

Revanth To Invite Foreign Universities to Future City

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will invite leading universities from the US and the UK to establish offshore campuses in Bharat Future City during his overseas tour covering the US, UK, Germany and China from August 17 to September 10.

The state government will offer land to these institutions in a dedicated Education Zone being developed in Future City, official sources said.

Sources said Revanth Reddy's foreign tour was primarily aimed at attracting foreign higher educational institutions (FHEIs) to Future City and showcasing the state's vision of creating an international destination for higher education, research, innovation, sports and skill development.

Revanth Reddy is expected to hold meetings with officials of Illinois State University in the US, the University of Aberdeen and the University of York in the UK, besides interacting with investors, sports organisations and training institutes to explore long-term partnerships.

Sources said nearly 15 universities from the US, UK, Australia and New Zealand had expressed interest in establishing offshore campuses in Telangana, particularly in and around Hyderabad.

The University of Colorado in the US and the University of London in the UK had already submitted applications to the University Grants Commission (UGC), seeking permission to establish campuses in Hyderabad. In addition, representatives of nearly a dozen other foreign universities have approached the Telangana government, with discussions underway to identify suitable locations for their proposed campuses.

Among the institutions exploring opportunities in Telangana are Purdue University and Northeastern University



in the US, whose representatives are in discussions with state officials. The University of Birmingham in the UK and the University of Western Australia have proposed sports-focused campuses, while Newcastle University, the University of Chichester and the University of Hertfordshire are also holding consultations with the state government on establishing a presence in Telangana.

The proposed campuses would offer programmes in business, economics, accounting, finance, software engineering, data science, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, game design, entrepreneurship, innovation, biomedical sciences and several other emerging disciplines aligned with global academic and industry requirements.

Officials said the Chief Minister would use the visit to promote Bharat Future City as an international education and investment destination while seeking collaborations that would improve educational standards in Telangana,

equip students with globally competitive skills and strengthen the state's sports ecosystem.

Revanth Reddy is also scheduled to visit leading universities and skill development centres in the US, UK, Germany and China, with the possibility of signing Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with several educational institutions to elevate higher and skill education in Telangana to international standards.

The initiative comes as the UGC has opened the door for globally reputed universities to establish offshore campuses in India under the University Grants Commission (Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India) Regulations, 2023. The regulations permit eligible foreign universities to establish independent campuses in the country through a structured approval process.

Under the framework, the UGC has introduced a single-window clearance mechanism and constituted a high-powered Standing Committee to evaluate applications from foreign universities.

The committee scrutinises proposals and submits recommendations to the Commission, based on which the UGC grants in-principle approval through a Letter of Intent. Only foreign universities ranked among the world's top 500 institutions are eligible to apply, and they are required to furnish the latest accreditation and quality assurance reports from recognised agencies.

Official data shows that the UGC has so far issued 16 Letters of Intent to 15 Foreign Higher Educational Institutions from Australia, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States to establish campuses in cities including Bengaluru, Greater Noida, Gurugram, Mumbai and Chennai.

Water Situation Still Dicey, Avoid Paddy: Uttam

BJP Reviews Telangana Strategy in Delhi Meet

HYDERABAD: Irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Friday cautioned farmers not to get carried away by the recent rains and advised them to not opt for water-intensive crops, including paddy, during the Kharif season. This held even for the agricultural land that fell under irrigation projects which have received inflows in the last couple of weeks.

The irrigation minister, who was joined by his colleagues Tummala Nageswara Rao and Jupally Krishna Rao, along with Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju, was speaking during a video conference with district collectors. He directed district administrations to clearly communicate the water situation to farmers before they committed themselves to water-intensive crops.

Uttam Kumar Reddy said the present reservoir lev-



els, coupled with the rainfall outlook for the latter part of the monsoon, required extremely cautious crop planning.

Cautioning farmers not to opt for paddy merely on the strength of the present spell of rain, Uttam Kumar Reddy said farmers may "perhaps be able to support one wetting by taking advantage of the rain received during the first week of August. But the second wetting itself may become uncertain. Farmers should not be put to hardship two or three months later after being encouraged to take up a crop now," he told the district collectors.

Uttam Kumar Reddy also directed rural water supply department officials to work closely with the irrigation department to ensure that sufficient water was reserved for drinking-water needs. He specifically cautioned against releasing water under local or political pressure in a manner that could create a drinking-water crisis during the coming summer.

The BJP's national leadership held a review meeting with senior Telangana leaders at the party's central office in New Delhi on Friday to discuss strengthening the organisation and preparing a political roadmap to bring the party to power in the State.

The meeting was chaired by BJP president Nitin Nabin. Telangana BJP president N. Ramchander Rao, Union ministers G. Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay Kumar, BJP OBC Morcha national president and Parliamentary Board member K. Laxman, State in-charge Abhay Patil, State organisational general secretary Chandrasekhar Tiwari, party MPs and other senior leaders attended.

The leadership reviewed the party's organisational position in Telangana, with emphasis on strengthening the party



at the grassroots and expanding its presence across the state. Directions were given on the political and organisational action plan ahead of the forthcoming elections.

Discussions also focused on improving coordination among the State leadership, elected representatives and party workers, besides intensifying field-level activities and public outreach.

BJP leaders maintained that the party's organisational structure in Telangana was strong and expressed confidence that sustained grassroots efforts would help it emerge as a major force.

Talking to newsmen, Ramchander Rao ruled out alliances with Janasena or any other party, stating that decisions on NDA partners would be taken at the national level. He claimed leaders from other parties were showing interest in joining BJP but declined to disclose names, saying there was still time before polls.

He asserted that BJP's organisational strength in Telangana was greater than in Bengal and Odisha, where the party has come to power, and hence prospects were stronger. Rao added that many Congress leaders were likely to support the delimitation and women's bill in Parliament.

India rejects US criticism on FCRA Bill changes

New Delhi: India on Friday rejected criticism by several US lawmakers over proposed changes to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), describing the legislative matter as an internal affair.

A number of lawmakers from the Democratic and Republican parties, including Senator James Risch, who heads the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, voiced concerns over the planned changes to the FCRA, saying they could adversely impact Christian organisations and other civil society groups.

External affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said the proposed changes to the FCRA are an internal legislative issue of India.

"We have seen the comments (critical of the proposed changes). Legislative matters concerning India



are our internal affairs, on which decisions are taken by the Parliament of our country," Jaiswal said in his bi-weekly media brief-

ing.

"I would also like to point out that there are several nations, including the United States, which regulate the flow of foreign funds," he said.

Republican Congressman Riley Moore alleged that the proposed amendments to the FCRA would "permit government takeovers of churches and religious charities."

"This is a clear attack against Christians. If this bill proceeds in this way, it would be a point of major concern in our bilateral relationship with India," he said on social media.

The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill 2026 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on March 25. Indian politics news

The bill provides for a comprehensive framework for vesting, supervision, management, and disposal of foreign contributions and assets in a 'designated authority', including provisional and permanent vesting.

Telangana Govt to Promote Digitalisation in Assembly, Council as Part of Paperless Governance Push



Hyderabad: Telangana IT and Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu on Friday said the state government would promote digitalisation in a big way in the legislative assembly and council proceedings as part of the push for paperless e-governance. Speaking at an AI Transformation Conclave here, he said the state government's Digital Office project would accelerate paperless governance. He said AI, cloud computing, data analytics and digital platforms would play a central role in governance. The Real-Time Government Dashboard would integrate over 20 government departments on a single platform.

The state government's digital infrastructure initiative T-Fiber aims to provide digital connectivity to over 80 lakh rural households, Sridhar Babu said. He also said doorstep citizen services for senior citizens and persons with disabilities would be launched soon. The minister added that Blockchain-based certificate services would also be introduced soon. The state government in June this year decided to conduct paperless cabinet meetings as part of paperless governance it is envisioning. Sridhar Babu had on June 18 handed over special tabs to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and others during a special meeting of ministers at the Secretariat. The government had then decided to share the agenda of cabinet meetings with the ministers through e-book.

Ponguleti Says No Room For Politics In Implementation Of Welfare Schemes

NALGONDA: Revenue minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy on Friday made it clear that there is no room for politics in implementation of welfare schemes meant for poor people. Setting the foundation stone for the Grama Panchayat building at Hydarsaipeta in Tirumalayapalem mandal of Khammam district, he said the state government is endeavouring to ensure that benefits of welfare schemes reach all the eligible families. Ponguleti underlined that the Congress government has accorded top priority to the welfare of poor and has taken several initiatives for their uplift. He cited as examples free electricity up to 200 units for domestic connections and free travel facility to women in TGSRTC buses, The minister reminded people that the earlier BRS government did not issue a single new ration card during its nearly 10 years of rule. Discover more This amounts to denying food security to the poor, he charged. Soon after coming to power in 2023, Congress government issued new ration cards and is also supplying fine rice to the ration cardholders in the state, he maintained. Ponguleti made it clear that selection of beneficiaries for welfare schemes is being carried out irrespective of politics, caste, and religion. The state government is implementing the welfare schemes in a transparent manner. In all, eight lakh Indiramma houses have been



sanctioned to the eligible families in two phases, the minister said. Despite the financial constraints, there is no question of going back on completing Indiramma houses. All eligible families would be sanctioned Indiramma houses in the third and fourth phase of the scheme, he assured. Ponguleti said the process of sanctioning new Aasara pensions would begin on August 15. He emphasised that every eligible applicant would get the Aasara pension. He reiterated the measures taken up by the state government to guarantee quality education to poor students. Diet charges have been increased by 40 per cent and cosmetics' charges by 200 per cent. Good facilities and nutritious food are being made available to students staying in the government hostels, he stated. Earlier, the minister laid the foundation stone for a BT road from Thippareddygudem to Rakasi Tanda in Khammam district at a cost of ₹2.1 crore.

KTR targets Congress over weavers' welfare, demands restoration of schemes

BRS working president KT Rama Rao accused the Congress government in Telangana of failing to implement promised welfare schemes for weavers, demanded revival of earlier initiatives like "Nethanna Bima" and "Nethannaku Cheyutha," and criticised both Congress and BJP for neglecting the handloom sector.



Hyderabad: BRS working president KT Rama Rao blamed the Congress government and its failure to implement welfare schemes for deepening distress in the handloom sector in Telangana. He demanded for the immediate restoration of welfare schemes introduced during the K Chandrashekhara Rao government, to prevent weavers' suicides and ensure them assured income. In an open letter to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on National Handloom Day on Friday, Rama Rao said none of the promises made by the Congress to weavers before the Assembly elections had been implemented. He demanded the revival of "Nethanna Bima" and "Nethannaku Cheyutha", along with pending payments and other support measures. The former Minister reminded the Congress had promised an annual assistance of Rs 18,000 under "Nethanna Bharosa" scheme, Rs 6,000 for allied sector workers, loan waiver up to Rs 1 lakh

for individual weavers, waiver of cash-credit loans of handloom cooperatives and reimbursement of the five per cent GST burden imposed on handloom products. He alleged that all these commitments remained unfulfilled even after two and a half years of Congress rule. Rama Rao recalled that the previous BRS government provided Rs 5 lakh life insurance to around 55,072 weavers under "Nethanna Bima", with the government bearing the premium. Under "Nethannaku Cheyutha", it also supported workers' savings, while cooperatives received concessional loans and marketing rebates. He questioned why the government orders, including those for Bathukamma sarees and school uniforms, were being diverted to private entities, which in turn reduced livelihood opportunities for weaver families. Targeting the BJP-led Centre as well, the BRS working president said the abolition of the All India Handloom Board, Handicrafts Board and Powerloom Board, withdrawal of schemes such as house-cum-work sheds and imposition of GST on handlooms, had hurt the sector. He stated that both the Congress and BJP governments in Telangana and at the Centre respectively, adopted similar approaches towards handloom workers. Calling for action beyond ceremonial observance of National Handloom Day, Rama Rao urged the State government to revive all discontinued welfare schemes, clear arrears and implement its electoral commitments.

Telangana: Handloom Sector Key To Economy: Kishan Reddy

HYDERABAD: Union minister G. Kishan Reddy on Thursday said the handloom and textile industry was a crucial component of the Indian economy, providing direct and indirect employment to crores of people and contributing significantly to foreign exchange earnings. In a statement issued on National Handloom Day, Reddy extended greetings to weavers and others associated with the sector. He said the Union Government, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has been implementing the 'Make in India' programme and the 5F vision—Farm to Fibre, Fibre to Fabric, Fabric to Fashion and Fashion to Foreign Markets—to strengthen the textile industry. The minister said the textile sector was among the largest employment-generating industries after agriculture, providing



jobs to nearly five crore people across the country. With the objective of making India a global textile hub, the Centre has set a target of increasing textile exports to ₹9 lakh crore by 2030 and is offering several incentives to achieve the goal. He said schemes such as the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) programme, PM MITRA parks, the National Handloom Development Programme, the raw material supply scheme and the weavers' MUDRA

scheme were providing weavers with modern looms, raw materials, work sheds, design development, marketing assistance, credit and social security support. Reddy said the PM MITRA Mega Textile Park was being established in Warangal district, combining traditional practices with modern technology. He also highlighted the contribution of Telangana's cotton farmers, stating that the Centre had spent more than ₹69,860 crore on procurement under the Minimum

Support Price programme. The Centre was also integrating artificial intelligence, automation and advanced analytics with the handloom and textile sectors to improve productivity, quality and market opportunities, he said. In a separate statement, BJP Telangana president N. Ramchander Rao called for collective support to the handloom sector in the spirit of 'Swadeshi' and Prime Minister Modi's "Vocal for Local—Local to Global" campaign. Greeting weavers, artisans and their families, he said N a r a y a n p e t , Kothakota, Gadwal, Pochampally and Sircilla were internationally renowned for their handloom products. Rao urged people to voluntarily buy and wear handloom clothes to support weaver families and promote indigenous textiles globally.

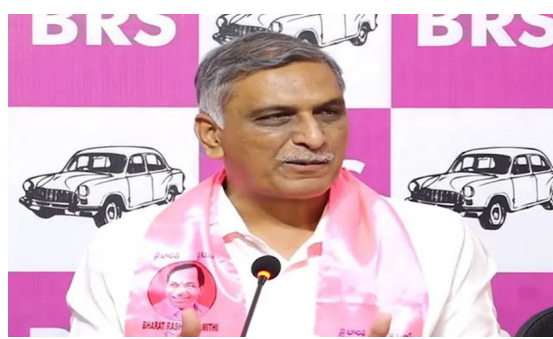
Mines Officials Obstructing HAM Road Works by Harassing Contractors: R&B Minister Komati Reddy



Hyderabad: Roads and buildings minister Komati Reddy Venkat Reddy on Friday accused the mines and geology department of obstructing road development works being executed under the hybrid annuity model (HAM) by harassing contractors with excessive penalties and procedural hurdles. He said contractors undertaking government road projects required transit permits from the mines department to transport construction material such as sand, soil and metal, but officials were imposing penalties worth up to ten times the value of the material without valid reasons. The minister made these remarks during a

review meeting with mines minister G. Vivek to discuss mining-related issues affecting road construction projects across the state. Venkat Reddy cited an instance where a contractor executing a road work worth Rs 5 crore was slapped with a penalty of Rs 54 crore. He sought a green channel from the mines department for speedy approval of metal permits so that contractors are not subjected to unnecessary delays. The minister also sought action against the official allegedly responsible for driving contractor Bandari Srinivas Reddy to suicide due to harassment. Representatives of the Mining Contractors Association briefed the meeting on the problems its members, particularly small contractors engaged in road works, faced. They highlighted the imposition of huge penalties, difficulties in obtaining permits for quarry metal and the shortage of construction materials required for ongoing projects. According to the minister, the 34 HAM road packages would require around 290 crore tonnes of metal, 352 crore cubic metres of soil and 5.53 crore cubic metres of sand.

Harish Rao lashes out at Congress govt over Mission Bhagiratha neglect



Hyderabad: BRS legislature party deputy leader T Harish Rao lashed out at the Congress government for weakening Mission Bhagiratha without proper operation and maintenance. He urged the government not to allow political differences to affect public welfare schemes. He demanded dedicated funds for Mission Bhagiratha, with immediate repairs to damaged pipelines, motors and pumping systems. Governments may change, but people's needs do not," he said, calling for Mission Bhagiratha to be strengthened rather than allowed to deteriorate. He suggested a special monitoring mechanism to respond quickly to water supply disruptions. Marking 10 years of completion of the flagship drinking water programme, Harish Rao said the scheme, conceived during the K Chandrashekhara Rao government, had transformed access to drinking water across Telangana and helped address the State's fluorosis problem. He said safeguarding the drinking water network created a decade ago and ensuring its sustainability was essential for improving living standards and providing safe water to future generations. The senior BRS leader said Mission Bhagiratha was launched with the objective of ensuring safe drinking water to every household and eliminating the need for women to travel long distances carrying pots. The project was built as an integrated drinking water grid, drawing surface water from the Godavari and Krishna rivers, treating it and supplying it through an extensive network of pipelines, reservoirs, pumping stations and overhead tanks. The former Irrigation Minister stated that the scheme reduced the hardships faced by women in rural areas, saved time and improved access to safe drinking water, particularly in fluoride-affected and remote areas. He also said improved water availability helped reduce health problems and enabled children to spend more time on education.

Development works should be completed quickly

MLA Naini reviews development of West constituency



Hanumakonda : Warangal West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy has instructed the officials to complete the ongoing development works under various schemes in Warangal West constituency expeditiously and with quality.

On Friday, GWMC Commissioner T. Venkanna along with Engineering and Town Planning officials held a review on the progress of the ongoing development works in the constituency at the Kuda office. After inquiring about the current status and progress of the works undertaken under various schemes, the officials were informed and directions were given on the necessary steps to complete the works efficiently and expeditiously.

It was suggested that the development works should not be delayed and that quality standards should be followed without any delay so that the people do not face any problems.

GWMC Superintendent Engineer Rajkumar, City Planner Ravinder Radekar, Executive Engineers, DEs, concerned officials and others participated in this meeting.

District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada inspected the EVM storage room



Warangal, Bureau : Warangal District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada inspected the EVM storage room in the Enumamula Agricultural Market Yard on Friday.

On this occasion, the security of EVMs, security arrangements made in the strong room, the functioning of CCTV cameras and other issues were inspected.

The officials were instructed to strictly follow the Election Commission rules regarding the security of EVMs. It was suggested that steps be taken to ensure continuous monitoring in the vicinity of the strong room.

The Collector advised the officials to take all necessary precautions in the monitoring of the strong room.

Additional Collector Revenue G Sandhyarani, Warangal Tehsildar Srikanth, Election Superintendent Rajini and others participated in this inspection.

Surprise inspection of fertilizer shops in Ibrahimpatnam mandal

Ibrahimpatnam, August 7 Today Freedom: Mandal Agriculture Officer Rajkumar conducted a surprise inspection of several fertilizer sales centers in Ibrahimpatnam mandal of Jagtial district. On this occasion, fertilizer stocks, e-POS stock details, stock registers, sales records, licenses and fertilizer sales as per MRP were examined. The physical stocks and the stock details recorded in e-POS were compared and examined. He warned that only quality fertilizers should be sold to farmers at fixed prices, and that strict action will be taken as per the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO) if fertilizers are sold at high prices, artificial shortages are created or other irregularities are committed.



Smart Ration Cards to be Distributed by the Chief Minister on August 15

Nirmal District Correspondent : Crop Diversification Helps Farmers Avoid Losses – Scientific Use of Available Water Essential

Van Mahotsavam Targets Must Be Achieved Within the Stipulated Deadline

State Ministers Uttam Kumar Reddy, Tummala Nageswara Rao, and Jupally Krishna Rao

State Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies Uttam Kumar Reddy, Agriculture Marketing Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, Forest and Environment Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, along with State Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju, held a video conference with District Collectors from Hyderabad on Friday to review the prevailing weather conditions, Van Mahotsavam, Smart Ration Card distribution, agriculture, and water management.

Speaking during the meeting, Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy said that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will distribute 1.06 crore Smart Ration Cards across the state on August 15. He directed officials to complete all necessary arrangements to ensure the smooth distribution of the cards in every district. He also instructed officials to prepare scientific plans for the efficient utilization of available water in reservoirs and to ensure that no drinking water shortage arises anywhere in the state.

Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao stated that implementing crop diversification would help farmers prevent losses while increasing their income. He advised officials to create awareness among farmers about diversified cropping patterns and encourage the cultivation of alternative crops. He also directed them to expedite the construction of farm ponds to improve groundwater recharge.

State Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju instructed officials to organize Irrigation Advisory Meetings at the village level to provide farmers with clear information on available water resources and crop planning. He emphasized ensuring the participation of farmers, public representatives, and concerned officials in these meetings. He further



ther directed officials to achieve Van Mahotsavam plantation targets within the stipulated timeframe and complete geo-tagging of every planted sapling. The conference also reviewed district-wise rainfall, crop cultivation, and water availability.

Participating in the video conference from the District Collectorate conference hall, District Collector Bhavesh Mishra later reviewed the issues with district officials. He instructed them to complete Van Mahotsavam targets within the deadline and focus on the protection and maintenance of planted saplings. He also directed officials to complete all preparations for the Smart Ration Card distribution on August 15. Additionally, he emphasized the effective conduct of village-level Irrigation Advisory Meetings to educate farmers on scientific water management and crop selection.

The video conference was attended by Additional Collectors B. Venkateshwarlu and Kishore Kumar, DFO Sushant Sukhdev Bobade, DRO Rathod Ramesh, DRDO Vijayalakshmi, District Civil Supplies Officer Rajender, DEO Bhojanna, District Agriculture Officer Anji Prasad, Horticulture Officer Ramana, and officials from various departments.

Handloom Sector Deserves Greater Support, Says Additional Collector Pandu

SANGAREDDY, Correspondent :August 7, 2026: Marking National Handloom Day, Additional Collector Pandu on Friday flagged off a Handloom Walk Rally from the Government ITI College to the District Collectorate in Sangareddy, calling for greater public support for the handloom sector and the welfare of handloom weavers.

Addressing participants, Pandu said the handloom industry is a symbol of India's rich cultural heritage and that the skill and dedication of handloom artisans deserve wider recognition and appreciation. He urged the public to purchase and use handloom products to strengthen the livelihoods of weavers.

He also stressed the need to create awareness among handloom workers about various welfare and incentive schemes being implemented by the government so that every eligible beneficiary can avail of them. He directed officials to ensure that information on these schemes reaches all eligible weavers.



Assistant Director of the Handlooms Department Venkata Rao, district officials, department staff, handloom workers, youth, and members of the public participated in the rally.

Digitalisation of Enumeration Forms, Polling Station Rationalisation to be Completed by August 10

Additional Collector - Draft Electoral Roll to be Published on August 17, Claims and Objections Till September 16.

SANGAREDDY, Correspondent : August 7 , 2026: Additional Collector T.L. Sangeetha on Friday said that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls is being carried out transparently and strictly in accordance with the guidelines of the Election Commission of India (ECI).

Chairing a review meeting with representatives of recognised political parties at the Collectorate, she said the extension of the deadline for submission of enumeration forms had provided additional time to complete the revision process.

She informed that the digitalisation of enumeration forms and the rationalisation of polling stations would be completed by August 10. The draft electoral roll will be published on August 17, while claims and objections can be submitted from August 17 to September 16. All claims and objections will be examined and disposed of as per ECI norms.

Sangeetha directed officials to re-verify the ASD (Absent, Shifted, Dead) lists and complete the exercise within two days. She said the rationalisation of polling stations was being undertaken in line with ECI guidelines, particularly in locations where polling stations have more than 1,200 voters.

She stated that the district currently has 1,633 polling stations across its five Assembly constituencies, and 16 new polling stations have been proposed, taking the total to 1,649 after rationalisation.

The Additional Collector said that 79 per cent of the enumeration forms had been digitised across the district so far. Constituency-wise progress



stands at Narayankhed – 88%, Andole – 87%, Zaheerabad – 82%, Sangareddy – 80%, and Patancheru – 67%.

She appealed to representatives of political parties to extend their active cooperation in ensuring the successful completion of the SIR process.

Additional Collector Pandu, representatives of recognised political parties and officials concerned attended the meeting.



Saturday 08, August, 2026

PROFITS REMAIN ELUSIVE FOR INDIA’S E-COMMERCE SECTOR

India’s e-commerce industry presents a paradox: On the one hand, it is one of the world’s fastest-growing markets, while on the other, it remains unprofitable despite years of rapid expansion. While the sector is not short of growth, capital or ambition, what it has struggled to build, cycle after cycle, is a business model in which growth and profit move in the same direction at the same time. The tough and increasingly transactional global trade environment, coupled with a still-unresolved domestic cash-burn habit, is forcing the industry’s hand. The platforms most likely to emerge as durable winners will probably not be the ones that deliver the fastest or offer the deepest discount, but the ones that quietly figure out how to make each order, each return, and each customer relationship pay for itself. The latest ‘India E-Commerce Report 2026’ by Delhi-based policy think tank, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), argues that policy around India’s online retail sector has focused excessively on tackling market concentration—a few dominant players controlling too much of the market—while overlooking the structural reasons why most e-commerce firms remain unprofitable despite years of rapid expansion. India’s merchandise e-commerce market expanded from about \$14 billion in 2014 to \$120-130 billion in 2024, and is expected to reach \$300-350 billion by 2030, growing at an annual rate of 20-25%. However, despite exponential growth in the sector, profitability remains elusive. The challenge is less about market concentration and more about cost economics. In many ways, the country’s e-commerce industry is at an inflection point.

The era of rapid expansion fuelled by abundant capital, discounts, and customer acquisition is giving way to a phase where profitability, efficiency, and innovation will determine success. While the long-term fundamentals remain robust—supported by digital payments, rising internet penetration, and a vast consumer base—the winners are likely to be companies that excel in AI-driven operations, logistics, export capabilities, and sustainable unit economics, rather than those that rely solely on aggressive growth strategies. At present, the average revenue per user is only \$107, far below \$1,330 in China, \$514 in Mexico, and \$350 in Brazil. Indian consumers also spend less per order, particularly in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities where average order values range from Rs 500 to Rs 700, compared with around Rs 900 or more in Tier-1 cities. Moreover, nearly half of all online orders in India are still paid through cash on delivery, which increases costs for e-commerce firms. Logistics and warehousing remain the biggest expenses for e-commerce companies, with last-mile delivery accounting for around 60% of delivery costs. Data collection, strengthening export logistics for cross-border e-commerce, expanding digital commerce into rural markets, supporting MSMEs through digital platforms, and addressing the welfare of gig workers are other areas that need attention. Going forward, policymakers should avoid excessive intervention that could discourage investment while simultaneously strengthening enforcement against anti-competitive practices.

Mission Bhagiratha: Rs.20.96 Crore Sanctioned for Alternative Drinking Water Facilities in 108 Habitations

The Telangana government has accorded administrative sanction for release of Rs 20.96 crore towards supply of drinking water in 108 habitations across Mulugu and Mahabubabad districts under the Mission Bhagiratha scheme.

The panchayat raj department issued GO-MS-428 on Friday approving a proposal submitted by the engineer-in-chief of Mission Bhagiratha. The works are aimed at strengthening safe drinking water supply facilities in villages facing water scarcity.

The sanctioned works cover habitations in Mulugu district and the Kothagudem and Gangaram mandals of Mahabubabad district.

These include the construction of overhead service reservoirs, laying of pipelines, drilling of borewells and creation of other supporting infrastructure to ensure reliable drinking water supply.

The government has directed officials to execute the works within the sanctioned cost and adhere to technical standards. It also called for comprehensive groundwater surveys before the



commencement of works to assess water availability. The authorities have been asked to coordinate with gram panchayats and ensure timely completion of the projects without compromising on quality.

The initiative is part of the state’s commitment under Mission Bhagiratha to provide safe drinking water to every household. Once completed, the works are expected to significantly improve drinking water availability and offer a long-term solution to water scarcity in the identified villages and habitations of Mulugu and Mahabubabad districts.

GHMC Reviews Vector Control, Prepares to Launch Online Civil Registration System Portal



Hyderabad:GHMC officials reviewed entomology activities, vector-borne disease preparedness, birth and death registration, along with a sensitisation programme on the upcoming Civil Registration System (CRS) portal. The Metropolitan Surveillance Unit (MSU) presented updates on disease surveillance, hotspot mapping, and coordinated field interventions.

The officials were briefed by GHMC commissioner R.V. Karnan officials on the Registration of Births and Deaths (RBD) Act and the upcoming Civil Registration System (CRS) Portal, which will enable citizens to register births and deaths online through a simplified and citizen-friendly digital platform.

The GHMC will soon adopt the Registrar General of India’s Civil Registration System (CRS) for issuing birth and death certificates. According to the GHMC, the CRS will enable citizens to register births and deaths online through a simplified and citizen-friendly digital platform.

BJP Should Heed Godfather Bhagwat's Advice On Gen Z: Dipke

Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar: Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) convener Abhijeet Dipke on Friday urged the BJP to heed its "godfather" RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat's advice not to label protesting Gen Z youth as anti-national, and cited lack of synchronisation between the ruling party and its ideological mentor. Speaking to reporters a day after Bhagwat interacted with Gen Z in Mumbai, Dipke demanded that the ruling party align with the RSS chief's acknowledgement that the youth agitation at Jantar Mantar over NEET examination irregularities had stemmed from genuine grievances.

Bhagwat on Thursday came out strongly in support of Gen Z, saying their grievances are genuine and he believes in their honesty, insisting protests by young people do not make them "anti-national".

His interaction in Mumbai is being seen as the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's most significant outreach to Gen Z (born roughly 1997-2012) and Gen Alpha (2013-2025) since the CJP's protests over NEET paper leak culminated in Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation last month.

The BJP government's handling of the protests, which turned violent during the July 20 march to Parliament in New Delhi called by the CJP, has invited criticism from different quarters.

The most important statement of Mohan Bhagwat was that the protesting youth should not be called anti-national and their issues are genuine, Dipke said.

"Earlier, the BJP president called



us a virus, and former Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan called us the B-team of terrorists. Now they should listen to Mohan Bhagwat because he is the mentor and godfather of the BJP," he remarked.

Warning that ignoring the RSS chief is a worrying trend, the CJP leader claimed there is zero synchronisation between the BJP's stance and Bhagwat's views, as the ruling party continues to toe the opposite line.

"If they are not listening to their mentor, this is something worrying. If this is the thing, Bhagwat should speak to the BJP once," he said.

Addressing social media narratives surrounding the Jantar Mantar protests, Dipke demanded a thorough investigation into the clips circulating.

"I believe that the videos coming onto social media should be investigated. If investigated, the fake videos originating from the (BJP) IT cell will be exposed," he alleged.

Dipke further stated that CJP teams have been dispatched to Jharkhand to stand in solidarity with aspirants protesting alleged irregularities in recruitment exams in the eastern state.

He warned that isolated agitations could soon snowball into a massive nationwide movement if ignored.

"We will try to bring people together on the issues that concern the youth. If people come together, leaving aside political and ideological differences, they can put pressure on the government, much like what we witnessed during the Jantar Mantar agitation," Dipke added.



No One's Ever Seen Me And Batman In Same Room: Rahul's Witty Reply On Insta

New Delhi: Are you Batman, was the poser. And Rahul Gandhi answered, equally straight up, sidestepping any comparison to the caped crusader: "Let's just say that no one has ever seen me and Batman in the same room together." "Ask Me Anything", the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha said Thursday night in a fresh outreach to Gen Z. And they did, the questions pouring in right through the session on Instagram. Some serious, others casual and witty.

The Congress leader answered accordingly, cheeky and candid in turn. To a question on the student protest in Jharkhand, Gandhi said every government should listen to what students are saying.

Asked about his favourite meme from the student protests last month, Gandhi took a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "I think the videos that came out of the PM house at midnight, those were the best, showing a new panicked prime minister," he said.

The former Congress president had got his mother's dog for some part of the interaction streamed live. To a query on what is his favourite thing about being a dog parent, Gandhi said he is not one but his mother has a dog named Noorie.

"I am not a dog parent. I think we share spaces with animals, with all living beings. I don't think we own them, I think they are on this planet with us and they deserve respect, love and affection," Gandhi said.

"Yes Noorie, do you agree with me? This is Noorie, she is my mum's dog. My mum will be very angry that I put her on video but too bad. So I will deal with that problem when it arises," Gandhi said with the dog in his lap.

Who is your favourite politician from the BJP? Gandhi quickly named Captain Amarinder Singh, who switched from the Congress to the BJP in 2022.

"I get along with him, he is cool. He is an expert on military history... Hello, uncle Amarinder," Gandhi said, setting off speculation over whether the veteran leader could make his way back to the Congress ahead of the Punjab elections.

Posting a link to his Instagram initiative on X, Gandhi said on Thursday, "Students, Gen-Z -- I'm here to listen. Ask me anything on Instagram, and I'll answer as many questions as I can."

The Congress also put out video clips of some of the questions he answered.

To a question on which philosophy interests him the most, Gandhi said, "All the different philosophies that have shaped our Constitution from Lord Buddha, Guru Nanak Dev, Basavanna ji, Sankardev ji Dharti Abba, Birsu Munda, Periyar, Mahatma Phule, Narayana Guru ji, Babasaheb Ambedkar, Gandhiji, and so many more."

The initiative comes after Gandhi met a group of students who had protested last month seeking then education minister Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation over the NEET paper leak and were at the receiving end of the police crackdown on July 20.

On Wednesday, Gandhi alleged that Union Home Minister Amit Shah was responsible for the violence against protesting youngsters and that he does not have the courage to explain in Parliament what happened with the students.

Gandhi has been regularly posting snippets from his interaction with students and parents on Instagram recently.

Over weeks, Instagram has emerged as a key political messaging platform among the political leaders, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi leading a coordinated push to woo Gen Z, joined by several Union ministers and ruling party leaders.

Northern Arc Capital posted its highest first-quarter results ever, with INR 114 Cr profit in Q1FY27

Net Interest Income Q1FY27 – INR 394 Cr. ↑ 32% YoY	Credit Cost Q1FY27 – 2.6% ↓ 44 bps YoY	PAT Q1FY27 – INR 114 Cr. ↑ 41% YoY	RoA Q1FY27 – 2.7% ↑ 29 bps YoY
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Mumbai, August 7th: 2026: Northern Arc Capital Limited, a diversified financial services platform announced its results for the quarter ended June 30, 2026.

Key highlights for Q1FY27

- Pre-provision operating profit (PPoP) grew by 27% YoY to INR 263 Cr for Q1FY27
- Lending Assets Under Management (AUM) grew by 26% YoY to INR 16,855 Cr
- Gross NPA improved by 20 bps QoQ to 1.0%
- Net NPA improved by 15 bps QoQ to 0.5%
- Healthy capital adequacy ratio of 22.7% as on June 30, 2026
- Received SEBI approvals for 2 debt funds
- ICRA assigned the highest band 'Outstanding' ESG Impact Rating (Score of 81/100)

Summary of Northern Arc's Q1FY27 Performance:

- Assets & Flows
- Lending AUM grew by 26% YoY to INR 16,855 Cr as on June 30, 2026
- Direct lending (D2C) AUM grew by 51% YoY to INR 10,766 Cr, share of D2C lending in AUM increased to 64%
- Performing Credit Fund AUM stood at INR 2,988 Cr as on June 30, 2026
- Gross Transaction Volume for Q1FY27 was INR 8,595 Cr
- Financials
- Net Interest Income grew by 32% YoY to INR 394 Cr in Q1FY27
- Fee & Other income was INR 22 Cr in Q1FY27
- Opex ratio was flat at 3.6% in Q1FY27
- PPoP grew by 27% YoY to INR 263 Cr in Q1FY27
- Credit cost decreased by 44 bps YoY to 2.6% in Q1FY27
- Profit after tax grew by 41% YoY to INR 114 Cr in Q1FY27
- Return on Assets increased by 29 bps YoY to 2.7% for Q1FY27
- Return on Equity increased by 220 bps YoY to 11.5% for Q1FY27
- Asset quality
- Gross NPA ratio improved by 20 bps QoQ to 1.0% as on June 30, 2026
- Net NPA ratio improved by 15 bps QoQ to 0.5% as on June 30, 2026
- Provisioning coverage ratio on Stage III assets improved to 48.5% on June 30, 2026
- Capital Adequacy
- Capital adequacy ratio was 22.7% on June 30, 2026

Net worth grew by 15% YoY to INR 4,056 Cr
Commenting on the Q1FY27 results, Ashish Mehrotra, MD & CEO, Northern Arc Capital said, “Q1 FY27 marked a strong start to the year as we continued to execute with discipline and build on the momentum of our long-term strategy. We remain focused on building a granular and diversified retail lending book, with our Direct lending (D2C) portfolio crossing the INR 10,000 crore milestone during the quarter. At the same time, we witnessed continued improvement in asset quality, with GNPA declining by 20 bps to 1.0% and credit cost at 2.6% for the quarter, remaining well within our guided range of 2.7%–2.8%. This reinforces our focus on quality growth, underpinned by prudent underwriting, portfolio diversification and sustainable risk-adjusted returns.

Further, we achieved an industry-leading ‘Outstanding’ ESG Impact Rating from ICRA, with a score of 81, underscoring our commitment to responsible and sustainable growth.

While we remain watchful of evolving external risks, including geopolitical developments in West Asia and the potential impact of El Niño conditions on the monsoon, we believe Northern Arc is well positioned to navigate these uncertainties. Our diversified business model, calibrated approach to risk and disciplined execution give us confidence in sustaining growth momentum while protecting profitability and maintaining strong portfolio quality”.

Singareni Ladies Club Hosts Enthusiastic Mehndi Competition at Manuguru

Manuguru, August 7: The Ladies Club of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), Manuguru Area, organized a vibrant Mehndi (Henna) Competition for its members at the Bungalows Area, Yellandu, on Friday. The event was held in a festive atmosphere, with members displaying their creativity through beautiful traditional mehndi designs.

Addressing the gathering, SEWA President Mrs. Durgam Sumathi Ramchander said that the Ladies Club organizes various cultural and creative activities every year during the Ashada month to promote Indian traditions and encourage the talents of women. She expressed happiness over the overwhelming response and enthusiastic participation in this year's Mehndi competition.

Later, prizes were presented to the winners for their outstanding performances, while all participants were appreciated for making the event a grand success.

The programme was attended by Ladies Club Secretary Mrs. Soumya Shiv Prasad, Mrs. Hariitha Nagaramesh, Mrs. Lakshmi Kishan Ram, Mrs. Saritha Srinivas, Mrs. Lalitha Srinivas, other committee members, and a large number of Ladies Club members.



Himalaya BabyCare Launches 'Matchy Matchy pH' Campaign to Spotlight the Importance of Maintaining Baby Skin's Natural pH Balance

~Unveils multilingual campaign highlighting pH 5.5 gentle care for healthy, protected baby skin~

Vizag , August, 2026: Himalaya BabyCare, one of India’s most trusted and loved baby care brands, has launched its latest campaign ‘Matchy Matchy pH’ to reinforce the significance of preserving the natural pH balance of a baby’s delicate skin. The campaign features the Himalaya BabyCare pH 5.5 Gentle Range comprising Himalaya Gentle Baby Shampoo, Himalaya Gentle Baby Wash, Gentle Baby Lotion, and Gentle Baby Cream, and their role in protecting the skin barrier and sealing in moisture by matching the pH of baby’s skin, offering gentle care from head to toe.

At the core of the campaign is a charming digital film that captures a relatable parenting moment. The film shows a mother lovingly dressing her baby in a matching outfit and introduces another important match: the pH of the baby’s skin. While parents typically focus on getting every little detail perfectly matched, the campaign reminds them that matching the skin’s natural pH is just as important for keeping baby’s



skin protected, soft, and healthy. The film has a simple and memorable tagline, “Matchy Matchy pH,” and shows how the pH 5.5 Gentle Range of Himalaya BabyCare helps maintain the natural pH balance of a baby’s skin, helps protect the skin barrier and lock in moisture.

Built around the insight that a baby’s skin is significantly more delicate than an adult’s and requires specialized care, the campaign encourages parents to go beyond everyday skincare and choose products that support their baby’s natural skin barrier. Himalaya BabyCare employs an engaging, light-hearted story to emphasize that healthy skin starts with maintaining the right pH balance.

Commenting on the campaign, Chakravarthi N. V., Director – BabyCare, Himalaya Wellness, said: “At Himalaya BabyCare, we strive to make baby care hassle-free and worry-free by helping parents understand how simple, informed choices can make a meaningful difference to their baby’s skin health. Parents thoughtfully consider every choice they make for their babies, and maintaining the skin’s natural pH is that important choice for healthy infant skin. Through the 'Matchy Matchy pH' campaign, we aim to create awareness about the importance of pH-balanced

skincare in helping protect a baby’s delicate skin barrier, while providing gentle, safe, and effective care that parents can trust every day.

The campaign features the Himalaya BabyCare pH 5.5 Gentle Range, which includes the Gentle Baby Shampoo, Gentle Baby Lotion and Gentle Baby Cream, a specially formulated range to help support the infant skin’s natural pH balance, help protect the skin barrier and lock in moisture for soft, healthy-looking skin.

The campaign is being rolled out across digital and social media with additional amplification through regional outreach to engage parents across the country. Available in Hindi, English, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Marathi, Bengali, Odia and Assamese, the multilingual campaign aims to make conversations around gentle baby skincare more accessible and relatable for families across India.

Audi India outlines growth roadmap, aims to double market share in next three years

Mumbai, August 2026: Audi India is entering its next phase of growth with a strong focus on expanding its product portfolio, strengthening customer experience and increasing its presence across the country. The company has confirmed three new product launches by 2027, starting with the new Audi Q3 during the upcoming festive season, followed by the next-generation Audi A5 and the flagship Audi Q9 in 2027.

Audi India also plans to expand its retail network by over 25% by the end of 2027, with a stronger focus on Tier-II and Tier-III markets. Existing dealerships are also being upgraded with the brand’s global Progressive Showroom concept, offering customers a more immersive and digital-



first retail experience.

Mr. Balbir Singh Dhillon, Brand Director, Audi India, said, “We are building the next phase of Audi India’s growth on the back of a strong pipeline of new products and continued investments in the market. As we introduce new models across segments, our focus is on offering greater choice

and strengthening our presence in India’s luxury car market. We want to double our market share from the current 8% - in the next three years. “

The company is also investing in strengthening its customer ecosystem by training over 2,500 sales and service professionals across its dealer network. Initia-

tives such as Audi Approved Plus continue to enhance the ownership journey by providing customers with a trusted and seamless pre-owned luxury car experience. Customer loyalty remains a key strength, with every third Audi sold in India today being purchased by an existing Audi customer.

Audi India believes

the country’s luxury car market has strong long-term potential, supported by rising affluence, increasing demand for premium mobility and a growing customer base beyond metro cities. The company plans to expand its network to 40 showrooms by the end of next year and is targeting to double its market share over the next three to five years, supported by a stronger product portfolio, wider retail footprint and an enhanced customer experience.

With a combination of new product launches, network expansion and enhanced customer experience, Audi India aims to strengthen its position in the growing luxury car market while bringing its global offerings closer to Indian customers.

Independence Day Celebrations to Be Conducted Grandly: District Additional Collectors B. Venkateswarlu and Kishore Kumar

Nirmal District Correspondent : District Additional Collector (Revenue) Kishore Kumar directed officials to make all necessary arrangements for the grand celebration of India’s Independence Day.

A review meeting on the conduct of the August 15 celebrations was held on Friday at the Collectorate conference hall, chaired by the District Additional Collectors with officials from various departments.

Speaking on the occasion, the Additional Collectors instructed officials to invite guests strictly as per protocol and ensure that the venue is attractively decorated. They emphasized organizing patriotic cultural performances by students to reflect the spirit of Independence Day. Continuous power supply should be ensured throughout the event, and arrangements for tents, shamianas, and drinking water should be made.

They also directed officials to provide adequate police security, keep an ambulance on standby, establish a medical camp, and ensure proper parking facilities to avoid inconvenience. Stressing the importance of coordination among all departments, they said the celebrations should be conducted smoothly and successfully as per the planned schedule.

The meeting was attended by Bhainsa Sub-Collector Ajmeera Sanket Kumar, DRO Rathod Ramesh, DSP Srinivas, RDO Devidas, along with other officials and staff members.



21 Phule Couples Pledge to Practice Constitutional Values

- 'Phule Couples Fellowship' Launched Under the Aegis of Yakshi

Hathnoora: With the objective of bringing the values of liberty, equality, justice, fraternity, and democracy—enshrined in the Constitution of India—into practice in rural areas, the inauguration of the "Practice of Constitutional Values – Phule Couples Fellowship" was grandly held on Thursday at the Badampet Junction in Hathnoora Mandal, organized by the Yakshi organization. This distinguished program was supported by the Azim Premji Foundation.

A total of 21 married couples (Phule Couples) from Medak and Sangareddy districts participated in this fellowship. On this occasion, the couples pledged to practice constitutional values in their personal lives, families, and village communities, and to continuously strive for their protection and promotion. They took an oath to reinforce social justice, equality, and the democratic spirit in society by dismantling caste, religious, and gender discrimination.

Organizers of the Yakshi organization stated that

Through this fellowship, the couples will conduct direct discussions and awareness sessions on constitutional principles with children, youth, and women in villages.

Building an egalitarian society inspired by



the ideals of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule and Savitribai Phule is the primary objective of this program.

The main goal is to raise awareness at the grassroots level regarding the rights and duties provided by the Constitution.

The event was attended by Yakshi organization representatives Madhu, Sagari, Anil, Ghouse, Prashanth, Renuka, and Vicky; Satyasodhak Samaj representative Shivaji; fellowship coordinators; and the 21 Phule couples from Medak and Sangareddy districts.

World Breastfeeding Week Celebrations at Nastipur Anganwadi Centre

Hathnoora: Breastfeeding Week was celebrated grandly at the Anganwadi Centre in Nastipur village under Hathnoora mandal on Friday. Village Sarpanch Pramila Sayilu attended as the chief guest and addressed the gathering.

Speaking on the occasion, the Sarpanch stated that a child's health depends entirely on mother's milk, which is equivalent to nectar. She emphasized that colostrum (first milk) given to newborns sig-



nificantly boosts their immunity. She advised mothers to feed infants exclusively on breast milk for the first six months after birth, and only then introduce cooked solid foods.

Subsequently, a 'Dry Day' program was conducted in the village. The Sarpanch appealed to the residents not to let water stagnate around their houses and urged them to immediately drain accumulated water to prevent mosquito breeding. She called upon everyone to keep the village clean and hygienic.

Deputy Sarpanch Mahender, Panchayat Secretary Yadaiah, Field Assistant Sayilu, Anganwadi Teacher Vijaya, ASHA worker Nagamani, mothers of young children, and villagers participated in the event

District Census Handbook Must Be Prepared with Highest Standards: Director of Census Operations Bharati Holikeri

Director of Census Operations Bharati Holikeri has directed all District Collectors to prepare the District Census Handbook (DCHB) with the highest standards of accuracy, quality, and authenticity. She stressed that the handbook would serve as an important reference document for future government planning, development policies, research, and census analysis.

Speaking through a video conference from Hyderabad on Friday, Bharati Holikeri reviewed the progress of the District Census Handbook preparation with Collectors of all districts. Bhadradri Kothagudem District Collector Ankit, along with Additional Collector Venugopal, participated in the meeting from the IDOC office.

She said that, for the first time in Telangana, a separate District Census Handbook is being prepared for every district, with exclusive handbooks also being developed for the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation and Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation.

The handbook will include comprehensive information on population, social and economic indicators, administrative setup, infrastructure, education, healthcare, and other key development parameters. She instructed officials to collect verified information from every department down to the revenue village and urban local body level, using only official data available as



of December 31, 2025.

Bharati Holikeri emphasized that all information included in the handbook must be based solely on official departmental records and should meet the highest standards of accuracy, completeness, consistency, authenticity, and timeliness.

She directed that data collection be completed between August 10 and August 21, followed by data entry and cross-verification from August 22 to September 8, and final verification from September 9 to October 8. Departments were instructed to avoid duplication, blank entries, and inconsistencies while ensuring uniform statistical reporting across all sections.

The District Census Handbook will also contain a detailed district profile covering geography, administrative structure, economy, social conditions, education, healthcare, infrastructure, development indicators, and other district-specific highlights.

District Collector Ankit assured that all the guidelines issued by the Director of Census Operations would be implemented in the district. He said verified information would be collected from all departments, thoroughly scrutinized, and submitted to the State Census Office within the stipulated timeline.

The meeting was attended by Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Vidhya Chandana, Zilla Parishad CEO Nagalakshmi, Planning Officer Sunitha, District Panchayat Officer Anusha, and officials from various government departments.

Urban MLA Dhanpal Pursues Central Backing for Nizamabad's Infrastructure Expansion : Memorandum Submitted to Union Minister Nitin Gadkari for Roads, RUBs, RUB and New National Highway—



New Delhi August 07, 2026 : Giving fresh momentum to Nizamabad's infrastructure development agenda, Dhanpal Suryanarayana Gupta met Nitin Gadkari on Friday and submitted a detailed memorandum seeking the Union Government's approval and financial assistance for a series of strategic road and bridge projects.

The meeting was held in the presence of Nizamabad MP Dharmapuri Arvind, who extended his support to the proposals aimed at modernising the city's transport infrastructure.

Addressing the media after the meeting, MLA Dhanpal Suryanarayana Gupta said that priority was sought for the development of Devi Road, Railway Station Road, and the construction of an additional Railway Over Bridge (ROB) at Nandewada, which would significantly reduce traffic congestion in the rapidly expanding city.

The delegation also highlighted the urgent requirement for a Road Under Bridge (RUB) near Yellammagutta, adjacent to Sony Function Hall, to facilitate uninterrupted traffic movement and improve public safety. The proposed ROB and RUB projects together are estimated to cost ₹170 crore.

The memorandum further requested ₹30 crore for the upgradation of the R&B road connecting Radio Station Junction with the Old Gram Panchayat Office at Mudakpally, a key arterial

road serving several residential and commercial localities.

A major highlight of the proposal was the request for a 107-km National Highway connecting Varni Junction, Nizamabad, Dichpally, Indalwai, Bheemgal and Kamareddy. According to the MLA, the proposed highway would strengthen regional connectivity, reduce travel time, promote industrial investment, and facilitate the movement of agricultural produce.

The delegation also appealed for the completion of the road corridor from the Rajiv Gandhi Statue to the NTR Statue via Dubba and Kalur Road, describing it as an important project for improving intra-city traffic circulation.

MLA Dhanpal expressed confidence that Union Minister Nitin Gadkari would give favourable consideration to the proposals, stating that the projects would transform Nizamabad's road infrastructure and support the city's long-term growth and development. State Affairs In-charge Abhay Patil and Palvai Harish Babu also accompanied the delegation during the meeting.

Singareni Educational Institutions Development Gets a Boost

SCES General Manager (Education) Rajendra Prasad Visits Manuguru Area for the First Time

Manuguru, August 7: The newly appointed General Manager (Education) of Singareni Collieries Educational Society (SCES), Mr. Rajendra Prasad, paid his first official visit to the Manuguru Area on Friday. He was accorded a warm welcome by Manuguru Area General Manager Mr. Durgam Ramachander and senior officials at the General Manager's Office.

During the visit, the officials briefed Mr. Rajendra Prasad on the educational and administrative activities of the Manuguru Area. Discussions focused on strengthening educational institutions, providing better infrastructure and facilities for students, and improving the overall quality of education in SCES schools.

Mr. Rajendra Prasad emphasized the need to ensure quality education, modern facilities, and effective manage-



ment to enhance students' academic development and future opportunities.

The programme was attended by SO to GM D. Venkata Ramarao, AGM (Personnel) S. Ramesh, AGM (IE) CH. Rambabu, Area Engineer V. Madan Naik, DGM (Civil) G. Siva Prasad, DGM (Survey) L. Dayakar, DGM (Area Workshop) T. Srikanth, MVTC Manager Nageswara Rao, ASO Raman Pathak, Environmental Officer J. Srinivasa Rao, Finance Manager P. Ramesh, Purchase HOD Sudarshan Reddy, and other senior officials.

The visit is expected to provide fresh momentum for the development of SCES educational institutions in the Manuguru Area and further improve educational standards for students.

Police Association Election Process Begins at Manuguru Police Station



Manuguru, August 7: The election process for the Police Association commenced peacefully at the Manuguru Police Station on Friday. Police personnel from across the circle enthusiastically exercised their franchise to elect their Circle Association representative.

Assistant Sub-Inspectors (ASIs), Head Constables, and Constables arrived at the polling station from the morning and cast their votes in an orderly manner. The polling process was conducted smoothly under the

supervision of election officials.

The representative elected at the Circle level will subsequently participate in the District Police Association elections by casting votes to elect the district-level leadership.

The enthusiastic participation of police personnel reflected their commitment to the democratic process, making the polling a significant event at the Manuguru Police Station.

World T20 Continent Cup: Cricket Legends to Shine in Hong Kong

India-based Atherra Sports will be organising the World T20 Continent Cup, a thrilling new international T20 tournament that promises to bring together some of the world's most celebrated retired cricketers. Sandeep Kumar, the media executive, speaking exclusively, said, "Scheduled for mid-December 2026 in Hong Kong, the week-long spectacle will feature four continental teams battling for glory in nine high-octane matches, culminating in a grand final to crown the inaugural champion".

"The event is set to be more than just a tournament—it will be a festival of cricketing nostalgia, giving fans a chance to relive the brilliance of their heroes in a competitive yet celebratory environment". With Hong Kong as the host city, the event also underscores the growing global footprint of



cricket beyond its traditional strongholds. The World T20 Continent Cup will feature four continental squads: Asia Warriors, Europe Champions, Africa Lions, and North America Eagles. Each team will showcase retired international stars, ensuring fans witness a blend of experience, flair, and cricketing charisma.

"The tournament highlights include four continental teams, nine matches, and a grand final to crown the champion, all set against the vibrant backdrop of Hong Kong", he added. The Asia Warriors have already confirmed a star-studded lineup. The squad includes Sri Lankan stalwarts Upul Tharanga, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Dilhara Lokuettige, Nishala Gamage, and Lahiru Thirimanna. From Bangladesh, Rubel Hossain, Mahmudullah Riyadh, and Imrul Kayes bring their firepower, while Pakistan is represented by Muhammad Imran Khan, Iftikhar Ahmed, and Shoaib Masood. Afghanistan's Samiullah Shinwari and Oman's Suraj Kumar add further diversity, while India contributes with Abhimanyu Mithun, Shikhar Dhawan, and Rahul Sharma.

Additional signings are expected to complete the 20-member squad. With cricketing legends from across continents, the World T20 Continent Cup promises to deliver nostalgia, entertainment, and competitive spirit in equal measure. Fans in Hong Kong and worldwide will be treated to a unique celebration of the sport, where retired heroes return to the field to showcase their enduring talent and passion for the game.

Women's T20 Asia Cup 2026 fixtures released; India eye fourth title

The ACC has announced the schedule for the Women's T20 Asia Cup 2026 in Dubai, with India facing Pakistan on September 5. Three-time champions India are grouped with Pakistan, Thailand and Hong Kong, China in the eight-team continental tournamentWorld news coverage

Dubai: Three-time champions India will renew their storied rivalry with Pakistan on September 5 as the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) on Thursday unveiled the schedule for the Women's T20 Asia Cup 2026, to be played in Dubai from August 28 to September 13.

India, the tournament's most successful side, have been placed in Group A alongside Pakistan, Thailand and Hong Kong, China, with the highly anticipated India-Pakistan encounter expected to be the marquee fixture of the league stage.

India will begin their campaign against Thailand on August 30 before taking on Hong Kong, China on September 3. Harmanpreet Kaur's side will then face Pakistan in the much-awaited clash on September 5.

The eight-team competition has been divided into two groups of four. While Group A consists of India, Pakistan, Thailand and Hong Kong, China, Group B features Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Indonesia and hosts United Arab Emirates.

The tournament will commence on August 28 with Thailand



taking on Hong Kong, China at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium. Sri Lanka will begin their campaign against UAE on August 29, while Bangladesh open their campaign against Indonesia on August 31.

Pakistan's remaining league-stage fixtures will see them face Thailand on September 1 and Hong Kong, China on September 7.

Sri Lanka, the winners of the previous edition held in 2025, will play Indonesia on September 2 and Bangladesh on September 6 after their opening game against UAE. Bangladesh will round off their group-stage fixtures against UAE on September 8, while Indonesia will also take on UAE on September 4.

The top two teams from each group will qualify for the knockout stage, with the first semifinal scheduled for September 10 and the second semifinal on September 11.

The winners of the two semifinals will meet in the final on September 13 to decide the continental champions. All 15 matches of the tournament, including both semifinals and the final, will be played under lights at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

Seven Athletes Go Missing After Commonwealth Games

New Delhi: Seven athletes who participated in the Commonwealth Games have reportedly gone missing after the tournament. According to reports, the missing athletes include boxers from Uganda and Pakistan. The athletes allegedly failed to return to their home countries after the event, and their whereabouts remain unknown. Reports said a Pakistani boxer is also among those missing. Police in Scotland have launched an investigation to trace the athletes and determine the circumstances surrounding their disappearance.



SPORTS



Ajinkya Rahane signs with Amsterdam Flames for inaugural ETPL

Former India captain Ajinkya Rahane has signed as Amsterdam Flames' marquee player for the inaugural European T20 Premier League. The veteran batter said he hopes to contribute to the growth of cricket in Europe while helping build a successful franchiseIndia news headlines

Amsterdam: Former India captain Ajinkya Rahane has signed with the Amsterdam Flames as the franchise's marquee player for the inaugural edition of the European T20 Premier League (ETPL), set to begin on August 26.

On July 30, Rahane announced his retirement from international cricket and all formats. Rahane represented India in 85 Tests, 90 ODIs and 20 T20Is for India, while his final international appearance came against the West Indies in a two-game Test series in July 2023.

"Cricket has given me so much, and I've always believed that players have a responsibility to leave the game stronger than they found it. Europe is entering an exciting phase and has the potential to become one of cricket's most promising frontiers.

"What impressed me about Amsterdam Flames is the ambition to build something meaningful that creates a lasting impact both on and off the field. I'm excited to work alongside the management to build a successful franchise while helping inspire the next generation and strengthen cricket's future across Europe," Rahane said in a statement issued by the tournament on Friday.

Rahane is currently in England as a commentator for the Hundred. Steve Waugh, the former Australia captain who's the co-founder and Chief Cricket Officer of Amsterdam Flames, welcomed Rahane into the set-up. "Ajinkya Rahane represents everything you want in a professional cricketer – skill, resilience,



humility and leadership.

"Throughout his career he has earned enormous respect across the cricket world, not only for his performances but for the way he has conducted himself on and off the field. I've seen first-hand the composure and leadership he brings under pressure, and those qualities help shape winning cultures. His experience, leadership and character will be invaluable as we build Amsterdam Flames into one of Europe's premier cricket clubs."

In the IPL, Rahane played 212 games for six teams and amassed 5367 in the tournament, including captaining Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in 2025 and 2026 seasons and being a tournament winner with the Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in 2023.

Abhishek Bachchan, Co-owner of the ETPL, highlighted the significance of Rahane's signing for the upcoming league. "Ajinkya Rahane joining Steve Waugh's Amsterdam Flames is a significant moment for both the franchise and the ETPL and another important milestone in our vision to accelerate the growth of cricket across Europe.

"Players of Ajinkya's calibre not only raise the standard of the competition but also inspire and mentor the next generation of European cricketers. We are delighted to welcome him to the ETPL family."

Echoing similar sentiments, Tim Thomas, Chief Executive Officer of Amsterdam Flames, termed Rahane's recruitment as a landmark event for the club. "Signing a player of Ajinkya Rahane's calibre is a defining moment for Amsterdam Flames. This is about much more than adding an outstanding cricketer, it is about establishing the standards, culture and ambition that will define our club for years to come.

"Ajinkya's professionalism, experience and leadership perfectly align with our vision of building a franchise that competes at the highest level while making a lasting contribution to the growth of cricket across Europe," he said.

Sharad Kumar hails India's best-ever Commonwealth Games para campaign

New Delhi: Paris Paralympics silver-winning high-jumper Sharad Kumar on Friday said the country's para-athletes are delivering path-breaking results despite comparatively less funding as he lauded their best ever Commonwealth Games performance in Glasgow recently.World news coverage India's para-sports contingent secured seven medals (three gold, two silver, and two bronze) for the country's most successful para campaign in the history of the Commonwealth Games.

"The amount of money being put into para sports is comparatively less than other sports, and yet we are delivering tremendous results. When para-athletes perform, sports show that anybody can win," Kumar said on the sidelines of the Indo-French initiative 'Para Elan – Sab Ka Maidan' — a student outreach programme to promote French language in the national capital.

"This is the first time that para sports have won gold medals at the Commonwealth Games. Because of that, our ranking went from 23rd to fourth. You realise the last two gold medals were what helped us break into the top four," he said of India's final standing after winning 39 medals overall.

Kumar said India's para-athletes have consistently punched above their weight despite comparatively lower investment in the sector.

Para-sports has been a part of the country's flagship target Olympic Podium Scheme since its inception in 2014 but the number of athletes on TOPS roster has increased substantially in recent years.

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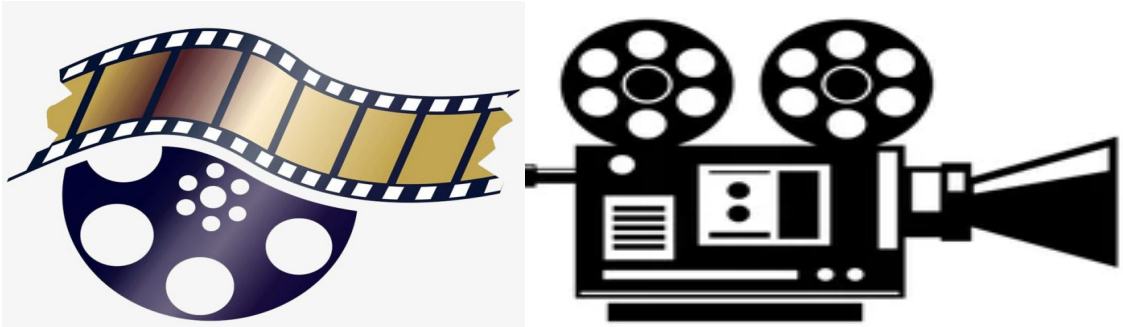


former world number one, who also has a bronze from the Tokyo Olympics in 2021. French Ambassador to India Thierry Mathou, who was also present at Friday's event, said para sport is a powerful tool for social change.

The French Institute in India (IFI), under the Embassy of France, in collaboration with the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI), inaugurated the initiative at Thyagaraj Stadium, bringing together students from schools across Delhi for adaptive sports demonstrations and interactive sessions with para-athletes.

The programme is part of the three-year initiative, inaugurated in April, which aims to reach more than 10,000 students across India through awareness campaigns and school engagement programmes centred on inclusion and para sports.World news coverage Mathou said the initiative was built around promoting diversity through both language and sport.

"Sport is an exceptional way to communicate, exchange views and interact, and the Paralympics are a way to learn from others. Teaching French, talking about diversity, promoting differences and doing sports is our ambition," he added.



CINEMA

Sahaa Okka Chinni Navve Song: Enchanting Melody

Sahaa starring Shiva Kumar Kasaram, Swetha Lakshman has been one of the most impressive and interesting romantic films in recent times.

Sahaa starring Shiva Kumar Kasaram, Swetha Lakshman has been one of the most impressive and interesting romantic films in recent times. With World of Sahaa, the makers have intrigued audiences and now, they have released an enchanting melody, Okka Chinni Navve Song.

Composed by Shekar Chandra, the song talks about the jitters, happiness that a very close person's smile can bring to you. Lyrics by Suresh Banisetty capture the essence of this young love brilliantly and Yogesh Rella crooned it with great enthusiasm and feel.

Shiva Kumar's body language, his screen presence and chemistry with leading lady Swetha, make the song even more lovely. The lead



pair look perfect for each other on screen and director Nishanth Doti presented them in a slice-of-life style. Making their moments relatable and cute.

Teja Velpucharla is producing the movie on Sumaira Studios production banner. Visuals on screen look pleasant, eye-catching and raise curiosity to watch this young love explored further on big screens. More details about the movie release date will be announced soon by the makers.

Anakapalli Takes a Rare Release Route

The makers of Anakapalli, starring Vikram Sahidev, have decided to postpone the film's theatrical release.

The makers of Anakapalli, starring Vikram Sahidev, have decided to postpone the film's theatrical release. The movie was originally scheduled to hit theatres on August 7, but the team has now chosen to wait for a few more days before announcing a new release date.

According to the makers, this decision was taken after the film received an excellent response during a special screening held for distributors. Many distributors were impressed with the movie and suggested that it should not be limited to Telugu alone. They recommended dubbing the film into Tamil, Malayalam, and other languages so that it could reach a bigger audience.

The film has also attracted interest from several OTT platforms. With these new opportunities, the makers felt it would be better to carefully plan the release instead of rushing to meet the original date.

However, the team says the most important opinion is not from distributors or OTT platforms. They believe the real verdict should come from the audience.

Since the film is titled Anakapalli, its story is connected to the town, and much of the shooting took place there. The producer is also from Anakapalli. Because of this strong connection, the team has decided to organize four to five special public screenings in Anakapalli before the film's theatrical release.

These screenings are not for celebrities or members of the film industry. They are meant only for the people of Anakapalli. The makers want local audiences to watch the film first, enjoy it, and share their



honest opinions.

The team believes that the first judgment on Anakapalli should come from the people of Anakapalli themselves. This is a rare idea in Telugu cinema and is inspired by the way some international films are shown at festivals and public screenings before their wide release.

The makers say they have complete confidence in the film. They want to hear genuine feedback from the public before taking the movie to theatres across different regions.

The response from the public screenings, distributor feedback, OTT interest, and plans for releases in other languages will all help the team decide the best release strategy.

The producers have confirmed that the new theatrical release date will be announced officially within the next couple of days. They hope this unique approach will help the film connect with a wider audience and build even stronger excitement before its release.

Pallaburusu Trailer: A relatable emotional drama



Sudhakar Reddy and Muralidhar Goud are starring in rural drama, Pallaburusu. King Nagarjuna released the movie trailer today and it is a relatable emotional story. The movie is produced by Annapurna Studios and Epic Studios with good production values. Uday Chauhan is

directing the film with meticulous precision capturing realistic emotions.

The trailer dives into the story of a father from village who has to do everything on his own. Due to his health issues, doctors advise him to brush with a toothbrush. He asks his son to buy one for him but as he denies, he goes to court against his son. The battle begins as a fun case but it dives into an emotional ride.

Sudhakar Reddy touches heart with his simple performance. Muralidhar Goud is great too. Uday Chauhan uses every moment to craft a relatable emotional drama in a relatable and realistic setting. Pawan Ch BGM is apt for the drama and elevates it. With Annapurna Studios behind the film, it will reach to maximum number of audiences.

The folk song and teaser have created good expectations on the film, already. Now, the trailer will increase the impression, curiosity and excitement for the audiences further. Pallaburusu appears to be a good rural drama that touches right emotions throughout.

'Agadha' Poised for a Grand Global Arrival on August 14

The film's release strategy has now been finalized across all major territories, paving the way for a wide global release.



With its worldwide theatrical release scheduled for August 14, 'Agadha' is steadily emerging as one of the most talked-about releases of the Independence Day weekend, backed by growing trade confidence across multiple territories.

Following the impressive response to its trailer, the film received offers from several distributors. However, director M. S. Raju has chosen to release the film independently through Geetha Arts and Annapurna Studios, reflecting his strong belief in 'Agadha' and its theatrical prospects.

The film's release strategy has now been finalized across all major territories, paving the way for a wide global release.

One of the biggest highlights is the USA release by Moksha Movies. Initially planning to release the film on just 14 screens, the distributor reportedly expanded the rollout to 140 screens after watching the completed film, signaling increasing confidence in its commercial potential.

In the Telugu states, 'Agadha' will be released through the exhibition network of Geetha Arts and Annapurna Studios. V.K. Films, the distribution company associated with Hombale Films, will release the film in Karnataka, while the reputed 'S' Pictures will handle the Tamil Nadu distribution.

The trailer has introduced 'Agadha' as an ambitious supernatural mystery set against a powerful divine and mystical backdrop. Its reverse-chronological storytelling, large-scale CGI, stunning visuals and haunting background score have created considerable curiosity among audiences.

Starring Kamakshi Bhaskarla (Polimera) and Shravan Reddy (Dirty Hari), 'Agadha' is written and directed by M. S. Raju. The film is produced by Kasi Visalakshi Balusu under the Sri Adi Varaha Productions banner and presented by Ajay KR.

With its distribution network firmly in place and promotions entering the final phase, 'Agadha' is all set to arrive in theatres worldwide on August 14.

Sundeep Kishan, Ugandhar Muni's Karikaala FL: Adventurous

More than just a visual spectacle, Karikaala is envisioned as a tribute to the magical storytelling of Chandamama fairy tales. The narrative will unfold in a richly imagined world.

A completely different Sundeep Kishan is set to surprise in Karikaala, the latest pan-India socio-fantasy from director Ugandhar Muni. Produced by Mahidhar Reddy and Rajashekhar Annabhimoju under the Shining Pictures banner, the film has revealed its title and an eye-catching first look that promises an unforgettable spectacle.

The first look poster showcases Sundeep Kishan in a first-of-its-kind look. Clad as a legendary warrior, he rides fearlessly through an enchanted forest while a mighty lion runs alongside him, creating an image that captures courage, fantasy, and grandeur in a single frame.

One of the biggest highlights is the actor's remarkable transformation. Sporting an entirely fresh appearance and costume, Sundeep Kishan steps far outside his comfort zone, embracing a role that demands physical intensity and a commanding screen presence.

More than just a visual spectacle, Karikaala is envisioned as a tribute to the magical storytelling of Chandamama fairy tales. The narrative will unfold in a richly imagined world.

The ambitious project with music by Sricharan Pakala is being mounted as a multilingual release in Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi. The makers have announced that the story will be told across two films, with Chapter 1 arriving worldwide on July 2, 2027, followed by Chapter 2 on October 28, 2027.

The powerful title, distinctive first look, and ambitious two-part announcement have already sparked curiosity among movie lovers.

