of the Antyodaya vision aimed at uplifting the last person in society to strengthening national security, promoting digital transformation, and introducing major economic reforms. These initiatives, she noted, have helped position India as a leading nation on the global stage.

Expressing confidence in the country's future, Godavari said India is moving rapidly towards achieving the goal of Viksit Bharat (Developed India) by 2047 under the Prime Minister's leadership.

Former Governor Bandaru Dattatreya, former MP BB Patil, former MLA Vijaypal Reddy, BJP District Media In-charge Vitthal, District General Secretary Rajasekhar Reddy, Jagan, Manik Rao, BJP State Executive Member Rajeshwar Rao Deshpande, along with party leaders and workers, were present at the event.

## Intermediate Results Released: Bhadradi District Records Impressive Pass Percentage

District Students Shine in First and Second Year Results  
Girls Outperform Boys in General and Vocational Streams  
Bhadradi Secures Better Rankings at State Level  
District Intermediate Education Officer Congratulates Successful Students



**B h a d r a d r i** Kothagudem: The Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education (TSBIE) has announced the results of the Intermediate Public Advanced Supplementary Examinations (IPASE-2026). Students from **B h a d r a d r i** Kothagudem district performed commendably, helping the district achieve an impressive pass percentage and better rankings at the state level.

In the First Year General Stream, a total of 1,826 students appeared for the examinations, of whom 978 students passed, registering a 53.56% pass percentage. The pass percentage among boys was 53.16%, while girls recorded 54.13%. The district secured 17th

place in the state in this category. In the First Year Vocational Stream, 366 students appeared for the examinations and 256 students passed, achieving a 69.95% pass percentage. Boys recorded a pass percentage of 69.69%, while girls achieved 70.54%. The district secured 13th place at the state level in this stream.

In the Second Year General Stream, 4,440 students appeared for the examinations, out of which 3,167 students passed, resulting in a 71.33% pass percentage. The pass percentage among boys was 63.68%, whereas girls recorded an impressive 77.72%. The district stood 15th in the state in this category.

In the Second Year

Vocational Stream, 559 students appeared for the examinations and 414 students passed, registering a 74.06% pass percentage. Boys achieved a pass percentage of 69.67%, while girls recorded 80.53%. The district secured 12th place at the state level in this stream.

The District Intermediate Education Officer congratulated all the successful students for their achievements. Students who did not achieve the expected results were advised not to lose confidence and to continue their efforts with greater determination. They were also encouraged to make use of the Tele-MANAS mental health support service (14416) whenever required.

## Fields.. Don't litter bottles of booze in the fields.. National Man of the Light Award winner Dara Madhukar

Peddapalli Correspondant June 11: The National Human Light Award winner, Dara Madhu, urged people not to carelessly throw empty bottles in the farm fields and chasels. Glass bottles thrown in the fields and chasels break and risk injuring the feet of farmers and farm labourers during crop harvest. It was mentioned that farmers, in particular, face severe difficulties during harvest time. He suggested that empty bottles should not be thrown where they are dropped but in waste collection centres or suitable places. He said that bottles thrown in the fields and chasels are becoming a hazard not only to farmers and labourers but also to livestock. He said everyone should act with social responsibility keeping in view the cleanliness of villages and the safety of farmers. Dara Madhu appealed to everyone to co-operate in not throwing bottles of liquor in the fields and chasels in keeping with the farmers' labour and to do their part in maintaining a clean environment.



## Bandeel Raj Shekhar as the state working president of the Journalists' Welfare Society JSS

National President, Manasa Krishnar Reddy presenting the appointment papers, and State President, Takkeleppalli Srinivas journalists' welfare society should work to strengthen

Peddapalli Correspondant June 11: A special state committee meeting was held at the JSS office, Kaveri Cross Road, Bengaluru on Wednesday... The National Presidents, Manasani Krishna Reddy, who was elected as the state Working President, and Thakkellapalli Srinivas, the Secretary of the state Committee, presented the appointment papers. The National Presidents, Manasani Krishna Reddy, and Thakkellapalli Srinivas, who were also present, congratulated the newly elected state Working President Bandela Rajashekar. The state President, Thakkellapalli Srinivas, said he would work for the strengthening of the state Journalists' Welfare Society on the directives of the state leadership and would fight for the resolution of the problems of journalists.



## 32 Social Workers Honored with 'Seva Ratna' Sardar Satnam Singh

Hyderabad : Under the aegis of Abdul Rahman, the Telangana State President of the International Human Rights Organization, 132 social workers were honored with the 'Seva Ratna' award at a ceremony held at the Prakashan Hall, Gandhi Bhavan, Nampally.

Social activists, human rights defenders, and individuals from various walks of life participated in the event, which commenced under the guidance and chairmanship of Dr. Rajendra Singh Thakral.

IHRP President Dr. M.A. Rahman Faheem presented the annual report. The social workers were honored at the hands of the chief guests—retired IAS officer Syed Azmatullah and Justice Pasha Nawaz Khan—along with Dr. H. Md. Mujahid (National President), Sheikh Abdul Sharif (Advocate & National Chairman), Dr. Sheikh Farash Shoaib Rahman, Sardar Ranveer



Singh Gandhi (Guru Nanak Mission Trust), and Dr. Rajendra Singh Thakral (HRPC South India President).

The work of Dr. Abdul Rahman Faheem, the Telangana State President of IHRPC, was highly appreciated.

Mr. Faheem expressed his gratitude to all the guests present.

## GHIAL Remits Rs.12.28 Crore Dividend to Government of Telangana;

Reinforces Strong Shareholder Value Delivery

11 June 2026, Hyderabad: GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL) has announced the remittance of an interim dividend of approximately ₹12.28 crore to the Government of Telangana, reflecting its continued commitment to delivering consistent value to its stakeholders. This payout forms part of the Company's 2nd Interim Dividend for FY 2025-26, declared at 25%. The latest remittance follows an earlier dividend payout of ₹36.85 crore made in February 2026 to the Government of Telangana.

The total dividend distribution amounted to over ₹49.14 crore for the financial year 2025-26 declared at 100%. Since the inception of operations by GHIAL, a total of ₹149.87 Cr dividends paid to Government of Telangana.

GHIAL remains committed to creating sustainable value for all its stakeholders, including the Government of Telangana. The continued dividend payouts reflect the Company's strong operational performance and financial discipline.



## Build Credit, Earn Cashback: Paisabazaar and SBM Bank India Launch Paisa+ Secured Credit Card

*Paisa+ Credit Card is designed for consumers with limited or no credit history*

*Users will get FD returns up to 7% p.a., cashback across online, offline and UPI transactions*

Hyderabad, June 11, 2026: Paisabazaar, India's leading financial marketplace, and SBM Bank India today announced the launch of SBM Paisabazaar Paisa+ Credit Card – a Fixed Deposit-backed credit card designed to help consumers start building or strengthen their credit health, while earning cashback on everyday spends.

Backed by an FD, SBM Paisabazaar Paisa+ Credit Card aims to bridge a key gap in India's credit landscape by enabling consumers with limited or no credit history to begin their credit journey. The card would also benefit those with a damaged credit profile, to improve their credit score, through responsible card usage.

Along with an opportunity to build their credit profile and earn strong FD returns up to 7% p.a., the card offers cashback across online, offline and UPI transactions, ensuring users earn value on their everyday spending.

Key features of SBM Paisabazaar Paisa+ Credit Card:

- FD-backed secured credit card with FD starting from ₹2,000
- FD interest rates up to 7% p.a.
- Up to 1.5% cashback on online spends
- 1% cashback on offline spends
- 1% cashback on eligible UPI transactions
- Zero joining fee; Annual fee of ₹499 only

Rajesh Meena, Head- Retail Products, Digital Banking & Partnerships, SBM Bank India, said: "At SBM Bank India, we are committed to expanding access to formal credit through innovative financial products. The SBM Paisabazaar Paisa+ Credit Card is a powerful proposition for consumers who are new to credit or seeking to rebuild their credit history. Our partnership with Paisabazaar reflects a shared commitment to making credit more transparent and accessible, helping consumers across segments—particularly the underserved borrowers."

Santosh Agarwal, CEO, Paisabazaar, said: "We believe FD-backed cards can play an important role in accelerating credit inclusion. Millions today remain underserved due to lack of a simple and secure pathway to credit. We are proud to launch Paisa+ with SBM Bank India, hoping the card will simplify the first step into formal credit for millions. The card



combines accessibility and value-back in a single proposition, making it an ideal choice for new-to-credit consumers looking to establish a strong financial foundation."

With a minimum FD requirement starting at just ₹2,000, the card makes formal credit more accessible to new-to-credit consumers, students, young professionals, and consumers with bad credit looking to rebuild their credit profile.

SBM Bank Paisabazaar Paisa+ Credit Card offers 1.5% cashback on online spends for fixed deposits above ₹10,000. Offline spends and UPI transactions above ₹2,000 will earn 1% cashback, irrespective of the deposit amount.

Cashback is credited as Cash Point (where 1 Cash Point = ₹1) and earnings are capped at 500 points per day and 3,000 points per month. Since the card is backed by a fixed deposit, consumers will also earn interest on their deposit (up to 7% p.a.), adding to their overall savings.

## Women's T20 WC 2026: Bigger, more open and mirrors the game's transformation

The expanded 12-team ICC Women's T20 World Cup begins Friday in Birmingham. Reigning 50-over champions India, hosts England, and South Africa look to challenge heavyweights Australia in what promises to be the most open tournament in its history.

Birmingham: Bigger and more competitive than ever, the ICC T20 Women's World Cup begins here on Friday with the ever-improving India, England and South Africa expected to challenge Australia's traditional dominance in the tournament.

The Aussies, who have won six of the last nine tournaments, will be eager to displace reigning champions New Zealand for a seventh title, but that is no longer a yawn-inducing formality.

The Kiwis themselves are a formidable unit, and then there are India, who landed their maiden global title last year in the 50-over World Cup.

England, strong as ever in home conditions, and South Africa, finalists in the last three ICC events, would be no pushovers either.

In that context, this iteration of the showpiece, beginning with a match here between England and Sri Lanka, is the most open yet in its existence, and it is also the first World Cup in the UK since the first edition in 2009.

The event is also the biggest in terms of the number of participants — 12 — with the addition of Ireland and Netherlands to the mix from 2024.

That expansion itself is a sign of the women's game getting a stronger foothold across nations, but even more satisfying is the development of a level-playing field and the emergence of some raw but exciting talent.

It starts with England's Alice Capsey, Tilly Corteen-Coleman and Freya Kemp while their opponents tomorrow, Sri Lanka, field the likes of Vishmi Gunarathne, Imesha Dulani, Kavisha Dilhari and Kawya Kavindi.

New Zealand skipper Amelia Kerr, one of the youngest leaders in the international circuit at 25, is a key player for her side. She is also a heart-touching story of resilience after surviving depression and suicidal thoughts during the 2020-21 season.

Strong contenders India come with promising N Sree Charani, Yastika Bhatia and Nandani Sharma in their ranks.

The Aussies are still banking on their veterans to reclaim the title, but they also have two exceptional young stars in their ranks — batter Georgia Voll and left-arm seamer Lucy Hamilton.

The Proteas, led by the redoubtable Laura Wolvaardt, have Kayla Reyneke and Annerie Dercksen leading the march of Next-Gen players, despite bringing back experienced pacer Shabnim Ismail and Dan van Niekerk from retirement.

The outings of these relatively fresh names will be watched keenly as they are tasked with taking the exploits of a glorious set of players, who are on the last leg of their illustrious careers.

### Australia the team to beat

Despite not defending an ICC title for the first time since 2017, Australia still have the aura of the past, the Antipodeans are still the team to



beat.

It is primarily because a slew of battle-hardened players are leading their campaign.

The likes of Beth Mooney, Tahila McGrath, Ellyse Perry, Ashleigh Gardner, Kim Garth, Annabel Sutherland and Megan Schutt are familiar with every contour of white ball game.

The selection of Sophie Molineux as captain might not have elicited a unanimous reaction from players, particularly from Gardner, but they need to push the past behind and work together for a greater goal.

It's not something beyond the Aussies.

Rise of India

The biggest impediment in their way will be India, now a stronger and more consistent white ball unit. The Harmanpreet Kaur-led side will be keen to emulate Australia in becoming the second side to hold the 50-over and T20 World Cups at the same time.

Pacers like Renuka Singh, Kranti Goud and seasoned all-rounders such as Deepti Sharma along with a very strong batting line-up give them a realistic shot at having another world title in just over seven months.

The ODI World Cup triumph marshalled by almost the same squad might have also eased the anxiety in the Indian camp.

The surprise package

Some other teams like Sri Lanka, the West Indies and the newcomers Ireland do not have the burden of expectations, and that might inspire them to take on the favourites with no fear.

An underdog scripting a marvellous run will just suit the newfound openness of this tournament too.

Wait is on then for a magical July 5 at the Lord's.

Match on June 12: England vs Sri Lanka.

Teams (from):

England: Nat Sciver-Brunt (c), Lauren Bell, Alice Capsey, Tilly Corteen-Coleman, Charlie Dean, Sophia Dunkley, Sophie Ecclestone, Lauren Filer, Dani Gibson, Amy Jones, Freya Kemp, Heather Knight, Linsey Smith, Issy Wong, Danni Wyatt-Hodge.

Sri Lanka: Chamari Athapaththu (c), Hasini Perera, Vishmi Gunarathne, Harshitha Samarawickrama, Imesha Dulani, Nilakshika Silva, Kaveesha Dilhari, Hansima Karunaratne, Kaushini Nuthyanga, Sugandika Dassanayaka, Nimasha Madushani, Kawya Kavindi, Malki Madara, Mithali Ayodhya, Chethana Vimukthi.

## Tuchel hails England's intensity after convincing win over Costa Rica

New York: Thomas Tuchel was pleased with what he saw from his team, as England swept aside Costa Rica in Orlando to take one more step towards the FIFA World Cup 2026.

Although the kick-off in Orlando was delayed for an hour after a torrential storm flooded the pitch, England produced a crisp and aggressive performance, in contrast to Saturday's lackluster outing against New Zealand.

An early goal from Declan Rice set the Three Lions on their way, before a second-half penalty from Anthony Gordon and a late header from Ollie Watkins sealed the victory.

"I wished for that, I demanded that; I said before the match we want to push it to the next level, from intensity, commitment, cohesion, and we did that," said Tuchel as quoted by Xinhua.

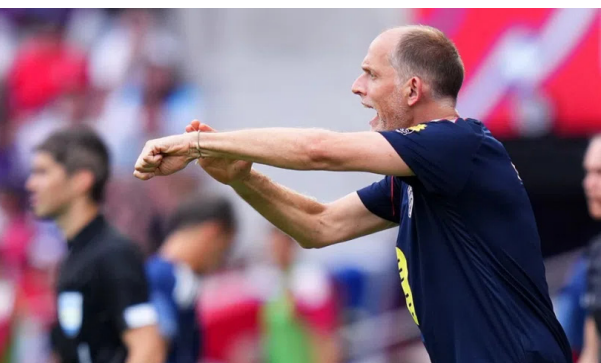
"We see the adaptation to the heat, and we see things clicking, but we demanded it today from the players to take the next step, and they did. The result takes care of itself, but we did it on a high level," he added.

Tuchel said earlier that the fact England hasn't won the World Cup since 1966 means it can't be considered one of the favorites for the tournament, but he was positive in his post-game assessment.

"The work rate gives us a good feeling and intensity, and we can impose ourselves on the opponent, and the movement is up front and not running backwards," he said, before singling out Bellingham for praise.

"I wanted to see Jude in the combination today for the first time with Harry [Kane], Elliot [Anderson] and Declan [Rice] at the center of the game. I know what Morgan [Rogers] gives us there; I just saw it so many times. It was the first time for Jude, and he buys into these ideas. He has to, and he loves to do it, and that's part of our game."

England will play a closed-doors friendly against local side Miami United on Thursday before facing Croatia in its first group match on June 17.



## SPORTS



## INDIA RETAIN TOP ODI RANKING

Dubai: India have retained their position at the top of the ICC Men's ODI Team Rankings following the annual update, but their lead over New Zealand has reduced from eight to five points. Following the update, India have slipped from 119 to 118 points even as New Zealand have gained two points to move up to 113. The reigning World Cup champions Australia are in third position with an unchanged 109 points.

The only change in the top 10 positions is that South Africa (102) have overtaken Paki-



stan (98) to fourth spot.

However, there is a notable change in the gap between ninth-placed Bangladesh and the West Indies, which has increased to 10 points.

In other shifts, Ireland have leapfrogged Zimbabwe to 11th position, the USA have moved above Scotland to 13th spot, and the United Arab Emirates are now ahead of Canada in 19th place.

India are also top ranked in the ICC Men's T20I Rankings after the annual updates carried out last week while Australia are at the top of the Test rankings. Australia are No. 1 in both the Women's ODI and T20I lists.

## Hyderabad To Host Second Season of Archery Premier League in October

New Delhi: Hyderabad will host the second season of the Archery Premier League from October 8-18, with no expansion to the six-franchise field that competed in the inaugural edition last year.

The 11-day tournament will be held at People's Plaza on Necklace Road and will retain the six franchises from the inaugural edition -- defending champions Rajputana Royals (Rajasthan), Mighty Marathas (Maharashtra), Prithviraaj Yodhas (Delhi), Kakatiya Knights (Telangana), Chero Archers (Jharkhand) and Chola Chiefs (Tamil Nadu).

A total of 48 Indian and international archers will compete across recurve and compound disciplines.

Unlike last year, when the league began on the day of Dussehra, the second season will conclude well before the festival.

Details regarding team squads, player signings, fixtures and broadcast arrangements will be announced later.

Announcing the second edition, APL director Anil Kamineni said Hyderabad's sporting culture and support from the Telangana government made it an ideal venue for the league.

"The inaugural season demonstrated



not only the immense potential of archery as a spectator sport but also the value of creating a platform where Indian archers can compete alongside the world's best," Kamineni stated in a release.

Launched by the Archery Association of India in 2025 with the aim of strengthening India's Olympic medal prospects, the league brings together recurve and compound archers, both men and women, in the same competition.

The event also features a unique 15-second shot clock, five seconds shorter than the limit used in Olympic and World Archery competitions, adding greater emphasis on speed and decision-making under pressure.

Each franchise will field a squad of eight archers, with the competition following a double round-robin format.

The top four teams will advance to the semifinals, with the final scheduled for October 18.

## New Rules in FIFA WC 2026 Aim To Reduce Time Wasting, VAR Mistakes

Mexico City: There is a raft of tweaks to the rules at the World Cup, which FIFA has brought in weeks ahead of the tournament, designed in particular to reduce time-wasting and expand the use of VAR.

"These amendments are aimed at combating discrimination, reducing time-wasting, improving the tempo of matches and enhancing the experience of players and fans," FIFA explained.

Here are more details:

- If a referee believes a player or goalkeeper is taking too long to take a goal kick, they will begin a visible five-second countdown using their hand. If the ball has not been put back into play before the countdown expires, a corner kick will be awarded to the opposing team. The same procedure will apply to throw-ins.

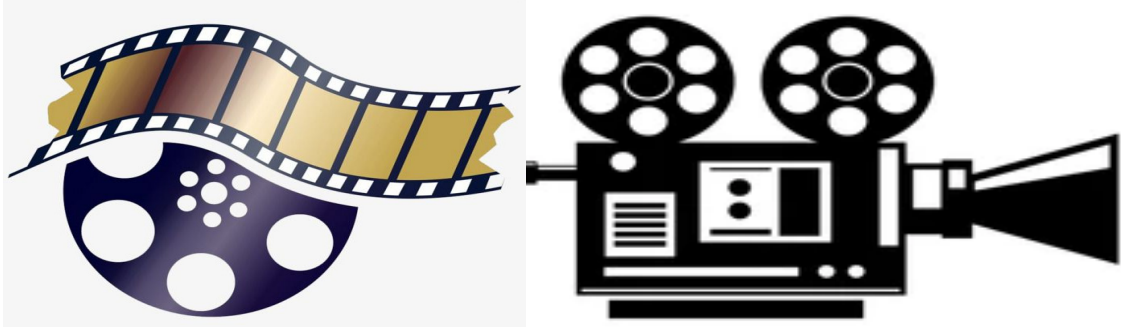
- Any player who is being substituted will have 10 seconds to leave the field. If he fails to do so, the substitute must wait until the first stoppage in play occurring at least one minute later before entering. The same rule applies to injured players. Anyone receiving treatment on the field must leave the pitch and can only return at least one minute after play has restarted.

- Players may not cover their mouths during confrontations with opponents, and if one does so deliberately, he may be sent off. The change follows controversies such as the dispute involving Gianluca Prestianni and Vinicius Junior.

In February, the Real Madrid forward accused his Benfica opponent of making racist remarks, but because the player's mouth was covered, no offence of racism could be proven.

- VAR can now review clearly unjustified second yellow cards, cases of mistaken identity, wrongly awarded corners and attacking fouls before free-kicks or corners that directly affect goals, penalties or disciplinary outcomes. - A player who leaves the field in protest at a referee's decision may receive a red card, and team officials who encourage players to leave the field in protest against a referee's decision may also be sent off.





## CINEMA

### Deewana Trailer Promises an Emotional One-Sided Love Story

As the makers themselves say, every great love story starts as a one-sided love story, and Deewana seems to explore that idea in an honest way.

The trailer of Deewana has been released, and it gives a glimpse into an emotional love story filled with romance, pain, and determination. The film appears to focus on a young man who deeply loves a girl but struggles to win her heart. As the makers themselves say, every great love story starts as a one-sided love story, and Deewana seems to explore that idea in an honest way.

The trailer introduces a cheerful and innocent heroine who shares a good friendship with the hero. However, the hero's feelings go beyond friendship. He falls deeply in love and dreams of spending his life with her. While he remains sincere about his feelings, the journey is not easy for him.

As the trailer progresses, viewers get to see several emotional moments. The hero expe-



periences happiness when he is close to the girl but he also faces heartbreak and disappointment. Some scenes suggest that the heroine may not feel the same way about him creating a major conflict in the story.

Apart from romance, the trailer also hints at strong emotional drama and action. There are glimpses of fights, intense confrontations and situations that push the hero to his limits. These moments indicate that Deewana is not just a love story but also a tale of personal struggle.

The lead actor Harsith Reddy who was previously seen in Samantha's production venture Subham, looks confident in this role. He seems to have given an emotional performance that could connect well with young audiences. The heroine also leaves a positive impression with her screen presence.

The film is set for a worldwide theatrical release on June 19, and it has already generated curiosity among movie lovers.

### I will watch Sing Geetham for the legend - Trivikram

He said, "My respect for a path breaking filmmaker like Singeetham Srinivasa Rao is always high. I salute his passion and penchant to create an unique experience every time he directs a film."

Legendary director Singeetham Srinivasa Rao is coming up with a novel and unique concept in his Sing Geetham, even at the age of 94. The movie is totally crafted as a musical fantasy adventure and it depicts the selfishness, innocence, all emotions flowing through songs.

Highly revered and popular writer-director Trivikram Srinivas gave a special video byte about the film. He said, "My respect for a path breaking filmmaker like Singeetham Srinivasa Rao is always high. I salute his passion and penchant to create an unique experience every time he directs a film."

He further continued to say, "I believe Legends need our respect and Sing Geetham is a legendary effort from a great craftsman. I am going to watch it for the legend and unique ex-



perience. What about you?" The movie is releasing on 12th June and Devi Sri Prasad has composed all songs with Nag Ashwin as producing it with International standard technical brilliance.

### Raja The Raja Tujhpe Fida Single: Delicious Feast

Raja The Raja produced by K. Niharika Dasari and directed by Annil Boyiidapu has been gaining good buzz with its promotional material.

Raja The Raja produced by K. Niharika Dasari and directed by Annil Boyiidapu has been gaining good buzz with its promotional material. Ruthvik and Vishakha Dhiman are playing the leading roles in this film and their pairing looks absolutely fresh and captivating.

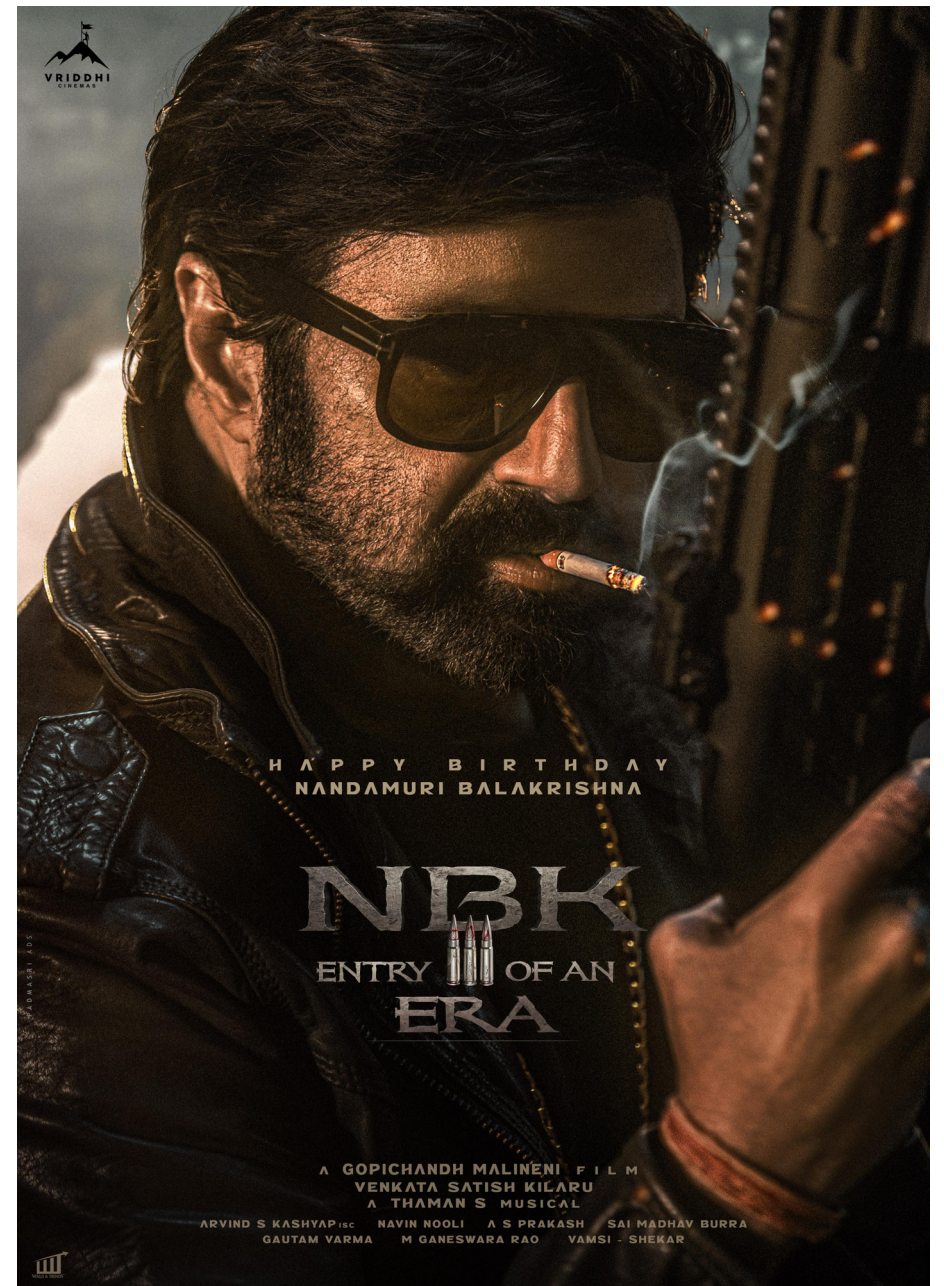
The makers have released first single, Tujhpe Fida and it is fantastic to hear. Mark K Robin has composed an addictive melody which becomes a delicious feast with Haricharan and Shakti Sree Gopalan vocals. Further the meaningful lyrics by Manoj Juloori make it an instant chartbuster.

Ruthvik and Visakha are perfectly cast together. Their chemistry is so fun to watch and youthful that it feels like watching a couple video. Ruthvik's dance moves, his ease and body language elevate the impact further. The single increases the intrigue to watch the film on big screens building good impression.



### NBK111 Glimpse: NBK's Perfect B'Day Treat

Director Gopichand Malineni is presenting him at his swaggy and stylish best in their upcoming film, NBK111.



God of Masses Nandamuri Balakrishna has been giving huge blockbusters back to back. Director Gopichand Malineni is presenting him at his swaggy and stylish best in their upcoming film, NBK111. The film produced by Venkata Satish Kilaru is gearing up to rewrite box office history yet again.

The glimpse takes us to 1993 Bombay and we see NBK driving a bike in rain attacking the goons. His swag while lighting the cigar, carrying the chains and weights, driving a bulldozer against into the goons gang with ruthlessness and unabashed energy is sensational.

Makers have mentioned, "A lifetime of legacy. A never before seen attitude. A level of swag that refuses to age," on X and the glimpse represents it perfectly. We see NBK playing a character with swag and style that we have never seen him before and the action choreography is truly International.

Production values, tone and bloody energy in the visuals is addictive. BGM by S Thaman elevates the scenes and screen presence of Balakrishna to next level. This is a perfect birthday treat from the team and NBK to the audiences. The glimpse projects the ambitious action in the film to unprecedented heights.

### Kiran Abbavaram's crazy project grand opening Tomorrow

Kiran Abbavaram has been setting bar high for each and every film by choosing unique and novel scripts.

Kiran Abbavaram has been setting bar high for each and every film by choosing unique and novel scripts. Being a writer himself, his judgement has been spot on blending innovation with creativity. Now, he is taking a gigantic leap in his career as a director. Renowned overseas distributor Sudhakar Chaganti is debuting has producer with this massive project.

This upcoming youthful family entertainer is being produced on an unprecedented scale, making it the highest-budget film for Kiran so far. Kiran Abbavaram is taking on a full creative role as writer and director. The story is said to be one of the best in recent times. His past success writing the blockbuster SR Kalyanamandapam adds high expectations to this unique family drama.

The official launch ceremony for this prestigious Joy Films project is scheduled for tomorrow. The production team promises a top-tier cinematic experience with a stellar lineup of noted actors and highly reputed technical crew members across all departments. The makers will reveal further details about the complete cast and crew in the coming days as the film goes to the floors.

