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CM Naidu calls for continuous skilling, governance overhaul



Amaravati: Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has called for a fundamental overhaul of governance systems and institutions by integrating technology, leadership, policy and continuous skill development to meet rising public expectations

and harness emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence. Addressing a Mission Karmayogi workshop organised by the Capacity Building Commission in Vijayawada on Tuesday, Naidu said the next 20 years would be crucial for

India’s development. With advanced technologies, a talented youth population and growing aspirations, the country’s key challenge was to strengthen governance institutions to translate these opportunities into better public services. He urged government employees at every level, from the State headquarters to the grassroots, to continuously upgrade their skills through capacity-building programmes. He said the iGOT–Mission Karma yogi platform, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi through the Capacity Building Commission, provided officials and employees with an avenue for regular online learning and skill enhancement. He congratulated the Andhra Pradesh government for its commitment to

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Poleramma Jatara Begins in Venkatagiri Amid Tight Security

Nellore: The traditional Sri Poleramma Jatara, regarded as one of Venkatagiri’s major religious festivals, began in the town on Wednesday with the ceremonial preparation of the village deity’s clay idol. As per tradition, the Poleramma idol was made with clay at a potter’s house in Kummari Veedhi, considered the deity’s maternal home. The idol-making ceremony was completed around 6pm, following which devotees queued up there to offer prayers. As per tradition, the idol will later be taken to Chakali Chavadi in Jeenigala Vari Veedhi, considered the home of the deity’s in-laws, where it will be decorated before being taken



in a procession to the temple. Tirupati district SP Subbarayudu said elaborate security arrangements had been made for the jatara. A four-tier security system, rope parties,

Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) and drones have been deployed to regulate crowds and monitor the procession. More than 70

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AP to Supply Subsidised Tur Dal, Palm Oil Through Ration Shops

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh government will soon distribute tur dal and palm oil at subsidised prices through ration shops alongside the subsidised onions that are already being sold at ₹35 a kg, state Civil Supplies minister Nadendla Manohar announced on Wednesday. Launching the subsidised onion sales programme in Vijayawada, he said the government is closely monitoring price differences in the open market amid global developments, including wars, the oil crisis, and the impact of El Niño.

Measures are being taken to ensure that rising prices do not add to the financial burden of ordinary families. Manohar pointed out that the centre and National Cooperative Consumers’ Federation (NCCF) are supporting the onions’ programme



with onion prices crossing ₹70 a kg in the open market, the government decided to make onions available at ₹35 a kg at all 115 Rythu bazars in the state. Each consumer will be eligible to purchase two kg through Aadhaar authentication. The minister said the centre has agreed to supply 1.20 lakh metric tonnes of tur dal to Andhra Pradesh, enabling its sale to consumers at lower prices through ration shops. Palm oil would also be made available

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Govt Staff to Get IIT, IIM Training for Skill Upgradation

Vijayawada: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday directed officials to make capacity building and skill development a continuous process for government employees, including through training programmes in collaboration with institutions such as the IITs and IIMs. During a review meeting on the services being delivered by various departments, the chief minister discussed capacity building for employees, Anna Canteens, drinking water supply in urban areas and facilities in welfare hostels. Naidu said Andhra Pradesh was ahead of other southern states in capacity building and skill development of government employees. He said employees had been undergoing various courses through iGOT Karma



yogi and were being trained to work in real-time situations. He advised them to make use of virtual courses to upgrade their skills. Observing that IAS officers regularly underwent orientation and upgraded their skills, Naidu said government employees too should receive similar training. He directed officials to explore training

programmes with IITs and IIMs based on the specific skill requirements of employees. The CM cautioned officials against any complacency in ensuring drinking water supply. He reviewed the situation in urban areas and was informed that recent rains had eased the water shortage considerably. Officials

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AP to expand cardiac care in govt hospitals



Amaravati: The State government is expanding cardiac care facilities in government teaching hospitals to provide advanced treatment closer to patients, particularly those from poor and rural families, medical and health minister Y Satya Kumar Yadav said on the eve of World Heart Day. World Heart Day is observed on September 29, with the World Heart Federation’s 2026 campaign carrying the slogan “Don’t Miss a Beat”. The existing Cath Lab

at Kakinada Government General Hospital has been modernised under a public-private partnership. The government is now taking steps to establish new Cath Labs at teaching hospitals in Tirupati, Nellore and Srikakulam, with the tender process under way and an estimated expenditure of Rs 18 crore. There are currently eight Cath Labs in government teaching hospitals, of which five are operated directly by the government

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EC Extends AP SIR Deadline to Oct. 16

Vijayawada: The Election Commission of India has revised the schedule for the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Andhra Pradesh, extending the deadline for disposal of claims and objections to October 16.

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KING
DAILY NEWSPAPER
Only the voters
are saving our
democracy

News Among the major issues in our courts where the law is said to be no one's friend, the systems are strangely running in four different directions. Is this happening only in our country? It is odd that those involved in "Criminal Jurisprudence", instead of deeply reflecting for a solution, are moving towards a state of confusion. In a judgment delivered a few days back, the Supreme Court directed that the accused may be released immediately, after stating that the police cannot arrest without stating the reasons or denying a lawyer, at the time of arrest. It also declared that violating Fundamental Right (Article 22(1) of the Constitution) is illegal. This is a landmark ruling that the police must implement. We must note that the Supreme Court warned that if the courts do not act strictly in accordance with the Constitution when anyone tries to infringe fundamental rights, arrest and remand procedures are undermined. It is imperative to follow this. The Delhi High Court—just a few days ago—refused to accept the Special Investigation Team (like the CBI SIT) petition to register an FIR and investigate the huge amount of cash found at former Delhi High Court judge Yashwant Sharma's house. It asked, in effect, whether there isn't some other good work to do, and criticised sharply, saying that it seemed like an unnecessary witch-hunt in a forest. Investigating agencies should register a First Information Report (FIR) the moment a cognizable offence is detected. Regardless of anything, it seems very odd if, when a crime has already come to light, the courts (including the Supreme Court) shield officials who have erred by backing them up and somehow justify another route (perhaps dictated by law, that the common person may not know of). Until the case details are fully known, we should only assume that the law does not favour anyone. That's all. Earlier, the Delhi Court criticised the inclusion of Sonia Gandhi in the electoral roll as an Indian citizen before she could even acquire citizenship, a move that the previous magistrate court order had dismissed. The Delhi Court accepted that order, sent it back for re-examination to the magistrate court, and ordered a fresh inquiry. Sonia Gandhi is considered a major political party leader who has been voting for years. Could she be rendered stateless and deported to Italy? Well, if only the people who understand and argue the law—lawyers—are involved, the courts can issue verdicts, and the police can enforce them. Even when we translate the concept of Criminal Jurisprudence, it is hard to capture the true "spirit" of the Constitution. Even scholars who understand the Constitution and statutes struggle to interpret them.

Across many periods, the courts and judgments have taken time, for many reasons that seem legally acceptable, police say so too! Governments, however, have occasionally set up special courts to expedite certain important cases, so that verdicts come out faster. That may be a good thing at least; perhaps it reduces some pendency to some extent. However, some cases remain pending in court for years on end, but not even on a single day do the witnesses or accused step into court and there is inexplicable delay in the starting prosecution of such cases.

Visakhapatnam Railway Station marks 130 years, plans expansion to 14 platforms

Visakhapatnam: The Visakhapatnam Railway Station in Andhra Pradesh, which began its journey in 1896 with two platforms and a daily footfall of just 200 passengers, commemorated its 130th anniversary. Over the last 130 years, Visakhapatnam Railway Station has grown into a bustling railway hub, serving more than 65,000 passengers daily through its eight platforms. "From its modest origins in 1896 with just two platforms and a daily footfall of barely 200 passengers, Visakhapatnam Railway Station has grown into a bustling transit hub serving over 65,000 passengers daily across eight platforms," said Sandeep Mathur, general manager, South Coast Railway (SCoR) Zone, in an official press release late on Monday. The milestone was commemorated on Monday with a 'Station Mahotsav' and cultural festivities, as part of the Ministry of Railways' nationwide initiative to honour the historical significance and legacy of key railway stations across India.

The occasion traced the station's historic journey from the erstwhile Waltair era to its present stature as one of the busiest and most dynamic transit hubs on the eastern coast of India. The celebrations commenced with a flag march, followed by a curated historical photo exhibition and an exhibition of heritage artefacts. The exhibitions showcased rare archival photographs, vintage memorabilia and historic relics depicting the evolution, operational milestones and rich legacy of the erstwhile Waltair Railway Division and Visakhapatnam Railway Station. A commemorative coffee-table book titled 'Waltair Visakhapatnam', capturing more than a century of transformative history, iconic heritage structures and rail milestones, was released, among other anniversary activities. Mathur observed that railway heritage is an invaluable part of our collective identity, embodying the relentless efforts of generations of railway personnel. "As we advance our ongoing world-class redevelopment plans to ex-



pand the station to 14 platforms — creating a next-generation mobility centre with modern amenities, seamless intermodal connectivity and sustainable infrastructure — this extraordinary 130-year journey truly exemplifies our guiding ethos," the general manager added.

Amaravati going green with ornamental plants!

Amaravati: As the capital city of Amaravati takes shape, the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) is laying a strong green foundation alongside its infrastructure development. APCRDA Commissioner V Vijaya Rama Raju told The Hans India here on Tuesday that at the heart of this effort are two nurseries established to ensure a steady supply of quality plants for the new capital's parks, roads, public institutions and other green spaces. "In fact, the Amaravati Development Corporation and CRDA are jointly making efforts to develop the nurseries," he said. The flagship initiative is the 20-acre Central Nursery at Uddandarayunipalem, developed as a modern, long-term institutional resource for Amaravati's landscaping and greening needs. In addition, APCRDA has developed another two-acre nursery on the premises of the Andhra Pradesh Secretariat at Velagapudi. Ramaraju said that the nurseries are designed to provide a continuous supply of native tree species, ornamental plants and indoor plants required for various greening and landscaping projects across the capital. Also Read 18 returnable plots allotted to Amaravati farmers By producing plants locally, APCRDA aims to reduce dependence on external sources and create a sustainable plant resource for Amaravati, he added. The Central Nursery has been developed with a production plan covering more than 60 native tree species. APCRDA has set an ambitious target of producing 1 lakh trees, 4 lakh ornamental shrubs and 10,000 indoor plants over the next two years. The nurs-



ery has already emerged as a significant plant resource, with around 1.15 lakh healthy plants currently available. The collection includes native tree varieties, flowering plants, roadside plantation species, ornamental plants and varieties suitable for landscaping. These plants are expected to play an important role in both ongoing and future greening programmes in Amaravati, supporting the development of green corridors, landscaped public spaces, avenues and parks. The initiative also incorporates renewable energy into nursery operations. Giving priority to environmental conservation, APCRDA has installed a 52.5-kilowatt solar power plant at the Central Nursery. Solar power is being used for lighting, water supply for plants and other operational requirements. Besides reducing dependence on conventional electricity, the solar facility is ex-

pected to help lower operating costs and carbon emissions. The development of these nurseries reflects an approach that combines urban development with environmental sustainability. Instead of treating greenery as an addition to infrastructure, APCRDA is creating an institutional system capable of supplying the plants required to sustain Amaravati's green landscape over the long term. With its large-scale plant production capacity, diverse collection of species and adoption of solar energy, the Central Nursery at Uddandarayunipalem is emerging as an important green asset for Amaravati. As development activities gather pace, these nurseries are expected to provide the botanical backbone for transforming Amaravati into a greener, more pleasant and environmentally sustainable capital city.

Dr Venkata Ramana is new director of public health

Amaravati: The state government has decided to appoint Dr Venkata Ramana as the in-charge director of public health (DPH). Health and medical education minister Y Satya Kumar Yadav approved the appointment on Tuesday, following which Dr Venkata Ramana will assume charge as DPH. The appointment comes as Dr K Padmavathi, who has been serving as director of public health and family welfare for the past 33 months, is scheduled to retire on Wednesday. Dr Padmavathi had been holding additional charge as DPH in her capacity as additional director (NLEP). She served the

state health and medical department in various capacities for 37 years. The department had considered seven officers for the post. Of them, inquiries are pending against two officials over allegations, while two others did not have experience as district medical and health officers (DMHOs). Another officer had served as a DMHO only for three months on additional charge, while one more officer was due to retire in June. Against this backdrop, the government selected Dr Venkata Ramana for the post of DPH. He is currently serving as Additional Director (Disease Control Programme) in the DPH office.



TOWN PLANNING OFFICER (AO-1) & SENIOR ASSISTANT (AO-2) O/O THE MOINABAD MUNICIPALITY ARE IN ACB NET



AMEER HUSSAIN CRIME BEURO CHIEF : On 30-09-2026, the Accused Officer (AO-1) Smt. Gundu Vani, Town Planning Officer, Moinabad Municipality was caught by the ACB officials, City Range-2 when she demanded and accepted the bribe amount of Rs. 75,000/- from the complainant through (AO-2) Yelamoni Sudarshan, Ex-Panchayath Secretary of Moinabad GP, presently working on deputation as Senior Assistant in Moinabad Municipality for doing an official favour, i.e. for not taking any coercive action against the Complainant's construction, treating it as illegal. The bribe amount of Rs. 75,000/- was recovered from the possession of AO-2 at his instance. Thus, the Accused Officers AO-1 & AO-2 performed their duty improperly and dishonestly to obtain undue advantage. Therefore, the AO-1 & AO-2 are being

produced before the Hon'ble I Addl. Special Judge for SPE & ACB cases, Nampally for judicial remand. The case is under investigation. The details of complainant are withheld for security reasons. CELL PHONE NUMBER -1064 (TOLL FREE NUMBER).““In case of demand of bribe by any Public Servant, the public are requested to contact Toll Free Number of ACB I.e., 1064 for taking action as per Law. ACB Telangana can also be contacted through social media platforms whatsapp (9440446106), facebook (Telangana ACB), X/formerly twitter (@Telangana ACB). The QR Code of ACB is displayed in all Government offices and prominent public to contact ACB, Telangana. The name and details of the victim/complainant will be kept secret. P.R.O. Ant-Corruption Bureau, Telangana, Hyderabad.

SRI NORI LAKSHMI BHASKER ADDI MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, ADDI PROFESSOR, NIMS HYD IN ACB NET



AMEER HUSSAIN CRIME BEURO CHIEF: Earlier, Disproportionate Assets case vide in Cr.No.6/RCA-CIU-ACB/2026, dtd. 21.09.2026, under section 13(1)(b) r/w 13(2) was registered against Sri Nori Lakshmi Bhasker, Additional Medical Superintendent/Additional Professor, Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad.““In Continuation of the earlier searches, and in pursuance of the search warrants issued by the Hon'ble Principal Special Judge for SPE & ACB cases, Hyderabad, searches were conducted , at (5) different locations in and around the Hyderabad including residences of suspected benamis who are alleged to have financial and other transactions with accused officer.““During the searches, several documents and other items forming the part of the evidence relating to the suspected Benami assets were seized from the residence of the suspected benamis. An amount of Rs. 4, 94,394/- was seized in the house of one Dhanraj, employee of NIMS and several documents relating to 3 agricultural land parcels in Maheswaram worth of 57 lakhs

Approx, one open plot in Venkateswara Cooperative Housing Society at MLA Colony Banjarahills worth of Rs 2,70,00,000/-, two investments worth of Rs 20,00,000/- were found in the name of one D. Ganesh out sourcing employee of NIMS and on others. Further the receipts of hand loan of Rs. 3,00,000/- were also found.““Further verification of additional assets is underway. The case is under investigation.““Call Phone Number-1064 (Toll-free Number)““In case of a demand for a bribe by any Public Servant, the public is requested to contact the ACB Toll Free Number, i.e., 1064, to take action as per Law. ACB Telangana can also be contacted through social media platforms WhatsApp [9440446106], Facebook (Telangana ACB), and X (X/formerly twitter faTelangana ACB). The QR Code of ACB is also displayed in all Government Offices and prominent The name and details of the public places to contact ACB, Telangana. victim/complainant will be kept secret. Anti-corruption Buleau, Telangana Hyd

TG HC Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar tipped to be SC judge

AMEER HUSSAIN CRIME BEURO CHIEF: SC Collegium also recommended names of Delhi and Gujarat HC chief justices for elevation““: In a significant ““development, the Su-preme Court Collegium on Monday recommended the name of Telangana High Court Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh for elevation as judge of the apex court.““Apart from Aparesh Ku-mar, the collegium has also recommended the names of the chief justices of Gujarat and Delhi respectively, for el-evation as judges of the apex court. The five-member apex court collegium comprising Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justices Vikram Nath, B V Nagarathna, M M Sundresh and P S Narasim-ha took the decision in the meeting held on Monday. If the names recom-mended are ap-proved by: the Centre, the total number of judges in the apex court would rise to 37 against the sanctioned strength of 38. At present, there are 34 judges working



in the apex court. Recently, the total strength of the apex court was increased from 34 to 38 through the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amend-ment Act, following an initial ordinance and parliamentary approval in 2026. The Collegium's recommendation will now be processed in accord-ance with the established procedure for appointment of judges to the Supreme Court.

Nation Building is PM Modi's Goal Union Minister Srinivasa Varma and MLA Anji babu Felicitate Anganwadi Teachers, Ayas in Perкупalem

Veeravasaram, September 30,“Union Minister of State Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma and State Public Accounts Committee Chairman MLA Pulaparthi Ramanja neyulu Anjibabu said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been dedicated to public service continuously for 25 years.As part of Praja Seva Sankalpa Abhiyan, Anganwadi teachers and ayas were felicitated in Perкупalem village of the mandal. They said the services of teachers and ayas who are providing remarkable services to children in Anganwadi centers are invaluable. Later they felicitated them. Village elders, coalition leaders, workers, fans, Veera Mahila, Telugu Mahila participated in the program.



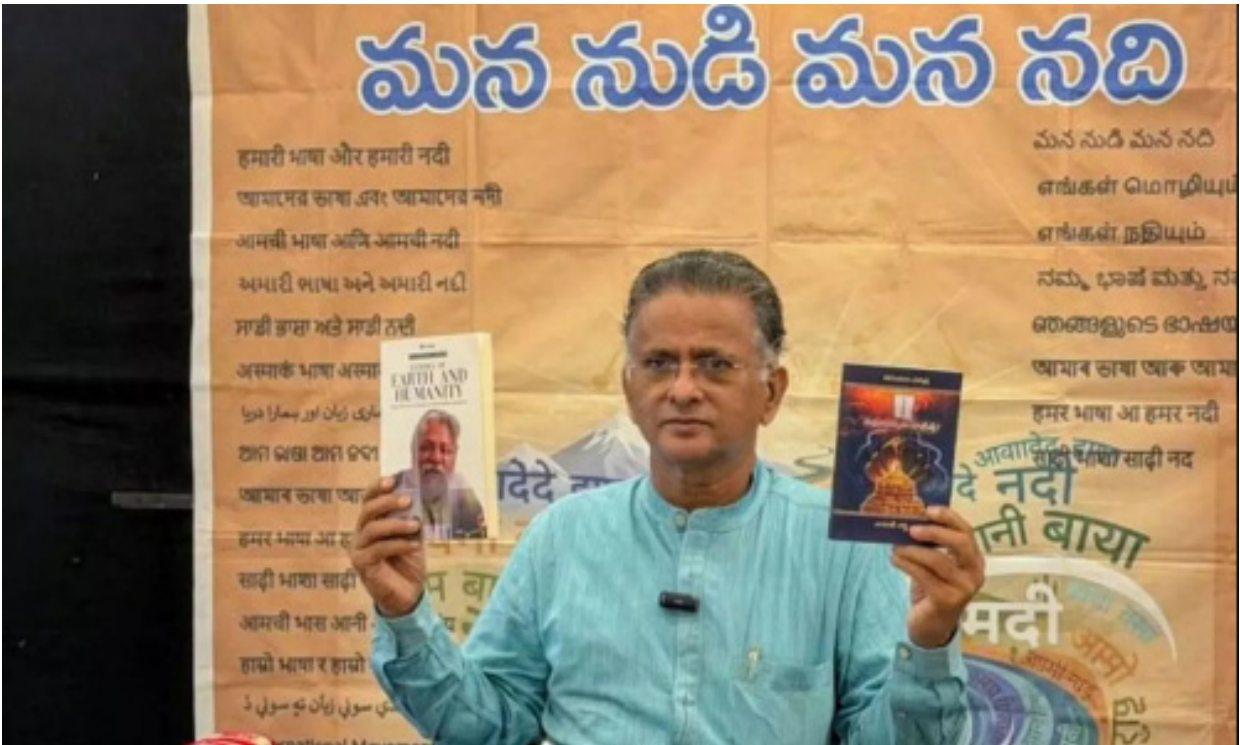
Tapana Choudary Keeps His Promise



Distribution of Textbooks Worth One Lakh Rupees to Eluru SPDBT College Students Eluru, September 30: With the intention of supporting students in their education, textbooks worth Rs. 1 lakh were distributed to the students of SPDBT Aided Junior College in Eluru under the auspices of Tapana Foundation by BJP State Vice President and Tapana Foundation Founder Garapati Seetharamanjaneya Choudary (Tapana Choudary).Tapana Choudary recently attended as chief guest a free medical camp organized in the same college on the occasion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday. At that time, students and the principal brought to his attention that even after three months since the start of the academic year, they had not yet received textbooks. Noticing the students' difficulty and responding immediately, he promised to provide books through the Foundation. As per that promise, this distribution program was undertaken on Wednesday.Speaking on this

occasion, Tapana Choudary said that it is our social responsibility to stand by students facing financial difficulties. He said that he too comes from an agricultural family and knows those hardships. He said students should set a clear goal in their life and work hard with perseverance to study until they achieve it. 0 He wished that they should cultivate a service attitude from childhood and grow to be useful to society in the future. He assured that his cooperation for the educational development of students will always be there. He clarified that his goal is to serve society to the extent of the blessings of teachers and the strength given by God.The college students and teachers expressed special thanks to Tapana Foundation and Garapati Tapana Choudary for responding in time and providing textbooks.In this program, Eluru Region RIO K. Yohan, SPDBT Junior College Principal V. Ramachandra Kashyap, college faculty, staff, students and others participated.

Bolisetty launches nationwide movement ‘Dharma’ to save nature, temple lands



Visakhapatnam: Environment Conservationist and national convener of Jal Biradari Bolisetty Satyanarayana said that communities no longer tolerate the injustice of destroying natural and traditional foundations in the name of development. Asserting that solutions to these modern challenges lie deeply rooted in the concept of Dharma at a media conference held in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday, Satyanarayana stated that at a time when lawlessness, environmental destruction, and the exploitation of natural resources have reached alarming levels, there is a historic need for the public to raise their voices and question this destruction. Marking the official launch of a nationwide movement, Satyanarayana said that the movement transcends political parties and individual interests, aiming to unite millions across the country to protect nature, human rights, temple properties, livelihoods, and constitutional values. During the interaction, Satyanarayana and

civil society leaders including Waterman Rajendra Singh, MVR Sastry, Justice Gopala Gowda, P V Rajagopal, and Basavaraj Patil outlined severe ecological and social threats facing the region and the nation. As a concrete immediate course of action, the movement has strongly opposed the alleged diversion and commercial exploitation of Simhachalam Devasthanam lands. Satyanarayana announced that this campaign serves as a stepping stone toward safeguarding Hindu temple properties across Andhra Pradesh and India. He urged village communities to take active leadership roles as guardians of local temples and their assets. In view of the forthcoming local-body elections, Satyanarayana urged the citizens to evaluate candidates not based on party symbols or financial inducements, but on their proven track record of public service, environmental commitment, and dedication to safeguarding community assets.

City’s beautification works to be expedited



Visakhapatnam: Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) Commissioner Ketan Garg directed engineering officials to commence city development and beautification works, expedite their execution and ensure their completion within the stipulated deadline. On Tuesday, the Commissioner, along with GVMC chief engineer PVV Satyanarayana Raju, inspected the central median development works undertaken from Dutt Island junction to Polamamba temple in the Siripuram area. Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner stated that the state government had recently allocated Rs 400 crore under a special package for the holistic development of the city. This funding will be utilised to develop major roads, central medians, dividers, greenery, modernise junctions, install modern lighting and other development and beautification works across the city. The Com-

missioner directed officials to accord top priority to development and beautification works, as only one month remained before the partnership summit scheduled for the city. Accordingly, he instructed the chief engineer to prepare and implement an action plan in coordination with engineering officials and representatives of the contracting agency to commence the works. Ketan Garg emphasised maintaining quality standards in road development, greenery, junction modernisation, central medians and lighting, among others, as part of the city’s beautification programme. The Commissioner directed officials to prepare attractive and modern designs for the construction of bus bays. He instructed them to develop special designs for electric poles to be installed on central medians, ensuring that they complement the city’s beautification.

CM Naidu calls for continuous skilling, governance overhaul

Continu, from1st page

ernment machinery for completing two crore courses through the iGOT Karmayogi portal, enabling the State to secure the first position nationally in capacity building. He presented the national award to finance department principal secretary Piyush Kumar and AP development planning society executive director Alaparathi Venkateswara Rao. Karnataka and Odisha received the second and third positions respectively. The Chief Minister stressed the need to integrate technology, administrative procedures and inter-departmental coordination to improve public service delivery.

Regular information-sharing among departments, he said, could accelerate decision-making and help identify and resolve problems before they turned into crises. He highlighted the role of government employees in managing natural disasters, festivals and major public programmes, and appreciated their commitment to public service, often at the cost of time with their families. Naidu cited Modi’s journey from a tea vendor at a railway station to Prime Minister as an example of the potential of capacity building. Capacity Building Commission chairperson Radha Chouhan, member Alka and Secretary Jagdeep Gupta also addressed the workshop.

AP to expand cardiac care in govt hospitals

Continu, from1st page

ment and three under the PPP model. The minister said Rs 10 crore would be spent on procuring four additional heart-lung machines for government hospitals in Tirupati, Kadapa, Anantapur and Guntur. Such machines are already available at Kurnool, Guntur and Vijayawada, while one was provided to Visakhapatnam’s KGH through CSR funds. Another Rs 2 crore would be spent on state-of-the-art 2D Echo machines for Kurnool and Guntur. An additional Rs 4 crore would be allocated for ICU monitors, defibrillators and other essential cardiac and surgical equipment. Together, these measures form part of a Rs 34-crore plan to strengthen cardiac infrastructure in major government hospitals. Open-heart surgeries are also expected to commence soon at Anantapur, with a heart-lung machine being procured for the facility. This is expected to reduce the need for patients from the Rayalaseema region to travel to other cities for treatment. The government is also taking steps to es-

tablish a 50,000-sq ft heart centre at Kakinada through a corporate entity. Satya Kumar said 4,48,863 people availed outpatient services at the State’s 10 heart centres during 2024-25 and 2025-26, while 27,024 patients were admitted for treatment. During the two years, the centres performed 4,724 angioplasties, 14,320 angiograms, 359 bypass surgeries and 111 heart valve replacements, besides other cardiac procedures. The NTR Vaidya Seva Trust approved cardiac treatment for 1,41,934 people between September 2025 and August 2026. Of them, 18.49 per cent were aged 40-49, 29.58 per cent were 50-59 and 25.18 per cent were 60-69, with the 50-59 age group accounting for the largest share. The minister stressed the importance of immediate treatment during a heart attack. Under the STEMI programme, 5,111 patients received Tenecteplase injections free of cost between June 2024 and September 25, 2026. The injections, costing about Rs 40,000 each, helped achieve a reported survival rate of 95.69 per cent, he said.

Poleramma Jatara Begins in Venkatagiri Amid Tight Security

Continu, from1st page

CCTV cameras have been installed in and around the temple, with round-the-clock monitoring through a command and control centre. Police have also identified sensitive and congested points and made arrangements for barricading, traffic diversions, lighting and additional forces. Also Read - EC Extends AP SIR Deadline to Oct. 16 Discover more Bollywood movie reviews Executive Branch Sports

news analysis The SP directed police personnel to deal with devotees courteously while taking firm action against law violations. He also instructed officials to coordinate with the revenue, endowments and electricity departments to ensure the smooth conduct of the festival. Officials said arrangements were being closely monitored to ensure the Poleramma Jatara is conducted peacefully and safely without causing any inconvenience to the devotees.

Govt Staff to Get IIT, IIM Training for Skill Upgrade

Continu, from1st page

said two municipalities in Rayalaseema were facing minor drinking water issues and steps were being taken to resolve them. Groundwater levels in Visakhapatnam had also improved following the rains, they said. The CM di-

rected the officials to ensure that drinking water problems did not arise in both urban and rural areas and cautioned them against becoming complacent merely because of the recent rainfall. He also called for greater public participation in various government programmes.

EC Extends AP SIR Deadline to Oct. 16

Continu, from1st page

ber 10 and the publication of the final electoral rolls to October 16. In a statement issued here on Wednesday, AP Chief Electoral Officer Vivek Yadav said draft electoral rolls were published in all Assembly constituencies on July 31. As per the earlier schedule, claims and objections were to be disposed of by October 5 and the final electoral rolls published on October 9. However, in view of the pending hearings on no-mapping and logical discrepancy cases in some Assembly constituencies, as well as the pending disposal of applications received through Forms 6, 7 and 8, the Election Commission extended the deadlines. The move is aimed at ensuring that no eligible elector is inadvertently excluded from the electoral rolls, he said.

Kushboo Returns to Tollywood

Tamil actress Kushboo is returning to Tollywood with a key role. Prashanth Varma's Mahakali The End is generating immense interest among movie lovers. Expectations are high on the film as Prashanth Varma earlier captured the imagination of all with his superhero film HanuMan. The makers released the first look of senior actress Kushboo. Khushboo is playing an important role and she looked homely in her new look. The makers released the look of Khushboo wishing her on her birthday. Also Read - Kurchi Madathapetti from Guntur Kaaram On a New High Advertisement The film star Akshaye Khanna as the Shukracharya, Guru of Demons. Bhumi Pednekar is the female lead in the film which is directed by Puja Aparna Kolluru. The film is the part of Prashanth



Varma Cinematic Universe (PVCU). The film stars Rohit Saraf in key role. Mahakali has the West Bengal backdrop adn Samran Sai is tuning the music. Actually, Kushboo ruled the roost in Telugu films in 1980s with films like Kaliyuga Pandavulu and Captain Nagarjun before settling down in Tamil film industry.

Naga Chaitanya, Clax Movie Rumours Dismissed

Rumours surrounding Naga Chaitanya's next film, tentatively referred to as #NC25, have been making rounds on social media. Reports recently suggested that the actor would be teaming up with director Clax for the project, with debutant actress Satvika Veeravali reportedly set to make her acting debut opposite Chaitanya. However, Naga Chaitanya's team has now asked fans and the media not to believe or circulate unverified reports about the project. In an official statement, the team said, "Requesting everyone not to believe or circulate any speculations, rumours, or unverified reports surrounding #NC25." The team also acknowledged the curiosity surrounding the project while urging everyone to wait for official announcements. "We understand the excitement and curiosity around the project, but we request everyone to rely only on information shared through the official channels," the statement added. With the clarification, the reported details about the director, leading lady and other aspects of #NC25 remain unconfirmed for now. Naga Chaitanya is awaiting the release of his super natural thriller Vrusha karma.



edged the curiosity surrounding the project while urging everyone to wait for official announcements. "We understand the excitement and curiosity around the project, but we request everyone to rely only on information shared through the official channels," the statement added. With the clarification, the reported details about the director, leading lady and other aspects of #NC25 remain unconfirmed for now. Naga Chaitanya is awaiting the release of his super natural thriller Vrusha karma.

NTR Jr Opens Up About Loneliness on His Debut Day



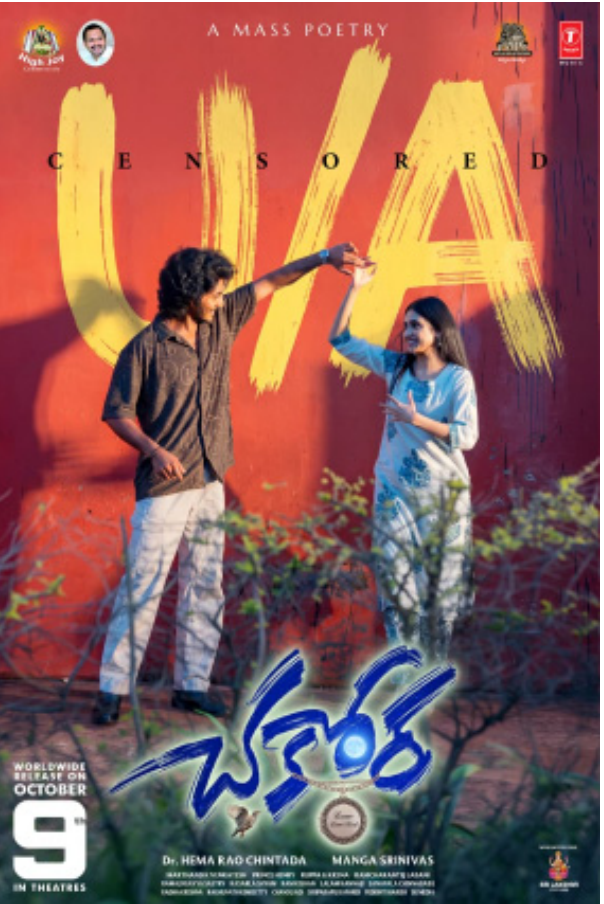
November 16, 2000, remains a deeply significant date in N T Rama Rao Jr's life as it marked the opening of his debut film, Ninnu Choodalani. Recalling the day at the pre-release event of Don't Trouble The Trouble, NTR spoke about how difficult it was to experience such an important milestone without his parents by his side. "My mother could not come for the opening of Ninnu Choodalani because she generally did not step out in public. My father also didn't come. He wanted me to learn to stand on my own feet and face the challenges of the industry by myself," NTR said. Also Read - Kurchi Madathapetti from Guntur Kaaram On a New High Advertisement For the young actor, however, the experience was emotionally challenging. He recalled going to the film's opening alone and feeling lonely

and sad. Although it marked the beginning of his journey as an actor, he did not have his parents physically present to share the moment with him. Over time, NTR said, the love and support he received from fans and the film fraternity helped fill that emotional void. Their affection and encouragement gave him the confidence and strength to continue his journey. NTR also expressed gratitude for the people who became an important part of his life, saying that, apart from his fans, he feels blessed by God to have the family of S S Rajamouli and M M Keeravaani. Looking back, what was once a lonely and emotional day became an important lesson for NTR — one that taught him to stand on his own feet and face the challenges of the film industry.

Chakkora – Lunar Love Bird Gets U/A Certification from Censor, Worldwide Release on October 9

Hyderabad cinema: Chakkora – Lunar Love Bird, the mass poetry musical love story produced by Dr. Chintada Hemarao under the High Joy Commercials banner and made under the production banner of VIP – Vintage Iconic Pictures, has completed its censor formalities and received a U/A certificate. The film is written and directed by Manga Srinivas. "The censor board members appreciated the producer and director after watching the film. The team was praised for delivering a youthful family entertainer without any cuts and with a crisp runtime of 2 hours, 17 minutes and 58 seconds. The members also appreciated the engaging screenplay, which is said to keep audiences hooked throughout the film." "Chakkora – Lunar Love Bird is set to have a worldwide theatrical release on October 9 through Sri Lakshmi Pictures. The film's audio rights have been acquired by T-Series Music. The film stars Sravan, Malaika T Vasupal, Anushka Luhar, Yamini, LB Sriram, Suman, Brahmaji, Indraj, Mani Chandana, Nellore Sudarshan, Prabhavathi, Madhavi Prasad, Janardhan, Akella Gopala Krishna, Vangapandu, Vamsi, Sumanth, Bhanu, Surya Makireddy and others.

Technical Crew: Locations & Promotional
Officer: Sanapala Chinnababu
Cashier: Harish
Line Producer: Kapardhi
Executive Producer: Lalam Kannaji



SFX: Raghunadh Kemishetti
VFX: Chandu Adi
DTS Sound Engineer: Radhakrishna
Lyrics: Ramajogayya Sastry, Kasarla Shyam
Action Choreography: Ram Kishan
PRO: Suresh (SK Media)
Production Designer: Ram Charan Teja Labhani
DOP: Ruppa G Krsna
Editor: Marthand K Venkatesh
Music Director: Prince Henry
Producer: Dr. Chintada Hemarao
Written & Directed by: Manga Srinivas

Ranabaali – Never Forget the Truth



Documentary Series: Second Episode 'The History We Forgot' Released Hyderabad cinema Starring Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna in the lead roles, the much-awaited pan-India film "Ranabaali" is directed by Rahul Sankrityan. Presented by T-Series and produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under the Mythri Movie Makers banner, the film is being made on a lavish scale. "Ranabaali" is gearing up for a grand worldwide theatrical release on October 16, on the occasion of Vijayadashami. As part of the four-episode documentary series titled "Ranabaali – Never Forget the Truth," the second episode, "The History We Forgot," is now streaming on YouTube. In this episode, Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna discuss historical truths that, according to the documentary, were deliberately kept out of public knowledge during British rule. They also explore how India's agricultural wealth was exploited and how the British-built railway network was used to transport the country's resources. Rashmika Mandanna said that if certain truths from history remained unknown to people, one reason was that the British prevented those facts from reaching the public, while Indians themselves also did not discuss them extensively. She added that while researching for the film, she gained a deeper understanding of that period, the circumstances of the time and

the lives of people then. Learning about what actually happened during that era left her deeply emotional, she said. Vijay Deverakonda spoke about the commonly discussed narrative that the British built the Indian railway system as a contribution to India. He said that while the British did construct railway lines, the motives behind their construction and the interests they served were not always discussed. According to Vijay, he later learned that the railway network was largely built using Indian labour and served British economic interests. He explained that railway lines enabled the British to transport agricultural produce from different parts of the country to ports and then ship it to Britain. He further claimed that enormous quantities of grain, cotton, spices and gold were transported through the railway network, describing this as part of the exploitation of India's resources during British rule. The third episode, titled "The Men We Forgot," will begin streaming on October 2. The streaming date for the fourth episode, **The Last Load,** will be announced soon: **Ranabaali** is set for a worldwide grand theatrical release on October 16, with Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna in the lead roles. The film is directed by Rahul Sankrityan and produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under Mythri Movie Makers, with T-Series presenting the film.

Sanju Samson calls Kohli a constant source of motivation for Indian players

Nisshin: Describing former captain Virat Kohli as a constant source of motivation for players across generations, India wicketkeeper-batter Sanju Samson said the national team considers itself “very, very fortunate” to have someone of his stature leading by example both on and off the field. Samson’s words come after Kohli hit an unbeaten 139 in the Thiruvananthapuram ODI against the West Indies, which India won by eight wickets. During the course of the knock, Kohli also surpassed the 15,000-run mark in ODIs and became just the second batter after Sachin Tendulkar to achieve the feat. “What to say? I think we are very, very fortunate to have someone like him. I think whenever he scores runs, practises or turns out to play a game of cricket for our country, or wherever he goes, I think it is a great inspiration for people like us still playing the game in the Indian national team and for everyone playing alongside him. “I think it definitely benefits the way he puts on the performances. So, very happy to have him,” Samson told reporters on the eve of the India-Sri Lanka men’s cricket semi-final at the Asian Games. With multiple Indian squads operating simultaneously across international and age-group setups, ranging from the main ODI and T20I teams to the ‘A’ sides and U-19 squads, Samson attributed this strong bench strength to a robust domestic ecosystem working in tandem with the Indian Pre-



mier League (IPL). “Absolutely, I think it is all over the internet. It is a known fact nowadays how strong Indian cricket has grown over the last so many years. So, I think there has been some constant effort. I think definitely IPL plays a huge role. But I feel our domestic cricket is also playing a huge role, actually. “We have been constantly making great efforts to go out and play all the domestic matches whenever we get a chance, and that is where we tend to develop a lot of talent as well. So, our grooming things are really nicely placed, actually. “The Mushtaq Ali, the Vijay Hazare, the Ranji Trophy, even the Under-19 [teams] are travelling abroad every season, actually. So, a great number of cricketers are coming from these kinds of games, which is a great thing for our country, and we will keep doing our best,” he added.

Asian Games Volleyball: Unbeaten India take on Pakistan in men’s volleyball QF



Aichi: A place in the Asian Games 2026 men’s volleyball semifinals will be at stake when India face familiar rivals Pakistan in a high-stakes quarter-final at the Okazaki Chuo Sogo Park Gymnasium on Thursday. India arrive in the knockout stage unbeaten after an impressive run through Pool C. Three victories from three matches saw them finish at the top of the group, although their final outing provided a stern test of their ability to recover under pressure. After opening the tournament with successive 3-0 victories over Vietnam and Hong Kong China, India were pushed to the limit by Qatar. They dropped the first two sets before mounting a remarkable comeback to win the match 3-2. The Indian side eventually prevailed 26-28, 25-27, 25-23, 25-20, 24-22 in a contest that lasted five sets and over three hours, securing top spot in the pool and setting up a quarter-final against Pakistan. Pakistan enter the knockout stage as Pool A runners-up. They began their campaign with victories over Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan but were beaten 3-0 by hosts Japan in their final pool match. The rankings also give Pakistan a statistical edge heading into the contest. Pakistan are ranked 39th in the world, nine places above India. Thursday’s quarter-final renews a rivalry that produced a one-sided result

when the teams last met at the Asian Games. At Hangzhou 2023, Pakistan defeated India 3-0 in the fifth-place classification match. Pakistan consequently finished fifth, while India ended the tournament in sixth. Pakistan also emerged victorious when the teams met at the 2018 Asian Games in Jakarta, winning that encounter 3-1. India will therefore be looking to reverse the recent head-to-head trend when the stakes are considerably higher in Aichi-Nagoya. Beyond the rivalry, the quarter-final carries significance for India’s long-term Asian Games campaign. The Indian men’s team is attempting to end a 40-year wait for an Asian Games volleyball medal. Its most recent podium finish came at Seoul 1986, where India secured bronze. India have won three men’s volleyball medals in Asian Games history: silver at Jakarta 1962 and bronze at Tokyo 1958 and Seoul 1986. Pakistan’s men’s team has one Asian Games medal to its name, a bronze won at Jakarta 1962, the same Games where India claimed silver. With a semifinal berth now within reach, India’s unbeaten start will be tested against a Pakistan side that has already defeated them at the previous two editions. The winner of Thursday’s contest will move one step closer to a place on the Asian Games podium.

Virat Kohli climbs to second in latest ICC ODI batting rankings



Hyderabad: India batting icon Virat Kohli has closed the gap on captain Shubman Gill at the top of the ICC Men’s ODI Batting Rankings, despite both players scoring centuries in the first ODI against the West Indies in Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday. Kohli’s unbeaten 139 from 88 deliveries took him past 15,000 ODI runs as India chased down a target of 296 with 50 deliveries to spare. His record-extending 55th ODI ton helped him overtake Daryl Mitchell for second position and move within 20 rating points of top-ranked Gill. Kohli was 34 points behind Gill’s 801 rating points before the match. Though Gill’s knock of 110 lifted his own points tally to 816, Kohli moved from 767 to 796, bridging the gap by 14 rating points. Kohli’s rating points are now his highest since July 2022. Kohli was number three for a three-day stint in January this year and will once again be gunning for the top position, where he has spent 1,547 days in all, with only West Indian greats Vivian Richards and Brian Lara having occupied the No. 1 position for longer. England opener Tom Banton was the Player of the Match for scoring 126 off 105 in the third ODI against Sri Lanka and has ended the series in 83rd position, gaining a whopping 333 places. Kusal Mendis, who aggregated 198 runs in the series, is at a career-best seventh position, while Ben Duckett has moved up four places to 15th. In the latest weekly update, which considers performances in the last two matches of the England versus Sri Lanka series and the first two of the South Africa versus Australia series,

apart from the Thiruvananthapuram match, Matthew Breetzke’s 136 runs, including a century in the series opener in Durban, have lifted him 19 places to 21st, while David Miller has returned to the rankings in 41st position after scoring 151 runs, including a century in Johannesburg. Captain Temba Bavuma, who also notched a ton in the second match as South Africa took a winning 2-0 lead in the three-match series, has advanced 10 slots to 32nd position, while Will Jacks (up six places to 71st) and Marco Jansen (up 42 places to 87th) have also progressed.

(Photo: IANS): The ICC Men’s ODI Bowling Rankings see left-arm spinners Keshav Maharaj of South Africa and Kuldeep Yadav of India make headway. Maharaj’s six wickets in the two ODIs against Australia have lifted him three places to third, while Yadav’s haul of four for 40 in Thiruvananthapuram has lifted him four slots to fifth position. Australia’s Josh Hazlewood is back in the top 10 after grabbing three wickets at the Wanderers, while his teammate Nathan Ellis (up two places to 15th), West Indies’ Jayden Seales (up four places to 22nd), Sri Lanka’s Dunith Wellalage (up 12 places to 26th) and India’s M Prasidh Krishna (up six places to 42nd) are others to move up the bowlers’ rankings.

2nd ODI: Middle-order role comes with different challenges, says Gaikwad



Guwahati: Admitting that long gaps between international appearances bring a degree of nervousness, India batter Ruturaj Gaikwad said transitioning from his regular opening role to the middle order at the highest level requires comes with different challenges, including making tactical adjustments. Gaikwad, who has primarily operated as an opener for the bulk of his playing career, has batted at number four spot for India whenever a vacancy was created in the playing eleven. In ten ODIs, Gaikwad has hit a century and a fifty while amassing 241 runs. “There is a lot of difference. As I said, I’ve been opening the batting for almost more than 100 innings now at the first-class level. So, batting middle order, especially at international cricket, comes with different challenges. You have to rotate the strike. You have to make sure that you take the right option. “And often when we are batting in powerplay, you get those easy boundaries, the fielders are inside. But batting middle order, you just have to make sure you make that adjustment and, as I said, just back your strengths, whatever it is,” Gaikwad said in a pre-game chat with the broadcasters. The nervousness of playing for India again is present

for Gaikwad, who was unbeaten on 13 in the eight-wicket win in Thiruvananthapuram. “Well, that was a long way ago (the century against South Africa in December 2025), to be honest. I had many innings in between. Obviously IPL was there as well. “So played in different conditions, played at different numbers. So obviously to come back at international level after a long time, obviously there is a lot of nervousness. But I think last game it was much better to just go in there and just hang around a bit,” he added. Addressing the sporadic nature of his opportunities in the national setup and how he processes the uncertainty surrounding his place in the side, Gaikwad stated that focusing on the present rather than looking too far ahead has been the key for him.

“Well, it is just about giving your best. As long as you are getting to play for India, getting the opportunity to play for India, it is just about going in there and giving your best and not thinking too far ahead about whether the opportunities will come or not. Yes, sometimes it’s hard to process, but obviously, you have to enjoy it. You have to enjoy playing for your country,” he concluded.

From SBI ATM limits to LPG subsidy: Key rule changes from October 1

New Delhi: As we approach October, several changes affecting banking, taxes, savings and household expenses are set to take effect from Thursday, such as revised SBI ATM limits, LPG Aadhaar authentication requirements and changes to NPS and UPI rules. One of the major changes in the next month is a new UPI MDR framework that will apply to specified merchant transactions above Rs 2,000. However, customers will not be charged MDR and person-to-person UPI transactions will remain free. In addition, the Central Board of Direct Taxes has extended key deadlines for taxpayers covered by tax audit provisions for assessment year 2026-27. The deadline for filing the tax audit report has been extended to October 21 from September 30, while the income tax return filing deadline has been extended to November 21 from October 31. Apart from that, from October 1, domestic LPG consumers will need to complete biometric Aadhaar authentication to book refills at the regulated retail selling price with applicable subsidy. Consumers who do not complete the process can still obtain LPG but at the applicable market price without subsidy, subject to oil marketing company rules. Moreover, India's largest lender, State Bank of India will reduce free monthly transactions at other banks'



ATMs for salary package account holders from 10 to five starting from the month. The limit will cover both financial and non-financial transactions. For Basic Savings Bank Deposit accounts, four cash withdrawals a month will continue to be free after which a charge of Rs 15 plus GST will apply. From October 1, resident individuals and Hindu Undivided Families buying property from non-resident sellers will not need a separate TAN for applicable TDS compliance and can use PAN. Similarly, the revised NPS Point of Presence fee structure will also take effect, including a one-time onboarding charge of Rs 200 per PRAN. RBI rules on bulk deposit rate disclosures will require regional rural banks to publish applicable rates on their websites by 10 am on business days. Additionally, the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee will meet from October 5-7 with the policy decision due on October 7. In its last review the central bank kept repo rate unchanged at 5.25 per cent

Rupee rises 13 paise to 95.81 against US dollar as crude prices retreat



Mumbai: The rupee appreciated 13 paise to close at 95.81 (provisional) against the US dollar on Wednesday, tracking an overnight decline in the US dollar index and as crude oil prices retreated from their elevated levels. Forex traders said easing US Treasury yields from multi-decade highs also supported the rupee. However, weak domestic markets capped sharp gains for the Indian currency. At the inter-bank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 95.87, then lost ground to touch an intraday low of 95.98 against the American currency. At the end of Wednesday's trading session, the domestic unit was quoted at 95.81 (provisional) against the greenback, higher by 13 paise over its previous close. On Tuesday, the rupee settled marginally higher at 95.94, just a tad above the psychologically crucial 96-per-dollar level. "We expect the rupee to trade with a negative bias on uncertainty over the US-Iran deal and risk aversion in global markets. Concerns over a strong dollar and elevated US Treasury yields may also pressurise the rupee," said Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst, Mirae Asset Sharekhan. "Hopes that US and Iranian officials will talk through mediators may support the

rupee at lower levels. Traders may take cues from ADP non-farm employment, the core PCE price index and final GDP data from the US," Choudhary noted. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the strength of the greenback against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 101.23, lower by 0.14 per cent. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading 0.58 per cent higher at USD 103.18 per barrel in futures trade — its lowest level in over 10 days. According to traders, the rupee is trading in a narrow range as dollar sales by state-run banks on behalf of the Reserve Bank of India in both spot and forward markets are keeping the USD/INR pair below the 96.00 level. Additionally, foreign portfolio outflows of around USD 2.2 billion this month and firm US yields are keeping pressure on the USD/INR pair. On the domestic equity market front, the Sensex dipped 48.78 points to settle at 72,480.29, while the Nifty was down 95.75 points at 22,620.45. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 9,980.22 crore on a net basis on Tuesday, according to exchange data.

Sensex slips 49 points, Nifty falls 96 points as market extends losses



Mumbai: Market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty ended lower on Wednesday, extending losses for the third straight day, as firm crude oil prices, elevated global bond yields and foreign fund outflows made investors jittery. Giving up all intraday gains, the 30-share BSE Sensex declined 48.78 points, or 0.07 per cent, to settle at 72,480.29 on fag-end selling. During the day, it jumped 533.16 points, or 0.73 per cent, to 73,062.23. The 50-share NSE Nifty dropped 95.75 points, or 0.42 per cent, to end at 22,620.45. Among the 30 Sensex firms, Eternal, Sun Pharma, Titan, Adani Ports, Tata Steel and HDFC Bank were among the major laggards. Kotak Mahindra Bank, ICICI Bank, InterGlobe Aviation and Axis Bank were among the gainers. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was up 0.54 per cent at USD 103.10 per barrel. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 9,980.22 crore on Tuesday, according to exchange data. "The relief rally loses its steam with profit booking at the higher levels, followed by a rebound in oil prices. The elevated global bond yields continue to remain a key overhang, limiting the scope for sustained risk-

taking. The overall market tone remains cautious; investors continue to monitor the trajectory of crude oil prices, bond yields, inflation expectations, and the potential implications for global monetary policy," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Ltd, said. In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi ended lower, while Shanghai's SSE Composite Index, Japan's Nikkei 225 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index settled higher. Markets in Europe were trading on a mixed note. US markets ended lower on Tuesday. "Crude oil prices remained relatively stable through the session, offering little fresh direction as uncertainty over the regional conflict and its implications for global energy supplies remained unresolved. This kept the broader market tone measured rather than decisively negative," Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, said. On Tuesday, the Sensex dropped 242.65 points, or 0.33 per cent, to settle at 72,529.07. The Nifty declined 64.05 points, or 0.28 per cent, to end at 22,716.20.

Noel Tata seeks review of Tata Sons restructuring plan to avoid listing



Mumbai: Tata Trusts Chairman Noel Tata has urged the Tata Sons board to review a restructuring proposal to avoid a stock market listing of the holding company. Speaking recently at Republic TV event here, Noel said that he remains hopeful that the Reserve Bank of India will reconsider its decision to classify Tata Sons as an upper-layer non-banking financial company. Listing Tata Sons would fundamentally change the way the Tata group has operated for decades and could create a conflict between investor expectations for profits and the philanthropic objectives of Tata Trusts, according to him. Tata Trusts — which owns 66 per cent of Tata Sons — has proposed merging Tata Electronics Systems Solutions and Tata Consulting Engineers with Tata Sons. The decision would give Tata Sons its own operations and revenue, potentially allowing it to avoid classification as an NBFC or core investment company. Tata Sons was placed on the RBI's upper-layer NBFC list in September 2022

and was given three years to list. The company subsequently cleared its debt and applied in 2024 to surrender its core investment company status and remain private. However, the central bank rejected the application earlier this month and asked the company to comply with the applicable norms. Noel Tata was the lone dissenting voice when the Tata Sons board voted earlier in September to prepare for a listing and to give Chairman N Chandrasekaran a fresh five-year term. Also, he described the board's decision to reappoint Chandrasekaran as chairman as illegal. According to him, Tata Sons has historically supported group companies during difficult periods. It was uncertain whether outside shareholders would back similar investments, he said. Apart from that, he also highlighted education, healthcare and jobs as key areas for Tata Trusts' philanthropic work and said there was a need to bridge the gap between university education and industry requirements.

Nandyal Gets Rs 986.63 Crore Horticulture Development Plan



Kurnool:Nandyal administration has prepared a ₹986.63-crore action plan for developing horticulture in the district under the Rayalaseema Integrated Horticulture Development Plan (RIHDP), joint collector Suraj Dhanunjay said on Saturday. He said the main objective of the Rayalaseema Horticulture Hub is to transform the region into a world-class hub for horticulture products capable of competing in national and international markets. The Nandyal action plan would be implemented in coordination with the horticulture, irrigation, roads and buildings, transport, and other departments. Dhanunjay said the plan aims to increase farmers’ incomes and improve the competitiveness of horticulture products by strengthening post-harvest management, cold storage, transportation, processing, marketing, and other infrastructure. Pri-

vate investment in the horticulture sector would also be welcomed. Under RIHDP, the joint collector said, 15 horticulture clusters would be developed across 309 Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBKs) in Nandyal district. The major focus would be on expanding the horticulture area, post-harvest management, and market infrastructure. An additional 44,640 hectares would be brought under horticulture, taking the overall area under horticultural crops to a significantly higher level. The programme is expected to benefit around 3,19,441 farmers in the district. Dhanunjay said horticulture production in Nandyal was expected to increase substantially after implementation of the proposed measures. Production, which is currently around 18.36 lakh metric tonnes, is projected to rise to 44.60 lakh metric tonnes, he stated.

AP to Supply Subsidised Tur Dal, Palm Oil Through Ration Shops

Continu, from1st page
through the public distribution system in the coming days. Manohar maintained that the government has already responded to the rise in rice prices by arranging sales of BPT super-fine rice through 400 special counters at ₹48 and ₹52 a kg. He maintained that there is no shortage of rice or foodgrains in the country. Adequate stocks are available for the next three years. He appealed to people not to believe social media reports claiming otherwise. The minister said officials are intensifying surveillance to prevent

hoarding and diversion of foodgrains and essential commodities to the black market. Strict action would be taken against those involved in hoarding. In the upcoming Kharif season, Manohar said, the state government has set a target of procuring 37 lakh metric tonnes of paddy. He acknowledged some quality issues in the first consignment of onions supplied through Rythu bazars. He said onions would be graded before their sale. Steps would be taken to ensure better-quality consignments in future, the minister added.

AHUDA holds 23rd authority meeting in Anantapur



Anantapur: AHUDA held its 23rd Authority meeting on Tuesday under Chairman TC Varun, focusing on future urban planning for Anantapur and Sri Sathya Sai districts. District collectors and state-level officials participated via Zoom conference alongside AHUDA Secretary Ishaq. The governing body

approved four key agenda items, notably greenlighting an e-auction for vacant plots in Anantapur city layouts and clearing three major infrastructure and beautification proposals. Chairman Varun urged officials to accelerate regional development activities and ensure prompt public service delivery.

Parents boycott SMC polls at Holagunda high school over alleged irregularities



Kurnool: The School Management Committee (SMC) elections at the Zilla Parishad High School in Holagunda, Kurnool district, turned contentious on Tuesday as a section of parents boycotted the proceedings, alleging severe violations of government guidelines and procedural irregularities. Parents who arrived to contest the elections staged a walkout from the meeting hall, expressing intense anger over unilateral decisions by officials and complaining that their objections were completely ignored. The protesters alleged that the elections proceeded without the mandatory 50 per cent quorum. They accused the headmaster of acting under political pressure to announce a pre-decided list of members without conducting a proper vote,

failing to brief participants on election norms or seeking their willingness to contest. Demanding an immediate cancellation of the disputed polls, the aggrieved parents staged a dharna in front of the Holagunda Tahsildar’s office. They insisted that the process be declared invalid and conducted afresh to ensure equal opportunity for all eligible parents, emphasizing that the SMC plays a critical role in safeguarding student interests. A formal representation was submitted to the junior assistant at the Tahsildar’s office, urging authorities to forward it to the District Collector. They reiterated that student futures must take priority, demanding strict adherence to guidelines in future proceedings. Several parents actively participated in the demonstration.

Schedule for preparation of electoral roll released

Guntur: Following the orders of the Central Election Commission, a new schedule has been released for the preparation of the electoral roll for the Krishna-Guntur Teachers’ Constituency. Guntur Municipal Corporation



Commissioner K Mayur Ashok said that those who have completed at least three years of full-time teaching experience during the six years preceding the qualifying date of November 1, 2026, and are working in government-recognised secondary or higher-level educational institutions are eligible to register as voters. He clarified that even those who were enrolled as voters previously must compulsorily apply afresh through Form-19. A meeting was held with officials at the commissioner’s chamber in the GMC head office on Tuesday to review the registration of MLC voters and arrangements for the local body elections. Speaking on the occasion, he said eligible teachers should submit their applications along with the relevant service certificate by November 6. After scrutiny of the applications, the draft electoral roll will be published on November 25, and claims and objections will be accepted from November 25 to December 10. After resolving all the claims and objections, the final electoral roll will be officially published on December 30. He directed the deputy commissioners

to make necessary arrangements for voter registration within the limits of Guntur Municipal Corporation in coordination with Education Department officials. Later, while reviewing arrangements for the local body elections, the commissioner directed the deputy commissioners and additional commissioner to take immediate steps for the appointment of Zonal Officers, Model Code of Conduct teams and polling personnel. He instructed the Superintending Engineer (SE) to call for tenders for supplying all the material required for conducting the elections and to submit a report on the basic amenities at polling stations. He directed the city planner to prepare maps of the locations identified for setting up the distribution centre. He stressed on coordination among officials and departments for the smooth conduct of elections and instructed everyone to discharge their assigned duties with dedication. Additional Commissioner I Kishore, deputy commissioners G Sambasiva Rao, B Srinivasa Rao and Ch Srinivas, City Planner Rambabu and SE G Venkateswara Rao were present.