

Andhra CM Chandrababu Naidu launches Rs 405-crore gold mining project in Kurnool

(king Reporter)Kurnool (Andhra Pradesh): Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday inaugurated a Rs 405-crore gold mining and processing project at Jonnagiri in Kurnool district, marking the beginning of commercial gold production in the state. The chief minister also laid the foundation stone for the second phase of the project, which is being developed by Geo Mysore Services India Private Limited and Deccan Gold Mines Limited. "This project opens a new chapter for Andhra Pradesh in the mining sector and is expected to contribute significantly to industrial growth and employment generation," an official release said. The government allotted 1,500 acres for the project, of which mining activities have commenced on 600 acres in the first phase. Expansion to the remaining area is planned in subsequent stages. According to project estimates, gold output is expected to reach 400 kilograms during the first year of operations and increase to 900 kilograms annually from the second year, with plans to



eventually scale up production to two tonnes a year. The project is expected to create employment opportunities for around 700 people. The state government will receive royalty revenue equivalent to four per cent of the value of gold produced from the mine. Based on current projections, Andhra Pradesh could earn nearly Rs 57 crore in royalty from the production of 400 kilograms of gold and about Rs 144 crore once annual output reaches 900 kilograms. The project is being touted as the country's largest private-sector gold mining venture and is expected to place Andhra Pradesh on India's gold mining map, which has traditionally been associated with Karnataka's Kolar Gold Fields.

AP Home Minister Anitha thanks CM Chandrababu over BC welfare school in Nakkapalli

(king Reporter) The Andhra Pradesh government has approved a new Mahatma Jyotiba Phule BC Welfare Residential School in Nakkapalli. Learn how this initiative, championed by Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha, aims to provide quality education to rural and fishing communities. The Andhra Pradesh state government has approved the establishment of a Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Backward Classes (BC) Welfare Residential School in Nakkapalli. Local fishermen, representatives of BC associations, and the general public had repeatedly appealed to the government to set up a dedicated BC residential school in the area. After considering their request, the government gave the green signal for the school. Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha expressed her special gratitude to Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and BC Welfare Minister Savitha for recognising the people's needs and promptly sanctioning the school. Home Minister Anitha played a pivotal role in securing the sanction for the BC residential school in



Nakkapalli. She stated that providing quality education to BC students is the state government's objective. She noted that the residential school would offer better educational opportunities to students from rural areas and would significantly contribute to the educational advancement of students from fishing communities. Home Minister Anitha emphasized, "The comprehensive development of the constituency is my goal." Following the sanction of the BC residential school, the people of the Payakaraopeta constituency, along with leaders of BC associations and representatives of fishermen's unions, expressed their gratitude to Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha.

AP, Telangana to receive rains today and tomorrow

The Meteorological Department has announced that heavy rains are expected in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana until the end of the month. Telangana news The Meteorological Department has announced that heavy rains are expected in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana until the end of the month. Rainfall is forecast for the Coastal and Rayalaseema regions over the next 24 hours. Today, rains accompanied by lightning are predicted for the districts of Polavaram, Nellore, Palnadu, Prakasam, Vizianagaram, Parvathipuram Manyam, Alluri Sitarama Raju, Tirupati, Chittoor, Nandyal, Sri Sathya Sai, Kadapa, and Annamayya. Moderate rainfall is likely in the remaining districts, and the public has been advised to remain alert. Warnings have been issued urging people to exercise caution due to the risk of lightning strikes. The Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority has stated that there is a chance of heavy rains in North Coastal Andhra, Rayalaseema, and South Coastal Andhra on the 26th and 27th of this month. It clarified that showers are expected in North Coastal Andhra and thunderstorms with rain in Rayalaseema until the 26th. The Southwest Monsoon is advancing across the



state, and the Meteorological Department has confirmed that this will result in heavy rainfall. Also Read - Monsoon likely to reach Delhi-NCR around June 27, bringing much-awaited relief from heat Advertisement By Tuesday, the Southwest Monsoon had covered all regions of Telangana. Due to this influence, there is a possibility of heavy rains over the next three days. The Hyderabad Meteorological Centre stated that isolated heavy rains are likely in the Jagtial, Rajanna Sircilla, Medak, and Kamareddy districts on June 24. It also forecast rainfall for June 25 across the erstwhile districts of Adilabad, Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, and Medak. Furthermore, it issued a warning of heavy rains across the erstwhile Warangal district on June 26. Meanwhile, rains occurred in several districts between Monday and Tuesday night.

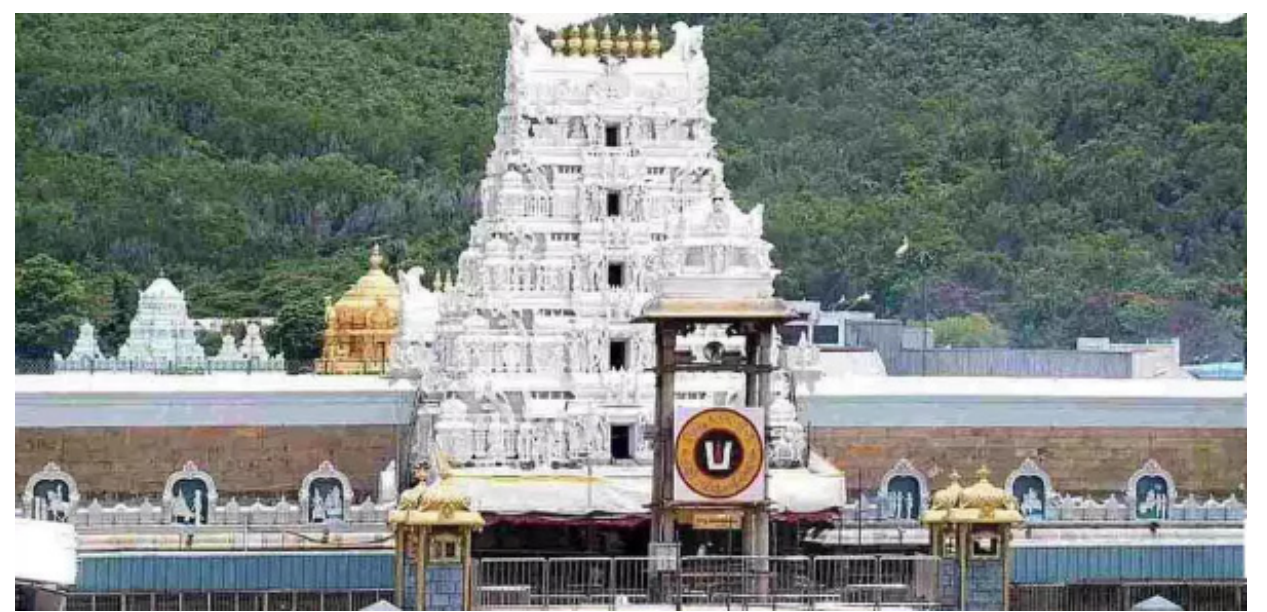
Collector inspects Jaladhara-Jalaharathi works, stresses quality and timely completion

(king Reporter)Nandyal: Nandyal District Collector G Rajakumari has directed officials to ensure that all works being undertaken under the Jaladhara-Jalaharathi programme are completed with high quality standards and within the stipulated timeframe. During an inspection in Tangadancha village of Jupadu Bungalow mandal on Tuesday, the Collector reviewed the restoration of feeder channels, supply channels carrying water to the irrigation tank, and minor irrigation development works. As there was no motorable



road to the site, she travelled nearly four kilometres in an auto-rickshaw through agricultural fields along with officials to personally inspect the ongoing works.

TTD to release Rs. 300 special Tirumala darshans of September quota today



Special Entry Darshan (Rs. 300) tickets for September of this year will be released on Wednesday (24-06-2026) at 10:00 AM. The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has issued a key announcement for devotees planning to visit the Lord at Tirumala. It stated that the quota of Special Entry Darshan (Rs. 300) tickets for September of this year will be released on Wednesday (24-06-2026) at 10:00 AM. Devotees were advised that they could book their preferred slots in advance by logging into the official TTD website or mobile app. As these tickets are usually in high demand, TTD urged devotees to

remain alert and book them promptly. In addition to the darshan tickets, TTD announced that the quota of accommodation rooms for devotees in Tirumala and Tirupati would also be made available online today at 3:00 PM. By reserving both darshan tickets and accommodation rooms in advance for their September visit, devotees can avoid any inconvenience in Tirumala and have a peaceful pilgrimage. However, TTD warned devotees to be cautious of fake websites and emphasized that bookings should be made solely through the official portal.

Excise team holds mega anti-drug meet

Gooty: Marking the International Day Against Drug Abuse, the Gooty Excise Department organized an awareness drive in Thondapadu village on Tuesday. Officials detailed the severe health and social hazards of addiction to local residents. Simultaneously, excise teams intensified enforcement, arresting Sekuru Manohar Naidu for open public drinking near the Gooty Bus Stand. Furthermore, arrack suspect Mudavath Venkata Naik was produced before the Mandal Executive Magistrate and bound over under Section 129 of the BNSS with a Rs 1,00,000 bond.



The inspector warned of severe action against bootlegging and assured informant anonymity.



Aadvik Crystals just won! Their spiritual wellness secret revealed

Aadvik Crystals, a leading spiritual wellness brand, received the Premium Spiritual Wellness Brand of the Year award at the HT Media Business Conclave 2026. Discover how Tushar Rothe's vision empowers holistic well-being through crystals and ancient healing. Aadvik Crystals, one of India's leading spiritual wellness brands, was honoured with the prestigious Premium Spiritual Wellness Brand of the Year award at the HT Media Presents Crafting Bharat Business Conclave & Awards 2026, held on June 12 at ITC Grand Central, Mumbai. The recognition celebrates the brand's remarkable contribution to the spiritual wellness industry and its commitment to helping individuals embrace holistic well-being through the transformative power of crystals and ancient healing traditions. Founded by Tushar Rothe, Aadvik Crystals has emerged as a trusted name in the rapidly growing spiritual wellness space by successfully bridging the gap between timeless healing wisdom and modern lifestyle aspirations. The brand was established with a vision to make authentic crystal healing and spiritual wellness products accessible to a wider audience while maintaining the highest standards of quality, authenticity, and customer trust. Over the years, Aadvik Crystals has built a diverse portfolio of offerings that includes premium crystals, healing jewellery, certified gemstones, crystal-infused home décor, and a range of spiritual wellness products designed to enhance personal energy and create harmonious living environments. Through its thoughtfully curated products, the brand has empowered thousands of individuals to explore holistic approaches to emotional well-being, positivity, abundance, protection, and mindful living. The Premium Spiritual Wellness Brand of the Year award recognizes organizations that have demonstrated excellence in promoting wellness, innovation, and customer impact within the spiritual and holistic health sector. Aadvik Crystals earned this recognition through its unwavering focus on authenticity, ethical sourcing practices, product quality, and its ability to create meaningful experiences for customers seeking balance and personal growth. A key factor behind the brand's success has been its customer-centric philosophy. Rather than simply offering products, Aadvik Crystals focuses on educating and guiding individuals on their wellness journeys. By combining traditional spiritual knowledge with contemporary design and accessibility, the brand has successfully made crystal wellness relevant to modern consumers while preserving the essence of ancient healing practices. Under the leadership of Tushar Rothe, Aadvik Crystals has continuously evolved to meet changing consumer preferences while staying rooted in its core values of integrity, quality, and spiritual authenticity. His vision has enabled the company to build a strong and loyal customer community that values conscious living, self-care, and holistic well-being. The growing popularity of spiritual wellness solutions reflects a broader shift toward mindful lifestyles and preventive well-being practices. In this evolving landscape, Aadvik Crystals has positioned itself as a trusted destination for individuals seeking products that support personal growth, emotional balance, and positive energy.

Cyberabad Police Transfers: 17 Civil Sub-Inspectors Get New Postings

Hyderabad: The Cyberabad Police Commissionerate has issued transfer and posting orders for 17 Sub-Inspectors of Police (Civil) on administrative grounds to various wings, including Special Branch, CCS, EOW and Cyber Crimes. According to the orders issued from the Office of the Commissioner of Police, Cyberabad, issued on Monday and Tuesday, T. Koteswar Rao, L. Ganga Narsaiah, N. Anjaiah, P. Mahender Reddy and M. Sravanthi, who were placed on Vacancy reserve (VR) were transferred to Traffic R.C. Puram, Traffic Narsingi, Traffic Madhapur, Medchal Police Station and Kukatpally Police Station, respectively. Sashidhar, who was serving in the IT Cell, has been transferred to KPHB Police Station, while P. Saritha Reddy of Balanagar Police Station has been moved to the IT Cell. Kale Venkatesh has been transferred from Madhapur Police Station to Balanagar Police Station. M. Aksheetha, who was posted at Gachibowli Police Station, has been transferred to IDA Bollaram. P. Jayaprakash Kumar Goud from Cybercrimes has been posted to Gachibowli Police Station. Also Read - SIR Drive Under Scanner: Revanth Sets 10-Day Deadline Discover more Hyderabad news updates Technology news alerts Politics N. Vishwanath, who was in VR and attached to 100 Dial, has been posted to Special Branch, Cyberabad. Ramulu Galva has been transferred from R.C. Puram Traffic Sector to Special Branch, Cyberabad. Srinivas Gundepangu has been moved from Medchal Police Sta-



tion to CCS Balanagar, while P. Ramakrishna has been transferred from Kukatpally Police Station to EOW, Cyberabad. Rambabu Barpati has been shifted from Madhapur Traffic Police Station to Special Branch, Cyberabad. T. Avinash Babu has been transferred from KPHB Police Station to CCS, while K. Lingaiah, also known as Lingya Kethavath, has been moved from Narsingi Traffic Sector to Cyber Crimes. The transfers were issued with immediate effect as part of administrative changes within the Cyberabad Commissionerate, and the officers have been directed to report to their new places of posting.

Khammam Collector Says Indiramma Houses Turning Poor's Dreams into Reality



Nalgonda: Khammam district collector Diwakar T.S. on Tuesday said the dreams of poor families to own a house are turning into a reality through the Indiramma housing schemes. Inspecting the construction works of Indiramma houses at Velugumatla in Khammam district, the collector asked officials to ensure that the quality of houses is good. He underlined the need to complete construction of the

houses as early as possible. He directed officials of the Housing department to extend necessary suggestions to the beneficiaries in construction of their houses. Diwakar appreciated that works related to roads, water supply, and street lighting have already been completed in Velugumatla. Electricity connections with meters would be provided to each house, he underlined.

2 Commissioners for Hakimpet e-auction

Hyderabad: The Telangana High Court on Tuesday adjourned hearing on a batch of writ petitions challenging the proposed e-auction of an 8.24-acre government land parcel in Hakimpet, Hyderabad, and appointed two advocate-commissioners to inspect the disputed site and submit a report. Justice N.V. Shrahan Kumar, hearing multiple petitions concerning the auction of land in Survey No. 102/1 of Hakimpet village, directed advocate N. Sridhar Reddy to represent the state and advocate Shyamesh Agarwal to represent the petitioners as commissioners. The court instructed them to conduct a joint inspection of the land on July 4 in the presence of both parties and submit their findings. The matter has been adjourned to July 20 for further hearing. The petitions challenge HMDA's e-auction notification No. 52/EMU/HMDA/2026, issued on May 20, 2026, proposing the sale of the land par-

cel. The auction, originally scheduled for June 19, was postponed to July 2 after claimants to adjoining lands approached the High Court. Petitioners contended that the authorities initiated the auction process without conducting a joint survey and proper demarcation of boundaries between the proposed auction land and neighbouring properties, including land parcels in Survey Nos. 102/2, 102/3, 102/4/1 and 102/4/2. They argued that unresolved boundary disputes could lead to overlapping claims, future litigation and complications for prospective buyers. The petitioners requested that the auction notification be set aside insofar as the Hakimpet land parcel is concerned and that authorities be directed to undertake a comprehensive joint survey and boundary fixation exercise before proceeding with any auction. They also sought an interim stay on all further auction-related proceedings until disposal of the writ petitions.

Toddler dies after falling into water sump

Hyderabad: In a tragic incident, a 15-month-old girl lost her life after accidentally falling into a water sump in front of her house in Ghatkesar on Tuesday evening. According to police, Sampangi Mahesh, a native of Lingala in Nagarkurnool district, had moved to Shivarreddy guda in Ghatkesar along with his wife and two children in search of livelihood. Mahesh works as an auto driver, while his wife is a daily wage labourer. On Tuesday, their daughter Nainika, was playing near the house when she reportedly wandered away and fell into an open water sump. As no one noticed the incident immediately, the child remained missing for some time.

El Niño To Stay Till Next Feb, 2027 Monsoon Too May Be Hit

Hyderabad: The ongoing El Niño event in the central Pacific Ocean that has already resulted in a seriously deficient start to the southwest monsoon season for India, is not going away anytime soon, and is expected to stay put well into February 2027. This longer 'shelf-life' of El Niño is not only expected to impact fisheries and the state of Bay of Bengal and the Arabian sea but could also mean news that none might want to hear at present – a serious possibility of negative impact on the 2027 Indian monsoon season. Also Read - Part Time Job Fraud Tops Cyberabad Crime in 2025 Advertisement The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (Incois), in its first-ever El Niño bulletin on Monday, has said that El Niño was expected to remain dominant "from June 2026 through February 2027." The probability of this happening, Incois said, was between 70–90 per cent, while the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) conditions returning to a neutral phase was 10-30 per cent. "El Niño extending into the summer is never good news for the monsoon to follow," a meteorology expert told Deccan Chronicle. "Things don't change quickly in the ocean and the weather systems. While nothing can be said with any degree of certainty, the likelihood of the 2027 monsoon season also being hit cannot be ruled out. This will be a very likely outcome of what is happening now," the weather scientist said. Also Read - SIR Drive Under Scanner: Revanth Sets 10-Day Deadline In its first of what Incois said will be a series of El Niño bulletins, the research institution said deep learning weather models devised by it provides skilful prediction of Niño 3.4 index up to a lead-time of 15 months. From June 2026 onwards through the forecast period to February 2027, El Niño is expected to be the dominant ENSO phase. The persistence of El Niño is expected to influence ocean conditions across the North Indian Ocean, with higher sea surface temperatures resulting in increased upper-ocean heat content, stronger stratification, and a higher likelihood of marine heatwaves. These conditions, Incois said, could affect marine ecosystems, fisheries, and coastal environments in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. Also Read - Cyberabad Police Transfers: 17 Civil Sub-Inspectors Get New Postings Discover more FIFA World Cup coverage Video news clips Politics Among the impacts is the likelihood of a fall in the catch of two species of fish from the Bay of Bengal which could also see high wind-sea conditions in the upcoming fishing season. There might be some extreme weather events because of warmer ocean conditions, while coastal regions may also experience localized erosion, flooding, and storm surge impacts during severe weather episodes. However, on the other hand, Arabian Sea on the western Indian coast is expected to have relatively calm ocean conditions and extended fair-weather windows, Incois has said.

SIR Drive Under Scanner: Revanth Sets 10-Day Deadline

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy warned of strict action if any party leader is found not to be following the party instructions in implementing the SIR campaign. Participating in a Zoom meeting on SIR with party leaders on Wednesday, the Chief Minister instructed the Ministers, MLAs, MPs and constituency in-charges to be extra vigilant on SIR in the wake of the reports of possible deletion of genuine voters' names from the voters list. "The SIR issue is a very serious matter. Some leaders are being negligent about the SIR", the CM said that he will not remain a silent spectator when the party suffers damage, as he already received district-wise reports regarding the SIR awareness meetings. CM Revanth Reddy instructed the leaders to organise more awareness meetings on SIR and entrusted the In-charge ministers with more responsibilities to make the meetings suc-



cessful. The Chief Minister emphasized that the voting rights of the poor should be safeguarded during the SIR. If the poor lose their votes, they will also lose their Aadhaar and ration cards. All leaders should strictly adhere to party directives, the CM said that the in-charges will be replaced with new ones if they fail to implement the party instructions. "We will not tolerate any negligence and are observing the performance of the in-charges for 10 days". The CM also appealed to the party Sarpanches to organise the SIR and create awareness among people in the villages.

Realty Firm Opposes Attachment of Flats

Hyderabad: A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court held that challenges to property attachment orders issued under the Telangana Protection of Depositors of Financial Establishments Act must ordinarily be pursued through the statutory remedies provided under the Act and under writ jurisdiction. The panel comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin disposed of a writ petition filed by Lodha Developers Limited challenging a government order dated March 2, 2021, whereby the state government attached two flats owned by the company in Park Tower, Worli, Mumbai, in connection with the crime registered against the respondents under the Defaulting Under Depositors Act, in proceedings initiated against the respondent and her husband. The petitioner company contended that the attachment proceedings were based on an incorrect assumption that the flats were sold to the respondent. He contended the proposed purchasers paid only 50 per cent of the sale consideration and no sale deeds had been executed, with ownership continuing to remain with the developer. The developer company came to know about the attachment only in March 2026. The panel observed that the impugned attachment was ordered under the Telangana Protection of Depositors of Financial Establishments Act, 1999, in connection with criminal proceedings, and that the statute itself provided a complete mechanism for adjudicating disputes relating to such attachments. The court, considering the petitioner's submission to deposit the entire amount for securing release of the properties, directed the petitioner to avail of the efficacious statutory remedy available under the Act. HC suspends HMDA's e-auction of Hakeempet land Justice N.V. Shraavan Kumar of the Telangana High Court suspended an e-auction notification issued by the HMDA in respect of an 8.24-acre land parcel in Hakimpet of Shaikpet mandal. The interim order came to be passed in a batch of writ petitions filed by Saian Rai Jain and Saian Rai Dhariwal questioning the e-auction Notification dated May 20, 2026. The petitioners contended that the respondent authorities proceeded with the auction without first conducting a joint survey and proper demarcation of the subject land and the adjoining survey numbers. Counsel appearing for the petitioners contended that despite making representations to fix the boundaries, the respondents authorities failed to take any action and continued with the auction process. Counsel further contended that such action would result in irreversible consequences and could create third-party



rights. Bangla Hindu man loses plea against look-out circular Justice Nagesh Bheemapaka of the Telangana High Court dismissed a writ petition challenging a look-out circular (LOC) issued against a Bangladeshi national, holding that no interference was warranted where the petitioner was facing criminal prosecution for allegedly fraudulently obtaining Indian identity documents and passports.

The court was hearing a writ petition filed by Mandal Abhinash, who challenged the issuance and continuation of the LOC contending that he was a Hindu migrant from Bangladesh who had entered India before December 31, 2014, and was entitled to protection under the Central government notifications issued in 2015. He submitted that the LOC unlawfully curtailed his right to travel and livelihood, particularly his business interests in the UAE, and sought quashing of the same. The Union of India and immigration authorities contended that the petitioner was a Bangladeshi national who earlier travelled to India on a Bangladeshi passport and was subsequently found to have fraudulently obtained Indian identity documents, including two Indian passports. They submitted that he was blacklisted by the Bureau of Immigration and was apprehended at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in 2024 while attempting to enter India using a fraudulently obtained Indian passport. They informed the court that a criminal case was registered and a chargesheet filed in the case. The court observed that the petitioner did not produce any material to show that he surrendered his Bangladeshi passport or acquired Indian citizenship in accordance with law before obtaining an Indian passport. In the absence of such evidence, the petitioner could not claim protection under the government notifications relating to minority migrants or seek to invalidate the LOC, the judge held.

HYSEA, TASK hosts

Hyderabad: The Hyderabad Software Enterprises Association (HYSEA), in collaboration with the Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK), hosted the Project Drona 2.0 Convocation Ceremony at the Tech Mahindra Learning Centre, recognising faculty members who successfully completed one of Telan-

Agniveers excel as Southern Command wins EME Sailing Regatta 2026

Hyderabad: In the ILCA-6 category, Agniveer Patil Anuraj emerged as the winner, while Sepoy Mahesh and Agniveer Patil Siddhesh finished second and third, respectively, in the third edition of the Corps of EME Sailing Regatta 2026 at Hussain Sagar Lake here. In the ILCA-7 category, Agniveer Harsh Tiwari emerged victorious, with Lt. Col. Mayank Srivastav finishing second and Maj. Lanka Kiran securing third place. HQ Southern Command was adjudged the winner of the Overall Championship Trophy. Lt. Gen. Neeraj Varshney, AVSM, VSM, Commandant of the Military College of Electronics & Mechanical Engineering (MCEME), Colonel Commandant of the Corps of EME and Commodore of the EME Sailing Association (EMESA), presided over the valedictory function. Gen. Varshney highlighted the origins of the regatta, which was conceived to revive and strengthen then sailing as a competitive sport



within the Corps of EME while creating a broad base of skilled sailors capable of excelling at national, Asian and Olympic levels. He commended the enthusiastic participation of personnel across all ranks, particularly Agniveers, who demonstrated remarkable aptitude by mastering the sport within just two to three weeks.

While felicitating the winners, he noted that the regatta would serve as a stepping stone to major sailing events, including the ILCA Open Sailing Competition and Hyderabad Sailing Week.

Harish Rao warns Revanth Reddy against compromising on Telangana water rights

Hyderabad: BRS Legislature Party deputy leader and former Irrigation Minister T Harish Rao accused the Congress government of failing to protect Telangana's water rights. He demanded that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy immediately intervene to stop Karnataka's alleged illegal projects on Tungabhadra River. Government He urged the State government to formally object to Karnataka's projects before the Central Water Commission (CWC), Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) and the Union Jal Shakti Ministry. He demanded that the government ensure strict enforcement of Bachawat Tribunal provisions, and, if necessary, move the Supreme Court to protect Telangana's interests. In a five-page letter written to the Chief Minister, Harish Rao criticised that the present Congress government was jeopardising Telangana's interests by remaining silent over the ongoing construction of projects by the Karnataka government upstream of the Rajolibanda Diversion Scheme (RDS). He questioned whether the State government tacitly approved Karnataka's Kurdi Lift Irrigation Scheme and the proposed bridge-cum-barrages at Chikkalaparvi and Chikka Imanchi on Tungabhadra River. The BRS deputy leader sought an explanation for Karnataka allegedly issuing No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the Kodangal Lift Irrigation Scheme and asked whether Telangana's water rights were used as a bargaining tool. He alleged that despite Karnataka proceeding with construction activities, including intake structures that were reportedly 60 per cent complete, the Congress government in Telangana had neither objected nor taken up the matter with the authorities concerned over the last year.

He contended that the projects, if completed, would significantly reduce inflows to the RDS and affect irrigation in Telangana. He alleged that Karnataka was already utilising water beyond its allocated share of 1.2 TMCft and warned



that the new projects could further diminish Telangana's entitlement, rendering the RDS ineffective. Executive Branch Harish Rao also accused the State government of failing to challenge projects being undertaken without approvals from the CWC, KRMB, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. He questioned the reasons behind the Congress government's inaction and sought clarity on any alleged understandings between Telangana and Karnataka. The former Irrigation Minister said the impact would extend beyond the RDS, affecting the Thummilla Lift Irrigation Scheme, Bhima Project, Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme, Kalwakurthy Lift Irrigation Scheme and drinking water needs across the undivided Mahabubnagar region. He argued that reduced inflows into the Srisailem reservoir, could have long-term consequences for Telangana's irrigation and water security. Harish Rao reminded that Telangana had historically suffered due to diversion of Krishna and Godavari River waters in undivided Andhra Pradesh and that the BRS government had reversed this trend after the State formation, by expanding irrigation and transforming drought-prone regions such as Palamuru. He said the Congress government neglected the RDS Phase-II works initiated by the previous BRS government and had weakened the Bhima Project by diverting water allocations to the proposed Kodangal Lift Irrigation scheme. Warning against any compromise on Telangana's water rights, Harish Rao said the BRS would continue its struggle to safeguard every drop of water due to the State and protect the interests of farmers in Palamuru and other affected regions.

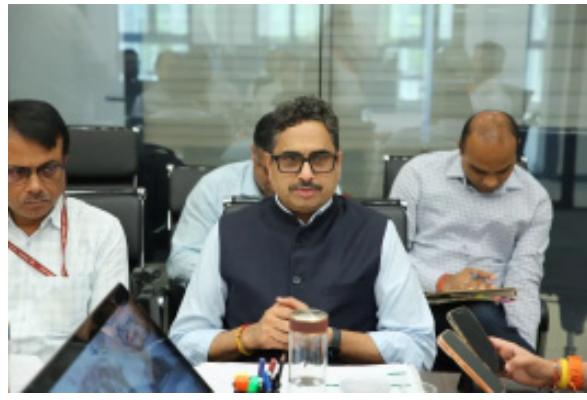
Project Drona 2.0 convocation in Hyderabad

gana's largest industry-academia initiatives focused on Artificial Intelligence and future-ready education. Project Drona 2.0 was designed to strengthen faculty capabilities in AI, leadership, curriculum innovation, industry engagement and emerging technologies.



Sanjay Jaju Set to Become Next CS of Telangana, Relieved from

Hyderabad: Senior IAS officer Sanjay Jaju is set to become Chief Secretary of Telangana, official sources said here on Tuesday. Jaju will assume office on June 30, the day Chief Secretary K. Rama Krishna Rao demits office upon completion of his extended tenure. A 1992 batch IAS officer of the Telangana cadre, Jaju was relieved from Central deputation and repatriated to his parent cadre on Tuesday. His return to the state came exactly a week before the retirement of Rama Krishna Rao, a development that has all but confirmed his appointment to the state's top bureaucratic post. The order issued by the Centre's department of personnel and training (DoPT) stated: "The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved repatriation of Sanjay Jaju to his parent cadre on the request of Government of Telangana." Jaju has had one of the longest stints in Central services among Telangana cadre officers, lasting nearly 13 years. During this period, he held several key assignments, including secretary in the Union ministry of information and broadcasting. Ahead of his repatriation, he as secretary, ministry of development of northeastern region (DoNER). Before going to the Centre, Jaju held several important positions in the erstwhile



Andhra Pradesh including as commissioner of the erstwhile Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad and as collector of East Godavari district. Sources said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy favoured Jaju for the post primarily because of his extensive experience and long innings at the Centre. The Chief Minister has been placing significant emphasis on maintaining close coordination with Union ministries and departments to secure approvals and funding for several flagship projects and development initiatives. According to officials, the state government was aggressively pursuing Central clearances and financial support for major infrastructure and development projects, including the expansion of Hyderabad Metro Rail, the Musi river rejuvenation project.

Southern Command Wins Corps Of EME Sailing Regatta



Hyderabad: Agniveers emerged among the standout performers at the Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers (EME) Sailing Regatta 2026, with Southern Command clinching the Overall Championship Trophy at the conclusion of the competition held at Hussain sagar on Tuesday. The closing ceremony of the third edition of the regatta was presided over by Lieutenant General Neeraj Varshney, Commandant of the Military College of Electronics and Mechanical Engineering (MCEME), Colonel Commandant of the Corps of EME and Commodore of the EME Sailing Association. Addressing participants, Lt Gen. Varshney said the regatta was conceived to revive and strengthen sailing as a competitive sport within the Corps of EME while creating a pool of skilled sailors capable of competing at national, Asian and Olympic levels. He

also praised the participation of Agniveers, noting that many had mastered the sport within just two to three weeks of training. "The regatta will serve as a stepping stone to major sailing events, including the ILCA Open Sailing Competition and Hyderabad Sailing Week," he said. 17 Civil Sub-Inspectors Get New Postings Discover more Cricket news updates Bollywood movie reviews NRI news section In the ILCA-6 category, Agniveer Patil Anuraj secured first place, followed by Sepoy Mahesh in second and Agniveer Patil Siddhesh in third. In the ILCA-7 category, Agniveer Harsh Tiwari finished first, while Lt Col Mayank Srivastav and Maj Lanka Kiran secured second and third places respectively. The event marked the culmination of the Corps of EME's efforts to promote competitive sailing and develop talent within its ranks, with participants from across formations taking part in the regatta.

Small Supplement-Led Rise In Creatine Is No Worry, Say Experts

Hyderabad: The Telangana High Court has expressed dissatisfaction over the lack of progress in removing encroachments from footpaths across Hyderabad, despite its specific directions dated May 4, to the GHMC, the traffic police and HYDRAA to intensify the enforcement drives to clear them. Justice N.V. Shraavan Kumar granted two weeks, as a final indulgence, to the authorities, to submit a report detailing the action taken to implement its earlier directions on safeguarding pedestrian pathways. It was made clear to the authorities that they shall start taking action in implementing orders, right from the outside of the High Court premises extending to the entire city. The judge was hearing a public interest litigation concerning illegal occupation of footpaths and the resultant inconvenience caused to pedestrians. The petitioners informed the court that despite specific directions issued on May 4, no meaningful steps had been taken by the authorities to clear encroachments. They pointed out that even footpaths surrounding the High Court continued to be occupied by shops and other structures, forcing advocates, litigants and members of the public to walk on the busy road. The court was also informed that no compliance report had been filed by the authorities despite earlier directions. The High Court had directed the authorities to undertake immediate drives to remove encroachments from footpaths and secure them through permanent protective fixtures to ensure their exclusive use by pedestrians. The court had also directed authorities to maintain roads properly and take prompt action against illegal parking that obstructs traffic movement. The authorities were further instructed to submit a detailed report on the implementation of those directions. Justice Shraavan Kumar referred to several Supreme Court judgments, which held that violators of planning regulations and unauthorised constructions should not be granted judicial protection or regularisation. Reference was also made to the Supreme Court's guidelines in the 2024 "Bulldozer Case" governing the procedure to be followed while undertaking demolition of unauthorised structures. Observing that encroachments on footpaths near the

High Court not only inconvenienced pedestrians but also worsened traffic congestion and hampered the smooth movement of vehicles, Justice Kumar stressed that similar problems persist in several parts of Hyderabad where footpaths have been illegally occupied. The judge directed the High Court Registry to communicate the latest order to the concerned authorities for effective implementation.

Secunderabad Devasthanam Must Follow Endowments Act: Telangana HC: Justice Lakshmi Narayana Alishetty of the Telangana High Court held that the Sri Kanyaka Parmeshwari Devasthanam Sangam at Hyderbasti, Secunderabad, was a religious institution and it was mandatory that it follow the rules, regulations, procedure, etc., as envisaged in the Endowments Act. The judge held that any deviation of the same would amount to mismanagement. The judge was disposing of a writ petition filed by Nagilla Srinivas, president of the Telangana Rashtriya Devalaya Parirakshana Samithi, challenging the construction of the temple complex. He alleged that the temple management had amassed approximately `16 crore from devotees. He said he had made several representations on the matter but the endowments department did not act upon them. Srinivas sought directions to take appropriate steps to safeguard the funds of the temple and to protect its land from encroachers claiming to be members of the managing committee. Senior counsel L. Ravichander pointed out that inaction on the part of the authorities, despite having knowledge of the illegalities committed in respect of the temple, was not appreciable and prayed that the writ petition be allowed. He also pointed out that the writ petition was filed to protect the temple property, to safeguard larger public interest, i.e., the rights of the devotees, to ensure proper and transparent administration of the temple and to preserve the sanctity of the religious institution. It was also pointed out that no approvals for the construction plans were obtained from the engineering department and that there was a lack of audit of the donations received. The court deemed it appropriate to relegate the parties to the competent authority under the Endowments Act, who, after detailed inquiry into the mat-



ter, must adjudicate the disputed questions of fact like obtaining the advice of a sthapani before shifting of the deity from the ground floor to first floor, whether the religious rituals including Kumbhabhishekam and Vighna Pratishtha, which are necessary for consecration and sanctification prior to opening the newly-constructed temple, had been performed or not, etc., and and pass appropriate orders in accordance with the Endowments Act.

HC directs DLSA's probe into custody procedures for rescued child: Expressing concern over procedural lapses in the handling of a three-year-old child who was rescued from an alleged illegal adoption and child trafficking racket, the Telangana High Court on Tuesday directed the District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) of Nalgonda and Suryapet to conduct an independent review and submit a comprehensive report within two weeks. A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G. M. Mohiuddin issued the directions while hearing a writ appeal filed by a couple from Suryapet seeking custody of the child. The couple had challenged an earlier order of a single judge refusing to intervene with the custody of the child that was with the child welfare committee (CWC), Nalgonda. According to the records placed before the court, the Suryapet police had rescued the child in May 2025 during an investigation into an alleged child trafficking network that purportedly sold infants and young children to childless couples. Police arrested around 15 persons in connection with the racket, while several adoptive couples who allegedly procured children through illegal means were named as accused. The appellants claimed that the child, then barely a month old, had been given to them for adoption and had remained in their care for over eight months before the police took the infant away handed her over to

the CWC. Authorities contended that the adoption was not in accordance with law. The single judge had also taken note of the FIR, which alleged that the child was sold for `6 lakh and formed part of a wider illegal adoption network. During the hearing, the division bench scrutinised records produced by Nalgonda district child protection officer K. Ganesh, who appeared before the court pursuant to earlier directions. The officer submitted the admission register relating to the child, who has been housed at Shishugruha, Nalgonda, since May 28, 2025. The court found significant gaps in the documentation concerning the social investigation report (SIR), a key document that forms the basis for decisions regarding the rehabilitation and welfare of children under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015. While the register recorded that the SIR had been completed on 3 June 13, 2025, it did not indicate when instructions were issued to the social worker to conduct the investigation. Further, the copy of the SIR filed before the court did not contain the date on which it was prepared. In view of these shortcomings, the court directed the secretaries of the DLSAs in Nalgonda and Suryapet to verify the proceedings and measures undertaken in relation to the child's protective custody and submit a detailed report through the Telangana State Legal Services Authority within two weeks. The DLSAs have also been asked to furnish details of other children housed at Sishu Griha, Nalgonda, pursuant to CWC orders and indicate whether similar child care institutions are functioning in Suryapet district. The bench further directed the Nalgonda district child protection officer to remain present on the next date of hearing and posted the matter to July 8 for further consideration.

Scotland vs Brazil Preview, live streaming and squad details

Miami: Brazil and Scotland will renew a long-standing World Cup rivalry in Miami on Thursday, with both nations entering their final Group C fixture knowing that qualification for the knockout stage remains within reach. The South Americans occupy a strong position after taking four points from their opening two matches. Following a disappointing draw against Morocco in their tournament opener, Carlo Ancelotti's side responded convincingly with a 3-0 victory over Haiti, moving Brazil into first place in the group. An early burst of attacking football settled that contest, allowing the five-time world champions to comfortably manage proceedings thereafter. Scotland's path has been less straightforward but equally encouraging. A hard-fought victory over Haiti provided the foundation for their campaign before a narrow defeat against Morocco left Steve Clarke's men with everything still to play for heading into the final round of group matches.

The qualification picture remains delicately balanced. A draw would be enough to send both teams through to the Round of 32, while Brazil can also strengthen its chances of finishing atop the group with a victory. Scotland, meanwhile, could secure a historic first progression beyond the group stage, but defeat would leave its fate dependent on results elsewhere and comparisons with third-placed teams from other groups. The Scots will believe they have an opportunity to challenge a talented but vulnerable Brazilian side, while Ancelotti's men know that another three points could prove crucial in shaping a more favourable route through the knockout rounds. With qualification, group positions, and history all at stake, Miami is set to host one of the most intriguing contests of the final day of the group stage.

How to watch Scotland vs Brazil live in India

Live streaming and live telecast of the



FIFA World Cup 2026 football matches will be available on the Zee5 platform and app in India. A subscription will be needed.

Live telecast of the FIFA World Cup 2026 will be available on the Unite8 Sports 1, Unite8 Sports 1 HD, Unite8 Sports 2, and Unite8 Sports 2 HD TV channels in India.

Key details

Date and kick-off time: Thursday, June 25, 03:30 AM (IST)

Venue: Miami Stadium

Referee: César Ramos

Squads:

Scotland

Goalkeepers: Craig Gordon, Angus Gunn, Liam Kelly

Defenders: Grant Hanley, Jack Hendry, Aaron Hickey, Dom Hyam, Scott McKenna, Nathan Patterson, Anthony Kalston, Andy Robertson, John Souttar, Kieran Tierney

Midfielders: Ryan Christie, Findlay Curtis, Lewis Ferguson, Ben Gannon-Doak, Tyler Fletcher, John McGinn, Kenny McLean, Scott McTominay

Forwards: Ché Adams, Lyndon Dykes, George Hirst, Lawrence Shankland, Ross Stewart.

Brazil

Goalkeepers: Alisson, Ederson, Weverton

Defenders: Ederson, Douglas Santos, Alex Sandro, Gabriel Magalhaes, Marquinhos, Danilo, Bremer, Ibanez, Leo Pereira

Midfielders: Bruno Guimaraes, Casemiro, Danilo Santos, Fabinho, Lucas Paqueta, Raphinha, Neymar

Forwards: Vinicius Junior, Luiz Henrique, Matheus Cunha, Gabriel Martinelli, Igor Thiago, Endrick, Rayan.

Viral Congo Fan Makes It for World Cup, Stands As Lumumba for 90 Mins

Guadalajara: Congo's famous living statue superfan finally made his World Cup debut on Tuesday. Michel Nkuka Mboladinga, who gained fame during the Africa Cup of Nations for posing as a statue of Congo's assassinated independence leader Patrice Lumumba for the entirety of games, attended Congo's 1-0 loss to Colombia after missing its opener against Portugal because of Ebola quarantine requirements. Lumumba Vea, as the sharply dressed supporter is known for his resemblance to the slain leader, was at his seat about an hour before the game at Estadio Akron. He wore a bright red jacket and tie, yellow shirt and blue pants. When the game began, he stood motionless on a pedestal behind the Congo bench with his right arm raised. Nkuka Mboladinga was a few minutes late back to the pedestal after halftime, but he stood there until the end and even a few minutes after the final whistle. He did not want to be interviewed but nodded and smiled when asked if he was happy to have finally made it to the World Cup. Congo played Portugal to a 1-1 draw last week in Houston. Nkuka Mboladinga also missed Congo's World Cup playoff match against Jamaica earlier this year — when his nation secured a return to the tournament after 52 years — because he was unable to get a visa in time. He had traveled to Kenya and then Ethiopia in a bid to get a visa for the game, which was also played in Guadalajara. Nkuka



Mboladinga became a social media sensation at the Africa Cup for posing as a statue of Lumumba on a pedestal with his right hand raised and standing still throughout games. Also Read - FIFA World Cup 2026: Panama Eliminated After 1-0 Loss to Croatia Patrice Lumumba, Congo's Gandhi Lumumba was an activist who helped to end Belgium's colonial rule over Congo in 1960. He became the newly independent country's first prime minister and was seen as one of Africa's most promising leaders, but he was assassinated within a year during a struggle against a Belgian-backed secessionist movement in the mineral-rich Katanga region. A Belgian court in March ordered a 93-year-old former diplomat to stand trial for the slaying. Etienne Davignon, who previously denied wrongdoing, is the last living among 10 Belgians suspected of involvement in the killing and has been charged with "participation in war crimes" for his role in the "unlawful detention and transfer" of Lumumba.

I Grew Up Watching Irfan Pathan Sir Bowl : Nandni Sharma

Having first grabbed attention with her impressive performances in the TATA WPL for Delhi Capitals, Nandni Sharma is now living her dream on the international stage as part of India's squad for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026. Speaking on JioStar, the India pacer reflected on discovering her passion for fast bowling, refining her game by competing alongside boys, and how the TATA WPL transformed her understanding of cricket. Also Read - Mumbai Indians Clinch WPL 2025 Title in Thrilling Final Advertisement Speaking on JioStar, India's Nandni Sharma shared the story of how she discovered her love for fast bowling: "When I started playing cricket, my brother used to play, so I began by watching him. I would go to the academy with him, but I wasn't given the chance to bowl. The coaches wouldn't hand the ball to me at that time. I felt left out. So, I left cricket in between. I kept complaining at home that they don't give me the chance to bowl. Then, after some time, I felt like playing again. I wanted to give it another try. After that, I saw a senior player running in and bowling fast. I didn't even know at that time that it was called pace bowling. I just watched her and thought, I also want to bowl like that. That moment changed everything. Earlier, I didn't even get a ball in my hand. But from that day, I started fast bowling. That is one of my most important memories. That is where my journey as a fast bowler truly began. Also Read - Stampede-Like Situation at Jharkhand T20 League Final Leaves Several Injured On how playing with the boys helped her shape her game: The moment I started bowling; the coaches pushed me to play with the boys. I was the only girl among them. But that never stopped me. I played with them every single day. All our fielding sessions, batting practice, and bowling, everything used to happen with the boys, and that helped me improve quickly. They bowled fast, they hit the ball hard, and I had to raise my game to keep up. Fast bowling attracted me a lot at that time. Watching boys run in and bowl with pace felt really good. I wanted to do the



same. That is the only reason I wanted to do fast bowling at that time." Also Read - IPL: Rishabh Pant returns to DC in Rs 15 crore deal, Kuldeep Yadav joins LSG Discover more World news headlines Geographic Reference Bollywood movie reviews On why the thought of switching to spin repeatedly crossed her mind: "At one point, I thought about becoming a spinner. The idea crossed my mind more than once. But things were going well in fast bowling. I was picking up wickets and getting better with every game. So, I didn't pay much attention to that thought. Fast bowling is very difficult. Injuries happen often. You must stay extra fit and take more care of your body. I used to think, should I change, should I try spin bowling? But then I would see myself succeeding with pace, and the thought of switching to spin would fade away. Wickets kept coming, and that gave me confidence.

"The WPL has changed me a lot as a cricketer. I have learned so much, from sharing the dressing room with big players to watching how they prepare, how they handle pressure, and how they approach different situations. I now see cricket in a different way. Earlier, I used to think that if I just bowl, I will get wickets. But now I understand that there is so much more to the game. There is planning, reading the batter, adapting to conditions, and communicating with teammates. I have learned a lot, and all of it is helping me in my journey." On the fast bowlers she looks up to: "I grew up watching Irfan Pathan sir bowl. The way he swung the ball and took wickets, that really made me want to do the same. Currently, I look up to Bhuvneshwar bhैया and Bumrah paaji. The way they bowl with control and variations is something I try to learn from.

Treesa-Gayatri advance at US Open; Rounak Chouhan enters main draw

Fullerton (US): Indian women's doubles pair of Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand advanced to the second round of the US Open Super 300 badminton tournament after overcoming Spain's Paula Lopez and Lucia Rodriguez in a three-game battle here. Making her return after an ankle injury layoff, Treesa, partnering Gayatri, defeated the Spanish combination 21-12 14-21 21-13 in a 51-minute opening-round contest. The Indian duo will next take on Japan's Sumire Nakade and Miyu Takahashi. In the men's



singles qualifiers, Rounak Chouhan secured his place in the main draw with two victories. He first beat France's Enogat Roy 21-19 21-16 before rallying past Chinese Taipei's Kuo Kuan Lin 13-21 21-14 21-10. Chouhan will now face fellow Indian S Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian in the opening round. Treesa and Gayatri started strongly, racing to an 8-3 lead in the opening game. Although the Spaniards narrowed the gap with a four-point burst, the Indians regained control, moving to 17-11 before comfortably taking the game. Paula and Lucia responded well in the second game, opening up an 11-7 advantage at the interval and maintaining

their edge despite a late challenge from the Indians to force a decider. The Indian pair regained the initiative in the third game, establishing an 11-6 lead at the mid-game break. They maintained the momentum thereafter and closed out the match without much trouble.

Fifth-seeded Kidambi Srikanth is set to face compatriot Saneeth Dayanand in the men's singles draw. India will also have a sizeable presence in women's singles, with Rakshitha Sree Santhosh Ramraj, Shriyanshi Valishetty, Anmol Kharb, Devika Sihag, Tanya Hemanth, Aakarshi Kashyap and Tanvi Sharma featuring in the competition.

Spirit Title Dispute Emerges, But Prabhas Film Appears Better Placed?

The title dispute surrounding Prabhas and director Sandeep Reddy Vanga's much-awaited film Spirit has taken a new turn, with the makers of a smaller film titled Spirit Is Not One alleging that they are facing pressure to halt their release and remove promotional material. According to a member of the Telugu Film Chamber of Commerce, the title Spirit was registered in Mumbai by the makers of Prabhas' film, while the producers of Spirit Is Not One had registered their title in Vijayawada Telugu Film Chamber. The overlap has now triggered a dispute between the two parties. A press conference, producers Venkateswarlu and Narasamma asserted that they have no intention of changing their film's title. They maintained that they have complied with all legal requirements and submitted the necessary documents, including title registration records and censor certification. The producers claimed that the controversy has created uncertainty around their film's release. According to them, while legal notices have raised objections, certain statements made through media platforms have suggested that the film could proceed, leading to confusion. "This contradictory situation has created difficulties for us," the producers said, adding that they are consulting legal experts and have come forward publicly to present their side of the issue. Industry observers, however, believe the matter will ultimately be resolved through legal channels and discussions between the concerned parties. While some view the dispute as a genuine grievance over title rights, others believe it could be an attempt to leverage the popu-



larity of a high-profile project. Legal experts and industry bodies are expected to determine the validity of the competing claims. The project has generated nationwide attention ever since it was announced, giving the title substantial public recognition. "From an industry perspective, the title Spirit has already become synonymous with the Prabhas-Sandeep Reddy Vanga film. Given the scale of the project and its prior visibility, the makers appear to be in a stronger position. Most believe the issue will eventually be resolved without affecting the film," says a trade expert. Also Read - Venkatesh joins elite list of actor turned singers Earlier, Mahesh Babu and Rajamouli film 'Varanasi' was also disputed by a local director who also registered the title 'Varanasi' but he hasn't commenced the film yet. "Varanasi title will go to Rajamouli eventually since another person has not even commenced his film and his deadline is July, this year or else he will lose the rights over the title," adds a source. Until a formal legal verdict is delivered, both sides are expected to continue pursuing their claims. However, industry insiders remain confident that Prabhas' much-anticipated action drama will eventually retain the title that audiences have associated with it from the very beginning.

Balakrishna Opens a New Chapter for Tollywood in Amaravati

Hyderabad may no longer be the sole destination for major Telugu film events. In a significant development, Nandamuri Balakrishna is set to launch his next film with director Koratala Siva in Amaravati on June 25, a move that industry insiders believe could strengthen Andhra Pradesh's efforts to emerge as a key film destination. Tentatively titled NBK112, the film will be formally inaugurated at the TTD Temple in Venkatayapalem, Amaravati, in the presence of distinguished guests, including Andhra Pradesh Ministers Nara Lokesh and Kandula Durgesh. "Balakrishna is setting a positive precedent for Andhra Pradesh. He is not only a leading actor but also a three-time MLA from Hindupur. Once he begins this trend, more actors are likely to follow suit," says a senior producer. He argues that Andhra Pradesh deserves greater attention from the Telugu film industry considering its dominant contribution to theatrical revenues. According to trade estimates, Andhra Pradesh has nearly 1,000 theatres, compared to around 450 in Telangana. "The difference in theatre count is reflected in box-office collections as well," the producer notes. The development comes at a time when the Andhra Pradesh State Film Development Corporation is stepping up its activities. After holding its maiden board meeting recently, the corporation is reportedly working on several initiatives, including the revival of the prestigious Nandi Awards and the organisation of multiple industry events across the state before the end of the year. A leading exhibitor from Andhra Pradesh has also voiced concerns over what he describes as a long-standing imbalance in the industry's approach toward the two Telugu states. "Nearly 70 percent of a Telugu film's theatrical revenue comes from Andhra Pradesh, while Telangana contributes around 30 percent. Despite this, most



leading producers continue to operate exclusively from Hyderabad and show little interest in developing Andhra Pradesh as a film destination," he says. Further points to the taxation structure as another factor that has historically favoured Telangana. "Since most production houses are headquartered in Hyderabad, GST filings are made there. Of the 18 percent GST collected on movie tickets, 9 percent goes to the Centre, while the remaining 9 percent is allocated to the state where the tax is filed," he explains. However, the situation could change if Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's proposal to offer tax incentives or refunds to producers filing GST in Andhra Pradesh is implemented. The state government has already waived location charges for film shoots in many areas, whereas filming in Telangana often involves higher costs," he adds. Industry sources also indicate that several investors and film personalities are exploring opportunities in Andhra Pradesh. There is growing buzz about plans for new studio infrastructure, outdoor shooting facilities and film-related investments in the state. "Bollywood personalities, including actor Sanjay Dutt and a few other investors, are reportedly examining opportunities to establish studios and film infrastructure in Andhra Pradesh.

Pooja Hegde reveals short hair look

Mumbai: Actress Pooja Hegde flaunted her new hairstyle through her latest social media post. She took to her official Instagram handle and posted a video of herself where she was seen running her hair through her freshly chopped short hair. The 'Beast' actress captioned the post, "I'm a short hair girlie now (sic)", followed by a smiling face emoticon. Reacting to her new look, users dropped comments such as "Short Hair or Long... You're the best girlie", "Love this one you", "You looking gorgeous", and "Beautiful hair, stunning look, Pooja u are so beautiful", along with others. Pooja's feed is full of such lovely updates from both her personal and professional life. Recently, the 'Deva' actress treated her Instagram family with a glimpse of her latest workout session. She uploaded a fun video of herself walking backwards on a treadmill in style while recording herself from her phone. Pooja opted for an orange crop top, along with matching shorts as her athleisure. On the professional front, Pooja was recently seen as the leading lady in David Dhawan's romantic comedy 'Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai', co-starring Varun Dhawan and Mrunal Thakur. Joining them were Mouni Roy, Chunky Panday, Maniesh Paul, Jimmy Shergill, Rakesh Bedi, and Ali



Asghar, who were seen as the ancillary cast. 'Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai' marks the fourth collaboration between Varun and his father, David Dhawan, after 'Main Tera Hero', 'Judwaa 2', and 'Coolie No. 1'. Backed by Ramesh Taurani under the banner of TIPS, 'Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai' was out in the cinema halls on 5th June this year. The camera work for the drama was handled by Ayananka Bose with Ritesh Soni as the head of the editing department. 'Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai' is expected to be David Dhawan's final directorial film.

Shahid Kapoor's Cocktail 2 crosses Rs 106 crore at global box office



New Delhi: "Cocktail 2", featuring Shahid Kapoor, Kriti Sanon and Rashmika Mandanna, has collected over Rs 100 crore at the global box office. The film is directed by Homi Adajania and was released in theatres on June 19. Production banner Maddock Films shared the film's box office collection on its Instagram Story on Wednesday with a poster featuring Shahid, Kriti and Rashmika. The film earned Rs 24 crore on its opening day and went on to earn Rs 29.4 crore, Rs 29.4 crore, Rs 32.19 crore, Rs 10 crore and Rs 11.01 crore on the following days. The total collection of the film

stands at Rs 106.61 crore at the global box office. The film is a follow-up to the 2012 hit "Cocktail", which starred Saif Ali Khan, Deepika Padukone and Diana Penty, but features a fresh story and a new set of characters. The film revolves around a complex love triangle involving Kunal (Shahid), Diya (Rashmika) and Ally (Kriti). The story follows Kunal and Diya, a couple whose relationship is tested by the arrival of the free-spirited Ally, leading to emotional turmoil and questions about love, friendship and commitment. "Cocktail 2" is produced by Dinesh Vijan, Luv Ranjan, Pramita R Vijan and Ankur Garg.

Hansika Motwani embraces spirituality with visit to Tirumala Temple

Mumbai: Actress Hansika Motwani, on Wednesday, visited the sacred Tirumala temple in Andhra Pradesh to seek the blessings of Lord Sri Venkateswara Swamy. Dressed in traditional attire, the 'Koi... Mil Gaya' actress offered prayers at the revered pilgrimage site, reflecting her deep faith and spiritual connection. Hansika was seen dressed in an elegant white suit, paired with red bangles. She opted for a minimal makeup look and was spotted offering prayers with folded hands. A few days ago, Kriti Sanon was spotted visiting the Tirumala Temple along with her family to seek blessings ahead of her film "Cocktail 2." The 'Heropanti' star and her family offered prayers and spent time in devotion, adhering to all temple customs and rituals. During the visit, devotees at the temple also gathered to take pictures with the actress. Meanwhile, speaking of Hansika's work front, she is gearing up for her OTT de-



but with the upcoming series "Gully," which is set to premiere on Prime Video. In the show, she takes on the character of Layla, which is said to offer her a completely fresh and different on-screen persona. Speaking about her role, the actress had said, "For the dialogue part, I didn't have a dialogue coach. I worked on it myself, but we did sit together as a team and had workshops to get it right. Since the story is based in Hyderabad, around Charminar, I wanted to be more sure of my lines and understand the dialect properly."

Crude oil futures decline Rs 63 amid weak global cues

New Delhi: Crude oil prices fell by Rs 63 to Rs 6,901 per barrel in futures trade on Wednesday amid weak global trends. On the Multi Commodity Exchange, crude oil futures for July delivery slipped by Rs 63, or 0.9 per cent, to Rs 6,901 per barrel in a business turnover of 5,109 lots. Analysts said prices fell after participants offloaded their holdings amid weak demand in the spot market. Globally, West Texas Intermediate crude oil was trading 0.93 per cent lower at USD 76.32 per barrel, while Brent Crude fell 1.30 per cent to USD 0.99 per barrel in New York.



Iran President invites PM Modi to Ayatollah Khamenei's funeral ceremonies

New Delhi: Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian is learnt to have invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the funeral and burial ceremonies of the late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, diplomatic sources said on Wednesday. The funeral ceremonies will be held from July 5 to 9. There is no confirmation from New Delhi on the invitation to PM Modi. Khamenei, who ruled Iran for three decades, was killed on February 28, the first day of massive US and Israeli air strikes on Tehran. The Indian prime minister has been invited by President Pezeshkian to



the burial ceremonies, the diplomatic sources said. The funeral is scheduled to be held in Tehran and Qom on July 5, 6 and 7. The final ceremony will take place in the city of Mashhad on July 9.

India positioned to lead Amazon's fastest-growing business: CEO Andy Jassy



Mumbai: India has emerged as a key market for Amazon's expanding quick-commerce ambitions, with the company's 'Amazon Now' service becoming its fastest-growing ecommerce business unit in the country, Amazon CEO Andy Jassy said on Wednesday. Sharing his experiences after visiting an Amazon Now micro-fulfillment center in one of Mumbai's busiest neighbourhoods, Jassy said the service is witnessing exceptional growth as customers increasingly opt for deliveries within minutes of placing orders. The micro-fulfillment centers are designed to rapidly pick and dispatch everyday essentials such as groceries, shampoo, baby products and household items, enabling customers to receive their orders within minutes. "Great to be in India and visit an Amazon Now micro-fulfillment center in one of the busiest areas of Mumbai," he said.

"The things you need quickly — groceries, shampoo, baby products, and more — get picked and delivered just minutes after ordered," he added. According to Jassy, Prime members who begin using the service increase their shopping fre-

quency significantly, with their purchase activity tripling after adoption. He added that order volumes have been doubling every quarter since the launch of the service in India. "Customers are loving it... Prime members triple their shopping frequency once they start using it, and we've seen orders double every quarter since launch," he mentioned. Calling the business Amazon's fastest-growing ecommerce segment in the country, Jassy said the company plans to expand the service to more than 300 cities as part of its broader strategy to build India's largest delivery-in-minutes network. He noted that the innovations and operational lessons gained from building the quick-commerce model in India are now helping Amazon scale similar services across the United States and other international markets. Expressing confidence in the company's future growth in India, Jassy said he was proud of the teams, associates and partners who have contributed to building the business and added that the company is still at the beginning of what is possible in the Indian market.

Gold, silver prices fall nearly 2 pc amid concerns over higher global interest rates

New Delhi: Gold and silver prices traded almost 2 per cent lower on Wednesday amid concerns that higher global interest rates could weigh on demand for precious metals. On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold futures (August) opened at Rs 1,45,000 per 10 grams, down Rs 1,528 or 1.04 per cent from the previous close of Rs 1,46,529. At around 12:10 pm, the yellow metal was trading at Rs 1,45,216, lower by Rs 1,313 or 0.9 per cent. During the session so far, it touched an intraday low of Rs 1,44,114, a decrease of 1.64 per cent or Rs 2,415 and a high of Rs 1,45,480. Meanwhile, silver futures (July) also remained under pressure. The white metal opened at Rs 2,22,579 per kg on the exchange, down Rs 3,255 or 1.44 per cent from the previous close of Rs 2,25,834. At the last count, it declined as much as 1.84 per cent or Rs 4,176 to Rs 2,21,658. Weakness in precious metals was also visible in international markets. Spot gold was trading at \$4,092.39 per ounce, down 0.4 per cent, while silver was at \$61.82, a decrease of 0.33 per cent. According to commodity market experts, immediate resistance for gold is seen in the Rs 1.45 lakh-Rs 1.46 lakh range. A sustained move above this zone could trigger a re-



covery towards Rs 1.47 lakh and eventually Rs 1.48 lakh. On the downside, a breach of the Rs 1.43 lakh level may intensify selling pressure and drag prices towards the Rs 1.40 lakh-Rs 1.39 lakh zone. For silver, the experts said immediate resistance is placed in the Rs 2.25 lakh-Rs 2.26 lakh range, while a break below the Rs 2.20 lakh level could push prices towards Rs 2.15 lakh and lower. Overall, they maintain a cautiously negative near-term outlook on both precious metals, citing persistent selling pressure and the need for prices to reclaim key resistance levels to improve momentum. Moreover, the dollar index — which measures the greenback's performance against a basket of six major currencies — rose to 101.265. The dollar index tracks the US currency against the euro, Japanese yen, British pound, Canadian dollar, Swedish krona and Swiss franc.

AI to amplify, not replace Infosys: Nandan Nilekani

New Delhi: Artificial Intelligence will not replace companies like Infosys but amplify those moving with purpose and speed, Infosys Chairman Nandan Nilekani said on Tuesday, asserting that the Bengaluru-headquartered company "is more relevant than ever" and eagerly eyeing around USD 300-400 billion in AI opportunities by 2030. Speaking at the company's 45th Annual General Meeting (AGM), Nilekani said every major technology transition evokes questions on relevance and ability to protect growth and margins. AI's larger and disruptive technology transition only means that such questions are louder and doubts more insistent, he said. "Moreover, the existential question that is being asked of us is, if coding becomes automated, then why are we needed at all? More than three years after GenAI has launched, Infosys is more relevant than ever before and well positioned for the decade ahead," he said. The AI deployment gap in large enterprise clients is real, and closing that gap is where the work is, he said. Nilekani exuded confidence that AI will not replace companies like Infosys; rather, it will reward companies that remain purpose-driven and agile. "AI will not replace companies like ours. It will amplify those who move with purpose and adapt with speed," he said. Nilekani explained that enterprise solutions demand rigorous testing, resilient architecture, foundational cybersecurity, and strict data governance that cannot be outsourced to external platforms. The AI revolution has made legacy modernisation urgent, positioning Infosys to capitalise on this structural shift in technology. "The defining opportunity lies in integrating intelligent AI systems with mission-critical enterprise platforms. The greatest value will come from combining the world of models and agents with traditional transaction systems that continue to underpin enterprise operations. That convergence is where the next wave of opportunities will emerge.



"Our clients trust Infosys to bring hard-earned learning to help them navigate the complexities of enterprise AI. Infosys is fully prepared to deliver on that trust and help our clients navigate the next," he said, adding that Infosys is already collaborating with 90 per cent of our top 200 clients in their AI journeys. Infosys Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director Salil Parekh said the company is aggressively expanding its footprint in artificial intelligence, with its AI services revenue share growing at a fast pace.

He noted that clients are increasingly looking to leverage AI across six broad areas: AI engineering and strategy, data, process efficiency, technology modernisation, physical AI (in manufacturing, medical, and automotive sectors), and AI trust and security. Infosys' net profit climbed 10.20 per cent to Rs 29,440 crore in fiscal year 2025-26 from Rs 26,713 crore in 2024-25. Its revenue from operations in FY26 rose 9.6 per cent to Rs 178,650 crore.

The company guided for 1.5 to 3.5 per cent revenue growth for FY27, pinning its optimism on momentum in financial services, utilities, and AI services. Infosys onboarded over 20,000 freshers in FY26, taking its total headcount to 328,594 at the end of Q4 FY26. The company plans to maintain this momentum and hire 20,000 freshers in FY27.

Vizag Fishing Harbour Unusually Quiet Despite Lifting of Annual Fishing Ban



Visakhapatnam: Visakhapatnam Fishing Harbour, which usually bustles with activity after the annual fishing ban, has been unusually quiet. The vibrant scenes of boats in their hundreds unloading catch and auction yards overflowing with baskets of fish are missing. The mornings are quieter and there is a noticeable decline in fish landings. According to Vasupalli Janakiram, state honorary president of the National Fishermen Association, only about 40 per cent of boats have ventured out to sea after lifting of the ban, primarily due to high fuel prices. Also Read - Kurnool: Kadapa Steel Plant To Begin Production By 2028, Says CM Advertisement Although more boats are joining the outgoing fleets, many are currently using prawn nets instead of fish nets. "This situation will persist for about a month, as fishermen focus on shrimp catches. Only when the boats venture into deeper waters will they start using fish nets," he explained. The annual ban, imposed during the fish breeding season to conserve marine resources, is crucial for sustainability. But it leaves fishermen idle for weeks. Once the ban is lifted, crews face multiple challenges; boats need re-

pairs and nets require mending. This time fuel costs have surged enormously. Fisherman P. Ellaji noted that not all boats are ready to sail immediately. Some are hesitant due to high fuel prices. Buyers, who usually crowd the auctions, now find limited choices. While prawns and crabs are available, popular varieties such as Pandugappa, Konem, and Vanjiram are scarce, driving up prices. Small traders and fishing families are feeling the financial strain. "The reduced fish catch is taking a heavy toll on our finances," said homemaker B. Jaya. At the same time, fisherwoman N. Muthyalamma explained that financial constraints after weeks without income are preventing many from sailing. Fisherwoman O. Poojitha expressed cautious optimism, "For now, the harbour is quieter than usual. There are fewer baskets of fish and auctions are sluggish. However, I believe the situation will improve as more boats gradually return to the sea." Fishermen's associations are advocating for measures, such as increased fuel subsidies and improved cold storage facilities. These would encourage crews to resume operations sooner and stabilise seafood supply.

AP's Border Town Palamaner Turns a Fertile Ground for Financial Frauds

Tirupati: Palamaner, a border town less than 20 km from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, has emerged as a hotspot for financial frauds, with locals losing crores of rupees in recent years. The town's strategic location and the ease with which offenders can move across state borders have made it vulnerable to a range of scams. The latest fraud surfaced last week when traders received calls from scammers posing as municipal officials. They demanded payment of pending trade licence fees through UPI. The callers sent QR codes and used a number that displayed the municipal commissioner's name on caller identification apps, convincing some of them to make payments before the fraud got exposed. Also Read - Kurnool: Kadapa Steel Plant To Begin Production By 2028, Says CM Advertisement QR code scam is only the latest in a series of financial frauds reported from the border town. Unregulated chit funds and private lending schemes have become a recurring source of financial distress in Palamaner and nearby villages. One of the biggest controversies involved a local financier who allegedly mobilised money through private borrowings and chit funds before filing for insolvency, citing losses in business. His liabilities reportedly exceeded ₹13 crore, affecting more than 200 investors. Also Read - Vizag Fishing Harbour Unusually Quiet Despite Lifting of Annual Fishing Ban Sources said more than 10 individuals have borrowed large sums from residents of the town. They declared insolvency during the past year, leaving creditors with little hope of recovery. Victims have approached elected representatives and police. But many of them say they have not recovered their investments. "We approached the police several times, but most of us have not received a single rupee.

SIR: Call for Digital Enrollment Option

Kakinada: With the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process under way, residents have proposed introduction of a fully digital enrollment system and making greater use of booth level officers for data collection in villages. At present, enrolment is being carried out through both online and manual modes. Under the manual process, BLOs distribute enumeration forms and ask applicants to submit them along with photographs and supporting documents. Also Read - Kurnool: Kadapa Steel Plant To Begin Production By 2028, Says CM Advertisement Residents, however, point to practical difficulties in completing the process. Discrepancies arise between names recorded in earlier voter lists, Aadhaar cards and other identity documents, requiring the applicants to furnish additional proof. In many remote villages, the absence of photocopying facilities and photo studios further complicates the process for agricultural labourers, farmers and illiterate residents. YouTube influencer and psychologist A.P.J. Vinu suggested that BLOs should collect photographs and identity documents digitally through smartphones to reduce paperwork and save time. He noted that mobile service providers



now complete SIM card verification digitally without requiring physical photographs and documents. He proposed that the Election Commission could adopt a similar system by authorising officials to capture photographs and obtain identity proofs electronically during enrolment. Former Kakinada municipal corporation councillor and Poura Sankshema Sangham convener Dusarlapudi Ramana Raju called on officials to address public concerns regarding the SIR process through awareness programmes at village and ward secretariats. He said voter list purification was traditionally carried out through special revision exercises and that linking Aadhaar details could strengthen the process. However, he cautioned, "If the revision exercise is not conducted thoroughly, there is a risk of genuine voters being excluded from the rolls." Ramana Raju said voter list revision should focus on identifying bogus.

Student IDs Inflated in Headmasters' Login To Stall Teacher Transfers

Kurnool: Concerns are being raised over excessive student admission IDs being recorded in headmasters' login accounts in government high schools across Andhra Pradesh, where Class VI admissions are in progressive. This is allegedly an attempt to prevent transfer of teachers from these schools. "The idea is to show higher enrolment up to June 25, the deadline for allotment of a specific number of teachers in the government high school. Higher the number of students, more will be teachers' allotted to the school. The attempt is to ensure that the number of teacher posts is not reduced in a school," said a government school teacher on condition of anonymity. In many cases, students who have completed Class V in elementary schools have had their login credentials transferred to nearby high schools by headmasters. "These logins have been made in advance to project that students would join the particular schools," another teacher disclosed. This is happening despite several students taking their transfer certificates (TCs) and secured admissions into schools of their choice. Yet, their IDs are remaining in the earlier headmasters' logins. According to sources, a significant number of student admission IDs ranging from 100 to 150 per school are being retained in HM logins, instead of being removed promptly on joining other schools. This move appears to be a calculated attempt to inflate enrolment figures until June 25, the apparent cut-off date for considering teachers' allotment based on the number of students. "When we approached the headmaster to clear the login from the school, as we had taken admission in another school, the HM cited workload and said the matter would be dealt with only after June 25," said a parent from Anantapur district. Also Read - AP's Border Town Palamaner Turns a Fertile Ground for Financial Frauds Discover more Cricket news updates Entertainment news digest Education news portal At the ZP High School in



Tapovanam Colony, Anantapur, as many as 130 student logins are reportedly present, while actual admissions are fewer than 40. A similar situation exists at Emmiganur in Kurnool district, where only 35 students have joined despite the number of logins being 90. "This is not limited to one district. The same pattern is being observed in Kurnool, Nandyal, Kadapa, Anantapur, and Prakasam districts," a senior teacher said. District Education Officer (DEO) of Kurnool L. Sudhakar acknowledged this issue. "We will conduct a meeting with teachers and resolve the problem at the earliest," he maintained. "If logins are not cleared on time, schools with fewer students may end up with excessive teachers, while schools with more students could face a shortage," said a teacher from Brahma mgari Matham High School in Kadapa district. Kadapa DEO S. Shamsuddin underlined that there is state-level surveillance on headmaster logins. Every login is visible at the state level. If IDs are held unnecessarily, the state will take action," he said. AP government has set a target to increase enrolment in government schools from 32.01 lakh in 2025-26 to 35.21 lakh in 2026-27. Kurnool district alone has been assigned a target of enrolling 25,000 additional students. Officials said the actual admission figures will become clear only after June 25, when online data is finalised. "Such manipulation, if unchecked, could severely impact both student distribution and teacher deployment," an education department official said.