

# KING

## DAILY NEWSPAPER

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## CM Naidu invites startup venture capitalists in Singapore to partner with Andhra



**(king Reporter)** Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Monday interacted with startup venture capitalists in Singapore and invited them to be part of state's growth story. Chandrababu Naidu, who is on a two-day visit to Singapore, addressed a Round Table meeting with startup founders and venture capitalists, highlighting Andhra Pradesh's vision for innovation, entrepreneurship, and global investment partnerships. The Chief Minister said it was a pleasure to meet and interact with startup venture capitalists in Singapore. "Venture capital plays a critical role in transforming ideas into scalable enterprises, supporting innovation, risk-taking and the creation of future industries. With our enterprising population, initiatives such as One Family One Entrepreneur, and an unmatched commitment to Speed of Doing Business, Andhra Pradesh offers a strong foundation for innovation-led growth," the Chief Minister posted on 'X'. "We have also established institutions such as the Ratan Tata Innovation Hub to nurture startups and create opportunities in emerging sectors. I invited the community to partner with us, back breakthrough innovations and be part of Andhra Pradesh's growth story,"

he said. Earlier, the Chief Minister met the High Commissioner of India to Singapore, Dr Shilpak Ambule. India News Updates The Chief Minister said they discussed opportunities to deepen Singapore's partnership with Andhra Pradesh across investment, technology, advanced manufacturing, robotics, medical devices, education and innovation. "I also highlighted Andhra Pradesh's progress in natural farming, our world-class agricultural and horticultural exports, and emerging opportunities in aviation MRO and shipbuilding," said Naidu.

The Chief Minister, who arrived in Singapore on Sunday evening, was accorded a warm welcome by Telugu people. He thanked them for giving him and his team a grand welcome. He is visiting Singapore to attract investments and review collaborations related to the development of Amaravati and other key infrastructure projects. CM Naidu will meet Singapore Prime Minister Lawrence Wong and industrialists and discuss various areas of cooperation. He will also participate in and address the World Cities Summit. Chief Minister Naidu will attend a roadshow organised by the Confederation of India Industry (CII) and meet with industrialists on Tuesday evening.

## Chandrababu Naidu meets Singapore PM, discusses partnership opportunities

**(king Reporter)** Andhra Pradesh CM N. Chandrababu Naidu meets Singapore PM Lawrence Wong to discuss partnerships in semiconductors, AI, green energy, and the development of Amaravati. Explore the details of this strategic alliance. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu met Singapore Prime Minister Lawrence Wong in Singapore on Monday and sought cooperation in technology, semiconductors, quantum computing, Artificial Intelligence, and university research. The meeting between the two leaders lasted for 30 minutes at the Singapore Prime Minister's official residence. According to the Chief Minister's Office (CMO), he sought Singapore's support in developing the semiconductor manufacturing ecosystem and in capacity building. The CM sought cooperation in urban governance for Amaravati and other urban areas across the state.

CM Naidu posted on X that they discussed new opportunities for partnership between Singapore and Andhra Pradesh. "Our discussions focused on semiconductors, AI, quantum technologies, R&D, university partnerships, urban governance, leadership development, logistics and advanced manufacturing," he said. Chandrababu Naidu said he also shared Andhra Pradesh's progress in developing Amaravati as a globally benchmarked capital city with world-class infrastructure and institutions. "Prime Minister Wong appreciated the vision and progress and expressed confidence in its future potential. We also explored cooperation in natural farming, aquaculture, food exports, healthcare, clean energy, green hydrogen and green ammonia," he said. The Chief Minister invited Singapore's government-linked companies and industry leaders to partner with

## TTD Trust Board member files complaint against Prakash Raj over alleged remarks on Ramayana and Hindu deities

**(king Reporter)** Tirupati: A criminal complaint has been filed in a court in Tirupati against film actor Prakash Raj for his derogatory remarks regarding Hindu deities and the epic Ramayana. G. Bhanuprakash Reddy, BJP leader and a member of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) Trust Board, filed the complaint in the court of the IV-Additional Judicial Magistrate of First Class on Monday, alleging that the actor made "inflammatory" statements during the Kerala Literature Festival and other public forums. According to the complaint, the actor allegedly claimed that Lord Rama and Lakshmana travelled from North India to "invade" the South, which he reportedly equated to "Lanka". The complainant stated that on April 17, he came across a video of the actor on social media, in which he made "highly derogatory, factually incorrect, inflammatory and malicious statements" regarding Lord Rama and Lakshmana and the sacred epic Ramayana. Bhanuprakash Reddy stated in his complaint that these statements, widely circulated on social media, cause

widespread hurt and outrage among the Hindu community. The complainant alleged that the accused wilfully promoted the divisive "Aryan-Dravidian" theory, incited regional animosity and undermined India's cultural and religious unity and deliberately insulted the deities and scriptures of the Hindu religion with the intent to outrage religious feelings. The TTD member alleged that the accused committed act of insulting religious feelings, which is an offence against public tranquillity, religious harmony and the community's beliefs. He further states that the accused's statements attracted section 299 (deliberate & malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) and section 196 (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence etc & acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. The complainant requested the court to examine the complaint, take cognisance of the offences and summon and punish the accused in accordance with the law.

## Angel One pays Rs 4.28 crore to settle Sebi case

New Delhi: Brokerage firm Angel One has settled with capital markets regulator Sebi a case related to alleged violations of stock broker regulations by paying Rs 4.28 crore. The case pertained to alleged lapses in supervision and due diligence by the brokerage in monitoring the activities of two authorised persons, including failure to detect unauthorised fund collection, disproportionate trading, unauthorised social media promotions and trading through other stock brokers. According to an order issued by Sebi on Monday, Angel One filed settlement applications proposing to resolve both adjudication and enquiry proceedings initiated

through separate show-cause notices issued on May 14, 2025, "without admission of liability or guilt". The proceedings were based on observations linked to two authorised persons – Deepankar Barman and Nadella Srinivas Rao. Sebi alleged that the brokerage failed to identify unauthorised fund collection activities, did not carry out adequate due diligence into fund movements, failed to take appropriate action in cases of disproportionate trading, and did not properly scrutinise unauthorised social media activities that allegedly promised assured returns and used the broker's brand name and logo.



Andhra Pradesh in Amaravati's growth and contribute to a future driven by innovation, sustainability and economic opportunity. The Chief Minister informed the Singapore Prime Minister about the cultivation of crops using natural farming methods in Andhra Pradesh.

The CM requested a review of the possibility of Singapore importing horticultural and aquaculture products from Andhra Pradesh. He stated that efforts are underway to ensure certification and traceability for produce grown through natural farming. CM Naidu proposed that Andhra Pradesh and Singapore work together to capitalise on various opportunities, including the development of ports and airports. According to the CMO, Singapore PM Lawrence

Wong specifically inquired about the construction of the capital city, Amaravati. The Singapore PM asked for details regarding educational institutions, infrastructure, and construction projects being executed to international standards. The Chief Minister stated that Amaravati is poised to join the ranks of the most liveable cities. They also discussed public health, infrastructure development and population management. The two leaders discussed the issue of declining populations worldwide. The Chief Minister informed the Singapore Prime Minister that Andhra Pradesh is moving towards generating 160 gigawatts of green energy. Discussions were held regarding measures such as affordable housing and childcare.



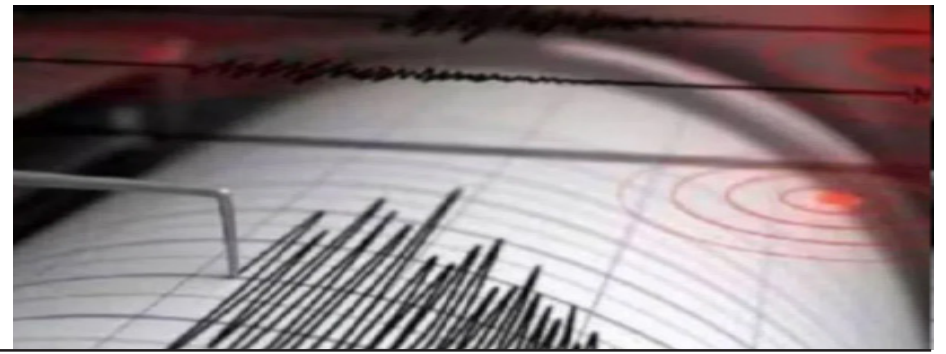
## Are we paying fees for a professional degree or a school seat?

Sipping coffee on the table in our patio, we were talking about which school we shall send our four-year-old boy to, just when my brother told us about the protest at a prominent school by the members of parents' association on the fee hike issue. This got me thinking about the fees that have been skyrocketing ever since I was doing my reporting internship at Asian News International during which I interviewed Hyderabad Schools' Parents' Association (HSPA) President back in 2017. Daily News Digest I quickly asked my papa, who was sitting next to me, about how much he had paid for my entire education (KG to PG, excluding professional education abroad) and he chuckled and said around Rs three lakh. This is just peanuts compared to Rs 20 lakh annual fees of a sixth standard pupil and Rs 24 lakh for a student going to a prominent school in the city outskirts today. As the schools are ready to be re-opened, I try to analyse the fee structure. This also made me think about the increasing unemployment rate in the country. All this hefty money for what? It is said that the base of a student should be nice but what if it is unaffordable. The Constitution of India lays down the right to education as a fundamental right of Indian citizens. Many governments have ruled the country but why is basic education a far cry for the downtrodden? Why can't the government cap the private education fees throughout the country? No doubt, the quality of education that is being imparted in these schools may be top class but does that fact give the schools the authority to charge whatever they want? How is school education regulated? The education sector is a subject of concurrent list in India wherein both the state and Union governments have the right to make laws. At the Centre, the National Education Policy, 2009 is at work while the States have their respective laws at play, making the regulation a cluster of policies. When we look for the provisions in Telangana, there is nothing in place. Archives Access For this, I re-connected to one of my acquaintances from HSPA for their latest demands in the run-up to re-opening of schools. The joint secretary, Venkat Sainath Kadapa, told me "The HSPA has been demanding a fee regulation committee to be constituted under a special legislation." Hyderabad City Guide Going further, he said, "here, we have Telangana Admission and Fee Regulatory Committee (TAFRC) to regulate fees in professional colleges across the State but there is no such body for school fees regulation. The highest fee is as high as Rs 18 lakh in a prominent school for 10+2 and Rs five lakh plus in a city school". Expressing his concern, Sainath further added, "The regulatory mechanism is majorly required in middle level schools where the fees is ranging from Rs 50k to Rs two lakh." Nonetheless, I think for a proper regulatory framework, the Telangana government can take cue from the Delhi and Tamil Nadu model of fee regulation as the two States have the best system in place in the country. Even though both have legislations to control arbitrary fee hikes, they differ in their approach. What works better for Telangana is taking the advantageous rules from both the models.

## 3.8 magnitude quake jolts Bhadradri Kothagudem district

Hyderabad: A mild earthquake of 3.8 magnitude hit Bhadradri Kothagudem district of Telangana in the early hours of Sunday, the National Centre for Seismology said. The earthquake struck at 2:26 AM, it said in a post on 'X'. According to media reports, mild tremors were reported in Kothagudem, Paloncha, and other areas in the district.

There were no reports of damage to property or injuries to anyone, sources said.



## SCCL worker loses fingers in blast accident at KTK-5 underground mine in Bhupalpally

Bhupalpally: An SCCL worker suffered bleeding injuries in an accident at Kakatiya Khani-5 incline underground mine in Bhupalpally mandal in the district on Monday. A shot-firer, Sriramulu Praveen lost the fingers of his left hand when an explosive used for blasting operations in the mine exploded in his hand while he was inspecting it. He was first rushed to Singareni Area Hospital and was shifted to Hyderabad for better treatment. His condition is said to be stable. The incident occurred while preparations were being made for blasting to extract coal at the 13th level inside the mine in the first shift. Meanwhile, Singareni workers have expressed outrage over the incident. They alleged that the management is playing with workers' lives by using substandard material and equipment in the mines. The workers have demanded that the mine manager, Ramesh, be held accountable for the incident. The Singareni management and safety department officials have initiated a high-level inquiry into the accident



and potential safety lapses. This incident raised questions over the implementation of safety standards and the handling of explosives in the SCCL mines. It might be recalled that in January, 2026, a fire broke out in KTK-5 incline mine's lamp room following an electric short-circuit. As many 1,500 lamps belonging to the mine workers were destroyed in the blaze causing a loss of around Rs 50 lakh. In another incident that took place in September, 2025, toxic fumes were released after a fire broke out during welding work at the second level of the KTK 5 Incline. Two workers fell ill as a result of the incident.

## School buses under the scanner as schools reopen in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: With private schools re-opening on Monday, the Ranga Reddy District Transport Department launched a special enforcement drive targeting school buses transporting students. As part of the inspections, officials seized six buses for allegedly violating transport and safety regulations. Transport Department officials conducted checks at various locations, scrutinising vehicle documents including Registration Certificate (RC), permit, insurance, fitness certificate and pollution-under-control (PUC) records. Driver licences were also verified during the inspections. The department had said that special emphasis was placed on student safety measures in school buses. Officials examined whether vehicles were equipped with mandatory fire extinguishers, first-aid kits and updated student lists. The experience and eligibility of drivers operating the buses were also reviewed. Authorities are additionally fo-



cus on buses being driven by drivers above 60 years of age as part of a special safety-oriented drive. Officials warned that strict action would be taken against vehicles found violating transport norms or compromising student safety. The Transport Department stated that inspections will continue across the city in the coming days to ensure safe transportation of school children.

## Constable, Home Guard injured as sand mafia truck rams bike in Burgampad

Kothagudem: Tension prevailed at Sompalli sand ramp in Burgampad mandal in the district on Sunday as those engaged in illegal sand transportation allegedly attacked the locals; injuring one constable and a Home Guard. According to sources, youths and villagers from BC Colony tried to stop sand trucks at the ramp on Saturday night alleging that illegal sand mining was taking place in violation of regulations. Those associated with the ramp operators attacked them. The villagers returned to the ramp on Sunday to discuss the matter with sand ramp operators and heated arguments ensued between them while the latter again attacked the villagers. On receiving information from the villagers, Constable Mangi Lal and Home Guard Srinivas Rao of Burgampad police station arrived at the sand ramp and brought the situation under control. While the police personnel were returning to the



police station, a speeding sand truck rammed into the police two-wheeler from behind at Domalavagu area. The constable and Home Guard sustained minor injuries while the two-wheeler and two mobile tablets were

**destroyed in the incident.**

Burgampad SI, Meda Prasad informed that Mangilal and Srinivas Rao were shifted to a private hospital in Bhadrachalam for treatment. A case was registered against the truck driver along with the sand reach operators and investigation was taken up into the incident.

## Farmer electrocuted after coming into contact with snapped power line in Medak

Medak: A farmer was electrocuted at Variguntham in Kulcharam mandal on Monday. The farmer Kuruma Pochaiiah (51, who was preparing his field for a paddy nursery, came in touch with live electric wires. The electric line reportedly snapped off. Unaware of this, the farmer ventured into the field. He was survived by wife and two children. The police registered a case. The body was taken to the government hospital in Medak for post-mortem.

## Paddy residue burning causes damage to oil palm orchards in Siddipet



Siddipet: The indiscriminate burning of paddy stubble residue caused irreparable damage to oil palm farmers in the district as fire gutted the oil palm orchards in Markook mandal headquarters. Four acres of oil palm crop of a farmer Jeevan Reddy was gutted as neighbouring farmers burnt paddy residue on Saturday night. The farmer said that he had suffered at least Rs 15 lakh loss due to the incident. In a similar incident, the oil palm crop of Challa Ravindar Reddy was gutted as fire spread into his field at Thimmaipally in Nanganur mandal on Sunday. Police registered cases and the probe is underway.



## Cockroach found in breakfast curry at RGUKT-Basar mess; students cry foul

Nirmal: Students of Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge and Technologies (RGUKT)-Basar expressed concern over the quality of food being served on campus after a cockroach was allegedly found in curry at one of the messes on Sunday. The students said that they were shocked to spot the insect in a potato curry served with breakfast at E1-E2 Shakti mess. They alleged that the university was consistently providing poor quality food. They lamented that repeated complaints had gone unaddressed, forcing many to skip meals. The students recalled that several classmates were hospitalized due to food poisoning instances reported at the university in the past. They attributed the recurring incidents to the officials' negligence. They demanded authorities to take steps to ensure food safety and to prevent such incidents in future. They regretted that they were unable to focus on studies due to the menace. However, officials were unavailable for comment.

## Telangana Congress to deploy supervisors to resolve voter issues

Hyderabad: The Telangana Congress on Sunday said that it will appoint one supervisor for every 10 booths and one coordinator for each Assembly constituency to resolve SIR-related issues. The party is arranging to resolve issues through coordination with Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) and Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), the TPCC said in a release. The TPCC held a video conference with leaders in which Telangana Congress president Mahesh Kumar Goud and AICC in charge Meenakshi Natarajan attended. Both leaders alleged that the BJP and the Election Commission were jointly involved in "vote theft" across the country and criticised the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, an undemocratic process aiming to help the BJP come to power. They further alleged a possibility of vote theft in Telangana as well and urged party leaders in the constituencies to remain highly vigilant. Booth Level Agents (BLAs) were advised to



thoroughly scrutinise the voter-mapping exercise and ensure that every genuine vote is protected. They instructed that if any voter's name is deleted, immediate steps should be taken to submit the necessary documents and applications to restore the voter's rights. TPCC Election Commission Chairman Rajesh explained that so far, 90 per cent of the BLA training programmes have been completed, the release added. The SIR will be conducted in Telangana from June 15. Electoral roll preparation will be conducted from June 15 to 24, and house-to-house verification will run from June 25 to July 24.

## Three held for forging chassis, engine numbers of scrapped vehicle in Adilabad

Adilabad: Three persons were arrested for allegedly attempting to register vehicles using the chassis and engine numbers of scrapped vehicles and committing forgery here on Sunday. Briefing details of the arrest to media persons, Adilabad DSP L Jeevan Reddy said that SK Nayeem, Makunur Vijay Kumar and Pendur Indu, all from Sonala village were apprehended for trying to register a vehicle using chassis and engine numbers of

scrapped vehicles. The three were detained while moving suspiciously during a vehicle check. During interrogations, the trio confessed to erasing the original chassis and engine number of a vehicle purchased in Maharashtra. They admitted to attempting to register the vehicle in Telangana by entering the chassis and engine number of a scrapped vehicle. Police advised the public not to buy vehicles if their chassis and engine numbers were erased.

## Revanth Reddy will face defeat in Kodangal over irrigation neglect: KTR



Hyderabad: Charging the Congress government with betraying the people of the erstwhile Mahabubnagar district by sidelining the nearly completed Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme, BRS working president KT Rama Rao predicted a complete rout for Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy in Kodangal and the Congress party across the State in next Assembly elections. Addressing a review meeting with BRS leaders from the undivided Mahabubnagar district on Sunday, Rama Rao said people have become increasingly disillusioned with the Congress government. He accused the government of prioritising commissions and contracts over irrigation needs. "The decision to keep the Palamuru-Rangareddy project on the back burner had deprived lakhs of acres of agricultural land of irrigation benefits. The Congress government has failed to complete projects crucial to the district's growth while focusing on political considerations," he said. The BRS working president asserted that Revanth Reddy, who frequently identifies himself as a son of Palamuru, has failed to deliver on the district's aspirations. He predicted that the Chief Minister would face defeat in Kodangal and would be held responsible for unfulfilled promises and developmental neglect. Recalling the BRS

government's tenure, he said Mahabubnagar had transformed from a drought-prone and migration-hit district into one witnessing growth across sectors. He credited former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao with bringing irrigation, infrastructure and welfare initiatives to the region. The BRS working president acknowledged that the party failed to communicate its developmental achievements during the previous elections effectively. However, he said people were now reassessing the contrast between the BRS and Congress administrations.

He urged party leaders to aggressively expose the Congress government's failures while taking the BRS development narrative to the grassroots. During the meeting, Rama Rao reviewed organisational activities, constituency-level programmes, preparations for voter list revision, and the upcoming party membership drive. He instructed leaders to strengthen the party booth-wise and village-wise ahead of future elections. Based on feedback from local leaders, he stated that public anger against the Congress government was growing across sections and exuded confidence that the BRS would register a clean sweep in the erstwhile Mahabubnagar district in the next elections.

## Advocate urges Telangana police to frame SOPs against property mafia activities

Hyderabad: A city-based advocate demanded the Telangana police frame Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to deal with civil issues where organised mafia is getting involved and occupying properties, including flats and independent houses. Speaking at a press conference here on Sunday, M Sridhar Dayal said in a majority of instances involving properties such as flats, independent houses and plots, a land mafia in an organised manner is taking the property on rent and not vacating it. "The police are not helping the property owners in such cases, citing it as a civil issue. Nevertheless, the police are aware the mafia is involved, and they vacate only after collecting huge money from the property owners," he said. Sridhar Dayal said he is also facing issues regarding his flat at the Masab Tank,

where some persons had rented his flat and alleged they later vacated it after taking money from him. Again, they returned to the flat the same evening, broke the lock of the door and tried to take possession with the help of rowdy elements. He alleged that the antisocial elements attacked the watchman and injured him.

"The police are citing it as a civil matter and refusing to register a case against those who trespassed into the flat. Our watchman was injured in the attack by the local rowdy elements," said the advocate. He demanded the police study such cases and frame SOPs to prevent harassment of innocent people who purchased property with their hard-earned money and protect them from the organised mafia.

## Doctors sensitised to benefits of yoga at awareness programme in Mancherial

Mancherial: A day-long awareness programme was conducted over Yoga among doctors in Mancherial on Sunday. The event was jointly hosted by Indian Medical Association, Mancherial chapter and Mythri Yoga and Nature Cure Centre. MYNCC founders Dr KN Suku mar, and Dr Sameera Reddy and their training team explained the importance of yoga. They demonstrated various yoga asanas, pranayama or breathing exercises and meditation. They briefed how the ancient science of wellness was useful in controlling chronic disease such as diabetes, hypertension and back pain. The founders advised the participants to practice yoga and to promote it to their patients. They further said that they were organizing a slew of programmes in the



town to mark the ensuing International Yoga Day on June 21. They stated that they were offering yoga training courses at their centre by collaborating with different universities. IMA treasurer Dr Santosh, renowned orthopedist Dr Thrinath Rao, anesthesiologist Dr VSN Murthy, TGMC member Dr Y Srinivas and others were present.

## Basara, Bhadrachalam temple works hit by cost escalation; tender delays spark deadline concerns

Hyderabad: Given the State's financial constraints and the need for specialised temple architects (sthapathis), concerns are being raised over the government's commitment to complete the renovation works at the Basara and Bhadrachalam temples within the stipulated timelines. In a span of just two months, the estimated cost of renovation works at the Gnaana Saraswathi Temple in Basara has increased by nearly Rs 100 crore for reasons better known to the officials. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy laid the foundation stone for the temple redevelopment project on April 5. As part of the works, the existing sanctum sanctorum, spread across about 2,000 sq ft, will be expanded to nearly 5,000 sq ft. The temple complex will feature a nine-storeyed Rajagopuram on the northern side and seven-storeyed gopurams on the remaining three sides. Overall, the built-up area of the temple is proposed to be expanded from the present 20,000 sq ft to 62,000 sq ft, with stone being used for the entire construction and development. While the project was initially estimated to cost Rs 225 crore, the administrative sanction has now been revised to Rs 324 crore within two months. The government has set June 2027 as the deadline for completion of the first phase of works. For comparison, the redevelopment of Yadadri Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple utilised nearly 12 lakh cubic feet of Krishna Shila stone, while around six lakh cubic feet of stone is expected to be required for the Basara project.

Similarly, renovation works at the Sri Seetha Ramachandra Swamy Devasthanam in Bhadrachalam are being planned at an estimated cost of Rs 586 crore. The



Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for the first phase of works in March this year. The first phase, estimated at Rs 351 crore, is also scheduled for completion by June 2027. The overall renovation programme has been divided into three phases. However, when tenders were invited for execution of the works, there was no response from bidders. Officials of the Endowments Department and Roads & Buildings Department are now preparing to float fresh tenders shortly. A senior official said that most of the proposed works at Bhadrachalam are conventional civil construction activities aimed at strengthening infrastructure and pilgrim amenities. Considering the spiritual and national significance of the temple, the master plan should be further strengthened and the shrine developed on the lines of the Yadadri temple, the official suggested. The official also felt that sthapathis should be involved on a large-scale in designing a traditional Pancha-Tala Rajagopuram instead of the proposed Tri-Tala Gopuram. "Give n the scale of works planned at both temples, sustained government support and timely release of funds will be crucial for completing the projects within the deadlines," the official said.

## Malkajgiri traffic police books 124 motorists in drunk-driving crackdown

Hyderabad: The Malkajgiri traffic police during a drunk driving check conducted caught 124 persons who were found driving in inebriated condition and booked cases against them. Among those caught are drivers of two wheelers – 112, three wheelers – 7 and four wheelers – 5. Of the total persons caught the BAC level of three individuals was found to be above 300 mg/100 ml. All the persons who are booked will have to appear before the court for legal proceedings, the police stated.



## Hanamkonda police books an SI for deceiving, sexually exploiting a married woman

Hanamkonda: A Sub-Inspector of Police (SI) attached to CCS wing of Warangal police commissionerate was booked for allegedly deceiving and sexually exploiting a married woman. The accused, Godari Raj Kumar was booked after the woman reportedly approached the Inspector General of Police (IG) seeking justice. Her statement was recorded at Bharosa Centre on Saturday and the case was referred to Hanamkonda police station. In her complaint the woman stated that she had married a local man in 2018 while pursuing B Pharmacy. The couple had a daughter, in view of family disputes; she lodged a complaint in March 2022 with Hanamkonda police against her husband. Raj Kumar, who was on duty at the station at that time, gained her trust by promising to help her secure justice and a divorce from her husband through a lawyer known to him. He convinced her that he would marry her by divorcing his wife, coerced her into a relationship stating that he does not have a son and wanted the woman to give birth to a son through their relationship. He sexually assaulted her multiple times since 2022. When she became pregnant twice, he forced her to undergo abortions by giv-

ing abortion pills. When she insisted on the promised marriage, SI Raj Kumar blackmailed and intimidated her using her nude photos he took on his mobile while they were together in OYO rooms, hotels as well as the SI's rented houses in and around Hanamkonda. The woman said that once she fainted, fell sick following an abortion and decided to stay away from him and pleaded with him to leave her alone as she had a daughter. But the SI continued to harass her by tracking her phone calls and threatened to share her nude photos with her relatives.

He also suggested getting rid of the woman's daughter as the child became an obstruction in their relationship. The SI even threatened the woman that his younger brother, Ravi Kumar, who is also in the police department, would deal with her if she tried to cause him trouble. Based on the woman's complaint, Hanamkonda Inspector Macha Shiva Kumar registered a case against Raj Kumar under Section 69 (sexual intercourse obtained through deceitful means), Section 89 (causing a miscarriage without a woman's consent) and Section 351(2) (criminal intimidation of BNS).

## Junior colleges remain elusive for five mandals in Bellampalli



Mancherial: It has been over two years since a promise was made to establish two junior colleges in Thandur and Nennal mandal centres. However, the colleges have not been sanctioned so far, leaving people of the Bellampalli Assembly constituency disappointed. Poor students of Thandur and Nennal mandals are forced to depend on colleges in Bellampalli and Mancherial towns and are compelled to travel long distances by buses, auto-rickshaws, mini-vans and motorbikes. People have been demanding that the government start the colleges, but to no avail. During the Assembly elections, Congress candidate G Vinod promised to secure these two colleges if he was voted to power. He did win, but the electoral promise has not yet been fulfilled. The Board of Intermediate Education sanctioned the col-

leges in 2025, but there has been no progress so far. Authorities have not yet identified suitable pieces of land for the colleges, leaving the project on paper. Consequently, the promised facilities remain a mirage even as the Congress government completes more than two years in office. People have expressed their displeasure over what they described as negligence by the legislator and the State government. Meanwhile, people from the interior mandals of Bheemini, Kannepalli and Vemanapalli are also urging the government to set up junior colleges. They point out that their children are facing inconvenience in accessing intermediate courses. They regretted that the students are often forced to skip classes when streams swell and travel becomes a risky affair.

## Vijay & Rashmika to fulfill their promise of supporting government school students in Thummanpet

Mumbai: Keeping true to their words, beloved couple Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna will be rewarding the hardworking students of 9th and 10th grade from Achampet Mandal of Telangana, the place where Vijay's father was born. Making the exciting announcement on social media, VD took to his X (Earlier known as Twitter) handle and wrote, "We are on our way to Thummanpet. The little village where my Father was born. In February – @iamRashmika and I had announced the beginning of a little dream of ours. To reward all the hardworking students of 9th and 10th grade from Achampet Mandal of Telangana. (sic)." Rashmika also went on to express her happiness by resharing Vijay's post on her handle with red heart emojis. Refreshing your memory, after their traditional fairytale wedding in Udaipur in February this year, Vijay and Rashmika had announced their decision to support the education of Class 9 and 10 students in 44 government schools in Thummanpet via the Deverakonda Foundation. As part of the initiative, they are reported to ensure that the fees of these students are paid on time, along with easy access to notebooks and other study materials, considerably easing the burden of the par-



ents. This is also expected to prevent a lot of kids from dropping out of school due to a lack of financial resources. On the professional front, Vijay and Rashmika are all set to share screen space for the first time together as a married couple in the upcoming period drama, 'Ranabaali'. Previously, Rashmika and Vijay were seen together in the movies "Geetha Govindam" and "Dear Comrade", making 'Ranabaali' their third professional collaboration. Going by the sources, "Ranabaali" is inspired by real incidents from the 1850s that were never recorded in mainstream history books. The movie is likely to focus on the incidents that the British allegedly misrepresented in history.

## One died, three others suffer injuries at Yadagiripally

Nalgonda: One person died and three others suffered grievous injuries in an accident at Yadagiripally on Sunday. The incident occurred when devotees were returning after having darshan at Yadagirigutta. According to reports, the minivan in which the devotees were travelling lost control and hit a road median.

Such was the impact of the accident that the minivan overturned on the roadside, resulting in the spot death of a passenger and grievous injuries to three others. Two others are learnt to have suffered minor injuries. All the injured were shifted to a nearby government hospital, the reports said. More details are awaited.

## Residents allege industrial effluent discharge into water bodies after rains in Sangareddy district

Sangareddy: Come June, it's not just the farmers would eagerly look at the sky to see the first spell of rains to start the farming operations, but also the bulk drug companies. The companies store on their premises huge amounts of harmful industrial effluents in underground storage sumps apart from overhead tanks. As not many industries have established treatment plants, they would see an opportunity to release these effluents into rain water drains immediately after the rains begin. The harmful effluents would eventually flow down into local streams and merge into Manjeera, Godavari, Musi, Krishna and other rivers. After the rains during the last one week, several citizens, and farmers have raised complaints of industries releasing effluents. In IDA Bollaram town, which was a hub for the bulk drug companies, multiple industries have released the effluents.

Meanwhile, the villages of Bonthapally accused a pharma company of releasing the effluents into Nalla Cheruvu, a minor irrigation lake. The bulk drug companies are also known to carry the harmful effluents in tanks and dump them in Nakka Vagu, Nalla Vagu, river Manjeera and other streams as there was no mechanism to control the practice from government side. In fact, the villagers of Bonthapally accused the officials of all the departments concerned supporting the bulk drug companies. The Bonthapally villagers were diagnosed with various skin diseases as they came in



touch with the effluents flowing through the fields. It is not only the story of Bonthapally, all the lakes and agriculture fields across Patancheru, Sangareddy and Narsapur assembly constituencies were polluted due to release of effluents produced in bulk drug companies. While several heads of cattle died after consuming the polluted water, it had also posed a serious threat to biodiversity and soil health. Since the effluents were eventually flowing into river Manjeera and then into Godavari, which were major sources of drinking and irrigation water, the indiscriminate release of these harmful effluents poses a danger to human life as well. Not many industries had set up effluent treatment plants since there was no effective enforcement mechanism from the government side. The citizens of Patancheru industrial area have demanded that the government protect them by controlling the practice.

## Reese Witherspoon shares 'timeless' life lesson for young women

Los Angeles: Hollywood star Reese Witherspoon has shared a handful of life lessons for empowering the next generation of young women. Known for playing iconic characters such as Elle Woods, June Carter Cash, Tracy Flick and Madeline Mackenzie among many others, Witherspoon took to Instagram, where she shared the advice that stayed with her for years. She wrote in the caption section: "Reese Witherspoon: I've been thinking about the advice that's stayed with me over the years... sharing a few of those thoughts today." Witherspoon then shared a picture of herself with a text overlay that read:



"Things I Wish Every Young Woman Knew." Her first advice read: "Don't wait for permission. No one is going to care about your dream more than you do. If you want something, start building it." She then mentioned, "Confidence comes from doing. You don't have to feel ready. Most of the things I'm proudest of started before I knew what I was doing." The actress then wrote: "Choose your people wisely. Surround yourself with people who lift you up, tell you the truth, and encourage you to grow." "Learn how things work. Understand the business, ask questions, and stay curious. Knowledge is power," was her next advice. She concluded by saying: "Keep moving forward. You'll make mistakes. Learn from them, then leave them in the rearview mirror." Witherspoon has been feted with several honours including an Academy Award, a Primetime Emmy Award, and two Golden Globe Awards. She started her journey in cinema with in 1991 with *The Man in the Moon*. The actress was then seen in films such as *Freeway*, *Fear*, *Cruel Intentions*, *Election*, *Legally Blonde*, *Sweet Home Alabama*, *Walk The Line*, *Water for Elephants* and *Wild*. Her latest release is *You're Cordially Invited* directed by Nicholas Stoller, which also stars Will Ferrell.

## Steven Spielberg scrapped opera film with Colman Domingo

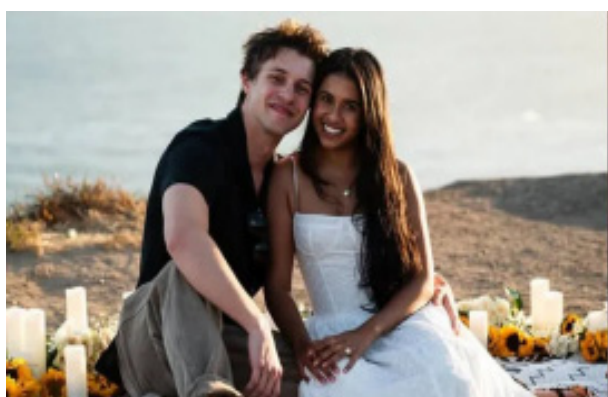
Los Angeles: Oscar-winning filmmaker Steven Spielberg says he wanted to make a film on Broadway duo Ira and George Gershwin with Colman Domingo, but decided not to go ahead with the project. "I was going to make a movie about Ira and George Gershwin, and I was going to make a movie about the process of writing and staging *Porgy and Bess*," Spielberg at Good Hang podcast. The filmmaker, who recently collaborated with Domingo in "Disclosure Day", said he met the actor when he was casting for his scrapped opera film. "I had a script, and I was excited, and I was casting it. And I was looking for Todd Duncan, who played Porgy, and I met a lot of actors, and when Colman came in to the meeting, that was the first time I met Colman, but I intended, after that meeting, to cast him as Todd Duncan," he said. The filmmaker said he wasn't sure of the film and that's



the reason he didn't work with the actor. "What happened was, I had actually cast a lot of the movie and then I had a - something that doesn't often happen when I'm that far down the line - but I had a kind of second thought about the project, and I decided not to continue making it... That's the only reason Colman and I didn't work together then," he said. Spielberg later casted the actor in his 2012 film "Lincoln". His latest film, "Disclosure Day", released on June 12 and also features Emily Blunt, Josh O'Connor, Colin Firth, and Wyatt Russell, among others.

## Mithun Chakraborty's daughter Dishani gets engaged

Mumbai: Veteran actor and politician Mithun Chakraborty's daughter Dishani Chakraborty is now engaged to her beau Myles Mantzaris and will get married on December 6, 2026. Dishani, in a collaborative post, shared a string of pictures from the proposal. In the images, Myles, who as per his Instagram bio is a steadicam operator and a colorist, is seen on his knee as he proposed to Dishani. Another image showed the daughter of the Disco Dancer star flaunting the big rock on her finger. The last photograph had the couple sharing a sweet kiss. For the caption, Dishani wrote: "06.12.2026 ... The easiest forever I've ever known." The post was liked by actress Celina Jaitly. Dishani is the adopted daughter of Mithun, who is married to actress Yogeeta Bali. He was first married to actress Helena Luke in 1979. Four months later, the couple separated and filed for a divorce. Mithun and Yogeeta got married in 1979. They have four children, Mimoh, Ushmei, Namashi, and an adopted daughter Dishani. Talking about Mithun, he has a career spanning over five decades and has done 350 films. Tagged as "Mahaguru", he is a former Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament. He



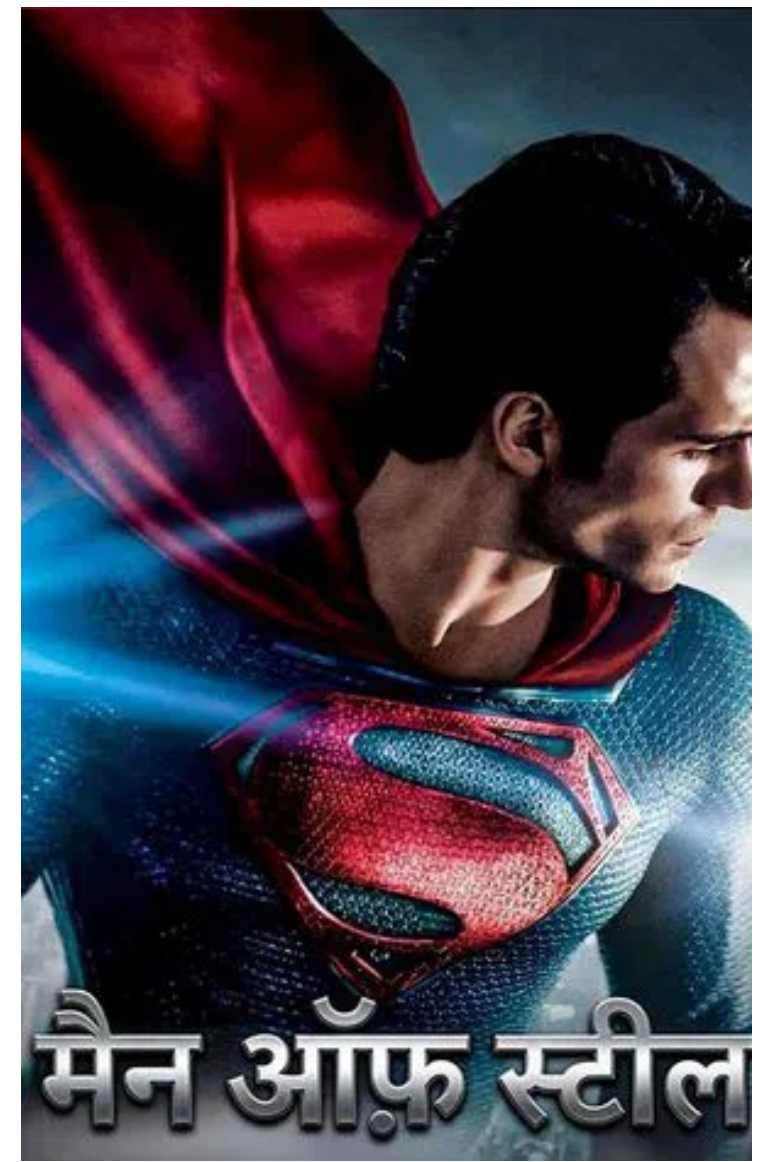
made his acting debut with art house drama *Mrigayaa* in 1976, directed by Mrinal Sen, for which he won his first National Film Award for Best Actor. He gained greater fame with the 1982 film *Disco Dancer*, *Agneepath*, *Pati Patni Aur Tawaif*, *Gunahon Ka Devta*, *Roti Kee Keemat*, *Trinetra*, *Shatranj*, *Tadipaar*, *Jung*, *Kaalia*, *Daadagiri*, *Guru*, *My Name Is Anthony Gonsalves*, *Housefull 2*, *The Tashkent Files* and *The Kashmir Files*. The television show *Dance India Dance*, where Mithun was the Grand Master, also entered in the *Limca Book of Records* and the *Guinness World Records*. Mithun's latest release is *The Bengal Files* directed by Vivek Agnihotri. It presents a storyline focused on the Direct Action Day and the Noakhali riots, depicting the violence and its aftermath as a genocide.

## Zack Snyder sprinkles Hindi onto his 'Man of Steel' throwback post

Mumbai: Filmmaker Zack Snyder treated the film's Indian fans by sharing a throwback poster of "Man Of Steel" with a Hindi caption as the superhero film turned 13.

Snyder shared a poster with "Man of Steel" written in Hindi and marked the film's milestone by simply typing a caption in the Devanagari, which read: "13 saal pahele (13 years ago)." He also shared a glimpse of the film and wrote: "13 years ago today, the world was introduced to The Superman."

This is the first time Snyder has written a caption in Hindi, but he has previously worked with Bollywood actress Huma Qureshi in the "Army Of The Dead." Talking about the superhero film, which released in 2013, *Man of Steel* is based on the DC Comics character Superman. It is the first film in the DC Extended Universe and a reboot of the Superman film series, depicting the character's origin story. It also stars Amy Adams, Michael Shannon, Kevin Costner, Diane Lane, Laurence Fishburne, and Russell Crowe. The film follows Clark Kent, who learns that he is a superpowered alien from the planet Krypton and assumes the role of mankind's protector as Superman, making the choice to face General Zod and stop him from destroying humanity. Talking about Snyder, after starting his career primarily directing music videos, he made his feature film debut in 2004 with *Dawn of the Dead*, a remake of the 1978 horror film of the same name. Since then, he has directed or produced several comic book and superhero films, including *300* and *Watchmen* as well as the Superman film that started the DC Extended Universe, *Man of Steel*, and its follow-ups, *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice* and *Justice League*. Aside from comic adaptations, he also directed the animated film *Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole*, the psychological action film *Sucker Punch*, the zombie heist film *Army of the Dead* and the two-partner space opera films *Rebel Moon* and *Rebel Moon - Part Two: The Scargiver*.



## Sundeep Kishan's Telugu comedy series 'Super Subbu' to premiere on Netflix on July 2

Chennai: The makers of director Mallik Ram's eagerly awaited offbeat comedy Telugu series 'Super Subbu', featuring actor Sundeep Kishan in the lead, on Monday announced that series will premiere on OTT on July 2 this year. Netflix India, the OTT platform on which the web series is to be streamed, took to its social media timelines to make the announcement. Marking its first Telugu original series on the platform, *Super Subbu* follows Subramanyam Chillukuri Rao (alias) Subbu, an earnest young man whose life flips upside down when he lands a job as a sex education officer in a village called Maakipur. Armed with no experience, a lesson plan and a calling to educate these villagers, he soon finds himself navigating a whirlwind of curiosity, chaos, and conversations that rarely stay within four walls. For Subbu, this short-term posting turns into a life-changing experience! But there's one question that he needs to answer for himself - is he willing to risk his love, family and career as he attempts to survive this new normal? Netflix India Vice President (Content) Monika Shergill, "Super Subbu is a delightful comedy with heart, brought to life by endearing characters and the vibrant world of a village, Maakipur. Through a refreshing and humorous narrative, director Mallik Ram opens up conversations around topics such as sex education and consent, grounding them in authentic and hilarious experiences as the innocent Subbu sets out to find his place in the world as a sex education teacher." She further said, "Led by Sundeep Kishan alongside Mithila Palkar, Murali Sharma, Maanasa Choudhary and the legendary Brahmanandam, the multi-genera-



tional ensemble brings forth brilliant performances. As our first Telugu Original Series, *Super Subbu* brings together everything we look for in a great story - a distinct local voice, themes that resonate far beyond its setting, and warmth and laughs you will remember long after the show is over." Talking about the series, creator and director Mallik Ram said, "With *Super Subbu*, we wanted to tell a story that is fun and full of heart while also making conversations around topics like sex education feel less taboo. Humour became the best way to do that because laughter instantly breaks the discomfort. At the centre of all the chaos is a very innocent and relatable character, Subbu, trying to find his place in the world. The series also explores family dynamics, generational gaps, and relationships. Having such a fantastic cast across generations and borders brought so much personality and charm to the world of Maakipur, and we're excited for audiences across the world to step into this quirky little village." Written by Mallik Ram, Ramesh Eligeti, and Shivani Dhobal, produced by Rajiv Chilaka and Bharath Laxmipati, with Chilaka Productions, "Super Subbu" will also star Get Up Srinu, Maanasa Choudhary, Jeevan and Brahmanandam.

## Shreyanka Patil credits self-belief and team spirit after India's win over Pakistan



Hyderabad: India's Shreyanka Patil weighed in on bowling in the powerplay and the importance of securing a commanding win against Pakistan in the ICC Women's World Cup on Sunday night, ahead of tougher challenges later. "I've always enjoyed bowling in the powerplay, whether it's for my state team or for India. It's amazing to bowl under pressure because that's what I love doing, and it's something I've successfully done in the past. It was fun bowling to a left-hander. We had a couple of missed chances, but Deepti's five-wicket haul made up for it all," Shreyanka said on JioStar's special tv show. "It's a great win for us to start the tournament, and we did so with a convincing margin. We know that Australia and South Africa are top teams as well. It's a World Cup, and you never know; anything can happen. So, you have to be at your best on the given day, and if you do everything right, you'll end up on the winning side," she said. On her extended time on the sidelines due to injury, Shreyanka said: "I'd be lying if I said I wasn't depressed or that I didn't think about giving up cricket. That's how I felt initially during the injury phase. But there was a voice inside me saying, 'No matter what, I love playing this sport. I'm here only because I love playing it.'" "So, I couldn't give up on something I love doing. I kept my head high, my dad kept talking to me, and my family supported me throughout. The atmosphere around me and the strong support system I had, I was always surrounded by great people. That kept me going. I love being back on the field now, and I won't let that feeling go," she said. JioStar expert Veda Krishnamurthy hailed the partnership between India's Captain Harmanpreet Kaur and Vice-Captain Smriti Mandhana.

"Both of them are experienced enough and were quick to understand the situation. What I liked about Smriti's batting at the start was that she assessed the wicket in the first couple of overs and realised there was a bit of slowness in the surface. She waited on the back foot and played under her eyes as much as possible," she said. "When Harmanpreet came in, they delayed their onslaught until around the ninth over, when they started finding the boundary regularly. They understood the need to build a partnership at that stage, and once they had done that, you could see the sweep shots coming out. They also used their feet very effectively against both the spinners and the fast bowlers. That partnership was crucial because it set the base for Richa to come in later and score those quick runs," Veda said. On potential changes in the playing XI in the next game, Veda said: "I would still like to see Radha Yadav coming in for Bharti Fulmali.

The reason is that Radha can be used in different batting positions, anywhere from No. 5 to No. 7. She is extraordinary in the field, always a plus-10 asset, and if required, she can contribute with the ball as well. "When it comes to Renuka Thakur, I would probably look at bringing her in after the South Africa game because her numbers against them are not particularly strong. She has struggled against Laura Wolvaardt in the past. But, when you're playing Australia and, if India qualify for the semi-finals, potentially England, West Indies or New Zealand, she has excellent numbers against those teams. So, I think she will be more useful for us in the later stages of the tournament. Radha was in my playing XI, but apart from that, I don't see any changes," Veda explained.

## Deepti Sharma cherishes five-wicket haul in India's World Cup win over Pakistan

Hyderabad: India's off-spinning all-rounder Deepti Sharma, who picked a five-wicket haul against Pakistan in the ICC Women's world cup on Sunday night, says it's difficult to pick one moment because everything I was able to do in this game was special, but I'll go with the five-wicket haul. "It's very rare in an ICC tournament to pick up a fiver and end up winning the game for your team. When the first drinks break happened, the discussion was about stepping up a little because we know the quality of talent and players we have in our side. Even if you go for runs in one over, it doesn't matter because you'll get a chance to make a comeback in the next. Everyone stayed positive, and the same message was passed on to every bowler, to stay on their toes, focus on what they could do better in the next over, and forget what happened in the previous one," Deepti explained on JioStar's 'Adidas Match Centre Live'. On her message to young spinners like Shreyanka Patil and Shree Charani, Deepti said: "My message to the youngsters, or whenever there are bowling meetings, I tell them to stick to what has been working for them. Read the conditions and, if you feel your best ball or your best plans can bring you success on that wicket, then back them and leave the rest to the Almighty. If you execute your plans with self-belief, success will eventually come."



Reflecting on the team's improved fielding, Deepti, who is now the leading wicket-taker in women's T-20 internationals said: "Before the T20 World Cup, we had a camp at the Centre of Excellence, where we worked extensively on our fielding and fitness with the coaches. We wanted to improve day by day in those areas, and I'm glad all that effort showed today."

## India fights back from two goals down to beat USA 3-2 in Nations Cup opener

Hyderabad: India come from behind to defeat USA. The Indian women's hockey team staged a remarkable comeback from two goals down to defeat the United States 3-2 in their opening Pool A match of the FIH Hockey Women's Nations Cup on Sunday at the North Harbour National Hockey Centre in Auckland. For India, Deepika netted a brace and Navneet Kaur scored a goal, while Ashley Sessa and Madeleine Zimmer were on the scoresheet for the USA. Deepika, who marked a stunning return to the Indian team with a brace, was also awarded the Player of the Match. The USA got off to a great start and opened the scoring through Ashley Sessa (4'), who found the back of the net with a field goal in the fourth minute. The Americans doubled their advantage just three minutes later when Madeleine Zimmer (7') converted a penalty corner to put India under early pressure. Trailing by two goals, India gradually began to assert themselves in attack. Their efforts paid off in the second quarter when drag-flick specialist Deepika (17') successfully converted a penalty corner to reduce the deficit and bring India back into the game. The momentum continued to swing in India's favour as they earned another penalty corner midway through the quarter. Deepika (24') stepped up once again and successfully converted another penalty corner to level the score at 2-2. India maintained the pressure and completed a stunning turnaround before halftime. Navneet



Kaur (28') converted a penalty corner to hand India the lead for the first time in the match, ensuring the team entered the break with a 3-2 advantage. The second half saw both teams battle intensely in search of goals. Both sides earned six penalty corners each over the course of the match, but neither defence allowed any further breakthroughs in the remaining two quarters. India successfully held on to their advantage in the closing stages to secure all three points and begin their Nations Cup campaign on a winning note. Following the victory, India moved to second place in Pool A with three points, level with Japan, who lead the standings on goal difference. India will next face Japan in their second Pool A match of the tournament on June 16 at 6:30 am.

## DP World PGTI NexGen Tour to make Varanasi debut with Rs 25 lakh event



Hyderabad: The DP World Professional Golf Tour of India (DP World PGTI) will make its debut in the historic city of Varanasi with the sixth event of the NexGen season scheduled to be played at the BLW Greens golf course from June 16 - 18, 2026. The DP World PGTI's first-ever tournament in Varanasi offers a prize purse of INR 25 lakh. The event will be played over three rounds (54 holes) with the cut being applied after two rounds (36 holes). The top-36 players and ties will make the cut for the third and final round. The tournament features a field of 72 players. The leading players in the field are Sunit Chowrasia (2026 DP World PGTI NexGen Order of Merit leader), Rajesh Kumar Gautam, Bipin Mukhiya, Abhishek Kumar, Aditya Raj Singh Chahal and Vinay Kumar Yadav as well as 15-year-old Arjunveer Shishir. The two Varanasi-based players in the field are Imam-ul-Haq and Hemant Yadav. The winner of this year's NexGen Order of Merit will earn an exemption on the main tour (DP World PGTI) for the 2026 season. Mr. Amandeep Johl, CEO, DP World PGTI, said, "Bringing a DP World PGTI NexGen event to Varanasi for the first time, which also happens to be the constituency of our esteemed Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, is a proud moment for us. This event reflects our commitment to taking professional golf beyond the traditional centres and into the heart of India. Varanasi's rich heritage and passionate golfing community make it an

ideal host, and we look forward to giving young professionals the platform they need to compete and grow. The tournament also seeks to further promote professional golf in Varanasi and inspire more youngsters in the city to take up the sport." Mr. Anurag Gupta, Hon'ble Secretary, BLW Greens, said, "We are proud and delighted that BLW Greens, Varanasi, is hosting its first-ever DP World PGTI NexGen event. This is a landmark moment not only for our club but also for the growth of golf in Varanasi. Hosting a professional tournament of this stature places Varanasi on the national golfing map and provides local golf enthusiasts, young players, and the wider community with an opportunity to witness professional golf of the highest standard." The Pro-Am event was played on Sunday, 14th June. The Pro-Am was won by the team consisting of professional Pankaj Maandiyia and amateurs Manoj Manjhi, Ritesh Singh and Amit Verma. The winning team received their prizes from Mr. Anurag Gupta, Hon'ble Secretary, BLW Greens. The NexGen Tour was launched by the DP World PGTI in 2025 as its development tour with the objective of providing equal playing opportunities to all professional golfers of India and to increase the bench strength in Indian golf which in turn increases competition and the level of golf. The NexGen also aims to take professional golf to Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities in India, thus expanding the reach of the sport within the country.

## Kotak AMC launches maiden SIF with Infinity Hybrid Long-Short Fund

Hyderabad: Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company announced the launch of its maiden Specialised Investment Fund (SIF) – the Kotak Infinity Hybrid Long-Short Fund, marking its entry into SEBI's newly introduced SIF category. SIFs are a new investment category designed to bridge the gap between traditional mutual funds and more advanced offerings such as PMS and AIFs.

They may offer relatively greater flexibility in portfolio construction, subject to applicable regulatory provisions, and are generally suited for investors who understand the associated features and risks. The strategy aims to navigate different market conditions through dynamic management of net equity exposure, with a focus on portfolio risk management, including downside risks. It involves a combination of long-only investments, permitted short exposures and arbitrage opportunities, in line with regulatory limits. However, there is no assurance that the stated objectives will be achieved or that

the strategy will deliver consistent or stable outcomes across market cycles. The New Fund Offer (NFO) will open on June 15, 2026, and close on June 29, 2026. Nilesh Shah, Managing Director, Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company Ltd says "Mutual funds have created significant wealth through disciplined long-only investing. SIFs represent a natural evolution, offering greater flexibility through long-short strategies to navigate market cycles more effectively." Kalpesh Jain, Fund Manager-SIF at Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company Ltd says "SIFs enable a more flexible approach to portfolio construction while maintaining a strong focus on risk management. The Infinity Hybrid Long-Short Fund will invest across equities, arbitrage opportunities and select derivative strategies, dynamically managing net equity exposure. The objective is to participate in market upside while aiming to reduce drawdowns in volatile conditions."

## Stock markets surge tracking global rally, drop in oil prices as US, Iran reach peace deal

Mumbai: Stock market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty surged in early trade on Monday, mirroring a rally in global equities and a sharp decline in crude oil prices, after the US and Iran finalised a deal to end their 107-day war. The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 1,112.70 points to 76,648.74 in early deals. The 50-share NSE Nifty surged 335.55 points to 23,956.40. The US and Iran finalised a deal to end their 107-day war and open the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow waterway used to ferry one-fifth of the global oil supplies, on Friday after an in-person signing of the agreement in Switzerland. US President Donald Trump made the announcement on Truth Social on Sunday evening, easing pressure on the global energy markets, as officials said the peace agreement would be signed on June 19 in Switzerland. From the 30-Sensex firms, InterGlobe Aviation, Eternal, Bajaj Finance, Bajaj Finserv, UltraTech Cement, and Larsen & Toubro were among the major winners. Sun Pharma emerged as the only laggard from the blue-chip pack. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, dropped 4.55 per cent to USD



83.36 per barrel. In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi jumped nearly 6 per cent, while Japan's Nikkei 225 index climbed more than 5 per cent. Shanghai's SSE Composite index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index were also quoting higher. US markets ended in positive territory on Friday. "With the dawn of peace in West Asia, hopefully, and the consequent sharp correction in Brent crude to below USD 84 in early trade, the prospects for the Indian economy and stock market have turned for the better," V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments Limited, said. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 1,082.18 crore on Friday, according to exchange data. On Friday, the Sensex jumped 1,695.40 points, or 2.30 per cent, to settle at 75,527.95. The Nifty ended sharply higher by 461.30 points, or 1.99 per cent, at 23,622.90.

## Gold jumps over 2 pc, silver gains nearly 3 pc as weaker dollar boosts sentiment

Mumbai: Gold and silver prices traded higher on Monday, with precious metals gaining up to 3 per cent as a weaker US dollar and expectations around future US Federal Reserve policy decisions supported investor sentiment. The gains came even as geopolitical tensions eased after US President Donald Trump announced that Washington and Tehran had reached a peace agreement and that the deal is expected to be formally signed on June 19. On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold futures (August) surged as much as 2.19 per cent or Rs 3,301 to touch an intraday high of Rs 1,53,829 per 10 grams around 11:45 am. The yellow metal was later trading at Rs 1,52,774, up Rs 2,246 or 1.49 per cent from the previous close. It touched an intraday low of Rs 1,52,632 during the session. On the other hand, silver futures (July) delivery witnessed strong buying interest, trading at Rs 2,53,345 per kg, up Rs 7,159 or nearly 3 per cent. The white metal was last seen at Rs 2,51,692, higher by Rs 5,500 or 2.24 per cent from the previous close. It touched an intraday low of Rs 2,51,425 during the day. Earlier in the session, gold and silver opened at Rs

1,53,829 per 10 grams and Rs 2,51,563 per kg, respectively, on the commodity exchange. According to commodity market experts, the gap-up opening in MCX Gold was aided by weakness in the US dollar, with the dollar index hovering near 99.5 after slipping to a one-week low following the announcement of the US-Iran peace deal.

Analysts said gold continues to maintain a moderately bullish bias, with investor focus shifting from geopolitical developments to monetary policy signals from the US Federal Reserve. Experts further noted that silver extended its recovery from recent lows and continues to draw support from gold's strength, while its medium-term outlook remains constructive. In international markets, COMEX gold and silver also traded higher, reflecting continued investor interest in precious metals. Meanwhile, crude oil prices declined sharply after the peace deal announcement eased concerns over disruptions to global energy supplies. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude fell more than 5 per cent to around \$80 per barrel, while international benchmark Brent crude declined about 4 per cent to

## Oil and gas supplies could take months to return to normal after Iran deal, energy experts say

New York: High oil and gasoline prices and energy supply problems won't be solved overnight, despite an agreement to end the Iran war and open the Strait of Hormuz announced Sunday. It will likely take months before energy companies can resume operations to the point of meeting the world's demand, according to energy experts. The slow pace of the process of shipping and refining crude oil, and doubts about the security of traveling through the strait mean the effect won't be seen immediately, they said. Ships loaded with crude oil have been stranded in the Persian Gulf for more than three months, unable to safely travel through the waterway, through which about a fifth of the world's oil and gasoline supplies



typically traveled before the war began. "It's going to take time for people to feel comfortable and for insurance to be in place ... particularly to get people on the ground to restart some of these assets," said Daniel Evans, global head of fuels and refining research at S&P Global Energy.

## Rupee jumps 58 paise as US-Iran peace deal triggers sharp fall in crude prices

Mumbai: The rupee rose 58 paise against the greenback to 94.60 in early trade on Monday as global crude oil prices dropped sharply after US President Donald Trump announced that the US and Iran finalised a deal to end the war. A strong start to the day at the domestic equity markets and a weaker US dollar further drove the local unit, forex traders said. At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 94.70 against the US dollar before rising further to 94.60, up 58 paise from its previous close. The rupee surged 67 paise to close at 95.18 against the greenback on Friday. The US and Iran finalised a deal to end their 107-day war and open the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow waterway used to ferry one-fifth of the global oil supplies, on Friday after an in-person signing of the agreement in Switzerland. US President Donald Trump made the announcement on Truth Social on Sunday evening, easing pressure on the global energy markets, as officials said the peace agreement would be signed on June 19 in Switzerland. "The Deal with the Islamic Republic of Iran is now complete. Congratulations to all," Trump said, adding that it would reopen the Strait of Hormuz and end the US naval blockade on Iranian ports. "Rupee movement today will be significantly influenced by the peace deal between US and Iran and the consequent crash in Brent crude. This means India's balance of payments problem for FY27 is no



longer a serious issue," V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments Ltd, said. "Rupee started appreciating from the low of 96.96 to the dollar touched on May 20. Today the appreciating trend will continue and the rupee is likely to trade in the 94.80 to 94.60 range with scope for further appreciation in the coming days," Vijayakumar added. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 99.53, down 0.22 per cent. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading lower by 4.66 per cent at USD 83.26 per barrel in futures trade. On the domestic equity market front, Sensex surged 1,112.70 points to 76,648.74 in early trade, while Nifty rose sharply by 335.55 points to 23,956.40. Foreign institutional investors offloaded equities worth Rs 1,082.18 crore on a net basis on Friday, according to exchange data. India's forex reserves dropped USD 711 million to USD 681.610 billion during the week ended June 5 due to a sharp decline in foreign currency reserves, the RBI said on Friday.



nearly \$83 per barrel. Trump announced on Truth Social that the United States and Iran had finalised a peace agreement aimed at ending the conflict and reopening the Strait of Hormuz, a key shipping route that handles nearly one-fifth of global oil supplies. Shilpa Shetty shares mobility challenge workout, urges fans to stay fit Mumbai: Actress Shilpa Shetty kicked off the week by doling out a dose of Monday motivation for fitness enthusiasts. In her latest post, she shared a mobility challenge workout focused on improving balance, flexibility, and overall body control. In her caption, she also encouraged fans to stay consistent with their fitness goals. In the video, the 'Dhadkan' actress could be seen performing a mobility challenge workout, focusing on balance, flexibility, and controlled movements. For the caption, she wrote, "How many times did you lose balance? Be honest Benefits of Mobility Challenge: – Improves shoulder mobility and flexibility through a wide range of movement. – Enhances upper

and mid-back (thoracic spine) mobility for better posture and movement. – Increases hip mobility, helping you move more freely and efficiently. – Challenges balance, coordination, and overall body control. – Strengthens stabilizing muscles while improving motor control. – Promotes smoother movement patterns and better joint health. – Builds body awareness, focus, and functional fitness. #MondayMotivation #Swasth RahoMastRa ho #FitIndia." Shilpa Shetty often shares videos of her workout and yoga sessions, giving regular glimpses of her fitness routine. Meanwhile, Shilpa Shetty had recently celebrated her 51st birthday. She shared a heartwarming glimpse of her perfect birthday celebration, which she enjoyed with her family by her side. The 'Hungama 2' actress posted a video from the special day on Instagram. The clip showed Shilpa cutting the cake with her husband Raj Kundra, while her kids sang the birthday song for her. The doting mom also enjoyed the cake and received a special gift that left her surprised. Alongside the sweet video, Shilpa wrote, "Just the perfect Birthday, with my loved ones. Thankyouuuuuu for all your good wishes and blessings. Heart is filled with soooo much love. Heartfelt gratitude." Work-wise, Shilpa Shetty was last seen in the popular OTT web series Indian Police Force.

# Complaint against actor Prakash Raj in Tirupati court for hurting religious sentiments

A criminal complaint has been filed in Tirupati against actor Prakash Raj over alleged derogatory remarks regarding the Ramayana and Hindu deities. Explore the legal details and sections invoked under the BNS. A criminal complaint has been filed in a court in Tirupati against film actor Prakash Raj for his derogatory remarks regarding Hindu deities and the epic Ramayana. G. Bhanuprakash Reddy, BJP leader and a member of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) Trust Board, filed the complaint in the court of the IV-Additional Judicial Magistrate of

First Class on Monday, alleging that the actor made "inflammatory" statements during the Kerala Literature Festival and other public forums. According to the complaint, the actor allegedly claimed that Lord Rama and Lakshmana travelled from North India to "invade" the South, which he reportedly equated to "Lanka". National News Coverage The complainant stated that on April 17, he came across a video of the actor on social media, in which he made "highly derogatory, factually incorrect, inflammatory and malicious statements" regarding Lord Rama



and Lakshmana and the sacred epic Ramayana. Bhanuprakash Reddy stated in his complaint that these statements, widely circulated on social media, cause widespread hurt and outrage among the Hindu community.

The complainant alleged that the accused wilfully promoted the divisive "Aryan-Dravidian" theory, incited regional animosity and undermined India's cultural and religious unity and deliberately insulted the deities and scrip-

tures of the Hindu religion with the intent to outrage religious feelings. The TTD member alleged that the accused committed act of insulting religious feelings, which is an offence against public tranquillity, religious harmony and the community's beliefs. He further states that the accused's statements attracted section 299 (deliberate & malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) and section 196 (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence etc & acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. The complainant requested the court to examine the complaint, take cognisance of the offences and summon and punish the accused in accordance with the law.

## Mayor, NMC Commissioner inaugurate 'Yogandhra' wellness initiative

Nellore: In the run-up to the 12th International Day of Yoga, Nellore Municipal Corporation (NMC) Mayor Devarakonda Sujatha Ashok, alongside Commissioner YO Nandan, officially inaugurated the "Yogandhra-2026" wellness programme on Sunday. Indian Current Events The civic leaders commenced the initiative by lighting a ceremonial lamp at the Command and Control Centre within the Municipal Corporation headquarters. Speaking at the launch, Mayor Sujatha Ashok emphasized that the state government is executing the "Yogandhra" campaign on a grand scale to systematically elevate the public's physical and mental well-being. She noted that incorporating yoga into daily routines acts as a powerful preventative health measure, ensuring individuals remain active, healthy, and highly productive. The Mayor explicitly advised the student community to adopt regular practice, stating it provides the core physical conditioning and mental discipline re-



quired to excel in sports and academics. NMC Commissioner YO Nandan highlighted that the main objective of the Yogandhra program is to combat modern lifestyle diseases and promote stress-free living. He urged citizens across all municipal divisions to form localized groups, learn proper techniques from certified instructors, and make yoga a permanent part of their lifestyles. The inaugural session witnessed active participation from NMC Deputy Director Madhuri, prominent regional yoga instructors, civic officials, and local school students.

## Tourist boat services suspended

Rajamahendravaram: Tourist boat services operating in the Godavari River under the Rampachodavaram Revenue Division have been temporarily suspended following safety concerns and allegations regarding the functioning of the vessels. Rampachodavaram Revenue Divisional Officer K Swathi, in a statement issued on Saturday, said the decision had been taken as a precautionary measure on the instructions of Polavaram District Collector K Dinesh Kumar. She stated that comprehensive inspections would be conducted on all tourist boats operating in the division before allowing them to resume services. The decision comes in the wake of a recent incident during a Papikondalu excursion in which the Sri Lakshmi tourist boat reportedly developed a technical snag and came to a halt in the middle of the Godavari River. The incident, which surfaced after a delay, has triggered concerns over the maintenance and fitness of vessels engaged in tourism activities. According to officials, the boat had commenced its journey from the Gandhi Pochamma temple premises carrying 89 tourists on a Papikondalu trip. The vessel encountered technical problems near the old police station area of Devipatnam, forcing the boat operator to stop it midstream. Boat operators later shifted the passengers to another vessel named Jalasri and ensured that the tourists continued their journey without further inconvenience. "Notably, information about the incident did not reach senior officials through the field-level staff immediately after it occurred. The delay in



reporting, reportedly caused by negligence or lapses on the part of the concerned personnel, resulted in the matter coming to the notice of higher authorities only after a day. Sources indicated that senior officials have expressed serious displeasure over the failure of the field staff to promptly communicate such a significant incident. Disciplinary action is likely to be initiated against those found responsible for the lapse," officials said. Also Read - People urged to make yoga part of lifestyle Advertisement Discover more Regional News Portal Political Opinion Articles News Subscription Service However, the incident has raised serious questions over the fitness certification and operational standards of tourist boats in the region. The RDO said a joint inspection team comprising officials from the Revenue, Police, Tourism, Fisheries, Disaster Management and Irrigation departments would examine various aspects related to passenger safety. The inspections will cover the fitness and technical condition of boats, passenger carrying capacity, compliance with safety norms, availability of life jackets and emergency rescue equipment, and the precautionary measures adopted by operators for the protection of tourists.

## Need to overcome shortage of rare blood groups stressed



Ongole: There is a great need to overcome the shortage of rare blood groups and provide better medical care to patients, said Dr Srivani, Principal of Government Medical College (GMC), Ongole. She attended the event as the chief guest at the special programme held on Sunday at the GGH Ongole to mark World Blood Donor Day. Speaking on the occasion, she said blood banks must always have enough blood to save the lives of patients in danger. She expressed happiness at the large number of donors com-

ing forward and said that awareness of blood donation must grow further in society. As part of the programme, several MBBS students from GGH hospital voluntarily donated blood. Dr Srivani and the medical team praised the youth's initiative in saving lives. Senior donors who had donated blood many times were honoured with shawls and mementos. GGH in-charge superintendent Dr Edukondal Rao, senior doctors, blood bank staff, and medical students took part in the event.

## Three held, 2.11 litres liquid ganja seized

Guntur: Guntur police arrested three accused and seized 2.111 litres of liquid ganja during the vehicle checks conducted at IPD Colony here on Saturday night. According to DSP D Srinivasa Reddy, the police intercepted a Mahindra XUV-500 vehicle during searches and recovered liquid ganja stored in two polythene covers and three plastic containers, along with 20 empty plastic containers, a one-litre plastic bottle containing traces of liquid ganja, and rolling papers used for preparing ganja cigarettes. The seized contraband was examined using a digital weighing scale, which confirmed the presence of 2.110 kilograms (approximately 2.11 litres) of liquid ganja. The police arrested accused R Mahaveer, Abbu Sai Manikantha Teja and SK Rahantulla of Guntur city. During questioning, the accused confessed to procuring liquid ganja from AP-Odisha border areas and transporting it to Guntur. They allegedly repackaged the substance into smaller containers and sold it at high prices to individuals addicted to ganja and other narcotic substances. Tests also revealed that the accused themselves were consumers of liquid ganja. Police seized

2.110 kilograms of liquid ganja, the Mahindra XUV-500 vehicle, and other related materials. A case has been registered and further investigation is underway. Efforts are underway to identify and apprehend suppliers operating in the Andhra Pradesh-Odisha border region as well as other consumers linked to the network. Addressing the media at the Guntur East Sub-Division Office on Sunday, DSP D Srinivasa Reddy stated that narcotic substances severely affect the future of youth, disrupt family life, and pose a threat to public safety and social harmony. He emphasised that the police department is giving top priority to the eradication of drugs within the Guntur East Sub-Division and warned that strict action would be taken against those involved in the transportation, storage, sale, and consumption of ganja, liquid ganja, and other narcotic substances. He appealed to young people to stay away from drugs and urged parents to remain vigilant regarding their children's behaviour. He urged the citizens to report information related to narcotics to the police or dial 112 and join hands in making society drug-free.