# TRICOLOUR ESTATE

THE NEWS THAT MATTERS

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## States Focus



### PM TO OPEN INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CONFERENCE IN DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate an international conference on the environment and climate here on Saturday, which will be attended by environmental experts, Supreme Court judges, legal experts and senior Government officials.

The two-day meet during the weekend on "The Future of Environment and Climate Dynamics" is being organised by the National Green Tribunal. It will witness the participation of environmental experts, judges of the Supreme Court of India and high courts, district court judges, secretaries of various ministries, senior Government officials, representatives of State judicial academies, an official statement said. It will also bring together eminent judges and judicial representatives from 17 countries. The conference will provide a platform for the exchange of judicial approaches, scientific knowledge, environmental governance practices across jurisdictions. (*PTI*)



### YOGA OFFERS BALANCE, AMID STRESS OF TECH-DRIVEN LIFE: VP

Vice President CP Radhakrishnan on Friday said yoga provides balance, awareness and concentration amid the stress caused by technology-driven lifestyles and the fast pace of modern life.

Addressing the 75th anniversary celebrations of the Gordhandas Seksaria College of Yoga and Cultural Synthesis at Kaivalyadhama, Radhakrishnan said yoga helps establish balance between the mind, body and spirit, and enables people to lead healthier lives.

"In today's stressful lifestyle, yoga gives a person an opportunity to pause, think, focus on one's breath and reconnect with oneself," he said, adding that yoga helps improve concentration and maintain balance between the mind and body. Radhakrishnan said the teachings of Maharshi Patanjali remained relevant even in an age marked by a continuous flow of information. (*PTI*)

# Karnataka gives Tulu official status

■ Mangaluru (Karnataka)



Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar

Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Friday announced that Tulu would be made the State's second additional administrative language in Udupi and Dakshina Kannada districts.

He also said that the Government has decided on a new tourism policy covering the Malnad and coastal regions.

The policy envisages treating tourism projects in the regions as infrastructure projects and providing incentives to attract investment, besides giving investors more time to repay loans, Shivakumar said after the Cabinet meeting held in Mangaluru.

"Today, we have decided to make Tulu a language applicable to Udupi and Dakshina Kannada districts and to declare it as the state's second additional (administrative) language," he said. The CM said the Tulu language spoken primarily in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts carries the potential for educational and cultural growth.

A Cabinet note shared by the Chief Minister's Office said it would be the "second additional administrative language".

Shivakumar also said the state Government would bring out a separate tourism policy for coastal Karnataka given its long coastline, rich cultural tradition, religious and heritage sites.

He said those investing in the tourism sector, particularly in greenfield projects, needed greater support as prolonged monsoons affected tourism activity in the coastal and Malnad regions.

"Those who invest in tourism — because this is a full greenfield sector — should be given greater support. They should be given time to repay their loans," he said.

The policy will cover the Malnad and coastal regions and several incentives have already been decided, he said, adding that tourism projects would be treated as infrastructure projects.

The Government would also undertake new urban development planning and provide incentives related to fisheries, he said.

Shivakumar said the Government has approved the Karnataka Marine Biotechnology Policy, 2026-31. Under the policy, the Government will establish the Fisheries, Marine and Blue Economy University by upgrading the existing college and increasing its intake from the existing 60 seats to 200.

On the demand to rename Dakshina Kannada district as Mangaluru district, the chief minister said the Government would issue a draft notification and invite public opinion for a month.

"We have more or less come to the view that Dakshina Kannada district should be declared as Mangaluru district. But public opinion is also necessary here," he said.

The Government would take into account people's sentiments and the traditional aspects associated with the name before taking a final decision, Shivakumar said. He said the Cabinet had given approvals totalling around ₹32,611 crore — about ₹16,000 crore for rural development and another ₹16,000 crore for Mangaluru, Udupi and the coastal region. Several demands submitted by MLAs, MPs, the Chamber of Commerce, fishermen, industries and trade bodies had been considered while taking the decisions, he said.

Shivakumar also announced that the Government would hold Cabinet meetings at 10 to 12 places across Karnataka over the next 15 months.

"We want to see the entire state. Wherever there is a position, wherever there is a need, we will have to go, because every part of the state is important for us," he said, describing the approach as "Samagra Karnataka, Samruddha Karnataka" (Inclusive Karnataka-Prosperous Karnataka).

# TMC symbol row: BJP rejects Congress's party *chori* charge



BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi

■ New Delhi

The BJP hit back at Rahul Gandhi on Friday for accusing the ruling party of "Government *chori*" and "party *chori*" over the TMC symbol row, and said the Congress leader should look at his own party's history first to realise how it "finished" Opposition parties and "toppled" their Governments when it was in power.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters here, party spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi accused the Congress of toppling Governments led by HD Deve Gowda, Chaudhary Charan Singh, Chandra Shekhar and IK Gujaral by abruptly withdrawing support.

"Before levelling allegations against the BJP, Rahul Gandhi should first look at the history of his own party. If Rahul Gandhi does not know the history of his own party, he does not deserve to be a leader in his party, leave aside continuing as the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha," Trivedi said.

He said the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is the only party in the country which has never witnessed a "vertical division".

The BJP and the Bharatiya Jana Sangh also stood firm to protect democratic values whenever the Congress attacked those, he added.

The Congress on Friday expressed firm support to the Mamata Banerjee-led TMC after the Election Commission (EC) froze the party's name and symbol amid an ongoing dispute between two of its rival factions, with Gandhi alleging that after "vote *chori*" and "Government *chori*", now "party *chori*" is taking place.

Rallying behind the former West Bengal chief minister, the Congress leader asserted that this fight is not just Banerjee's but it is the fight of every political party, every voter who wants free and fair elections.

Gandhi's remarks came a day after the ECI directed the rival factions of the TMC not to use the party name and symbol for upcoming bypolls in West Bengal, and to submit their preferred alternative names and symbols to the poll panel.

Lashing out at Gandhi, Trivedi said, "During its rule till 1997, the Congress did not allow any elected Government of other parties to complete its full term. When it had the power to do so.

"It dismissed the EMS Namboodiripad Government in Kerala (in 1959). It finished the Praja Socialist Party in 1963. In 1984, the Congress engineered a split within the National Conference, thereby causing a rift in the party. The Congress dismantled the NT Rama Rao Government when the Telugu Desam Party leader was away for medical treatment. The Congress engineered divisions in Karpuri Thakur's Lok Dal party in Bihar."

# *Dharma* different from religion: Bhagwat

■ Ujjain



RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Friday said India's understanding of the concept of *dharma* was distinct from Western notions of religion, asserting that the country has not discriminated among different faiths and this was its understanding of secularism.

Addressing around 1,700 Gen Z participants at the 'Yuva Dharma Sansad' in Ujjain, Bhagwat said he was happy to see youngsters discussing *dharma* at a time when some considered it an old people's affair.

"Our state has always been intermingling. It does not discriminate among its people. This is the meaning of *panth-nirpekshata* for us," he said.

Bhagwat said the Western concept of secularism emerged from conflicts between rulers and religious authorities, and therefore, did not fit the Indian context in the same manner.

Bhagwat said a person's ego can create a misconception that everything operates according to his authority and that he can control everything.

"Take the Sun, for example. Its rising and setting are certain. Man, in his arrogance, believes that everything runs by his own authority. And because of that, he carries the misconception that even such things should and do move according to his own will. But that's not the case. You cannot do anything about it," the RSS chief said.

Bhagwat did not name anyone, but Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said on X, "Is he referring to a supposedly non-biological being whose avataran diwas was just celebrated?"

# Govt doing needful on drought: Maharashtra CM

■ Mumbai



Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday said his Government is taking the drought-like situation in the State seriously and was coming up with measures to deal with it and provide relief to farmers.

Speaking to reporters about NCP (SP) supremo Sharad Pawar's letter on the prevailing situation due to lack of adequate rain, Fadnavis said his Government would consider suggestions made by the former Union agriculture minister.

"Pawar saheb is a senior leader. It is a matter of happiness he has sent a letter. I do not want to give any political colour to it. I feel the state Government is doing what it needs to do. If we have received suggestions from him, or if he has given us suggestions in such a situation, we will certainly listen to them," he said.

Pawar had urged Fadnavis to take immediate measures in view of the rainfall deficit and crop losses in several parts of Maharashtra. The veteran leader has sought, among other measures, declaration of drought in severely affected areas and financial assistance of ₹50,000 per hectare for farmers.

The chief minister made it clear that the State would provide assistance to farmers without waiting for financial help under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF).

The crop damage assessment required for a NDRF proposal (for relief) would be undertaken after October 5, Fadnavis added.

Asked about Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's criticism of the Election Commission of India's decision in the Trinamool Congress case, Fadnavis said the "mentality" of the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha is "anarchist" and his objective was to undermine constitutional institutions.

On Thursday, the ECI temporarily removed the All India Trinamool Congress name and its 'flowers and grass symbol' from the ballot during the October 6 West Bengal bypolls, barring both rival factions from using the political identity associated with Mamata Banerjee and her party for nearly three decades.

Gandhi's objective is that people's trust in constitutional bodies is lost, and once that happens then trust in democracy itself will also be lost, Fadnavis said.

Gandhi is taking the Constitution in his hand and then sowing the idea that faith in it should be lost, the CM alleged.

# Congress attacks PM on CBI probe against Arunachal CM

■ New Delhi



Congress general secretary in-charge of communications Jairam Ramesh

The Congress on Friday came down heavily upon Prime Minister Narendra Modi claiming that in a show of "complete hypocrisy", Pema Khandu has been allowed to continue as Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister despite the Supreme Court ordering a CBI inquiry into contracts worth ₹1,270 crore awarded by him as PWD minister to his family members.

In a post on X, Congress general secretary in-charge of communications Jairam Ramesh said Khandu should have immediately resigned or been asked to resign, alleging that this was another example of allowing corruption to flourish and making money.

"But both the CM and his Supreme Leader the PM decided to brazen it out," he said.

Ramesh said the Supreme Court had ordered a CBI inquiry on April 6 into contracts worth ₹1,270 crore awarded by Khandu as the Arunachal Pradesh PWD minister to his family members between 2015 and 2025. The Supreme Court directive had come as a surprise to the Modi Government, he said.

According to the Congress leader, the Supreme Court summoned top officials of the Arunachal Pradesh Government on August 3 because the CBI complained that the State Government was not cooperating with the inquiry.

"The CM (who has continued as PWD minister) was denying access to the relevant files. The HM was reportedly taken aback by the CBI's new-found courage," Ramesh said.

On August 24, the Supreme Court observed that instead of providing relevant documents, the state had supplied huge chunks of documents to the CBI, he said. "It is extraordinary and totally unacceptable that the CM continues in office. This shows the complete hypocrisy of the PM.

"Yet another example of '*khaya hai, khane diya hai aur khilwaya bhi hai*'," the Rajya Sabha MP said, hitting out at the prime minister who has said a number of times in the past regarding checking corruption that "*Na khaunga, na khane dunga*".

The next hearing in the case is on September 25, Ramesh said.

# Former TN minister Anbil Mahesh questioned in school approval scam

■ Chennai



Former School Education minister of TN Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi

Former School Education minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi on Friday appeared before the Chennai Central Crime Branch police here for questioning in connection with the private school approval fraud case.

The DMK leader against whom the CCB has registered a Prevention of Corruption Act case, was accompanied by his advocates. The police questioned him for over an hour, a source said.

The summons follow an intensive eight-hour search on Wednesday by the CCB at the residences and premises of the DMK leader in Chennai and Tiruchirappalli over his alleged involvement in a ₹100 crore bribery scam where money was allegedly collected from 177 private school managements in exchange for permanent Government recognition.

As many as 118 items including property deeds, bank statements, 18 mobile phones, laptops and tablets were seized during the raid which was initiated following a complaint by a private school association. The police arrested one BT Arasakumar and two others in June.

Later, responding to the searches, Anbil Mahesh denied allegations levelled against him and termed the raid as "political vendetta" and diversionary tactics by the ruling TVK. He had claimed that the action on him followed his public speeches criticising the state Government's plan to establish a new Secretariat-Assembly complex at an estimated cost of ₹1,200 crore.

# Rajnath calls for indigenous technology, public-private synergy in aviation sector

■ Bengaluru



Defense Minister Rajnath Singh addresses an event, in Kochi, Keralam PTI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday called for the development of an ecosystem that can address the requirements of both the civil and military aviation sectors.

He said indigenously developed technologies were essential in view of the changing nature of warfare.

"We need to develop an ecosystem that can effectively address the requirements of both the civil and military aviation sectors," Singh said during the handing-over ceremony of Light Combat Aircraft Tejas twin-seater trainers and Hindustan Turbo Trainer-40 basic trainer aircraft to the Indian Air Force and Dhruv Next Generation helicopters to Pawan Hans Limited at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.

Developing technologies indigenously is the need of the hour for India, as the nature of warfare is changing rapidly, he said. He underlined that public and private sectors should not be viewed as competitors but as organisations that complement each other.

# Four cubs born at Kuno in MP, India's cheetah count rises to 56

■ Bhopal



On the fourth anniversary of Project Cheetah on September 17, India counted 52 surviving cheetahs, 32 of them born on Indian soil. A day later, Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh added four more to that tally, marking a new chapter in the country's ambitious cheetah reintroduction programme.

India-born female cheetah KGP12 gave birth to four cubs on September 18 at Kuno in Sheopur district, taking India's cheetah population to 56 and the number of India-born cheetahs to 36. According to Kuno management, the mother and all four cubs were safe in the initial assessment and were being monitored.

The birth is significant because KGP12 herself was born in India. That means the programme has moved beyond the first generation of translocated African cheetahs to a stage where India-born animals are producing the next generation. In conservation terms, the development is being seen as an important indicator of natural population growth.

Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav called it a "historic and joyous moment" for Project Cheetah and said the four new lives symbolised hope, resilience and the growing success of cheetah conservation in India.

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# EDITORIAL

## AI and Jobs: Youth at Risk?

India has long viewed its young population as one of its greatest economic advantages. More than 65 per cent of the population is below the age of 35, giving the country a demographic opportunity that many ageing economies can only envy. But a young population becomes an economic dividend only when it has access to productive, meaningful work. Artificial intelligence is now adding a new complication to that challenge.

The question is no longer whether AI will affect Indian jobs. It already is. AI tools are increasingly being used for writing, research, coding, data analysis, customer support and routine office work. AI literacy is rapidly becoming a basic workplace requirement rather than a specialised skill. Workers are being asked not only to know their profession, but also to understand how to use AI, verify its output and recognise when human judgement is necessary.

For India, the biggest concern may not be the immediate disappearance of millions of jobs. It is the changing nature of entry-level employment. Traditionally, young graduates entered organisations through junior positions, performed routine tasks and gradually acquired experience. If AI performs many of those basic tasks, where will the next generation acquire its first professional experience?

That question deserves far more attention than predictions about machines replacing humans.

Recent research on India's labour market shows that employment growth has been concentrated substantially in agricultural self-employment and low-skill non-farm occupations, while medium-skill employment has shown relatively little growth. At the same time, higher-skilled cognitive occupations are among those more exposed to emerging AI applications. This combination could create a worrying labour-market gap: fewer conventional stepping-stone jobs for educated young people and greater pressure to acquire specialised skills earlier.

India therefore faces a double challenge. It must create more jobs while simultaneously preparing workers for jobs that are changing faster than ever.

The answer cannot simply be to tell every student to learn artificial intelligence. Not every young person needs to become an AI engineer. A commerce graduate, teacher, nurse, journalist, designer, accountant or technician may need different combinations of digital, professional and human skills. The priority should be AI-enabled workers rather than AI-dependent workers.

Education has a central role in this transformation. Colleges cannot continue producing graduates with outdated syllabi while employers demand digital competence, analytical ability and practical experience. AI tools should be incorporated into learning, but students must also be taught critical thinking, communication, problem-solving and ethical judgement.









# Union Budget 2026-27: With View To Revive Domestic Economy, Al-location For MEA Trimmed Down



New Delhi: With the government's main focus being on the revival of the domestic economy in a tough global economic situation, the allocation for the Ministry of External Affairs in the Union Budget 2025-26 presented by Finance Minister Nirmala on Saturday saw a significant trimming down. This year, Sitharaman has proposed an allocation of Rs 20,516.61 crore to the External Affairs Ministry, which is significantly lower than last year's revised estimate of Rs 25,277.20 crore."One way of looking at it is the government prioritising revival of the domestic economy," Harsh V Pant, Professor of International Relations with King's India Institute at King's College London and Vice-President (Studies and Foreign Policy) at the Observer Research Foundation think tank, told ETV Bharat. "The Indian economy has to navigate through choppy waters."Pant said that given how the world is looking inward, for India, it is important to drive domestic growth. "Unless the domestic economy is strong, we cannot afford to play the role of a global leader," he said. This year's Budget lays stress on agriculture, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), infrastructure, education, and healthcare. It proposes significant funding for defence, rural development, education, healthcare, railways and highways signifying the government's commitment to job creation and long-term economic stability.Pant said that the government has taken upon itself to reduce the fiscal deficit from 4.8 per cent in the current year to 4.4 per cent in the next fiscal. "Then, in that case, expenditure also has to be cut down in several areas," he said.oming to the External Affairs Ministry, the current fiscal allocation for the "Aid to Countries" category is lower than that of the 2024-25 Budget. For the Union Budget 2024-25, Rs 5,483 crore has been set aside for this purpose, a decrease from Rs 5,806.48 crore in the previous financial year. This funding supports India's multi-lateral and bilateral aid initiatives, extending assistance to neighbouring countries as well as developing nations in Africa, Central Asia, South Asia, and Latin America. It also covers aid for disaster relief and humanitarian efforts.As usual, Bhutan is the biggest beneficiary under the head 'Aid to Countries'. This time, the amount allocated for Bhutan is Rs 2,150 crore, which is, however, lower than Rs 2,543.48 crore allocated in fiscal 2024-25. Nepal is the second biggest beneficiary with an allocation of Rs 700 crore, the same as last year.With India's ties with the Maldives warming up after these had gone south following the election of Mohamed Muizzu as President in 2023, aid for the Indian Ocean archipelago nation has gone up. The development aid allocated for the Maldives is Rs 600 crore, compared to Rs 470 crore last year. This comes amidst the country facing an economic crisis and signing investment pacts with China and Turkiye which has raised concerns in New Delhi.External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, during a media briefing on Friday, said that India was in close touch with Maldivian authorities on the situation facing them."Recent agreements (an obvious reference to the pacts with China and Turkiye) that are likely to result in revenue loss for the Maldives government are obviously a matter of concern, and do not bode well for the long-term fiscal stability of the country," Jaiswal said. "We would obviously need to take that into account while framing our own policies."Sri Lanka, a country that faced a huge financial crisis three years ago and for which India played an important role in providing debt relief, has been allocated a development aid fund of Rs 300 crore, the same as last year. This comes after Marxist-leaning Anura Kumara Dissanayake was elected as President last year. Dissanayake has since made his first state visit to India after assuming office. Though Dissanayake too visited China and signed investment deals, Indian developmental aid for the Indian Ocean island nation remains unabated as reflected in the Budget.Ties between India and Bangladesh are delicately poised following the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the face of a mass uprising and the installation of an interim government with Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus as Chief Adviser. New Delhi has also been repeatedly expressing grave concerns over reports of attacks on minorities in the wake of the change in regime. However, the government has chosen not to cut down on development aid for the eastern neighbour and has kept it at Rs 120 crore, the same as last year.Myanmar, another of India's eastern neighbours, has been facing a violent resistance movement against the ruling military junta as a result of which work on key India-funded infrastructure projects has been stalled.

# Apple Intelligence for India lands in April, Tim Cook confirms



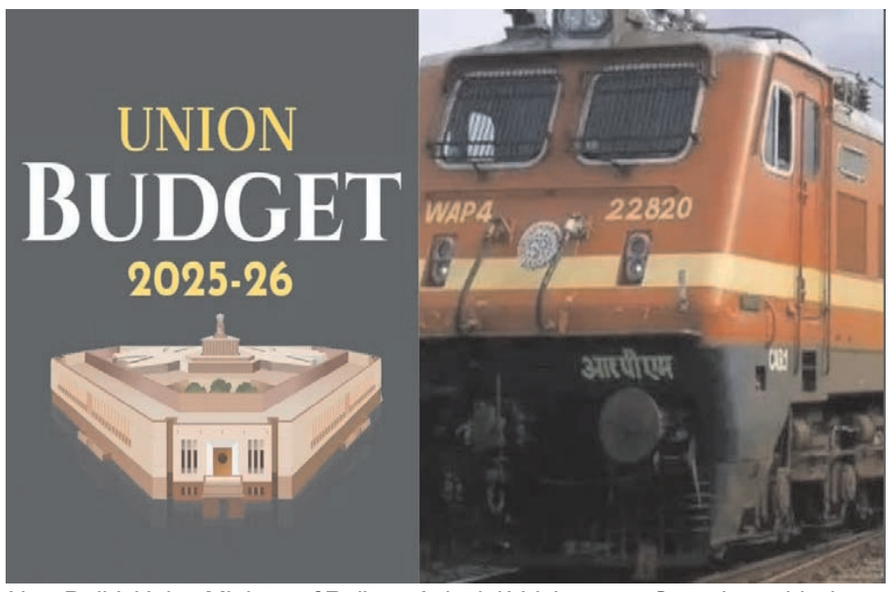

editor E Mail I'd – @gmail.com"Apple has announced the arrival of its AI-powered suite of features, Apple Intelligence, to India. Tim Cook, CEO of Apple, confirmed this during the company's Q1 earnings call, revealing that the technology will be available in India starting April 2025. Apple Intelligence, which was first introduced in October 2024 with iOS 18.1, will offer localised language support, with Indian English being included in the upcoming iOS 18.4 update."Apple Intelligence's global expansion"Initially, Apple Intelligence was launched with support for US English. Since then, the service has expanded to include other regions such as the UK, Australia, and several other major countries. Now, with the upcoming rollout in India, Apple is looking to bring its advanced AI features to a broader global audience."During the earnings call, Tim Cook mentioned that in April 2025, Apple Intelligence will expand to include support for more languages, including French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, Japanese, Korean, and simplified Chinese. Additionally, the update will also feature localised English variants for regions such as Singapore and India."How to use Apple Intelligence in India"To enable Apple Intelligence on compatible devices, users in India will need to adjust their device's language settings. Here's how to enable Apple Intelligence: Settings>General>Language & Region>English (US) or another supported language. Once this is done, your iPhone will be set up to recognise the appropriate language for Apple Intelligence and you can begin using its AI-powered features.

# GMDC collaborates long-term pact with JK Cement for supply of limestone




"State-owned GMDC on Friday said
it has entered into a long-term pact with JK Cement Ltd for the supply of limestone from its upcoming mine in Gujarat."The agreement has been signed for supply of 250 million tonnes of limestone over a period of 40 years from its upcoming Lakhpat Punrajpur Mine in Lakhpat Taluka of Kutch district in Gujarat."This agreement will help JK Cement Ltd in setting up an integrated mega-capacity cement plant, fostering industrial growth in the region.""The collaboration will stimulate investment, enhance industrial development, and generate thousands of direct and indirect employment opportunities in Kutch, contributing significantly to the socio-economic progress of Gujarat," Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC) said in a statement."Kutch's coastal proximity, improved access to domestic and international markets, and cost-efficient logistics position it as an ideal hub for cement production."The state-owned company has five operational lignite mines in Kutch, South Gujarat, and Bhavnagar region.New Delhi [India], JK Cement Ltd., one of the leading building materials company ..State-owned GMDC on Friday said it has entered into a long-term pact with JK Cement Ltd for the supply of limestone from its upcoming mine in Gujarat.The agreement has been signed for supply of 250 million tonnes of limestone over a period of 40 years from its upcoming Lakhpat Punrajpur Mine in Lakhpat Taluka of Kutch district in Gujarat.This agreement will help JK Cement Ltd in setting up an integrated mega-capacity cement plant, fostering industrial growth in the region."The collaboration will stimulate investment, enhance industrial development, and generate thousands of direct and indirect employment opportunities in Kutch, contributing significantly to the socio-economic progress of Gujarat," Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC) said in a statement.(Only the headline and picture of this report may have been reworked by the Business Standard staff; the rest of the content is auto-generated from a syndicated feed.)

# Indian Railways To Invest Rs 1.16 Lakh Crore On Safety




New Delhi: Union Minister of Railway Ashwini Vaishnaw on Saturday said a huge gross budgetary support of Rs 2 lakh 52 thousand crore has been allocated, and investment of Rs 1 lakh 16 thousand crores has been kept in the budget for rail safety which will bring a big change in the lives of passengers.Vaishnaw, in a video message on the Ministry of Railways social media X, informed that an outlay of Rs 2,52,200 crore has been allocated to the Railways which will accelerate the growth and efficiency."Indian Railways is all set to expand faster, safer & comfortable rail travel for all across the country. The country can expect 200 new Vande Bharat trains, 100 Amrit Bharat trains, 50 Namo Bharat rapid rail and 17,500 general non-AC coaches in the next two to three years time," the Ministry of Railways said.nion Minister for Railways said this year's budget mentions infrastructure development projects of railways to the order of four lakh sixty thousand crore rupees. Focusing on safety, the budget allocates one lakh sixteen thousand crore rupees for expenditure this year to augment the safety of Indian Railways through various projects.Earlier, the government besides allocating Indian Railways, the same allocation of Rs 2,52,000 crore as was done in the last fiscal year also provided for Rs 10,000 crore from extra-budgetary resources to meet its expenses and modernising it, thus taking the Capital Expenditure, Capex to Rs 2,62,000 crore. This means expenditure on assets, acquisition, construction and replacement will be met out of funds from not only Gross Budgetary Support (including Railway Safety Fund and Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh) but also the General Revenues of Indian Railways. The provision of Rs 200 crore out of Nirbhaya Fund is also there in the budget. Railways will mobilize additional Rs 3,000 crore rupees from its internal resources, the ministry informed.Indian Railways is all set to become the second-highest freight-carrying Railway touching 1.6 billion tonnes of cargo by the end of this fiscal. On the high-speed trains, India aims to have 7000 km of high-speed rail network supporting a speed of 250 km per hour by 2047, the ministry said.Policymaking was a linear, if not easier, exercise in both the closed-economy era and three decades of globalisation. That was a time when you could take longer-term views in areas like trade, tariffs, and industrialisation. Not that long-term agenda is missing these days. However, keeping in tune with rising geopolitical uncertainty and increasing geo-economic fragmentation, real-time basis policy tweaking has become more important than ever.This year's Economic Survey highlighted the need for apparently small interventions which might end up playing critical roles in ensuring India's energy security, paving the way for manufacturing growth, creating a more skilled labour force, improving productivity in the agriculture sector, etc.There is, however, one rider. Many of the suggested changes fall in the purview of states and local governments like municipal corporations.The survey pointed out how restrictive local regulations related to land and land revenue, building bylaws, water and fire safety rules etc, can impact the costs of a small and medium enterprise (MSME). MSMEs form the backbone of the industrial supply line which is crucial for the success of the large industry. Globally the industrial value chain is upwardly mobile.

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## CM Revanth urges...

# El Niño impact: Govt stands by farmers, says Uttam

| HYDERABAD

Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Friday assured farmers that the Telangana government would stand by them amid the water crisis, saying El Niño had compounded the impact of a decade of irrigation failures under the previous BRS government.

Speaking during a short-duration discussion on El Niño in the Legislative Assembly, Uttam said safeguarding drinking water, protecting standing crops and securing Telangana's rightful share of river waters were the government's priorities. He said the crisis reflected both adverse weather and the legacy of unfinished projects, defective construction and poor water management.

"Even if we cannot prevent El Niño, the government is preparing in advance to reduce its impact," he said. The Agriculture and Irrigation Departments had been alerted following weather warnings, while farmers were advised on rainfall prospects, irrigation availability and suitable crops.

The southwest monsoon took nearly 15 days to cover all 33 districts, with rainfall remaining uneven. District irrigation advisory meetings and the weekly Rythu Nestham programme were being used to promote less water-intensive crops.

Uttam said reservoir storage had declined sharply. Srisailam held 61.65 TMC on September 17 against 153.56 TMC a year earlier, while Nagarjuna Sagar had 44.89 TMC against 174.25 TMC. Of 44,034 State tanks, nearly 40 per cent were less than one-quarter full.

He said drinking water would get first priority, with irrigation releases planned after securing supplies for Mission Bhagiratha and urban and rural needs. Water budgets and drinking-water security plans were being prepared, with reservoir levels reviewed every 10 days.

On Kaleshwaram, Uttam blamed the previous government for the condition of Medigadda and said safety concerns at Annaram and Sundilla required investigations, rehabilitation, approvals and a controlled restart. The



government, he said, had not abandoned the system and was operating components that could be used safely.

Uttam Kumar Reddy urged BJP leaders to press the Centre to take forward Tummidihetti, stressing that securing Maharashtra's consent was the Union government's responsibility. He called it northern Telangana farmers' irrigation dream and termed abandoning Pranahita–Chevella a historic mistake.

He disputed the BRS claim that Palamuru–Rangareddy was 90 per cent complete, saying pump houses and reservoirs alone could not deliver water without canals, electromechanical systems, land acquisition and clearances. On Krishna waters, he said Telangana would continue seeking a 50:50 share. "We will not surrender a single drop of water rightfully due to Telangana," he said.

Revanth Reddy thanked the Union Minister for the support. He recalled that he had submitted a memorandum to Chouhan in Delhi in July, seeking sanction of houses for 11,56,915 eligible rural families in the State.

The Chief Minister requested the Union Minister to allocate the remaining 9.56 lakh houses to Telangana as per the State's requirement.Revanth Reddy also explained that Telangana was supplying fine rice to poor families through ration shops, describing it as a measure not being implemented elsewhere in the country.

He said the State government was encouraging farmers to cultivate fine varieties of paddy by providing a bonus of Rs. 500 per quintal.



## Sree Dattha institutions organizes book donation program for orphans

| HYDERABAD

Sree Dattha Institute of Engineering and Science (Autonomous) organized a book donation programme for orphaned children at the Sudheer Foundation as part of its social responsibility and community service initiative.

The programme was organized with the objective of encouraging education, promoting reading habits, and supporting the academic development of underprivileged children by providing them with useful books and learning materials.

The initiative was carried out under the guidance and encouragement of Chairman G. Panduranga Reddy, Vice Chairman Dr. G. N. V. Vibhav Reddy, Chief Managing Director G. Devendar Vikram Reddy, and Dean – Academics and Administration Dr. S. V. Achuta Rao.

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) actively participated in the programme. Head of the Department Dr. Sk. Mahaboob Basha and the CSE faculty members extended their valuable support and actively contributed to making the initiative successful. The participation of the management, faculty members, and students demonstrated the institution's collective commitment towards social responsibility and community welfare.

The representatives of the Sudheer Foundation expressed their appreciation to Sree Dattha Institute of Engineering and Science for its thoughtful contribution and for extending support towards the educational needs of orphaned and underprivileged children. They appreciated the efforts of the institute in promoting education, compassion, and community service.

Speaking on the occasion, the management appreciated the efforts of Dr. Sk. Mahaboob Basha, HOD – CSE, and all CSE staff members for their valuable support and active participation in organizing and making the programme successful.

The book donation programme reflected the institute's commitment to education, compassion, social responsibility, and service to the community, while emphasizing the importance of extending educational opportunities and support to children in need.

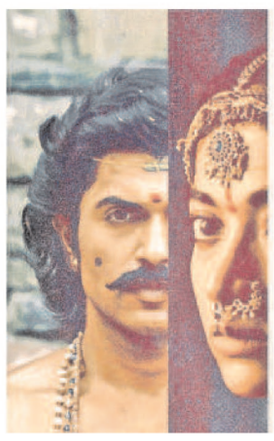
# Move out TM It's SM here

High-production-value films and series compete for attention against an endless stream of short, relatable, niche-tailored content produced by independent creators at a fraction of the cost. The old model relied on gatekeepers — studios, networks, publishers — who controlled what reached audiences and when. Social media democratized creation and distribution. Anyone with a phone can reach millions overnight. Algorithms prioritize engagement and relevance over prestige, favoring authenticity and immediacy over polished narratives.Advertising dollars have followed the audience.

Social platforms offer precise targeting and measurable results that traditional television and print struggle to match. As younger consumers spend more time scrolling than sitting through commercial breaks or waiting for weekly episodes, revenue streams for legacy media have fragmented. Cinema attendance and traditional celebrity culture retain some pull — Gen Z still goes to theaters for social experiences — but the cultural center of gravity has shifted. Viral moments on TikTok or Instagram Reels often drive discovery of movies and shows more effectively than traditional marketing.The entertainment industry's response has been mixed.

Some studios and streamers experiment with micro-series, vertical video formats, and creator partnerships. Others attempt to chop long-form content into social-friendly clips. Still the fundamental mismatch remains: traditional production cycles cannot match the speed and volume of user-generated content, nor the intimate parasocial relationships creators cultivate with their audiences.Critics note downsides. Heavy use correlates with concerns over attention spans, mental health pressures, FOMO, and the spread of misinformation. Some surveys show rising skepticism among teens themselves about social media's net effects. Stillthe pull remains powerful.

Platforms deliver what Gen Z values most: control, personalization, community and relevance.The result is a media landscape unrecognizable from a generation ago. Where previous cohorts gathered around network premiers or Hollywood blockbusters, Gen Z gathers in digital spaces shaped by algorithms and peers. Conventional media has not disappeared, but it has been displaced from the center of young people's lives. Social media did not merely compete with traditional entertainment — for Gen Z, it largely redefined what entertainment, information and connection look like. The sector that once dictated culture now finds itself adapting to the rules of a new, always-on digital stage.



## 'Ranabaali' first single to release on Sept 21, movie on October 16

| HYDERABAD

The makers of the upcoming film 'Ranabaali' have officially announced the release of the film's first single, Endhayya Saami, on September 21. Starring Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna in the lead roles, the massive pan-India period drama is directed by Rahul Sankrityan and produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under the Mythri Movie Makers banner. Presented by T-Series Films, Ranabaali is gearing up for a grand worldwide theatrical release on October 16, coinciding with the Vijayadashami festival.

Set against the backdrop of the British era between 1854 and 1878, Ranabaali is inspired by real historical events from the 19th century. The film promises a grand cinematic experience with a powerful story rooted in history, action, and emotion. The makers unveiled the announcement for Endhayya Saami with a special promo featuring Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna's wedding sequence, which received a tremendous response from fans. The full song will be released in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, and Hindi and audiences are eagerly waiting to witness the complete version.



## TPCC Vice President visits Ganesh pandals, participates in annadanam

| HYDERABAD

TPCC Vice President and Congress Party In-charge of Sanathnagar Assembly Constituency, Dr Kota Neelima, participated in Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations held at various locations across the Sanathnagar constituency. Dr Kota Neelima visited several Ganesh pandals and offered special prayers to Lord Ganesha, seeking peace, prosperity, good health and happiness for the people and their families.

She participated in the celebrations organised at EWS Colony in SR Nagar Division along with Sri Butti Rajasekhar, and at the Sai Baba Temple in Balkampet, organized under the leadership of Sri Shankar Goud and local Leaders. She also participated in the annadanam programs organized locally and personally served food to devotees and residents.

"Serving food gives immense satisfaction and happiness. I am grateful to the communities across Sanathnagar constituency that come together to organize Annadanam and share food with everyone during the festive season," Dr Kota Neelima said. Division-level Congress leaders, party workers, organizers and a large number of devotees participated in the celebrations.



'Pinit Textile Exhibition' began at JRC Convention hall in Jubille Hills on Friday. It will continue till 21 of September. Founder of Pinit Sangeetha Rajesh, Actresses Lakshmi Manchu and Vithika Sheru and Politician G. Election Reddy, among others, were present at the event.

## Ovarian Cancer: Recognize the signs, do not delay

| HYDERABAD

Ovarian cancer is often difficult to detect in its early stages because its symptoms can be subtle and may resemble common digestive, urinary or menstrual problems. As September marks Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, greater awareness of persistent symptoms and individual risk factors can help encourage timely medical evaluation said Dr B. Namratha Sai Reddy, Consultant Medical Oncologist, Apollo Hospitals Financial District.

The risk of ovarian cancer increases with age, particularly after menopause. People with a strong family history of related cancers may benefit from genetic counseling and, where appropriate, genetic testing. Dr B. Namratha Sai Reddy mentioned that persistent abdominal bloating or swelling, pelvic or abdominal pain, feeling full unusually quickly, loss of appetite, changes in bowel or bladder habits, unexplained tiredness, back pain, unusual vaginal bleeding or unexplained weight loss should not be repeatedly ignored, particularly when symptoms are new, frequent or persistent.

She said Diagnosis may involve a pelvic or transvaginal ultrasound, CT or MRI scans and blood tests such as CA-125. However, these tests alone cannot confirm ovarian cancer. A definitive diagnosis generally requires examination of tissue by a pathologist. Those at high inherited risk may also discuss risk-reducing surgery, including removal of both fallopian tubes and ovaries, after completing childbearing.



B. Namratha Sai Reddy, Consultant Medical Oncologist, Apollo Hospitals Financial District



## Former Nagole Corporator participates in Ganesh Navratri

| HYDERABAD

Former Nagole Division corporator Chintala Aruna Surender Yadav participated in the Ganesh Navratri celebrations organized at APCO Colony and Awas Concrete Colony in Nagole Division on Thursday. On the occasion, she had darshan of Lord Ganesha and performed special prayers. She prayed for the happiness, peace, good health and prosperity of the people, and wished for the progress and well-being of every family.

Aruna Surender Yadav said that organizing Ganesh Navratri celebrations with devotion and spiritual fervor while also fostering unity among residents was commendable. She appreciated the colony residents for conducting the festivities with devotion and organizing special prayers, bhajans and annadanam (food distribution) programs every day. She expressed her wishes that the Ganesh celebrations continue peacefully and in an atmosphere of devotion and harmony.

BJP leaders Nookala Padma Reddy and Saraswathi, along with residents, women, youth and devotees from APCO Colony and Awass Concrete Colony, participated in the celebrations and offered prayers to Lord Ganesha.



## Taking Telugu cuisine to the world

| HYDERABAD

F&B entrepreneurs Rohith Vasireddy and Gopichand Cherukuri have launched Anaganaga – Telugu Culinary Tales, a 200-cover premium specialty restaurant on Road No. 45, Jubilee Hills. The two-floor restaurant recently marked its grand debut with an exclusive two-day event attended by Hyderabad's elite, F&B influencers and local socialites, who experienced its culturally rooted interiors and signature menu.

Anaganaga brings together Andhra Pradesh and Telangana's culinary traditions with modern interpretations. Developed through over three years of research and 25,000 km of travel, its menu features traditional recipes, regional ingredients and lesser-known preparations. The team documented cooking methods and food memories preserved through family kitchens and communities. Part of the Onaamaalu initiative, the project aims to preserve Telugu culinary heritage while creating fresh expressions. Founder Vasireddy said the team hopes to take an authentic Telugu food brand to international audiences, noting that original Telugu dishes remain underrepresented in Hyderabad's restaurant scene.

### Food with a memory

Corporate Chef DVS Pavan Kumar leads the culinary programme. His experience includes Novotel Hyderabad Airport, ITC Hotels, the pre-opening team at ITC Grand Chola, Ottimo at ITC Kohenur, Avartana and Avartana at ITC Royal Bengal, where he served as Master Chef.

His menu includes Pachi Pasupukommula Koora, Putnaaku Pesara Gudala Koora, Siri Dhanyala Salad, Ippapoovu Pudding and Gummadikaya Hummus with Chekkalu. Semiya Perugannam reflects Karnataka's influence on Challannam and its adaptation in Anantapur during the early 1990s. Bhojwari Chicken recalls the Bhojwari tribe's migration from Uttar Pradesh to Telangana during the Nizam's era.

A limited-number thali celebrates the variety of Telugu cuisine. Other offerings include Jeebipappu Kobari Paalu Koora, Sorakaya Perugu Pulusu, Oravakallu Naatu Kodi Iguru, Chukkaku Royyalu, Dosa Waffles, Palakova Choux and Curry Leaf Ice Cream.

Pavan Kumar says the restaurant studies the ancestral understanding of seasonality, ingredients, nourishment and how food supports the body. Vasireddy says the aim is to retain food memories while allowing them to evolve across generations.

Vasireddy said hygiene and quality are strengthened by Master Chef Pavan Kumar's ITC background. The founders are pursuing long-term goals over five to 10 years and ensuring chefs are well paid.

Developing curd was challenging, requiring one-and-a-half months of research and testing seven to eight varieties. The bar offers cocktails balancing spice, sourness, sweetness, fruits, herbs and botanicals, including tequila-based Rasayanam and Berry Blast mocktail.

Gopichand Cherukuri brings 15 years of experience in technology, operations, brand building and hospitality. He co-founded Indian Craft Brewery and Onamaalu with Vasireddy.

Vasireddy began his F&B journey at 21 and has interests in hospitality, construction and real estate. He founded Indian Craft Brewery and holds Leon's Burgers and Wings master franchises in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

The founders plan to expand Anaganaga to Bengaluru, Visakhapatnam and international markets.

## 'Premane Oorilo' to release on September 25, song launched

| HYDERABAD

The upcoming film 'Premane Oorilo' film is scheduled to release on September 25. The film, produced jointly by Chandu Srinivas, Suresh Kondeti and Mamatha Devendra M under the banners of Maharatna Productions, SK Pictures and Vanilla Entertainments, is directed by Manoj Kumar. The film features Sriram, Ramika Shivu, Tapaswini Poonacha and Rangayana Raghu in key roles. The makers have recently unveiled another song. Actress Kamakshi Bhaskarla wished everyone associated with the film a good name and hoped that the producer would make good profits.

Producer Chandu Srinivas mentioned that the film received a positive response when it was screened for audiences from different sections. Suresh Kondeti expressed confidence that the film would be a blockbuster. Hero Sriram described Premane Oorilo as a soulful, emotional and musical love story. Ramika thanked director Manoj Kumar for the opportunity and said that he had made the film with a good story. She remarked the characters would connect with audience and noted that this is her first film in both Telugu and Kannada.




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