

Chandrababu meets Union Minister CR Patil, discusses on linking of Godavari and cauvery river

Chandrababu meets Union Minister CR Patil The Chief Minister Naidu requested the Union Minister to convene a meeting with the Chief Ministers of the stakeholder states to discuss this project. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu after meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi has met with the Union Minister for Jal Shakti, C.R. Patil and reportedly discussed regarding the interlinking of the Godavari and Cauvery rivers. The Chief Minister requested the Union Minister to convene a meeting with the Chief Ministers of the stakeholder states to discuss this project. Union Ministry of Jal Shakti has suggested that linking the Cauvery from Banakacherla would be preferable to linking it from Srisailem. Chandrababu requested the Ministry to organise a special meeting with all states and stakeholders. Naidu told the Union Minister that it would be better to productively use the water rather than leav-



ing it into the sea. Chandrababu made clear that he had no objection to the Centre's proposal provided all states could be brought on board.

Chandrababu Naidu seeks CMs' meeting on Godavari-Cauvery link

Chandrababu Naidu seeks CMs' meeting on Godavari-Cauvery link Urges Centre to build consensus among stakeholder states on interlinking project Jal Shakti



speed of 40-50 kmph may occur. The probability of light to moderate rainfall is observed on Friday. While in South Coastal Andhra Pradesh is concerned, light to moderate rainfall or thundershowers at one or two places is likely to occur on Wednesday and Thursday and Friday. Strong winds blowing with a speed of 40-50 kmph are expected.

IMD predicts heavy rains in AP and Telangana till July 27 amid surface trough

The IMD has forecast light to moderate rain, thunderstorms and strong winds across Coastal Andhra, Rayalaseema and Telangana, including Hyderabad, until July 27. The Meteorological Department has announced that there is a possibility of rain till July 27 in the Coastal Andhra, Yanam, and Rayalaseema regions amid the impact of the trough and cyclonic circulation developing in the Bay of Bengal region. According to the Meteorological Department, light to moderate rainfall or thundershowers may occur in one or two places in the North coastal Andhra and Yanam on Wednesday and Thursday. Thundershowers with lightning and strong winds blowing at the

CM Chandrababu meets PM Modi in Delhi, invites to inauguration of Bhogapuram airport

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi He will extend an invitation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the inauguration of the Bhogapuram Airport which is to be held on August 1st. The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and discussed many things with him for more than an hour and a half. He will extend an invitation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the inauguration of the Bhogapuram Airport which is to be held



on August 1st. He will also meet some Union Ministers namely Amit Shah, Piyush Goyal, Manohar Lal Khattar, and C.R. Patil. He will hold talks with Amit Shah about the fulfillment of promises in the process of state bifurcation and the release of funds to the state. With Piyush Goyal, he will discuss the problems of industrial projects in AP and tobacco and aqua farmers. With Manohar Lal Khattar, he will brief about the importance of Central Government support in getting funds for the construction of the capital city of Amaravati.



Ministry suggests Banakacherla route instead of Srisailem Amaravati: Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday urged the Centre to convene a meeting of chief ministers of all stakeholder states to build consensus on the proposed Godavari-Cauvery river interlinking project. During his visit to New Delhi, Naidu met Union Jal Shakti Minister C R Patil after holding talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The proposed river-linking project figured prominently in the discussions. According to official sources, the Union Jal Shakti Ministry suggested that linking the Cauvery from Banakacherla would be a more suitable option than routing it through Srisailem.

Player auction for the inaugural edition of the Andhra Pickleball League championship



Visakhapatnam: Player auction for the inaugural edition of the Andhra Pickleball League championship, featuring eight franchises, will be held on Thursday, according to Mr Sujay Krishna Rangarao, former Minister and chairman of APL. The League will be held from August 15 in Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam and the final on September 20 in Gitam College in Visakhapatnam. More than 200 players have already registered and many international and national players would be in action in the League with each team spending Rs. 11 lakhs to buy the players. Each team will comprise three women and eight men players, Mr. Ranga Rao said. The APL chairman also said that there would be a Challenger League separately for those who were not lucky in the auction, he said. "The whole objective is to popularise the sport across Andhra Pradesh," the APL official concluded.

Congress, BJP face off in Vijayawada over Rahul Gandhi's detention

Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh): Congress workers protesting the detention of their leader Rahul Gandhi during his dharna in front of the prime minister's residence and BJP workers who participated in the rival protest organised in the city on Wednesday clashed with each other, triggering tension. Congress protest was organised to condemn the detention of senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi during a dharna near Prime Minister's residence in New Delhi over the NEET question paper leak and police brutality against participants of a march towards Parliament demanding education minister Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation over the NEET issue. The APCC also announced a march from Andhra Ratna Bhavan to Lok Bhavan in Vijayawada later in the day to protest the detention of Gandhi and submit a memorandum to Andhra Pradesh Governor S Abdul Nazeer. The BJP, in turn, organised a counter-protest condemning the Congress demonstration near the prime minister's residence and defending the



Centre's handling of the issue. Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee protested Gandhi's arrest in Delhi and attacks on protesting students and youth during their march towards Parliament, under APCC chief YS Sharmila Reddy's directions. At Kadiri in Sri Satya Sai district, Congress staged a road blockade. District President KS Shanawaz alleged repeated paper leaks, police excesses against protesting youth and demanded Modi's resignation. Shanawaz claimed about 152 paper leaks occurred during BJP rule, alleging NEET and UPSC leaks devastated students' futures and forced some to die by suicide. He alleged police lathi-charged protesting youths at Jantar Mantar,

blamed Central government negligence, and urged nationwide protests until Prime Minister Modi resigns. APCC Vice-President Kolanukonda Shivaji alleged that police, instead of restraining BJP workers, resorted to a lathi charge on Congress leaders and workers during the counter protests in the city.

Andhra to deploy 2 kumki elephants to curb man-animal conflict near Odisha border

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has directed the Forest Department to deploy two trained 'kumki' elephants in Parvathipuram Manyam district to help mitigate the growing man-elephant conflict along the Odisha border. The Forest Department has finalised arrangements to shift the elephants from the Musalamadugu Camp at Palamaner to the Guchchimi Camp in Parvathipuram Manyam district. "The two trained kumki elephants available in Andhra Pradesh should be deployed in



Parvathipuram Manyam district to provide long-term relief to villages affected by recurring human-elephant conflict along the Odisha border," said Kalyan in a press release late on Tuesday.

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Yuva Unstoppable's 10,000th School: The Future of Education Just Arrived!

Yuva Unstoppable celebrates a milestone, transforming its 10,000th school. Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal inaugurated a smart classroom at Lady Irwin School, Delhi, highlighting the NGO's two decades of impact in education and community development. Hon'ble Union Minister for Law & Justice Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal Inaugurates Yuva Unstoppable's 10,0001st Transformed School In the Heart of New Delhi. New Delhi, 21st July, 2026: In a morning charged with NCC beats, memory and strong resolve, Union Minister for Law and Justice Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal cut the ribbon on the 10,0001st school transformed by Yuva Unstoppable with the philanthropic support of Nuvama. This school, Lady Irwin Senior Secondary School, was established in 1927 and is soon set to complete 100 years of journey in providing education marking its own historical significance in the landmark celebration. The school's newly built smart classroom stood as the morning's most visible symbol of change, technology-enabled spaces designed to bring the same quality of learning to a government school classroom. The event drew senior representatives from the Gates Foundation, Nuvama, Fortis, Korn Ferry, Baker Hughes, PolicyBazaar, and several other corporate partners, alongside students, teachers, parents and the wider Lady Irwin school community, whose everyday lives the initiative exists to serve. (L to R) Hon'ble Union Minister of Law and Justice Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal with Founder, Yuva Unstoppable Mr. Amitabh Shah. The New Delhi ceremony, which inaugurated a future-ready digital classroom at Lady Irwin Senior Secondary School through the partnership of Nuvama and Yuva Unstoppable, brought together leaders from the Gates Foundation, Fortis, Korn Ferry, Baker Hughes, PolicyBazaar, and a wide cross-section of corporate and civic leaders to celebrate Yuva Unstoppable's two decades of transforming government schools across India. A Ribbon Cut, A Charkha Offered The programme commenced with students from the school welcoming philanthropic leaders and corporate guests on a guided tour of the STEM and AI exhibition. The tour featured interactive STEM demonstrations by students alongside innovative AI solutions showcased by startups such as Torchit, Easiofy Solutions, Doto, and Everse, all of which were shortlisted at the AI Impact Summit held in February 2026. The formal ribbon-cutting that followed, performed by the Minister Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, marked the official launch of the 10,0001st Yuva Model Smart Classroom. In a gesture that has become a signature of Yuva Unstoppable's events, a student then felicitated the Minister with a Gandhi Charkha, to represent the enduring symbol of patient and dignified work. Hon'ble Union Minister of Law and Justice Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal inaugurating the Smart Classroom alongside Founder of YUVA Unstoppable Amitabh Shah. Smart Classrooms, Real Stories The room then turned from ceremony to demonstration, as a live smart-class session gave guests a direct look at how technology by Yuva Unstoppable is reshaping the everyday texture of a government school classroom.

UP migrant worker killed after water tanker rams bike at Narsingi toll gate

Hyderabad: A 28-year-old migrant worker from Uttar Pradesh was killed and another person suffered critical injuries in a road crash at Puppalaguda Toll Gate in Narsingi on Tuesday night. According to police, the victim identified as Sushil Kumar was returning home on a motorcycle along with his friend Suresh after finishing work at Hafeezpet when a speeding water tanker allegedly rammed their bike near the toll gate. Sushil Kumar suffered fatal injuries and died in the accident, while Suresh received severe injuries and was shifted to a nearby hospital, where he is undergoing treatment. After hitting the motorcycle, the out-of-control water tanker reportedly went on to collide with a car and a scooter, causing further damage. The Narsingi police are investigating. They are yet to ascertain the exact cause of the accident and whether negligence or over speeding led to the fatal crash. Authorities are also examining CCTV footage from the toll plaza as part of the probe.

LS erupts over NEET row; Oppn adamant on Pradhan's resignation, govt agrees to discussion



New Delhi: Heated exchanges were witnessed in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday as the Opposition raised the issue of the NEET question paper leak and the police action against protesters in Delhi, demanding the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. Raising the matter in the House, Congress MP K.C. Venugopal reiterated the Opposition's demand for the Education Minister's resignation and urged the government to accept an adjournment motion to facilitate a discussion on the issue. "Our demand is very clear: Education Minister should resign. If you accept the adjournment motion, then discuss it," Venugopal said. Responding to the demand, Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said the Centre is prepared to discuss the alleged NEET paper leak. However, he clarified that the format, duration and procedural rules governing the debate would be decided by the Speaker after consultations with the floor leaders of all political parties. "The government is ready to discuss the NEET paper leak issue. However, when the discussion takes place, it happens in line with a rule. When the discussion is held, for how long and under which rule should be decided by the Speaker after meeting with all party floor leaders. The government is ready to discuss the issue, and we all want to engage in a meaningful discussion regarding the future of this country's youth," Rijiju said. Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav also intervened during the proceedings, asserting that the matter transcended party politics and directly concerned the future of students and young people across the country. He said every political party should be given an opportunity to express

its views in the House. "This issue is not of Congress, Samajwadi Party or the BJP; it's about the youth of the country. You let him (Venugopal) and them (Rijiju) speak; was the problem solved? Why was I not allowed to speak? This stand is not right. This is about the youth and students, and we all are standing with them," Yadav said. The Samajwadi Party leader also criticised the government's handling of the protests, alleging that students had been subjected to excessive force during the demonstrations. "When the students will not be heard, we will come out on the streets. The way the government has behaved with the students... their hands and heads were broken, their clothes were torn. Will you (the government) tear the clothes of our daughters?" he questioned. Referring to the Opposition's protest near the Prime Minister's residence, Yadav said the demonstration was a consequence of not being allowed to raise the issue in Parliament. "We went outside the Prime Minister's residence in desperation. If you had allowed us to speak here, we wouldn't have gone. Can the Prime Minister not give a statement here? If he can do it outside, then why not in the House?" he further stated. Meanwhile, Opposition MPs continued their protest inside the House despite Speaker Om Birla's efforts to end the impasse and restore normal proceedings. The Speaker pointed out that the government had already expressed its willingness to discuss the issue through Kiren Rijiju's statement and appealed to the Opposition to participate in the debate instead of continuing with protests inside the House. However, Opposition members persisted with their demonstration, following which the House was adjourned till 2 p.m.

Hyderabad man held for selling banned oxytocin injections used in dairy animals

Hyderabad: The Uppal Special Operations Team (SOT) arrested a man for allegedly selling banned oxytocin injections used to artificially enhance milk production in dairy animals. Acting on a tip-off, the team conducted a raid at Maktha village under the Pocharam IT Corridor Police Station limits and nabbed M Rangaiah Yadav (56). Police seized five vials of banned oxytocin injections from his possession. Officials found that the Rangaiah, who runs a water plant business, was allegedly involved in the illegal



sale of the prohibited drug. The seized injections were handed over to the Pocharam IT Corridor police, who are investigating.



KCR, KTR and Harish Rao pay tributes to Dasarathi Krishnamacharyulu on birth anniversary

Hyderabad: BRS president and former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao, party working president KT Rama Rao (KTR) and legislative party deputy leader T Harish Rao paid tributes to noted poet and freedom fighter Dasarathi Krishnamacharyulu marking his birth anniversary on Wednesday. Recalling Dasarathi's role in the Telangana Armed Struggle, Chandra shekhar Rao called him as a warrior who defended Telangana's identity through his writings even while imprisoned. Referring to his famous words, "Naa Telangana Koti Ratanaala Veena," he said Dasarathi's spirit of protecting Telangana's self-respect and identity remained relevant even today. He recalled that the previous BRS government officially celebrated Dasarathi's birth anniversary and instituted a literary award in his name in recognition of his contribution to Telangana's literary and cultural heritage. Rama Rao said Dasarathi stood firmly with the oppressed and inspired generations through his writings. He noted that the poet used his pen to fight authoritarian rule and awaken the people of Telangana. He recalled that the BRS government had honoured Dasarathi by instituting a literary award and observing his birth anniversary officially every year. Harish Rao termed Dasarathi as a multifaceted personality who ignited the spirit of the Telangana Armed Struggle and envisioned an egalitarian society free from hunger and inequality.

ACB raids TGTRANSCO deputy engineer's properties in disproportionate assets case

Hyderabad: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Wednesday conducted simultaneous raids at the residences and properties linked to TGTRANSCO Deputy Engineer (DE) Mutyam Venkatarama in Hyderabad and several other locations across the State. The searches were launched following allegations that the official had amassed assets disproportionate to his known sources of income. According to information available, eight ACB teams carried out coordinated searches at around 15 locations, including the residences of the officer and his relatives. The raids were aimed at verifying the allegations and identifying movable and immovable assets allegedly acquired through illicit means. The searches are continuing, with ACB officials examining property documents, financial records and other relevant materials.

Tummala Slams Centre Over NEET Row, Condemns Rahul Gandhi’s Arrest

Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao criticised the Centre over alleged NEET irregularities, condemned Rahul Gandhi's arrest, and accused the Modi government of suppressing democratic protests. Khammam: Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao on Wednesday strongly criticised the Centre over the alleged irregularities in the NEET examination, accusing it of failing to conduct the national-level test in a fair and credible manner. Addressing Congress workers during a protest in Khammam, the minister condemned the “undemocratic arrest” of Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi and alleged that the Narendra Modi-led government was suppressing democratic voices. Tummala questioned why Prime Minister Narendra Modi had remained silent while students and unemployed youth were protesting on the streets of New Delhi over the NEET issue. He also criticised the police action against demonstrators, asking why the Union Education Minister had not been removed



despite the controversy and the alleged use of force against protesting youth. The minister said the Congress party’s agitation in Khammam was part of a nationwide campaign against what he described as the Centre’s “authoritarian rule”. He alleged that the youth had begun rejecting the Central government’s policies and asserted that their protests reflected growing public discontent. Drawing a comparison with Telangana politics, Tummala said the previous state government had been voted out after failing to conduct examinations effectively, adding that governments that fail students and job aspirants are ultimately held accountable by the people.

Egg prices hit record Rs 9 in Telangana as chicken touches Rs 300/kg amid supply crunch

Hyderabad: Several households across Telangana are spending significantly more on their meals as egg and chicken prices have surged sharply over the past month, forcing consumers to stretch their food budgets while bakeries and eateries grapple with rising input costs. Retail egg prices have touched a record Rs 9 a piece, up from around Rs 7 at the end of June, while chicken is selling for nearly Rs 300 per kg in several markets. According to traders, eggs are being procured from poultry farms at Rs 7.15 to Rs 7.20 each, while wholesale prices have climbed to around Rs 8.50 per egg or Rs 255 to Rs 260 per tray of 30 eggs. The increase has been passed on to consumers, who are now shelling out substantially more for their purchases. Poultry farmers attributed the price rise to heavy bird mortality during the peak summer months, soaring feed costs and strong export demand. They said extreme heat led to significant losses in poultry farms, reducing egg and broiler production across the State. “The cost of poultry feed, particularly maize and soybean meal, has increased considerably. At the same time, thousands of birds died due to heat stress this summer, resulting in lower production and reduced market supplies,” said M Shiva Kumar, a poultry farmer. The impact is being felt across the food industry. Bakery owners said the increase in egg prices has sharply raised production costs. “We use nearly 1,000 eggs every day for preparing cakes, pastries and other bakery products. We can-



not stop production, so we are left with no option but to absorb much of the increase by reducing our profit margins,” said a bakery owner in Hyderabad. The broiler chicken market has witnessed a similar trend. Live bird prices have increased by nearly Rs 50 per kg over the past month, pushing retail chicken prices to around Rs 300 per kg. Poultry farmer Gopi Sai Babu said the industry suffered unusually high losses this summer. “Under normal conditions, around 1,000 birds out of every 10,000 die due to disease or weather-related factors. This year, heat stress alone claimed nearly 2,000 birds per 10,000, while chick production also declined, reducing overall supply,” he said. Industry representatives expect prices to remain elevated in the coming weeks unless production improves and feed costs ease.

Two brothers arrested for stealing 1 kg gold from Banjara Hills jewellery firm

Hyderabad: The Task Force and Banjara Hills Police arrested two brothers for allegedly stealing over 1.028 kg of gold ornaments from a jewellery export company in Banjara Hills and recovered the entire stolen property on Wednesday. The suspects, Sonkamble Harish (29), a sales executive at Guru Krupa Exports Pvt Ltd, and his brother Sonkamble Akash (25), allegedly planned the theft after Harish gained knowledge of the office’s security and gold storage through his job. Police said Harish broke into the office on July 17 by entering through a bathroom grill and stole the ornaments before handing them to his brother.

Hyderabad records light rain as overcast weather continues across Telangana



Hyderabad: Overcast conditions coupled with sporadic short spells of light to moderate showers have continued in Hyderabad and districts over the past 24 hours. The highest rainfall of 59.2 mm was recorded at Nandigam, Ranga redy district, between 8.30 am Tuesday and 8.30 am Wednesday, the daily weather report from TSDPS on Wednesday said. Across Telangana, the average cumulative rainfall (in one day) throughout Telangana was 9.9 mm, while the highest maximum temperature of 33.6 degree Celsius was recorded at Alangapuram, Suryapet. In Hyderabad, the maximum

temperature of 30.8 degree Celsius was recorded at Vittalvadi. In the Greater Hyderabad region, the highest rainfall of 15 mm was recorded at Shankarpalle in Rangareddy district. The entire day’s average rainfall in the last 24-hours was 6.3 mm, the TSDPS data indicated. Some of the other regions in Hyderabad, Cyberabad and Medchal-Malkajgiri districts, which received highest rainfall (in mm) include Shaikpet (14.8), Mehdipta tn timer Navodaya Community Hall, Asifnagar (13.3), CMTC building in Banjara Hills (13 mm), Mailardevpally, Rajendranagar (12.5 mm) and Khajaguda, Serilingampally (12).

Hyderabad ranked India’s safest metro for driving in India Road Safety Report 2026

Hyderabad: Hyderabad has been ranked as India’s safest metropolitan city for driving, securing the highest SmartDrive score of 93 in the India Road Safety Report (IRSR) 2026. Released by Zuno General Insurance, the report, based on the analysis of real-world driving trips, highlights the city’s comparatively disciplined driving behaviour despite the rapid growth in traffic and vehicle population. The study analysed over 4.5 million trips, covering 55 million km of driving data collected from more than 27,000 active users of the Zuno SmartDrive mobile application across 17 States. Using smartphone-based telematics, the report evaluated driving behaviour based on speeding, sudden braking, harsh acceleration, cornering and distracted driving, instead of relying solely on accident statistics. The findings also reveal that driving habits worsen considerably during late evening hours. While the average driving score remained stable for much of the day, it declined sharply

after 8 pm, with the 9 pm to 10 pm slot recording the lowest score of 86, making it the riskiest time to be on the road. In contrast, 1 pm to 2 pm was identified as the safest period, registering a score of 93. Across India, sudden braking and harsh acceleration emerged as the weakest aspects of driving behaviour, indicating that aggressive driving continues to pose a major road safety challenge.

- India Road Safety Report 2026 – Key Findings
- *Hyderabad tops Indian metros with a SmartDrive score of 93
 - *9 pm–10 pm identified as the riskiest driving hour
 - *1 pm–2 pm rated the safest driving period
 - *Behavioural factors contribute to over 80 per cent of road accidents
 - *India records 1.73 lakh road deaths annually
 - *Two-wheeler riders account for 44 per cent of road fatalities, pedestrians at 19 per cent

Three villages in Narayankhed area taps rainwater to tackle El Nino effect much before Telangana government comes up with plan

Sangareddy: While the Telangana government was still discussing how to tap rainwater amid the threat of the El Nino pattern, three villages in remote Narayankhed area had initiated measures way ahead of the government to tackle the issue. Villagers of Peerltha Thanda, Mukthapur and Puslapad are now ready to taste the fruits of their efforts now. As the IMD predicted that the El Nino effect would create serious drought conditions in the country during the 2026-27 year, the prediction had left the farmers of Narayankhed area worried since the drought prone area will bear the brunt more than any other part of the State. Most of the Narayankhed area was deprived of irrigation facilities and there were no minor irrigation tanks at all. When IRS officer Dr Sudhakar Nayak came to these villages during the last summer and educated them on the need of digging the community ponds and soak pits to tap the rainwater to tackle drought, these vil-



lages utilised the opportunity effectively. The villagers joined hands, and dug up four community soak pits and two community ponds across a stream between these three villages during May. While the Sangareddy district administration was discussing on the need to tap the rain under “Jala Siri” programme by digging farm ponds, soak pits and borewell recharging structures on last Monday during a review meeting held by Minister G Vivekananda, the rainwater harvesting structures in these villages received their first water inflow as the area received considerable rain on the same day. During the

last three days, the rains have brought considerable amounts of water into these rainwater harvesting structures which would not only benefit them and also multiple other villages located close-by. Speaking to Telangana Today, Environmentalist, Paladugu Gnaneshwar, who hails from the area, said that the rainwater used to go waste every year into local streams which would eventually flow down into Godavari and Bay of Bengal. But, they have stored the water for the first time this year. Since there were no minor irrigation tanks in these parts of the district, he hoped that the rainwater structures would replenish the groundwater table besides quenching the thirst of animals and birds. After tasting their first success within months after their effort, the villagers were preparing to take up digging of multiple such structures in the coming days. Dr Nayak observed that the rest of the district must draw inspiration from these villages to tap the rainwater.

Kerala Cabinet approves Sidharthan Distress App, plans anti-ragging law

Thiruvananthapuram: The Kerala Cabinet on Wednesday approved the launch of the ‘Sidharthan Distress App’ to help prevent ragging in educational institutions and facilitate prompt reporting of complaints, Chief Minister V D Satheesan said. The app is named after J S Sidharthan, a 20-year-old veterinary student from Nedumangad, who allegedly died by suicide in February 2024 after being subjected to ragging by fellow students at the College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Pookode in Wayanad. Addressing a press conference after the Cabinet meeting, Satheesan said the government has noticed an increase in incidents of ragging on college campuses. He said the Cabinet has decided to bring in an anti-ragging law in the name of Sidharthan, a decision that had been announced in the UDF manifesto and the revised state Budget for 2026-27. “The government has decided to introduce the Sidharthan Distress App so that com-



plaints related to ragging can be promptly brought to the notice of the authorities concerned,” the Chief Minister said. The revised Kerala Budget 2026-27, presented by the Congress-led UDF government last month, had proposed the introduction of the app and an anti-ragging law in Sidharthan’s name to curb ragging in educational institutions. In his Budget speech in the Assembly, Satheesan had said, “To prevent ragging in educational institutions in Kerala, the ‘Sidharthan Student Distress App’ will be introduced, and an anti-ragging law in Sidharthan’s name will be enacted to prevent ragging and ensure student welfare.”

U’khand: Kedarnath yatra halted after landslide blocks trek route near Gaurikund



Rudraprayag: Movement of pilgrims on the Kedarnath trek route was suspended on Wednesday after a landslide triggered by rain sent rocks and debris crashing onto the path near Gaurikund, prompting authorities to stop devotees at safe locations as restoration work got underway. The landslide occurred near Chhodi, about one kilometre beyond Gaurikund on the Kedarnath trek route, blocking the path with rocks and debris, officials said. District Disaster Management Officer Nandan Singh Rajwar said pilgrims were immediately halted at safe locations after information about the landslide was received to ensure their safety. He said teams from the Public Works Department (PWD) and other

concerned departments reached the site and began clearing the debris to restore movement along the route. Rajwar said the situation is being monitored continuously, with teams from the District Disaster Management Authority and the police carrying out relief and safety operations on high alert. He added that the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) have also been kept on alert so they can be deployed immediately if required. Appealing to pilgrims to remain patient and follow the administration’s directions, the official said movement on the trek route would resume only after it is declared completely safe.

Suspected terrorists attack police party in J&K’s Anantnag, policeman injured

Srinagar: Suspected terrorists opened fire at a police party in Anantnag town of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, leaving a policeman injured, officials said here. The firing took place around 12.30 pm on Wednesday at Lal Chowk in Anantnag, the officials said. They said one head constable posted on duty was injured in the attack and rushed to the Government Medical College hospital at Anantnag. Security forces have cordoned



off the area and launched an operation to track down the assailants.

Rahul Gandhi misused LoP privileges, protest outside PM’s residence childish: BJP

New Delhi: The BJP on Wednesday accused Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi of misusing the privileges associated with his constitutional post by staging a protest outside PM Narendra Modi’s residence and alleged that the Congress leader wants to come to power by dividing the country. The party also accused Gandhi of being “hand in glove with anti-national elements” and described his action as an example of “directionless” and “childish” politics. Congress leaders, led by Rahul Gandhi and party president Mallikarjun Kharge, had staged a dharna outside the prime minister’s residence on Tuesday, demanding Modi’s resignation over the police action against students protesting the alleged NEET paper leak issue. Congress MPs Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and other opposition leaders were later detained by the police. BJP MP Nishikant Dubey alleged that the Gandhi family is “hand in glove with anti-national elements” and demanded an investigation into Gandhi’s foreign visits. “Rahul Gandhi’s foreign visits should be investigated. The government should examine whom he met abroad, which officials from Islamic countries he met, which people working to break India he met, which Chinese officials he met, and whether the Soros Foundation is funding him,” he told reporters in the Parliament House complex. Referring to Tuesday’s protest, Dubey claimed his son reached his examination centre late because of the demonstration. “My son reached his examination centre late because of the protest. Is being a leader’s son a crime? Is he not a student? Is he not an examinee?” he said. Alleging that Rahul Gandhi is trying to control the media, Dubey said the LoP wants to divide the country for political gains. “Rahul Gandhi is trying to do today what Indira Gandhi did during the Emergency by deciding what the media should publish and say. He wants to come to power by dividing the country.



“He is carrying out these agitations with money from the Soros Foundation and Islamic countries and wants to silence the media,” the BJP MP alleged. BJP MP and Rajasthan unit president Madan Rathore alleged that Rahul Gandhi has misused the special privileges available to him as the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) and said his protest reflected “frustration”, “desperation” and “childish politics”. “As the LoP, he has certain special privileges. He misused those privileges. What was the point of staging a protest outside the prime minister’s residence? It reflects the height of frustration and desperation. It was directionless and childish politics,” Rathore told reporters. He also accused the Congress leader of changing his stand during the protest. “First, they said they would end the protest if a discussion was held in Parliament. When the government agreed, they changed their demand and sought the prime minister’s resignation. Demanding someone’s resignation is not a joke. Rahul Gandhi is not serious,” he said. Rathore said BJP workers would hold demonstrations from 2 pm on Wednesday and “pray that good sense prevails” upon the Congress leadership. BJP MP Rahul Sinha also targeted Rahul Gandhi, alleging that the Congress leader is trying to use the alleged NEET paper leak issue for political gains. He claimed the government is already examining the issue and asserted that the NEET re-examination was conducted in a fair and transparent manner. Sinha also attacked the INDIA bloc, alleging that the opposition alliance lacks unity and claimed its constituents have come together only to protect themselves.

BJP and Congress workers clash during rival protests in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: Tension gripped Hyderabad on Wednesday as BJP and Congress workers clashed, while holding rival protests, forcing police to intervene and detain leaders from both parties. The Congress organised a “Chalo Lok Bhavan” rally from Gandhi Bhavan to protest the alleged NEET paper leak and the detention of Rahul Gandhi and other Congress leaders in New Delhi. TPCC president B Mahesh Kumar Goud led the rally from Indira Gandhi statue at Necklace Road to Lok Bhavan in Somajiguda. Police stopped the rally near Lok Bhavan and detained Mahesh Kumar Goud, along with Ministers Damodara Raja Narasimha, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Mohd Azharuddin and several other Congress leaders. At the same time, the BJP leaders led by its State president N Ramchander Rao took out a counter-rally from its State headquarters to Gandhi Bhavan, condemning the Congress protest held outside Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s residence in the national capital. As they attempted to lay siege to the



Gandhi Bhavan, a group of Congress activists rushed out and both the groups raised slogans against each other, triggering heated arguments and a scuffle. Some activists reportedly used sticks during the clash, while a few Congress workers climbed onto the police vehicles in protest. Police, who had deployed heavy security anticipating trouble, resorted to a lathi charge to disperse them. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy participated in a protest march from his residence to Ambedkar Chowrasta in Kodangal. After paying floral tributes to the statue of Dr BR Ambedkar, he condemned the Centre over the detention of Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi and protesting students in Delhi. Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Minister Konda Surekha and several legislators also staged a protest in Hanamkonda.

Anurag Kashyap says Generation Alpha wants answers from the government

Mumbai: Indian auteur Anurag Kashyap, who is known for being vocal with his political opinion, has shared an interesting insight into the political structure of the country.On Tuesday, the filmmaker took to his Instagram, and penned a long note, as he said that the Generation Alpha has only seen the current regime in power as it is the most elected government in power, and the second longest government in power. However, the filmmaker pointed to the growing resentment within the Generation Alpha towards the current regime. He stated that this generation feels the regime hasn't done enough for the country.He wrote, "What they don't understand about the kids who've come down on the streets to protest is that they were between 2-6 when the PM came to power. All they've seen is Congress-mukt Bharat and they're tired of it".He further mentioned that this generation has observed everything around them, and are now at the cusp of entering the voterbase of the country.

He added, "They want answers and they really want them. Kisi aur ko gaali deke iss baar nahin chalega. In bachchon ke sawaal poochhne aur vote dene ka time aa gaya hai (This time, blaming someone else won't work. It's time for these children to ask questions and cast their votes)".Anurag's post comes amidst the fast spiralling political atmosphere in the country. The situation is tense and volatile in the national capital with ripples being felt across cities like Mumbai and Kolkata.



The protests intensified after Sonam Wangchuk was forcibly removed by Delhi Police from the protest site at Jantar Mantar in the early hours of July 18 after completing 21 days of an indefinite hunger strike. Authorities shifted him to a hospital, citing his deteriorating health, medical advice and compliance with a Delhi High Court order. Sonam Wangchuk has been on a hunger strike demanding the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan over alleged irregularities in competitive exams. The raging issue of paper leaks across academia reached a fever pitch with the NEET paper leak. On July 20, protestors were lathi-charged at Jantar Mantar leading to violent clashes between the former and the law enforcement.

Sonam Wangchuk has entered day 24 of his hunger strike in light of exam paper leaks, and irregularities in the education system, and has vowed to continue the strike after protestors were subjected to brutal crackdown by Delhi police.

‘3 Idiots’ makers dismiss reports of September 4 re-release



Mumbai: The makers of the iconic film ‘3 Idiots’ have quashed the reports of the film’s re-release. On Wednesday, the production house behind the film took to social media, and clarified that the film is not making its way to theatres for its re-release.Vidhu Vinod Chopra Films has issued an official clarification in response to recent media reports about the re-release on September 4, 2026.They wrote, “With reference to recent media reports claiming that ‘3 Idiots’ will be re-released on 4th September, Vidhu Vinod Chopra Films would like to clarify that these reports are false and factually incorrect. We request members of the media and fans to rely solely on official announcements made through Vidhu Vinod Chopra Films’ verified channels. We urge media publications to refrain from publishing or circulating unverified information”.The reports emerged during the ongoing student protests at Jantar Mantar after Sonam Wangchuk was forcibly removed by Delhi Police from the protest site at Jantar Mantar in the early hours of July

18 after completing 21 days of an indefinite hunger strike. The strike was called with regards to the overhaul of the education system, and to curb the paper leaks. In pop-culture, Sonam Wangchuk has often been cited as the inspiration behind Aamir Khan’s character in ‘3 Idiots’. However, Aamir recently clarified that the character is not in fact based on Sonam Wangchuk but a figment of imagination of the writers.‘3 Idiots’ largely spoke about the reforms in the education system, and focusing on the application of knowledge beyond exam papers. The film became a landmark in Indian pop culture by redefining mainstream Bollywood entertainment with a strong social message. The film challenged conventional ideas of academic success, parental pressure and career choices through humour and emotion.It also sparked widespread discussions on India’s education system and student mental health. Its influence transcended borders, making it one of the most celebrated and globally recognised Hindi films of all time.

Bali calls Kushal Tandon ‘flop aadmi, ghanchakkar’ amid showdown

Mumbai: A small argument over past behaviour quickly snowballed into a no-holds-barred war of words between “Alliance” contestants Bali and Kushal Tandon. The clash erupted after Bali accused Kushal of constantly picking fights with him since his arrival.Bali said: “Main jis din se aaya hoon, yeh mere se ladne ke mood mein baitha hua hai (Ever since I arrived, he’s been in the mood to pick a fight with me).” When Kushal questioned Bali over his behaviour in a previous show, Bali defended himself. He said: “Ladki ne mere se badtameezi ki thi... You give some, you take some (The girl disrespected me first... If you dish it out, you should be ready to take it too).”Kushal refused to accept the explanation, reigniting the argument. The tension spilled into the task, where Kushal repeatedly questioned Bali’s decision. Bali hit back, “Why do you always have to create a ruckus?” before landing a brutal blow with, You’re not the main hero and this is not your movie. The movie is never gonna get released, brother. You’re not the main character. Don’t ever think that you’re the main character.”Even after the task ended, the confrontation only grew uglier. As Kushal continued provoking him, Bali accused him of deliberately trying to trigger a physical fight. Kushal challenged him to say whatever he wanted, prompting Bali to fire back, “Abe chal aa buddhe!” Kushal immediately retaliated with “Gawar aadmi (uneducated person).” Bali retaliated: “Tu bada gawar nahi hai? Teri harkate nahi dikh rahi? (Aren’t you a complete uncouth person? Can’t



you see how you’re behaving?)” As the shouting match intensified, Vriddhi repeatedly called out Kushal for instigating the situation, asking him to stop interfering before finally losing her patience and yelling, “Just shut up!” Even then, Kushal continued provoking Bali.Refusing to fall into the trap, Bali made it clear he had no intention of getting physical, saying, “He is instigating me ki mere muh se kuch nikle aur yeh mujhe maare. Yehi chahta hai. (He is instigating me so that something comes out of my mouth and he beats me. That’s what he wants).” But before walking away, he delivered his most scathing attack yet, calling Kushal a “flop aadmi” and adding, “Poori flop harkate... ek number ka ghanchakkar ghoom raha hai iss ghar mein... yeh chep hoye jaa raha hai (Everything he does is a complete flop... There’s a total nutcase roaming around this house He just keeps acting all clingy).”Sohail Khan was visibly disturbed by the escalating shouting, while Seema Sajdeh summed up Kushal’s behaviour with a sharp analogy, saying, “Kushal is like that magic candle that you put on birthday cakes, blow it, bujho, it comes back up.” Alliance is streaming on Prime Video.

Ryan Gosling’s ‘La La Hand’ finally fixed: La La Land poster updated for 10th anniversary re-release

After nearly a decade of joking about his awkward hand placement on the original La La Land poster, Ryan Gosling’s wish has finally come true as Lionsgate unveils a redesigned poster ahead of the film’s 10th anniversary theatrical return. Los Angeles: Golden Globe Award winner Ryan



Gosling has achieved a lot in the film industry. Originally the Canadian actor, Ryan Gosling enjoys a massive fan following across the globe. The actor's long-awaited wish regarding his hand placement in the La La Land poster has finally been fulfilled. The makers of La La Land changed the hand placement of Ryan Gosling after around ten years. For the unversed, Ryan Gosling has spoken out in multiple interviews over the years about his dislike of his hand placement as featured on the original La La Land theatrical release poster. The producers of the movie have now accepted the demand of the actor and unveiled a new design for the movie's 10th anniversary. In the new poster, Ryan Gosling's flat hand is now sticking out. Ryan Gosling had earlier said that he and Emma were dancing and they were not aware that the moment will become the poster of the movie. He was quoted saying, " We were supposed to have our hands up, and I thought it would be cool to put my hand [more flat] even though everyone told me it wasn't cool. I was sure it was cooler. Now when I look at it, and I have to see it all the time, you

know what would've been cooler... [the intended pose]. Also Read - Michael arrives on OTT after record-breaking run, beats Oppenheimer at global box office Advertisement Discover more Real-time News Feed Journalism Training Course Digital Newspaper Access Gosling added. "It just killed the energy that way. I call it La La Hand." The new poster of the movie was shared by Lionsgate on its Instagram handle while writing, “A minor adjustment. Celebrate the 10th anniversary of #LaLaLand in @Dolby Cinema at @AMCtheatres. Experience the film back on the big screen beginning August 16. Get tickets now." Check Pictures Here The movie 'La La Land' is releasing back in theaters on August 16, 2026. It will be re-released in Dolby Cinema at AMC Theatres. The film is among the most popular movies of the world as it has won six Oscars, including best director and best cinematography. The movie has also won a record-breaking seven Golden Globes. The movie stars Ryan Gosling, Emma Stone, John Legend and Jessica Rothe among others. It was originally released on 9th of December 2016.

First-ever Mixed Disability Ashes series announced for 2027 between Australia and England

Hyderabad: Australia and England will compete in a men’s Mixed Disability Ashes series for the first time in 2027.Mixed Disability cricket was first introduced at international level in 2025, with England and India contesting the first two international editions of the format.Next year’s Ashes series will mark Australia’s first international event in the new disability cricket format, which brings together cricketers with a physical, intellectual or hearing impairment in one team.To prepare for the series, a Mixed Disability feature match has been added to the schedule for the 2027 National Cricket Inclusion Championships (NCIC). The feature match, along with the NCIC more broadly, will form part of the selection process for the Mixed Disability Ashes squad.Dates and venues for the 2027 Mixed Disability Ashes series will be released in the near future.

James Allsopp, Cricket Australia Chief of Cricket, said:

“The Mixed Disability Ashes series will allow cricketers with a disability in Australia to add a new chapter to one of sport’s greatest rivalries, along with the Men’s, Women’s and Blind Ashes series.“We’re excited to align with other nation’s cricket boards in fielding Mixed Disability teams, and have followed England’s and India’s series with interest the past two years.“The National Cricket Inclusion Championships in in Ballarat next January will be an important part of the selection process for the Mixed Disability Ashes, including our first feature



match in the format.“We can’t wait to take part in the new Ashes series next year and have our elite cricketers with a disability take on our oldest rivals in England.”

Ian Martin, England Cricket Board Head of Disability Cricket, said:

“It really signals the next step of Mixed Disability Cricket to be able to introduce an Ashes, it’s a hugely meaningful progression for the game.“All cricket fans understand the importance of an Ashes series. England v Australia is for so many the peak of the game and I’m delighted that our Men’s Mixed Disability squad will get a chance to compete in such a series.“We’ve had a fantastic series against India, with another one due this summer, and we’re keen to continue growing this format. I’m delighted we’ll be able to welcome Australia to the UK next summer and I can’t wait for our first Mixed Disability Ashes series.”

Young India face Zimbabwe in series opener as Shreyas seeks captaincy turnaround

Harare: India’s young T20 side begins a crucial three-match series against Zimbabwe here on Thursday, with captain Shreyas Iyer looking to steady the ship after a difficult start to his leadership stint. Having managed just one win in his first seven T20Is as captain, Shreyas will view this tour as an opportunity to restore confidence and build momentum with a relatively inexperienced squad.The series also marks VVS Laxman’s return to the dug-out as stand-in head coach in the absence of Gautam Gambhir. His approach to team balance and selection will be closely watched, particularly with several positions still up for debate.One of the biggest attractions will be teenage opener Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, who is expected to partner Abhishek Sharma at the top. The Harare Sports Club has been a happy hunting ground for both batters. Abhishek announced himself in international cricket with his maiden T20I century at the venue, while Sooryavanshi scored a memorable hundred there during the Under-19 World Cup final earlier this year.

Conditions, however, could test India’s batting. The Harare surface generally offers pace and bounce, bringing Zimbabwe’s experienced fast bowlers Blessing Muzarabani and Richard Ngarava firmly into the contest. India will need greater discipline against the new ball if they are to avoid another batting collapse.The middle order also poses selection headaches. Vice-captain Tilak Varma has yet to settle at No. 5, while Ishan Kishan currently occupies the preferred No. 3 position. Rinku Singh remains a strong finisher, making the batting combination an intriguing talking point.India must also decide between Harsh Dubey, Shivam Dube and



Suryansh Shedge for the all-rounder’s role, while the pace attack is expected to feature Prince Yadav and the returning Mayank Yadav, with Ashok Sharma and Yash Thakur competing for the remaining spot.Zimbabwe will be confident of exploiting home conditions, ensuring India cannot afford to take the series lightly.

Key Details:

When: Thursday, July 23, 4:30 PM IST
Where: Harare Sports Club, Harare
Where to watch: The match will be shown live on Unite8 Sports channels and live-streamed on the FanCode app and website

Zimbabwe: Sikandar Raza (c), Brian Bennett, Ryan Burl, Tanaka Chivanga, Ben Curran, Brad Evans, Wessly Madhevere, Tadiwanashe Marumani, Wellington Masakadza, Blessing Muzarabani, Dion Myers, Richard Ngarava, Newman Nyamhuri, Milton Shumba, Tafadzwa Tsiga

India: Shreyas Iyer (c), Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Abhishek Sharma, Tilak Varma (vc), Ishan Kishan (wk), Shivam Dube, Suryansh Shedge, Rinku Singh, Harsh Dubey, Varun Chakaravarathy, Prince Yadav, Yash Thakur, Ashok Sharma, Mayank Yadav, Prabhsimran Singh (wk)

Shreyas Iyer seeks first T20I win as captain as India face Zimbabwe in series opener

Harare: Under-fire skipper Shreyas Iyer will be desperate to halt a worrying slide and register his first victory as T20I captain when a youthful India face a spirited Zimbabwe in the first T20I here at the Harare Sports Club on Thursday.Having suffered consecutive series defeats in Ireland (2-0) and England (4-0), the pressure is squarely on Iyer to turn around India’s fortunes. Despite his solid personal form in England, where he scored 218 runs at a strike rate of 157.97, Iyer has managed just one win in his last 13 completed matches as captain across international and IPL games.The three-



match series also offers young opener Vaibhav Sooryavanshi a prime opportunity to cement his place at the top of the order in the absence of Sanju Samson. Returning to the venue of his blistering U-19 World Cup final heroics.

Shubman Gill closes in on No. 1 spot in latest ICC ODI rankings; Kohli, Rohit remain in top 5

New Delhi: Three Indian batting stalwarts — Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma — feature in the top five of the latest ICC ODI batting rankings released on Wednesday after the England series, with skipper Gill within touching distance of world No. 1 Daryl Mitchell of New Zealand.Gill scored 188 runs in three matches in the 1-2 series defeat to England and is now just one rating point behind table-topper Mitchell, who has 802 points, while Kohli (767) and Rohit (758) occupy the third and fourth spots respectively.England’s Joe Root, who was named Player of the Series after amassing an unbeaten 249 runs, jumped four places to eighth, while teammate Ben Duckett climbed 11 spots to joint-19th



and Jacob Bethell gained five places to move up to 64th.India’s newly appointed T20I captain Shreyas Iyer climbed two places to 13th in the ODI batting rankings, while spinner Kuldeep Yadav slipped out of the top 10 to 11th among bowlers in the list headed by Afghanistan’s Rashid Khan.England pace spearhead Jofra Archer was among the notable movers, rising one place to third behind Pakistan’s Abrar Ahmed after claiming five wickets in the ODI series against India.

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi backs process, stays confident ahead of Zimbabwe T20Is

Harare: Acknowledging that the last four months have been a rollercoaster of ‘ups and downs,’ teenage Indian batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi said his confidence still remains intact and he is focused on trusting his process ahead of the three-match T20I series against Zimbabwe starting on Thursday. Sooryavanshi, 15, made history during India’s 4-0 T20I series defeat in England by becoming the country’s youngest-ever international cricketer and breaking Sachin Tendulkar’s long-standing record. However, after failing to cross 20 in three innings, he was dropped for the final match of the series in Southampton.“Yes, kaafi ups and downs aaye hain 4 mahine mein (there have been several ups and down in the last four months). It’s part of cricket, it will keep happening. But I have to follow the process and give my 100 per cent for the team. “It’s an obvious thing that whatever I want (guidance etc), the coaches are making it available and whatever practice I require I am getting that. Feeling very good, there is confidence also,” said Sooryavanshi in a video posted on bcci.tv.Through the upcoming series against Zimbabwe, Sooryavanshi is also making a return to the Harare Sports Club, where he smashed a match-winning 175 off 80 balls against England in the Under-19 World Cup final in February this year to help India lift the trophy.“It’s a very memorable ground for me. Just four months back, we had played the U-19 World Cup Final and won, so a very special ground. To represent India is



everyone’s dream and it’s a very special moment.“I’m playing on a ground where we won the U-19 World Cup four months back and made history (and) to return to the ground and play here will be an altogether different feeling... really enjoying it,” added Sooryavanshi.With senior opener Sanju Samson rested, Sooryavanshi is expected to feature in the top order as India look to bounce back from consecutive T20 series defeats in Ireland and England.“The pitches and the conditions here, I’ve got a fair idea about them when I last played here during the U-19 World Cup. So, I will try what all I gathered during that tournament to apply those learnings during the matches now and do well.“I will back my practice which I have done so far and try to back my game and whatever contribution I can make for the team I will try to give that. I have played two matches on this ground (and) it went well. I will try to carry it forward,” concluded Sooryavanshi.

Sensex, Nifty fall in early trade as higher crude oil prices weigh on markets



Mumbai: Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty declined in early deals on Wednesday as higher crude oil prices and selling in bank stocks hit investors' sentiment. The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 403.54 points to 77,066.06 in early trade, taking the downtrend to the third day running. The 50-share NSE Nifty edged lower by 114.75 points to 24,070.05. From the Sensex pack, InterGlobe Aviation, Axis Bank, State Bank of India, Sun Pharma, Adani Ports, UltraTech Cement, HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank were among the major laggards. Titan, Eternal, Maruti and Asian Paints were the winners. Elevated crude oil prices and persistent geopolitical tensions have tempered risk appetite in the markets, according to an expert.

Adani Power Q1 profit jumps 47 per cent to Rs 4,866 crore

New Delhi: Adani Power on Wednesday reported a 47.24 per cent rise in its net profit to Rs 4,866.60 crore in the June quarter, mainly on the back of higher revenue and strong power demand. In a statement, the company said its profit before tax jumped nearly 50 per cent to Rs 6,300.49 crore in Q1 FY27 from Rs 4,204.31 crore in Q1 FY26 on account of improved continuing profitability, further supported by higher one-time prior income recognition during the quarter. During the quarter, Adani Power Ltd (APL) recognised Rs 117.69 crore as its share of profit from an associate, following the acquisition of a stake in Jaiprakash Power Ventures Ltd. Consequently, it stated that profit after tax for Q1 FY27 rose 47.24 per cent to Rs 4,866.60 crore from Rs 3,305.13 crore in Q1 FY26. It also stated that there was a one-time net recognition of revenue pertaining to prior periods of Rs 1,386.34 crore in Q1 FY27, primarily due to the revision in historic energy charges under certain PPAs, compared to Rs 406.21 crore in Q1 FY26.

For Q1 FY27, continuing operating revenue increased by 28.08 per cent to Rs 17,550.43 crore from Rs 13,702.94 crore a year ago. This growth was driven by a significant increase in power demand, higher operating capacity, and improved tariff realisation, it explained. The rise in power demand, higher operating capacity, and PPA tie-ups of previously open capacity at the Butibori and Mutiara (Tuticorin) power plants contributed to boosting power sale volumes during Q1 FY27, it added. Power sales under PPAs grew by 30.3 per cent to 24.5 billion units (BU), while tariff realisation improved by

Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, quoted 1.15 per cent higher at USD 92.06 per barrel. In Asian markets, South Korea's KOSPI jumped 5.16 per cent. Japan's Nikkei 225 index and Shanghai's SSE Composite index were also trading higher, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng index quoted lower. US markets ended higher on Tuesday. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) turned buyers on Tuesday. They bought equities worth Rs 1,650.16 crore in the previous trade, according to exchange data. On Tuesday, the Sensex declined 238.41 points, or 0.31 per cent, to settle at 77,470.11. The Nifty edged lower by 50.80 points, or 0.21 per cent, to end at 24,187.70.



8.5 per cent year-on-year to Rs 5.95/kWh in Q1 FY27.

Merchant and short-term realisation improved by 13.1 per cent to Rs 7.04/kWh in Q1 FY27 due to strong demand. APL's installed power generation capacity increased to 18,330 MW in Q1 FY27 from 17,550 MW in the year-ago period. Its consolidated power sale volume climbed 16.9 per cent to 28.8 BU in Q1 FY27 from 24.6 BU a year ago due to higher operating capacity and strong growth in power demand. "As we expand our reach further with the acquisition of Jaiprakash Associates' stake in power assets, we are also diversifying into domestic and international hydro power projects and preparing ourselves to enter new opportunities in the nuclear power field. We are strongly committed to helping India meet its long-term development goals with the supply of reliable and competitive electricity," S B Khyalia, CEO of Adani Power Limited, said. The board also approved raising up to Rs 15,000 crore through the issuance of equity shares with a face value of Rs 2 each and/or other eligible securities, or any combination thereof, by way of qualified institutions placement or any other permissible mode, in one or more tranches. The board cleared the proposal to increase the borrowing limit from Rs 75,000 crore to Rs 1,00,000 crore. APL's ongoing capital expenditure programme to expand generation capacity to 45 GW is progressing as planned.

Hyderabad Task Force seizes 22.22 kg ganja, arrests three in Shaheen Nagar

Hyderabad: A rowdy sheeteer of Balapur police station, along with two others, was caught by the Hyderabad Commissioner's Task Force for allegedly transporting dry ganja in Shaheen Nagar. The police seized 22.22 kg of dry ganja, four mobile phones, two trolley bags and a backpack from them. The suspects are identified as Mirza Jaffer Baig alias Saddam (35), an auto driver, against whom a rowdy sheeteer is maintained at Balapur police station; Awad Bin Ali Yafai alias Awad (22), a wall painter from Kothapet, Barkas; and Sardar Manpreet Singh Dhillon alias Dhillon (22), a welder from Kishanbagh. The police said the trio procured ganja from Berhampur in Odisha with the help of one Ibrahim Baamar of Kothapet, Balapur. They allegedly purchased the contraband from a supplier identified as Janni alias Sunny



at Rs 5,000 per kg and transported it to Hyderabad for sale. The main peddler Ibrahim Baamar and supplier Janni alias Sunny are absconding. Efforts are on to nab them. The police said that Mirza Jaffer Baig had a criminal history with involvement in 22 cases, including murder and attempt-to-murder cases. Awad was involved in 10 theft cases, while Manpreet Singh Dhillon was involved in two attempt-to-murder cases.

EAGLE force busts ganja transport racket in Hyderabad, three held with 11.7 kg contraband

Hyderabad: The EAGLE Force, in coordination with Musheerabad Police, busted an inter-state ganja transportation racket and apprehended three persons with 11.767 kg of ganja worth around Rs 5.88 lakh on Wednesday. The suspects are Burthi Raju Kumar (25), a driver, Yarnagula Lakshmi Jagadeesh (20), a second-year BA student, and Marampudi Ravi Raju (19), a labourer — and are residents of Andhra Pradesh. Another suspect, Reshwanth alias Nimmu from Amalapuram, is absconding. According to police, the gang procured the ganja from unknown suppliers in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, at a lower price and planned to sell it in Hyderabad at a higher price to make quick money. Police said the accused procured the ganja from Visakhapatnam on July Monday and reached Hyderabad by train the next day. After reaching Risalagadda Haveli in Bakaram, Reshwanth allegedly asked the



other three to wait there while he went to bring the customers. Meanwhile, the EAGLE Force team along with Musheerabad police caught the three persons along with the contraband. The police said that among those arrested, Yarnagula Lakshmi Jagadeesh, who is pursuing BA second year, recently purchased a new bike. To clear the vehicle loan EMI, he allegedly entered into ganja smuggling. The police seized 11.767 kg of ganja, one Vivo Y36 5G mobile phone, and two Lava keypad mobile phones from the gang.

Rupee falls 11 paise to 96.36 against US dollar amid rising crude oil prices

Mumbai: The rupee depreciated 11 paise to 96.36 against the US dollar in early trade on Wednesday as crude oil prices climbed on renewed geopolitical tensions, and demand for the US dollar increased as investors moved toward safe-haven assets. Forex traders said concerns over the security of oil shipments through the Red Sea and Strait of Hormuz continue to support crude oil prices. Moreover, Houthi threats against shipping and ongoing US-Iran hostilities have kept a geopolitical risk premium in the market, they said. At the interbank foreign exchange market the rupee opened at 96.36, registering a fall of 11 paise from its previous close. On Tuesday, the rupee had settled at 96.25 against the American currency. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 101.15 down 0.01 per cent, as the latest escalation in the US-Iran conflict has increased demand for the US dollar as a safe-haven currency. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading higher by 1.18 per cent at USD 92.08 per barrel in futures trade. RBI's measures to attract



overseas deposits have generated significant foreign currency inflows, boosting market confidence and providing support to the rupee, said Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury and Executive Director at Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP. Dealers are watching for the RBI's participation through state-owned banks to smooth currency market volatility, Bhansali said. "The central bank appears to be allowing gradual adjustments while preventing disorderly moves," he added. On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share benchmark index Sensex was trading 0.52 per cent down at 77,070.61, while the Nifty fell 0.34 per cent to 24,104.40. Foreign Institutional Investors on Tuesday purchased equities worth Rs 1,650.16 crore, as per exchange data.

Law & order has collapsed under coalition rule, alleges YSRCP



YSRCP leaders stage protest demanding action against st crimes on women in Nandyal on Tuesday Addressing the gathering, MLC Mohammed Issac Basha, State Women’s Wing General Secretary Shashikala Reddy, Assembly Observer Suryanarayana Reddy, District Women’s Wing In-charge Gajula Swetha Reddy, and District President Sujathamma criticized the state administration over law and order lapses. Nandyal: Leaders and cadre of the YSR Congress Party (YSR CP) staged a spirited protest at Bommala Satram Centre in Nandyal on Tuesday, demanding immediate, concrete measures to curb the rising incidents of violence against women in Andhra Pradesh. The party leaders submitted a formal memorandum near the statue of Dr BR Ambedkar and expressed grave concern over the safety of women and young girls across the state. They alleged that incidents of crimes against women—including

ing physical assaults, sexual offences, and murders—have witnessed a sharp spike since the coalition government assumed office. Addressing the gathering, MLC Mohammed Issac Basha, State Women’s Wing General Secretary Shashikala Reddy, Assembly Observer Suryanarayana Reddy, District Women’s Wing In-charge Gajula Swetha Reddy, and District President Sujathamma criticized the state administration over law and order lapses. The YSRCP leaders alleged that police are delaying the registration of cases and execution of timely investigations into crimes against women. They claimed that political influence is actively preventing prompt action against offenders, thereby compromising victim safety. Demanding impartial investigations and stringent punishment for culprits, the leaders emphasized that protecting the dignity and security of women must remain a non-negotiable priority above political considerations.

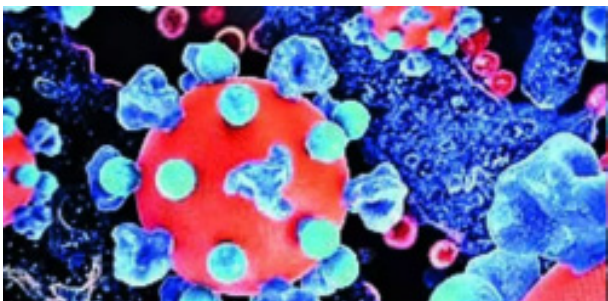
One killed and other injured after lorry rams into stationary vehicle in Vizag

Representational image Two workers were busy unloading goods besides the Akkayyapalem National Highway during which the speeding ready-mix concrete truck suddenly lost its control and rammed into them A ghastly road accident took place on the National Highway at Akkayyapalem in Visakhapatnam where a RMC truck collided with people unloading goods from the stationary vehicle on the roadside leaving one killed on the spot and the other seriously injured. According to the details, two workers were busy unloading goods besides the

Akkayyapalem National Highway during which the speeding ready-mix concrete truck suddenly lost its control and rammed into them. It is reported that the cause of the accident was allegedly due to the driver of the truck was asleep. The truck first collided with the wall at a bus stop and then the goods vehicle and the people unloading it. Upon learning the incident, the police reached the spot and took relief measures shifting the body to the hospital for the postmortem. The police registered a case and are investigating further.

Seven Covid cases reported in AP with tally reaching 26

Coronavirus In Andhra Pradesh Coronavirus In Andhra Pradesh: There are concerns being raised with regard to the rise of cases in the state of Andhra Pradesh. There have been seven cases reported on Tuesday. As per the bulletin released by the State Health Department, the total number of positive cases recorded in the state reaches 26. Coronavirus In Andhra Pradesh: Among the latest cases, four have been recorded in the Guntur district, two in the East Godavari district, and one in Bapatla district. In terms of the distribution of the 26 cases recorded so far in the state, the maximum number of cases is eight in the YSR Kadapa district followed by Guntur 6, East Godavari 3, Kakinada 2, Bapatla 2 and One case each has been recorded



in the Visakhapatnam, Eluru, Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore, NTR, and Parvathipuram Manyam districts. As per the bulletin, 145 samples have been tested in the state till date. Out of the 26 cases, ten people are hospitalized and receiving treatment. Nine people have recovered through home isolation, three have recovered completely and have been discharged from the hospitals, and four people died during the course of treatment.

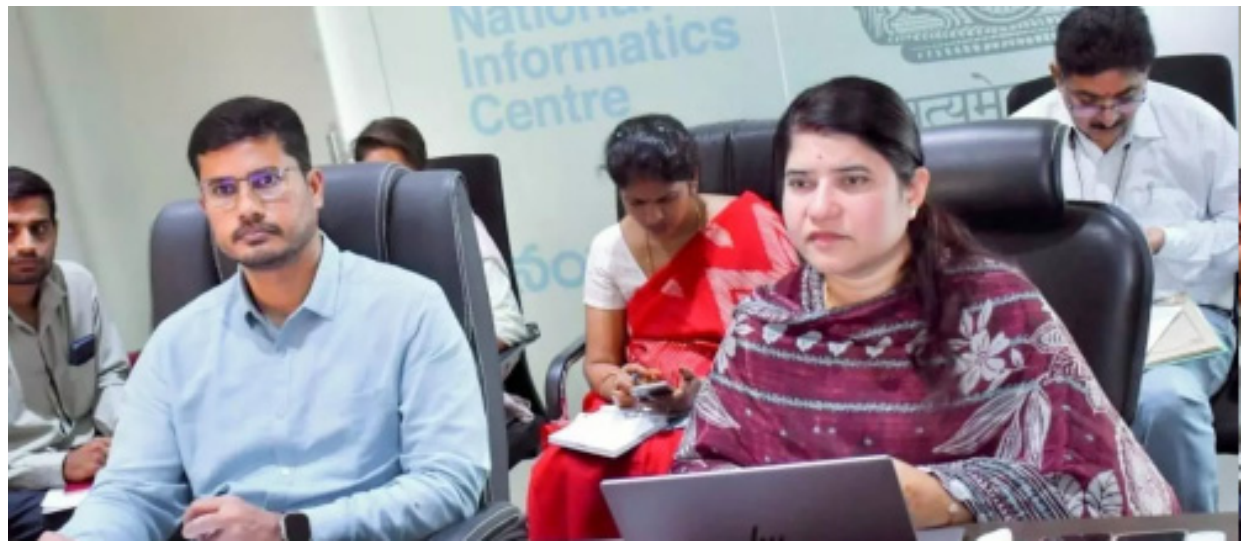
AP govt. starts disbursing Thalliki Vandanam scheme funds today



'Thalliki Vandanam' scheme for 2026-27 The Government of Andhra Pradesh has initiated the disbursement of financial assistance under 'Thalliki Vandanam' scheme for 2026-27 academic year The Government of Andhra Pradesh has initiated the disbursement of financial assistance under 'Thalliki Vandanam' scheme for 2026-27 academic year, and funds have started getting disbursed in bank accounts of eligible beneficiaries from today onwards. This scheme aims to help school going children in terms of financial support to their family members as well as developing the educational institution through special financial aid to schools. According to the scheme, the

state government will disburse ₹10,120.78 crore to 6,747,190 eligible students in Andhra Pradesh. As per the government details, each eligible student will receive an assistance of ₹15,000 under this scheme. Out of which, ₹13,000 will be deposited in the bank account of the mother/guardian of the student while ₹2,000 will be deposited in the account of the school to help develop it. The government has decided to provide this financial assistance in two installments during the present academic year. First installment will be provided to students currently studying in schools. Second installment will be provided to newly admitted students in the schools.

Speed up re-survey, pass-book distribution and land dispute resolution: Collector



Collector Raja Kumari participating in a statewide video conference chaired by Chief Commissioner of Land Administration (CCLA) G Jayalakshmi from the State Secretariat on Tuesday Highlighting administrative progress, the Collector noted that public satisfaction with local revenue services improved by nearly two percentage points in July compared to June. Nandyal: District Collector G Raja Kumari on Tuesday directed Revenue, Land Administration, and Survey Department officials to expedite the ongoing land re-survey, distribution of Pattadar Pass-books, and resolution of disputed 22A land issues without administrative delays. She emphasized that farmers must receive prompt, transparent services to strengthen public trust in government administration. The Collector issued these directives following a statewide progress review video conference chaired by Chief Commissioner of Land Administration (CCLA) G Jayalakshmi from the State Secretariat. Following the meeting, Raja Kumari instructed Tahsildars and Survey officials to work in close coordination to achieve

government targets within stipulated timelines and elevate Nandyal among the state’s top-performing districts. Listings Legal Counseling Services Highlighting administrative progress, the Collector noted that public satisfaction with local revenue services improved by nearly two percentage points in July compared to June. She urged officials to maintain this positive trajectory by enhancing offline service delivery and accelerating pass-book distribution. To ensure seamless field operations, she instructed Tahsildars and Village Surveyors to issue required re-survey certificates to farmers without delay. Furthermore, Raja Kumari mandated special action plans for revenue efficiency, ordering Command and Control Rooms at the Collectorate and Assistant Director offices to proactively call farmers, gather ground feedback, and resolve pending grievances immediately. She concluded by reiterating that systematic pass-book distribution to all eligible agriculturalists must be completed within the prescribed timeframe.