

Minister Kondapalli Srinivas, Programme In-Charge Mantena Satyanarayana Raju Inspect Venue For PM Modi's Event

Public Should Not Face Any Inconvenience, Officials Directed Galleries For VVIPs, Farmers, GMR Families And Media Inspected



Vijayanagaram, July 30: Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's inauguration of Sri Alluri Sitharama Raju International Airport, Bhogapuram on August 1, Minister Kondapalli Srinivas and Programme In-Charge Mantena Satyanarayana Raju inspected the venue for the public meeting on Thursday night. During the inspection, they reviewed the VVIP, VIP, Farmers Who Gave Land, GMR Company Family Members, Champions And Media Galleries at the meeting venue. Minister Kondapalli Srinivas directed officials to ensure that if it rains,

water should not stagnate between the stages set up at the venue. He said all precautions should be taken so that people attending the meeting do not face any difficulties. Gopalapuram MLA Maddipati Venkataraju and others participated in the programme.

Ex-MLA's car seized

Guntur: Nuzvid police on Thursday reached the residence of former YSRCP MLA Md Mustafa who is facing kidnapping charges in connection with a tobacco business dispute and seized a car. Following this development, former minister and YSRCP district president Ambati Rambabu visited Mustafa's residence here. Speaking to the media, Rambabu and Mustafa's daughter Noori Fatima alleged that a business dispute was being given a political colour to harass their family. They questioned why the victim's car had been seized instead of ensuring justice for the complainants. Rambabu questioned would a person who served as an MLA for 10 years be involved in kidnapping.



Over 16,000 schools in AP have only one teacher: Sharmila



Amaravati: APCC chief Y S Sharmila on Thursday alleged that more than 16,000 schools are functioning only with a single teacher in the state, observing that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu "all talk and no action." Calling the single-teacher schools the true "report card" of the TDP-led NDA

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Rs 2,714.78 cr released for Aug Bharosa pensions

Amaravati: The state government released Rs 2,714.78 crore towards NTR Bharosa pensions for 62,07,573 beneficiaries across the state for the month of August, according to minister for MSME, rural poverty alleviation Kondapalli Srinivas. In a statement here on Thursday, the minister said that pension payments in the six districts of north Andhra would be made a day in advance, on July 31, in view of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to dedicate the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Greenfield Airport to the nation on August 1. A total of 11,98,044 beneficiaries in the six north Andhra districts will receive Rs 514.42 crore on Thursday. The remaining 50,09,529 pensioners across the rest of the state will receive Rs 2,198.31 crore on August 1, he said. The minister said that since the



coalition government assumed office, it has spent a record Rs 70,907.41 crore on pension payments, reflecting its commitment to the welfare of senior citizens, persons with disabilities, widows, and other vulnerable sections of society. Srinivas reiterated that the government is committed to ensuring the timely disbursement of NTR Bharosa pensions, with beneficiaries receiving their pensions on the first day of every month. He said the initiative reflects the coalition government's focus on social security and the welfare of the poor, elderly, and underprivileged families across Andhra Pradesh.

Bhogapuram Airport set to propel north Andhra growth



Vijayawada: The state government on Thursday said the upcoming inauguration of the Bhogapuram International Airport will mark a major milestone in the state's infrastructure development and is expected to accelerate economic growth, investment, tourism and employment opportunities in north Andhra. In a statement, the government said the project, to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 1, Saturday, is the realisation of a vision conceived more than a decade ago by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu to meet the region's future aviation and infrastructure needs. According to the government, the airport, located near Visakhapatnam, is expected to transform the Visakhapatnam-Bhogapuram corridor into a major investment destination on India's east coast. It said the region is likely to attract investments in information technology, manufacturing, logistics, tourism, healthcare and hospitality. It said a world-class Aerocity is planned around the airport, featuring IT and ITES parks, industrial parks, logistics hubs, warehousing and cold storage facilities, business centres, retail and commercial complexes, convention centres, educational institutions, corporate hospitals and star hotels. It added that industry estimates suggest these developments could attract private investments worth thousands of crores of rupees over the next decade. The statement said the airport's connectivity with Visakhapatnam

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Special Grievance On July 31 In Vijayawada East

District Collector
Dr. G. Lakshmisha

Ntr District – Vijayawada, July 30: "District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha on Thursday informed in a statement that a Special Public Grievance Redressal System (Pgrrs) programme will be held at Vijayawada East Constituency level on Friday, July 31. The programme will be held at Nallurivari Kalyana Mandapam near Nsm Public School, Patamata. Officials will receive petitions from local people within Vijayawada East Constituency limits from 10:00 Am onwards during this special grievance programme. District-level officers will participate in the programme. They will receive petitions related to public problems and take nec-



essary steps for resolution. Collector Lakshmisha requested people of Vijayawada East Constituency to utilize this opportunity and bring their problems to the notice of officials.

Jagan denied meeting with Appalaraju in jail



Amaravati: YSRCP president Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy and former minister Seediri Appalaraju were unable to meet in jail on Wednesday after prison authorities denied permission, citing prison regulations. According to prison officials, YSRCP leaders sought permission for Appalaraju to meet Jagan after 5 pm. However, the request was rejected as prison rules permit visitors only during the prescribed visiting hours, which end before 5 pm. After consulting higher authorities, the jail administration decided

that no exception could be made and denied the meeting. The development comes days after Appalaraju was arrested by the Kasibugga police in Srikakulam district on July 22. He was named as an accused in a case alleging that he conspired to tamper with evidence and cover up his son's involvement in a road accident. The refusal to allow the meeting has triggered political discussion, with the YSRCP seeking to facilitate interaction between its chief and the former minister, while prison

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Protest is a democratic right, but violence is not

Protests, agitations, and sloganeering are part of a democratic set-up in a country like India. I have witnessed them for over seven decades. As a student I participated in the 1969 Telangana agitation, which is remembered as a blood-soaked chapter in the region’s history with 369 students and civilians martyred by brutal police firing. The tragedy is that not a single politician or any member of their family lost their life. I am proud to say that we students neither used abusive language, nor heckled and insulted the Prime Minister or blamed anyone for the tragedy which could have been prevented. But we promised ourselves that we would not resort to violence or use of foul language. Both politicians and parents discouraged such behavior. As students, we stayed focused on our agenda. Our student leader was Dr. Mallikarjun, a medical student, who became a cabinet minister later and served under many Prime Ministers. Today nobody remembers him. He led the movement until it was taken over by politicians with selfish motives, and it eventually died down. Nearly 40 years later, it was revived and statehood was finally achieved. But nobody thought of the dead or the sacrifices of the then students. Politics is such!

We also took part in the Anna Andolan—candlelight marches and flag marches on the streets of Hyderabad—in support of the movement, which was a peaceful, honest and sincere protest. There were no cheap gestures, no provocative speeches, and no insults directed towards any individual. Meanwhile, the student unrest at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi centres on nationwide demonstrations led by the youth movement demanding accountability for competitive examination irregularities, paper leaks, and the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. The core issue started with students worried about NEET leaks, suicides, and exam failures. But once the protests continued for 20 days, political parties, activists and other groups joined in. That was how it became bigger than the students. It is sad because the original pain is real-kids losing lives, re-exams, families in debt for coaching. When that got mixed with slogans and politics the actual student voices got drowned and the movement was hijacked. It’s heartbreaking to see young people’s future become a political battle ground. Asking and seeking resignation of any sort is a headline not a solution. It is just satisfying your ego, nothing else. Only two per cent of the protesters must have been NEET aspirants. Sacking one person does not fix paper leaks, coaching mafias, NTA loopholes or the pressure on kids. The problem is systemic. It needed fixing much earlier, not after protests and lathi charges. Parents of the aspirants would not allow their wards to visit Jantar Mantar or any protesting site because a day lost is akin to losing one chapter lost during exam preparation. Secondly, it is the fear of their child being caught in clashes, detention, and politics. They knew that once politicians enter, the student issue becomes a slogan. So, the stage ends up with activists, C- grade Bollywood actors, student unions and leaders struggling to get limelight. The quiet, sincere kids, who are suffering, stay home and cry in silence. That is the tragedy.

Jagan denied meeting with Appalaraju in jail

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authorities maintained that the decision was taken strictly in accordance with jail rules. Later, speaking to media along with family members of Appalaraju, Jagan Mohan Reddy accused the Chandrababu Naidu-led government of conspiring against the family of former minister. He alleged that an accidental case involving Raju’s son was deliberately turned into a murder charge to target the family.

Jagan said the incident reflected “vindictive politics” in the state. He claimed Raju’s son, an 18-year-old student aspiring to become a doctor, was involved in an accident but tried to help the victim by calling emergency services and performing CPR. Despite this, the case was twisted into a murder conspiracy, Jagan alleged. He questioned whether similar action would have been taken if the accident had involved ruling party legislators. Jagan accused the government of sowing divisions among communities and misusing the system to harass political opponents. He also criticized Naidu for failing to support fishermen and BC communities, alleging that welfare schemes were being neglected while false cases were filed against rivals. Jagan asserted that the YSRCP stood firmly with Appalaraju’s family and expressed confidence that justice would prevail. “Appalaraju will soon walk free,” he said, condemning what he described as attempts to destroy the career and reputation of a leader from a humble background.

Bhogapuram Airport set to propel north Andhra growth

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Port, Gangavaram Port, national highways and the railway network would strengthen North Andhra’s logistics ecosystem by improving cargo movement and reducing transportation costs. This, it said, would support exports of pharmaceuticals, marine products, agricultural and horticultural produce, fresh fruits, flowers, handicrafts and electronics. Improved air connectivity is expected to boost tourism by providing easier access to destinations such as Visakhapatnam beaches, Araku Valley, Borra Caves, Bheemunipatnam, Yarada Beach, Kailasagiri, Thotlakonda, Bavikonda and the Simhachalam temple. It said the increased tourist flow would benefit hotels, resorts, transport operators, travel agencies, restaurants and local artisans. The airport project is expected to create significant employment opportunities. Besides direct jobs in airport operations, ground handling, cargo services, aviation engineering, maintenance, security and air traffic management, it said indirect employment would be generated in hospitality, tourism, logistics, retail, warehousing, transport and event management. According to the government, the airport is being developed over about 2,200 acres at an estimated Phase-I cost of Rs 4,500 crore to Rs 5,000 crore. It said the airport will initially have the capacity to handle six million passengers annually, with future expansion planned to increase capacity to 18 million passengers. Describing the project as a landmark in Andhra Pradesh’s development journey, the government said the Bhogapuram International Airport would strengthen the state’s global connectivity, attract investments, promote industrial growth, boost exports and tourism, and contribute to its vision of building a prosperous and investment-friendly .

Over 16,000 schools in AP have only one teacher: Sharmila

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government in the southern state, Sharmila accused the NDA governments at the Centre and the state of talking “endlessly building castles in the air.” “16,357 schools in Andhra Pradesh are running with a single teacher! This is the true report card of the NDA governments at the Centre and in the State. While these governments talk endlessly building castles in the air; thousands of children are denied even the most basic requirement of a teacher in every classroom!” Sharmila said in a post on ‘X’.

Heavy rains lash Vikarabad, disrupt normal life

Vikarabad: Overnight rains continued to lash Vikarabad district on Thursday morning, disrupting normal life. Agricultural fields were submerged, an under-construction temporary bridge was washed away, disrupting traffic, while rivulets and streams flowed in spate. At Madgul Chittampally, the temporary bridge being constructed on the Vikarabad-Parigi road was washed away. Traffic on the route has been suspended, forcing commuters to take alternative routes. Following complaints from residents, officials initiated precautionary measures and repair works. In several areas, agricultural fields remained submerged, causing losses to farmers. At Tandur, the Kagna rivulet, a tributary of the Bheema River, flowed in spate, with water overflowing the check dam due to heavy rainfall in the upstream catchment areas. Meanwhile, residents of Ward No. 5 in Parigi municipality continue to face hardships because of poor road connectivity and damaged roads.



Steady inflows into dams as rains ease water worries in Telangana

Hyderabad: Intermittent rains across Telangana over the past couple of days, coupled with rainfall in the upstream catchment areas, have resulted in steady inflows into several major reservoirs. The rains have also brought relief to farmers, who had been expressing concerns over water shortages. In the Krishna basin, the Jurla project received an inflow of 46,580 cusecs on Thursday morning. Irrigation officials opened 10 gates to a height of one metre and released nearly 38,970 cusecs downstream towards the Srisailem reservoir through the spillway. The project has a gross storage capacity of 9.6 tmcft and is currently holding 6.09 tmcft of water. With inflows improving, officials have resumed power generation, with generating units currently in operation. The upstream Almatti and Narayanpur reservoirs in Karnataka are also receiving steady inflows, resulting in increased releases downstream. During the last 24 hours, Almatti recorded an average inflow of 83,386 cusecs and an average outflow of 97,078 cusecs. The present outflow stands at 1,10,000 cusecs. Similarly, Narayanpur received an average inflow of 95,043 cusecs over the last 24 hours, while the average outflow was 1,03,982 cusecs. The current outflow is 1,11,064 cusecs. At the Singur reservoir in Sangareddy district, the inflow was 517 cusecs, while the outflow stood at 470 cusecs. In the Godavari basin, the Medigadda barrage is receiving an inflow of 81,060 cusecs. Irrigation officials have opened all 85 gates, allowing the entire inflow to flow downstream. Following the increase in inflows, irrigation officials alerted residents living in low-lying areas.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast moderate to heavy rainfall in Mancherial, Karimnagar, Rajanna Sircilla, Peddapally, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Mulugu, Jagtial, Siddipet, Adilabad, Nirmal and Nizamabad districts. Heavy rainfall is also likely in Sangareddy, Medak, Kamareddy, Vikarabad and Bhadradri Kothagudem districts.

Police detain Unemployed JAC leader amid recruitment protest in Telangana

Hyderabad: The Congress top brass, including opposition leader Rahul Gandhi, has been making a huge uproar over police action on the protesters in Delhi, while its government in Telangana continues to crack down on the unemployed youth for raising their genuine demands. In the early hours of Thursday, Telangana police detained the Unemployed Joint Action Committee Chairman Indra Nayak who reportedly called for a protest over the vacancies in the police recruitment. The unemployed have for long been demanding the government fill up all 19,000 vacancies instead of 7,437 posts in the Police department. “Despite around 19,000 vacancies in the Police department, the government only issued recruitment notifications for 7,437 posts, leaving the unemployed extremely disappointed. The Congress government is denying our democratic right to protest peacefully,” Nayak said. In addition, the police job aspirants want the government to scrap the GO 46 and enhance the upper age limit for the Sub-Inspector posts to 38 years and police constable posts to 36 years. They also demanded the government make a clear statement on the police recruitment process besides ensuring justice to them.

JNTU-Hyderabad, Bajaj Auto sign MoU to launch Rs 18-crore BEST Centre

Hyderabad: To bridge the gap between industry and academia by integrating cutting-edge, industry-oriented training into the undergraduate engineering curriculum, JNTU-Hyderabad and Bajaj Auto Limited on Wednesday signed an MoU to establish the Bajaj Engineering & Skills Training (BEST) Centre on the university campus here. As part of this initiative, Bajaj Auto Foundation, CSR arm of Bajaj Auto Limited, will establish state-of-the-art laboratories with an investment of Rs 10 crore for the robotics and automation vertical, and around Rs 8 crore for the e-mobility vertical. The programme will be implemented through a five-year agreement and during the first phase.

Handle Super El Nino Conditions Wisely
Drinking Water First Priority – Farmers Should Fo-
cus On Alternative Crops Instead Of Paddy
Every Crop Must Be Registered
Under Pm Fasal Bima Yojana
District Collector And Irrigation Advisory Council
Chairman Dr. G. Lakshmisha



Vijayawada, July 30:“The 5th Irrigation Advisory Council Meeting was held on Thursday at the District Collector Chamber in Vijayawada Collectorate under the chairmanship of District Collector And Irrigation Advisory Council Chairman Dr. G. Lakshmisha. Irrigation department officials and representatives of Water Users Associations reviewed water availability, distribution and cultivation plans for Krishna Eastern Delta Ayacut for Kharif-2026 season in view of the Super El Nino impact.Speaking at the meeting, District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha said the state’s water resources have been severely impacted due to delay in rains because of Super El Nino. She said losses can be minimized only if farmers and officials work in coordination during such situations. The Collector directed Agriculture department officials to take special measures to ensure every crop sown by farmers is compulsorily registered under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. She said though losses due to natural calamities cannot be fully prevented, insurance will provide financial security to farmers. She suggested conducting extensive awareness programmes at village level on this scheme.The Collector said due to El Nino impact and drought conditions, water storage in Srisailem and Nagarjunasagar reservoirs on Krishna River has reached the lowest level. She also said Alamatti, Narayanpur and Jurala projects in upstream areas have not filled completely. In this context, water inflows to reservoirs must be stored with first priority for drinking water needs. She said though there is about 29 Tmc of water in Pulichintala Project, only about 25 Tmc is utilizable. She explained that if drought conditions continue, this water should be carefully stored keeping in mind drinking water requirements till June-2027.She said water is currently being released to

Krishna Delta from Polavaram Right Canal through Pattiseema Lift Irrigation Scheme. However, as water flow in Godavari River has also reduced, all 24 pumps at Pattiseema cannot be operated. Presently water is being lifted with only 20 pumps. She said earlier water was available to Pattiseema from Godavari for 100 to 120 days, but now it is limited to only 60 to 70 days.She said due to less flood flow in Godavari, priority has to be given to Godavari Delta Ayacut first. She said the government has decided to use water currently being released to Krishna Delta to fill tanks for drinking water needs of more than 60 lakh people in Eluru, Krishna, Ntr, Guntur and Bapatla districts. She clarified that the government is giving top priority to public drinking water security.The Collector expressed concern that if paddy cultivation is started without sufficient water in reservoirs, and if rains do not occur or water does not come to reservoirs later, farmers risk losing their entire investment. She suggested farmers go for alternative crops instead of paddy this season. She said priority should be given to dry crops in feasible areas and requested farmers to understand the situation and cooperate with the government.District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha along with Irrigation department officials released the state Agriculture department’s awareness wall poster "Vesina Prati Pantakoo... Bima Cheyyalsinde". She called upon farmers to create awareness on crop insurance. Irrigation Department Superintending Engineer G. Gunakar Rao, Ke Division Ee B. Anjaneya Prasad, Kc Division Ee R. Ravikiran, Special Division Ee K. Babu, Aees G. Raju, K. Srinivasarao, Ae B. Harish Naidu, Water Users Association Members M.S. Prasad, A.R.B. Venkates wararao, K. Sunita, K. Srinivasarao and others participated in the meeting.

Awareness And Vigilance Among
All Needed To Prevent Trafficking
Of Women And Children
Collective Efforts Required For Eradication Of
Women, Child Trafficking And Bonded Labour
District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha Calls On World
Day Against Trafficking In Persons



Vijayawada, July 30:“District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha said it is very important to increase awareness and vigilance among every person in society to completely stop trafficking of women and children.On the occasion of World Day Against Trafficking In Persons, the Collector unveiled the "Anti Human Trafficking Wall Poster" at the Pgrs Meeting Hall in Vijayawada Collectorate on Thursday.Speaking on the occasion, District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha said the main objective of observing World Day Against Trafficking In Persons is to create awareness among people. She said programmes are being conducted in co-ordination with various government departments with the goal of bringing consciousness in society on women and child trafficking. She said if awareness is created among students, they can protect not only their family members but also society. She stressed the need to develop responsible thinking among youth. The Collector expressed concern that cases of cheating youth using Instagram, Facebook and other social media are increasing day by day. She advised youth to be extremely alert as fraudsters are trapping them in the name of jobs, education and good opportunities.The Collector said even though technology has advanced, it is worrying that crimes like human trafficking, sexual exploitation, bonded labour, child trafficking, forced begging, forced marriages and illegal organ trade are still continuing. She said society as a whole needs to be alert on these issues. She said women and children are being cheated due to lack of awareness. She suggested everyone be careful about incidents like collecting money in the name of jobs and cheating through social media.She said children, women, orphans, school dropouts and people from economically backward families are be-

coming victims of human trafficking more often. She said these crimes can be prevented by conducting extensive awareness programmes at village and ward level. She suggested people immediately inform police if they notice suspicious persons or incidents. She said stringent punishments exist under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (Bns), Pocso Act and other laws for control of human trafficking, child protection and sexual offences. She clarified that strict action will be taken as per law against those who commit sexual offences against children below 18 years. She suggested people immediately contact 1098 Child Helpline in case of emergencies related to children.District Labour Department Deputy Commissioner Guntupalli Dhanalakshmi said continuous surveillance is being maintained for eradication of bonded labour in the district. She said human trafficking is an organized crime and criminals first gain people’s trust and later cheat them. She advised youth going to other places for studies or jobs not to easily trust strangers. She said there are incidents of some people being sold to brothels and even relatives indulging in fraudulent trafficking. Stating that vigilance is the main protection, she suggested women use safety apps like "Shakti".District Collector released funds for providing primary rehabilitation assistance to 22 victims rescued from bonded labour. An amount of Rs. 30,000 each, totaling Rs. 6,60,000 was credited to their accounts. These victims are labourers from Odisha who were rescued from bonded labour at a brick kiln in Nunna area on May 7, 2025. Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha said the government will support the victims in all ways to help them settle in normal life.Social Worker Tirupathirao, Ngo Representative Ramakrishna, Social Workers, Officials Of Various Departments, Students and others participated in the programme.

Filing your taxes? Beware of fake
IT refund scams, warns TGCSB

Hyderabad: The Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB) has issued a public advisory warning citizens against fake Income Tax refund scams during the ongoing income tax filing season. The bureau cautioned citizens that cyber crooks are impersonating Income Tax Department officials to steal money, banking credentials and sensitive personal information. According to the advisory, fraudsters are sending deceptive SMS messages and emails claiming that an Income Tax refund has been approved. These messages typically contain a “Claim Now” button or a malicious link that redirects users to phishing websites designed to steal bank account details, PAN, Aadhaar information, passwords and One-Time Passwords (OTPs).A senior official of the Telangana Cyber Security Bureau said cyber criminals exploit the tax filing season by creating panic and a false sense



of urgency among taxpayers. “The Income Tax Department will never ask taxpayers to share OTPs, passwords, CVV numbers or banking credentials through phone calls, messages or emails. Citizens should verify all tax-related communications only through official government portals and refrain from clicking on suspicious links,” the official said.The advisory highlighted that taxpayers should watch for unsolicited messages about refunds or tax penalties, links seeking PAN, Aadhaar or bank account details.

TTD advises devotees to
be wary of fake website

Tirupati: The TTD has advised devotees to be wary of a fake website — ttddevasthanam. online — intended to cheat them and collect money in the name of darshan (visit to deity).History In the wake of this scam, the temple body noted that some unscrupulous elements have created the fake website to resemble the official online services of TTD to deceive devotees, a release from the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams said on late Wednesday. “TTD Vigilance Department has identified a fake website named — ttddevasthanam. online — which is going viral on social media. Some people have created this website to resemble the official online services of TTD and are trying to cheat devotees,” it said. According to TTD, the fake website has falsely displayed information that Srivari Darshan and Seva tickets are available for the months of August, September and October.Besides cheating devotees,



the fake website is also intent on tarnishing the reputation of the temple body, it said.TTD has already complained to the administrators of the relevant domain platform to remove the fake website immediately, the release said, adding that a criminal case has been registered at Tirumala Two Town Police Station regarding this incident.Further, TTD stressed that strict legal action will be taken against those who cheat devotees in the future as well.“Devotees are requested to make bookings for TTD services.

Monsoon advisory: Hyderabad police urge caution amid heavy rains

Hyderabad: With intermittent rains continuing across Hyderabad, the city police have requested citizens, particularly motorists, to be extra cautious while travelling, warning that wet roads, poor visibility and waterlogging can significantly increase the risk of accidents. Police advised motorists to slow down and maintain a

safe distance from vehicles ahead, as sudden braking on slippery roads can lead to collisions. Drivers have also been urged to ensure that headlights, tail lamps, indicators, windscreen wipers and brakes are in proper working condition before setting out during rainy weather. For those travelling on highways and the Outer Ring



Road (ORR), police recommended avoiding overspeeding even on stretches with light traffic, as water on the road surface can reduce tyre grip and increase

the chances of skidding. Motorists were advised to use headlights during heavy rain, avoid abrupt lane changes, stay away from the edge of the carriageway where water may accumulate and never stop under bridges or flyovers unless it is absolutely necessary. Within the city, drivers have been asked to be alert near waterlogged roads, open manholes and ongoing civic works. Police also cautioned against attempting to drive through flooded stretches without knowing the water depth.

Medigadda receives heavy inflows, man goes missing in Jampannavagu



Mulugu/Bhupalpally: A car driver went missing in Jampannavagu in Mulugu; vehicular traffic and coal production were disrupted in Bhupalpally while Medigadda received heavy inflows due to continuous rains for the past couple of days. The 40-year-old car driver Timmaiah of Kondamadugu village in Ghatkesar mandal of Medchal district was hired by a group of devotees to visit Medaram. He stepped into Jampannavagu to take a bath before having darshan of the deities, but was swept away by the current and went missing. The locals attempted to rescue him, but their efforts were unsuccessful and they immediately alerted the police. The police launched a search operation to trace him with the help of locals. Meanwhile, there has been heavy flood inflow into Sammakka Sagar Project, the current inflow is 237,300 cusecs and outflow is 234,994 cusecs. The officials are pumping 2,306 cusecs of water using nine motors at Devadula. Officials have advised fishermen not to venture out for fishing and residents in the river basin areas to avoid entering the Godavari River due to the rising floodwaters. The water level in Laknavaram Lake in Govindaraopet mandal has reached 20.10 feet due to the incessant rainfall.

In Bhupalpally district coal production has been disrupted at the Kakatiya Opencast 2 and 3 mines due to massive accumulation of rainwater caused by incessant rainfall over the past two days. Singareni officials said that coal extraction machinery got stuck in the mud resulting in a disruption to the production of 16,000 tonnes of coal. Floodwaters are surging into Medigadda Barrage at Ambatipalli village of Mahadevpur mandal in the district.

On Thursday, with an inflow of 81,060 cusecs, irrigation department officials lifted 85 gates to release an equal volume of water downstream. Officials have advised residents of low-lying villages to remain alert, as the inflow of floodwaters into the barrage is expected to rise further due to incessant rains over the past three days. A road connecting Garimellapalli in Tekumatla mandal and Odedu in Mutharam mandal has been washed away by the surging floodwaters of a local stream. Transportation between Garimellapalli and Odedu has come to a halt as the stream overflows. As a result commuters and motorists are facing significant difficulties. Officials have warned the locals against venturing near the area due to the dangerous flow of the streams.

Telangana Rains: Authorities alert Godavari downstream residents as inflows surge

Hyderabad: With intermittent rains continuing across several parts of the State, the Irrigation department has cautioned people living in low-lying areas as reservoirs receive steady inflows and water is being released downstream. As water is being discharged from the Kadem project to the Sripada Yellampally project, irrigation officials have alerted the Revenue department. They said, besides the release from the Kadem project, heavy to very heavy rainfall in the upstream catchment areas is expected to bring substantial inflows into the Yellampally project. In view of the situation, people have been urged to remain vigilant. Officials advised residents, farmers, fishermen, shepherds and others living along the downstream stretches of



the Godavari River to take necessary precautions. They also urged people to avoid venturing near river banks or entering areas with flowing water. Meanwhile, the Sri Ram Sagar Project (SRSP) in Nizamabad is also receiving healthy inflows following the rains. As of Thursday morning, the project recorded an inflow of 9,240 cusecs, while the outflow stood at 751 cusecs. The water level in the reservoir was 1,065 ft against its Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of 1,091 ft.

Ex-Minister Jeevan Reddy inspects rain-affected villages in Sarangapur, demands relief for victims



JAGTIAL : Former Minister and BRS State General Secretary T. Jeevan Reddy inspected low-lying submerged areas and damaged properties in Pembatla and Konapur villages of Sarangapur mandal following heavy rainfall in the region. During his visit, Jeevan Reddy inspected a house belonging to Pastam Swapna and her brothers, Paramesh and Durgesh, which had completely collapsed due to the heavy rains. Speaking over the phone with the Mandal Revenue Officer and Revenue Divisional Officer, he inquired about the compensation structure mandated by government orders for fully destroyed houses. He urged officials to disburse full compensation as per the rules without delay and demanded the sanction-

ing of a new house for the hit family. The revenue officials assured the former minister that they would conduct a field inspection and submit a detailed assessment report to the government. Interacting with the affected family members, Jeevan Reddy assured them that he would make every effort to secure government financial aid and ensure a house is allocated to them. To help them manage immediate expenses, he provided financial assistance on the spot and promised further financial support once they begin rebuilding their house. Pembatla Sarpanch Akula Ramesh, BRS leaders Telu Raju, Vasam Srinivas, Alim, Janardhan, Venkatesh, Venu, Mallaiah, and several other local public representatives accompanied him during the inspection.

IRGC warns of harsh response to nations involved with US in attacks against Iran

Tehran: The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) on Thursday warned of a harsh and firm response to nations involved in the US attacks and crimes against Iran, local media reported. In a statement released on Thursday, the IRGC's Public Relations warned the US' accomplices in West Asia and beyond to change their behaviour to avoid retaliation from Iran. The IRGC said that Iran's determination and steadfastness have destroyed the enemy front. It also announced the explosion of two more oil tankers that were trying to pass through an unsafe shipping route south of the Strait of Hormuz. It said that the two vessels turned back after fire erupted in one of them, Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. Speaking about the US actions in the Strait of Hormuz, the IRGC said that the waterway is part of Iran and is in its full control and vowed to not allow a stranger from thousands of kilometres away to intervene. The IRGC warned of a harsh response to nations that are involved in helping the US if they do not change their behaviour. It said that the Strait of Hormuz will not be opened until the threats and interference of US officials end in maritime activities. The Strait of Hormuz connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. It is one of the world's most important energy corridors, carrying oil and lique-



fied natural gas exports from major Gulf producers to international markets. The IRGC's statement comes amid renewed tensions in West Asia following the military exchanges between Iran and the US. On Wednesday, the IRGC claimed that its Aerospace Force has attacked a US air base and the US Central Command (CENTCOM) headquarters in Jordan, local media reported. Highlighting that the action was taken in response to attacks carried out by the US military against Iran, the IRGC vowed to continue resistance until Iran faces "threats, illegal and hostile moves" from the US forces. Last week, Iran and Oman held technical talks in Tehran to discuss arrangements for safe navigation through the Strait of Hormuz. Speaking to reporters on July 26, Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmaeil Baqaei described the talks between Oman and Iran regarding safe navigation through the Strait of Hormuz as "useful and forward-looking" and noted that progress had been made.



Kamal Haasan: ‘The Odyssey’ belongs to the ages

Mumbai: Veteran actor-filmmaker Kamal Haasan has heaped praise on Christopher Nolan's epic “The Odyssey”, calling it a film that "belongs to the ages." Haasan shared his admiration for the project and said “Homer dreamt it, Nolan dared to bring it to life.” “Homer dreamt it. Nolan dared it. I applauded it. Children of cinema, this film belongs to the ages. Must watch! As #TheOdyssey continues its epic voyage across the world, my ode will greet audiences in theatres in India. I’ll share it here soon. P.S. The CBFC got the first preview! It approved,” Kamal wrote in the caption. “The Odyssey” is based on Homer's ancient Greek epic of the same name. The film marks Nolan's first venture into large-scale mythological storytelling, and follows the legendary journey of Odysseus as he struggles to return home after the Trojan War.

The film has been shot using cutting-edge IMAX technology across multiple international locations. The film is among the most anticipated cinematic releases, with a scheduled theatrical release in July 2026. Kamal was last seen in Thug Life directed by Mani Ratnam. The film stars Kamal Haasan, Silambarasan, Trisha Krishnan, Aishwarya Lekshmi, Abhirami, Ashok Selvan, Joju George, Nassar, Mahesh Manjrekar, Ali Fazal, Sanjana Krishnamoorthy and Tanikella Bharani. It marks the reunion of Haasan and Ratnam after their previous collaboration, Nayakan in 1987. The star will next be seen in the sequel of the 2024 epic mythological science fiction film “Kalki 2898 AD” directed by Nag Ashwin. Produced by Vyjayanthi Movies, it features an ensemble cast including Amitabh Bachchan, Kamal Haasan, Prabhas, Deepika Padukone, Shobana and Disha Patani. Inspired by Hindu scriptures, the film serves as the first instalment in the planned Kalki Cinematic Universe. Set in a dystopian future in the year 2898 AD in the city of Kashi, the story follows a group on a mission to protect lab subject SUM-80's unborn child, believed to be Kalki, the final incarnation of Vishnu.

Anil Kapoor to son-in-law Anand Ahuja: Every time I see you, I instantly feel calmer

Mumbai: Bollywood star Anil Kapoor penned a message for his son-in-law Anand Ahuja as he turned a year older on Thursday and said that every time he meets him or even looks at his pictures, the veteran actor instantly feels calmer. Anil shared a spoonful of moments shared with Anand, including pictures of his son-in-law with his toddler children on his Instagram profile. He wrote: “Anand, I don’t know why, but every time I see you, meet you, look at your pictures, or even hear your voice, I instantly feel calmer. There’s just something about you.” Anil went on to write: “Watching the way you take care of everyone around you, the warmth you carry, and the love and care you give to Sonam, your kids and all of us too so effortlessly it brings me so much peace, positivity,

Anishma Anilkumar-starrer 'Modha Rathiri' to hit screens on August 21

Chennai: The makers of director Raja Karuppasamy's upcoming Tamil rural comedy entertainer, 'Modha Rathiri', featuring actors Rishikanth and Anishma Anilkumar in the lead, have now announced that their film will hit screens worldwide on August 21 this year. Sources close to the unit of the film say that Modha Rathiri will revolve around an ordinary village wedding that turns into an extraordinary rollercoaster of hilarious misunderstandings, unexpected twists and heartwarming emotions. Set entirely over the course of a single night, the film, sources say, will keep the laughs coming as one surprise leads to another. Rishikanth is debuting as hero through this film while actress Anishma Anilkumar, who won appreciation for her outstanding performance in ‘Sirai’ and ‘Youth’, is playing the film's female lead. The very first narration made us laugh, smile and imagine how audiences would react inside a theatre. That's when we knew this story deserved to be made. 'Modha Rathiri' has everything we enjoy as movie lovers: humour, emotions, relatable characters and endless entertainment. Raja Karuppasamy has brought that energy beautifully onto the screen & our entire cast and crew have worked with incredible passion to complete the film on schedule. We are excited to bring this entertainer to audiences worldwide on August 21, and we hope theatres are filled with laughter from beginning to end.” Director Raja Karuppasamy says, "I couldn't have asked for a better beginning to my journey as a filmmaker. My heartfelt thanks to producers Naveen Yerneni sir and Y. Ravi Shankar sir for believing in me and trusting this story. Every actor, ev-



ery technician and every member of our crew became part of this journey with complete dedication. More than anything else, I hope audiences walk out of theatres smiling, laughing and talking about these characters long after the film ends.” Apart from Rishikanth and Anishma Anilkumar, the film also features actors Chetan, A. Venkatesh, Bucks, Abdool Lee, Shelly Kishore, Sangeetha Balan, Banupriya, Sumithra Devi L., Varshini Karmegham, Karthikeyan, Velan, and Kowshik Kabilan among others. The technical crew comprises Surendran Paranjothi as cinematographer, Ashok Arjunan as editor, and Bharath Sankar composing the music. Poornima Ramaswamy has designed the costumes while Art direction has been taken care of by A. Balumahendra.

Vijay Deverakonda pens emotional note on Pellichoopulu 10th anniversary

Hyderabad: Actor Vijay Deverakonda, who played the lead along with Ritu Varma in the superhit Telugu film ‘Pellichoopulu’, has now penned a heartfelt note of gratitude on the occasion of the film completing 10 years in which he has complimented the film’s director, Tharun Bhascker Dhaassayam, calling him a “precious soul”. Taking to his X timeline, Vijay Deverakonda said, “Ten years. Something feels very strange about reading that 10 years ago, we all met in the theatres ?? that we laughed and fell in love and formed a bond that keeps us together till today. Something feels very heavy. That day meant to a young me more than anything that has occurred since. It gave a young free rebellious boy an acknowledgment and strength... That he wasn’t a fool to dream or believe.” The actor then went on to express his love and gratitude to the team that made the film. He wrote, “I love you all, my Telugu audience dearly. But more than anything, Tharun. I miss you so much man...and love you so dearly. I am so proud of you and blessed to have made this film with you and you are one precious soul.” “My darling team



– @riturv, @Preyadarshe, Abhay, Nagesh, Vivek Sagar. I send you all my biggest hugs and love. And to our heroes and producers – who took a bet on us. When everyone rejected us – @YashBigBen @IamRajKandukuri. It meant a lot,” he added. Stating that today he was no longer the free young boy he was then, Vijay Deverakonda said, “Life is full but I feel the weight on my

shoulders.. I feel different.” He concluded the note saying, “From here on everything I do is all heart because no other metric matters. From my heart to all my directors, from my heart to all my RWDY boys and girls, to my family and friends, to my audience.” It may be recalled that Ritu Varma, who played the female lead in the film, too had penned a heartfelt post on the film completing 10 years.



comfort and makes me happy.” “Thank you for being exactly who you are. Thank you for everything, beta. Happy Birthday. Take care. Love you, man.” Anil’s

daughter Sonam Kapoor tied the knot with businessman Anand Ahuja in a grand wedding ceremony in May 2018, after being in a relationship for several years. The couple welcomed their first child, a baby boy, whom they named Vayu, in August 2022. They welcomed their second baby boy, whom they have named Rudralokh Kapoor Ahuja, in March 2026. Talking about Anil, he was last seen in the action thriller film Alpha directed by Shiv Rawail. It is the seventh installment in the YRF Spy Universe, starring Alia Bhatt, Sharvari, and Bobby Deol. The film follows a highly trained assassin raised in isolation as a super-soldier by a rogue commander. When she discovers the dark truth about her family and her stolen childhood, she teams up with her long lost sister to take down her creator and his illicit military program.

FIFA investigates Argentina FA, players over alleged World Cup violations



Zurich: FIFA has opened disciplinary proceedings against the Argentine Football Association (AFA) and several Argentina players over alleged breaches during the 2026 FIFA World Cup, the world football’s governing body said. The FIFA Disciplinary Committee opened proceedings against the AFA following incidents involving Argentina’s national team during several matches at the tournament. “The FIFA Disciplinary Committee has opened proceedings against the Argentinian Football Association for potential breaches of article 13 paragraph 2 c) (Using a sports event for demonstrations of a non-sporting nature), article 14 paragraph 5 (Team misconduct), article 15 (Discrimination and racist abuse) and article 17 (Order and security at matches) of the FIFA Disciplinary Code in light of discriminatory chants and gestures, late kick-offs, failure to comply with match and security protocols, the display of inappropriate messages by the team and spectators and the throwing of objects by spectators in relation to several matches of the representative team of Argentina at the FIFA World Cup 2026,” FIFA said in a statement. According to FIFA, the alleged breaches include discriminatory chants and gestures by supporters, delayed kick-offs, failure to comply with match and security protocols, the display of inappropriate messages by the team and spectators, and objects being thrown from the stands. FIFA said the AFA could face charges relating to demonstrations of a non-sporting nature, team misconduct, discrimination and racist abuse, as well as order and security at matches. Separate proceedings have been opened against Argentina players Leandro Paredes,

Nahuel Molina and Thiago Almada, team official Roberto Ayala, and Spain player Gavi over incidents following the World Cup final between Spain and Argentina. Spain defeated Argentina 1-0 in the final on July 19, after which several Argentina players and staff were involved in confrontations with their Spanish counterparts. According to a report by FIFA’s appointed Disciplinary and Ethics Prosecutor, Molina faces two alleged counts of assault, one completed and one attempted, while Paredes faces three alleged counts of assault and Ayala one. It added, “The FIFA Disciplinary Committee has received the report of the appointed Disciplinary and Ethics Prosecutor concerning incidents that occurred during the FIFA World Cup 2026 final (Spain v. Argentina) and, following the recommendation contained therein, has opened disciplinary proceedings – for potential breaches of article 14 paragraph 1 i) of the FIFA Disciplinary Code (assault) – against Argentinian players Nahuel Molina (two counts, one completed and one attempted) and Leandro Paredes (three counts) and Argentinian official Roberto Ayala (one count). “Disciplinary proceedings have also been opened – for potential breaches of article 14 paragraph 1 b) of the FIFA Disciplinary Code (unsporting behaviour) – against Argentinian players Nahuel Molina (one count) and Thiago Almada (one count) and Spanish player Pablo Martín Paez Gavira (one count). Proceedings have also been opened against Molina, Almada and Gavi over alleged unsporting conduct. FIFA said the respondents have now been provided with the opportunity to present their position, following which a decision will be issued by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in due course.

Ajinkya Rahane retires from international cricket



Mumbai: Senior India batter Ajinkya Rahane on Thursday announced his retirement from international cricket with immediate effect, saying that the time is right for him to “move on”. The 38-year-old played an overall 85 Tests, 90 ODIs and 20 T20Is for India in a career which began in 2013. However, he has not turned up for India since the 2023 away

Test series against the West Indies. “Today, I feel the timing is right for me to move on and announce my retirement from international cricket and all formats,” Rahane said in a social media post. Despite falling out of the national selectors’ radar, Rahane has been active in the domestic circuit and led Mumbai until the 2024-25 season.

Sreeshankar makes history with back-to-back CWG long jump silver



Glasgow: Murali Sreeshankar added another chapter to Indian athletics history on Wednesday, becoming the country’s first long jump double medallist in Commonwealth Games with a silver here. Having claimed silver in Birmingham in 2022, the 27-year-old added another medal to his collection after producing a best leap of 8.09 metres, capping an emotional comeback from the career-threatening knee injury that had nearly derailed his career. Before Sreeshankar, the country’s only medallists in the event were: Suresh Babu (men’s bronze, 1978), Anju Bobby George (women’s bronze, 2002) and M Prajusha (women’s silver, 2010). “Very happy, very grateful for being here as well. Very grateful for being able to represent India at the global stage ever again. “Two years ago, I didn’t think that probably I’ll be in Glasgow and represent my country. But thankful to God and I’m here winning a silver medal for my country yet again,” he said. The Kerala man, however, could not hide his disappointment of not being able to bag a gold medal this time. “I wanted to redeem the silver medal from Birmingham to gold. So, I am not satisfied with my performance. I have to keep improving my game, keep improving my skills.” But he hoped that he could build some momentum for the upcoming Asian Games. “I have to work on my technique. But I feel that this is like a stepping stone, it will add confidence going ahead for the Asian

Games,” he noted. Former world champion Tajay Gayle of Jamaica clinched the gold with a best jump of 8.15m, while local favourite Stephen Mackenzie grabbed the last spot on the podium with an 8.08m effort. The medal was especially sweet considering where Sreeshankar stood just over a year ago. A ruptured patellar tendon in April 2024 forced him to undergo surgery, and miss what was expected to be his maiden Olympic appearance in Paris and raising doubts over whether he could ever return to his explosive best. But here, he gave another emphatic statement of his comeback. Competing in only his second Commonwealth Games after missing the 2018 edition, Sreeshankar opened confidently with a leap of 8.03m before stretching it to 8.09m in his second attempt to move into the lead. The advantage proved short-lived as Jamaica’s Gayle responded with an 8.15m effort to seize top spot. Sreeshankar then endured two fouls as he searched for a bigger jump before managing 7.94m in his fifth attempt. The medal continues an encouraging resurgence for the Kerala athlete, who has consistently jumped above the 8m mark this year. He recorded a season’s best of 8.38m at the National Inter-State Senior Athletics Championships in Bhubaneswar. The other Indian in the competition Lokesh Sathyanathan finished fifth with a best jump of 7.97m, achieved in his opening attempt.

CWG 2026: Indian boxers assure five more medals; Toor, Gill reach shot put final

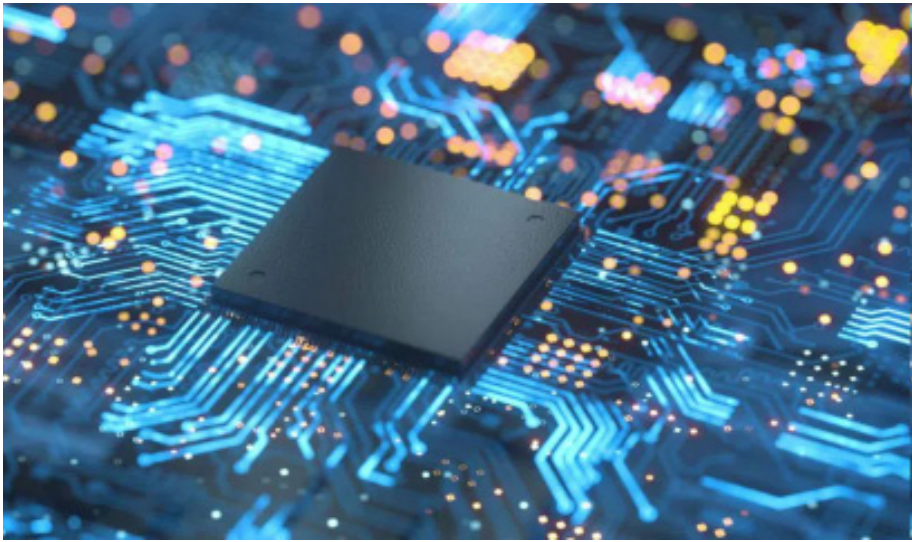
Glasgow: Indian boxers lorded the ring to enter semifinals of various weight categories, assuring five more medals while Tajinderpal Singh Toor and Samardeep Singh Gill retained medal hopes in athletics moving into the shot put final at the Commonwealth Games here on Wednesday. Narender Berwal (90+kg), Ankush Panghal (80kg), Sakshi Chaudhary (51kg), Arundhati Choudhary (70kg) and Sachin Siwach (60kg) advanced to the semifinals, making it five wins out of five bouts for the country on the day. With the five wins on the day, the number of Indian boxers in the semifinals rose to nine as the feat has already eclipsed India’s total boxing tally from the Birmingham 2022 — three gold, one silver and three bronze. India are now assured of at least nine bronze medals in the iteration of CWG. The aforementioned five boxers joined Lovlina Borgohain (75kg), Priya Ghanghas (60kg), Preeti Pawar (54kg) and Jadumani Singh (55kg) in the semifinals. Meanwhile, shot putters Tajinderpal Singh and Gill qualified for the final round without breaking much sweat. National record holder Toor took two attempts to breach the automatic qualification mark of 20m in Group A. His first effort measured 19.93m before coming up with 20.14m in his second throw. In qualification round Group B, Gill’s best



effort of the day was 19.95m which came in his opening attempt. His second throw measured 19.75m and the third a foul. Gill finished fifth overall out of 15 who competed across the two groups. Those who breached the 20m mark or the 12 best performers qualified for the finals to be held on Thursday. India had one more silver-lining from the track as national record holder Animesh Kujur clocked his season best time to qualify for the 200m semifinals. The 23-year-old Kujur ran 20.46 seconds to win Heat 4 in round one races and finish seventh overall.

US lawmakers ask Apple to drop plans to source chips from Chinese suppliers

New Delhi: A bipartisan group of US lawmakers has urged Apple Inc. to abandon plans to source memory chips from Chinese semiconductor companies CXMT Corp. and Yangtze Memory Technologies Co. (YMTC), warning that such a move could create long-term national security risks and deepen the iPhone maker's reliance on firms linked to Beijing, as per multiple reports. In a letter addressed to Apple CEO Tim Cook, the senators asked the company not to use memory chips from the two Chinese suppliers, even in devices intended exclusively for the Chinese market. The lawmakers — led by Republican Senator Jim Banks and Democratic Senator Chuck Schumer — noted that both CXMT and YMTC feature on the Pentagon's updated list of Chinese entities believed to support China's military, the reports said. "This short-sighted move would be a mistake," the senators wrote. They further warned that it could make the world's most valuable consumer electronics company dependent on suppliers designated by the US government as Chinese military companies. Apple has reportedly been exploring purchases from the two firms amid a global memory chip shortage that has driven up prices due to



strong demand from artificial intelligence hardware makers, including Nvidia. In addition, Apple raised prices across its Mac, iPad, home devices and Vision Pro product lines, citing higher memory costs in June. The senators argued that even if Chinese memory chips were initially limited to products sold in China, they could eventually be deployed globally through procurement decisions. They also questioned whether sourcing from Chinese suppliers would significantly lower costs, citing analysis that CXMT's pricing is sometimes higher than competing products. Moreover, the letter asked Apple to commit by August 21 that it will not incorporate CXMT or YMTC memory chips into its products. It also sought details on Apple's engagement with the two companies, including any sharing of technical information and whether the company has sought priority allocations from US or South Korean memory suppliers.

Mahindra & Mahindra Q1 profit jumps 34 pc to Rs 5,455 crore



Mumbai: Home-grown auto major Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) Ltd on Thursday reported a 34 per cent year-on-year jump in Profit After Tax (PAT) at Rs 5,455-crore in the June quarter. The company had delivered a PAT of Rs 4,083 crore in the first quarter of FY26, M&M Ltd said in a media release. Revenue for the quarter under review was at Rs 58,188, up 28 per cent from Rs 45,529 in the June quarter of last fiscal. Auto and Farm segments continue to deliver on growth and margins with profits up 18 per cent year-on-year, the company said. During the quarter the company sold a total of 3,04,000 vehicles, registering a growth of 23 per cent year-on-year, it said, adding that sport utility vehicle volume touched 1,75,000. Financial services Assets Under Management (AUM) grew at 13 per cent. Tech Mahindra continued its journey of margin expansion with an improvement of 330 basis points in EBIT (Earnings Before Interest and Taxes). The company said Mahindra Logistics showed strong revenue momentum with 23 per cent growth. "Despite a quarter marked by macro headwinds, the strength of our diversified portfolio coupled with proactive actions to navigate through this challenging environment has enabled us to deliver strong results. Our Auto and Farm businesses contin-

ued to strengthen their leadership positions, despite this dynamic environment," said Anish Shah, Group CEO & Managing Director, M&M Ltd. TechM and MMFSL (Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd) have made notable progress on their strategic priorities while 'Growth Gems' accelerated their growth momentum, he added. "Auto and Tractor business demonstrated strong resilience in Q1 F27. We have achieved a QoQ increase of 50 bps in SUV revenue market share and 150 bps in LCV (<3.5T) volume market share. XEV 9S emerged as the highest selling EV in India by volume," said Rajesh Jejurikar, Executive Director & CEO (Auto and Farm Sector), M&M Ltd. The company's tractors business gained 280 basis points on a sequential basis to reach 44.9 per cent market share in Q1 F27. Auto business PBIT (profit before interest and tax) Margin excluding eSUV contract manufacturing is 8.3 per cent and core tractor PBIT margin is 19.2 per cent despite commodity inflation, he said. "Our supply chain teams have executed remarkably well to navigate through a very uneven environment, marked by significant commodity inflation. We remain committed to our path of value creation while maintaining a strong balance sheet", said Amarjyoti Barua, Group Chief Financial Officer, M&M Ltd.

India's gold demand falls 6 pc in April-June on weak seasonal demand, higher duty: WGC

Mumbai: India's gold demand fell 6 per cent year-on-year to 131.4 tonnes in the April-June quarter, weighed down by seasonally subdued sales, higher Customs duty and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal to reduce purchases of the precious metal, the World Gold Council said in a report. The total demand was at 139.7 tonnes during the corresponding period last year, according to WGC's 'Q2 2026 Gold Demand Trends' report. "However, it's been a record in terms of the value of demand. So, consumption was Rs 1,98,100 crores, compared with Rs 1,32,500 crores in the same period in 2025, which is up by 50 per cent compared to the second quarter of 2025, highlighting that consumers continue to prioritise gold even in a high-price environment," WGC Regional CEO, India, Sachin Jain told PTI. Going forward, for the year, WGC estimated the demand to stay between 650 and 750 tonnes. "We still see demand in the range of 650 to 750 tonnes for this year. However, given the current geopolitical landscape, interest rates, and inflation, I think we should be somewhere in the middle of this range. If there is more correction in gold prices and the customs duty is reduced, then we could get to the upper end of this range," Jain added. Total Jewellery demand in India during the quarter under review decreased by 15 per cent to 75.1 tonnes as compared to 88.8 tonnes in the same period last year. India news headlines "Subdued season, the clarion call of the Prime Minister to buy less gold and hike in Customs Duty, among others, impacted the demand," he added. Prime Minister Modi, in May this year, urged people to reduce non-essential gold purchases and explore other ways to save foreign exchange reserves amid mounting import bills of the country due to volatile crude oil prices.

Jain expressed concern about a rise in grey marketing after the duty hike, noting reports of illicit gold already making



its way into these markets. "We think smuggling and illicit gold making way into the market is the biggest risk to the industry, and we are already getting reports on this. We will be tracking this in the coming quarters," he added. Meanwhile, investment demand remained encouraging, with bar and coin demand growing 9 per cent year-on-year to 50.3 tonnes, while Indian Gold ETFs attracted 4.2 tonnes of net inflows despite global outflows. "These trends reinforce gold's growing appeal not only as a traditional store of wealth but also as a strategic investment that provides stability and diversification in an increasingly uncertain economic environment. Looking ahead, the festive and wedding season in the second half is expected to support demand. While elevated prices may continue to influence buying patterns, Indian consumers have consistently demonstrated their ability to adapt," Jain said. Meanwhile, the WGC data showed that total gold recycled in India in the April-June quarter declined by 17 per cent to 19.2 tonnes, compared to 23.1 tonnes in the same period last year. Total gold imports in India in the second quarter of 2026 were 98.1 tonnes, down by 23 per cent compared to 127.4 tonnes recorded in the corresponding period of 2025. The average gold price in the second quarter was USD 4,506.3 an ounce in comparison to USD 3,280.4 in the corresponding period of 2025. In India, the average quarterly price of gold during April-June was Rs 1,50,744.8 (without import duty and GST) in comparison to Rs 94,875.9 in the same period last year.

Sensex, Nifty open flat amid mixed global cues

Mumbai: Domestic equity benchmarks opened on a subdued note on Thursday amid mixed global cues, as gains in information technology and pharma stocks were offset by weakness in banking and realty shares. Sensex opened at 77,638.86, down 15.74 points or 0.02 per cent, while Nifty opened at 24,249.55, lower by 0.65 points. Among the sectoral indices, Nifty IT was the top gainer, rising 1.39 per cent, followed by Nifty Pharma, Nifty Healthcare, Nifty MidSmall IT & Telecom, and Nifty Auto, which gained up to 0.54 per cent. In contrast, Nifty Realty declined 0.80 per cent, followed by Nifty Chemicals, which was down 0.45 per cent, while Nifty Private Bank fell 0.42 per cent. According to market experts, the Indian market continues to indicate a potential breakout trend, although several global headwinds are limiting the upside momentum. "The spike in Brent crude prices to near \$90 following the escalation of the US-Iran conflict is a strong headwind for markets," they said. Experts noted that the US Federal Reserve's decision to keep interest rates unchanged, though widely expected, turned out to be negative for equities as the decision was split 9-3, with three members voting for a rate hike to curb inflation. However, they believe the Indian market could remain relatively resilient. Weakness in global chip stocks has prompted foreign portfolio



investors (FPIs) to shift allocations, with FPIs turning net buyers in Indian equities so far in July. Brent crude — the international oil benchmark — declined 1.75 per cent to \$89.15 per barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude fell 1.47 per cent to \$83.21 per barrel. Asian stocks traded mixed. Major indices such as the Nikkei, Hang Seng, and KOSPI were up 0.72 per cent, down 0.02 per cent, and lower by 0.57 per cent, respectively. US stocks ended lower, with the S&P 500 declining 1.52 per cent, while the Nasdaq ended down 1.74 per cent.

Speed Up Development Works In Adarsh Gramalu

Utilize Pmagy Funds Quickly And Complete Works Within Deadline
District Collector Dr. Lakshmisha Issues Directions To Mpdos, Panchayati Raj And Rws Officials

Vijayawada, July 30:“District Collector Dr. Lakshmisha directed concerned officials to speed up development works in villages selected under Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY) and to utilize sanctioned funds effectively to complete the works within the stipulated time.Speaking at the PMAGY review meeting held at Pingali Venkayya Meeting Hall in Vijayawada Collectorate on Thursday, the Collector said the main objective of the scheme is the comprehensive development of villages. He suggested that MPDOS, Panchayati Raj and Rural Water Supply department officials should work in coordination to improve basic infrastructure in villages.He said PMAGY is a centrally sponsored scheme implemented by the Union Ministry Of Social Justice And Empowerment. Villages with a high Scheduled Caste population are being developed as Adarsh Gramalu under this scheme. The Central Government provides 100 percent grant under this scheme. The objective is to undertake comprehensive development in 10 key areas including basic infrastructure, socio-economic development, education, health, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, digitization, livelihood and skill development.The Collector informed that a total of 84 villages in 16 mandals of the district were selected under PMAGY in five phases between 2018-19 and 2025-26 (excluding 2021-22). For 33 villages selected in Phase-1 from 2018-19 to 2020-21, an amount of Rs. 6,05,63,908 has been sanctioned. So far Rs. 1,43,62,549 has been spent and Rs. 4,62,01,359 is still available.For 51 villages selected from 2022 to 2025-26, a total of 359 develop-



ment works have been started. An amount of Rs. 20 lakh per Adarsh Gramam is required, totaling Rs. 1,020 lakh. So far Rs. 1,340.45 lakh has been sanctioned to Panchayati Raj department and Rs. 270.05 lakh to Rural Water Supply department.The Collector directed officials to utilize funds on time and complete development works quickly. He gave priority to installation of solar lights in Adarsh Gramalu. He also instructed to focus on construction of Anganwadi centers in SC habitations, internal roads, drinking water facilities and sanitation infrastructure.He said coordination among departments is very important to provide all basic facilities to people in villages and transform them into true Adarsh Gramalu. He directed Panchayati Raj, RWS, Social Welfare and other departments to work in coordination, utilize funds in priority order and complete all works at the earliest. He suggested regular monitoring of implementation as per the Gram Vikas Yojana.Zp Deputy Ceo R.C. Anand Kumar, Dmo Dr. Sravana Babu, District Social Welfare Officer P. Jyothilakshmi Devi, District Panchayati Raj Officer, District Rws Officer, MPDOS and officials of concerned departments participated in the meeting.

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District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha



Ntr District – Tiruvuru, July 30:“District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha said the district administration is moving forward with a strong action plan to ensure farmers get required fertilizers on time without any shortage during Kharif season. She said fertilizers are being distributed with a transparent system according to the needs of farmers.The Collector inspected fertilizer and pesticide shops in Tiruvuru on Thursday. She reviewed fertilizer stocks, supply status and services being provided to farmers. She spoke with farmers and enquired if they were facing any difficulties.Speaking on the occasion, the Collector said sufficient fertilizer stocks are available in the district to meet current requirements of farmers. She said 3,319 Metric Tonnes of urea is available at PACS and 4,866 Metric Tonnes with private fertilizer dealers. Similarly, 816 Metric Tonnes of DAP is available at PACS and 773 Metric Tonnes with private dealers.She said arrangements have been made so that no farmer faces any problem and fertilizers are being supplied as per the crop sown. She explained that comprehensive agricultural services along with fertilizer-related services are available through AP



Eaims App - Andhra Pradesh Agriculture Information Management System.She said district-level officers along with special officers and field-level officers have been directed to ensure there is no problem in fertilizer supply through continuous monitoring. She said Mandal Agriculture Officers have been instructed to compulsorily inspect 2 to 3 fertilizer shops every day.She said awareness is being created at field level on scientific and balanced use of urea and other fertilizers, AP Eaims App, crop diversification, nano fertilizers and drone spraying. She said check posts have been set up and special teams are doing continuous monitoring so that fertilizers do not get diverted. If farmers face any issues related to fertilizer supply, distribution or other agriculture matters, they can contact Call To Collector Number 91549 70454 and inform their problems.After inspecting the fertilizer shop, Collector Lakshmisha visited the Agriculture Marketing Department Tiruvuru Border Check Post. She gave directions to Revenue, Police and Agriculture department staff. Tiruvuru RDO A. Kumar, Tahsildar Chandramouli and others accompanied the Collector.

Collector Lakshmisha Visits Fields, Interacts With Farmers

Adopt Scientific Farming For Better Yields, Says Collector
No Shortage Of Fertilizers And Pesticides, Farmers Need Not Worry



Ntr District – Tiruvuru, July 30:“District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha on Thursday toured Tiruvuru Mandal. After inspecting fertilizer and pesticide shops along with the border check post, she visited agricultural fields.In Vamakuntla Village, the Collector inspected paddy transplantation works and interacted warmly with farmers. She directly enquired about cultivation conditions and government services from the farmers. She suggested farmers follow scientific farming methods according to present weather conditions to achieve better yields. Farmers shared their cultivation

experiences with the Collector. Wishing for abundant crops, the Collector conveyed her greetings to the farmers.The Collector said quality fertilizers and pesticides are available in sufficient quantity and there is no need for anyone to worry. She said by following balanced nutrient management and water conservation methods, cultivation costs can be reduced and higher yields can be achieved. She advised farmers to move forward as per the suggestions of Agriculture and allied department officials available at the field level.

51 students selected in campus drive



Kandukur: Prakasam Engineering College, Kandukur, has once again demonstrated its strong placement record with 51 students securing jobs in a campus recruitment drive conducted by Q-Spiders, a leading IT training and recruitment organisation. The selected students, who are set to graduate in 2027, received annual salary packages ranging from Rs 3 lakh to Rs 9 lakh, reinforcing the institution’s reputation as a preferred destination for recruiters. Around 300 students from Computer Science and allied branches participated in the recruitment process, which included a written test,

group discussion, technical interview, and personal interview. Correspondent Dr K Vijaya Srinivas said the institution’s primary focus is to provide quality education along with industry-relevant skills that prepare students for rewarding careers. He attributed the consistent placement success to comprehensive training in coding, technical skills, communication, aptitude, and soft skills, as well as strong partnerships with leading organizations. Principal Dr Ch Ravi Kumar said placement training begins from the first year, enabling students to excel in competitive recruitment processes.