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Chandrababu Naidu showcases Amaravati vision at Singapore summit

(king Reporter)Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday showcased his vision for Amaravati at the World Cities Summit in Singapore, describing the greenfield capital city as a people-centric urban centre built on the principles of equity, sustainability, opportunity, and livability. Addressing the Leadership Plenary-2 session on the theme “Can Smart Cities Love Humans?”, the Chief Minister said Amaravati is being developed as one of the finest cities in the world with world-class infrastructure, advanced digital capabilities, and a strong focus on quality of life. “People first is our policy. Amaravati will be a city based on equity, nature, opportunity, and livability,” Naidu said. Reflecting on his focus on technology-driven growth, the Chief Minister said he had spoken about information technology 25 years ago and that the first-mover advantage had helped Telugu people emerge among the leaders in per capita income. Naidu said the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh provided an opportunity to build another city and that Amaravati is being developed as a greenfield capital and a platform of opportunities. The CM said the city is taking shape around the Krishna River, with inner and outer ring roads and iconic bridges forming key elements of its infrastructure. He noted that Amaravati

would be developed as a 21-km waterfront city and would incorporate specialised zones such as Sports City, Financial City, Knowledge City, Justice City, Tourism City, Health City, and Media City. The CM said farmers had voluntarily contributed 35,000 acres of land under the land pooling model after a single call from the government and noted that a portion of the land is being developed and returned to them as developed plots. Drawing a comparison with Cyberabad, Naidu said land that was valued at Rs 2 lakh per acre when the project was launched had appreciated to around Rs 200 crore per acre. He described Cyberabad as proof that development leads to wealth creation. The Chief Minister said Amaravati is being developed as a Knowledge City and that efforts are underway to attract national and international educational institutions. He added that a Quantum Computing Hub and advanced digital infrastructure would be among the city’s major attractions. Naidu invited people to visit Amaravati and leverage the opportunities being created through the capital city’s development with fresh and innovative ideas, the release added.

Earlier, the CM invited global semiconductor companies to explore investment opportunities in Andhra Pradesh, describing the state as one of



India’s most investment-friendly destinations. Addressing the Semicon Ecosystem Roundtable, the Chief Minister said Andhra Pradesh follows a “Speed of Doing Business” approach to facilitate investments and industrial growth. “This is the right time for investors to explore opportunities in Andhra Pradesh. I invite industrialists to visit the state within the next 30 days and assess the policies and opportunities available,” Naidu said in an official release. He said India is among the safest destinations for investments globally and noted that Andhra Pradesh offers a conducive environment for industries through investor-friendly policies and faster approvals. Highlighting the state’s potential in semiconductor manufacturing, he said a semiconductor manufacturing facility would soon be established in the Rayalaseema region. The CM noted that Rayalaseema also offers significant opportunities in defence, aerospace, electronics, fighter aircraft manufacturing, and automobile production.

Representatives of several Singapore-based semiconductor companies attended the roundtable meeting and discussed opportunities for collaboration and investments in Andhra Pradesh. Among the participants were representa-

tives from GlobalFoundries, NXP, ASMPT, One System Technologies, TechSend Photomask, and Aquatech. The discussions focused on strengthening the semiconductor ecosystem and exploring investment opportunities in manufacturing and allied sectors in Andhra Pradesh, the release added. Prior to this, the CM released a book titled ‘CBN@361 Degrees – Polymath’ in Singapore, which analyses his leadership style and decision-making as a public administrator. Naidu participated in an event organised by a local Telugu association in Singapore and formally released the book. He presented the first copies to Indian High Commissioner to Singapore Shilpak Ambule, Municipal Administration Minister P Narayana, and representatives of the association. The book was authored by Shakamuri Srinivasa Prasad, a senior journalist and editor, and translated into English by retired IAS officer KV Satyanarayana. According to the author, the book examines several decisions taken by Naidu over the years and analyses his role as a visionary leader in governance and development. During the event, representatives of the association presented Naidu with a commemorative silver coin issued to mark the centenary of Lee Kuan Yew, regarded as the architect of modern Singapore. The organisers said the book would soon be released in Telugu, Hindi and other Indian languages. They also noted that the digital version of the previously published book ‘Chandrababu X.0’ had recorded around eight million downloads.

TG Gov calls on youth to spearhead ‘Viksit Bharat@2047’ campaign

(king Reporter)Anantapur: Calling upon the country’s youth to emerge as the central engine behind the national objective of Viksit Bharat@2047, Maharashtra Governor Jishnu Dev Varma emphasized that grassroots leadership, institutional innovation, and a high sense of civic responsibility are non-negotiable for nation-building. The Governor made these remarks during an interactive session with Bisathi Bharath—a prominent social entrepreneur from Andhra Pradesh, MY Bharat representative, and National Youth Awardee—at Telangana Bhavan in New Delhi on Monday. During the meeting, Bharath presented the Governor with a copy of his latest book, “Changemaker: From Action to Impact.” The book meticulously chronicles Bharath’s 15-year journey in community development, which originated in a remote, drought-prone village in Anantapur district and eventually scaled to national and international development platforms. The text highlights his extensive, long-term field execution in youth empowerment, struc-



tured life skills education, emergency blood donation drives, environmental conservation, and child protection protocols. Commending his relentless commitment to public welfare, Governor Dev Varma noted that the country’s socio-economic trajectory hinges heavily on the participation of its young citizens. He encouraged the youth to actively embrace volunteerism, stating that socially conscious models designed by youngsters can create structural, generational change. The high-profile interactive meeting was also attended by youth leader Abhash Kumar Chowbey, who joined the discussions focused on expanding youth-led entrepreneurship across rural sectors.

Pawan Kalyan meets Union Minister Bhupendra Yadav, talks on AP forest dept issues

(king Reporter)Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan met with Union Minister Bhupendra Yadav to discuss forest conservation and environmental initiatives. Key proposals include the establishment of a Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Centre (HANUMAN), increased tiger conservation efforts, and measures to address pollution in the Godavari River. Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan is continuing his visit to Delhi. On Tuesday, he met with Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupendra Yadav. Discussions primarily focused on key issues concerning the AP Forest Department and environmental clearances for various projects. Speaking to the media after the meeting, Pawan stated that he had submitted important proposals regarding Andhra Pradesh. He requested the establishment of modern facilities—such as a Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Centre (HANUMAN), a Great Green Wall Monitoring Centre, a Command and Control Centre, and a State Tiger Monitoring Centre—within the ‘Aranya Bhavan’ currently being set up for the AP Forest Department. Pawan mentioned that he sought additional funds to increase the number of tiger conservation base camps in forest areas from the current 90 to 150. He noted that these base camps would provide employment opportunities for approximately 300 Chenchu ??tribal youths. He also revealed that he requested Central assistance for resources such as motorbikes and dry rations, which are essential for patrolling forest areas. Fur-



thermore, he discussed bringing six female tigers from other states to preserve genetic diversity, given the rise in the tiger population within the state. Pawan also stated that he asked the Centre to dispatch a team from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to address pollution in the Godavari River. He expressed optimism that the Centre would cooperate in assessing pollution levels and implementing appropriate mitigation measures. He stated that the cultivation of mangrove, casuarina, and palm trees is being undertaken along approximately 450 kilometers of the state’s 1,050-kilometer coastline. Pawan Kalyan mentioned that the Union Minister assured full support from the Central Government for the environmental conservation and forest development programs being implemented by the Andhra Pradesh government.

APSRTC announces free travel for NEET students on June 21

(king Reporter) Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Transport Minister M Ramprasad Reddy on Tuesday said APSRTC buses will offer free rides to students appearing for NEET examination on June 21. The minister noted that students can produce their examination hall ticket to avail free bus travel to the National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test (NEET UG) centre. “APSRTC (Andhra Pradesh State

Road Transport Corporation) is making special arrangements for students appearing for the NEET examination. We are offering free bus rides for students who produce their hall tickets,” Reddy said in an official release. Further, he observed that additional bus services will be operated across the state wherever needed, and called on students to avail the bus facility.



US-Iran war and the rise of geoeconomics under Trump

It is interesting to note that the US-Iran ceasefire negotiations have recently witnessed a major shift in priorities of the peace proposals. The earlier peace proposal primarily focused on the safe passage of ships through the Strait of Hormuz and Iran's denuclearisation efforts, but the recent peace proposal has incorporated the extension of the Abraham Accords among the US allies. Additionally, President Trump has suggested that Iran should also join this accord to recognise Israel, which possibly makes the entire peace proposal logically irrelevant, as this suggestion goes against the foundational political principles of the Iranian regime. Many scholars believe that this proposal reflects President Trump's reluctance to end the war prematurely, as this war is benefiting the US directly or indirectly. While the global economy is experiencing a significant slowdown post-Iran war, the net worth of a few individuals globally, particularly American business tycoons, continues to increase. In recent times, it is often alleged that American business tycoons associated with President Trump, directly or indirectly, have experienced exponential increases in their profits or net worth. In fact, the personal wealth of President Trump himself has risen significantly, nearly tripling from \$2.3 billion to \$6.5 billion over the last few years. In addition to this, President Trump's unilateral decisions on the Iran war have not only made the consequences of this war much more uncertain but also made the global economy highly vulnerable. This phenomenon partially reminds us of the Marxist Theory of international politics, in which Marx gives primacy to domestic political economy over geopolitics. Although the discipline of international political economy traces its origin to Adam Smith's Wealth of Nations and the Ricardian theory of comparative advantage, Marx strongly criticises Smith's and Ricardo's ideas of political economy. As Marx's criticism focuses primarily on the domestic context of capitalism and not much on the external dimensions of capitalism, he argues that policies inspired by Adam Smith and David Ricardo bring wealth to the few rather than to the nation as a whole. With the skyrocketing energy prices across the globe post the Hormuz blockade, the US market is also experiencing an increase in inflationary pressures on almost every good and service. This is exactly what Marx argues, that the market, inspired by Adam Smith and Ricardo, will benefit only the bourgeoisie class or a few individuals. President Trump, being a businessman first, always looks for profit, completely ignoring all aspects of the catastrophe he has been creating in recent times, be it his role in Gaza, Ukraine or the Persian Gulf. Trump's capitalistic approach to war has been so influential that the profits generated by the war outcomes are highly concentrated among the few individuals who have backed Donald Trump throughout his political career. Ever since the Iran war began almost a hundred days ago, President Trump has repeatedly announced progress towards a peace agreement, signalling an end to this war. Each time he announces that this war is nearing an end, the market reacts very differently: crude oil prices drop sharply, and stock markets worldwide see a bullish trend.

Man absconding for 17 years nabbed after he bought a sim card in Adilabad

Adilabad: A wanted man, who was evading court proceedings in a job fraud case for 17 years, was nabbed immediately after he bought a mobile phone SIM card here, police said on Monday. The police had requested telecom operators to share information if any customer bought a SIM card in the name of Ramesh Babu. The police managed to reach him soon after the wanted man bought a SIM card of a leading service

provider. A non-bailable warrant was issued against him and he was produced before the court, according to Adilabad One Town Inspector B Sunil Kumar. A case was registered against Vengalla Ramesh Babu on charges of duping job seekers on the pretext of providing employment opportunities in 2009. He had been evading court proceedings for the last 17 years.

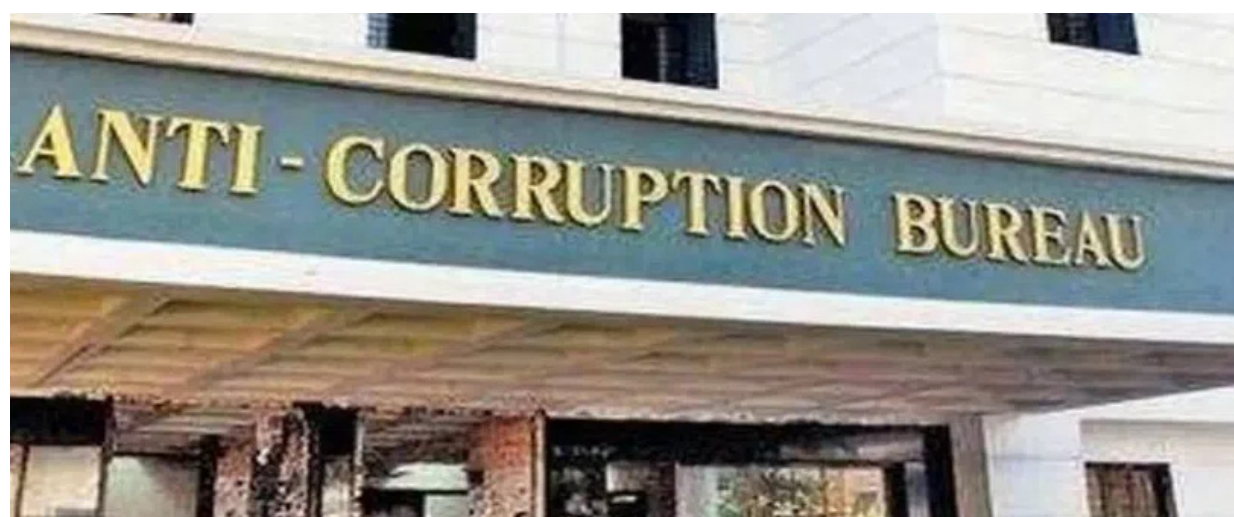
KTR to address BRS training camp at Palair in Khammam on June 17



Khammam: As part of efforts to strengthen the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) organisationally and plan its future course of action, the party's working president KT Rama Rao is scheduled to visit Khammam district on June 17. The party's erstwhile Khammam in-charge Takkellapalli Ravinder Rao, speaking to the media along with MLC Tata Madhusudan here on Monday, informed that Rama Rao would address key constituency representatives at 11 am at Sriharsha Convention in Palair constituency. Former Palair MLA Kandala Upender Reddy would preside over the meeting, while in-charges from all 10 constituencies of the joint district, special in-charges appointed by the State party and senior district-level leaders would attend the meeting. The meeting is a special training camp to be held exclusively for 291 selected booth-

level representatives, digital membership in-charges (two per booth) and constituency coordination committee members, Ravinder Rao said. A 100 per cent digitised membership enrolment drive is being undertaken, guided by the motto that 'quality matters more than quantity'. A special mobile app is set to be launched by party chief K Chandrashekhara Rao within the next two or three days. Two designated digital membership in-charges from each booth would personally visit every household to capture and upload members' live photographs and location details into the app. Membership fees would be collected online and a digital receipt, designed to resemble an ID card, would be issued immediately. Coordination committees, each comprising five members, have been appointed for every mandal to oversee this process, Ravinder Rao added.

ACB searches land and survey official, assets worth crores unearthed



Hyderabad: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) officials conducted extensive searches at the residence and properties linked to Sunkari Narahari, Deputy Director in the Land and Survey Department, and reportedly uncovering alleged disproportionate assets with market value worth around Rs 150 crore on Tuesday. The raids were carried out under the supervision of ACB DSP Gangasani Sridhar at Narahari's residence in Narayanaguda and 11 other locations across the State. During the searches, investigators reportedly seized key documents and discovered Rs 1.2 crore in cash that had been packed in bags and hidden in an attic. Officials also

recovered a large quantity of gold ornaments and other valuables. Preliminary findings suggest that the assets identified so far are vastly disproportionate to the officer's known sources of income. The ACB said the searches are continuing, and officials are expected to open and inspect several bank lockers linked to the officer. A comprehensive valuation of the seized assets is underway, and further details are likely to emerge as the investigation progresses. The case is being treated as a disproportionate assets investigation, with the agency examining financial records, property documents and investment details recovered during the searches.

Fire breaks out near chemical unit in Jeedimetla

Hyderabad: Panic gripped workers and residents after a fire broke out in an open yard near a chemical manufacturing unit in Jeedimetla on Tuesday. According to information available, the fire reportedly erupted in a vacant area where old reactors belonging to Vasantha Chemicals had been stored, sending thick plumes of smoke into the air. The dense smoke and flames triggered panic among workers

working inside the factory premises, prompting several workers to rush out to safety. The staff immediately started firefighting efforts using fire extinguishers and water pipelines to prevent the blaze from spreading. Fire department was informed. Further details regarding the cause of the fire and the extent of damage is yet to be known.



Bus catches fire in Nampally; no one hurt

Hyderabad: A private bus caught fire near Haj House in Nampally on Tuesday morning, causing a temporary traffic slowdown on the busy stretch. However, quick action by the Fire Department prevented the incident from escalating. According to the State Fire Control Department, an emergency call regarding the fire was received at 9 am. Following the alert, a team of firefighters rushed to the spot and took up firefighting operations. The blaze was brought under control within a short time, preventing it from spreading to nearby vehicles or structures.

Traffic movement in the area was affected for some time as emergency personnel carried out firefighting and safety measures. No injuries or casualties were reported in the incident. The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained.

Toddler dies after falling into water filled bucket in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: In a tragic incident, a 16-month-old girl died after accidentally falling into a bucket filled with water when playing in her house in Kanchanbagh, leaving her family devastated. According to police, the incident occurred in the C-Block locality of Hafeez Baba Nagar. The child's father, Mohd Asif Khan, works in sheet lining services and lives with his wife Habiba Unnisa and their three daughters near Harmain Masjid.

Software employee dupes colleagues in investment fraud in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: A software professional allegedly cheated two of his former colleagues to the tune of Rs 3.56 crore by promising high returns on investments. According to the complaint, C Venkata Reddy, a resident of Nizampet, became friend with Desu Sandesh while working at an IT company in 2020. Sandesh reportedly claimed that he was running a company that offered lucrative investment opportunities with assured monthly returns. Believing the promises, Venkata Reddy allegedly invested Rs 1.92 crore, including funds obtained through bank loans. Sandesh is said to have assured him a monthly return of Rs 3.5 lakh and initially made regular payments, creating confidence in the scheme. Encouraged by the early payouts, Venkata Reddy introduced his friend Subramanyam to the investment venture. Sandesh allegedly persuaded both men to invest a total of Rs 3.56 crore, assuring them of monthly profits along with an additional five per cent annual return. Police said the suspect paid returns for about five months before abruptly stopping all payments. He later became unreachable and stopped responding to phone calls, prompting the victims to suspect foul play. After realising they had been cheated, the victims approached the police. Based on a complaint filed by the victims, the Cyberabad Economic Offences Wing (EOW) police have registered a case and are investigating.

How EU-India FTA opens new doors to boost trade

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent four-nation tour of Europe, aimed partly at consolidating strategic relations with key European partners amid the changing geopolitical and trading landscape, has a greater significance in terms of diversifying India's external economic engagement with access to wider markets, according to a new report. The article by Politeia Research Foundation (PRF) cites the finalisation of the India-EU free trade agreement as a major step forward in the economic partnership. "By reducing barriers to goods and services, the agreement can help the EU diversify its partnerships and strengthen its presence in one of the world's fastest-growing markets, while enabling India to expand exports, attract investment, upgrade its industries and integrate more deeply into global value chains," the PRF article published in India Narrative states. It highlights that in 2024, the EU was India's second-largest trading partner after China, accounting for 11 per cent of India's total global trade. Meanwhile, India was the EU's tenth-largest trading partner, accounting for only 1.7 per cent of the EU's global trade. This shows that while the EU is a major market for India, the latter remains a relatively smaller, though increasingly relevant, partner for the EU. The EU-India FTA could, therefore, help address this gap by supporting stronger Indian export growth to the EU and by improving market access for EU firms in India. With a market of close to 1.5 billion people and an expanding middle class, India offers the EU an important source of export diversification and long-term demand growth. For India, the agreement offers an equally important opportunity. Under the EU-India FTA, the EU has committed to eliminating tariffs on over 90 per cent of tariff lines, covering 91 per cent of the trade value, creating a window for India to drive export growth and increase its



share of EU imports. Overall, the FTA is expected to deepen EU penetration in high-value sectors and increase India's access to advanced technologies and industrial inputs. The key point is that these provisions reduce the tariff disadvantage faced by Indian exporters in sectors where even small price differences can affect market share, the article points out.

This is particularly relevant for textiles and apparel. Indian exporters have historically faced a tariff disadvantage in the EU compared with competitors such as Bangladesh, Pakistan and Turkey, which benefit from preferential access to the European market. The FTA helps correct this gap by improving India's tariff treatment in the EU's large textile and apparel market. This could support export diversification while strengthening one of India's most employment-intensive sectors, which is closely linked to MSME clusters and regional production networks. The potential gains are therefore not only commercial but also developmental, given the sector's role in job creation and small-firm participation, the article points out. It further underscores that the EU-India FTA provides specific commitments on trade in services between the two regions. This is particularly relevant for India, whose comparative strength in ICT and business services gives services trade a central role in its economic relationship with the EU. Besides, the agreement could also support the expansion of Global Capability Centres in India by improving predictability for cross-border services supply and strengthening links between Indian service providers and European clients.

AI Express flight from Kannur to Jeddah returns due to engine fault

Kannur: An Air India Express flight bound to Jeddah from Kannur returned within two hours of the flight on Tuesday due to a fault in the aircraft's engine, airport sources said. The aircraft with over 180 passengers took off at 7.40 am from Kannur airport, but around two hours into the flight, the pilots saw an engine warning light and decided to return, the sources said. "The flight landed safely in Kannur, and all the passengers are fine," they said. A subsequent check of the aircraft found that there was something wrong with the fuel filter, they said. The aircraft circled the airport for some time to reduce fuel before landing, they added.



Bandi Sanjay rejects CM Revanth Reddy's Metro phase-2 remarks

Karimnagar: Union Minister of State for Home Bandi Sanjay Kumar refuted Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's comments that Union Minister G Kishan Reddy was obstructing Hyderabad Metro phase-2. Terming it false, Sanjay Kumar made it clear that there was no truth in the Chief Minister's statement

and said that the Union government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi was committed to the development of Telangana. If Kishan Reddy wanted to obstruct the growth of the State, then how was the State getting huge funds as well as projects from the Centre, he wondered. The Union government had

Kerala reports 146 Shigella cases this year, 70 recorded in June



Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala Health Minister K Muraleedharan on Tuesday said that since January this year, 146 cases of Shigella were reported in the state and of those 70 were in June. Speaking to reporters here after chairing a review meeting, Muraleedharan said that of the five Shigella deaths, one was in March and the remaining four were in June. The highest number of cases — 74 — of the bacterial infection from January to June were reported from

Kozhikode, followed by Malappuram — 25, including two deaths — and then Thiruvananthapuram — also 25 cases of infection, according to the figures given by the minister. No Shigella cases were reported from Pathanamthitta, Palakkad and Kasaragod districts of the state till now this year, he said. Shigella is a bacterial infection that causes diarrhoea, fever and stomach cramps. It spreads mainly through contaminated food or water and through contact with infected persons.

Speaker to seek views of both TMC factions before decision; mail sent to Mamata group: Sources



New Delhi: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will hear the defected TMC MPs as well as the faction led by Mamata Banerjee before deciding on giving recognition to the breakaway faction, sources have said. The speaker's office has also sent an email to the Banerjee-led faction — which is now reduced to a rump — seeking its view, they said. Earlier, sources from Parliament said Birla is likely to seek legal opinion on the defected leaders' demand to be recognised as a separate group after a proposed merger with the little-known Nationalist Citizens Party of India (NCPI). Any decision on the group's demand will be taken before the Monsoon Session of Parliament, which usually commences in the third week of July, they said. A decision on whether the breakaway faction gets the recognition will be based on the written opinion of the Union law ministry, which will give it after consulting a senior law officer. The legal opinion will be sought so that the speaker's decision, if challenged in court, can withstand judicial scrutiny, sources said. Former secretary general of the Lok Sabha and constitutional expert PDT Achary cited paragraph 4 of the 10th Schedule of the Constitution to underline that only a political party can merge with another political

party, not MPs or MLAs. He told PTI that if the leadership of a political party decides to merge with another political party, its MLAs and MPs have to agree on the merger "but MPs or the MLAs alone cannot merge with another political party... this is the Constitutional provision." A former Election Commission officer, who dealt with political parties in the poll authority, described the current plan of the TMC rebels to merge with the NCPI as an "innovation" that has no mention in either the anti-defection law or the Representation of the People Act.

The crisis in the TMC deepened on Sunday as the defected MPs announced their merger with the NCPI and met Birla seeking a separate seating arrangement in the Lower House. After the meeting, defected MP Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar said 20 party MPs had signed the representation submitted to the speaker. "Two-thirds of TMC MPs have given a letter to the speaker for a separate seating arrangement. We will merge with the Nationalist Citizens Party and support the NDA," she said. The NCPI registered itself as a political party in January 2023, with a building in Sankarail in West Bengal's Howrah district as its address in the ECI records and has little footprint in national politics.



sanctioned thousands of crores for the development of Hyderabad, Warangal and Khammam districts, Sanjay Kumar claimed while participating in 'Chai Pe Charcha' with RMP doctors in Manakon

dur on Tuesday. Talking about SIR, the Union Minister questioned what was wrong if the votes of illegal infiltrators were removed. He also questioned why the Congress party was comparing Indian Muslims with foreign Muslims. In an attempt to gain political benefit by creating trouble among different religions, the Congress party was opposing SIR. Nobody has the right to remove the votes of Indian citizens, he made it clear and demanded a categorical reply from the Congress party on whether the votes of illegal infiltrators should be removed.

Coarse rice deteriorating in ration shops, MLS points, godowns

Karimnagar: Delay in shifting the old stock of coarse rice from Public Distribution System (PDS) shops has become a problem for ration dealers. To provide fine variety rice to poor people and check the illegal trade of PDS rice, the State government launched the fine variety rice distribution programme on the occasion of Ugadi in April 2025. However, a huge quantity of coarse variety rice was stored in ration shops, godowns and Mandal Level Stock (MLS) points before the scheme was launched. Though the new scheme was launched, the old stock has not been shifted from ration shops. About 27,390 metric tonnes of coarse rice is lying in the erstwhile Karimnagar district. Though the officials invited tenders in December last year to shift the old stock from shops, contractors did not respond. Officials repeatedly invited tenders again in May, but there was no response, and they are now planning to reduce the price. Dealers are facing difficulties in storing the new rice since a majority of ration shops operate from small



rooms and the old stock has not been cleared. Moreover, insects have infested the old stocks that have been piled up over the last one year, and the infestation is now spreading to the new stocks of fine variety rice as well. For this reason, dealers want the government to help them by shifting the old stock from ration shops at the earliest. On the other hand, contractors are planning to participate in the tendering process only after checking the quality of the coarse rice. While 5,213 metric tonnes of old stock is lying in Karimnagar, 9,990 metric tonnes is in Jagtial, 8,848 metric tonnes in Peddapalli and 3,347 metric tonnes in Rajanna-Sircilla.

Taskforce police unearthed illegal sand stocks



Karimnagar: Taskforce police unearthed three illegal sand stocks in Vilasagar of Jammikunta mandal on Monday. Sand with a capacity of about 150 tractor-loads was stored illegally. Taskforce police, who are focusing on illegal sand mining, transportation and storage, carried out checks in Vilasagar and found the sand stocks. While sand

with a capacity of 100 tractor-loads was found in a huge dump, sand with a capacity of 50 tractor-loads was found in two other dumps.

Besides the sand, two tractors being used for the illegal transportation of sand were seized. Taskforce ACP Vasala Sathish and others participated in the checking.

Aim to add another 2k acres under oil palm cultivation in Siddipet constituency: Harish

Siddipet: Former Minister T Harish Rao asked the horticulture and Oilfed officials to increase the area under oil palm cultivation by 2,000 acres during the season in addition to the existing 4,800 acres. Speaking to officials from his constituency in Siddipet on Monday, Rao urged them to conduct awareness programmes at the grassroots level on the need to switch to oil palm cultivation from traditional crops. The former minister also asked them to educate farmers on the fertilisers that need to be used, apart from other crop management practices. Stating that Oilfed officials should reach out to farmers, he asked them to supply urea to oil palm farmers without using the fertiliser app. Rao toured extensively across his constitu-



ency on Monday. Earlier, Rao inaugurated a water plant established by Balavikasa at Shankaraya Kunta in Chinna Kodur mandal. Later in the evening, Rao inspected the Machavani Kunta lake in Siddipet. Asking the officials to prepare plans to develop the lake by spending Rs 1 crore, he said there should be a walking track and other recreational facilities on the lake bund.

Bank of Baroda launches 'bob Golden Goal Deposit Scheme'

Hyderabad: Bank of Baroda on Monday launched 'bob Golden Goal Deposit Scheme,' a new retail term deposit offering, designed to provide customers with assured returns, a statement from the bank said. The scheme features a specific 555-day tenor and is available for retail deposits under Rs 3 crore. The interest rates vary based on the depositor category and deposit type. The tenor deposit scheme is offering an attractive interest rate of 6.75 per cent per annum for the general public, 7.25 per cent per annum for senior citizens, 7.35 per cent per annum for super

senior citizens aged 80 years and above and up to 7.40 per cent p.a. on Non-Callable Deposits. Executive Director Beena Vaheed stated that the scheme provides an attractive opportunity for depositors to secure higher interest rates in the current financial environment. Customers can access this scheme through the 'bob World' mobile app, net banking, or by visiting any Bank of Baroda branch. New customers can open a fixed deposit directly via the bank's website without needing an existing savings account, the press release added.

Poor attendance in schools on day one as Amavasya sentiment prevails, students get warm welcome in many schools



Khammam/Warangal: The current academic year in the erstwhile Khammam and Warangal districts began on a subdued note on Monday, as a large number of students skipped the reopening day due to the prevailing 'Amavasya' sentiment and the State government's failure to take note of people's sentiments. It may be noted that a majority of those who follow the Hindu religion consider Amavasya (new moon day) inauspicious for starting new ventures. With schools reopening on Monday, which coincided with Amavasya, a majority of parents preferred not to send their children to school on the day. As a result, attendance of only 13 to 20 percent was registered in both private and government schools. The same was expected to continue on Tuesday as well, as many also believe Tuesday is inauspicious for new beginnings. Schools were expected to function at full strength from Wednesday onwards. The Education Department officials, who rescheduled the reopening of schools from June 13 as it was the second Saturday, should have paid attention to people's sentiments and reopened the

schools on Wednesday, said Shiva Kumar, a parent from Kothagudem. Meanwhile, in several schools, teachers took care to ensure that the reopening day was special by decorating the premises and welcoming students with flower bouquets. At KGBV in Mansingthanda of Narmetta mandal in Jangaon district, students received a special welcome as the institution's special officer, Rajitha, warmly greeted them with bouquets. The students, delighted by the gesture, thanked the teachers. Similarly, at the Government Upper Secondary School in B Lakshmiapuram village of Mahabubabad district, District Educational Officer (DEO) Satyanarayana Murthy and the teaching staff welcomed students with festive music, besides presenting them with roses and balloons. The DEO stated that notebooks and textbooks were distributed to students in 762 government schools on the first day of the academic year. As part of the 'Badi Bata' programme, officials had conducted door-to-door visits and were striving to increase student enrolment by 10 percent this year.

Officials demolish fish ponds amid pressures from Congress leaders



Sangareddy: Irrigation officials demolished about eight illegally built fish ponds on Monday after Telangana Today recently exposed the mushrooming of fish ponds in the FTL lands of the Singur project in a news report. There were 38 fish ponds, built by encroaching about 120 acres of Singur project land, in Vatpally mandal alone. Though the irrigation officials were engaged in demolishing them till late evening, ruling party leaders were mounting pressure on the officials seeking some time. While some Congress leaders owned fish ponds, some other Congress leaders were backing the encroachers. There were allegations that the officials were demolishing only those fish ponds in which no fish were being reared. The owners of the remaining ponds have sought some time to remove the fish. However, the officials were still at the site and said they had directions from higher au-

thorities to remove each and every pond. Not only in Vatpally mandal, dozens of fish ponds were built in Rakikode, Manoor, Andole and Nyalkal mandals along the shores of the Singur project by encroaching a huge extent of project land. Exploiting the water resources, the owners were pumping water from the Singur reservoir to the fish ponds in addition to using free electricity supply. There were allegations that the owners of the fish ponds had the support of officials from the police, Transco, irrigation, revenue and fisheries departments. BRS leader Chanti Kranthi Kiran demanded that the government conduct a survey along the shores of the project in all five mandals to identify the encroachments. Apart from demolishing them, he demanded that the government register cases against the encroachers besides suspending the officials responsible.

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 aware-

ness, focus, and functional fitness. #MondayMotivation #SwasthRaho MastRaho #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.

Kerala BJP councillor Sreelekha accuses two Shane Nigam films of plagiarising her stories

Former Kerala DGP and BJP councillor R. Sreelekha has accused the makers of Shane Nigam's films Dridham and Bhoothakaalam of plagiarism. Discover the details behind her claims that these movies were adapted from her original stories, Karinkudi Police Station and Bhootha Bhavanam, without authorization. Kerala's first woman Director General of Police and now BJP councillor R. Sreelekha has alleged that the stories of Malayalam actor Shane Nigam's films 'Dridham' and 'Bhoothakaalam' were copied from her works. After her retirement, she later joined the BJP and became a councillor in the Thiruvananthapuram Corporation elections last year. In a social media post, Sreelekha claimed that the recently released police-themed film 'Dridham' was made by copying her story. India News Updates She said the core storyline of the film was taken from her short story 'Karinkudi Police Station', which she had written years ago and was published in Mathrubhumi Weekly. Sreelekha said she realised the similarity between her story and the film only after watching 'Dridham'. She also shared the link to the audio version of the story that she had uploaded on her official YouTube channel for those who had not read it. Also Read - Joju George's 'Varavu' release postponed Advertisement Discover more ePaper Subscription India News Updates Real-Time News Feed The former DGP also raised similar allegations against another Shane Nigam starrer, the critically acclaimed and award-winning film 'Bhoothakaalam'. She alleged that the movie was based on an experience-based story titled 'Bhootha Bhavanam', which she had shared on her official YouTube channel three years ago. According to



Sreelekha, the similarity was evident even in the titles of the two works. She shared links to both her stories through her YouTube channel while raising allegations against the filmmakers. A notable connection between the two films, she pointed out, is that both feature Shane Nigam as the lead actor. However, Sreelekha clarified that while she had made complaints against the filmmakers, she had a special affection for Shane Nigam. She said she had liked the actor ever since watching the film 'Parava'. The BJP leader added that she sees Shane as similar to a young police officer who had worked with her and whom she considered like a younger brother. Referring specifically to Shane's role as a police officer in 'Dridham', Sreelekha said the character reminded her of a policeman named Mohammed, who used to gift her mango saplings, pure honey and ghee. Sreelekha's allegations have opened a fresh debate in Malayalam cinema over claims of story ownership and originality.

Sofia Vergara dances to 'Hips Don't Lie' as Shakira celebrates her landmark 100th show

Mumbai: Queen of Latin Music Shakira has shared a glimpse of her 100th concert in Los Angeles and a clip of her actress-friend Sofia Vergara, who was seen dancing to the Grammy-winner's iconic hit "Hips Don't Lie". Shakira shared a handful of images and clips from the concert in Los Angeles. She even shared a glimpse of her playing the drums. She wrote in the caption: "Los Angeles, what two incredible nights!!! What an audience!! Singing and dancing from top to bottom!!!" Shakira also wrote in Spanish: "Gracias a toda mi gente por acompañarme en mi regreso a Los Angeles y en mi concierto #100!!! (Thank you to all my people for joining me on my return to Los Angeles and at my 100th concert!!!)." Shakira has had a significant impact on the musical landscape of Latin America and has been credited with popularizing Hispanic music globally. She has been feted with four Grammy Awards and 15 Latin Grammy Awards. She made her recording debut at the age of 14. She rose to prominence with the albums Pies Descalzos and Dónde Están los Ladrones?. Her first English release was Laundry Service in 2001. Talking about Sofia Vergara, she has received five nominations each at the Primetime



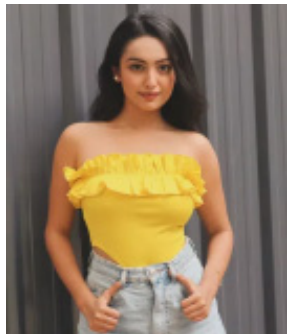
Emmy Awards and the Golden Globe Awards. The actress is known for her role as Gloria Delgado-Pritchett in Modern Family. Modern Family follows the lives of three diverse but interrelated family setups living in suburban Los Angeles. Modern Family is presented in a mockumentary style, with the characters frequently speaking directly to the camera in confessional interview segments. Vergara is known for her role as Griselda Blanco in the Netflix miniseries Griselda. The actress has worked in films such as New Year's Eve, The Three Stooges, Machete Kills, Fading Gigolo and Hot Pursuit. She has also been a judge on the television talent show America's Got Talent.

Actor Sanchita Ugale's death linked by brother to industry pressure, cites parallel with Sushant Singh Rajput case

Mumbai: Late actress Sanchita Ugale's brother, Akash Satish Ugale, has alleged a connection between his sister's suicide and the untimely demise of Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput in 2020. In an exclusive conversation with IANS, he stressed that both his sister and Sushant were facing immense pressure from the industry, which led them to take a drastic step. Not just that, they happened to pass away on the same date, 6 years apart. He pointed out that the last post on Sanchita Ugale's social media handle was about Sushant Singh Rajput. She had posted an Instagram reel in which it was written— 'It's again 14 June', remembering Sushant on his death anniversary on Sunday. Akash told IANS, "He committed suicide on 14th June 2020. Why? Because Bollywood, this industry, put a lot of pressure on him, and because of that pressure, he committed suicide. In the same way, yesterday my sister also committed suicide for the same reason, that's what I'm saying." Explaining the connection between the two sudden demises, 6 years apart, he added, "Just 1

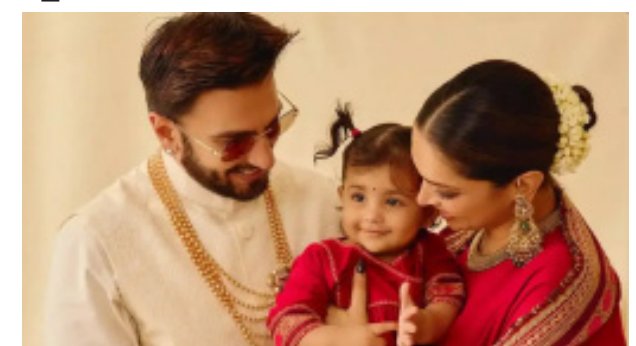
day ago, meaning yesterday, she posted an Instagram reel in which it was written— 'It's again 14 June'. This means that 14th June is happening again and yesterday itself she also committed suicide." At the end, he urged Prime Minister Modi, President Draupadi Murmu, and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis to look into his sister's death. "So, I request my country's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, President Draupadi Murmu, my state's Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Deputy CMs Eknath Shinde and Sunetra Pawar, to please take note of this incident", he requested.

According to police reports, Sanchita Ugale died by suicide at her residence in Aachole Village, in Nalasopara East, Mumbai, on Sunday between 7:00 pm and 7:30 pm. Refreshing your memory, Sushant was found dead in his Mumbai apartment on 14 June 2020.



Prakash Padukone Shares Parenting Insights About Deepika and Ranveer

Prakash Padukone opens up about how Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh are handling parenthood, offering heartwarming parenting insights into their growing Bollywood family. Introduction Prakash Padukone, a former Indian badminton champion spoke about the phase his daughter Deepika Padukone and his son-in-law Ranveer Singh have entered as they embrace a new phase of life as parents. Indian Current Events Fans have been attracted to his comments who are eager to know the couple's family and their experience as Celebrity Parents According to Prakash Padukone, both Deepika and Ranveer have been blessed with a daughter, Dua. It is observed that both are deeply involved in taking care of her. He also stated that both of the parents are taking their parenting responsibility really seriously and are extremely blessed to have the chance to enjoy their parenthood phase. They are taking out proper time for their child and are focus-



ing on creating a very loving environment at home despite their busy schedules. Their dedication towards family responsibilities and the balance that they create with their professional commitments were praised a lot. This was also highlighted by the veteran sports icon. This has also provided a small glimpse about the personal lives of both of the most popular stars of Bollywood. Valuable parenting insights were offered by the comments into how the couple is adapting to life with a young child. Both the parents have included themselves fully into their daughter's life to make it peaceful.

Deepak and Poonam shine as India endure tough start at Boxing World Cup

Hyderabad: Deepak and Poonam emerged as the only Indian winners on the opening day of the Boxing World Cup (Stage 2) in China, advancing to the next round of their respective categories while seven other Indian



boxers suffered defeats. Competing in the women's 54kg category, Poonam registered a convincing 5-0 victory over Uzbekistan's Aziza Yokubova in the preliminary round of 32 to move ahead in the competition. Deepak joined her in the next round after producing an equally dominant display in the men's 70kg division, defeating Turkmenistan's Bayramdurdy Nurmuhamedov by a unanimous 5-0 verdict in the preliminary round of 32. The remaining Indian boxers, however, could not progress further. In the preliminary round of 16, Rishi Singh (50kg) lost to Azerbaijan's Subhan Mamedov, while Sanamacha Chanu Thokchom (75kg) went down to Canada's Tammara Thibeault. Sawan Gill

also bowed out after suffering a defeat to Norway's Omar Shiha in the men's 90kg category. In other preliminary contests, Anmol (60kg) was narrowly beaten 2-3 by Salim Ellis Bey (USA). Meanwhile, Harsh Choudhary (90kg) had his bout stopped prematurely, losing to Sweden's Elwin Belezika via Referee Stops Contest due to Injury [RSC (I)] in the third round. India also endured disappointment in the quarterfinals as Naina lost to China's Xiaomeng Wang in the women's 80kg category, while Alfiya Tarannum Akram Khan Pathan was defeated by Poland's Elzbieta Wojcik in the women's 90+kg division. Deepak and Poonam will now look to continue India's challenge in the tournament as the competition progresses.

Gurpreet backs Argentina to defend FIFA WC title, hails Martinez's resilience



As the 2026 FIFA World Cup heats up, India goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu backs Argentina as a top contender to retain their title. Read his insights on the tournament favorites, the mental challenges of goalkeeping, and his hopes for Asian nations on the global stage. India News Updates India goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu has backed defending champions Argentina as one of the leading contenders to retain the FIFA World Cup title in 2026 while expressing hope that an Asian nation can make a deep run in the tournament. La Albiceleste are making their overall 19th and 14th consecutive FIFA World Cup appearance in a row, having won the cup in 1978, 1986, and 2022. Speaking about the ongoing World Cup, Gurpreet said Argentina's recent success and strong team culture make them one of the favourites despite the competition still being some distance away. "It's still early to make firm predictions, but Argentina have a great chance of defending their title. France, Spain, Portugal and Germany will also be among the favourites. But I am hoping that an Asian team reaches the last eight of this World Cup. Being part of the Asian football ecosystem, it is important that teams from the continent continue to rise, compete at the highest level and make a bigger impact on the global stage," Gurpreet, who is part of the expert panel for ZEE5's FIFA World Cup 2026 coverage, said.

Gurpreet also singled out Argentina goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez for special praise, describing the World Cup winner's resilience and mentality as the qualities that separate him from others. "What separates Emiliano is his mentality. He went through difficult years without regular opportunities but remained resilient. When his chance came, he made the most of it and played a huge role in Argentina's World Cup triumph," he said. Reflecting on his own position, Gurpreet highlighted the mental demands of goalkeeping, where mistakes are often magnified and can have far-reaching consequences. "Being a goalkeeper comes with a different kind of pressure. If you make a mistake, it can cost your team a result, a trophy, or even a nation an important moment. Early in my career, nobody really taught me how to deal with that mental burden. It was something I had to learn through experience," he added. It is worth noting that, in the tournament's 96-year history, 22 teams have been crowned world champions, but only two nations, Italy (1934 and 1938) and Brazil (1958 and 1962), have managed to retain the trophy. Since Brazil's triumph in 1962, every reigning champion has failed to lift the World Cup again at the next edition. As Lionel Messi's Argentina prepare for their first match, they have the opportunity to break one of football's most enduring patterns and etch their names into history once more.

Smriti Mandhana only Indian among TIME magazine's 100 most influential sportspersons

New York: Cricketer Smriti Mandhana has been named by TIME magazine among this year's 100 most influential people in sports, the only Indian to be featured on the list. TIME's list of the 100 Most Influential People in Sports 2026 features athletes, coaches, advocates and investors who are "people shaping sports today." The list, headlined by American basketball legend LeBron James, includes superstars from the world of sports such as football icon Lionel Messi, Chinese-American skier Eileen Gu, tennis star Carlos Alcaraz, basketball player Victor Wembanyama, legendary golfer Rory McIlroy among others.

The other big names in the list include another football icon Cristiano Ronaldo, South African cricket captain Temba Bavuma, who last year led his team to a historic Test series win in India as well as victory in the World Test Championship (WTC), basketball player for the New York Knicks Jalen Brunson and FIFA president Gianni Infantino. Mandhana, 29, the vice captain of Indian women's national team, is part of the elite club. TIME's profile for Mandhana said that the Mumbai-born left-handed opening batter was the "first Indian woman to score a double century in a domestic one-



day game, the first to score a century in all three international formats, and is a joint holder of the most international women's cricket centuries with 17" as it noted that the "records keep tumbling in" for Mandhana.

She is also the first woman to score more than 1,000 one-day international runs in a calendar year. "But Mandhana is proudest of the team honors she is also accumulating. She captained the Royal Challengers Bangalore to the 2024 and 2026 Women's Premier League titles and was vice captain for India's triumph at last year's ICC Women's World Cup, scoring the second-most runs in the tournament," TIME said. In 2024, she set the record for most international runs across formats by a woman and then beat her own record last year—"a feat that contributed to her being crowned BBC Indian Sportswoman of 2025."

AP News India World Entertainment Sport Science and Tech Business Rewind... E-Paper



Dambulla: Sri Lanka A finally found a way to get over the line against India A following a Super Over in an emotionally charged tri-series game here on Monday. Tempers flared after Kugathas Mathulan, the Sri Lankan pacer with a slinging action, kept his calm under pressure to defend 16 runs against the destructive Indian duo of Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and Suryansh Shedge. Physical contact also occurred as Sooryavanshi was seen pushing a Sri Lankan player following the dramatic finish. It was surprising that Sooryavanshi did not face the first ball of the Super Over. In regulation time, left-arm pacer Arshad Khan bowled a yorker-filled final over to take the game into the Super Over after Sadeera Samarawickrama's sublime 91 put Sri Lanka A on the cusp of victory. Arshad, who played for Gujarat Titans in the IPL, conceded just four runs in the final over when the hosts needed only five runs. Post the tied result, confusion prevailed over the outcome of the game, with India A captain Tilak Varma pushing the umpires to proceed with a Super Over. After due deliberation, the umpires changed their decision and allowed the Super Over. However, Arshad Khan's Super Over turned out to be expensive as he leaked 16 runs, including a wide and a no-ball. Mathulan held his nerve under pressure and successfully defended against the Indian duo, which managed only nine runs. Earlier, Sooryavanshi (21 off 14) once again fell after a flying start, but spin-bowling all-rounders Suryansh Shedge (72 off 66)

and Vipraj Nigam (51 off 49) struck timely half-centuries to take India A to 265. Sri Lanka A, who had gifted India A the game with a late batting collapse in the series opener, learned from that outing to take the match deep. It was India A's second loss in the competition, having also gone down against Afghanistan A. Sooryavanshi started aggressively, smashing pacer Chamika Gunasekara for a six and a couple of boundaries, but off-spinner Sahan Arachchige induced an error as he hit across the line and was caught at point.

Tilak Varma (23) and Ruturaj Gaikwad (32) added 52 for the third wicket in nine overs, but Sri Lankan spinners struck back on a slow surface. From 91 for 2, a middle-order collapse saw India A reduced to 143 for 7 when Vijaykanth Vijaykanth trapped Gaikwad plumb in front. Tilak was dismissed when he attempted to smash Kugathas Mathulan through point but was caught by the fielder stationed there. However, Mumbai's Shedge and Uttar Pradesh's Nigam—two multi-skilled players on the national selectors' targeted list—added 104 runs for the eighth wicket, showcasing depth in India's talent pipeline. Both are capable batters and have done well for their respective state sides in domestic white-ball cricket, while also offering value as frontline spinners. Shedge hit three fours and two sixes, while Nigam struck six fours. Judging the slowness of the pitch, the duo rotated strike smartly and emphasised running between the wickets while punishing loose deliveries.

India may cross 1.1 billion 5G subscriptions by 2031: Ericsson

New Delhi: India is expected to have more than 1.1 billion 5G subscriptions by the end of 2031, reaching about 81 per cent subscription penetration, a report said on Tuesday. The report from Ericsson said 5G adoption in India continues to grow rapidly, driven by the availability of affordable 5G-enabled smartphones and devices, expanded network coverage across almost all districts, and the increasing rollout of 5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) services. The number of commercial differentiated connectivity service offerings based on 5G SA network slicing from CSPs continues to grow globally. 5G subscriptions in India reached 430 million at the end of 2025, accounting for 35 per cent of mobile subscriptions, the report said adding that 4G subscriptions are expected to fall from around 570 million in 2025 to nearly 160 million by 2031 as users migrate to 5G. Currently, 4G remains the dominant technology in India at 46 per cent of mobile subscriptions. The country also continues to lead globally in mobile data consumption per smartphone, with average monthly usage already at 37 GB and expected to nearly double to 70 GB by 2031. "India's rapidly growing 5G adoption based on enhanced mobile broadband and 5G FWA is transforming consumer experiences. The robust and secure 5G infrastructure in the country is



driving inclusion, governance, and innovation at scale and is serving as a powerful foundation for Digital India," said Nitin Bansal, Managing Director, Ericsson India. A service provider in India recently launched differentiated connectivity services based on network slicing for its postpaid 5G customers, signalling the evolution of advanced 5G use cases in the market. Global 5G mobile subscriptions passed the three billion mark during Q1 2026, while 5G Standalone (SA) network slicing commercial offerings from communications service providers continue to grow significantly. Uplink traffic is growing faster than downlink for most service providers, driven by smartphone communication and collaboration apps, the sharing of user-generated content, and cloud storage.

TCS faces \$70 million exceptional expense after setback in US legal dispute



New Delhi: IT services major Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) on Tuesday said it will make an additional provision of \$70 million towards damages, interest and legal costs after the United States Supreme Court declined to review a lower court judgment in its long-running legal dispute with Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) — now known as DXC Technology. In a regulatory filing, the company said the US Supreme Court denied its petition for a writ of certiorari seeking a review of the judgment passed by the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit on June 15. The latest development marks another setback for TCS in the litigation involving DXC Technology. TCS said it had already provided \$150 million in relation to the matter in its books of accounts in accordance with applicable accounting standards. Following the Supreme Court's decision,

the company will now make an additional provision of \$70 million towards damages, interest and legal costs as a one-time exceptional expense in the first quarter of FY2026-27.

The company had earlier updated investors on the case through regulatory filings in June 2024 and November 2025. Earlier, TCS had suffered a legal setback after the Fifth Circuit upheld a damages award of \$194.2 million and ruled in favour of CSC in a long-running trade secrets dispute. However, the IT services major did not provide further details on the financial impact beyond the additional provision to be recognised in the June quarter. Meanwhile, shares of TCS traded over 2 per cent higher at Rs 2,208.50 apiece on the BSE on Tuesday. The IT stock has touched a 52-week high of Rs 3,539.45 and a 52-week low of Rs 2,110.00 on the exchange.

Oil marketing and aviation stocks rally as crude prices fall

New Delhi: Shares of oil marketing companies, aviation firms and paint manufacturers rallied on Monday amid a sharp decline in crude oil prices. The stock of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd rallied 3.36 per cent, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd edged higher by 2.71 per cent, and Indian Oil Corporation climbed 2.48 per cent on the BSE. Shares of SpiceJet surged 6.72 per cent, while InterGlobe Aviation rose 3.59 per cent. Among paint manufacturers, JSW Dulux rallied 2.15 per cent, Indigo Paints climbed 1.30 per cent, Shalimar Paints advanced 0.82 per cent, Berger Paints gained 0.75 per cent, and Kansai Nerolac Paints rose marginally by 0.18 per cent. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, dropped 4.55 per cent to USD 83.36 per



barrel. "Oil-sensitive segments such as aviation, paints, tyres and cement continued to attract buying interest following the sharp decline in crude oil prices," Ajit Mishra, SVP, Research, Religare Broking, said. Shares of oil marketing companies, aviation firms and paint manufacturers had ended higher on Friday as well. The US and Iran finalised a deal to end their 107-day war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow waterway through which one-fifth of global oil supplies are transported, following an in-person signing of the agreement in Switzerland scheduled for Friday.

Gold rises to Rs 1.59 lakh per 10 grams amid global rally

New Delhi: Gold prices climbed by Rs 2,500 to Rs 1.59 lakh per 10 grams in the national capital on Monday, while silver advanced to Rs 2.60 lakh per kg, tracking strong global trends after the US and Iran struck a peace deal framework. According to marketmen, the yellow metal of 99.9 per cent purity jumped Rs 2,500 to Rs 1,59,400 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes) from Friday's closing level of Rs 1,56,900 per 10 grams. Silver also advanced for the second straight session, surging Rs 5,000 to Rs 2,60,700 per kilogram (inclusive of all taxes). The white metal had settled at Rs 2,55,700 per kg in the previous session. Analysts said the uptrend in precious metals gathered pace after Washington and Tehran announced an interim agreement to end hostilities and reopen the Strait of Hormuz, a key route for global energy supplies. "Gold advanced on Monday, supported by gains in the international market, with spot gold climbing above USD 4,325 per ounce," Saamil Gandhi, Senior Analyst — Commodities at HDFC Securities, said. The agreement drove oil prices to a multi-week low, reduced concerns over inflation and lowered the likelihood of a more aggressive monetary policy stance, while a weaker dollar and lower Treasury bond yields further supported bullion, he added. In the international markets, spot gold increased by USD 121.33, or nearly 3 per cent, to USD 4,340.65 per ounce, while silver advanced by USD 2.74, or 4.04 per cent, to USD 70.74 per ounce.



"Gold climbed above USD 4,300 an ounce on Monday, advancing for a third consecutive session, as oil prices declined and concerns over persistent inflation and potential rate hikes receded," Rajkumar Subramanian, Head — Product & Family Office, PL Wealth, said. Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst — Commodity and Currency, LKP Securities, said a formal agreement expected to be signed on June 19 could further soften inflation expectations and support broader market stability.

Investors will shift their focus to the US Federal Reserve's (Fed) first policy meeting under Chair Kevin Warsh, along with updated economic projections. According to Kaynat Chainwala, AVP Commodity Research, Kotak Securities, the Fed's outlook will be closely watched, as lower energy prices could reduce tightening expectations, weaken the dollar and keep bullion prices well supported even as the geopolitical risk premium fades.

Indian equity markets trade higher amid easing West Asia tensions



Mumbai: Indian equity markets traded higher in morning trade on Tuesday after the United States and Iran reached a preliminary agreement to end conflict. Sensex rose over 300 points or 0.41 per cent to touch an intraday high of 76,579 in early trade, while Nifty gained around 90 points or 0.36 per cent to trade at 23,941. Sectorally, buying was seen in realty, IT, consumer durables and financial stocks, with Nifty Realty gaining 0.86 per cent and Nifty IT rising 0.74 per cent. FMCG, media, chemicals and auto indices also traded in positive territory. In contrast, metal stocks witnessed selling pressure, dragging Nifty Metal down more than 1 per cent. From the Nifty pack, Hindalco Industries, JSW Steel, Axis Bank, HDFC Life, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles (TMPV) and Tata Steel were among the top losers. Analysts said the sharp correction in Brent crude prices to below \$84 per barrel and stability in the rupee have the potential to lend resilience to the market. "The strong macro headwind of a rising balance of payments (BoP) deficit is no longer a serious issue for the economy. This positive development has imparted stability to the rupee, which has appreciated to 94.71 against the dollar from its recent low of 96.96,"

market experts said. However, analysts cautioned that a weak monsoon remains a concern, as a below-normal rainfall season could fuel inflationary pressures. They said developments on the monsoon front would need to be closely monitored in the coming weeks.

According to senior US officials, the two sides have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) aimed at ending the nearly four-month-long war, with a formal signing ceremony expected on Friday. Moreover, US officials indicated that shipping traffic through the Strait of Hormuz is likely to resume gradually, easing concerns over disruptions to global energy supplies. On the commodities front, international benchmark Brent crude traded 0.37 per cent lower at \$82.86 per barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude slipped 0.22 per cent to \$80.57 per barrel. Asian markets traded mostly higher. Japan's Nikkei advanced 0.62 per cent, while South Korea's KOSPI surged more than 2 per cent. Indonesia's Jakarta Composite gained around 4 per cent. However, Hong Kong's Hang Seng declined over 1 per cent. Overnight, Wall Street ended higher, with the S&P 500 gaining 1.65 per cent and the Nasdaq surging nearly 3 per cent.

Dudekonda farmers threaten agitation over delayed HNSS canal bridge



Pattikonda: Expressing deep anger over prolonged administrative apathy, farmers from Dudekonda village in Pattikonda mandal have accused Handri-Neeva Sujala Sravanthi (HNSS) project officials of systemic negligence for failing to construct a long-promised canal bridge. The missing infrastructural link has cut off easy access to nearly 1,500 acres of prime cultivable land. According to the affected residents, the crisis traces back to 2017 when the HNSS canal was originally excavated. At the time, irrigation authorities explicitly assured the village that an overbridge would be constructed to preserve direct access to their fields. Nearly nine years and multiple legislative terms later, that promise remains unfulfilled. The farmers lamented that while political leadership has changed, their operational hardships remain identical. Prior to the canal's

construction, landowners could reach their fields via a brief 1.5-kilometer trek. Now, they are forced to take a circuitous, hazardous route of 4 to 5 kilometers, which has drastically inflated fuel, machinery transportation, and labor transit costs. Local residents highlighted that navigating this dark stretch on slow-moving tractors and bullock carts after sunset has caused multiple fatal road accidents. Political Opinion Articles Speaking on behalf of the village, a local farmer, Hari Krishna, stated that numerous petitions submitted to the grievance cells have yielded no response. Demanding immediate financial sanctions for the bridge, the agrarian community warned that they would be forced to intensify their stir if the government continues to ignore the very people who sustain the nation's food supply.

Ex MLA files complaint with RDO over electoral roll irregularities

Nandyal: Serious allegations have emerged in Banaganapalle constituency over alleged irregularities in the voter registration and deletion process, triggering political concern and calls for an official inquiry. Political Opinion Articles The issue reportedly pertains to the functioning of the Mandal Tahsildar office. Former Banaganapalle MLA Katasani Ramireddy speaking to media persons on Monday has alleged that certain computer operators were involved in updating voter records without the presence or knowledge of Booth Level Officers (BLOs). He claimed that such unauthorized activity raises doubts over the transparency of the electoral roll management process. The former legislator stated that he had already raised the matter during a grievance session held at the Nandyal District Collector's office last Monday. However, he expressed dissatisfaction over the lack of action taken so far and subsequently submitted a complaint to Revenue Divisional



Officer (RDO) Narendranath Reddy, urging immediate investigation. He further alleged that BLOs themselves have expressed concern over entries being made without their involvement. Warning of intensified protests if irregularities are found in the Special Summary Revision (SIR) process, Ramireddy demanded strict action. Officials concerned are yet to issue an official clarification on the allegations.

Minister Ramanaidu outlines DSC recruitment success

Kurnool: Water Resources Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu on Monday asserted that the coalition government remains committed to transparent governance, employment generation and infrastructure development while addressing the "Two Years of Trust, Development and Welfare" programme in Kurnool. The event was attended by coalition MLAs, district party presidents and senior leaders. The Minister accused the opposition of attempting to create unnecessary controversies over the Mega DSC-2025 recruitment process despite not conducting a similar large-scale recruitment drive during its tenure. Highlighting the government's employment initiatives, Ramanaidu said the coalition administration approved the recruitment of 16,347 teacher posts immediately after assuming office and completed the entire Mega DSC-2025 process within 148 days. Also Read - Mega DSC row: Govt calls allegations baseless Advertisement He stated that 5.77 lakh applications were received and 3.36 lakh candidates appeared for the examination. According to the minister, the recruitment was carried out through a transparent and technology-driven system, ensuring fairness and eliminating the possibility of external interference. He also commended the role of Education Minister Nara Lokesh in overseeing the process. Later, the Minister chaired a review meeting with the Kurnool MP, coalition legislators, constituency in-charges and irrigation officials to assess the progress of major water resource projects



in the district. He said the government's priority is to maximize irrigation coverage with optimum expenditure and noted that the completion of the Handri Neeva canal works enabled the transfer of 52 TMC of water over 248 days, helping replenish reservoirs and tanks across the Rayalaseema region. He added that effective water management has ensured adequate storage in the district's reservoirs.

Ramanaidu further stated that the government is expediting key irrigation projects, including Gundrevula, RDS Right Canal, Gajuladinne, Vedavathi and Guru Raghavendra, to strengthen irrigation and drinking water facilities in western Kurnool. He said works under the scheme to fill 68 tanks through the Handri Neeva system are nearing completion, while DPR preparation and statutory clearances for the Vedavathi Lift Irrigation Scheme are in progress. The Minister also announced that repair works at the Srisailem Dam and modernization projects at Gorakallu Reservoir and Tungabhadra Dam are being undertaken to enhance long-term water security for the region.

Minister Satya leads mass yoga session for weavers and business owners

Dharmavaram: As part of the ongoing statewide "Yogandhra 2026" campaign ahead of the International Day of Yoga, a special thematic yoga session tailored for local business owners and the weaving community was held at the Sai Baba Temple premises on Monday. Andhra Pradesh Health Minister Satya Kumar Yadav led the event alongside Sri Sathya Sai District Collector A Shyam Prasad and Joint Collector M Mourya Bharadwaj. Addressing the gathering, Minister Yadav urged citizens to transition yoga from an annual ceremonial event into a permanent daily habit. He recommended dedicating 45 to 60 minutes each morning to the practice, highlighting it as a scientifically proven preventive measure against lifestyle diseases. The Minister announced that the government is systematically conducting



15-day thematic modules segmented for specific workgroups—including doctors, police personnel, farmers, and weavers—to address sector-specific health stresses. Collector A Shyam Prasad spoke on the connection between traditional yogic postures and nature, noting that even brief daily routines drastically optimize blood circulation and mental clarity.

Yogandhra Event Held on Krishna River Banks in Vijayawada, Students Attend

Andhra Pradesh is celebrating 'YogaAndhra' across the state to promote a healthier society. Join the government-led movement culminating in a massive International Yoga Day event on June 21st in Vijayawada, featuring Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan.

'YogaAndhra' celebrations are being held grandly across the state, with government officials, public representatives, and the general public coming together to perform yoga asanas. On Tuesday morning, a 'YogaAndhra' event was organized on the banks of the Krishna River at Baram Park under the leadership of Collector Lakshmisha. Representatives from print, electronic, and social media, along with students, participated in the event. Speak-

ing on the occasion, the Collector urged everyone to cooperate in building a "Healthy, Wealthy, and Happy Andhra Pradesh." He advised everyone to make yoga an integral part of their lives, noting that a healthy body fosters greater dedication in one's work. He emphasized that the health of all citizens is essential to achieving goals such as 'Viksit Bharat' and 'Vision Andhra Pradesh 2047.' The Collector explained that the yoga asanas being demonstrated are simple and easy for everyone to practice, requiring only 45 minutes of time each day. He announced that a state-level event marking International Yoga Day on June 21st would be held at the VMC Stadium and Ambedkar Kala Vedika in Vijayawada, with the participation of CM Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, other public



representatives, and officials. Collector Lakshmisha called upon the public to participate in the 'YogaAndhra' program and contribute to building a healthy society. 'YogaAndhra' celebrations were also held grandly at Kuchipudi in Movva Mandal, Pamarru, Krishna District. Krishna District Collector Balaji, Pamarru MLA Varla Kumar Raja, and other officials participated in the event. The Collector and the

MLA joined Kuchipudi artists and students in performing yoga asanas. The students' yoga demonstrations captivated everyone present. Speaking on the occasion, Collector Balaji emphasized the need for people to have a comprehensive understanding of yoga, noting that it helps keep various diseases at bay. He highlighted the numerous benefits of practicing yoga.