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| Friday<br>14.8.2026 | Pages: 4<br>Price: Rs.2 | Volume: 1<br>Issue: 87 | Published from Jagitial<br>Circulated to Telangana | PRGI Regd: TGENG/26/A3325<br>www.tricolourestate.com |
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Tummala agriculture review focuses on schemes, farmer services

From Our Staff Reporter  
Hyderabad, August, 13: Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao on Thursday directed officials to improve inter-departmental coordination and complete targets on time to strengthen farmer welfare. The minister issued the instructions during a review of the Agriculture, Marketing, Cooperation and allied departments at the Secretariat.

The Agriculture Production Commissioner and Government Secretary attended the meeting. Moreover, heads of departments under Agriculture, Marketing, Cooperation and allied sectors participated in the review. The Tummala agriculture review covered ongoing programmes and implementation of schemes across the departments. Tummala reviewed the services that different departments provided to farmers.



In addition, he examined pending issues and the status of programmes under implementation. The minister also assessed department-wise activities and discussed future action plans with senior officials. Furthermore, officials briefed him on programmes under the Agriculture, Marketing, Cooperation and allied departments. The Tummala agriculture review focused on improving coordination among these departments to strengthen

services for farmers.

Tummala instructed officials to work together while implementing programmes related to farmer welfare. He also asked them to meet the targets assigned to their respective departments within the stipulated timelines. The minister examined future plans alongside the progress of existing schemes and programmes. Meanwhile, the meeting brought together senior officials and

department heads responsible for agriculture and allied activities. Tummala asked officials to maintain coordination across departments to improve farmer welfare. Additionally, he stressed timely completion of the goals fixed for each department. The Tummala agriculture review covered programme implementation, farmer services, pending matters and future priorities across the agriculture, marketing and cooperative sectors.

Mandal Prajavani programme to begin across Telangana from August 17

From Our Staff Reporter  
Hyderabad, August, 13: The Mandal Prajavani programme will begin across Telangana from August 17, with 560 MPDOs taking charge as Mandal Nodal Officers. They will handle public grievances at the mandal level.

State-level Prajavani In-charge and Telangana State Planning Board Vice-Chairman Dr. G. Chinna Reddy gave the directions at a training programme held at Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Praja Bhavan on Thursday. The programme trained 560 MPDOs for their new responsibilities.

Dr. Chinna Reddy said officials remained accountable to the people. He asked them to work with dedication and make grievance redressal their primary responsibility.

He said Mandal Nodal Officers and other departmental officials would play a crucial role in addressing complaints received through Prajavani. In particular, they should patiently hear citizens who travel from villages with their problems. Officials should listen carefully, receive applications and make every possible effort to resolve issues at the field level. They should also prevent genuine grievances from remaining pending. Dr. Chinna Reddy reminded officials that people were the masters. Therefore, serving citizens remained the basic responsibility of every government employee.

He said the administration should remain accessible to people and respond to their genuine needs. Officials should also ensure that citizens did not face unnecessary difficulties while seeking government assistance. Dr. Chinna Reddy asked MPDOs to uphold the confidence that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had placed in them. The Chief Minister had entrusted them with the responsibility of serving as Mandal Prajavani Nodal



Officers.

He urged officials to use Prajavani effectively and resolve complaints brought by citizens. In addition, he said the programme should help poor and disadvantaged people obtain appropriate assistance and relief. Dr. Chinna Reddy said the State-level Prajavani programme had achieved a 75 per cent success rate in resolving grievances. Therefore, he asked district and mandal officials to work with similar commitment.

He also stressed coordination among officials at the mandal level. They should work together and avoid shortcomings or lapses while discharging their responsibilities. The Mandal Prajavani programme will start statewide for the first time on August 17. Dr. Chinna Reddy asked officials to complete all arrangements before the launch. Officials should organise mandal-level facilities on the lines of the Chief Minister's Prajavani programme. They should establish department-wise help and grievance desks for citizens. In addition, help desks should assist people in preparing and submitting applications. Officials should also arrange adequate medical services and drinking water facilities. Special assistance should be available for senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Meanwhile, officials from differ-

ent departments should coordinate their work to ensure efficient grievance redressal.

Dr. Chinna Reddy said the mandal-level system should allow people to submit grievances and seek solutions without unnecessary difficulties. State Nodal Officer K. Vidyasagar said Prajavani officials should remember that people were the masters and government employees were their servants. He said officials should never forget their role as public servants. Moreover, Mandal and District Nodal Officers should remain accessible to citizens at their offices. Vidyasagar said officials should treat grievance redressal as an important duty. They should not merely receive applications. Instead, they should examine genuine complaints and take responsibility for resolving them, he said. Vemula Srinivasulu, Chief Minister's OSD and officer overseeing Prajavani-related affairs in the Chief Minister's Office, asked MPDOs to reassure people who approach the programme with multiple problems.

He said many people came to Prajavani after facing difficulties for a long period. Therefore, officials should hear them patiently and with empathy.

Srinivasulu asked Mandal Nodal Officers and other departmental officials to

work in a manner that earned and strengthened public trust and confidence. Commissioner of Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Departments Divya Devarajan said patient listening could resolve half the problem faced by a person approaching Prajavani. She asked officials to hear every grievance carefully and take firm action towards finding solutions. Furthermore, she stressed the importance of a people-centric approach. Officials should not merely record complaints. Instead, they should follow up each grievance until appropriate action was taken, Devarajan said. During the training programme, experts explained the procedures that officials would need to follow while conducting Mandal-level Prajavani. They used PowerPoint presentations to brief participants.

The sessions covered organisational arrangements, grievance registration and processing, coordination among departments and public facilitation. They also explained other operational aspects of conducting Prajavani at the mandal level. The training aimed to prepare the 560 MPDOs to discharge their responsibilities efficiently and in a people-friendly manner. The programme preceded the statewide launch of Mandal-level Prajavani on August 17.

Revanth urges people to safeguard their votes amid SIR



From Our Staff Reporter  
Hyderabad, August, 13: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy appealed to the Telangana people to ensure their votes are not deleted in the ongoing SIR (Special Intensive Revision).

The Chief Minister warned that some political forces were conspiring to delete votes in Telangana as West Bengal witnessed the removal of lakhs of

votes before the Assembly elections.

Participating in the Minorities Excellence Summit at the Komaram Bheem Adivasi Bhavan in Banjara Hills on Thursday, Revanth Reddy said that some forces were attempting to have votes deleted in the 'SIR'.

Following their victory in West Bengal, some political parties have set their sights on Telangana as their next

target. However, Revanth Reddy asserted that the Congress would actively prevent any attempts to fraudulently delete voters' names from the electoral rolls in the State.

The Chief Minister urged the Congress cadre to visit every household and check everyone's vote, ensuring that not a single eligible person loses their right to vote. "Everyone must become a Revanth Reddy and safeguard the right to vote," he said.

Stating that Hindus and Muslims are two eyes for him, Revanth Reddy pointed out that Union Minister Amit Shah stated the 4% reservation for minorities would be removed if the BJP came to power in Telangana.

"We already challenged Amit Shah to first remove the Muslim quota in Gujarat. The credit for implementing 4 per cent reservation for minorities goes to the Congress party. Our government has implemented the 4 per cent reservation effectively, and the youth have secured jobs in Group-1 and Group-2 services. We ensured minorities were given their due

place under our government. Even though some forces tried to stall the recruitment process by approaching the Supreme Court, we pursued the matter seriously and successfully completed the appointments," Revanth Reddy said.

Listing out the welfare and development programmes meant for the minority community, the Chief Minister said a member from the minority community was appointed to the Telangana Public Service Commission.

Former Indian Cricket Captain Mohd Azaruddin was given the Minister post in the state cabinet, provided a Group-1 level job to world boxing champion Nikhat Zareen with a cash prize of Rs.3 crore and also appointed cricketer Mohammed Sirajuddin as DSP, the Chief Minister said. Revanth Reddy emphasised that minority youth should acquire skills alongside their education to grab the numerous job opportunities in Germany and Japan. The Chief Minister thanked the Muslims for their cooperation to reach the position of Chief Minister of Telangana.

YOUTH URGED TO LEAD INDIA'S JOURNEY TOWARDS VIKSIT BHARAT

From Our Staff Reporter  
Hyderabad, August, 13: BJP Telangana state president N. Ramchander Rao has called upon the youth to make "Nation First" their guiding principle and actively contribute to building a powerful and developed India.

Addressing a massive Tiranga rally at Peddapalli district headquarters on Thursday as part of the 80th Independence Day celebrations, Rao said India's economic progress was

continuing despite wars and crises in several parts of the world, attributing the growth to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, decisive governance and development-oriented policies. The rally witnessed participation from BJP workers, students, youth and the general public, who turned up carrying the national flag. MLC Malka Komuriah, senior leader Gomasa Srinivas, district BJP president Karre Sanjeeva Reddy and other

leaders participated.

On this occasion, Rao said India had emerged as the world's fourth-largest economy and stressed that students and young people would play a crucial role in taking the country towards the goal of "Viksit Bharat". He highlighted initiatives including "Make in India, Startup India, Stand-Up India and MUDRA", saying they had helped lakhs of young people become entrepreneurs and job creators. Rao also pointed to

the expansion of educational institutions, stating that the number of IITs had increased from 16 to 23 and NITs from six to 25. He said the establishment of AIIMS institutions and reforms in higher education had strengthened the country's educational infrastructure.

With Independence Day approaching, Rao urged citizens to safeguard national unity and integrity and work collectively with a "Nation First" resolve to build a New India.

Telangana to host Khelo India Games on a grand scale

From Our Staff Reporter  
Hyderabad, August, 13: Telangana will host the Khelo India Games from December 11 to 22, Sports Minister Vakkati Srihari said on Thursday. The State Government will organise the 12-day event on a grand scale.

Srihari led a Telangana delegation that met Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Dr Mansukh Mandaviya in New Delhi. Government Sports Affairs Advisor A. P. Jithender Reddy and Sports Authority of Telangana State Chairman Shiva Sena Reddy also attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the delegation thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mandaviya on behalf of the Telangana Government. The leaders had allotted the Games to Telangana.

The delegation also presented Mandaviya with an invitation from Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy.



Meanwhile, Srihari said the State Government had prepared comprehensive plans for the event.

The minister said Telangana would conduct the Games on a grand and prestigious scale. He also assured that the government would maintain the highest standards throughout the event. Furthermore, Srihari said officials would work to prevent shortcomings and adverse remarks

during the Games. He said the State Government had made detailed preparations for the event. Separately, Srihari said Chief Minister Revanth Reddy would seek an appointment with Prime Minister Modi. The Chief Minister would personally invite Modi to attend the programme. Meanwhile, the minister said Telangana had introduced a new sports policy to advance the sports sector. He said the

government had also taken revolutionary measures to strengthen sports in the State. In addition, the government had given special priority to identifying talented sportspersons from rural areas. It was also encouraging such athletes as part of its efforts to promote sporting talent. Srihari said all stakeholders would have to work together to ensure the successful conduct of the Games.



## EDITORIAL

### Is Suppressing Protests the Solution?

In a democracy, protest is the most powerful weapon available to the people to make their voices heard. Even after casting their votes, citizens have the constitutional right to express their dissatisfaction, grievances and demands before the government through peaceful protests. However, a look at India's political history shows a similar trend regardless of which government is in power: rather than listening to protests, governments often try to weaken them by allowing time to pass. The administration tends to believe that eventually the movement will lose momentum, people will disperse and the leadership will weaken. This issue has once again come into focus across the country in the wake of social activist Sonam Wangchuk's recent hunger strike and student movements organised under the banner of the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP). There has been little change in the approach of governments that have faced protests throughout the history of Indian democracy. Irrespective of which political party is in power, there has generally been a tendency to deal with public agitations through legal action and administrative restrictions rather than immediately coming forward to address their concerns. From Sharmila of Manipur went on a hunger strike for 16 years demanding the repeal of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA), yet the government did not immediately respond positively to her demands. Instead, attempts were made to control her protest through measures such as arrests and force-feeding. Today, similar questions are being raised about the government's response to the movement led by Ladakh-based social activist Sonam Wangchuk. Is the responsibility of a government in a democracy merely to suppress dissent? Or should it engage with the people, understand the substance of their concerns and explore ways to resolve them? This fundamental question has once again become the centre of national debate. Recent developments have reinforced the fact that democracy is strengthened not through the use of force, but through mutual trust, dialogue and constitutionally established discussions. For the government, maintaining law and order is a responsibility. At the same time, it also has a responsibility to respect the right to peaceful protest. When the balance between these two responsibilities is lost, democracy becomes weaker. Suppressing movements through force may produce temporary results, but it can deepen dissatisfaction among the people. The farmers' movement in India is a major example of this. Initially, the Central Government did not pay much attention to the agitation. Over time, however, the movement gained strength. After protests continued for a year, the government eventually had to withdraw the three farm laws. History therefore shows that prolonged and peaceful movements can have a significant impact in a democracy.



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# Agadha Is Going To Be Big Theatrical Experience, Tollywood Backs



Expectations surrounding Agadha have received another boost following its pre-release event, where several noted personalities from the Telugu film industry spoke highly about M. S. Raju's latest directorial venture. The film, which is set for a worldwide theatrical release on August 14, was praised for its distinctive storytelling, performances, technical execution and larger-than-usual theatrical scope.

The event also became a celebration of M. S. Raju's long-standing contribution to Telugu cinema. Shyam Prasad Reddy, who produced the iconic Arundhathi, recalled his association with Raju spanning nearly 45 years and described him as someone who has consistently been passionate about filmmaking and ahead of the curve. He felt Agadha goes beyond the boundaries of a routine horror film and singled out its visual presentation and editing. He also drew a striking comparison between Kamakshi Bhaskarla's screen presence and his first

impression of Anushka while working on Arundhathi. B. Gopal spoke about another important quality of Raju which is his instinct for identifying strong stories. Recalling how Raju had predicted the success of Samarasimha Reddy after hearing its story, he called him a fearless producer who also possesses the instincts of a strong writer. He went on to predict that Agadha could score a bigger success than Devi. For Lagadapati Sridhar, the occasion was also about seeing a filmmaker he greatly admires return to the director's chair. Naming Raju and Shyam Prasad Reddy among his favourite producers, he hoped Agadha would become a defining comeback for Raju and eventually earn the status of a cult classic.

Sai Rajesh brought a personal perspective to the event, recalling his days as an assistant director under M. S. Raju, during which he learnt the fundamentals of screenplay writing. After seeing the Origin of Agadha and the trailer, he re-

ferred to Raju as a "kingmaker" and conveyed his best wishes for the film's success. SKN highlighted the reputation Raju has built across different roles in the industry, saying that irrespective of whether he works as a producer or director, "Raju is Raju." He observed that the promotional material indicates that Agadha has several dimensions beyond conventional horror. He also appreciated Kamakshi Bhaskarla, Shravan Reddy and the producers for attempting something ambitious and unconventional. Filmmaker Anil Viswanath, associated with the Polimera franchise, revealed that he had followed Agadha from its writing phase. Having watched the film, he described the climax as surprising, shocking and futuristic. He particularly appreciated Kamakshi Bhaskarla's extended role, along with Shravan Reddy, Jovika Vijay Kumar, the visual work and Rakesh Venkatapuram's music. The film's lead actors also spoke about their association with Raju. Kamakshi Bhaskarla

thanked him for entrusting her with the female lead and the central character, stating that the opportunity has played a foundational role in her career. She added that the entire team approached the project with considerable affection and hoped audiences would respond with the same warmth. Shravan Reddy recalled that Raju had noticed him in a web series and subsequently offered him a role in Dirty Hari. He said Agadha marks another opportunity given to him by the filmmaker. Producer Kasi Visalakshi Balusu expressed confidence in the project following the positive response to the teaser and trailer. She spoke about Raju's commitment throughout the shoot and said witnessing his dedication on the sets strengthened her belief that the film would emerge successfully. M. S. Raju himself thanked Kasi Visalakshi Balusu, Ajay KR and the entire team for their support. Describing his approach to the film through a cricketing analogy, he said he had made Agadha like a "super over," rather than waiting for a last-over finish. He expressed the belief that the film would become a blockbuster with the blessings of the Goddess. Positioned as a supernatural drama rather than a straightforward horror film, Agadha combines divine elements, a good-versus-evil conflict and layered writing with a strong visual and theatrical treatment. Written and directed by M. S. Raju, the film is produced by Kasi Visalakshi Balusu under Sri Adi Varaha Productions and presented by Ajay KR. NVN Subbaraju is the executive producer. With prominent industry figures backing the film and its unconventional treatment, Agadha is heading towards its August 14 theatrical release with considerable anticipation.

# Ritu Varma Nails Breezy Style In Yellow

Ritu Varma, who won hearts with her performance in Pelli Choopulu back in 2016, has been keeping a low profile on the film front this year, though her fashion game continues to keep her in the news. The actress has reportedly signed Gopichand 33, where she will be seen sharing screen space with Gopichand, giving fans another reason to look forward to her return.

Coming to her look, Ritu Varma kept it elegant and breezy in a pastel yellow saree, paired with a contrasting quirky-printed sleeveless blouse in white and yellow. The saree featured delicate mirror work and sequin detailing, along with a scalloped, mirror-embroidered border that added a festive shimmer to the soft pastel base. She rounded off the look with statement earrings, a ring, and strappy heels, keeping her hair open in soft waves, a look that felt fresh, breezy, and perfect for a daytime event. Simple yet stylish, Ritu once again proved her knack for effortless fashion.



# History Created: Spider-Man Is First 500 Cr Film In India!



For the first time in the history of global cinema, a Hollywood film has collected more than Rs.500 crore gross in India and it has happened for the latest film from the Spider-Man franchise. Spider-Man Brand New Day is the first Hollywood film to have collected more than Rs.500 crore gross in India. The film released in theatres on July 30, and it has collected a total of Rs.528 crore gross in India till now. Previously, Avatar: Way Of Water and Avengers endgame were in the late 400 crore bracket, but they could never touch the Rs.500 crore mark. This margin was finally broken by the latest film from Spiderman franchise, and this is going to be a historic achievement. The film is mainly powered by the phenomenal performance in crucial pockets like Mumbai, Delhi, and other urban pockets in north. It is reported that the South Indian states have contributed around Rs.200 crore in revenue till now. The growing popularity of the superhero franchises in India was earlier established by the Avengers films, and it is now carried by Spiderman. Considering that the otherwise popular Ironman franchise has been abruptly halted by Marvel, this new Spiderman series is going to be their money spinner and they are very serious about the same. Earlier, we have seen Avatar franchise films and Avengers films, putting a huge revenues in the Indian market, but none have been able to generate the kind of revenues that are being seen by this Spiderman film. Extensive marketing in the Indian social media space has also played a crucial role here.

# Kiran Abbavaram Goes E Zee & Prerana Pro

Kiran Abbavaram is clearly not interested in playing it safe. The young actor has scored a hat-trick of successes with KA12, Chennai Love Story, and what makes the run more interesting is that each film belongs to a different genre.

Kiran is continuing the same strategy with his upcoming films. The actor has now announced KA15 as Indraputra. Produced by Zee Studios and Prerna Arora, the film marks the directorial debut of Srikanth Puppala. The project is being positioned as a large-scale mythological action-fantasy and the first chapter of a planned mythological universe.

The film draws inspiration from Indian mythology and revolves around the timeless conflict between dharma and adharma. With action, fantasy,

mythology and emotion coming together, Indraputra is being mounted as a pan-India spectacle. Kiran Abbavaram will reportedly be seen in a powerful new avatar.

The film is currently in pre-production and will begin shooting in October. For Kiran, the interesting part is not just the scale of Indraputra, but the direction his career is taking. Moving from thrillers and entertainers to emotional dramas and now mythology is a clear indication of that mindset.

With Keerthan providing the story and Tanvi N Dutta handling the screenplay, Indraputra could become another significant milestone in Kiran's evolving career. His next KA13 directed by Kiran is currently in production, KA14 under the Sukumar Writings banner is in the pipeline.



# Injured Rashmika To Join Rana

Actress Rashmika Mandanna is keen to return to work and complete her upcoming film Ranabaali despite her recent injury. Rashmika's recovery is reportedly progressing well. The makers of Ranabaali are now planning to release the film on October 30, 2026. With the release date reportedly locked, Rashmika is said to be keen to join the shoot and complete her portions on time as per the schedule.

Ranabaali is expected to be an important film for Vijay Deverakonda, whose recent films have not performed as expected at the box office. The film is also special for Rashmika as it stars her husband Vijay Deverakonda in the lead role. Rashmika suffered a serious injury while shooting for her other upcoming film Mysaa. She reportedly suffered a complete tendon detachment in her right hip while performing an intense dance sequence.

Doctors advised her to take around six weeks of complete rest and rehabilitation. Due to



the injury, the shooting schedules of both Mysaa and Ranabaali were temporarily affected. Despite the serious injury, Rashmika is said to be

determined to complete Ranabaali. With her recovery progressing well, the team is hopeful that she will be able to resume shooting soon and

finish her portions without further delays. The makers are currently working to keep the film on track for its October 30 release.

# Teaser: Impressive Debut for Satish Jai

Gaja has generated curiosity with the release of its official teaser today at AAA Cinemas in Hyderabad. Manchu Manoj graced the special teaser launch as chief guest. The teaser wastes no time in establishing a dark, intense and intriguing world. Beginning with a Bhagavadgita reference, the teaser creates an immediate sense of mystery. It then shifts gears into slick action, with the jail portions emerging as some of the most striking moments. The teaser also showcases love moments. The teaser impresses visually and raises lot of questions and the most important one is what drove the protagonist to kill the woman he loved? The emotional core appears to be the relationship between Satish Jai and Farnaz Shetty.

Farnaz looks charming and adorable in her role, while the chemistry between the two leads feels natural and convincing. Their romantic bond gives the story an emotional foundation, making the shocking question surrounding her fate considerably more compelling. Satish Jai, meanwhile, appears convincing as a man caught between love, violence and a mysterious circumstance. Mani Sharma's music gives the visuals an ener-



getic and suspenseful pulse, enhancing both the action and emotional moments. Presented by Chalamalasetty Sunil and produced by Dr. Maitri Sharan under Satish Jai Films, the film stars Satish Jai and Farnaz Shetty in the lead roles, with Satish Jai also handling direction. Co-produced by Padmanabha Reddy, G.Madhusudhan, M. Narendra.



## Virat Kohli's intensity is non-negotiable, says former India fielding coach Dilip



**Warangal :** Former India fielding coach T Dilip from Hyderabad, whose successful stint of nearly five years with the Indian team came to an end after the recent tour of England, said “When it comes to Virat Kohli, intensity is non-negotiable. You have seen him in the powerplay, how he is as a batsman, whether at cover or short mid-wicket, with his reflexes and with his dives, is admirable. Even in the last series, he was putting in those dives and was sharp, always at you all the time.” Speaking to JioStar, Dilip, who hails from Warangal (Telangana), said: “Even at this juncture of his career, he runs from long-on to long-on at either end during the death overs, and he is the first one to run out of the circle when the field is spread, and that’s a fabulous thing to do for the team. But what impressed me more is not just the actions, what he does when the ball is at him, but also when the ball is not near him, he wants the ball in his hands.” “With Virat Kohli, there is not much difference between him in a practice session and a match, because it’s not just Virat; it’s the five other players who have stretched their limits when they are fielding with Virat Kohli. That’s the influence he brings into the group,” he said.

“If I go back to my best mo-

ment, I think Barbados 2024, not just the trophy, but the dressing room atmosphere afterwards, the silence for a few seconds before it broke. I think in that silence, I could sense the amount of hard work the boys had put in over those four years. And I’ll always keep that frame in my mind,” Dilip said.

On the thinking behind introducing the fielding medal, Dilip said: “What I thought was to recognise the overall impact as a fielder rather than just a spectacular catch. But what it brought in was that all the 11 players on the field, who may not be in the hotspots, had a feeling inside them that, ‘A little contribution would get me that award.’ That positive competition among the group had started and, automatically, players started to notice even small things while being on the field.”

“They celebrated when their other teammates did something exceptional. And that was a huge factor for me because, at the end of the day, the fielding medal is a team award. The players embraced it, fans supported it, and fielding got the recognition it deserved the most,” he said.

On Suryakumar Yadav’s catch in the last over of the ICC Men’s T20 World Cup 2024 final which helped India win the trophy against South Africa, Dilip recalled: “For the first few

seconds, I was silent and calm physically because my mind was doing all the calculations, whether Surya had taken that ball cleanly, whether his feet were inside the boundary rope, whether he had popped the ball out in time. So, my mind was doing all the calculations. But once it was confirmed that it was a clean catch, there was a surge of emotions. But in the back of my mind, I also knew that the match had yet to be completed. But that was an extraordinary catch by Surya in the context of the game.”

On the importance of fielding placement in the slips ahead of India’s Test tour of Sri Lanka, Dilip said “The important factor is that the spacing between the fielders has to be very fine because the ball comes faster in the slip region while fielding to fast bowlers. You may not have time to really go wide on your lateral side.”

“And for the spinners, I think, with most of the spinners, we saw how Shubman placed them in the Afghanistan series. It’s like, how would you place yourself, the gap between your keeper and slip, to take those finer edges which go on to your left side? And also, based on the turn, how fast or slow it is coming, how much you should stand away from the batter or not, will be key,” he signed off.

## FIH Women’s World Cup will be ours, says Hockey captain Salima Tete



**Hyderabad:** Indian women’s hockey team captain Salima Tete says this time the FIH Women’s World Cup will be India’s, stressing that the team will play smart, attacking hockey to bring back the medal. Speaking to JioStar, Tete, who feels that the momentum is with the Indian team having won the FIH Nations Cup, says that they will look to carry that confidence into the World Cup campaign.

“As a captain, my role is to support every player on the pitch. Whether we are losing or winning, I stand with the team. This time, the FIH Hockey World Cup will be ours. We will

play smart, attacking hockey and bring back a medal. I have full belief in my team. We have the ability to do it. I am very excited, especially since this is my second World Cup,” Tete said.

“Every player dreams of playing in a World Cup and winning a medal. Our last tournament in New Zealand, the FIH Nations Cup, was a great success. We won it and brought home a medal. So this time, in the World Cup, our goal is the same. Every match counts, and we will treat each one with equal importance. We are determined to play our best hockey and bring back the gold

medal,” the star player said.

On the energy and positivity the young players bring to the team, Tete said: “When the junior players come into the team, they bring a lot of energy. They always tell us, ‘Didi, we have to push hard, we have to play good hockey, and we need that medal.’ Hearing that from them gives us all a lot of positivity. We have many young players like Sakshi Rana, Ishika, and Rutuja Dadaso Pisal.”

“They are eager and hungry to perform on the big stage. From my side, I always tell them to play freely and enjoy the game. It’s not their job to carry the pressure.

# Team Speed post record 746/8 in HCA B-Division league

Hyderabad: Advith Reddy (256, 148b, 33×4, 12×6), Koushik Reddy (171, 133b, 18×4, 6×6) and Vimal Dev (119, 98b, 12×4, 4×6) helped Team Speed score a record-breaking 746 for eight in 90 overs against City College Old Boys on the first day of the HCA B-Division two-day league cricket championship.

In other B-Division league matches, T. Aaron Paul (207 n.o., 172b, 33×4) for Mahmood CC, Mohd Ahmed Shakeer (207 n.o., 208b, 25×4, 4×6) for Postal and Narra Chandra (238 n.o., 240b, 25×4, 10×6) for Warangal also batted well.

### The scores:

A-Division two-day league: Combined District 1 215 in 58.4 overs (Ganesh Gadugu 90, C. Srinath Yadav 61, Nishant Saranu 3/49, Rishab Baslas 3/33, Sachet Binrajka 3/71) vs EMCC 138/3 in 28 overs (P. Aman Rao 73 batting, A. Avanish Rao 36).

Deccan Wanderers 351 in 80.1 overs (Harshit Choudhary 41, R Sai Sharan 31, S. Dheeraj 161, Divesh Singh 69, Ammaar Ayub 3/68) vs Cambridge XI 14/0 in 2 overs.

Budding Star 2660 in 79.4 overs (Jai Ram Kashyap 114, Pranav Vara 40, PVM Manikumar Reddy 43, Sri Harsha 4/68) vs Balaaji 14/2 in 5.4 overs.

Evergreen 317 in 64.4 overs (Sai Vikas Reddy 64, Mayank Gupta 63, Ilyaan Sathani 87, Vishal Sharma 4/98, Danny Derek Prince 3/53) vs SBI 45/4 in 13.1 overs.

Hyderabad Bottling 194 in 52.5 overs (Prajwal Koudipally 105, Ruthik Yadav 53, Tanay Thyagarajann 5/48) lost to Sporting XI 195/3 in 29.1 overs (Anvith Reddy 53, A. Varun Goud 86).

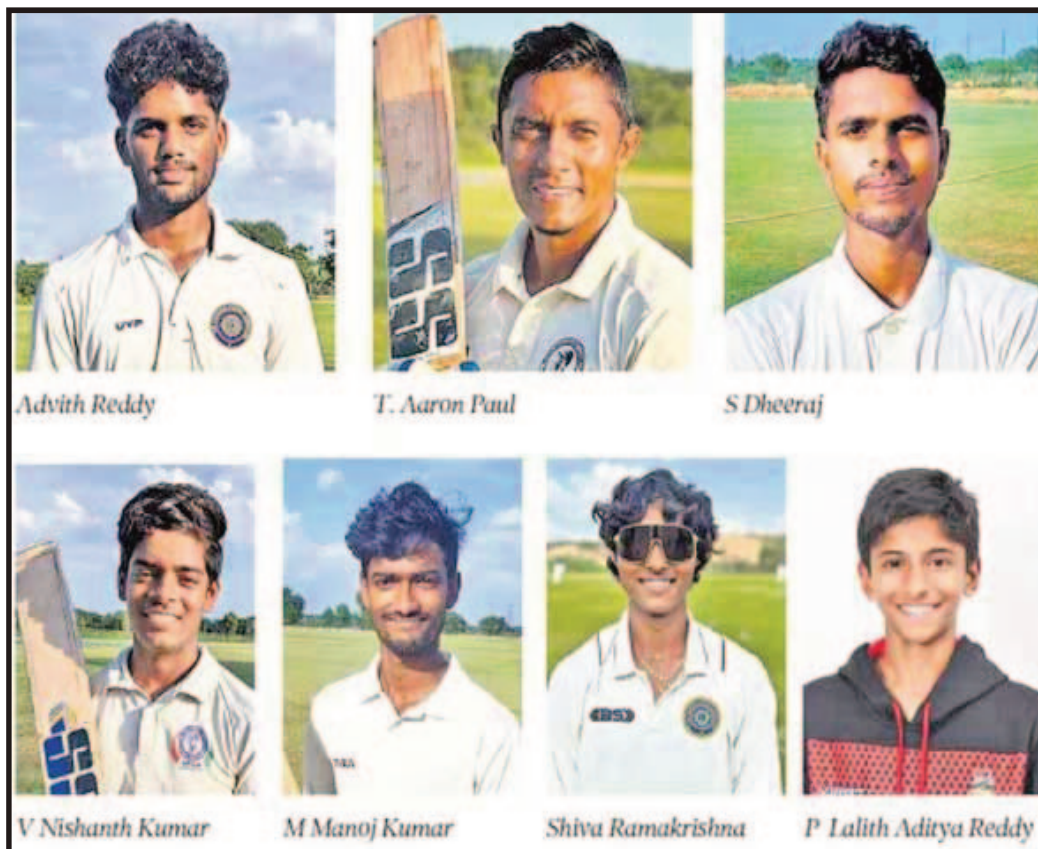
MP Colts 397/9 dec in 78 overs (Rahul Radhesh 167, Mickil Jaiswal 53, C. Advait Reddy 30, C. Hitesh Yadav 46, M. Roshan 34, Abdul Ela Al Qureshi 5/88) vs Gemini Friends 20/0 in 6 overs.

Imperial 459 in 85.2 overs (C. Siddharth Rao 52, VVS Sarvajit 37, G. Rahul Singh 57, Aryan Krishna 53, S. Loknath Naik 130, Manish Singh 61, Y. Chaitanya Krishna 4/93).

R Dayanand 350 in 76 overs (T. Ravi Teja 34, Kunal Daswani 34, MS Karthikeya 57, Prithvi Reddy 32, M. Dheeraj Rao 49 n.o., S. Abdur Rahman 6/52) vs Combined District II 17/2 in 6 overs.

Jai Hanuman 192 in 44.3 overs (M Abhirath Reddy 44, Shanmukha Ashwin 45, BK Ranganath 32, K. Yajwan Kumar 3/69, G. Sai Akshat Goud 3/31) vs SCRSA 152/7 in 30 overs (Sarthak Bharadwaj 32).

Deccan Chronicle 269 in 61.3 overs (Ashesh Singh 32, Ali Kachchhi 35, Murugan Abhishek 101, CV Milind 61,



Wafi Kachchhi 3/30) vs UBI 6/0 in 1.3 overs.

B-Division two-day league: Deccan Blues 307/10 in 69.5 overs (K Yogendhar Reddy 106, Kolan Karthik Reddy 94, Aryan Reddy 3/59) vs Green Turf 102/2 in 24 overs (Rishanth Reddy 59).

Sri Chakra 209 in 56.3 overs (Dhruv Kumar 47, Kalpanesh Sen 4/49) vs Osmania University 87/3 in 20 overs (Surya Kiran Yadav 33, Hayyan Arif 33).

Deccan Arsenal 429/8 in 90 overs (R. Prudishwar 45, T. Rajveer 63, M. Manoj Kumar 150, P. Aryan 104, S. Ritvik 3/58) vs Khalsa.

Chetan Anand CA 419/9 in 82 overs (Mohd Samad 30, Dacha Bhuvan 112, P. Akshit 110, Dheeraj Pranav 79, SK Sathvik 33, NC Arjun 4/92) vs Cheerful Chums.

Jai Bhagwathi 262 in 82.1 overs (Ashish Sawariya 122, Puneth Sai M 98, M. Naveen Reddy 5/53) vs Karimnagar District.

Hyderabad Titans 314 in 89.5 overs (Shiva Ramakrishna Terli 115, Sri Harsha 49, Raghav Patel 41, Tanish Bathula 31, Arjun Choudhary 4/52) vs Gouds XI.

Enconse 212 in 70.1 overs (Abhyudaya Pratap 49, A. Praneeth 38, Keshav Upadhyay 35, Md. Azharuddin 32, Dev Mehta 3/44, M. Taha Sajid 3/26) vs Kosaraju 72/1 in 15 overs (Rishith Rao 40 batting).

Apex 331 in 76.2 overs (J. Rithik 62, K. Satya Karthik 67, KVS Rahul 55, Vignesh Agarwal 36, K. Karthik 3/71, Subham 4/60) vs WMCC 16/0 in 12 overs. Rakesh XI 433/8 in 90 overs (K. Shivsainav 95, Midun Mote 150, K. Shreyas 53 n.o., K. Anudeep 3/70) vs Khammam District.

Classic 189 in 55.4 overs (Janmesh Singh 40, Namann

Dayala 32, Pranav Aheer 42, Md Muqeethuddin 6/47) beat Mahbubnagar District 91/0 in 18.4 overs (P. Pranav Reddy 5/48, Atharva Sunkari 5/42).

Elegant 125 in 30.5 overs (R. Pranav Adithyam 5/31) lost to MP Blues 128/3 in 23.5 overs (SM Tanuj 55 n.o., Md Aadish Salmani 3/27).

Telangana 146 in 36 overs (Aarav Dhariwal 35, Shashank Sonthalia 5/44) lost to New Blues 149/2 in 26.2 overs (B. Pranav 72 n.o., Syed Abubaker 52).

Zinda Tilismath 174 in 52.4 overs (Y. Nishanth Reddy 55, Jonna Manideep 50, SM Hussain Sayeed 3/25) lost to Sportive 177/4 in 33.4 overs (Karan Kumar Pattanayak 86, Nanavath Rakesh 36 n.o., G. Chaitra Sandeep 3/55).

Medak District 165 in 43.2 overs (Lohith Pasham 44, Rathod Rahul Nayak 30, D. Sai Rithwik 3/35) beat Manchester 143 in 52.4 overs (Rithvik Goud 41, B. Hishanth 4/38, K. Sridhar 3/10).

Nizamabad District 187 in 51 overs (Dama Ajith 34, Vikranth 32, C. Ruthwik 34, P. Sainath 3/49) lost to Nalgonda District 190/5 in 41.1 overs (Jashwanth Kanneboina 124).

Future Star 445 in 88.1 overs (M Sai Pratheek 140, P. Lalith Aditya 5/82) vs Concorde 3/2 in 5 overs.

Secunderabad Nawabs 159 in 41.3 overs (Rithvik Rudra Nishangi 85, Dheeraj Reddy 30, Darsh Kumar 5/73) lost to Megacity 160/8 in 39 overs (Trishul Gupta 46, Rakesh Sekhar 32, Md. Basheer 5/62).

Mahmood 508/4 in 90 overs (RBS Bala Trivikram 75, V. Nishanth Kumar 113, T. Aaron Paul 207 n.o., N. Chetan Reddy 43 n.o.) vs Raju CC.

Team Speed 746/8 in 90 overs (Advith Reddy 256, Koushik

Reddy 171, Vimal Dev 119, Kaushik 5/119, Nihal Reddy 3/127) vs CCOB.

MCC 314 in 86.3 overs (V. Samhith 94, Snehodeep Mitra 86, Sanyasi Shiven 62, Ankit Agarwal 5/37) vs Sayi Satya 37/4 in 10 overs.

PKMCC 180 in 56.1 overs (T. Deekshith 51, Abhay G Nair 40, Naman Choudhary 4/39, Devesh Jain 3/25) vs Hyderabad Blues 89/3 in 30 overs (Naman Choudhary 37, Adrith Reddy 33 batting).

Adilabad District 234 in 47.5 overs (Ade Santosh 48, M Adeeb Ahmed 75, D. Mohan Lal 4/63) vs Galaxy 140/7 in 44 overs (Pranay Mathews 4/42).

Hyderabad union 102 in 44 overs (SSVV Nanda Kumar 4/25, Dhruva Advait 4/22) vs Vijay Hanuman 103/6 in 24.1 overs (P. Satya Srikar 4/28).

Brothers XI 152 in 49.2 overs (Vasu Dev Sahoo 40, B. Varshit Reddy 33, Vamshi Krishna Nunnagoppula 6/47) lost to Agarwal Seniors 156/1 in 37.1 overs (Praneeth Kumar 76, Nykith Reddy 56).

Beema 106 in 40 overs (Darshith Patel 44, Gopala Varun 5/28) lost to Continental 110/3 in 14.4 overs (Mohd Mosiq Uddin 58).

Postal 480/4 dec in 76 overs (Mohd Ahmed Shakeer 207 n.o., N Jyothi Krishna 166, Nishanth Yadav 39) vs Venus Cybertech. Warangal District 432/7 in 90 overs (Narra Chandra 238 n.o., M Devendar 73, J Pardhipan 45) vs Visaka.

Oxford Blues 473/10 in 82.4 overs (G. Parthiv Varma 138, PNV Sreekar 44, Mithul Gardas 46, Avula Nikhsith 114, N. Shiv Kumar 53, L. Shashank 3/65, Prudhvi Raj Chouhan 4/111).

Saleemnagar 101 in 37 overs (P. Varun 4/33, Riyansh Sharma 4/8) lost to Ours 104/0 in 10 overs (Samanyu 50, Koushik 48).

## Taskin Ahmed excited for Australia Test challenge, calls series a proud moment

**Darwin:** Expressing childlike delight at finally getting the chance to play Test cricket in Australia, senior fast bowler Taskin Ahmed said that Bangladesh are feeling ‘really honoured’ to feature in a Test series in the country after 23 years. Taskin, who first visited Australia 14 years ago as a member of the Bangladesh team in the Under-19 World Cup in 2012, is set to lead the senior team’s pace attack in Thursday’s series opener at the Marrara Stadium. “We are really honoured to be here to be playing the Test series

against Australia. No doubt Australia is one of the biggest teams in the world, and playing in Australia against Australia in Test cricket, it’s a really proud moment for every one of our players. So, definitely that won’t be an easy series for us, but still, we are hoping to do really well in the upcoming Australia series,” Taskin told reporters. Taskin, 31, has featured in the 2015 ODI World Cup and 2022 T20 World Cup in Australia, but has never faced the hosts in the longest format on their home turf.

