



are being constructed across rural areas for the convenience of the public. He highlighted that proper roads and drainage networks prevent the stagnation of sewage and rainwater during the monsoon

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Chandrababu Naidu inspects water levels at Prakasam Barrage In Short



the Godavari had flowed into the sea so far due to heavy inflows from the upstream areas. With substantial Godavari water being diverted through

Pattiseema, irrigation water was being released through various canals downstream of Prakasam Barrage to meet the

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Minister Impressed by Tribal Exhibition at Araku



VISAKHAPATNAM: Tribal welfare minister Gummidi Sandhya Rani on Monday appreciated the special exhibition organised as part of World Adivasi Day celebrations at the Araku College Grounds. The exhibition showcased the culture, traditions, handicrafts, cuisine, lifestyle and skills of tribal communities. The minister appreciated the efforts to highlight tribal talent and stressed the need to provide greater encouragement and market opportuni-

ties to tribal artisans and handicraft producers. Giri Gramadarshini exhibition presented the traditional tribal way of life. Bamboo products made by artisans from Kushaiguda village attracted visitors, while Chompi Lacquer Toys displayed by the district industries and skill development departments and Madagada Clay Toys presented by Araku Native Crafts highlighted the craftsmanship of tribal communities.

Intintiki Telugu Desam Grand Success with People's Blessings:

**Minister Kondapalli Srinivas
Always Available to Serve the Public and
Drive Development'
Door-to-Door Campaign Conducted in
Lakkidam Village**



Gajapathinagaram, August 10: "State Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Rural Poverty Alleviation, and NRI Empowerment & Relations, Kondapalli Srinivas, stated that the 'Intintiki Telugu Desam' program is progressing with immense success across the state due to the blessings of the public. The Minister led the door-to-door campaign in Lakkidam village, Gantyada Mandal, under the Gajapathina

garam constituency. Villagers extended a grand welcome to the Minister with flowers, traditional tilak, and aarti. During the drive, Minister Srinivas distributed pamphlets highlighting the welfare schemes and developmental works executed by the coalition government over the past two years. He also interacted with local carpenters, inquired about their issues, and assured them of necessary gov-

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Law and Order Deteriorating in Kurnool, Says Bharath



KURNOOL: Minister T.G. Bharath on Monday expressed concern over the law and order situation in Kurnool district and questioned the police response to recent incidents. Speaking to the media, Bharath said rowdy elements were creating problems in Kurnool city and resorting to murders over trivial issues. He was referring to the recent killing of TD worker Intiyaz

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APSPDCL Con- nects 50,000 Rooftop Solar Systems to Grid

TIRUPATI: The Andhra Pradesh Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (APSPDCL) has connected 50,000 rooftop solar systems installed at SC and ST households to the electricity grid, becoming the first of the state's three power distribution companies to reach the milestone. Under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, APSPDCL is installing rooftop solar systems at 2.07 lakh SC and ST households across nine districts, with a planned capacity of 415 MW.

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Andhra Pradesh: Not A Drop Of Irrigation Water Should Go Waste: Anam

NELLORE: Minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy on Monday directed irrigation officials to ensure that not a drop of irrigation water is wasted and warned of strict action against those found misusing water. At



a meeting at his camp office in Nellore, the minister reviewed the water position and utilisation of the Somasila and Kandaluru reservoirs and the status of irrigation projects in the district. He

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Judge’s silence,
a woman’s ordeal:
The perverse calcu-
lus of the trial court

The Bombay High Court’s judgment on August 6 in the State of Goa v. Tarunjit Tejpal marks a significant turning point in India’s jurisprudence on workplace sexual violence. Overturning the 2021 acquittal of former Tehelka editor-in-chief Tarun Tejpal, a division bench of Justices Neela Gokhale and Amit Jamsandekar convicted him of aggravated rape and related offences under Sections 376(2)(f), 376(2)(k), 354, 354A, 354B, 341 and 342 IPC, sentencing him to 10 years’ rigorous imprisonment with fines of Rs 10.1 lakh payable to the victim. This is not merely a correction of a flawed trial order. It is a judicial rebuke of systemic failures that continue to undermine the POSH Act and the wider framework governing sexual offences. While the verdict strengthens survivors’ position, it also exposes gaps lawmakers must urgently address. The case and the court’s findings: The allegations date to November 2013, during Tehelka’s THiNK Fest in Goa, where the complainant — a young journalist and subordinate to Tejpal — alleged assault on two occasions in a hotel lift. The trial court’s 2021 acquittal had leaned heavily on the complainant’s post-incident conduct, past relationships and social media activity — an approach the High Court found “perverse” and contrary to law. The bench held her testimony to be of “sterling quality,” consistent through nearly 1,000 pages of cross-examination across 18 dates, and corroborated by Tejpal’s own apology emails, CCTV footage, and seven other witnesses. Crucially, it treated his position of authority as an aggravating factor under Section 376(2)(f) and (k). Its sharpest criticism was reserved for the trial court’s passivity while the defence subjected the victim to humiliating questioning about her sexual history and personal life — effectively putting her “on trial.” The bench firmly rejected the “perfect victim” stereotype, holding that such notions have no basis in law. This aligns with Section 146 of the Evidence Act (as amended in 2003 and 2013), which bars questions on a victim’s character or past sexual conduct except in narrow circumstances, reinforcing that moral character is irrelevant to consent. Implications going forward: The judgment carries weight for both criminal prosecutions and POSH inquiries in several ways.

First, it elevates consistent survivor testimony as strong evidence even where post-incident behaviour is unconventional — extending the caution against stereotyping laid down in State of Punjab v. Gurmit Singh (1996) to a high-profile workplace setting, and signalling that appellate courts will reverse perverse acquittals rooted in patriarchal reasoning. Second, it foregrounds power dynamics. By invoking aggravated-rape provisions tied to positions of trust, the court acknowledges that consent cannot be presumed in hierarchical relationships — echoing Apparel Export Promotion Council v. A K Chopra (1999) and the Vishaka Guidelines (1997). Across Indian media, academia, corporates and bureaucracy, senior figures still wield disproportionate influence over juniors’ careers, and this judgment validates that such dominance can vitiate consent even absent overt coercion.

Efforts Underway to Provide Basic
Infrastructure in Villages
Minister Kondapalli Srinivas

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season. He advised villagers to keep their surroundings clean, ensure smooth drainage flow without blockages, and strictly refrain from dumping garbage into drains. Keeping the premises clean, he noted, prevents mosquito breeding and stops the spread of seasonal diseases. ““The Minister emphasized that the coalition government is working relentlessly for the development of Lakkidam village like never before and called upon the public to extend their cooperation to the government. ““The event was attended by former village Sarpanches Vasireddy Suridamma and Pawan Kumar, Mandal Party President Kondapalli Bhaskara Naidu, PACS Chairman Boodi Appalanaidu, Director Paradesi Naidu, along with officials from various government departments.

Intintiki Telugu Desam Grand
Success with People's Blessings:

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ernment support. Addressing the gathering, Minister Kondapalli Srinivas expressed heartfelt gratitude for the love and affection shown by the villagers. He noted that key developmental works have been executed in the village, including the construction of a drainage canal, desilting of canals connected to the Tatipudi canal to ensure direct water supply to farmers, and the installation of a ?10-lakh power transformer near the Seripalem temple for agricultural needs. He emphasized that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, and Minister Nara Lokesh are releasing ample funds for rural development. He assured the residents that as the grandson of Paidithalli Naidu, he will always remain accessible to serve the people. ““The event was attended by Koppula Velama Sangham Director Allu Vijay, former village Sarpanches Vasireddy Suridamma and Pawan Kumar, Tatipudi Chairman Kallempudi Jagannadha Rao, PACS Chairman Gudi Appalanaidu, Director Paradesi Naidu, Mandal Party President Kondapalli Bhaskara Naidu, and others.

Chandrababu Naidu inspects water
levels at Prakasam Barrage In Short

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requirements of crops in the Krishna Delta, the officials explained. They said 3,928 cusecs were being released through the Krishna Eastern Main Canal, 3,115 cusecs through the Krishna Western Main Canal and 115 cusecs through the Guntur Channel. In all, 7,158 cusecs of water was being released into the canal system to meet the irrigation needs of the delta. Chief Minister Chandrababu said the water supplied through Pattiseema was providing crucial support to agriculture at a time when farmers were facing difficult rainfall conditions.

He stressed the need for efficient water management to ensure adequate irrigation supplies and minimise the impact of deficient rainfall. The Chief Minister directed officials to make optimal use of available water resources and take all necessary measures to overcome irrigation-related difficulties through effective water management.

Andhra Pradesh: Not A Drop Of Irrigation
Water Should Go Waste: Anam

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directed officials to assess the ayacut under cultivation, water requirements and consumption so far and distribute reservoir water according to farmers’ needs. “Not even a single drop of water can be allowed to go waste,” the minister said, adding that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu had accorded priority to agriculture. He warned that stringent action would be taken against those found misusing or wasting irrigation water. to the requirements raised by Kavali MLA Dagumati Venkata Krishna Reddy, Ramanarayana Reddy directed officials to take up the development and expansion of the Kavali Canal without delay. He also ordered the completion of the GKN works under the North Feeder Canal to ensure irrigation water for crops during the current agricultural season. Kavali MLA Venkata Krishna Reddy and senior irrigation officials, including superintending engineers and executive engineers of the Somasila, Kandaleru and irrigation divisions, attended the meeting.

Law and Order Deteriorating in Kurnool, Says Bharath

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Basha, which had created tension in the region. Referring to the incident, Bharath questioned the police response, stating that social media posts had surfaced nearly a week earlier warning about the possible murder of Intiyaz. “When there was prior information circulating on social media, why did the police fail to act? Why was there no alertness from the intelligence system?” he questioned. The minister also alleged that while the police appeared to be closely monitoring public representatives, including ministers and MLAs, they were failing to track anti-social elements and their activities.

Supreme Court to hear Ram
temple donation embezzle-
ment pleas on August 17



New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday said it would hear on August 17 a batch of petitions seeking a court-monitored SIT probe into the alleged embezzlement of donations at the Ram temple in Ayodhya. A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana was apprised by a lawyer that Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who has been appearing for the Uttar Pradesh government, has gone to the United Nations for a function.

The bench deferred the hearing to August 17.

Earlier in the day, the top court agreed to consider the request by the counsel for the Uttar Pradesh government to defer the hearing on these pleas. On July 27, the top court took note of the setting up of a four-member SIT headed by IGP Kiran S to probe alleged embezzlement of donations at the Ram temple. It had asked the Uttar Pradesh government to also include a forensic auditor in the probe team. Observing that “remedial actions will have to be taken”, the bench had said steps will be taken to “ensure transparency”. The bench had also directed the Special Investigation Team (SIT) to submit a status report in two weeks. On July 20, the bench had asked the Uttar Pradesh government to apprise it of the possibility of setting up an SIT to probe the alleged embezzlement of donations. It had asked the solicitor general to take instructions on whether the SIT, which had examined the entire issue before the registration of the FIR, could be entrusted with the responsibility to probe the case instead of the local police. “Just a word of caution. Please don’t politicise the issue. The courts are not a place for politics. It is a simple case of commission of crime. We are (here) just to ensure a proper investigation,” the CJI had said. Investigation is going on and eight persons have been arrested, the law officer had said, adding that he cannot divulge much. On July 13, the bench had directed the Uttar Pradesh Police to submit a status report in the matter. It had also issued a notice to the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust on pleas seeking a fair and time-bound probe into the alleged donation theft. Narendra Kumar Goswami, one of the three petitioners, moved the top court seeking a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into the matter. He also sought an audit of the finances of the Trust, which manages the affairs of the Ram temple, by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG). Ajay Kumar Rai and Dinesh Kumar Yadav filed the second petition seeking similar measures. Besides seeking a Supreme Court-monitored CBI probe, the third petition filed by RJD MP Sudhakar Singh has sought a forensic audit of the entire finances of the temple trust.

APSPDCL Connects 50,000 Roof-
top Solar Systems to Grid

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programme covers Tirupati, Chittoor, Annamayya, Kadapa, Sri Sathya Sai, Kurnool, Nandyal, Anantapur and Nellore districts. According to data under the Utility Led Aggregation (ULA) on the ministry of new and renewable energy portal, solar systems with a total capacity of 203.95 MW have been installed at 1.01 lakh households so far. APSPDCL has set the end of August as the deadline for completing the remaining installations. The process begins with obtaining consent from eligible consumers, followed by installation of the rooftop systems, inspection and connection to the electricity grid. Once connected, the systems enable beneficiary households to generate solar power and supply the electricity produced to the grid. APSPDCL is working with solar agencies and field staff to complete the installations and connectivity within the stipulated period. APSPDCL CMD Siva Sankar Lotheti congratulated discom officials, staff and solar agencies involved in achieving the 50,000 grid connectivity milestone.

He said field teams and agencies had worked together to complete the consent, installation, inspection and connectivity processes and directed them to complete the pending installations by the end of August. “Eligible SC and ST families are being provided an opportunity to install rooftop solar systems on their houses and supply the power generated to the grid, helping promote the use of renewable energy,” the CMD said. He added that the PM Surya Ghar scheme targets rooftop solar systems on 1 crore houses, with AP ranking fourth nationally in installations.

Officials Must Stand as a Support to Public in Resolving PGRS Grievances
District Collector Dr. Lakshmisha
Permanent Solutions Must Be Provided to Prevent Resolved Complaints from Recurring
Prompt and Quality Redressal is the Metric for Public Satisfaction
Strict Action Will Be Taken Against Officials Showing Negligence in Grievance Redressal



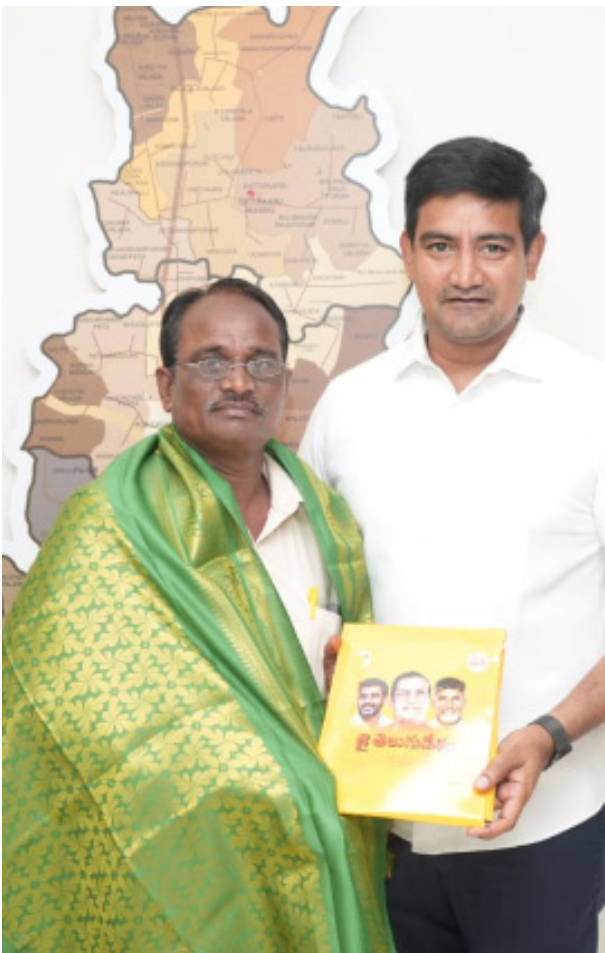
Vijayawada, August 10:“District Collector Dr. Lakshmisha instructed officials to act responsibly and instill confidence among complainants during the grievance redressal process. Speaking at the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) program held at the Pingali Venkayya Meeting Hall in the District Collectorate on Monday, Collector Dr. Lakshmisha, alongside Joint Collector S. Ilakkiya, received petitions directly from the public.”“Following the petition collection, the Collector conducted a review meeting with district officials of various departments on pending and resolved PGRS complaints. He directed officers to clear pending grievances within the stipulated timeframe and immediately resolve and close complaints pending from the previous week. He emphasized identifying the root cause of each issue, conducting field-level inspections where necessary, and bringing involved parties together to resolve matters on the spot whenever possible.”“The Collector

stressed that a complaint should not be closed as a mere administrative formality; rather, resolution must ensure total satisfaction for the applicant and prevent recurrence.

In cases where immediate resolution is not possible, officials must clearly explain the reasons to the applicant and inform them about the next steps.”“Furthermore, Dr. Lakshmisha directed officials to raise awareness among farmers regarding fertilizer supply, crop rotation, and intercropping. He instructed MPDOs and Mandal Agricultural Officers to visit fields, directly understand farmers' issues, and extend necessary guidance on government schemes and agricultural practices.”“Warning negligent officials, the Collector made it clear that strict action would be taken against those who delay grievances, offer superficial solutions, or close petitions without complete resolution. He stated that a total of 178 petitions were received during Monday's PGRS session.

Recognition for Every Hardworking Member in TDP:
Minister Kondapalli Srinivas
Congratulations Extended to Top 'My TDP App' Users
Bicycles and Caps Presented to Top Performers

Vizianagaram, August 10:“State Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Rural Poverty Alleviation, and NRI Empowerment & Relations, Kondapalli Srinivas, stated that every hardworking party worker in the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) receives special recognition.”“At the Minister's camp office in Vizianagaram, Minister Kondapalli Srinivas felicitated Bejawada Ishwar from T. Burjalalasa, Dattirajuru Mandal (who secured 2nd rank in the Gajapathinagaram constituency for active usage of the 'My TDP App') and Matta Janardhana Rao from Jami Mandal (who secured 5th rank).”“The Minister presented them with bicycles and caps sent directly from the TDP Central Office in Mangalagiri as tokens of appreciation. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Srinivas urged all wings of the Telugu Desam Party to actively take the party's programs, policies, and welfare initiatives extensively to the public.



National Flag on Every House, National Spirit in Every Home

District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha
Partners in Nation Building – #AneNenu
Program Scheduled from August 10 to 15
Active Participation of Every Citizen Key to Achieving 2047 Goals
Public Urged to Participate Enthusiastically in the "#AneNenu" Campaign

Vijayawada, August 10:“NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha called upon citizens to actively participate in the "Partners in Nation Building – #AneNenu" program, organized to foster patriotism and encourage public contribution toward building a developed India. The campaign is being held from August 10 to 15 as India completes 79 years of independence and enters its 80th year of freedom. Speaking on the occasion, Collector Lakshmisha emphasized that nation-building is not sole responsibility of the government, but a collective effort driven by civic participation. To achieve the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047", every citizen must take a pledge to contribute positively toward national development.”“Under the "#AneNenu" initiative, citizens, youth, students, officials, sports personalities, and artists are encouraged to record a 30-second video reflecting their thoughts, pledge, and vision for nation-building. Participants are instructed to upload these videos on social media using the hashtags #PartnersInNationBuilding, #MyIndiaMyVision, and #IndependenceDay2026, while tagging @APOfficialNews. Furthermore, as part of the Independence Day celebrations, the Collec-



tor announced that the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign will be conducted from August 13 to 15. Officials were instructed to ensure every household hoists the national flag to represent unity and national pride. Schools across the district were also directed to conduct interactive sessions engaging students to share their personal vision for the nation's future.”“Collector Dr. Lakshmisha urged NGOs, youth, and citizens from all walks of life to enthusiastically join the campaign and make the 80th Independence Day celebrations a grand success.

Special Aadhaar Service Camps in NTR District

Drive to run from August 11 to 14 and August 17 to 29
Announcement made by District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha

Vijayawada, August 10:“NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha announced that special Aadhaar service camps will be organized across the district to deliver Aadhaar-related services in an accessible, rapid, and transparent manner.”“The special camps will be conducted in selected Swarna villages, Swarna ward offices, as well as designated government schools and colleges. The drive will take place in two phases: from August 11 to August 14, 2026, and from August 17 to August 29, 2026.

Services available at these camps include:

- New Aadhaar enrolments
- Name corrections and updates
- Address updates
- Date of birth and mobile number updates
- Mandatory biometric updates for children aged 5 to 15 years
- Biometric updates and corrections for individuals aged 15 and above

Collector Dr. Lakshmisha noted that set-



ting up camps in schools and colleges ensures students will not have to travel long distances for Aadhaar services. He urged parents and students to verify their Aadhaar details and utilize these camps for necessary updates. Officials have been directed to arrange proper infrastructure and staff coordination to ensure smooth operations.

Paropakar 2026 in Hyderabad to raise funds for education through art

Hyderabad: Paropakar 2026: Art for Education, curated by Sushma Thota in association with Art Connect, will be held from August 15 to 16 at Spirit Connect, Jubilee Hills, transforming the gallery space into a meeting point of art, philanthropy, and education.”“When you take home a work from Paropakar, you are sending a child to school,” says Sushma Thota. The exhibition features artist-approved prints, serigraphs, etchings, ceramics, and select sculptures by iconic names including MF Husain, SH Raza, Akbar Padamsee, Krishen Khanna, Himmat Shah, Thota Vaikuntam and Seema Kohli. Every artwork is available for acquisition, with 100% of the pro-



ceeds supporting the education of underprivileged children through Nachiketa Tapovan. Beyond supporting the holistic education of children already enrolled at Nachiketa Tapovan, this year's fundraising will contribute to a new facility at their Kodgal campus, including vocational training centres, science laboratories and a library.

AR Rahman's son Ameen escapes with minor injuries in Chennai car accident



Chennai: World-renowned music composer A.R. Rahman's son A.R. Ameen escaped with minor injuries after the luxury car in which he was travelling collided with a cab near Olympia Tech Park in Chennai in the early hours of Monday. According to police, the accident occurred around 3.30 a.m. when Ameen and a friend were travelling towards Guindy along Jawaharlal Nehru Road. As their vehicle approached the Olympia Tech Park area, a cab reportedly entered the main road from a side road, resulting in a collision between the two vehicles. The impact left Ameen and his friend with minor injuries. They were taken to a private hospital, where they underwent medical examination and received treatment. Both were subsequently discharged and returned home. Police said their injuries were not serious. A passenger travelling in the cab was also injured in the accident. The passenger was taken to the Kalaignar Centenary Super Speciality Hospital for treatment. After receiving medical attention, the injured passenger was also discharged. There were no reports of any life-threatening injuries among those involved in the accident. The vehicles, however, are understood to have suffered damage in the collision. Personnel from the Adyar Traffic Investigation Wing (TIW) took up an investigation into the circumstances that led to the accident. Police are examining how the cab entered Jawaharlal Nehru Road and whether either vehicle was travelling at excessive speed at the time of the collision. Investigators are also expected to examine CCTV footage from cameras installed in and around the accident spot to reconstruct the sequence of events. Statements from the drivers and occupants of both vehicles will form part of the investigation. The accident occurred during the early morning hours when traffic along the arterial road was relatively light. Jawaharlal Nehru Road, popularly known as the Inner Ring Road, is one of Chennai's major traffic corridors and connects several important neighbourhoods and commercial areas. Ameen, the son of Oscar-winning composer AR Rahman, is a singer and performer who has worked on several musical projects. He has also performed alongside his father at concerts and other musical events. The Adyar Traffic Investigation Wing is continuing its enquiry to determine the exact cause of the collision and ascertain whether any traffic violations contributed to the accident.

Amarnath Yatra suspended indefinitely as tracks damaged in adverse weather conditions



Srinagar: Due to damaged tracks on both the North Kashmir Baltal route and the South Kashmir Pahalgam route and following adverse weather advisory, the Amarnath Yatra has been suspended indefinitely. Officials said the damage to the two tracks leading from the two base camps will take a long time to rectify, and keeping in view the safety of the Yatris, SANJY-2026 has been suspended and all pilgrims at the base camp and the Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas in Jammu have been asked to return home. "Registration for this year's Yatra has also been closed, and the movement of Yatris towards the Valley will not be allowed this year although the 'Chhari Mubarak' (Lord Shivam's holy Mace) will travel through the traditional Pahalgam route and reach the cave shrine on August 28 when the Yatra will formally conclude", officials said. Since the 57-day-long SANJY-2026 started on July 3, more than 4.80 lakh Yatris have had darshan inside the holy cave shrine situated 3880 metres above sea level in the Kashmir Himalayas. The cave shrine houses an ice stalagmite structure that waxes and wanes with the phases of the moon. Devotees believe that the ice stalagmite structure symbolises the

mythical powers of Lord Shiva. Officials said the Yatri convoys to be allowed now will only be those carrying pilgrims back from the Valley. The Meteorological Department has forecast heavy to very heavy rain in Jammu and Kashmir during the next two days, and given the topography and the altitude of the holy cave shrine, adverse weather would affect the two Yatra tracks and the cave shrine area very adversely in the coming days. Since the area beyond the two base camps had been declared as 'No fly zone', no helicopter services were available to the Yatris this year. Due to the 24/7 vigil maintained by the J&K Police, CAPFs and the Army, this year's Amarnath Yatra has been incident-free, and no hiccup occurred due to enhanced security measures.

Panchayat worker dies in bike collision

Medak: One person died and another sustained serious injuries in a head-on collision between two bikes at Yusufpet on Monday. The deceased, Akula Krishna (33), was working as a panchayat worker at Papannapet mandal headquarters. He was going towards Papannapet from Medak when another man from Muslapur hit him. Krishna, who was rushed to a hospital in Medak, died while undergoing treatment an hour later. The police registered a case.



Jharkhand exam row: ED files ECIR to begin probe into suspected financial transactions

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has entered the investigation into alleged irregularities in the Jharkhand Public Service Commission's (JPSC) 14th Preliminary Examination (PT) and other examinations, registering an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) to examine the financial aspects of the case. The ED has registered the ECIR on the basis of an FIR lodged by the Crime Investigation Department (CID) in connection with the alleged examination irregularities. The development brings the financial transactions and possible money trail linked to the alleged examination scam under the agency's scrutiny. The agency is suspected to be examining whether large-scale financial transactions took place in connection with the alleged irregularities in the examinations. The investigation may cover the financial transactions associated with the case, the sources of funds and the possible movement of money. The ED is expected to ascertain whether money changed hands in connection with the alleged examination irregularities and, if financial transactions are established, identify the individuals who may have been involved and determine the nature of their alleged roles. A five-member team from the ED's Ranchi unit has arrived to investigate the financial aspects of the case. The team comprises one Assistant Director and four inspectors. The officials may question people connected with the case and examine relevant documents and financial records as required during the course of the investigation. The alleged irregularities



ties in the JPSC 14th Preliminary Examination have already led to 19 arrests, according to the information available in the case. The broader investigation into the alleged examination irregularities is being conducted by the Jharkhand CID. The ED's entry comes amid the continuing controversy surrounding the examination process, and demands from students for action against alleged irregularities. Before the development, the state government and students held marathon discussions over three consecutive days in an effort to avert student agitation. According to the government, several demands raised by the students were agreed to during the discussions. However, the talks could not reach a final resolution. Among the key demands raised by the students were an investigation into the alleged examination irregularities, cancellation of examinations suspected of being affected by irregularities, and reforms in the examination system.

PM meets CWG medallists: Lauds Lovlina for objecting to distorted India map; feeds laddus to Mirabai

New Delhi: Boxer Lovlina Borgohain got appreciation for objecting to a distorted Indian flag, weightlifter Mirabai Chanu opened up about the turmoil she endured in the last four years while some others took the opportunity to share jokes during their light-hearted interaction with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at his residence here. The PM heard from the medallists about their experiences building up to the Commonwealth Games and during their stay in Glasgow in the interaction which took place on Sunday and was also attended by Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State for Sports Raksha Khadse and Indian Olympic Association (IOA) President P T Usha. "Kya hua wo restaurant waale se jhagda kar rahi thi? (What happened, you were fighting with that restaurant guy?)" Modi asked Lovlina, who won the 75kg category silver, in the little over 10-minute video of the interaction shared by his office on Monday. The Assam boxer laughed and replied, "We had such a good performance and it was the last day of the Games. It was a happy occasion sir, we were celebrating and I didn't like it when I saw the distorted flag. I politely told them and they have made the changes also." The PM, while applauding her, said it was a thoughtful gesture at a time when she was just out to celebrate her triumph. India won 39 medals in the truncated



Games to finish fourth. The tally included 13 gold medals, seven of them coming in boxing. "To be able to recognise the significance of that map at a time when you were celebrating and the Games were over, I can tell you truthfully, that video was not ordinary. It will be remembered by people for a very long time," he told the Tokyo Olympics bronze-winner. In his one-on-one chat with Mirabai, who won the 48kg category gold in Glasgow with a Games record lift of 190kg, the PM asked about her breakdown on the podium. He also fed her a laddu during the interaction.

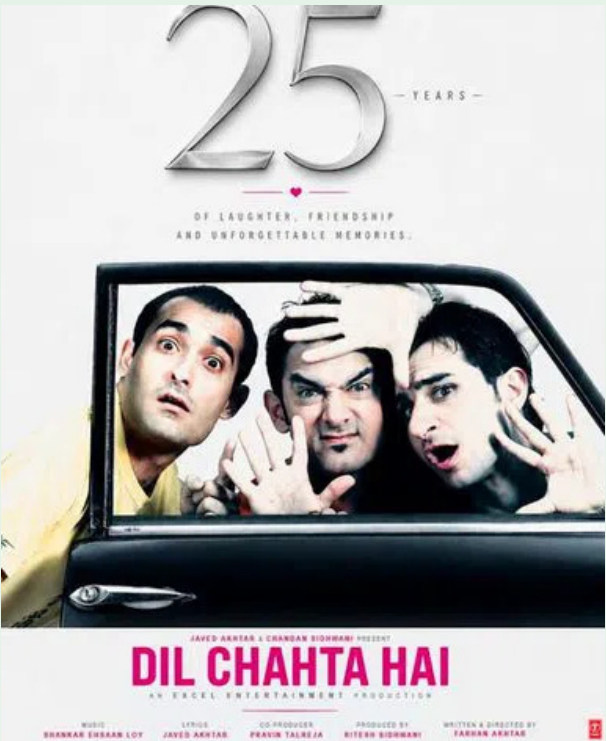
Mirabai said it was a moment of letting go emotions that she had been holding on for the past four years. "Itne aansu tapak rahe the (So many tears were rolling down)," Modi remarked. A clearly overwhelmed but smiling Mirabai responded, "I was very happy and emotional in that moment. I was crying because I missed a medal in Paris Olympics by one kilogram. I had faced a lot in these last four years. I was battling injuries and some family problems too. There were lot of things. So, these four years were very tough for me. And when I stood on the podium, our flag went up and the anthem played, it was hard to stop myself," the diminutive Manipuri said without getting into the specifics of her issues apart from injuries.

Mahesh Babu thanks fans for birthday wishes, says ‘heart is full’

Hyderabad: Overwhelmed with gratitude by the outpouring of love that he received from family members, friends and fans on the occasion of his birthday on Sunday, Telugu superstar Mahesh Babu has now said that his heart was full. Taking to his social media timelines to express gratitude for all the love that he had received on his special day, the actor wrote, “Heart is full reading all your wishes. Truly overwhelmed in ways words can’t express. A big thank you to all my well wishers, friends, colleagues and media for your beautiful wishes and blessings.” Addressing his fans, the actor said, “And to all my fans, thank you will never be enough. You have always been my constant love, strength and emotion. The love you continue to give me is something I feel incredibly blessed and grateful for.” He went on to say, “I promise to keep working hard and make you even prouder. #VARANASI is very close to my heart and I truly believe it’s going to be something special. I can’t wait for you all to experience it. Let’s make this journey together. Much love to each and every one of you. Always.” For the unaware, the makers of director S S Rajamouli’s much awaited magnum opus ‘Varanasi’ unveiled two exclusive stills from the film on the occasion of the actor’s birthday. The still offered the world its first glimpse of Mahesh Babu’s character Rudhra in his element. The first still captured Rudhra at rest on a bamboo raft, surrounded by a dense jungle, effortlessly cool, magnetic and carrying the quiet intensity that defined his character while the second transported fans to the sweeping plains of Kenya’s Maasai Mara, where Rudhra was seen standing with a commanding look, amidst giraffes and wild beasts. ‘Varanasi’, which is Mahesh Babu’s upcoming film with SS Rajamouli, sources say, will be a globe-trotting, century-spanning epic in which one man’s extraordinary journey will be seen taking him from the sacred waters of India to the wildest corners of the earth. Director SS Rajamouli said, “Rudhra was born to fulfill a purpose much larger than himself. He carries a destiny he did not ask for. He is witty, he is vulnerable, and he is fierce. That is what Mahesh brought to him. Anyone can play fierce. Very few can play fierce and fragile in the same breath. These frames are from our Africa schedule, and the land gave us something no set could. Shooting around Kilimanjaro and in the Maasai Mara, I was stunned. There were mornings when I felt even the 1.43:1 IMAX frame could not hold what was in front of us.” Directed by SS Rajamouli, with music by MM Keeravani, ‘Varanasi’ is being produced by Sri Durga Arts and Showing Business and is set to release worldwide on April 7, next year in IMAX.

Farhan Akhtar celebrates 25 years of Dil Chahta Hai: ‘Can’t believe it’s been 25 years’

Mumbai: As his debut film “Dil Chahta Hai” celebrates its silver jubilee, filmmaker-actor and singer Farhan Akhtar said he cannot believe it’s been 25 years and added that the characters Akash, Sameer and Sid don’t look like they’ve aged a day. Farhan shared the film’s poster with a text overlay, which read: “CELEBRATING 25-YEARS- OF LAUGHTER, FRIENDSHIP AND UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES.” He captioned the post: “Can’t believe it’s been 25 years.. Akash, Sameer and Sid don’t look like they’ve aged a day!!!! Heart filled with gratitude to you, the audience, for keeping it alive and still relevant. Big hug.” “Dil Chahta Hai” stars Aamir Khan, Saif Ali Khan, and Akshaye Khanna along with Preity Zinta, Sonali Kulkarni, and Dimple Kapadia. The coming-of-age comedy drama follows three inseparable college friends navigating adulthood, relationships, and diverging life paths. Set in contemporary urban India, the film explores themes of friendship, love, and self-discovery among upper-class youth. Akhtar wrote the film based on personal diaries detailing his experiences travelling to different cities, with inputs on the story from creative associate Kassim Jaggam. It has since achieved cult status and is regarded as a landmark in Hindi cinema for redefining youth narratives and contemporary storytelling. Talking about Farhan, after he made his directorial debut with ‘Dil Chahta



Hai’ in 2001, he followed it up with acclaimed directorial ventures such as ‘Lakshya’ and ‘Don’. As an actor, Farhan made his debut with ‘Rock On!!’ in 2008, and then went on to star in successful films including ‘Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara’, ‘Bhaag Milkha Bhaag’, ‘Dil Dhadakne Do’, ‘Wazir’, ‘Luck By Chance’, ‘The Sky Is Pink’ and ‘Toofaan’. In July, Farhan celebrated five years of his sports drama Toofaan and wrote: “5 years since the storm took over. Celebrating #5YearsOfToofaan.” The film stars Farhan Akhtar in the lead role as Aziz Ali, alongside Mrunal Thakur, Paresh Rawal, Supriya Pathak, Hussain Dalal and Vijay Raaz in pivotal roles.

Tollywood stars shower birthday wishes on Mahesh Babu



Mumbai: As Tollywood star Mahesh Babu celebrated his birthday on Sunday, wishes have been pouring in for him from all sides. Several prominent names from the film fraternity penned lovely wishes for the ‘Sarkaru Vaari Paata’ actor on social media. Megastar Chiranjeevi took to his X (Earlier known as Twitter) timeline, and wrote, “Wishing my dear SSMB @UrstrulyMahesh a very blessed birthday Over the years, I’ve had the joy of watching you grow into one of Indian cinema’s most loved and celebrated stars. May god bless you always” Jr NTR penned on the micro-blogging site, “Happy Birthday @urstrulymahesh anna. Wishing you nothing but the very best always.” Venkatesh Daggubati’s birthday wish for Mahesh Babu went, “Happy Birthday to my Chinnodu @urstruly Mahesh Wishing you endless love and laughter always. Rudhra looking rugged and handsome Can’t wait to see you take over the globe with Varanasi next year!” Varun Tej added, “Many many happy returns of the day @urstruly

Mahesh garu! Wishing you an amazing year ahead filled with happiness, success and great health!” Actress Wamiqa Gabbi also shared, “Happy Birthday Superstar Mahesh Babu @urstrulyMahesh”. Filmmaker Anil Ravipudi compiled a sweet birthday wish for the ‘Maharshi’ actor that went, “Wishing my dear Superstar @UrstrulyMahesh garu a very Happy Birthday From the day we first met to this day, you’ve always been more than a brother to me. Wishing you nothing but the very best, always, sir. Super excited to see you conquer the globe with #VARANASI #HBD Superstar Mahesh”. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu wrote, “Warm birthday greetings to Superstar Mahesh Babu. I wish him good health, happiness, and continued success in all his endeavours. May he have a wonderful year ahead. @urstrulyMahesh” In addition to wishes from the industry, Mahesh Babu also received a lot of love from his family, including wife Namrata Shirodkar, daughter Sitara, and son Gautam.

Pop icon Britney Spears reveals botox gone wrong on Instagram



Los Angeles: Pop icon Britney Spears is recovering from a botched up botox procedure. The singer-songwriter recently took to her Instagram, and shared a video of herself in which she explained the effect of a botox procedure gone wrong. She said in the video, “It’s really bad because he (the doctor) put so much Botox in the left eye that it drooped down like that and it’s just now starting to rise up and be normal again. It’s so embarrassing, it’s like that. Like, it’s... Girls, you have to be careful. If you do Botox with these people and these doctors, they can really fuck your eyes up”. She further mentioned, “My eye was like down like this for like four weeks. It’s just now like starting to rise again. Be careful with these people and they try to change like your face and you try to like fuck things up. Be careful with your bodies because it’s yours and you own

it. So, that’s it (sic)”. Earlier, the singer-songwriter took to her Instagram, and shared a video in which she spoke about toying around with a melting machine. During the process, she revealed that she triggered a minor explosion but was safe as she was wearing safety gear. She wrote in the caption, “Ok, I’ll be honest, the melting machine blew up and there was a minor explosion when I tried to melt the glass. So the instructor said, ‘You need to actually come to our real practice, where we do this in our offices’. But to watch glass melt was really different and so beautiful until sparks started going everywhere and it exploded”. “We had headgear on, so we were safe. I kept it for two months, even though it had a huge hole in it, but someone threw it away. I’m honestly embarrassed to show this, but I think creative people are always a bit weird”, she added.

Andhra Kabaddi Association conducts technical officials training course

Hyderabad: The Andhra Kabaddi Association (AKA) organized the Technical Officials Training Course and Examination 2026 at Avanigadda with the approval of the Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India (AKFI), the apex governing body for Kabaddi in the country, recognized by the Indian Olympic Association and the Government of India. For conducting the programme, Mr. K. Jagadeshwar Yadav of Hyderabad, former General Secretary and Director, Technical Committee, AKFI, and Chairman of the recently constituted Rules and Regulations Framing Committee of AKFI, along with Sri V. Srinu of Telangana State, were nominated by AKFI as Trainers. More than 90 technical officials from various districts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana enrolled and participated in the training programme. The training sessions covered the latest rules, regulations and technical aspects of Kabaddi, with the objective of enhancing the knowledge, competence and officiating standards of Technical Officials. The training programme was formally inaugurated in the presence of the AKFI-nominated Trainers Messrs. K. Jagadeshwar Yadav, V. Srinu. The inaugural session was attended by Mr. Srikanth Yalamanchili, General Secretary, Mr. N. Arjuna Rao, Working President, and Mr. K. V. Nancharaiah, Senior Joint



Secretary, Andhra Kabaddi Association, along with the participants and members of the Association.

The Andhra Kabaddi Association Executive Committee Members and all the participants felicitated Jagadeshwar Yadav and V. Srinu in recognition of their valuable services and contribution towards the training and development of Technical Officials. Mr. B. Murali Kumar, Chairman, Referee Board, and Mr. P. Ravindra Babu, Convener, Referee Board, Andhra Kabaddi Association, coordinated the inaugural and closing ceremonies and extended their support for the successful conduct of the programme. The results of the examination will be declared by the Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India (AKFI) at a later date. The Andhra Kabaddi Association expressed its gratitude to AKFI, the Trainers, participating Technical Officials, District Associations and all those who extended their cooperation for the successful completion of the programme.

Jannik Sinner withdraws from Cincinnati Open with knee injury



New Delhi: World No. 1 Jannik Sinner has withdrawn from the Cincinnati Open with a right knee injury, tournament organisers confirmed on Sunday, dealing another setback to the Italian's preparations for this month's US Open. The 24-year-old player has already withdrawn from the Canadian Open, another important hard-court tournament coming up before the final Grand Slam of the year. Having won his fifth Grand Slam title at Wimbledon last month, he had hoped that his tour in North America would give him a boost ahead of his defence of his US Open title. "After consulting with my doctors and my team, I have to announce that I need to withdraw from the Masters 1000 tournament in Cincinnati," Sinner said in a statement.

"My right knee has been bothering me and even though we have been working hard with my medical team, I have to accept that I'm not ready to compete yet." Sinner conveyed how disappointed he was to have missed yet another

major tournament, but added that his current focus was on recovering so as to be ready for the US Open. "I'm very disappointed not to be able to play in Cincinnati... I can't wait to be back next year and I'm now focusing on getting ready for the U.S. Open." The withdrawal also serves to weaken a tennis team in Cincinnati which was already depleted, since US Open champion Carlos Alcaraz has been ruled out following a wrist injury. The fact that Sinner is absent means that the world No. 1 will have had only limited opportunities to prepare for competition on hard courts before the US Open, which takes place later this month. Moreover, his choice underlines the need to exercise caution as he deals with the knee problem after the demanding first part of the season. The main draw of the Cincinnati Open starts on August 13, whereas the main draw of the US Open begins on August 30. Sinner will now have just over two weeks in which to recover and get back to full fitness before the year's final Grand Slam.

Sarfaraz Khan returns to India Test squad as Sai Sudharsan ruled out



New Delhi: Sarfaraz Khan marked his return to the Indian Test squad by sharing a picture of himself in the team's training kit alongside his father and former club cricketer and coach Naushad Khan on Instagram, after being recalled as a replacement for injured Sai Sudharsan for the upcoming two-Test series against Sri Lanka. The last time Sarfaraz was selected for India's squad was at the 2024/25 Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Australia, a series which India lost 4-1. He has been left out of the Test team since then, even though he has a very good first-class record. As a right-handed batsman, he has scored heavily in domestic cricket, with an average of 64.73 from 62 first-class matches, but has played only six Tests for India. His most recent match in the format was in November 2024. The fact that he was left out of the India A team for the series against South Africa A caused a stir, especially since the senior side then lost the two-match Test series 2-0. Sarfaraz is returning following Sai Sudharsan's exclusion from the Sri Lanka series due to a stress reaction in his right toe. The BCCI stated on Sunday that the left-handed batsman had made some progress with his recovery but would still not be fit for the two-Test series. The BCCI stated that Sai Sudharsan will not be taking

part in the Test series against Sri Lanka. The left-handed batter, who has been at the BCCI Centre of Excellence (COE) in Bengaluru, has made considerable progress in his recovery from the right toe stress reaction and is recovering nicely. The BCCI Medical Team are keeping a close eye on his progress. "Sai Sudharsan has been ruled out of the Test series against Sri Lanka.

The left-handed batter, who has been at the BCCI Centre of Excellence (COE) in Bengaluru, has made significant progress in his recovery from the right toe stress reaction and is recovering well. The BCCI Medical Team is closely monitoring his progress," the BCCI said in a statement. "The Men's Selection Committee has named Sarfaraz Khan as a replacement for Sai Sudharsan for the two-match Test series against Sri Lanka. He will link up with the Indian squad in Colombo before the team travels to Galle for the first Test match, starting August 15, 2026," it added. Sarfaraz might still have to wait until his turn to play in the playing eleven, since Devdutt Padikkal had a good performance in India's warm-up game, which took place on Sunday, and that performance could affect the team managers' choice regarding the batting order for the first Test.

Ram Charan Teja Akula, Shanvi Reddy win Telangana U-13 badminton singles titles



Hyderabad: Ram Charan Teja Akula and Shanvi Reddy Nimma won the boys' and girls' singles titles, respectively, in the 12th Telangana State Sub-Junior (Under-13) Badminton Championship at A Zone Elite Badminton Academy, Serilingampally, here on Sunday. In the boys' final, Ram Charan defeated Deepak Naidu 4-3, with the latter retiring after sustaining an injury. Shanvi recorded a 15-7, 15-11 win over Saina Sharma to clinch the girls' singles title.

The results:
Boys:
Singles: Final: Ram Charan Teja Akula (MM) bt Deepak Naidu Gunishetty 4-3 (ret'd).

3rd place: Mokshagna Surpur (Hyd) bt Rachit Reddy Pendyala (RR) 15-9, 15-6.
Doubles: Mokshagna & Venkat Yerneni (Hyd) bt Avyay Bhimavarapu & Reyansh Banala (Vkb) 10-15, 15-13.
3rd: R. Abhijith & A. Abhineeth.
Girls:
Singles: Shanvi Reddy Nimma (RR) bt Saina Sharma (MM) 15-7, 15-11.
3rd place: M. Sai Komerally (SR) bt Vedhitha Reddy Katukuri (Wgl) 10-15, 15-12, 15-13.
Doubles: M. Sai Komerally & Vedhitha Reddy bt G. Anvireddy & Saina Sharma (MM) 15-13, 16-14.
3rd place: Kaviya Vandakaru & Manvitha Penneru (Vkb).

Sensex, Nifty trade flat in early deals on mixed cues



Mumbai: Domestic equity markets traded subdued on Monday amid resilient domestic demand and continued foreign investor buying, while crude oil prices surged up to 1 per cent offering mixed cues for investors. Sensex climbed 177.81 points or 0.22 per cent to hit an intraday high of 78,676 in early trade. Similarly, Nifty advanced around 50 points or 0.2 per cent to 24,620. Among sectoral indices, Nifty Pharma gained 0.72 per cent, followed by Nifty MidSmall Healthcare at 0.63 per cent and Nifty500 Healthcare at 0.63 per cent. Meanwhile, Nifty MidSmall IT & Telecom rose 0.58 per cent, while Nifty IT gained 0.53 per cent, while private banking, auto, consumer durables and realty shares also traded higher. On the other hand, Nifty Oil & Gas was the biggest laggard and declined by 0.27 per cent, followed by PSU Bank, down 0.21 per cent.

Market experts said the undertone remained mildly bullish, citing better-than-expected first-quarter earnings and resilient domestic demand.

Israel rejects Trump’s Gaza deal, insists on disarmament of Hamas

Sanaa: Israel on Sunday rejected a deal announced by US President Donald Trump for Gaza. Details emerged on the potential deal between Iran and Oman on managing the Strait of Hormuz as Tehran suggested that vessels linked to “hostile countries” would be barred from the key waterway. Meanwhile, Yemen’s Iranian-backed Houthi rebels struck a government-held port on the country’s Red Sea coast, deepening fears over threats to strategic shipping routes and a potential return to civil war. They also said they attacked an oil facility in neighbouring Saudi Arabia. Here’s a look at developments across the Middle East. Full coverage can be found here.

Netanyahu insists on no Gaza withdrawal until Hamas disarms

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dismissed the deal on Gaza announced by Trump last month, saying Israel’s military “will not carry out any withdrawal until Hamas is genuinely disarmed.” Netanyahu told a Cabinet meeting that “Israel rejects the 15-point document” but is still discussing plans for Gaza with Washington, after making similar comments last week. Trump had said Israeli forces would withdraw as the Hamas militant group’s disarmament is completed. Israeli forces control over half the Palestinian enclave of about 2 million people, which has been largely destroyed. “We remain committed to the road map,” said a member of the Hamas political bureau, Bassem Naim, adding that the group expects mediators and the US to pressure Netanyahu, who also faces domestic tensions as he struggles to hold onto power ahead of the next elections scheduled for Oct. 27. The Hamas-led attack on Israel on Oct.

7, 2023, sparked the war in Gaza. A fragile ceasefire continues. **Houthis target Aramco refinery and Red Sea port** The Yemeni government-allied National Resistance Forces said at least seven people — four troops and three civilians — were killed and 15 civilians were injured in the Houthi attack on the port of Mokha. Fayed al-Noman, the information ministry’s assistant undersecretary, said the rebels fired missiles and drones, severely damaging port buildings and piers as well as commercial goods and food supplies. The military later said missiles landed in several areas, including near a television channel. Mokha is a main port under Yemen’s internationally recognised government and has been renovated to handle shipping that avoids the Houthi-held port of Hodeida. The Houthis claimed the attack, saying they targeted military forces and warehouses. Yahya Saree, a Houthi military spokesperson, said they also targeted an Aramco refinery in the Saudi city of Jazan with a drone in response to Saudi drones’ breaching Yemen’s airspace over Hajjah and Saada provinces. The Saudi Energy Ministry reported a fire at a facility belonging to the Aramco refinery, with no casualties. The ministry did not say the cause. The attacks threaten to reignite Yemen’s civil war after a 2022 truce.



Titan sees continued growth momentum in July, MD Ajoy Chawla says

New Delhi: The growth momentum witnessed in the first quarter of the current fiscal has continued in July, Titan Managing Director Ajoy Chawla said, adding that the company is on course to deliver the improvement targets after a strong start to this fiscal year. “The growth we have seen in the first quarter, and we are also seeing that July is not bad. I am seeing a certain positivity so far in the last four months,” Chawla said, addressing analysts after the company’s June quarter earnings. While acknowledging that near-term performance would depend on external factors, he said Titan remains on track to achieve the growth trajectory outlined earlier and could even do better this year. “We think we are on trajectory for delivering the kind of growth that we had promised on the Investor Day, and we hope that we can, in fact, better it in the current year because we have started very well,” he said. On the jewellery business, which contributes around 90 per cent of Titan’s topline, Chawla reiterated his commitment to delivering healthy double-digit value growth in the segment, saying it is essential to achieving Titan’s FY30 goals. “We are committed to healthy double-digit growth in value in the jewellery business because that is the only way we will get to our committed FY30 goals that we have said. In a particular quarter or in two quarters, it may be looking like a power play where we have hit the ball out of the park. It is not just us. The market also has done very well,” he said. He, however, cautioned against reading too much into short-term performance swings, whether positive or negative.

Earlier this year, Titan Company set a strategic roadmap to double its consolidated revenue and operating profit (EBIT) by FY30 compared to FY26 base levels. The Titan management also pointed to a resurgence in studded jewellery demand, which he said began in the fourth quarter of the previous fiscal and has continued into the first quarter of the current year. “We began seeing a resurgence of studded in the fourth quarter of last year, and we are seeing that continue to play out in quarter one,” he said, adding that buyer growth in the studded segment has been rising since Q4 of last year – a trend he described as the “heartening part of the story”. On the international business, they said the rest of the portfolio, barring UAE-based jewellery brand Damas, continues to post a mid-single-digit EBIT margin of 5-6 per cent, which he expects to sustain. Damas’ contribution to the international business will remain limited, with its performance contingent on the current situation it faces,



he pointed out. On buyer growth trends during the quarter, Titan said April and June saw healthy footfalls, while sentiment was somewhat subdued in May. He attributed the fluctuation largely to gold price movements. “If gold rates stay stable, we always see that sentiments are positive and people come back and they don’t sit on the fence,” he said, adding that volatile or consistently falling gold prices tend to prompt buyers without an urgent need to defer purchases, whereas stable or marginally rising prices support demand. Moreover, as gold prices remain high, Titan is using lightweight jewellery and exchange schemes to provide affordable purchase options. “Accessibility comes from keeping it lightweight, looking at a variety of caratages, looking at an exchange programme that is strong to get them to recycle. All these are different levers that we are using to keep jewellery accessible to a wide set of consumers across the different town classes that we are present in,” the company said. The Titan MD said the headroom for growth remains high across all the company’s business segments – jewellery, eyecare, watches, fragrances, bags and sarees – driven by tailwinds of formalisation, the broader India growth story, rising participation from “middle India”, and premiumisation trends. Terming the June quarter as “another fantastic quarter”, Chawla said this quarter has been even better than the previous quarters. “We have seen all-round growth across all our businesses, all our brands, subsidiaries, and we have also seen a good volume growth and a buyer growth that has come in,” he said. Titan Company Ltd on Friday reported a 40.3 per cent growth in revenue for the June quarter of FY27 to Rs 20,787 crore, driven by strong performance in the jewellery business. Its profit also increased 62.87 per cent to Rs 1,777 crore in Q1 FY27. This is the third successive quarter in which the Tata Group-managed firm has reported over 40 per cent revenue growth.

Rupee falls 11 paise to 95.28 against US dollar

Mumbai: The rupee declined by 11 paise to settle at 95.28 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday amid a firm greenback and a rise in global crude oil prices. Lack of any breakthrough in talks in West Asia put further pressure on the local unit, while FII inflows provided some support, forex traders said. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 95.18 and traded in a narrow range of 95.18-95.31 during the day. The local unit settled at 95.28 (provisional), down 11 paise from its previous close of 95.17 on Friday. “Rupee marginally dipped from last Friday’s closing of 95.17. The slight weakness was due to the rise in Brent crude above USD 84 and the consequent expected impact on trade deficit. However, the FPI inflows, which have turned positive in July and are increasing in August, too, though in small quantities, are providing support to the rupee,” V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments Ltd, said. “The rupee



declined on Monday on uncertainty over a deal between the US and Iran and an overnight surge in crude oil prices. US dollar strengthened from lower levels. However, positive domestic markets cushioned the downside,” Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst, Mirae Asset ShareKhan, said. “Traders may remain cautious ahead of the US inflation data this week. USDINR spot price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 95-95.60,” he said. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback’s strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 99.66, up 0.13 per cent.

Door-to-Door Campaign on Two Years of Government Governance



Gudur (Deep Pulse), August 10:“Following the directives of Gudur MLA and State General Secretary Pasam Sunil Kumar, and as per the suggestions of TDP leader, prominent industrialist, and former Penchalakona Trust Board Chairman Tanamki Nanaji, a door-to-door campaign was conducted in Tonuku Mala Panchayat, Chillakur Mandal. The campaign was held under the leadership of Chillakur Mandal Party President Duvvuru Rajasekhar Reddy.”“During the drive, Telugu Desam Party (TDP) leaders visited households to highlight the development programs and welfare schemes implemented during the government's two-year tenure. They in-

teracted with residents, listened to their grievances, and assured them that steps would be taken to resolve their issues promptly.”“The event was attended by Mandal BC Cell President Mekala Kumar, Unit 27 In-charge Aripineti Vijayabhaskar, former Tonuku Mala Sarpanch Bommila Trivikram, Village Party President Gangipaka Venkatayya, Vice President Kavali Venkataramana, General Secretary Ragi Chandrayya, Booth Convener Govind Suresh, Booth Co-convener Madhu, Vinay Mogiligunta, Mastanayya, Vasu, G. Parendar, and local youth from Tonuku Mala, making the program a success.

YSR Congress Party Holds Massive Rally Against Alleged DSC Irregularities

Demand for CBI Inquiry into DSC Recruitment Resignation of Education Minister Nara Lokesh Demanded



Uravakonda (Deep Pulse), August 10:“Under the leadership of Constituency Coordinator and former MLA Y. Visweswara Reddy, along with Youth Leader and State Student Wing Working President Y. Pranay Reddy, the YSR Congress Party organized a massive peaceful rally in Uravakonda.”“The demonstration was staged to demand a CBI inquiry into alleged irregularities and fraud in the DSC recruitment process, as well

as the immediate resignation of Education Minister Nara Lokesh, holding him accountable for the matter.”“The rally commenced at the Uravakonda Panchayat Office and proceeded up to the Tehsildar Office. District leader Veeranna, along with party leaders, youth, students, women, and large numbers of party workers, actively participated in the procession to express their protest against the DSC irregularities.

Sri Chowdeshwari Devi Birth Anniversary Celebrations on August 12

Pebbair (Deep Pulse), August 10:“Members of the Togata Veera Kshatriya Seva Sangham announced that the birth anniversary celebrations of Goddess Sri Chowdeshwari Devi, enshrined near PJP Camp in the Pebbair municipal center, will be grandly celebrated on August 12.”“Speaking on the occasion, the committee members stated that special ritualistic programs—including Abhishekam, Alankarana, Kumkumarchana, Bonam decoration, and Pallaki Seva—will be performed at the temple premises.”“A grand procession carrying the idol of Goddess Chowdeshwari Devi will be taken out from the Anjaneya Swamy Temple to the main shrine, accompanied by devotional bhajan troupes and tradi-



tional band music.”“Additionally, the family members of Keshavapuru Chinnaramulu are organizing a mass free food distribution (Annadanam) for devotees in memory of their parents. The organizers urged devotees to attend the celebrations in large numbers and make the event a grand success.

Grand Commencement of Teej Festival Celebrations in 31st Ward, Banjara Hills



Banjara Hills (Deep Pulse), August 10:“Organizers highlighted that the Teej festival is one of the most significant celebrations reflecting the rich culture, traditions, and customs of the Gor Banjara and Lambadi communities. The Teej festival celebrations commenced on a grand note in the 31st Ward of Banjara Hills. The festival, synonymous with wheat and wheat sprouts, holds immense significance in Banjara tradition and is celebrated with great devotion and pomp for nine days during the auspicious month of Shravana every year. Beyond its spiritual significance, Teej plays a pivotal role in preserving age-old Gor Banjara-Lambadi cultural heritage and passing it down to future generations. One of the main objectives of the festival is to ensure that today's youth understand ancestral customs and continue to honor them in the future. Devotees also pray during Shravana for abundant rainfall, lush greenery, good crop yields, and the health, happiness, and prosper-

ity of all people.”“A key tradition of the Teej festival involves soaking wheat and chickpeas and sowing them in small baskets to sprout. Treating these sprouts as sacred, women and young girls lead the devotional rituals over nine days. Marking the beginning of the festival in the 31st Ward, Banjara Hills, organizers traditionally sowed the soaked wheat and chickpeas in the first basket, officially launching the nine-day celebrations. Organizers noted that Teej stands as a symbol of unity, devotion, respect for nature, and commitment to ancestral heritage within the Banjara community.”“The event was attended by 31st Ward Councilor Sumayya Tabassum Shafeeq Ahmed, former Councilor Banoth Venkat Narsimha Nayak, Ghugloth Venkanna, Banoth Santhosh, Nunavath Mahendar, Banoth Jyothi, Banoth Lalitha, Banoth Saroja, Banoth Anusha, Ghugloth Radha, Banoth Lakshmi, Ghugloth Dindal, Banoth Chatru, Banoth Somayya, Banoth Bheema, and others.

Beneficiaries Demand Provision of Circle Road Facility



Pebbair (Deep Pulse), August 10:“Beneficiaries of the Double Bedroom Housing Scheme expressed deep concern over frequent road accidents occurring due to the lack of a circle road facility.”“After submitting a representation to Pebbair Sub-Inspector (SI) Venkatesh Goud on Monday, the beneficiaries stated that commuters are forced to travel in the wrong direction due to a lack of proper connectivity to

the main roads in town. They expressed distress over daily minor accidents and occasional fatalities resulting from this issue.”“They urged the authorities to respond immediately and establish a circle road facility to prevent further accidents and protect public safety.”“The program was attended by Sambasiva, Pratap, Shyam, Nagesh, Sai, Venkatayya, Kranthi, Devamma, Yellamma, and others.

TDP Leaders Bring Village Electricity Issues to the Notice of Mandal Electricity Officer (AE)

Gudur (Deep Pulse), August 10:“Following the directives of Gudur MLA and State General Secretary Pasam Sunil Kumar, alongside former Penchalakona Trust Board Chairman Tanamki Nanaji, and as suggested by Chillakur Mandal Party President Duvvuru Rajasekhar Reddy, Telugu Desam Party (TDP) leaders and activists from Tonuku Mala, Udata Vari Parlapalli, and Yogeshwarunipalli villages met with the Mandal Assistant Engineer (AE) of the Electricity Department.”“During the meeting, the delegation submitted a representation detailing the pressing power supply and electricity issues faced by the residents of the Tonuku Mala Gram Panchayat.”“Responding to the repre-



sentation, the AE assured the leaders that immediate steps would be taken to resolve the electricity issues at the earliest possible.