

TRICOLOUR ESTATE

THE NEWS THAT MATTERS

Thursday
4.6.2026

Pages: 4
Price: Rs.2

Volume: 1
Issue: 16

Published from Jagtial
Circulated to Telangana

PRGI Regd: TGENG/26/A3325
www.tricolourestate.com



21 Killed in Hotel Fire

New Delhi, June 3: At least 21 people, including 12 foreign nationals, were killed and 37 others rescued after a massive fire engulfed a hotel in Delhi's Malviya Nagar on Wednesday morning. The blaze reportedly started around 8.50 a.m. in the basement restaurant of the five-storey Flourish Stay hotel and later spread to the adjoining Micasa Inn. Firefighters rushed to the spot with multiple fire engines and rescue units, launching a large-scale evacuation operation. Officials said nine Indian citizens and 12 foreigners, mostly from Liberia, Mozambique, Nigeria and Bangladesh, lost their lives in the tragedy. Many guests were asleep when the fire broke out. Eye-witnesses reported seeing several people break windows and jump from the upper floors to escape the flames. Mattresses were placed on the ground to reduce injuries during rescue efforts. Preliminary investigations have revealed serious safety violations. Sources said the hotel was licensed as a bed-and-breakfast facility with permission for only six rooms but was allegedly operating 25 rooms, including accommodation in the basement. Officials also found that the building lacked a valid fire No Objection Certificate (NOC). Delhi Fire Service Chief Fire Officer A.K. Malik said the hotel had only one entry and exit point and no windows, which accelerated the spread of smoke and fire. Firefighters had to cut through a shutter to access the basement, where several people were trapped. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed condolences over the loss of lives and announced an ex gratia of ₹2 lakh for the families of the deceased and ₹50,000 for the injured. Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta described the incident as tragic and said all emergency agencies responded swiftly. She assured that the government would provide every possible assistance to the affected families. Authorities have launched a detailed investigation to determine the exact cause of the fire and examine possible violations of safety regulations.



TG, SA Forge Ties

Hyderabad, June 3: Telangana and South Africa have agreed to strengthen cooperation in pharmaceuticals, healthcare, education and skilled workforce development during a meeting between Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and South African Deputy President Paul Mashatile in Hyderabad. Leading a high-level delegation, Mashatile invited Indian pharmaceutical companies to invest in South Africa, highlighting the country's focus on affordable healthcare and universal access to medicines. He said South Africa could serve as a gateway for Indian firms seeking access to African markets through the African Continental Free Trade Area. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy showcased Hyderabad's strengths in information technology, pharmaceuticals, aerospace and medical tourism, noting that the city has emerged as a major destination for global investments and quality healthcare services. The two sides discussed expanding collaboration in education, medical tourism and industry. Reddy also invited South African business leaders to participate in the Telangana Rising Global Summit 2026, scheduled for December. Mashatile expressed his willingness to attend the event along with a business delegation. The Chief Minister briefed the delegation on the proposed Bharat Future City project, a 30,000-acre net-zero greenfield development planned near Hyderabad's international airport. Telangana ministers highlighted the state's leadership in vaccine production, bulk drugs and technology sectors, while South African officials emphasized the potential for stronger economic and industrial partnerships between the two regions. The meeting is expected to pave the way for greater trade, investment and people-to-people exchanges between Telangana and South Africa.



Madhu Yaskhi Wife Injured

New York: Dr. Suchi Yaskhi, a senior physician and wife of former MP Madhu Yaskhi Goud, sustained serious injuries in a road accident in the United States. Doctors confirmed that she suffered multiple rib fractures in the crash. The accident occurred while the family was travelling from Boston to New York after enrolling their daughter, Dr. Gagana Yaskhi, in an MD postgraduate medical course. Due to excess luggage, Madhu Yaskhi Goud and Dr. Suchi Yaskhi were travelling in separate vehicles. According to reports, heavy rain-fall caused the vehicle carrying Dr. Suchi to lose control on the slippery highway. The car reportedly spun several times before overturning.

Vennela Slams Pawan

Hyderabad, June 3: Vennela, chairperson of Telangana Samskruthika Sarathi and daughter of legendary balladeer Gaddar, strongly criticised remarks made by Pawan Kalyan regarding Telangana statehood. Responding to comments made on Telangana Formation Day, Vennela said the people of Telangana respect Pawan Kalyan as an actor and admirer of Gaddar, but his remarks questioning whether Telangana was anyone's "jagir" were hurtful and unacceptable. She stressed that Telangana was not achieved through political negotiations but through decades of struggle, sacrifices and public movements. Recalling the contributions of students, youth and activists, including Telangana martyr Srikantha Chary, she described the Telangana movement as a fight for self-respect and regional identity. She noted that cultural campaigns, songs and grassroots mobilisation played a crucial role in achieving statehood. Emphasising the spirit behind the Telangana movement, Vennela said the state belongs to the people who fought for it and protected its aspirations. She asserted that Telangana was built through sacrifices and would continue to remain in the hands of its people.



Telangana Highway Mega Boost

New Delhi: Telangana is set to witness a significant improvement in its road infrastructure after the Union Cabinet approved the expansion of nearly 191 kilometres of national highways into four-lane corridors. The project, cleared by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will be implemented at an estimated cost of ₹7,597 crore. The approved works include the widening of the Armoor-Jagtial-Mancherial stretch of National Highway-63 and the Jagtial-Karimnagar section of National Highway-563. These roads pass through key districts such as Nizamabad, Jagtial, Mancherial and Karimnagar, where growing traffic volumes have led to frequent congestion and longer



travel times. The existing highways run through several busy towns and urban centres, including Korutla, Jagtial, Dharmapuri, Mancherial and Karimnagar. With increasing movement of passenger vehicles and freight transport, the current road network has struggled to keep pace with demand. The four-laning project aims to address these bottlenecks through wider roads, bypasses around densely populated areas and improved traffic management systems. Officials believe the upgraded corridors will substantially reduce travel time

across northern Telangana. The journey between Armoor and Mancherial is expected to become nearly 90 minutes shorter, while travel between Jagtial and Karimnagar could be reduced by around 45 minutes. The highways will be designed for speeds of up to 100 kilometres per hour, enabling smoother and safer travel. Beyond easing traffic, the project is expected to strengthen connectivity between major economic, industrial and tourism centres. The highways will link Special Economic Zones, food processing hubs, logistics centres and important religious destinations such as Vemulawada, Dharmapuri and Kaleshwaram. Improved road access is also expected to support local businesses, tourism and agricultural trade.

Congress rule a disaster: KTR

Hyderabad, June 3: BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao launched a sharp attack on the Congress government in Telangana on Wednesday, describing its rule as a "complete disaster" and accusing it of failing every section of society. Speaking at a "Meet the Press" programme in Hyderabad, KTR claimed that Telangana, which had witnessed rapid development during the tenure of former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao, was now losing momentum under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. He alleged that the Congress government had accumulated huge debts in a short period and failed to address the

concerns of farmers, youth, employees, women and other sections of society. According to him, public dissatisfaction with the government has grown significantly, and if elections were held today, the BRS would secure a decisive victory. KTR also targeted the BJP, alleging that both the BJP and Congress were working together on issues that were against Telangana's interests.

Strong Response to PK

The BRS leader also hit back at Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan over his recent remarks on Telangana. KTR said Telangana respects



Pawan Kalyan as a political leader and actor, but made it clear that no one from outside the state could dictate terms to Telangana. "Telangana belongs to its people. It is the result of decades of struggle and sacrifice. We welcome everyone, but we will not accept anyone questioning the rights or self-respect of Telangana," he said. Referring to Pawan Kalyan's criticism of region-

alism, KTR questioned why the Telangana statehood movement was being singled out. He pointed out that the movement for a separate Andhra state led by Potti Sriramulu was also based on regional aspirations. "If regional identity is wrong, then was the movement for Andhra state also wrong?" KTR asked.

Defending TG's Legacy

KTR strongly rejected suggestions that Telangana lacked nationalism or patriotic values. He said the state has a rich history of fighting for democracy and justice and does not need lessons on patriotism from anyone. "This is the land that fought against oppression and made

enormous sacrifices. Telangana's commitment to the nation has never been in doubt," he said. He also dismissed claims that leaders from Andhra Pradesh were being prevented from contesting elections in Telangana. KTR noted that several leaders and parties from Andhra Pradesh had previously contested elections in the state without any obstacles. Questioning the controversy surrounding Jana Sena's proposed meeting in Hyderabad, KTR pointed out that it was the Congress government that denied permission for the event. "If there are complaints about permissions, those questions should be directed at the Congress government. BRS has never objected to any party holding meetings or contesting elections in Telangana," he clarified.

Book Your
Ad Space

Reach thousands of readers daily. Place your advertisement in TRICOLOUR ESTATE

English Daily.

Call: +91 9440455811

tricolourestate@gmail.com

Contact our marketing team for rates and offers.

EDITORIAL

More Judges,
Same Delays?

The Union government's decision to increase the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court from 33 to 37 judges has been welcomed as a step towards reducing the massive backlog of cases in India's judicial system. At first glance, the move appears logical. More judges should mean more benches, more hearings and faster disposal of cases. However, the critical question remains: will merely increasing the number of judges deliver timely justice to millions of Indians? India's judiciary is facing a crisis of pendency. Millions of cases are pending across courts, with several matters dragging on for years and sometimes decades. Citizens often spend a significant portion of their lives waiting for verdicts. Against this backdrop, the appointment of additional Supreme Court judges may offer temporary relief, but it does not address the deeper structural problems that plague the justice delivery system. The Supreme Court itself handles only a fraction of the country's total pending cases. The real burden lies in district courts and High Courts, where vacancies remain high and infrastructure remains inadequate. Courtrooms are overcrowded, judicial staff are insufficient, and many courts continue to function with outdated administrative systems. Unless these issues are tackled, expanding the apex court risks becoming a cosmetic reform rather than a transformative one.

Another concern is the growing tendency to view the Supreme Court as the solution to every legal and constitutional dispute. Over the years, the apex court has become flooded with appeals, many of which perhaps should have been resolved at lower levels. Increasing the number of judges without reforming the appeal process may simply encourage further centralisation of litigation rather than improving efficiency. The quality of justice must also be considered alongside the speed of disposal. Judges are already burdened with heavy caseloads, leaving limited time for detailed examination of complex matters. Adding more judges can help distribute the workload, but without reforms in case management, technology adoption and procedural simplification, delays will continue to persist.

Equally important is judicial accountability. Citizens often experience repeated adjournments, procedural complexities and a lack of transparency regarding case timelines. Judicial reforms must therefore focus not only on increasing manpower but also on improving performance standards, digitisation and monitoring mechanisms. The government's move should be viewed as a beginning rather than a solution. Faster justice requires a comprehensive overhaul of the entire judicial ecosystem—from filling vacancies in subordinate courts and strengthening infrastructure to embracing technology and simplifying legal procedures.

AI Revolution: India Is Ready to Lead the World

The Artificial Intelligence revolution is reshaping the global economy at an unprecedented pace. Nations across the world are racing to harness the power of AI to drive innovation, boost productivity and strengthen their strategic influence. Amid this transformation, India is no longer merely participating in the AI revolution—it is emerging as one of its future leaders. India possesses several unique advantages that position it at the forefront of the global AI race. The country produces millions of engineering and technology graduates every year, creating one of the largest talent pools in the world. Indian professionals are already playing critical roles in leading technology companies, research institutions and AI startups across the globe. This human capital has become India's greatest strength in the digital age. The country's digital infrastructure has also laid a strong foundation for AI-driven growth. Initiatives such as Aadhaar, UPI, Digital India and expanding internet

connectivity have created one of the world's largest digital ecosystems. The scale at which India has implemented digital public infrastructure is unmatched, providing enormous volumes of data and real-world applications that can accelerate AI innovation. India's startup ecosystem is another major advantage. Thousands of technology startups are experimenting with AI applications in healthcare, agriculture, education, finance, logistics and governance. Indian entrepreneurs are no longer content with providing outsourcing services; they are increasingly developing global products and platforms. This shift from service provider to innovation leader marks a significant turning point for the Indian technology sector. Artificial Intelligence also offers immense opportunities to address some of India's most pressing challenges. AI can help improve agricultural productivity, provide better healthcare in rural areas, enhance educational outcomes, optimize transportation networks and

improve public service delivery. If deployed effectively, AI can become a powerful tool for inclusive development. Recent industry reports indicate that India is rapidly emerging as a global hub for AI-driven software development, advertising technology and data analytics. Global corporations are expanding their research and development operations in Indian cities, while domestic companies are building advanced AI solutions for international markets. This demonstrates growing confidence in India's technological capabilities. However, leadership in AI cannot be taken for granted. The country must continue investing in advanced research, semiconductor manufacturing, high-performance computing infrastructure and skill development. Policymakers must also ensure that ethical standards, data privacy protections and regulatory frameworks evolve alongside technological progress.

The challenge is not whether India can compete in the AI era. The challenge is whether India can convert its enormous potential into sustained global leadership. The signs are encouraging. The talent exists. The entrepreneurial spirit exists. The digital infrastructure exists. The market scale exists. History offers few opportunities to shape the future of the world. The AI revolution is one such moment. With the right policies, investments and vision, India is well-positioned not only to benefit from artificial intelligence but also to lead the next wave of global technological transformation. The question is no longer whether India is ready for the AI revolution. The real question is whether the world is ready for India's leadership in it.



- Sumanth Pendem,
Hyderabad Central
University

UPI and the Future of a Cashless Economy

Few government initiatives have transformed everyday life in India as dramatically as the Unified Payments Interface (UPI). What began as an ambitious experiment in digital payments has evolved into a global success story, reshaping the way Indians transact, save time and conduct business. Today, from street vendors and small traders to large corporations, millions rely on UPI for instant and seamless payments. As transaction volumes continue to break records, India stands on the threshold of a new era—one where a cashless economy is no longer a distant vision but an emerging reality. The numbers speak for themselves. UPI processes billions of transactions every month, handling trillions of rupees in value. More importantly, it has democratized digital finance. Unlike many countries where digital payments remain concentrated among urban populations, India's payment revolution has reached villages, small towns and informal markets. A vegetable vendor with a QR code now enjoys the same digital payment capability as a multinational retailer. The success of UPI is a testament to the power of public digital infrastructure. By combining technological innovation with accessibility, India has created a system that is fast, affordable and



inclusive. The platform has reduced dependence on cash, improved transparency and brought millions into the formal financial system. It has also strengthened tax compliance and reduced the risks associated with carrying and handling physical currency. Yet, Digital India's journey is far from complete. The rapid growth of UPI presents both opportunities and challenges. The next phase must focus on expanding financial inclusion beyond payments. Digital platforms should become gateways to savings, insurance, credit and investment products for millions who remain underserved by traditional banking institutions. Another critical challenge is cybersecurity. As digital transactions grow, so do cyber frauds and online scams. Criminals are constantly devising new methods to exploit unsuspecting users. Strengthening digital

literacy and enhancing security mechanisms must therefore become national priorities. A cashless economy can succeed only if citizens have confidence that their money and personal information are safe. There is also the question of digital infrastructure. Reliable internet connectivity and smartphone access remain uneven across regions. While urban India has embraced digital payments, many rural and remote areas still face connectivity challenges. Bridging this gap will determine whether the benefits of Digital India reach every citizen. The global expansion of UPI offers another exciting opportunity. With the platform already operational in several countries, India is

demonstrating that indigenous technological solutions can compete on the world stage. UPI is increasingly becoming a symbol of India's soft power and technological leadership. Critics argue that a completely cashless economy may exclude sections of society that are not digitally connected. This concern deserves attention. The objective should not be to eliminate cash overnight but to create an ecosystem where digital transactions become the preferred and most convenient choice. India's digital payment revolution has already achieved what many believed impossible. The challenge now is to build on this success by ensuring security, accessibility and innovation. UPI has shown the world that India can lead in digital transformation. The next leap is not merely about reducing cash usage; it is about creating a truly inclusive, secure and globally influential digital economy. The future of Digital India is being written one transaction at a time. If the momentum continues, UPI may well become the foundation upon which India's next economic transformation is built.



- Alekya Katkam,
Journalist

The Unsung Builders of Two Economies

For decades, the story of Telangana has not been written only in its villages, towns, and cities. It has also been written in the deserts, construction sites, factories, and service sectors of the Gulf nations. Lakhs of workers from Telangana have travelled to countries such as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Oman in search of employment and a better future for their families. Their contribution to both Telangana's economy and social development is immense, yet their struggles often remain overlooked. The Gulf migration phenomenon is deeply rooted in Telangana's socio-economic history. Districts such as Nizamabad, Karim-

nagar, Jagitial, Nirmal, Kamareddy, Adilabad, and parts of erstwhile Mahabubnagar have witnessed large-scale migration over the years. Many families sold land, borrowed money at high interest rates, or mortgaged assets to pay recruitment agents and secure overseas jobs. For countless households, migration became the only path to escape poverty, unemployment, and agricultural distress. The remittances sent by Gulf workers have transformed rural Telangana. Thousands of homes have been built, children have received better education, and families have gained access to healthcare and financial security because of the earnings of workers abroad. In many

villages, the local economy survives largely on money sent from the Gulf. These workers have become silent contributors to Telangana's development without receiving the recognition they deserve. However, behind every success story lies a painful reality. Many workers face exploitative working conditions, low wages, passport confiscation, contract violations, unsafe workplaces, and poor living arrangements. Language barriers and lack of awareness about labour laws often make them vulnerable. During emergencies, accidents, or deaths abroad, families back home struggle to obtain information and assistance.

- Dileep Naik, Warangal



Pragg Stuns Carlsen Again

Indian chess sensation R Praggnanandhaa etched his name into the record books by defeating world No. 1 Magnus Carlsen twice in the ongoing Norway Chess 2026 tournament, becoming the first player in 19 years to achieve the feat in a classical event. The 20-year-old grandmaster from Chennai had earlier defeated Carlsen in the third round with the white pieces and repeated the success in the eighth round while playing with black. The achievement places him alongside Indian chess legend Viswanathan Anand, who was the last player to beat Carlsen twice in the same classical tournament at the Linares event in 2007. Despite the historic accomplishment, Praggnanandhaa remained grounded, insisting that winning games and staying in contention for the tournament title mattered more than defeating the Norwegian superstar. He said his focus remains on performing consistently in the competition rather than dwelling on individual victories. The young Indian also praised Carlsen's defensive skills, noting that the former world champion



had defended brilliantly for most of the game and appeared headed for a draw before a late mistake changed the outcome. Praggnanandhaa admitted he was surprised by the error, considering the high quality of Carlsen's play throughout the contest. With two rounds remaining, Praggnanandhaa believes he is playing good chess overall, though he acknowledged that time management during pressure situations remains an area he wants to improve. He plans to use the rest day to recharge before returning for the final

stretch of the tournament. Praggnanandhaa currently occupies third place in the standings with 12 points, trailing leader Wesley So and second-placed Alireza Firouzja. He will next face reigning world champion D Gukesh before taking on Vincent Keymer in the final round. As the tournament heads towards a thrilling finish, Praggnanandhaa's remarkable victories over Carlsen have once again highlighted India's growing dominance in world chess and reinforced his status as one of the brightest young stars in the game.

India Set for NZ Marathon

New Delhi, June 4: India will tour New Zealand later this year for a record-breaking 12-match bilateral series across all three formats, marking 100 years of sporting ties between the two nations. The 40-day tour, scheduled from October 22 to December 1, will feature five T20 Internationals, five One-Day Internationals and two Test matches, making it the largest men's bilateral cricket series ever hosted by New Zealand. The tour will begin with the opening T20I in Christchurch on October 22. The ODI series starts in Auckland on November 4, while the two-match Test series gets underway in Wellington on November 19. The final Test will be played in Christchurch from November 27 to December 1. The series is expected to attract huge interest from cricket fans, with several Indian stars, including Virat Kohli and Jasprit Bumrah, likely to be part of the touring squad. Officials from New Zealand Cricket described the tour as a celebration of the growing cricket rivalry and friend-



ship between the two countries. The New Zealand government is also supporting the event as part of the centenary celebrations of sporting relations between India and New Zealand. New Zealand spinner Ish Sodhi said matches against India always generate enormous excitement and praised the passionate support Indian fans bring wherever the team plays. The tour will also mark India's first Test series in New Zealand since the 2019-20 season, adding further significance to an already historic cricketing contest.

Schedule

T20Is:
Oct 22 – Christchurch
Oct 24 – Christchurch
Oct 27 – Wellington
Oct 30 – Auckland
Nov 1 – Hamilton

ODIs:
Nov 4 – Auckland
Nov 7 – Wellington
Nov 10 – Hamilton
Nov 13 – Mount Maunganui
Nov 15 – Mount Maunganui

Tests:
Nov 19-23 – Wellington
Nov 27-Dec 1 – Christchurch

Sabalenka's Emotional Exit

World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka suffered a dramatic quarterfinal exit at the 2026 French Open after squandering a commanding lead against Russia's Diana Shnaider. Following the defeat, the Belarusian admitted she felt like quitting tennis due to the emotional toll of the loss. Sabalenka appeared to be cruising into the semifinals after taking the opening set and building a 5-2 advantage in the second. However, Shnaider mounted a stunning comeback, winning 10 consecutive games and sealing victory with a dominant 6-0 final set. The defeat marked one of the most painful collapses of Sabalenka's career. Speaking after the match, Sabalenka revealed that she had fallen into a "deep dark hole" mentally during the contest and was unable to regain her composure. The four-time Grand Slam champion confessed that she had no immediate answers and

even said she wanted to quit tennis, though she hoped to recover mentally in the coming days. The Belarusian acknowledged that her continued inability to win a Grand Slam title on clay or grass may be affecting her mindset. Despite winning multiple major titles on hard courts, success at the French Open and Wimbledon has remained elusive. She admitted that overthinking and becoming overly emotional in crucial moments had contributed to several painful defeats. Sabalenka's candid remarks highlighted the immense mental pressure faced by elite athletes. While she jokingly suggested spending a day in a "rage room" smashing objects to vent her frustration, she also expressed hope that the setback would eventually make her stronger as she prepares for the grass-court season and another attempt at Grand Slam success.

India Eyes New T20 Captain

India's T20I team could soon have a new leader, with reports suggesting that the BCCI is considering a change in captaincy ahead of the upcoming tours of Ireland and England. Current skipper Suryakumar Yadav is likely to be relieved of the role, and may even face exclusion from the squad due to a prolonged dip in form. According to reports, the selection committee, team management and senior BCCI officials are aligned on the need to look beyond Suryakumar and begin building a new leadership group for the shortest format. A final decision is expected after discussions involving head coach Gautam Gambhir and senior board officials. Suryakumar's recent performances have raised concerns. The Mumbai Indians batter managed only 270 runs in 13 IPL innings this season, averaging just over 20. Despite leading India to the T20



World Cup title earlier this year, selectors appear keen to focus on the future rather than past achievements. Among the leading candidates to replace him are Shreyas Iyer and Sanju Samson. Iyer strengthened his leadership credentials by

guiding Punjab Kings to the IPL final last season, while Samson continues to enjoy strong backing within Indian cricket circles because of his experience and calm leadership style. Vice-captain Axar Patel is also believed to be under consideration, though no clear frontrunner has been officially identified. Meanwhile, young batter Tilak Varma is being viewed as a future captaincy prospect. His appointment as India A captain for the recent tri-series in Sri Lanka is seen as part of a long-term leadership development plan. However, selectors are keen to avoid rushing him into a senior role and prefer that he gains more experience before being considered for the national captaincy. If the change goes ahead, it would mark the beginning of a new chapter for India's T20 side as the team prepares for the next phase of international cricket.

Cobolli Storms Into Semifinal

Italian tennis star Flavio Cobolli produced the biggest win of his career by defeating Canada's Felix Auger-Aliassime 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 in the French Open quarterfinals on Wednesday. After losing the opening set, Cobolli fought back brilliantly with aggressive baseline play and improved returns to take control of the match. The 24-year-old showed remarkable composure under pressure, holding serve consistently and winning the final three sets to secure a place in his first-ever Grand Slam semifinal. The victory is particularly significant as it marks Cobolli's first win over a top-10 player at a Grand Slam tournament. He has now climbed into the live top-10 rankings and is enjoying the best run of his professional career.

DK Hails RCB Triumph

Former India wicket-keeper and Royal Challengers Bengaluru mentor Dinesh Karthik has described RCB's successful IPL 2026 title defence as an "unbelievable feeling", praising the players for their consistency and commitment throughout the season. RCB retained their crown with a five-wicket victory over the Gujarat Titans in the IPL 2026 final at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium. Reflecting on the achievement, Karthik said the team had dreamed of such a moment, but experiencing it in reality was truly special. He credited the players for executing the plans laid out by the coaching staff and delivering under pressure throughout the tournament. Karthik noted that while strategies are important, it is ultimately the players' skill and ability to perform on match days that determine success. The former cricketer also dedicated the triumph to RCB's loyal fan base, acknowledging their unwaver-



ing support through both successes and disappointments over the years. He said the entire support staff was proud of the journey, but emphasized that the players deserved full credit for making history. Karthik further revealed that the title win made his birthday extra special, as both he and RCB captain Rajat Patidar celebrated their birthdays on June 1. He expressed hope that the franchise would continue striving for excellence in the seasons ahead.

Global Yogasana Showcase

The inaugural World Yogasana Championships 2026 will be held at EKA Arena from June 4 to 8, marking a historic milestone in the evolution of Yogasana as a global competitive sport. More than 400 athletes from over 60 countries are set to participate in the championship. Competitors from nations including the USA, Ghana, Kenya, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan will join hosts India in the five-day event. The tournament aims to transform Yogasana from an ancient Indian wellness practice into an internationally recognised sporting discipline while strengthening its aspirations for future Olympic recognition. India will field a 122-member contingent competing across six age categories, ranging from sub-juniors to senior athletes. Participants will showcase their talent in individual, artistic and traditional group events. For the first time at the global level, an Electronic Scoring Sys-



tem will be used to ensure greater transparency and consistency in judging. The championship is supported by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Ministry of Ayush, Sports Authority of India and other sports bodies. The event will also feature 32 international judges and 51 national judges, highlighting the growing global reach of Yogasana. Officials associated with the championship described it as a landmark moment for the sport. Organisers believe the event will help establish a structured international ecosystem for Yogasana and strengthen its position within the global sporting movement.

Ayush Scripts Comeback

Indian shuttler Ayush Shetty produced a spirited comeback to enter the second round of the Indonesia Open 2026, defeating China's Weng Hong Yang in a thrilling three-game contest on Wednesday. After losing the opening game 8-21, the former world junior bronze medallist fought back strongly to claim the second game 22-20 before sealing the decider 21-15. The victory marked Ayush's second consecutive win over the world No. 15 Chinese player, having also defeated him during the Thomas Cup earlier this year. The turning point came in the second game when Ayush saved a game point at 19-20 and won three successive points to force a deciding game. Carrying the momentum forward, he built an early lead in the third game and maintained control to complete the victory in one hour and six minutes. He will next face Lee Cheuk Yiu in the second round. India also enjoyed success in mixed doubles as the pair of Rohan Kapoor and Ruthvika Shivani stunned world No. 20 duo Yang Po-Hsuan and Hu Ling Fang of Chinese Taipei 21-14, 21-14. The Indian pair will now face defending champions Thom Gicquel and Delphine Delrue in the next round. Meanwhile, Indian star PV Sindhu is set for a challenging second-round clash against world No. 1 An Se Young as she aims to continue her campaign in Jakarta.





Hritika Chheber

Dhee Fame Pandu Hurt

Popular dance master Pandu, known for his appearances in the reality show Dhee Jodi, sustained serious injuries in a road accident near Anandapuram in Visakhapatnam during the early hours of Wednesday. The mishap occurred at Loda-galavani Palem when a speeding chicken transport vehicle rammed into two parked cars. Pandu, who had attended a village festival at Tagarapuvalasa, had stepped out of his vehicle when the collision took place. Three others suffered minor injuries, while both parked vehicles were extensively damaged. Locals immediately shifted Pandu to a private hospital. Doctors diagnosed a dislocated left hip joint and fractures in the tibia and fibula bones of both legs. While his condition is stable and out of danger, surgeries are planned to treat the fractures. Police suspect overspeeding and driver fatigue as the primary reasons behind the accident. The incident cast a shadow over the Tagarapuvalasa festival, which was revived this year after a gap of 16 years.



Aamir May Marry Gauri Spratt

Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan is reportedly set to marry his longtime partner Gauri Spratt on July 5. According to media reports, the couple plans to hold a private ceremony attended only by close family members and friends. Aamir publicly confirmed his relationship with Gauri earlier this year during celebrations surrounding his 60th birthday. Reports suggest the couple has been living together for over a year and has now decided to formalise their relationship. This would be Aamir's third marriage. He was previously married to Reena Dutta and later to filmmaker Kiran Rao. The actor has often spoken about the peace and happiness Gauri has brought into his life. While there has been no official confirmation from Aamir's team, reports indicate the wedding will be a simple affair without grand celebrations.



Vanda Devullu Set for June 19 Release



Actor Vijay Antony and director Sasi, the successful duo behind Bichagadu, are reuniting for the emotional drama Vanda Devullu. The makers have officially announced that the film will release worldwide on June 19. A newly released poster featuring Vijay Antony and Swasika riding a bicycle through a rural backdrop hints at a period drama rooted in emotions and relationships. The film promises a blend of family sentiments, suspense, action and heartfelt storytelling. Produced by Ramanjaneyulu Javvaji under Servanth Ram Creations and presented by Fatima Vijay Antony, the film features a strong ensemble cast. Director Sasi is said to have crafted a moving narrative exploring human relationships and unexpected twists. With positive responses to the promotional content released so far, the makers are gearing up for aggressive promotions ahead of the theatrical release.



Don 3 Dispute Ends

The Federation of Western India Cine Employees (FWICE) has withdrawn its non-cooperation directive against actor Ranveer Singh following a legal notice sent by the actor. The dispute emerged after producers of Don 3 complained about Ranveer's exit from the project, leading to FWICE issuing a directive against him. However, after intervention by industry bodies including IMPPA, the Producers Guild and CINTAA, the matter has been resolved.

FWICE president B.N. Tiwari said the decision was taken in the interest of the industry and further discussions would be held among stakeholders to avoid similar issues in the future. Ranveer's team reiterated that the actor continues to maintain respect and goodwill towards everyone associated with the film and the industry.

Kriti Sanon Visits Tirumala



Actress Kriti Sanon visited the sacred Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple on Wednesday and offered prayers ahead of the release of her upcoming film Cocktail 2. Dressed in traditional attire, Kriti participated in temple rituals and sought the blessings of Lord Venkateswara. Her visit comes amid promotional activities for the much-anticipated romantic drama. The film stars Kriti alongside Shahid Kapoor and Rashmika Mandanna. Directed by Homi Adajania, the movie is scheduled for release on June 19. The trailer and songs from the film have already generated considerable buzz among audiences.

Ibrahim-Palak Spark Dating Buzz

Actor Ibrahim Ali Khan and actress Palak Tiwari were spotted together after a movie outing in Mumbai, once again fuelling speculation about their relationship. As the duo exited the theatre, Ibrahim appeared to shield Palak from the paparazzi, adding to the curiosity surrounding their bond. The pair have frequently been seen together at parties, restaurants and industry events over the past few years. Although neither has publicly confirmed the relationship, their regular appearances together continue to keep fans guessing. The latest sighting has once again sparked discussions on social media about their rumoured romance.



Irumudi Glimpse Impresses

The makers of Irumudi, starring Ravi Teja, have released a glimpse video highlighting the emotional core of the film and the actor's spiritual transformation. Directed by Shiva Nirvana, the glimpse showcases a touching father-daughter bond before tragedy changes the protagonist's life. The video then traces his journey from despair to becoming a devoted follower of Lord Ayyappa. The film stars Priya Bhavani Shankar and Baby Nakshathra in key roles. Produced by Mythri Movie Makers, the movie is slated for release in August 2026. The emotionally charged glimpse has received an enthusiastic response from fans and movie lovers alike.