



Rahul urges Congress workers to aid Kerala rain victims

Trump cancels Iran strikes subject To deal being made 'rapidly'

Ujh project revived after 100 years, phased rollout planned: Jitendra Singh



Allegations of sale of graves spark fresh rift among Lucknow's Shia clerics



Lucknow, Aug 2: A fresh controversy has broken out within Lucknow's Shia community after senior cleric Maulana Saif Abbas accused prominent Shia leader Maulana Kalbe Jawwad of allegedly selling burial plots at the historic Ghufuran Maab Imambara graveyard for exorbitant sums. In a video that has gone viral on social media, Saif Abbas, president of the Shia Markazi Chand Committee, alleged that families were being charged up to Rs 8 lakh for a burial plot at the Waqf-managed Ghufuran Maab Imambara, one of the city's largest Shia graveyards. He claimed that around 10 graves were sold every month, generating nearly Rs 9.6 crore annually. However, he did not furnish any documentary evidence to support the allegations. Kalbe Jawwad, who serves as the mutawalli (custodian) of the Imambara, has not responded publicly to the accusations.

The allegations have ignited concerns within sections of the Shia community over the alleged sale of burial plots at major Imambaras. Similar claims had earlier been made by former Uttar Pradesh Minority Welfare Minister Mohsin Raza, who had alleged that graves at prominent burial grounds were being sold for around Rs 5 lakh. The latest controversy comes amid an ongoing feud between Saif Abbas and Kalbe Jawwad, reportedly intensified by a recent dispute over Waqf land involving Lucknow's iconic Tunday Kababi restaurant.

Terrorist arrested with arms in joint operation in J&K's Baramulla

Srinagar, Aug 2: A terrorist was arrested along with arms and ammunition during a joint security operation in the Fathagadh area of Sheeri in north Kashmir's Baramulla district on Saturday, officials said. The operation was carried out jointly by the Indian Army's 46 Rashtriya Rifles, the Jammu and Kashmir Police, and the 53 Battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). According to officials, security personnel apprehended one terrorist during the operation and recovered arms and ammunition from his possession. The identity of the arrested terrorist and details of the weapons seized are yet to be disclosed. An official statement is expected later. The arrest comes days after two migrant labourers were killed in a terrorist attack at a brick kiln in the Kelam area of south Kashmir's Kulgam district.

India needs your energy, creative imagination, talent for achieving Viksit Bharat: PM Modi to Gen Z

New Delhi, Aug 2 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi, addressing the country's youth -- Gen Z -- on Sunday, called them India's "Amrit peedhi" and stressed the need for their energy and innovation to take the country forward towards the resolution of Viksit Bharat.

He stated that the commitment of the new generations towards eradicating the problem of drug addiction from society has reaffirmed his belief that the youth of India is 'aware, socially conscious, and serious about their duties'.

Speaking to the youth during the launch of the 'Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyaan', PM Modi said, 'In the next 20-25 years, you will give a direction to your lives. You will be the ones who will take India towards the resolution of Viksit Bharat till 2047, and you will be the ones sitting at the top of the peak, fully savouring the fruits of that achievement. The country needs your energy, creative imagination and talent. Hence, for the country and your own lives, keep yourselves away from drugs.'



When a young person falls prey to drug addiction, it is not just that individual who loses; a dream is lost," he said, adding that in such a situation, 'the national strength also weakens and hostile countries conspire to leave no stone unturned to drag our youth into the trap of addiction.'

'Profiting from supplying drugs and aiming to destroy a nation like ours is also part of their terror agenda. Hence, we need to save every youth from addiction. You need to protect your potential by staying away from drugs,' PM Modi added. 'Drugs give you a high for a while, but they destroy your family,' he said.

The Prime Minister stressed that the next 100 Sundays will mark 100 strong steps towards a drug-free India. He also mentioned that the activities under this initiative will include sports events, walkathons, meditation sessions, cultural programmes, awareness campaigns, etc. "As an MP from Kashi, I am happy that last year, this project was launched from the holy land of Kashi as a pilot project. Therefore, in addition to scientific clarity, it also possesses spiritual energy, the blessings of saints, and cul-

tural heritage. It also embodies the cultural dedication that has rejected addiction for centuries. This is why the country's 125 spiritual organisations are working tirelessly to serve millions of citizens," he mentioned, adding that all these institutions adopted the Kashi Declaration -- a 5-year roadmap for a drug-free India adopted in July 2025, at the Youth Spiritual Summit in Varanasi.

"All of you have strengthened my belief that the youth of India is aware, socially conscious, and serious about their duties," he added. Highlighting the importance of rehabilitation, PM Modi said, 'Do not hide it behind the pressure of social reputation. Those who need help should seek support. Talk openly with them, take the help of experts, and make efforts to free your child from addiction with the support of medical professionals. We should also create a culture of open communication with children within the family so that we can hold their hands before they get trapped in such a situation.'

Thiruvananthapuram, Aug 2: The death toll in the rain-related disasters that lashed Kerala has risen to eight, with eight people still missing and 13 injured, Chief Minister V.D. Satheesan said on Sunday, while assuring financial assistance to families who lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods. In a post on X, the Chief Minister said the government is in constant touch with the Revenue Minister, ministers in charge of the affected districts and district administrations to monitor the situation. He noted that the reduction in rainfall compared to Saturday was encouraging.

Cleanup operations have commenced in flood-hit areas, and the Chief Minister appealed to political workers and voluntary organisations to actively participate in the restoration efforts, assuring full government support.

According to the latest official figures, 5,792 people have been shifted to 209 relief camps across the state. As many as 27 houses have been completely destroyed, while 196 houses have suffered partial damage. Satheesan said the government would extend all necessary assistance to the families of the deceased as well as those who have lost their homes and means of livelihood. He also urged people in hilly regions to remain vigilant despite the decline in rainfall, stating that authorities are prepared to tackle any further emergencies. People's representatives and volunteers are actively engaged in relief operations, he added. Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an orange alert for 12 districts -- Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Idukki, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Wayanad, Kannur and Kasaragod -- warning of heavy rainfall, flash floods, mudslides and waterlogging in low-lying areas. The Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) has also issued red alerts for the Moozhaiyur, Kallarkutty, Erattayar, Lower Periyar and Peringalkuttu dams, while an orange alert has been sounded for the Kuttyadi dam. On Saturday, the IMD had upgraded its warning to a red alert for Pathanamthitta, Idukki and other districts after torrential rain had already triggered widespread damage. Under Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) protocol, an orange alert requires authorities to initiate preventive measures and preparedness.

8 dead, 8 missing as Kerala rain fury cases; cleanup begins

The central message of the initiative, according to the campaign organisers, is that "drug-free youth are the greatest strength of Viksit Bharat". Through the nationwide movement, the government aims to take this message to young citizens across the country and encourage their active participation in creating a healthier and drug-free society, said a statement.

In addition to the main meeting, two half-day side events will be organised with participation from national statistical offices, policymakers, academia, think tanks, civil society organisations and technical experts. The discussions will focus on "Unlocking the Potential of Administrative Data" and "AI Readiness in the Evolving Data Ecosystem."



ment programmes, it said. Organisers said volunteers and organisations making significant contributions to the campaign will be recognised and honoured at the 50th, 75th and the 100th week milestones. The campaign aligns with Prime Minister Modi's vision of a "Nasha Mukta Bharat" and seeks to strengthen the national resolve towards achieving the goals of Viksit Bharat 2047 through public participation. The central message of the initiative, according to the campaign organisers, is that "drug-free youth are the greatest strength of Viksit Bharat". Through the nationwide movement, the government aims to take this message to young citizens across the country and encourage their active participation in creating a healthier and drug-free society, said a statement.

TN to withdraw cases against students involved in NEET protests

Chennai, Aug 2 : The Tamil Nadu government will withdraw all cases registered against students who participated in protests against the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET), School Education Minister Rajmohan announced on Sunday.

The decision was taken on the directions of Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay and is expected to benefit students booked by the police during demonstrations held across the state against the medical entrance examination.

In a post on X, Rajmohan said the government has decided to withdraw all cases registered against students in connection with anti-NEET protests.

Further details regarding the withdrawal process and the cases covered by the decision would be announced shortly, he added. The announcement comes days after widespread protests over NEET were held



in several parts of the country, with students and youth organisations raising concerns over the examination system and demanding changes.

Tamil Nadu also witnessed a series of demonstrations, including rallies, flash protests and other forms of agitation.

Various student organisations and political groups organised demonstrations at several locations in the state. In Chennai, protesters staged a continuous agitation at Balan Illam, the State headquarters of the

Communist Party of India (CPI). Flash protests were also reported from some parts of the state. Police intervened at a few locations after protesters resorted to road blockades.

Several students were detained during such demonstrations, while cases were registered in connection with some of the protests. The state government's latest announcement is expected to pave the way for the withdrawal of criminal proceedings arising from the anti-NEET demonstrations. Officials are likely to examine the cases registered by police stations across Tamil Nadu before initiating the formal withdrawal process.

Tamil Nadu has witnessed sustained opposition to NEET over the years, with political parties and student organisations repeatedly arguing that the examination places students from state-board, rural and economically weaker backgrounds at a disadvantage.

PM Modi to launch 'Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyaan' today

New Delhi, Aug 2 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the "Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyaan" on Sunday through video conferencing with the aim of inspiring young people across the country to actively participate in the mission to build a drug-free India.

The campaign will begin as a nationwide Jan Bhagidari (people's participation) movement, led by MY Bharat youth volunteers, with the objective of uniting the country's youth in a collective effort against substance abuse. The initiative is designed to encourage young citizens to contribute towards the vision of a Nasha Mukta Bharat while supporting the broader goal of Viksit Bharat 2047.

During the event, PM Modi is expected to encourage the youth to become ambassadors of positive social change in their communities, said the official in a state-



ment. According to the campaign plan, nearly 10,000 locations across India will participate simultaneously following the Prime Minister's launch, with more than one crore (10 million) youth expected to take part in the national pledge against drug abuse.

Under this campaign, weekly activities will be organised every Sunday across the country to promote awareness and encourage public participation in building a drug-free society, said the statement.

The activities will include sports events, walkathons, meditation sessions, cultural programmes, awareness campaigns, nukkad natak, discussion forums, art competitions and community engagement.

cooperation has expanded beyond data compilation to include harmonisation of standards, innovation and improved statistical practices for policymakers, researchers and the public.

As part of the annual BRICS Statistics Track, two key meetings are held every year, including a technical meeting of NSOs and the meeting of heads of NSOs. The technical meeting for 2026 was held on April 16-17 to finalise the framework for the Joint Statistical Publication and Snapshot BRICS JSP 2026, allocate responsibilities among member countries and establish timelines for contributions.

The BRICS Statistics Track seeks to strengthen core statistical publications, promote reforms and innovation in national statistical systems, improve data dissemination and accessibility, and enhance macroeconomic and sectoral statistics across member nations.

The Lucknow meeting is expected to further strengthen cooperation among participating countries through discussions on statistical dissemination, innovation in statistical systems, and the exchange of knowledge, expertise and best practices.

Lucknow to host BRICS NSO meet from Aug 3, focus on quality statistics and data innovation

New Delhi, Aug 2: India will host the Meeting of Heads of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of BRICS countries in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, from August 3 to 4 under its BRICS Chairship 2026, with discussions set to focus on strengthening statistical cooperation, innovation and data quality.

According to an official statement, the meeting will bring together representatives from Brazil, Russia, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The initiative is part of India's BRICS Chairship, which is guided by the theme, "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability (BRICS)."

Under the BRICS Statistics Track, India has adopted the theme "Quality Statistics as

Driver of Change," highlighting its commitment to improving data quality, fostering innovation, ensuring effective dissemination and building people-centric statistical systems capable of meeting the growing demand for high-frequency, granular and reliable official data for evidence-based, sustainable and inclusive development.

The statement said robust statistical systems have become central to policymaking within BRICS by enabling governments to monitor development, formulate policies and strengthen cooperation. Since 2010, BRICS nations have jointly published the Joint Statistical Publication (JSP), while the Snapshot BRICS JSP, introduced in 2020, provides harmonised and easily accessible statistical data. Over the years,



cooperation has expanded beyond data compilation to include harmonisation of standards, innovation and improved statistical practices for policymakers, researchers and the public.

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In addition to the main meeting, two half-day side events will be organised with participation from national statistical offices, policymakers, academia, think tanks, civil society organisations and technical experts. The discussions will focus on "Unlocking the Potential of Administrative Data" and "AI Readiness in the Evolving Data Ecosystem."

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EDITORIAL

Saving our land

The numbers emerging from official data on land encroachments in Jammu and Kashmir are deeply troubling. More than 18 lakh kanals of land across the Union Territory are under illegal occupation. Out of this, nearly 17.2 lakh kanals belong to the state while over 1.15 lakh kanals are forest land. Against such an alarming scale of encroachment, the recovery of about 29000 kanals so far appears painfully small. Land is one of the most precious resources a region possesses. When such vast tracts of public and forest land fall into illegal hands, it reflects not only a governance challenge but also a collective failure to protect common assets meant for future generations. Encroachments have spread across districts, from Jammu to Rajouri, Reasi, Ramban, Kathua and Udhampur. In many areas, forests and government land meant for ecological protection or public infrastructure have gradually been eaten away by illegal construction and cultivation. Once these spaces are lost, reclaiming them becomes far more difficult. Even urban institutions are not spared. According to data presented in the Assembly, more than 16000 kanals of land belonging to the Jammu Development Authority are currently under encroachment. This is particularly worrying because JDA land is meant for planned development of the city of Jammu. Such land is intended for housing schemes, roads, parks, and other public facilities. When these areas are illegally occupied, the longterm cost is borne by the public through unplanned urban growth and shrinking civic space. Perhaps the most disturbing example is unfolding along the flood plains of the Tawi River. The government has identified 256 illegal occupants along the river's flood plains in the Nikki Tawi area. The encroachments cover more than 328 kanals of prime land. The significance of this location cannot be overstated. Nikki Tawi is often described as the oxygen chamber of Jammu because of its lush green cover. Spread across thousands of kanals between two channels of the river, it plays an important ecological role for the city. It is one of the few remaining green lungs that protect the fragile river ecosystem. Yet, illegal constructions have slowly begun to creep into this space. What begins as small encroachments soon grows into permanent structures. Over time, these alter natural drainage, damage vegetation, and increase the risk of floods. Authorities say eviction drives are underway and that forest boundaries are being re-surveyed using modern technology. These are welcome steps. But the truth is that land encroachment has become a chronic problem in the Union Territory. Removing illegal occupants after years of inaction is always difficult, both administratively and politically. Jammu and Kashmir now needs a clear, consistent and transparent policy. Encroachments must be prevented at the earliest stage. Land records should be digitised and monitored. Accountability must also be fixed wherever negligence allowed public land to be grabbed. Public land belongs to the people. Forest land belongs to nature.



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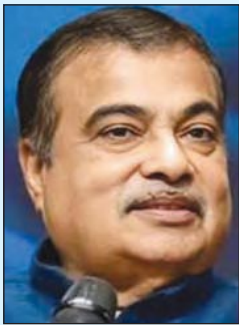
SOCIAL - BUZZzz..



Rahul Gandhi
Nothing is more painful than seeing a parent grieve their child. Behind every young life lost is a family carrying pain that will never leave them-and serious questions about a broken education system.
@RahulGandhi

E2o Janta Party
Mr. Modi, please apologize.

If the impacts of the E2o Policy are falling on the old vehicles of common people and lakhs of vehicle owners are bearing extra expenses, then the government should take responsibility for it. The public trusted; now the government should also show accountability. Listen to the complaints of the affected people seriously, provide solutions, and if there has been any lapse in the implementation of the policy, then apologize to the country.



@E2o_party



Cockroach Janta Party
Amit Shah ji must resign!
Taking responsibility for the atrocities committed against the students, the Home Minister ji should resign.
@CJP_for_In...

Akhilesh Yadav

So now what, BJP supporters? This time, will you get an FIR filed over the Ravana's guise in the Sita abduction scene during Ramleela? When will an FIR be filed for hurting sentiments against those who, in real life, take on a living form to wound the faith of every person, hurl false accusations at others while lying, keep spewing abusive and foul words in that very guise, and openly mistreat even a grieving mother?



@yadavakhilesh



Priyanka Gandhi
The cowardly terrorist attack that took place in Kulgam, Jammu and Kashmir, is extremely shameful and reprehensible. Identifying and killing two laborers working at a brick kiln is an utterly loathsome and inhuman act. No amount of condemnation for this can ever be enough.
@priyankagandhi

Mallikarjun Kharge
The decision to change the color of the Indian hockey team's jersey is not merely a sports-related choice, but a matter deeply connected to the sentiments of millions of Indians and our sporting traditions.



@Kharge

Aamir Khan's co-star Rachel Shelley shares unseen BTS pictures from 'Lagaan' shoot 25 years ago

Mumbai, Aug 2 British actress Rachel Shelley, who essayed the role of Elizabeth Russell in Aamir Khan's iconic film Lagaan, took a trip down memory lane on Friday. The actress shared unseen behind-the-scenes pictures featuring herself from the making of the Oscar-nominated classic. Taking to her social media account, Rachel posted two rare pictures from the film's shoot. One picture shows the actress dressed in traditional Indian attire with colourful bangles, and the second picture captures her posing joyfully beside a decorated elephant in her signature Victorian-era costume from the film. Sharing the pictures, she captioned the post as, "Hey #LagaanLovers - did I ever share these with you..? #Lagaan #25yearsLagaan." For the uninformed, in Lagaan, Rachel essayed the role of Elizabeth Russell, the compassionate sister of the ruthless British officer Captain Andrew Russell, played by Paul Blackthorne. Unlike her brother, Elizabeth is empathetic towards the villagers of Champaner and secretly teaches them the game of cricket, to help them in challenging the British in the historic match. During the course of the story, Elizabeth gradually falls in love with Bhuvan, played by Aamir Khan. She is later heartbroken after realising that Bhuvan is deeply in love with Gauri, played by Gauri Khan.



Vin Diesel marks 25 years of 'Fast & Furious' with re-release

Mumbai, Aug 2 Hollywood star Vin Diesel has celebrated the 25-year journey of the "Fast & Furious" franchise and shared that the original film will return to the theatres across the US and several other countries worldwide as the team gears up for the franchise finale titled "Fast Forever." Diesel took to Instagram where he shared that the franchise began with "just me and my puppy" during the filming of the first Fast movie. He went on to write: "When I was filming the first Fast, it was just me and my puppy... 25 years later, as we build the finale, "Fast Forever" the original is returning to theaters in America and around the world." He added: "Spain, Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Germany, Mexico, Brazil, Italy, China. And the list keeps

growing... We've come a long way." Fast & Furious is an action media franchise centered on a series of films revolving around street racing, heists, and spies. The first film, based on the 1998 Vibe magazine article "Racer X" by Ken Li and written by Gary Scott Thompson, Erik Bergquist, and David Ayer, was released in 2001. The first four films focused on illegal street racing, culminating in Fast & Furious. The series moved towards heists and espionage with Fast Five, which was followed by five further films in that genre. An eleventh and final film, Fast Forever, is set to be released in 2028. Talking about the 58-year-old star, he gained prominence for portraying Dominic "Dom" Toretto in the Fast & Furious franchise. Diesel got the spotlight in the late 1990s

and first became known for appearing in Steven Spielberg's Saving Private Ryan in 1998. He was then seen in Boiler Room, The Pacifier XXX, and The Chronicles of Riddick. Diesel's voice acting work includes The Iron Giant, the video games The Chronicles of Riddick: Escape from Butcher Bay and The Chronicles of Riddick: Assault on Dark Athena, and the voices of Groot I and Groot II. Diesel was last seen in Fast X, the sequel to F9. It stars Vin Diesel as Dominic Toretto, alongside Michelle Rodriguez, Tyrese Gibson, Chris "Ludacris" Bridges, John Cena, Nathalie Emmanuel, Jordana Brewster, Sung Kang, Scott Eastwood, Daniela Melchior, Alan Ritchson, Helen Mirren, Bri Larson, Rita Moreno, Jason Statham, Jason Momoa, and Charlize Theron.



Amitabh Bachchan says 'work is difficult to ignore', reflects on discipline and routine



Mumbai, Aug 2 Megastar Amitabh Bachchan has offered fans a glimpse into his state of mind through his latest blog penned on July 31. The actor who is a regular with blogging in the early mornings, apologised for posting the blog late and reflected on how a disciplined routine is the most important key to staying productive despite an ever-demanding work schedule. The 83-year-old Bollywood icon, who continues to juggle multiple professional commitments, admitted through his blog that work often takes a toll, making it difficult to maintain a fixed schedule. In his latest blog, Amitabh Bachchan wrote, "... as always late again .. but work comes and is difficult to ignore so the delayed Blog .. Hopefully by the 'morrow there shall be better discipline .." Sharing his thoughts on the importance of routine, the veteran actor added, "When the routine is set the brain works accordingly to its maximum efficiency .. but when it is not set .. be prepared for irregularities .. adjustment takes time .. my love. (sic)" The reflective post comes a few days after Amitabh Bachchan had to clarify rumours surrounding his health following a cryptic blog that mentioned "hospital", "surgery" and "ICU", triggering concern among fans across social media.

Happy anniversary to a timeless classic

Celine Dion's ballad 'It's All Coming Back to Me Now' turns 30

Mumbai, Aug 2 As her iconic ballad 'It's All Coming Back to Me Now' turned 30, award-winning singer Celine Dion marked the anniversary of the Jim Steinman-penned song and paid tribute to the timeless classic. The official Instagram handle of Dion posted a glimpse of the making of the 1996 number, which was once hailed by Andrew Lloyd Webber as "the greatest love song ever written." The caption read: "Turning 30 on the 30th... Released on this day in 1996, Andrew Lloyd Webber once described Celine's Jim Steinman penned ballad, 'It's All Coming Back To Me Now' as THE greatest love song ever written." "Happy anniversary to a timeless classic that continues to move generations of fans around the world." According to Steinman, the



song was inspired by Wuthering Heights and was intended as "the most passionate, romantic song he could create. Meat Loaf, who had collaborated with Steinman on many of his hit songs, had wanted to record the track for years, but Steinman refused, saying he viewed it as a "woman's song". Steinman won a court case that prevented Meat Loaf from recording it. Girl group Pandora's Box recorded the first released version, and the song later became widely known through a cover by Celine Dion. Celine Dion had recorded the number for her album Falling into You, and her version became a commercial hit, reaching number one on the Canadian Singles Chart, It won two on the US Billboard Hot 100, and number three on the UK Singles Chart in late 1996.

Brian Thomas Smith posts Penny, Zack's rescue adventure in 'Stuart Fails to Save the Universe'



Mumbai, Aug 2 Actor Brian Thomas Smith, who is known for playing Zack in "The Big Bang Theory", offered a fun sneak peek into "Stuart Fails to Save the Universe", sharing a glimpse of Kaley Cuoco's Penny and his character's quirky rescue adventure. Smith shared a picture posing with Kaley

and talked about the "best part" about a rescue. "The best part about a rescue is that it doesn't matter when you get there. Penny and Zack are here to save the universe... kind of. #stufstu@kaleycuoco@stuartfails@hbmomax," he wrote as the caption. Stuart Fails to Save the Universe is a science fic-

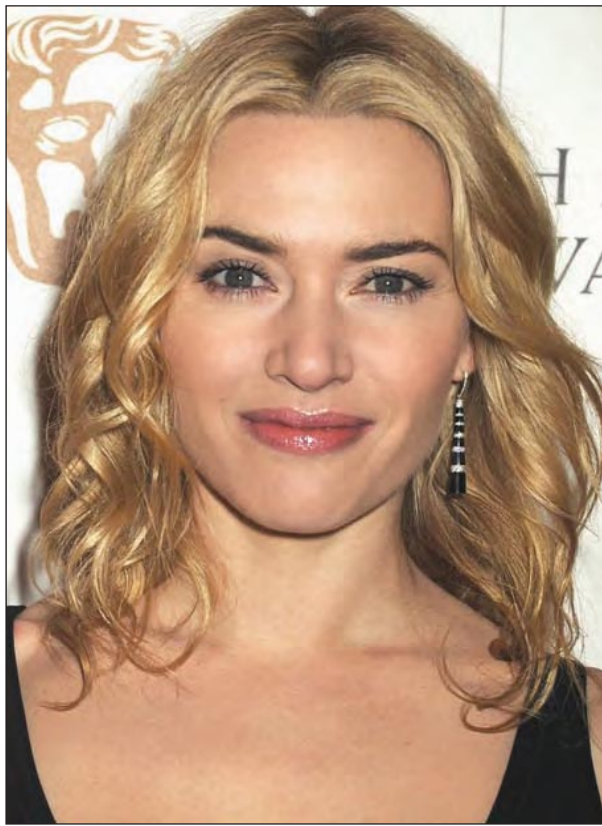
tion comedy television series created by Chuck Lorre, Zak Penn, and Bill Prady. The series is the fourth television series in The Big Bang Theory franchise, and the second direct spin-off of the sitcom The Big Bang Theory. It follows Stuart Bloom, who after accidentally damaging a device that Sheldon Cooper, Leonard Hofstadter and Howard Wolowitz had created, is tasked with averting a resulting "multiverse Armageddon" whilst encountering versions of himself and his friends in different universes. Stuart Bloom is described as the sweet, nervous, and often unlucky owner of the Comic Center of Pasadena in "The Big Bang Theory". Meanwhile, The Big Bang Theory originally revolved around five characters living in Pasadena, California: physicists Leonard Hofstadter and Sheldon Cooper, who share an apartment; Penny, a waitress and aspiring actress living across the hall; and their equally geeky friends and colleagues, aerospace engineer Howard Wolowitz and astrophysicist Raj Koothrappali. As the show progressed, several characters were introduced such as neuroscientist Amy Farrah

When Kate Winslet spoke of weird, and borderline creepy request from Eminem

Los Angeles, Aug 2 Actress Kate Winslet once revealed that she was shocked by a weird request by the legendary rapper Eminem. A video from one of the episodes of "The Graham Norton Show" has resurfaced on the Internet, and it shows the actress talking about the embarrassing moment. During the episode, the show host told the actress, "In America you were very famous because of course 'Saturday Night Live'. The actress said, "Can I just say when I was on it was absolutely terrifying. When I was on it was the week after Simpson was done for lip-syncing. I'm then on with Eminem. I was doing publicity for a film called 'Finding Neverland' at the time and Johnny Depp. And I had to miss the Wednesday rehearsal because we had to go to Chicago and talk to Oprah Winfrey, and I'm thinking, 'Oh my God. What's the opening monologue gonna be?'. I get to Wednesday night come back from the Oprah thing still they're like, 'Well We're just you know trying to figure it out'. I'm like, "Just please tell me it's you know It's a couple of days away". Just what you're gonna have me do

the next day I go in and they were like, 'Can you sing?', and I said, 'A little'. Then they asked, 'You do tap dance?' I'm like, 'Yeah. I do it that perfect'. I'm like, 'So what's the opening model of it?'. They said, 'We'll get back to you'. I'm like, 'Oh

my God. This is absolutely terrible". "They gave me 24 hours to learn. I'm tap dancing and singing fully live the week after the whole Ashley Simpson thing. And also I have to say something else and this is a story.



Minister Jupally Krishna Rao Calls on NRIs to Promote Telangana Tourism



Hyderabad, TSIT: Telangana Tourism and Culture Minister Jupally Krishna Rao has urged Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) to become ambassadors for Telangana tourism by promoting the State's tourist destinations among friends and colleagues abroad and encouraging them to visit Telangana.

Addressing the 19th American Telugu Association (ATA) Conference at the Baltimore Convention Center in the United States Minister invited the ATA and NRI organisations to adopt Telangana's tourist destinations and heritage sites, contributing to their

conservation, restoration and development.

Highlighting Telangana's rich heritage, culture, history and natural attractions, Jupally Krishna Rao said the State Government is committed to taking Telangana's tourism potential to the global stage with the active support of the Telugu diaspora.

Minister also announced that efforts would be made to establish an NRI Bhavan in Hyderabad at an estimated cost of 10 crore to provide multiple services to visiting NRIs under one roof. The proposed facility will function as a coordina-

tion and facilitation centre for the overseas Telugu community.

Praising the Telugu diaspora for its achievements in education, technology, business and entrepreneurship, the Minister said NRIs have continued to preserve Telugu language, culture and traditions while making valuable contributions to the development of Telangana and their native villages. He also appreciated the American Telugu Association (ATA) for its long-standing efforts to unite Telugu people in the United States and preserve their cultural heritage.

Jupally Krishna Rao appealed to people to make greater use of government educational and healthcare institutions and advised families to avoid extravagant spending on weddings and other social functions, encouraging them instead to spend according to their means and develop a culture of savings.

Expressing concern over the growing menace of youth addiction, the Minister announced that the Telangana Government would soon launch 'Prabhata Bheri,' a statewide public awareness campaign to combat social evils and promote responsible social behaviour. He invited NRIs to actively support and participate in the initiative.

Anupama Subedar Takes Charge as District Chairman of Inner Wheel Club 315 :

Spirit Of World Correspondent
M.A.Samad :

Hyderabad August 02, 2026 : Nizamabad's prominent Inner Wheel leader Anupama Subedar has assumed office as the District Chairman of Inner Wheel District 315, marking a significant milestone for the district's service movement. She was formally installed during the District Assembly and Installation Ceremony held at the Taj Hotel Hyderabad, in the presence of senior Inner Wheel dignitaries, club office bearers, and delegates from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

The grand ceremony witnessed participation from representatives of 35 Inner Wheel Clubs, including 22 Club Presidents and nearly 190 Executive Committee members, reflecting the unity and strength of Inner Wheel District 315. The programme featured the installation of the newly elected



district team and recognized the contributions of outgoing office bearers.

During the installation ceremony, Padma Sharma assumed responsibility as Convener, while Rama Devi and Uma Rani took charge as Co-Conveners. Lakshmi and Madhavi Latha also assumed office as Club Presidents for their respective clubs.

Speaking on the occasion, District Chairman Anupama Subedar thanked the members for entrust-

ing her with the responsibility of leading the district. She said the confidence reposed in her would motivate her to work with sincerity and commitment in strengthening the organization's service activities across the district.

She outlined her vision of implementing meaningful programmes focused on women's empowerment, girl child education, health awareness, environmental protection, community development, and humanitarian service. She

appealed to all club presidents, office bearers, and members to work together with dedication and team spirit to make the coming year productive and impactful.

The event was attended by members of the Nizamabad Inner Wheel Club, including President Sulakshana, Secretary Prasanna, PDC Sailaja, Swarupa Reddy, Soundarya, Premalata, Sumati Naidu, Lehar Agarwal, Subhashini, Dr.Aruna, Indira and several Inner Wheel leaders, who congratulated Anupama Subedar and wished her a successful and memorable tenure.

The programme concluded with a renewed commitment to the ideals of friendship, fellowship, and selfless service, with members expressing confidence that the new leadership would further strengthen Inner Wheel District 315 through innovative service projects and community-oriented initiatives in the year ahead.

Komatireddy Unveils Roadmap for Model Municipal Corporation



Hyderabad TSIT: Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy on Sunday said the Telangana Government is committed to transforming the Municipal Corporation into one of the state's best urban local bodies through massive investments in civic infrastructure and public welfare.

Speaking after distributing Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak assistance worth 64.07 lakh to 64 beneficiaries, the Minister said the government is implementing major infrastructure works, including CC roads, underground drainage and 24x7 drinking water supply across the town. He said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy recently laid the

foundation stone for an 83-crore Water Treatment Plant and subsequently sanctioned an additional 300 crore to strengthen the town's drinking water network. Komatireddy expressed confidence that the Municipal Corporation would be eligible to attract nearly 1,000 crore in Central funds for future urban development projects.

Highlighting welfare measures, the Minister said eligible families are receiving ration cards, fine rice and housing benefits, while 700 Indiramma houses have already been sanctioned. He urged eligible beneficiaries with house sites to apply for housing assistance and reiterated the government's commitment to women's empowerment through interest-

free loans. MLC Shankar Naik said the State Government's welfare programmes, including free bus travel for women, Indiramma housing and fine rice distribution, were improving the lives of thousands of families. He also appreciated the ongoing efforts to upgrade roads, drainage and drinking water facilities.

Earlier, the Minister inspected the progress of the Sai Nagar major drain works and reviewed the implementation of AMRUT 2.0 projects with Public Health Department officials, directing them to complete the works at the earliest. District Collector B. Chandrasekhar, In-charge Additional Collector Prem Karan Reddy, Deputy Mayor Ameer Ali and other public representatives and officials accompanied the Minister.

Mayor Uma Rani Participates in Grand Ooru Panduga Celebrations in Nizamabad

Spirit Of World Correspondent
M. A. S a m a d :

Nizamabad August 02, 2026 :

The traditional Ooru Panduga celebrations, organized by the Sarva Samaj Committee, were held with great devotion and grandeur in Nizamabad city, bringing together people from different communities in a spirit of unity and harmony. City Mayor Smt. Kooragayala Uma Rani Ramesh attended the celebrations as the Chief Guest. She offered special prayers, interacted with the organizing committee members and citizens, and conveyed her festive greetings to the people.

Addressing the gathering, the Mayor said that Ooru Panduga is not



merely a religious festival but a symbol of communal harmony and social unity that brings people from all sections of society onto a common platform. She emphasized the importance of preserving the rich cultural traditions and customs handed down by

previous generations, stating that such festivals strengthen brotherhood, mutual respect, and social cohesion.

The Mayor further said that while the Municipal Corporation remains committed to the city's development,

Police Commissioner Inspects Bandobast Arrangements for Nizamabad Ooru Panduga

Spirit Of World Correspondent
M.A.Samad :

Nizamabad, August 02, 2026 : In view of the grand Ooru Panduga celebrations being held in Nizamabad city on Sunday, Nizamabad Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya, conducted a comprehensive field inspection of the security and traffic management arrangements to ensure the festival is celebrated peacefully, safely, and without inconvenience to devotees.

The Police Commissioner visited the main festival venues, procession routes, busy junctions, traffic diversion points, and designated parking areas. During the inspection, he reviewed the deployment of police personnel and issued key instructions to officers to ensure smooth movement of devotees and effective maintenance of law and order throughout the celebrations. He directed the police to remain vigilant at all



sensitive locations and to take every possible measure to prevent any untoward incidents. Considering the expected large turnout of devotees, the Commissioner instructed officials to accord special priority to the safety of women, children, and senior citizens. He also emphasized that emergency response teams should remain on high alert to respond swiftly to any unforeseen situation. The Commissioner further instructed traffic personnel to regulate vehicular movement efficiently, particularly in congested areas, while ensuring that

ambulances and other emergency services are not obstructed. He stressed the importance of maintaining uninterrupted traffic flow through proper diversions and coordination. Highlighting the importance of technology in policing, the Commissioner ordered continuous surveillance of the festival area through CCTV cameras and drone monitoring. He directed officers to immediately report and act upon any suspicious person or object. Picket teams, mobile patrol units, She Teams, and traffic police were instructed to work in

close coordination to provide a secure environment for devotees. Appealing to the public, Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya, urged devotees to cooperate with the police by following traffic diversions and safety instructions, avoiding leaving children unattended, and immediately informing the police in case of any emergency or suspicious activity.

Expressing confidence in the elaborate security measures put in place by the Nizamabad Police, the Commissioner said that with the cooperation of the public, the Ooru Panduga celebrations would be conducted peacefully, safely, and successfully. The inspection was attended by ACPs of Nizamabad, CCRB, and CCS, Prakash Yadav, Guru Naidu, and Srisailam; Traffic CI Prasad; Town CI Srinivasa Raj; South Rural CI Suresh Kumar; SHO Raghupathi, along with Sub-Inspectors, Special Party personnel, and other police officials.

Nizamabad Police Commissioner Attends 675th Urs Celebrations at Hazrat Shah Jalal Bukhari (RA) Dargah :



Spirit Of World Correspondent M.A.Samad :

Bodhan August 02 : Nizamabad Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya, attended the 675th Urs celebrations of the renowned Sufi saint Hazrat Shah Jalal Bukhari (RA) at the historic dargah in Bodhan on Saturday, joining devotees in offering prayers for peace and communal harmony. During his visit, the Commissioner performed the traditional Chadhar Peshi by offering a ceremonial chadar at the shrine and paid floral tributes with rose petals. He also

participated in the special prayers conducted as part of the annual Urs festivities. Interacting with those present, the Commissioner said that places of worship and religious festivals play a vital role in strengthening the values of unity, tolerance, and mutual respect. He prayed for the health, happiness, and prosperity of the people and wished for enduring peace, harmony, and brotherhood in society. The Dargah management extended a cordial welcome to the Police Commissioner and thanked

him for participating in the sacred occasion. They also appreciated the police department's efforts in ensuring security and maintaining law and order during the Urs celebrations. The event was attended by Bodhan ACP Srinivas, Bodhan SHO Venkat Narayana, Municipal Vice Chairman Meer Ilyas Ali, Dargah Secretary Mukhtadar, religious leaders, committee members, and a large gathering of devotees, making the occasion a symbol of faith, unity, and communal amity.

BJP alleges criminal elements infiltrated Delhi student protests

Hyderabad, Aug 2 : Telangana BJP chief official spokesperson and Media In-charge N V Subhash on Sunday alleged that around 3,000 people with criminal backgrounds participated in the recent student protests in Delhi, claiming that genuine students were outnumbered by those with criminal antecedents. Addressing a press conference at the BJP state office here, Subhash, citing a Delhi Police report, alleged that the protesters included 101 persons involved in murder cases, 62 in attempted-murder cases, 60 in rape cases and 2,089 accused in dacoity and robbery cases. He claimed that criminal elements had hijacked the student agitation with the support of certain political parties to create unrest and defame the NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He also criticised the Congress, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and Samajwadi Party (SP), alleging that they attempted to exploit the protests for political gain and disrupted Parliament to tarnish the Prime Minister's image.