

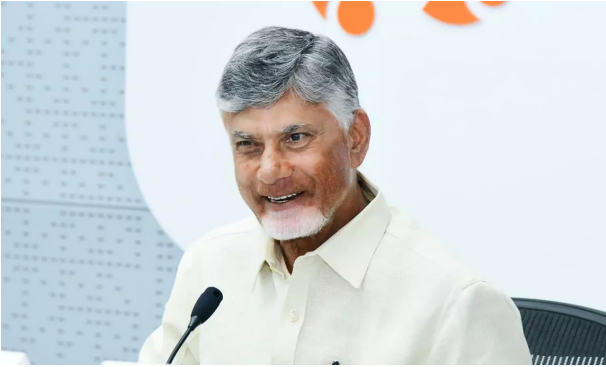
Union Minister Lays Foundation Stone for Two Subways

Visakhapatnam: Union minister for civil aviation K. Ram Mohan Naidu on Friday laid the foundation stone for two Limited Height Subways (LHS) between Ichchapuram–Jhadupudi and Ichchapuram–Surla Road railway stations. The two LHS are intended to provide safer alternatives for road users to cross the railway line and facilitate smoother movement and connectivity in the region. Ichchapuram MLA Bendalam Ashok and Srikakulam Collector Swapnil Dinkar Pundkar were present. The construction of the two LHS was sanctioned in 2024 at a cost of ₹6.46 crore.



AP CM To Meet Employee, Teacher Unions Over PRC, DA Dues

Vijayawada: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu will meet leaders of employee and teacher unions on Saturday to discuss their long-pending demands, including constitution of the Pay Revision Commission (PRC) and payment of pending dues. The meeting will be held at the CM's Camp Office with representatives of employee and teachers' associations affiliated to the Joint Staff Council. The discussions are expected to focus on appointment of the PRC and payment of pending PRC-related dues and Dearness Allowance (DA) arrears. Officials are also likely to brief the CM on the financial implications of the pending commitments and the steps required for their implementation. Meanwhile, AP JAC Amaravati welcomed the government's decision to invite employee associations for talks on their long-pending economic and non-economic demands, describing it as the "first victory" of its agitation. AP JAC Amaravati chairman Bopparaju Venkateswarlu, secretary-general Paliseti Damodara Rao, associate chairman T.V. Phaniperr Raju, treasurer Timmisarathi Nageswara Rao, women's wing chairperson P. Lakshmi and secretary-general Ponnuru Vijayalakshmi said employees across the state had extended united support to the agitation. The "Demands Day" protests during the lunch break on Saturday, September 5, will be held as



announced. District units have been asked to organise protests at all district collectorates and RDO offices. The JAC said employees' primary expectation was the settlement of their financial demands. It sought immediate appointment of a pay revision commission with a short timeframe, interim relief in view of the delay, release of pending dearness allowances and restoration of additional pension for retired employees. The JAC also sought welfare schemes for outsourcing employees, resolution of Employees Health Scheme (EHS) issues and problems faced by village and ward secretariat employees. It demanded special service rules for municipal corporation employees, which it said were yet to have proper service rules.

Tanks Rejuvenated for Rural Development: Pawan Kalyan



Vijayawada: Deputy Chief Minister K. Pawan Kalyan has taken up an initiative to modernise village tanks across Andhra Pradesh for irrigation water conservation, environmental protection and rural development. Under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, 105 tanks are being upgraded at a cost of ₹50 crore, of which 26 have been revitalised in Anantapur, Palnadu, Chittoor, Kurnool, Nellore, Kakinada and Guntur districts. The programme includes strengthening bunds, constructing entry gates and installing solar lights, benches, walking tracks, open-air gyms and children's parks. The tanks are being developed for irrigation, drinking water, recreation and community health needs. Officials have been directed to complete the works by the end of September. The rejuvenated tanks are expected to improve groundwater levels and irrigation capacity and provide spaces for rural communities. Vedula Cheruvu in Chittoor, Panduru Cheruvu in Kakinada Rural and Vengalayapalem Cheruvu in Guntur have already been completed and opened to the public. Pawan Kalyan is monitoring the progress of the works to ensure quality standards. He thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Union ministers for their support in strengthening rural infrastructure.

CMD, MP, MLA Review RINL Operations

Visakhapatnam: Member of Parliament M. Sribharat has said a return to profitability by RINL would help clear pending salary dues, pension arrears and payments related to the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in phases. Sribharat, along with Gajuwaka MLA Palla Srinivasa Rao, reviewed RINL operations, production, market conditions and revival strategies with RINL chairman and managing director M.N.V.S. Prabhakar at the steel plant on Friday. Sribharat said the Centre and the state government had allocated Rs 14,000 crore towards the plant's revival and stressed the need to translate the investment into higher production and profitability.



The meeting reviewed production performance, demand trends and prevailing steel prices, besides the efforts of officials, employees and workers to improve operations. Discussions also covered sections affected by inadequate maintenance in recent years, particularly the Coke Oven Batteries, and the progress of repair and restoration works. Sribharat said operations had been disrupted by a recent accident but were now moving in a positive direction. He expressed confidence that the plant could potentially return to profitability within the next year if ongoing efforts continued. He also stressed the need for a positive working environment and cautioned against negative publicity that could affect em-

ployee morale. He said the commencement of payments towards pending pensioner dues was encouraging and promised that efforts would continue to clear the remaining arrears. Once the plant becomes financially stable, he said, issues concerning employees and pensioners could be progressively addressed. Sribharat said he would continue to seek support from the Centre and the state government to restore RINL as a sustainable and financially viable organisation. The objective was to strengthen the steel plant and position it competitively among the country's major steel producers, he said.

Krishnashtami Celebrations Held Across Visakhapatnam

Visakhapatnam: Krishnashtami was celebrated across Visakhapatnam on Friday with programmes organised at schools, colleges, temples and other spiritual centres. Children dressed as Radha and Krishna participated in celebrations while college students in traditional attire attended the programmes at pandals where symbolic milk and butter pots were major attractions. Temples across the city conducted devotional programmes. A Gomata Puja was held at Krishnapuram Goshala under the auspices of Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam in Simhachalam. Priests performed special rituals to a cow decorated with garlands as devotees chanted Vedic hymns and prayed for peace and prosperity. Priests explained the significance of the cow in Sanatana Dharma and its connection with Lord Krishna's life as a cowherd. Celebrations at Sagarnagar, home to the largest ISKCON temple in North Andhra, began with Mangala Harathi and Akhanda Harinama Sankirtana. The Hare Krishna movement held its celebrations at Gambheeram in MVP Colony, where Prataha Abhishekam was performed using waters from seven holy rivers, fruit juices and flowers, accompanied by Vedic chants. District collector Abhishekth Kishore and his wife participated in Jhula Seva to Bala Gopala at Gadi Raju Palace. Devotees also took part in chanting at the 108-plank Hare Nama Japa Mandapam and performed Jhula Seva to Laddu



Gopala brought from Vrindavan. Cultural programmes by artists were among the major attractions. The Maha Abhishekam and midnight Maha Mangala Arati were held on Friday to mark the divine appearance of Lord Krishna. The rituals were performed with sacred waters, Panchamrita, Panchagavya and flowers, accompanied by Vedic mantras. The second day of the celebrations, on Saturday would see Vyasa Puja and Nandotsava. The Abhishekam to the deity forms of AC Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada and a traditional feast recalling Krishna's birth in Vrindavan are arranged. A special Bhajan Clubbing programme has also been scheduled, featuring devotional music and instruments.

GVMC Issues Preliminary Notification for Ward Expansion

Visakhapatnam: The Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) has issued a preliminary notification for delimitation of wards, proposing an increase from the existing 98 wards to 120. GVMC commissioner Ketan Garg said on Friday that the draft ward boundaries had been prepared in accordance with Rule 8 of the Andhra Pradesh Municipal Corporation (Delimitation of Wards) Rules, 1996, and subsequent government orders and circulars. The draft boundary details of the proposed 120 wards will be available for public inspection from September 5. Copies will be displayed at the GVMC head office, all 10 reorganised zonal offices, notice boards of key government offices within GVMC limits and the official GVMC website. Residents can submit suggestions or objections to the proposed delimitation and ward boundaries to the GVMC Commissioner on or before September 11, 2026, as specified in the preliminary notification.



Jagan Seeks CBI Probe Into Mega DSC 'Scam', Demands Lokesh's Resignation

Vijayawada: Former Chief Minister and YSRC president Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has demanded a CBI probe into alleged irregularities in the 2025 Mega DSC recruitment, alleging that ineligible candidates were appointed at the expense of deserving aspirants. In a post on X, he also demanded HRD minister Nara Lokesh's resignation and questioned Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu over the alleged failure to order an independent investigation. Citing a case in Kurnool district, Jagan Mohan Reddy alleged that a BC candidate who required 75 marks in the TET but secured only 65 was appointed as an SGT under the sports quota. He questioned how the candidate cleared certificate verification despite being allegedly ineligible and sought to know who had influenced officials. Jagan Mohan Reddy alleged that similar violations had occurred in several districts and said officials under the government could not conduct an independent inquiry. He said the YSRC was fighting the matter in court on behalf of deserving candidates. He also alleged that GO No. 4 was used to fill 40 Forest Department sports quota posts without an examination, despite recruitment for 814 posts having progressed through notification and Mains examinations. He alleged that recruitment to the remaining 774 posts was halted to prevent the alleged irregularities from surfacing.



KCR to Chair BRS Legislators Meet on Sept 6 at His Farmhouse

Hyderabad:Former chief minister and leader of opposition in the Telangana Assembly K. Chandrashekar Rao has called for a meeting of the BRS Legislature Party on September 6, with the monsoon session of the Legislature set to begin on September 7.

In a news release, the BRS said Chandrashekar Rao would hold the meeting at his Erravalli farmhouse on the afternoon of September 6, and that all the party MLAs and MLCs were expected to attend it.

Though legislature party meetings are commonly held before or even during the Assembly sessions, this one assumes some significance



in the wake of a demand from Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy that Chandrashekar Rao should resign as the Leader of Opposition for not attending the sessions, a demand that has since been picked up by the Congress.

The two sides are also in the midst of a campaign with the BRS conducting a week long '1000 days of failures' of the Revanth Reddy government, while the Congress is running a counter campaign 'exposing' how the then BRS government pushed the state into serious trouble and how the Congress government, despite the serious challenges, had kept its promises to the people and is providing a people friendly administration.

Harish Rao alleges Revanth Reddy placed 15 lakh acres in 22A prohibited list

Former minister T Harish Rao accused Chief Minister Revanth Reddy of placing poor farmers' lands in the 22A prohibited list, depriving them of benefits. He demanded immediate lifting of the restrictions and announced intensified BRS protests over the issue.



Kumram Bheem Asifabad: Former finance minister T Harish Rao alleged that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy snatched food from the mouth of the poor by placing their lands in the list of prohibited lands. He was speaking at a protest staged by the BRS against the inclusion of lands in the 22A prohibited list and for failing to implement six poll guarantees in Koutala mandal centre on Friday.

Speaking on the occasion, Harish Rao said that the agricultural lands, house sites and assets of the poor were included in the prohibited lands. He cited that 42,867 acres of land were put on the prohibited list in Sirpur (T) constituency alone. While former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao gave the lands to the poor, Revanth Reddy grabbed the lands from the underprivileged.

Harish Rao further said that farmers were unable to get crop loans, Raithu Bandhu and

other benefits after the Chief Minister kept their lands in the prohibited properties. Revanth Reddy is playing with the lives of farmers. He is continuing his rule with lands as the focal point. About 15 lakh acres of lands have been placed in the 22A prohibited list.

The former minister accused Revanth Reddy of always trying to occupy someone's land instead of effectively implementing welfare schemes and providing lands to the poor. He demanded that the Chief Minister tender an apology for terming farmers as encroachers. He predicted that electors would teach a lesson to the Congress in forthcoming elections. He charged that the leaders hatched a conspiracy to share properties of the public by bringing in the list. He announced that the BRS would lay siege to the Legislative Assembly and the house of the Chief Minister with lakhs of people soon. He demanded that the government immediately lift the prohibition.

Harish Rao wondered whether snatching lands of the poor was Indiramma's rule. He promised that the BRS would continue to fight until the poor get justice. He alleged that contractors were not filing tenders to take up developmental works fearing that they would have to give 15 percent of commission to Revanth Reddy, deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and his wife each.

Jagadish Reddy demands probe into allegations against Revanth Reddy

BRS MLA G Jagadish Reddy demanded an investigation into allegations made by Konda Surekha and her daughter Sushmitha against Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. He also accused the Congress government of corruption, poor governance and compromising Telangana's interests.

Hyderabad: Former Minister and BRS MLA G Jagadish Reddy on Friday demanded an investigation into the allegations made by former Minister Konda Surekha and her daughter Sushmitha against Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. He said the removal of Surekha from the Cabinet had exposed the internal crisis within the Congress.

He questioned why the issues raised by Sushmitha, including allegations of contractors and industrialists being intimidated, were not being discussed. "Disputes over contracts in Warangal, lands in Hyderabad and collections from industrialists had surfaced within the party and led to a fallout between the Ministers, which eventually resulted in Surekha's exit," he said.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan on Friday, Jagadish Reddy said Sushmitha's remarks pointed to corruption within the government and rubbished the argument that the BRS was behind her remarks. He sought to know who was behind Congress MLA Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy. He reminded that a Congress Minister had publicly made claims about money being paid for party positions and sent to senior leaders.

The former Minister alleged that the Congress government had removed Dharani and introduced the Bhu Bharati portal, which was turned into a tool to facilitate land-related corruption. He accused the Revenue Minister of encourag-



ing settlements involving landowners and collecting commissions. He accused the Congress government of betraying and deceiving people during its 1,000 days in power, alleging that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy had failed on governance.

On irrigation and power, Jagadish Reddy alleged that Telangana's interests were being compromised in favour of Andhra Pradesh. He said the State's rights over Krishna and Godavari River waters must be protected. He accused Revanth Reddy and some other Ministers of cozying up with Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu at the cost of Telangana's water.

He vowed that the BRS would continue to question the Congress government's failed promises in the upcoming Assembly session. He also demanded an inquiry by the Assembly Ethics Committee into remarks made by Congress MLAs.

TPCC chief Mahesh Goud defends Konda Surekha's removal from Cabinet

TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud defended Konda Surekha's removal from the Telangana Cabinet, saying the AICC acted on the TPCC Disciplinary Committee's report. He also ruled out discussions on Cabinet expansion or reshuffle with the party high command.

Hyderabad: A day after Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy dropped Konda Surekha from his Cabinet, TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud defended the decision, saying the party high command acted on the report of the TPCC Disciplinary Committee.

Responding to Surekha's allegations, Goud stressed that the Chief Minister had no need to blackmail anyone and that the AICC approved her removal based on the Disciplinary Committee's report.

Speaking to the media in New Delhi, the TPCC president wanted Surekha to continue in the Congress party. He maintained that she was removed from the Cabinet following complaints regarding her conduct.

Countering criticism that the party had failed to protect a BC woman leader, Goud stated that caste and regional equations could not be considered when dealing with disciplinary issues.

He said three BC women had already been appointed to different positions and stressed



that the party high command was keen on giving priority to BCs in future appointments.

However, Goud's remarks dashed the hopes of several MLAs aspiring for a Cabinet berth. He clarified that there had been no discussion with the AICC leadership on Cabinet expansion or a reshuffle.

"There was no discussion on Cabinet expansion or reshuffle with the AICC leadership. It was not an agenda at all. Discussions were held over a few Bills to be introduced in the Assembly," Goud said.

Temples Along Godavari To Be Developed In Time Before Pushkaralu: Ponuguleti

Bhadradi Kothagudem: Telangana Minister for Revenue and Housing, Information & Public Relations, Ponuguleti Srinivas Reddy visited the Bhadrachalam Sita Ramachandraswamy temple on Friday and offered special prayers before the deity in the main shrine. The Minister was on a visit to review the temple reconstruction works, being carried out at a cost of Rs 351 crore. Speaking to the media, he said that the government has resolved to develop all temples along the Godavari river, from Basara to Bhadrachalam, in time for the Godavari Pushkaralu.

The Minister said the Bhadradi temple would be rebuilt on a grand and spectacular scale. He said works are being expedited to ensure the temple's northern gate is ready in time for the Mukoti Utsavams.

During his inspection, he reviewed a wide range of development works currently in progress, including the surroundings of the Chitrakoot Mandapam, the goshala, the annadanam satram, the vista complex, the pathway leading to



the Shiva temple, the northern gate darshan area, multiple ongoing developments within the historic temple, and the construction of the main streets around the temple and sought detailed updates from officials on the status of each of these works.

The Minister instructed officials to take all necessary steps to ensure that every ongoing work is completed well ahead of the Sri Ramanavami Utsavams scheduled for April 2027. As part of the broader temple development programme, the first phase of works, backed by an allocation of Rs 276 crore, has already been inaugurated.

The Minister added that works related to sculptures and stone structures for the temple are being initiated locally, so that this specialised craftsmanship can be carried out on-site rather than being sourced from elsewhere. "We will complete all these undertaken works on time and beautify the town of Bhadrachalam," he said.

Also present on the occasion were MLA Payam Venkateswarlu, Tellam Venkat Rao, Jare Adinarayana, District Collector Ankit, and representatives of the construction agency executing the redevelopment works.

Release Nagarjuna Sagar Water, Warns KTR, Congress Hits Back

Hyderabad: BRS Working President K T Rama Rao on Thursday said he would undertake a padayatra from Kodad to Haliya with thousands of farmers if the Telangana government failed to announce a schedule for releasing water into the Nagarjuna Sagar Left Canal by September 14.

Alleging that the Congress government was withholding water from the Left Canal despite around 180 TMC being available in the Nagarjuna Sagar project, Rama Rao, also known as KTR, said farmers were anxious about their crops.

He recalled that his father and BRS president K Chandrasekhara Rao had undertaken a similar padayatra (foot march) from Kodad to Haliya in Nalgonda district in 2003 in support of farmers dependent on the Left Canal, successfully pressuring the then government to resolve their water woes. He said he was prepared to launch a similar agitation now.

Addressing an event in Miryalguda in Nalgonda district on Thursday evening, KTR said the Nagarjuna Sagar command area, which had flourished under the BRS government and contributed significantly to Telangana's agricultural growth, was facing a



severe crisis, leaving farmers across the Left Canal command area uncertain about water for their crops.

Countering KTR, Congress MLA Beerla Ilaiah told reporters on Friday that irrigation projects in Nalgonda district, including modernisation works on the Left Canal, had been ignored under the previous BRS regime, and that people would not trust the BRS even if Rama Rao undertook a padayatra or similar agitation.

Ilaiah said the state government was prioritising drinking water supply in view of deficient rainfall attributed to El Nino and alleged that Rama Rao was resorting to agitations as he was "unable to digest the popularity of the Congress government", which had recently completed 1,000 days in office.

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A TURNING POINT IN SOCIAL MEDIA HISTORY

The Meta's \$18 billion settlement marks a belated recognition that harm can be embedded not merely in how social media is used, but in how it is designed

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.Exploring Media De-grees

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. As important as the time a child spends on an app is, what they are shown is just as important. Traditionally, social-media platforms’ business models have been predicated on maximising users’ time and attention.

BRS steps up statewide agitation as Congress marks 1,000 days in office

The BRS stepped up its statewide agitation for the third consecutive day, coinciding with the Congress government completing 1,000 days in office. Party leaders accused the ruling dispensation of failing to implement key election promises, including pensions, women’s assistance and farmer welfare, while staging symbolic protests across Telangana.

Hyderabad: Massive rallies, Vanta-Vaarpu programmes, road blockades and protests were held as part of the BRS “Samarabheri” statewide agitation for the third consecutive day on Friday, as the ruling Congress completed 1,000 days in office. The party leaders targeted the Congress government over non-implementation of election promises, focusing largely on women, senior citizens and persons with disabilities, with the BRS demanding implementation of promised financial assistance and pension hikes.

The party has been conducting a week-long campaign from September 2 to 8, with each day devoted to specific issues and sections of society.

At several places, BRS cadres organised “Vanta Varpu” programmes, rallies and public meetings. BRSLP deputy leader T Harish Rao participated in a protest in Sirpur and demanded that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy apologise to farmers for insulting them by treating them as land encroachers by listing their legally purchased lands in the 22A prohibited lands list. He stated that the Chief Minister failed to deliver promises of hiked pensions to senior citizens, differently abled persons, single women and others, besides shelving welfare schemes like KCR Kits and Dalit Bandhu.

“This Congress owes around Rs 66,000 to every beneficiary of Aasara pensions. We will force it to cough up the dues,” he said.

He slammed the Chief Minister for getting his house removed from the prohibited list overnight, while forcing the genuine property owners to run around government offices for clearance and giving them sleepless nights.

Former Minister Vemula Prashanth Reddy participated in the protest in Morthad of Balkonda con-



stituency and questioned the Congress government over Six Guarantees promised to women, farmers and youth. He said the Congress government owes Rs 82,500 to each woman as it failed to implement the monthly honourarium of Rs 2,500 to each woman and another Rs 66,000 to each Aasara pension beneficiaries as part of its election promise.

In Pocharam, a protest was held at the PHC colony in Annojiguda, where the party alleged that promises including Rs 6,000 monthly pension for persons with disabilities and Rs 2,500 monthly assistance for women remained unfulfilled.

In Nirmal, more than 500 women and persons with disabilities participated in the protests and voiced grievances over the alleged failure to implement election assurances. Similar programmes were held in Maldaqal in Jogulamba Gadwal district, Tirumalagiri in Suryapet and other parts of the State.

The agitation also took a strong farmers’ turn. Boath MLA Anil Jadhav led a protest at the Ichoda electricity substation, followed by a Vanta Varpu programme. He joined farmers in a symbolic protest using nooses, alleging that the government’s power policies were causing distress to the farming community. He accused the Congress government of failing to provide the promised 24-hour quality free power supply and recalled the implementation of Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima under the previous BRS government.

In Regonda, former MLA Gandra Venkataramana Reddy led a farmers’ rally carrying a 420-foot banner and demanded resolution of farmers’ problems. In Wardhannapet, former MLA Aroori Ramesh staged an unusual protest inside an SRSP canal, playing cricket, volleyball and shuttle to highlight the absence of irrigation water.

The protests were also marked by sharp symbolism. In Mahabubabad, former Minister Satyavathi Rathod and former MP Maloth Kavitha participated in a Vanta Varpu programme and a rally carrying a 420-foot flexi. The BRS accused the government of failing to implement its six guarantees and other election commitments.

In Maripeda, former Minister Redya Naik led a protest and Vanta Varpu on the Khammam-Warangal highway, alleging failure to implement the six guarantees.

In Gajwel, MLA Kotha Prabhakar Reddy participated in the protest, with BRS leaders targeting the government over its 1,000-day record and irrigation-related issues.

The campaign also triggered confrontations with police. In Eturunagaram, Mulugu district, police removed BRS flexis put up ahead of a protest rally, citing lack of permission, leading to tension between the cadres and police.

In Secunderabad, MLA T Padma Rao led a rally displaying banners listing the BRS’s version of the government’s “420 promises” and raised issues including pensions, women’s assistance, farmer support and jobs.

The BRS has announced that the agitation will continue through September 8, covering youth issues, fee reimbursement, the job calendar, local problems and representations to officials. The party has also announced support for protests by teachers and government employees on September 10.

Konda Surekha’s Cabinet exit: Chronology of events raises questions over her sidelining

Hyderabad: There are always two sides to a coin. On one side, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy decided to drop Forest Minister Konda Surekha from his Cabinet following allegations made against him by her daughter, Konda Sushmitha. On the other, a chronology of events in the recent past offers a different perspective.

Consider this. Surekha, who also holds the Endowments portfolio, had admitted that she was sidelined in the Samakka Saralamma Jathara tenders. She alleged that Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy had bypassed her in awarding the works to firms allegedly favourable to him.

After the controversy subsided, the Congress government announced the appointment of Yadagirigutta Devasthanam Trust Board members. However, Surekha was kept in the dark about the appointments, with the announcement being made while she was in London.

This was followed by another controversy. BRS turncoat MLA from Station Ghanpur Kadiyam Srihari held a review meeting at the Endowments Commissioner’s Office in the absence of the Minister.

Surekha strongly objected to the meeting and wanted the State government to initiate disciplinary action against Srihari, terming it a deliberate attempt to undermine her authority.

The biggest flashpoint, however, came when the



Chief Minister, while addressing a public meeting, announced that sitting Parkal MLA Revuri Prakash Reddy would contest from the constituency in the next elections. He also appealed to the people to support Prakash Reddy.

This was after Konda Surekha’s daughter Konda Sushmitha was planning to contest from the same constituency.

The announcement went against the Congress party’s established practice of announcing candidates through the party leadership. However, apart from

TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud, who found fault with the Chief Minister’s announcement, no major objections were raised by other party leaders.

None of these episodes, by themselves, directly establish any deliberate attempt to target or provoke Surekha. However, viewed together, the sequence of events raises questions about whether the Minister had been increasingly sidelined within the government and the party.

The chronology may not prove a conscious effort to target Surekha, but it certainly provides another perspective to the developments that eventually culminated in her removal from the Cabinet.

ISRO's GSLV-F17 Successfully Launches Key Imaging Satellite

Sriharikota: India early on Friday placed its first-ever Earth observation satellite in a geosynchronous orbit, with the spacecraft speeding away at over 36,000 kmph (10,197 metres per second) to its designated home 36,000 km in the sky. The EOS-05 is designed to provide advanced, near-real-time Earth observation data, significantly strengthening the country’s capabilities in land monitoring, environmental tracking and disaster management. This was the first successful launch for the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) this year.



Earth observation satellites are generally placed in the low Earth orbit, meaning they have a very small area that they can scan at one time. The EOS-05 at 36,000 km above the Earth can continuously monitor the same spot. The achievement drew praise from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and from across the political spectrum.

In a spectacular pre-dawn display, the rocket, in mission F17, lifted off on the dot at 2.55 am on Friday 05 mission from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota, leaving a trail of orange flames that pierced the darkness, bringing cheer to space scientists fans and the hundreds of spectators who braved a downpour at the Visitors’ Gallery to witness the launch despite the late hour.

Standing 51.7-metre-tall, the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) weighed 420.5 tonnes at lift-off from the second launch pad. It met and even surpassed expectations, as announced by Isro Chairman Dr V. Narayanan. The three-stage GSLV was equipped with an indigenous cryogenic upper stage and a four-metre-diameter ‘ogive’ composite payload fairing to accommodate the satellite. This was the heaviest satellite that the GSLV has hoisted into space so far.

It placed the satellite into its targeted sub-geosynchronous transfer orbit (sub-GTO), from where it will make its way to it space home. Dr Narayanan noted that Isro had targeted an orbit with a perigee (nearest point to Earth) of 170 km and an apogee of 29,000 km (farthest point from Earth), but the GSLV performed better than expected, placing the satellite at a 171-km perigee and a 31,000-km apogee, saving it much fuel which could extend its estimated lifetime of about nine years.

Isro will in the coming days carry out orbit-raising maneuvering to elevate the satellite to its home.

EOS-05, weighing in at about 2,300 kg, is being seen as a replacement for the Gsat-1 mission, which was lost following the failure of the GSLV-F10 launch in August 2021. The high-stakes mission was closely watched, coming after a challenging phase for Isro which had paused launches following anomalies in two successive PSLV missions, including the PSLV-C62 on January 12, to undertake detailed technical reviews.

Visibly elated by the success, ISRO chairman Dr V. Narayanan congratulated Team ISRO and acknowledged the contribution of industrial partners, academia and the organisation’s strong work culture. He said the solar panels of EOS-05 had been deployed and the satellite was in perfect health.

“This is the 107th launch from Sriharikota and the 19th mission of GSLV,” Dr Narayanan announced, flanked by key scientists involved in the mission. “Today, we have injected the heaviest satellite 2,367 kg using this launch vehicle.” Quoting satellite data, he confirmed that all the systems were operating perfectly well and that the solar panel has been successfully deployed. “The health of satellite is perfectly all right,” he said. Mission director Thomas Kurien said the EOS was uniquely configured for near-real time imaging. Project director (satellite) Imteyaz Ahamad noted that the EOS-05 was a unique, one of its kind satellite with multi-band operating capabilities. “It is a complex satellite in terms of configuration, content and capability.”

Despite the satellite’s capabilities of relatively ‘standing’ in one place with reference to Earth, its near-real time imaging capacity, its multi-band ‘eye’, Dr Narayanan insisted that EOS-05 was not a spy satellite. “Once EOS-05 is operationalised, it will become India’s first dedicated imaging satellite from the geosynchronous orbit, providing important strategic data for our country,” he said.

The successful mission drew praise from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who hailed the achievement in a message posted on X. “Yet another outstanding achievement by ISRO and a proud moment for our nation. The successful launch of GSLV-F17 carrying EOS-05, India’s first-ever imaging satellite from Geosynchronous orbit, is a reflection of the excellence, innovation and growing capabilities that define India’s space sector,” he said.

The Prime Minister also highlighted the expanding role of the private sector in India’s space ambitions, saying, “The growing partnership between ISRO and Indian industry is adding new strength and scale to our space programme and expanding India’s capabilities across the entire space ecosystem.”

PSLV set for return as ISRO validates workhorse; six more launches planned

India’s trusted workhorse PSLV is on its way back to the launch pad, with the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) validating the vehicle and working on design improvements for upcoming missions, ISRO Chairman Dr V. Narayanan said on Friday.

Dr Narayanan said the launch vehicle was currently undergoing validation. Director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) U.P. Rajeev further indicated that the PSLV design was being improved to meet the requirements of new missions.

Congress Public Government's 1,000-Day Governance Celebrations Held Grandly in Kubeer

Nirmal District : As per the directions of Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, TPCC President Bommena Mahesh Kumar Goud, Joint Adilabad District In-charge Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, and Nirmal District DCC President and Khanapur MLA Vedma Bhoju Patel, the Congress Public Government's 1,000-day governance celebrations were held grandly at Kubeer Mandal headquarters under the leadership of former MLA G. Vittal Reddy.

Speaking on the occasion, former MLA G. Vittal Reddy said that the Congress government had completed 1,000 days of public governance and was successfully implementing welfare, development and social justice programmes across Telangana.

He highlighted several welfare initiatives, stating that more than 53 lakh families are receiving free electricity up to 200 units under the Gruha Jyothi scheme. Through the



Mahalakshmi scheme, women have reportedly saved around ₹12,161 crore in bus fares. He also cited free electricity for agriculture, more than ₹36,000 crore in investment assistance under Rythu Bharosa, and ₹5 lakh assistance for the construction of 4.5 lakh Indiramma houses in the first phase.

He further said that fine rice was being distributed to 3.38 crore beneficiaries through the Public Distribution System, while 15.46 lakh new ration cards had been issued. Funds of ₹720 crore were allocated for breakfast, milk and nutritious food for more than 22 lakh students. He added that more than 72,000 government jobs had been filled and notifications had been issued for 7,437 police posts.

Vittal Reddy alleged that the BJP leaders were claiming that the Centre was also providing funds for Indiramma houses, but questioned the availability of any Central funds so far. He said that recently around ₹200 crore had been released under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and In-charge Minister Jupally Krishna Rao.

He also alleged that BRS and BJP leaders had approached the High Court seeking a stay on the Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes with the intention of defaming the government. He said Chief Minister Revanth Reddy intervened through government lawyers and explained the importance of the schemes to poor and weaker sections, following which the stay was lifted.

Sri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations in Zaheerabad

Zaheerabad September: Sri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations were celebrated in a grand manner in Zahirabad. Sri Manik Prabhu School in Zaheerabad to commemorate Sri Krishna's birth. On this occasion, special programs were organized with devotion in the school premises and the childhood pastimes and greatness of Sri Krishna were conveyed to the students. The students entertained themselves by dressing up as Sri Krishna and Radha, and various cultural programs impressed everyone. A festive atmosphere prevailed in the school premises. Shivshakti Joint District Coordinator Shyam Rao, Nithya Annadana Seva Samiti President Balachander, teacher Mohan Reddy, and Irrigation Department employee Raghu participated as the chief guests in this program and congratulated the students. Sri Manik Prabhu School Correspondent M. Venkatayya also participated in the program and explained the importance of Sri Krishna Janmashtami to the students. He stated that by introducing Indian culture and traditions to students from an early age, moral values, devotion and respect for culture will be developed in them. On this occasion, the guests appreciated the talent and cultural performances of the students. The program ended successfully with the enthusiastic participation of the school staff and students. Later, a program of beating the utti with Gopis and Lord Krishna dressed as children was organized.



Sri Krishna Janmashtami Celebrations Held in Grand Manner

Nagarkurnool : Sri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations were held in a grand manner at the Ramalayam in the district headquarters of Nagarkurnool. A large number of devotees and people gathered to witness the traditional Uriyadi programme, creating a festive atmosphere around the temple.

Meanwhile, Janmashtami celebrations were also organised at Pallavi Model School and the local Saraswathi Shishu Mandir in Nagarkurnool. Children participated enthusiastically in the celebrations and added to the festive spirit.

The celebrations were conducted with devotion and traditional fervour on the school premises. Children dressed up as Lord Krishna and Gopikas, captivating everyone with their colourful costumes. Cultural programmes and performances by the children further added to the festive atmosphere. Their dances and other cultural presentations were appreciated by everyone.



Osmania University VC Prof. M. Kumar Honoured with Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Excellence Award

Teachers play a vital role in shaping responsible citizens, says Prof. M. Kumar

Hyderabad, September 4: Teachers play an invaluable role in shaping students into knowledgeable, responsible and disciplined individuals, said Osmania University Vice-Chancellor Prof. M. Kumar. On the eve of National Teachers' Day and the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the Telangana Intellectuals Forum, State Branch, organised a special programme at the VC Residence Hall of Osmania University on Friday. Prof. M. Kumar attended the programme as the chief guest and addressed the gathering. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Kumar said that life is incomplete without a teacher and that the blessings, guidance



and teachings of educators help individuals choose the right path in life. He described teachers as the foundation of a successful and meaningful life. Osmania University Registrar Prof. Naresh Reddy said teachers guide people from the darkness of ignorance towards the path of knowledge and enlighten their lives through education and wisdom. Telangana Intellectuals Forum

State Branch President Dr. Raj Narayan Mudiraj said teachers impart not only academic knowledge but also discipline, compassion, values and good manners, which are essential for leading a meaningful life. Senior Professor of the Department of Commerce, Osmania University, Prof. Patrick said the contribution of teachers towards shaping the future of the country is invaluable and that

their role in nation-building cannot be underestimated. Excellence Award Presented On the occasion, Telangana Intellectuals Forum President Dr. Raj Narayan Mudiraj felicitated Osmania University Vice-Chancellor Prof. M. Kumar with a shawl, flower garland and memento and presented him with a citation certificate of appreciation along with the Dr. Sarvepalli

Radhakrishnan Excellence Award. The award was presented in recognition of Prof. Kumar's more than three decades of dedicated service in the field of education and his professional journey from a teacher to the Vice-Chancellor of Osmania University. Prof. Jitender Kumar Naik, Prof. Shekhar, Prof. B. Srinagesh, Prof. Mangu, Prof. Bhagyavathi, Dr. Raviteja, Dr. Akhtar Ali, Dr. A. Anitha, Dr. P. Supriya, Major S. K. Shivaprasad, Etta Udayashree Reddy, and coordinators G. Venugopal, Bichukari Surya and Ram Gopal Reddy, among others, felicitated Prof. Kumar with shawls, flower garlands and mementos and conveyed their warm wishes to him.

We Will Not Tolerate Extortion in the Name of Ambedkar's Ideology

30 Lakh Collected in the Name of Ambedkar Bhavan Mahaneeyula Aashayala Sangham Founder-President Bonkoori Kailasam

Peddapalli Correspondent August 4: Peddapalli: Mahaneeyula Aashayala Sangham Founder-President Bonkoori Kailasam has made serious allegations that ₹30 lakh was collected from local Marwadi businessman Anand Lavoti in the name of the All India Ambedkar Sangham and that the site was illegally leased out in connection with the proposed Ambedkar Bhavan in Godavarikhani. Speaking at a press conference held at the Peddapalli Press Club on Friday, Kailasam alleged that although ₹5 crore in government funds had been sanctioned for the construction of Ambedkar Bhavan in Godavarikhani, an individual named Bonkoori Madhu allegedly collected ₹30 lakh from Anand Lavoti by using the name of the All India Ambedkar Sangham and illegally leased out the site. Kailasam stated that during an earlier police inquiry into the alleged irregularity, Madhu had reportedly agreed to return the money within five days. However, he alleged that Madhu later changed his stand and even is-



sued legal notices to the Police Commissioner, Circle Inspectors and members of their organisation, describing the development as a sign of his alleged audacity. He also alleged that Lingamalla Shankaraiah, who is working as a teacher in a government school, had formed a society and was allegedly collecting money forcibly from fellow teachers. Kailasam further alleged that false cases were being filed against those who refused to pay contributions by misusing the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. Kailasam appealed to the public to remain vigilant against individuals who, he alleged, are acting against the principles of

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and the objectives of social organisations, while making allegations against senior officials and collecting ₹350 per person in the name of various programmes. He demanded that the District Collector and Police Commissioner immediately intervene and order a high-level inquiry into the alleged land irregularities. He also demanded recovery of the ₹30 lakh allegedly collected in the name of the lease and strict legal action against those responsible. Kailasam warned that if immediate action was not taken, they would approach higher authorities with complaints from September 7 and intensify their movement across the district. Mahaneeyula Aashayala Sangham town president Kande Karunakar, Kukka Ravi, Theri Balakrishna and Gudivela Ravi were present at the press conference.

Warangal Congress MLC Saraiah dares Konda Surekha to resign, contest as Independent

Congress MLC Baswaraju Saraiah has challenged former Minister Konda Surekha to resign from her MLA post and contest against him as an independent from Warangal East. Reacting to her remarks, Saraiah accused Surekha and her husband of indulging in blackmail politics and said the party high command would not tolerate indiscipline.

Warangal: Senior Congress leader MLC Baswaraju Saraiah has challenged former Minister Konda Surekha to quit her MLA post and contest against him as an independent candidate from Warangal (East) Assembly segment. This, he said, was in reference to reported remarks made by Surekha against the MLC wherein she said even his own wife would not vote for him. The MLC said that he was ready to contest as an independent and told the ex-Minister to do the same.

Speaking to the media here on Friday, Saraiah noted that the dismissal of Surekha from the State Cabinet was entirely her own doing and there was nothing wrong with it. The party high command would not tolerate anyone who speaks against the party leadership violating the party discipline.

The party leadership acted against a senior leader like Dr. G Chinna Reddy; dropping him from the position of Vice-Chairman of the Telangana State Planning Board and even Indira Gandhi was once suspended from the party for violating the party rules, he said.

Stating that it was inappropriate to criticise Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and the party leaders, the MLC alleged that Konda Murali and his



wife Surekha were used to engage in blackmail politics; blackmailing members of whichever party they belong to was second nature to them. They only raise the 'BC' (Backward Class) slogan when they face adversity; in reality, the Konda couple has never allowed a single BC leader to rise in Warangal. Criticising senior leaders like Ramasahayam Surender Reddy was beneath their stature, Saraiah added.

India Ready to Offer ‘Any Help’ to End Ukraine-Russia War: Jaishankar



Kyiv: India is ready to extend "any help in any manner" to end the Ukraine-Russia war, which is now in its fifth year, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Thursday as he held wide-ranging talks with his Ukrainian counterpart Andrii Sybiha in Kyiv. "India has consistently maintained that this is not an era of war, and that solutions will not emerge from the battlefield," he said in a joint press statement alongside Sybiha after their talks.

Jaishankar recalled that Prime Minister Narendra Modi just two days ago declared that endless war must now give way to the end of war during a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Bishkek on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit. "Every passing day of conflict only means more deaths and more destruction. Understandably, it is for the parties involved to find a way. But, if India can be of any help in any manner, we are ready," he said.

India has been consistently calling for ending the Russia-Ukraine conflict through dialogue and diplomacy. "In consonance with Prime Minister Modi's call for an end to war, my visit has a focus on the prospects of dialogue and diplomacy. I will be taking back the views and positions shared today by the Ukrainian side," he added. Jaishankar later called on President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and apprised him of his discussions with the Ukrainian counterpart on deepening bilateral cooperation.

"Our conversation centered on approaches to end the ongoing conflict," said the minister, who had earlier mentioned that he would convey the greetings and good wishes of PM Modi to the President. Earlier, the Ukrainian foreign minister welcomed PM Modi's call to move from an endless war towards an end to the war, saying his country "stands ready for diplomacy."

"India is a global power and we welcome Prime Minister Modi's call to move from an endless war towards an end to the war," Sybiha said in a post on X.

Jaishankar, who arrived here amid escalating hostilities between Moscow and Kyiv, said his trip has a "bilateral purpose". "But more important, it takes place in the larger context of the war that has been underway since 2022. Only two days ago, an Indian national was also killed in an attack in Kyiv. We join in mourning every life lost and convey our deepest sympathy to every affected family," he said. India has also been concerned over a series of attacks on merchant ships in the Black Sea in the last few weeks. Recalling his multiple interactions with the Ukrainian minister in the last few months, Jaishankar said, "Our conversation today was very free and very open." "There were also some specific aspects of this conflict that came up in our discussions. Prominent among them was attacks on commercial shipping. Indian seafarers man ships of many flags and have been among the unfortunate casualties," he said. He said the impact on shipping is also significantly affecting many nations of the Global South in a variety of ways, leading to fuel, fertiliser and food shortages. "So we exchanged views on these and related matters." He also mentioned India's contribution to humanitarian relief and assistance to Ukraine, including the supply of 19 consignments of humanitarian assistance. On the bilateral front, Jaishankar said the trade between the two countries spans a wide range of sectors, from pharmaceuticals, food & agriculture and fertilisers to machinery, chemicals and consumer goods. "Understandably, in the last four years, this trade has seen some disruption due to the war situation and logistical challenges. At the same time, there has been a visible resilience, and some new possibilities have emerged," he said, adding that they will address the challenges. "We are very much aware that Ukraine has deep strengths and capabilities. India too is developing at a rapid pace. And some of these notable areas of progress are in digital capabilities, innovation and startups. The world of AI offers new openings in health, education, agriculture, even in governance," he said. Jaishankar invited Sybiha to visit India at his convenience for the next meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission. "A pleasure to meet with FM @andrii_sybiha of Ukraine here in Kyiv. Thank him and his team for the hospitality extended. Was updated on the recent developments in the ongoing conflict and peace negotiations," Jaishankar later said in a post on X. "Conveyed the need to ensure the safety & security of commercial shipping and seafarers. Also discussed ways to further strengthen our bilateral relationship, including in the fields of education, health, agriculture, digital, innovation, diplomatic training and development cooperation," he added. He also said that education has been another longstanding area of activity, noting that there are many Indian students currently studying in Ukraine. In his post on X, Sybiha welcomed Jaishankar to Kyiv for "the first-ever dedicated bilateral visit of an Indian External Affairs Minister to Ukraine." "This historic moment takes place amid escalating Russian attacks against our cities, port infrastructure, and civil shipping. Our capital is constantly under attack, and I appreciate my colleague's brave visit," he added.

HIWAGA expands to Kakinada with the opening of its new Skin, Hair, Aesthetics and Salon Clinic in Rayanam Square

THE NEW CENTRE MARKS HIWAGA'S 11TH BRANCH AND BRINGS ITS INTEGRATED SKIN, HAIR, AESTHETIC AND SALON SERVICES TO KAKINADA



Kakinada, September 4th 2026: HIWAGA, a South India-based chain of skin, hair and aesthetic clinics, has expanded its presence with the opening of its new centre in Rayanam Square, Bhanugudi Junction, Opp Subhadra Arcade Srinagar. The new facility, is the brand's 12th branch and represents its entry into the Kakinada market.

Founded in 2018, HIWAGA began with a single clinic in Hyderabad and has since expanded across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The company describes its approach as combining dermatological expertise, aesthetic care, advanced treatment technologies and personalised treatment plans. Its network offers services spanning skin, hair, laser and aesthetic treatments alongside salon and grooming services.

The new Kakinada centre will provide a broad range of skin and hair solutions. HIWAGA's dermatology services include treatments for acne and acne scars, pigmentation, melasma and ageing-related skin concerns, as well as skin rejuvenation procedures such as chemical peels, Hydra Facial, Q-Switch laser toning and other customised skincare treatments. The company also provides aesthetic procedures including anti-ageing treatments, Botox, dermal fillers, lip enhancement, thread lifts and skin-tightening solutions.

Hair-care services include diagnosis and treatment for hair fall and dandruff, PRP therapy, GFC treatment, scalp treatments and hair transplantation. HIWAGA says its hair restoration services are designed around individual assessment and personalised treatment planning, with advanced FUE techniques used for eligible hair-transplant patients.

Laser and aesthetic technology form another key part of HIWAGA's offering, including laser hair removal for the face and body, skin resurfacing and pigmentation correction. According to the company, its procedures follow defined safety protocols and use FDA-approved products and equipment, while HIWAGA also lists ISO 9001:2015 certification and NABH accreditation among its quality credentials.

Alongside its clinical aesthetic services, HIWAGA offers salon services for



women and men, including haircuts and styling, hair spa and smoothening, hair colouring, manicure and pedicure, facials, makeup and styling, beard grooming and waxing. The salon proposition is built around trained professionals, personalised consultations, hygiene and the use of premium products.

Commenting on the Kakinada launch, a HIWAGA spokesperson said: "Kakinada is an important milestone in HIWAGA's growth journey, and we are delighted to bring our integrated skin, hair, aesthetics and salon offering to the city. Our focus has always been on combining professional expertise, advanced technologies and personalised care in an environment where clients feel comfortable and well supported. We look forward to serving the people of Kakinada and building lasting relationships with our clients here."

HIWAGA says it has more than seven years of experience in dermatology and aesthetics and has served thousands of clients across its existing markets. Its model places emphasis on consultations and individualised treatment plans based on a client's concerns, skin or hair profile and aesthetic objectives.

The HIWAGA Indiranagar centre will be inaugurated at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, 4th September 2026, at 3rd floor, Revenue Ward, 2-1-59, Bhanugudi Junction, Opp Subadra Arcade Rayanam Square, Street Number 5, Srinagar, Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh 533003

Vishesh Sharma wins maiden title on home course at Telangana Golconda Masters



Hyderabad, September 4, 2026: Local favourite Vishesh Sharma held his nerve through a dramatic final round to secure his maiden professional title at the INR 1 crore Telangana Golconda Masters at Hyderabad Golf Association.

The 19-year-old closed with a one-under 69 to finish at 21-under 259, one stroke ahead of Noida's Amardeep Malik in the tournament's 12th edition.

Vishesh (60-66-64-69), playing his second season on the DP World PGTI, collected INR 15 lakh. The victory lifted him from 25th to 14th on the 2026 Order of Merit, taking his season earnings to INR 30,93,550, and secured his place in the DP World India Championship.

Malik (61-65-68-66) mounted a strong challenge with a closing four-under 66 but finished runner-up at 20-under 260. His eventful round contained an eagle on the

par-five sixth, six birdies, two bogeys and a double bogey.

The 41-year-old earned INR 10 lakh and moved from 22nd to 19th on the Order of Merit, with season earnings of INR 27,75,748.

Chandigarh's Akshay Sharma (69-69-63-60) matched the course record with the lowest round of the day, a 10-under 60. His round featured an eagle, 10 birdies and two bogeys, including four successive birdies from the third through the sixth. He climbed into a share of third at 19-under 261.

Delhi's Honey Baisoya (64-64-68-65) joined Akshay in third after making seven birdies and two bogeys in a 65. He earned INR 5,49,800 and strengthened his hold on third place in the season rankings with total earnings of INR 57,21,892.

Vishesh began the day with a four-shot advantage, but his route to victory was far

from straightforward. His 69 featured seven birdies, four bogeys and a double bogey as Malik reduced the margin to one.

"I'm over the moon. It still hasn't completely sunk in," Vishesh said. "To claim my first professional title at 19, and to do it at my home course, makes this victory incredibly special."

The crucial response came after his double bogey on the par-four 13th. With the tournament tightening, Vishesh made consecutive birdies on the 14th and 15th to retain his lead.

"The double bogey came down to nerves," he said. "I hit one poor shot and then attempted a recovery that wasn't really available, so I paid the price. But the two birdies that followed helped me hold the lead."

A long lag putt on the 18th allowed Vishesh to complete the victory safely.

"The lag putt on the 18th was particularly important and helped me finish the job," he said.

The title came in Vishesh's 33rd DP World PGTI start since joining the tour last season. His previous best result was sixth place at the Boulders Classic in April.

Vishesh thanked his parents, sister and



coach Sanjay Singh, along with HGA, Boulder Hills, the DP World PGTI staff, greenkeeping team, sponsors and event partners. He also credited his friends, club members and the home crowd for providing a morale boost throughout the final round.

The victory completed a journey that began when Vishesh attended a DP World PGTI event at HGA as a junior in 2021.

"I remember watching many top players that week," he said. "To have watched the professionals here as a youngster, then compete on the same course and now win a title is difficult to put into perspective."

Chandigarh's Angad Cheema (66-67-66-66) finished fifth at 15-under 265, followed by Ajeetesh

Sandhu (65-69-67-65) in sixth at 14-under 266. Delhi's Rashid Khan (68-69-63-67) and Kshitij Naveed Kaul (68-66-65-68) shared seventh at 13-under 267.

Defending champion Jamal Hossain (72-66-72-68) of Bangladesh finished tied 30th at two-under 278. His final round featured a hole-in-one on the par-three third, marking a fourth ace of the week. In the second round, Abhinav Lohan and Anshul Kabthiyal had both aced the par-three 11th, while Harman Sachdeva recorded his hole-in-one on the par-three seventh.

Current DP World PGTI Rankings leader Saptak Talwar (70-67-61-71), who spent the summer competing on the HotelPlanner Tour, finished alone in 11th place at 11-under 269.

Talwar earned INR

1,84,700 to extend his advantage at the top of the rankings, taking his season earnings to INR 89,32,384.

The Race to DP World India Championship is a competition to crown the DP World PGTI's number one player, and this competition will also determine the top-24 players from the DP World PGTI Order of Merit who will earn their spots at the season-ending DP World India Championship.

The tournament is supported by Event Partners Telangana Tourism, Hyderabad Golf Association, The Westin Hyderabad Mindspace, The Q Golf Studio by Playroot Golf, DP World PGTI's Umbrella Partner DP World, alongside Tour Partners Axis Bank, Amul, Amrutanjan Enerlyte, Air India Maharaja Club and Kalyani.

From Patiala to Japan: Indian athletes get a taste of Asian Games container accommodation

Indian athletes are spending nights in shipping containers at SAI centres in Patiala and Bengaluru to acclimatise to unusual accommodation planned for the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games. The simulation aims to eliminate uncertainty and help athletes remain focused on competition

Patiala: The beds are a little over six feet long, the walls are close, and there is little room for anything beyond the essentials. For some of India's athletes, however, spending a night inside a shipping container at the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS) here is less about discomfort and more about preparation for an unusual living arrangement awaiting them in Japan at the Asian Games.

With the Aichi-Nagoya Games beginning September 19 and no conventional athletes' village this time, Sports Authority of India (SAI) has set up makeshift container rooms at its centres in Patiala and Bengaluru to give its athletes a taste of what they can expect in Japan.

The idea is to make the unfamiliar familiar. Athletes are taking turns to spend a night inside the container, waking up the next morning and following their usual routine before heading to training.

By the time they reach Japan, the hope is that their accommodation will no longer be a distraction.

"Two years ago, when it was established that the accommodation at the Asian Games will be in a unique style — containers, cruise etc. — and not a village, at that time the Sports Minister's vision was that the players must be acclimatised in a similar way, like a simulator," Deputy Director General, SAI, Vineet Kumar told a select group of journalists at NSNIS, Patiala.

"And they don't feel claustrophobic or feel what sort of accommodation we have come in. So they don't feel shocked or get a setback and they go and play the Games without any pressure," Kumar, who is also the Senior Executive Director, NSNIS, Patiala, added.

For athletes, accustomed to sprawling rooms and dedicated spaces for their equipment, the compact surroundings can take some getting used to.

But two-time Asian Games champion shot putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor believes the advance preparation could make a difference.

"It looks small from outside but it's quite nice on the inside. All the facilities are here. This will be the first time that we stay in such a congested set-up but having stayed here it's good we are acclimatised," Toor told PTI.

"If we had directly gone to Japan, it would have stayed in our mind for one or two days," added the the six feet four inches tall two-time Asian Games gold medalist.

That is precisely what SAI and the Ministry wanted to avoid.

"The psychology of the athlete is such that if a logistical issue like this is there, it affects him. So the Minister's vision was that such a thing



doesn't happen and the players can focus on their game," Kumar said. A Ministry-SAI team visited Japan on a recce trip before the two simulation rooms in Patiala — one for men and one for women — were prepared based on what Indian athletes are expected to encounter. "We have made a roster and the athletes stay here turn by turn. They have to stay the night so that in the morning they know how to go about things," Kumar said.

The exercise began on August 28 and around eight athletes have so far spent time in the container.

For Commonwealth Games bronze medalist discus thrower Seema Kaliramna, the experience took some adjustment.

"I stayed here for two nights. It was a bit difficult to adjust because throwers take a little more space and this is quite small. The second day was good, I was able to sleep properly. The life of an athlete has a lot of adjustment, then only they win something," she said.

The simulation has removed an element of uncertainty, according to her.

"Staying here will help as we won't feel claustrophobia. I am thankful to SAI for doing this. Now the fear of not knowing how the accommodation will be in Japan is gone. I feel better as we won't be thinking how it will be there and how we will feel," she said.

SAI has nevertheless tried to make the limited space as functional as possible.

The roughly 13-metre-long and three-metre-wide unit has two twin-sharing bedroom quarters at either end, linked by a narrow central passage.

There are two split air-conditioners, a small laundry area with a washing machine and a compact kitchenette with a refrigerator and sink. The bathroom is divided into separate spaces for the wash basin, toilet and shower.

Four cabinets provide storage, while the space underneath the beds can accommodate heavy kit bags — an important consideration for athletes travelling with bulky equipment.

"The athletes have given a positive feedback. They feel like 'yeh jungle mei mangal kaise ho gaya'," Kumar said.

There is also a sustainability element to the experiment.

The two containers were already available at the NSNIS, having been used during the COVID-19 pandemic to store equipment for weightlifting and athletics.

Their sporting purpose will end after the Asian Games simulation, but the containers themselves will remain in use. They are planned to be converted into guest houses, with two beds removed to create twin-sharing rooms.

Johanna Konta defends Aryna Sabalenka after reporter questions US Open activities

Former British No. 1 Johanna Konta has defended Aryna Sabalenka after the world No. 1 hit back at a reporter over questions about her pre-US Open activities. Konta said athletes have brand commitments and suggested the questioning was antagonistic.

New Delhi: Former British player Johanna Konta has defended Aryna Sabalenka after the world No. 1 clapped back at a reporter, who asked her questions about her pre-tournament activities.

After her second-round win, Sabalenka was disgruntled by a line of questioning about her activities of the week leading up to the US Open. "How are you finding like your mood once now that the tournament has started? Obviously, last week it's lots of parties and fun and stuff like that," the journalist asked. Sabalenka lambasted the reporter, saying "what kind of question did he ask?"

"You guys are like a joke. Parties? Fun? Why would you even say that? Why would you even think about that? Like, what kind of question is that? Just because I posted some activities with brands and you think that I've been partying?" she said in the press conference.

Sabalenka's comments made headlines around the world and former British No. 1 Konta has leapt to the defence of the two-time US Open winner.

"I think this is the perfect example of don't always believe what you see on social media," Konta told Eurosport. "I think Aryna will have obligations to the brand that she works with. There is no doubt that an athlete, and a successful athlete like Aryna Sabalenka, is putting the necessary work in to be as successful as she is."

"And, to be fair, from her point of view, I do think the question was slightly antagonistic in a way, but I think it's because the press feel like they can get a reaction out of her."

Sabalenka, who is aiming to win her third straight US Open singles title, had little trouble eliminating latcenko. The Belarusian struck 24 winners and converted six of her eight break-point opportunities in the 54-minute match.

With a win, Sabalenka runs her US Open winning streak to 15 matches, and she has won 22 straight second-round matches in Grand Slam events.

Konta said that Sabalenka had good reason to speak out. "I don't think there's anything wrong with her explaining herself, or even her standing up for herself in that way, but yes, it definitely does get everyone talking," Konta added.

SPORTS



US Open 2026: Efficient Rybakina Reaches Third Round



Select Deccan Chronicle Now New York: Second-seeded Elena Rybakina advanced to the third round of the US Open Thursday, seeing off Spaniard Jessica Bouzas Maneiro 6-2, 6-4. The Kazakh dominated most of the match with heavy, deep ground strokes and big serves that the Spanish baseliner struggled to handle. Rybakina moved well and did not show effects of a left heel injury that has clouded her prospects in the week before the tournament.

Rybakina was broken while serving for the match at 5-3 when the Spaniard lifted her level. But Rybakina immediately broke back, returning Bouzas Maneiro's serve forcefully to finish the match in just over an hour. "I'm super glad, super happy to be here," Rybakina said afterwards, adding that she was "very proud" of strong play through two rounds despite imperfect preparation. The 2026 Australian Open champion, Rybakina had been playing well in the US

Open warmup tournaments, reaching the final in Toronto and winning matches the following week in Cincinnati.

But she was forced to retire from the latter event in the quarter-finals due to an injury that made her a question mark heading into the tournament. Now the 2022 Wimbledon champion needs just three more wins to reach the semi-finals and be assured of overtaking Aryna Sabalenka atop the world rankings. Her best showing at the US Open was in 2025 when she fell in the fourth round to Marketa Vondrousova. She'll be out for revenge in her next match against Ukrainian Yuliia Starodubtseva, who beat Maria Sakkari 1-6, 7-6 (7/4), 6-2. Starodubtseva stunned Rybakina in the second round at Roland Garros this year.

US Open 2026: Eala, Osaka and Gauff Advance, World No. 3 Auger-Aliassime Falls

New York: Alex Eala and her fans are headed to the week-end at the U.S. Open, along with two-time champion Naomi Osaka and 2023 winner Coco Gauff. So is Madison Keys — just barely — but not No. 3 Felix Auger-Aliassime, who became the highest-seeded player knocked out of the tournament thus far. No. 6 Alex de Minaur losing in straight sets to Botic van de Zandschulp made it four of the top-10 seeded men's players to get eliminated before the third round.

Osaka recovered after a mid-match lapse to advance to the third round with a 6-2, 5-7, 6-1 victory over Katerina Siniakova on Thursday, before Eala beat Oleksandra Oliynykova 6-1, 6-4. Doubles play also began, though Serena and Venus Williams won't play their first-round match until Friday night against Hao-Ching Chan and Maya Joint, who beat Serena in singles play at Wimbledon this summer.

Eala, the No. 17 seed from the Philippines, gave her passionate backers reason to cheer immediately by winning the first nine points against her Ukrainian opponent, who had won their only previous meeting. "I think every-



body represents something in their own way; I'm Filipino and I proudly represent that," Eala said. "And a lot of the crowd here today is Filipino and I'm sure they share in that sentiment."

Osaka wore silver and white under her long white jacket with a white visor as she arrived for her match in Arthur Ashe Stadium, three days after she was dressed in black with her hair done in cornrows under a headband in a tribute to former NBA superstar Allen Iverson for her opener at night. The No. 13 seed won the first set in 30 minutes and then opened a 4-2 lead in the second. But her level of play took a substantial dip, with 20 unforced errors in the set after only four in the first.

Osaka quickly regained control, breaking for a 2-0 lead in the third before finishing a 19-shot rally with a volley for a winner en route to taking the next game, appearing more relieved than excited by her nice touch. "The match was definitely really tough and I don't know, I just felt like I had to fight," Osaka said. "I definitely had a couple opportunities in the second set and I think I was a little bit too hard on myself. So I took the bathroom break, regrouped a little, came back and just tried to have no regrets." Auger-Aliassime tumbles out and Keys barely hangs on Auger-Aliassime said he was feeling dizzy and seeing spots and couldn't recover, falling to Karen Khachanov 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-2, 6-2. "Karen is a great player. Look, I cannot beat him or anybody in this draw feeling the way I felt today," the Canadian said. "If I cannot move, we're not talking about tennis here." The highest seed to fall so far had been No. 4 Novak Djokovic, who lost in the first round at the U.S. Open for the first time in the 24-time Grand Slam champion's career. Keys, the 2017 runner-up, also was on the verge of an early exit before erasing five match points and edging Anna Bondar 5-7, 6-4, 7-6 (10-5). "That was something, huh? No stress, though, we all knew I had it right?" Keys joked to the fans afterward. Other winners included 2022 champion Iga Swiatek and 2025 runner-up

Amanda Anisimova. Taylor Fritz, the 2024 men's runner-up, eased to 6-0, 6-1, 6-1 victory over Mattia Bellucci, while fifth-seeded Flavio Cobolli defeated Tristan Schoolkate 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5. Gauff moves on in prime time Gauff, who won her first major title at Flushing Meadows three years ago, moved on by beating Paula Badosa 6-4, 7-6 (5) under the lights on Ashe in just under two hours. Badosa was playing for a third consecutive day, forced to finish her first-round match Wednesday after play was suspended Tuesday because of rain that hampered the tournament for multiple days. "Paula's a tough player," Gauff said. "I don't think there was too much I did wrong. I feel like she really stepped it up." No. 1 Alexander Zverev faces Quentin Halys in the nightcap, hoping for an easier time after needing five sets to edge Lorenzo Sonego on Tuesday, barely avoiding becoming the first No. 1 seed to lose in the first round of a men's major since 2003. Also in action Thursday night was Gael Monfils, who is planning to retire after this year but won Tuesday on his 40th birthday to prolong his Grand Slam career and advance to face No. 14 Learner Tien.

Deepfake Videos: Shruti Haasan Demands Rs.15 Cr

Currently, Shruti Haasan is demanding ?15 crores in compensation from all these companies together for spoiling her reputation through the spread of the Deepfake videos.



Shruti Haasan has already taken the battle of ‘copyright’ when it comes to using her pictures on posters and other places, and other commercial items, to the Court. And then, she has even alleged that the social media platforms and AI companies should be responsible for the deepfake image generation and spreading of it.

Currently, Shruti Haasan is demanding ?15 crores in compensation from all these companies together for spoiling her reputation through the spread of the Deepfake videos. The Bombay High Court has already passed an interim injunction that all the videos of Shruti Haasan that are illegal and wrong be removed from social media, while Shruti’s demand for money is being examined.

At the same time, the Court also noticed that if Deepfakes go viral, surely they have a long-term impact on the reputation and image of a celebrity, which money-based compensation can’t even justify. With Shruti’s case identifying almost 18 companies as defendants, we have to see how the Court order will further come out.

Meanwhile, many other actresses like Shalini Pandey also expressed their discontent at the use of AI to generate Deepfake images.

Hanuman Ansh Creates Box Office Storm, Leaves Toxic Behind

On its 27th day, the movie earned around Rs 7.25 crore in India from more than 7,000 shows. It recorded an overall occupancy of about 29 percent.

Small-budget films do not always need a huge opening to become successful. Hanuman Ansh is proving this at the box office with its steady growth. The film started its theatrical journey quietly but has now become a strong performer, even competing with big releases like Yash’s Toxic and Awarapan 2.

Hanuman Ansh opened with only around Rs 10 lakh from 355 shows. Its initial occupancy was just 10 percent, so there were not many expectations about its box office performance. However, the film slowly gained attention and started attracting more audiences as the days passed.

On its 27th day, the movie earned around Rs 7.25 crore in India from more than 7,000 shows. It recorded an overall occupancy of about 29 percent. Delhi-NCR had the highest number of shows, while Mumbai also recorded a decent audience response.

The biggest surprise is the film’s earnings compared with its reported budget of around Rs 2 crore. After a slow beginning, the movie saw a major improvement from its 16th day. It collected around Rs 10.40 crore during its third week. Its fourth week brought another big jump, with nearly Rs 50 crore added to its total. Its India gross collection has now reached around Rs 72.32 crore.

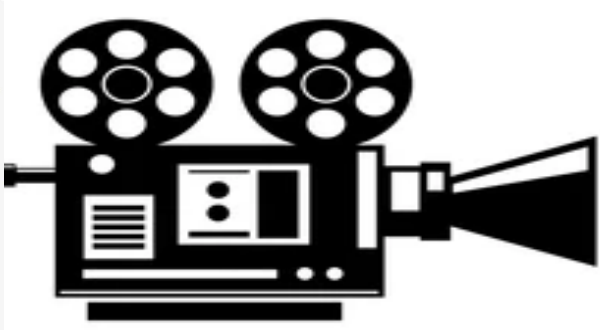
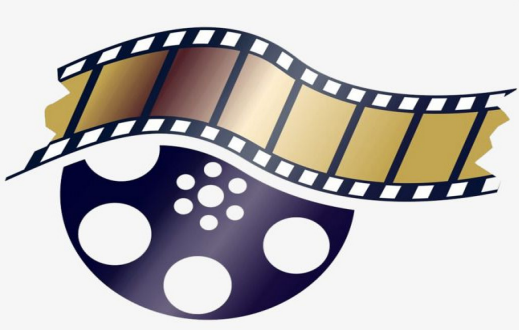
Toxic, starring Yash, had a much bigger opening. The film reportedly earned more than Rs 100 crore in its opening period. However, its collections have slowed down. On its second Wednesday, Toxic earned around Rs 5.10 crore in India, with an occupancy of 14.2 percent.

Awarapan 2 has also seen a drop in collections after a strong start. The film earned around Rs 45 lakh on its 20th day.

The success of Hanuman Ansh shows how audience demand can change a film’s box office journey. As interest in the movie increased, exhibitors started giving it more screens.

Hanuman Ansh is based on the life of Neem Karoli Baba. The film has now reached around 1,500 screens across India. It is also preparing for an international release on September 11, with Hombale Films handling its distribution.

Meanwhile, Toxic is losing some IMAX shows as Christopher Nolan’s The Odyssey gets more large-format screens. This gives Hanuman Ansh another chance to continue its impressive run.



CINEMA

Allari Naresh delivers big blockbuster

Directed by Chandra Mohan, the movie completed its censor formalities and received a U/A certificate. The makers have locked the runtime at a crisp 2 hours and 20 minutes.

Allari Naresh is all set to entertain audiences with his upcoming fantasy comedy film, Ramba Oorvasi Menaka. Produced by renowned Annapurna Studios and Hasya Movies, the movie is releasing Tomorrow and it has a good anticipation as Naresh is returning to his comedy forte after a long gap.

Directed by Chandra Mohan, the movie completed its censor formalities and received a U/A certificate. The makers have locked the runtime at a crisp 2 hours and 20 minutes. This is a perfect duration for a hilarious entertainer, ensuring the audience remains engaged from start to finish.

Adding to the fun, the fantasy track featuring Rashi Singh as Ramba and Vennela Kishore as Lord Indra will be a major highlight, packed with great one-liners. Director Chandra Mohan has seamlessly blended comedy, fantasy, and mother sentiment to deliver what looks like a sure-shot hit.

Allari Naresh is making a strong return to the comedy genre. His performance and impec-



cable comic timing are the key driving forces of the narrative, and early reports suggest he did his absolute best. The combination scenes between him and senior actor Naresh VK are especially hilarious, surprising and are expected to leave theaters in splits. The second half is heart of the film and the sentiment worked big time state reports. With such positive reports, the movie is expected to be a big blockbuster for Allari Naresh.

Bethlehem Kudumba Unit: Justin & Ashley’s Love Story Is Coming To Telugu Theatres

The wait is almost over for Telugu movie lovers. Bethlehem Kudumba Unit is coming to theatres in the Telugu states on September 4.

The wait is almost over for Telugu movie lovers. Bethlehem Kudumba Unit is coming to theatres in the Telugu states on September 4. With just two days left for the release, the makers are creating more excitement among the audience with new promotions and videos.

The film is a Malayalam romantic comedy directed by Girish A.D., who became popular across South India with the successful movie Premalu. This time, he has come up with another youthful and entertaining story. The movie stars Nivin Pauly and Mamitha Baiju in the lead roles.

The latest promotional post has increased the excitement around the film. The makers shared a special message asking fans to get ready to fall in love with the beautiful journey of Justin and Ashley. They also released a video link as part of the promotions. The post has made fans curious about the relationship and story between the two characters.

Bethlehem Kudumba Unit has already received a positive response in Malayalam. The movie has been performing well at the Kerala box office and has also benefited from the Onam holiday season. Because of the good response, Telugu audiences are now waiting to see what the film has to offer.

The Telugu version is being released on September 4 across the Telugu states. The movie



is also scheduled to arrive in Tamil on the same day. Mythri Release is presenting the film to Telugu audiences.

Apart from Nivin Pauly and Mamitha Baiju, the movie features Sangeeth Prathap, Suresh Krishna, Vinay Forrt, Roshan Shanavas, Shyam Mohan and Shameer Khan in important roles.

The film is backed by Bhavana Studios, with Dileesh Pothan, Fahadh Faasil and Syam Pushkaran associated with its production. Vishnu Vijay has composed the music and background score.

With romance, comedy, friendship and family moments, the movie is expected to offer a fun experience for young audiences. The success of Premalu has also created interest in Girish A.D.’s new film.

Now, only two days remain. Telugu fans will soon get to watch Justin and Ashley’s journey on the big screen. The September 4 release is expected to bring a fresh romantic comedy experience to theatres.

Kiccha Sudeep's massive spectacle

Kichcha Sudeep is starring in a grand visual treat, Billa Ranga Baasha: First Blood. Celebrating the superstar's birthday, the team unveiled an extraordinary first look poster that immediately captured nationwide attention.

Kichcha Sudeep is starring in a grand visual treat, Billa Ranga Baasha: First Blood. Celebrating the superstar's birthday, the team unveiled an extraordinary first look poster that immediately captured nationwide attention.

The striking visual reveals the actor taking on a powerful new character, navigating a freezing snowy terrain on a motorcycle. The backdrop is filled with explosive action, featuring a massive mechanical war machine, flying aircraft, and fiery debris.

His intense gaze and rugged attire suggest a fierce battle for survival in a highly imaginative and dangerous world. Backed by PrimeShow Entertainment, this ambitious pan-India project is produced by K Niranjan Reddy and Chaitanya Reddy and directed by Anup Bhandari.

The creators have designed a massive promotional roadmap to establish this unique universe. Audiences can look forward to the official teaser in early 2027, before the film brings its spectacular action to theaters in the last quarter of 2027 across multiple languages.

