

CM Naidu dedicates Veligonda to nation

Dornala (Markapur District): Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated the first phase of the Pula Subbaiah Veligonda Project at Gantavanipalli in Markapur district on Monday. The project aims to transform drought-prone areas of Markapuram, Prakasam, Nellore and Kadapa districts, which face inadequate rainfall, depleted groundwater, fluoride contamination and irrigation water shortages. Krishna river waters will be diverted from the Srisailem reservoir through gravity, stored in Nallamala Sagar and supplied through main canals for irrigation and drinking-water requirements. Naidu released water from the twin tunnels into the feeder canal to supply about 10.70 tmc of water to the Nallamala Sagar reservoir. He also took part in the Jalaharathi ceremony and unveiled the plaque dedicating the project to the nation. Addressing the public at the inaugural venue, Naidu recalled that he laid the foundation stone for the project in March 1996 and expressed his pride at inaugurating its first

phase 30 years later. He told the gathering “Veligonda is a symbol of hope for farmers and marks the end of fluoride-related hardships in the region.” The project draws water through gravity from the Srisailem foreshore Kollam Vagu, which can store 53.80 tmc of water. The state completed the 18.8 km twin tunnels and the 21.8 km feeder canal to bring the first phase to completion. The first phase will supply drinking water to four lakh people and irrigate 19,000 acres. Once the entire project is complete, it will serve 30 mandals across Prakasam, Nellore, and Kadapa districts, irrigating 4.47 lakh acres and providing drinking water to 23 lakh people. The Chief Minister paid tribute to the people of 11 villages who gave up their homes and lands for the project. He said that the government had credited Rs 768 crore to the bank accounts of 6,206 displaced families. He announced an additional fund of Rs 169 crore and extended the cut-off date to give Rs 2 lakh as compensation to the eligible families that were left out

in the previous surveys. Also Read TDP ends suspense, names Madhusudan Naidu Punganur in-charge Discover more Telangana News Coverage Shopping For Authentic South Asian Apparel Lifestyle News Portal Chandrababu Naidu alleged that the previous

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government had delayed the project from 2019, completed only 2.77 per cent of the work, and held a false inauguration before the elections without finishing the work. See 2nd page

APSRTC To Launch 350 E-Buses In October In First Phase

VIJAYAWADA: The Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) will launch 350 e-buses out of the sanctioned 750 in October, with the remaining buses expected to be introduced by the end of the year. APSRTC chairman Konakalla Narayana Rao said Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu wanted e-buses introduced in the state as part of the modernisation of public transport and to reduce environmental pollution. He said the state government was considering replacing every diesel bus with an e-bus in a phased manner to provide better transport facilities.

The chairman said 750 e-buses had been allotted to Andhra Pradesh under the PM e-Bus scheme. He added that Naidu had requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to allot another 300 e-buses to the state. He said work on installing electrical substations and charging stations for the e-buses was in progress and expressed confidence that 350 e-buses would be launched in the first phase by October. Referring to the Stree Sakthi Scheme, Narayana Rao said it had benefited



women by providing free travel. He said the state government had so far borne a financial burden of `3,000 crore under the scheme, while giving priority to women's comfort and empowerment. Several persons with disabilities were also availing of free bus travel, he added.

Tribal Leaders Seek Continuation of Marikavalasa Gurukul

Visakhapatnam: The agitation over Marikavalasa Gurukul School intensified on Monday, with tribal leaders, political representatives, students and parents staging a dharna demanding continuation of the school and withdrawal of GO-69. Despite the rain, protesters continued their agitation at the English-medium school for boys from tribal Gurukuls. MLC Kumbha Ravi Babu, former minister Pasupuleti Balaraju, ZP chairperson J. Subhadra, former MLA Bhagyalakshmi and former CPI(M) floor leader Ganga Rao criticised the government's decision to merge two Gurukuls and establish a single Centre of Excellence (COE). They also objected to the transfer of students at night without parental consent and demanded that the displaced students be brought back. The leaders demanded that cases under the SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act be registered against officials responsible and warned of a larger agitation involving political parties, student unions and tribal associations. RDO Sangeetha Madhur, ACP Venkata Rao and Appalaraju approached



the protesters and urged them to hold discussions, assuring them that the students' concerns would be addressed. However, protesters continued to raise slogans against the government and the education minister. Dues by September-End YSRC leaders Subrahma nyam and Tadabhaniki Suresh Kumar, former GCC chairperson Shobha Swathi Rani, SFI leaders and tribal representatives participated in the protest. Police detained AP Girijana Sangham leader Appala Narsa and CITU leader Rajkumar when they attempted to join the protest. Meanwhile, tribal welfare secretary MM Nayak defended the government's decision, saying a COE had been established in Visakhapatnam to provide better education to tribal students.

HC Directs AP to Clear Industrial Incentive Dues by September-End



Vijayawada: The Andhra Pradesh High Court has directed the state government to clear by the end of September the arrears of industrial incentives assured to industrialists for setting up spinning mills. A two-judge bench comprising Chief Justice Lisa Gill and Justice Challa

Gunaranjan was hearing appeals filed by the state government challenging an earlier High Court order issued in December 2024. The order had directed the government to clear the incentive arrears along with interest within four months. The court observed that it would not be fair to evade payment of incentives promised to industrialists for setting up spinning mills on the ground of the state's precarious financial position. Advocate-General Dammalapati Srinivas, appearing for the state government, submitted that the government owed incentive arrears to the industrialists and that payments had been delayed due to its poor financial condition. He informed the court that the dues would be paid soon. After hearing both sides, the court adjourned the matter for further hearing in October.

AP State Police Sports and Games Meet to Begin Today

Vijayawada: The Andhra Pradesh state police sports and games meet will be held from September 1 to 4 at the APSP 6th Battalion grounds in Mangalagiri, Guntur district, with 1,900 players from police ranges and units across the state participating. Director-General of Police Harish Kumar Gupta will inaugurate the state-

level meet at 4 pm on Tuesday. The events will be held at VIT-AP University and Acharya Nagarjuna University. The meet aims to identify sporting talent among police personnel and promote sportsmanship and team spirit. Personnel who put up outstanding performances will be selected for the national-level sports meet.



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A turning point in social media history

Safeguarding children from the potential harms of the social media platforms is one of the biggest challenges for parents and nations alike. Driven by algorithms, the addictive content keeps teenagers glued to their gadgets in an endless consumption loop. Those fighting for the cause of child safety and strict social media regulation now have something to celebrate. A landmark settlement has been reached in the United States under which the social media giant Meta will pay \$18 billion to end a lawsuit over claims that its platforms have caused immense harm to children with addictive content. This is a big victory for those demanding accountability from social media companies for the harmful effects that their algorithm-based content is causing to the teenagers. The settlement may well be a major turning point for the internet industry and could bring fundamental changes to the way young people experience social media in future. The trial stemmed from a lawsuit filed in 2023 by 29 US states, including California and New York, in which they claim numerous violations of federal and state privacy laws for children. Not only did the states seek billions of dollars from Meta, they demanded it make changes to Instagram and Facebook, including ending “like” counts and infinite scroll. The case is widely seen as the largest consumer protection lawsuit in American history”. Apart from paying the penalties, Meta has agreed to limit how long teenagers can spend on its platforms and to bans on features that stoke mental health issues, striking at the heart of the company’s business of engagement for advertising. The settlement marks a belated recognition that harm can be embedded not merely in how social media is used, but in how it is designed. Infinite scrolling, personalised recommendations, notifications, likes and other engagement tools are designed to capture attention and keep users returning. The question, therefore, is not simply whether children spend too much time online, but whether platforms are permitted to engineer compulsive engagement in the first place. Meta’s proposed safeguards — including daily limits, overnight restrictions and changes to features that encourage constant engagement — are a step forward. But the settlement leaves the company’s advertising-driven business model largely intact. India can draw lessons from the settlement. While blanket ban is no solution, there is a need for a digital regulation that will make social media platforms accountable for foreseeable harms arising from product design. Behavioural advertising aimed at minors should face strict restrictions. There is much more to be done in the fight to make technology platforms safe. Modifying recommendation algorithms to focus more on users’ long-term interests than their short-term behavior remains a central challenge.

CM Naidu dedicates Veligonda to nation

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ishing the tunnel works or paying compensation. He mentioned that the total project cost was over Rs 10,200 crore and that his government had spent Rs 5,662 crore to bring the project to this stage. The project is expected to strengthen irrigation, encourage crop diversification, horticulture and agro-processing, generate rural employment, reduce groundwater dependence and help curb migration. The Chief Minister said that the government was committed to the development of the Markapur District and offered to support the local farmers. He urged the public to focus on water conservation and to ensure that every drop of rainwater goes into the ground, making every village a water source. Calling the Veligonda Project a "Bhagiratha effort", he said tunnels were carved through the hills to bring Krishna waters to drought-hit land. He said the Krishna River, originating from the abode of Mallanna at Srisaillam, was offering a water tribute to the land where Chennakesava resides in Markapuram. The Chief Minister advocated for interlinking the rivers of south India, connecting the Godavari, Krishna, Penna, and Cauvery rivers, which he observed will resolve water disputes across Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu. He asserted that he was working not for the next election but for the next generation. He stated that his goal was to build a happy and healthy society and to make Andhra Pradesh a true ‘Swarnandhra Pradesh’. Naidu concluded by sharing that by 2047, India will be the top nation in the world and Andhra Pradesh will be the top state in India. He credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan for their support in advancing major projects like Veligonda under the double-engine government. Ministers Nimmala Rama Naidu, Anagani Satyaprasad, Kandula Durgesh, Anam Ramanarayana Reddy, Gottipati Ravi Kumar, P Narayana, Kolusu Parthasarathi, Dr DSBV Swamy, Sandhya Rani, MP Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy, MLAs, MLCs, chairpersons of corporations and other public representatives also participated in the programme.

Conduct elections to PACs without delay: BRS leader Manikyam



Sangareddy: While the government was preparing to appoint nominated committees for 908 Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies (PACS) in Telangana, several farmers, who are members of PACS in Sangareddy, urged the government to conduct elections instead of naming nominated committees following Telangana Cooperative Acts Society, 1964. The farmers led by BRS leader and former DCCB Vice-chairman Patnam Manikyam met Additional Collector R Pandu and presented a representation during the grievances on Monday. Further citing the recommendations of Vaidyanathan Committee, Manikyam said that the nomination of posts will destroy the system. Stating that the government already extended the existing committees tenure twice, he said that the government must hold the elections. Manikyam said that the government should complete the election process before the tenure comes to end, beginning the process three months before the tenure would come to an end. The BRS leader said that states such as Gujarat were continuing the nomination of the committees for all the PACs even though the nomination will serve no purpose for the farmers.

Hyderabad scholar Shreeya Lakkapragada wins prestigious Harvard scholarship

Hyderabad: Shreeya Lakkapragada, a 20-year-old scholar from Hyderabad, has won the prestigious 2026 Louis Vuitton Foundation Harvard University scholarship. She has been trained under Dexter Development Program (NSRF) for 100 days. She has been selected as a Harvard University scholar this year for the first time. In 2022, as a high school student, she

was accepted to America’s prestigious Wellesley College on a full scholarship worth Rs. 2.7 crores to pursue her Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology. Shreeya graduated from Wellesley College in May 2026 and is now pursuing her postgraduate studies at Harvard University. Earlier this year, as a Dexter to College Fellow, she was accepted to all five of the world’s leading universities she applied to for postgraduate study:



Hyderabad man lies on Gowliguda road in protest against potholes



Hyderabad: In an unusual protest against poor road conditions, a man lay down on the busy road at Gowliguda bus stand, drawing attention to the growing problem of potholes in the city. The protester, Feroz, said he was agitated over the deteriorating condition of the road and wanted to highlight the difficulties being faced by motorists and pedestrians. In a video that has gone viral on social media, Feroz is seen lying on the road as a mark of protest. Two policemen who reached the spot tried to persuade him to move aside to prevent disruption to traffic on the busy stretch. They reportedly assured him that the road would be repaired by the following morning. However, Feroz argued that the condition of the road had been deteriorating for several days and that motorists were being put to considerable inconvenience. Several roads in the southern parts of Hyderabad have developed potholes following the recent rains. The road near the Puranapul cremation ground is among the stretches where commuters are facing severe problems. “The entire stretch is riddled with potholes. Commuters, particularly two-wheeler riders, are finding it difficult to negotiate the road,” said Shaker Ali, a local resident. A similar situation prevails on the Jalpally road, where a truck carrying a road roller reportedly overturned after one of its tyres landed in a large pothole. “The potholes have become a serious hazard for motorists. There is a constant fear of accidents, especially at night,” said Dinesh Kumar, a resident of Sriramnagar Colony. Even in the heart of the city, the situation is no different. At Khaja Mansion Junction, Masab Tank commuters have been complaining about damaged roads and potholes. Residents alleged that the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) often undertakes patchwork repairs, but the potholes reappear after even light rainfall. Similar complaints are being reported from several parts of the city, with residents demanding permanent repairs instead of temporary patchwork.

CRPF’s Second Signal Battalion celebrates 58th Foundation Day in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: The Second Signal Battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), responsible for providing communication support to formations deployed



across southern India, celebrated its 58th Foundation Day at the CRPF Group Centre in Chandrayangutta on Monday. The battalion was raised on September 1, 1968, at Rampur in Uttar Pradesh and shifted to Hyderabad in 1971. Since then, it has been providing secure and uninterrupted communication services to CRPF formations deployed across several States and union Territories, including the southern States, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Puducherry, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Maharashtra. The three-day celebrations included a mela with various stalls for jawans and their families, besides cultural programmes showcasing the Force’s unity in diversity.

District should be at forefront in grievance redressal

**Quality along with timely disposal should be given top priority
No scope for negligence, delay in grievance redressal
161 grievances received in district level PGRS programme : District Collector Dr G Lakshmisha**



Vijayawada, August 31: District Collector Dr G Lakshmisha directed officials to strive to keep district at forefront in State in grievance redressal by disposing grievances received through people-friendly Praja Samasya Parishkara Vedika (PGRS) within stipulated time and by providing quality solution and increasing satisfaction level of people. Collector Lakshmisha along with Joint Collector S Ilakkiya, DRO M Lakshminarasimham and others received petitions from public at Collectorate Sri Pingali Venkayya Meeting Hall on Monday. Total 161 petitions including Revenue 46, Police 23, Municipal Urban Development 23, Panchayat Raj 10 were received in this programme. Speaking on occasion, Collector Lakshmisha clarified that real touchstone for grievance redressal is whether petitioner’s problem is actually solved and whether he is satisfied. He suggested RDOs, Tahsildars, Surveyors should not examine petitions only at office level but should personally visit field level and examine problems, directly talk to petitioners and know actual conditions



and show just and permanent solution as per rules. He directed that petitions coming to district level PGRS in particular should be examined by concerned officials with utmost priority and action should be taken without any delay in their redressal. Collector Lakshmisha suggested that even after redressal, action should be taken keeping satisfaction level of petitioner in view. District Collector Dr G Lakshmisha directed officials to work collectively to dispose grievances by taking public satisfaction, IVRS feedback, quality of redressal as main parameters and to keep district at forefront in State in grievance redressal. District should shine in Swachhandhra: “Collector Lakshmisha suggested officials should work collectively so that district gets more awards in Swachhandhra-2026 awards. He said every department, local body should effectively implement programmes undertaken in their jurisdiction along with clearly recording their results. PGRS Nodal Officer G Jyothi, district level officials of various departments participated in programme.

NTR district is ideal destination for investments

**Special focus on Investors Desk proposals
Collective efforts for district land bank establishment
District Collector Dr G Lakshmisha in DIEPC meeting**

Vijayawada, August 31: District Collector Dr G Lakshmisha said NTR district is most favourable destination for investments, that efforts are being made to provide better facilities to industrialists and that special focus is being laid on district land bank also. District Industrial and Export Promotion Committee (DIEPC) meeting was held on Monday at District Collectorate Sri Pingali Venkayya Meeting Hall under chairmanship of Collector Lakshmisha. Incentives to industries under industrial policies, industrial permissions, availability of lands and others were discussed in this meeting. Officials of Industries Department explained to Collector that 258 applications were received through Single Desk portal regarding industrial permissions department-wise from May 26 to August 29, 2026, out of which 226 applications have already been approved, while Collector suggested that remaining applications also should be disposed quickly within specific time limit. DIEPC has freshly discussed and approved proposals to tune of Rs 3.24 crore for 22 claims as part of incentives like investment subsidy, interest, power bills reimbursement being provided to MSME sector under Industrial Development Policy (2015-20), Industrial Development Policy (2020-23), Industrial Development Policy (2023-27), EDP (2024-29)



schemes. Speaking in meeting, Collector said initiative is being shown to provide information quickly on availability of lands required for investors, industrialists and to make land allotment process more easy as per Government rules. He said in wake of 31st CII Partnership Summit going to be held in Visakhapatnam in November, Regional Partnership Summit will be held in Vijayawada in October and said there is need to work collectively to make this summit successful. Special measures through RAMP programme: “He said State Government is implementing several key programmes through Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) programme to further strengthen MSME sector and increase competitiveness. In this sequence, Collector Lakshmisha requested to participate enthusiastically as MSME Growth Workshop is going to be held on large scale in Vijayawada on September 2. District Industries Officer M Madhu, APIIC Zonal Manager K Babji, V Muralikrishna (FAPSIA), Kanakadurga (ALEP), RDOs and others participated in meeting.

Telangana parents join daughter’s US wedding virtually, perform rituals through livestream



Hyderabad: For a couple from Telangana’s Suryapet district, thousands of kilometres could not keep them from being part of their daughter’s wedding. Unable to travel to the US, they joined the ceremony virtually and took part in the traditional rituals through a livestream. Their only daughter, Himabindu, who is based in the US, married Rohith Kumar, a native of NTR district, on Friday night. The two met while living in the US, fell in love and eventually decided to get married. However, Himabindu’s parents, Jayaraju and Jyothi, could not be at the wedding venue in person. Instead, they watched the ceremony online and participated in the celebrations from Telangana. During the wedding ritu-

als, the couple picked up akshintalu, the sacred rice traditionally used to bless newlyweds, and showered it towards the screen as Himabindu and Rohith exchanged their vows. The virtual ritual allowed the parents to perform an important part of their daughter’s wedding despite being far away. For Himabindu, having her parents join the ceremony meant their blessings were still part of the occasion. For Jayaraju and Jyothi, the livestream gave them an opportunity to witness their only daughter’s wedding and take part in a tradition they would otherwise have missed. The wedding is another example of how technology is helping families remain part of important milestones despite geographical distance.

District players prove mettle in Amaravati Championship

**Bag 13 gold, 12 silver medals
District Collector Dr G Lakshmisha congratulates medal winners
Wishes them to achieve more victories and bring good name to district**



Vijayawada, August 31: District Collector Dr G Lakshmisha said it is appreciable that NTR district players are showing talent and winning medals in State level sports competitions. He suggested players to make best use of various platforms, training, incentives and resources being provided by Government to prove talent in sports and achieve more victories in future. Players under NTR district Sports Authority participated in various sports disciplines and won gold and silver medals in Amaravati State Level Championship held at Tirupati from August 24 to 27, 2026. District Collector expressed happiness over players showing talent and winning medals in Athletics, Archery, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Weight Lift-

ing, Yoga categories. He congratulated medal winning players in programme held at District Collectorate on Monday. Speaking on occasion, he said along with talent, discipline, perseverance and continuous practice are very important to excel in sports and wished that they should take victories achieved in State level competitions as inspiration and grow to higher level. Collector Lakshmisha wished them to excel at national and international level. District Sports Development Officer K Koteswara Rao, Coaches Bhaskar (Badminton), Naveen Kumar (Archery), Swamy (Weight Lifting), Ishaq, Chiranjeevi (Boxing), Santosh (Basketball), Anjaneyulu, Shireesha (Yoga) and players participated in programme.

Woman dies by suicide after jumping into well with six-year-old daughter in Mancherial

Mancherial: A woman killed her six-year-old daughter by tying her to her waist when she allegedly died by suicide by jumping into a well at Lingapur village in Dandepalli mandal on Sunday. Family disputes were suspected to be the motive for her suicide. Police said that Gotla Rajitha, wife of Anjaiah, ended her life by plunging into the well. She murdered her daughter Akshita by tying the girl to her waist while resorting to the drastic step. The bodies of

the two have been retrieved from the well. Although the exact reason was yet to be ascertained, it was learnt that family disputes might have driven her to kill her daughter before committing suicide. She, however, handed over her three-year-old son to one of her relatives. Her husband was away from home at the time of the incident. She was married to Anjaiah eight years ago. Police visited the spot and began a probe into the incident. Further details are awaited.

Manipur: Torchlight vigil turns violent; stones pelted, tear gas shells fired, several injured



Imphal: A torchlight vigil in Manipur’s Kakching district demanding NRC updation prior to the Census exercise in the northeastern state turned violent, with some protesters pelting the police with stones, and the law enforcers retaliating with tear gas shells, leading to injuries to a few agitators, officials said on Monday. Hundreds of villagers from Wabagai, Hiyanglam and surrounding areas took out a 3-km-long protest march on Sunday night, raising the slogan of ‘No NRC, No Census’, and opposed the exercise before resettlement of the internally displaced persons (IDPs). As the rally proceeded towards the Kakching district headquarters, police stopped the agitators near the Keirak Dam area and asked them to return, they said. The tension spiralled into violence, with some among the protesters resorting to stone-pelting, prompting the police to fire several tear gas shells to disperse the crowd. A few protesters sustained minor injuries, the officials added. More than 260 people have been killed and thousands rendered homeless in ethnic violence between Imphal Valley-based Meiteis and adjoining hills-based Kukis in Manipur since May 2023.

Two minors drown in a pond in Mulugu

Mulugu: Two minor students, who happened to be siblings, drowned in a pond at Ganeshlalpalli in Mulugu municipality in the district. The deceased Maloth Vinay (15) and his brother Rajesh (14) studying Intermediate and SSC respectively came to Ganeshlalpalli along with their mother Swathi to celebrate Rakhi festival on Friday. On Sunday evening, the two went near Mondikunta pond. When the younger one, Rajesh, accidentally fell into the pond and was drowning his brother, Vinay, attempted to rescue him. In the process, Vinay also fell into the water. Both drowned and lost their lives. A boy who witnessed the incident alerted the villagers, who rushed to the spot and started searching for the kids. By the time they spotted the boys they both died. The incident caused a pall of gloom to descend on their native village Kamalapur of Mangapet mandal.

CM Vijay announces another Rs 3 hike in milk procurement price

Chennai: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay on Monday announced a further increase of Rs 3 per litre in the procurement price of milk, raising it from Rs 41 to Rs 44. The decision is expected to benefit around 3.15 lakh dairy farmers associated with milk producers’ cooperative societies across the state. The Chief Minister made the announcement under Rule 110 soon after the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly reconvened following a two-day weekend break. CM Vijay said dairy farmers had urged the government to revise the procurement price because of rising costs of maintaining milch cattle and the sharp increase in the prices of cattle feed and other essential inputs. After examining their representations, the government decided to provide an additional increase of Rs 3 per litre. The latest revision comes just days after the state government raised the milk procurement price from Rs 38 to Rs 41 per litre. With the fresh increase, producers will now receive Rs 44 for every litre of milk supplied through the cooperative network. The Chief Minister said the measure was aimed at improving the income of dairy farmers and helping them cope with increasing cost of fodder, veterinary care, medicines, labour and transportation. The government believed that a remunerative procurement price was necessary to sustain milk production and protect the livelihoods of families dependent on dairying, he added. Cooperative milk producers have repeatedly sought a higher procurement price, arguing that their



earnings have not kept pace with the cost of cattle feed and other expenses. Many small and marginal farmers depend on the daily income from milk sales to meet household and farm-related expenditure. The latest decision is expected to provide immediate financial relief to dairy farmers supplying milk to cooperative societies. It could also encourage farmers to continue rearing milch cattle and ensure a steady supply of milk to the state’s cooperative dairy sector. The government said nearly 3.15 lakh registered milk producers would directly benefit from the revised price. The higher rate will be applicable to milk procured through milk producers’ cooperative societies. Further details regarding the date from which the revised procurement price will take effect and its financial implications for the state exchequer are expected to be issued separately by the government.

Indian in Malta says earning Rs 70,000–1 lakh in India may not warrant moving abroad

Hyderabad: For many Indians, moving abroad is often viewed as a route to higher salaries and a better standard of living. However, an Indian man living in Malta has offered a different perspective, arguing that earning more overseas does not necessarily translate into greater savings or a happier life. Manish Yadav, who shares content on Instagram, recently posted a video discussing whether Indians should consider moving abroad for work. He suggested that those already earning between Rs 70,000 and Rs 1 lakh a month in India should carefully weigh the decision before relocating. “In my opinion if you are earning 1 lakh rupees, not just 1 lakh, even if you are earning 70,000 to 80,000, there is absolutely no need to move abroad, brother,” he said. Yadav pointed out that comparing salaries without considering living expenses can give a misleading picture. Rent, food and other daily costs can take up a significant share of an overseas income. He claimed that someone earning around Rs 1.5 lakh could potentially be left with savings of just Rs 40,000 to Rs 50,000 after expenses. Beyond money, he highlighted the personal side of living away from home. Missing time with parents, relatives and children, particularly during important family occasions, can be difficult. He also spoke about loneli-



ness and the challenge of rebuilding social connections in a new country. Yadav said moving abroad could make more financial sense when the salary is considerably higher. “To make it worthwhile coming here, you should earn at least 2 lakh, 2.5 lakh, or 3 lakh. And not every job pays that kind of salary, brother. Rest is entirely up to you,” he added. His comments sparked discussion online, with several users agreeing that salary should not be the only factor behind such a major decision. “Earning one lakh in India is actually pretty decent,” wrote one user. “You are completely right, it’s better if people understand this,” another commented.

Indian rescue teams step up search for people trapped in Nepal hydropower tunnels

Kathmandu: An Indian tunnel rescue team is continuing its search and rescue operations to save the lives of people trapped inside tunnels of different hydropower projects following the devastating floods in the Bhote Koshi River last week, the Indian Embassy said on Monday. “The tunnel rescue team from India worked with the Nepali Army’s team to conduct search and rescue operations at hydropower tunnel sites in the Chilime and Langtang areas today,” the embassy said, adding that the team would continue search and rescue operations in close coordination with the Nepali Army. According to the Independent Power Producers’ Association, Nepal (IPPAN), a representative association of private-sector power developers, a total of 897 people employed at 11 hydropower projects in the flood-affected districts of Rasuwa and Nuwakot have been out of contact.

According to Nepal’s National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA), seven Indian and 15 Chinese nationals who were trapped in hydropower projects were rescued on Sunday. At the request of the Nepali government, Indian and Chinese tunnel technicians arrived in Nepal and have been engaged in rescue efforts to evacuate people trapped inside hydropower tunnels. On Sunday, the Indian team



was involved in rescue efforts at different hydropower projects, according to statements from Nepali government authorities and IPPAN. The Secretariat of the Minister for Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation said that the Indian team that arrived to assist with the rescue operation conducted an initial aerial reconnaissance of the Chilime and Langtang areas by helicopter and plans

to undertake further rescue operations as required. Prime Minister Balendra Shah said in a Facebook post late Sunday evening that an Indian team conducted reconnaissance at the Chilime Hydropower Project (22MW) in Rasuwa in coordination with the Nepal Army and carried out rescue efforts after taking pumps and excavators to the site. However, the rescue operation at the Chilime project on Sunday was halted after another flood swept away structures that had survived the previous flood in the dam area, according to IPPAN. “At the Langtang Khola Hydropower Project in Rasuwa, the Nepal Army conducted search-and-rescue patrols,” the Prime Minister said. “An Indian team has also conducted reconnaissance in coordination with the Nepal Army and has begun additional work after bringing pumps and excavators to the site.”

GV Prakash reveals ‘Immortal’ took two years to make, set for September 4 release



Chennai: National Award winning music director and actor G V Prakash, who plays the lead in director Mariyappan Chinna’s eagerly awaited horror thriller ‘Immortal’, has now disclosed that the film was made over a period of two years and that makers of the film had informed well before the start of the film’s shoot that they would take a year for the film’s CG work and a year for shooting the film. Talking to mediapersons, G V Prakash, who only recently won his third National Award for music direction, said, “Immortal is a relatively new genre for Tamil cinema. It’s a vampire film. It hasn’t been explored much in Tamil cinema. It’s a fantasy mystery survival thriller.” Going on to give details of the film, in which Kayadu Lohar plays the female lead, G V Prakash said, “We waited for a year for CG alone. The producer told us that we would shoot for a year and that we would wait for a year for CG. Only then would this film be released.” He went on to add, “We finished shooting before Lokah was released.” The actor said that the decision to take a year’s time for the film’s CG was to ensure that it was of international standard. The film’s CG works are being handled by top CG firms in Canada, which have been working on the film for a year now. Going on to explain why they named the film ‘Immortal’, G V Prakash said, “I initially wanted

the film to be called ‘Saaga Varam’ but we later changed it to ‘Immortal’. In this film, there’s a portion that tells the story of a man who lives for 4000 years. It will go to a prehistoric time.” The film has already been cleared for release by the Censor Board with a clean ‘U’ certificate. G V Prakash took to his X timeline to share the update. Sharing a poster that announced that the film had been certified U, the actor wrote, “#Immortal from September 4.” It may be recalled that the makers of the film had announced in May this year that shooting for the film had been wrapped up. The film has been eagerly awaited ever since the makers released a chilling and entertaining teaser of the film last year. The teaser begins on a funny romantic note. It has G V Prakash, who is a die hard romantic, having a conversation with a friend. He says, “Imagine how it would be if a handsome guy like me and a very beautiful girl stayed in the same house.” The friend replies, “It would be jealousy-inducing.” To this, G V Prakash gleefully says, “It must.” The teaser then shows G V Prakash having a conversation with actress Kayadu Lohar in a flat that looks exactly like the one he was seen talking about a while ago to his friend. “If I ask you something, will you mistake me,” he asks her and she shoots back, saying, “You will anyway ask something that is wrong.”

Lisa Kudrow refuses to sing ‘Smelly Cat’ despite ‘Friends’ fans’ requests

Los Angeles: Hollywood actress Lisa Kudrow, who is known for her work in the iconic sitcom ‘Friends’, isn’t really keen on singing the hit song ‘Smelly Cat’ from the show. The actress refuses to sing the song when fans ask her. The 63-year-old actress said that she has “zero complaints about ‘Friends’ or anything to do with it” and will happily repeat her character Phoebe Buffay’s iconic lines, but when it comes to performing her beloved alter ego’s tune, she is simply not interested. The actress recently appeared on the latest episode of the ‘Fresh Air with Terry Gross and Tonya Mosley’ podcast. She said, “Sometimes people will stop me and say, ‘Oh, sing Smelly Cat’ I don’t want to do that. I really don’t want to do that”. The sitcom, which ran from 1994 until 2004, followed 6 best friends living in New York, Phoebe (played by Lisa Kudrow), Rachel Green (played by Jennifer Aniston), Ross Geller (played by David Schwimmer), Monica Geller (played by Courteney Cox), Chandler Bing (played by Matthew Perry) and Joey Tribbiani (played by Matt LeBlanc). The actress shared that she adored “ev-



ery part” of making the show because of the enduring bond she made with her co-stars. She further mentioned, “We had fun. That is so rare. And real honest respect, mutual respect. It was a really good relationship. “That took some work, and we did the work. It was great”. ‘Friends’ is one of the most popular American sitcoms of all time. It was created by David Crane and Marta Kauffman, and ran for ten seasons. The series is loved for its memorable characters, hilarious situations, emotional moments, and unforgettable catchphrases. Its central themes of friendship, love, and growing up made it relatable to audiences around the world. Even years after its finale, ‘Friends’ continues to attract new viewers and remains a cultural phenomenon.

Grandly Held ‘Garjinche Police’ Movie Song Launch Event



Hyderabad cinema : The song launch event of the upcoming Telugu film Garjinche Police which is being made with a blend of action and emotional elements, was held grandly. Members of the film’s team and several film personalities attended the event, launched the song, and conveyed their best wishes to the entire team. Speaking on the occasion, *Sai Venkat* said, “The songs in Garjinche Police are very impressive. This particular song is also very good. I hope the movie becomes a grand success and wish the entire team all the very best.” *Director T. Ramu* said, “I am very happy that the song launch event of Garjinche Police has been held successfully. I am extremely happy with the way the film has shaped up. We are making the movie with action and emotional elements that will appeal to audiences. We hope the songs will receive a good response from listeners.” *Producer Ramasharma* said, “I am very happy with the way Garjinche Police is progressing. Director T. Ramu is presenting the film in a wonderful manner. The songs and action sequences will be major attractions for the audience. I am confident that this song will receive a great response. We are planning to release the movie soon.”

The *heroine* said, “It is a great pleasure to be a part of Garjinche Police. I am very happy to be present at the song launch event. The entire team is working extremely hard to bring a good film to the audience. I hope viewers will definitely appreciate and support the movie.” The film’s team expressed confidence that *‘Garjinche Police’* will receive a positive response from audiences. Set against a *police backdrop, the movie promises to entertain viewers with a compelling combination of action and emotion. **Chanda Lakshminarayana Naik, Mallem Venumadhav, Praveen, Srinivas* and others attended the event. Technical Team““ *Story, Screenplay, Dialogues & Direction:* T. Ramu““ *Producer: * Ramas harma““ *Cinematography:* Sarvepalli Venkanna““ *Music:* Anilkumar (Chennai)““ *Editing:* Venu Chowdary““ *Fights:* Sivalingam““ *Dubbing Engineer: * Kindibavi Venkatesh““ *Production Management: * Chanda Rosarani, Lakshminarayana Naik““ *Cooperation:* Narasimha Kumar, Bhogi Kailasam, Dharmasekhar

Gold Spot Title Locked for Radix Cinemas’ New Film; First Look Poster Released



Hyderabad cinema : Radix Cinemas is producing a new film under its banner. Presented by Vijay Krishna Lingamaneni, the makers officially announced the title of the film today. The movie has been titled “Gold Spot,” and the first look poster was unveiled on the occasion.“ “Produced by Raviteja Pachipala, the film stars Abhishek and Kajal Choudhary in the lead roles. Dushyant Katikaneni, who earned recognition as a director with Ambajipeta Marriage Band, has penned the story, screenplay, and dialogues for the film.““Sree Chowdary Inaganti is serving as the co-producer. Venu Karthikeyan, who previously worked under director Dushyant Katikaneni, is making his directorial debut with Gold Spot.““The first look poster beautifully captures a nostalgic feeling. It shows a group of children happily playing and heading towards a large tree, while, from the other side, they return as grown-ups,

still carrying the same sense of joy. The poster appears to depict childhood friends reminiscing about the places where they spent their happiest days playing and enjoying themselves during their childhood. The nostalgic concept has instantly caught attention.““The makers are expected to reveal more interesting updates about the film soon.““Cast:“Abhishek, Kajal Choudhary, and others““ “Technicians:“Stunts – M. Harikrishna““ Costume Designer – Polasani Sri Sindhu““Sound Design – Sai Maninder Reddy““Editor – Naresh Adupa““Production Designer – Pawan Kalyan Yallapu““DOP – Mahi Reddy““Music – Naren Reddy““Co-Producer – Sree Chowdary Inaganti““Presented by – Vijay Krishna Lingamaneni““Producer – Raviteja Pachipala““Story, Screenplay & Dialogues – Dushyant Katikaneni““Direction – Venu Karthikeyan““PRO – Suresh (SK Media)

Duleep Trophy: Sooryavanshi creates history with youngest-ever fifty



Bengaluru: Teenaged batting prodigy Vaibhav Sooryavanshi on Monday etched his name into the history books by becoming the youngest player to score a half-century in the Duleep Trophy during East Zone’s ongoing semifinal clash against Central Zone at the BCCI Centre of Excellence (CoE) Ground in Bengaluru. At 15 years and 175 days old, Sooryavanshi reached his milestone off just 42 deliveries. He eventually made 92 off 81 balls and broke a 57-year-old record previously held by Laxman Singh, who reached his maiden tournament fifty in 1969 at the age of 16 years and 23 days. Former India leg-spinner Piyush Chawla sits third on the list, having scored a fifty in the Duleep Trophy at 16 years and 307 days. The teenager’s whirlwind knock, which fell eight runs short of a debut century in the prestigious first-class cricket competition, dominated the headlines on a day when he showed maturity well beyond his years yet again. During the course of his innings, Sooryavanshi shared a 161-run opening stand with Abhimanyu Easwaran, before being dismissed by In-

dia and Central Zone left-arm spinner Harsh Dubey. In his knock, Sooryavanshi slammed seven fours and as many sixes at a strike rate of 113.58. On day one, Sooryavanshi was unexpectedly thrust into a leadership role when regular skipper Ishan Kishan suffered a hand injury during the morning session. The youngster stepped in as stand-in captain for roughly an hour on either side of the lunch break. His brief stint in charge proved decisive when he successfully reviewed an on-field ‘not out’ decision in the 40th over bowled by pacer Mukesh Kumar. DRS technology confirmed an edge off Central Zone opener Aryan Juyal’s bat, thus securing a vital breakthrough for his side. Earlier, Central Zone were bowled out for 266 in 80.1 overs after Kishan opted to field. Mukesh (3-56) and Abhijit Sarkar (3-38) were the standout bowlers for East Zone, while veteran pacer Mohammed Shami (2-42) and off-spinner Kounain Quraishi (2-49) were other wicket-takers. India batter Rinku Singh top-scored for Central Zone with an 88-ball 60, but East Zone remained firmly in command to win the semi-final.

Former Hyderabad Ranji cricketer Vijay Mohan Raj elected TAAI chairman after 20 years

Hyderabad: Vijay Mohan Raj, Former Hyderabad Ranji opener and member of the 1987 Ranji Trophy winning team member, has been elected unanimously after a gap of 20 years as Travel Agents Association of India Chairman. The former cricketer from the City was President SKAL Hyderabad between 2014 and 2018 and international Director of SKAL International which is the Worlds largest Travel and Tourism Body including 90 Countries. Travel Agents Association of India is the largest Travel Association in India and is celebrating 75th year.



Novak Djokovic loses in opening round of US Open for first time

New York: Novak Djokovic grinded through physical and internal ailments, made one mistake after another and could not find what it took to beat a feisty, younger opponent who was not intimidated under the lights against tennis’ most decorated player. The 39-year-old is out of the U.S. Open after a first-round defeat to Mariano Navone on Sunday night, losing 7-6 (5), 5-7, 4-6, 6-2, 6-1 in a five-set marathon that lasted four hours and 36 minutes. It was the longest opening match of a Grand Slam in Djokovic’s career and became his earliest exit in one in two decades, dating to the 2006 Australian Open. He had never lost in the first round at the U.S. Open. With this defeat, 21 years to the day of his U.S. Open debut, the question now lingers as to whether this was Djokovic’s final match



at this or any Grand Slam. Djokovic made 70 unforced errors in a painful performance that ended mere minutes before midnight. The record holder with 24 major titles threw up at least once and later appeared to be cramping when he grabbed at his left foot. Djokovic swallowed pills brought to him by a doctor and had his lower back massaged during a medical timeout between the fourth and fifth sets, and he grimaced after several shots. Throughout his time on court, it was clear

Bellingham stars as Real Madrid thrash Malaga 4-0 to maintain perfect start

Madrid: Jude Bellingham scored once and then assisted in another goal as Real Madrid had few problems in dispatching newly promoted Malaga 4-0 to maintain its perfect record in the early round of the 2026/27 season. Bellingham opened the scoring in the 19th minute on Sunday night, rewarding a positive start from Jose Mourinho’s side. The England international was also involved in the second goal seven minutes later, when an attempted clearance rebounded off Malaga goalkeeper Alfonso Herrero and into the net. Kylian Mbappe was then in the right place to finish an excellent cross from Trent Alexander-Arnold on the half-hour mark, putting Real Madrid 3-0 ahead, reports Xinhua. Real Madrid were able to take their foot off the pedal after the break following three games in eight days, but Arda Guler added a fourth goal in stoppage time. Athletic Club produced an impressive display to claim their first victory under Edin Terzic with a 2-0 win away to Celta Vigo. Alex Berenguer and Robert Navarro scored in the first half. Valencia’s difficult start to the season continued with a 3-1 defeat away to Deportivo la Coruña, with the visitors not helping themselves by conceding two own goals through Cesar Tarrega and Mouctar Diakhaby. Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scored an excellent individual goal for the home side. Valencia’s goal came from Umar Sadiq following a defensive error



by the home side in the 26th minute, but they were otherwise outclassed. The only negative for Deportivo was a red card shown to Adril Altimira in stoppage time. Saturday’s games saw Atletico Madrid win 3-1 away to Sevilla without Julian Alvarez, while Levante stunned Real Betis with a 5-2 home victory and Real Sociedad earned a deserved 2-1 home win over Espanyol. On Friday, new signing Yassir Zabiri scored a first-half hat trick as Racing Santander won 3-2 at home to Elche, while Villarreal suffered a 1-0 defeat to Deportivo Alaves. Barcelona host Rayo Vallecano on Monday, while Osasuna host Getafe.

Svitolina, Kostyuk lead seeded winners as US Open 2026 begins with few shocks

New York: Elina Svitolina, Marta Kostyuk, Jasmine Paolini and Jessica Pegula posted opening-round wins, with Kamilla Rakhimova’s upset of No. 27 seed Barbora Krejickova being the only blemish in a women’s singles schedule that largely went according to plan on Day 1 of the US Open 2026. In all, seven seeded players were in action on the opening day on Sunday, and it finished 6-1; except for Paolini, every seeded winner secured a routine straight-sets win. Svitolina opened the tournament’s first night session on Louis Armstrong Stadium on Sunday with a brisk 6-1, 6-2 win over Solana Sierra in 52 minutes. The ninth seed is now 9-2 in her last 11 Grand Slam openers, and her 117 Major wins are the most by a Ukrainian player in the Open Era. She is the only Ukrainian with more than 100 Grand Slam victories during this period. Meanwhile, Kostyuk, who has reached two straight Grand Slam semifinals, began her push for a third with a 6-4, 6-1 win over Storm Hunter in 67 minutes on Grandstand. The No. 11 seed won the final five games — and seven of the last eight —



to move to 33-8 on the season. She finished with eight aces and 22 winners overall against 12 unforced errors. Paolini’s path was far less straightforward. The No. 19 seed needed 1 hour and 46 minutes to fend off Veronika Erjavec, ultimately winning 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 on Louis Armstrong Stadium. Despite a second-set lapse that opened the door for an upset, Paolini produced a solid stat line with 36 winners to 27 unforced errors. After failing to reach the fourth round at four straight Majors, Paolini made the Wimbledon quarterfinals this summer — a stage she has yet to reach at the US Open. No. 18 seed Ekaterina Alexandrova and No. 31 seed Leylah Fernandez also contributed to the seeds’ positive record. Alexandrova beat McCartney Kessler 6-2, 6-2 in 66 minutes, while Fernandez defeated Zhang Shuai 6-3, 6-2 in 75 minutes. Over on Court 12, former World No. 1 Karolina Pliskova, unseeded but still dangerous, delivered the comeback of the day. She trailed Belgium’s Hanne Vandewinkel 6-2, 5-2 before reeling off nine straight games — saving a match point in the process — to win 2-6, 7-5, 6-3 in 2 hours and 30 minutes. Pliskova has now reached the second round in each of her last 10 US Open appearances, a run that includes one final and five quarterfinals.

India's toll collections to grow up to 12 pc in FY28 on higher rate revisions, stable traffic: Report



New Delhi: Toll collections on national highways in India are expected to grow 10-12 per cent in 2027-28 because of higher toll rate revisions and stable traffic growth of 4-5 per cent, a report said on Monday. According to a report by ICRA, the forecast follows an estimated moderation in toll collection growth to 7-9 per cent in 2026-27 from 10 per cent in the previous year amid slower traffic growth and lower toll rate revisions. It expects national highway traffic will grow 4.5-5.5 per cent in 2026-27, compared with 6 per cent in 2025-26. While toll rate growth is estimated at 3.4-4 per cent during the year, partly affected by export-related traffic challenges. "Traffic growth on national highways largely moves in line with the gross value added (GVA) of construction, mining and manufacturing (CMM)," ICRA Co-Group Head, Corporate Ratings Suprio Banerjee said. CMM GVA grew 8.1 per cent in 2025-26, supporting 6 per cent traffic growth on national highways and a 10 per cent increase in toll collections, he said.

For 2027-28, the report projected higher toll revisions supported by a favourable movement in Wholesale Price Index inflation amid the West Asian crisis. It also estimates WPI growth at 8-8.5 per cent in December 2026 and 4.5-5.5 per cent in March 2027.

It also noted that road execution by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is expected to remain range-bound at 9,000-9,500 km in 2026-27 against 9,380 km in 2025-26 due to a sustained slowdown in project awards. In addition, road awards are expected to improve to 8,000-8,500 km in 2026-27 from around 7,000 km in 2025-26. "EPC is likely to remain the preferred awarding route, while the government is gradually increasing its focus on BOT (Toll) projects to revive private sector participation," according to the report. The revised BOT model concession agreement is expected to reduce downside risks for concessionaires and lenders through revenue support during traffic shortfalls and provisions for project termination, it said.

Zomato lays off 250 employees as customer support operations restructured

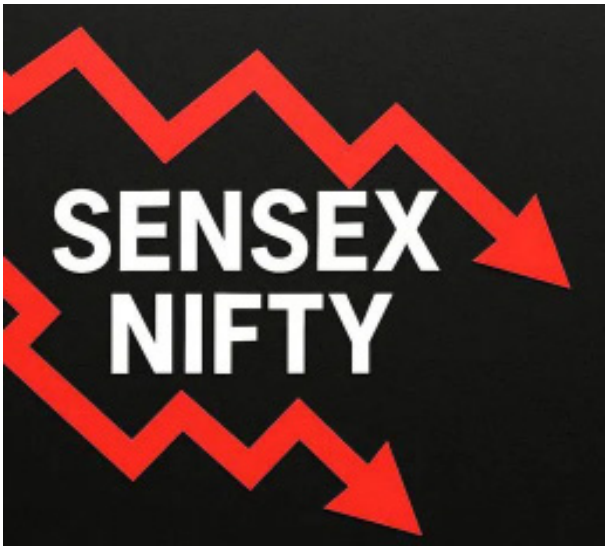


New Delhi: Food delivery major Zomato has reportedly laid off around 250 employees in its latest round of workforce restructuring. The job cuts follow a review of the company's customer delight operating model and organisational requirements, according to the NDTV Profit report. As part of the restructuring, Zomato has decided to discontinue its Customer Delight operations in Hyderabad and consolidate its remaining in-house operations at a single location in Gurgaon. The move affects approximately 240 employees in Hyderabad, the report added. The company said the decision was driven by changes in its customer support model rather than employee performance. "We have decided to reorganise our operations and rationalise the size of the team," it said. Zomato's customer support operations have undergone significant changes over the past six months, with a larger share of the workload now being handled by specialised external partners. The in-house operations that remain will be consolidated into an integrated team in Gurgaon, where they can work more closely with the company's product, technology, analytics and business functions.

According to the report, the affected employees will receive their August salary along with four months of severance pay, which will include contractual notice pay and a one-time ex gratia payment. The company will also extend medical insurance and counselling support until March 31, 2027, providing additional assistance to employees affected by the restructuring. In another measure aimed at easing the transition, employees will be allowed to retain their company-issued laptops and earphones for personal use. Zomato will also provide dedicated outplacement assistance to help the affected employees find suitable job opportunities. The latest layoffs come as Zomato continues to reshape its operating model, with greater reliance on external partners for customer support and a smaller, consolidated in-house team handling the remaining functions. Meanwhile, earlier in the day, the food delivery giant said it has adopted a zero-tolerance policy on the sale of analogue dairy dishes by restaurants listed on its platform with immediate delisting of dishes that partners have declared as containing analogue dairy after the food regulator FSSAI's action on several restaurants.

Markets open lower amid renewed geopolitical tensions

Mumbai: Domestic equity benchmarks opened lower on Monday weighed down by weakness across Asian markets and a sharp rise in crude oil prices amid renewed tensions in the Middle East. Sensex opened at 77,130.73, down 133.78 points or 0.17 per cent, while Nifty fell 58.10 points or 0.24 per cent to 24,117.55. Sector-wise, Nifty Metal was top loser and fell 1.70 per cent, followed by Nifty IT which declined 1.32 per cent. Nifty Media and Nifty PSU Bank also fell up to 1 per cent. Other sector indices, realty, cement, chemicals and FMCG declined between 0.73 per cent and 1 per cent. In contrast, Nifty Private Bank was trading marginally positive, edging up 0.06 per cent in early trade. "Monday's trading begins with the market facing a few headwinds. From the global equity market perspective, sentiments have turned slightly negative following Fed chief Kevin Warsh's statement that if inflation persists at rates higher than the Fed's long-term target, 'we have work to do'," said market experts. The comments have been interpreted by the market as a signal of a possible rate hike at the FOMC meeting scheduled for September 15-16. The resulting rise in bond yields is negative for equities, they said. Another headwind is the renewed escalation in tensions between the US and Iran, which has pushed Brent crude above the \$90-a-barrel mark. The HDFC Bank stock is also likely to remain in focus and could turn volatile amid speculation over the successor to CEO Sasidhar Jagadishan, the experts added. "Even if the Nifty comes under pressure, lots of action are likely in the broader market which is attracting big buying in recent weeks. A significant recent trend



in the market is that the market is giving more preference to growth than value," according to them. On the technical front, Friday's inside bar pattern has retained hopes of an upswing from the vicinity of 24,060, which would also be consistent with the consolidation band that has been in play for the last eight days.

"However, we would wait for a break above 24,215 to signal strength. Alternatively, inability to float above 24,060 would expose 23,575," the expert said. Additionally, the market is also bracing for heightened volatility from MSCI's index rejig under the new closing auction system, while renewed tensions in the Iran war and developments at HDFC Bank added to investor caution. Meanwhile, international benchmark Brent crude rose more than 2 per cent to \$90.67 a barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude gained 2.06 per cent to \$85.09 a barrel. Asian markets also remained largely weak. Japan's Nikkei traded more than 1 per cent lower, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 0.7 per cent and South Korea's KOSPI slipped more than 1 per cent.

Sugar prices remain above Rs 60 per kg despite government measures



New Delhi: Sugar prices remained above Rs 60 per kg in most retail markets across the country on Sunday, despite several government measures to curb the price rise, according to official data. The Consumer Affairs Ministry data showed that the all-India average retail price of sugar was Rs 64.24 per kg on Sunday, up 1.77 per cent from Rs 63.12 per kg a week earlier. The current price is 30 per cent higher than a month ago and 38.63 per cent higher than the same period last year. The maximum retail price recorded was Rs 74 per kg, while the minimum was Rs 40 per kg, as on August 30. City-wise, retail sugar was selling at Rs 62 per kg in Delhi, Rs 66 per kg in Mumbai, Rs 63 per kg in Chennai and Rs 68 per kg in Ranchi. Wholesale prices also stayed firm at Rs 59.73 per kg, up 31 per cent month-on-month and 38.63 per cent year-on-year. price was Rs 58.66 per kg a week ago. The

elevated retail and wholesale prices come even as ex-mill rates have declined nearly 20 per cent following the government's decision to allow duty-free imports of 10 lakh tonnes of raw sugar. Industry sources point out that a Rs 2-3 per kg gap between ex-mill and wholesale prices, and a Rs 7-8 per kg gap between ex-mill and retail prices, is typical.

Apart from opening up imports, the government has tightened stockholding norms for bulk users and dealers, and had earlier banned sugar exports. The Centre has blamed mills for "jacking up" prices, insisting the country holds ample sugar stocks. This is despite production for the 2025-26 marketing year (October-September) being pegged lower at 306 lakh tonnes, down from earlier estimates of 343 lakh tonnes. Annual domestic demand is estimated at around 280-285 lakh tonnes.

Govt accorded administrative sanction for a Rs 400 cr action plan

Visakhapatnam: The state government accorded administrative sanction for Rs 400 crore action plan for the comprehensive development of roads and associated infrastructure within the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) limits, GVMC Commissioner Ketan Garg said on Sunday. The development action plan will be taken up under the leadership of Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister P Narayana and Principal Secretary to Government S Suresh Kumar, he informed. As part of the action plan, the Commissioner said approximately 205-km of existing gravel and Water Bound Macadam (WBM) roads in high- and medium-density areas within GVMC limits will be upgraded to Bituminous/cement concrete roads, along with end-to-end pavements and associated infrastructure. Of the total Rs 400 crore, GVMC will contribute Rs 200 crore from its own funds, while VMRDA will contribute another Rs 200 crore. VMRDA will transfer its share of funds to GVMC which will execute the works under the Deposit



Contribution Works (DCW) mode. As part of the action plan, comprehensive development works will be taken up in saturation mode across all 10 reorganised GVMC zones, prioritising high-density areas and locations requiring infrastructure improvements. The works will primarily cover four key components: roads, central medians, central lighting and drains. Before execution, a comprehensive field survey and preparation of estimates will be undertaken to identify and prioritise works based on local requirements. GVMC Commissioner Ketan Garg said that necessary procedures will be completed expeditiously and execution of the development works will commence at the earliest.

Yogasanas promote physical fitness, mental peace and concentration



Visakhapatnam: Yogasanas should not be confined merely to maintaining holistic health but also promoted and developed as a sport, suggested Visakhapatnam south constituency MLA CH Vamsi Krishna Srinivas Yadav. Taking part as chief guest in the valedictory ceremony of the ‘51st Andhra Pradesh State-level Yogasana Sports Championship–2026’, he underlined that practising yogasanas helps improve physical fitness, mental peace, concentration and discipline. At the ceremony organised at Indira Priyadarshini stadium in the city, the MLA presented medals, certificates of appreciation and trophies to the winners and participants. Around 600 sportspersons from 25 districts of Andhra Pradesh participated in the two-day championship. Competitions were conducted in 11 groups in different categories for those aged from 8 to 45 years. Visakhapatnam district won the overall championship, securing the title for the sixth consecutive time. Vamsi Krishna Srinivas Yadav presented the Overall Championship Trophy and distributed prizes and certificates of appreciation to the winners. Congratulating the participants, the MLA said that the talented sportspersons would excel at national and international competitions and bring greater recognition to Andhra Pradesh and the country. He assured that he would always extend his support and cooperation for the promotion of yogasanas and for organising such sport-

ing events in future. One Town Circle Inspector Varaprasad, local ward president Srinath, Andhra Pradesh Yoga Sports Association vice-president US Selvam, general secretary M. Avinash Shetty, Jana Sena Party leader Srinivasu, Visakhapatnam District Yoga Sports Association president Mallajyosula Ravi Srinivas, vice-president N. Srinivasa Rao, among others participated in the programme.

Soaring onion prices bring cheer, tomato glut triggers distress

Kurnool: It is a tale of two contrasting agricultural fortunes in Kurnool district, with onion growers enjoying lucrative returns as market prices soar, while tomato farmers face severe economic distress after prices plummeted to 50 paise per kilogram. In the Kurnool wholesale market, onion prices crossed ₹4,800 per quintal, with retail rates hovering around ₹60 per kg. Traders attribute the sharp surge to poor local arrivals, adverse weather conditions, and reduced cultivation. Against the district’s normal onion cultivation target of 22,000 hectares, the crop was sown across only 8,699 hectares this season, creating a supply shortage that significantly boosted farmer returns. Conversely, a massive glut at the newly operational Pattikonda market has driven tomato prices to rock-bottom levels. Farmers arriving from Devanakonda, Tuggali, Maddikera, and Aspari mandals reported receiving as little as 50 paise per kg due to an oversupply and a lack of bulk buyers. With mounting investments in labor, fertilizers, pesticides, and transport, growers state that current market realizations fail to cover even basic harvesting expenses. Highlighting the extreme price volatility impacting local agriculture, distressed tomato cultivators



have urged the government to establish a remunerative minimum price, initiate direct procurement, and regulate market arrivals at Pattikonda to prevent complete ruin. Meanwhile, onion growers hope the favorable price trend continues, though market analysts expect fresh local arrivals over the next two months to gradually stabilize retail prices across the district.

Tirupati NIELIT centre won’t be shifted to Amaravati, govt clarifies



Tirupati

Tirupati: The proposed establishment of a NIELIT Quantum AI University at Amaravati has triggered concerns over the future of the Tirupati Centre, prompting the government to clarify that both centres will continue to function with different roles. The state government said the proposed NIELIT Quantum AI University at Amaravati would not involve shifting or closing the existing National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) Centre at Tirupati. The clarification came after reports about the shifting of the Tirupati Centre to Amaravati went viral. The government said the Amaravati campus would be an expansion of NIELIT’s presence in Andhra Pradesh and would function alongside the existing centre at Tirupati. NIELIT can establish up to three centres in a state, and the proposed Amaravati campus would be the second NIELIT Centre in Andhra Pradesh. The NIELIT Centre at Tirupati was established at Sri Venkateswara University campus following approval from the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) on January 4, 2024. The project was sanctioned with a budget outlay of Rs 850.09 lakh.

Since starting training programmes in November 2024, the Tirupati Centre has trained 4,308 candidates from across the state in Electronics and Information Technology and Semiconductors. The beneficiaries include personnel and students from the AP Police, I4C/CID, PM SHREE Kendriya Vidyalayas, universities and colleges. The centre has developed a wide range of training programmes covering Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Data Engineering, Cyber Security and Digital Forensics, VLSI, FPGA, Internet of Things, Robotics, 3D Printing, Cloud

Computing and Embedded Systems. It has also conducted industry-linked training and faculty development programmes. According to the government, the Amaravati initiative will have a different and complementary role, with a focus on Quantum Technologies and Artificial Intelligence. While Amaravati will provide a platform for advanced education, research and innovation, Tirupati will continue to focus on skill development, training, industry engagement, technology education and capacity building. Also Read Bridging the regional chasm: Industrial corridors to spur growth Discover more Subscribing To News Connecting South Asians Exploring Travel Maps NIELIT has also expressed its willingness to expand the Tirupati Centre further, subject to the availability of around two acres of additional land. The expansion would help strengthen infrastructure, increase training capacity and introduce more programmes in emerging technologies. Meanwhile, Tirupati MP Dr M Gurumoorthy said a permanent NIELIT campus had earlier been proposed in Tirupati with the objective of developing it as a constituent unit of the NIELIT Deemed to be University. He questioned why the Deemed to be University status was being proposed for Amaravati when Tirupati was the first NIELIT Centre in the state. Gurumoorthy said he had no objection to establishing a second centre at Amaravati focusing on Quantum Technologies and Artificial Intelligence, but insisted that the Deemed to be University status should be granted to Tirupati, for which a Detailed Project Report (DPR) was submitted in 2023. The government had also expressed its willingness to allot 15 acres of land at Kurukalva village in Renigunta mandal for the project, he recalled.